



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 2021



Julie Cummings
34th NFSPS
President

Dear Poetry Family,

As I write this, the final deliverables from “Anywhere and Everywhere”, NFSPS’s first Virtual Convention, are being completed. I know it wasn’t the same, but the poetry energy was flowing. I met many new friends and rekindled old friendships. It was certainly a lot of hard work with equal rewards.

I want to begin by recognizing the Convention Committee, led by Polly Opsahl, Steven Concert, Paul Ford, Susan Stevens Chambers, and myself, for pulling off such a great event. We were apprehensive at first and questioned our abilities to make this work. Thank you for all of your hard work, knowledge, and dedication to making the convention a great success. We had no

idea what to expect! How many poets will attend? What level of Zoom meeting should we purchase? Do we have too many breaks or too few? Will people experience “Zoom Fatigue?” Will the technology be too difficult for some of our poets, keeping them away? Would the technology fail, and we’d be lost? To our great delight, we were able to pull it all together and the attendance was excellent and well exceeded our expectations. It was an honor for me to work on this committee and help to create a successful experience.

The State Presidents meeting, the Board Meetings, the Plenary sessions, several enlightening workshops, and well-attended open mics were all highlights of the extended weekend. We certainly packed in and accomplished many things during those 4 days. We had fabulous facilitators, starting with a workshop by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer. She led us through poems and prompts with a keen eye. Budd Powell Mahan wowed us with his take on writing and poetry, concentrating on entering contests. And Carol Clark Williams helped us choose the right words. Diane Glancy, during her Keynote Address, talked about the history of NFSPS, contest entries, and reminisced about previous conventions. Sunday morning, Eleanor Berry showed us how poetry is in deep conversation with us and with other mediums. Thank you to Steve Sanders and Steven Concert for leading the open mics. One of the highlights of an open mic was led by Steven Concert, where the poets read, and made it through 100 poems in an hour! The CUP winners were an absolute delight, renewing my faith in keeping poetry alive long after all of us. The Stevens winners from 2019 and 2020 impressed us with their words, as did the BlackBerryPeach winners, and the Manningham winning poems were read too. Then, of course, the Annual Contest Award presentations. The virtual convention forced us to get creative: we were able to prepare a very lengthy PowerPoint presentation with all of the winners and the winning 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place poems being displayed. When the actual winner was not present to read their winning words, we had some fabulous readers helping us read ‘cold’ from the presentation. Many thanks to those readers and what a joy getting to see the excitement about the winners from the overall group. I enjoyed hearing every single word!

Congratulations to all the winners, and don’t be discouraged if you didn’t place this year. I meant what I said in the closing comments about all of us being winners. We chose to enter. We chose to attend. We chose to be present as much or as little as we could. Now, let’s start working on next year. At this point we still do not have a ‘location’ nailed down for convention next year. We do suspect, however, that we will have a ‘hybrid’ convention—meaning in person like the good old days and with certain aspects being ‘virtual’ or at least streamed live, like this year. The advantages of both are compelling enough to lead us to consider a ‘hybrid’ model. Much more to come on this. If you and your society are interested in hosting a NFSPS annual convention in your state, please let Chancellor and Convention Coordinator Polly Opsahl know of your interest. We have experience from conventions past to help a society prepare to hold the convention in their state. It is a lot of work and equally rewarding and exciting! (*continued on page 8*)

2021 BLACKBERRYPEACH PRIZE CONTEST WINNERS

The BlackBerryPeach Prizes (BBP3) for written and spoken word poetry, a major national competition sponsored by the National Federation of State Poetry Societies have been chosen for 2021. The winners are 1st Place Edward Mabrey of California, 2nd place Jennifer Hambrick of Ohio, and 3rd place Julie K. Shavin of Colorado. The two honorable mention winners are Susann Moeller of Ohio and Paula J. Lambert of Ohio.

The winners were chosen from entries originating in 13 states, with Florida and Ohio leading the number of poets who submitted written and spoken versions of 4 poems electronically through Submittable.com. Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Poet Laureate of the western slope of Colorado, and former winner of the BlackBerryPeach Contest judged this year’s contest. This is the fifth year of the competition. A video with presentations by the winners will be available on YouTube (search for: 2021 BlackBerryPeach Contest Winners).

The tradition of spoken word or performance poetry goes back deep into pre-history. Poetry was performed on stage long before it was captured on the page. Competitive performance poetry was an important part of the Ancient Greek Olympics. With the advent of printing, poetry moved increasingly to the pages of books and into the classroom. Since the 1970’s, there has been a resurgence in interest in spoken word and performance poetry, including hip hop (or rap) and slam (which reintroduced competition). Today it is an important cultural mainstay and a favorite among young poets.

Please consider entering this competition in 2022. Contest guidelines at nfspd.com/BBP3Guidelines.html.

~ Joseph Cavanaugh, NFSPS 2nd VP &
BlackBerryPeach Prizes for Poetry Chair
(jcavanaugh1@gmail.com)

Remembering Lucille Morgan Wilson

As exciting as the convention was, we still had some of our great poets and members who were unable to attend due to various situations. It is with great sadness that I announce that our dear Lucille Morgan Wilson, who took a fall just before convention started, ended up in the hospital and passed away on June 21st. I was fortunate enough to be able to make it to Des Moines to present her with certificates for her 5 winning poems before she passed; Lucille was delighted. Her contributions to NFSPS will be greatly missed—her experience, her humor, her words, her insight and her kindness. In addition to being the NFSPS Treasurer for 10 years, she was an active member of the Alpha Poetry Group and Past President and member of the Iowa Poetry Society for many years. Please remember Lucille by mentoring a younger poet. ~ Julie Cummings, NFSPS President

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

Organized October 17, 1959 ~ Mary B. Wall, Founder
Honorary Chancellor: David J. Rothman

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Elected, NFSPS Online Voting, July 2020

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9428 Fallen Rock Rd., Conifer, CO 80433
jcummings3@gmail.com

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Strophes Editor, Electronic Media Assistant
10239 Hickory Point Dr., Sandy, UT 84092-3960
pmford3@gmail.com

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3722 Longford Cir., Ormond Beach, FL 32174
jcavanaugh1@gmail.com

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paperlesspoets@gmail.com

CHANCELLOR: Polly Opsahl

Convention Coordinator

7316 Huntington Dr., Oscoda, MI 48750
pollyopsahl@gmail.com

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Judges Chair

1550 Trent Blvd., Apt. 1403, Lexington, KY 0515
ladyjoan1946@gmail.com

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walkerld1@aol.com

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harristaxes@aol.com

SECRETARY: Jessica Temple
Alabama A&M University, McCormick Building, Rm. 1
P.O. Box 4900, Normal, AL 35762-4900
NFSPSsecretary@gmail.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Eleanor Berry
Presidential Advisors Chair
22614 N. Santiam Hwy., Lyons, OR 97358
eberry@wvi.com

APPOINTIVE BOARD

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

Contest Chair: Carla Jordan
P.O. Box 2863, Evergreen, CO 80437-2863
ContestChair.nfspd@gmail.com

Encore Editor: Kathy Cotton
1019 Applewood Lane, Anna, IL 62906
kalcotton@gmail.com

Historian: Nancy Baass
408 E. Warren Ave., Victoria, TX 77901-4847
nancy.baass@gmail.com

**Legal Counselor and Parliamentarian &
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Susan Stevens Chambers
PO Box 422, Mankato, MN 56002
schambersmediator@yahoo.com

Librarian: Catherine L'Herisson
518 Grinnell Dr., Garland, TX 75043
catherinepoet@juno.com

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Special Events/State Outreach: Peter Stein
5612 23rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55417
pwilliamstein@yahoo.com

**Stevens Manuscript Competition Chair:
To Be Appointed**

Strophes Associate Editor: Jim Lambert
300 Twin Lakes Rd., Carterville, IL 62918
jim@jimlambert.net

