

# 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Contest Results

## October 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### 1. John Calvin Rezmerski Memorial Grand Prize:

*Judged by Art Elser, CO*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **So long and thanks for all the riches**,  
Barbara Blanks, Garland TX

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Daughter**, Beth Spencer, Eden Prairie MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Heavy**, Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **City-Wide Rummage Sale Treasure**, Susan Stevens  
Chambers, Good Thunder MN

2nd- **Unknown**, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Minneapolis MN

3rd- **Subtext**, Christina Flaughner, Mapleton MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Set the Hook**, Tim Stouffer, Ely MN

2nd- **The Sting of Water**, Christina Flaughner, Mapleton MN

3rd- **A Litany of Guilt**, Von S. Bourland, Happy TX

4th- **The Sisterhood**, Christina Flaughner, Mapleton MN

### 2. Relevance of Rural Award:

*Judged by Budd Powell Mahan TX*

1st place- **Living Patterns**, Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN

2nd place- **It's Not as if Destruction Can Simply Be  
Undone**, Judith Feenstra, Maple Lake MN

3rd place- **This Breathing Body**, Pamela Sinicrope,  
Rochester MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **The Affirmation**, Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA

2nd- **Crops**, Steven Vogel, Rochester MN

3rd- **The Second Breakfast, 1924**, Patrick Cabello  
Hansel, Minneapolis MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **A Farmer's Day**, Sara Gipson, Scott AZ

2nd- **Robert Burns Recalled**, Jan Chronister, Maple WI

### 3. Story Portage Award:

*Judged by Eric Read, UT*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Disputation of Joyce Kilmer By a Tree  
Anomaly** Roger Brezina, New Prague MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **I Dwell in Possibility**, Lucy Tyrrell, Bayfield WI

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **A Walk With Henry**, Doris Stengel, Brainerd MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Falling from the Family Tree**, Barbara Blanks,  
Garland TX

2nd- **Letter to the Buyer**, Susan Stevens Chambers,  
Good Thunder MN

3rd-**Below the Weeping Willow**, Mary Willette  
Hughes, Waite Park MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Becoming a Tree**, Michael Kiesow Moore, Saint Paul MN

2nd- **Leaf Suite**, Barb Terrill, Owatonna MN

3rd- **Choosing the Tree**, Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des  
Moines IA

4th- **Live Oak Tree by the Alamo**, Meredith Cook, Blue  
Earth MN

### 4. Stevens Family Award:

*Judged by Marilyn Stacy TX*

1st place -**Under a Full Moon**, Laura Lynn Hansen, Little  
Falls MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place – **For Audrey**, Jennifer Jesseph, Pine Island

3<sup>rd</sup> place – **Shoebox of Photographs**, Eileen Malone,  
Broadmoor Vlg. CA

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **For Dorothy**, Jane Callahan, Rochester MN

2nd- **Too Many Pitchers**, Valerie Bump Fallbrook CA

3rd-**You Are Not**, Kathryn Knudson, Minneapolis MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **After I Left You, You Mentioned that You Loved  
Me**, Marg Walker, St. Paul MN

2nd- **How to Forget**, Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN

3rd- **Her Timing Was Always Perfect**, Bernadine Lortis,  
St. Paul MN

4th- **Watching my Husband through the Basement  
Window as he Scrapes the Sill for Painting**, Micki  
Blenkush, St. Cloud MN

### 5. Florence Hynes Willette Memorial:

*Judged by Joe Cavanaugh, FL*

1st place – **On Learning that Robert Frost Wrote his  
Poem in the Summertime**, Jane Hufford Downes,  
Hopkins MN

2nd place – **She Walks in Butter**, Josh Lefkowitz,  
Brooklyn NY

3rd place – **Poetically Speaking**, Mary Willette Hughes,  
Waite Park MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Angel Kisses**, Annette Gagliardi, Minneapolis MN

