

POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS
NATIONAL POETRY DAY CELEBRATION
LITTLE ROCK, AR
OCTOBER 13, 2018

WINNERS' LIST
Submitted by Marie Allison, Contest Chair, 2018

OVERALL RESULTS: A total of 725 poems were entered in 26 contests, the least number being 11; the most, 44. Forty-nine poets participated: AR= 30; OK = 2; AL= 2; MS= 1; MN= 1; MO= 2; TX= 3; TN= 2; OR= 1; IL= 2; LA= 1; Ontario, Canada= 2.

26. Baker Nichols Award -- Chair: Freeda Baker Nichols -- Judge: Freeda Baker Nichols of Clinton, AR -- 11 entries.

3HM -- "My Country 'Tis of Thee" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada
2HM -- "Americans Speak Soul and Heart" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR
1HM -- "Loving the American Dream" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
3rd -- "Each Time the Flag Unfurls" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK
2nd -- "Greatness of America" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
1st -- "I Love Her Most for This" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR

25. Betty Heidelberger Memorial Award -- Chair -- Anna Noack; Judge: Jo McDougall of Little Rock, AR -- 42 entries.

3HM -- "Uncomfortable" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR
2HM -- "Killer" -- Dargan Ware -- Birmingham, AL
1HM -- "Advice to Insomniac Witches" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
3rd -- "Places in 5" -- Nick Sweet -- Shepherd, TX
2nd -- "Alone: Tuesday" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR
1st -- "Dedication" -- Beth Staas - Oak Brook, IL

24. Florence Gibbs Memorial -- Chair: Anna Noack -- Judge: Liz Faulkner of Little Rock, AR -- 40 entries.

3HM -- "Mound Builder" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
2HM -- "Weaving a Nursery Poem" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX

1HM -- "A Poet's Prayer" -- Beth Staas -- Oak Brook, IL
3rd -- "Bones of Nikumarora" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada
2nd -- "To Live in Terror" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK
1st -- "Mama's Back Porch" -- Marilyn Joyner -- El Dorado, AR

23. Two Rivers Poets of Ft. Smith Award -- Chairs: Mary and Kitty Sangster --
Judges : Mary and Kitty Sangster of Fort Smith, AR-- 40 entries.

3HM -- "Out of Africa" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada
2HM -- "Lake at Dawn" -- Lori Anne Goetz -- Germantown, TN
1HM -- "Stay the Course" -- Gail Denham -- Sunriver, OR
3rd -- "A Little Night Music" -- Fay Guinn -- Jonesboro, AR
2nd -- "Night-time Magic" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada
1st -- "Sandpiper" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

22. Crowson Award -- Chair: Don Crowson; Judge: Don Crowson of Benton,
AR -- 36 entries.

3HM -- "Adventure Seeker" -- Laura Bridges, North Little Rock, AR
2HM -- "Voyage" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada
1HM -- "Captive Audience" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
3rd -- "Introduction to Miracles" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR
2nd -- "The Home Place" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR
1st -- "Where the Pearl River Flows" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

21. Saline County Branch -- Chair: Saline County Poets; Judge: Linda
Woodbury of Hot Springs, AR -- 41 entries.

3HM -- "Killing the Dandelions" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR
2HM -- "Hallowed Ground: Ticonderoga" -- Lori Anne Goetz -- Germantown, TN
1HM -- "Overwhelmed" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
3rd -- "Impaired Hoover and the Invasion of the Muck Hares" -- Terrie Jacks --
Ballwin, MO
2nd -- "Decent/Descent" -- Nick Sweet -- Shepherd, TX
1st -- "Edith's Angel Way" -- Dr. John Crawford -- Arkadelphia, AR

20. That's Life Award -- Chair: Laura Bridges; Judge: Laura Bridges of North
Little Rock, AR -- 24 entries.

3HM -- "Empty Chairs Like Empty Cups" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR
2HM -- "Surprise at the Elevator" -- Fay Guinn -- Jonesboro, AR
1HM -- "To You, The Powerless Commit" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK
3rd -- "Taking another look at humanity" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "The Fallen Lamb" -- Gail Denham -- Sunriver, OR
1st -- "A Kind Moment" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR

19. South Arkansas Poets of the Pines Poetry Award -- Chair: SAPOP; Judge: Members of SAPOP of El Dorado, AR -- 24 entries.

