

WFOP CONFERENCE PLANNING SURVEY RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Number of completed surveys: 119
Survey requests sent: 415
Response rate: 29%

SUMMARY RESULTS – ALL RESPONDENTS:

Q1. 76 respondents (63.87%) have previously attended conferences. 43 respondents (36.13%) have not.

Q13. Beyond conferences, respondents recommended the following to **create more fellowship and learning opportunities:**

- 59% want more regional gatherings in person
- 55% want more online learning
- 39% want opportunities to join a critique group
- 34% want more contests and publishing opportunities

Q14. Our members found **these aspects of membership in the WFOP extremely important or important:**

- 93% Furthering poetry in the state/helping poets develop their craft
- 90% Publishing opportunities, like the calendar or Bramble
- 83% Fellowship via regional gatherings
- 79% Contests
- 78% The Museletter
- 77% Website content, including member pages
- 75% Fellowship via conferences
- 52% Support of other arts organizations
- 38% Engagement on social media

Q15. **Fellowship** received 49+ responses when asked what respondents **liked best about being a member**

Q16. Responses were mixed when respondents were asked what they liked least about their experience as a member, with 15 responses each for **Nothing** and various **Aspects of Conferences**

Q17. 20 respondents had nothing to improve member experience, with 14 suggestions for **more online experiences.**

Q18. Length of membership for respondents:

- 25% 1-5 years
- 23% 21+ years
- 20% 11-15 years
- 14% 6-10 years
- 2% less than 1 year

Q19. Age of respondents:

- 47% 70+
- 30% 60-70
- Less than 6% of respondents were in each of the other age groups from 30 – 60
- No respondents were under the age of 30

OF THOSE WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED CONFERENCES :

Q2. 47% have attended only 1 or 2 conferences, 35% have attended 3-4. Only 18% have attended 5-6.

Q3. What they love or like most about the conference:

- 94% rank fellowship as the aspect they most love/like
- 90% Interactive Sessions and the Keynote Speaker
- 84% the Book Fair
- 78% the Announcement of Contest Winners
- 71% the Friday Open Mic
- 19% the Roll Call Poems

What they don't like or wish we'd stop at the conference, ranks as follows:

- 27% rank the Business Meeting as the aspect they don't like or wish we'd stop
- 17% the Roll Call Poems
- 1% Interactive Sessions and the Keynote Speaker
- No respondents disliked the Announcement of Contest Winners, Book Fair or Fellowship

Q4. 49% of respondents believe the **Frequency of conferences** be **one conference a year**, while 28% want two.

Q5. Location responses were mixed: 32% like the current rotation with fall centrally located and the spring in different regions; 22% think we should rotate to all regions or opt for one online and one in-person.

Q6. 42% of respondents want the same **Length** of conferences as is currently offered (Friday night and Saturday) with 14% wanting a full weekend. 26% had additional comments (see detail).

Q7. What respondents would like to see or not see at future conferences:

- 91% want more interactive workshops, panel discussions and break out sessions
- 79% want to see one large name (big draw) as the primary speaker for the whole conference, but 76% also would like to see a mix of large name and emerging poets

OF THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED:

Q8. Have not attended conferences for the following reasons:

- 57% submitted an "other" response (see detail for comments)
- 33% said it was too far to travel and they had a fear of COVID
- 20% felt it was too costly

Q9: When asked what would entice respondents to attend a future conference:

- 42% said a mix of speakers/poets
- 37% said more interactive workshops, panel discussions or break out sessions
- 37% provided "other" responses (see detail for comments)
- 26% would likely not attend regardless

Q10: Of the options for improving conferences, when asked what one thing was most important:

- 23% would like not attend regardless
- 21% said a mix of speakers/poets and more interactive workshops, panel discussions or break outs

Q11: 71% would be more likely to attend if we offered only one conference a year.

Q12: 45% would be more likely to attend if we offered only a one-day conference with no overnight stay, but 31% said the length would not increase their likelihood of attending.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Move to one conference per year, rotating in different regions, with a mind to more centrally located.
- Move to a full weekend conference, but offer more pricing options for members to choose to go all weekend or single day.
- Focus on the quality of the content and presenters with more interactive sessions and more offerings by our big draw presenters (vs. a one and done brief reading or presentation).
- Increase online/virtual opportunities.
- Create more ways to engage in fellowship outside of the conference setting including more emphasis on regional activities, more emphasis on craft, a vehicle to join a critique group, etc.
- Create a more welcoming/structured path for new members, such as a quarterly Zoom orientation session or more opportunities for networking.

