

**“HEART OF THE SOUTH  
CONVENTION”  
June 10-13, 2010  
Memphis, Tennessee  
Program**

**Wednesday, June 9, 2010**

7:00 p.m. Early Bird Cocktail Party at the home of Sarah Hull Gurley

**Thursday, June 10, 2010**

9:00 a.m. Registration Table opens  
9:00 a.m. Book Room opens for set-up  
10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Graceland Tour  
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. NFSPS Board Meeting  
3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Book Room open  
6:30 p.m. Buses leave for Central Barbecue  
7:00 p.m. Barbecue Dinner. (A Welcoming Program will follow at either Central Barbecue or the Holiday Inn.)  
9:30 p.m. “Heart of the South” Poetry Read-Around

**ARKANSAS DAY**

**Friday, June 11, 2010**

7:00 a.m. “Natural State” Poetry Read-Around  
8:00 a.m. State Presidents' Meeting  
8:00 a.m. Book Room open  
8:30 a.m. Registration Table opens  
9:00 a.m. 1st NFSPS Plenary Session  
10:30 a.m. “A Night Visitor”  
~ Harding Stedler  
11:00 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
11:30 a.m. "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Poetry"  
~ Cathy Moran  
12:00 Noon Lunch, Invocational Poem Winner & Manningham Winners  
1:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
2:00 p.m. Break - Book Room open

2:30 p.m. “The Music of Poetry”  
~ John W. Crawford  
3:15 p.m. Announcements  
3:30 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
4:00 p.m. “A Natural State of Poetry”  
~ Peggy Vining  
4:45 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
5:30 p.m. Social Time  
6:30 p.m. Dinner, Invocational Poem Winner  
7:30 p.m. College/University Winners  
8:00 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
8:30 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
10:00 p.m. “Ozark Nights” Poetry Read-Around

**MISSISSIPPI DAY**

**Saturday June 12, 2010**

7:00 a.m. “Magnolia State” Poetry Read-Around  
8:00 a.m. Book Room open  
9:00 a.m. (Program Topic TBA)  
~ Dr. Randy Smith  
10:00 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
10:30 a.m. (Program Topic TBA)  
~ Dr. Jonathan Randle  
11:30 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
12:00 Noon Lunch, Invocational Poem Winner  
1:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
2:00 p.m. "Poetry Power"  
~ Faye Williams-Jones  
3:00 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
3:30 p.m. "How to Win Contests in Only 853 Steps" ~ Jim Barton  
4:00 p.m. “How to Hook Your Readers and Make Your Poetry More Memorable”  
~ Panel Discussion: Ann Carolyn Cates, Brenda Finnegan, and Elva Avara

5:00 p.m. Break - Social Time  
6:30 p.m. Dinner, Invocational Poem Winner  
7:30 p.m. Stevens Manuscript Winner  
8:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
10:00 p.m. “Southern Belle” Poetry Read-Around

**TENNESSEE DAY**

**Sunday, June 13, 2010**

7:00 a.m. “Tennessee Mockingbird” Poetry Read-Around  
8:00 a.m. Book Room open  
9:00 a.m. 2nd NFSPS Plenary Session  
10:30 a.m. Break - Book Room open  
11:00 a.m. NFSPS Board Meeting  
12:00 Noon Lunch, Invocational Poem Winner  
1:00 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
2:15 p.m. Break - Book Room open  
2:45 p.m. (Program Topic TBA)  
~ Lola Haskins  
4:00 p.m. Book Signing for Lola Haskins  
4:00 p.m. Book Room closes  
5:30 p.m. Reception and Cash Bar  
6:30 p.m. Dinner, Invocational Poem Winner  
7:30 p.m. Installation of 2010-2012 NFSPS Executive Board  
7:40 p.m. Lola Haskins, Keynote Speaker  
8:10 p.m. Break  
8:25 p.m. NFSPS Annual Contests Winners  
Fifteen minutes after finish:  
“Volunteer State” Poetry Read-Around

**Monday, June 14, 2010**

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. “Mississippi Valley” Poetry Read-Around  
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. City Tour

**2010 NFSPS Convention Poetry Contest Guidelines**

First Place: \$200.00, Second Place: \$100.00, Third Place: \$50.00. **Deadline: Saturday, May 1, 2010.** Entrants must be members of an NFSPS-affiliated state poetry society. Awards will be announced and the top ten poems read during Thursday evening’s activities. Theme: Poet’s Choice. Style or Form: Poet’s Choice. Line limit: 40 lines. Entries may be published or unpublished and may or may not have placed in contests elsewhere. Entries must, however, be titled. Winners need not be present to win. Send two copies of each poem on white paper, 8.5”x11”. Please use 12-point standard font. On one copy, provide poem only. Second copy should include entrant’s name, address, phone number, and state poetry society in upper left corner. Limit per entrant: 3 poems. Entry fee: \$5.00 - one poem; \$10.00 - up to three poems per entrant. Make check payable to: Poetry Society of Tennessee. Mail entries to:

**Christina Foster 709 N. Avalon Memphis, Tennessee 38107 (Mark envelope: NFSPS 2010)**

## CONVENTION SPECIAL EVENTS AND TOURS

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Wednesday Night: 7 p.m. Free Early Bird Cocktail Party at the home of Sarah Hull Gurley.

