

2018, ISSUE 1

Editor, Kathy Cotton
kalcotton@gmail.com

Also available on our website
illinoispoets.org/news

IN THIS ISSUE

Poetry Challenge	1
President's Message	1
New Members / Members' News	2
ISPS Wins in Indiana Contest	2
Eaton to Chair P&P Contests	2
Spotlight on Jim O'Brien	3
ISPS Contest Winners	4
Brewed Awakening	4
Northbrook & Champaign	5
New Haiga Gallery	5
Spark 3 Ekphrastic Project	5
Chapter Meetings	6
Mark Your Poetry Calendar	6
Membership Perks	6
Membership Form	6

ISPS BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Susan T. Moss
 Vice President, Jim Lambert
 Secretary, Melissa Huff
 Treasurer, Judith Tullis
 Historian, Carolyn Jevelian
 Newsletter Editor, Kathy Cotton

Central Chapter
 Facilitator Kathleen Robinson

Haiku Chapter
 Facilitator Susan Auld

North Central Chapter
 Facilitator Kathleen Murphy

North Suburban Chapter
 Facilitator Susan Moss

Southern Chapter
 Facilitator Kathy Cotton

Southwest Suburban Chapter
 Facilitator Barbara Eaton

West Suburban Chapter
 Facilitator Caroline Johnson

Past President Mardelle Fortier

At-Large Members
 Sheila Kirscher
 Frank Hubeny

What Makes a Poem Most Appealing? Research Says: Vivid Descriptions

Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts recently published a study created to determine the appeal of four subjective poetry qualities, tested using haiku and sonnets (see psycnet.apa.org). With data collected from 400 volunteers who read then rated the poems with an extensive survey, researchers concluded that "across participants, vividness of imagery was the strongest contributor. . . ."

"All poems that pleased readers," Ephrat Livni at quartz.yz.com adds, "were vivid in their sensory imagery, evoking a clear picture, smell, sound, or taste. Meanwhile, no poem that ranked low in vividness was deemed pleasing. Evoking readers' emotions in particular relies on vivid sensory imagery, researchers concluded, making vividness more important to a timeless poem than form, rhyme, meter, and subject."

Those who read our poems—like we as poets—differ in what makes a piece personally appealing. But take it from science: vivid imagery counts. The poetry challenge this month is to review one of your recent poems and note how it might be improved with more sensory imagery. Then, do what ISPS poets do: *Make your good poem better.* -Kathy Cotton, Editor ✍



A Message from the ISPS President

Greetings of the season and as we leave 2017 and start 2018. Many events took place during this past year. One was the first meeting of our seventh chapter on December 3. Several talented poets will be regularly attending from the Champaign-Urbana area. This group will gather every month in the Champaign Public Library. Readings at bookstores, art galleries, Brewed Awakening and a presentation on legal writing issues were some more of this year's special occasions.

In 2018 one of the goals is to produce a fourth volume of our anthology, *Distilled Lives*. There will be more information as details unfold. More opportunities to combine our poetry with artists and ongoing reading opportunities will also be available.

The poet C.K. Williams said, "The best poetry, when you're reading it, you hear two voices simultaneously—the voice of the poet and your own voice." This concept can also apply to reading our own poetry which contains the conversation we often have with ourselves while forming ideas and then the final more poetic voice on the page. This is often true, too, when we critique each other and learn about what the poet meant and what is actually presented in the poem. It's the melding of what the listener or reader brings to the piece and what the poet hopes comes across in the work. When the combination of creator and audience share and become immersed in the words, the confluence of voices meets to form a greater whole.

Thus, in order to hear "the voice of the poet," it must be clear and attainable. Then the reader has a better chance of understanding the poet's intention and completing the message with personal associations. The resulting chorus enriches the poem as each reader interprets it and interacts with her- or himself plus the poet.

May the coming year be filled with creativity and some new writing approaches as we continue to shape and share our poetry. Happy writing, Susan T. Moss ✍

ISPS New Members / Members' News

E. IZABELLE C. ALEXANDER of Des Plaines is a new member of the North Suburban Chapter, Northbrook.



DEBBIE NEAL CRAWFORD, a new member of Southern Chapter, Carbondale, tells us she has been putting thoughts to paper since she was a little girl. Turning 50 inspired her to pursue writing and publication as a more serious endeavor. She is first-place winner in the ISPS 2017 Free Verse contest and recently had a poem featured in the e-zine, *Every Day Poems*. A former missionary who lived in South Africa for three years, she and her husband Doug currently make West Frankfort their home. Read more of her poetry and essays at debbieneal-crawford.com.



