



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

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

Strophes

Vol. XLVIII No. 2

www.nfspd.com

October 2011

President's Message



Dear NFSPS Poets:

I know from communications that our Indiana poets are working hard on our 2012 convention. I can hardly wait for the January *Strophes* to find out all the details. This will be a conveniently located convention for many of our poets in mid-America. It is not too early to think about going. We would also like to report the exciting news that New Mexico has put in a bid to hold the 2013 convention in Albuquerque. Shirley Blackwell and the

other poets from the New Mexico State Poetry Society are very enthusiastic and want this to be a truly fine convention; so place this convention on your calendar as well. Our thanks to Christine Delea for meeting with the New Mexico poets prior to their decision to become our hosts. I recently appointed Jim Barton of Arkansas to the position of convention coordinator to assist with these and future conventions. Jim did an expert job during our convention in Memphis.

Co-editor Paul Ford tells us that we still need to update the names and information on many of our state presidents. We often do not know your society has changed presidents until you tell us. Please let Paul know.

If your society would like to help NFSPS reduce mailing costs by receiving some of your *Strophes* on line, please let Paul know between now and December 1st so we can reduce the number of copies mailed. Remember that no society is required to do this, particularly if they need to mail a certain number of copies for non-profit purposes, and that any member who wants a paper copy should still be given the option of receiving one.

In a few months, our brochure chairman, Sharon Turner, will be asking for contest sponsors for the 2013 brochure. We greatly appreciate all of our sponsors, respect their wishes, and will fully support whatever contest you wish to sponsor no matter how long you have sponsored that contest. The fact remains, however, that we would like to stimulate poets to write fresh poetry on fresh topics. If you want to sponsor the same contest each year, so be it, but our contest selections often look similar from year to year. All I am asking is that you consider the possibility of sponsoring something different. Poets should be creative. In recent years our Tennessee poets have memorialized a recently deceased poet in our society by sponsoring a form or topic that we knew was particularly dear to that poet. This might be one idea. Again, whatever you sponsor, you are appreciated and whatever rules the sponsor establishes for a contest should be strictly upheld by the judge. This is just a thought.

We hate to end with a sad note. So many poets who over the years have been the mainstay of NFSPS have passed away recently. My grandmother used to say, "People who don't care about other people experience no great sadness, but they also experience no great joy." We will try to recall the joy of knowing Theda Bassett and Margo LaGattuta. This will help us through the sadness of missing them.

Poets are special people,

Russell H. Strauss ~ 29th NFSPS President

2012 NFSPS College/University Level Poetry Competition

All freshmen, sophomore, juniors and seniors of an accredited university or college are eligible to enter the NFSPS College/University Level Poetry Competition. Two students will receive an award of \$500 each, one as the Edna Meudt Memorial Award and the other as the Florence Kahn Memorial Award. Recipients will be selected on the following basis:

1. Submission of a completed NFSPS official application that has been duly notarized. This form as well as the rules are found on the NFSPS.com website.
2. Submission of a manuscript of ten original poems. Send four copies of the manuscript.
3. Manuscript must be titled.
4. Manuscript must have a cover page with name, address, phone number in upper left corner and the title of the manuscript in center of the page.
5. One poem to each page, single-spaced with a title for each poem.
6. Each poem must be no more than 46 lines (includes the spaces between stanzas)
7. Each poem must have no more than 50 characters per line (includes spaces between words and punctuation).
8. No identification on any page other than the cover page.
9. A dedication page may be included.
10. No illustrations.
11. No entry should be mailed prior to January 1, 2012.

Notarized applications and manuscript must be received on or before February 14, 2012. This means it must be mailed prior to February 14 with sufficient time for your submissions to arrive to the contest chair. First class mail only. No special deliveries. No email submissions. Candidates will be disqualified if any of the above requirements are not followed. Mail complete package to:

Kathryn Clement, Chair

1510 N Sinova St.

Mesa, AZ 85205

email: kclement3@cox.net (questions only, no electronic submissions)

Recipients will be selected on or before March 31, 2012 and announced after April 15, 2012. Each recipient's state poetry society will be notified. Award manuscripts will be published by NFSPS, and each recipient will receive 75 copies of the published manuscript in addition to the cash award. Recipients will be invited to read from their work at the 2012 NFSPS Convention to be held in Merrillville, IN June 14-18. NFSPS will provide an additional \$300 travel stipend to those recipients attending the Convention. Winners are responsible for the balance of costs (room and meals) at the Convention and to make their own reservations.

