



Chaparral updrafts

from the
California Federation
of Chaparral Poets, Inc.

serving California poets for over 60 years

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CALIFORNIA
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April to bring us 'California Voices'

With Convention time fast approaching, many members are hard at work to bring you the most satisfying weekend possible. Developing the theme of *California Voices*, Program Chair Mary Rudge has brought together an outstanding variety of sessions, discussions, and splashes of music and motion. CFCP, Inc. will be meeting in the Clarion Hotel in Oakland, formerly known as the Holiday Inn, April 22 – 24, 2005. Registration forms are included in this newsletter.

Those attending will discover a wide range of topics and events related to Poetry. Some are workshops on various aspects of the craft, from writing tips to where and how to publish. Some are awards and recognition for contests. Some invite us to sit back and *appreciate*.

This Convention will be a little different

That's right! From the very beginning, the Board chose to experiment with a new model for this convention. The most apparent difference is that there is no single Host Chapter. Instead, the Convention Committee is composed of members of seven different chapters. These are Alameda Island Poets, Robert Frost, Poets of the San Joaquin, Jeannette Gould Maino, Orpheus, Valley Writers, and Members at Large.

As you read through the various articles you may have been struck by the fact that the addresses of the various chairs were all over the state. And that is the intention — to be as inclusive as possible in involving everyone in a chance to participate.

And the Board has determined one more way for every chapter to participate. Each year those attending the Convention are delighted with a "goody bag" of various gift items from local merchants and businesses. This year, each chapter is requested to obtain approximately 100 pieces of one or two such items from their community and send them in advance to Hospitality Chair Claudia Cobleigh, 1270 Chadwick Court, Modesto, CA 95350.

These items should be requested from various institutions in your own community. In the past the gifts have included pens, note pads, magnets, key chains, etc. Whatever is offered is fine, if the chapter members feel it represents their area. Donations of fewer than 100 items are also welcome.

When it is over, participants will take away a better understanding of the wide field of options in creating and appreciating Poetry. And, as an added bonus, they'll have developed a little of that camaraderie that exists between poets and their close associates.

A major change this year is that CFCP will offer university credit for participation in the weekend's events (see the article on this topic).

The Convention formally opens at 3 pm with a Welcome given in several different languages, greetings and proclamations from the mayors and other officials of Bay Area cities, and an address from a well-known local politician. This will be followed by a panel discussion from publishers and editors, and then one on the difficulties of translation.

Keynote Speaker David Alpaugh will challenge us all with *The Professionalism of Poetry* at 7 pm. Alpaugh's wit, humor, and way with a story have made him one of the most popular poets in the Bay Area where he has been a featured reader over 100 times at books stores, cafes, colleges and other venues. He has taught at the University of California, Berkeley Extension; is host of the celebrated Second

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Take the Alameda Literary History Tour 9-12 Monday

As a final treat to an already delightful weekend, Program Chair Mary Rudge (who just happens to also be the Poet Laureate of the City of Alameda) will lead a literary history tour on Monday morning following the convention. A series of stops are schedule at important points in Alameda and Oakland, where tour participants can take photos, stand in the same locations, see the same sights — perhaps experience the same moods — as some of the leading literary figures from Bay Area history.

Price of the three-hour tour is \$20, with a limit of about 30 people. Be sure to sign up for the tour on your Registration Form to ensure you a space in the group.

Chaparral updrafts

Editor & PublisherJames Shuman

2521 Meadow Rue Drive
Modesto, CA 95355-3910
209-523-6954 FAX 209-521-8778

Treasurer Ursula T. Gibson

P O Box 806, Tujunga, CA 91043
818-353-7174

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.

Be sure to visit our new web site:

<http://www.ChaparralPoets.org>

Convention to feature 'California Voices'

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Sunday Poetry Readings in Crockett; publishes *Carquinez Poetry Review*; and is a permanent member of the board of trustees of *The Ina Coolbrith Circle*.

Sound, Substance, Style — Poetry Diversity will present current trends in Bay Area poetry through the interpretive work of five local poets, followed by the traditional Bardic Circle read-around to close Friday evening's activities.

Saturday begins with the Children's Poetry Fair Exhibit in one room and in another, authors' exhibits of books and periodicals, as well as archival materials including photographs, old documents, and other items of historic interest, will be on display.

A choice of poetry workshop or roundtable discussion at 9 am leads to the Keynote Speaker, Katie McAllaster Weaver, addressing us on *Writing with Children in*

Mind. Her poems have appeared in *Hazmat*, *West Wind Review*, *Writers' Forum*, *Thunder Sandwich*, *Suisun Valley Review* and the *Carquinez Poetry Review*, among others. Her children's poetry has been featured in numerous magazines and her children's picture book, *Bill in a China Shop* has won awards both in the U.S. and U.K. Another children's book is due out from Simon & Schuster in 2008.

