



# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

An educational and literary organization dedicated to the writing  
and appreciation of poetry in America

## Strophes

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www.nfsps.com

April 2010

### President's Message



Dear Members of NFSPS ~ My two year term of 2008-2010 as President of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc., will end with the election of the NFSPS Executive Board for 2010-2012 at the NFSPS Convention in Memphis, Tennessee, June 10-13, 2010. At that time, I shall be passing on, to my successor, the gavel engraved with the names of the past presidents of NFSPS, the 28th name being mine. My presidential medalion engraved on the back with my name and term years will always be a treasured possession, along with my memories. Upon leaving office, one which I am deeply appreciative of holding, I shall have

spent 14 years in service to NFSPS, and I shall be honored to give two more years of service on the Executive Board as Immediate Past President and serve as Presidential Advisors Chairman.

From the start of my presidency at the NFSPS Convention in Layton, Utah, June 19-22, 2008, and throughout my term of office, which has included serving as NFSPS President during the 50th NFSPS Convention in Duluth, Minnesota, June 11-14, 2009, I have thought of myself as the leading member "on" a team, not "of" a team, the NFSPS team, comprised of the Executive Board, my Appointive Board, as well as those serving as Advisors, every team member being well deserving of praise. I have always viewed my role as NFSPS President as that of a guardian of the founder's vision for this wonderful organization, seeing that its programs and projects continued to run smoothly. I made it a policy of my administration that all team members whom you came in contact with would "go the extra mile" for you in every way possible, because you deserved it as members of dues paying NFSPS member state societies. Your interest in contributing to the promotion of the art of poetry on the national level is greatly valued and not taken for granted. Thanks is especially due all who have served and all who are presently serving as presidents of member societies, state team leaders who work to keep "poetry appreciation" alive and well on the state level, and all team members are worthy of gratitude, also.

April is National Poetry Month, and whether through involvement in some poetry related group activity on the state or chapter level, or by some action taken as an individual, each and every one of us can do something positive during this special month to enrich our own lives poetically and the lives of others, poets and those who are not practicing poets. Actually, positive "poetry resolutions" should be made and kept year round.

Every day, be proud to be a member of NFSPS, an organization that has been celebrating poetry for more than fifty years, and every day -- "Be Kind!" ~ Sincerely,

*Nancy Baass*, 28th President of NFSPS

P.S. to all past presidents of NFSPS: Thank you, for giving of your time and talents preceding me. I shall be honored to be listed with you as having served as NFSPS President.

I wish to note the death in January of Jean Jenkins, 9th President of NFSPS. Sympathy and prayers are extended to her family. I had the pleasure of meeting Jean at the 1998 NFSPS Convention.

### MANUSCRIPT BY YOUNG BUFFALO POET WINS STEVENS COMPETITION

Winner of the Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition is *Come In, We're Open*, by Sara Ries of Buffalo, New York. She has been awarded \$1,000, and her manuscript will be published by the NFSPS Press this spring. It will be her first book. Ries' manuscript also won the Best Thesis in Poetry award at Chatham University, where she received her M.F.A. The poems in *Come In, We're Open* are centered around a diner in a working-class Buffalo neighborhood and are full of vividly evoked characters - those of the speaker's parents, who own the diner, and of the regulars who patronize it. Ries' parents have owned a diner in Buffalo since she was two years old, and she continues to work in diners, currently hosting Poetry and Dinner Nights at the Woodlawn Diner. Ries' manuscript was chosen from among 185 submissions from all over the U.S. and abroad. The Stevens Competition is exceptional among national poetry book manuscript competitions in that the judge undertakes to read 100 of the entries, rather than just a handful of finalists. Judge for the competition was Ralph Burns of Little Rock, author of several books of poetry, including *Ghost Notes* (2001), winner of the Field Poetry Prize, and *Swamp Candles* (1996), winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize. Burns is a professor at the University of Arkansas and former Editor of *Crazyhorse*.



In addition to the winner, Burns selected a dozen "manuscripts of merit." The 12 manuscripts of merit, listed in the order they were logged in, are as follows:

- *The Archivist of Taboos*, by R. G. Evans of Elmer, NJ
- *The Phoenix Dream*, by Marjorie Power of Corvallis, OR
- *Angell's Toenails*, by Mary Ann Larkin of Washington, DC
- *First Pick Up*, by James F. Connolly of Milton, MA
- *The Body Remembers*, by Carol Gilbertson of Decorah, IA
- *What to Tell Joseme*, by Lianne Spidel of Greenville, OH
- *Wave*, by Andrew Sofer of Roslindale, MA
- *Night's Body*, by George Keithley of Chico, CA
- *Fates of the Ballads*, by Randolph Thomas of Baton Rouge, LA
- *Floating Women*, by Darcy Cummings of Laurel Springs, NJ
- *Algonquins Planted Salmon*, by Donald Levering of Santa Fe, NM
- *Lost Moon*, by Holly Karapetkova of Arlington, VA

Concerning his selection of Sara Ries' *Come In, We're Open* as the Stevens winner, Burns comments, "In reading this collection, I found myself wondering who this poet was, what place this was where people are held so dear, where the closed steel plant, Ford plant, and amusement park represent one partner in dissipated 'marriage' with the diner, a place Chaucer's pilgrims might have never left." Reflecting on his impressions, he sums up, "This collection demands that we value differently what seems quotidian, remain curious, suspend disbelief a few moments longer...These are some stacked high pancakes, and some sweet songs from 'a coffee spiller waitress...in the cadence /of plate scrapes to relieve swollen feet'; and yes, Sara Ries celebrates 'the moments - / I wear them with long skirts, / taken by the intelligence of the breeze.'" Sara Ries' new book will be available for purchase at the 2010 NFSPS Convention in Memphis. She will read from it at dinner on Saturday, June 12, and will sign copies. ~ Eleanor Berry, Chairman

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

Organized October 17, 1959 ~ Mary B. Wall, Founder

**Honorary Chancellor: Lewis Turco**  
(Appointment made June, 2008)

### EXECUTIVE BOARD ~ 2008-2010

Elected, NFSPS Convention ~ Layton, UT, June, 2008

**PRESIDENT:** Nancy Baass

#### Strophes Editor

2306 N. De Leon St., Victoria, TX 77901-4812  
nbaass@earthlink.net

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**Membership Chairman**

18 S. Rembert St., Memphis, TN 38104  
RSTRpoet@cs.com

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** Jeremy M. Downes  
**Judges Chairman**

832 Tacoma Dr., Auburn, AL 36830  
downejm@auburn.edu

**3RD VICE PRESIDENT:** N. Colwell Snell  
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SBSenior@juno.com

**4TH VICE PRESIDENT:** Eleanor Berry  
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22614 N. Santiam Hwy., Lyons, OR 97358  
eberry@wvi.com