NFSPS 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION

INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF POETRY CLUBS is hosting the 2012 NFSPS National Conference, entitled THE CROSSROADS OF AMERICA POETRY EXTRAVAGANZA, June 14-18. Location: Star Plaza Radisson Hotel, Merrillville, IN 46410, off I-65 & US 30. The hotel offers free wireless high speed internet, indoor and outdoor pools, sauna, whirlpool, Starbuck's, and Sleep Number beds. The planning committee wants you to know that INDIANA WELCOMES YOU and that plans are proceeding nicely toward a fabulous affair.

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.**

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

Honorary Chancellor: Ted Kooser

(Appointment made June, 2010)

EXECUTIVE BOARD ~ 2010-2012

Elected, NFSPS Convention ~ Memphis, TN, June, 2010

PRESIDENT: Russell H. Strauss

18 S. Rembert St., Memphis, TN 38104

RSTRpoet@cs.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jeremy M. Downes

Stevens Manuscript Competition Chairman

832 Tacoma Dr., Auburn, AL 36830

downejm@auburn.edu

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: N. Colwell Snell

Publicity Chairman

P.O. Box 52098, Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0698

ncolwell@snell@yahoo.com

3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Eleanor Berry

Membership Chairman

22614 N. Santiam Hwy., Lyons, OR 97358

eberry@wvi.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT: Caroline Walton

Historian

6176 W. Pinedale Circle, Crystal River,

FL 34429 ~ cwalton37@tampabay.rr.com

CHANCELLOR: Steven Concert

Youth Awards Chairman

49 Kitchen Ave., Harveys Lake, PA 18618

nfspss-steve@att.net

1ST VICE CHANCELLOR: Dena R. Gorrell

Poetry Day/Poetry Month Liaison

14024 Gateway Dr., Edmond, OK 73013

thepoetlady@cox.net

2ND VICE CHANCELLOR: Valerie Martin Bailey

Encore Editor

2207 Parhaven Dr., San Antonio,

TX 78232 ~ vbailey@satx.rr.com

TREASURER: Lucille Morgan Wilson

2325 61st St., Des Moines, IA 50322

lucille_e_wilson@hotmail.com

SECRETARY: Mary Christine Delea

(address unlisted upon request) christinedelea@cs.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Nancy Baass

Presidential Advisors Chairman

2306 N. De Leon St., Victoria, TX

77901-4812 ~ nbaass@earthlink.net

APPOINTIVE BOARD

College/University Competition Chairman:

Kathryn E. Clement, 1510 North Sinova St.,

Mesa, AZ 85205 ~ kclement3@cox.net

Contest Chairman: Mikki Pennington, P.O. Box

7842, Moore, OK 73153 ~ contestchair@nfspss.com

Contest Sponsors/Brochure Chairman:

Sharon Martin Turner, 10807 Silhouette Dr.,

San Antonio, TX 78216 ~ sdmturner@aol.com

Convention Coordinator: Jim Barton, P.O. Box 263

Huttig, AR 71747 ~ jbob214@yahoo.com

Development Chairman: Christina Foster, 709 North

Avalon, Memphis, TN 38107 ~ cfwrites@gmail.com

Judges Chairman: DeAnna Spurlock, 110 S.

Bedford St., Carlisle, PA 17013 ~ deaspur@comcast.net

Librarian: Peggy Zuleika Lynch, 6954 Elusive Pass,

San Antonio, TX 78233 ~ Txfrenchy123@gmail.com

Manningham Trust Competition Chairman:

Budd Powell Mahan, 7059 Spring Valley Rd.,

Dallas, TX 75254 ~ buddmahan@att.net

Manningham Trust Advisor: Sam Wood,

1570 Auburn Way, Reno, NV 89502

Special Awards Chairman: Amy Jo Zook,

3520 State Rte. 56, Mechanicsburg, OH 43044

Strophes Coeditor: Bethany Ng, 5217 S. Heath Ave.,
Kearns, UT 84118 ~ bepoet@earthlink.net

Strophes Coeditor: Paul Ford, 10239 Hickory
Point Dr., Sandy, UT 84092 ~ pmford3@yahoo.com

Webmaster: Billy Pennington, P.O. Box. 7842,

Moore, OK 73153 ~ zodnoyeb@aol.com

Legal Advisor, Parliamentarian:

Floyd (Michaud) L. Lamrouex, 4147 Acorn Hill, Ste 1,

San Antonio, TX 78217 ~ lamrouex@sbcglobal.net

**NFSPS MEMBER STATE SOCIETIES
AND PRESIDENTS**

ALABAMA: Alabama State Poetry Society

Joe Whitten, President ~ P.O. Box 125, Odenville,

AL 35120 ~ whitten93@windstream.net

ARIZONA: Arizona State Poetry Society

Christy White, President ~ 37427 N. Ootam Rd. #104,

Cave Creek, AZ 85331 ~ christy1@prodigy.net

ARKANSAS: Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas

Cathy Moran, President ~ 401 Auburn Dr.,

Little Rock, AR 72205 ~ cmoran@arml.org

CALIFORNIA: California State Poetry Society

Kate Ozbirn, President ~ 4781 Briarhill Dr.,

Yorba Linda, CA 92886 ~ kateozbirn@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

Cheri Neuman Herald, President ~ 18 S.J. Kellner Blvd,

Beverly Hills, FL 34465 ~ c_herald@hotmail.com

GEORGIA: Georgia Poetry Society

Robert S. King, President ~ 313 Pan Will Road, Mineral

Bluff, GA 30559 ~ gps@georgiapoetsociety.org

ILLINOIS: Illinois State Poetry Society

Mardelle Fortier, President ~ 5515A East Lake Dr.,

Lisle, IL 60532 ~ fortier@cod.edu

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

Rebecca S. Lindsay, President ~ 2828 University Ct,

Crestview Hills, KY 41017 ~ loisterms@fuse.net

LOUISIANA: Louisiana State Poetry Society

Charles R. Egedy, President ~ 9447 Donna Dr,

Baton Rouge, LA 70815 ~ cegegy@tigers.lsu.edu

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 ~ msps.jmaes@comcast.net

MICHIGAN: Poetry Society of Michigan

James F. Ahearn, President ~ 536 Hill St., Rochester,

MI 48307 ~ jfahearn@comcast.net

MINNESOTA: League of Minnesota Poets

Christina M. Flaughner, President ~ P.O. Box 446,

Mapleton, MN 56065 ~ Chrismo14@aol.com

MISSISSIPPI: Mississippi Poetry Society

Brenda Finnegan, President ~ 7606 Davenport Lane,

Ocean Springs, MS 39564 ~ writeaway@cablone.net

MISSOURI: Missouri State Poetry Society

Missi Rasmussen, President ~ 209 NE 83rd Terrace

Kansas City, MO 64118 ~ missi.poetess@gmail.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

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

Shirley Blackwell, President ~ P.O. Box 1352,

Los Lunas, NM 87031 ~ sonneteer@earthlink.net

NEW YORK: New York Poetry Forum

Daniel Fernandez, President ~ 3604 Ave. S, Brooklyn,

NY 11234 ~ dfernandezparnassianplays@hotmail.com

OHIO: Ohio Poetry Association

Mark Hersman, President ~ 608 Logan Rd.,

Mansfield, OH 44907 ~ turtlegy99@aol.com

OKLAHOMA: Poetry Society of Oklahoma

Rob Burgess, President ~ 10608 N. Council Rd. #13,

Oklahoma City, OK 73162 ~ redrob66@yahoo.com

Billy Pennington, Co-President, P.O. Box. 7842,

Moore, OK 73153 ~ zodnoyeb@aol.com

OREGON: Oregon Poetry Association

Laura LeHew, President ~ PO Box 50638,

Eugene, OR 97405 ~ laura@deer-run.com

PENNSYLVANIA: Pennsylvania Poetry Society

Richard Lake, President ~ 501 Second Street,

New Cumberland, PA 17070 ~ lakeerie@yahoo.com

SOUTH DAKOTA: South Dakota State Poetry Society

Cindy Stupnik, President ~ 1300 17th St. N.E.,

Watertown, SD 57201 ~ fandcstup@wat.midco.net

TENNESSEE: Poetry Society of Tennessee

Randall G. Stoker, President ~ 8912 Crumpler Cv.,

Olive Branch, MS 38654 ~ rainwolf23@gmail.com

TEXAS: Poetry Society of Texas

Catherine L Herison, President ~ 518 Grinnell Dr.,

Garland, TX 75043 ~ catherinepoet@juno.com

UTAH: Utah State Poetry Society

Eric H. Read, President ~ 496 East 900 North,

Brigham City, UT 84302 ~ poeteric@hotmail.com

WYOMING: WyoPoets

Abbie Taylor, President ~ 352 W. Whitney, Sheridan,

WY 82801 ~ abbie@samobile.net

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:

Paul Ford, *Strophes* Coeditor
10239 Hickory Pt. Dr., Sandy, UT 84092
pmford3@yahoo.com

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. To order a single issue: specify the issue ordered, include a #10 SASE and \$1.00 per copy.