Youth Chair: Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer
P. O. Box 86, Placerville, CO 81430
rosemerryt@gmail.com

Webmaster: Billy Pennington, P.O. Box 7842,
Moore, OK 73153 ~ nfspdweb.master@gmail.com

NFSPS MEMBER STATE SOCIETIES AND PRESIDENTS

ALABAMA: Alabama State Poetry Society
Jerri Hardesty, Co-President ~ 1830 Marvel Rd.,
Brierfield AL 35035 ~ wytrabbit1@aol.com
Jessica Temple, Co-President ~ P.O. Box 2308,
Huntsville, AL 35804 ~ alabamapoets@gmail.com

ARIZONA: Arizona State Poetry Society
C. Christy White ~ President, 1145 E. Kaler Dr.,
Phoenix, AZ 85020 ~ AZPoetryorg@gmail.com

ARKANSAS: Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas
John McPherson, President ~ 111 Jawanda Ln.,
Searcy, AR 72143 ~ jmcpherson@cabelynx.com

CALIFORNIA: California State Poetry Society
Dr. Maja Trochimczyk, President ~ P.O. Box 4288,
Sunland, CA 91041 ~ Maja.Trochimczyk@gmail.com

COLORADO: Columbine Poets of Colorado
Anita Jepson-Gilbert, President ~ 8989 Yukon St.,
Westminster, CO 80021 ~ anitajg5@aol.com

CONNECTICUT: Connecticut Poetry Society
Patricia Mottola, President ~ 390 Maple Ave.,
Cheshire, CT 06410 ~ patriciamottola@yahoo.com

FLORIDA: Florida State Poets Association
Mary Marcelle, President ~ 107 Magnolia Dr, Altamonte
Springs, FL 32714 ~ marymarcelle@earthlink.net

GEORGIA: Georgia Poetry Society
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President@georgiapoetrysociety.org

ILLINOIS: Illinois State Poetry Society
Susan T. Moss, President ~ 609 E Center Ave.,
Lake Bluff, IL 60044 ~ stm48@hotmail.com

INDIANA: Poetry Society of Indiana
Deborah Petersen, President ~ 718 S. Bennett St.,
Bluffton, IN 46714 ~ djpetersen57@yahoo.com

IOWA: Iowa Poetry Association
Jerrold J. Narland, President ~ 122 S. 7th Ave.,
Winterset, IA 50273 ~ chiefjer@aol.com

KENTUCKY: Kentucky State Poetry Society
Amelia Martens, President ~ 2929 Jefferson St.,
Paducah, KY 42001 ~ martensamelia@gmail.com

MAINE: Maine Poets Society
Jenny Doughty, President ~ 31 Rustic Ln.,
Portland, ME 04103 ~ jmdought@maine.rr.com

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

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Kalamazoo, MI 49008 ~ mme642@aol.com

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MN 55417 ~ pwilliamstein@gmail.com

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Gautier, MS 39553 ~ pattyb8319@gmail.com

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Carla Kirchner, President ~ 439 N. Farm Rd. 193,
Springfield, MO 65802 ~ ckirchner@sbuniv.edu

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charlene_pierce@icloud.com

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Sparks, NV 89431-2424 ~ pbtwo@earthlink.net

NEW MEXICO: New Mexico State Poetry Society
Zachary Kluckman, President ~ PO Box 90461,
Albuquerque, NM 87199 ~ president@nmpoetry.com
NEW YORK: New York Poetry Forum
James DeMartini, President ~ 7941 78th Ave., Glendale,
NY 11385 ~ jvwdm123@ymail.com

NORTH DAKOTA: North Dakota State Poetry Society
Bonnie Larson Staiger, President ~ 419 East Brandon Dr.,
Bismarck ND 58503 ~ dakota923@hotmail.com

OHIO: Ohio Poetry Association
Chuck Salmons, President ~ 12886 Coventry Ave.,
Pickerington, OH 43147 ~ president@ohiopoetryassn.org

OKLAHOMA: Poetry Society of Oklahoma
Patti Koch, President ~ 5101 N.W. 20th St.,
Oklahoma City, OK 73127-2312 ~ pattikoch0@gmail.com

OREGON: Oregon Poetry Association
Jennifer Rood, President ~ 1664 NE Foothill Blvd.,
Grants Pass, OR 97526 ~ jennifer.rood@outlook.com

PENNSYLVANIA: Pennsylvania Poetry Society
Emiliano Martín, President ~ 2955 Columbia Dr.,
Bensalem, PA 19020-2109 ~ poeta48@aol.com

SOUTH DAKOTA: South Dakota State Poetry Society
Bruce Roseland, President ~ 16894 SD Hwy. 47,
Seneca, SD 57473 ~ bbroseland@venturecomm.net

TENNESSEE: Poetry Society of Tennessee
William G. Hill, President ~ 581 White Ash Dr.,
Southaven, MS 38671 ~ hillw@bellsouth.net

TEXAS: Poetry Society of Texas
Irene Robertson, President ~ 1625 Gayla Creek Dr.,
Little Elm, TX 75068 ~ yranie@att.net

UTAH: Utah State Poetry Society
Steven Leitch, President ~ 9225 ToniLee Cr.,
West Jordan, UT 84088-8554 ~ sleitch@yahoo.com

WYOMING: WyoPoets
Tina Ann Forkner, President ~ wyopoets@gmail.com

STROPHES

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Paul Ford, *Strophes* Editor
10239 Hickory Pt. Dr., Sandy, UT 84092-3960
pmford3@gmail.com

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* Deceased

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES 2021 ANNUAL CONTEST WINNERS
1. NFSPS FOUNDERS AWARD (to honor Mary B. Wall)

(326 entries) Judge: Barbara Funke
1st Place: Linda Eve Diamond, Port Orange, FL
 "A Thin Line"

2nd Place: Julie K. Shavin, Fountain, CO
 "The Day as Effigy"

3rd Place: Linda Eve Diamond, Port Orange, FL
 "Light Fades"

1st HM: David Bond, Del Rio, TX
 2nd HM: Linda Eve Diamond, Port Orange, FL
 3rd HM: Jane Pettibone, Littleton, CO
 4th HM: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 5th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 6th HM: Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
 7th HM: Julie K. Shavin, Fountain, CO

2. THE NFSPS BOARD AWARD

(152 entries) Judge: Carolyn Files
1st Place: Jenna Pashley, Richmond, TX
 "Kintsugi"

2nd Place: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 "She Rests in Pieces"

3rd Place: Janice Canerdy, Potts Camp, MS
 "Precious Pieces of Life"

1st HM: Randy K. Schwartz, Ann Arbor, MI
 2nd HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 3rd HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 4th HM: Diane Neff, Oviedo, FL
 5th HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD
 6th HM: Daniel Garcia Ordaz, McAllen, TX
 7th HM: Sarah Morin, Fishers, IN

3. THE MARGO AWARD

(91 entries) Judge: Nancy Susanna Breen
1st Place: Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights, MN
 "Avoidance"

2nd Place: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 "Miss Hood and the Wolf"

3rd Place: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK
 "Wolves at the Door"

1st HM: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 2nd HM: Courtney Moody, Ellenton, FL
 3rd HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 4th HM: Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
 5th HM: Linda Whittenberg, Wheat Ridge, CO
 6th HM: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 7th HM: Karen Mastracchio, Spring, TX

***4. DONALD STODGHILL MEMORIAL AWARD**

(*Members Only) (153 entries) Judge: Terrie Jacks
1st Place: Joyce Gregor, Westcliffe, CO
 "Aroma in Orange"

2nd Place: Doris Dembosky, Penrose, CO
 "Blinded by the Light"

3rd Place: Lucia Wainwright, Westcliffe, CO
 "Drifting"

1st HM: Lisa Baldwin, Grants Pass, OR
 2nd HM: Matthew Feeney, Moose Lake, MN
 3rd HM: Birma C. Castle, Beaumont, TX
 4th HM: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
 5th HM: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
 6th HM: Peter M. Gordon, Orlando, FL
 7th HM: Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL

***5. GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

(*Members Only) (61 entries) Judge: Loretta Diane Walker
1st Place: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
 "Transmutation"

2nd Place: Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
 "Martian Memory"

3rd Place: Mike Wahl, Athens, AL
 "The World of Loonz"

1st HM: Mark Terry, Orlando, FL
 2nd HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD
 3rd HM: Shirley Blackwell, Los Lunas, NM
 4th HM: Alison Chisholm, Birkdale Southport, Merseyside UK

5th HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 6th HM: Randy Mazie, Blairsville, GA
 7th HM: Faye Adams, Cherokee Village, AR

6. WINNERS' CIRCLE AWARD

(186 entries) Judge: Emily Strauss
1st Place: Lisa Toth Salinas, Spring, TX
 "On Visiting the Old House"

2nd Place: Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights, MN
 "Distant Lightning"

3rd Place: Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT
 "The Arbor"

1st HM: Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR
 2nd HM: Julie K. Shavin, Fountain, CO
 3rd HM: Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
 4th HM: Betty M. Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
 5th HM: Rikki Santer, Columbus, OH
 6th HM: Sandra McGarry, Fort Collins, CO
 7th HM: Artiste-te (Earl) Teteak, Paradise Valley, AZ

7. STONE GATHERING AWARD

(149 entries) Judge: Jeanette Willert
1st Place: Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
 "Tracking Rabbits at Dusk"

2nd Place: Elizabeth Shelley, Memphis, TN
 "Yellow Rising"

3rd Place: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 "Island of Wilderness"

1st HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 2nd HM: Lorrie Wolfe, Windsor, CO
 3rd HM: Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT
 4th HM: Susan Chambers, Mankato, MN
 5th HM: Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ontario, Canada
 6th HM: Cheryl Van Beek, Wesley Chapel, FL
 7th HM: Greer L. Fox, Knoxville, TN

*** 8. POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS AWARD**

(*Members Only) (152 entries) Judge: Frank Iosue
1st Place: Jon Sebba, Murray, UT
 "Steel Box"

2nd Place: Jocelyn Ajami, Chicago, IL
 "Coffee House"

3rd Place: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 "Latitudes"

1st HM: Lynn Farmer, Decatur, GA
 2nd HM: Polly Opsahl, Oscoda, MI
 3rd HM: Kenneth Michaels, York, PA
 4th HM: David Bond, Del Rio, TX
 5th HM: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 6th HM: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 7th HM: Joan Hofmann, Collinsville, CT

9. ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

(136 entries) Judge: Donna Salli
1st Place: Polly Opsahl, Oscoda, MI
 "How to Trap Your Ghost"

2nd Place: Christina Flaughner, Rochester, MN
 "Midnight Vigil for Grandfather"

3rd Place: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 "Photograph of a Young Ute Woman, c. 1880-1900"

1st HM: Julie K. Shavin, Fountain, CO
 2nd HM: Louise Brown, Arvada, CO
 3rd HM: Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio, TX
 4th HM: Patricia Hope, Oakridge, TN
 5th HM: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 6th HM: Dee Bowlin, Vinton, VA
 7th HM: Cheryl Van Beek, Wesley Chapel, FL

10. JIM BARTON, BARD OF THE PINES AWARD

(123 entries) Judge: William "Bucky" Ignatius
1st Place: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 "Loblolly Pine's Party"

2nd Place: Libby Jones, Berea, KY
 "On the Woods Trail at the Artists' Colony"

3rd Place: Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
 "Of Fair, Fair and Fare"

1st HM: Jon Sebba, Murray, UT
 2nd HM: Lisa Kamolnick, Blountville, TN
 3rd HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD
 4th HM: Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT

5th HM: Catherine M. Moran, Little Rock, AR
 6th HM: Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX
 7th HM: Christine Irving, Denton, TX

***11. AL LASTER MEMORIAL AWARD**

(*Members Only) (137 entries) Judge: Kate Lacy
1st Place: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 "Unweaving"

2nd Place: Cade Huie, Grand Prairie, TX
 "The Horses of Lascaux"

3rd Place: Sam Wright, Toledo, OH
 "I See It Not, the Art"

1st HM: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
 2nd HM: Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
 3rd HM: Meredith R. Cook, Blue Earth, MN
 4th HM: Steven H. Leitch, West Jordan, UT
 5th HM: Carolynn Scully, Forest City, FL
 6th HM: Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
 7th HM: Aaron E. Holst, Sheridan, WY

***12. JIM BARTON MEMORIAL AWARD**

(*Members Only) (160 entries) Judge: Russell H. Strauss
1st Place: Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
 "While Standing in Line to Pay for My Groceries,
 I Play Angry Birds Video Game on My Phone"

2nd Place: Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio, TX
 "A Poem about Nothing and Everything"

3rd Place: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 "Soft-lined Box"

1st HM: Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
 2nd HM: Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
 3rd HM: Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK
 4th HM: Robert La Fleur, Ponsford, MN
 5th HM: Patricia Hale, West Hartford, CT
 6th HM: Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights, MN
 7th HM: Catherine M. Moran, Little Rock, AR

***13. ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

(*Members Only) (156 entries) Judge: Julia George
1st Place: David Hutto, Gainesville, GA
 "If You Were Hic"

2nd Place: Elaine Costanzo, New Concord, OH
 "Childhood"

3rd Place: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 "The Second Great Romance"

1st HM: Marleine Yanish, Denver, CO
 2nd HM: Lynn Schiffhorst, Winter Park, FL
 3rd HM: John F. Foster, Sun City Center, FL
 4th HM: Sarah Morin, Fishers, IN
 5th HM: Markay Brown, St. George, UT
 6th HM: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
 7th HM: Laura Mahal, Fort Collins, CO

14. LAND OF ENCHANTMENT AWARD

(128 entries) Judge: Dawn Terpstra
1st Place: Carolyn E. Campbell, Evergreen, CO
 "Desert Seeds"

2nd Place: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 "I, Refugee"

3rd Place: Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
 "The Peacekeeper"

1st HM: Lorrie Wolfe, Windsor, CO
 2nd HM: Betty M. Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
 3rd HM: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 4th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 5th HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD
 6th HM: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 7th HM: Carolynn Scully, Forest City, FL

15. POET'S WORK AWARD

(119 entries) Judge: Pat Durmon
1st Place: Markay Brown, St. George, UT
 "Petition of an Unborn Child"

2nd Place: Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT
 "Mother's Counsel"

3rd Place: Betty M. Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
 "God does not leave us comfortless"

1st HM: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 2nd HM: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 3rd HM: Jane Pettibone, Littleton, CO

4th HM: Angela Kom, Rochester, MN
 5th HM: Amy Irish, Lakewood, CO
 6th HM: Meredith R. Cook, Blue Earth, MN
 7th HM: Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights, MN

16. POWER OF WOMEN AWARD

(124 entries) Judge: Jennifer Horne

1st Place: Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
 "A Calling: Teaching the Country School"

2nd Place: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 "Oxbow"

3rd Place: Tilli Urban, Denver, CO
 "Small Woman Workday"

1st HM: Lisa Toth Salinas, Spring, TX
 2nd HM: Elizabeth Shelley, Memphis, TN
 3rd HM: Shirley Blackwell, Los Lunas, NM
 4th HM: Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
 5th HM: Kathleen McIntosh, New Haven, CT
 6th HM: Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT
 7th HM: Christine Boldt, Temple, TX

17. THE VIRGINIA CORRIE-COZART MEMORIAL AWARD

(122 entries)

Judge: Sharon Mishler Fox

1st Place: Marilyn LT Klimcho, Reading, PA

"The Fish, the Woman and the Moon"

2nd Place: Diane Attwell Palfrey, Cambridge, Ontario,

Canada

"Metamorphosis"

