



Chaparral Updrafts

from the
California Federation of
Chaparral Poets, Inc.

serving California poets for over 65 years

Volume 68 #8

September, 2007

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Ed Bearden, PSJ
P.O. Box 1750
Empire, CA 95319
209-522-9600
209-491-0950 (Fax)

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Presidents Message September 2007

In August I asked for and received from the Executive Board a major change in the conduct of the annual contest, at least as regards the Adult portion of the annual contest. NO changes were proposed or made in the manner of conducting the Annual Children's contest. Specifically I asked the Executive Board to approve the following: **All annual contest winners will be announced at the convention at the time of the reading of winning poems.** On August 11 at a reading of the Song of the San Joaquin, one of our members suggested this change. I thought it was a good idea. As a matter of fact this change is consistent with the current procedure for the Roadrunner and the Pegasus, except you will not have to be present to win. If you win and are not there, we will mail your award certificate just as we have in the past. Contest booklets will be distributed after the reading of winning poems at the convention. Winners will be posted on the website after the convention.

Jim Shuman our Monthly Publications Chair was in process of printing our annual contest flyer. The printing made it important to resolve the question of the conduct of the annual contest in a short period of time. The process used was to call a special long distance meeting of the Executive Board. Included on the Executive Board are all of the folks listed on the Updrafts masthead, as well as current chapter presidents and those past CFCP presidents I could identify. The idea had immediately struck me as right yet I felt uneasy as I approached this major change. The problem was I had never discussed it with anyone. The result of the vote was a surprise to me. The overall final response from the Executive Board was 18 in favor and 3 against. The comments I received by email or phone were excited and positive. The major concern cited by executive board members was the need to have reader copies of poems available for convention readers. We can do this and will. This change also means the contest deadline will remain January 31 as it has been in the past. The January 31 date was important to many of you and I am glad we found a way to keep it. My hope is the approved change in the announcement of annual contest winners will make our next convention the most exciting ever. My thanks to Jim for bringing the immediate need for printing instructions to my attention and to all of the members of the executive Board for their swift response and constructive comments.

I had hoped to have the 2009 convention in Sacramento but after some very hard work by Marge Voigt, Carol Frith and a visit to Sacramento by Roberta and I, we have abandoned that proposal. Our October meeting in Modesto will give the Executive Board an opportunity to consider the pros and cons of other locations.

CALIFORNIA
FEDERATION
OF
CHAPARRAL
poets
inc.

NEWS FROM OUR CHAPTERS

Chaparral updrafts

Editor & Publisher.....Ed Bearden
P.O. Box 1750 Empire, Ca. 95319
209-522-9600 FAX 209-491-0950
Email: Choc624@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer.....Roberta Bearden
P.O. Box 1750 Empire, Ca. 95319
Email: Bert714@sbcglobal.net

Corresponding Secretary...Dorothy Marshall
430 Eleventh St. Pomona, CA 91766
888-308-7488

Please send news and information items to the editor one month in advance of intended publication date. For questions involving membership, either new or renewal, please contact the treasurer.

Visit our website:
<http://www.ChaparralPoets.org>.

Beverly Eliason of Apollo chapter passed away recently. Our condolences to family and friends.

Both Selma Calnan and Norberta Fullen made a clean sweep in Creative Writing Categories at the TriCounty Fair. Selma entered the professional class and won first and second for poetry, first for short story, a second for a child's fable and a third for excerpt from a longer work. Norberta won in the amateur class a first and second for poetry and a first for prose selection.

Selma also was one of the four in California to receive the Senior Poet Laureate Honor Scroll Award in the 15th Annual Amy Kitchener's Angels without Wings Foundation, Inc.

Jane Logan won the National Award. She was a member of Chaparral for many years but moved to Sparks Nevada.

Congratulations to Selma, Norberta and Jane for their wins.

AUGUST MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS

on the topic of Doldrums or Daydreams?

Driving off the Map

We turn south off the highway.
The unmarked blacktop
roams at it's own pace around farms
and small towns. Curving, angling
mile after mile. Hill and plain.
Land and sky. Green and blue.

I hear my husband grumble,
and see the speed-limit sign smirk,
115 mph, defaced, as it is, by one red line.
How conditioned we are
to the whine of grinding out miles
on straight-shooting runways,
meant for defense, that now conspire
to subdue our senses in the constant
blur of caustic speed.
A wave from behind the windshield
of a pickup, lazing along under the limit,
hints some still like this slow tempo.

Again, the gentle lull of landscape
Grant-Wood hills of sprouting corn
and swells of earth so sensual,
I think of glancing away,
But flow
into rhythm of field
and row.

First Place
Del Todey Turner
Waterloo, IA

The Rejected

On cold evenings,
ones that steam up kitchen windows,
the rejected stare into the fireplace
until flames lengthen or widen,
form faces with glares or snared
and become their rivals.
They envision rivals' phone numbers
pocketed in purses,
but their own wadded up in a wastebasket.
No one remembers their come-ons
or their hairlines.
In a panic they imagine
blades of scissors
snipping their yearbook pictures. They shiver,
drink tomato juice and view an angry sun set
between bare trees.
Maybe they cook an artichoke
and forget to remove the barbs.

In a few weeks
they'll wax their cars,
cruise until midnight and wait
for new heads to turn in their direction.