* Submission Deadlines

**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
*Max Golightly	*Wanda Blaisdell
*Hans Juergensen	*Ralph Hammond
*Russell Ferrall	Amy Jo Zook
*Jean Jenkins	Susan Stevens Chambers
*Catherine Case Lubbe	Clarence P. Socwell
Glenn Swetman	Madelyn Eastlund
*Carl Morton	Budd Powell Mahan
*Alice Briley	Doris Stengel
*Wauneta Hackleman	Nancy Baass

* Deceased

MANNINGHAM TRUST STUDENT POETRY CONTEST

Rules: 2012 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 2011.

2. The competition is open to all USA students in grades 6 – 12. Public, private, and home-schools 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 student's ID in upper right corner. The ID information is student name, school name and address, student grade level, and teacher's (language arts/English) 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 50 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, 2012. Send entries to: Budd P. 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 the Manningham (Youth) Chair by May 20, 2012. 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 2012.

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 or numbers below.

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

2011 STEVENS POETRY MANUSCRIPT COMPETITION

Awarding \$1,000 + publication + 50 books

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

- 48-70 page poetry manuscript by a single author
- Typewritten or computer printed, NO illustrations
- No author identification anywhere in manuscript
- Pages numbered, no more than one poem per page
- May include previously published poems (acknowledgments on separate sheet)
- Simultaneous and multiple submissions permitted
- Enclosed in a plain file folder and/or held by a manuscript clip, NO staples or binding
- No certified or registered mail; no disks

Include two title pages, one with no author ID, the other with name, address, phone number, email address, and, if applicable, state poetry society membership. Include a table of contents.

Entrants who provide an email address or who enclose a business-size self-addressed, stamped envelope will be notified of the results in January 2012. Manuscripts will be recycled.

Notify us immediately if your manuscript is accepted elsewhere.

All manuscripts will be reviewed for compliance with guidelines and overall quality by the competition chair. Approximately 100 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, on the web, and elsewhere in June 2012.

ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Jeremy Downes, Chair
NFSPS Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition
832 Tacoma Dr.
Auburn, AL 36830

SUBMISSION PERIOD: August 1- October 15, 2011 (postmark deadline)

ENTRY FEE: \$20 for NFSPS members, \$25 for nonmembers (Members of state poetry societies affiliated with NFSPS are members.)

PAST JUDGES: David Baker, Michael Dennis Browne, Michael Bugeja, Anne Marx, Sue Brannan Walker, Kenneth Brewer, David Sutherland, Donna Salli, Bruce Eastman, Ruth Berman, Peter Meinke, Lawson Inada, Patricia Fagnoli, Jeff Gundy, Carolyne Wright, Ralph Burns, Lola Haskins

RECENT WINNER: Copies of the current winning volume of the Stevens Competition series, Rawdon Tomlinson's *Lines from the Surgeon's Children, 1862-1865*, are available through the NFSPS website.

NFSPS MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY will meet at the University of Montevallo October 28 & 29 for workshops and awards luncheon. Information about the weekend and how to enter fall contests may be found at alabamapoets.org, or you may email Joe Whitten at whitten93@windstream.net. ~ *Joe Whitten, President*

ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY our Fall Conference is scheduled for November 12th. ASPS has a new website: azpoetry.webs.com. President Christy White presented a poetry workshop to students at the Kingman, AZ middle school and high school in September. She spoke about lyrics of contemporary songs as the poetry that can inspire students to write. Using a line from a song's lyrics, Christy created collaborative poetry with the students. Other ASPS members presenting poetry workshops to students in the last year include Pat Bush and Bob Frost, the poet laureate for Scottsdale. Lots of poetry happening in Arizona with ASPS members participating in readings in Tucson, Phoenix Valley, and Northern Arizona. ~ *Christy White, President*

