



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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August 2014



Eleanor Berry
31st NFSPS
President

President's Message

Dear NFSPS Poets:
As I drove home from Portland International Airport after the NFSPS convention in Salt Lake City, I stopped at a rest area that features what's called the "Grove of the States." This is a grove originally made up of the official trees for all the states and territories of the U.S. The climate of western Oregon has allowed almost all of them to grow together here for nearly 50 years. As I walked in the trees' shade, I thought of the people from their respective states with whom I'd just experienced three intense days of poetry.

Fittingly, the first state tree that I encountered was Alabama's Longleaf Pine. I was happy to be reminded of Jeremy Downes, my immediate predecessor as NFSPS President and now, as Chair of the Presidential Advisory Committee, a person I know I can turn to for

the advice I'll need over the next two years.

A sign nearby read, "Loblolly Pine / Arkansas," but there was only a stump beside it. The tree planted by that sign must have missed the mild winters of its native state—that of Jim Barton, now First Vice President of NFSPS. Over the past two years, Jim has done a superb job helping state societies see their way to hosting our annual conventions and assisting them when they do. He has now taken on the job of Membership Chair and will be working to sustain and increase state societies' membership in the Federation and their participation in its activities.

Continuing along the path, I found myself looking up at another pine. The Eastern White Pine is the state tree of Michigan, home of Polly Opsahl, now NFSPS Second Vice President and Convention Coordinator. Polly will be applying her experience as part of the team that hosted a superb convention in 2011, along with her memories of the various conventions she has attended over many years, to assist the state societies that will be hosting conventions in the next two years and to help other societies prepare to host in the future.

Close by was an Eastern Cottonwood, a tree I had grown fond of during the two and a half decades that I lived in the Great Lakes Region. It's the state tree of Kansas, where Diane Glancy lives now. As Third Vice President, she brings to the board a deep love of NFSPS and its people developed over some three decades of attending conventions and contributing to them in multiple ways, including leading workshops, as she had just done at the convention in Utah.

Utah itself was represented by a Colorado Blue Spruce. The grove was planted in 1967, but earlier this year the Utah state tree was changed to the Quaking Aspen, which graces river valleys with its pale bark and dancing leaves. Utah is the home of an extraordinary number of fine poets, including many who helped make this year's convention in Salt Lake City a success. Among them is Paul Ford, now NFSPS Fourth Vice President and continuing to serve all our members as Editor of *Strophes*—not only the print edition containing national and state news but also an expanded web edition with articles on craft from poets around the country.

An evergreen whose short needles and small cones were familiar to me from my childhood in southern Connecticut turned out to be the state tree of Pennsylvania. Eastern Hemlock also grows there, in the home state of Steven Concert, NFSPS Chancellor and "road warrior," who drove four days each way to participate in the convention in Salt Lake City. He brings deep commitment and tremendous enthusiasm to his work on the board, where he will be serving as Youth Chair—working with young poets in state societies all across the country to strengthen youth programs and youth membership nationwide.

A tree with heart-shaped leaves—a larger version of one I planted in our yard some years back—was labeled as the state tree of Oklahoma. Eastern Redbud, which in springtime has clusters of tiny, deep pink flowers, struck me as a perfect reminder of Oklahoma's Dena Gorrell, NFSPS First Vice Chancellor, whose gentle requests ask state presidents to share how their societies have marked National Poetry Month and National Poetry Day. Starting this year, I hope that we will be able to complement her work by making ideas and resources for poetry programs available to member societies all year.

Happily, the Pecan is hardy in western Oregon as well as in the state that claims it as its official tree—Texas, home of NFSPS Second Vice Chancellor and *Encore* Editor Valerie Martin Bailey. Valerie was not able to attend this year's convention because she was in the midst of a long and painful round of dental surgery, but her work was very much present in the latest edition of *Encore*. I was happy to read, beautifully laid out on the page, the poems I had heard last year, at the 2013 convention in Albuquerque. [continued on page 8]

UTAH RENDEZVOUS OF POETS FOR ALL SEASONS NFSPS 2014 CONVENTION SUMMARY

Utah State Poetry Society did it again—put the fun in fundamentally funtastic confunfunctions! Yes, we're a little quirky, and we celebrate that, right along with celebrating our volunteerism as we stepped up to host the 2014 convention. We had our share of glitches, but under the direction of Convention Chair Clarence Socwell (his 4th chairing of a national convention) we overcame odds as high as our mountains.

Just a few less than 100 poets and their loving cling-ons gathered at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Salt Lake City Airport (a moniker long as their hospitality is wide) June 26-29 to celebrate "Poetry for All Seasons." Those participating in the Salt Lake City tour got the bonus of our annual Downtown Arts Festival. And the final tour, to hear the world-famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir, was celebrated by attendees with a song (and more) in their hearts.

Music also accompanied our meetings from beginning to end with the *E-posse* performing after a welcome greeting from Utah Arts Council Executive Director Karen Krieger, and a final reception *Sing-along with Sinatra* guided by Jim Brietweiser.

You should have seen (and heard) the stars shining during the day! Our presenters, Elaine Christensen, Diane Glancy, Rob Carney, Joel Long, Clarence Socwell and Utah Poet Laureate Lance Larsen, delighted and enlightened us with poetical encouragements and challenges, conversations and considerations. One dim spot was the lack of Utah's adopted son, John Rezmerski, who was unable to attend. We all missed you, Rez.

But wait, there's more! The celebration continued with announcements of contest winners throughout the event. It was even more fun when a winner was present! And now we know how many of the nation's poets are honorable. Thanks goes out to Mikki Pennington, unable to attend, and Lucille Morgan Wilson, graciously taking her place, for their efforts in corralling our contesting poems and helping winners shine. The certificates look fabulous, especially if one has your name on it.

We are happy to have hosted, but do admit that we are thankful that season is over. Any time you need poetic friendship just come on back to Utah regardless of the season.

Affectionately (if not poetically) submitted by Kolette Montague, UTSPS advocate.

NFSPS 2015 CONVENTION • JUNE 24-28 IN FLORIDA

Join us in St. Petersburg at the beautiful Florida Hilton Hotel for an exciting, interactive five days of contemporary poetry. Our hotel is located close to the heart of downtown, home to the Dali Museum, galleries, the Chihuly glass collection, a famous bookstore, restaurants, cafes and near some of the nation's finest white sand beaches.

You will have the opportunity to visit the famous Ringling Art Complex in Sarasota, take part in a surrealist poetry workshop at the Dali Museum, beach comb, stroll in the Art District and experience an invasion by Blackbeard's Revenge Pirate Crewe. You will surely enjoy presentations and workshops by top Florida poets, including St. Pete's Poet Laureate, Peter Meinke, as the Florida State Poetry Society hosts poets from across the nation.

Visit floridastatepoetsassociation.org for convention details available from the link: NFSPS 2015 Convention in Florida.
~ Joe Cavanaugh, FSPA President

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

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

Honorary Chancellor: [to be appointed]

EXECUTIVE BOARD ~ 2014-2016

Elected, NFSPS Convention ~ Salt Lake City, UT, June, 2014

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ARKANSAS: Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas
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CALIFORNIA: California State Poetry Society
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STROPHES

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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 \$4.00 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

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(Presidential Advisors)**

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* Deceased

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
POETRY SOCIETIES
2014 ANNUAL CONTEST WINNERS**

1. NFSPS FOUNDERS AWARD [to honor Mary B. Wall] \$1500 \$500 \$250 (363 entries).

Judge: Wendy Vidlock, Grand Junction, CO

1st Debra Kuss, Corbin, KY

"Insomniosis"

2nd Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

"Shy on a Half Shell"

3rd Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR

"Ever Have a Day Like This?"

