

Bios

Christine Hamm – Christine Hamm is a PhD candidate in English Literature at Drew University, where she was awarded a Caspersen Scholarship for Academic Promise. In 2007, she was a runner up to Queens' Poet Laureate. Her poetry has been published in *The Adirondack Review*, *Pebble Lake Review*, *Horseless Press*, *Lodestar Quarterly*, *Blue Fifth Review*, *Poetry Midwest*, *MiPoesias*, *Rattle*, *Snow Monkey* and *Exquisite Corpse*, among others. She has been nominated twice for a Pushcart Prize, and once for "The Best of the Web". Her work has been anthologized in *Homewrecker: An Adultery Reader* and *The Murdering of Our Years: Artists and Activists on Making Ends Meet*, both by Soft Skull Press. Her first book of poems, *The Transparent Dinner*, was published by Mayapple Press in October '06, and her second book, *Saints & Cannibals*, was published by Plain View Press in Spring '10.

Christopher Fog – Christopher Fog lives in Florida now, but travels as much as he can. He tries to move to a different place every year or so. Every so often, he heads overseas to teach. "That really takes the boredom out of life, as you are going to a totally different place and to a totally different culture (without Taco Bell!)." He was in Russia for a while and he states that it was amazing. "I wish pelicans carried money around instead of babies; I would be able to get my darn MFA finally."

Dan Guerra – Dan Guerra received a BA in History in 2007. After college he spent all of his money on a grand trip to Europe. In Paris he decided to be a poet. Following the trip he returned to California and moved to Santa Cruz. He has lived there ever since, save for a year in South

Korea where he taught English and payed off some of his student loans. In his spare time he helps edit *Ping Pong* and *Quail Hunt*, and organizes the occasional poetry reading at his house.

Ed Romano - Born on 4/28/33. (John Dillinger was in his prime. We're talking old dude here.) Never having had his brains certified by any institute of higher learning, he made his living doing every repulsive employment one might imagine. In his spare time he wrote poems and painted pictures. Some of his pictures can be seen at www.edromano.com. His poems have been published sporadically over the years in many small magazines and one anthology. "It's a wonderful life and I'm thankful for it."

Francesco Levato - Poet, translator, and filmmaker Francesco Levato is the author of three books of poetry: *Elegy for Dead Languages*; *War Rug*, a book length documentary poem; and *Marginal State*. He has translated into English the books of Italian poets Tiziano Fratus, *Creating*, and Fabiano Alborghetti, *The Opposite Shore*. His work has been published internationally in journals and anthologies, both in print and online, including *Drunken Boat*, *The Progressive*, *Versal*, and many others. His cinépoetry has been exhibited in galleries and featured at film festivals in Berlin, Chicago, New York, and elsewhere.

Gene McCormick - Gene McCormick's twelfth book, *An Ice Axe at Dusk*, was published this spring by March Street Press (Rbixby@earthlink.net). In addition to *The Homestead Review*, his narrative poems and short stories regularly appear in select publications. He lives in Wayne, Illinois.

J.T. Whitehead - J.T. Whitehead has had over one hundred poems accepted by over fifty publications, including *The Homestead Review*, *The Lilliput Review*, *Nexus*, and *Home Planet News*, among others. He received his Bachelors of Arts degrees in English and Philosophy, and a Masters of Arts in Philosophy from Purdue University. Alas, no MFA. He lives in Indianapolis, where he has worked as a criminal lawyer, with his wife, Julia -- the founder of the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library -- and their two sons, Daniel and Joseph. There are also two cats involved in all of this, not named after Old Testament protagonists.

Jeffrey Alfier - Jeffrey Alfier is a two-time Pushcart prize nominee and a nominee for the UK's Forward Prize for Poetry. His poems have appeared recently in *Vallum* (Canada) and *Post Road*, with work forthcoming in *New York Quarterly*. His latest chapbook is *Before the Troubadour Exits* (2011). His first full-length book of poems, *The Wolf Yearling*, will be published in 2012, by Pecan Grove Press. He serves as co-editor of *San Pedro River Review*.