CONNECTICUT POETRY SOCIETY co-sponsored an event on September 16, 2011, celebrating the 83rd birthday of former US poet laureate, Donald Hall, at the Hamden Public Library. Hall, a native of Hamden, signed copies of his new book, *The Back Chamber*, and CPS poets read poems inspired by Hall's poem, "Olives". Poet Gray Jacobik will lecture on November 12 on "Metaphor and Poetic Genius" at the Hamden Library. CPS poets participated in a September 11 memorial reading at the Connecticut Science Center. Members will read poems commissioned based on art works of Connecticut artists on November 5 at the Open Studio Artspace in Hartford, CT. ~ *Christine Beck, news reporter*

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY on October 15th (National Poetry Day), MSPS will hold their meeting at the Winthrop Public Library with a morning workshop led by Jeanette C. Maes, followed by a program by the Waterfront Crew Chapter, after which an Open Reading will be held in the afternoon. Governor Deval Patrick has proclaimed October 15th as Poetry Day in Massachusetts. The proclamation, including October as a month to read, present, and appreciate poetry, will be read and displayed at the October 15th meeting. ~ *Jeanette C. Maes, President*

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY's Spring Festival was sponsored by the South Branch and was held at Gulf Hills Hotel and Conference Center in Ocean Springs on April 29 - May 1. Dr. Virginia Gilbert, recipient of the 2010 Literature Fellowship from the Alabama State Council on the Arts, conducted a workshop and was Keynote Speaker for the evening session. Our Poet of the Year, Doris Jones, read from her book, *Pull Down the Stories*, and held a book signing afterwards. Jeanne Kelly presented Dr. Emory Jones with a plaque naming him Poet Laureate of the Mississippi Poetry Society. Officers for 2011 were sworn in by outgoing President and MPS Poet Laureate Dr. Emory Jones: Brenda Finnegan—President; Jeanne Smith Kelly—VP; Wynne Huddleston Alexander—Secretary; Judy Davies—Treasurer; and Helen Jarvis—Historian. The MPS Fall Festival, hosted by Central Branch, will be held at Belhaven University in Jackson on November 12, 2011. Speakers will be Kim Whitt of the Mississippi Arts Council and Dr. Paul Rankin, poet and adjunct professor of creative writing at Belhaven University. Dr. Rankin will also conduct a poetry critique. For contest information, write to Jeanne S. Kelly, 315 Church St., Madison, MS 39110, or email her at: jskelly04@gmail.com (put "contest information" in the subject line), or consult: www.misspoetry.net. ~ *Wynne H. Alexander, Secretary*

OREGON POETS ASSOCIATION formerly the Oregon State Poetry Association, will be hosting its Fall Conference featuring Veronica Golos and Bette Lynch Husted from Friday, October 14th to Sunday, October 16, at the beautiful Kah-nee-ta resort on the Warm Springs reservation 60 miles east of Portland, Oregon. Please check the OPA website for further details: www.oregonpoets.org. We held a successful retreat and meeting of our Vision Committee, sprouting many new ideas. We are working on making our organization more accessible, via our website, through promotions at literary events and at workshops, with an emphasis on attracting more young poets to OPA. We hope to have our own Poetry Radio Show broadcasting in the near future. And we continue to support the popular Poetry Box Project: Curbside boxes like realtor boxes but with copies of poems inside for passersby! ~ *Charles F. Thielman, news reporter*

PENNSYLVANIA POETRY SOCIETY's Fall Conference, hosted by the Keysner Poets Chapter, will be held at the Allenberry Playhouse and Resort Inn, Boiling Springs, PA on Saturday, October 8, 2011. Our

celebration of poetry and Poetry Month will begin at 10am. Our Fall Conference will feature sparkling conversation, fine camaraderie, two workshops, good food, sticky buns, and a country setting worthy of a Norman Rockwell painting or a Robert Frost poem. ~ *Richard "Dick" Lake, President*

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS' Summer Conference was held July 14-16, 2011, at the San Antonio Airport Hilton, hosted by the San Antonio Poets Association, a PST chapter. "Dancing with Poetry" was choreographed by Conference Co-Chairmen Valerie Martin Bailey and Sharon Martin Turner in cooperation with SAPA President Wallace Vaughan. All programs/workshops bore dance theme titles, including the presentations of five Texas Poet Laureates: Mildred Vorpahl Baass (1993-94 & 1994-95), whose program was presented by Nancy Baass, Alan Birkelbach (2005), Karla K. Morton (2010), Dave Parsons (currently serving for 2011), and Jan Seale (named for 2012). Other Conference presenters were Darrell Pittman, Dillon McKinsey, Glo Armmer, Birma C. Castle, Loretta Diane Walker, Marilyn Stacy, Linda Banks, Carol Siskovic, Anne McCrady, Leticia Austria, and Margaret Barrett Mayberry. Alan Birkelbach, winner of PST's 2010 Edwin M. Eakin Memorial Book Publication Award, read selections from his book, *The Thread*. Showcase Speaker at the Mirror Ball Banquet was Budd Powell Mahan, 16th & 19th PST President and 26th NFSPS President. Following the three Conference meals, dancers from area dance studios provided exhibitions of Latin Dance, Country Western Dance, and Waltz & Smooth Dance. SAPA sponsored a Dance Poem contest and the winner was Beth Ayers. The PST sponsored "You Be the Judge" contest was won by Donald R. Graham. PST President Catherine L'Herisson, head of the PST delegation to the 2011 NFSPS Convention in Dearborn, Michigan, gave a brief report on that recently held event. ~ *Nancy Baass*