APPENDIX

Open-Ended Feedback

Q4. How many statewide conferences should we hold each year?

Rationale for just one conference (12)

- Most organizations have one conference a year and that is enough
- I think it's reasonable to hold 1 statewide conference.
- I think holding one a year, with perhaps an extra day would work better.
- Given the decreased attendance and increased online opportunities, I think it's an unnecessary drain on finances and energy that benefits fewer and fewer members. Don't most organizations have an ANNUAL conference?
- Two are too hard to manage. One in a central location or one that rotates through regions
- one is enough to plan and carry through on
- Most large organizations that do hold conferences limit them to one a year.
- I think you would have greater turnout if it were just once a year.
- I think more members might attend if there were only one conference.
- Conferences take a lot of time (any money for the WFOP). Members who are still working or have young families have a difficult time attending. One is more manageable. When there is two per year, it is too easy to feel out of the loop and to fall into a routine of non-attendance.
- One is enough to plan and carry through on
- Too busy to attend two

Rationale for two conferences (8)

- Two gives members a choice as far as convenience
- Two gives more fellowship opportunity than only one. Plus, if one has to miss one, there is another.
- I can't attend every conference due to work and driving distance, but I like having the option.
- Sometimes hard to get to both, but would like to get to at least one.
- I think if you do less, attendance will decline further. Perhaps that is inevitable since we are an elderly group. You have to find a way to recruit younger members.
- It's traditional to have two conferences a year.
- Altho physically unable to attend as much as I want,, I still think the twice a year is good because of the distances of our member.
- I haven't been able to come to conferences last 4 years, due to my still working part time and grandchild, but I still hope to come and a choice of dates would be great.

Location (5)

- The geographic variety allows more people to attend one conference.
- Depends entirely on location
- Keep it in a central location such as Stevens point/Warsu area. I know I generally don't have time or \$ for two conferences
- Maybe try one in the north and one in the south.
- Expecting people to travel and pay for more than one is too much
- What if it were one conference, but longer? So people who could make it could attend the whole longer, like maybe 4-day, event, but it would also be possible to just go for the weekend?

COVID Concerns (3)

- I think attendance has dropped because of Covid. I did not attend this last conference because I still don't feel safe or comfortable in large indoor gatherings as long as variants keep popping up.

- So hard to say. Post-COVID, I see decline in attendance in all groups to which I belong.
- This depends on the pandemic/health concerns. Some meeting facilities have installed air purifying systems, and that is reassuring. Advertise this when it is the case.

A mix of in person and virtual (2)

- One in-person and one virtual
- One good conference with a notable speaker each year is good. But a zoom workshop with a notable poet could be the “ 2nd” conference.

A mix of state wide and regional (2)

- I think having one state wide conference and supporting more regional activities might fix a lot of our issues and stresses for VP's.
- I was thinking 1 state wide and perhaps 1 regional...maybe have to combine some regions but this might give more opportunity for new leadership to arise.

Timing (2)

- Fall is same time as Chippewa Valley Book Festival in Eau Claire.
- If we do switch to one a year, please make it in spring!!

Age (2)

- i am too old and doddering to come anymore, but one a year seems enough.
- Getting old and less excited about travel, hotel, etc

Other:

- They are expensive and tend to be the choir singing to the choir.
- The 63 attendees with Wausau conference was stellar- questioning
- If there were regular video meetings to get to know people, I would be more likely to attend in person because I would know people.
- Zero. Local one-day conferences would be far more useful.
- It's unlikely I will attend future conferences because I moved to California; however, i love the organization.

Q6. How long should future conferences be?

Full Weekend (7)

- Full weekend if only one per year.
- Two conferences: Same structure. One conference: Full weekend.
- If we go to a once-a-year conference, we might be able to do a Friday night through Saturday night.
- A full weekend could be nice if the itinerary was interesting.
- A full weekend with registration options; Friday night only, Saturday only; Saturday and Sunday, etc.
- My idea is in my earlier comment: have it be longer, like 4-5 days, for people who can attend that long, but have the "main" stuff like the keynote on the weekend so it's possible to just come for the weekend as well
- I vote for full weekend, but when I try to comment here it switches to "other." I belong to another organization that holds one conference for a full weekend rotating by region. They offer optional signups: full weekend, Friday night only, Saturday only, Sunday,etc. They also offer meal options. I really like having these difference options. So, our case, if you love roll call pay for the time when there is roll call. If you think it is a waste of money, don't sign up for that time. I think we would get more people overall with one conference/yer for the full weekend (if you are traveling somewhere, you might as well get your gas money's worth) and a number of options.

Feedback on Friday night (3)

- I'd like a meal on Friday night, followed by Open Mic to encourage socializing.
- More open mic time Fri. Eve. Should be a major part of the conference. We're poets, let's hear it. Fri. Eve is a great time to try out something new on a poetically educated audience.
- Maybe more workshops on Friday night

Cost (3)

- Any structure would require an overnight (hotel cost) except for people who live near the location. That cost is a big deterrent, especially to a single person.
- Cost seems to be a concern for attendance numbers or interests.
- If it's just one day, people don't have to spend money on a hotel.

Same Structure (2)

- I'd actually like to see it alternate between Friday night and Saturday and Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning due to Friday being a day I generally still may be teaching for English etc
- Same structure, but with events on Saturday night so people stick around. I was alone in Wausau Saturday night: no fun at all!

One Day (2)

- If there are occasional regional conferences or workshops make those 1 day. Offer two 2 hour workshops and lunch. No breakfast.
- One day, and in each region, not statewide.

Other:

- I think this allows the best mix of fellowship opportunities without the time demands of a full weekend.
- If driving a long distance, breaking it up is easier.

Q8. Why have you not attended conferences in the past five years?

Conflicts / Other obligations (14)

- Conflict with other travel
- conflicting events on same weekend
- Scheduling conflicts.
- I'm 87 and am now limiting activities to make time for my bucket list.
- I have 6 other groups to tend to; VFW, VVA, Am. Legion et-al.
- too many other obligations
- happened to have conflicts--I was out of state or other obligations
- I have a part-time job and can't attend.
- Newer member haven't taken the opportunity, this year timing conflicted with other plans
- They have frequently conflicted with other things I have scheduled.
- Scheduling issues
- family responsibilities
- Family responsibilities
- Pre-pandemic I didn't live in WI; last conference, had other travel plans to see our kids, out of state

Health (3)

- Relatively new member; Disabled husband at home
- I had been working but just retired. ALSO Covid
- Disabled

Transportation (2)

- The poets I traveled with have sadly passed away.
- Lack of transportation

Other

- I'm not writing anymore.
- Don't know much about it.
- like to see targeted workshops and learning opportunities

Q15. What respondents like best about being a member:

Fellowship (49)

- Connection; information
- Hearing other poets tell their personal stories. Hearing them read their poetry.
- Over the years it was meeting other member poets.
- Camaraderie of other poets, hearing their poetry.
- It's become a second family!
- Getting to know other poets.
- meeting other poets
- knowing other poets
- Fellowship; Winter festival in Madison.
- Contact with other poets
- It's the Wisconsin FELLOWSHIP of poets, right?
- All the close friendships I've made.
- Encouragement from other poets
- Meeting and hearing other poets, hearing what they're doing
- Decades of fellow poets and commingled artisries
- The opportunity to meet fellow writers from around the state and make new friends.
- Meeting other poets, networking
- Meeting & socializing with other poets.
- Contact with other poets and their poetry
- Getting to know other poets and growing as a writer through what WFOP has offered. Everyone is welcomed, valued and encouraged regardless of background, credentials, etc. People write for different reasons and all are valid. No one needs to apologize for not being "good enough" to be heard.
- Meeting poets whose poems I like.
- the opportunity to meet and get to know other poets and their poetry.
- getting to know poets around the state
- Meeting other poets and their poetry, both in-person and thru website, Museletter, online workshops, and calendar/Bramble publishing.
- Opportunities to learn of other poets
- Inclusion in poet community
- Being wrapped into a community of poets
- Interaction with other poets.
- Being connected with other poets.
- Social interaction with fellow poets.
- Some of my best poetry friends were made through WFOP.
- Connecting with other poets
- Some of the members.
- Being accepted as a poet.
- The fellowship that develops and feelings of belonging to an organization that is near to my heart.

- Finding opportunities to engage
- Meeting other poets and hearing their poetry
- Friendships that have developed and encouragement from other poets.
- Meeting and engaging with poets from around the state has contributed to my growth as a poet.
- Exposure to other poets
- Getting to know people
- Connecting with other writers
- It's been a helpful starting place for me in getting acquainted with a few Milwaukee poets, having moved here recently from MN, and I enjoyed being part of online readings over the past couple years for Calendar and Covid anthology.
- I am connected with a few past WFOP members in a poets group.
- Being part of a creative community
- Developing close friendships and sharing poetry
- The chance to improve my own poetry through interaction with other poets.
- meeting some people
- Knowing I support and am part of an organization devoted to poetry

Multiple Reasons (19)

- conferences and in person poetry readings.
- The calendar, conferences, and contests
- The conferences are a wonderful opportunity to get to know other poets and hear them read their poetry; publishing in the calendar and Bramble; the online workshops that have been offered since the pandemic began. However, while the online workshops have been very good, that's the only thing that works online for me -- so much of life is online, that "socializing online" is not at all appealing to me -- it is an oxymoron.
- museletter, publication opportunities, regional gatherings
- The online workshops, Museletter, contests
- Conferences, the Calendar
- Fellowship, roll call, contests, Bramble, visiting and meeting people from around the state
- Conferences & other gatherings pre-covid; connecting with other poets around the state; publishing opportunities
- The Calendar and my local critique group
- connections with other writers, receiving news about contests, upcoming themed calls and other opportunities
- Newsletter and regional meetings
- The publishing opportunities; the fellowship with other poets; the support group; the contests
- I like participating in the contests and on line learning
- I like the fellowship, opportunities to enter contests and ideas for poems (I facilitate a poetry group for adults once a week)
- I like the detailed weekly updates of news and events via email! Conferences have also been enjoyable
- I loved both editing jobs I did: "Sheltering" and Bramble. I would like more opportunities like that. I also greatly appreciate the people I have met through WFOP events - both people who have become my friends and people I just see occasionally at a conference or open mic to talk to briefly. I love being part of this poets' community and I love being a regional VP.
- Meeting some people, a few of the offerings
- The fellowship, for sure. Also the member readings and the really good keynoters, like Barbara Crooker.
- The calendar, Museletter, Website, conference

Information Sharing / Learning Opportunities (11)

- Information about upcoming readings and publications
- Learning about fellow poets, conferences, publishing opportunities
- Having a web page; opportunity for Festival of Poets.
- Awareness of events sent by Regional rep Ed Werstein
- Also, getting to know people who remain very good friends.
- Being a member of WFOP is more important than belonging to a "club," because of the exchange of ideas through poetry.
- A way to find out about what's going on in poetry.
- The online workshops of the past couple of years and the good friendships I've made.
- Online workshops
- The opportunities to learn and expand and improve my own writing! Thank you!
- Really have benefited from the zoom classes

Publications / Submission Opportunities (10)

- Bramble and the calendar
- The Museletter
- Opportunity to publish my work & fellowship
- Museletter is helpful. Enjoy reading and publishing in Bramble. Nice to have the member pages available.
- Opportunities to submit for contests and publications as well as regional opportunities to read and develop fellowship
- Bramble and meeting poets from throughout the state either in person or through reading the Museletter and Bramble
- Publishing opportunities
- I submit to the newsletter, Bramble and the Poets Calendar
- museletters
- learning of publishing opportunities

Sharing and Hearing Poetry (4)

- Many opportunities to share poetry.
- I like the opportunity to read what other poets have written.
- Contests and reading our poems
 - I liked regional gatherings and poetry readings

Conferences (2)

- Fellowship. Open mic. Keynotes.
- Keynote speaker, open mic, fellowship

Other:

- To find common ground
- Volunteer opportunities like working on the calendar and being editor of Museletter poems for a time.
- Supporting Wisconsin's statewide poetry organization.
- PR for poetry
- furthering poetry across the state, being part of a movement, keeping up to date on developments

Q16. What respondents like least about their experience as a member:

Nothing (15)

Aspects of the Conferences (15)

- One of my books got stolen at the Book Fair last spring. Left a bitter taste in my mouth and one reason I skipped the fall conference—Happened to another poet I know too. Maybe we need to allow time for people to sit and monitor their own book sales.
- Lack of interesting programming at conferences
- Went to one, maybe two conferences in the past. My books did not sell.
- Poorly conceived conferences
- Long business meetings and roll call poems - use time for programming.
- dealing with hotel food issues during conferences
- Running conferences.
- Listening to terrible poetry on the open mic
- Readers going on too long. We need stricter timing guidelines. Or Ronnie with a paddle! :)
- I actually don't really like poetry readings that much. I can't digest poems well without seeing them in print.
- Roll call poems can go on forever! Limiting the length of poems helps.
- The roll call poems at conferences. I do not want to pay such high conference fee to listen to 100 poems. I want workshop that are interactive so I can engage with my peers not sit passively hour after hour.
- Occasional pressure to read
- Business meetings!
- business meetings (but necessary!)
- Business meeting in October 2022

