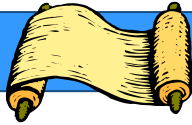




Missouri Writers' Guild



100th Anniversary Year Celebration



Celebrating the Past / Planning for the Future



President's Message

January 2015

Volume 90, Issue 3



As 2014 has ended, I extend to you my best wishes for the coming year and my hopes that it will bring you joy and success.

Appeal for Board Members

In a few months we will be electing new board members. It is an exciting job to fulfill and very important for our guild. The thing is, we need people to volunteer to be on the board. Right now, we have several members who have been on the board in one position or another for several years. That is a good thing because we need their historic knowledge and expertise. However, we can't continue like this. Our board, which should be ten members, is now only six. We need new members for all of the board positions and most immediately for the Publicity Chair. I am asking all full members to seriously consider volunteering to be on the Missouri Writers' Guild board for 2015. We will hold elections in April, so you have some time to consider. Please email me your wish to be considered and what qualities you feel you bring to the table: president@missouriwritersguild.org. I am looking forward to seeing your name on the ballot!

Leadership Conference

Join your fellow Guild and Chapter members to plan for the future of our organizations. We are hosting a Leadership Conference April 10-12 in Columbia at Stoney Creek and have we got a deal for you! The Missouri Writers' Guild will fully subsidize two people from your chapter to attend the conference. That's right. The MWG will pay for your hotel for Friday and Saturday night as well as for your food on Saturday. That's how much we need to you participate in this conference.

On Friday, we'll work together to pick the topics we want to workshop on Saturday. On Saturday, the MWG board members will facilitate workshops on the topics you picked on Friday.

On Sunday, we'll spend the morning brainstorming how to fix, develop, or implement at least one topic discussed on Saturday.

This conference is vital to ensuring the Missouri Writers' Guild continues to support and improves its support of its members and chapters – in a word – YOU! Please plan on being part of this important conference. Remember, the MWG will pay for two people from each chapter to attend. We'll see you there!

Annual Contests

We have judges for the upcoming President's contests: Dr. James Brubaker for Walter Williams category; Ron Austin for Flash Fiction, Danita Allen Wood for Show Me! Book category.

Appeal for the 2016 Conference Coordinator

Yes, 2016. It will be here sooner than you think. Please, please consider volunteering to be the Conference Coordinator for 2016. If you are interested, please send me an email – president@missouriwritersguild.org.

Do you know?

Paul Bass our Historian is doing a fantastic job putting together a chronicle of the Missouri Writers' Guild history. He needs your help, though. Do you happen to remember the presidents for 1982-1987 and/or from 1989 to 1991? His list is incomplete and he is hoping you all might know.

New Website, New Logo Contest

Our new website is nearing completion and we need a new logo to go with it. Please consider submitting your design for the Missouri Writers' Guild. Deadline is February 28 and the winner will be announced at the April Leadership Conference.

Keep writing!

Lisa Miller
President, MWG
Publisher, Walrus Publishing, Inc.



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Do you have news, contests, kudos, or articles for the MWG Newsletter?

Type them out and submit them to: janetcannonwriter@gmail.com by the following dates:

- May 15 (June Newsletter)
- August 15 (September Newsletter)
- November 15 (December Newsletter)
- February 15 (March Newsletter)

2015 President's Guild Contests!

Member Kudos

It's that time again to enter your work to be considered for the Guild's annual contests. Contest descriptions and guidelines follow. Please feel free to email President Lisa Miller with any questions president@missouriwritersguild.org. Prizes will be awarded at the April Leadership Conference

Contests are open to active members of the Missouri Writers Guild with membership dues paid in full for 2015 prior to entering. You may enter more than one contest, but only one entry per contest. An editor of a multiple-author anthology must be a member and can enter the complete book with individual authors published in the anthology eligible to enter their work in appropriate individual categories.

Works must have been published during the 2014 calendar year.

The entry fee for all contests is \$10. Deadline for all submissions is February 15, 2015

Mail submission and entry fee(s) to:
Lisa Miller
President, Missouri Writers Guild
4168 Hartford Street
Saint Louis, MO 63116

Submission materials will not be returned. Make checks payable to the Missouri Writers' Guild or via PayPal at paypal-alert@missouriwritersguild.org.