Jennifer Lagier Fellguth - Jennifer Lagier Fellguth is a member of the Italian American Writers Association and California Writers Club. Her work has most recently appeared in *Voices in Italian Americana*, *Homestead Review*, *Centrifugal Eye*, *FutureCycle*, *Monterey Poetry Review* and several anthologies such as *The Dream Book*, *Unsettling America*, *Milk of Almonds*, and *New to North America*. She has also published five books: *Coyote Dream Cantos*, *Where We Grew Up*, *Second-Class Citizen*, *The Mangia Syndrome* and *Fishing for Portents*. Dr. Fellguth teaches at Hartnell College.

John Sandoval - John Sandoval earned his daily bread as fire fighter, gold miner, and house painter. From these occupations, and from idling about on street corners and in saloons, he drew his inspiration. He resided in New Mexico, California, and for the last four years of his life, in Cleveland, Ohio where he passed away on January 11, 2011. He is greatly missed.

Kate Duvall - A resident of Edwardsville, Illinois, Kate Duvall is currently working on an associate's degree from Lewis & Clark Community College in Godfrey, Illinois, and recently started her own needlecrafts business. Her most recent publication credits include appearances in *Abbey*, *Pegasus*, and *The Storyteller*.

Katie Cloutte - Katie Cloutte is from Richmond, Virginia but wishes it was London. She is currently working on her MFA from New England College and is pretty sure she is supposed to be a dog, named Jean Valjean.

Librada Anna Flores-Martinez - Librada, “because I am free! Free from the chains of slavery, as all of Chicanas must one day call themselves.” An activist from the late 60’s, She attended UCLA and left to join the UFW cause. Later in life returned to school to finish her studies at UCLA. Majoring in Chicana History, she plans to pursue La Causa and the liberation of La Mujer.

Marina Romani - Marina Romani has led a rather nomadic life, first as the child of Russian émigré parents and later in the course of a long marriage and two careers of her own, in teaching and publishing. She is now finally, and happily, settled on the Monterey Peninsula, an area she finds conducive to writing poetry, to which she lately returned after far too many years of distractions. She has participated in poetry readings at Tor House in Carmel, The Works in Pacific Grove, and Cabrillo College in Aptos. Her

early work appeared in the now defunct *Poetry Shell* magazine; her recent work has been published in a previous issue of *The Homestead Review* and in *Porter Gulch Review*.

Martin Dodd - Martin Dodd lives in Steinbeck Country: Salinas, California. Following his retirement from thirty-five years of community service, he began creative writing in 2002 at age 67. His work has appeared in *Cadillac Cicatrix*, *Hobart Journal* (web issue), *The New Yinzer*, *Homestead Review*, *Holy Cuspidor*, *Foolish Times*, and *Chicken Soup for the Recovering Soul*. Martin has won, or received recognition in, various contests: Gimme Credit Screenplay Competition (super short), St. Louis Short Story Contest, *Writers Digest*, *By Line Magazine*, *Glimmer Train*, *Inkwell Journal*, *Writers Weekly*, Central Coast Writers (California), East of Eden Writers Conference (2008), and NorthernPros.

Michael Meinhoff – Michael Meinhoff lives with his wife on twenty-five acres in the Sierra foothills near Yosemite National Park, where he enjoys solitude and closeness to the land. He has degrees from the University of Oregon and the University of Hawaii, and is the recipient of two National Endowment of the Humanities fellowships. His recent poems are found in *The Aurorean*, *Brevities*, and *California Quarterly*.

Patrick Cahill - Patrick Cahill received a doctorate in History of Consciousness at UC Santa Cruz. While there he completed *Whitman's Photographic Eye*, a chapter of which appeared in *The Daguerreian Annual*. He has published fiction and poetry in *TriQuarterly*, *Reed*, and *you say. Say*, among others. Recently, he co-produced “Celebrating 20th Century World Poetry” at SF Mechanics Institute. Patrick and a fellow San Franciscan launched a

literary arts review, *Ambush*, last spring. He also volunteers in a native plant restoration project in SF to satisfy his gardening needs.

