



Poetry & Metaphor

Presented by: Peter Karoff

Three Tuesdays
 October 18, 25, and November 1, 2016

1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Valle Verde Social Room
 900 Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara

This seminar aims to develop your understanding of what a good poem is—why you like it or why you don’t—and increase your appreciation of poetry by becoming a better reader.

The seminar has a few guiding aphorisms or principles. The first is Robert Frost’s definition of a successful poem: “A complete poem is one where an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found the words.” Frost applied these criteria: (1) did the poet have something to say?; (2) was the poet true to it?; and (3) did the poet use good words?

The second guide is what my teacher, the poet Jane Cooper, concluded after a lifetime of writing and working with aspiring poets: “You can’t really teach someone how to write poetry, but what you can do is teach someone how to ‘read’ poetry. And then perhaps the writing will follow.”

Lastly, the seminar will test whether these lines by William Carlos Williams, written in the 1920s, are at all true today: “It is difficult / to get the news from poems / yet men die miserably every day / for lack / of what is found there.”

The subjects covered will be:

- How to read a poem
- The dynamics of metaphor
- How poetry is like music
- The many different kinds of poetry
- Poetry as fun—the reading, the sharing, the writing
- Why poetry is important—to us and to our world



Deadline for registration: October 11th

Enrollment Form: Poetry & Metaphor - Oct 18, 25, & Nov 1
VISTAS Members \$35 - Nonmembers \$52.50

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Check# _____

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Mail registration form to:

VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc., P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228

Or you may go to our website and pay by secure credit card through PayPal

<http://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/upcoming.html>

Please check here if you would like to volunteer to help with refreshments _____

BIOGRAPHY: *Peter Karoff's* poems have been anthologized and published in various periodicals. *PARABLE*, his first book of poems, will be published in early 2017 by Word Tech Communications through its David Robert Brooks imprint. He has written extensively on the moral and ethical dimensions of philanthropy and is author of *The World We Want—New Dimensions in Philanthropy and Social Change* (AltaMira Press, 2008) and *Just Money—A Critique of Contemporary American Philanthropy* (TPI Editions, 2004), both of which included poems.



He is a graduate of Brandeis University (1959) and completed an MFA in Writing from Columbia University in 1988, where he received the *Benjamin Burns Poetry Prize*. In 1989 Peter was made a Fellow of the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, New Hampshire. He received an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, from Lesley University in 2002, and in 2006 he became a Purpose Prize Fellow.

Peter was the recipient of the 2016 award for First Place—Poetry from the Santa Barbara Writers Conference.

A long-time resident of the Boston area, Peter now lives in Santa Barbara and has taught in the UCSB Global and International Studies Program.



Required reading will be a selection of poems and other references made available online or as handouts. In addition, a recommended list of books will be provided to participants.



VISTAS Calendar

Seminar/Event	Inclusive Dates	Time	Venue
Annual Picnic	Sunday, September 11	12:30 pm	Tuckers Grove
Documentary Film Club	3rd Thurs Monthly	2:00 pm	Maravilla Theater
Nonfiction Book Club	3rd Wed Monthly	1:30 pm	Vista del Monte-Sierra Madre
Cinematographic Elections	Mon, Sept 12,19,26	9:30 am	Maravilla Theater
Initiative/Referendum Process	Thur, Sept 29, Oct 6,13	9:30 am	Goleta Library
Trials of the Century	Mon, Oct 10-Nov 14	9:30 am	Valle Verde - Social Room
Poetry & Metaphor	Tues, Oct 18,25, Nov 1	1:30 pm	Valle Verde - Social Room
LGBT/Transgender/Transsexual: What Is Being Taught in College Courses Today?	Tues, Oct 25	9:30 am	Valle Verde - Social Room
Post Election Analysis	Thurs, Nov 10	1:30 pm	Goleta Library
Eleanor Roosevelt	Wed, Nov 16	1:30 pm	Valle Verde - Social Room
Brazil's Econ/Political	TBD	TBD	TBD