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE POETRY SOCIETY is mourning the loss of its contest chair, Lorie VanDenHoek, who died Tuesday, August 16. Barb and Bruce Roseland of Seneca, South Dakota, hosted an Open Mic event in June at the historic Pickerel Mansion in Faulkton, South Dakota. A potluck, with sloppy joes made up from the Roselands' own beef, started the festivities. Readers then convened to read their poetry. The event started around 1 pm and lasted until after 7 pm. The Society is again working in conjunction with the South Dakota State Fair with its "Poetry Day at the Fair." Winners of the original poetry exhibits,

youth through adult, will have the opportunity to read their work. In addition, attendees are encouraged to come read their poems at the Open Mic. For the third year in a row, the Society is taking part in the SD Festival of the Books, being held this year at Deadwood. In addition to hosting and moderating poets around the state, nation, and beyond, the Society will continue to host its Poetry Tea, tea and desserts provided by sisters Beverly Letsche and June Ohm. The Society will also launch its second chapbook, *Four Quarters to a Section*, by announcing the four winners of this year's contest. ~ *Cindy Stupnik, President*

CONTESTS

NFSPS 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION POEMS: Subject is INDIANA. May be any form, limited to 40 lines. Entry fee is \$10 for up to three poems. No poet may win more than one prize. **WINNER MUST BE PRESENT AT CONVENTION TO RECEIVE PRIZE.** All entry fees received will be used as prizes with minimum of \$100 as first place and \$10 to next 9 places.

NFSPS 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION INVOCATION POEMS: Subject is to be a poem of thanks, appreciation or inspirational, non-denominational, limited to 20 lines. **WINNERS MUST BE PRESENT TO READ THEIR POEMS.** Entry fee is \$5 per poem, no limit. The six winners will receive \$25, may not win more than one prize, and reserves will be used if winners do not appear.

Send two copies of these poems properly identified with no personal identification on original to: Tom Spencer, 1851 East Commercial Ave., Lowell, IN 46356

ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY 18th Annual Contest categories: 1) free verse, 2) formal verse—please identify form, 3) a poem on personal growth. Prizes \$50, \$30, \$10 & three Hon. Mention. Submit two copies of each poem; first copy with ID (name/address/e-mail or ph.) and category in upper left hand corner; second copy with category only. Entry fee: Non-members, \$6.00 for up to 3 poems, \$1.00 each additional poem. ISPS members: \$3.00 up to 5 poems, \$1.00 each additional poem. Payable to Illinois State Poetry Society. No simultaneous submissions, poems which have won monetary awards or been published. Send submissions to: William Vollrath, ISPS Poetry Contest Chair, 6818 Osage Ave.,

Downers Grove, IL, 60516. Entries must be postmarked by November 10, 2011. Winners to be announced in December and will be published on the ISPS web site (illinoispoets.org) and in the ISPS newsletter with author's permission. See website for further details.

LEBANON (MO) POETS SOCIETY's 5th Annual Poetry Contest. Deadline: Dec 2, 2011. Format: send two copies of each poem; include category and name of poem on both copies in left corner; on one copy include name and address in right corner. Limits: poems should be 36 or fewer lines. Poets may enter as many poems as they wish in any category. Poems will not be returned. Poets retain the rights to their poems. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Categories:

1. Rhymed or blank verse, any subject
2. Free verse, any subject
3. Poet's choice: any form, serious or humorous

Fees: \$3.00 per poem. Make checks payable to Velvet Fackeldey. Prizes: \$25, \$15, \$10, and honorable mention in each category. Mail entries to: Nancy LaChance, 14940 Hwy 64, Lebanon, MO. 65536

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY has two poetry contests remaining this year: The Annual Poet's Choice Contest with a November 1, 2011 deadline and the Arthur (Skip) Potter Memorial Contest with a December 15 deadline. \$3 entry fee for each entry. Poets may enter as many poems as they wish (but only one prize may be won by any poet). Two copies of each entry: One with name, and one with no identification. S.A.S.E. for winners list. Mark contest entered on the envelope. Mail entries to: Roberta Hung, 8 Dundee St., Salem, MA 01970. For complete contest list sponsored by MSPS, check our web-site: mastatepoetrysociety.tripod.com.

