



2023 UTSPS April Awards Festival Contest Winners

#36. LEROY MEAGHER SONNET

Subject: Any

Form: Sonnet

Judge Name: Bonnie Staiger

of Entries: 26

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Grace Diane Jessen: As
Love Evolves

2nd: V. Kimball Barney:
Lingering

3rd: Crystie Cook: After the
Mourning Doves Have Gone

3rd Place: Robert V. Davis,
Walk On

2nd Place: Pam Tucker, Two
Sheds

1st Place: Barbara Blanks, Oh,
Baby, It's Cold Out There

#35. LLOYD MURRAY LIGHT VERSE

Subject: Any

Form: True light verse,
rhymed, metered, humorous

Line Limit: 8

Judge Name: Mark Peacock

of Entries: 18

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Martha H. Balph: Getting
It Right?

2nd: Barbara Blanks:
Connections

3rd: Lorraine Jeffery: Did Tom
Make It to Your Old Guys
Lunch?

3rd Place: Jane Randall,
Absurdity

2nd Place: Grace Diane Jessen,
Taste Twist

1st Place: Sara Gipson, Bugged
by a Hug

#34. SHORT POEM - VESTA CRAWFORD MEMORIAL

Subject: Any serious subject

Form: Any

Line Limit: Minimum 6,
Maximum 12

Judge Name: Rob Carney

of Entries: 39

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: William G. Hill: TRUTH

2nd: Twila Wood: November in
C Minor

3rd: Grace Diane Jessen: As
Winter Comes

3rd Place: Markay Brown,
Dying Cottonwood Speaks

2nd Place: Maurine Haltiner,
Counterpoint

1st Place: Martha H. Balph,
Mariupol

#33. DOROTHY & L. PAUL ROBERTS MEMORIAL

Subject: Beauty in the world

Form: Any

Judge Name: Natalie La-
Slack

of Entries: 34

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Shawn Dallas Stradley:
Private Garden

2nd: Pam Tucker: Never the
Sky So Sequined

3rd: Robert Rippey: Sailing
Mission Bay

3rd Place: N. Colwell Snell,
Dark Matter

2nd Place: Markay Brown,
Fireflies

1st Place: Anita M. Krotz,
Always, the Rainbow

#32. MEAGHER MEMORIAL FUND UTSPS

Subject: Humorous

Form: Any

Judge Name: Adam

Rudebusch

of Entries: 37

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Barbara J. Funke:

Everything in Fractions

2nd: Crystie Cook: I Love to
Eat Pistachios

3rd: V. Kimball Barney:
Mystery Solved

3rd Place: Robert V. Davis,
Suzie's Senses

2nd Place: Jane Randall,
Biological Clock

1st Place: Shawn Dallas
Stradley, Mosquito Morning



**#31. ZARA SABIN
MEMORIAL**

Subject: The Personal Poem

Form: Any

Line Limit: 24

Judge Name: Ames Carpenter

of Entries: 30

Disqualified: 5

Honorable Mentions

1st: Jane Randall: The Sixth
Virgin

2nd: Marie Tollstrup: On Stage

3rd Place: Anita Krotz,
Requiem

2nd Place: Markay Brown,
Moon Watch

1st Place: Maurine Haltiner,
Another Language

#30. HAIKU

Subject: Any

Form: Three-line Haiku

Judge Name: Fredrick Andrie

of Entries: 35

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Martha H. Balph: sixty
new houses

2nd: Lillian Angelovic: Lines
drawn on your face

3rd: Denis Feehan: "Sorry"
won't reduce

3rd Place: N. Colwell Snell, No
moon out tonight

2nd Place: JoLea Johnson, I feel
you with rain

1st Place: Markay Brown,
Soaring high above

**#29. STEVEN LEITCH
MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: Kathy Gerstorff

of Entries: 43

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Judith Johns: Words
Choices

2nd: Michael Spears: Distant
Voices

3rd: Barbara Blanks: Timely
Questions

3rd Place: O. William Asplund,
A Second Death

2nd Place: Robert Rippy, Girl
on a Yellow Bike

1st Place: Isaac Johnson, An
Hour's Trove

**#28. ROSE OSTLER
MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: Kathy Jo Carter

of Entries: 42

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Markay Brown: Trending
Turmeric