1HM Catherine Huben, W. Bloomfield, MI

2HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO

3HM Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO

4HM Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX

5HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

6HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

No 7th HM due to a disqualification

2. WINNERS CIRCLE AWARD \$500 \$300 \$200 (229 entries).

Judge: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

1st Vicki Wilke, Clarkson, MI

"Before He Was Born"

2nd Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK

"Status Report"

3rd Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT

"Kite at the Beach"

1HM Clarence P. Socwell, Ogden, UT

2HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR

3HM Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT

4HM Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL

5HM Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR

6HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL

No 7th HM due to a disqualification

3. PEACE AWARD \$500 \$300 \$200 (138 entries).

Judge: Charmaine Donovan, Brainerd, MN

1st Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada

"Home of a Hundred Masks"

2nd Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

"Allah as a Primate"

3rd Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX

"Summer Soccer Camp"

1HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

2HM Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO

3HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

4HM Karen Kay Bailey, Blanchard, OK

5HM Geneva King Emerson, Smithfield, AR

6HM Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK

7HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL

4. THE MARGO AWARD \$225 \$125 \$75 (167 entries).

Judge: Jeremy Downes, Auburn, AL

1st Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI

"Chinese Folk Song Performed on Oldest Playable Flute"

2nd Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

"Redbird Acrostic"

3rd Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO

"Tiny Birds"

1HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO

2HM Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD

3HM Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT

4HM Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR

5HM Christine Boldt, Temple, TX

6HM Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT

7HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL

5. DONALD STODGHILL MEMORIAL

AWARD \$200 \$100 \$50 (208 entries).

Judge: Amy Jo Zook, Mechanicsburg, OH

1st Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

"Umbilicus Phone Line"

2nd Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN

"The League of Sisters with Dead Brothers"

3rd Julie Kim Shavin, Colorado Springs, CO

"Instrumental Children"

1HM Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT

2HM Joan Terry, Dallas, GA

3HM Chet Taylor, Sequin, TX

4HM Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX

5HM Lynda La Rocca, Twin Lakes, CO

6HM Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN

7HM Doann Houghton-Alico, Nathrop, CO

6. GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

\$150 \$75 \$25 (116 entries). Judge: Diane Glancy,

Shawnee Mission, KS

1st Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada

"The Ruthlessness of Ice"

2nd Julie Kim Shavin, Colorado Springs, CO

"too hot to punctuate"

3rd Michael Bourgo, Cedar Rapids, IA

"The Shiloh Battlefield"

1HM Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT

2HM Jessica Jones, Daphne, AL

3HM Louise Cook, Sandy, UT

4HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

5HM Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD

6HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

7HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

7. POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS \$125 \$50 \$25 (203 entries).

Judge: Christine Delea, Biloxi, MS

1st Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL

"This Tall World"

2nd Mary Willette Hughes, Waite Park, MN

"Printout of a Fractal Design"

3rd Karen Kay Gibson, Provo, UT

"Obsolete as the Quill"

1HM Merrijane Rice, Kaysville, UT

2HM Sandra McNew, Colorado Springs, CO

3HM Julie Kim Shavin, Colorado Springs, CO

4HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL

5HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT

6HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI

7HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA

8. UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

\$100 \$60 \$40 (160 entries). Judge: Carol MacAllister,

Boqueron, PR

1st Joel Passey, Layton, UT

"Leaving Overton"

2nd Jim Brosnan, Assonet, MA

"New Hampshire Journal"

3rd Karen Kay Gibson, Provo, UT

"Pioneers: Circa 1847"

1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS

2HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN

3HM Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO

4HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL

5HM Elaine Christensen, Sandy, UT

6HM Sarah Hull Gurley, Memphis, TN

7HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

9. THE NFSPS BOARD AWARD \$100 \$50 \$30 (179 entries).

Judge: April Line, Williamsport, PA

1st Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

"Destination Tucson"

2nd Lynn Farmer, Decatur, GA

"Wire and Grass"

3rd Elaine Christensen, Sandy, UT

"The Secret"

1HM Geraldine Felt, Sandy, UT

2HM Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD

3HM Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA

4HM S. M. Valencia, Dayton, OH

5HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT

6HM John C. Rezmerski, Mankato, MN

7HM Sarah Hull Gurley, Memphis, TN

10. AL LASTER MEMORIAL AWARD \$100 \$50 \$25 (176 entries).

Judge: Debbi Brody, Santa Fe, NM

1st Julie Nelson, Orem, UT

"Dining Car No. 4"

2nd Diana Franco, Huntington Woods, MI

"Now It's Sunday Morning Every Morning"

3rd Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT

"Little Girl Bride Come Blow Your Horn"

1HM Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR

2HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR

3HM Elaine Grimes-Henderson, Pinson, AL

4HM Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT

5HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN

6HM Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT

7HM Julie Cummings, Conifer, CO

11. FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION, INC, AWARD \$100 \$50 \$25 (61 entries).

Judge: Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR

1st Louise Cook, Sandy, UT

"The Gray-green Crocodile Reclines"

2nd Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

"Gasparilla Pirate Festival"

3rd Jim Barton, Huttig, AR

"La Pascua de la Florida"

1HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT

2HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT

3HM Sarah Hull Gurley, Memphis, TN

4HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

5HM Llewellyn Brawner, Collierville, TN

6HM Juanita Watts, Layton, UT

7HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL

12. ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD \$75 \$50 \$25 (187 entries).

Judge: David Hedges, West Linn, OR

1st Lee Pelham Cotton, Locust Hill, VA

"Kismet of a Saturday Morning Kind"

2nd Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT

"Dawn After a Sleepless Night"

3rd Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

"Time-Warp on the Bridge"

1HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

2HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA

3HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

4HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT

5HM Kaye Bache-Snyder, Longmont, CO

6HM David L. Byrn, Prescott, AZ

7HM Mary Jedlicka Humston, Iowa City, IA

13. ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD \$75 \$30 \$20 (98 entries).

Judge: Valerie Bailey, San Antonio, TX

1st Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

"Miep Gies"

2nd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

"Making Light"

3rd Linda Woods, Rock Springs, WY

"Spider"

1HM Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT

2HM Caroline Sposto, Memphis, TN

3HM Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT

4HM Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR

5HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

6HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada

7HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT

14. TWO LADIES FROM TEXAS AWARD \$60 \$40 \$20 (108 entries).

Judge: Marleine Yannish, Denver, CO

1st Ed Brekke-Kramer, Fairmont, MN

"Time Slips"

2nd Vicki Wilke, Clarkson, MI

"His Cats"

3rd Janice Canerdy, Potts Camp, MS

"Of All the Nerve!"

1HM Barbara Lewie Berry, Mansfield, TX
 2HM Alexandra Moss Zannis, Fort Wayne, IN
 3HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 4HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN
 5HM Caroline Sposto, Memphis, TN
 6HM Alice B. Couch, Noblesville, IN
 7HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN

15. NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

\$50 \$30 \$20 (142 entries). Judge: Peter Stein, Coon Rapids, MN

1st Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

"Dance In Fire"

2nd Suzanne James, Fairfield, IA

"The Promise"

3rd Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN

"Expressions in the Yard"

1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
 2HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 3HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR
 4HM LaVerna B. Johnson, St. George, UT
 5HM Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
 6HM Louise Cook, Sandy, UT
 7HM Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX

16. LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA AWARD \$60 \$40

\$30 (221 entries). Judge: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA

1st Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR

"Combing"

2nd Chet Taylor, Sequin, TX

"Alzheimer's and Senescence: A Prose Poem"

3rd Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

"The Blackberry Vine"

1HM Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA
 2HM Gayanne Ramsden, Orem, UT
 3HM Beth Ayers, Plano, TX
 4HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA
 5HM Tommy Little, Pearl, MS
 6HM Christine Boldt, Temple, TX
 7HM K. Hamblen, Baton Rouge, LA

17. INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF

POETRY CLUBS AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (182

entries). Judge: Zachary Savich, Philadelphia, PA

1st Beth Staas, Lagrange Park, IL

"This Holy Place"

2nd Laura Tallen, Minneapolis, MN

"La Bonne Vie"

3rd Betsy M. Hughes, Dayton, OH

"Sinkholes"

1HM Linda R. Frisa, Cincinnati, OH
 2HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN
 3HM Joseph Shaffer, Yuma, AZ
 4HM Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT
 5HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT
 6HM Opie R. Houston, Austin, TX
No 7th HM due to a disqualification

18. WILLIAM STAFFORD MEMORIAL

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (203 entries).