With thanks to Kim Addonizio

Second Place
Sally Vogl
Fresno, CA

Wishing for Wings

I yearned to fly that day
on Larson's Beach
to join the Iwa
aloft on a thermal
just twenty feet above me
a flier stopped
stream without motion
forked tail still
black wings tilted
toward the turquoise sea

I long for it quiescence
imagined myself
immense wings outstretched
frozen on air
above the earth
floating there
looking over the edge of things
to my shadow
on the red cliffs below
freeing me
for a few moments
buoyed
by leffing breeze
with nothing to do
and nowhere to go

Third Place
Jacqueline Lunianski
Santa Barbara

2007 CFCP, Inc. Monthly Contests

Except where otherwise indicated, poems are limited to 28 lines of text. All forms accepted for all categories.

January	Turnabout
February	Landscape of Winter
March	Hares, Lions, Lambs
April	How to Advertise a Poem
May	Spring Moon
June	Looking Forward
July	no contest
August	Doldrums or Daydreams?
September	Memories, Altered
October	Smoke (12 lines or fewer)
November	Fences
December	No Contest

RULES

Contests are open to all poets in the United States and Canada. Each submission must be typewritten on standard size paper with the contest month in the upper right-hand corner. Send TWO COPIES of each poem with author's name and address in the upper right corner on ONE copy. Put no identification on the second copy. Address labels are acceptable. Multiple entries are welcome.

Only UNPUBLISHED POEMS and poems not previously awarded a monty prize are eligible. A fee of \$2.00 must accompany each poem submitted (3 for \$5.00). Send cash or make checks to CFCP, Inc. DEADLINE is the last day of the contest month. Envelope must be postmarked no later than 12 midnight of that day. *Print contest month on outside of mailing envelope.*

NOTE: In any month where insufficient entries are received, those poems which were submitted will be held over and judged with the entries for the following month.

1st Prize: \$25.00 2nd Prize: \$15.00 3rd Prize:\$10.00

Poems will be returned only if stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Allow one month after closing date of contest before sending poems elsewhere. Winning poems will be printed in the Chaparral Updrafts newsletter

**CALIFORNIA
FEDERATION
of CHAPARRAL
POETS, INC.**

Mail contest
entries to

**Cleo Griffith
Monthly Contest Chair, CFCP, Inc.
4409 Diamond Court
Salida, CA 95368-0632
<cleor36@yahoo.com>**



YES! I definitely want to be a member of the California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc. for the year 2008.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

E-Mail _____

I prefer to receive my Updrafts Newsletter by: ___email ___US Mail

Your membership includes all issues of the newsletter, Updrafts, free entry in the Annual Contest, Monthly Contest information and Membership Roster every 2 years during the membership period. All memberships renew between 8/1 and 12/31 yearly. Persons joining between February 1 and July 31 will use the pro-rated formula. New memberships received between August 1 and December 31 will be extended for the following full year.

How to Become a Member

Check the appropriate item:

- ___ Membership Annual/Renewal \$15.00
- ___ New Member (2/1 to 4/30) \$12.00
- ___ New Member (5/1-7/31) \$ 7.50
- ___ Spouse (1/2 regular member) \$ 7.50, \$6.00, or \$3.75
- ___ Junior (under 21 show proof of age) \$ 3.00
- ___ Donation (specify amount)

___ I am interested in joining a Chapter in my area (name of chapter) _____

___ I already belong to Chapter _____

___ I wish to join as a Member-at-large.

___ We wish to form a chapter of our own (5 or more Regular Members are required to form a new Chapter) to be called: _____

Members-at-Large: Clip this form and mail along with a check or money order made payable to CFCP, Inc. to: Frances Yordan, Members-at-Large Chairperson, 2575 W. San Jose Avenue, Fresno, CA 93711-2733. All others: Send this form along with a check or money order made payable to CFCP, Inc. to: CFCP Treasurer, P. O. Box 1750, Empire, CA 95319.

Important Announcement.

The October meeting of the Executive Board will be held in Modesto in a conference room of the Empire School District . The address is 116 North McClure Road . Here is our lunch menu. Please call us at 522-9600 or email Roberta at bert714@sbcglobal.net with you selection no later than October 5, 2007.

Choice of vegetarian, roast beef or turkey sandwich
Choice of macaroni or green salad
Water, soda or ice tea as a luncheon beverage
Dessert is reduced fat cookies
Upon arrival we will have coffee and hot water for tea

The price is \$7.00 each lunch and can be paid at the meeting on Saturday, October 20, 2007. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. The meeting will start at 11:00 AM as usual and we will finish as early as possible for those who are traveling long distances.

There is transportation to Modesto by airline direct from Los Angeles and San Francisco. Those who live close to Ontario can catch a plane from there to L.A. and then to Modesto. There is also Amtrak. It can be ridden from the Bay Area into Modesto or from L.A. a bus would go to Bakersfield than Amtrak to Modesto.

Those who drive take 99 highway. From the south you exit onto Mitchell Road (about 5 miles north of Turlock) and stay on Mitchell for about 3 miles until you reach Yosemite Blvd. Turn right and drive about 2 miles then turn left on McClure Road. The district office is right behind Big O Tires on the right. From the North you exit on Briggsmore Avenue. Go about 5 miles to Claus Road, turn right and drive to Yosemite Blvd. Turn right onto McClure Road, then right into the district office behind Big O Tires.



Chaparral Updrafts (ISSN 1543-5903)
Published monthly except January, July and
October by the California Federation of
Chaparral Poets, Inc. at P. O. Box 1750
Empire, CA 95319-1750. Subscription price
of \$3.60 is included in annual dues.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc.
P. O. Box 1750 Empire, CA 95319-1750.

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Volume 68 No. 4, May, 2007

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