**CHANCELLOR:** Steven Concert  
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6 Kitchen Ave., Harvey's Lake, PA 18618  
paperlesspoetsonline@hotmail.com

**1ST VICE CHANCELLOR:** Caroline Walton  
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carolinewalton@embarqmail.com

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14024 Gateway Dr., Edmond, OK 73013  
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2325 61st St., Des Moines, IA 50322  
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**SECRETARY:** Christine Delea  
(address unlisted upon request)  
christinedelea@cs.com

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:** Doris Stengel  
**Presidential Advisors Chairman**  
1510 S. 7th St., Brainerd, MN 56401  
dpoet@brainerd.net

### APPOINTIVE BOARD

**College/University Competition Chairman:**

Helen Keith Beaman, 1305 S. Alpine Loop, Provo, UT 84606 ~ hegbeg1@live.com

**Contest Chairman:** Christine Beck, 90 High Farms Rd., West Hartford, CT 06107  
~ nfspstests@comcast.net

**Contest Sponsors/Brochure Chairman:**  
Mildred Vorpahl Baass, 408 E. Warren Ave., Victoria, TX 77901-4847 ~ mvbaass@yahoo.com

**Convention Coordinator:** Rosalyn Ostler, 7685 Dell Rd., Salt Lake City, UT 84121 ~ rosieo1@juno.com

**Encore Editor:** Valerie Martin Bailey, 2207 Parhaven Dr., San Antonio, TX 78232 ~ vbailey@satx.rr.com

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**Librarian:** Peggy Zuleika Lynch, 6954 Elusive Pass, San Antonio, TX 78233 ~ Txfrenchy123@gmail.com

**Manningham Trust Competition Chairman:**  
Madelyn Eastlund, 310 S. Adams St., Beverly Hills, FL 34465 ~ verdure@tampabay.rr.com

**Manningham Trust Advisor:** Sam Wood, 1570 Auburn Way, Reno, NV 89502 ~ (no e-mail address)

**Special Awards Chairman, Parliamentarian:**  
Amy Jo Zook, 3520 State Rte. 56, Mechanicsburg, OH 43044 ~ (no e-mail address)

**Webmaster:** Billy Pennington, P.O. Box. 7842, Moore, OK 73153 ~ zodnoyeb@aol.com

**Legal Advisor:** Floyd (Michaud) L. Lamrouex, 4147 Acorn Hill, Suite 1, San Antonio, TX 78217 ~ lamrouex@sbcglobal.net

### NFSPS MEMBER STATE SOCIETIES AND PRESIDENTS

**ALABAMA: Alabama State Poetry Society**  
Mary E. Halliburton, President ~ 91 Cloverfield Rd., Hope Hull, AL 36043 ~ mewriter@mindspring.com

**ARIZONA: Arizona State Poetry Society**  
Christy White, President ~ 37427 N. Ootam Rd., #104, Cave Creek, AZ 85331 ~ cchristy1@prodigy.net

**ARKANSAS: Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas**  
Betty Heidelberger, President ~ 4371 Hwy. 316 N., Lexa, AR 72355 ~ bettypoet@yahoo.com

**CALIFORNIA: California State Poetry Society**  
Kate Ozbin, President ~ 4781 Briarhill Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 ~ kateozbin@yahoo.com

**COLORADO: Columbine Poets**  
Julie Cummings, President ~ 5128 S. Sicily St., Aurora, CO 80015 ~ jecummings@comcast.net

**CONNECTICUT: Connecticut Poetry Society**  
Tony Fusco, President ~ 311 Shingle Hill Rd., West Haven, CT 06516 ~ connpoetry@comcast.net

**FLORIDA: Florida State Poets Association**  
Betty Ann Whitney, President ~ 29530 Benjamin Dr., Wesley Chapel, FL 33543 ~ ba\_whitney@juno.com

**GEORGIA: Georgia Poetry Society**  
Keith Badowski, President ~ P.O. Box 2184, Columbus, GA 31902 ~ gps@georgiapoetrysociety.org

**ILLINOIS: Illinois State Poetry Society**  
Susan T. Moss, President ~ 1209 Michigan Ave., Evanston, IL 60202 ~ stm48@hotmail.com

**INDIANA: Indiana State Federation of Poetry Clubs**  
Glenna Glee, President ~ 808 E. 32nd St., Anderson, IN 46016 ~ poetgglee@sbcglobal.net

**IOWA: Iowa Poetry Association**  
Jerry Ferrell, President ~ 2801 61st St., Des Moines, IA 50322 ~ ferrell45@msn.com

**KENTUCKY: Kentucky State Poetry Society**  
Tony Sexton, President ~ P.O. Box 521, Harrodsburg, KY 40330 ~ contentedme@hotmail.com

**LOUISIANA: Louisiana State Poetry Society**  
Pat Sipes Juelg, President ~ 12972 Arlingford Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70815 ~ patsjuelg@cox.net

**MAINE: Maine Poets Society**  
Maggie Finch & Marta Finch, Co-Presidents ~ 1463 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530 (Maggie's address) ~ moimarta@comcast.net (Marta's e-mail address)

**MASSACHUSETTS: Massachusetts State Poetry Society**  
Jeanette Maes, President ~ 64 Harrison Ave., Lynn, MA 01905 ~ mspjcmes@comcast.net

**MICHIGAN: Poetry Society of Michigan**  
James Ahearn, President ~ 536 Hill St., Rochester, MI 48307 ~ jfahearn@comcast.net

**MINNESOTA: League of Minnesota Poets**  
Charmaine Pappas Donovan, President ~ 18755 Tracside Rd., Brainerd, MN 56401 ~ lomppoet@gmail.com

**MISSISSIPPI: Mississippi Poetry Society**  
Emory D. Jones, President ~ 608 N. Pearl St., Iuka, MS 38852 ~ pianot@bellsouth.net

**MISSOURI: Missouri State Poetry Society**  
Billy Adams, President ~ 12600 McKinstry Rd., DeSoto, MO 63020 ~ bja54@fayeadams.com

**NEBRASKA: Nebraska State Poetry Society**  
Mary L. Maas, President ~ 601 Ivy St., Stanton, NE 68779 ~ cjmaas@stanton.net

**NEVADA: Nevada Poetry Society**  
Sam Wood, President ~ P.O. Box 7014, Reno, NV 89510 ~ (no e-mail address)

**NEW JERSEY: New Jersey Poetry Society**  
Edith Kaltovich, President ~ 12 Rydal Dr., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 ~ luciakalt@aol.com

**NEW MEXICO: New Mexico State Poetry Society**  
Bonnie Rubco, President ~ 7505 Mc Nerney Ave. N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87110 ~ mechistie@gmail.com

