

THE NEWSLETTER OF OKLAHOMA WRITERS' FEDERATION, INC.

THE REPORT

DATE SUMMER VOLUME 44 ISSUE 1



Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc.

PROMOTING HIGHER STANDARDS FOR THE WRITTEN WORD

in Oklahoma, the United States and around the world



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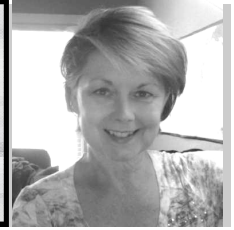
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DO NOT SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE EDITORIAL OFFICE.

Linda Apple

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I will always remember the electric excitement of my first OWFI conference in May of 1998. My precious friend, Lois Spoon, convinced me to come with her and I will always be grateful for her. It is fitting that I'm writing this letter to you on the ninth anniversary of her leaving us and *entering into life* on May 13th 2002. Each year I entered the con-

tests, planned for the long trip to OKC, absorbed the instruction in the sessions, got all pumped up—even more so if I won a contest, a little deflated when I didn't. Even so, I always left the con-

ference with new vigor and determination to write. However, I *never* expected to leave with a gavel in my possession! Being the 2012 president is an honor and an incredible responsibility, one that I take very seriously.

Author Ursula K LeGuin wrote, "There have been great societies that did not use the wheel, but there have been no societies that did not tell stories." I

Author Ursula K LeGuin wrote, "There have been great societies that did not use the wheel, but there have been no societies that did not tell stories." I don't really know if there have been societies that never used the wheel, but I get what she is saying. Stories are the fabric of civilization. The interlock us together no matter what century we walk this earth, what culture we come from, or where we live.

don't really know if there have been societies that never used the wheel, but I get what she is saying. Stories are the fabric of civilization. The interlock us together no matter what century we walk this earth, what culture we come from, or where we live. Stories expand our understanding and imagination. They teach us, entertain us, and encourage us. Stories

are tools to help us understand life. They help us communicate like nothing else can. You might say our stories, whether fiction or non-fiction are our gifts to the global community now and for as long as this world exists.

We are like weavers, taking threads of ideas, emotions, senses, thoughts, imagination, passion, and purpose and intertwining them together in a compelling way to tell a story. Even the *how-to* books and articles add bones to our life-stories. Therefore, our theme for next year is the **2012 STORY WEAVERS CONFERENCE**.

On the cover of *The Report* you will see the tag line, *Promoting Higher Standards for the Written Word in Oklahoma, the United States and around the World*. That statement is my *marching order* for 2012. While lunching with Steve and Elizabeth Berry, they gave me ideas they had gleaned from years of directing a huge conference in New York City, *Thrillerfest*. As they spoke excitement built inside me to the point I couldn't finish eating. I have a great team and we are planning some exciting additions to an already excellent conference! If you have suggestions please email them to me with OWFI Conference Ideas in the subject line.

I have my marching order, here are yours. With the past conference fresh on your minds, go over your notes. Write down what you learned and how you plan to apply this information to your writing. This summer take some time for yourself and family, but *remember to dedicate time to write*. If you plan on entering contests—get started! Have your entries polished and ready to go by January. Don't be that *if it weren't for the last minute I'd get nothing done* person. Get to weaving!

Linda Apple

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Read This Book!

MASTER COURSE IN WRITING

By Jory Sherman

Annie Withers, Book Review Editor

MASTER COURSE IN WRITING

By Jory Sherman

Published by High Hill Press, St. Charles, MO., 2011, 113 pages.

Sherman starts at the first sentence letting us know we'll have to use our imagination just to *read* this book - "Writing is writing," he says, "except when it's magic." Then he says writing has been called a disease and that most writers he knows are addicted to the craft. If you're not fascinated by now, the next twist in his creative mind will surely make you laugh. "Storytelling is the oldest profession, contrary to popular belief."

He agrees with me when he says storytelling is as natural to man as breathing. And from the time man learned to preserve writing, the rest of us continue to read and listen to their stories.

The priceless treasures Sherman brings us are not organized in a logical outline. I sat for days trying to decide the best way to sum them up for you. It seemed more like a dark cave full of treasures scattered through a maze of tunnels, each glinting like diamonds when my flashlight beam found them. I don't want you to miss a single gem.

What follows is 'five lessons' covering only 26 power-packed pages. He begins by helping us get started, to overcome the first fear - the title. "We fear things in life without a name." So, find a working title, he tells us. "You can always change it."

"We've just removed the first obstacle and at the same time another fear for writers," he says, "a blank page."

"Now close your eyes - go into your mind where the answers to your questions are hidden." He shows how to build a story, layer by layer, breaking down a scene into elements. "Picture a

scene from memory," he says, "and concentrate on things that interest you - a house, a lake, a room, or a place where people might meet and talk."

If outside, what's the weather - sun, rain, snow? He says you're in charge so you can pick the weather. You can put someone or something there - "a person, a cow, a pride of lions."

"Paint the scene," he says next. The elements will begin to lead somewhere. The details aren't important at this stage. "Now that you have all this, that little idea at the back of your mind might just start to grow and crawl to the front."

You may not need much at first he says, "just a scrap of a thought, a sliver of an idea, a small spark that you can fan into a flame."

"Now that you've completed your first lesson, the next will be easy, I promise."

And that brings us only to page seven. Topics in the remaining four lessons include 'details,' 'tone,' 'dialogue,' 'contrast,' and that ever-important 'conflict.' "Use all the senses to bring the reader into the story."

In the middle section of the book he focuses on an overview of your writing. He says your choices will direct the story.

From his many years experience, he says there are two important secrets you will discover for yourself. The first one is that the very act of writing is a self-propelling process and the second, the seeds of all you need to complete the story are in the story itself.

He wraps the book up with examples from his own work that demonstrate what he's teaching. "After all these years, I usually see the whole book before I start writing."

It was Louella Turner, a long-time member of OWFI and owner of three-year-old High Hill Press, who convinced

him to put it.

"I've known Jory for 18 years and he's a great teacher. He uses material for his classes that he's developed himself," she said. "When I realized national bookstores want books on writing, I suggested we publish it."

"He has over 'half-a-thousand' books published, but he can't remember exactly how many," she laughed.

"I work with lots of new writers," Sherman says, "and really enjoy helping them over the initial hump. They're usually all tangled up in the rules. I use a no-rules approach," he said with a grin.

But he also works with many established professionals. "I keep them from revising too soon and they don't have trouble after that."

Sherman reminds me of the trainer for a sports team, confidently massaging out our painful writer's knots while he gives us a pep talk, then an encouraging slap on the backside as we run back onto the field.

To check out his workshops or see his recent books, go to www.jorysherman.com

Annie Withers, originally from

Tulsa, lives in

Kansas City, and

is a member of

KC Writers

Group, Tulsa

Night Writers,

OWL, and

OWFI. She writes articles,

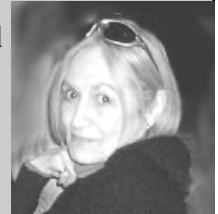
mostly profiles, of people,

events, and places and is writing

her first novel. She's a designer,

photographer, and okay

- a bit of a philosopher.