2nd: Floyd Norskog: The
Tombs

3rd: Marie Tollstrup: Fireplace
DNA

3rd Place: Michael Spears,
Collateral Damage

2nd Place: Michael L. Hanson,
The Last Hike

1st Place: Martha H. Balph,
Untitled Tanka

**#27. GERALDINE FELT
MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: Jennifer Horne

of Entries: 46

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Judith Johns: Third Row
from the Back

2nd: Susan Foster: The Weight
of Ashes

3rd: Markay Brown: Genesis

3rd Place: Dr. Emory D. Jones,
Tin Roof: An Etheree

2nd Place: Shawn Dallas
Stradley, Drift

1st Place: Pam Tucker,
Sledding

**#26. KOLETTE MONTAGUE
MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: Whitnee Thorp

of Entries: 45

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Pam Tucker: We All Go
Empty-handed Into
Heaven

2nd: Susan Foster: The Memory
of Snow...

3rd: Mark Hudson: The
Constancy of Mozart

3rd Place: Shawn Dallas
Stradley, Dear First Lover

2nd Place: Markay Brown, Tree
House

1st Place: Michael Spears, This
is Just to Also Say

**#25. KOLETTE MONTAGUE
MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: John Hinton

of Entries: 41

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Louise Cook: I Found It



2nd: Susan Randall: Of Mice
and Moms
3rd: Crystie Cook: Dvofak
Waltzes On

3rd Place: Marney Hilton
Zambrano, The Cutest Little
Thermonuclear Explosion in the
Universe
2nd Place: Marie Tollstrup,
Sandstone Love Story
1st Place: Jane Randall, School
Dresses

#24. KOLETTE MONTAGUE MEMORIAL AWARD

**Subject: Ordinary Everyday
Things**

Form: Any

Judge Name: Lucinda Clark

of Entries: 37

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Lorraine Jefferey: Brush
Your Teeth!

2nd: Jolayne Nelson:

Laundry Day -- 1957

3rd: Shawn Dallas Stradley:
Beautiful Cast-off Things

3rd Place: Twila Wood,
Mamma's Girdle

2nd Place: O. William Asplund,
A Piece of Paper

1st Place: Grace Diane Jessen,
Rocking Chair Blues

#23. NORMA ASPLUND MEMORIAL

Subject: My Best Friend

Form: Any

Judge Name: Colette Tennant

of Entries: 27

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Marilyn Richardson: First
Pick Every Other Page
2nd: Russell Asplund:
Grateful for the Dust
3rd: Andrea Hughes: Diana

3rd Place: Michael Spears,
Thoughts of a Bystander
2nd Place: Crystie Cook, Dream
of Cedar Mountain
1st Place: N. Colwell Snell, Rita

#22. INTRODUCTION CATEGORY

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name:

of Entries: 1

Disqualified: 0

1st Place: Adam Haver, In the
Midst of the Garden

#21. LAURIE VAN DER HART APPRECIATION AWARD

Subject: Any

Form: Minute Poem (60

**syllables total. 1,5 and 9 have
8 syllables. Other lines have 4
syllables each. Rhyme pattern
is aabbccddeeff.)**

Judge Name: Lance Larsen

of Entries: 21

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Sara Gipson: Tea with
Dollies

2nd: Crystie Cook: Night
Concert

3rd: Jerri Hardesty: Squabble

3rd Place: Daniel B. Pickett,
Meteor Shower

2nd Place: Lorraine Jeffery,
Childhood Forests

1st Place: Martha H. Balph,
Genesis

#20. BROWN – DANIELS MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Any

Form: Free Verse

**Judge Name: Dr. Karen
Betstadt**

of Entries: 40

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Michael Spears:
Hummingbirds and Ocotillo
Vine