MISSOURI STATE POETRY SOCIETY Winter contest deadline: Postmarked by February 15, 2012. 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, winter subject, 5) poet's choice, members only (any form, any subject). Members pay \$1 per entry. Non-members pay \$2 per entry. Payable to MSPS. Send to Bill Lower, 21010 S. Hwy

245, Fair Play, MO 65649. SASE or email address on a 3x5 index card for list of winners.

OREGON POETRY ASSOCIATION's Fall Contest, with six categories, is in full bloom, for details, go to www.oregonpoets.org/contests.

PENNSYLVANIA POETRY SOCIETY's 60th Annual Contest deadline: January 15th 2012. PPS members may enter one to five poems in Category 1 for \$1.00 per poem, and may enter one poem each in category 2 through 16 for a \$10.00 flat fee. Non-members may enter one to five poems in Category 1 for \$2.00 per poem, and may enter one poem each in category 2 through 13 for \$2.00 a poem. Membership period: Our membership year begins September 1st and runs through August 31th. Non-members who enter contests might consider joining PPS in order to take advantage of significantly lower contest fees for members and to avail themselves of additional contest categories open only to PPS members. PPS membership is \$18.00 a year. Our membership form is available at: www.nfspa.com/pa/join.html.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE POETRY SOCIETY annual contest deadline is November 1. Request guidelines from Dorianne Munce, who can be reached at andthentherewere12@yahoo.com or print from: www.sdstatepoetrysociety.com.

SPRINGFIELD POETS AND FRIENDS Annual Contest deadline: December 1, 2011. Contact MJBecco@hotmail.com for details or M.J. Becco, Contest Chairman, 3025 N. East Ave., Springfield, MO 65803.

WYOPOETS Annual National Poetry Contest: Any subject, any form, limit 40 lines (including title and line breaks). Published is okay. Must not have won a prize larger than \$50.00, or a money prize in previous WyoPoets Annual contest. Send two copies of each poem; one copy with name, address, and phone on front, upper right corner, and one copy without ID. Entry fee \$2.00, plus \$1.00 for each poem entered, (e.g., 3 poems \$5.00, or 5 poems \$7.00). No limit on number of poems entered. Prizes: 1st \$100; 2nd \$50; 3rd \$30; 4th \$20, plus 5 or more HMs. Include SASE for winner's list. Deadline November 30, 2011. Mail to Linda Ruhle, Contest Chair, 692 W. River Rd., Worland, WY 82401. For complete rules send SASE to same address, or email unruhle@yahoo.com.

A "HEADS UP" ABOUT 2012 REPORTS

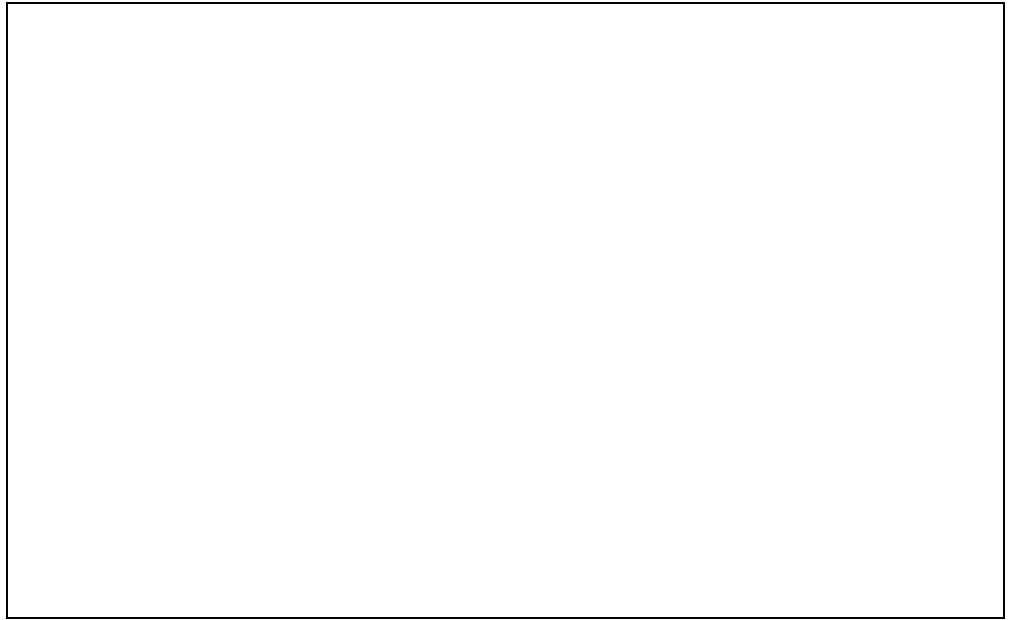
So officers in our state societies will know ahead of time what reports will be requested, and have time to assign them to the appropriate person for preparing, we offer this checklist. You may receive reminders closer to the deadline, but this will give you advance notice. E-mail and/or postal addresses for sending them are on page 2 of each issue of *Strophes*.