JENNIFER DOTSON of Highland Park was named an Above & Beyond Award winner by NFSPS for her willingness to help, lead, and inspire younger poets.

JAMES ESCHER is the pen name of Jim O'Brien. See more about Jim in our Spotlight Poet, page three.

MICHAEL FREVELETTI of St. Charles is a new member of the Southwest Suburban Chapter at Lisle. His poems have appeared in *Allegro Poetry*, *Snapdragon Journal* and *River Poets Journal*, among others. He says he loves his wife, red wine, and notebooks.

GAIL GOEPFERT of Palatine was nominated for a 2018 Pushcart Prize by Highland Park Poetry.

EMMA ALEXANDRA KOWALENKO of Highwood is a new Patron and member of the North Suburban Chapter, Northbrook.

WILLIAM MARR of Downers Grove has a series of 27 poems on youtube.com read by **MIKE GALATI** of Lemont. Marr is the author of 21 poetry books, 2 in English and 19 in his native Chinese.



JENENE RAVESLOOT of Chicago has received 2018 Pushcart Prize nominations from both Highland Park Poetry and Tall

Grass Writers Guild. Also, a reading of her poem, "What the Waves Brought In," was featured as a soundscaped video which won third place in the 2017 Sandpoint Film Festival as well as being named Official Selection of the Indie Poetry Film Competition.

DONALD WIER of Villa Park is a new Patron and member of the West Suburban Chapter at Darien. Wier, who is retired from employment with the State of Illinois, notes that he wrote 3 poems between the ages of 10 and 46 (an average of one every 12 years) and feels it may be time to speed things up a bit. Wier self-published a chapbook of 70 poems about 5 years ago. His major thought about writing poetry is that it is done from the subconscious mind. Wier says, "I don't sit down to write a poem; something meaningful either occurs out of nowhere or it doesn't. It may sound odd, but I believe it to be true, at least for me."

MOLLY ZWANZIGER of Evanston is a new member of the North Suburban Chapter, Northbrook. ✍

Eaton to Chair P&P Contests

Barbara Eaton, ISPS board member and facilitator of the Southwest Suburban Chapter, will chair two 2018 contests for the Poets & Patrons organization.

CHICAGOLAND. The 62st Annual Chicagoland Poetry Contest features 15 categories with prizes of \$45, \$20, and \$10 and three honorable mentions. P&P members and persons living within 100 miles of Chicago may enter all categories; 12 are open to all poets. Submission deadline is September 1.

SCHAIBLE. The 2018 Helen Schaible International Sonnet Contest is an annual P&P competition for Shakespearean or Petrarchan sonnets. The deadline is also September 1.

For additional information, contact Eaton at eatonb1016@aol.com. ✍

ISPS Members Take Wins in Poetry Society of Indiana Contests

Five ISPS poets took 23 awards in the annual Poetry Society of Indiana contests, awarded at the 2017 Fall Rendezvous. The dozen poems winning cash prizes were published in the anthology, *Ink to Paper*, available at amazon.com.

PSI Grand Prize, 3rd: Kathy Cotton

President's Award, HM: Wilda Morris

Poet Laureates' Award, 1st: Von S. Bourland,
2nd: Kathy Cotton

Carl Sagan Award, 2nd: Russell Strauss

Life Worth Remembering Award, Reserve:
Kathy Cotton

Last Stanza Prize, HM: Kathy Cotton

Butler Memorial Award HM: Russell Strauss

Ade Dreamers Award, 1st: Russell Strauss

HM: Von S. Bourland

Barbara Ann Award, Reserve: Russell Strauss

IVJ Poetry Prize, 1st: Russell Strauss

HM: Kathy Cotton

Northeast Indiana Poets Award, 1st: Russell
Strauss, 3rd: Mark Hudson

Million Award, 2nd: Von S. Bourland

HM: Wilda Morris

Vacation Award, 1st: Russell H. Strauss

Hiner Hight Award, 2nd: Russell H. Strauss

Buddy Award, 1st: Kathy Cotton

Love of Country Award, Reserve: Mark Hudson

Oberlin Poetry Prize, HM: Kathy Cotton

Ogdon Award, HM: Mark Hudson ✍



Spotlight on Jim O'Brien

Jim O'Brien, a charter member of the new ISPS chapter in Champaign, writes under the pen name James Escher. His work has appeared in venues such as *Images*, *Pitkin Review*, *Pegasus*, *Pilcrow & Dagger*, *The Tishman Review*, and the *On Our Own*, *Widowhood for Smarties* anthology. He also produces "Poems on Tap" where he types personalized poems on demand for any occasion at art fairs, parties, weddings, etc. O'Brien is a member of the CU Poetry Group and hosts a monthly open mic in Champaign-Urbana. He lives in Saint Joseph with his wife. Visit his website at poetjamesescher.com.