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Once Around the Web

Purdue University Online Writing Lab Website

Jen Nipps, Web Review Editor

Purdue University opened its Online Writing Lab (owl.english.purdue.edu/) in 1995 and made it available to everyone, not just university faculty, staff, and students.

The home page is easy to navigate. Links to various sections are on the left. Sections are provided for 7th through 12th grade students and teachers, students of English as a Second Language, non-Purdue students and instructors, Purdue students and instructors, professional writers, parents, and adult basic education students, which includes those working toward their GED or needing help with ESL studies, cover letters, and resumes. Further down, there is information about OWL podcasts and a link to read the Purdue OWL News.

The center panel contains information about OWL and the 200+ free resources they offer. Their services including writing and teaching, research, grammar and mechanics, style guides, ESL, and job search and professional writing, among others. The green logo in the center panel is a direct link for Purdue University students and instructors only.

In the right-hand column, you can search the OWL site. There are also links to some of the site's more popular resources: OWL exercises, APA and MLA style guides, information about avoiding plagiarism, and resume development information. There are additional links to contact people who work in the writing lab with questions about writing, site and technical questions, and content and copyright questions.

The professional writing section was last updated on April 21, 2010, by OWL staffer Allen Brizee. The page description states, "This page provides links to resources for workplace writers and people writing during the job search process." Information on writing resumes and curricula vitae (CV), cover letters,

job acceptance letters, etc., is given.

The section for non-Purdue instructors and students provides more in-depth information about the writing process in general and does not focus as much on job application and academic writing. This area covers things from prewriting, overcoming writer's block, outlining, research, etc. None of these are addressed in the Professional Writers section.

Additional sections include information on poetry, creative nonfiction, e-mail etiquette, and more. The sections for Purdue instructors and students are not password-protected. Much of the information in those is specific to Purdue University and its various campuses. However, there is still a substantial amount of information that would be beneficial to writers in general.

According to a broken links report, there are over 3,000 pages housed within the confines of the OWL site. Of those, there were only 42 broken links. In my travels around the site, I did not encounter any.

It is possible these are behind the protection for Purdue instructors and students.

This site would be well-used in any writer's toolbox.

Rating: * * * * *

Jen Nipps has been active in OWFI since 1999 and is a member of the Web Writing Wonders. If you have a website related to writing you would like to have reviewed whether it's a blog, community site, or a static website, send Jen a link at jencnipps@gmail.com.



CORRECTED INFORMATION

Editor's Note: Michael Bracken, a speaker at the recently complete OWFI 2011 Conference sent this note regarding a recommendation he made during his presentation:

During "Sin, Suffer, Cash the Checks," my session on writing confessions, I mentioned Lady Leo Publishing as a publisher of black confessions. When I returned home today I learned some disturbing news. Would you please including the following in the OWFI newsletter:

Lady Leo Publishing, the electronic publisher that began publishing black confessions after Dorchester's black magazines ceased publication, seems to be closing shop. The website is gone, most of Lady Leo's titles have disappeared from Amazon and B&N (except those titles written by the publisher), and the Facebook group is filled with authors asking each other if they've heard anything from the publisher. Therefore, even though I mentioned Lady Leo as a potential market during my presentation, I no longer recommend them.

There is a misleading, unwritten rule that states if a quote giving advice comes from someone famous, very old, or Greek, then it must be good advice.

Bo Bennett

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The Doctor is:

In

Out

No Homework? No Way.

Robyn Conley, The Book Doctor

One great thing about summertime as a kid is no homework. As adults and as writers, however, homework gnaws at us 24/7. Almost always when writers send a batch of pages to me, they include these words, "If you think of any place I can submit this, let me know."

Sure, every so often a market potential might pop into my noggin, but the truth is, each writer has to do his or her own "submitting" homework.

Lucky for us, there are more markets today than there were when some of the other ancients and I started submitting decades ago.

A super place to start is the web. You can type your prose category/topic into that ever-inviting

"search" bar, add the word "publisher" and *voila*, multiple markets scroll onto your screen. This luxury is much different than when we had to physically head to libraries and scan through magazine after magazine, trade publication after trade publication, and *newsletter* after *newspaper*. Yes, in the snow for over a mile. Uphill. Have I ever told you about my K-2nd grade years, walking to school in Butte, Montana? No? I'll save it for another column.

Back to your homework. Even though the search is easier, we still have to study all aspects of a market in regard to our content. Also, keep in mind you can cross-market your original set of research in various off-shoots for increased sales and increased readership.

For example, back in the late 90s I headed to Mississippi on the ultimate

homework assignment: researching John Grisham for the book I wrote about him for Lucent Press. While perusing his hand-written prose on yellow legal pads, scribbled and scratched-through typed pages of his first novel, and even letters written to his constituents while he served on the Mississippi State Legislature, I learned all kinds of interesting things about Mr. Grisham. For writer

geeks such as me, who savor researching word spellings and unknown tid-bits of data, perusing Mississippi State University's John Grisham Library served up a banquet of literary morsels. These treasures had not shown up in the handful of magazine arti-

cles published about him up until that point. One gem was discovering Grisham moved constantly as a kid, just as I did. His birthday was the same as mine. And he loved to read, same as I did. Hmmm, guess who turned all these connectors into a full-circle story I've used at "Friends of the Library" lunches and keynote speeches? Right.

Grisham's love of sports turned into a couple of articles, one for the *FCAVictory* magazine, and another for a men's devotional booklet. His difficulties in choosing a legal career became an encouraging article to the *ABA: Student Lawyer* magazine.

One homework assignment turned into not only a book sale to Lucent, but also various off-shoots based on ALL the research I uncovered about John Grisham. Of course, most of your research won't take you out of state, as mine did. Instead, daily trips online will offer all sorts of publications you might sell your work to, or web sites in need of updated and new content. The markets are endless these days. All you need is a comfy office chair, a good printer for those pesky details, some organizational skills and a lot of gumption.

Even though I enjoyed my Mississippi adventure, ninety-nine percent of my research is accomplished right here at the solid wooden desk, glancing out my giant window at the pine trees I planted to remind me of those early homework assignments in Butte. You can take the kid out of Montana, but you can't take Montana out of the kid, especially when you need a break from homework and want to enjoy the summer, sometimes just watching the pine boughs blow.

We still have to study all aspects of a market in regard to our content. Also, keep in mind you can cross-market your original set of research in various off-shoots for increased sales and increased readership.



Robyn Conley, the book doctor, speaks and writes about writing, editing, and marketing what you write. Her books include: *BE YOUR OWN BOOK DOCTOR*, which gives writers a checklist of editing tips, and *What Really Matters to Me*, a journal that helps people discover their goals, and then offers practical tips to make those dreams come true. Her other published titles include a diversity of topics, such as *BEYOND THE BRANCHES*, *Writing and Scrapping Your Complete Family Tree* and *Pray the Bible with Paper and Pen*. Robyn has sold to major magazines, such as *The Writer*, *Writer's Digest*, *ABA: Student Lawyer*, and a score of others.

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Work in Progress

Great Beginnings

Marcia Preston, Features Editor

When we begin the process of writing a story, no matter what genre or form, deciding where to open is a major decision. We all know the first chapter (or opening paragraph of a shorter work) needs to be stunning to keep an editor or agent reading. No pressure there!