2nd- **Tomorrow: A Love Song**, Beth Spencer, Oak Brook IL

3rd-**Sock It to Me**, Beverly Stanislawski, Crown Point IN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Rock Bottom**, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield AL

2nd- **Insomnia**, Mark Hudson, Evanston, IL

3rd- **No Sweet Cat Poems**, Christina Flaughner, Mapleton MN

4th- **The Dutiful Wife**, Rita Aiken Moritz, Cropwell AL

### **6. Woodtick Poets Award:**

*Judged by Rhonda Brown AZ*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Green Papaya Salad at the Night Market in**

**Thailand**, Laura Lanik, St. Paul MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Birthright**, Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Rhubarb**, Jane Downes, Hopkins MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **By Heart**, Alan Perry, Maple Grove MN

2nd- **Lasagna For a Good Crowd**, Susan Stevens

Chambers, Good Thunder MN

3rd-**Whole Wheat**, Von S. Bourland, Happy TX

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Baking Bread and Making Memories**, Rita Moritz,

Cropwell AL

2nd- **Mother Sauce**, Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN

3rd- **Leftovers**, Ellen Lager, Robbinsdale MN

4th- **Unexpected Confidant**, Christina Flaughner,

Mapleton MN

### **7. Southern MN Poets Society Award:** *Judged by*

*Janeen Pergin Rastall MI*

1st place- **Early Risers in Shadow**, Ellen Lager,

Robbinsdale MN

2nd place- **Road Kill**, Nancy Simmonds, Ft. Wayne IN

3rd place- **Bachelors** Steven Vogel, Rochester MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Second Date**, Josh Lefkowitz, Brooklyn NY

2nd- **Harriet Would Be Proud**, Kathryn Knudson,

Minneapolis MN

3rd- **Incident at First and Main**, Luke Anderson, Battle

Lake MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Thou Shall Not**, Jan Chronister, Maple WI

2nd- **Deer at Dusk**, Mary Willette Hughes, Waite Park MN

3rd- **Recipe for a Laurel Avenue Meringue**, Sara Dovre

Wudali, St. Paul MN

4th- **Zadico is My Middle Name** Susan Stevens

Chambers, Good Thunder MN

### **8. John & Helen Pappas Memorial:**

*Judged by Grace Curtis, OH*

1st place- **Love is a Theory** Lynda La Rocca, Salida CO

2nd place- **Legacy in Passing**, Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN

3rd place- **On the First Day of School**, Beth Staas, Oak  
Brook IL

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Patriot Salute**, Sarah Gipson, Scott AR

2nd- **Searching Northern Lights**, Colleen Eichenberger,  
Nisswa MN

3rd- **Poet-Daughter Peaks to Poet-Mother**, Mary

Willette Hughes, Waite Park MN

*(Award of Merit)*

1st- **Charms for Survival**, Beth Spencer, Eden Prairie MN

2nd- **Aunt Grace**, Marg Walker, St. Paul MN

3rd- **The Owl Called**, Becky Alexander, Cambridge ON

### **9. Blizzard Writers' Award:** *Judged by Larry Thomas, MI*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **The Art of Healing**, Donna Isaac, Inver Grove  
Heights MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **The Drive Home**, Barbara Terrill, Owatonna MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **The Wait for Parallel Lines to Converge**,

Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Still Life**, Suzanne Rogier Marshall, Hebron NH

2nd- **I Intend to Live Until I Die**, Rita Aiken Moritz,  
Cropwell AL

3rd-**Like Seeds**, Jenna Pashley Smith, Richmond TX

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **A Comfortable Bed**, Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN

2nd- **Skipping Stone with my Brother**, Michael Kiesow

Moore St. Paul MN

3rd- **Off the Bat** Lucy Tyrrell, Bayfield WI

4th- **As Things Change** Linda White, Maplewood MN

### **10. Grandview Award**

*Judged by Sandy Hokanson, GA*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **So Near My Sickly Child, I Count to Twelve**,