**NEW YORK: New York Poetry Forum**  
Daniel Fernandez, President ~ 3604 Ave. S, Brooklyn, NY 11234 ~ dfernandezparmassianplays@hotmail.com

### OHIO: Ohio Poetry Association

Doug Rutledge, President ~ 3510 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43214 ~ doug@ohiopoetryassn.org

**OKLAHOMA: Poetry Society of Oklahoma**  
Rob Burgess, President ~ 10608 N. Council Rd., #13, Oklahoma City, OK 73162 ~ redrob66@yahoo.com

**OREGON: Oregon State Poetry Association**  
Marie Buckley, President ~ 1070 N.E. Sturgess, Hillsboro, OR 97124 ~ ariadne30@verizon.net

**PENNSYLVANIA: Pennsylvania Poetry Society**  
DeAnna Spurlock, President ~ 110 S. Bedford St., Carlisle, PA 17013 ~ deaspur@comcast.net

**SOUTH DAKOTA: South Dakota State Poetry Society**  
Cindy Stupnik, President ~ 1300 17th St. N.E., Watertown, SD 57201 ~ fancstup@wat.midco.net

**TENNESSEE: Poetry Society of Tennessee**  
Russell H. Strauss, President ~ 18 S. Rembert St., Memphis, TN 38104 ~ RSTRpoet@cs.com

**TEXAS: Poetry Society of Texas**  
Jeannette L. Strother, President ~ 610 Circle View Dr., Mansfield, TX 76063 ~ jlstrother@sbcglobal.net

**UTAH: Utah State Poetry Society**  
LaVerna B. Johnson, President ~ 259 South 2020 East, St. George, UT 84790 ~ poetaken@gmail.com

### WYOMING: WyoPoets

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## STROPHES

*Strophes*, the newsletter of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc., is published four times a year: August (\*June 25th) ~ October (\*August 25th) ~ January (\*November 25th) ~ April (\*February 25th). News items and information on contests may be sent via regular mail or e-mail, which is preferred, by authorized members of NFSPS member state societies to:

NFSPS President Nancy Baass, *Strophes* Editor  
2306 N. De Leon St., Victoria, TX 77901-4812  
nbaass@earthlink.net

*Strophes* is available without cost to all paid-up members of NFSPS member state societies when mailed/shipped in bulk to the president or other designated person, who is responsible for ordering the number needed by the submission deadline for each issue. Individual subscriptions are \$5.00 a year to cover handling costs. Special orders are mailed separately. Single copies to individuals, who must specify which issue is ordered, are \$1.00 and a #10 SASE should be supplied. \* Submission Deadlines

### ~ Notes from the *Strophes* Editor ~

I shall send submissions for the next issue to the new Editor when that appointment is made. I only intended to serve for the 2009-10 term. It has been an honor. This is my fourth and last issue of *Strophes*!

Research shows that errors have appeared over the years on the *Strophes* masthead regarding Volume & Issue numbering. For historical accuracy, the correct numbering was determined for the August 2009 issue. That numbering continues with this issue and future ones.

### NFSPS PAST PRESIDENTS (Presidential Advisors)

*Cecilia Parsons Miller	*Jack Murphy
*Clinton Larson	*Barbara Stevens
*Robert D. West	*Henrietta Kroah
*Edna Meudt	*Jerry Robbins
*Marvin Davis Winsett	Pat Stodghill
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Glenn Swetman	Madelyn Eastlund
*Carl Morton	Budd Powell Mahan
*Alice Briley	Doris Stengel
*Wauneta Hackleman	

\* Deceased

~ A Note From the NFSPS President ~

*To: Attendees of the 2010 NFSPS Annual Convention (An Invitation)*

~ Re: 1st and 2nd Plenary Sessions ~

You are encouraged to attend both Plenary Sessions. After you are welcomed and given an overview of the Convention, NFSPS Board members will be introduced and deliver their reports on the running of NFSPS and its various programs/projects. You might witness discussion and voting on a motion by the appointed State Delegates. You will witness their voting on the 2010-2012 NFSPS Executive Board. State societies' activities of the past year will be learned via the reading of State Reports. So, your presence is requested, as NFSPS is your organization.

*To: State Society Presidents (A Reminder)*

~ Re: State Delegates to the 2010 NFSPS Annual Convention, State Reports & the State Presidents' Meeting ~

You are entitled to name up to five State Delegates, who are expected to be present at the 1st and 2nd Plenary Sessions to be available to vote on motions that might be brought before them by the NFSPS Executive Board. They will be called to vote on the 2010-2012 NFSPS Executive Board. (The slate will be presented by the Nominating Committee: Chairman Budd Powell Mahan, Madelyn Eastlund and Amy Jo Zook.) Certification of their status must be brought to the Convention by each Delegate in order to be seated. A letter listing the Delegates should be mailed prior to the Convention to NFSPS Secretary Christine Delea with a copy being mailed to me, also. State Reports could be mailed at the same time. These need to be as brief as possible, filled only with interesting highlights of state society activities in the past year. Reporters need to be assigned, and if it is known that no one from a state society will be attending the Convention, notice should be given in advance. If you attend the Convention, plan on coming to the State Presidents' Meeting scheduled on Friday, June 11, 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

**Thank You Note**

*from Nancy Baass, NFSPS President, 2008-2010*

I want to publicly thank and recognize those NFSPS member societies that accepted my offer, stated at my Installation and in my first President's Message, to travel to any meeting or event invited to while NFSPS President. I was treated royally, as was my Mother, regarding the trips taken, enjoyable segments of our continuing "Poetic Great Adventure!" We look forward to our upcoming trip, another chance to receive the "bonus" of renewed/new friendships and treasured memories.

On December 13, 2008, I was honored to be the Program Speaker at the monthly meeting in Dallas of my own state society, the Poetry Society of Texas, invited by PST President Jeannette L. Strother and Program Chairman Peggy Zuleika Lynch. \* On January 10, 2009, I was the Program Speaker at a specially called state luncheon given in my honor in Albuquerque by the New Mexico State Poetry Society, invited by then NMSPS President George L. Forrest, with Shirley Blackwell, then Rio Grande Valencia Poets Chapter Chair, put in charge of the visit. \* On March 14, 2009, I made remarks as a Special Guest of the Poetry Society of Oklahoma at the PSO 75th Anniversary Annual Awards Banquet in Oklahoma City, sharing Special Guest status with my Mother, Mildred Vorpahl Baass, Poet Laureate of Texas, 1993-1994 & 1994-1995, invited by then PSO President Vivian R. Stewart. \* On April 30 - May 2, 2009, I was the Special Guest, and made remarks, at the Spring Conference of the Poetry Society of Pennsylvania, celebrating their 60th Anniversary, invited by PPS President DeAnna Spurlock with aid from Trustee Ann Gasser, the event hosted by their newest chapter, the Gettysburg Poetry Society, and GPS President Linda Clark, in Gettysburg. \*Upcoming: On May 22, 2010, I am to be the Special Guest, making remarks, at the monthly meeting in Manhattan of the New York Poetry Forum, invited by NYPF President Daniel Fernandez.

**"HEART OF THE SOUTH CONVENTION"**

**June 10-13, 2010**

**Memphis, Tennessee**

**Program**

**Wednesday, June 9, 2010**

7:00 p.m. Early Bird Cocktail Party at the home of Sarah Hull Gurley

**Thursday, June 10, 2010**

9:00 a.m. Registration Table opens  
 9:00 a.m. Book Room opens for set-up  
 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Graceland Tour  
 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. NFSPS Board Meeting  
 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Book Room open  
 6:30 p.m. Buses leave for Central Barbecue  
 7:00 p.m. Barbecue Dinner. (A Welcoming Program will follow at either Central Barbecue or the Holiday Inn.)  
 9:30 p.m. "Heart of the South" Poetry Read-Around

**ARKANSAS DAY**

**Friday, June 11, 2010**

7:00 a.m. "Natural State" Poetry Read-Around  
 8:00 a.m. State Presidents' Meeting  
 8:00 a.m. Book Room open  
 8:30 a.m. Registration Table opens  
 9:00 a.m. 1st NFSPS Plenary Session  
 10:30 a.m. "A Night Visitor" ~ Harding Stedler  
 11:00 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
 11:30 a.m. "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Poetry" ~ Cathy Moran  
 12:00 Noon Lunch, Invocational Poem Winner & Manningham Winners  
 1:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
 2:00 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
 2:30 p.m. "The Music of Poetry" ~ John W. Crawford  
 3:15 p.m. Announcements  
 3:30 p.m. Break - Book Room open

4:00 p.m. "A Natural State of Poetry" ~ Peggy Vining  
 4:45 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
 5:30 p.m. Social Time  
 6:30 p.m. Dinner, Invocational Poem Winner  
 7:30 p.m. College/University Winners  
 8:00 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
 8:30 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
 10:00 p.m. "Ozark Nights" Poetry Read-Around

**MISSISSIPPI DAY**

**Saturday June 12, 2010**

7:00 a.m. "Magnolia State" Poetry Read-Around  
 8:00 a.m. Book Room open  
 9:00 a.m. (Program Topic TBA) ~ Dr. Randy Smith  
 10:00 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
 10:30 a.m. (Program Topic TBA) ~ Dr. Jonathan Randle  
 11:30 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
 12:00 Noon Lunch, Invocational Poem Winner  
 1:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
 2:00 p.m. "Poetry Power" ~ Faye Williams-Jones  
 3:00 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
 3:30 p.m. "How to Win Contests in Only 853 Steps" ~ Jim Barton  
 4:00 p.m. "How to Hook Your Readers and Make Your Poetry More Memorable" ~ Panel Discussion: Ann Carolyn Cates, Brenda Finnegan, and Elva Avara

*(Program continued on page 4)*

(Program continued from page 3)

## CONVENTION SPECIAL EVENTS AND TOURS

### *SPECIAL EVENTS*

- 5:00 p.m. Break - Social Time  
 6:30 p.m. Dinner, Invitational Poem Winner  
 7:30 p.m. Stevens Manuscript Winner  
 8:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
 10:00 p.m. "Southern Belle" Poetry Read-Around

### **TENNESSEE DAY**

#### **Sunday, June 13, 2010**

- 7:00 a.m. "Tennessee Mockingbird" Poetry Read-Around  
 8:00 a.m. Book Room open  
 9:00 a.m. 2nd NFSPS Plenary Session  
 10:30 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
 11:00 a.m. NFSPS Board Meeting  
 12:00 Noon Lunch, Invitational Poem Winner  
 1:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
 2:15 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
 2:45 p.m. (Program Topic TBA)  
 ~ Lola Haskins  
 4:00 p.m. Book Signing for Lola Haskins  
 4:00 p.m. Book Room closes  
 5:30 p.m. Reception and Cash Bar  
 6:30 p.m. Dinner, Invitational Poem Winner  
 7:30 p.m. Installation of 2010-2012 NFSPS Executive Board  
 7:40 p.m. Lola Haskins, Keynote Speaker  
 8:10 p.m. Break  
 8:25 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners

Fifteen minutes after finish:  
 "Volunteer State" Poetry Read-Around

#### **Monday, June 14, 2010**

- 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. "Mississippi Valley" Poetry Read-Around  
 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. City Tour

**Wednesday Night:** 7 p.m. Free Early Bird Cocktail Party at the home of Sarah Hull Gurley. Transportation will be provided. Food and drinks will be served.

**Thursday Night:** 7 p.m. Dinner at Central Barbecue, one of Memphis' leading barbecue restaurants, serving Memphis' famous pork barbecue. The cost for the Dinner at Central Barbecue is \$12.50 for those who have their own transportation. For those who need to go to Central Barbecue by bus, the price is an additional \$10.00. A Welcoming Program may be at the restaurant or may be back at the Holiday Inn, after Dinner at the restaurant, depending on attendance.

### *TOURS*

**Thursday Morning:** Optional Graceland Tour. Tour the second most visited house in the United States, the Graceland mansion, home of Elvis Presley, the King of Rock and Roll. See the Music Room, the Jungle Room, the Trophy Room, the Meditation Garden, and other features of this extraordinary mansion. The tour will depart at 10:00 a.m. and return around 1:30 p.m. Time is allowed for you to purchase your own lunch snack. Price per person: \$30.00.

**Monday Morning:** Optional City Tour. This tour includes the Mississippi River, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Sun Recording Studios, Beale Street, the famous Peabody Hotel ducks and many other sights of downtown Memphis, which has become a major tourist city. Plan a later flight as the tour, which departs at 10:00 a.m., will not return until around 3:00 p.m. This gives those who go on the tour time to have lunch on their own on world famous Beale Street. (The tour cannot be planned earlier in the morning as the march of the Peabody Hotel ducks occurs precisely at 11:00 a.m.) Price per person: \$28.00.

### CONVENTION BOOK ROOM

For Book Room information, contact:

Russell H. Strauss,  
 Convention Chairman  
 18 S. Rembert Street,  
 Memphis, TN 38104  
 RSTRpoet@cs.com

{Note: A display of photography/poetry by Faye Williams-Jones and Bob Jones will be on display in the Book Room when open during Breaks throughout the Convention.}

### CONVENTION SPEAKERS

#### **FRIDAY ~ ARKANSAS DAY**

**Harding Stedler** retired from teaching at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio after 34 years in the classroom. Now living in Maumelle, Arkansas, he is a member of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas and the River Market Poets in Little Rock. He founded the Frontier Poets at the Maumelle Arts Center, where he volunteers tirelessly. He is the author of seven collections of poetry and recently won the Arkansas Senior Poet Honor Scroll Award. Besides his accomplishments in poetry, he is a veteran actor and performer.