I approach this challenge with a terror I euphemistically call *page reluctance*. I can't make myself get on the page until I've found my opening, what the "lead" will be. That isn't the same thing as where the story starts. The start might have been years before, and it might be boring. The opening of my manuscript, though, had better be captivating. I have to be excited about it before I can start writing, even though I'll most likely change it completely during revisions.

The best start is usually an active scene, with a major character doing something integral to the plot. No wool-gathering, no navel-gazing, no long scenic descriptions. First, get the story moving. Readers are most engaged when they meet somebody who's either fascinating or thrust into a fascinating situation. In short stories, we warn new writers to start on the day that's different. It's not bad advice for a novelist, either. At the least, what's different (which is the making of conflict) should be apparent by the end of chapter one.

You're miles ahead in the hook-an-

editor game if you start with a terrific first sentence. Let's look at some successful examples.

From *The Key to Rebecca* by Ken Follett: "The last camel collapsed at noon. It was the five-year-old white bull

he had bought in Gialo, the youngest and strongest of the three beasts, and the least ill-tempered: he liked the animal as much as a man could like a camel, which is to say that he hated it only a little."

Analysis: Even without the second sentence, which is pretty darned interesting, look at all you get from that first short one. From *camel* and *noon*, you get an exotic setting and desert heat.

From *last* you know there were other fatalities; a long and arduous journey.

And the beast didn't just lie down or die – it *collapsed*. Word choice matters!

From *A Cold Day in Paradise* by Steve Hamilton: "There is a bullet in my chest, less than a centimeter from my

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Marcia Preston writes mainstream and mystery novels from her home in Edmond. Her checkered past includes teaching high school English, editing two magazines and freelancing for dozens of others. She's a two-time past president of OWFI. Contact her at

marcia@marciapreston.com .

heart. I don't think about it much anymore. It's just a part of me now. But every once in a while, on a certain kind of night, I remember that bullet. I can feel the weight of it inside me. I can feel its metallic hardness. And even though that bullet has been warming inside my body for fourteen years, on a night like this when it is dark enough and the wind is blowing, that bullet feels as cold as the night itself."

Analysis: If that opening doesn't give you shivers, your shiverer is broken. Already we know this character is tough, he's philosophical, and he's had a violent past.

First sentences don't have to be fancy to be compelling. Sometimes word choice and rhythm can do the trick. More examples:

Barbara Kingsolver, *Pigs in Heaven*. "Women on their own run in Alice's family. This dawns on her with the unkindness of a heart attack and she sits up in bed to get a closer look at her thoughts, which have collected above her in the dark."

Norman Maclean, *A River Runs Through It*. "In my family there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing."

Carolyn Wall, *Sweeping Up Glass*. "The long howl of a wolf rolls over me like a toothache."

Next time, we'll consider another option when you begin your book – the prologue.

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Spring 2011 Photo Contest

Ed. Note: This is the photo contest winner from the Spring 2011 edition of the REPORT. You can see the photo that this is written by going to the OWFI web page at www.owfi.org. Enter the Member's Only area (you'll need to register for this) and look at the Spring 2011 REPORT.

LIAR, LIAR, PANTS ON FIRE

By Kathy Akins

"You lied to me!" cried Amber. She spit this accusation loudly into the face of the girl in front of her. The target of her wrath stood quietly.

"Well? What are you gonna to do about it?" Amber took a step closer. "Say something!"

"I didn't lie."

"What?"

"I said I didn't lie." Katie spoke softly. She braced herself for the force of anger that would surely come. Nobody stood up to Amber and walked away unscathed. Donna sat close enough to hear the conversation, but far enough away to miss the fallout.

Disbelief hung in the air. Amber wasn't accustomed to such treatment.

"Oh, you lied and I'll see to it that you pay. You won't know when or where, but you'll pay."

Katie shrugged her shoulders. She was tired of this. She was tired of Amber, Donna, and the pack of girls that clung to them. She was tired of the threats and ugly comments. She was tired of staying out of their way.

"Whatever," commented Katie as she turned to leave. Amber grabbed the girl's arm in an attempt to yank her backward. Instead, Amber lost her balance and hit the ground with a thud. A few seconds later, a squeal of terror prompted Donna to run to her fallen friend. Jumping to her feet, Amber frantically beat her hands against her thighs.

"Ants! Red ants! They're all over me! Get 'em off, they're biting me!"

Donna slapped at Amber's body in an attempt to kill the stinging ants. Amber was now in tears.

Katie whispered as she moved a few feet away. "Liar, liar, pants on fire."

Amber didn't even notice when she was gone.

Want to get your winning entry published in the **Report**? On the back cover of every issue there will be a photo. Write something based on that photo: the opening paragraphs of a short story or a novel, a story/novel synopsis, an entire flash fiction story. The only restriction is that you keep it **under 400 words**. The best one will be printed in the following issue of the **Report** (the decision of the judges is final). That, and a printed copy of the newsletter with your winning entry in it, will be your only reward.

It doesn't have to be a complete story. It can be a vignette, a slice of life, a caption, a dialogue — anything that a writer might write. Any person or persons in the photograph may be a central character or a secondary character of a story. You may pretend they are the subject of a biography or an interview. They may be the focus of an ersatz newspaper article. Perhaps you can best write about a given photo with a poem or an essay. Just write it and send it to the editor at: **wizard-wayne@juno.com**.

Send it within the body of the email or as a TEXT attachment. **Entry deadline is August 1, 2011.**

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The Date

by C.D. Jarmola

We only had a brief encounter, but it promised to turn into so much more. A mere fifteen minutes. Yet during those brief minutes there was a connection. For the first time ever I had found someone who understood where I was coming from and where I was hoping to go. Those chocolate brown eyes had instantly pierced into my soul. He easily grasped what I was trying to accomplish in life, my goals, my dreams, my abilities. We talked. We laughed. We were on the same page. Shared the same dreams. I had found my kindred spirit. But life has demands that have to be met and our time was up. We exchanged emails and promised we'd get in touch. Fifteen minutes and then it was all over.

I caught glimpses of him later and we smiled across the room. But we were both busy. Others preyed upon his time occupying him with all the trivialities of business that had to be cleared up. It was almost vulgar how women both young and old would shamelessly throw themselves at him for a mere second of his attention. Each time I spotted him talking with one of them I experienced a sudden fear that he would choose them instead. I wanted to march over and demand more time. But we had already shared our fifteen minutes. They all wanted bits and pieces of him, but what we had started would someday in the not so distant future flourish into a permanent partnership. There was no need to fight for minutes together when we knew that someday we would have hours, days, years in our relationship. We

would have time later. Although we both had to go our separate ways, I knew we would connect at another time and it would be as magical as our first fifteen minutes.

I followed through. I emailed. I waited. He didn't respond.

In my mind I replayed our beautiful fifteen minutes over and over like a looped background video on the nightly news. Had I misread his answers? Was he just a player, giving the same come-on to all he met? No. What we had was genuine. He would write. He would call.

He didn't.

I tried to stop myself, but every morning I rushed to check my email. Every phone call I answered in frantic anticipation of hearing his voice.

Maybe today would be the day. But it wasn't. Maybe tomorrow. Then still no word.