2nd: Maurine Haltiner: The
Busyness of Bees

3rd: Robert V. Davis: Lured by
the Phantom

3rd Place: Markay Brown,
Calling on the Oracle

2nd Place: Jolayne Nelson,
Placing Stones

1st Place: Pam Tucker,
Mortality of Quail

#19. WES VOGLER APPRECIATION AWARD

Subject: Any G-rated

Form: Limerick

**Judge Name: Susan
Chambers**

of Entries: 28

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Barbara Blanks: The
Cranky Crocodile

2nd: Lorraine Jefferey: There
Once Was an Employee Named
Frank

3rd: V. Kimball Barney: How
Pretzels Were Invented

3rd Place: Grace Diane Jessen,
Free Food



2nd Place: Martha H. Balph,
Inflation Frustration

1st Place: Crystie Cook, She
Was Too Viol for Him

**#18. DANIEL BRICK
MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any

Form: Rhymed and Metered

Judge Name: Dargan Ware

of Entries: 29

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Crystie Cook: A Pirate
Story in the Tavern

2nd: Robert Schinzel: Views of
Venus

3rd: Martha H. Balph: An
Inconvenient Truth

3rd Place: Denis Feehan, Ode to
Joe

2nd Place: Barbara Blanks, The
Green Is Always Grosser on My
Insides

1st Place: Catherine Moran,
Holding on to Parts Left Behind

**#17. TOM BILLSBOROUGH
MEMORIAL**

Subject: A Humorous Story

Form: Rhymed and Metered

Lines: 80 Maximum

Judge Name: B. J. Alligood

of Entries: 23

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Jerri Hardesty: Speakeasy

2nd: Michael Spears: Trailin'
Behind

3rd: Larry White: Costco

3rd Place: Mark Hudson, The
Critters in My
Neurotransmitters

2nd Place: Barbara Blanks,
Catfishing---A True Story

1st Place: Crystie Cook,
Invitation to the Cheese Ball

**#16. VERNA HARTSOE
CHIONG MEMORIAL
AWARD**

Subject: Unsung Heroine

Form: Any

Lines: 49 Maximum

Judge Name: Barbara Blanks

of Entries: 27

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Kate Hanks: A Rose
Among Daisies

2nd: Markay Brown: Miss
America

3rd: Anita M. Krotz: Blood
Wisdom and a Cloak of Love

3rd Place: Crystie Cook,
Keeping Up Appearances

2nd Place: Robert Rippy, For
My Mother, Who Took In
Ironing

1st Place: Twila Wood, Oh, To
Be Like Emily

**#15. IN HONOR OF
GERALDINE FELT
Subject: Growing Old**

Form: Any

Judge Name: Caroline W.

Roberts

of Entries: 53

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Barbara Blanks: I'll
Blossom, Not Wilt

2nd: Robert V. Davis: Bouncing
Back

3rd: William G. Hill: The Big
Six Oh!

3rd Place: Jerri Hardesty, Well-
worn

2nd Place: Chyrrel C. Maupin,
Musings On Old Age

1st Place: Les Wade, Aging
Gracefully

**#14. O. WILLIAM ASPLUND
RECOGNITION-
AVOCATIONS**

**Subject: Mountains to the
Prairies**

Form: Any

Judge Name: Jenny Kalahar

of Entries: 29

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Barbara Blanks: Choosing
Opals in Yosemite

2nd: Lorraine Jeffery: Prairie
Wisdom

3rd: Markay Brown: Fred's
Mountain

3rd Place: N. Colwell Snell,
Hydroplaning

2nd Place: Michael Spears, The
Sierra Nevada's Range of Light

1st Place: Twila Wood, The
Alaskan Railroad

**#13. O. WILLIAM ASPLUND
RECOGNITION**

Subject: Be of Good Cheer

Form: Any

Judge Name: Michael Lavers

of Entries: 36

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Barbara J. Funke:
Weightless in Caymen