Location of Opportunities (10)

- I'm in between regions so regional events are really far away for me.
- Not interested in travelling to Madison or Milwaukee for events. Wausau and Minocqua during summer are great.
- Few opportunities where I live other than traveling to Milwaukee, Madison
- the readings at Suzy's Steakhouse was a flop. Should have found a better location.
- suspension of regional gatherings
- The travel distances
- Having to travel & stay overnight to enjoy the entire conference.
- traveling (but necessary),
- Some of the conference locations are very far away from me. When he had a
- Lack of recognition for the SOUTHWEST region. We are NOT SOUTH CENTRAL

Conflict/Drama (10)

- Witnessing the conflict between board members at the fall conference. That did not need to have an audience. It was a personal issue that should have been handled in private. Leadership needs to act/work in a professional manner.
- People that don't respect that this is a volunteer organization and everyone's doing the best they can to make the organization grow and thrive.
- Discussions about sustaining the organization
- Arguments at business meeting. It was a waste of time. Following Roberts Rules of order, call the question and move to vote.
- The abrasive behavior of some members at meetings.
- In- fighting, non-standardized rules, which are currently being addressed

- There were also a few really unpleasant organization problems when officers did not get along or would not listen to board guidance.
- drama
- Politics
- I once attended a Board Meeting and will never return.

Lack of Fellowship (6)

- Need more ways for meet-and-greet (fellowship) at events.
- I wish I had ways to let poets whose poems I especially like in the calendar know that.
- The cliques and the hierarchies
- Lots of cliques
- Only knowing a couple poets
- Feel like an outsider
- Some of the members.

Me (5)

- My neglect at times
- I'm disappointed that I've not been able to become more involved.
- I am not that prolific and sometimes feel I should publish more.
- Facing the difficulty of no longer being a full participant in WFOP has been difficult.
- My old age - I just can't participate anymore. I made so many friends.y wonderful friends when I was active.For me

Lack of Critique Groups (3)

- lack of local writing/critique groups
- Critique group experiences.
- Especially since the pandemic, I have struggled with critiquing on zoom, I love to critique and talk with people in person. I wish there were more in-person critique groups available. I've sought out opportunities and still drive to Madison from the Milwaukee area once a month, but now there are only 3 of us. Thanks

Lack of Diversity (2)

- We could use more age diversity
- Feeling like there's not enough diversity in the poet population

Contests (2)

- Contests. Poems should not be in a beauty contest.
- Contests, I guess. Is this really a competitive sport?

Communication (2)

- Too many museletter emails
- less than stellar communication from board to members-at-large

Other

- The sense that "emerging" refers essentially to younger writers.
- Keeping track of my membership expirations, unclear regions
- I have good friends in WFOP and I admire many folks. I wish that WFOP had a better reputation in the state, and more involvement of more widely published poets.
- Not enough focus on our own poetry in a shared way.

- Not being able to get to all the conferences.
- Events occurring so frequently in various areas and not being able to attend (i.e. conferences) makes it feel like I'm a fellow with an online-only presence. Regional events is helpful with this.
- The WFOP presence on Facebook could be increased
- I have been disappointed that WFOP doesn't seem to have a lot of success connecting with schools, young poets, or other arts organizations.
- Seems to be a crossroads in terms of future direction.
- meeting some people

Q17. What we could do to improve member experience:

More of the Same/Nothing/Don't Know (20)

- Just keep on going and keep providing great poets as friends.
- Keep something going like now at a minimum
- I think WFOP is an amazing writing organization. I don't expect more of it than it is offering now.
- Keep working on it! Something will click!
- I appreciate all you do!! I always enjoy the online workshops.
- Really, I think the organization does a good job, even if I don't participate in much.
- I think things have gone well overall.
- I'm happy with WFOP just the way it is.
- You are doing great
- I'm really happy with the organization and conferences, so thank you!

