



Maine Poets Society

*a voice for Maine Poets
since 1936*

The Maine Poets Society is

An organization of Maine writers actively engaged in creating poetry, who wish to:

- ❖ broaden their knowledge of poetry
- ❖ increase their skills
- ❖ share their knowledge to help other writers develop and achieve
- ❖ encourage high standards in writing and judging poetry
- ❖ broaden fellow members' interest, understanding, and appreciation of our rich poetic heritage

membership

By paying the annual dues, anyone may become a member who:

- ❖ is interested in poetry
- ❖ subscribes to the objectives of the society
- ❖ agrees to participate regularly in the activities of the society

meetings and gatherings

General meetings are held twice a year in different parts of the state.

Guests are welcome!

Meetings are scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and include:

- ❖ coffee and registration (a \$12 registration fee is charged for members and guests)
- ❖ brief business meeting
- ❖ open mic (sign up on registration; preference given to those who have not submitted a poem for the contest)
- ❖ workshop and/or discussion
- ❖ lunch (complimentary)
- ❖ poetry contest results
- ❖ critique of winning poems by the contest judge, followed by a reading of his/her own work

The winter general meeting has been replaced by smaller gatherings in January, February, and March at three different locations with different facilitators and opportunities for learning and interaction.

contests

One contest, open to members only, is held in conjunction with each gathering to give opportunity and encouragement to keep writing and to receive constructive feedback, recognition, and praise from knowledgeable judges. Subject/form and line limit for each contest are announced in the preceding newsletter. Poems are sent anonymously to judges who make written decisions and comments on each entry, presented orally at the meeting. Judges' choices of the top three entries in each contest are recognized with certificates, cash awards, and publication in the newsletter. Honorable mentions for each contest are awarded certificates.



newsletter

Stanza, the MPS newsletter, issued after each general meeting and prior to the winter gatherings, features:

- ❖ publication of the winning poems in each contest
- ❖ announcement of honorable mentions (may be published if space allows)
- ❖ reports of the most recent gathering
- ❖ date and location of next meeting
- ❖ plans for the next contest
- ❖ member news
- ❖ general poetry news
- ❖ markets

history

The Waterville Poets Club and the Dover-Foxcroft Poetry Circle joined in 1936 to form the Poetry Fellowship of Maine. In 1993, the name was changed to Maine Poets Society to reflect the organization's changing emphasis on a statewide network of writers sharing their work.

affiliation

The society is affiliated with the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS). Maine Poets Society membership fee includes NFSPS membership, and allows our members the opportunity to participate in a variety of contests and events each year. For more information, visit NFSPS online at www.nfsps.com.

Maine Poets Society Membership Application

Name _____ Telephone # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____

If published, please list publications (on separate sheet if necessary) _____

Annual Dues (\$20) _____ Donation \$ _____

**Make check or money order payable to Maine Poets Society and send to:
Gus Peterson, Treasurer & Membership Chairperson, 12 Middle Street, Randolph, ME 04346**

NOTE: Maine Poets Society is a member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies.

MPS memberships run through December 31st. Renewals are due on or before January 1st of each calendar year. (New memberships received in September or later are extended through the next calendar year.)