I felt like a silly, gawky schoolgirl with a crush on the unobtainable quarterback. I had to grow up. I refused to sit by the phone and the computer. I had a life. I wasn't so pathetic that I needed his affirmation. I'd find my own way in this world. I didn't need him to complete me. I'd just go on

with my dreams and aspirations and forget those fifteen minutes.

But the next morning would find me getting up before the alarm had even gone off to once again boot up the computer with my eternal optimism that it would be the day that he finally responded.

He didn't.

I was wearing the refresh button out on my computer. It had to be a simple cyberspace error. Somewhere on a server on some other continent there had to be a message from him to me that due to an unforeseen routing error was

lost as it was seeking my inbox. Should I write again? Be nonchalant about the whole deal? Make some joke about how our correspondence had been lost somewhere in cyberspace? Or I could lie and say my entire computer system

had crashed, so I was afraid that he might be upset that I hadn't written. I also should include that all the cell phone towers in my town had crashed down due to a violent tornado. So if he had called that is why I hadn't answered. That sounded

(Continued on page 10)

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The Date

continued

(Continued from page 9)

like a credible excuse for contacting him again. Well, at least it did for about five minutes. Then my doubt and insecurities from all the disastrous relationship from my past and not only my past, but my friends pasts and the characters in the books I read and the movies I saw came slamming back into my fragile psyche. If I contacted him with a fabricated excuse, would I sound as pathetic on his end as I did on mine?

I started staying home in the evenings. No, I wasn't sitting by the computer waiting for mail, I would lie to myself. I just didn't feel like going out with friends. And if I wasn't going anywhere I might as well have my computer on.

Soon I was calling in sick at work. I reasoned that I had plenty of sick leave built up and I might as well take a few days off. After a while my only contact was with my Facebook friends. But then they were the best kind. Always a fun status to read and comment on. An interesting factoid, although not always factual, to contemplate and pass on. Sadly, soon even my cyber social life requested that I quit posting so many status updates and get a non-virtual life.

After two months I decided it was time to give up and move on. Actually, my writers group decided it was time for me to give up and move on. "He's not the only one for you out there," Jennifer said.

"You have so much going for you. You don't have to settle for him," Rita chimed in.

"I hate to say this, but I think either you must have misread the signs or he was just leading you on," was Marilyn's sympathetic advice.

Our fifteen minutes had been just that – fifteen minutes. That's all we had and would ever have. What I had thought was the beginning of a beautiful relationship was simply a required conversation to fulfill his contractual obligations as a speaker at the writers' conference.

Dating is hard. It's the second most difficult, gut-wrenching relationship endeavor out there. The only thing harder is getting a literary agent. I really thought he liked my books. I truly believed we had connected on writing styles. There was so much promise that he would call and represent my work. But in reality all we really had was fifteen minutes.

Epilogue: True Story

I wrote this last summer just to vent about not hearing from the literary agent that had seemed so interested in my work. As a laugh I published it on my Facebook page. I put no name on the agent and he and I are not Facebook friends. I posted it on a Tuesday evening. The next morning I received an email from him saying thanks but no thanks. What are the odds? I couldn't get upset about the rejection letter because I was laughing so hard at the irony of the timing of it.

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

"He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others." - Samuel John-



Playful Wizard

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OWFI 2011 CONTEST WINNERS

Category 1 – MAINSTREAM NOVEL

Judge: Marcia Preston

Category Chair: Judy Howard
39 Entries

1st Place SILK AND ASHES, Carol Johnson, Tulsa NightWriters
2nd Place AN ACCEPTABLE VENGEANCE, Danelle Hall, Oklahoma, Write Now
3rd Place MICHAEL'S CHOICE, Marsha Lytle, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st CROSS DRESSING, Dee Dee Chumley, The Inklings
2nd WHISPERS FROM A CHRISTMAS SLEIGH, Eric Reitan, Member-at-Large
3rd BIGFOOT BLUES, Pamela Jones, Arkansas Ridge Writers

CATEGORY 2 – CONTEMPORARY ROMANCE NOVEL

CATEGORY DONOR: Sue McMurphy

Judge: Jan Stob

Category Chair: Kristl Franklin
17 Entries

1st Place WINTER'S SONG, Jennifer McMurrain, Bartlesville WordWeavers
2nd Place WHATCHA GONNA DO WITH A COWBOY, Linda Zook, Writers of the Purple Sage
3rd Place BUTTERFLY, IT'S TIME, Pamela Wetterman, Tulsa NightWriters

Honorable Mention

1st MEMORY, Sharon Ervin, McAlester McSherry Writers

Category 3 – Historical Novel
Judge: Michael Carr

Category Chair: Donna Le
17 Entries

1st Place THE GREEN HILLS OF ANTRIM, Marsha Lytle, Member-at-Large
2nd Place BROKEN DOLLS, Jan Morrill, Arkansas Ridge Writers
3rd Place HART'S TREASURE, Judith Sexton, Stillwater Writers

Honorable Mention

1st CROSSING THE CHANNEL, Sharon Worthey, Member-at-Large

Category 4 –Mystery Suspense Novel

Judge: Olyve Hallmark Abbott

Category Chair: Sharon Ervin
23 Entries

1st Place ROOM 1515, Bill Wetterman, Tulsa NightWriters
2nd Place THAT TOUCH OF TERROR, Dianne McCartney, Rose Rock Writers
3rd Place PASSION FOR GLORY, Marsha Lytle, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st THE DROUGHT OF SAM DAKOTA, Dawn Allen, Member-at-Large
2nd BREAKING IN, Gary Cummings, Member-at-Large

Category 5 – Western Novel

Judge: Terry Burns

Category Chair: Maria Rachel Hoo-ley
14 Entries

1st Place A WOMAN ALONE, Vickey Malone Kennedy, Rose Rock Writers
2nd Place RED MOON ON THE WASHITA, Carolyn Leonard, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.
3rd Place PIONEER OF NO MAN'S LAND, B.J. Myrick, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st JOURNEY OF THE CHEYENNE WARRIOR, Kathleen Gibbs, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

Category 6 – Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror

Judge: Ty Drago

Category Chair: Lisa Willis

18 Entries

1st Place BLOOD LINE, Natasha Hanova, Member-at-Large
2nd Place CONTINUANCE, Kerry Carmichael, Member-at-Large
3rd Place EA'S GIFT, Sherri Cornelius, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st First Contact, Jim Laughter and Victor J. Bretthauer, Tulsa NightWriters

Category 7 – Non Fiction Book

Judge: Dianne McCartney

Category Chair: Janet Short Bradburn
19 Entries

1st Place THIEF OF MIND, Karen Coody Cooper, The Inklings
2nd Place THE LITTLE JOURNAL, Sue McMurphy, Writers of the Purple Sage
3rd Place GONE WITH THE WINDMILLS, Olyve Hallmark Abbott, Ft. Worth Writers

Honorable Mentions

1st STUMBLING TOWARD THE BUDDHA, Dawn Downey, Kansas City Writers Group
2nd WE'RE NOT BEING RAISED RIGHT, Taprina Milburn, Member-at-Large

Category 8 – Picture Book

Judge: Wayne Harris-Wyrick

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OWFI 2011 CONTEST WINNERS

(Continued from page 11)

