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Bugs of a Feather (fiction)	3
by John Bensko	
Three Poems (poetry)	8
Cooking	
Summer of my Spring	
dragonflies among the headstones	
by Dan Jacoby	
Things Left Behind (creative non-fiction)	11
by Joanna ES Campbell	
Praise Odes (poetry)	14
by Jeff Schiff	
We Did Not Expect Four Legs (fiction)	17
by Cyan James	
How I Might Love a Mississippi Woman Who Abides the Summer Silence of Moon Lake (poetry)	24
by Jeffrey Alfier	
The Taxidermist (fiction)	25
by James Barnett	
Two Poems (poetry)	30
A Poem for Uncle Jackass (October 27, 1927 – August 14, 2016) ...	
When a Woman’s Finally Had Enough in Alligator, Mississippi ...	
by Samuel Prestridge	
The Owl’s Beak (fiction)	32
by Otis Fuqua	
Nuns In The Record Room (poetry)	35
by Russell Brakefield	
The Lepanto Terrapin Derby: A Photo Essay in the Time of a Pandemic	36
by Gregory Hansen	

The Chimney (poetry) 53
by Larry D. Thomas

Untitled Delta Photographs 54
by Jeffrey Alfier

Shell of a Terrapin (poetry) 56
by Claude Wilkinson

Delta Sources and Resources 57
Through a Crowd Bravely:
The Beginnings of Public School Integration in New Orleans
Amistad Research Center (online resource)
Tulane University, New Orleans
by Marcus C. Tribbett

Reviews 59
Garcia, *The Fruit of All My Grief: Lives in the Shadow of the American Dream*, reviewed by
Hope Coulter
Watson and Thomas, Jr., eds., *Faulkner and Money*, reviewed by Jill Fennell
Wilhelm and Graves, eds., *Conversations with Robert Morgan*, reviewed by Jim Coby
Spicer, *Confessional*, reviewed by Floyd Collins
Osing, *Left Overs*, reviewed by Marck L. Beggs
Hinds and Silverman, *Johnny Cash International: How and Why Fans Love the Man in Black*,
reviewed by Colin Woodward
O'Rourke, *Politics and the American Language*, reviewed by Stan Weeber
Romeo, *Gender and the Jubilee: Black Freedom and the Reconstruction of Citizenship in Civil
War Missouri*, reviewed by Ronnie A. Nichols
Marszalek, Nolan, Gallo, and Williams, *Hold On With A Bulldog Grip: A Short Study of
Ulysses S. Grant*, reviewed by Robert Patrick Bender
Girard, *The Caddos and Their Ancestors: Archaeology and the Native People of Northwest
Louisiana*, reviewed by Duncan P. McKinnon

Contributors 78

Contributors

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Robert Patrick Bender grew up in Wisconsin and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in History from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and a Masters and PhD from the University of Arkansas. His research specialty is the American Civil War. His publications include *Like Grass before the Scythe* (University of Alabama Press, 2007) and *Worthy of the Cause for which they Fight* (University of Arkansas Press, 2011) and numerous articles and book reviews. He is a tenured Instructor of History at Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell and resides in Artesia, New Mexico, with his wife Sarah Beth.

John Bensko is the author of a collection of stories, *Sea Dogs*, from Graywolf Press, as well as several poetry books. He is Professor Emeritus at the University of Memphis and is married to the fiction writer Cary Holladay.

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Jim Coby is Assistant Professor of English at Indiana University Kokomo. His essays and reviews have appeared in several journals and edited collections, and he is currently co-editing a book on the manifestations of violence in comics.

Floyd Collins received his baccalaureate degree in English from the University of Memphis. He earned an MFA in Creative Writing and a PhD in Twentieth Century Literature at the University of Arkansas. His most recent volume of poetry is *What Harvest: Poems on the Siege and Battle of the Alamo*. His book-length critical study titled *Seamus Heaney: The Crisis of Identity* appeared from the Delaware University Press in 2003. His poetry and critical essays appear regularly in *The Free State Review*, *The Georgia Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, and *The Kenyon Review*. His collection of critical essays titled *The Living Artifact* will be published by the Stephen F. Austin State University Press on July 1, 2021. His work-in-progress is *The Teresa Poems*.

Hope Coulter, a fiction writer and poet, teaches English and creative writing at Hendrix College. She also directs the Hendrix-Murphy Foundation Programs in Literature and Language.

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Otis Fuqua is a writer and editor living in NYC, where he works as a ghostwriter and book writing coach. When he's not writing, he's running along the East River, taking too many photos of his cat, or trying to make the perfect fried rice. He holds a BA in English and Creative Writing from Brandeis University.

Gregory Hansen is Professor of Folklore and English at Arkansas State University where he also teaches in the Heritage Studies Doctoral Program. He is the author of *A Florida Fiddler: The Life and Times of Richard Seaman*, and his publications focus on roots music, folklore and language, and public folklore.

Dan Jacoby is a graduate of Fenwick High School, St. Louis University, Chicago State University, and Governors State University. He has published poetry in several fine publications. He is a former educator, steel worker, and counterintelligence agent. He was born in 1947 on the second floor of a cold water flat at 55th and Halsted, Chicago. He has been writing poetry since 1967 and his work is influenced by the Beats, John Knoepfle, Al Montesi, and John Logan to name a few. He resides in Haganan, Illinois along the Otter, Macoupin, and Solomon creeks that join the Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

Cyan James holds an MFA from the University of Michigan. Currently she is revising a novel about the women who survived the Green River Killer. She loves

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Duncan P. McKinnon is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Central Arkansas, director of the Jamie C. Brandon Center for Archaeological Research, and research associate at the Center for American Archeology. He has contributed chapters to *The Archaeology of the Caddo* (University of Nebraska Press, 2012), *Historical Archaeology of Arkansas: A Hidden Diversity* (University of Nebraska Press, 2016), and *Reconsidering Mississippian Households and Communities* (University of Alabama Press, 2021). He is author of the book *The Battle Mound Landscape: Exploring Space, Place, and History of a Red River Caddo Community in Southwest Arkansas* (Arkansas Archeological Survey Research Series, 2017). He has several chapters and is co-editor of *Archaeological Remote Sensing in North America: Innovative Techniques for Anthropological Applications* (with Bryan S. Haley, University of Alabama Press, 2017) and *Ancestral Caddo Ceramic Traditions* (with Timothy K. Perttula and Jeffery S. Girard, Louisiana State University Press, 2021).

Ronnie A. Nichols is a historian and a former director of the Delta Cultural Center. He was one of the historical consultants on the hit motion picture *Glory*.

Samuel Prestridge lives with his family in Athens, Georgia, and is Associate Professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of North Georgia / Oconee. He has published poems, essays, articles, and interviews in a wide variety of journals and magazines. He plays acoustic blues and ragtime on a Gibson J100, and he imagines himself mastering the complete oeuvres of Blind Blake, Reverend Gary Davis, and Blind Willie McTell. In more lucid moments, he realizes the unlikelihood of the venture.

Gerard Sarnat won San Francisco Poetry's 2020 Contest, the Poetry in the Arts First Place Award plus the Dorfman Prize, and has been nominated for handfuls of 2021 and previous Pushcarts plus Best of

the Net Awards. Gerry is widely published including in *Buddhist Poetry Review*, *Gargoyle*, *Main Street Rag*, *New Delta Review*, *Northampton Review*, *New Haven Poetry Institute*, *Texas Review*, *Vonnegut Journal*, *Brooklyn Review*, *San Francisco Magazine*, *Monterey Poetry Review*, *The Los Angeles Review*, and *The New York Times* as well as by Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth, Penn, Chicago and Columbia presses. He's authored the collections *Homeless Chronicles* (2010), *Disputes* (2012), *17s* (2014), and *Melting the Ice King* (2016). Gerry is a physician, who has built and staffed clinics for the marginalized, as well as a Stanford professor and healthcare CEO. Currently he is devoting energy/resources to deal with climate justice, and serves on Climate Action Now's board. Gerry has been married since 1969 with three kids plus six grandsons, and is looking forward to future granddaughters. gerardsarnat.com

Jeff Schiff is the author of *That hum to go by* (Mammoth books), as well as *Mixed Diction*, *Burro Heart*, *The Rats of Patzcuaro*, *The Homily of Infinitude*, and *Anywhere in this Country*. Hundreds of his pieces have appeared in more than a hundred and thirty publications worldwide, including *The Alembic*, *Bellingham Review*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Grand Street*, *Ohio Review*, *Poet & Critic*, *Tulane Review*, *Tampa Review*, *Louisville Review*, *Tendrill*, *Pembroke Magazine*, *Carolina Review*, *Chicago Review*, *Hawaii Review*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *River City*, *Indiana Review*, *Willow Springs*, and *Southwest Review*. He is currently serving as the interim dean of the school of graduate studies at Columbia College Chicago, where he has been on the faculty since 1987.

Larry D. Thomas, a member of the Texas Institute of Letters and the 2008 Texas Poet Laureate, has published twenty-three print books of poetry and numerous online chapbooks. His most recently published poetry collections are *In a Field of Cotton: Mississippi River Delta Poems* (Blue Horse Press 2019) and *States of Red and Blue* (a limited edition print chapbook published by Right Hand Pointing in late 2020 and recently republished online at Right Hand Pointing). A longtime contributor of poetry to *Arkansas Review*,

Thomas was the featured poet of the February 2021 issue of the *Delta Poetry Review*.

Marcus Charles Tribbett is General Editor of *Arkansas Review: A Journal of Delta Studies* and Assistant Professor of English at Arkansas State University, where he also teaches for the interdisciplinary Heritage Studies doctoral program. He has published scholarly work on blues performers, such as Memphis Minnie, and on a nineteenth-century slave narrative by William and Ellen Craft. His most recent publications include articles on contemporary novels by Jessmyn Ward, *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (2019, *Journal of Ethnic American Literature*), and Tupelo Hassman, *girlchild* (forthcoming in 2021 in *Valley Voices*).

Stan Weeber (PhD, University of North Texas, 2000) is Professor of Sociology at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana. His interests in sociology include political sociology, social movements, environmental sociology, and sociological theory. His work has appeared in *The American Sociologist*, *The Sociological Quarterly*, the *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy*, *International Review of Modern Sociology*, the *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology*, the *Journal of Popular Culture*, the *Journal of Global Analysis*, and several other journals.

Claude Wilkinson is a critic, essayist, painter, and poet. His most recent poetry collections are *Marvelous Light* and *World Without End*.

Colin Woodward received his PhD from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. He is the author of *Marching Masters: Slavery, Race, and the Confederate Army during the Civil War* (UVA Press, 2014), and he is the host of the *American Rambler* history and pop culture podcast. His book, *Country Boy: The Roots of Johnny Cash*, is forthcoming from University of Arkansas Press.