3rd Place: Terry Miller, Richmond, TX

"Faux Phoenix"

1st HM: Randy Mazie, Blairsville, GA
 2nd HM: Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
 3rd HM: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 4th HM: Peter M. Gordon, Orlando, FL
 5th HM: Joshua Conklin, Amherst, NH
 6th HM: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
 7th HM: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

*18. MILDRED VORPAHL BAASS

REMEMBRANCE AWARD (*Members Only)

(102 entries) Judge: Sue Brennan Walker

1st Place: Virginia Mortenson, Des Moines, IA
 "I Need a Pangur Bun"

2nd Place: Lynn Schiffhorst, Winter Park, FL
 "King Harry and Little Bess"

3rd Place: Shirley Blackwell, Los Lunas, NM
 "Foster Mom"

1st HM: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 2nd HM: Steven H. Leitch, West Jordan, UT
 3rd HM: Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
 4th HM: Libby Jones, Berea, KY
 5th HM: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 6th HM: Janice Canerdy, Potts Camp, MS
 7th HM: Lori Anne Goetz, Germantown, TN

19. LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS AWARD

(167 entries) Judge: Tom Hunley

1st Place: Randy K. Schwartz, Ann Arbor, MI
 "Driving to Gravelly Point"

2nd Place: Lorrie Wolfe, Windsor, CO
 "Elegy for My Grocery Store"

3rd Place: Steven H. Leitch, West Jordan, UT
 "Knowing the Story"

1st HM: Laura Mahal, Fort Collins, CO
 2nd HM: Betty M. Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
 3rd HM: Patricia Thrushart, Clarington, PA
 4th HM: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 5th HM: Joan Hofmann, Collinsville, CT
 6th HM: Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ontario, Canada
 7th HM: Rose Ann Spaith, Columbus, OH

20. JESSICA C. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL AWARD

(97 entries) Judge: Florence Bruce

1st Place: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL

"Shells"

2nd Place: Janice Canerdy, Potts Camp, MS
 "No More Waiting"

3rd Place: Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
 "The Fisherman's Widow"

1st HM: Shirley Blackwell, Los Lunas, NM
 2nd HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT
 3rd HM: Deborah Livesay, Rogers, AR
 4th HM: Elizabeth Horrocks, Wilmslow, Cheshire UK
 5th HM: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
 6th HM: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 7th HM: Dena R. Gorrell, Edmund, OK

21. POETRY SOCIETY OF INDIANA AWARD

(131 entries) Judge: Amy Irish

1st Place: Lorrie Wolfe, Windsor, CO
 "A Walk by the Pond"

2nd Place: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 "An Old Woman Lights the Sun"

3rd Place: John W. Coppock, Tuttle, OK
 "Dark Leaves"

1st HM: Crystie Cook, Sandy, UT
 2nd HM: Elizabeth Horrocks, Wilmslow, Cheshire UK
 3rd HM: Joan Hofmann, Collinsville, CT
 4th HM: Jenna Funkhouser, Portland, OR
 5th HM: Linda Frisa, Cincinnati, OH
 6th HM: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
 7th HM: Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR

22. NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

(114 entries) Judge: Barbara Blanks

1st Place: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
 "The Season the World Paused, 2020"

2nd Place: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 "A Year to Forget?"

3rd Place: Carol Clark Williams, York, PA
 "The Cure"

1st HM: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK
 2nd HM: Diane Neff, Oviedo, FL
 3rd HM: Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake, MN
 4th HM: Mark Terry, Orlando, FL
 5th HM: Beverly Hadden, Ft. Collins, CO
 6th HM: Sam Wright, Toledo, OH
 7th HM: Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd, MN

23. WILLIAM STAFFORD MEMORIAL AWARD

(173 entries) Judge: Lisa Kamolnick

1st Place: Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights, MN
 "Markings"

2nd Place: Sophia Gauthier, Tacoma, WA
 "This Is Her"

3rd Place: Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT
 "Counting, Newtown"

1st HM: Ana Reizens Desvern, Barcelona, Spain
 2nd HM: Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT
 3rd HM: Lisa Baldwin, Grants Pass, OR
 4th HM: Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
 5th HM: Jessica Temple, Huntsville, AL
 6th HM: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 7th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

24. THE NEW YORK POETRY FORUM AWARD

(151 entries) Judge: Tamara Baxter

1st Place: Susan Morse, Salem, OR
 "Of Plates and Poets, a Somewhat Ars Poetica"

2nd Place: Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT
 "A Poem about Nothing"

3rd Place: Christina Flaughter, Rochester, MN
 "Blood Tithe"

1st HM: Sarah Morin, Fishers, IN
 2nd HM: John W. Coppock, Tuttle, OK
 3rd HM: Anita Jepson-Gilbert, Westminster, CO
 4th HM: Carol Clark Williams, York, PA
 5th HM: Markay Brown, St. George, UT
 6th HM: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 7th HM: Jessica Temple, Huntsville, AL

*25. COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO AWARD

(*Members Only) (104 entries) Judge: Mark Terry

1st Place: Jean Bell, Evergreen, CO

"Ninety-Five Percent Effective"

2nd Place: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
 "I Walked My Dog"

3rd Place: Patricia Thrushart, Clarington, PA
 "The Quilt of America"

1st HM: Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
 2nd HM: Beverly Hadden, Ft. Collins, CO
 3rd HM: Nancy Breen, Loveland, OH
 4th HM: Michael Owens, Cypress, TX
 5th HM: Mike Wahl, Athens, AL
 6th HM: Stephen Schwei, Houston, TX
 7th HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT

26. MORTON D. PROUTY & ELSIE S. PROUTY MEMORIAL AWARD

(190 entries) Judge: Diane Glancy

1st Place: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 "Cardinal Flight"

2nd Place: Jessica Temple, Huntsville, AL
 "At Sunrise"

3rd Place: Stephen Curry, Jackson, MS
 "Dragonfly"

1st HM: Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
 2nd HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 3rd HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT
 4th HM: Robert La Fleur, Ponsford, MN
 5th HM: Wendy Visser, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada
 6th HM: Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
 7th HM: Sylvia Reilly Collins, S. Hamilton, MA
 Citation: Christine Irving, Denton, TX

27. LOUISIANA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

(165 entries) Judge: Susan Gundlach

1st Place: Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake, MN
 "Stream of My Consciousness"

2nd Place: Terry Miller, Richmond, TX
 "Love Dance"

3rd Place: Libby Jones, Berea, KY
 "Making *Pain Perdu* for my Husband's Mother"

1st HM: Carolyn E. Campbell, Evergreen, CO
 2nd HM: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 3rd HM: Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT
 4th HM: Byron Hoot, Rochester Mills, PA
 5th HM: Brian Acord, Centerville, UT
 6th HM: Robert La Fleur, Ponsford, MN
 7th HM: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

*28. NAOMI STROUD SIMMONS AWARD

(*Members Only) (156 entries) Judge: Joe Cavanaugh

1st Place: Joyce Gregor, Westcliffe, CO
 "A Glimmer in the Wind"

2nd Place: Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake, MN
 "Understory"

3rd Place: Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
 "Because Dad Has Parkinsons"

1st HM: Gary Ketchum, New Port Richey, FL
 2nd HM: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
 3rd HM: Stephen Schwei, Houston, TX
 4th HM: Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
 5th HM: Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
 6th HM: Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport,
 Merseyside UK
 7th HM: Inge Logenbury Kyler, Eaton Rapids, MI

29. UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

(123 entries) Judge: Sandra Nantais

1st Place: Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ontario,
 Canada

"The Precious Opal of Birkenau"

2nd Place: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
 "My Inheritance"

3rd Place: Tanya R. Whitney, Sorrento, LA
 "Family Albums"

1st HM: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
 2nd HM: Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
 3rd HM: John W. Crawford, Arkadelphia, AR
 4th HM: Mary Shaw, Indianola, IA
 5th HM: Brenda Brown Finnegan, Ocean Springs, MS
 6th HM: Mark Hudson, Evanston, IL
 7th HM: Matthew Feeney, Moose Lake, MN

