

All –

Just a few reminders for everyone as we roll into the heat of summertime!

### Summer Notices!

PST's members-only, annual summer contest is due July 1. Please get those to Pete Harris, 1645 Faxon, Memphis, TN 38112. Remember that this is any/any, 40 lines max. Winners will be announced at a poetry reading/get together at JoAn's Howerton's house August 12 from 3-5 pm (2563 Twin Woods Cove, Memphis, TN 38134). Please bring several poems to read and appetizers to share. We still need contributions for prizes for this contest...remember this is NOT sponsored by a single individual but by ALL members. The more contributors, the larger the prizes. Get those contributions to Leslie Blakeburn, 1608 Tutwiler, Memphis, TN 38107.

JoAn is planning a poetry reading the first week in July. This is tentative, but the guest speaker will be Nathan Brown ([www.brownlines.com](http://www.brownlines.com)), the keynote speaker for the recent Lucidity Eureka Retreat. This will be very informal, and all are welcome to attend. Please set aside some time to come! A separate email will go out once JoAn has details.

### PST Contest and Festival News

I am attaching/enclosing the registration form for this year's PST Festival, which is October 5<sup>th</sup> (meet-and-greet potluck) and 6<sup>th</sup> (festival). Get this on your calendars, folks, and send in your registration form. Registration is totally separate from the contest! Note we have Jerri Hardesty coming to speak, and we have discounted rates for students...so spread the word to any young folks who might want to attend. We are at Southwest Community College, and there are many hotels in this area, so if you are traveling...plenty of places to stay.

I am also attaching/enclosing our contest brochure. We are less than 2 months from our deadline!!! I've started to see some entries roll in, but we should be writing/editing/polishing our poems. This is a great selection of contests to choose from! Be creative, and I look forward to having LOTS of envelopes in my mailbox!!! We do have a simplified fee structure this year, but note that contests #1 and #2 have separate fees, please. Keep that in mind as you're mailing in your submissions. Thanks!

We still need door prizes and help the day of the festival. Please get with JoAn (901-361-0077- joan0620@att.net) if you are able to volunteer.

### NFSPS Report

JoAn Howerton and Russell Strauss attended the NFSPS convention in Colorado this year. Convention news:

- President, JoAn Howerton, was installed as the Second Vice Chancellor. Our new officers elected are as follows:
- President, Julie Cummings, 1st Vice President, Paul Ford, 1nd Vice President: Charmaine Pappas Donovan, 4th Vice President, Steven Concert, Chancellor, Polly Opsahl, 1st Vice Chancellor, Shirley Blackwell, 2nd Vice Chancellor, JoAn Howerton, Treasurer, Lucille Morgan Wilson, Secretary, Linda Harris.
- **SAVE THE DATE!! "Diamonds Crown the Poet In the City Different", NFSPS 60th Anniversary Annual Convention. Sunday June 23rd through Wednesday, June 26th at the Hotel Santa Fe Hacienda and Saga Inn (2 hotels) Registration is now available at [NMSPS.org](http://NMSPS.org) and there is a link on the NFSPS.org website to the convention. You may already register at the hotel. The time is different because of the cost of hotels. One hotel, the Saga Inn is less expensive. Website: <http://nmpoetry.com/convention-nfspd-2019.shtml>**
- A more extensive report will be given at our September meeting for the Convention. I will say that you must attend one of the conventions to get the full effect of wonderful workshops, performance poetry to music, speakers who thrill you with their workshops until you are spellbound, excitement as the winners of the contests are announced, seeing old friends and making new ones, and the finale when the No. 1 winner is announced.
- Of special note,
  - On Thursday night Art Compost & the Word Mechanics performed, who have been delighting poetry audiences for more than 15 years. This musical-poetic ensemble, led by performance poet SETH, hosts a "Jam Before the Slam" every Sunday evening in Mercury Café in Denver.
  - Keynote speaker was Joseph Hutchinson, Poet Laureate of Colorado, 2014-2018, is the poetry winning author of 16<sup>th</sup> poetry collections.

- The Northern Chapter of the Columbine Poets, Columbine Poets of Colorado, Shavano Poets, Julie Cummings, our new President, amongst others I won't name, did an outstanding job at making this such a success. Updates can be found on the NFSPS.org website as well as winners of the 2018 contests.

Congratulations to all PST members who had winning poems/honorable mentions in the NFSPS contest in Colorado this year!!! The official winner's list is not out yet, but the unofficial list included Russell Strauss, Lori Goetz, Von Bourland, Sara Gipson, Barbara Blanks, Ann Carolyn Cates, Gail Denham. If you've won/earned honorable mention and I didn't see you on the list, let me know and I'll include you in the next news update!!!

**Winner of the May 2018 Contest**

Finally, the winner of the May contest (the dorsimbra, sponsored by Sarah Hull Gurley) was Janet Qually, titled "Unsettled".

Thanks to all — looking forward to seeing everyone's next submissions.

- Lori