

# 2026 Member Contest Winners

January 2026

Judged By:

## Category I – Traditional Form

Karen Admussen ~ *frosty tanka*  
Martha Balph ~ *Hobbled by Shoes on a Showy Evening*  
Barbara Sherman ~ *Pantoum for the New Year*

## Category II – Free Verse

Brenda Wildrick ~ *Stone Moon Speaks*  
Laura Rodley ~ *Deane's Choice*  
Martha Balph ~ *Toilers of the Sea*

## Category III – Topic: Moving On

Laura Rodley ~ *On Her Own*  
Andrea Huelsenbeck ~ *custody battle*  
Martha Balph ~ *new blades of grass*

March 2026

Judged by: Lynne McNamara

## Category I – Traditional

Jenny Wrenn ~ *It's Not Personal*  
*Personal Aesthetic*  
Janice Canerdy ~ *The Matter of Trust*

## Category II – Free Verse

Jenny Wrenn ~ *Spider Line*  
*Sword and Steel Toed Boots*  
*Pine Song*

### Category III – Topic: Overseas

Christy White ~ *Denarau, Fiji*  
Jenny Wrenn ~ *Crossing Over*  
*High Adventure*

### Category IV – 2026 Previous Winners

*Fragile Tranquility*  
*Resurrection*  
*Snow Moon*

May 2026

Judged by: Jackie White

### Category I – Traditional Form:

John Crawford ~ *Bear and Neighbor Yap*  
Janice Canerdy ~ *Besties*  
Linda Payne ~ *In Early Spring*

### Category II – Free Verse

David Boyce ~ *Horrendous Heartbreak Heartthrob*  
Tom Chester ~ *Neckties*  
Trent Lee ~ *Road Down South*

### Category III – Topic: A Sudden Storm

Katie Zale ~ *As the Sea and Love Might*  
Jessica Kurak ~ *Initiation*  
Trent Lee ~ *The Winds*

### Category IV – 2026 Previous Winners

Martha Balph ~ *Notre Dame*

Cathy Thomkins ~ *Ode to 2025*  
Jenny Wrenn ~ *Wedding Cake*