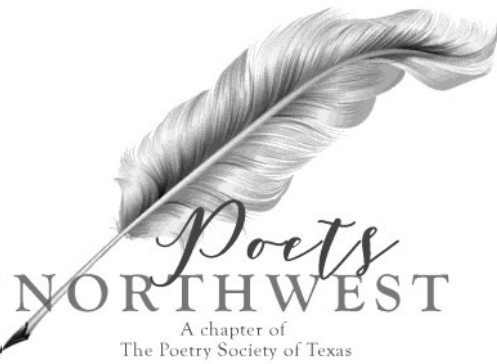


# Newsletter



January 2024

## Poets Northwest Board Members

*Mary Creviere Turner*

President  
281.731.1655

*Stephen Schwei*

Vice President  
Program Chair  
262.784.4022

*Lynn Roberts Grice*

Treasurer  
Membership  
Events Coordinator  
Fundraising  
Historian  
713.249.5935

*Holly Jahangiri*

Secretary  
Newsletter  
Publicity  
281.435.4413

*Eric Blanchard*

Judge  
832.368.7272

*Karen Mastracchio*

Webmaster



## Saturday February 17, 2024

In person at **Windwood Presbyterian Church**

10555 Spring-Cypress Rd., Room A128

Houston, TX 77070

and on ZOOM

Meeting ID. 890 2615 9743 Passcode. 065646

**10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**

At the February meeting, bring a ballad (<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learn/glossary-terms/ballad>) or the more stringent form, ballade (<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learn/glossary-terms/ballade>) to share. This year's NFSPS contest # 6 asks for a ballade, so here's your chance to attempt one. See [https://www.nfspd.com/poetry\\_contests.htm](https://www.nfspd.com/poetry_contests.htm)

## Read-Around

Everyone is invited to read 1 or 2 original poems (no longer than one page each)

February Door Prize provided by – Mike Owens

# Poets Northwest News

## 2024 Dues are Due!

You may bring your 2024 dues to the February 17 meeting, or send them to Lynn Grice by check or Zelle payment. A 2024 Membership form was included with the January Newsletter.

## Door Prize Donors Needed!

Door prize donors are still needed for March, April, June, July, August, October, and November. Please contact Lynn Grice or sign up at the meeting.

## Poets Northwest 37th Annual Spring Fling Contest

The Category List will be sent out by Lynn Grice as soon as it is finalized. Postmark deadline to enter is March 22, 2024. Members may enter all categories for a single \$5 entry fee. Non-members may enter for a \$5/category entry fee, **OR** send \$15 dues plus a single \$5 entry fee to cover entry into all categories.

## Spring Fling Silent Auction

This year we're reviving the Silent Auction during our Spring Fling. If you would like to donate a gently used or new item, please contact Lynn Grice, Events Coordinator (texaspoet53@hotmail.com or 713-249-5935) with the following information: Item name & description, approximate value if known, your name, and whether you will be bringing it with you to Spring Fling, or to Lynn before then. Please let her know between now and before May 15.

Thanks so much for considering a donation.

## Member News

- **Holly Jahangiri** has been named Webmaster and a Poetry Councilor-at-Large for the Poetry Society of Texas.

If you have any publishing or personal (illness, death, marriage, baby etc.) news you would like to share, please e-mail it to Holly Jahangiri at [poetsnw.news@gmail.com](mailto:poetsnw.news@gmail.com) by the 1st of each month. **Please specify whether you would like this news shared privately with current club members or in the newsletter and on social media.** The newsletter is typically posted on our website and good news may be shared on social media unless you request that it not be.

### Connect with Us on Social Media!

[www.poetsnw.com](http://www.poetsnw.com)  
[facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest](https://facebook.com/PoetsNorthwest)  
[@HoustonPoets](#) on X (aka, Twitter)  
[@PoetsNorthwest](#) on Instagram

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from 10 AM to noon at the Windwood Presbyterian Church, 10555 Spring Cypress., Houston, TX 77070, and on ZOOM.

It's too late to join **The Stafford Challenge**, if you haven't done so. But you may find Kim Stafford's "[Writing as Ritual: Four elements of a daily writing page...](https://www.kimstaffordpoet.com/writing-as-ritual)" useful: <https://www.kimstaffordpoet.com/writing-as-ritual>

## 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 (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](http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org) and [nfsp.com](http://nfsp.com) for more information.

## National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS)

Contest deadlines are fast approaching! See The latest issue of Strophes is now available at <https://nfsp.com/Strophes2024-Jan.pdf>

NFSPS is looking for poets to take on leadership roles within the organization. Please consider volunteering! The people currently holding these roles will be thrilled to mentor you.

## Upcoming Contests and Challenges

Poetry Society of Texas offers two free-to-enter monthly contests for PST members:

- **General Contest** – 28 Line limit, any subject, any form. The General Contest is judged by a Critic Judge, who is selected by the Monthly Contest Chairman. The Critic Judge selects the winners of the Critic's Award. 1st place (\$25), 2nd place (\$9), 3rd place (\$5), and ten unranked additional poems to be read for audience vote in the regular meeting.

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- **Laugh Lines Contest** – For the best humorous poem, 16-line limit, \$7.50 award. The previous winner judges the Contest.

See <https://poetrysocietyoftexas.org/contests/monthly-contests/> for eligibility and entry rules.

#### **The William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest, 2024**

The contest honors the late Fort Worth poet William D. Barney, one of the most distinguished poets Fort Worth and Texas has produced, a former member of FWPS, and past president of the Poetry Society of Texas. Barney won the national Robert Frost Award in 1961 and was Texas Poet Laureate in 1982-83.

The winner will receive \$50 plus 10 free copies of the published chapbook. Deadline: March 1, 2024.

The **Poetry Society of Texas Student Awards 2024** are now open for submissions. Please encourage any young poets you know to enter if they're eligible! Rules and instructions for the 17 contests in the contest are now posted at <https://poetrysocietyoftexas.org/contests/student-contests/>.

#### **National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) - open and approaching contest deadlines:**

- **College Undergraduate Poetry Competition** Submission Period: December 1, 2023 – January 31, 2024
- **BlackBerry Peach (Spoken and Written Word)** Submission Period: January 1, 2024 – March 15, 2024
- **Annual Contest** Submission Period: January 1, 2024 – March 15, 2024

For more information and entry rules, see <https://nfsp.com/contests.html>



See [https://www.nfsp.com/State Contests.html](https://www.nfsp.com/State%20Contests.html) for State Poetry Societies that have contests open to all.



You will find many publishing opportunities through **Submittable** (<https://manager.submittable.com/login>) and **Duotrope** (<https://duotrope.com/>)