What first sparked your interest in poetry?

I always wanted to be a fiction writer, but my stories read like outlines. So, I started reading and writing poetry with the intent of bringing more imagery to my fiction, but never went back.

Is there a story behind your pen name, James Escher?

When I started submitting work for publication, there were already several Jim O'Briens, James O'Briens, etc., out there. I have this big M.C. Escher book on the shelf and realized this name works on three levels for me. My dad was born in Ayrshire, Iowa (he always pronounced it "escher"), I'm a big fan of M.C. Escher's work, and third, there are plenty of Dutch with the Irish in Ayrshire and my family tree. The first poem I submitted as James Escher was accepted so I never looked back. My business cards and typewriter poems have both names on them.

Tell us about your work to support poets and the craft of poetry in Central Illinois. I'm very proud of CU Poetry and the work we've done to keep poetry visible in the Champaign-Urbana community (see cupoetry.com). We have a weekly critical workshop that's open to the public and two or three public readings each year. A few of us from that group also run a weekly haiku column in our local Sunday newspaper. This spring, we will be sponsoring our third annual MTD Poem Contest, in which the winner has their poem printed on a poster which is installed on over 90 buses in the CU Mass Transit District.

What favorite poets or poetry books would you recommend to our readers?

My favorite poets right now are Jamaal May and Aimee Nezhukumatathil. Allison Joseph and Jon Tribble at SIU have each had recent books come out that were very good. Craft books I find myself returning to are Tony Hoagland's *Real Softistikashon: Essays on Poetry and Craft* and *The Poet's Companion* by Kim Addonizio and Dorianne Laux.

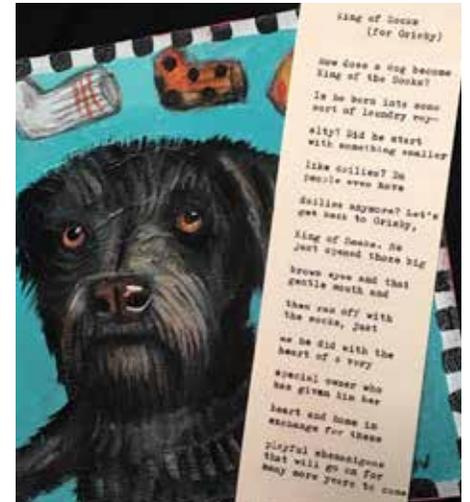
What advice do you offer to help poets improve their writing?

Read widely. I subscribe to *Poetry* magazine and rotate in a print journal or two each year (currently *Rattle* and *Indiana Review*). Get on the email lists or Facebook pages of lots of small, independent presses and buy a couple of chapbooks from new poets. Read these poems once for enjoyment, then go back and comb through them for technique. Oh, and of course, write as often as possible.

What are you working on now?

I take a picture of each Poems on Tap typewriter poem so I can mine them for other poems. I have over one hundred of these from 2017 that I am filtering through for a potential chapbook. I'm also working on a rock-and-roll chapbook for submission next year. ✍

Poems by Poet James Escher



"Poems on Tap" at Handmades Sale, Springfield, 12/1/17. Artwork courtesy of Felicia Olin.

The Significance of Grass

Most winters, the yard
keeps its blueprint throughout the season,
the skeleton of the patio bricks buried
and resurrected,
the splayed bones of sleeping azaleas balloon
to giant cones and back.
Snow, too heavy for the wind, drifts in piles
behind the fence, where miniature glaciers
recede and expand
daily.

But last year was different.
Snow fell in December
and stayed through February.
Winter didn't notice my mother
dying
or maybe it did, since the only
break I recall was the day of her service
and the black hole dug in the white snow,
the mats of artificial grass rolled out
in walkways from the road
to the canopy. A spray of roses,
foreign to the melting winterscape,
faded into the black and white
and grey of the day.