The morning's events will be rounded out with a series of sessions on the haiku form, concluding with *Haiku 4 U* by President James Shuman.

The Poets' Luncheon on Saturday and the Golden Pegasus Banquet on Sunday evening are optional events, but are times in which new acquaintances become friends, friendships solidify, and exchanges of thoughts and ideas on a variety of topics enrich the experience. The Luncheon will include a Hawaiian Language interpretation by dancer Alberta Jay.

At 1:30, the Youth Contest Awards will be presented, and at 3:30 there will be a *Tribute to Poets Laureate*, beginning with a 15 minute *Celebration of the Muses* dance presentation followed by a series of panels of poets who have held the laureate title for their community.

Classroom teachers will have a panel on *How I Get Students Interested in Poetry* followed by a discussion/assessment of the Children's Poetry Fair.

The evening will offer *Poetry Into Rhythm and Song* featuring Bay Area poets and songwriters performing their own work, followed by another read-around to close the event-filled day.

Sunday morning offers a choice of *Writing for Spirituality* or *Poets in Wartime*, followed by the General Membership Meeting. Educators have a session on *Poetry Basics* followed by time to begin *Developing a Lesson for Your Students*.

The afternoon features the Annual Contest Awards, recognizing the authors of the outstanding poems in this year's contest. Each of the three to five winning poems in each of twelve categories is read aloud, either by the author, or by a poet-reader.

The evening concludes with the Golden Pegasus Banquet, the highlight of the Convention. Featuring a keynote speaker and the

Slate of Officers proposed for next two years

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of officer nominees for approval at the January meeting. Their nominations were:

- President James Shuman
- First Vice President David Lapierre
- Second Vice President Katharine Wilson
- Third Vice President Dan Saucedo
- Fourth Vice President Donna Honeycutt
- Treasurer no nomination
- Recording Secretary Lee Collins
- Corresponding Secretary Dorothy Marshall
- Members-at-Large Chair ... Frances Yordan

This slate was approved by the Board to be presented to the membership.

The lack of a nominee for the position of Treasurer was discussed. Ursula T. Gibson, who has been treasurer for nearly eight years, has said that for health reasons she cannot

continue to serve, but has agreed to stay in the position briefly to ease the transition.

The Nominating Committee approached several people with the treasurer's position, but none accepted. Thus, that position has been opened to the general membership, with this caveat: anyone who is interested in serving the organization in this position should submit their name and a brief résumé outlining their qualifications to President James Shuman. A working knowledge of computerized record keeping and accounting is essential. This could be as simple as use of a spreadsheet program such as Excel, or experience working with an actual accounting application.

Since Ursula has indicated she does not wish to remain in office past July, it is urgent that we find a qualified person to take her place. We are appealing to each chapter to help locate the next Treasurer for CFCP!

Weekend Sessions offered for credit

It's not too late to register for university credit for attending and participating in the events this weekend.

California State University East Bay (formerly CSU Hayward) will award 2.5 quarter units of upper division graduate level credit to those who successfully complete the "educators' packet" of items that will be pro-

vided at the Convention.

The fee is conveniently reasonable at \$44 per unit. Entitled *Poetry Education: Classroom Strategies*, the course is especially intended for teachers and other who are considering teaching poetry at any grade level, but others may enroll, if they wish. Please sign up in advance on the Registration Form.

Changes in Contest Rules

It's not too late to get your entries ready for the March contest, in which the topic is "Off-the-Wall!"

There are new topics and rules for 2005, since the Board authorized some changes at its October meeting. Most notable is the fee per entry, which is now \$2 per poem, or 3 poems for \$5.

Also, several of the topics have been changed, to provide a bit more variety and challenge to your creative juices! Several people suggested other topics, as well, so we ended with more than enough for ten contests. No fixed form contests were included, since in recent years these have seen a very limited number of entries.

With a new category every month, there are 30 chances a year to win recognition. But, of course, it *is* necessary to actually send your poems in to the Contest Chair! Be sure to discard any copies of previous years' contests rules, and be thinking of entries for 2005. Pin a copy of this page to your bulletin board for quick reference.

Keep copies of this page handy to share when people ask how to join CFCP. Also, think in terms of carrying copies to give to interested friends or acquaintances. And maybe leave a few at your library or on the bulletin board at the local college or university.

2005 CFCP, Inc. Monthly Contests

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

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| JANUARY | — | Changes |
| FEBRUARY | — | Portraits |
| MARCH | — | Off-the-Wall! |
| APRIL | — | Historical |
| MAY | — | Light or Humorous Verse |
| JUNE | — | Exploration, Nature & Science |
| JULY | — | no contest |
| AUGUST | — | Short Poem 12 lines or fewer |
| SEPTEMBER | — | Fun with Numbers |
| OCTOBER | — | California |
| NOVEMBER | — | Family |
| 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 ONE COPY of each poem with author's name and address in the upper left corner of the reverse side. Address labels are acceptable. Multiple entries are welcome.

