**Members Only Monthly Contest – 2021**

**Exclusive:** For current members of AWG only. All entries eligible for Annual Contest. **No fees!**

**Judging:** Judges are professionals who may or may not choose to critique entries. Choice of winners is final. If there are fewer than four entries per category in double category months, categories will be combined. Six entries per month are required for judging.

**Prizes:** $20 first prize and $15 second prize. You are encouraged to attend the meetings to pick up your check. Otherwise they will be mailed to the physical address provided.

**Pay careful attention to all guidelines**

**Deadline:** Submissions received any time after the 12th of the previous month, but due by the 12th of the contest month.

**Enter by Email Only:** Send documents as attachments and in Word format only. Subject Line should state: **AWG Contest and “Month”** (e.g. January). Entries will be returned to the email on coversheet. Warning: some devices may not transmit document correctly, thus disqualifying entry. AWG will respond within five days. It is entrant’s responsibility to verify and resend.

**Send to: awg.entry@yahoo.com**

**Mix & Match:** Submit up to 3 entries per month. Enter poetry, prose, or both. Blended themes are acceptable. Must be original work unpublished at deadline (includes Internet posts).

**\*\*** You may send up to 3 entries and accompanying cover sheets in the same email, but all cover sheets and entries must be **separate attachments.\*\***

**Cover Sheet Format:** **Top left:** author’s name, physical address (to mail prize check), telephone number, and email. **Top right:** Chosen month of entry, **word** count for Prose and Flash entries or **line** count for poetry. (*Do not count the title when determining line or word counts.*) **Title** of entry should be centered midway down the page.

**Entry Format:** *Do not include author name on any page*. Minimum one-inch margins; prose double spaced; poetry single or double spaced. **First page: c**enter title at top, double space then start text. Number subsequent pages at the top center or top right.

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| **MONTH** | **THEME** | **CATEGORY** |
| JANUARY | Beginnings, Hope,  Surprises | Poetry – 50 lines or less  Fiction – 1,000 words or less |
| FEBRUARY | Love, Friendship,  Memories | Poetry – 50 lines or less  Non-Fiction – 1,000 words or less |
| MARCH | Mandatory prompt words:  play, pattern, peril, point, pride | Flash entry: Fiction or Poetry  100 max using 5 prompt words |
| APRIL | National Poetry Month  NO THEME | Rhymed or Unrhymed Poetry  50 lines or less |
| MAY | National Short Story Month  NO THEME | Fiction – 1,000 words or less |
| JUNE | AWG Non-Fiction Month  NO THEME | Non-Fiction – 1,000 words or less |
| JULY | Home, Travel | Poetry – 50 lines or less  Fiction – 1,000 words or less |
| AUGUST | Mandatory prompt words:  space, soften, sting, sparkle, sphere | Flash entry: Fiction or Poetry  100 max using 5 prompt words |

Flash Fiction/Poetry use 5 mandatory prompt words, or close form and meaning, like: Oil = oiled, oils, oiling, oiler, oily **not spoil or foil**; boat = lifeboat; speak = unspeakable, **not spoken**; place = placement; defect = defection or defective.