By nightfall, snow took over again,
smothering archipelagos of dead grass,
but underneath,
we knew it was there,
waiting to be reborn.
We swear we saw it
on that one warm burial day
between the frosts and freezes
that no one else can remember.

24th Annual ISPS Poetry Contest: Two Dozen Members Receive Awards



Jim Lambert, ISPS Poetry Contest chairman, reports 99 poets from 24 states and Canada submitted a total of 729 poems to this year's competition.

A highly qualified slate of judges, all from outside Illinois, represented eight states.

ISPS members fared well in the ten contest categories, taking more than half of the 60 awards. Their wins include seven of the ten first-place prizes, five second-place, and eight third-place prizes, plus 16 honorable mentions.

Our two dozen ISPS winners are:

FREE VERSE AWARD

1st Debbie Neal Crawford, West Frankfort, IL
3rd Camille A. Balla, Lisle, IL

FORMAL VERSE AWARD

1st Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
2nd Melissa Huff, Champaign, IL
3rd HM Barbara Robinette, Viola, AR

TRADITIONAL HAIKU

1st Julie Warther, Dover, OH
3rd Kathleen Robinson, Champaign, IL
1st HM Mary Jo Balistreri, Waukesha, WI
2nd HM David Bond, Carbondale, IL
3rd HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL

MODERN HAIKU

3rd Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
2nd HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
3rd HM Julie Warther, Dover, OH

ISPS BOARD AWARD (Community)

1st Caroline Johnson, Willow Springs, IL
2nd Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
3rd Deborah Rohde, Northbrook, IL
1st HM Barbara Robinette, Viola, AR
2nd HM Curt Vevang, Palatine, IL
3rd HM Marilyn Huntman Giese, Aurora, IL

PHILLIP EGELSTON MEMORIAL AWARD

(Subject: Rural America)
2nd Susan T. Moss, Evanston, IL
3rd Judith Tullis, Indian Head Park, IL
1st HM David Bond, Carbondale, IL

SOUTHERN CHAPTER AWARD

2nd Pamela Larson, Arlington Heights, IL
3rd Curt Vevang, Palatine, IL
2nd HM Donald Wier, Villa Park, IL

IDA KOTYUK AWARD

(Subject: Common Small Items)
1st Melissa Huff, Champaign, IL
3rd Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
1st HM Jenene Ravesloot, Chicago, IL
2nd HM Daniel J. Fitzgerald, Pontiac, IL

HORROR, DARK HUMOR AWARD

2nd Keith Skilling, Aurora, IL
3rd Caroline Johnson, Willow Springs, IL
2nd HM Marcia J. Pradzinski, Skokie, IL
3rd HM Daniel J. Fitzgerald, Pontiac, IL

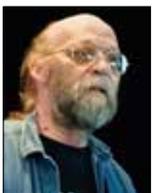
SURREALIST POETRY AWARD

1st Kate Hutchinson, Palatine, IL
2nd Mary Jo Balistreri, Waukesha, WI
3rd HM Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL

ISPS, which sponsored four categories in the 24th annual event, thanks additional sponsors who provided prize money and challenging themes and forms. They include the ISPS board of directors, David Gross of Pinckneyville, the Southern Chapter at Carbondale, Ida Kotyuk of Villa Park, and Pam Larson of Arlington Heights. All costs of the contest were covered by sponsorships. ✍

ISPS and Brewed Awakening Sponsor Featured Poets January 28 and February 25

Last Sunday readings by featured poets along with open mic readings are set for 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. at Brewed Awakening, 19 West Quincy in Westmont. Cover charge of \$10.00 includes beverage and snack.



JANUARY 28

Lennart Lundh is a poet, short-fictionist, historian, and photographer. He has read his poetry across the Midwest. The most recent of his 13 poetry chapbooks and collections is *Arbor and Winepress: Selected Poems 1967-2017*. The limited-edition *Poems Against Cancer* chapbooks are an annual fund-raiser in support of the St. Baldrick Foundation. He is also the author of two collections of short stories, plus six books and a score of articles on military aviation and vehicles.



Virginia Bell is the author of *From the Belly* (Sibling Rivalry Press, 2012) and her work has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. Bell is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize nomination and Ragdale Foundation residency. She is also an editor with RHINO and an adjunct professor of English at Loyola University Chicago, DePaul University, and The Chicago High School for the Arts.



FEBRUARY 25

Judith Tullis was born in Chicago and lives in Indian Head Park with her husband, Lee. She raised three sons and is now retired from a self-owned secretarial business. Tullis is a former vice president and current treasurer for the



Illinois State Poetry Society. Her poems have won state and national contests and have appeared in print and online venues and anthologies.

