



## THE DIPLOEMAT

World's most unique Literary Society  
where we turn Scribblers into Scribes and Meeting the Muse is a Way of Life

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[www.amykitchenerfdn.org](http://www.amykitchenerfdn.org)

<http://www.greatspiritpublishing.yolasite.com/golden-words.php>



### ... FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

## Poetry, like the pen, can be mightier than a sword

On February 12, 2014, I celebrated my 79<sup>th</sup> birthday, which actually means I ended 79 years of life and am starting my 80<sup>th</sup> year. My gift to myself was long-overdue cataract surgery, which instantly restored my 20/20 vision but gave me a shock that is summed up in the line of a poem by late senior poet Dorothy Brown:

***When I see so much better, I look so much worse.***

The realization I have wrinkles was more than a shock. It confirmed I was right to retire from administering the SPL Contest to finish my works in other genres. Hoorah! On March 1, 2014, *The Boondogger's Bible—How to Fight Like City Hall—to Win!* was released. It is the first revelation about how bureaucratic red tape works and how you can either participate in boondoggling or take your own steps to end it. I used poetry to force the end of my 9-year ordeal. The city let me live with raw sewage floods that could, but didn't, cause me to give up, quit, go broke or die in attempts to get out of the mold-ravaged house that nearly killed me.. The book includes the haiku scroll co-created by Al Baker and me. "Floodville, U.S.A." Public poetry readings helped me get a \$91,000 settlement from the City of Springfield. Poetry, like the proverbial pen, can be a powerful tool that's mightier than the proverbial sword. Poetry saved my life! Do you need similar help? If interested further, see Page 3.

Barbara Callahan Quin, interim administrator of the 2014 Senior Poets Laureate Poet Laureate Competition for American poets age 50 and older, is now accepting entries for this year's competition. For your convenience, a copy of the rules appears in this edition on page 2.

There are about six weeks left before the Guns, Grenades & True Grit contest for poems and prose about war closes on 4/30/14. Rules appear on Page 4. Entries have been light, but the contest remains open.

May the muse be with you.

**Wanda Sue Parrott, Editor**

# 2014 NATIONAL SENIOR POET LAUREATE POETRY COMPETITION

PUBLISHED & UNPUBLISHED Poems OK -- NO LIMIT to # of ENTRIES – DEADLINE 6/30/14

A literary contest open to all American poets age 50 and older who are U.S. Citizens regardless of where they are in the world. The 2014 SPL Contest will reflect the SPL Contest of 1994 in which only two categories were featured. It is privately administered by BARBARA CALLAHAN QUIN, and sponsored by Great Spirit Publishing, of Springfield, Missouri. Judges will include former Senior Poet Laureate contest co-founder Wanda Sue Parrott and members of the panel of judges to be convened in 2014. Entries will be accepted between January 1 and June 30, 2014. All entries must be submitted ELECTRONICALLY according to instructions below.

## A W A R D S

Best Rhymed Poem and Best Unrhymed Poem will be chosen, one each to be named: These winners compete for:

- National Senior Poet Laureate (Best overall Poem: \$500 and Certificate)
- National Senior Poet Honor Scroll Award (Runner-Up: \$100 and Certificate)
- Other discretionary awards to be determined by the 2014 contest board.

**ENTRY FEES; \$5 for first poem; \$3 each for second and all subsequent poems**  
**40-lines maximum per entry. E-MAIL by: 6/30/14.**

## RULES

There are two categories: **RHYMED POEMS** and **UNRHYMED POEMS**. Subject matter and style are: **POET'S CHOICE**. An entry cannot exceed 40 lines plus title. Each entry must have a title, unless haiku or senryu. Single spaced; legible type, preferably 12 pt. size, black ink. No illustrations, fancy type, or shaped poems. If special formal format, include name of form such as "sonnet" or "triolet," etc., in upper left corner. **Electronic submissions only.**

## HOW TO ENTER ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS

**Electronic submissions should be sent to: [bquin@ymail.com](mailto:bquin@ymail.com).** We suggest you send yourself a copy in order to keep an entry record. No submissions will be returned. Send only one poem per e-mail entry. In the Subject Line state "2014 SPL (and your last name)" and in the upper right corner:

**Your Name**

**Your Pen Name, if applicable**

**E-mail address**

Drop down 2 spaces and continue with

**TITLE OF THE POEM IN CAPITALS**

**The poem, single-spaced.**

**Also include one electronic cover sheet by**  
 following the  
**HOW TO SUBMIT COVER SHEET**  
 instructions below.

Please state in the subject line:  
 2014 SPL BIO and your full name.