**Cathy Moran** taught English for many years, and she now works in an office, which gives her more time to read and write poetry. She enjoys entering contests and has won more awards than can be easily counted. Her work has been published in such magazines and journals as *Atlanta Review*, *The Bitter Oleander*, *Kansas City Voices* and *Mid-America Poetry Review*. She is the author of the poetry collection *Discovering Pigs*.



### **2010 NFSPS Convention Poetry Contest Guidelines**

First Place: \$200.00, Second Place: \$100.00, Third Place: \$50.00. **Deadline: Saturday, May 1, 2010.** Entrants must be members of an NFSPS-affiliated state poetry society. Awards will be announced and the top ten poems read during Thursday evening's activities. Theme: Poet's Choice. Style or Form: Poet's Choice. Line limit: 40 lines. Entries may be published or unpublished and may or may not have placed in contests elsewhere. Entries must, however, be titled. Winners need not be present to win. Send two copies of each poem on white paper, 8.5"x11". Please use 12-point standard font. On one copy, provide poem only. Second copy should include entrant's name, address, phone number, and state poetry society in upper left corner. Limit per entrant: 3 poems. Entry fee: \$5.00 - one poem; \$10.00 - up to three poems per entrant. Make check payable to: Poetry Society of Tennessee. Mail entries to:

Christina Foster  
 709 N. Avalon  
 Memphis, Tennessee 38107  
 (Mark envelope: NFSPS 2010)

**John W. Crawford** is Professor Emeritus at Henderson State University. He has authored three books of poetry: *Making the Connection* (1989, Mellen Press), *I Have Become Familiar With the Rain* (1995, Mellen Press) and *French Quarter at Eight* (2008, Publish Now Press). He has won numerous awards including the Sybil Nash Abrams Award twice, the Arkansas Haiku Award and the International Society of Poets Grand Prize Award, along with a \$10,000 book publishing grant. John has read at venues nationwide and is a longstanding actor and musician.



**Peggy Vining** has won many awards for her poetry, including the Sybil Nash Abrams Award for her sonnet sequence "Arkansas, the Natural State." She has been a member of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas since 1963, serving as President three times. She has been Director of the Ozarks Creative Writers' Conference and the Arkansas Writers' Conference, as well as President of Arkansas Pen-women and Arkansas Songwriters' Association. She was appointed Poet Laureate of Arkansas in 2003, and is compiling a collection of her poetry titled *Tethered to the Moment*. She received a Point of Light Award from President Bush and was recognized by the Arkansas General Assembly with a special House Resolution.



#### SATURDAY ~ MISSISSIPPI DAY

**Randy Smith** is an Associate Professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing Program at Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi, where he has taught since 2001. He earned a Ph.D. in American Literature from the University of South Carolina. Previously, he taught for five years at Nyack College in Nyack, New York. Randy has published poems in *Sandhills*, *The Best of Sandhills*, *Yemassee*, *Ruminate*, and *Rock and Sling*. His scholarly work has appeared in *The Creative Spirit*, *The James Dickey Newsletter*, and in *The Way We Read James Dickey*, a collection of critical essays published by the University of South Carolina Press. Randy and his wife, Laura, have three children and a new daughter-in-law: Benjamin and Caitlin (22), Nathanael (9), and Flannery (6).



**Jonathan Randle**, born in 1972 in New Orleans, grew up in Oxford, Mississippi, where he enjoyed a rural childhood. He attended Mississippi College as a National Merit Scholar in the early nineties, where he double-majored in English and History. Numerous study tours in the United Kingdom during his undergraduate career prompted him to pursue graduate work at the University of Cambridge, where he studied in the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic, eventually earning his Ph.D. in Old English language and literature. He returned to the United States and to his alma mater in 1999, where for the past decade he has been teaching medieval literature, analysis of poetry, and graduate seminars in epic and romance, while also serving as the faculty advisor for *The Arrowhead*, the college's literary and fine arts magazine. Randle lives in Jackson with his wife and their two children.



**Faye Williams-Jones** collaborates with Bob Jones, her husband, to create framed poetry and photography exhibits. *Erasing People* is her first poetry chapbook. She frequently wins awards, and her poetry appears in over fifty anthologies or journals. As Faye enters her second decade of living with cancer, she feels the creativity of poetry contributes to her excellent quality of life.



**Jim Barton** has poetry appearing in over one hundred twenty-five journals and e-zines in twenty-seven states and Great Britain. He has won nearly two hundred poetry awards, including the Sybil Nash Abrams Award, since his first win in 2006. He is the author of the full-length collection, *Animals Who Missed the Ark* (Plain View Press) and two chapbooks. *At the Bird Museum* won the Morris Chapbook Competition from the Alabama State Poetry Society. *Music* was published by Finishing Line Press. He is President of South Arkansas Poets of the Pines and a member of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas and the Poetry Society of Virginia.



#### SUNDAY ~ TENNESSEE DAY

~ KEYNOTE SPEAKER ~

**Lola Haskins** has published eight collections of poetry, most recently *Desire Lines: New and Selected Poems* (BOA Editions, 2004), *The Rim Benders* (Anhinga, 2001), and *Extranjera* (Story Line, 1998). She gathered a wealth of sage advice for new poets in *Not Feathers Yet: A Beginner's Guide to the Poetic Life* (Backwaters, 2007), and a ninth collection, *Still the Mountain*, is forthcoming in 2010, from Paper Kite Press.



Ms. Haskins has been featured on PBS in the United States and on BBC in England. Her awards include two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, multiple individual artist fellowships from the State of Florida, the Iowa Poetry Prize, and the Emily Dickinson/*Writer Magazine* Award from the Poetry Society of America. Her work has appeared in print and online in numerous offerings, in *Atlantic Monthly*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The London Review of Books*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Georgia Review*, *Southern Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Ploughshares*, and elsewhere.

Ms. Haskins enjoys collaborating with artists from other disciplines. Favorite past ventures include a commission from Dance Alive National Ballet to write and perform monologues inspired by Cindy Sherman photographs. She has played "the speaking Mata Hari," a part she wrote for a ballet of that title. She has performed *Forty-Four Ambitions for the Piano*, with composer James Paul Sain and pianist Kevin Sharpe, and collaborated with Paul Richards on a song cycle based on the book. Her work has been interpreted by painter Ruth Harley, printmaker Ken Kerslake, and photographer Diane Farris. Ms. Haskins also has a particular love of radio, and does as much as she can on her local NPR station, WUFT-FM.

Lola Haskins teaches poetry in Pacific Lutheran University's low-residency MFA program. She lives in a house she built with her husband on land outside Gainesville, where residents include possums, armadillos, deer, and Florida black bear.

**NEWS****from NFSPS Member State Societies**

**ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY** 2009 Fall Conference with the theme "To the Moon and Back!" was hosted by the Scottsdale Mustang Poets on November 14th at the Scottsdale Mustang Library. There were 40 participants. The all day event featured Carol Browne, Director of the University of Arizona Poetry Center, The Klute and Neil Gearns from the local slam poetry communities, memorials to ASPS poets who passed away in the last year and open readings by attendees. The day ended with the election of the 2010 Officers: Christy White, President; Paul Callahan, Vice President; Carol Hogan, Treasurer; Shirley Griesbach, Secretary. Dan Heller was appointed the newsletter Editor. The 2010 Spring Festival, hosted by the East Valley Poets, will be Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Pyle Center, 655 E. Southern, Tempe, AZ, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The theme is "Context, Layers and Common Threads" and will include a discussion and an exercise around the theme, and open poetry readings. All poets are invited to this free event! For more information, visit [www.azpoetry.org](http://www.azpoetry.org). ~ *Molly Saty*

**GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY** met on January 23, 2010, and foreign verse was highlighted at the meeting. Kennesaw State's Dr. Frederica Santini and Dr. Luixi Meng read poetry in Italian and Mandarin Chinese, respectively, enabling the audience to hear the lyrical nuances in the original languages. The two educators then interpreted the presented works in English. Dan Veach, founding and current Editor of *The Atlanta Review*, followed with a reading from his current collection, *Elephant Water*. He concluded with a recitation from *Flowers of Flame*, the first anthology of Iraqi poetry since the beginning of the war. Certificates and remunerations were handed out during the annual awards banquet to GPS members who won first, second or third place in our annual contests. Winners, in turn, read their poems aloud. In the afternoon, Dr. Robert Lynn read from his new poetry book, *Midnight Verses*, while Clela Reed presented poems from her latest publication, *Bloodlines*. ~ *Francie Smith-Rountree, Reporter*

**INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF POETRY CLUBS** will meet May 15, 2010, in Lowell, IN. Election of President, Contest Director and Manningham Chairman will take place. The nominees are: Glenna Glee, Darleen

Butler and Mary Couch, respectively. We will be discussing the Esther Alman Memorial Fund and other important issues. This meeting is sponsored by the Northwest Indiana Poetry Society at the Lowell Library, under the direction of Tom Spencer. There will be an Emily Dickinson presentation in the afternoon. Tony Sexton, President of the Kentucky Poetry Society will also be a guest speaker. ~ *Glenna Glee, President*

**MAINE POETS SOCIETY** meets three times a year. In February, they gathered at the Dyer Library in Saco to hear member Herb Coursen discuss the Dramatic Monologue and critique contest entries before reading from his new book, *Blues in the Night*. After lunch, guest Tom Carper gave a short talk on the Sonnet, judged the contest poems, and read from his forthcoming book, *Unity*. Next meeting will be on May 22nd at Thomas College, Waterville, with member judge Woody Woodsum (subject: "Simplicity") and guest judge Wes McNair (form: Pantoum). Registration begins 9:30 a.m. Non-members are welcome and may stay to participate in a reading-in-the-round about 3:00 p.m. For more information, contact Co-President, Marta Finch at: [moimarta@comcast.net](mailto:moimarta@comcast.net). For membership information, contact: Anne Hammond, MPS Treasurer, 1 Grove Street, Bath ME 04530. ~ *Sally Joy, Publicity Chairperson*

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY** closed out another successful year with its Annual Holiday Meeting on December 5, 2009. It was attended by 22 poets, including some new members. Winners of the Christmas Poem Contest were announced and read. The 2009 *MSPS Poetry Anthology*, with entries by 27 members, was distributed. The meeting included a workshop on "Acrostic Poetry with a Holiday Theme," led by President Jeanette Maes. Members contributed to the festive mood by providing a delectable buffet lunch and a Yankee Swap. Each gift was accompanied by a poem, of which one was selected to win a cash prize. Books donated by members for a Silent Poetry Book Auction were sold, with proceeds to go towards defraying postage expenses. ~ *Roberta Hung, Reporter*

**MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY** will meet at Belhaven College in Jackson, MS, on April 17-18 to finalize plans for co-hosting, with the Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas and the Poetry Society of Tennessee, the 2010 NFSPS Convention to be held in Memphis, TN, June 10-13. ~ *Emory D. Jones, President*

**OREGON STATE POETRY ASSOCIATION** annual student contest, facilitated by the Rogue Valley Unit, received 459 entries from 35 Oregon towns and cities. The winners will be presented in May. The spring OSPA Conference will be held April 16th and 17th at the Hilton-Eugene Conference Center and at Eugene's Tsunami Bookstore. Under the energetic persuasion of Christine Delea, two major poets, Matthew Dickman and Heather McHugh, have agreed to give readings. Dickman will also present a workshop entitled "The Odd Ode." The Eugene-Springfield unit of OSPA with the leadership of Quinton Hallett is actively involved with the many details of producing a conference. They will showcase their poets and assist with workshops on Assemblage Poems. The annual meeting and the announcement of contest winners will round out the week-end. ~ *Virginia Corrie-Cozart, Historian*

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE POETRY SOCIETY** invites anyone interested in writing, publishing or listening to poetry to attend a Poetry Workshop from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, April 24, in the Old Library Building on the Mt. Mary College campus, Yankton, South Dakota. Free parking is available in the Laddie E. Cimpr Arena Parking Lot, north of the Old Library Building. Registration for the event is \$20 and includes morning coffee and muffins, and noon lunch. Checks, made out to SDSPS, may be sent to Marilyn Kratz, 2007 Ross Street, Yankton, SD 57078, and are due by April 10. Participants may bring their books to sell. Sellers must monitor their sales and provide change. For information phone: (605) 664-5864 or e-mail: [mkratz@iw.net](mailto:mkratz@iw.net). Dr. James Reese will present the workshop titled "Writing and Publishing Poetry" in the a.m. session. Dr. Reese is Assistant Professor of English at Mt. Mary College. He is Editor-in-Chief of *Paddlefish*, a yearly literature journal, and has had works published in several literary review journals. His second collection of poems titled *Ghost on Third* came out this year. He is the 2008 and 2009 National Endowment for the Art's Writer-in-Residence at the Yankton Federal Camp. After the noon break, Dr. Reese will join David Allan Evans, South Dakota Poet Laureate, for a session of poetry readings. Evans has had nine collections of his poetry published. His latest collection is titled *This Water. These Rocks*. His work is included in over 80 anthologies. In 2009, he received the Governor's Award for Creative Achievement in the Arts. ~ *Francie Davis, Pasque Petals Editor*

**POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS** Meetings are presently held September through May on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 2:30 p.m. at the Preston Royal Library in Dallas, Texas (exception: the Annual Awards Banquet, held at a Dallas hotel, takes the place of a November meeting.) In June, attendance at the NFSPS Convention is encouraged. In July, the 3 day PST Summer Conference is held at different sites around the state. The 2009-10 Executive Board is comprised of President: Jeannette L. Strother, Vice President: Catherine L'Herisson, Corresponding Secretary: Jimmie Inez Sessions, Recording Secretary: Silvia Slaten, Treasurer: Amy Sandberg, and Directors: Pat Randolph, David Knape and Barbara Blanks. PST is pleased that a PST member, Karla Kay Morton of Denton, is presently serving as the 2010 Poet Laureate of Texas.

~ Nancy Baass

**UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY** celebrates its 60th Anniversary "Diamond Jubilee" this year at the 2010 USPS Poetry Festival at the Salt Lake Airport Hilton, April 23 & 24! Award winning author Lance Larsen will be the honored Guest Poet. Laureate Gail Schimmelpfennig, author of *The Frozen Kingdom*, will be recognized, and this year's Pearl M. Olsen winning author and book of the year for 2010 will be announced. Winners from the 2,093 poems entered in competition will be announced, and poems read. Beginning this year, USPS will honor the first five USPS Poet Laureate winners by reading several poems from their published books. This year's distinguished honorees are: Vesta P. Crawford - *Short Grass Woman* - 1965, Lael W. Hill - *A Legacy of Years* - 1966, Berta H. Christensen - *Walk the Proud Morning* - 1967, Betty W. Madsen - *The Amaranth* - 1968, and J. A. Christensen - *The Deep Song* - 1969. This event will continue as a part of the USPS Poetry Festival from this point on. Student poets from across the state will also receive awards through the USPS Junior Creative Program on Saturday evening. President LaVerna B. Johnson invites all poets, and poetry enthusiasts to attend this feast of poetry. For registration information see [www.utahpoets.com](http://www.utahpoets.com). In other news, Stacy Julin was chosen as the winner of the Tiger's Eye Press 2009 Chapbook Contest, winning publication, \$100 and 25 copies. See [www.tigerseyejournal.com](http://www.tigerseyejournal.com). Thanks to our wonderful Workshop Chair, Elaine Christensen, our winter writings have been enriched by workshops presented by Utah

poets Joyce Ellen Davis, Barbara Murdock, Rob Carney, and Oregon poet Marianne Klekacz. Look them up. You will like what they have to offer. Utah's successful First Annual Poetry in the Park event, a co-operative venture with Zion Canyon Field Institute featuring N. Colwell Snell, was held in a beautiful Zion National Park setting March 12, 2010. This day of poetry, nature, and workshops is designed to extend the Redrock Writers Seminar held each Spring in Southern Utah. See [www.zionpark.org/product\\_66.html](http://www.zionpark.org/product_66.html), or for news of next year's program, see [www.utahpoets.com](http://www.utahpoets.com) or [www.redrockwriters.org](http://www.redrockwriters.org).

~ LaVerna B. Johnson, President  
& N. Colwell Snell

**WYOPETS** held our annual Eugene V. Shea National Contest as well as our annual Members-only Contest. Contest results will be announced and winning poems will be read at our Spring Workshop on April 24, 2010, at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Casper, WY. Sophia Puccini, of Saratoga, WY, will be the presenter. ~ Linda Ruhle, News Reporter

### CONTESTS

**ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY ANNUAL FALL POETRY CONTEST** ~ Poems may be entered in various categories and cash prizes will be awarded to winners. Winning poems may also be published in *Sandcutter*. Guidelines will be posted on our website, [www.azpoetry.com](http://www.azpoetry.com), or can be obtained by mailing a self addressed stamped envelope to: ASPS Annual Contest, Shirley Griesbach, 12811 W. Beechwood Dr. , Sun City West, AZ 85375-3235, or E-mail: [cchristy1@prodigy.net](mailto:cchristy1@prodigy.net). Deadline for receiving entries is September 15, 2010.

**ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY 17TH ANNUAL CONTEST** ~ Categories: 1) free verse, 2) formal verse, 3) a poem related to a family tradition, old or new. Prizes \$50, \$30, \$10, 3 HM. Maximum length: one poem per page. Type size 11 point or higher; no columns. Poems in English only. Submit two copies of each poem, first copy with ID (name/address/e-mail) and category in upper left hand corner; second copy without ID but with category. Entry fee: Non-members, \$6.00 for up to three poems, \$1.00 each additional poem. Members ISPS, \$3.00 for up to 5 poems, \$1.00 each additional poem. Simultaneous submissions accepted. No poems which have won monetary awards or been published. Poems not returned. One out of state judge per category. Send sub-

missions to Marvin Young, ISPS Poetry Contest Chair, 2382 Kildeer Street, Woodridge, Illinois 60517. Winners' names posted on ISPS website, [illinoispoets.org](http://illinoispoets.org). Deadline: must be postmarked, September 30, 2010.

**POETS & PATRONS 54TH ANNUAL CHICAGOLAND POETRY CONTEST** ~ Deadline: September 1, 2010. Prizes: \$45, \$20, \$10, and three HMs in each category. A \$10 entry fee covers one poem submitted in any or all categories: (1) religious, (2) humorous, (3) formal, (4) free verse, (5) social conscience, (6) miniature, (7) theme: The City of Chicago. The contest is open to all. Send SASE for rules to Barbara Eaton, Contest Chair, 416 Gierz Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515-3838. Rules also available on our web site: [www.poetsandpatrons.net](http://www.poetsandpatrons.net).

**INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF POETRY CLUBS 2010 RENDEZVOUS CONTEST** ~ There are 27 categories offering a total of slightly over \$1300. Send SASE, #10 size, to: Darleen Butler, 2219 Lakeland Lane, Ft. Wayne, IN, 46815. Deadline is Sept. 1, 2010 (postmark). Awards will be announced at ISFPC's Rendezvous at McCormick's Creek State Park, October 22-24, 2010. Those winners not present will receive awards by mail soon after this date.

