Dear NFPS Poets:

I am writing this column in the wake of the 2015 NFPS Convention, hosted by the Florida State Poets Association in St. Petersburg. I’ve barely recovered from jetlag, and my head is swirling with memories of poems and conversations. I’m eager to see what I can do with the workshop draft poems in my new tangerine-covered notebook and to dip into the collections of Florida poetry that I brought home with me to become better acquainted with poets I met in St. Petersburg and with traditions I learned about in convention presentations. I’m also eager to browse more in the handsome new issue of *Encore*—to experience afresh in its pages the winning poems that I heard performed a year ago at the 2014 convention in Salt Lake City.

But before I immerse myself in the “treasure” I gathered in “poetry’s place in the sun,” I want to share with you some of what the NFPS board is undertaking in your behalf.

The primary purpose of everything we board members do is to increase the value of NFPS affiliation for state societies and to help strengthen those societies. To that end, we try to make information and resources available to all state society members. We also seek to create opportunities for officers of affiliated societies to share ideas and to discuss approaches to common problems.

This newsletter has long been the Federation’s principal means of informing its members all across the country, and, especially in its online version (free of the space constraints that limit the content of the print version), it has increasingly supplemented its core of information about events and contests with members’ advice on poetic practice. The NFPS website has been, and continues to be, the place to find complete guidelines for all the Federation’s single-poem contests and manuscript competitions, as well as listings of all its publications, with ordering information.

Over the past year or so, these have been supplemented by an NFPS Facebook page, providing immediate news with plenty of pictures.

Starting this summer, we will have a new site where state society members can find materials that have not been readily accessible until now. NFPS Webmaster Billy Pennington is setting up a secure, password-protected area, which can serve as a repository of documents such as the Federation’s bylaws and its officers’ annual reports, and of resources such as listings of speakers, workshop leaders, and judges. It may also include a chatroom where state presidents can discuss their concerns and share ideas.

One of our goals for this site is to extend throughout the year the sort of mutually supportive exchange that occurred during the state presidents’ meeting at the convention in St. Petersburg. The discussion there focused on two main areas of concern that had been articulately raised in an email sent me by Dawnell Griffin, President of the Utah State Poetry Society, who was unable to attend the convention: (1) the aging of society membership and the concomitant need for “encouraging younger people to join . . . and to accept responsible positions”; (2) the perennial need to raise money to finance programs.

With regard to financing, Judy Davies, President of the Mississippi Poetry Society and an experienced grant writer, gave advice on obtaining grants. The convention program booklet, with handsome display ads from sponsors, provided an example of sponsorships as another way in which state societies can get funding without incurring fees.

Ways of engaging younger generations in our societies is the focus the NFPS Youth Activities Committee, chaired by Steven Concert. This year’s Youth Awards to state societies named the specific activities for which they were being recognized. Many of these involved ways of publicizing student contests and recognizing the winners and their teachers. Some were for programs outside the accustomed range. Among these were a Poetry to Go program, conducted by the Columbine Poets of Colorado, that put student poems on buses in every metro area, and Farm Fest participation by the New River Poets chapter of FSPA, teaching lessons with poetry in an historic schoolhouse. Also recognized with awards given by the Youth Chair were fourteen individuals who had gone “above and beyond” the expected to support young poets. [continued on page 8]

From June 24th to 28th, more than 130 poets from all over the United States gathered to “Discover the Treasure of Poetry’s Place in the Sun” at the 2015 annual convention of NFPS held in the Hilton Bayfront Hotel, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Newly-appointed Florida State Poet Laureate Peter Meinke, along with Joe Cavanaugh, President the Florida State Poets Association, and NFPS President Eleanor Berry welcomed us as we began an exciting journey into Florida’s poetry, geographically, historically, culturally, and imaginatively. We were treated to readings, workshops and presentations that spotlighted over 20 poets from young to older and to many poetic forms, some familiar as a sonnet and some that stretched the edges of our comfortable Thesaurus.

Thank you to NFPS Treasurer Lucille Morgan Wilson who engineered the NFPS Contests winners and awards during meal times. FSPA Youth Poetry Chair Janet Watson presented pirate beads to all winners and honorable mention recipients as a memento of their Florida treasure. We were treated to a nautical program and invasion from Blackbeard’s Pirate Krewe on Friday evening accompanied on the concertina by Jan Shumliak and partner playing horns, gis, and reels, and handing out more beads to all the poets attending the lively reception.

Open Poetry Readings stretched far into the night as we shared our best poems with each other and made friends with poets who seek to energize the craft and learn best practices from one another. Surrealist Poetry, Erasure Poetry, Cow-Hunting Poetry, Ethnicity in Poetry, The Power of Partnership, and Performance Poetry were presentations enthusiastically received. We had an opportunity to hear from practicing Florida poets who explained how they respond to their muse. The Florida State Slam Team was chosen and will attend the national competition in California in 2016.

The Convention Bookstore, directed by FSPA Secretary Mary-Ann Westbrook, did a landslide business. We thank Pineapple Press (Sarasota, FL) for their complimentary copies of *Florida in Poetry: A History of the Imagination*, ed. Jones & OSullivan, which was given out to all attendees. FSPA volunteers and NFPS volunteers all worked together to make the 2015 convention truly a Treasure to Remember. In *The Shape of Poetry*, Peter Meinke writes, “I think those in the profession—the calling—of writing poetry should be knowledgeable and skilled as any carpenter, passionate and dignified as any priest. I believe those who are able to spend large stretches of their lives engaged in this activity are the luckiest people in the world.” And, indeed, we are. ~ Judith Krum, FSPA Treasurer and Registrar for the 2015 NFPS Convention.

**2016 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ST. PAUL**

**MINNESOTA MAGIC—A CAPITOL CONVENTION!**

The League of Minnesota Poets will host the June 9-12, 2016 NFPS convention in St. Paul. Located in an iconic, century-old building in the heart of downtown Saint Paul’s business district, Hotel 340 is the region’s premier boutique hotel.

Keynote speaker will be Natalie Goldberg, author of *Writing Down The Bones: Freeing The Writer Within* (1986), which broke open the world of creativity and started a revolution in the way we practice writing. The book has sold over one million copies and been translated into fourteen languages. Since then Ms. Goldberg has written thirteen other books, including the novel *Banana Rose*.