3HM -- "one-note twangs" -- Lori Anne Goetz -- Germantown, TN
2HM -- "Over the Edge" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada
1HM -- "Sorry for Myself" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR
3rd -- "Celebrating the Blues" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
2nd -- "And the River Rolls In" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR
1st -- "Blues Singer" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR

18. Marie Barton & Teresa Dixon Memorial -- Chair: Jim Barton; Judge: Mark Barton of El Dorado, AR -- 28 entries.

3HM -- "Open to Change" -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR
2HM -- "Say What?" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR
1HM -- "Plain and Simple" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
3rd -- "All the right words" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "The Cobbler" -- Nick Sweet -- Shepherd, TX
1st -- "Speakin' to the Dog" -- Terrie Jacks -- Ballwin, MO

17. Bucket List Award -- Chair: Dennis Patton; Judge: Dennis Patton of Alexander, AR -- 19 entries.

3HM -- "I Do Not Own a Bucket List" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR
2HM -- "The Booking Agent" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR
1HM -- "Bucket Blues" -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR
3rd -- "All on my list" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "Legacy" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
1st -- "The Housewife's Real Bucket List" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR

16. Music on my mind -- Chair: Rita Goodgame; Judge: Rita Goodgame of Little Rock, AR -- 30 entries.

3HM -- "Only a Reflection of the Believer" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK
2HM -- "Raga" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR
1HM -- "Love Notes to Clara after Brahms" -- Beth Staas -- Oak Brook, IL
3rd -- "Bongo, Bongo with Burl" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
2nd -- "Keeping you and the music with me" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR
1st -- "That Song" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR

15. Dr. Seuss Memorial Award -- Chair: Donna Smith; Judge: Donna Smith of Greenbrier, AR -- 15 entries.

3HM -- "Alphabet Soup" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
2HM -- "Pony of Mine" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR
1HM -- "Just for Bed Time" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
3rd -- "What if Cats Were Like Dogs" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR
2nd -- "Wild Party" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
1st -- "The Witch of Witcher-Re-Woo" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

14. L. C. & Pat Bridges Award -- Chair: L.C. and Pat Bridges; Judge: Laura Bridges of North Little Rock, AR -- 32 entries.

3HM -- "Follow" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada
2HM -- "Don't Count God Out" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX
1HM -- "Show Me The Rainbow" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR
3rd -- "Moved by the ordinary around us" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "Leaving My Fingerprint" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR
1st -- "Dawn" -- Donna Smith -- Greenbrier, AR

13. River Market Poets Award -- Chair: River Market Poets; Judge: Christine Henderson of Searcy, AR -- 23 entries.

3HM -- "After a Couple of Months" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
2HM -- "Thanks for Being There" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR
1HM -- "Leave Your Number" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
3rd -- Some thoughts on a most important decision " -- Rita Goodgame -- Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "Toss My Cookies" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR
1st -- "Off the Grid" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR

12. Poets Northwest -- Chair: Kate Lacy/Poets Northwest; Judge: members of Poets Northwest -- 16 entries.

3HM -- “Markers” -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, Texas
2HM -- “Two Travelers” -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
1HM -- “Walking Daniel Boone’s Woods” -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
3rd -- “Last Kiss” -- Fay Guinn -- Jonesboro, AR
2nd -- “The Path Among the Trees” -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
1st -- “Exit to the Land of Rippling Waters” -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

11. Opal Jane & Harry O’Neal Humor Award -- Chair: Ben H. O’Neal III; Judge: Bethel Kymes of Hot Springs, AR -- 31 entries.

Judge’s comment: Reading each of these poems was a pleasure. The winning poems had humor and wit that were particularly enjoyable. This was a fun contest to judge.

3HM -- “Overweight Cowboy” -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR
2HM -- “Fasting Past Addictions” -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR
1HM -- “Intimate Secrets” -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
3rd -- “Good Cookies” -- Dr. Emory Jones -- Iuka, MS
2nd -- “Cooking Lesson” -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
1st -- “Big Family Feed” - Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR

10. Opal Jane & Harry O’Neal Memorial Award -- Chair: Ben H. O’Neal III; Judge: Jodi Tooke of Hot Springs, AR -- 33 entries.

3HM -- “Forgotten by Time” -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX
2HM -- “His Baseball Cap” -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR
1HM -- “A Closed Passageway” -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK
3rd -- “Painting the Door” -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR
2nd -- “The Locksmith’s Wife” -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR
1st -- “Through the Keyhole” -- LaVern McCarthy -- Blair, OK

9. In honor of Madeline Queen and Leatha Jorgensen -- Chair: Poets Northwest; Judge: members of Poets Northwest -- 26 entries.