Category Chair: Charlotte Lanham
25 Entries

1st Place TIGER PAWS, Sharon Worthey, Member-at-Large

2nd Place ABUELO'S LIGHTS, Kathryn Lay, Lone Star Night Writers

3rd Place MAX AND BEAR'S BIG ADVENTURE, Brandi Barnett, The Inklings

Honorable Mention

1st WHEN I EATE BLUE, Natasha Hanova, Member-at-Large

2nd DOUBLE-DOG DARE, Cate Murray, Lone Star Night Writers

3rd PINKY'S ADVENTURE, Jennifer L. McMurray, Bartlesville Wordweavers

Category 9 – Middle Reader Book

Judge: Jeannie Hagy

Category Chair: Olyve Hallmark Abbott
11 Entries

1st Place SUBTEMBER, Kathryn Lay, Lone Star Night Writers

2nd Place SECRET OF THE CRYSTAL DRAGON, Paula Blais Gorgas, Web Writing Wonders

3rd TRAPPED IN TIME, Tommie Grinnell, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st MAKING THE BEST OF OKLAHOMA'S WEATHER, Barbara Shepherd, Mid Oklahoma Writers

CATEGORY 10 – Young Adult Book

Judge: Kathleen Anderson

Category Chair: Susan Meyers
25 Entries

1st Place ACCORDIAN GIRL, Sharon Edge Martin, Member-at-Large

2nd Place I.F., Kathryn Lay, Lone Star Night Writers

3rd Place TRENT WEAVER'S JUSTICE, Kathleen Norris Park, Norman Galaxy of Writers

Honorable Mention

1st DUSTY BONES, Gayleen Rabakukk, Member-at-Large

2nd IT GETS UGLY, Erin York, Member-at-Large

Category 11 – Poetry Unrhymed Short

Judge: Jacque Graham

Category Chair: Dianne McCartney
71 Entries

1st Place CALAB'S JOURNEY, Jeanie Horn, Arkansas Ridge Writers

2nd Place THE JOB, Vivian Zabel, Pen and Keyboard Writers

3rd Place DEATH IN THE DESERT, Jerry Whitehouse, The Write Ingredients

Honorable Mention

1st SIMPLE PEOPLE, Russell Gayer, Arkansas Ridge Writers

2nd THE CHALLENGE, Nita Buckley, Member-at-Large

3rd AMERICA, Derral Reynolds, Member-at-Large

4th ON BEING SIXTY, Tammy Hinton, McAlester McSherry Writers

5th LESSONS, Dixon Hearne, Lone Star Night Writers

6th TWELVE HOURS, Doug Kelley, Arkansas Ridge Writers

Category 12 – Poetry Unrhymed Long

Donor: Red River Writers

Judge: Harvey Stanbrough

Category Chair: Julia Mozingo
73 Entries

1st Place GIVE AND TAKE, Neal Hufaker, Norman Galaxy of Writers

2nd Place AN ODE FOR LILLY, Kindall Jackson, Member-at-Large

3rd Place WHEN FIRST I KNEW MY PREJUDICE, David Severe, Oklahoma City Writers Inc.

Honorable Mention

1st DIETER'S DANTE, Lisa L. Marotta, The Inklings

2nd HIGH SCHOOL REUNION, Maril Crabtree, Kansas City Writers

3rd DYNAMO THEORY: FOR EDNA ST. VINCET MILLAY, Kristyn Reid, Oklahoma Write Now

4th NURSING HOME WHITE, Erin York, Member-at-Large

5th GUST OF LUST, Kelly Bristow, The Inklings

6th SWINK COLORADO, Doug Kelley, Arkansas Ridge Writers

7th GATOR BAIT, Ruth Rakestraw, Northwest Arkansas Ridge Writer

Category 13 – Poetry Rhymed Short

Category Chair: Vickey Malone Kennedy
53 Entries

1st Place The Garden Lady, Shelley Anne Richter, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

2nd Place DOUBLE TALK, Eileen Ryan, Member-at-Large

3rd LIFE, EVER CHANGING, Naomi Tomlinson, PAWS

Honorable Mention

1st THE SIREN SONG, Brandi Barnett, The Inklings

2nd OUR FRISKY PUP, Una Belle Townsend, Member-at-Large

3rd HIS HANDS, Nancy Simmons Vineyard, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

Category 14 – Poetry Rhymed Long

Judge: Robert Ferrier

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OWFI 2011 CONTEST WINNERS

Category Chair: Arlene Rains Graber

48 Entries

1st Place FAMILY AUTHOR, Susan W.

Peters, Kansas City Writers Group

2nd Place THE EBONY VOID, Alecia

Hampton, Member-at-Large

3rd Place THE CHESS GAME, Bud

Hanks, Northwest Arkansas Writers

Honorable Mention

FLY THE FLAG, Neal Huffaker,
Norman Galaxy of Writers

IF IT DOESN'T HURT IT DOES-
N'T WORK, Inez Phillips,
Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL-
ISTS, Carrie Osterman, The
Write Ingredients

Category 15 – Short-Short Story

Judge: Mac Stone

Category Chair: Louella Turner

70 Entries

1st Place FLASHES, Hazel Hart, Mem-
ber-at-Large

2nd Place STUFFING AND BROKEN
THREAD, Maria Rachel Hooley, Rose
Rock Writers

3rd Place TANGO FOR FRANKIE,
Dawn Downey, Kansas City Writers

Honorable Mention

1st CHINCHILLA, Vinnie Hansen,
Rose Rock Writers

2nd THE LEGEND OF DIXIE
DANDELION AND JALA-
PENO JACK, Ruth Burkett
Weeks, Arkansas Ridge Writers

3rd NO GOOD DEED GOES UN-
REWARDED, Carolyn Steele,
Tulsa NightWriters

4th WHAT'S IN A NAME, Johnnie
Wingo, PAWS

5th A BIRD IN HAND AND A
FISH IN THE STRAINER,
Ann Cleary, Member-at-Large

6th KING CAKE, Nicole Wells,
Member-at-Large

Category 16 – Short Story

Judge: Regina Williams

Category Chair: Sharon Worthey

67 Entries

1st Place LISTEN TO THE SILENCE,
Carol Johnson, Tulsa NightWriters

2nd Place FOOTPRINTS IN THE
SNOW, Jennifer L. McMurrain, Bar-
tlesville Wordweavers

3rd Place SACRIFICING ANGELS,
Maria Rachel Hooley, Rose Rock Writ-
ers

Honorable Mention

1st PRANK, Daniel Lance Wright,
Lone Star NightWriters

2nd THE RESCUE, M. Carolyn
Steele, Tulsa NightWriters

3rd THE NEW YORK QUA-
DRILLE, Beth Stephenson, Red
Dirt Writers

4th GRANDPA, Terry Alexander,
Arkansas Ridge Writers

4th WYATT'S BURDEN, Natasha
Hanova, Member-at-Large

5th THE TRUTH ABOUT WINDY
BILL, Russell Gayer, Arkansas
Ridge Writers

Category 17 – Juvenile Short Story

Judge: Rebecca Matthews

Category Chair: Nancy Beverage

33 Entries

1st Place GENTLE MAGIC, Neal Huf-
faker, Norman Galaxy of Writers

2nd Place TATTLETALE, Shelley Anne
Richter, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

3RD Place THE ANIMALS' GIFT,
Louise Tucker Jones, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st BREAKFAST IS FOR THE
BIRDS, EYVONNA RAINS, Mem-
ber-at-Large

Category 18 – Young Adult Short Story

Judge: Nancy Beverage

Category Chair: Jeannie Alford Hagy

26 Entries

1st Place A WALK IN THE PARK, Lisa
Daly, Kansas City Writers Group

2nd Place A FLOURISH OF TRUM-
PETS, Neal Huffaker, Norman Galaxy
of Writers

3rd Place BRING ON THE PARADE,
Shelley Anne Richter, Oklahoma City
Writers Inc.