2nd: V. Kimball Barney: Good
Life at the Rest Home

3rd: Maurine Haltiner: Earth
Tugs



3rd Place: Terry Jude Miller,
Surfacing

2nd Place: Lorraine Jeffery, An
Aria

1st Place: Shawn Dallas
Stradley, 1/10,000 of the
Reasons

**#12. MARILYN MARSHALL
AWARD**

Subject: Hope

Form: Any

Judge Name: John Foster

of Entries: 49

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Jane Randall: Uncertainties

2nd: Kaye Kindlespire: Phoenix

3rd: Raven Chiong: PANdemic

3rd Place: Dr. Emory D. Jones,
Shooting Star

2nd Place: Crystie Cook,
Lessons from the Duck Pond

1st Place: N. Colwell Snell, The
Prodigal

**#11. CAROLYN TAYLOR
AWARD**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

**Judge Name: Budd Powell
Mahan**

of Entries: 53

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Michael Spears: Chewing
Gum

2nd: Jane Randall: Requiem

3rd: Sara Gipson: Grandson's
Sleepover

3rd Place: N. Colwell Snell,
'Tis Better to Have Loved and
Lost

2nd Place: Barbara J. Funke,
Room 202 at the Comfort Inn

1st Place: Maurine Haltiner, A
Testament of Doves---A Fable

**#10. PAT BADER'S
CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

Subject: Children

Form: Any

Judge Name: Laurie Kolp

of Entries: 46

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Robert Rippy: Lessa

2nd: Eva Coca-Lucero: In

Defense of Grandma

3rd: Pam Tucker: Wampum

3rd Place: Tanya R. Whitney,
Lemonade Days

2nd Place: Crystie Cook, First
and Second Grade Special
Education Class

1st Place: Shawn Dallas
Stradley, Dancing with
Dragonflies

**#9. AMERICAN INDIAN
HERITAGE AWARD**

**Subject: About or relating to
American Indians**

Form: Any

Judge Name: Michael Lavers

of Entries: 26

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Chyrrel C. Maupin:
Metate

2nd: Robert Schinzel:

Canvas in the Canyon

3rd: Lorraine Jeffery:
Trading for Tinilei

3rd Place: Robert Rippy, The
Morongo Flint Knapper

2nd Place: Bonnie Anderson,
First People

1st Place: Crystie Cook, One
Night in Kirwin, Wyoming

**#8. DAVID F. AND ROBERT
H. BALPH MEMORIAL**

**Subject: About wild
creatures, or the wild creature
in domestic animals**

Form: Any

Judge Name: Constance

Brewer

of Entries: 42

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Marth H. Balph: Christmas
Bird Count

2nd: Susan Randall: Fairy Tale
Unmasked

3rd: Robert V. Davis: Surprise

3rd Place: Joel Passey,
Serendipity

2nd Place: Isaac Johnson, The
Loon

1st Place: Pam Tucker,
Nestlings

**#7. RED ROCK WRITERS
FOUNDERS AWARD**

Subject: Bones

Form: Any

**Judge Name: Mark Andrew
Terry**

of Entries: 31

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Terry Jude Miller: Jumping

2nd: Maurine Haltiner: More
Than Bare Bones

3rd: Markay Brown: Speaking
of Bones



3rd Place: Dr. Emory D. Jones,
Bones Die Hard

2nd Place: Lauren Madsen, At
Grandpa's Bedside

1st Place: Sara Gipson, Alive in
Autumn

**#6. JOSEPH K. AND ORBY
ANN CRAPO MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any Humorous

Form: Rhymed and Metered

Lines: 28 Maximum

Judge Name: Patricia Barnes

of Entries: 25

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Susan Randall: It's In The
Bag

