

Sheryl L. Nelms, Kansas native, graduated from South Dakota State University in Family Relations and Child Development. Her poems, stories and articles have appeared in periodicals and anthologies including *Readers' Digest*, *Modern Maturity*, *Capper's*, *Kaleidoscope*, *Grit*, *Cricket*, over 4,500 times. Twelve collections of her poetry have been published. Sheryl has taught writing and poetry at conferences, colleges and schools. She was a Bread Loaf Contributor at the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, Middlebury, Vermont. She has served as editor for many journals, including her current post as essay editor of *The Pen Woman Magazine*, the membership magazine of the National League of American Pen Women. She holds membership in The Society of Southwestern Authors, Abilene Writers Guild, and Trinity Arts Writers Association.

Carl Palmer doesn't own a wristwatch, cell phone or pager since retirement. With no structure or guidance, every day is Saturday. Carl gladly smiles when he can't remember the date.

Ken Paxton, married for over thirty years, is the proud grandfather of one, father of two and master of none. Employed in the hard disk drive industry he wonders, "Will flash memory one day make all drives obsolete?" For fun he enjoys hiking, camping, doodling on the piano and guitar, and writing...most anything.

James Penha, a native New Yorker, has lived for the past sixteen years in Indonesia. *No Bones to Carry*, a volume of Penha's poetry, is just available from New Sins Press, www.newsinspress.com. His award-winning 1992 chapbook *On the Back of the Dragon* is now downloadable from Frugal Fiction, www.frugalfiction.com. Among the most recent of his many other published works are an article in *English Journal*; fiction at *East of the Web* and *Ignavia*; and poems in *THEMA* and in the anthologies *Silver Boomers* (Silver Boomer Books), *Queer*

Collection (Fabulist Flash Publishing) and *Only the Sea Keeps: Poetry of the Tsunami* (Bayeux Press). Penha edits a website for current-events poetry at www.newversenews.com.

Yvonne Pearson is a writer and clinical social worker who lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her poetry and essays have appeared in a variety of publications, including *Sing heavenly Muse! Transformations*, *Wolf Head Quarterly*, *Poetry Calendar 2000*, and *Studio One*. She is the recipient of a Loft Creative Non-Fiction Award, has participated in readings at The Loft, the University of Minnesota, and the American Association of University Women, St. Paul branch, and is the co-author of several books.

Arlene Pineo's friends call her 'Arly,' a late bloomer who went back to college when her last child finished. She's had an interesting life, a third of it spent in Heidelberg, Germany, and Paris, France. Returning to the States in '92, she settled in Bedford, TX where she discovered the Trinity Writers Workshop and began to receive awards for her writing. She mainly writes narrative-driven fiction.

Lynn Pinkerton announced in the fifth grade that she wanted to be a writer when she grew up. After careers in social services and special event marketing, Lynn reclaimed her childhood aspiration and joined a writing group. She is contentedly writing and publishing and wondering why she didn't listen to her young self sooner. She lives in Houston, Texas.

Kenneth Pobo, in addition to having a poem in the first *Silver Boomers* anthology, has work in *Colorado Review*, *Nimrod*, *Antigonish Review*, *Hawai'i Review*, and elsewhere. In 2008, WordTech Press published a new collection of his poems called *Glass Garden*. He teaches Creative Writing and English at Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania.

Nancy Purcell- she sent this as a speculative submission and didn't put the bio with it.

Diana Raab M.F.A., essayist, memoirist and poet, teaches at the UCLA Extension Writers' Program and the Santa Barbara Writers Conference. A columnist for InkByte.com, she writes and lectures on journaling. Her memoir, *Regina's Closet: Finding My Grandmother's Secret Journal*, is a finalist for Best Book of the Year by *ForeWord Magazine*. She has two poetry collections, *My Muse Undresses Me* and *Dear Anais: My Life in Poems for You*. Her writing has appeared in *The Writer*, *Writers Journal*, *Skylight Review*, *Rosebud*, *The Louisville Review*, *Palo Alto Review*, *Oracle*, *The Binnacle*, *Homestead*, and *Red River Review*. She's the recipient of the Benjamin Franklin Book Award for *Getting Pregnant and Staying Pregnant: Overcoming Infertility and High Risk Pregnancy*. Visit her web site: www.dianaraab.com.

Rita Rasco Bio

Richard T. Rauch holds a doctorate in theoretical physics and has worked in various scientific and engineering disciplines in academia, industry, and the government. He currently manages rocket propulsion test activities in support of NASA's Constellation Program to send human explorers back to the moon and on to Mars. Rick lives along Bayou Lacombe in south Louisiana, exploring the many possible universes of poetry in his spare time.

Jordan Reyes

Charles P. Ries lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His narrative poems, short stories, interviews and poetry reviews have appeared in over two hundred print and electronic publications. He has received four Pushcart Prize nominations for his writing. He is the author of *The Fathers We Find*, a novel based on memory, and five books of

poetry. He is the poetry editor for Word Riot (www.wordriot.org). He is on the board of the Woodland Pattern Bookstore (www.woodlandpattern.org) and a founding member of the Lake Shore Surf Club, the oldest fresh water surfing club on the Great Lakes (www.visitsheboygan.com/dairyland/). You may find additional samples of his work by going to www.literati.net/Ries.