Judge: P.M.F. Johnson, Minneapolis, MN

1st Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT

"Speaking Truth"

2nd Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL

"How Surreal"

3rd Dorothy Williams, Golden, CO

"Bus Stop At The Taco Bell"

1HM Christine Boldt, Temple, TX
 2HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 3HM Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT
 4HM Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
 5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
 6HM Anne Pierre Spangler, Lebanon, PA
 7HM M.B. LaWent, Ishpeming, MI

19. THE NEW YORK POETRY FORUM

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (183 entries).

Judge: Charles Nichols, Denver, CO

1st Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

"Seduction of the Muse"

2nd Suzanne James, Fairfield, IA

"The Encounter"

3rd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

"She came late to writing"

1HM Francie Rountree, Saute Nacoche, GA
 2HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ
 3HM Anne Pierre Spangler, Lebanon, PA
 4HM Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX
 5HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
 6HM Caroline Sposto, Memphis, TN
 7HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN

20. COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (102 entries).

Judge: Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR

1st Dave Harvey, Talent, OR

"The Valley"

2nd Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

"The Last Prophet"

3rd Katherine A. Hogan, Forest Hills, NY

"The Green Man"

1HM Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 2HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 3HM Merrijane Rice, Kaysville, UT
 4HM Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK
 5HM Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL
 6HM Margaret Gleave, Southport, UK
 7HM Darlene R. Butler, Fort Wayne, IN

21. MORTON D. PROUTY & ELSIE S. PROUTY

MEMORIAL AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (227 entries).

Judge: Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL

1st Christie Cook, Sandy, UT

"On the Cusp of Winter"

2nd Debra Kuss, Corbin, KY

"Appalachian Abandon"

3rd Martha P. Morrise, Roy, UT

"Farm Box: For My Father"

1HM Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 2HM Peter K. Valles, The Woodlands, TX
 3HM Dena R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK
 4HM Sarah Hull Gurley, Memphis, TN
 5HM Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT
 6HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
 7HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL

22. POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (186 entries).

Judge: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

1st Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

"Knowing When to Leave"

2nd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

"What you forget"

3rd Pat Underwood, Colfax, IA

"The Leaves at Branson"

1HM Estelle Davidson, Southfield, MI
 2HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX
 3HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX
 4HM Maxine B. Kohanski, Spring, TX
 5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
 6HM Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT
 7HM Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd, MN

23. LOUISIANA STATE POETRY SOCIETY

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (133 entries).

Judge: John Ottley, Alpharetta, GA

1st Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

"Rocking With the Wolfman"

2nd Ron Self, Columbus, GA

"Ready, Aim"

3rd Gail Teachworth, Crystal River, FL

"Cheers!"

1HM Susan Randall, Orem, UT
 2HM Anne Pierre Spangler, Lebanon, PA
 3HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
 4HM Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT
 5HM Caroline Sposto, Memphis, TN
 6HM Linda S.M. Jacobs, Runnells, IA
 7HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX

24. AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE AWARD

\$50 \$30 \$20 (115 entries). Judge: Susan Stevens

Chambers, Good Thunder, MN

1st Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX

"Luminous Things"

2nd Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

"Feeling the Lightning Bond"

3rd Carol Christy White, Cave Creek, AZ

"The Flute Player"

1HM Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX
 2HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 3HM Shirley Valencia, Dayton, OH
 4HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
 5HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
 6HM Maxine B. Kohanski, Spring, TX
 7HM Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio, TX

25. MILDRED VORPAHL BAASS MEMORIAL

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (196 entries).

Judge: Nancy Baass, Victoria, TX

1st Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX

"Face of an Angel"

2nd Karen Kay Bailey, Blanchard, OK

"When Daffodils Bloom"

3rd Barbara Lewie Berry, Mansfield, TX

"The Fifth Day"

1HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 2HM LaVerna B. Johnson, St. George, UT
 3HM Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL
 4HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 5HM Maxine B. Kohanski, Spring, TX
 6HM Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX
 7HM Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK

26. OHIO AWARD \$50 \$25 \$15 (187 entries).

Judge: Wendy Garfinkle, Hollywood, FL

1st Louise Cook, Sandy, UT

"Cold War"

2nd Rosemary Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO

"Runoff"

3rd Robert E. Blenheim, Daytona Beach, FL

"Posthumous Love"

1HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX
 2HM Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
 3HM Vicki Wilke, Clarkston, MI
 4HM Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK
 5HM Barbara Lewie Berry, Mansfield, TX
 6HM Marie C. Tollstrup, St. George, UT
 7HM Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK

27. MINUTE AWARD \$35 \$25 \$15 (90 entries).

Judge: Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN

1st Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX

"Waiting to Take Wing"

2nd Kitty Yeager, Arkadelphia, AR

"Southern Sounds"

3rd Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL

"Nature's Law"

1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
 2HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX
 3HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
 4HM Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT
 5HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
 6HM Robert E. Blenheim, Daytona Beach, FL
 7HM Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT

28. POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

AWARD \$35 \$25 \$15 (211 entries).

Judge: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL

1st Elaine Christensen, Sandy, UT

"Gesundheit!"

2nd Francie Rountree, Saute Nacoche, CO

"Blips and Clinging"

3rd John McBride, Bettendorf, IA

"Day Before April"

1HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO

2HM Jeanette C. Maes, Lynn, MA

3HM Brenda Miller, Orrville, OH

4HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada

5HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX

6HM Jeani M. Picklesimer, Ashland, KY

7HM Tommy Little, Pearl, MS

29. JESSE STUART MEMORIAL AWARD

\$25 \$20 \$15 (183 entries). Judge: Carol Bachofner,

Rockland, ME

1st Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA

"Christ at the Corner of Beacon and Park"

2nd Carol Christy White, Cave Creek, AZ

"It is still about language"

3rd Charles Johnson, Brainerd, MN

"A Wiz of a Wiz With a Warning"

1HM Dory Maguire, Dillsburg, PA

2HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT

3HM Doann Houghton-Alico, Nathrop, CO

4HM Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT

5HM Christine Boldt, Temple, TX

6HM Virginia Mortenson, Des Moines, IA

7HM Richard T. Lake, New Cumberland, PA

30. HUMOROUS POETRY AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15

(137 entries) Judge: Ann Carolyn Cates, Southaven, MS

1st Barbara Lewie Berry, Mansfield, TX

"Bedded Bliss"

2nd Sharon Price Anderson, Orem, UT

"Organ Donor"

3rd Martha P. Morrise, Roy, UT

"Clothes-Minded"

1HM Janice Canerdy, Potts Camp, MS

2HM Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT

3HM Dena R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK

4HM Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN

5HM Steven Concert, Harveys Lake, PA

6HM Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX

7HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX

31. BARBARA STEVENS MEMORIAL AWARD

\$25 \$20 \$15 (213 entries). Judge: JoAnne Bauer,

Hartford, CT

1st Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT

"Spinning Song"

2nd Markay Brown, St. George, UT

"The Back Row"

3rd Robert La Fluor, Ponsford, MN

"Silence"

1HM Marilyn Ball, St. George, UT

2HM Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA

3HM Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX

4HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

5HM Loretta Miles Tollefson, Eagle Nest, NM

6HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT

7HM Vicki Wilke, Clarkston, MI

32. DORMAN JOHN GRACE MEMORIAL

AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (129 entries).

Judge: Ginny Connors, W. Hartford, CT

1st Kathryn A. Hogan, Forest Hills, NY

"Pied Piper"

2nd Mark L. Barton, Mechanicsburg, PA

"Cooper's Hawk"

3rd Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR

"Stranded"

1HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT

2HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA

3HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT

4HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL

5HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO

6HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA

7HM Crystie Cook, Sandy, UT

33. POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA

AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (118 entries).