Walter Williams Award

Sponsored by Missouri Center for the Book

Contest Judge: Dr. James Brubaker

First Prize: \$100, a plaque, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference
Second Prize: \$50, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference
Third Prize: \$25, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference

Named in honor of the founder of the Missouri Writers' Guild. This should be a



major work whether in book form or in some other form of publication that is worthy of special recognition because of research or high literary quality involved in its creation.

"Show Me" Best Book Award

The award is open to any type of publication or production including fiction, nonfiction, scripts, poetry (poetry collection in book form), books, and anthologies. Self-published books are not allowed in this category.

Sponsored by Amphorae Publishing Group

Contest Judge: Danita Allen Wood

First Prize: \$50, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference
Second Prize: \$25, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference
Third Prize: \$15, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference

Special Category Award: Flash Fiction

This is an award for a work published in book form of fiction, poetry, or nonfiction.

Sponsored by Amphorae Publishing Group

Contest Judge: To Be Announced

First Prize: \$50, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference
Second Prize: \$25, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference
Third Prize: \$15, a certificate, and recognition at the April Leadership Conference

This is an award for a published work 750 words or less in any genre.



SHARON WOODS HOPKINS—
A Shaker of Margaritas: That Mysterious Woman by Mozark Press accepted her short story:

- "Rear View Mirror."

DONNA VOLKENANNT—
A Shaker of Margaritas: That Mysterious Woman by Mozark Press accepted her short story:

- "Sins of the Daughter"

"All Saints Quarterly" Newsletter accepted her article:
• "Getting to Know Our Saints: St. Jude"

AKA Publishing/Compass Flower Press *Uncertain Promise* Anthology
• Served as a fiction judge

UMSL's "Write Stuff" certificate program.
• Taught a writing seminar on "Think Outside the Book: Publishing Personal Essays and Short Stories"

MARILYN SMITH—
Travel in the Sixties Anthology accepted her short stories:
• "Riley's Curiosity,"
• "Drivin' Draggin' and Dodgin' Police,"
• "Carlene's Diary: Time Travel?"

Recent Book Publication:
• *A History of Highway 65, From the Middle of the Road*

Buffalo Reflex Newspaper Column
• "A Tale or Two"



Member Kudos

LEE ANN RUSSELL—

Missouri State Poetry Society

- 1st place for "Reading Between the Lines"
- HM for "Summer Nights"
- HM for "Crossroads"

Siloam Springs Writers

- HM for poem, "The Branson Bit"

Indiana State Poetry Society

- 3rd Place for "After the Storm"
- HM for "Crossroads"

National Federation of State Poetry Societies

- 2nd place for sonnet, "Reward"

Poets Roundtable of Arkansas

- 2nd Place for sonnet, "Reward"

Poetry Society of Texas:

- HM for "Sands of Time"

Ohio Poetry Day

- HM for poem "Sweet Thing"

Springfield's Poets & Friends

- 1st Place in Free Verse for "Swinging in a Shed"
- 2nd Place in Formal, Structured Verse for "Iridescence"

Lebanon Poets' Society

- HM in Rhymed or Blank Verse for "Who Says Neatness Counts?"
- HM in Poet's Choice for "Bag Lady"

JANET L. CANNON—

WOW! Summer Flash Fiction Contest

- 3rd place "Old Notes New Composition"



Chapter Reports

Saturday Writers

Saturday Writers enjoyed a very active autumn. October was filled with evening workshops on various topics. Liz Schulte explained how she makes a living by publishing and marketing her own books. Suzanne Newsham helped inspire interesting non-fiction. Tips on novel writing were examined with John Dalton. An inside look at what poetry editors are looking for was presented by Catherine Rankovic. In November we hosted an afternoon with international author Kevin Stevens, introduced by previous speaker Jason Sommer. All events were open to the public.

Throughout November we hosted weekly write-ins for participants of NaNoWriMo. The write-ins saw an average of twelve writers, some who were not exclusively working on novel projects but who like to work in a welcoming atmosphere with other writers. We met at the Spencer Road Library, a branch of the St. Charles City/County library system. We continue to write there every Saturday afternoon.

The Local Authors' Night at the county library saw a good number of SW members present their books for public sale. This event keeps growing, with 50 authors attending this year!

Our members-only Christmas party in December includes a silent auction, book exchange, and tons of food and camaraderie.