Beth Spencer, Eden Prairie, MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Pleas**, Alan Perry, Maple Grove, MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place-**Rocket Pajamas**, Marg Walker, ST. Paul MN

*(Honorable Mention)*

1st- **What Remains**, Susan McMillan, Rochester MN

2nd- **to and from a Dinner of Hard-Shell Crab –**

**Wilmington, Delaware**, Charles Patterson Curry, Apple

Valley MN

3rd-**Earl Grey Recuperation**, Susan Stevens Chambers,  
Good Thunder MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st-**JACKIE TRIES TO HOLD LITTLE ABIGAIL IN**

**HANDCUFFS**, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Minneapolis MN

2nd-**The Silence Between Storms**, Pamela Sinicrope,  
Rochester MN

3rd-**June Rains**, Barbara Terrill, Owatonna MN

4th-**Raven**, Caroline Bassett, Minneapolis MN

**11. Bring Back the Prairies Award:** *Judged by Amy  
Miller OR*

1st place- **Another View**, Ed Brekke-Kramer, Fairmont MN

2nd place- **Disturbing Reflections from the**

**(Developed) World**, Cole Williams, Minneapolis MN

3rd place: **Posted in a Sea of Reclaimed Prairie the  
Sign along the Highway Reads, Kindred** Micki

Blenkush, St. Cloud MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Last Moon**, Steven Vogel, Rochester MN

2nd- **Praries**, Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN

3rd- **Where the Earth is not a Sphere**, Mary Rudbeck  
Stanko, London ON

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **The Magician**, Susan Stevens Chambers, Mankato MN

2nd- **Prairie Vacation**, Barbara Terrill, Owatonna

3rd- **The Family We Choose**, Christina Flaughner,  
Mankato MN

4th- **Rattle Snake Master**, Jan Chronister, Maple WI

**12. Musica Award:**

*Judged by John Foster FL*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **A Song Bird's Symphony**, Rita Aiken Moritz,  
Cropwell AL

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **The Conductor**, Barbara Blanks, Garland TX

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **A Young Maiden Asks of Love**, Shirley Smith  
Franklin, Arden Hills MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Love Song**, Beverly Stanislawski, Crown Point IN

2nd- **Come Dance With Me**, Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des  
Moines IA

3rd- **Michael Jackson in Ecuador** Murray McCartan,  
Richfield MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **The Sax Man**, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield AL

2nd- **Belly Dancer**, Beth Staas, Oak Brook IL

3rd- **Burn-dance**, Lucy Tyrrell Bayfield WI

4th- **Summer Garden Music**, Sara Gipson, Scott AR

**13. Poets Potluck:**

*Judged by Liz Glodek, IA*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Exposure**, Nancy Cook St. Paul MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Voice**, Steven R. Vogel, Rochester MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Urban Night Sky**, Meredith Cook, Blue Earth MN  
*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Autumn**, Jerri Hardesty Brierfield AL

2nd- **cinquain**, Libby Casey Irwin, Woodbury MN

3rd- **Swarm of the Monarchs**, Gail Denham, Sunriver OR  
*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **The Good Wife**, Amy Coulombe, Minnetonka MN

2nd- **A Beautiful Day**, LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair OK

3rd-**Untitled**, Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud MN

4th- **Beach Drama**, Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights

**14. Southeastern Minnesota Poets Award**

*Judged by Ginny Connor, CT*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Anna's Victorious Illness**, Gail Denham,  
Sunriver OR

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **The Devil's Come to Get Me**, June  
Blumenson, Minneapolis MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Mirage**, Annette Gagliardi, Minneapolis MN  
*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Brotherly**, Alan Perry, Maple Grove MN

2nd- **Infection**, Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA

3rd-**Noel**, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield AL

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Well Done**, Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake MN

2nd- **After the Diagnosis**, Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud MN

3rd- **Read Me This Poem**, Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN

4th- **Life Changes**, Barbara Blanks, Garland TX

**15. Coral Peterson Memorial Award:**

*Judged by Kerry Trautman, OH*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Family Barbecue, August 1970**, Lynda La  
Rocca, Salida CO