Judge: Colette Tenant, Salem, OR

1st Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

"Borrowed Beauty"

2nd Sarah Hull Gurley, Memphis, TN

"Graveside Mystery"

3rd Margaret Gleave, Southport, UK

"Snow Globe"

1HM Shirley Valencia, Dayton, OH

2HM Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

3HM Alexandra Moss Zannis, Fort Wayne, IN

4HM Judith Krum, Sanford, FL

5HM Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA

6HM Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK

7HM Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR

34. SAVE OUR EARTH AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15

(131 entries). Judge: Dena Gorrell, Edmond, OK

1st Viktor Tichy, Fairfield, IA

"Paper Wings of August"

2nd Jacqueline Williams, Mesa, AZ

"Saga of a Green Sea Turtle"

3rd Gordon Smith, Hot Springs, AR

"A Cloud of Smoke"

1HM Martha P. Morrise, Roy, UT

2HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

3HM Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX

4HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

5HM Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM

6HM Elaine Christensen, Sandy, UT

7HM Debra Kuss, Corbin, KY

35. MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY

SOCIETY AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (184 entries).

Judge: Dave Malone, West Plains, MO

1st Edith L. Baker, Bountiful, UT

"March Midnight"

2nd Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD

"Power Outage"

3rd Jennifer O'Connor, Rochester Hills, MI

Haiku- no title

1HM Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL

2HM Robert Dean Thielen, Escondido, CA

3HM Dr. M.P.A. Shaeffer, New York, NY

4HM Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA

5HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR

6HM Christine Boldt, Temple, TX

7HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL

36. POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (103 entries).

Judge: Laura Laughridge, Maumelle, AR

1st Carol Willette Bachofner, Rockland, ME

"I Remember Her Clothes"

2nd Sharon Price Anderson, Orem, UT

"Preparing for the Promised Land"

3rd Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX

"Teacher Dreaming"

1HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR

2HM Deborah Rohde, Northbrook, IL

3HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

4HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL

5HM Geneva Fulgham, Bellaire, TX

6HM Rosemary Dunn Moeller, St. Lawrence, SD

7HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

37. IOWA POETRY ASSOCIATION AWARD

\$25 \$20 \$15 (147 entries). Judge: Alan Birkelbach,

The Colony, TX

1st Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX

"I Can't Remember Which"

2nd Doyle R. Wood, Archer City, TX

"Poetry Lesson"

3rd John David Autin, Louisville, KY

"Battle of Willy the Kid"

1HM Diane Franco, Huntington Woods, MI

2HM Kitty Yeager, Arkadelphia, AR

3HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

4HM Merrijane Rice, Kaysville, UT

5HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL

6HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada

7HM Opie R. Houston, Austin, TX

38. WYOPOETS AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (149

entries) Judge: Judith Krum, Sanford, FL

1st Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

"March Notes"

2nd Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL

"Two Squirrels"

3rd Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI

"Enrichment Lecture"

1HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT

2HM Cynthia Weber Nankee, Cantin, MI

3HM Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA

4HM Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN

5HM Elaine Christensen, Sandy, UT

6HM Dave Harvey, Talent, OR

7HM Karen K. Gibson, Provo, UT

39. NEBRASKA STATE POETRY SOCIETY

AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (141 entries).

Judge: Lynda LaRocca, Twin Lakes, CO

1st Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL

"He Got What He Deserved"

2nd Jacqueline Williams, Mesa, AZ

"Don't Pity Me"

3rd Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

"Pogrom, 1905"

1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT

2HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL

3HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

4HM Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK

5HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA

6HM Ron Self, Columbus, OH

7HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT

40. MISSISSIPPI POTRY SOCIETY AWARD

\$25 \$20 \$15 (92 entries). Judge: N. Colwell Snell,

Salt Lake City, UT

1st Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL

"But Now That I'm Older..."

2nd Warren Jones, Owensville, IN

"Honor Guard"

3rd Jeani M. Picklesimer, Ashland, KY

"Hourglass Afterglow"

1HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA

2HM Alison Chisholm, Southport, UK

3HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

4HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL

5HM Rose Ann Spait, Columbus, OH

6HM John David Autin, Louisville, KY

7HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

41. GINGERBREAD POETS AWARD \$25 \$20

\$15 (66 entries). Judge: Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA

1st Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT

"Phantom of My Nights"

2nd Mary A. Couch, Noblesville, IN

"My Thoughts Become a Poem"

3rd Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA

"Sestina of Star Dreams"

1HM Gail Teachworth, Crystal River, FL

2HM Genevieve Didier DeWitt, Baton Rouge, LA
 3HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 4HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 5HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
 6HM Vera Ogden Bakker, West Bountiful, UT
 7HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

42. SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (108 entries).

Judge: Steven Shields, Johns Creek, GA

1st Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada
 "The Glittering Widow"

2nd Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
 "My Vow to You"

3rd John McBride, Bettendorf, IA
 "Wreaths"

1HM Robert E. Blenheim, Daytona Beach, FL
 2HM Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK
 3HM Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
 4HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 5HM Dena R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK
 6HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 7HM Helen Webb, South Point, OH

43. MAINE POETS SOCIETY AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (134 entries). Judge: Bill Reyer, Tiffin, OH

1st Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD
 "Beach in Winter"

2nd Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
 "Red Horn Coral"

3rd Annie Neugebauer, Denton, TX
 "The Hadal Zone"

1HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
 2HM Juanita B. Watts, Layton, UT
 3HM Christine Valentine, Birney, MT
 4HM Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX
 5HM Jim Norton, Huntington, CT
 6HM Elaine Christensen, Sandy, UT
 7HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, Ontario, Canada

44. MIRIAM S. STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (67 entries). Judge: Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

1st Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX
 "Samson"

2nd Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
 "A Message from Our Sponsor"

3rd Amy Jo Schoonover, Mechanicsburg, OH
 "Plan Ahead"

1HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
 2HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX
 3HM Doyle R. Wood, Archer City, TX
 4HM Ed Brekke-Kramer, Fairmont, MN
 5HM Brenda Miller, Orrville, OH
 6HM Martha P. Morrise, Roy, UT
 7HM Frank M. DeCaria, Clinton, UT

45. SYBELLA BEYER-SNYDER MEMORIAL AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (119 entries).

Judge: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

1st Doann Houghton-Alico, Nathrop, CO
 "Documentation"

2nd Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
 "Where the Old House Burned"

3rd Robert E. Blenheim, Daytona Beach, FL
 "Alison Rose's Soliloquy from the Grave"

1HM Barbara J. Kalm, Solon, IA
 2HM Jacqueline Williams, Mesa, AZ
 3HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
 4HM Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd, MN
 5HM Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
 6HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX
 7HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX

46. POETS NORTHWEST AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (124 entries). Judge: Francie Davis, Piedmont, SD

1st Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
 "Blossoms at Deer Lodge, Montana, 1910"

2nd Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
 "At the Trillium Festival in Hocking County"

3rd Merrijane Rice, Kaysville, UT
 "Jacob Brings Me Weeds"

1HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR
 2HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
 3HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
 4HM Chet Taylor, Sequin, TX
 5HM S. Evan Walters, Lebanon, IN
 6HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
 7HM Margaret Gleave, Southport, UK

47. LAUREL CROWN FOUNDATION AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (58 entries). Judge: Mary Couch, Noblesville, IN

1st Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
 "The Benevolent Bag Lady"

2nd Louise Cook, Sandy, UT
 "Doorstep People"

3rd Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
 Haiku- no title

1HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 2HM Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
 3HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
 4HM Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN
 5HM Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX
 6HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
 7HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD

48. JESSICA C. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (115 entries).

Judges: Cona Faye & Billy Adams, DeSoto, MO

1st Jeani M. Picklesimer, Ashland, KY
 "Gentle Is the Silent Song"

2nd Don Crowson, Benton, AR
 "Light of Liberty"

3rd Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
 "The Light That Was His Face"

1HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
 2HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT
 3HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA
 4HM Clarence P. Socwell, Ogden, UT
 5HM Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 6HM N. Colwell Snell, Salt Lake City, UT
 7HM Christine Boldt, Temple, TX

49. APPRECIATION AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15

(134 entries). Judge: Meredith Cook, Blue Earth, MN

1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 "Le Mont San Michel"

2nd Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT
 "Consolation"

3rd Joshua Conklin, Attleboro, MA
 "Save the Last"

1HM Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd, MN
 2HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
 3HM Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR
 4HM Cindy Bechtold, Lehi, UT
 5HM Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI
 6HM Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT
 7HM Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT

50. STUDENT AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20, 7 Honorable Mentions \$5 each (254 entries). Judge: Sally Ortiz, Denver, CO

1st Micah Dilman, Dubuque, IA
 "Perspective"

2nd Ellie Pfeiffer, Dallas, TX
 "The Finch"

3rd Haley Morris, Clive, IA
 "New Path"

1HM Emily Feng, Issaquah, WA
 2HM Derrick Knox, PA
 3HM Victoria Bennett, Rowlett, TX
 4HM Truman Dacken, Rock Valley, IA
 5HM Isabella Zenteno, Midland, TX
 6HM Cameron Cooper, West Des Moines, IA
 7HM Sydney Atwood, Keosauqua, IA

2014 STEVENS POETRY MANUSCRIPT COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Awarding \$1,000 + publication + 50 books

* Except for previous Stevens winners, open to all poets writing in English

* 48-70 page poetry manuscript by a single author

* Typewritten or computer printed, one side of page only, maximum of 65 characters (including spaces) per line with 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 including zip, and phone. If applicable, state poetry society membership, and which state. Include a table of contents.