More Online Opportunities (14)

- more online opportunities for stay-at-homes
- Quarterly on-line class/discussion
- Keep the zoom / online workshops going and having notable poets as keynote speakers with hands on workshops and craft discussions
- More online and virtual opportunities for members who still work, have families, or a busy schedule
- More on line learning seminars
- More online contacts
- More virtual opportunities because I can't easily get to in-person events due to my work schedule.
- Do more online workshops. I loved Marily Taylor's Villanelle class and the Seed reading and class with the two poets.
- Have more online workshops, these are great!
- Have more online readings and workshops. Eg I couldn't go to the fall conference and would have loved to hear Barbara Crooker; would pay a fee if necessary to be able to access recordings of her presentations.
- I like the idea of one virtual and one in person conference a year.
- Continue to offer online workshops throughout the year.
- Last year Tori had a couple on line offerings that were great, more of those would be nice.
- Have online conferences as an option

More Regional Opportunities (9)

* Perhaps encourage more regional in-person one day mini conferences.

- Regional workshops focused on some aspect of poetic craft.
- More help developing a local interest in poetry here in Baraboo.
- perhaps you could hold one-day all day meetings in 3 or 4 localities at the same time...spring, summer and fall.

- Increase regional gatherings.
- More regional activity, including critique groups and discussion on individually targeted publishing opportunities.
- resume regional gatherings
- More in-person opportunities to meet and work with others
- More/ smaller regions to enhance local contact would be nice but that requires more man power and may spread volunteers too thin.

Focus on Craft (7)

- Focus on craft and increase regional activities.
- More tutorials and writing/reading sessions
- Focus on educational sessions and not just show case a published poet
- more workshops!
- Continue with the contests and publishing opportunities. Perhaps publish an anthology every 3-4 years.
- Including more publishing news for poetry like haiku.
- Part of what I value about a conference is a chance to get away and write, which is why I suggested maybe having an option for a longer retreat

Focus On Diversity (5)

- Continue efforts to reach out to and include younger poets and poets of color. This may mean holding more conferences and/or events in the Milwaukee area, although our state is diversifying quite a bit.
- Look for ways to recruit/engage younger poets, poets of color, disabled poets, LGBTQIA+ poets, etc.
- Make more effort to get YOUNG poets to become members.
- I know it's been tried, and I'm not sure how to make it happen, but we really need to get more younger members. We also need to get more volunteers from the members we do have.
- All we need are some new, younger members and opportunities/activities to connect with them. The conference could do more to get us talking and interacting with unfamiliar faces. Getting to know each other AND working on craft.

Critique Groups (5)

- Critique groups with skill sets equally matched
- Opportunities for critique and growth.
- Assistance with finding an ongoing critique group— zoom preferred because of where I live
- Writing groups
- I've been in online critique groups for years and have really benefitted from them. However, I wonder how easy it is for others to join or start a group. How many active groups do we have? Should the Museletter/website add a column/section to highlight this experience and connect those who want to find a group?

Communications (5)

- Contact me by email. Monthly reminders of contests and/or deadlines.
- I don't like receiving the Museletter as email. I used to read it when I had a paper copy. Now it's just another email to ignore. And it seems WFOP wants email only.
- maybe email addresses or other contact info in calendar for calendar poets
- have a replacement of weekly Museletter yada yada
- more connections? I get the emails and museletter but delete right away

More Marketing/Exposure (3)

- I think the public is out of touch with poetry and could not care less about the WFOP. I think you need to more vocal about why poetry is essential to a life well lived.

- Market information
- exposure to more featured journals to read and or as submission venues? be

More Welcoming (3)

- I would like to see newer members welcomed into the fold of more experienced ones. Some newer members have discussed feeling outside of the "clique" of those who have been members longer.
- Making new poets welcome and comfortable enough with their craft to volunteer
- Mentoring emerging poets

Make Me Younger (2)

- I'd like to be thirty years younger with a healthy husband who applauded my every achievement.
- Make me younger and a more confident driver

Other:

- I think this process is currently underway by new officers
- More collaborative projects
- I think the range of opportunities offered in Questions 7 & 8 are appropriate.
- see #10
- Provide directions for updating my web page
- Do a poet feature every week to social media.
- Hold the next conference in Long Beach. Seriously, if I lived in Wisconsin, I would be at every conference!
- Always include Zoom, post quarterly prompts on website or in MUSELETTER, recognize SOUTHWEST as a region
- More time to mingle.
- One conference per year with more interesting programming
- Bring back Ellen Kort. Bring back Richard Roe. And a few dozen others. But seriously, find the NEXT Ellen Kort, the next Richard Roe, etc. Work tirelessly to that end.
- Help members sell their books.
- Prioritize the actual presentation of poetry, where we can watch each other perform or present our poetry.
- Keep all the gatherings as centrally located as possible.