2nd: Jerri Hardesty: Eli Jones

3rd: Gina Du Par: Ode to Marie
Kondo

3rd Place: V. Kimball Barney,
The Blue Pill

2nd Place: N. Colwell Snell,
Mongrel

1st Place: Crystie Cook, The
Hen in the Thunderstorm

**#5. JAMES H. AND EFFIE
BARNEY MEMORIAL**

Subject: Any Humorous

Form: Rhymed and Metered

Lines: 32 Maximum

**Judge Name: Charmaine
Donovan**

of Entries: 24

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Jerri Hardesty: Thanks to
Hank

2nd: Martha H. Balph:
Sleeping Beauty

3rd: Chyrrel C. Maupin: Take
That and That

3rd Place: Crystie Cook,
Scratching an Englitch

2nd Place: Grace Diane Jessen,
Serving Them Right

1st Place: Robert Schinzel, No
Bark, No Bite

**#4. VALLEY WINDS
AWARD**

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: Julia Cummings

of Entries: 56

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Susan Foster: All Winter

2nd: Jane Randall: Getting
Throughers

3rd: V. Kimball Barney:
Swimming Naked in Snapping
Turtle Pond

3rd Place: Louise Cook,
Sagebrush Train Song

2nd Place: Russell Asplund,
The Fountain of Parable

1st Place: Mike Wahl,
Ravenous

**#3. BETTY FOWLER
MEMORIAL**

Subject: About the USA

Form: Any

**Judge Name: Deborah
Monroy**

of Entries: 38

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Shawn Dallas Stradley:
Piano Boy

2nd: Barbara J. Funke: Union
Square Tree Lighting in San
Francisco

3rd: Markay Brown: Cemetery
Visit--Koosharem, Utah

3rd Place: Martha H. Balph,
We, The People (of Cache
Valley, Utah)

2nd Place: Maurine Haltiner,
Landscape Memorial Day

1st Place: Crystie Cook, When
the Road Hardens

**#2. ANN C. LARSON
MEMORIAL**

**Subject: Any (no politics,
explicit erotica or vulgarities)**

**Form: Any (except no prose
poems)**

Lines: 50 Maximum

Judge Name: Polly Opsahl

of Entries: 49

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

1st: Crystie Cook: How the
Stag Fell in the Snow

2nd: Sue Stevenson Leth: All in
a Day's Work

3rd: Barbara Blanks:
Shakespeare Finds Inspiration
While Blathering to Death

3rd Place: Pam Tucker, Piccolo
2nd Place: Markay Brown, Side
by Side

1st Place: Maurine Haltiner,
Musings on Miracles

#1. WILD CARD AWARD

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: Stuart Watkins

of Entries: 97

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Martha H. Balph:
Stradivarius

2nd: Martha H. Balph: Slow
Learner

3rd: Marie Tollstrup: For
Thumb's Sake



3rd Place: Maurine Haltiner,
The Whole Pie

2nd Place: Bonnie Anderson,
Paper Feathers

1st Place: Robert Rippy, War
Hero

#37. \$HOOT FOR THE LOOT

Subject: Any

Form: Any

Judge Name: D Courtney

Huse Wika

of Entries: 35

Disqualified: 1

Honorable Mentions

1st: Susan Foster: After Death,
the Dream

2nd: Maurine Haltiner:
Monday Morning Ars Poetica

3rd: Shawn Dallas Stradley:
Magical Pink Bunny

1st Place: Lorraine Jeffery, Set
Wide

ALICE MORREY SWEEPSTAKES

Winner

Crystie Cook, Sandy, UT with
43 points

UTSPS BOOK PUBLICATION AWARD 2023

Subject: Any

**Form: Exactly 50 pages of
poems**

Judge Name: Paula Lepp

of Entries: 13

Disqualified: 0

Honorable Mentions

3rd: Martha Hatch Balph, The
Entire Sky

2nd: Lorraine Jeffery, Saltwater
Soul

1st: Robert Rippy, Journey of
Stone

3rd Place: Pam Tucker, Never
the Night So Sequined

2nd Place: Shawn Dallas
Stradley, Painting the Cave

1st Place: Susan Foster, The
Falling Water Calls It Grief