

2025 Member Contest Winners

January 2025

Judged By: Jack Evans

Category I – Traditional

Sally Bennett Boyington ~ *Floral Stroll*

Linda Payne ~ *Earth's Winter Face*

Brenda Wildrick ~ *Dry Land*

Category II – Free Verse

Martha Balph ~ *Vers Libre*

Gavin Kayner ~ *Soul Fileted*

Laura Rodley ~ *Front Burner*

Category III – Noises in the Night

Gail Bornfield ~ *Joy*

Tina Durham ~ *Some Nights, the Bird Couldn't Sleep Either*

Brenda Wildrick ~ *When at Last the Night Falls Silent*

March 2025

Judged by: Ellen Lager

Category I

John Crawford – *Grandma's Style*

Nancy Jacques – *Grocery Store Bagger*

Colleen Eichenburger – *New Day*

Category II

Janet Ruhe-Schoen – *music of dark wood*

Colleen Eichenburger – *Parable*

John Crawford – *Spring Violets*

Category III

Cynthia Hilts – *Homeless Villanelle*

Anne Gagliardi – *I Heard a Copter*

Nancy Jacques – *San Juan River*

Category IV

Brenda Wildrick – *Embrace the Glimmer*

Martha Balph – *How Lost My Auntie Is*

Laura Rodley – *Treble Cleft*

May 2025

Judged by: Peter Gordon

Category I - Traditional Forms:

Janice S Canerdy ~ *Irresistible*

Gail Denham ~ *Hope Before Night Brings Dark and Chill*

Allison Fraclose ~ *May Monday*

Category II: Free Verse

Gail Denham ~ *The Bottle Battle*

Walter Ralston ~ *Why I Write*

CChristy White ~ *Mewditation*

Category III: Rainbows

Janice S Canerdy ~ *Beauty in the Sky*

Gail Denham ~ *God's Rainbow Promise*

Betty Jo Middleton ~ *April Always*

Category IV: Previous Winners

Martha Balph ~ *My Favorite Holiday: The Christmas Bird Count*

Gavin Kayner ~ *Take Something Simple*

Brenda Wildrick ~ *Fading Embers*

July 2025

Category I: Traditional

Charles Firmage – *Night Songs*

Emory Jones – *The Morning Miracle*

Penny Peyser – *Looking for an Argument*

Category II: Free Verse

Delores Butler – *When on a Morning*

Hank Childers – *Project Status*

Mark Hudson – *Father's Day on the Lake*

Category III: Subject

Rex Arrasmith – *Whale Song*

Emory Jones – *The Night's Lightning*

Audrey Sher – *It's Not Just Swimming, Is it?*

Category IV: Previous Winner

John W. Crawford – *What a Thing of Beauty!*

Gail Denham – *Inner tube adventure*

Janet Ruhe-Schoen – *the rose, my hero*

September 2025

Judge: Jerrold Narland

Category I

Mike Wahl – *Searching*

Susana Gonzales – *If Robert Frost had Owned a Dog*

David Boyce – *Common Cherubs*

Category II

Frances Donohue-Fisher – *Cents/Sense*

Karen Admussen – *Living Walls*

Alan Perry – *Waves*

Category III

Mike Wahl – *Bait*

Jennifer Wrenn – *Family Trait*

Annette Gagliardi – *Lakota*

Category IV

Brenda Wildrick – *And Also My Cat is Missing*

Martha Balph – *Fourth of July*

Janice S. Canerdy – *A Day to Appreciate*