30. CSPS JAMES E. MACWHINNEY MEMORIAL AWARD

(54 entries) Judge: Anita Jepson-Gilbert

1st Place: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 "Longing"

2nd Place: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
 "Views Fore and Aft"

3rd Place: Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
"The Fisherman"

1st HM: Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
2nd HM: Dee Bowlin, Vinton, VA
3rd HM: Crystie Cook, Sandy, UT
4th HM: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK
5th HM: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
6th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
7th HM: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

31. ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY

AWARD (99 entries) Judge: Jon Sebba

1st Place: Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
"It Was the Age of Innocence"

2nd Place: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
"Widow at the Bookstore"

3rd Place: Peter M. Gordon, Orlando, FL
"Inscriptions"

1st HM: Steven H. Leitch, West Jordan, UT
2nd HM: Cheryl Van Beek, Wesley Chapel, FL
3rd HM: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
4th HM: Elizabeth Horrocks, Wilmslow, Cheshire UK
5th HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT
6th HM: Lori Anne Goetz, Germantown, TN
7th HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD

32. THE ROBBIE AWARD

(93 entries) Judge: Julie Cummings

1st Place: Susan Chambers, Mankato, MN
"Gretchen's Hymn"

2nd Place: Linda Frisa, Cincinnati, OH
"Japanese Lanterns"

3rd Place: Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR
"Thesaurus"

1st HM: Henry Panowitsch, Mankato, MN
2nd HM: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
3rd HM: Laurie Kolp, Beaumont, TX
4th HM: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
5th HM: Pat Underwood, Colfax, IA
6th HM: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
7th HM: Wendy Visser, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada
Citation: Tim Schulz, Venice, FL

33. OHIO AWARD

(159 entries) Judge: William "Bill" Reyer

1st Place: Cheryl Van Beek, Wesley Chapel, FL
"The Gift"

2nd Place: Dave Harvey, Talent, OR
"Rattler"

3rd Place: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
"Rye Grass"

1st HM: Lorrie Wolfe, Windsor, CO
2nd HM: Sarah Morin, Fishers, IN
3rd HM: Janet Kamnikar, Fort Collins, CO
4th HM: Karen Kay Bailey, Blanchard, OK
5th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
6th HM: Carolyn E. Campbell, Evergreen, CO
7th HM: Terrie Jacks, Ballwin, MO

34. FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION, INC. AWARD

(57 entries) Judge: Lori Goetz

1st Place: Mark Terry, Orlando, FL
"Catface"

2nd Place: Mary Ellen Orvis, Sun City Center, FL
"Florida Sonata"

3rd Place: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
"Tupelo Honey"

1st HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
2nd HM: Crystie Cook, Sandy, UT
3rd HM: Laura Mahal, Fort Collins, CO
4th HM: Randy Mazie, Blairsville, GA
5th HM: Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
6th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
7th HM: Faye Smalling Guinn, Jonesboro, AR

35. POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN AWARD

(145 entries) Judge: Julie Allyn Johnson

1st Place: Amy Irish, Lakewood, CO
"All You Want"

2nd Place: Laura Altshul, New Haven, CT
"After the Operation"

3rd Place: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
"Homecoming"

1st HM: Randy K. Schwartz, Ann Arbor, MI
2nd HM: K. Hamblen, Baton Rouge, LA
3rd HM: Julie K. Shavin, Fountain, CO
4th HM: Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, Merseyside UK
5th HM: Jenna Pashley, Richmond, TX
6th HM: Phil Flott, Omaha, NE
7th HM: Diane Neff, Oviedo, FL

36. MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

(88 entries) Judge: Lynda LaRocca

1st Place: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
"Fragrant Day"

2nd Place: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK
"An Old Man's Wallet"

3rd Place: Anita Jepson-Gilbert, Westminster, CO
"Quarantined"

1st HM: V. Kimball Barney, Kaysville, UT
2nd HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT
3rd HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
4th HM: Dena R. Gorrell, Edmund, OK
5th HM: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
6th HM: Mark Terry, Orlando, FL
7th HM: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

*37. JESSE STUART MEMORIAL AWARD

(*Members Only) (132 entries) Judge: Holly Dunlap

1st Place: Terry Miller, Richmond, TX
"In a Poem about My Mother"

2nd Place: Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT
"Safe"

3rd Place: Pepper Trail, Ashland, OR
"Old Dog"

1st HM: Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ontario, Canada
2nd HM: Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR
3rd HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
4th HM: Randy K. Schwartz, Ann Arbor, MI
5th HM: Wendy Visser, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada
6th HM: Jessica Temple, Huntsville, AL
7th HM: Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL

38. MISSOURI STATE POETRY SOCIETY

AWARD (45 entries) Judge: Jerri Hardesty

1st Place: Susan Chambers, Mankato, MN
"The Forgotten Inhabitants"

2nd Place: Vicki Arnett, Preston, MO
"Show Me, Missouri!"

3rd Place: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
"I'm in a Show Me State of Mind"

1st HM: Susan Daubenspeck, Corpus Christi, TX
2nd HM: Crystal Barker, North Las Vegas, NV
3rd HM: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
4th HM: Laura Trigg, Little Rock, AR
5th HM: Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX
6th HM: Stephen Schwei, Houston, TX
7th HM: Tanya R. Whitney, Sorrento, LA

39. BARBARA STEVENS MEMORIAL AWARD

(179 entries) Judge: Rita Aiken Moritz

1st Place: Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, Merseyside UK
"Departure"

2nd Place: Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
"New Perspective"

3rd Place: Betty Kossick, Apopka, FL
"One Man's Miracle"

1st HM: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
2nd HM: Crystie Cook, Sandy, UT
3rd HM: Christina Flaughner, Rochester, MN
4th HM: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
5th HM: Lisa Kamolnick, Blountville, TN
6th HM: Lynn Farmer, Decatur, GA
7th HM: Kathryn Schmeiser, Fairview, NC

*40. ALICE MAKENZIE SWAIM MEMORIAL

AWARD (*Members Only) (71 entries)

Judge: Julie K. Shavin

1st Place: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
"Reminders"

2nd Place: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
"As the Rain Changes"

3rd Place: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
"Sycamore's Revenge"

1st HM: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
2nd HM: Wesley Sims, Oak Ridge, TN
3rd HM: Karen Mastracchio, Spring, TX
4th HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD
5th HM: Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
6th HM: Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
7th HM: Elizabeth, Wilmslow, Cheshire UK

*41. POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA

AWARD (*Members Only) (59 entries) Judge: Diane Clark

1st Place: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
"El Faro"

2nd Place: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
"Late Afternoon Icicles"

3rd Place: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
"The Dead and Unread"

1st HM: Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT
2nd HM: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
3rd HM: Dena R. Gorrell, Edmund, OK
4th HM: Sara Gipson, Scott, AR
5th HM: Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT
6th HM: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK
7th HM: Wendy Visser, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada

42. SAVE OUR EARTH AWARD

(92 entries) Judge: Alida Rol

1st Place: Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
"The Albatross"

2nd Place: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
"Earth Day Fiftieth Anniversary"

3rd Place: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
"Cut"

1st HM: Lisa Baldwin, Grants Pass, OR
2nd HM: Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
3rd HM: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
4th HM: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
5th HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
6th HM: Christine Irving, Denton, TX
7th HM: Joshua Conklin, Amherst, NH

43. MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

(149 entries) Judge: Alan Perry

1st Place: Christine Boldt, Temple, TX
"The Prayer Rug"

2nd Place: Robert Schinzel, Argyle, TX
"Sum of the Parts"

3rd Place: Lynn Farmer, Decatur, GA
"Naming"

1st HM: Carolyn E. Campbell, Evergreen, CO
2nd HM: Iris Lee Underwood, Leonard, MI
3rd HM: Patricia Thrushart, Clarington, PA
4th HM: Jenna Pashley, Richmond, TX
5th HM: Laurie Kolp, Beaumont, TX
6th HM: Cheryl Van Beek, Wesley Chapel, FL
7th HM: Christina Flaughner, Rochester, MN

*44. POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

AWARD (*Members Only) (113 entries) Judge: Polly Opsahl

1st Place: Terry Miller, Richmond, TX
"The Blues"

2nd Place: Patricia Hale, West Hartford, CT
"Guitar Paradise"

3rd Place: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX
"Breakfast Sonnet"

1st HM: Amy Irish, Lakewood, CO
2nd HM: Harvey Stone, Johnson City, TN
3rd HM: Matthew Feeney, Moose Lake, MN
4th HM: Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ontario, Canada
5th HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
6th HM: Elizabeth Horrocks, Wilmslow, Cheshire UK
7th HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT

45. IOWA POETRY ASSOCIATION AWARD

(110 entries) Judge: Karen Kay Bailey

1st Place: Shirley Blackwell, Los Lunas, NM
"Kerchoo! Call the Zoo!"