We have special room rates: $139 a night for suites, $119 a night for standard rooms, and $89 a night for efficiency rooms. Room rates include a continental breakfast. Guests must make their reservations by April 24, 2016. Call 1-651-280-4120 to make reservations and refer to the League of Minnesota Poets for these rates.
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES
2015 ANNUAL CONTEST WINNERS

1. NFSPS FOUNDERS AWARD [to honor Mary B. Wall] $1500 $500 $250 (352 entries)
Judge: Hilda Raz, Placitas, NM
1st Maurine Halterner, Salt Lake City, UT
2nd David Bond, Carbondale, IL
3rd Diane Gancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
   “Wolf Lays Down”
1HM Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA
2HM Judy Johns, Pleasant View, UT
3HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
4HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD
5HM Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI
6HM Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX
7HM No 7 HM due to disqualification

2. WINNERS CIRCLE AWARD
$500 $300 $200 (225 entries)
Judge: Doris Stengel, Brainerdt, MN (alt. judge)
1st Dave Harvey, Talent, OR
   “A Mensch at Table”
2nd David Wayne Handley, Rockville, IN
   “Quoth the Shopper, Nevermore”
3rd Markay Brown, St. George, UT
   “Taking Waters”
1HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA
2HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
4HM Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT
5HM Lynda La Rocca, Twin Lakes, CO
6HM Lynee Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT
7HM Michael Bourgo, Boalsburg, PA

3. PEACE AWARD
$500 $300 $200 (124 entries)
Judge: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
1st Elzy Cogswell, Austin, TX
   “Where We Swim in the Real World”
2nd Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR
   “Tour Guide’s Translation”
3rd Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
   “Skiliti Kas Ras”
1HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
2HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN
3HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
4HM Karen Hayes, North Little Rock, AR
5HM Rebecca A. Bailey, Grangeville, ID
6HM June Gerron, Santa Rosa, CA
7HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

4. THE M&S POETRY WRITING CONTEST
$300 $125 $75 (227 entries)
Judge: Eric Read, Brigham City, UT
1st Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
   “The Eloquent Shepherd”
2nd Diane Franco, Huntington Woods, MI
   “In the Warmth of the Sun”
3rd Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
   “Elizabeth Eckford”
1HM Kim Geards, Troy, MI
2HM Iman Fears, New York, NY
3HM Catherine L’Herisson, Garland, TX
4HM Michelle Escoubas, Bloomington, IL
5HM Juanita Watts, Layton, UT
6HM Mary Jo Maguire, Englewood, CO
7HM Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX

5. THE MARGO AWARD $225 $125 $75 (171 entries)
Judge: Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
1st Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
   “In the House of Opportunity”
2nd Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
   “Why an Open Window is so Much Better Than a Ceiling Fan”
3rd Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
   “Ode to a Window”
1HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ
2HM Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO
3HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX
4HM Sandi Keaton-Wilson, Somerset, KY
5HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR
6HM Julie L. George, Muskegon, MI
7HM Vicki Wilke, Clarkston, MI

*6. DONALD STODGILL MEMORIAL AWARD
(*Members Only) $200 $100 $50 (190 entries) - Judge: Christine Beck, West Hartford, CT
1st Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI
   “Transmigration”
2nd Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT
3rd Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO
   “From That Morning On”
1HM Jean Bell, Evergreen, CO
2HM Anita Jepson, Westminster, CO
3HM Charles K. Firmage, Boise, ID
4HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
5HM Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO
6HM Roberta Marggraff, Waterbury, CT
7HM Sarah E. Morin, Fishers, IN

7. GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD
(*Members Only) $150 $75 $25 (110 entries)
Judge: Jeremy M. Downes, Auburn, AL
1st Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT
   “Trailing Vines”
2nd Richard R. Cuyler, Salida, CO
   “Sagittate”
3rd Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN
   “Chalmers Street, Charleston, SC”
1HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
2HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD
3HM Kate Hoffman, Bellefonte, PA
4HM Jan Benson, Fort Worth, TX
5HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
6HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ
7HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX

8. POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS AWARD
(*Members Only) $125 $50 $25 (185 entries)
Judge: Julia George, Muskegon, MI
1st Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
   “A Mark for Distinction”
2nd Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
   “Music Lesson”
3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
   “Paper Trail”
1HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
2HM Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
3HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX
4HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
5HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
6HM M. B. LaWent, Ishpeming, MI
7HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN

9. THE NFSPS BOARD AWARD
$150 $70 $50 (128 entries)
Judge: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
1st Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
2nd Steve Leitch, West Jordan, UT
   “Sixties-Something Hippies”
3rd Shirley Valencia, Dayton, OH
   “Time Bending Neverending”
1HM Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA
2HM Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ont., Canada
3HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
4HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
5HM Marta Rijn Finch, Bennington, VT
6HM Jim Barton, Huttoin, AR
7HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

10. UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD
$100 $60 $40 (174entries)
Judge: Andrea L. Watson, Denver, CO
1st Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
   “On Visiting the Old Farms”
2nd Marcia Jones, Golden, CO
   “Northern Light”
3rd Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA
   “Where I’m From”
1HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
2HM Mia Nelson, Denver, CO
3HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ
4HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway UT
6HM Vera Ogden Bakker, West Bountiful, UT
7HM Diana Franco, Huntington Woods, MI

*11. AL LASTER MEMORIAL AWARD
(*Members Only) $100 $50 $25 (156 entries)
Judge: Jim Haendiges, St. George, UT
1st Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX
   “Descending a Staircase, the Nude”
2nd Barbara Blanks, Garfield, TX
   “Lutan in Gray”
3rd Francie Rountree, Saute Nacoche, GA
   “Painting at Cap-Haitien Market”
1HM Marcia Jones, Golden CO
2HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX
3HM Frances Brickley Cowden, Cordova, TN
4HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX
5HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
6HM No 6 HM due to disqualification
7HM No 7 HM due to disqualification

12. FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION AWARD $100 $50 $25 (52 entries)
Judge: Ruth F. Harrison, Waldport, OR
1st Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
   “The Old Cypress”
2nd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD
   “Dear Mrs. Bethune”
3rd Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
   “Windsor Pond”
1HM Barbara Green, Sunrise, FL
2HM Kaye Bache-Snyder, Longmont, CO
3HM Sandra Lake Lassen, West Jefferson, NC
4HM Cindy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT
5HM Deborah Rohde, Northbrook, IL
6HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
7HM Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX

13. ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD ($75 $50 $25 161 entries)
Judge: Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX
1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
   “New Bearings”
2nd Jill Jennings, Woodstock, GA
   “That Thing With Feathers”
3rd Irene Hastings, Heber, UT
   “Awakening”
1HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
2HM Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX
3HM Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI
4HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
5HM Jean M. Picklesimer, Ashland, KY
6HM Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT
7HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR

14. ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD $75 $30 $20 (60 entries)
Judge: Danielle Beazer Dubrasky, Cedar City, UT
1st Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
   “Ready or Not”
2nd Lynn Marie Houston, Newburgh, NY
“How to Win”
1HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
2HM Maurine Halliner, Salt Lake City, UT
3HM Constance John (Kramer), Prescott Valley, AZ

3rd Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR
“Steed”
1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
5HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
6HM Pauline Monsewy, Sun City West, AZ
7HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

*15. MILDRED VORPAHL BAASS
REMEMBERENCE AWARDS (*Members Only)
$60 $40 $20 (115 entries)
Judge: Joe Cavanaugh, Ormond Beach, FL