Jim Green has worked as a naval officer, deputy sheriff, high school English teacher, professor of education, and administrator in both public schools and universities. His poetry has appeared in literary magazines in England, Ireland, and the USA. Green's academic publications include three books. Recipient of two Fulbright grants, he has served as a visiting scholar at the University of Limerick in Ireland and the National Chung Cheng University in Taiwan. He and his wife Sheryl divide their time between homes in Tinley Park, Illinois, and County Clare, Ireland. ✍

First and Latest Additions: A Look at Northbrook and Champaign Chapters



Standing: Susan T. Moss, Frank Hubeny, E. Izabelle C. Alexander, Sheila Kirscher, and Margie Rissman. Seated: George Gerolimos (visitor), Karen Fudres (visitor), Molly Zwanziger, and Curt Vevang.

ISPS, chartered in 1991 with a single chapter at Lemont, formed a task force 14 years later to research adding a second chapter. In 2006 the new group, now our North Suburban Chapter, made its home at Northbrook Public Library, where it still meets on second Sundays of even months, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The two chapters agreed to meet on alternating months, setting a precedent that allows members to attend more than one chapter. North Suburban, our largest ISPS chapter, is facilitated by Susan Moss. ✍



Front: Abigail Gray, facilitator Kathleen Robinson, Bonnie Manion, and ISPS Secretary Melissa Huff. Back: Jim O'Brien, Kathleen Peterson, Kurt Weingartner, Ann Hart, ISPS President Susan Moss, ISPS at-large board member Sheila Kirscher, Joe Larkin, Daniel (Kashif) Muhammad, and ISPS Treasurer Judith Tullis.

The December 3, 2017, inaugural meeting of our newest addition, the Central (Champaign) Chapter, was held at the Champaign Library. Four ISPS officers welcomed participants, gave an overview of member benefits, and shared in a critique session. The chapter, facilitated by Kathleen Robinson, will continue to meet monthly on first Sundays (except holiday library closures) from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. ✍

Haiga Featured in New ISPS Website Gallery



Winter Solstice by Thomas Chockley



Flickering Flame by Susan Auld

A new gallery at illinoispoets.org will feature haiga, a Japanese form of poetic images which add meaning or depth to brief poems. A modern haiga often features a watercolor painting, photograph, or collage with a haiku or other short poetry integrated into the composition. The website feature, inspired by Haiku Chapter facilitator Susan Auld, will accept ISPS member submissions in jpg, gif, or png format the first two weeks of February.

A 2015 ISPS featured poet, Tom Chockley of Plainfield, introduced many newsletter readers to haiga, saying, "I don't do Asian-style brush painting, but I make haiku-photo collages with my large stock of digital photos. One concession to the Asian painting tradition is my use of stamps (document seals or "chops" in China). The primary one I use—I got in China. It was carved by a student's grandfather, using an ancient set of seal characters for my name." ✍

Call for Spark 3 Ekphrastic Project Poems: "Around the World in Art and Poetry"

ISPS members are invited to submit poems for the third ekphrastic art/poetry project cosponsored with the Art and Culture Commission of Lemont. Members of the Commission will create art inspired by the poems.

Theme. The Spark 3 exhibit theme is "Around the World in Art and Poetry." The United States is included, so poems do not have to reflect foreign travel.

Deadline. Although the final deadline is January 15, submissions could close

earlier if all participating artists receive poems prior to the date. Poems which were received before Christmas will be given priority for selection by artists.

Submissions. Each poet should submit three theme-related poems, which will all go to the same artist. One poem will be selected for the exhibit.

- Put the title in bold print. Do not capitalize all the words.
- Do not center the title unless the lines of the poem are centered.

- Use 14- or 16-point Georgia font.
- Add your name at the end of your poem.
- Put "Spark 3" in the email subject line. Send poems to: ISPS.submissions@gmail.com.

Exhibit. Spark 3 will be displayed March 2 through April 29 at the Lemont Center for the Arts, Lemont Village Square, 1243 State Street, Unit 101, Lemont. A reception and reading will also be scheduled. ✍



Chapter Meetings

CENTRAL CHAPTER, CHAMPAIGN

Sundays, Jan. 7 & Feb. 4, 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Champaign Public Library, Room 222
200 W. Green St., Champaign, IL
217-403-2000

Any beverage must be in a cup with a cover.
No snacks in Conference Room. Bring 12
copies of a poem if you wish to have a critique.

