

Happy May Everyone!

PST-West Tennessee met briefly via Zoom on Saturday 5/2 to conduct end-of year business. Welcome to the new 2020-2021 Board:

President	Lori Goetz
Vice President	William Hill
Treasurer	Janet Qually
Corresponding Secretary	Elizabeth Shelley
Director	Russell Strauss
Director	Ann Carolyn Cates

PST-NE has also completed their elections, with their officers and leadership teams:

President	Calvin Ross
Vice President - Programs	Jerry Buchanan
Vice President – Communication	Lisa Kamolnick
Website	J. Michael Ramey
Facebook	Lisa Kamolnick and Team
Publicity & Newsletter	Matthew Gilbert
Meetings/Activities	Lisa Kamolnick & Alice Zhang
PST Liaison/Contests	Rose Klix
Student Outreach	Emily Williams
Treasurer	Howard Carman
Secretary	Margaret LoBue

We are still waiting to hear the results of the PST-Knoxville elections. Congratulations all, and best of luck for the next year! We're all facing quite the challenge with COVID-19!

Chapter meetings and poetry readings will resume when/if local health department regulations allow. Email/website/Facebook posts will be your best source of information for each chapter!

Winners of the May Members-Only Contest

Sponsor: Howard Carman Jr., Subject: Science, Form: Rhymed

- 1st Place, Pamela Watson, Hendersonville, TN, <<No Title on Poem>> A shout out to Pamela — she's a new member from Middle Tennessee!!
- 2nd Place, Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX "The Slithery Lamprey"
- 3rd Place, Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN, "Nylon"
- 1 HM, Sara Gipson, Scott, AR, "Oxygen Source"
- 2HM, Lori Goetz, Germantown, TN, "When the Virus is King"

Summer Contests

While the West Tennessee chapter takes a hiatus from regular meetings during June and July, we typically sponsor an annual summer contest. However, during this year of COVID-19, we are sponsoring three monthly contests for our members to keep everyone inspired:

- June -- Pandemics, any form, 40 lines max
- July -- "Of thee I sing...", any form, 40 lines max
- August -- Road Trip: my favorite vacation, any form, 40 lines max

Send all entries to the Monthly Contest Chair: Ann Carolyn Cates, 7471 Greenbrook Pkwy, Southaven, MS 38671 by the 15th of the preceding month (5/15, 6/15, and 7/15, respectively). Good luck!

If anyone would like to contribute to the awards for these contests, please send a check to Janet Qually, 4030 Summer Ave #15, Memphis, TN 38122. Stipulate "summer contests" in your check's notes.

64th Annual Festival/Contest Brochure

The 64th Annual Poetry Festival is being planned now, but the Contest Brochure is posted! See attached! Share it with your friends, and start writing some poems! All contest entries are due August 10, 2020! Many, many thanks to all our sponsors! A reminder that the 64th Annual Poetry Festival and Contest is open to both members and non-members!

New for this year! A Young Adult contest! Ages 16-23, please check out Contest #8, "Social issues facing youths in 2020!"

ONLINE ZOOM POETRY READING, Thursday 5/21, 7:00-7:30-ish. This is State-wide, regardless of local closures. Please contact Lori Goetz (plmegoetz@bellsouth.net) if you are interested in participating. She will send you Zoom meeting ID information. Note – given the high demand for Zoom meetings at this time, you will need to join via computer or via the Zoom app on your tablet or smartphone; we will not have telephone (dial-up) capabilities. Please make sure your device has a microphone. If you have both camera and microphone, we will be video-enabled. We will start the readings right at 7:00, plan on a maximum 2-3 minutes per person please. Let me know if you plan to read, or if you will just be listening. We can take 10-15 readers.

REMINDERS:

- (1) Please return your **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** form and checks to your respective chapters. Form is attached. I know it's a pain-in-the-neck to be administrative, but there is a whole paperwork side to PST that we really try to minimize. However, we need to report on membership to Nationals; we also need to provide annual reports to the state to keep our non-profit status. Your prompt assistance when we send out requests really helps us manage the administrative issues better. **PLEASE SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM TO YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER TREASURER!!! AT-LARGE MEMBERS, SEND TO JANET QUALLY AT WEST-TENNESSEE.**
- (2) If you are interested in submitting **PATRON POEMS**, for inclusion in our annual anthology, *Tennessee Voices*, now is the time to do it. For \$15, patrons can submit up to 3 poems. Our selection committee will select one poem for inclusion in the anthology. Patrons will receive two additional copies of the anthology. **NEW SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2020:**
 - Each patron poem can be no longer than 40 lines
 - Patron poems must be submitted as a Word or PDF file
 - Each patron poem must have poet's ID in the upper right corner
 - Upper left corner, please indicate "Patron Poem Submission"

NEW SUBMISSION DATE: Email all patron poems to Lori Goetz (plmegoetz@bellsouth.net) no later than May 30, and she will forward them on to the patron poem selection committee. Checks are to be sent to Janet Qually, 4030 Summer Ave #15, Memphis, TN 38122. Stipulate "patron poem" in your check's notes.

- (3) Call for **SPONSORSHIPS** — we need sponsors for monthly members' only contests for 2020/2021. Sponsors will be needed in the following months: March, April, May. Please select your subject/form/line limit and contest amounts. Let Lori know your contest information, and send your contest funds to Janet Qually, 4030 Summer Ave #15, Memphis, TN 38122. Stipulate "monthly contests" in your check's notes.

Winners of the May Members-Only Contest

Sponsor: Howard Carman Jr., Subject: Science, Form: Rhymed

- 1st Place, Pamela Watson, Hendersonville, TN, <<No Title on Poem>> New Member!!
- 2nd Place, Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX "The Slithery Lamprey"
- 3rd Place, Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN, "Nylon"
- 1 HM, Sara Gipson, Scott, AR, "Oxygen Source"
- 2HM, Lori Goetz, Germantown, TN, "When the Virus is King"