1st Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ont., Canada
“My Suicidal Jew”
3HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
“Panther Hill Rosseta of Coosworth”
1HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN
2HM Marta Rijn Finch, Bennington, VT
3HM Clarence P. Socwell, Ogden, UT
4HM Lee Pellam Cotton, Locust Hill, VA
5HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
6HM Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ont., Canada
7HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

16. LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA AWARD
$60 $40 $20 (219 entries) - Judge: A. Molotkov, Portland, OR
1st Caroline Johnson, Willow Springs, IL
“Gilding”
2nd Rachel Kellum, Snyder, AR
“Three Degrees Below Freezing: If There Is Enough Light To See”
3rd Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
“Years Later, I Remember What He Taught Us”
1HM Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT
2HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR
3HM Mary E. McManus, Des Moines, IA
4HM Dory Maguire, Dillsburg, PA
5HM Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
6HM Robert La Fleur, Ponsford, MN
7HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ont., Canada

17. NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD
$50 $30 $20 (184 entries)
Judge: Janeen Pergrin Rastall, Marquette, MI
1st Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
“Fireworks”
2nd Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
“Thirteen Steps to a Haunted House”
3rd Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR
“Winter Feast”
1HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR
2HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
3HM Vicky Dovenspike, Salem, IA
4HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
5HM Alice B. Couch, Noblesville, IN
6HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
7HM Nancy Merical, Ripley, WV

18. INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF POETRY CLUBS AWARD
$50 $30 $20 (178 entries) - Judge: Grace Curtis, Waynesville, OH
1st Chet Tayswell, Seguin, TX
“Nobody Knows the Truffles I’ve Seen”
2nd Diane Glancy, Shawnee, KS
“Full Moon”
3rd Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
“The Migration Suite”
1HM Maurine Halliner, Salt Lake City, UT
2HM Margaret Gleave, Ainsdale Southport, UK
3HM Mo H. Saidi, San Antonio, TX
4HM Martha P. Morrisey, Roy, UT
5HM Brittany Wyatt, Los Lunas, NM
6HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR
7HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX

19. WILLIAM STAFFORD MEMORIAL AWARD
$50 $30 $20 (207 entries)
Darren M. Edwards, Washington, UT
1st Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
“Some Say”
2nd Liz Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
“Aberd El Wire, Lost”
3rd Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK
“Sidney”
1HM Shirley Elliott Cosby, Emory, TX
2HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
3HM Karen Mastracchio, Spring, TX
4HM Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
5HM Carol Clark Williams, York, PA
6HM Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR
7HM Sandra Lake Lassen, West Jefferson, WV

20. THE NEW YORK POETRY FORUM AWARD
$50 $30 $20 (181 entries)
Judge: Liz Glodek, Indianola, IA
1st Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
“How Language Lives”
2nd Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
“One Spring Day”
3rd Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM
“Word Draught”
1HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN
2HM Iman Fears, New York, NY
3HM Margaret D. Anderdgg, Odessa, TX
4HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
5HM Julia L. George, Muskegon, MI
6HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
7HM Cynthia Weber Nankee, Canton, MI

*21. COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO AWARD (*Members Only)
$50 $30 $20 (100 entries) - Judge: Laurence W. Thomas, Ypsilanti, MI
1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
“Symphony of Time”
2nd Neal Huffacker, Norman, OK
“Good Riddance”
3rd Mary A. Couch, Noblesville, IN
“Winter”
1HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
2HM Robert Schinzel, Highland Village, TX
3HM Karen Hayes, North Little Rock, AR
4HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
5HM Juanita Watts, Layton, UT
6HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
7HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN

22. MORTON D. PROUTY & ELSIE S. PROUTY MEMORIAL AWARD
$50 $30 $20 (224 entries)
Judge: Laura L. Hansen, Little Falls, MN
1st Elaine Zimmermann, Hamden, CT
“Ocean in a Jar”
2nd David Bond, Carbondale, IL
“Saint Luke’s Summer”
3rd Caroline Wilson, Willow Springs, IL
“The Bird Watcher”
1HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
2HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
3HM Dennis Herschbach, Sharon, MN
4HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
5HM Jennifer O’Conner, Rochester Hills, MI
6HM Christine Valentine, Birney, MT
7HM Linda K. Moore, Bogart, GA

*23. POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS AWARD (*Members Only)
$50 $30 $20 (186 entries) - Judge: Charlotte Renk, Athens, TX
1st Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
“Open Rehearsal”
2nd Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
“Aberd El Wire, Lost”
3rd Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
“A Thread Too Slender”
1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
2HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT
3HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
4HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
5HM Buddy Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
6HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
7HM No 7th HM due to disqualification

24. LOUISIANA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD
$50 $30 $20 (122 entries)
Judge: Sandy Hokanson, Cumming, GA
1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
“Emily’s Birthday”
2nd Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
“Dinner Party for Five”
3rd Becky Lindsay, Crestview Hills, KY
“The Night You Wore the Red Hat”
1HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
2HM Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ont. Canada
3HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
4HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
5HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
6HM Pat Underwood, Colfax, IA
7HM Kitty Mobley, Pinehurst, TX

25. AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE AWARD (*Members Only)
$50 $30 $20 (116 entries)
Judge: Professor Kimberly Blaeser, Burlington, WI
1st Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
“Night’s Testimony”
2nd Wade Martin, Austin, TX
“Cochise Negotiates With the Maytag Man”
3rd Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
“A Sinch Girl”
1HM Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR
2HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT
3HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
4HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
5HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
6HM Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL
7HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL

*26. VIOLET NEWTON MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)
$50 $30 $20 (179 entries)
Judge: Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN
1st Barbara Green Powell, Beaumont, TX
“A Poet’s Garden”
2nd Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
“Day Labor”
3rd Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
“Translation”
1HM Mary Willette, Wheaton, IL
2HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
3HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
4HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
5HM Buddy Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
6HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
7HM No 7th HM due to disqualification

27. CLAIRE VAN BREEMAN DOWNES MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)
$50 $30 $20 (116 entries) - Judge: John F. Foster, Sun City Center, FL
1st Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, UK
“Incident at Stratford Marina”
2nd Dave Harvey, Talent, OR
“Incident at Stratford Marina”
1HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
2HM Neal Huffacker, Norman, OK

“Sonnet V”
3HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
4HM Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
5HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
6HM Shirley Elliott Cosby, Emory, TX
7HM Lynda La Rocca, Twin Lakes, CO

*28. OHIO AWARD (*Members Only) $50 $25 $15 (189 entries)
Judge: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX
1st Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
“Out of Angst, the Re-Creation”
2nd Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX
“Resurrection”
3rd Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
“Visiting the House of Four Winds”

1HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
2HM Diana Franco, Huntington Woods, MI
3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
4HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT
5HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ
6HM Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT
7HM N. Colwell Snell, Salt Lake City, UT