HAIKU CHAPTER, NORTHBROOK

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 18
Northbrook Public Library, Civic Room
1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, IL
847-272-6224

Bring 12 copies of up to 6 haiku for critique, one
haiku that mystifies and one that delights, pub-
lication celebrations, and resources to share.

NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER, PONTIAC

1:00 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10
Pontiac Public Library, 815-844-7229
211 E. Madison St., Pontiac, IL

NO. SUBURBAN CHAPTER, NORTHBROOK

1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 14
Northbrook Public Library, 847-272-6224
1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, IL
Bring 8-10 copies of poems for critique. No
food/beverages allowed in this room.

SOUTHERN CHAPTER, CARBONDALE

2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 14
Carbondale Public Library, 618-457-0354
405 West Main, Carbondale, IL
Bring 10-12 copies of poems for critique.

SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN CHAPTER, LISLE

1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 4
Lisle Public Library, 630-971-1675
777 Front St., Lisle, IL (enter lot off Kingston)
Bring your beverage, 20 copies of poems for
critique, and a snack to share.

WEST SUBURBAN CHAPTER, DARIEN

1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 6
Indian Prairie Public Library, 630-887-8760
401 Plainfield Road, Darien, IL
Bring your beverage, snack to share, and 20
copies of poems for critique.

ONLINE CRITIQUE GROUPS

To request a copy of the guidelines or to join
an ISPS Email Critique Group, contact coordi-
nator Wilda Morris at wildamorris@ameritech.
net. Put "ISPS Email Critique Group" in the
subject line of the email. ✍

Deadlines & Events: Mark Your Poetry Calendar

JAN 1, submissions open for NFSPS
BlackBerryPeach Prizes for Poetry:
Spoken and Heard at nfspssubmit-
table.com. Visit "Contests" at nfspss.
com for details.

JANUARY. Art Gets in Your Eyes: Poets
Respond to Highland Park's Public
Art, display at Community Art Wall,
First Bank of Highland Park, 1835
First Street.

JAN. 27, 8:00 p.m. Faisal Mohyuddin
poetry reading and open mic, Ma-
dame ZuZu's Teahouse, 582 Roger
Williams Ave., Highland Park.

JAN. 29, deadline, 2018 Poetry Chal-
lenge, categories: electricity, mon-
sters and golden shovel poems. See
highlandparkpoetry.org.

JAN. 31, deadline for submissions to
the NFSPS College Undergraduate
Poetry Contest at nfspssubmittable.
com.

FEB. 1-14, submission period for ISPS
Member Poems page and the new
Haiga Gallery on illinoispoets.org.

FEB. 24, 8:00 p.m., Cynthia Gallaher
poetry reading and open mic, Ma-
dame ZuZu's Teahouse, 582 Roger
Williams Ave., Highland Park.

MARCH 2 – APRIL 29, Spark 3 display
at the Lemont Center for the Arts,
1243 State Street, Unit 101, Lemont.

MARCH 15, deadline for submissions
to the 2018 NFSPS poetry contests.
Details at nfspss.com.

SEPTEMBER 1, deadline, Helen Schaible
International Sonnet Contest. Sub-
missions to Barbara Eaton, P.O. Box
936, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

SEPTEMBER 1, deadline, Poets & Pa-
trons 62st Annual Chicagoland Poet-
ry Contest with 15 categories. Sub-
missions to Barbara Eaton, P.O. Box
936, Downers Grove, IL 60515. ✍

Share the Perks of ISPS Membership

Tell a poet friend about the perks of joining ISPS: triple membership in the Illinois State Poetry Society PLUS the National Federation of State Poetry Societies PLUS any ISPS chapters, bimonthly web-page publication of poems and haiga, ISPS and NFSPS newsletters plus email notices of poetry events, publication in periodic anthologies, and free admission to ISPS seminars and lectures and chapter meetings.



ISPS Membership Application

MEMBERSHIP THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018

Renewal New Member \$20 Regular \$30 Patron \$50 Benefactor

VOTING CHAPTER (check one) Central, Champaign North Central, Pontiac
North Suburban, Northbrook Southern, Carbondale SW Suburban, Lisle
West Suburban, Darien Haiku, Northbrook At-Large

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (home or cell) _____

Email _____

Mail to: Judith Tullis, 6455 Big Bear Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525