Transportation will be provided. Food and drinks will be served. Thursday Night: 7 p.m. Dinner at Central Barbecue, one of Memphis' leading barbecue restaurants, serving Memphis' famous pork barbecue. The cost for the Dinner at Central Barbecue is \$12.50 for those who have their own transportation. For those who need to go to Central Barbecue by bus, the price is an additional \$10.00. A Welcoming Program may be at the restaurant or may be back at the Holiday Inn, after Dinner at the restaurant, depending on attendance.

### **TOURS**

Thursday Morning: Optional Graceland Tour. Tour the second most visited house in the United States, the Graceland mansion, home of Elvis Presley, the King of Rock and Roll. See the Music Room, the Jungle Room, the Trophy Room, the Meditation Garden, and other features of this extraordinary mansion. The tour will depart at 10:00 a.m. and return around 1:30 p.m. Time is allowed for you to purchase your own lunch snack. Price per person: \$30.00. Monday Morning: Optional City Tour. This tour includes the Mississippi River, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Sun Recording Studios, Beale Street, the famous Peabody Hotel ducks and many other sights of downtown Memphis, which has become a major tourist city. Plan a later flight as the tour, which departs at 10:00 a.m., will not return until around 3:00 p.m. This gives those who go on the tour time to have lunch on their own on world famous Beale Street. (The tour cannot be planned earlier in the morning as the march of the Peabody Hotel ducks occurs precisely at 11:00 a.m.) Price per person: \$28.00.

## CONVENTION SPEAKERS

### **FRIDAY ~ ARKANSAS DAY**

**Harding Stedler** retired from teaching at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio after 34 years in the classroom. Now living in Maumelle, Arkansas, he is a member of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas and the River Market Poets in Little Rock. He founded the Frontier Poets at the Maumelle Arts Center, where he volunteers tirelessly. He is the author of seven collections of poetry and recently won the Arkansas Senior Poet Honor Scroll Award. Besides his accomplishments in poetry, he is a veteran actor and performer.

**Cathy Moran** taught English for many years, and she now works in an office, which gives her more time to read and write poetry. She enjoys entering contests and has won more awards than can be easily counted. Her work has been published in such magazines and journals as *Atlanta Review*, *The Bitter Oleander*, *Kansas City Voices* and *Mid-America Poetry Review*. She is the author of the poetry collection *Discovering Pigs*.

**John W. Crawford** is Professor Emeritus at Henderson State University. He has authored three books of poetry: *Making the Connection* (1989, Mellen Press), *I Have Become Familiar With the Rain* (1995, Mellen Press) and *French Quarter at Eight* (2008, Publish Now Press). He has won numerous awards including the Sybil Nash Abrams Award twice, the Arkansas Haiku Award and the International Society of Poets Grand Prize Award, along with a \$10,000 book publishing grant. John has read at venues nationwide and is a longstanding actor and musician.

**Peggy Vining** has won many awards for her poetry, including the Sybil Nash Abrams Award for her sonnet sequence "Arkansas, the Natural State." She has been a member of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas since 1963, serving as President three times. She has been Director of the Ozarks Creative Writers' Conference and the Arkansas Writers' Conference, as well as President of Arkansas Penwomen and Arkansas Songwriters' Association. She was appointed Poet Laureate of Arkansas in 2003, and is compiling a collection of her poetry titled *Tethered to the Moment*. She received a Point of Light Award from President Bush and was recognized by the Arkansas General Assembly with a special House Resolution.

### **SATURDAY ~ MISSISSIPPI DAY**

**Randy Smith** is an Associate Professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing Program at Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi, where he has taught since 2001. He earned a Ph.D. in

American Literature from the University of South Carolina.

Previously, he taught for five years at Nyack College in Nyack, New York. Randy has published poems in *Sandhills*, *The Best of Sandhills*, *Yemassee*, *Ruminate*, and *Rock and Sling*. His scholarly work has appeared in *The Creative Spirit*, *The James Dickey Newsletter*, and in *The Way We Read James Dickey*, a collection of critical essays published by the University of South Carolina Press. Randy and his wife, Laura, have three children and a new daughter-in-law: Benjamin and Caitlin (22), Nathanael (9), and Flannery (6).