32. JESSE STUART MEMORIAL AWARD $25 $20 $15 (170 entries)
Judge: Ginny Lowe Conners, W. Hartford, CT
1st Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
“At the Vocational Training Center”
2nd Jon Sebba, Murray, UT
“What I Was”
3rd Brian Volz, Stuart, IA
“Calligrapher’s Quill”
1HM Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR
2HM Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
3HM Beth Staas, LaGrange Park, IL
4HM Karen Gibson, Pruvo, UT
5HM Mary A. Couch, Noblesville, IN
6HM Taney A. Brazeal, Fairhope, AL
7HM Annie Neugebauer, Denton, TX

*33. HUMOROUS POETRY AWARD (*Members Only) $25 $20 $15 (144 entries)
Judge: Jim Elberinger, Egan, MN
1st Doyle R. Wood, Archer City, TX
“December Dream”
2nd Barry Fiedler, Evergreen, CO
“Prophecy”
3rd Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
“I’m So Analog”
1HM Dena R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK
2HM Elza Cogswell, Austin, TX
3HM Catherine L’Herisson, Garland, TX
4HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, TX
6HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
7HM Vicky Dovenspike, Salem, IA

34. BARBARA STEVENS MEMORIAL AWARD $25 $20 $15 (207 entries)
Judge: Ed Brekke-Kramer, Fairmont, MN
1st Carol Brockford, Medford, OR
“The Loath of Them”
2nd Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
“Mouse”
3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
“Masque of the Dark Romancer”
1HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
2HM Elzy Cogswell, Austin, TX
3HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
4HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
6HM Nancy Simmonds, Fort Wayne, IN
7HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

*35. DORMAN JOHN GRACE MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only) $25 $20 $15 (97 entries)
Judge: Steve Abbott, Columbus, OH
1st Margaret Gleave, Ainsdale, Southport, UK
“Recycled”
2nd Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, UK
“Birthplace”
3rd Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
“Questions from a Shoe Sleuth”
1HM Kitty Yeager, Arkadelphia, AR
2HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
4HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
5HM Sara Gipson, Scott, AR
6HM Doyle R. Wood, Archer City, TX
7HM Elzy Cogswell, Austin, TX

*36. POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA AWARD (*Members Only) $25 $20 $15 (123 entries)
Judge: Terry Trautman, Findlay, OH
1st Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO
“The Day Before You Died”
2nd N. Colwell Snell, Salt Lake City, UT
“Last Hug”
3rd Annie Neugebauer, Denton, TX
“Strolling in Iambic Pentameter”
1HM Beth Staas, LaGrange Park, IL
2HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX
3HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT

4HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
5HM Joan Kantor, Collinsville, CT
6HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
7HM Jerry Long, Muskogean, MI

37. SAVE OUR EARTH AWARD $25 $20 $15 (104 entries)
Judge: Jim Lambert, Carbondale, IL
1st Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
“5:00 AM”
2nd Jon Sebba, Murray, UT
“I Am the Turtle”

3rd Polly Opsahl, Oscoda, MI
“Things We Don’t Know”
1HM Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM
2HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
3HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX
4HM Laura Loughridge, Maumelle, AR
5HM Joan Kantor, Collinsville, CT
6HM Meg Edin Kuyatt, College Park, MD
7HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

38. MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD $25 $20 $15 (164 entries)
Judge: Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX
1st Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
“Eudora Welty Photographs of Depression”
2nd Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR

3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
“Impressionist Study in Monochrome”
1HM Lucile Beck Quinn, Columbus, OH
2HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX
3HM Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
4HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX
5HM Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX
6HM Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO
7HM Carol Clark Williams, York, PA

*39. POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE AWARD (*Members Only) $25 $20 $15 (78 entries)
Judge: Marta Rijn Finch, Old Bennington, VT
1st Caroline Sposto, Memphis, TN
“Pontius Pilate”
2nd Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT
“Commute”
3rd Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
“Dancing With a Hurricane”
1HM Neal Hufacker, Norman, OK
2HM Robert Schinzell, Highland Village, TX
3HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
4HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
5HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
6HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
7HM Martha P. Morris, Roy, UT

40. IOWA POETRY ASSOCIATION AWARD $25 $20 $15 (129 entries)
Judge: Todd M. Bailey, Kingsport, TN
1st Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
“Grandpa’s Old Barn”
2nd Louise Cook, Sandy, UT
“Shwelly and Greis”
3rd Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
“Trouble”
1HM Caroline Walton, Crystal River, FL
2HM Shirley Valencia, Dayton, OH
3HM Naomi Stratton Simmonds, Fort Worth, TX
4HM Leslie C. Halpern, Oviedo, FL
5HM Mary Zachmeyer, Mt. Pleasant, IA
6HM Pat Underwood, Colfax, IA
7HM Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM

41. WYPOETS AWARD $25 $20 $15 (170 entries) - Judge: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
1st Lorettia Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
“A Poet’s Breakfast”
2nd Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
“Seven Ways to Steal”

3rd Carie Juettnerr, Austin, TX
“Underneath”

1HM Deni R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK
2HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR
3HM Nancy Merical, Ripley, WV
4HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
5HM Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT
6HM James Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
7HM John D. McBride, Bettendorf, IA

42. MISSISSIPPI POTRY SOCIETY AWARD $25 $20 $15 (108 entries)
Judge: Mary-Ann Westbrook, Ormond Beach, FL
1st Judith Tullis, Indian Head Park, IL
“Remembered”

2nd Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT
“Going Blind”

3rd Shirley Endz, Blue Earth, MN
“A Gem in Our Walk”

1HM Joel Passey, Layton, UT
2HM Elza Cogswell, Austin, TX
3HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX
4HM Marilyn Downing, Hershey, PA
5HM Karen Mastracchio, Spring, TX
6HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
7HM Beth Turner Ayers, Plano, TX

*43. GINGERBREAD POEMS AWARD (**Members Only**) $25 $20 $15 (68 entries)
Judge: Ms. B. J. Alligood, port Orange, FL

1st Maria Weber, Buena Vista, CO
“Miss Ada”

2nd Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL
“For Peter Pan and Wendy”

1HM Carie Juettnerr, Austin, TX
2HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
3HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
4HM Dave Harvey, Talent, OR
5HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN
6HM Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
7HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX

*44. SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION AWARD (**Members Only**) $25 $20 $15 (57 entries)
Judge: Sonja Kosler, Dent, MN
1st Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
“Immigrant Song”

2nd Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT
“The Alamo”

3rd Patti Hannaway, Wesley Chapel, FL
“The Little Tin Whistle”

1HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
2HM Stephanie Andrews, Melbourne Beach, FL
3HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
4HM Carol Brockfield, Medford, OR
5HM Maurine Hultiner, Salt Lake City, UT
6HM Jill Jennings, Woodstock, GA
7HM Margery L. Watts, Stuart, IA

45. MAINE POETS SOCIETY AWARD $25 $20 $15 (147 entries)
Judge: Melissa K. Downes, Clarion, PA
1st Juliaun Shavin, Colorado Springs, CO
“On Viewing a Photograph by Kushal Poddar”

