

Executive Committee Meeting 2/11/2021

News Summary

The following news summary is from the Executive Committee of the Poetry Society of Tennessee (PST), representing all three Chapters in state-wide activities.

- PST is in the middle of revision of its Constitution and Bylaws. While this is underway, we are proceeding with our primary change: integrating leadership of the three chapters in an Executive Committee. We will slowly be rolling out changes in communications, PST-wide committee operations, etc. to improve how PST operates for membership across the state. We will keep everyone informed regarding the Constitution and Bylaw revision; we are currently registered to get pro bono legal support from an organization in Nashville.
- We will be announcing state wide information, from now on, through Chapter Corresponding Secretaries, rather than sending information through PST-West Tennessee. Please pay attention to Executive Committee news for information regarding Festival, the Festival Contest, the Members-Only Contest, the Anthology, and other state-administered PST committees.
- One of our first changes will be to modify the deadlines for Monthly, Members-Only Contests for the 2021/2022 year, due to overlapping deadlines (NFSPS, PST's Festival Contest, etc.). We will still have 9 contests per year, but just on a different schedule. The new schedule will go into effect with our new membership year, beginning in May 2021. We will begin soliciting sponsorships for Monthly, Members-Only Contests in April!

Month	Contest Due Date
May	No contest
June	May 15
July	June 15
August	July 15
September	No contest
October	September 15
November	October 15
December	November 15
January	December 15
February	January 15
March	February 15
April	No contest

- The Executive Committee has agreed that announcement of Monthly Members-Only Contest winners will now be emailed through Chapter Corresponding Secretaries, rather than through PST-West Tennessee.
- Members are invited to attend PST-West Tennessee's April 3, 2021 meeting, at which winners of the Student Contest will be announced. We had student entries from across Tennessee this year. We would like to have representatives from all three Chapters present at this meeting.
- The Executive Committee has evaluated dues for 2021/2022, and they will remain \$25 while the Executive Committee evaluates finances (both during and post-COVID).
- After significant financial and logistical review by the Anthology Task Force, the PST anthology, *Tennessee Voices*, will shift to a self-published format beginning with the 2021/2022 year. We have made this decision for several reasons, primarily the excessive costs of using an external publisher, and the freedom it provides in designing and producing our own anthology. Therefore, if you are interested in joining the Editorial Board and learning more about self publishing, please contact Rose Klix, Howard Carman, Matthew Gilbert, or Janet Qually. Several important items to note:

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1. For the 2020/2021 membership year (which ends in May 2021), you will still receive an anthology as part of your dues.
2. For the 2021/2022 membership year, the anthology will no longer be part of your dues; you will have the opportunity to order the anthology (if you wish to receive it).
3. Beginning with the 2020/2021 year, we will be initiating a three levels of PST Patron, which will be honored in the anthology:

Level	Minimum Donation	Business Website Listing in Anthology	Author Website Listing in Anthology	Additional Copy of Anthology	Listing in Anthology as Patron
Platinum	\$50	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gold	\$25	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Silver	\$15	No	No	No	Yes

- The Executive Committee wants to announce the start of Festival Contest Sponsorships. Festival Contest brochures will be published in April/May, therefore we need to have all sponsorships submitted by end of March. If you would like to sponsor a contest, please complete the attached sponsorship form and return to Lori Goetz no later than 3/30/2021.
- The Executive Committee is also soliciting volunteers to support the Festival Contest. Volunteers are needed for the following positions:
 - Contest Coordinator (timeline/commitment – March-October)
 - Brochure design (timeline/commitment – late March/early April)
 - Rules review committee (timeline/commitment – March)
 - Publicity (timeline/commitment – periodic, May-August)
 - Poem Manager (timeline/commitment – May-September)
 - Certificate Support (timeline/commitment – September/October)

Not sure you have a lot of time? Volunteer for one of the short term support positions! Everyone can help! Contact Lori Goetz (poetrytennessee@gmail.com) if you can help.

PST MEMBERS-ONLY CONTEST SCHEDULE:

April 2021

Sponsor: PST NE
Subject: Any
Form: Any
Lines: 40 max

May 2021

Sponsor: Howard Carman, Jr.
Subject: Any
Form: Petrarchan Sonnet
Lines: 14

Send entries to PST Monthly Contest Chair: Ann Carolyn Cates, 7471 Greenbrook Pkwy, Southaven, MS 38671. Further details on format etc. can be found at <http://www.poetrytennessee.org/contests>.

Thank you for your continued support of PST! Be well! Write poetry!

PST Executive Committee

PST-Knoxville (Sharon Fox, Greer Fox)
PST-Northeast (Rose Klix, Howard Carman, Jr.)
PST-West Tennessee (Lori Goetz, William Hill)