2nd Place: Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, Merseyside UK
 “Upside Down”
3rd Place: Vicky Dovenspike, Salem, IA
 “Rainy Day Blues”
 1st HM: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
 2nd HM: Harvey Stone, Johnson City, TN
 3rd HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
 4th HM: Dena R. Gorrell, Edmund, OK
 5th HM: Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
 6th HM: Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA
 7th HM: Deborah Livesay, Rogers, AR

46. WYOPOETS AWARD

(79 entries) Judge: Jessica Temple
1st Place: Kathleen McIntosh, New Haven, CT
 “Wyoming 1931”
2nd Place: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 “Hindsight”
3rd Place: Sandra McGarry, Fort Collins, CO
 “Oklahoma Panhandle, 1931: A Photograph”
 1st HM: Patricia Hale, West Hartford, CT
 2nd HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT
 3rd HM: Doris Jones, Madison, MS
 4th HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
 5th HM: Carolyn E. Campbell, Evergreen, CO
 6th HM: Laurie Kolp, Beaumont, TX
 7th HM: Jim Brosnan, Assonet, MA

*47. SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION

AWARD (*Members Only) (84 entries) Judge: Sally Ortiz
1st Place: Jim Brosnan, Assonet, MA
 “Dining at Mama Rose’s”
2nd Place: Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
 “The Patchwork Quilt”
3rd Place: LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK
 “With Patient Hands”
 1st HM: Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT
 2nd HM: Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR
 3rd HM: Markay Brown, St. George, UT
 4th HM: Rosemary Moeller, Saint Lawrence, SD
 5th HM: Betty M. Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
 6th HM: Louise Brown, Arvada, CO
 7th HM: Paula Sweeney Kowszik, Millbury, MA

48. MAINE POETS SOCIETY AWARD

(125 entries) Judge: Lisa Fosmo
1st Place: Carolyn E. Campbell, Evergreen, CO
 “Strauss on the Boardwalk”
2nd Place: Jenna Pashley, Richmond, TX
 “Zé Peixe”
3rd Place: Susan Chambers, Mankato, MN
 “California Green Dream”
 1st HM: V. Kimball Barney, Kaysville, UT
 2nd HM: Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud, MN
 3rd HM: James Gaines, Fredericksburg, VA
 4th HM: Polly Opsahl, Oscoda, MI
 5th HM: Lucia Wainwright, Westcliffe, CO
 6th HM: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 7th HM: Constance Boyle, Denver, CO

*49. MIRIAM S. STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD

(*Members Only) (62 entries)
 Judge: Charmaine Pappas Donovan
1st Place: Kathy Cotton, Anna, IL
 “Buckle Up”
2nd Place: Lynda La Rocca, Salida, CO
 “Eyes on the Road”
3rd Place: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
 “Hirsute Is Out”
 1st HM: Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, Merseyside UK
 2nd HM: Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
 3rd HM: Martha H. Balph, Millville, UT
 4th HM: Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT
 5th HM: Richard R. Cuyler, Middlebury, VT
 6th HM: Sarah Morin, Fishers, IN
 7th HM: Marjorie Dohman, Riceville, IA

***50. THE POETS NORTHWEST AWARD**
 (*Members Only) (127 entries) Judge: Janet Qually
1st Place: Mary E. Merlo, Troy, MI
 “Word Omelets”
2nd Place: Sheila Tingley Moore, San Antonio, TX
 “An Angel of Mercy”
3rd Place: Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
 “Landlady”
 1st HM: Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
 2nd HM: Peter M. Gordon, Orlando, FL
 3rd HM: Crystal Barker, North Las Vegas, NV
 4th HM: Janet Kamnikar, Fort Collins, CO
 5th HM: Diane Glancy, Gainesville, TX
 6th HM: Jenna Pashley, Richmond, TX
 7th HM: Catherine L’Herisson, Garland, TX

51. STUDENT AWARD (Grades 9-12)

(25 entries) Judge: Budd Powell Mahan
1st Place: Julie Sweat, Jonesboro, AR
 “Worship”
2nd Place: Dynasty Green, Ladson, SC
 “My Truth”
3rd Place: Dominique Rivera, Hot Springs, AR
 “Glass Bride”
 1st HM: Vivian Rong, Cherry Hill, NJ
 2nd HM: Lillian Glass, Dierks, AR
 3rd HM: Cora LeCates, Brooklyn, NY
 4th HM: Isabella Wang, Farmington, CT
 5th HM: Ella Loxley, Highland Village, TX
 6th HM: Lorah Chudy, North Little Rock, AR
 7th HM: Ajay Sawant, Maharashtra, India

52. POETRY IN THE CLASSROOM (Grades 6-8)

(5 entries) Judge: Budd Powell Mahan
1st Place: Avah Dodson, Lafayette, CA
 “Night Jitters”
2nd Place: Tessa Avery, Amherst, NH
 “Love Letter to Autumn”
3rd Place: Matthew Hayden, Aurora, CO
 “2020”
 1st HM: Holly B. Winfield, Lemont, PA
 2nd HM: Tane Kim, Irvington, NY

53. POETRY IN THE CLASSROOM (Grades 3-5)

(8 entries) Judge: Budd Powell Mahan
1st Place: Masia Lee Conklin, Amherst, NH
 “The Teacher I Learned to Love”
2nd Place: Lyla Hardy, Frederick, CO
 “Fearless, Flawless, Smart, Strong”
3rd Place: Daniel Wagner, Frederick, CO
 “I Am Kind and Creative”
 1st HM: Kerry Gonzalez, Woodford, VA
 2nd HM: Nyuraj Katuwal, Frederick, CO
 3rd HM: Kellsie Montgomery, Frederick, CO
 4th HM: Ava Sewczak, Frederick, CO
 5th HM: Juliette Ramirez, Frederick, CO

NFSPS MANNINGHAM COMPETITION 2021 WINNERS

JUNIOR DIVISION (Grades 6-8)

Judge: Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake, MN
1st Place: Addison Scoggins, White Station Middle School, Memphis, TN
 “Finally Safe”
2nd Place: Morgan Hacker, Levine Academy, Dallas, TX
 haiku “We are still locked down”
3rd Place: Jane Hamilton, Falcon Creek Middle School, Aurora, CO
 “Kingdom of Crows”
4th Place: Stella Abarca, Heritage Grove Middle School, Plainfield, IL
 “What World We Live In”
5th Place: Lucille Wiesbrook, St. Thomas School, Philo, IL
 “The Sunset Orange”
 1st HM: Avi Cohen, Levine Academy, Dallas, TX
 2nd HM: Eva-Rae Rivera, Roycemore School, Evanston, IL
 3rd HM: Amy Yu, White Station Middle School, Memphis, TN
 4th HM: Ariella Weisman, Levine Academy, Dallas, TX