- Membership list with dues payment @ \$3.00 per EACH member (includes honorary and at large). Send to Lucille Morgan Wilson by January 15. Additional names and payment may be sent until March 15.
- Youth Awards Survey (form to come from Steve Concert). Complete by April 30.
- Report of how you celebrated Poetry Day (in October) and National Poetry Month (in April) to Dena R. Gorrell by May 31.
- Update of state society's History. Send to Caroline Walton at least 10 days before Convention.
- Report of state society, prepared by President or other authorized person, presented during plenary session of the Convention, or send 10 days before Convention to Mary Christine Delea, if no one from your state is attending.

Your response with information at the suggested time makes it possible for certificates to be prepared or data compiled in the interests of our entire membership. (This item prepared by the NFSPS Treasurer on behalf of the NFSPS Executive Board.)

FROM STROPHES COEDITORS

To all who responded in such a timely manner, with news and contest items, we very much appreciate you. This makes our job easier and *Strophes* more interesting. Thank you very much, Paul and Beth.



A NOTICE FROM THE EDITOR OF *ENCORE*

NFSPS members are reminded to submit photos or original art work to be considered for the cover of the 2011 *Encore* that will be presented at the 2012 summer convention in Indiana. These photos/artwork may be submitted in hard copy by mail or digitally by e-mail to *Encore* editor, Valerie Martin Bailey. Send hard copies to 2207 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78232 or by e-mail to vbailey@satx.rr.com. Please write your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address on the back of each photo or include it with your e-mail. Vertical or horizontal layouts will be considered. In horizontal formats, the focal point of the photo must be on the right side of the photo, so it can be used as a wrap cover. A horizontal format will be scaled to 12.5 x 9 and a vertical format will be scaled to 6 x 9. Photos/art do not have to be these exact sizes, as they will be reduced or enlarged to fit. Very small or very large photos may present a problem when reduced or enlarged. Hard copies will need to be scanned and must be no larger than 8.5 x 11 in order to fit the scanner. No photos will be returned unless specifically requested and a suitable envelope with postage is provided. The editor keeps the photos/art on file and they may be used in later years as well as the current year. The deadline for sending submissions is March 1, 2012. ~Valerie Martin Bailey, *Encore* Editor

ENCORES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

To order past prize poem anthologies, make checks payable to NFSPS, Inc. and send to Valerie Martin Bailey, *Encore* Editor, 2207 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, TX 78232. No books may be returned.

2010 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$15.00 _____
	(available in June after the convention)
2009 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$15.00 _____
2008 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$10.00 _____
2007 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$10.00 _____
2006 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 8.00 _____
2005 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 8.00 _____
2004 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 5.00 _____
2003 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 5.00 _____
2002 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 5.00 _____
2001 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 4.00 _____
2000 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 4.00 _____
1999 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 2.00 _____
1998 <i>Encore</i>	_____ book(s) @ \$ 2.00 _____

Amount Due: \$ _____

Postage & Handling*: \$ _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

*Postage & Handling Costs:

One book	\$3.18
Two books	\$3.58
Three books	\$3.98
Four books	\$4.78
Five books	\$5.18
Six books	\$5.58

For more than six books, follow these postage and handling guidelines:

Add .40¢ for each additional book
Add .80¢ for each additional mailer
(note: 3 books fit in each mailer)