

Newsletter

January 2026



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Saturday, January 17th

Happy New Year!

Monthly Meeting

In person at Windwood Presbyterian Church
10555 Spring-Cypress Rd. Room A128
Houston, TX 77070
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
and on ZOOM

Meeting ID: 841 9294 4142

Passcode: 292114

Did you submit poems to the Poetry Society of Texas Annual Contest in 2025? All who did are invited to read - up to five minutes - from their entries. Please take care not to go over your five minutes so that everyone gets a chance to read. If there's time, we can go around the room again!

February Sneak Peek!

The topic for this February's meeting is sonnets. You can bring one or two, but if you bring two, you're encouraged to write them using two different sonnet forms. There are many online articles about the types of sonnets, but here is one that lists eight types - <https://blog.prepscholar.com/types-of-sonnets>.

Poets Northwest News

Congratulations to Our 2026 Board

Our elected Officers (Executive Board) and Appointees remain the same for 2026, with Lynn Roberts Grice assuming the position of Secretary along with all her other responsibilities. Thank you to everyone for helping Poets Northwest thrive!

2026 Dues are Due! (Not sure why I said "2025" last time!*)

You may bring them to the January 17 meeting, mail them to Lynn Grice, or pay by Zelle.

A 2026 Membership form is included with this Newsletter (see last page - separated from the newsletter for easier printing for those receiving this as a PDF).

* Probably a copy/paste error. Happy New Year! 😊

Upcoming Events of Interest

Poetry at Round Top will be held on April 17-19, 2026, and registration opens February 16. Poetry at Round Top features readings and panel discussions with exciting established and emerging poets; small-group workshops led by experienced poets to explore and generate new work; open mics for everyone; 1-on-1 consultations with an accomplished poet to discuss your work, and more.

See <https://poetryatroundtop.org/> for more details.

Connect with Us on Social Media!

www.poetsnw.com

facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest

[@HoustonPoets](https://twitter.com/HoustonPoets) on X (aka, Twitter)

[@PoetsNorthwest](https://instagram.com/PoetsNorthwest) on Instagram

poetsnorthwest.bsky.social on Bluesky

The Mission of Poets Northwest

Founded in 1986, by Susan Daubenspeck, Betty Kersh and Claire Ottenstein-Ross, our main objective is to facilitate and inspire poets to write more poetry. We provide information about current poetry contests, feature guest poets on a regular basis, study the masters of creative verse, and encourage members. Poets are also encouraged to read their poems at each meeting. Membership is \$15 annually (Jan-Dec) & \$7 for 12 & under. Meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10 AM to noon at the Windwood Presbyterian Church, 10555 Spring Cypress., Houston, TX 77070, and on ZOOM.

Poetry Society of Texas

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. January is dedicated to our Memorial Program and to our annual Poem-a-Thon. Please watch for an email from PST with a Zoom link and more information, and plan to come share your poems.

NFSPS

The 2026 National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) Annual Convention and BlackBerry Peach SLAM will take place in Overland Park, Kansas, and will be co-hosted by NFSPS and the Sunflower Poets of Kansas! Check NFSPS.net for updates. In the meantime, now's a great time to prepare for upcoming opportunities available at NFSPS. Submittable.com/submit

- BlackBerry Peach Spoken and Written Word Contest Submission window: January 1 – March 15
- Annual NFSPS Poetry Contests Submission window: January 1 – March 15



Poetry Society of Texas News & Information

All members of Poets Northwest are encouraged to join the Poetry Society of Texas (PST). The most recent copy of “The Bulletin” is posted on the PST website.

Dues are only \$25/year (\$30 for Associate Members, \$12.50 for students). The year runs July–June, and you must be paid up before entering any members-only contests! The PST Annual Contest and Awards Banquet, Summer Conference, and “The Bulletin” will keep you in contact with other Texas poets and offer opportunities you won’t want to miss. Your membership also includes a copy of the PST anthology, “A Book of the Year.” Membership in PST also means that you are a member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) and eligible for their annual contest.

Go to www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org and nfsp.net for more information.

Membership form on the next page.

Make checks payable to POETS NORTHWEST

Regular Membership \$15

2026 POETS NORTHWEST MEMBERSHIP

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/ST/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

I want my Newsletter by:

E-Mail ___

Mail ___

\$15 Dues Paid Cash ___ Check # _____ Zelle ___

Make checks payable to Poets Northwest

Mail completed form/check to:

Lynn Grice, 9611 Magnolia Ridge Dr, Houston, TX 77070

Or, pay by Zelle to poetsnorthwesttx@gmail.com

If paying by Zelle, please note that it is for a new / renewal membership, and email any change of contact information to Lynn Grice.