2nd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD
“The Eastern Shore”

3rd Patricia Lieb, Spring Hill, FL
“Afternoon at the Beach”

1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
2HM Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD
3HM Lisa Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
4HM Chet Taylor, Seguin, TX
5HM James F. Ahern, Rochester, MI
6HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London Ont., Canada
7HM Margaret Gleave Ainsdale, Southport, UK

*46. MIRIAM S. STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD (**Members Only**) $25 $20 $15 (82 entries)
Judge: Rhonda Brown, Mesa, AZ
1st Louise Cook, Sandy, UT
“Let’s All Go to the Snack Bar”

2nd Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR
“Watch Atticus Finch One More Time”

3rd Julia L. George, Muskegon, MI
“Speaking of Monroe”

1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
2HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
3HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA
4HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
5HM Kitty Mobley, Pinchure, TX
6HM Judith Krum, Sanford, FL
7HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM

*47. THE POETS NORTHWEST AWARD (**Members Only**) $25 $20 $15 (163 entries)
Judge: Christine Valentine, Birney, MT

1st Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
“A Stitched-Together Life”

2nd Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
“The Absence”

3rd Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
“Listening to Country Radio During Inclement Weather”

1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
2HM Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN
3HM Frances Brinkley Cowden, Cordova, TN
4HM Anita M. Kroz, Salt Lake City, UT
5HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
6HM Michael Bourgo, Boalsburg, PA
7HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX

48. JESSICA C. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL AWARD $25 $20 $15 (110 entries)
Judge: Zachary Kluckman, Albuquerque, NM

1st John D. McBride, Bettendorf, IA
“Der Ring das Nilbaben: Wagner in Ireland”

2nd Wade Martin, Austin, TX
“Landlord Blues”

3rd Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
“Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys, Marrianna, Florida 1900-2011”

1HM Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
2HM Georgette Perry, Huntsville, AL
3HM Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN
4HM Richard R. Cuyler, Salida, CO
5HM Carie Juettnerr, Austin, TX
6HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
7HM Karen Hayes, North Little Rock, AR

49. APPRECIATION AWARD $25 $20 $15 (139 entries)
Judge: Art Elser, Denver, CO

1st Cynthia Weber Nanke, Canton, MI
Haiku. Untitled

2nd Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
“She”

3rd Betsy M. Hughes, Dayton, OH
“Tribute to Bess”

1HM Sarah Hull Gurlay, Memphis, TN
2HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
3HM Jennifer Herman, New Hope, MN
4HM Kathy Lohrmn Cotron, Anna, IL
5HM Rosemerry Wahloa Trommer, Placevier, CO
6HM Liz Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
7HM Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA

50. STUDENT AWARD $50 $30 $20
7 Honorable Mentions $5 each (161 entries)
Judge: Linda Schofield, Maineville, OH

1st Nicholas Morrow, Plano, TX
“Legio X Equestris”

2nd Mary Orsak, Dallas, TX
“Clenched Fists”

3rd Sarah Kreutner, Vinton, IA
“They Were Never Veterans”

1HM Jane Cook, Dallas, TX
2HM Ashley Ates, Plano, TX
3HM Anna Sudderth, Fort Worth, TX
4HM Claire Rattan, Dallas, TX
5HM Susan Stacy, Des Moines, IA
6HM Caroline Woodman, Dallas, TX
7HM Elizabeth Guo, Dallas, TX

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY LEVEL POETRY COMPETITION WINNERS
College Poets Wow St. Pete Crowd
Carlina Duan and Max Seifert are the winners of the 2015 Edna Meudt and Florence Kahn Memorial Awards, respectively, in this year’s College Undergraduate Poetry Awards. They received cash awards and publication of their chapbooks, which can be ordered through Amazon.com. Both attended the 2015 NFSPS Annual Convention in St. Petersburg, Florida, where they wowed the crowd with readings from their winning entries at the Friday dinner.
Carlina won the Edna Meudt Memorial Award for her chapbook, *Here I Go, Torching*. She is a poet and journalist from Ann Arbor, Michigan. She has just completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Creative Writing at the University of Michigan, where she has won multiple Hopkins awards and writing prizes, and worked as an editor for her college newspaper, *The Michigan Daily*. Duan is one of the founding editors of Ann Arbor’s Red Beard Press, a youth-driven publishing company, and coauthor of the poetry collection *Electric Bite Women* (2013) with poet Haley Patal. In January, 2016, she will move to Malaysia to teach English as a U.S. Fulbright scholar. At the convention, Carlina also served as a judge and “sacrificial poet” for the Saturday night Team Slam competition.
Max Seifert received the Florence Kahn Memorial Award for *The Hole of Everything, Nebraska*. Raised in Wilmette, Illinois, he is a creative writing student at the University of Iowa, where he edits poetry for *earthwords: the undergraduate review* and interns with the International Writing Program. His work has previously appeared in *Ink Lit Mag* and *plain china: national anthology of undergraduate writing*. His improv troupe, Skinny Horses, and punk band, Riot Fire, are regulars in the Iowa City basement-show scene. Max just returned in May from five months study in France. When pirates raided the pre-dinner reception at the St. Petersburg convention, Max gallantly defended his lady, Molly English, from the fearsome marauders.

Judges for this year’s competition, the first NFPS contest using online submission and judging, were: 1st VP of NFPS Jim Barton of Arkansas, Rosemerry Wahloa Trommer of Colorado, and James Ahearn of Michigan.
2015 STEVENS POETRY MANUSCRIPT COMPETITION
Awarding $1,000 + Publication + 50 Books

MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES
• Except for previous Stevens winners, open to all poets writing in English
• Original work by a single author
• Include title page (title only), table of contents, and 48 to 70 pages of poetry, counting any section title pages but not counting front matter
• May include previously published poems. The winner will be required to provide an acknowledgment page if the manuscript includes previously published poems.
• No author identification anywhere in manuscript
• No illustrations
• Pages numbered, one poem, one column per page. Poems may be continued on a second page, but do not put two poems on the same page.
• Single space your manuscript. Use 12-point type in a conventional font such as Times New Roman. If you write in long lines or complex formats, be aware that the winning book will be published in a 6” x 9” format.
• Simultaneous and multiple submissions permitted. Notify us immediately if your manuscript is accepted elsewhere.

DEADLINE
Submissions will be accepted from SEPTEMBER 1 through midnight Pacific Standard Time, OCTOBER 1, 2015. The Submittable online system will be accessible only during this time, and hard-copy submissions must be postmarked during this period. No early or late submissions.