K. Riley Bishop gets a bio if she sends something to include.... hint hint.

Barbara B. Rollins lives in Abilene, Texas, a judge who writes while waiting for lawyers. A member of SCBWI, her children's books include the novel *Syncopated Summer* and a forensic series *Fingerprint Evidence*, *Ballistics*, *Cause of Death*, and *Blood Evidence*. Her work has appeared in *Byline*, *Kidz Ch@t*, *R*A*D*A*R*, and *Off the Record, an anthology of poetry by lawyers*. The past president of Abilene Writers Guild maintains the group's web site as well as those of other nonprofit organizations besides her www.SharpWriters.com. Like many Baby Boomers, she shares her husband with two dogs while worrying about aging parents, two sons, and daughters-in-law. She is a principal in Silver Boomer Books.

Bobby Samson

Terry Sanville lives in San Luis Obispo, California with his artist-poet wife (his in-house editor) and two cats (his in-house critics). He writes full time, producing short stories, essays, poems, an occasional play, and novels (that are hiding in his closet, awaiting editing). Since 2005, his short stories have been accepted by more than 70 literary and commercial journals, magazines, and anthologies (both print and online) including the *Houston Literary Review*, *Storyteller*, *the Yale Angler's Journal*, and *The Southern Ocean Review*. Terry is a retired urban planner

and an accomplished jazz and blues guitarist, who once played with a symphony orchestra backing up jazz legend George Shearing.

Marian Kaplun Shapiro grew up in a low-cost housing project in The Bronx, and practices as a psychologist and poet in Lexington, Massachusetts. She is the author of a professional book, *Second Childhood* (Norton, 1988), a poetry book, *Players In The Dream, Dreamers In The Play* (Plain View Press, 2007) and two chapbooks: *Your Third Wish*, (Finishing Line, 2007); and *The End Of The World, Announced On Wednesday* (Pudding House, 2007). She is constantly amazed at her good fortune, which includes her husband, two children, and four grandchildren. A Quaker, her poetry often reflects the splitscreen truths of violence and peace, doubt and belief, despair and abiding hope.

Rebecca Hatcher Travis is a native Texan and an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. Her writing often reflects her native heritage and the natural world. Her book length manuscript, *Picked Apart the Bones*, was selected winner of the 2006 First Book Award for Poetry competition by the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas. Published work appears in literary journals, anthologies, the *Chickasaw Times* and *Texas Poetry Calendar 2008*.

Phillip J. Volentine is a forestry technician in the same Louisiana woodlands where he was born. He came late to the world of literature but yearns to be a teller of stories in prose and poetry. Phillip and his wife have one son and two grandchildren.

Thomas Wheeler bio

Carl L. Williams is a Houston author and playwright. His short stories and poems have been published in literary magazines. One of his stories finished seventh in the *Writer's Digest* short-short-story contest, appearing in the May/June, 2008 issue. His full-length and one-act plays have won numerous national competitions, with productions around the country, including off-off-Broadway. Over 20 of his plays have been published. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

Jim Wilson is a veterinarian in private practice for 31 years who seven years ago began treating his poetry seriously and saving it. He now has four published books: *Distillations of a Life Just Lived*, 2002; *Coal to Diamonds*, 2003; *Taking a Peek*, 2004; and *Down to Earth Poetry*, 2006. He's been published recently in *Border Senses*, U.T. El Paso; *Concho River Review*, Angelo State University; *The Desert Candle*, Sul Ross State University; and *Spiky Palm*, Texas A&M University at Galveston, and won sweepstakes in the Cisco Writer's Club annual contest for 2007. He says, "I write about everyday events every day."

Ellen E. Withers is an insurance fraud investigator by day and a freelance writer by night. She is the editor of *SIU Today Magazine*, an international fraud awareness magazine, and a regular contributor to *Life In Chenal Magazine*. Her work has been included in seven anthology publications including *Tales of the South*, *Echoes of the Ozarks* and *Silver Boomers*.

Thelma Zirkelbach, a native Texan, is a recent widow who lives in Houston. She is working on a memoir of her last year with her husband titled *The Final Chapter: A Love Story*. She has written romance novels for Harlequin and Silhouette under the pseudonym Lorna Michaels. After many years as a speech pathologist in private practice, she continues to work half-time with children, enjoying the opportunity to share in their lives and language.

Let go my bone!

The Quartet

Becky says italics, Ginny says quotes.
 I vote resent...er...present.
 You do understand it's a typo (or a Freudian slip!), right?
 Freudian typo.
 Does anyone care that this is a made-up word?
 What's that noise?
 Old dogs learning new tricks. Woof!
 Arf!
 Ruh! Roh!
 Barbark!
 Oh Gawd! people are going to start
 questioning our sanity if we add barks
 arfs and ruh rohs to a poem!
 (You're just going to add this line as well aren't you?)
 I think it's woof, because I feel an ARF coming....
 Oh, it's stuck. Well, next time.
 That's disgusting!

quark quark quark
 quack quack quack
 You know you have to add Quark to the TM list, yes?

"Freckles to Winkles" – is that with one eye or two?
 Only "Hawaii" has two I's.

wink-wink

And yes, I think we're done!

Except for the paranoia bit.

You people scare me

That whooshing sound was this whole conversation thread
going right over my head.

I'm going to leave you nuts here on the tree and go to bed.

Attributions