Enclose a business-size (#10) self-addressed, stamped envelope to be notified of the results in January, 2015. 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 competitions Chairman. 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 2015.

Address for Submissions:

Amy Jo Zook, Chairman
 NFSPS Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition
 3520 State Route 56
 Mechanicsburg, OH 43044
 Phone 937-834-2666

SUBMISSION PERIOD: August 1-October 15, 2014 (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, Jessica Garratt, Maggie Anderson, Glenna Holloway.

RECENT WINNER: Copies of the current winning volume of the Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition, Betsy Hughes's *Breaking Weather*, are available through the NFSPS website.

CHAPBOOKS BY COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY LEVEL POETRY COMPETITION WINNERS

The two winning manuscripts in the 2014 College/University Level Poetry Competition are the work of two distinctive poetic talents, one gently probing a complex cultural heritage, the other fiercely worrying the conundrum of being a consciousness in a body. *Fireworks, and My City Is Ashes*, by Lisa Levin, and *House of Bones*, by Ian C. Williams, are the winners of the Edna Meudt Memorial Award and the Florence Kahn Memorial Award, respectively. Both have been published as chapbooks, first available for purchase at the NFSPS Convention in Salt Lake City, where the two poets read from their work.

Levin, who has just graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, was born in Tokyo, Japan, and her family now lives in San Diego. In *Fireworks, and My City Is Ashes*, she brings together witness accounts of Japanese and Japanese-American civilians in World War II and her personal experience in this present of American wars overseas. Her poems gain power from their restraint. In one, she adapts a Japanese traditional tale; in others, she makes use of the Japanese forms of haiku and tanka sequences. In all ten of the poems of *Fireworks, and My City Is Ashes*, she conveys emotion through the clear presentation of image.

Williams, who majored in English Education at Fairmont State University in West Virginia, now lives in Fairmont with his wife and three cats. His poems in *House of Bones* convey the restlessness and uneasiness of “an alien, never settling,” through vivid images of the physical body, thick textures of sound, and verbs that point like so many vectors in different directions. The uneasiness is partly socio-economic, that of a white-collar generation “pacing the foundations” laid by their fathers’ physical labor. It is also—and perhaps more urgently—existential: that of a mind within a body already showing signs of age, a mind that knows what becomes of bodies and the conscious lives within them.

Both these young poets received cash awards of \$500 and 75 copies of their respective chapbooks. Their manuscripts were selected, in a double-blind reading, from among 35 submitted to the 2014 NFSPS College/University Poetry Competition by students from all over the U.S. They were chosen by combining the scores of three independent judges: Linda Banks, perennial prize-winner in NFSPS contests and past president of the Poetry Society of Texas; Milton Bates, Professor Emeritus of English at Marquette University, currently living in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and winning awards in the state’s contests; and John Otley, Jr., past treasurer of NFSPS as well as past president and treasurer of the Georgia Poetry Society and author of a recent book of poems from Main Street Rag Press.

The judges also identified eight other manuscripts as worthy of recognition. On the basis of their combined scores, four received honorable mention and four were given citations. The undergraduate poets whose work received honorable mention were: Melissa Reese, sophomore, California State University, Fullerton (1st HM); Marine Ashnalikyan, senior, University of California, Santa Cruz (2nd HM); Sarah Fewkes, freshman, Lawrence Technological University (3rd HM); and Narine Ashnalikyan, senior, University of California, Santa Cruz (4th HM). (Marine and Narine Ashnalikyan are twins.)

Those whose manuscripts received citations were (in alphabetical order): Diane E. Chavez, freshman, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Tabitha Maust, senior, Montana State University, Billings; Courtney Merrill, senior, University of Arizona; and Andrea Sherwood, freshman, Carnegie Mellon University.

The College/University Level Poetry Competition is an annual contest open to undergraduates at any accredited college or university. Copies of the winning chapbooks from this year and recent past years can be ordered by mail; visit the publications page of the NFSPS website for full ordering information.



Lisa Levin, winner of the Edna Meudt Memorial Award for *Fireworks, and My City Is Ashes*.



Ian C. Williams, winner of the Florence Kahn Memorial Award for *House of Bones*.

NFSPS MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY has been promoting poetry by participating in other state organizations. Two of these are the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). *Battles of Rhyme and Reason: Poetry’s Role in Early America* has been presented to the Atagi Chapter of DAR based in Prattville and the Robert Montgomery Chapter of SAR based in Montgomery by four ASPSP members—Jodi Adamson, Jerri Beck, and Jerri and Kirk Hardesty. The presenters, attired in Colonial dress, discussed the importance of poetry and poets before, during, and after the American Revolution in forming America’s democratic, individual voice. The audiences heard examples of both Colonial poetry and modern poetry written by the presenters in honor of the times. The group also brought illustrations of the poets and moments in history, including the famous women mentioned. At the end, the chapters were treated to samples of the modern version of Liberty tea, American-made herbal teas based on the hibiscus flower and pamphlets of information about joining the ASPSP or taking part in contests. Each chapter has given the group much valued tokens of appreciation. Right now, there are two more chapter visits in the works for next year. If anyone knows a DAR/SAR chapter in their state that may be interested in hearing this program, please let us know. The group may be available for some travel. Contact Jodi Adamson at adamsjo75@hotmail.com with the subject line ASPSP DAR/SAR Program. ~ Jodi Adamson, Treasurer

ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY’s Sun Cities chapter completed their annual “Poetry Writing in the Public Schools” activity this spring. Chaired by member Betsy Clark, children in grade five in Mrs. Carol Jarosik’s room at Abraham Lincoln Traditional School, compiled a booklet of original poems which were judged by chapter members and prizes were awarded. This was the sixth year for this event. In spite of the summer heat, poetry events are continuing in many venues across the state. Our president,

Christy White, is typing as fast as she can to gather all the programs, open readings, chapter events and contests, then getting the information out to members. Organizationally our numbers are increasing. Tucson/Green Valley is meeting again each month, and Prescott is also accumulating new members. We are again sponsoring our annual fall poetry contest with twelve varied categories and over \$1,600 in prizes with a chance to be published in the ASPSP journal *Sandcutters*. See the contest section for details on entering or find information at azpoetry.webs.com. Also visit us on Facebook. ~ Molly Saty, Reporter

POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS

members are keeping busy this summer. The Free Verse Poetry Group of Mountain Home is working on plans for Poetry Day in Arkansas on Saturday, October 18th. Todd Sukany, Arkansas’ State Critic, will be the speaker. There are 23 contests this year. The contests and information on the event are available at poetsroundtable.webs.com. Members are free to enter monthly contests at no expense. The Little Rock group, aka River Market Poets, is exploring up and coming poets and going back to school with refreshers on English terms and usages. ~ Laura Loughridge, Reporter

COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO’S

Shavano Poets Chapter members have been involved in a diverse number of activities outside of their regular monthly meetings. In February, storyteller poet Alex Drummond performed a one-man 70-minute show, “An Old Man’s Box of Valentines,” to a full house at The Book Haven bookstore. In March, poet Dick Cuyler organized and presided over “Voices of Arkansas Valley” in which Shavano members and other writers read pieces about the valley—an event benefiting the Land Trust of the Upper land, sky, waterways, ranches, flora and fauna where we live. Then in May, the Shavano chapter hosted a party in memory of one of our members who died last summer. Carol LoCastro had been a prolific poet. Her husband published the book *Carol wanted—78 pages of her best poetry titled Loves, Laughs and Losses* (available on Amazon). Each of the Shavano Poets stood and read their favorite LoCastro poems, accompanied by music, laughter and tears. Shavano Poets Alex Drummond, Dick Cuyler, Laurie James and Maria Weber entered the annual Library Challenge Show, “Tell Me A Story,” at the Salida Regional Library, entering poems to tell the story of a work of art. The Northern Colorado Chapter has also been busy—our 11 members have a combined 10 books and chapbooks published in 2013-2014. That’s one each for Shirley Kobar, Pat Maslowski, Gordon Holladay (former Columbine president), Lorrie Wolfe and Katherine West; two by Claudia Van Gerven; and three by Veronica Patterson. Publishers included Green Fuse Press, Finishing Line Press, and others. Seven members also attended a workshop on writing ekphrastic poetry taught by Claudia Van Gerven in March. Chapter president Lorrie Wolfe appeared on KRFC radio’s poetry show in June and was featured at a reading at the Windsor Public Library during National Poetry Month. A highlight in August will be a reading of new work by four members published by Green Fuse Press at the Innisfree Bookstore in Boulder. ~ Anita Jepson-Gilbert, Reporter

[News Reports continued on page 9]

CONTESTS

ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY'S 2014 annual contest with the theme, "Poets: Telling a Story Through the Ages," has a deadline of September 28th. Award winning poems will be printed in *Sandcutters*, the ASPSP journal, and read at the Fall Conference on November 22nd. For details, see azpoetry.webs.com or contact Carol Hogan Contest Chair: ASPSP Annual Contest 2014, PO Box 16125, Phoenix, AZ 85011.

ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY October 15, 2014, is the submission deadline for this year's 21st ISPS poetry contest. The themed category is "journey," either literal or metaphoric. Please check illinoispoets.org for details.

INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF POETRY CLUBS' 36th Annual Fall Rendezvous Poetry Contest: Entries are being accepted July 1 to September 4, 2014. For contest rules and brochure, see isfpc.org: click on the Annual Contest link for the rules page with the link, Contest Brochure. For questions or copies of the brochure, contact ISFPC Contest Director Caroline Dewey at 260-484-6806 or CarolineDewey1@aol.com.

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY holds one contest each Spring in conjunction with its Spring Festival. For rules and information, write to Judy Davies, 1418 Louis Alexis Trail, Gautier, MS 39553, or email judydavies@cableone.net (put "Contest Information" in the subject line). You may also consult the MPS website at www.misspoetry.net and download contest information from the contest page.

MISSOURI STATE POETRY SOCIETY'S summer contest deadline is: Postmark August 10, 2014. See nfsp.com/mo/summer.htm for details.

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS' 2014 Annual Contests deadline: August 15, 2014 (Postmark). See poetrysocietyoftexas.org for the brochure listing all contests, procedures and rules, or by mailing a SASE to: PST Annual Contests Chairman Nancy Baass, 408 E. Warren Ave., Victoria, TX 77901-4847.

POETS & PATRONS is currently sponsoring two contests, both with September 1, 2014, deadlines: 1) the 58th Annual Chicagoland Poetry Contest, and 2) the Helen Schaible International Sonnet Contest 2014. Contest details available on poetsandpatrons.net.

SPRINGFIELD WRITERS' GUILD announces its 21st Annual Prose and Poetry Contest, including the Jim Stone Memorial Poetry Division. Awards \$15 to \$150. Categories in unpublished fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Fee \$5 per entry. Deadline September 15, 2014. Winners announced October 25. See springfieldwritersguild.org/contests.html for links to the guidelines on how to submit through our submissions manager, Submittable.com. For questions, contact Teresa Scobee, Contest Chair, at teresalscobe@gmail.com.

WYOPOETS is sponsoring the 2014 Eugene V. Shea Annual National Contest which opens October 1, 2014, with a deadline of December 1, 2014. For contest guidelines, contact Contest Chair Nancy Ruskowsky at nrusk59@gmail.com or send a SASE to her at 331 Road 6RT, Cody, WY 82414. Additionally, contest guidelines will be posted on the Contests & Events page of wyopoets.org.

NFSPS 2015 ANNUAL CONTESTS information will be available on nfsp.com. Look for the Poetry Contests link. Entries cannot be postmarked before January 1, 2015 and must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2015.

POETRY EVENTS & NOTES

ENCORE COVER ANNOUNCEMENT

Encore Editor Valerie Martin Bailey announces that the winner of the *Encore* cover contest is Cyndee Levy-Angulo of Miami, Florida. Cyndee is a member of the Florida State Poets Association, and her colorful photograph of two kinds of Japanese Koi was taken at the Chateau Montelena Winery in Calistoga, California. It is titled "*Happy Birthday, Pisces.*" Congratulations Cyndee, and thank you to all who submitted photographs to the *Encore* cover contest. All submissions will be kept on file for possible use on a future *Encore* cover.

Note from the Editor: You received this notice late because I had set an April 1 submission date and the April issue of *Strophes* goes to press at the end of March. For future editions of *Encore*, cover photo submissions will be due by March 1.

POETRY IN THE PARK

Award-winning poet, Lola Haskins, will lead a poetry "Beginnings and Endings" workshop 3/20/15 in Zion National Park. For details, see poetry-in-the-park.com. Housing and carpools available in nearby St. George, UT.

President's Message continued from page 1

As I walked through the Grove of the States, I noticed several different kinds of oak, each with a distinctive shape of leaf. One of them, the Bur Oak, turned out to be the state tree of Iowa, home of NFSPS Treasurer Lucille Morgan Wilson. I've since learned that the Bur Oak is the largest of the native oaks and that its range extends the farthest north. Though Lucille herself is small of frame, the job she has done for NFSPS for the past six years, and is continuing to do, is one of the largest, and all of us have much reason to be grateful for her hardiness.

The Grove of the States contained only two Colorado Blue Spruce—the one that will have to be replaced by Utah's new state tree and the one for Colorado, home state of Julie Cummings, who for the past two years has successfully carried out the task of finding a judge for every one of the 50 NFSPS contests. This year she has joined the Executive Board as Secretary. I know that she and her laptop will keep up with all that the board manages to do in its two annual in-person meetings at the beginning and end of the convention and in any on-line ones during the rest of year.

After completing my circuit through the Grove of the States, I strolled into the picnic area, shaded by a stand of tall Douglas fir, Oregon's own state tree. Looking up at their high crowns, watching the slow sway of their straight trunks, I thought of my local poetry critique group and of my own state society, the Oregon Poetry Association—the poet friends here who will be with me as I undertake to serve all the state societies in NFSPS.

Eleanor Berry ~ 31st NFSPS President

INTERESTED IN SLAM POETRY?

Steven Concert, NFSPS Chancellor and Youth Chair, is looking to form a NFSPS Slam Team. Want to join? Email Steven for details at: paperlesspoetsonline@hotmail.com.