5th HM: Anne Schwenk, St. Thomas School, Philo, IL
 6th HM: Suvan Yerramilli, Falcon Creek Middle School, Aurora, CO
 7th HM: Henry Hobart, Falcon Creek Middle School, Aurora, CO

SENIOR DIVISION (Grades 9-12)

Judge: Jana Bouma, Madison Lake, MN
1st Place: Isabella Dail, The Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, NJ
 “hands”
2nd Place: Isabella Dail, The Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, NJ
 “Relics”
3rd Place: Isabella Dail, The Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, NJ
 “Our Age of Fitzgerald”
4th Place: Skyelar LeCounte, Germantown High School, Germantown, TN
 “I am STILL a Black Woman”
5th Place: Kara Puckett, Wheaton Warrenville South High School, Wheaton, IL
 “Hands”
 1st HM: Isabella Dail, The Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, NJ
 2nd HM, 3rd HM, 4th HM, 5th HM, and 6th HM:
 Trini Rogando, TJHSST, Alexandria, VA
 7th HM: Jade Garcia, Sullivan Central High, Blountville, TN

NFSPS MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS announced its 2021-2023 officers: President, John McPherson; Vice-President, Laura Bridges; Secretary, Frieda Patton; Treasurer, Dennis Patton; Historian, Renee Ramsey; Parliamentarian, Suzanne Rodas; Members at large — Marie Allison, Marilyn Joyner, and Fay Guinn. Member Laura Trigg was published in the February 2021 issue of *Delta Review*. You can read her poem at deltapoetryreview.com/2021feb-laura_trigg.html. After eight years, Pat Laster retired as general editor of *Calliope*. As editor she put together 32 poetry collections. Details at poetsroundtableofarkansas.org for contests, membership, and our quarterly *News ‘N’ Notes*. ~ Laura Bridges, Reporter

CALIFORNIA STATE POETRY SOCIETY will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022. We have yet to decide what format these commemorations should assume, but we are proud of the continuous publication of our journal, *California Quarterly*, known until 1999 as *CQ: California State Poetry Journal*. In the past year, CSPS continued publishing the quarterly journal and the *Poetry Letter*, with book reviews and poem reprints. We post information on our website and blog; we organize an Annual Poetry Contest and Monthly Poetry Contests. The *California Quarterly* features original artwork on the covers and work by about 50 poets in each issue of 68 pages. Recent changes to the CQ Editorial Board include departures of Editors Pearl Karrer, Nancy Covers Dougherty, Terry Ehret and Margaret Saine, whose past service is greatly appreciated. New members of the Editorial Board are: Bory Thach, Konrad Tademar Wilk, and Willam Scott Galasso. Ambika Talwar serves as CSPS Secretary while poet-musician Alice Pero is our Monthly Contest Judge. Georgia Jones-Davis agreed to

serve as the Annual Contest Judge this year. More information may be found on our website, californiastatepoetrysociety.org, our blog, californiastatepoetrysociety.com, and Facebook group, *California Quarterly*. ~ *Maja Trochimczyk, Ph.D., President*

GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY's Spring Quarterly Meeting was held virtually on Saturday, April 24, 2021. We welcomed former GPS President Sandy Hokanson, who read from her latest book, *The Surprising Language of Doves Held Up to the Light*. The winner of our inaugural Ron Self Chapbook Contest, former GPS VP Trish Percival, also read from her chapbook, *Awake with Low Slung Moon*. We say a sad farewell to GPS Board member, newsletter editor, and Bookstore Manager Ann Willis, who is returning to her native England. Our new newsletter editor is Laurie Jones (Newsletter@georgiapoetrysociety.org). The winners of the 2020 Fall Contests are posted online. ~ *Duanne Kaiser, Reporter*

ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY is discussing whether chapters will start meeting in libraries again. Zooming among some groups continues to be successful and has allowed members from far-away places to join for critiques. Further consideration of whether to have hybrid-style sessions is also ongoing. The fifteenth anniversary of the partnership between ISPS and the Brewed Awakening coffee shop was celebrated on Zoom and in person on May 30. It included student state Manningham winners reading their winning poems plus adult members who read the first year of this collaboration in Westmont. One of the highlights was an appearance of Illinois State Poet Laureate, Angela Jackson, who received an honorary membership and read some of her poetry. The twenty-eighth annual ISPS poetry contest is open for submissions from July 1 to October 31. Questions may be directed to the contest chair, jim@jimlambert.net. Our officers' two-year commitment ends on June 30, and the same four people were voted in for another term starting July 1. The board has been meeting very successfully with virtual gatherings, which has allowed for a quorum with members from various distant places in the state. Check our website, illinoispoets.org for ongoing announcements. ~ *Susan T. Moss, President*

POETRY SOCIETY OF INDIANA is preparing for our Annual Poetry Contest which runs from July 1st to September 1st. There are a total of 23 categories including a Memorial Award for our members who have passed. Contest brochures are available at poetrysocietyofindiana.org or by contacting Contest Director Chuck Kellum at crkellum@yahoo.com. Winners will be announced and celebrated during our Fall Rendezvous weekend of October 29 to 31. This event will be held via Zoom with registration forms available on our website. Included in our Fall Rendezvous agenda are presentations, our

Keynote Presenter (TBD), a writing workshop conducted by our very own Premier Poet, Sarah E. Morin, a celebration of our members' publications during this past year, and the creation of a collaborative poem with contributions by the participants to be published in our *Ink to Paper* anthology at the end of the year. We send congratulations to all PSI members who placed in the National Poetry Contest this summer. You make us proud carrying the Hoosier banner! ~ *Deborah Petersen, President*

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY chapters have not held in-person meetings yet due to library closures; however two chapters remain active: the Louise Bogan Chapter uses Zoom and the Waterfront CREW Poets Chapter uses email. North Shore Poets Forum Chapter will resume when the library reopens. The round robin mail critique continues from poet to poet. President Jeanette Maes presented several interesting articles in our newsletter, *The Bay State Echo*, noting the current interest in a new edition of T.S. Eliot's cat poetry book, *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, originally published in 1939. Also mentioned was N. Scott Momaday, the 2021 recipient of the Frost Medal for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement in Poetry. "Poems give life to my mind." (quote by Momaday). Winners of the 2021 Gertrude Dole Memorial Poetry Contest were: 1st Prize, Claire Scott from Oakland, CA; 2nd Prize, Steven Leitch from West Jordan, UT; and 3rd Prize, Erin Brighton from Scituate, MA. Our Annual Poet's Choice Contest deadline is 11/1/21. Contact MSPS Contest Chair Roberta Hung at 22 Salisbury Rd., Wakefield, MA 01880 for more information. ~ *Beverley Barnes, Reporter*

MAINE POETS SOCIETY will meet on Saturday, May 22, from 1-3 pm via Zoom. The Zoom link will be sent to members prior to that date. The members-only contest, with a 30-line limit and a submission deadline of April 22, will be a Persona Poem in which the poet assumes the perspective of an animal, plant, or inanimate object. Additional details are in our March newsletter and on mainepoetsociety.com. The judge will be Dennis Camire, who teaches writing at Central Maine Community College and at the University of Maine at Augusta. He will announce his top six choices: 3 for small cash prizes and 3 for honorable mentions. Dennis will also have an opportunity to read from his own work. His poems have appeared in *Poetry East*, *The Mid American Review*, *Spoon River Review*, *Hamilton Stone Review*, *Three Nations Anthology*, and on Maine Public Radio's "Poems from Here." His most recent book is *Combed by Crows* (Deerbrook Editions, 2017). An online poetry workshop will be offered to members Saturday, May 29. Details again are in the March issue of our newsletter and on our website. ~ *Sally Joy, Reporter*