ENTRY FEE & PAYMENTS
The submission fee is $20 for NFSPS members, $25 for nonmembers. Members of state poetry societies affiliated with NFSPS are members.
• For online submissions, pay at Submittable.com with a credit card or PayPal.
• For mailed paper submissions, place your check on top of the manuscript.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
Online Submissions via Submittable.com. We strongly encourage using NFSPS’ Stevens submission page at Submittable.com. You can find a link to this page by going to nfsps.com and selecting the Manuscript Contest link. Using Submittable saves us both time and money.
• Simply submit the manuscript in a single document file from your computer into the designated area.
• If you have an acknowledgements page, it must be submitted separately.
• You will be notified that your manuscript has been received.
• A Submittable account is free, simple to set up, and instantly usable. If you currently have a Submittable account, you may use it to enter the competition. If you do not have an account, use the online sign-up. An increasing number of journals and other literary venues accept submission only through Submittable.

Mailed Submissions. If you are unable to make an online submission, mail your manuscript.
• Manuscript must be typewritten or computer generated.
• Enclose manuscript in a plain file folder and/or held by a manuscript clip; NO staples or binding.
• On the top of your manuscript, place a page with the title and your name, address, phone number, and email address, plus the name of the state poetry society where you are a member (if applicable).

You will not be eligible for the reduced fee without society membership information.
• Do NOT send by certified or registered mail. Do NOT send disks.
• Manuscripts will NOT be returned.Entrants who enclose a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope, or provide an email address, will be notified of the results in January 2016.
• The winner will automatically be notified.

Mail submissions to:
Wilda Morris, Chair
NFSPS Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition
P. O. Box 1669
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

JUDGING, PUBLICATION, & QUESTIONS
All manuscripts will be reviewed for compliance with guidelines and overall quality by the competition chair. Approximately 100 manuscripts will be sent, without identification or acknowledgments, to an independent judge, who will remain anonymous until the results are announced.

The winning manuscript will be published by the NFSPS Press, and the book will be available for sale at the NFSPS annual convention and elsewhere in June, 2016.

You may address questions to the contest chair at the above address or by email to stevens.nfsps@gmail.com.

Past Judges: David Baker, Michael Dennis Browne, Michael Bugaja, Anne Marx, Sue Brannan Walker, Kenneth Brewer, David Sutherland, Donna Sallie, Bruce Eastman, Ruth Berman, Peter Meinke, Lawson Inada, Patricia Fargnoli, Jeff Gundy, Carolyne Wright, Ralph Burns, Lola Haskins, Jessica Garratt, Maggie Anderson, Glenna Holloway, John Witte.

NSFPS MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY is fortunate to have four official chapters, each of which hosts a scheduled meeting during the year. In December Bev Barnes absence, Bobbi Hasse stepped up to present an absorbing program at Word Crafters Holiday Meeting on December 2nd. Bobbi spoke on the Poetry of Cosmopolitan Tang Dynasty (617-907 CE), President Jeanette Mauers offered a workshop, “Ruminations”, that resulted in clever poems and much hilarity. Waterfront Crew Poets launched a new book in April, Collected Poems, partially supported by the Winthrop Cultural Council. In May, seven members participated in an Arts & Letters Crawl that included poetry readings at the Winthrop Public Library. Summer solstice presented another opportunity to share poetry when the Waterfront Crew Poets again did readings at the Cultural Center. The next meeting of MSPS will be held on the first Saturday in August in the town of Lunenburg at the home of Mary Ellen Letarte, the Louise Brogan Chapter Director. Best summer greetings to NFSPS from MSPS until autumn.

~ Dorothy Wiman, Secretary

WISCONSIN POETRY SOCIETY held its annual Spring Festival in April at the Gulf Hills Hotel and Conference Center in beautiful Ocean Springs. We were privileged to have Jim Barton from Arkansas, first vice president of NFSPS, as our guest speaker. His workshop topic was “Word Count vs. Words That Count,” and he demonstrated how to make our poetry more concise. In his keynote address he offered helpful advice about how to get our work published. Jim is not only an excellent speaker, but also very entertaining. Winners were announced for the adult and student categories by contest coordinator, Sheila Greico. Winning the top prize for the Wisconsin Poetry Society Award was Linda Watson Owen. This year the society gave out awards to three exceptional poets: Judy Davies and Dr. Emory Jones each received Lifetime Achievement Awards for their poetry and service, and Sandra Bounds received the coveted Poet of the Year Award for 2015. After reading some of her favorite poems, Sandra signed copies of her chapbook, From the Heart of the Deep South. MPS congratulates one of our North Branch members, Patricia Neely-Dorsey, poet and author, who was named as a “Goodwill Ambassador” for her “celebration of the south and things southern across Mississippi.” Check out her website at patricianeelydorsey.webs.com. We would like for everyone to be aware that our student category will be judged earlier this year with a deadline of December 1, 2015. Information will be posted on our website, www.misspoetry.net, at a later date.

~ Dorothy Wiman, Secretary

LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS held its semi-annual gathering in St. Cloud, Minnesota in April. The featured speaker and teacher was Margaret Hasse, a well known poet from the Twin cities area. Nearly forty poets participated in the event which lasted two days, and included writing time, learning time, and meals around which poets could meet new friends and discuss their favorite topic, poetry. In October, our fall meeting will be held in St. Paul at Hotel 340, the site of the NFSPS 2016 convention, for a trial run of its facilities and services. We do hope you are planning ahead for the event, as we are. Be on the lookout for future announcements so you can come join the fun in an historic building near the headwaters of the mighty Mississippi. ~ Dennis Herschbach, President

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS’ Student Awards Festival was held on April 18, 2015, at the J. Erik Jonsson Main Library in downtown Dallas with Poetry in the Schools Chairman Bud Powell Mahan officiating. Prior to the event, certificates were mailed to students winning 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place in the PST Student Contests and those attending the event read their winning poems. Attending student winners were given the anthology containing the 1st Place winning poems, as well as the names only of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Place winners, along with the names of all their teachers and schools. Assisting at the event were L. D. Carter, Patrick Lee Marshall, President Catherine L’Herisson, Director Susan Maxwell Campbell and her husband. The Library’s auditorium had standing room only, with seating for 170 while more than 200 people attended.

~ Nancy Baass
CONTESTS

ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY’s 2015 Annual Contest presents “Poetry: Something for Everyone.” All poets and aspiring poets are invited to enter. For a small fee you can enter one or all twelve poetry categories with varied interesting forms and subjects. Enter original unpublished poems following the various guidelines. Submissions must arrive by midnight Sept. 15. Categories pay $200, $100 or $50. In addition to a certificate, the first three winning entries in each category will be read at the ASPS Fall Conference in November and printed in Sandcutters, the ASPS journal. Winning poets will receive a copy of the beautifully bound book. Check guidelines on submissions at azpoetry.webs.com or contact Carol Hogan, Contest Chair. ASPS Annual Contest 2015, 10401 N. Cave Creek Rd. Lot 116, Phoenix, AZ 85020 or by email at carolhogan@cox.net.