**HOW TO SUBMIT COVER SHEET :** (One page, not one page per poem, should include): **A.** Number of Poems submitted: \_\_\_\_; **B.** Are you a U. S. Citizen? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No; **C.** Personal information: **I.** Your LEGAL NAME; **II.** Your PEN NAME (by which you wish to be identified); **III.** Your current RESIDENTIAL and E- MAIL addresses; **IV.** Your DATE OF BIRTH (month, day and year); **V.** Gender; **VI.** OCCUPATION, including type of work done and your status as working or retired; **VII.** Personal data such as hobbies, publications, children, etc.

**HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY FEE:** Make your check payable to: BARBARA QUIN and write "SPL 2014" in the memo space. Upon receipt of payment, your entries will be activated. Send to: **SENIOR POET c/o Barbara Callahan Quin, Administrator, 3651 W. Madison St. Springfield, MO 65803.** Winners will be notified by 8/31/14. Winning poems may be published online and in the September edition of THE DIPLOEMAT News Letter. All rights revert to the poets. To print a copy of the Rules go to

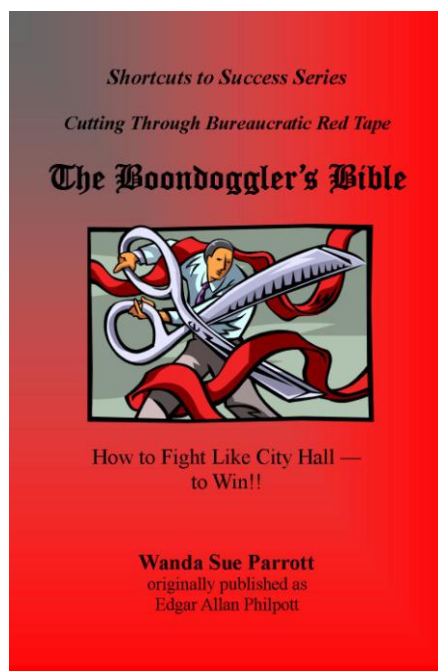
<http://www.greatspiritpublishing.yolasite.com/golden-words.php>

or

[www.amykitchenerfdn.org](http://www.amykitchenerfdn.org)



## THE POETS' PAGE



INTRO OFFER good thru 4/30/14  
**\$10**

### Cutting Through Bureaucratic

#### Red Tape

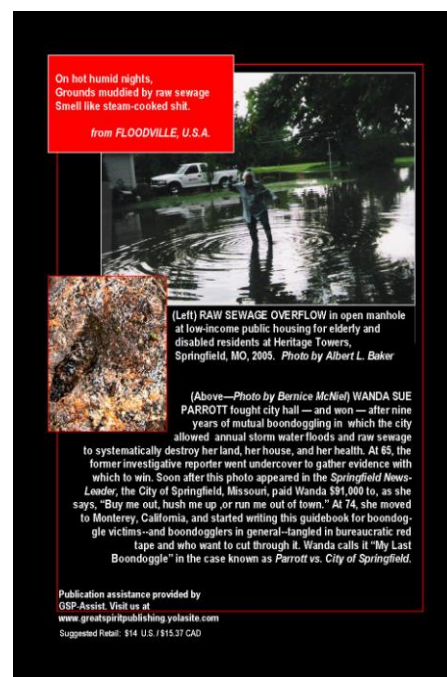
### THE BOONDOGGLER'S BIBLE

#### How to Fight Like City Hall

#### —to Win

By Wanda Sue Parrott

A boondoggle is a stall-and-delay tactic government agencies, businesses and individuals use to postpone settlement of a problem or finish a project or deal. It is a waste of time, energy, money and often of life. This book reveals how to perform boondoggles and suggests ways to protect yourself if you're the victim of a boondoggle.