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY: As pandemic restrictions ease, MPS groups are resuming regular activities. North Branch has scheduled a July 31st meeting at the Mississippi State University Library in Starkville. We congratulate Steve Robertson, who has had a book published: *Blooms of Oleander* (Liberty Hill Publishing, June 2021). It is available through Barnes and Noble and Amazon. This is Steve's fourth book, but his first book of poetry. We also congratulate Emory Jones of Iuka on having 20 poems published in the last three months. Central Branch held its first 2021 meeting at a local park on a chilly April afternoon. In May, Branch President Linda Owen and her husband hosted the group at their home in Brandon. Congratulations to Daniel Pickett whose first book of poetry, *A Separate Self: a collection of poetry*, was recently published. South Branch has continued creating collaborative poems via email and held its first in-person meeting in May. We're meeting in members' homes because the library meeting rooms remain closed. The June meeting had a Hawaiian theme with some tasty foods, awesome poetry and lots of fun. A state meeting is tentatively being planned in Natchez. ~ *Jeanne S. Kelly, MPS Secretary*

NEBRASKA POETRY SOCIETY is happy to have so much interest in our monthly virtual writing workshops that we are booked for the year and have other workshop teachers in line for next year. Attendance in our workshops continue to grow and attract people from all over the state. We are currently evaluating options for in-person retreats and conventions. As soon as we receive our 501c3 designation, our next projects will be poetry contests and publications. It was great meeting everyone at the National Convention! I was inspired by so many creative ideas for our group. ~ *Charlene Pierce, President*

NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY has continued to produce and share our monthly poetry challenge in the form of a newsletter and poetry collection. The health and safety of our small aging group has been the biggest concern during this pandemic. Over the years, our members have shown little interest in contests or social events other than the monthly NPS meeting. Hopefully now that everyone is vaccinated, we will resume physical meetings after the summer break. ~ *Phyllis Peacock, President*

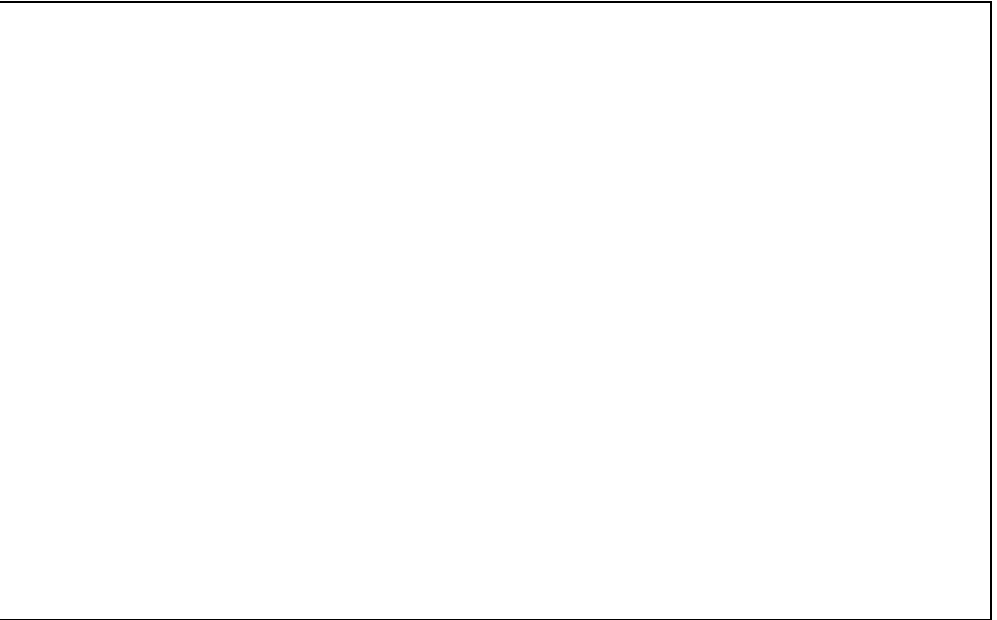
POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA was unable to have its annual July Workshop again this year due to the Pandemic. However, we did go ahead with our contests; winners will be announced and awarded prizes. As we celebrate National Poetry Month in Oklahoma City, our residents can now enjoy a new public art project bringing poetry to eight local parks. The project installs two poems sandblasted into park sidewalks. And, as we celebrated National Poetry Month in our state, Representative Jay Steagall honored (*continued on page 8*)

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famed cowboy entertainer Red Steagall with a citation from the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Steagall gave a short performance in the Capitol rotunda as part of National Poetry Month which was declared through House Resolution 1012 presented by Representative Tammy West, on April 1, 2021. PSO is looking ahead to autumn and celebrating National Poetry Day on October 1st with a meeting, luncheon, poetry reading and awards. We encourage all poets to enjoy, discover and share their poetry. This is also our annual election of officers. We invite everyone to check angelfire.com/poetry/ps/ and our Facebook page for current PSO information. As always, we welcome all to “Come and grow at PSO.” ~ *Patti Koch, President*

PENNSYLVANIA POETRY SOCIETY’S Spring Conference took place in May of this year, as did the PPS Spring Workshop and Poetry Reading. The annual PPS Poetry Contest took place in May with winning poets announced and presentation of the book of winning poems. Our members annual poetry anthology book is being distributed to participating members. PPS is planning a new poetry reading for the PPS 2021 anthology book presentation. We have hosted online poetry readings in April and May with more planned for the summer. The Collegiate Program Team is implementing ideas with schoolteachers and students. PPS has provided funds for prizes to Mad Poets for the “Young Voice Students” Poetry Contest in the Delaware County Schools. ~ *Emiliano Martín, President*

WYOPOETS has been a busy lately. In April we had our WyoPoets workshop in Gillette. It was two wonderful days of learning about and sharing poetry. There was an open mic and panel secessions as well as a main speaker. The workshop was about writing with the muses and the panel sessions were on “Poetic Voices” and “Selling Yourself and Your Poetry”. Now we are busy planning workshops for both 2021 and 2022. WyoPoets also has been hosting Zoom poetry reading sessions every month. Zoom is a great way to get together and share poetry with each other. It also has opened us up to having poets join from all over. We had one poet join us from India. We enjoy sharing poetry with everyone and we have members from other states as well. You can always join us or just check us out at WyoPoets.org. We would love to have you. ~ *Angel Mizner, Reporter*



President’s Message (continued from page 1)

Many people messaged me about how to get involved if they don’t feel they have the time to volunteer. I have several ideas:

- Send emails or even postcards to poets you know and encourage them to enter our annual manuscript and individual poetry contests
- Send your own winning poems on postcards—include a message on how to join your state society
- Start an email critique group
- Post a poem in your yard for the neighborhood to read
- Post a poem in your rear window—both sides!
- Wear an “Ask me to recite a poem” t-shirt
- At open mics and readings, talk about your state society
- Write letters to poets you know and encourage them to join your state society.

My point is, continue to do what you can. You are an important part of the future for both your state poetry society & NFSPS.

Your sister in words,

Julie Cummings, 34th NFSPS President

POETRY CONTESTS

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS
2021 ANNUAL CONTESTS.
Deadline: August 15, 2021 (postmarked). The brochure listing the contests, procedures and rules are at poetrysocietyoftexas.org.

MONTHLY POETRY CONTEST
Wilda Morris, former president of the Illinois State Poetry Society, posts a contest for other poets each month on her blog. New contests are posted the first of the month; deadline is the 15th of the month. No charge to enter. Previously published poems are okay, but not simultaneous submissions. Winning poems are published. See: wildamorris.blogspot.com.

CHAPARRAL POETRY CONTEST 2022

Interested poets can find details on how to enter the Adult Chaparral Contest at: redrockwriters.org. Submissions postmarked from Sept 1st to Dec 1st, 2021.

ENCORE PRIZE POEMS 2021

The anthology of 160 prize-winning poems awarded at the “Anywhere and Everywhere” virtual convention is available on amazon.com. The 2021 cover gives a nod to the Federation’s first “sky-borne” annual gathering of poets. All royalties from *Encore* sales support NFSPS. ~



Kathy Cotton, Encore Editor