SPRINGFIELD WRITERS’ GUILD of Springfield, Missouri, proudly announces it 22nd Annual Prose and Poetry Competition. Deadline is September 15, 2015. The competition is open to all writers. All categories, with the exception of the Jim Stone Memorial Poetry Division, have no limit to the number of entries. A $5 entry fee must accompany each entry. All entries must be original and unpublished. The competition includes a number of poetry categories as well as fiction, and nonfiction. For the first time this year it will be possible to enter online. Contest guidelines are available at springfieldwritersguild.org/contests. Click on the contest link, Submission Manager. If you would like to have guidelines emailed to you, send your request or questions to writer716@gmail.com.

ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY contest with 8 categories. Deadline: Sept. 10, 2015. $10 for up to 8 poems ($8 for ISPS member states). Full guidelines at illinoispoets.org.

POETRY FESTIVAL IN SOUTHERN UTAH — MARCH 3-5, 2016

Plan to spend a weekend next spring in Southern Utah immersed in poetry and creative writing. On Thursday, March 3, at 7 pm in the Springdale Canyon Community Center, Z-ARTS will present a free lecture, “An Evening with Plein Air Poetry,” by visiting poet Dr. David J. Rothman, Director of the Graduate Program in Creative Writing at Western State Colorado University.

On Friday, March 4, from 9 am to 4 pm the seventh annual POETRY IN THE PARK will take place at Zion Park Lodge with Rothman presenting a Plein Air Poetry Workshop surrounded by the natural beauty of Zion Park’s red rock country. Admission to the park and a guided naturalist walk are included in the seminar fee.

Continuing into the weekend, the 20th annual Redrock Writers Seminar will be held on Saturday, March 5th, from 9 am to 4 pm. The Seminar features a distinguished faculty exploring: Cowboy Poetry, Writing with Tension, Photo Journalism and Plein Air Poetry. More info. is available at redrockwriters.org. These workshops have been made possible by a partnership between Utah State Poetry Society and Zion National History Association with partial funding from the Utah Department of Arts and Museums and NEA. Details are available at poetry-in-the-park.com.

Fees are $60 each for Poetry in the Park and for Redrock Seminar, with discounts for UTSPS members. Lodging is available at reduced prices at Zion Park Lodge, in Springdale, or in St. George which has a regional airport with connections to Denver and Salt Lake City. From the Las Vegas airport, shuttles are available to St. George and carpool to Zion Park. Don't miss this wonderful learning opportunity in inspiring Utah—make lodging and travel arrangements now!
The inspiration for this award came about while trying to organize a filing cabinet. While sifting through folders of saved paperwork, I rediscovered the 2008 NFPS contest chair report. On the report, I had highlighted several items that had caught my attention. I had planned to recognize these two individuals in 2009, but the report was inadvertently filed away. Rediscovering the report and because so many state presidents and Youth Chair pointed out individual efforts of their members, I decided that all of them needed to be acknowledged. Fourteen individuals are being honored for their willingness to help, lead, and inspire our youth.

1. In 2008, this individual judged the NFPS Category #50 – Student Award. In addition to judging the competition, the individual felt that the poetry of an additional 51 entries “had real merit,” and volunteered to write each of them a note of encouragement, show them where their meter failed, or why the rhythm balked in a read-aloud line. Member of the League of Minnesota Poets – Charmaine Donovan.

2. Also in 2008, the NFPS contest chair along with the judge of Category #50, “put together a small citation certificate” for the additional 51 entries and mailed them back to the students. Member of the Connecticut Poetry Society – Christine Beck.

3. This individual works with homeless youth through a program called Art From Ashes (a non-profit) – homeless youth hang out in their space and write 3-minute poems after a workshop by an adult poet. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado – Marlene Yannish.

4. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado – Julie Cummings.

5. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado – Anita Jepson Gilbert.

6. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado – Seth Harris.

7. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado – Rosemary Wahtola Trommer.

8. In 2013, this individual’s Elders Project uses oral history interviews to create poetry based on the stories and lives of elders in our communities, linking history with literature. The project consists of three parts: introducing students to the interview process, the elder interview itself, then transcribing the recordings and culling the interviews into narrative poetry. From these poems the students can publish a book or weave together and present a Spoon River Anthology style reading/performance of their poems for the school or community. Terry has hosted this project in numerous communities with middle through high school students. Member of the Poetry Society of Michigan – Terry Wooten.

9. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the League of Minnesota Poets – Sister Rafael Tilton.

10. This individual taught breakout sessions for the Young Authors – Young Artists at the College of St. Benedict’s where over 1,200 middle school students attend three day events each year. This individual taught poetry to over 200 of the students attending the event. Member of the League of Minnesota Poets – Dennis Herschbach.

11. This individual developed a blueprint for the state society’s “Poet in Your Classroom” program that can be duplicated in other schools. He also helped to expand the program this year to include publication of an anthology of the students’ work. Member of the New Mexico State Poetry Society – John Candelaria.

12. This individual led a workshop for high school juniors at one high school. Member of the Oregon Poetry Association – Steve Jones.

13. This individual stayed on as Youth Chair for the state society many, many years beyond what she was willing to serve while waiting for someone to step up and relieve her of the duty. It took five years to find a replacement. Member of the Pennsylvania Poetry Society – Marilyn Downing.

14. This individual serves as Youth Chair for the state. He ensures student participation in the NFPS Student Award contest - Category #50 by forwarding over 100 student entries to the contest. Member of the Poetry Society of Texas – Bud Powell Mahan.

**MANNINGHAM TRUST STUDENT POETRY CONTEST 2015 WINNERS**

**Junior Level Winners**

**First Place**
Name: Neha Dronamraju  
Title: India - My Mother

School: The Hockaday School  
City: Dallas, Texas  
Teacher: Allyson Cockrum

**Second Place**
Name: Anthony Poett  
Title: Darkness  
School: Cambridge Lakes Charter School  
City: Pingree Grove, Illinois  
Teacher: James Buckwalter

**Third Place**
Name: Salvador Sarabia  
Title: Tornado  
School: White Station Middle School  
City: Memphis, Tennessee  
Teacher: Jennifer Brenneman

**Fourth Place**
Name: Hannah Van Meren  
Title: Mango Haiku  
School: St. Peter Lutheran School  
City: Arlington Heights, Illinois  
Teacher: Amy Picchiotti

**Fifth Place**
Name: Ellen Schindel  
Title: Nafpaktos  
School: The Hockaday School  
City: Dallas, Texas  
Teacher: Allyson Cockrum

**First Honorable Mention**
Name: Daryn Feigenspan  
Title: How I Grew Up  
School: Mexico Middle School  
City: Mexico, Missouri  
Teacher: Lauren Mattson

**Second Honorable Mention**
Name: Cameron Feagin  
Title: I'm Trying  
School: Howard Middle School  
City: Ocala, Florida  
Teacher: Vickie Treulieb

