

Hello, Everyone,  
We have several announcements:

### **Student Contest Winners**

Congratulations to all of our student contest entrants and winners! A huge thank you to Frances Cowden, for coordinating our Student Contest, and to our judges (Russell Strauss, Whitney Brinkley Wright). We had an amazing number of entries from across the state (Memphis, Lebanon, Mt. Juliet, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Blountville, Germantown, Collierville); we would love to see this list expand! Please spread the word — we will be posting the next Student Contest in July/August. A winner's list has been posted on our website, [www.poetrytennessee.org](http://www.poetrytennessee.org).

### **Tennessee Resident Challenge**

Janet Qually announced the winner of her March Tennessee Resident Challenge, based on the image at right. The winner was PST-Knoxville member Wesley Sims, from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, with his poem, "Shadowbox of Night." Wesley's poem will be included in our anthology, *Tennessee Voices*.



### **\*\*\*\*Festival Contest Sponsorships**

The deadline for Festival Contest Sponsorships has been extended to 4/15. Please return your sponsorship (form attached) to Lori Goetz ASAP ([poetrytennessee@gmail.com](mailto:poetrytennessee@gmail.com), 2153 Wood Creek Dr, Germantown, TN 38138). If you are mailing your sponsorship, please email her and let her know it's coming (USPS is late with several already). If you are sponsoring a contest, please include your check! We need to know:

- a subject or a form
- a line limit
- an award amount 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> (usually \$15/\$10/\$5 or \$25/\$15/\$10, but you can determine what you want to award – some are more, some are less)

If you (as sponsor) will be the judge, fantastic! If you are not willing or able to judge, let Lori know. We can coordinate a judge for you.

### **Membership**

It is time to renew your membership for 2021/2022. A form is attached, and you can also find them on our website, [www.poetrytennessee.org](http://www.poetrytennessee.org). Please return the membership form (and your dues) no later than May 1. If you are an honorary/lifetime member, please complete a form (or email us) to update all contact information. Please return.

### **May Members Only Contest:**

The contest for May is sponsored by Howard Carman, Jr. Subject: Any, Form: Petrarchan Sonnet, Lines 14. Postmark by April 15<sup>th</sup> and mail to Ann Carolyn Cates, 7471 Greenbrook Pkwy, Southaven, MS 38671.

### **2021-22 Members-Only Contests**

We need additional sponsors for 2021/2022 Monthly, Members-Only Contests. We will have nine members-only contests next year; we currently have four sponsors. Reminder that monthly contests will begin in June! Please consider sponsoring a contest. This is a great way to “start” sponsoring and judging...there are usually only 10-15 poems in each contest. We need:

- a subject or a form
- a line limit
- an award amount 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> (usually \$15/\$10/\$5 or \$25/\$15/\$10, but you can determine what you want to award)

Ann Carolyn Cates (our contest coordinator) will send you the poems around the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for judging; select the winners and provide her with the winning titles. She will then coordinate the rest with the treasurer and make sure that the winners are announced. We need to have all Members-Only Contests finalized by May 1. Please send your sponsorship (with check) to Lori Goetz ([poetrytennessee@gmail.com](mailto:poetrytennessee@gmail.com), 2153 Wood Creek Dr, Germantown, TN 38138). If you are mailing your sponsorship, please email her and let her know it's coming (USPS is late with several already)

### **NFSPS Convention**

NFSPS is having its annual convention virtually June 10-13. Click this link <https://www.nfspd.com/2021ConventionRegistration.pdf> for festival registration information. Russell Strauss suggests this is a great way for anyone who can't travel to participate in NFSPS' annual convention. Note there will be multiple workshops available on the weekend (June 12 and 13).

### **April and May Readings**

Join us for poetry readings on the following Thursday evenings, 7 pm. Bring poetry to share.

- April 15
- May 13

Join with Google Meet <https://meet.google.com/mcq-oovg-bdj>. \*The same link and password has been set for all of the readings!!!

### **May PST-WT Meeting (5/1, 2 pm)**

Join us for our May 1 PST-WT meeting! We will have a special speaker, Tracy Crump (who is friends with our own dear William Hill). Tracy does all kinds of workshops on publishing. She focuses mainly on prose, but can give us some thoughts on getting poetry published in anthologies, etc. Her website can be found at <https://www.tracycrump.com/>. This past week, she published a great newsletter about writing poems based in scripture. We're including that as an attachment.

Our Google Meet link for this meeting is: <https://meet.google.com/jsx-rzpk-tbs>. All are welcome!

### **Special Contest Announcement and Request**

We need contributors for a West Tennessee-sponsored contest which will be in the memory of John Pell and Mark Blakeburn. If you would like to contribute (or there is someone else you would like to remember from this past year), please send your contribution and the name to Lori Goetz no later than 3/15.

### **Congratulations to Our New Slate of Officers!!**

The ballots have been counted and our new officers for the coming membership year are as follows:

President: William Hill

Treasurer: Lori Goetz

Corresponding Secretary: Ruby Jones

And a special thanks to Lori Goetz, who has done an **outstanding** job as our President this past year.

Elizabeth Shelley

Corresponding Secretary

Poetry Society of Tennessee West Chapter