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY - AMBASSADOR OF POETRY AWARD** ~ Deadline: April 15, 2010. Subject and Form: Poet's Choice. 40 line limit. Prizes: \$50, \$30, \$20. Poems must not have been published or won any prize. Poets may enter as many poems as they wish, but only one prize may be won by any poet. Entry Fee is \$3.00 per poem, checks payable to MSPS. Send two copies of each poem, one with name and address, one with no ID. SASE for Winners' List. Send entries to Gertrude Callis, Contest Chair, 10 Pleasant Street, Apt. 106, Lynn, MA 01902. Mark name of contest on envelope.

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY - NAOMI CHERKOFKY MEMORIAL CONTEST** ~ Deadline: June 30, 2010. Subject and Form: Poet's Choice. 40 line limit. Prizes: \$50, \$30, \$20. Poems must not have been published. Poets may enter as many poems as they wish, but only one prize may be won by any poet. Entry Fee is \$3.00 per poem, checks payable to MSPS. Send two copies of each poem, one with name and address, one with no ID. SASE for Winners' List. Send entries to Gertrude Callis, Contest Chair, 10 Pleas-

ant Street, Apt. 106, Lynn, MA 01902. Mark name of contest on envelope.

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY - ANNUAL POET'S CHOICE CONTEST** ~ Deadline: November 1, 2010. Subject and Form: Poet's Choice. 40 line limit. Prizes: \$50, \$25, \$15. Poems must not have been published or won any prize. Poets may enter as many poems as they wish, but only one prize may be won by any poet. Entry Fee is \$3.00 per poem, checks payable to MSPS. Send two copies of each poem, one with name and address, one with no ID. SASE for Winners' List. Send entries to Gertrude Callis, ContestChair, 10 Pleasant Street, Apt. 106, Lynn, MA 01902. Mark name of contest on envelope.

**POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN 2010 CONTEST** ~ Deadline: August 1, 2010. Check the Michigan link on the NFSPS website for a pdf of brochure, or write to James Ahearn, 536 Hill St. Rochester, MI 48307.

**MISSOURI STATE POETRY SOCIETY SUMMER CONTEST** ~ Deadline: Postmark September 1, 2010. Two copies of each entry, category number and name in upper left corner of both copies, poet's name and address in upper right corner of one copy. If member, put "Missouri State Poetry Society" below your address, otherwise put "non-member". 40 or fewer lines. May be previously published if poet retains the rights to the poem; may enter each category as many times as poet wishes. Categories: 1) rhymed verse or blank verse, 2) free verse, 3) humorous verse, 4) any form, summer subject, 5) Members only: poet's choice (any form, any subject). Members pay \$1.00 for two entries. Non-members pay \$1.00 per entry. Payable to: MSPS. Send to Michelle Martin, P. O. Box 1776, West Plains, MO 65775. SASE, or e-mail address on a 3x5 index card, for list of winners.

**SPRINGFIELD WRITERS' GUILD ANNUAL POETRY/PROSE CONTEST** ~ Deadline: October 1, 2010. Awards \$5-\$100. Twelve categories in poetry, fiction and non-fiction, unpublished. Fees \$2.00-\$3.00, depending on category. Poetry limit, one page. Prose limits 1,000-1,500 words. For flyer, send SASE to Mandy Barke, SWG Contest 305 W. Hayes Rd. Clever, MO 65631, or e-mail: mandybarke@yahoo.com Phone: (417) 830-7660.

**SENIOR POETS LAUREATE CONTEST** ~ Deadline: June 30, 2010. Award: \$500.00. Missouri State Poetry Society life member (re-

cently relocated to California), Wanda Parrott is Contest Administrator. Must be 50 or older. Rules at [www.amykitchenerfdn.org](http://www.amykitchenerfdn.org) or send #10 SASE to: SPL Rules, P. O. Box 103, Monterey, CA 93942-0103.

**2010 NEW MEXICO STATE POETRY SOCIETY ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST** ~ Deadline: May 15, 2010. Categories: #1. Rhymed, #2. Free Verse, #3. Southwest (theme, reference, or setting), #4. Humor, #5. Youth (by poets 18 and under). 1st Prize: \$40, 2nd Prize: \$25, 3rd Prize: \$15. Any form, 40 line limit. Poems must be original work of the entrant, not previously published, typed or computer generated (not hand written or printed), and single-spaced; without illustrations; written in English; and titled, unless a haiku. No more than 6 poems per entrant. Send 2 clear copies of each poem on 8 1/2" X 11" white paper in black ink. On both copies, place category # and description at upper left corner. For poems over 1 page, put page number on upper left corner, just below category designation. On second copy only, add poet's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if any) at upper right corner. Flat entry fee of \$15 for 1-6 poems. Check or money order payable to NMSPS. Include a legal sized SASE (9"x4"). Mail poems to NMSPS Annual Poetry Contest, c/o Annmarie Pearson, Contest Chair, 454 Diana Dr. N.E., Los Lunas, NM, 87031. 1st Class or Priority Mail only; No delivery requiring a signature. For more information: [altbalance@msn.com](mailto:altbalance@msn.com).

**OHIO POETRY DAY CONTEST** ~ Competition opened in March and closes May 31, 2010. Thirty contests for one \$10.00 entry fee. For rules, send a SASE to: Amy Jo Zook, 3520 State Route 56, Mechanicsburg, OH 43044.

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE POETRY SOCIETY 35TH ANNUAL CONTEST** ~ Deadline is November 1, 2010. For information, contact Lori VanDenHoek, 807 N. Duff, Plankinton, SD 57368, (605) 942-7329 or go to the SDSPS website: [www.sdstatepoetrysociety.com](http://www.sdstatepoetrysociety.com).

**POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE 53RD ANNUAL MID-SOUTH POETRY CONTEST** ~ For a contest brochure, send a SASE to: F. Bruce, 745 Belvedere Blvd., Memphis, TN 38107. Deadline: August 23, 2010. Winners will be announced at the 53rd Annual Mid-South Poetry Festival on Saturday, October 2, 2010, at the Holiday Inn at the University of Memphis, 3556 Central Ave., Memphis, TN, 38107.

**POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS 2010 ANNUAL CONTESTS.** Deadline: August 15, 2010 (Postmark). Of the contests offered, 54 are open to PST Associate Members and Non-Members. First Place poems win monetary awards and publication in PST's *A Book of the Year*. The brochure listing all contests, procedures and rules, can be obtained by visiting: [www.poetrysocietyoftexas.com](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.com), or by mailing a SASE to: PST Annual Contests Chairman Nancy Baass, 2306 N. De Leon St., Victoria, TX 77901-4812.

**SAN ANTONIO POETRY FAIR CONTEST** ~ This annual, national contest is open to adults with total cash prizes of \$350. Winners and selected others will also be published in the *Voices Along the River Anthology*. Entry deadline is June 15, 2010. See [www.sanantoniopoetryfair.com](http://www.sanantoniopoetryfair.com) for details.