**Third Honorable Mention**
Name: Kendrick Lee  
Title: Concerto 21  
School: Spencer Butte Middle School  
City: Eugene, Oregon  
Teacher: Michael Roderick

**Fourth Honorable Mention**
Name: Christina Yang  
Title: Graphite Scribbles  
School: The Hockaday School  
City: Dallas, Texas  
Teacher: Michelle Mount

**Fifth Honorable Mention**
Name: Emara Klein  
Title: Loneliness  
School: St. Albert Catholic School  
City: Council Bluffs, Iowa  
Teacher: Fran Shorey
Senior Level Winners

First Place
Name: Sarah Binau
Title: Sixteen Going on Seventeen
School: Bexley High School
City: Bexley, Ohio
Teacher: Julie Horger

Second Place
Name: Hannah Birch
Title: Physics and T.S. Eliot
School: Hempstead High School
City: Dubuque, Iowa
Teacher: Susan Swift

Third Place
Name: Jennifer Xiao
Title: Night Dancer
School: White Station High School
City: Portland, Oregon
Teacher: Scott Harrison

Fourth Place
Name: Marley Lopez
Title: Pursed Lips
School: St. Mary’s Academy
City: Portland, Oregon
Teacher: Sara Salvi

Fifth Place
Name: Sophia Frechette
Title: Turn It Down
School: Sea breeze High School
City: Daytona Beach, Florida
Teacher: Leah Paul Volusia

First Honorable Mention
Name: Marley C. Eggertsen
Title: Circling Morocco
School: Create Solutions Tutoring
City: Ashland, Oregon
Teacher: Sara-Lynne Simpson

Second Honorable Mention
Name: Anna Sudderth
Title: Flowers in April
School: Trinity Valley School
City: Fort Worth, Texas
Teacher: Lucas Jacob

Third Honorable Mention
Name: Grace M. Hermes
Title: Sepia Skyline
School: St. Mary’s Academy
City: Portland, Oregon
Teacher: Sara Salvi

Fourth Honorable Mention
Name: Tanvi Yenna
Title: Stories
School: Valley High School
City: West Des Moines, Iowa
Teacher: Erin Petty

Fifth Honorable Mention
Name: Catherine Carroll
Title: August
School: Benet Academy
City: Lisle, Illinois
Teacher: Lisa DiMarco

MANNINGHAM TRUST STUDENT POETRY CONTEST

Rules: 2016 annual competition

1. There are two divisions: Grade 6-8 (Junior Division) and Grades 9-12 (Senior Division). Each state may submit ten (10) top poems in each division. Poems may have been printed and/or have won previous awards. Contests at state level may have occurred anytime in 2015 or 2016.

2. The competition is open to all USA students in grades 6 – 12. Public, private, and homeschooleds are eligible for entry by individual NFSPS member states.

3. Submit two copies of each poem. Put the division (Junior or Senior) in the upper left corner of both copies. One copy must have the student’s ID in upper right corner. The ID information is student name, school name and address, student grade level, and the student’s language arts/English teacher’s name. The second copy must not have ID information. Do not send a copy with any other marking - there should be no indication of prior award granted by the state.

4. Each poem must be neatly typed or computer-generated, and have no more than 30 lines. If a poem continues more than one page, staple the pages together. Do not staple the two copies of the poem together. It is suggested that each state representative keep a copy of poems entered.

5. There should be no large or unusual fonts or illustrations. Times New Roman is the suggested font. No font larger than 12 point should be used. Winning poems are scanned for the award anthology and large and/or unusual fonts impede the process.

6. Each entrant must make a declaration of originality. The statement should appear on the bottom of the ID copy only. The form below is acceptable:

I certify that this poem is my original work, and has not been copied in whole or part from any author’s poems in print or posted on the Internet.

Signed:

7. Separate poems into respective divisions. Within each division separate the ID copy from the anonymous copy meant for judges. Include a cover letter identifying the Manningham (Youth) Chairperson to whom the report on the contests will be mailed.

8. Entries must be received by March 1, 2016.

Send entries to: Budd Mahan, 7059 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX 75254

Ten prizes will be awarded in each division: First Place - $75, Second Place - $50, Third Place - $40, Fourth Place - $35, Fifth Place - $30, and five Honorable Mentions - $10 each.

All winning poems will be published in the Manningham Trust Poetry Student Award Anthology. Winners will receive complimentary copies. The schools of each winning student will receive a complimentary copy for the school library. Notice of winners report will be sent to each state’s Manningham (Youth) Chair no later by May 20, 2016. Awards (certificates, checks, anthologies) will also be mailed to the state chairperson. Each state is responsible for distributing prizes to winners and winning schools. The top winning poems will be read to NFSPS members at the Convention held in June 2016.

Entries by individual students are allowed. No individual entry will supersede a state’s collective entries, but in cases in which a state has no NFSPS affiliation or sends no entries, an individual entry may qualify for judging.

I look forward to each state’s participation in the Manningham Poetry Trust’s annual contests. Questions may be directed to the chairperson at the addresses/numbers below.

Budd Powell Mahan
Manningham Trust Student Poetry Awards Chairperson
7059 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX 75254
972-788-4944 ~ buddmahan@att.net

2015 NFSPS CONVENTION PHOTOS

Carlinia Duan and Max Seifert, winners of the 2015 College Undergraduate Poetry awards, with a Blackbeard's Pirate Krewe.

Peter Meinke (center), recently named Florida Poet Laureate, with his wife, artist Jeanne Meinke, and Florida State Poets Association President, Joseph Cavanaugh.

Thanks to Wayne S. Williams of Largo, Florida for the above photos.
Presentation Friday evening on “Gifts from the Sea” by Janet Watson.

Amy Jo Zook announces the 2015 Stevens Manuscript winner.

Blackbeard’s Pirate Krewe in full and fearsome finery.

Presentations on “Florida’s Roots” by Elaine Person, Sean Sexton and Doyle Rigdon

Contestants for the Florida Slam Team along with competition judges and poetry lovers.
Eleanor Berry, Janet Watson, Nora Watson (a.k.a. Angelica Shoals)

LOMP members (2016 Convention hosts) — Peter Stein, Henry Panowitsch, Susan Stevens Chambers, Mary Schmidt, Charmaine Pappas Donovan

Max Seifert (winner, Florence Kahn Memorial Award), Kathy Cotton, Carlina Duan (winner, Edna Meudt Memorial Award)

Peter Meinke, Joe Cavanaugh, James Tokley (Hillsborough County Poet Laureate)

Shirley Cavanaugh, Susan Moss, Joe Cavanaugh

Jan Shumliak and nautical music partner

Susan Moss, Eleanor Berry, Lucille Morgan Wilson

Mara Scrupe, winner of the Stevens Award

Thanks to Richard Berry of Lyons, Oregon and Wayne S. Williams of Largo, Florida for these additional convention photos.