Our next meeting is January 31st at the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre. Please check the website for details and speaker info. Monthly contests for 2015 will be announced at the meeting and copies of the new anthology will be available. www.saturdaywriters.org

—Submitted by Marcia Gaye, MWG Liaison

Marshall Writers

The Marshall Writers' Guild 2014 booklet, "Notes and Notables of Saline County," is selling well at local businesses. A copy along with guild minutes and members' writings of 2014 will be presented to the State Historical Society of Missouri located in the lower

level of Ellis Library on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia.

Members are preparing a program for a local women's club based on what a notable in their article might say today.

The prompt for December is to write a short selection using all of the senses to "capture the moment" of a memorable event. These will be read after members and guests enjoy their traditional luncheon.

—Submitted by Authorene Phillips

Boonslick Creative Writers

New Year, New Resolutions

Between jobs, kids, and other activities, not everyone can meet at the same time. But writers still write and we all need help and encouragement from time to time. This year, BCW is going to make an effort to reach out to all members whether they are able to attend or not. A newsletter is being created to share prompts, contests, calls for submissions, and success stories the members want to share.

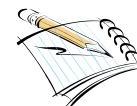
For more information or to add to the newsletter, please contact Liz Davis atfarmersdau@yahoo.com

—Submitted by Judy Stock

Southeast Missouri Chapter

Saturday, July 11th, 2015, the Southeast Missouri Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild in partnership with the Heartland Writers Guild will host their second annual All Write Now! Conference. Panels, breakout sessions, pitch sessions, and more will be located in the University Center of Southeast Missouri State University. Information on pricing, our new writing contest, directions, and other details will be available after our new officers are installed in January.

—Submitted by Janet L. Cannon



MWG Past Presidents Have the Write Stuff

Three MWG Past Presidents – Margo Dill, Claire Applewhite, and Donna Volkenannt – serve as adjunct faculty members for UMSL’s “Write Stuff” Chancellor’s Certificate Program.

As adjunct faculty members for the program, Dill, Applewhite, and Volkenannt teach seminars on a variety of writing-related topics.

During the spring 2015 semester, Applewhite will present “50 Ways to Kill Your Lover” on February 21 from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m.

Also during the spring 2015 semester, Volkenannt will present “Think Outside the Book: Publishing Personal Essays and Short Stories” on March 14 from 9 a.m. till noon.

The “Write Stuff” seminars are held on the UMSL campus. For more information or to register, phone 314-516-7454 or visit www.pcs.umsll.edu.

—Submitted by Donna Volkenannt



Writers on Rails: Explore, Dream, Discover Missouri

What writer hasn’t imagined having the opportunity to Explore, Dream, and Discover—uninterrupted—a story bottled within?

Well, in celebration of Missouri Writers’ Guild 100th anniversary in 2015, the MWG board of directors, in keeping with Mark Twain’s encouragement to explore, dream, and discover, are offering writers this exact opportunity with a new and exciting essay contest! The Writers on Rails: Explore, Dream, Discover Missouri essay contest.

And for the winner? An all-expenses-paid, two-day, first-class round trip vacation across our magnificent state of Missouri on the luxury, air-conditional Amtrak Missouri River Runner.

For further information and submission guidelines, contact Donna Essner at treasurer@missouriwritersguild.org, or Lisa Miller, president, at mwgpres@missouriwritersguild.org.

—Submitted by Donna Essner



Leadership Conference in Columbia, Missouri

Writer’s Group Leaders: Please plan to attend the Missouri Writers’ Guild Leadership Conference in Columbia, Missouri April 10, 11, and 12, 2015, at the Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia. We are hoping that this conference will prove to be a valuable step forward in the advancement of the interests of writers in Missouri.

The plan is for participants to set the agenda, so please come with ideas or send some ideas ahead of time.

We are hoping for a conference that is useful and productive, and that results in concrete action to advance the cause of writers and writing in the state. Please choose your representatives to send to the Leadership Conference, and let’s make the next 100 years of writers’ guilds in Missouri even better than the first 100!

For questions or more information, please contact Steve Wiegenstein, conference coordinator, at swiegenstein@yahoo.com, or Lisa Miller, MWG president at mwgpres@missouriwritersguild.org.

—Submitted by Steve Wiegenstein



Missouri Writers' Guild
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