



A chapter of the Poetry
Society of Texas

**PNW Board
Members**

Alina Alamo
President/
Correspondence Secretary

Kitty Mobley
Vice President

Jim Hale
Treasurer/ Membership

Kate Eriksen
Web Manager

Franchesca Alamo
Newsletter

Lynn Roberts Grice
Publicity

Claire Ottenstein-Ross
Historian

Maxine Kohanski
Events Coordinator/
Fundraising

June Brown Leap
Judge

Poets Northwest Newsletter

July 2010

SATURDAY JULY 10TH

10:00 AM

AT

**Cypress Creek Christian Community Center
6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379
Annex Rm 23/25 (2nd floor)**

Dan Gamwell – From the Heart

Dan was born in Mexico. He's lived in Guatemala and Mexico. He's traveled throughout Central America and has been to Cuba many times. He's noticed that there are many mission efforts to help poor people in accessible places. In contrast, his mission is to reach the people in the least accessible places - where you have to drink from a river and sleep on the ground, where you eat what you are offered and can make no plans because you have no idea what to expect.

His goal isn't just to help poor people, because some are more worthy than others. His goal is also not just to help the worthy people, either, because many worthy people are not necessarily needy. His goal, then, is to reach the most worthy of the most needy, and to make more people worthy along the way. To that end he has given away hundreds of thousands of dollars in the last 10 years. He doesn't receive donations from any sources for the work he does, and until right now, there's almost no one who knows of it. He says that very seldom do people understand his true motivation.

He does contract computer programming. He likes to write poetry that wrestles with the biggest questions about life, and he likes to do it in a rhyming and metered style for the challenge that it presents.

His wife's name is Pam. His daughters are Ilissa and Alanah. Their son Dan lives in Austin with his wife, and made them grandparents in February.

Read-Around

**Everyone is invited to bring 1 or 2 original poems
1 page limit each**

Door Prize provided by Sharon Young

The Mission of Poets Northwest

Founded in 1986, by Susan Daubenspeck, Betty Kersh and Claire Ottenstein-Ross, our main objective is to facilitate and inspire poets to write more poetry. We provide information about current poetry contests, feature guest poets on a regular basis, study the masters of creative verse, and encourage members. Poets are also encouraged to read their poems at each meeting. Membership is \$12 annually (Jan-Dec) & \$6 for 12 & under. Meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10 AM to noon at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379

www.poetsnw.com

Member News

- ✍ Our sweet **Nina Pechal** continues to recover from her illness with which she was first afflicted a few months ago. We have also learned that Nina's family has recently suffered the terrible loss of her son-in-law (the husband of her daughter, Camille). Our hearts and prayers go out to her and to her loved ones.
- ✍ We had tons of success in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) 2010 contests! **Franchesca Alamo's** poem *Winter* has won a 3rd place in the Student Award category. **Lisa Salinas** won three honorable mentions in the NFSPS 2010 contests along with a 2nd place in Our American Heritage Award with her poem *On Frederic Remington's "Ridden Down," 1905* and won 1st place (wow!) in the Barbara Stevens Memorial Award with *How to Read a Poem*. **Maxine Kohanski** snatched a 2nd honorable mention in the Iowa Poetry Association Award, and **Dory Maguire** earned a 5th honorable mention in the Lighten Your Life Award. These are *amazing* accomplishments – especially since each of these categories receive hundreds of submissions every year! Congratulations, everyone – we did a fantastic job!

PNW 2010 Spring Fling – a word from your president....

I would like to again thank everyone for making our beautiful Spring Fling event so special – from the **generous sponsors**, to the **board members**, and to everyone who volunteered their time and energy to this wonderful occasion. Additionally, I'd like to extend a special thanks to the **Hale family** for the **brownies**, for thinking of the name tags, and also for bringing **Carolina Botero** with them, who so graciously shared her amazing talent with us! I'm also so grateful to **Lisa Salinas** for the **PNW pins**, to **Lynn Grice** for the gorgeous programs, and to **Maxine Kohanski** for the beautiful decorations, the custom-made MMs, and the charms! And how about those Masters of Ceremony? Weren't they just perfect? I thought so! Thank you **Kitty Mobley** and **Jeff Lickson**! Finally, I would like to congratulate all of the **winners** - you all did a great job! I am so proud and honored to be a part of this wonderful group. – Alina. (Note: We've attached a copy of the winners list to this newsletter in case you did not get one.)

PST 2010 Summer Conference "The Show Must Go On" – July 8-10 in Dallas, TX

The conference will be hosted by Budd Powell Mahan and Nance Baas. Conference registration and information can be found at http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org/summer_conf.html.

PST Members – Invitation to book orders!

The 2009 Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Publication Award recipient, "What the house is Made of" by Beverly Monestier, is now available. **PST Members, please pre-order** your copies so that we can print the right number of books! E-mail Beverly Monestier directly at beverlymonestier@hotmail.com. Indicate your name, # of copies, and whether you will pick up at Summer Conference, or want it mailed to you. The book is 67 pages, \$12.95 (plus \$1 tax), approx. \$3 postage if mailed.

Voices de la Luna – A Quarterly Poetry & Arts Magazine – Announcing the Publication & Request for Submission. For more information see attached brochure or visit www.voicesdelaluna.com.

First Friday Poetry Reading Series

First Friday Poetry Reading Series are held at Inprint House, 1520 West Main, near the Menil, in Houston's Museum District. Free and open to the public, hosted by Robert Clark since 1975. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. An open reading follows the featured poet. For more information go to <http://www.inprinthouston.org/first-fridays>, or contact Robert Clark at houstonfirstfri@aol.com or HPFest@aol.com.

If you have news for the newsletter, please send it directly to Franchesca Alamo at e-mail pnwnewsletter@hotmail.com by the 3rd week of each month.