STROPHES WEB EDITION – ADDITIONAL CONTENT

NFSPS MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

(continued from page 7)

FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION's annual Spring Fling was held in April in Tallahassee, our state capital. It began with a tour of the capital building and a press conference in the rotunda given by Senator Dorothy Hukill, Representative Dan Raulerson and FSPA President Joe Cavanaugh. Sen. Hukill and Rep. Raulerson have been FSPA's champions in our successful legislative campaign to reinstate the position of Florida Poet Laureate. The theme of this year's conference was "In Defense of Poetry." The keynote address was given by Dr. David Kirby, Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of English at Florida State University. His presentation was titled "Poetry and Bravery." In it he encouraged poets to not only make the time to write but to stand in front of an audience and read their work aloud. "Poetry and Publishing" was presented by Kristine Snodgrass, co-director of Anhinga Press, a non-profit publishing house in Tallahassee and editor of *Cake*, the literary magazine at Florida A&M University. Sue Walker, Poet Laureate Emeritus of Alabama, moderated a panel of creative writing instructors and professors. Panel members Dr. James Kimbell, Lu Vicars, Tolu Jegede, and Melanie Rawls are all teachers at colleges and universities in the Tallahassee area. The consensus of opinion was that "poetry is doing just fine" and does not need defending. In "What We Know, Everyday Voices," Meri Culp from Tallahassee Community college showed how mundane everyday occurrences or items could be woven into something much more. A tour of a local Mission with a poetry writing session was the final event of a very exciting conference. ~ *Mary-Ann Westbrook, Secretary*

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY's Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, April 26, 2014, in Columbus, Georgia at the National Infantry Museum. The morning opened with two poetry discussions: "Famous Columbus Poets You Never Heard of but Should Have," presented by Barbara Lipe, while the second, "Out of War: Poetry Inspired by War and War-time Experiences," was presented by Ken Johnston. Recipient of the Charles Dickson Chapbook Competition, Sandy Hokanson, read a selection of poems from her award winning chapbook, *South of the Ordinary*. The youth contest award recipients followed, reading their winning poems. After lunch, workshop leaders Melissa Dickson and Carey Scott Wilkerson presented "Battle Lines," exploring ways that the ideas of crisis, confrontation, and conflict can relate to poetry. The Summer Quarterly Meeting will be held at Spelman College in Atlanta, July 19, 2014. Michael Diebert, the poetry editor of *The Chattahoochee Review*, will speak on the topic, "Learning from Rejection Letters." The founder of Phoenix Rising Art Enterprises, Lucinda Clark, will speak on "Poetry Matters." Karen Pickell, editor of the *Reach of Song*, will oversee the unveiling of the ROS, 2014 edition. ~ *DuAnne Royall Kaiser, Reporter*

ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY's biggest news is its forthcoming second anthology entitled *Distilled Lives Volume 2*. Eighty-one members will have their poetry published in July. We now have enlarged our critiquing opportunities among members with an online system with five poets in each of two groups so far. This is a new and

growing chance, organized by Wilda Morris, to have more input between regularly scheduled chapter meetings. Our monthly gatherings at Brewed Awakening in Westmont continue to be very popular and include featured poets from in and out of state who may or may not be members. A public open mic is also part of the event. We have partnered with other writing groups in Naperville and DuPage County for readings and workshops. Recently, ISPS participated in a juried reading at the Oak Brook Public Library. One of our members, Tom Moran, was featured in the Poetry Foundation's Favorite Poem Project. We also celebrate the fine job Gail Goepfert did as chairperson of the Manningham Contest for three years. Two other members have graciously offered to co-chair this year. For April's Poetry Month, ISPS had displays in libraries throughout the state with poems written on the theme of animals. We also took part in the Poetry Fest held at Chicago's Harold Washington Library in April. ~ *Susan T. Moss, President*

MAINE POETS SOCIETY in May gathered at the University of Maine in Augusta for their all-day meeting. Poems on the subject of "Mirrors" with a 24-line limit were judged by member Sally Rowe Joy. Sonnets were judged by guest judge Marita O'Neill. The next meeting will be on Saturday, September 20, 2014, at the Rockland Public Library, 80 Union Street, Rockland. Contests, open to members only, will be on the subject of "Walls" (with a 24-line limit) to be judged by member James Breslin and poems in ballad or common meter form (with a 24-line limit) to be judged by guest judge Rachel Contreni Flynn. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. There is a \$12 registration fee which includes lunch. Non-members are welcome and may stay to participate in a reading-in-the-round at 3:00 p.m. New membership is always encouraged. For more information, visit mainepoetsociety.com or contact MPS President Carol Bachofner at mainepoet@me.com or 207-594-8954. ~ *Sally Joy, Reporter*

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY members celebrated the splendors of spring and now rejoice at rejuvenation in June! Waterfront CREW Poets, Allen Swartz, Esther Fich, Renee Pike and Patricia Tacelli, offered poetry readings at the Winthrop Art Festival in late April. Next scheduled public readings will be June 21 at the Newton Cultural Center in observance of the summer solstice. The CREW Chapter has been awarded a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council through the local Winthrop Council to aid in the publication of a book of their selected poetry due out in early autumn. President Jeanette Maes travelled to MSPS' most distant outpost, Lunenburg, in the northwestern part of the state for the Louise Brogan Chapter's May 5 meeting. Members Bev Barnes, Olga Blaus, Roberta Hunmg, Larry & Mrs Keegan, Ellie Liavitec, Jane Montcalvo, and Elayne Neal also attended. The program was entitled "One Poem and an Essay by Louise Gluck." Participating Louise Brogan Poets were director Mary Ellen Latarte, Larry Bennett, Kate Charbonne, Ann Descartaux, Nancy Phillip, Fred Heathcliff (new MSPS College Liaison), Regina McGee, Christian Resteck, Ruth Saint Marie, Ingrid Wheeler and Alan Fiot. Following an extensive and sumptuous buffet, Kate Chadbourne supplied a wonderful musical interlude by playing the piano and singing an

original composition. President Jeanette conducted a workshop entitled "In the Mood." No longer will simple adjectives such as 'happy' or 'sad' suffice after lists provided jumpstarted creative juices. LB Poets were up to the challenge and results ran the gamut from colorful, humorous, surprising and off-the-wall witty. Winner of the Amy Dengler Memorial Award is MSPS Vice President Mary Ellen Latarte. Other winners will be announced and their poems read at the meeting of the Wordcrafters' Chapter on June 21 at the Danvers Library Gazebo. MSPS will hold its Summer Picnic Meeting on Saturday, August 2, at historic Saugus Iron Works from 11 am - 2:00 pm. ~ *Patricia Bruen Tacelli, Reporter*

POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN had thirty members and guests under the leadership of President Polly Opsahl attend the PSM spring meeting held in the Clarke Historical Library on the campus of Central Michigan University on April 12, 2014. Various reports were presented, including a report on youth participation in the Rust Belt Poetry Slam. Contest Chair James Ahearn reminded members of the August 1 deadline for the 2014 Annual PSM Poetry Contest. The membership approved a motion to accept the Board's recommendation to appoint Jack Ridl as PSM's second Honorary Chancellor for a two year term expiring in 2016. Ed Morin volunteered to chair the upcoming five-year anthology project of work by members. Jim Fobear won the Traveling Trophy for his poem "I Hate My Truck" during the reading of original poems. Following lunch, accomplished Poet John Rybicki conducted a workshop that was enjoyed by all. Another round of original poetry was read after which members visited awhile and expressed relief that at last the long hard winter was over. ~ *Inge Logenburg Kyler, Historian*

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY's Michael Shelton and his North Branch crew hosted this year's Spring Festival. Friday night, April 25, we met at the Comfort Inn and Suites in Starkville for a pre-festival party of snacks, poetry readings and fellowship. Saturday morning we welcomed members and guests for registration. Contest Coordinator Dierdre Payne announced student and adult awards. Ken and Judy Davies presented an interactive workshop, "Merging Poetry and Music." Changes made this year included moving to only one festival per year to be held in the Spring, a slight increase of at-large member dues, and election of officers. Dr. Emory Jones, Brenda Finnegan and Michael Shelton comprised a panel for a poetry critique session of members' poetry. Poetry awards were announced and read throughout the day. Our 2014 Poet of the Year honoree, Wynne Huddleston, read from her chapbook, *From the Depths of Red Bluff*, and signed books afterward. Information on her book is available from misspoetry.net. Following a buffet dinner, our guest speaker Abigail Voller (Mississippi State University English Dept.) shared her insights into poetry and writing. On Sunday, awards and readings continued with Past President Brenda Finnegan installing our new slate of officers. Final awards and door prizes capped a wonderful festival. Due to health reasons, MPS President Jeanne Kelly had to resign. Our new officers are: Judy Davies, President; Michael Shelton, Vice President; Dorothy Wiman, Secretary; and Patricia Butkovich, Treasurer. ~ *Judy Davies, President*