Richard Jay Shelton - Richard Jay Shelton was born in 1946 on a navy base in Coronado, California, but has lived most of his life in Los Angeles. The poem selected is from a larger work titled, “Apathetic Poetics.”

Sandra Meek - Sandra Meek’s third book of poems, *Biogeography*, was the 2006 winner of the Dorset Award (Tupelo Press, November 2008). Her previous book publications include *Nomadic Foundations* (2002) and *Burn* (2005), and she has also published a chapbook, *The Circumference of Arrival* (2001). She is also the editor of an anthology, *Deep Travel: Contemporary American Poets Abroad* (Ninebark Press, 2007), which was awarded a 2008 Independent Publisher Book Award Gold Medal. She has published more than one hundred poems in journals such as *The American Poetry Review*, *Agni*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Poetry*, *Conjunctions*, and *The Iowa Review*, and she has twice been awarded Georgia Author of the Year, in 2006 for *Burn*, and in 2003 for *Nomadic Foundations*, which also was awarded the Peace Corps Writers Award in Poetry. Meek served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Manyana, Botswana, 1989-1991. She is a Co-founding Editor of Ninebark Press, Director of the Georgia Poetry Circuit, Poetry Editor of the Phi Kappa Phi Forum, and Professor of English, Rhetoric, and Writing at Berry College. She lives in Rome, Georgia, USA.

Slobodanka Strauss – She was born in Novi Sad, Serbia and immigrated to the States at the age of ten with her family. She graduated from Loyola University, Chicago and studied philosophy. Currently, she lives in Boston and spends weekends in Chatham. She has been published in

Chicago Reader, California Quarterly, Atlanta Review, and others.

Susan Maurer - N.Y. C.'s Susan Maurer has 6 little books and her full length *Perfect Dark* was published by ungovernable press. She has been in over 300 magazines in 16 countries and is searching for a publisher for her latest book, *Cormorant*.

Zack O'Neill - Zack O'Neill is a James Dickey Fellow at the University of South Carolina, where he teaches composition, creative writing and rhetoric and is the co-editor of Yemassee Literary Journal. His short fiction has appeared in *Calaveras Station, The Delinquent*. His first novel, *The Blue Stoop*, was a finalist in the 2010 Faulkner-Wisdom Creative Writing Competition.



The Central Coast Writers Branch
of the
California Writers Club
announces its
**Spring 2012
Writing Contest**

TOTAL CASH AWARDS \$1000

**POETRY AND PROSE WINNERS WILL BE
PUBLISHED**

***THERE ARE TWO CATEGORIES OF POETRY AND TWO
CATEGORIES OF PROSE.***

The top four 2012 Poetry and Prose winners will each receive \$250
and their entries will be published
in the print and online editions of the Spring 2012 *Homestead Review*
produced by Hartnell College.

Top winners will also be published on **Central Coast Writers website:**
www.centralcoastwriters.org.

All contest finalists will be considered for publication in the Spring 2012
Homestead Review.

Open to all writers. You need not be a member of California Writers
Club to enter.

Open to all work not previously published in print, broadcast, recording
or online media
(including blogs, newsletters, contests, anthologies, e-books and/or e-
zines).

Categories & Length:

Poetry: Best Unrhymed Poem & Best Rhymed Poem--Maximum 50 lines
per entry.

Prose: Best Non-fiction (essay, article) & Best Fiction (short story)--
Maximum 2,500 words per entry.

Submission Period: No early birds please. Entries must be postmarked
between September 1, 2011 and January 31, 2012.

Entry Fees:

Poetry: \$5 for first poem; \$3 per second and subsequent entries.

Prose: \$10 per essay, article and short story.

**FOR SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND FULL CONTEST RULES
VISIT**

www.centralcoastwriters.org