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **North Shore Lake Superior 1959**, Jeanette  
Marie Cox, Ely MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Grandma's Butter** LaVern Spencer McCarthy,  
Blair OK

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Milla Rising**, Laura Lynn Hansen, Little Falls, MN

2nd- **Lone Loon on Lower Pond, Hinesburg, Vermont**,  
Tricia Knoll, Williston VT

3rd- **Grandpa, his Body Full of Sign Language**, Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **A Stay at the Shore**, Victor Klimoski, St. Paul MN

2nd- **Grandma's Nature**, Alan Perry, Maple Grove MN

3rd- **First Love: Grandfather**, Jane Hufford Downes, Hopkins MN

4th- **The Red Recipe Box**, Laura Kozy Lanik, St. Paul MN

**16. Lost in Translation Award:**

*Judged by Jim Lambert, IL*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **I am a foot soldier in the battle of words**, Jenna Pashley Smith, Richmond TX

2<sup>nd</sup>-place- **Signs**, Alan Perry, Maple Grove MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Play Date**, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield AL

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Hozho Nahasdlii**, Pamela Sinicrope, Rochester MN

2nd- **Scripture**, Joshua Conklin, Amherst NH

3rd- **Mitternacht**, Steven R. Vogel, Rochester MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Hope**, Judith Feenstra, Maple Lake MN

2nd- **The Greeks Had a Word For It**, Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines IA

3rd- **Why I Would Like to Study the Chinese Language**, Jane Hufford Downes Hopkins MN

4th- **From the Streets of Paris**, Jan Chronister, Maple WI

**17. Heartland Poets Award:** *Judged by Mary-Ann*

*Westbrook, FL*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Sagrada Familia, 2001**, Steven R Vogel, Rochester MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Lunar Musings**, Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **Christina and Me**, Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **The Scream**, Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield AL

2nd- **Weatherman**, Alan Perry, Maple Grove MN

3rd- **Bone Song**, Jana Bouma, Madison Lake MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **A Sailor's Choice**, Barbara Blanks, Garland TX

2nd- **Portrait of a Woman**, Rita Aiken Moritz, Cropwell AL

3rd- **Exploration**, Jan Chronister, Maple WI

4th- **The Magic Flute**, Jane Callahan, Rochester MN

**18. Mississippi Valley Poets and Writers Award:**

*Judged by Christine Valentine, MT*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Hornet and I swish**, Diana Berrigan White Bear Lake MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Three Haiku**, Shirley Smith Franklin, Arden Hills MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **December winds hurl**, Nancy Simmonds, Ft. Wayne IN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Snow Feathers downward**, Rita Aiken Moritz, Cropwell AL

2nd- **Spring shadows pause**, Mary Willette Hughes, Waite Park MN

3rd- **With Lake overlook**, Ed Brekke-Kramer, Fairmont MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **cottonwood leaves cast**, Lucy Tyrrell, Bayfield WI

**19. The Mocassin Award** *Judged by B.J. Alligood, FL*

1<sup>st</sup> place- **Azure**, Sandra M. Kacher, Burnsville MN

2<sup>nd</sup> place- **Laundry and Reproach**, Laura Lynn Hansen, Little Falls MN

3<sup>rd</sup> place- **My Youngest Uncle**, Kathryn Knudson, Minneapolis MN

*(Honorable Mentions)*

1st- **Waiting**, Micki Blenkush, St. Cloud

2nd- **The Summer Dress**, Becky Alexander, Cambridge ON

3rd- **The Seasons of Marriage**, Mary Willette Hughes, Waite Park MN

*(Awards of Merit)*

1st- **Let's Not Bother With a Funeral**, Mardi Knudson St. Cloud MN

2nd- **Abandoned Voices**, Gail Denham, Sunriver OR

3rd- **Willow**, Michael McCormick, St Paul MN

4th- **Adrift**, Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights MN