Honorable Mention

1st A CHANGE OF HEART, Cheri
Lynn Quattrochi, PAWS

2nd LEARNING THE TRADE,
Judy Goodspeed, PAWS

Category 19 – Sci/Fi-Fantasy-Horror

Judge: Stacey Graham

Category Chair: Sally Jadlow

37 Entries

1st Place HIDE & SEEK, Nancy Keel,
Old Tascosa Word Slingers

2nd Place IN THE SILENCE AFTER
BATTLE, Richard Beaty, Tulsa Night-
Writers

3rd Place SUPERSTITION, Larry Mike
Garmon, Member-at-Large

Honorable Mention

1st BOOMERANG, John Biggs,
Member-at-Large

2nd CALL TO HUNT, Natasha
Hanova, Member-at-Large

Category 20 – Prose Humor

(Continued on page 14)

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OWFI 2011 CONTEST WINNERS

(Continued from page 13)

Judge: Beth Bartlett

Category Chair: Linda Basinger

61 Entries

1st Place OPERATION JOLLY NUTS,
Richard Beaty, Tulsa NightWriters

2nd Place WHO PUT CARROTS IN
THE HEATER? Corrie Lynne Player,
Tulsa NightWriters

3rd Place LETTER FROM THE NURS-
ING HOME, Robert T. Chrisman, Kan-
sas City Writers

Honorable Mention

1st THE LONGEST THREE
HOURS, Inez Phillips, Okla-
homa City Writers, Inc

2nd MY GREEN ACRESS, Jan
Morrill, Arkansas Ridge Writ-
ers

3rd SOMEONE SPECIAL, Jim
Davis, Arkansas Ridge Writers

4th THIS BALLET S*^# AIN'T
TOO BAD, Lianne Cain,
Member-at-Large

5th A VISION OF SAINTHOOD,
Tommi Grinnell, Member-at-
Large

Category 21 – Essay

Judge: Amy Mullis

Category Chair: Sue McMurphy

56 Entries

1st Place NO PLACE LIKE HOME,
Maril Crabtree, Kansas City Writers
Group

2nd Place THE HORSE OF MY
HEART, Dianne McCartney, Rose Rock
Writers

3rd Place TRUTH THROUGH A KA-
LEIDOSCOPE, Brandi Barnett, The
Inklings

Honorable Mention

1st RESTITUTION, Martha Lea
Bryant, The Inklings

2nd TWO PREVENTABLE
DEATHS, Cate Murray, Lone
Star NightWriters

Category 22 – Play/Film/TV Script

Judge: Frank Steele

Category Chair: Sylvia Forbes

10 Entries

1st Place MILLENIUM MADNESS,
Bill Goodwin, Kansas Writers Associa-
tion

2nd Place WHEN THE ECHOES
WHISPER MY NAME, Darrell D.
Bartell, Fort Worth Writers

3rd Place KELSEY O'TOOLE, Inez
Phillips, Oklahoma City Writers Inc.

**Category 23 – Technical/How-To Arti-
cle**

Judge: Dawn Alcott

Category Chair: Karen Meinhart

27 Entries

1st Place HOW TO UNDANGLE A
DANGLING MODIFIER, Sheila Wood
Foard, Member-at-Large

2nd Place SIMPLE WAYS TO IN-
CREASE BREAST MILK VOLUME,
Lela Davidson, Northwest Arkansas
Writers

3rd Place ATTACHMENT MAKES
THE DIFFERENCE, Corrie Lynne
Player, Tulsa NightWriters

Honorable Mention

1st CYTOLOGY FOR PETS:
QUICK ANSWERS, LOW
COST, Amy Shojai, Member-
at-Large

2nd HOW TO GERMINATE AND
HARVEST YOUR OWN
SEEDS, Kathleen Norris Park,
Norman Galaxy of Writers

Category 24 – Feature Article

Judge: Mari Farthing

Category Chair: Frances Searcey

23 Entries

1st Place DEMOCRACY RUN AMOK,
Neal Huffaker, Norman Galaxy of Writ-
ers

2nd Place KEEPING SHARP: A LEG-
ACY OF LOVE, Winona Cross, Mem-
ber-at-Large

3rd Place PEARL HARBOR: A LES-
SON TWICE LEARNED, Gordon
Greene, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

Honorable Mention

1st TAMING OF THE BULL, Ruth
Burkett Weeks, Arkansas Ridge
Writers

2nd A SPECIAL KIND OF JOB,
Louise Tucker Jones, Member-
at-Large

Category 25 – Western Article

Judge: Fred Pfister

Category Chair: Ginny Greene

12 Entries

1st Place THE SINGLE ACTION
SHOOTING SOCIETY, Kathleen Norris
Park, Norman Galaxy of Writers

2nd Place WRITING THE APPLE PIE,
Janet Short-Bradburn, Web Writing
Wonders

3rd Place THE HATCHET LADY, Caro-
lyn B. Leonard, Writers of the Purple
Sage

Honorable Mention

1st THE GREAT QUILT WALK,
George Hubbard, Lone Star
Night Writers

Category 26 – Inspirational Prose

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OWFI 2011 CONTEST WINNERS

Judge: Nancy Robinson Masters

Category Chair: Dee Dee Chumley

55 Entries

1st Place YESTERDAY'S SHADOWS, Amy Beth Dobbins, Tulsa NightWriters

2nd Place BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU PRAY FOR BECAUSE YOU MIGHT JUST GET IT, Doris Wheelus, Tulsa NightWriters

3rd Place RED HOT SPARKS IGNITE RED HAT HEARTS, Cheri Lynn Quatrochi, PAWS

Honorable Mention

1st WORDS IN THE SAND, Lela Davidson, Northwest Arkansas Writers Guild

2nd HUMILIATION, Gordon Greene, Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

3rd LIFE IS A TEST FOR PERSONAL CHANGE, Corrie Lynne Player, Tulsa NightWriters

4th BIG SHOES TO FILL, Pattie Grice, Tulsa NightWriters

5th A RECIPE FOR RECOVERY, Lisa L. Marotta, The Inklings

Category 27 – Mazie Cox Reid Column Award

Judge: Janet Short Bradburn

Category Chair: Inez Phillips

17 Entries

1st Place JEWELRY JUNKETS, Dianne McCartney, Rose Rock Writers

2nd Place TURNING BROWN THUMBS GREEN, Barbara Shoff, Bartlesville Wordweavers

3rd Place SAVING BY SALVAGING, Kelly Bristow, The Inklings

Honorable Mention

1st WORD WATCHING, Kathleen Norris Park, Norman Galaxy of Writers

Category 28 – Confession

Judge: Michael Bracken

Category Chair: Carol Johnson

13 Entries

1st Place I PROSTITUTED MYSELF FOR MY CHILDREN'S EDUCATION, Inez Phillips, Oklahoma City Writers Inc.