OHIO POETRY ASSOCIATION discovered that a bill was introduced last fall in our Senate to create an Ohio State Poet Laureate. Motivated by the same vision as OPA, the Ohio Arts Council had previously shared this concept with a dynamic young senator, E. Kearney, who sponsored Senate Bill 84. It was initially sent to a subcommittee for further study. The bill reappeared in April when OPA learned of it. Five Ohio poets testified before the full committee: John Burroughs and Michael Salinger from Cleveland, Dr. Anna Soter and Steve Abbott from Columbus, and Mark Hersman from Mansfield. After a period of questions and answers, the senators decided to move the bill forward. One of the senators shared a haiku written during the discussion stating that he planned to vote YES—lots of smiles. Currently S.B. 84 has passed the Ohio Senate and now sits in the Ohio House waiting for the legislature to reconvene this fall. Visualize a healthy, active colony of honey bees and their reaction when a worker bee returns to the hive with amazing news—the sweetest nectar of all is just over the hill. OPA continues a very active letter writing campaign along with multiple meetings with media statewide. We will keep you advised as this great adventure continues to unfold. ~ *Mark Hersman, President*

POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA's Poetry Month Chair Patti Koch generated great interest in poetry across Oklahoma this spring. Oklahoma State Resolution 1052 was presented on the House floor by Representative Sally Kern declaring April to be National Poetry Month for the State of Oklahoma. In March, the Mayor of Oklahoma City also proclaimed April as National Poetry Month for the city with a proclamation read at the City Council meeting and presented to PSO Poetry Day/Month Chair Patti Koch and to Trina Lee, former Vice President of PSO. The Oklahoma group also celebrated the Annual Spring Poetry Awards Presentation with a Banquet at the Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City. This annual event hosts different contest categories for members and nonmembers; PSO Treasurer Karen Kay Bailey was inducted as Poet Laureate of the Poetry Society of Oklahoma for 2014. PSO member and Immediate Past President Rob Burgess created a new Facebook page, Poetry Society of Oklahoma, and we invite everyone to like it and keep the poetry news coming! A new web site oklahomapoets.com is up with information and contest forms. Oklahoma's summer schedule held fun and fellowship at the July workshops which included "Sharing Your Poetry in a Modern Land," the world of self publishing, entering contests, submitting your work to magazines, journals, newspapers, use of relevant websites, social media (e.g., Facebook, YouTube) and personal presentations at club meetings and appearances. Other workshop topics were "Renewing the Muse and Refilling the Well ~ A Kinder, Gentler Approach to Poetry Critique" and "Sharing the Secrets of the Poet's Heart ~ An interactive exploration of the 'how' and 'when' of inspiration." All attendees brought a personal favorite of their own work to share, along with the story behind the poem. We collected entries from our members for a poetry anthology to be published next year, and the workshops concluded with open mic and contest awards. ~ *Joan Wilcoxon, Co-President*

OREGON POETRY ASSOCIATION's Spring Conference was held April 12-14 in the DoubleTree Inn in Bend. The Board presented amendments to

the Constitution and the By-Laws. The changes are all presented in full at oregonpoets.org. The biggest changes were: only one statewide conference, beginning in 2015, and that not necessarily in April; and some modifications in wording to allow the Treasurer to deal with electronic transfers of money. The Conference's theme was "Humor." Among the Spring Contests, the one we always hold on a specific poetic form was "Limericks." Three Board members are leaving: Marvin Lurie, who has served as Acting Treasurer long after he was ready to step down; Dave Harvey, after six years as Board Secretary; and Tim Pfau, after four years' service, which included Membership Chair as well as a member of the committee negotiating the relocation of the Oregon Poetry Collection. OPA President Tiel Aisha Ansari announced that they will grant Tim and Dave Life Memberships. The assembled membership then elected Julius Jortner of Pacific City and Carol Ellis of Portland as new Board members. Tiel Ansari ran to serve another term on the Board. The Conference program began with a rousing talk, "That's Not Funny," by Ellen Waterston, author and administrator of the Writing Ranch, in Bend. On Saturday there were workshops by Dave Harvey, "Limericks, Dorklettes, Pompouselles, and Ogdens-Nashies—Living Up to the Stafford Standard on Days When You Can't Write Something Great," and by Jerry Ramsey, "Writing—The Sidelong Glance." This spring our splendid Poet Laureate, Paulann Peterson, completed her term, and Gov. Kitzhaber appointed Peter Sears of Corvallis, to be Oregon's seventh Poet Laureate since 1921. Mr. Sears is known for his experience giving readings and workshops all over the state. We have begun planning for our Fall Conference on the coast, in the town of Bandon. ~ *Dave Harvey, Reporter*

POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE's May meeting saw all incoming officers installed: JoAn Howerton, President; Angela Logsdon, Vice President; Randy Stocker, Treasurer; Karen Kestner, Recording Secretary; Sarah Gurley and Russell Strauss as Directors; and Tom McDaniel, Parliamentarian. During the next year we will have more readings by PST Poet Laureates and are working on inviting guest lecturers. Russell Strauss agreed to be our program chairman and I'm sure we will have some inspiring programs in the next year. Russell also was the winner of our impromptu contest with the poem, "The Bleaching." We are working various ways to encourage new members to join and current members to attend meetings. In November, we will be honored to listen to Elaine Blanchard, a well known local poet, writer, lecturer, and minister here in the Mid-South area. Our festival brochure, including contest details, was mailed in May for our Annual Poetry Festival to be held October 11 at the Holiday Inn University, Memphis, Tennessee. To download this brochure, go to poetrysocietytn.org, select the Festivals and Contests link, then the 2014 Fall Poetry Festival link, and look for "FESTIVAL BROCHURE." We plan to have our summer poetry reading at JoAn's home. A Poetry in the Park was held on June 22nd which was the beginning of our Poetry in the Park series. ~ *JoAn Robbins Howerton, President*

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS' Student Awards Festival was held on April 19, 2014, at the J. Erik Jonsson Main Library in downtown Dallas with Poetry in the Schools Chairman Budd Powell Mahan officiating. Prior to the event, certificates were mailed to students winning 1st, 2nd and 3rd

Place in the PST Student Contests and those attending the event read their winning poems. Upon arrival, they were greeted by Vice President Catherine L'Herisson, Director Beth Ayers and L. D. Carter who registered them and gave them the anthology containing the 1st Place winning poems, as well as the names only of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Place winners, along with the names of all their teachers and schools. The Library's auditorium was filled to capacity with 179 people in attendance, one of the largest crowds ever in the history of the event. ~ *Nancy Baass*

WYOPOETS unveiled a new poetry chapbook in Casper on April 18 in observance of National Poetry Month. The Metro Coffee Company hosted an open mic where each poet included in the poetry collection, *Weather Watch: Poems of Wyoming*, received a presentation copy of the chapbook before it went on sale. On Saturday, April 19 the spring conference was held at the Hilton Garden Inn. Business included election of new officers followed by a three-part writing clinic presented by Wyoming Poet Laureate Echo Kalproth. On June 6, WyoPoets met in Sheridan, Wyoming to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the state writers organization, Wyoming Writers, Inc. Echo Kalproth was the featured poetry panelist. The three-day event also featured Mark Spragg, novelist, Chuck Sambuchino of *Writer's Digest Books*, Lee Gutkind, creative nonfiction, and agents April Eberhardt and Jessica Sinsheimer. Sheridan Range Writers hosted the conference. Plans are underway by Nancy Ruskowsky for the November Eugene V. Shea National Contest, the 2015 Members Only Contest and the 2015 Poetry Workshop in Casper next April. *Weather Watch: Poems of Wyoming* is available by mail order for \$8 plus \$3 postage and handling. Mail checks to: Lee Ann Siebken, 414 Kimball Street, Douglas, WY 82633. ~ *Lee Ann Siebken, Reporter*

2014 Convention Chairman Clarence Socwell and Friends