Only UNPUBLISHED POEMS and poems not previously awarded a money 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 wherein 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 a 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.**

➔ Cleo Griffith
mail contest Monthly Contest Chair, CFCP, Inc.
entries to 4409 Diamond Court
Salida, CA 95368-9632
<cleor36@yahoo.com>



YES!

I definitely want to be a member of the
California Federation of Chaparral Poets, Inc. for the year 2005.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

E-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.

*** Those who desire to continue membership with a chapter, please remit dues to your local chapter treasurer.**

How to Become a Member

check the appropriate item:

- _____ Membership Annual/Renewal \$15⁰⁰
- _____ New Member (February 1 to April 30) \$12⁰⁰
- _____ New Member (May 1 to July 31) \$7⁵⁰
- _____ Spouse (1/2 regular member) \$7⁵⁰, \$6⁰⁰, or \$3⁷⁵
- _____ Junior (under 21; show proof of age) \$3⁰⁰
- _____ Donation (specify amount)

_____ I am interested in joining a Chapter in my area (name of 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 Chairman, 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 806, Tujunga, CA 91043-0806.

Clarion Hotel in Oakland set for April 22 – 24 State Convention

The Clarion Hotel Oakland Airport is located at 500 Hegenberger Road, Oakland.

The former Holiday Inn Oakland Airport is located just minutes from the Oakland International Airport. All guests have access to the 24-hour complimentary shuttle to and from the airport as well as free parking.

Spacious guest rooms have been recently renovated for your improved comfort. The carefully appointed rooms feature an array of in-room amenities and modern decor. Each room features one king or two full-size beds, a hair dryer, coffee maker, iron, ironing board and 27-inch remote controlled cable TV and high-speed Internet access. Also included is a full Continental breakfast for two; extra breakfasts per room are \$5 each.

Special rates including taxes are based upon whether you choose the Tower section or the Courtyard section of the hotel, and whether you choose one king bed or two double beds. They are: Courtyard, king, \$88.80; Courtyard, two doubles, \$98.79; Tower, king, \$105.45; Tower, two doubles, \$116.55.

There are no room charges for children, 18 and under, when they occupy the same room as their parents.

Rollaway beds are \$10.00 per night; cribs are available at no extra fee. Rollaway beds are subject to availability and should be requested at time of booking.

Check-in time is 3 pm; check-out is 12 noon. Upon check-in photo identification and credit card or cash deposit is required for incidental charges.

The 293-unit Clarion Hotel Oakland Airport features Vanessa's Restaurant, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner; McLeod's Bar & Grill, decorated with Raiders memorabilia; a fitness room; outdoor pool; business center; and on-site car rental agency. In addition to its own dining facilities, the hotel is close to area dining, entertainment and shopping venues.

Other amenities include: clock radio, desk, dry cleaning, fax machine, gift shops or newsstand, golf course, handicap accessibility, interior room entrance, laundry facilities, non smoking rooms, photocopy machines, room service, safe, safe-deposit box at front desk, tennis court, turndown service, voice mail, wake-up calls, and family rooms.

Oakland Airport is one mile from Oakland International Airport and within walking distance of the Oakland Coliseum, home

of the Oakland Raiders, Oakland Athletics and Golden State Warriors. The hotel is near many area attractions, including the Oakland Convention Center, Alameda Beach, Jack London Square, the University of California at Berkeley and the Oakland Zoo. Downtown San Francisco, Fisherman's Wharf, Chinatown are 15 miles from the hotel. Napa Valley is 50 miles away.

Those who are flying can take advantage of the free shuttle service from the Oakland Airport. For those driving west on 580, take 238 via the exit on the LEFT toward 880 and Oakland. After 2.3 miles merge onto 880 N via the exit on the LEFT toward Oakland. After 4.6 miles take the exit toward Hegenberger Road / Coliseum. In quick succession, turn LEFT onto Edes Avenue, turn LEFT onto Hegenberger Road, make a U-turn onto Hegenberger Road, and enter the Clarion parking lot at 500 Hegenberger Road, Oakland.

Those who are driving east on 880 S toward San Jose, take the Hegenberger Road exit toward Oakland Airport / Coliseum, turn LEFT onto Hegenberger Road, cross over the freeway, and enter the Clarion parking lot at 500 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, CA 94621-1320.

Hotel information
State of Officers nominated
Course credit offered for weekend
This Convention is different
'California Voices' Convention Info

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