2nd Place SEX PAID FOR MY COLLEGE EDUCATION, Gloria Teague, Tulsa NightWriters

3rd Place ON THE STREETS, Bill Wettermann, Tulsa NightWriters

Category 29 – Nostalgia Prose

Judge: Jen Nipps

Category Chair: Debbie Smart

59 Entries

1st Place A BOX OF ROCKS, Ruth Burkett Weeks, Arkansas Ridge Writers

2nd Place REPENTANCE, Judith Sexton, Stillwater Writers

3rd Place THE INHERITANCE, Dianne McCartney, Rose Rock Writers

Honorable Mention

1st MEETING GRANDFATHER, Christine Jarmola, Bartlesville Wordweavers

2nd MIRROR, MIRROR, Gloria Teague, Tulsa NightWriters

3rd SNEAKY GRANDMOTHER, Naomi Tomlinson, PAWS

4th AT THE TOP OF THE HILL, Layton Isaacs, Member-at-Large

5th THE SUMMER OF '56, Christina Thurber, McAlester McSherry Writers

6th LIFE'S SUMMER STORM, Dawn Allen, Member-at-Large

Category 30 – BEST JUVENILE BOOK

Judge: Mary Ann Kerl

Category Chair: Carolyn Steele

3 Entries

SMOKEY, THE GENTLE GUARDIAN
Jan Price Ward, Member-at-Large

Category 31 – Best Non Fiction Book

Judge: Ann Champeau

Category Chair: Sharon Martin

12 Entries

AMERICAN PIT BULL TERRIER
Amy Shojai, Member-at-Large

Category 32 – Best Book of Poetry

Judge: Vivian Zabel

Category Chair: Kathryn Veres

6 Entries

OKLAHOMA CANTOS
Ron Wallace, Red River Writers

Category 33 – Best Fiction Book

Judge: Carol Johnson

Category Chair: Jen Nipps

14 Entries

CHASING LILACS
Carla Stewart, Tulsa NightWriters

CRÈME De LA CRÈME

Judges: Deborah Bouziden, Robyn Conley, Sandra Soli

A WOMAN ALONE

Category 5: Western Novel

Vickey Malone Kennedy

Norman Galaxy of Writers

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2011 OWFI Contest Judges

1 – Mainstream Novel- Marcia Preston is the author of four mainstream and two mystery novels, and a former editor of two magazines. She's an Honorary Life Member of both OWFI and OCW. www.MarciaPreston.com

2. Contemporary Romance - Jan Stob is a Senior Acquisitions Editor with Tyn-dale House Publishers since 2000. She has worked on the Left Behind series, as well as projects with Beth Moore, Brock and Bodie Thoene, and Angela Hunt. Her recent acquisitions include Jan Watson, Mel Odom, Rene Gut-teridge, Candace Calvert, and Allison Pittman. She loves discovering new talent and unique concepts. And she enjoys working with authors who share her passion for publishing books that bring hope to a troubled world.

3. Historical Novel -Michael Carr is a literary agent with Veritas Literary with a background in editing and writing. His writing has appeared in markets such as The Atlantic, The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction, and Military History Magazine. Michael speaks Spanish and conversational French and before joining Veritas had professions as diverse as programming simulators for nuclear submarines and owning an inn in Vermont.

4. Mystery/Suspense Novel - Olyve Hallmark Abbott is the author of four paranormal books, with her first mystery novel, *TV-LIVE--or DEAD is scheduled* to be released this spring. She is a multi-winner in OWFI's competitions. She has stories in five anthologies. She has published *Hawkins Heritage*, a genealogical quarterly. She is also a finalist in the Ms Texas Senior America Contest this year.

5. Western Novel-Terry Burns is an agent with Hartline Literary, <http://www.hartlineliterary.com> as well as writing inspirational fiction. As a writer he has over 40 books in print including

10 novels. He has a new series from Port Yonder Press entitled "*THE SAGE-BRUSH COLLECTION*" of his collected short works and the first released March 2010 entitled "*ON THE ROAD HOME.*" A popular speaker at workshops across the country, a bookstore of his available works as well as a regular blog can be found at www.terryburns.net. He's a member of the Association of Author's Representatives (AAR).

6. Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror Novel-Ty Drago is a critically-acclaimed science fiction/fantasy writer and the founder, editor and publisher of ALLEGORY (www.allegoryezine.com), a premiere online magazine for SF, Fantasy & Horror. His latest novel, *THE UNDERTAKERS: RISE OF THE CORPSES*, the first in the Undertakers series, has just been released by Sourcebooks and marks Ty's debut as a middle grade author. He has also published *THE FRANKLIN AFFAIR*, an historical mystery and *PHOBOS*, a SF mystery, as well as many short stories and articles.

7. Nonfiction Book-Dianne McCartney is a retired professional horsewoman with published articles in that genre. She has won five different categories of the OWFI Writers Contest. Her current projects include a romantic suspense book and articles on vintage jewelry. She is a proud member of the Rose Rock Writers and lives with her husband and daughter in Burseson, Texas.

8. Picture Book-Wayne Harris-Wyrick is the of the Kirkpatrick Planetarium of Science Museum Oklahoma where he is known as the Celestial Wizard, has published numerous non-fiction articles, science fiction short stories and even a few poems director. He recently published his first children's Picture Book, *WHY AM I ME?* He is an Honorary Life Member of OWFI and is the editor of the organization's newsletter. He has

two grown children and he and his wife Rocksye are raising two kids, three dogs, three cats and two birds. Learn more about Wayne and his many interests at www.wayneharris-wyrick.com.

9. Middle Reader Book-Jeannie Alford Hagy is a former teacher who writes for both children and adults. She has been published in children's magazines and she has published a juvenile novel. **10. Young Adult Book-**Kathleen Anderson is an award-winning editor and agent who has been working in the publishing business since 1979—first as an editor and later as an agent. She formed her own firm in 2006. She specializes in high quality literary fiction, both adult and young adult, and literary nonfiction, American and European history, literary journalism, nature and travel writing, memoir, and biography.

11. Poetry Unrhymed Short-Jacque Graham taught high school English, speech, drama, debate, Mock Trial, and Student Congress for thirty years. She was one of eight poets who contributed to an anthology of poetry: *Walking the Earth: Life's Perspectives in Poetry*. She is currently working on her first novel, *Skeleton in the Attic: Belle Cobb, Cherokee Woman, Pioneer Doctor*. The book will be released in early 2011. Jacque is a charter member and historian of Pen and Keyboard Writers of Edmond, Poetry Writers of Blackwell, and an active member of the Oklahoma Writers Federation Inc. (OWFI).

12. Poetry Unrhymed Long-Harvey Stanbrough is a freelance editor, poet, fictionist and writing instructor who lives and writes in southeast Arizona. He says he was born in New Mexico, seasoned in Texas, and baked in Arizona, so he's done. Harvey's work has been nominated for a National Book Award, a Pushcart Prize, a Frankfurt Book Fair eBook Award (IEBAF: International eBook Award Foundation), and the *Inscriptions Magazine* Engraver's Award. For good free writing instruction, visit his blog at, <http://stanbrough.wordpress.com> and for further information on Harvey or his books, see <http://StoneThread.com>. You can also find him on Facebook .