Order from: Wanda Sue Parrott, P.O.  
Box 1821, Monterey, CA 93942-1821

### News Briefs...

**Milo Rosebud**, editor of **LONE STARS Magazine** invites submissions for "The Write Idea" Poet's Poem Prompt. "Publish or Perish (the Poet's Maxim). He says: Imagine the most important idea issue of interest in your life at this time. Tell us in a poem no more than 24 lines. Give it a title. E-mail to us (no attachments or files). One entry per submission to: [lonestarsmagazine@yahoo.com](mailto:lonestarsmagazine@yahoo.com). Winners published in Lone Stars.

**Arthur C. Ford**, publisher, The Poet Band Company, is looking for poetry of all types. Payment is in contributor's copies only. See guidelines: [thepoetbandcompany.yolasite.com](http://thepoetbandcompany.yolasite.com)

### BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM GREAT SPIRIT PUBLISHING

<http://www.greatspiritpublishing.yolasite.com/store.php>

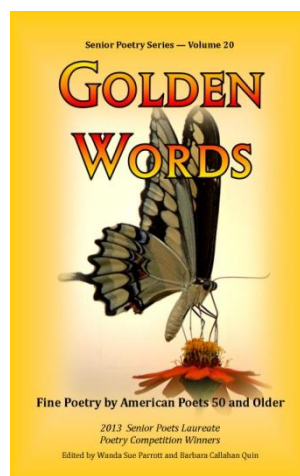
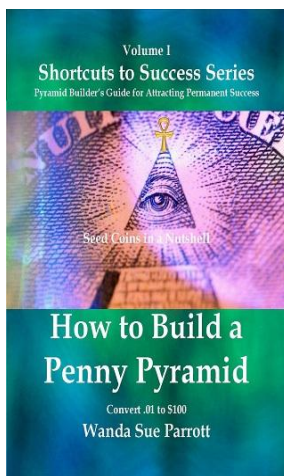
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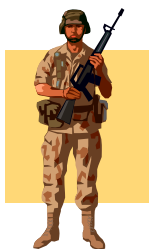
**Send special order requests to [greatspiritpublishing@yahoo.com](mailto:greatspiritpublishing@yahoo.com).**

How to convert a one-cent seed coin into \$100 cash yield. Easy, legal, safe.

Beautiful 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Edition of Senior Poets Laureate Contest winners

Secrets and tips professional poets and prose writers use to win contests and top cash.





# GUNS, GRENADES & TRUE GRIT

War Memoirs  
by G.I. JOEs AND JILLs



## CATEGORIES:

POETRY (100 line limit)

PROSE (2500 words maximum)

Submissions accepted US Mail only from 1/1/14 to 4/30/14

**NO AGE LIMIT -- PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED OK -- UNLIMITED ENTRIES**

This is a writing competition about true experiences of American veterans and military men and women currently serving in Afghanistan. It covers the six great wars of most of our lifetimes: World War Two, The Korean Conflict, Vietman, Iraq I and Iraq II, and Afghanistan. The subject matter is writer's choice, as is style of written expression.

**This competition is open-ended, meaning it is experimental.**

## AWARDS

There will be at least one 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award each for Best Poem and Best Prose with ¼ total entry fees to be equally divided between or among winners.

Honorable Mentions may be named, to be split from another ¼ of total entry fees, amounts to be determined by number of entries and judges' choices of winners.

## ENTRY FEES

\$5 for the first entry and \$3 each per subsequent entries.

## RULES

You must own the copyright to your submission. In the upper left corner of your first page, include the category (POETRY or PROSE) and under it name the war about which the piece is: Korea, Vietnam, etc. In the upper right corner of your first page include your name, address, e-mail and phone. All entries must have titles. Staple multiple-page entries together. Send one copy only. Include one cover sheet with your name, address, e-mail, phone, titles of all your entries, and whatever facts you wish to share about your military service. Keep a copy of your work, as no entries will be returned. Judges will be members of Central Coast Writers in California. Winners will be announced in the June 2014 edition of *The Diploemat*.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

**Enclose payment with entries and one #10 Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope**

**Make check payable to Wanda Sue Parrott Literary Fund**

**Send to: P. O. Box 1821**

**Monterey, CA 93942**