**Jonathan Randle**, born in 1972 in New Orleans, grew up in Oxford, Mississippi, where he enjoyed a rural childhood. He attended Mississippi College as a National Merit Scholar in the early nineties, where he double-majored in English and History. Numerous study tours in the United Kingdom during his undergraduate career prompted him to pursue graduate work at the University of Cambridge, where he studied in the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic, eventually earning his Ph.D. in Old English language and literature. He returned to the United States and to his alma mater in 1999, where for the past decade he has been teaching medieval literature, analysis of poetry, and graduate seminars in epic and romance, while also serving as the faculty advisor for *The Arrowhead*, the college's literary and fine arts magazine. Randle lives in Jackson with his wife and their two children.

**Faye Williams-Jones** collaborates with Bob Jones, her husband, to create framed poetry and photography exhibits. *Erasing People* is her first poetry chapbook. She frequently wins awards, and her poetry appears in over fifty anthologies or journals. As Faye enters her second decade of living with cancer, she feels the creativity of poetry contributes to her excellent quality of life.

**Jim Barton** has poetry appearing in over one hundred twenty-five journals and e-zines in twenty-seven states and Great Britain. He has won nearly two hundred poetry awards, including the Sybil Nash Abrams Award, since his first win in 2006. He is the author of the full-length collection, *Animals Who Missed the Ark* (Plain View Press) and two chapbooks. *At the Bird Museum* won the Morris Chapbook Competition from the Alabama State Poetry Society. *Music* was published by Finishing Line Press. He is President of South Arkansas Poets of the Pines and a member of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas and the Poetry Society of Virginia.

# “Heart of the South Convention”

2010 CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

NFSPS' first multi-hosted convention ~ Hosted by:

POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS ~ MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY ~ POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

JUNE 10-13, 2010 ~ MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

THE HOLIDAY INN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS ~ 3700 CENTRAL AVENUE ~ MEMPHIS, TN 38111

PHONE (901) 678-8200 ~ FAX (901) 678-0536

www.holiday-inn.com/mem-uofm

## REGISTRATION FORM

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Member/Participant Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Names and Ages of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### CONVENTION LODGING

Participants must make their own hotel arrangements. Rooms in the Holiday Inn at the University of Memphis are suites and sleep several people. The Convention will be held in the Holiday Inn, but less expensive rooms are available directly across Central Avenue in the Fogelman Center, which is a convention center and hotel for business executives who hold conferences at the University. Rooms in the Fogelman Center should be reserved particularly early as they may be limited. Do not call the general reservation number for Holiday Inns as special rates may not be available at that number. **Rooms at the Holiday Inn are \$125 a night and should be reserved by calling (901) 678-8200. Rooms at the Fogelman Center are \$85 a night and should be reserved by calling (901) 678-5410. All reservations should be made by May 10, 2010.** The hotel provides free shuttle service. Discuss this with the hotel when you make reservations and let them know your flight times if you already know them.

### CONVENTION FEES

#### Part I - Registration

Number of people

Members/Participants: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$75.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Participants 18 or under: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Single Day Participants: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Guests/Children under 18: \_\_\_\_\_ NO FEE

*(Though not required, a \$10.00 donation is appreciated to help defray convention costs.)*

\* Will not attend workshops, receive handouts or *Encore*

**SUBTOTAL - Part I = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

#### Part II - Meals (prices include tax & gratuity)

Number of meals

Friday Lunch (June 11): \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$22.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Dinner (June 11): \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$32.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Lunch (June 12): \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$22.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner (June 12): \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$32.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Lunch (June 13): \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$22.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Dinner (June 13): \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$32.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBTOTAL - Part II = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

#### Part III - Special Events/Tours (A, B, C & D)

Number of people

A) Early Bird Cocktail Party: \_\_\_\_\_ FREE  
Wednesday (June 9), 7:00 p.m. *(Attendance number needed)*

B) Central Barbecue Dinner: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday (June 10), 7:00 p.m.

Transportation Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Directions will be provided to Central Barbecue for those who have their own transportation)*

C) Graceland Tour: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday (June 10), 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
*(Cost is for transportation only. Lunch is on your own.)*

D) City Tour: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$28.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Monday (June 14), 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
*(Cost is for transportation only. Lunch is on your own.)*

**SUBTOTAL - Part III = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL - PARTS I, II & III = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Poetry Society of Tennessee**

**Mail this registration form and your check to:**

2010 NFSPS Convention Registrar:

Sarah Hull Gurley

9141 Forest Bend Court

Germantown, TN 38138