

The Magnolia Muse



Newsletter of the Mississippi Poetry Society, Inc.

July 2020 Edition

Zoom seems to be a popular way to currently have meetings and not be exposed to the virus. All members who wish to participate watch your email for invitations to join a Zoom meeting. You will need a computer, iPad or smart phone with a camera and microphone that are turned on. I am totally new to this and have asked any members who have experience with these meetings to volunteer to help us, but to date there has been no response. So, I plan to have some informal meetings to help us all learn how to use this technology. We can also use the time to renew our friendship and to share some of our new poetry. Then in September, we will have our official business meeting that is required of all 501c nonprofit corporations and election and installation of new officers.

Since the 2020 Festival was canceled and the Branch meetings have also been canceled, the Executive Board has voted unanimously to suspend the Poet of the Year competition for one year. Brenda Finnegan will remain our official Poet of the Year.

The 2021 Poetry Contest will be held as usual. Daniel Pickett has agreed to Chair the Contest Committee again. Emory Jones will be responsible for the Student Contest. Steven Curry and Linda Owen will serve on the contest

committee. (A huge thank you to each of you in this crazy upside down world we find ourselves dealing with this year.)

We can all help when the sponsorship portion opens in the fall by soliciting donations from businesses and of course, sponsoring a category ourselves.

There is a new issue of Strophes out. It can be accessed at www.nfsps.net . The contest winners are listed as well as information to get a copy of *Encore*. MPS was well represented this year. Congratulations to all the winners. We are proud of your accomplishments!

None of the local branches sent any news since there have been no meetings.

Stay safe and keep writing your wonderful poetry.

Sincerely,

Patty Butkovich

Executive Board Chair