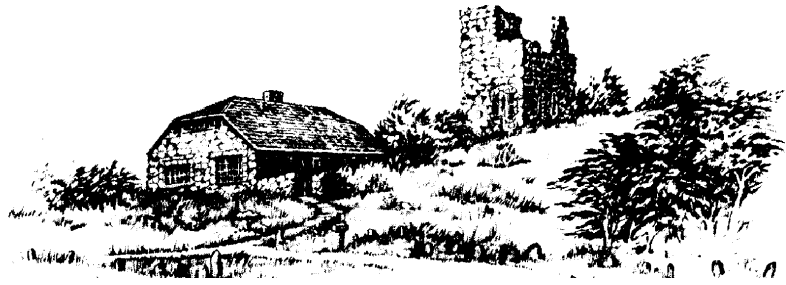


# Tor House Newsletter

Fall 2022

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After a two-year, covid-caused hiatus, the Fall Festival is back.

We are pleased to announce this year's celebration in conjunction with the Robinson Jeffers Association's annual conference and including the dedication of the Jeffers Plaza at the Monterey Conference Center.

Friday, October 14, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Sunset Celebration at Tor House with wine, hors d'oeuvres, poetry and music.

Saturday, October 15, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Presentations at the Carmel Woman's Club, including a reading from the *Jeffers Family Travel Diaries*, a panel discussion of "Descent to the Dead," a travel narrative which follows the steps of the Jeffers family, an appreciation of Melba Bennett, and a talk on "Robinson Jeffers and the Years of Prophecy."

Saturday, October 15, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Monterey Conference Center: Reception and dedication of the sculptures in the Jeffers Plaza of the Center (5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.), followed by dinner with a keynote address by distinguished artist and inaugural Tor House Fellow Enrique Martínez Celaya (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.).

Sunday, October 16, 9:00 a.m. – Noon. Poetry and Bird Watching Walk and Picnic at Carmel River State Beach.

For details see Pages 2 and 3 of this Newsletter. And sign up on page 7 or on the web at [www.torhouse.org/Events](http://www.torhouse.org/Events).

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**Tor House is now open for tours on Saturdays, or by appointment.**

**The Covid break saw the introduction of new programs:**

**The very popular monthly "Not At Home Before 4 PM" musical recitals  
and  
with, the RJA, an on-line series of Jeffers webinar discussion programs, archived on  
both the Tor House website and at [RobinsonJeffersAssociation.org](http://RobinsonJeffersAssociation.org).**

**To receive early notice of these, and other special programs, contact the Tor House Office or the Newsletter editor at [fdv528@comcast.net](mailto:fdv528@comcast.net) and make sure you're on our digital mailing list.**

**THE 2022 ROBINSON JEFFERS FALL FESTIVAL  
OCTOBER 14 — OCTOBER 16, 2022**

**Co-Sponsored by the Tor House Foundation and the Robinson Jeffers  
Association**

***Proof of vaccination and masks indoors are required.***

*Friday, October 14*

**SUNSET CELEBRATION**

5:00 to 7:00. Tor House Gardens, 26304 Ocean View Ave, Carmel  
Poetry reading by **Taelen Thomas**, piano interludes by Melinda Coffey Armstead,  
Barbara Ruzicka and Emi Saeki Wada.

Hawk Tower will be open, fine wines and hors d'oeuvres will be served, and,  
weather cooperating, the sun will slowly sink beyond the Sea Gate.

***\$25 for Sunset Celebration.***

*Saturday, October 15*

**ROBINSON JEFFERS FESTIVAL**

8:30 AM–3:00 PM The Carmel Woman's Club, San Carlos and 9<sup>th</sup>, Carmel  
Doors open at 8:30 AM. Continental breakfast available to attendees.