3HM -- “Stand Still” -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR
2HM -- “Staying Afloat” -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

1HM -- "A Teacher By Any Other Name" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
3rd -- "This is Also Just to Say" -- Nancy Cook -- St. Paul, MN
2nd -- "Siblings" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR
1st -- "Facing the Moment" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR

8. Sharp Award -- Chair: Cathy Moran; Judge: Cathy Moran of Little Rock, AR
-- 44 entries.

3HM -- "Home" -- Tanya Whitney -- Sorrento, LA
2HM -- "Witness to the Fire, 1960" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
1HM -- "How a Stranger Fit" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR
3rd -- "Matinee" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
2nd -- "The Tomo" -- Rita Goodgame -- Little Rock, AR
1st -- "Philanderer" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada

7. Sentimental Journey -- Chair: Delores Hinde; Judge: Delores Hinde of Hot Springs, AR -- 18 entries.

3HM -- "Hot Rockin Momma" -- Russell Strauss - Memphis, TN
2HM -- "Only to Forget" -- Cathy Parker -- Alexander, AR
1HM -- "To Wade the Creek" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
3rd -- "God's Voice to Man" -- Dr. John Crawford -- Arkadelphia, AR
2nd -- "Awake" -- Marilyn Joyner -- El Dorado, AR
1st -- "Weeping Willows and Overstuffed Pillows" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR

6. Fill in the Blankety-Blanks -- Chair: Barbara Blanks; Judge: Barbara Blanks of Garland, TX-- 20 entries.

3HM -- "The Perfect Crime" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada
2HM -- "In the River" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
1HM -- "Where Did the Green Men Go" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
3rd -- "Fooling Around" -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR
2nd -- "Growing Season" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR
1st -- "Shootout on Sassafras Street" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

5. Pauline Brown Award -- Chair: Roundtable Poets of Hot Springs; Judge: Delores Hinde of Hot Springs, AR -- 25 entries.

3HM -- "Self-Propelled" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX
2HM -- "Found Treasure" -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR
1HM -- "Whimsical Dreams" -- Donna Nelson -- Kensett, AR
3rd -- "After All These Years Without You" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN
2nd -- "Nature's Music and Dance" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR
1st -- "An Old Man At The Wall" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

4. Crawford Poetry Prize -- Chair: Dr. John Crawford; Judge: Dr. John Crawford of Arkadelphia, AR -- 22 entries.

4HM -- "A Wish Fulfilled" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX
3HM -- "Caregiver's Respite" - Pat Laster -- Benton, AR
2HM -- "The Summer Hay" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR
1HM -- "Unorthodox" -- Cathy Parker -- Alexander, AR
3rd -- "I'll Give You a Call" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "After Reading Tennyson" -- LaVern McCarthy -- Blair, OK
1st -- "Unknown Confederate Soldiers" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR

3. "3 Little Lines" -- Chair: Fay Guinn; Judge: Fay Guinn of Jonesboro, AR -- 36 entries.

Judge's comment: Tough competition! Some barely missed winning because they didn't adhere to syllable count. In one entry, southern dialect made a one-syllable word out of a two-syllable one. Some entries did not make a correct turn in the last line. Overall high quality. With 36 entries I was glad I was judging haiku.

3HM -- "birds flutter and chirp" -- Donna Nelson -- Kensett, AR
2HM -- "lengthening shadows" -- Terrie Jacks -- Ballwin, MO
1HM -- "Two peach trees cut down" -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR
3rd -- "the rose petals droop" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR
2nd -- "Butterflies dancing" -- Dr. Emory Jones -- Iuka, MS
1st -- "pines shift in west wind" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

2. Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni -- Chair: Pat Laster; Judge: Pat Laster of Benton, AR -- 36 entries.

3HM -- "At the Seniors Dance" -- LaVern McCarthy -- Blair, OK
2HM -- "The Spirit of Haiti" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL
1HM -- "Brother Power" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR

3rd -- "If You Asked an Egyptian Mother About the Exodus" -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR

2nd -- "A Drowning Man Grasps at a Feather (Old Proverb)" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

1st -- "I am a part of the dirt" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR

1. Sybil Nash Abrams Award -- Chair – Dennis Patton. Judge: Sandra Soli of Edmond, OK-- 13 entries.

3HM -- "One House" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR

2HM -- "Where My Roots Have Always Been: The Jacob Wolf House" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR

1HM -- "I Remember Still" -- Renee Ramsey -- Floral, AR

3rd -- "The Ghost of Marlsgate Plantation" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR

2nd -- "Wedding Venue on Seventh Street, Little Rock" -- Stacy Pendergrast -- Little Rock, AR

1st -- "Don't Underestimate the Warren-Hogan House or the Crumbs Left Behind" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR
