

June News PST

Greetings, Everyone.

I want to remind you again of a few important things coming up for all PST members and also announce the winners of the June Summer Contest

### **Summer Contests**

Even though the West Tennessee chapter will not be holding regular meetings during June and July, we typically sponsor an annual summer contest. This summer instead of sponsoring our usual single contest, we are sponsoring three monthly contests for our members to keep everyone inspired during the COVID-19 epidemic. The contests remaining are as follows:

\*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](mailto:7471.Greenbrook.Pkwy.Southaven,MS38671) by the 15th of the preceding month [6/15](#), and [7/15](#), respectively.

This leaves approximately 2 weeks to complete and postmark a very challenging poem for July. Good luck to you!

Some reminders regarding the contests:

Please make sure your poems are mailed with enough time to meet the deadline. Lately, we have received several entries WAY past the deadline (up to 12+ days!!!), after poems have been sent to judges and judging completed. The deadlines are set so the Contest Coordinator can do just that: coordinate with judges all over the country. That takes time.

\*Please note we DO NOT ACCEPT ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS.

### **June Poetry Reading**

We will hold a PST-wide Zoom poetry reading on Thursday, June 11th, 7 pm central time. Conference call information is below. Note - you do not need to RSVP for this Zoom reading. Please bring 1 or 2 poems to share. The reading will last about 40 minutes.

Topic: PST Poetry Reading

Time: Jun 11, 2020, 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79250191825?pwd=eXhRRUpwbHdnaytJYysvenR2b3RyUT09>

Meeting ID: 792 5019 1825

Password: 6SsQVZ

### **2020/2021 Members-Only Contests**

We are trying to finalize our sponsors and contests for 2020/2021 and we need one more sponsor for either April or May 2021. Please let Lori Goetz ([plmeqoetz@bellsouth.net](mailto:plmeqoetz@bellsouth.net)) know if you'd like to sponsor.

### **64th Annual Festival/Contest Brochure**

The 64th. Annual Poetry Festival and Contest Brochure is posted! I will forward you the attachment in a separate email to follow. All contest entries are due August 10, 2020. Many, many thanks to all our sponsors!!

The 64th Annual Poetry festival and Contest is open to both members and non-members, so please share information with friends or anyone you think would be interested, and get busy writing!!

**New for this year! A Young Adult contest! Ages 16-23, please check out Contest #8, "Social Issues Facing Youths in 2020!"**

## News from PST - NE

PST Northeast is off to a great start with its new Board of enthusiastic officers. The leadership team is busy pivoting its meetings to online venues during this time of social distancing. Zoom meetings are projected to begin June 27 on the regularly scheduled fourth Saturday of the month. The first Zoom sessions with the outside presenters will start July 25 with Heidi Ehle and Charles Jones, the Troubadours, who'll perform and discuss putting lyrical poetry to music. On August 22, highly acclaimed Larry Thacker, whose poetry appears in over 170 publications, will speak on "Finding the Elements of Writing."

June Contest Winners: Pandemic, any form, 40 lines max  
Sponsored by PST, Judged by MPS poet Linda Treat.

Checks go to:

1st Place            Ann Carolyn Cates, Southaven MS "Homeland in Pandemic"  
2nd Place                        Russell Strauss    Memphis TN.        "No Man's Land, 2020"  
3rd Place            Sara Gipson.        Scott AR                "The 2020 Coronavirus Pandemic"

Certificates go to:

Honorable Mentions:

1 Hon Men.        Barbara Blanks, Garland TX "The Infection"  
2 Hon. Men.        Gaill Denham,    Sunriver OR        "Prison Walls"  
3 Hon Men.        William G. Hill.    Southaven MS.    "Pandemic Limerick"

Congratulations!!

Elizabeth Shelley, Corresponding Secretary, PST West