***\$25 for Festival***

**MORNING PROGRAM 9:00 AM–12:00 PM**

Welcome: Elliot Ruchowitz-Roberts, president, THF and Aaron Yoshinobu,  
president, RJA

*Robinson Jeffers Family Travel Diaries, Volume 1: British Isles, 1929*

A Reading by Deborah Whittlesey Sharp, Elliot Ruchowitz-Roberts, Aengus  
Jeffers, and Callum Jeffers

“The Jeffers Bums: Snapshots from a Summer in Northern Ireland”

Selections from the travel diary of Ugo Gervasoni (Bergamo, Italy); trip to  
Northern Ireland with Jeffers scholar Rob Kafka, 2017

Poems from *Descent to the Dead* read by Tor House docents and trustees

*Descent to the Dead: A Panel Discussion*

Moderator: Gere diZerega, professor of medicine, USC

Panelists: Elliot Ruchowitz-Roberts, professor emeritus (English), Monterey  
Peninsula College; Lawrence Spann, physician assistant, author; Aaron Yoshinobu,  
professor of geosciences, Texas Tech University

**LUNCH 12:00–1:30 PM**

Lunch on your own in Carmel, or preordered box lunch at the Woman's Club  
***\$20 for preordered box lunch (not included in \$70 All Event Package)***

*Saturday, October 15*

AFTERNOON PROGRAM 1:30–3:00 PM

Moderator: Norris Pope, director and editor emeritus, Stanford University Press

“Melba Berry Bennett: A Tribute”

James Karman, professor emeritus (English), CSU Chico

“Jeffers and the Years of Prophecy”

Robert Zaller, professor emeritus (History), Drexel University

“The Last Word: Poems by Robinson Jeffers”

A reading of favorite poems by Festival attendees

EVENING PROGRAM 5:00–8:00 PM

**DEDICATION OF THE JEFFERS PLAZA SCULPTURES**

Monterey Conference Center, 1 Portola Plaza, Monterey

***\$35 for Reception, Dedication, and Dinner***

5:00–5:30 PM Reception with wine and hors d’oeuvres

5:30–6:00 PM Dedication Ceremony

6:00–8:00 PM Dinner, Colton Room

Keynote speaker: Enrique Martínez Celaya, artist, author, USC professor, inaugural Tor House Foundation Fellow

***Co-sponsored by the Monterey Conference Center and the City of Monterey***

***\$70 for ALL EVENT PACKAGE***

*Sunday, October 16*

**POETRY AND BIRDWATCHING WALK**

9:00 AM Meet at Carmel River State Beach Parking Lot, Scenic and Carmelo near Carmel Point. Bring favorite poems, a beverage, and a brown bag picnic lunch.

***No charge***

## NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS (April 2022 – August 2022)

### LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP (\$1000)

Aengus Jeffers  
Ken & Lisa Kelley

### PATRON MEMBERS

Bob Archer  
Ben Boychuk  
Don & Nancy Colberg

Neal Ney  
William Ondrechen

### SPONSOR MEMBERS

Robin Aeschilman  
Rick Applegate  
Steve Barghusen/Kate Knutson  
Ron Baxter / Robin Winfield  
Bruce & Laura Bosley  
Joe Callaghan / Robin Rose  
Gordon & Elizabeth Campbell

Brian Cronwall  
John & Joan Keeseey  
David Ligare  
Melinda Manlin  
Mr/Mrs Dominick Maio  
Esther Medina  
Arthur & Elizabeth Pasquinelli

Kathleen Schiebold  
Robin Sweet  
Molly White  
Brad Whitehurst  
Daniel Williams  
Linda Zinn

### MEMBERS

Joanne Ablan  
Mary Aldinger  
Pauline Allen  
Jeff Baron/Kevin D'Angelo  
Tim Barnes  
Carla Beam  
Terry & Melissa Beers  
Sheila Benson  
Lucas Blok/Barbara Ruzicka  
Beverly Boyd  
Bill Briggs / Alice Holzman  
Michael A. Broomfield  
John E. Brown  
Jeff Canepa  
Lorna Claerbout  
Martha Crewe  
Tom /Disher/Maureen Cronin  
Jean Donnelly  
John Driscoll  
Luanne Erickson  
Dr. Dianne Fergusson  
Frances Gaver

Alice Ann Glenn  
Thomas Goff  
Dan Gotch  
Colleen A. Graff  
Darrow & Gwen Haagensen  
Carolyn Hess  
Carol Jensen  
Carol Krantz Johnson  
Robert Kaler / Carol Journeay  
Barbara Ketchel  
Paul W. Kroll & Amy Strickland  
Hans Lehmann  
Karen Letendre  
George Lober  
Karin Locke  
Michael Magliari  
Mick McAllister  
Barbara McEnerney  
Margaret Paul  
Larry & Connie Pettinger  
Darren Peterie / Thomas O. Rusert  
Richard & Susan Platt

Lawrence Potts  
Gordon & Kathy Poulson  
Denise Pray  
Margaret Purchase  
Richard Robbins  
Jo Rogers  
David Rutgers  
Phil Scurich  
Raymond & Amy Sims  
Eric & Holly Smith  
James B. Snyder  
Katherine Stoner / Michelle Welch  
Barbara Stout  
Peggy Van Patten  
Hiroshi & Enu Wada  
Jeff Wallace  
Robert & Paula Weaver  
Ingrid M. Wekerle  
Robert & Paula Weaver  
Christopher & Barbara Westover  
Christopher Williams  
Linda Zinn

### CONTRIBUTIONS (April 2022– August 2022)

CONTRIBUTIONS - \$10,000  
Bennett Family Endowment

CONTRIBUTIONS - \$400  
Anonymous

CONTRIBUTIONS – to \$100  
Thomas & Joyce Anne Antel  
Ben Boychuck  
Joe Callaghan/Robin Rose  
Cindy Kasberg  
Hans Lehmann  
Barbara McEnerney

Lee Ann Naquin  
Phil Scurich  
Karen Steadman  
Peggy Van Patten  
Linda Zinn

[Please note: listings reflect only new and renewed memberships and contributions since the Spring Issue of the Newsletter. The Spring Issue lists memberships and contributions for December, January, February, and March. There are no listings in the Summer Issue because of space constraints (Poetry Prize winners are published in the Summer Issue). The Fall Issue contains memberships and contributions from April through August of any given year, and the Winter Issue lists September through November memberships and contributions.]

POETRY BY DOCENTS AND FRIENDS IF THE TOR HOUSE FOUNDATION

View from Hawk Tower

Who can speak the future  
here we are in it  
sitting on the stone mason's bench  
he is long gone  
she is long gone  
the stones still whisper

Nobody can speak the future  
even the winds do not know  
but if we live to see another moon  
we will have to live it  
Perhaps a happy day  
this sad day will become

The sea is rising  
he spoke of it  
in *Tor House*, a good poem  
he knew despair is truth  
the sundial still reads  
life is but a shadow

You must return  
to where courage was lost  
to find it

Douglas A Borer, Pacific Grove, CA  
May 30, 2022

Junco Battle

Tor House, sheltered by gray sky,  
eucalyptus and cypress with the  
honey scent of ceanothus. Seed-  
pods on the driveway, parked cars  
on the street. A flash of brown feathers.

A dark hooded junco engaged in battle.  
He flies forward, wings spread wide,  
attacking his adversary with his bill,  
barely landing before pushing off  
for the next attack.

Usually wary of humans, he hardly  
notices my presence, as the female  
junco calmly pecks for seed.  
He's on his own with this opponent:  
himself... in the side view mirror.

Joyce Snyder, Palo Alto CA

\* \* \* \* \*

FOUR POEMS BY LAURA C. NEWMARK

A Bright Jewel

Below a full moon passing slowly by,  
a bright jewel appears in the darkness of night –  
Carmel Bay – shining, white, reflecting the moonlight.  
June, July 2022

Looking at Point Lobos

On a clear September morning  
pine branches white with lichen frame  
the white rock at Point Lobos  
and the blue, reflecting bay.  
September 2021

Indian Summer Afternoon

A wind chime rings melodiously  
in the afternoon sea breeze  
as bright sunlight in a cloudless sky  
reflects from the garden's photinia leaves  
and distantly, from the silver sea.  
September 2021

Blue and White

High clouds streak the clearing sky  
after an overnight rain –  
an abstract painting of blue and white,  
fleeting beauty on an autumn day.  
December 2021

## News and Notes

**Tim Hunt**, editor of the five volume *The Collected Poetry of Robinson Jeffers*, sends this announcement:

Broadstone Books is publishing my fifth poetry collection, *Voice to Voice in the Dark*, this month. The first link is to the press's webpage for the collection. The second is to a slightly different description (with a couple of sample poems) on my website:

<https://www.broadstonebooks.com/shop/p/voice-to-voice-in-the-dark-poetry-by-tim-hunt>

<https://www.tahunt.com/poetry/>

If you navigate to the Broadstone site, I hope you'll take a look at their catalogue. Larry Moore and his colleagues are committed to what Marianne Moore had in mind by the phrase "the genuine" in the various iterations of her poem "Poetry," and I feel privileged to join the list.

Dr. Hunt continues:

Shifting back to Jeffers: the fifth volume of the *Collected Poetry* includes a discussion of the chronology of the poems. Stanford University Press has given me permission to post it online, which makes the material easily accessible and machine searchable. The link to chronology discussion and some other commentaries can be accessed here: <https://www.tahunt.com/robinson-jeffers/>

The Fall Festival, as you surely have noticed, celebrates the Dedication of the Jeffers Plaza Sculptures, the installation of which took place during the Covid Epidemic. What follows is an excerpted description of the project {See the Spring 2021 Newsletter (archived on the TH website) for fuller explanation and more photos.)

*In honor of Robinson Jeffers, the bas-relief sculptures by Carol Matranga Courtney and Will Pettee were installed in January 2021. Doug Phillips, General Manager at the Conference Center noted, "The new bronzes at Jeffers Plaza bring life to this stark architectural setting. It gives this area a sense of place. The garden plaque . . . reminds me of an old leather book, inviting the viewer in to read the poem."*



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### *The Last Word in Poetry from Jeffers*

[As suggested by Douglas Borer, a Tor House Docent. He explains, "I use the poem as the opening of my tour. It is remarkable how many times people say "did he just write that." A timeless piece (unfortunately)."]

### **THE SOUL'S DESERT**

(August 30, 1939)

They are warming up the old horrors; and all that they say is echoes of echoes.  
Beware of taking sides; only watch.  
These are not criminals, nor hucksters and little journalists, but the governments  
Of the great nations; men favorably  
Representative of massed humanity. Observe them. Wrath and laughter  
Are quite irrelevant. Clearly it is time  
To become disillusioned, each person to enter his own soul's desert  
And look for God, — having seen man.

From *Be Angry at the Sun* (1941) Hunt III, 15.

Also see the Summer Issue of this Newsletter: Jeffers "Last Word" for a similar message – "The Answer," written in 1937. Jeffers may seem severe in good times. In troubled times his writing is indeed "Timeless."

**RESERVATION FORM FOR JEFFERS FALL FESTIVAL 2022**

*[See program schedule, page 1, for details]*

To assist the Foundation in planning, and to assure a place, we encourage early advance reservations.

NAME[S] \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS/PHONE #/email: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNSET CELEBRATION AT TOR HOUSE GARDENS**

14 Oct 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Tor House Gardens, 26304 Ocean View Avenue, Carmel.  
Wine and hors d'oeuvres.  
Poetry reading by Taelen Thomas.  
Piano interludes by Melinda Coffey Armstead, Barbara Ruzicka, Emi Saeki Wada.  
**SUNSET CELEBRATION (Reservations suggested) – \$25**

For \_\_\_\_\_ persons \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Saturday* **THE ROBINSON JEFFERS FESTIVAL**

15 Oct Carmel Woman's Club. San Carlos and 9<sup>th</sup> in Carmel (Opposite Sunset Center).  
Doors open at 8:30 am. Continental breakfast available for registered attendees.  
**\$35 FOR FESTIVAL**  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM  
Jeffers Family Travel Diaries, Readings **James Karman**– Tribute to Melba Berry Bennett  
Snapshots of a Summer in Northern Ireland **Robert Zaller** – Jeffers and the Years of Prophecy  
Panel discussion on *Descent to the Dead* The Last Word: Poems by Robinson Jeffers

For \_\_\_\_\_ persons \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[Lunch is your chance to sample the many outstanding restaurants and eateries of Carmel  
**Prepackaged Box Lunch (not included in \$70 All-Event Package) - \$20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ]**

**EVENING PROGRAM**

**DEDICATION OF THE JEFFERS PLAZA SCULPTURES**

5:00 -8:00 PM – Monterey Conference Center, 1 Portola Plaza, Monterey  
Reception and Dedication – 5:00 – 6:00 PM  
Dinner – 6:00 – 8:00 PM  
Keynote Speakers: Enrique Martinez Celaya.

**RECEPTION, DEDICATION, DINNER \$35 For \_\_\_\_\_ persons. \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
or

**ALL-EVENT (Fri & Sat) PACKAGE - \$70 For \_\_\_\_\_ persons. \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*Sunday* **ANNUAL POETRY AND BIRDWATCHING WALK AND BROWN BAG LUNCH**

16 Oct - Meet at 9 AM at Carmel River State Beach Parking Lot  
at Scenic and Carmelo near Carmel Point  
Bring along favorite Jeffers related poems, beverages, and a brown bag lunch.  
**POETRY WALK IS, AS ALWAYS, FREE**

Mail or E-mail Reservations. Payment, as required, through checks to the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation.  
PO Box 2713, Carmel, CA 93921  
For on-line credit card payments or reservations, see website at [www.torhouse.org](http://www.torhouse.org).  
For further information call: (831)624-1813



**Robinson Jeffers  
Tor House Foundation**  
P.O. Box 2713 • CARMEL, CA 93921

**Officers: 2022**

President: Elliot Ruchowitz-Roberts  
Vice President: Norris Pope  
Vice President: Susan Shillinglaw  
Treasurer: Arthur Pasquinelli  
Secretary: Melinda Coffey Armstead

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Gere diZerega	James Karman	Aaron Yoshinobu
Vince Huth	Alan Stacy	
Aengus Jeffers	John Varady	

**Trustees Emeriti:**

Al Giovanni	Lynn Stralem
Lindsay Jeffers	Christopher Williams

Administrative Assistant: Melinda Bowman  
Newsletter Editor: Fran Vardamis

Tor House Office (831) 624-1813  
e-mail: [thf@torhouse.org](mailto:thf@torhouse.org)  
website: [www.torhouse.org](http://www.torhouse.org)  
Office Open Mon thru Thurs: 9-2

**Fall 2022**

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Please check one:

- Full-time student/TH Docent \$25.00
- Senior 30.00
- Individual 50.00
- Couple 70.00
- Sponsor 150.00
- Patron 350.00
- Lifetime 1000.00

My payment for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel/FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
TOR HOUSE FOUNDATION  
Mail to: PO Box 2713, Carmel, CA 93921  
Consult Website for on-line payment

Your contribution assists in the preservation of the unique home of the poet, Robinson Jeffers, and in community outreach programs.

**Membership benefits include:**

- ◆ Free tours of Tor House
- ◆ 10% discount on merchandise
- ◆ Advance invitations to coming events
- ◆ Quarterly newsletter

**ROBINSON JEFFERS  
TOR HOUSE FOUNDATION**

Tel: (831)624-1813

[thf@torhouse.org](mailto:thf@torhouse.org) [www.torhouse.org](http://www.torhouse.org)