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2011 OWFI Contest Judges

13. Poetry Rhymed Short-Dawn Colclosure makes her living writing fiction, non fiction, and poetry. Her poems have appeared in the magazines and books, both her own and anthologies of others. She is the poetry editor for SKYLINE MAGAZINE.

14. Poetry Rhymed Long-Robert Ferrier's poems have been published in ten literary journals. His books, *Rhythms* and *Ambient Light*, won Best Book of Poetry awards from OWFI. In 2007 Robert was a nominee for Poet Laureate of Oklahoma.

15. Short Short Story-MacAllister Stone is Editor in Chief of AbsoluteWrite.com. She attended the Viable Paradise writing workshop in October of 2006. and has been a member of the VP staff, since. She can often be found on the Absolute Write forums. She blogs sporadically at Stones In the Field (<http://macallisterstone.blogspot.com/>), Floccinaucical (<http://floccinaucical.com/>), and Sofa Monkeys (<http://sofamonkeys.blogspot.com/>).

16. Short Story (Adult)-Regina Williams Regina has been the editor of The Storyteller since 1996. It's been a great learning experience and wonderful having a place for writers to submit their work. As a writer herself, she knows how hard it can sometimes be to place a story. She's been published in *Midwest Literary Magazine*, *Shorelines Literary Magazine*, *Futures Mysterious Anthology Magazine*, *Echoes of the Ozarks Anthology*, *Voices Anthology*, *Writing on Walls Anthology*, *Tales from the South Anthology*, *Ozarks Magazine*, *Cuivre River Anthology* to name a few. Her suspense novel is with an agent and she just finished *Writing With a Mentor* in the *Writing With Series* from Highhill Press. Regina lives in Maynard, Arkansas with her husband, Tom and although the grandkids live next door, she's claiming

them as dependents since they are at her house more than at home.

17. Juvenile Short Story-Rebecca Matthews is a multi-published freelance and short story writer. She currently lives in southern Idaho with her husband and daughter.

18. Young Adult Short Story-Nancy Beverage (writes as Annie Withers) lives in Kansas City and freelances, writing articles - mostly profiles of people, places, and events and book reviews. She particularly likes writing about entrepreneurs and small business and this year she started a series called Shop Local in a small monthly paper..And after all those interviews, she has a collection of great characters for a novel so she'll have to start that next.

19. Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror-Stacey Graham is a published short story writer in genres ranging from Jane Austen to zombie romance. She is the voice box of Undead Fred for the popular Zombie Dating Guide website [zombiedatingguide.com] and is currently working on two projects to be released Spring 2012: THE GIRLS' GHOST HUNTING GUIDE (Sourcebooks Jabberwocky) and THE ZOMBIE TAROT (Quirk). Please visit her website at staceyigraham.com, Facebook at facebook.com/authorstaceyigraham and on Twitter at staceyigraham.

20. Prose Humor- Beth Bartlett is a freelance writer and humorist. Her work has appeared in such publications as *Writer's Digest*, *mental_floss*, *Country Extra*, *Meetings South* and *American Profile*. She writes a weekly humor horoscope column for the *Lovely County Citizen* newspaper and for her own site, WisecrackZodiac.com. In her spare moments of sanity, she also contributes to the Bombeck-style humor site AnArmyofErmas.com.

21. Essay-Humorist and essayist Amy Mullis writes from her home in South Carolina where she lives with husband Bill and sons Ryan and Jeffrey, her *Muses of Undeserved Persecution*, *Perplexing Questions*, and *Inappropriate Dinner Conversation*. She is an editor on the website *Stage of Life*. Her essays appear in various servings of *Chicken Soup and Cup of Comfort* anthologies as well as in *The Ultimate series*, *Letters to My Mother*, *Christmas Through a Child's Eyes*, and *Christmas Traditions*. Her work has been published multiple times in *The Christian Science Monitor* as well as in online and regional magazines. She earned Honorable Mention in the 2010 Erma Bombeck Writing Competition and is a regular contributor to the humor blog, *An Army of Ermas*. She also labors for minutes at a time over a hot keyboard to produce her own long-running humor blog, *Mind over Mullis*.

22. Play/ Film/TV Script- Frank Steele is an actor and playwright. He has appeared on television, in music videos, numerous commercials, in over fifty plays, and in motion pictures. He has been writing plays off and on since college which have include comedies, dramas, and a one man show about Jackie Gleason. He is a retired drama teacher and several of his former students are active in the film industry today. He is continuing to audition for acting parts in the Dallas area. He will be acting in a short subject movie to be shot in the Dallas area this spring. Plays and movies are a passion of his, and he feels fortunate that he can still pursue his dream.

23 Technical/How-To Article-Dawn Allcot is a full-time freelance writer, blogger and copywriter specializing in personal finance, small business, marketing, and parenting, among other diverse niches.

She has been Editor-in-Chief of five different magazines in various niche markets. She is widely published in print magazines and on many high-profile websites and blogs, and also ghostwrites for corporate and small business clients. She is also the founder and owner of

(Continued on page 18)

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FORMER OWFI HLM IS HONORED

Editor's Note: Dr. Tassin was a long time member of OWFI and a Honorary Life Member. He passed away on Saturday, April 9. The following is the obituary posted in the Oklahoman.

EDMOND, OK — Raymond J. Tassin, a seasoned writer and former University of Central Oklahoma journalism professor, died Saturday, April 9. He was 85.

Tassin worked at several Oklahoma newspapers early in his career, including *The Oklahoman* and the *Chickasha Daily Express*. In 1961, he was hired to teach journalism at Central State College, now the University of Central Oklahoma, in Edmond. In 1966, he helped establish a journalism department at the university and chaired it until he retired in 1990.

He was the type of professor who challenged his students and encouraged them to challenge him, former student Gypsy Hogan said.

"He really gave his students the tools they needed to hit the streets and start gathering news," Hogan said.

Tassin created the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame and is a 1984 inductee.

He was a University of Oklahoma graduate, and earned his doctorate in journalism at the University of Missouri.

Tassin, a Holdenville native, joined the Navy in 1944 at age 17. He served on three destroyers, and received 14 battle stars and seven campaign ribbons. He was honorably discharged in 1946, but served in the Navy reserve until 1982.

Tassin published six books, including two historical novels, "Red Men in Blue" and "Steel Trails of Vengeance."

He is survived by his wife, Martha Grace Tassin. The couple's son, Mark Alan Tassin, died at age 22.

2011 OWFI CONTEST JUDGES

(Continued from page 17)

several websites and blogs. Her career passions are helping small business owners increase their reach through blogging and article marketing, and mentoring new writers. She was honored to be chosen as a judge for the OWFI contest, and impressed by the quality of all the entries she read. Learn more at:

www.allcotmedia.com

24. Feature Article-Mari Farthing is an award-winning writer who has been with *MetroFamily Magazine* since 2003. She started her career quite by accident, with a chance meeting and a passion for writing. She found her career at *MetroFamily* through freelance writing, eventually becoming a regular columnist and assistant editor before stepping into the role of editor in 2008. She is interested in connecting local readers with useful information written by local writers.

Along with magazine work, Mari is working on several projects, including projects for future publication (from children's books to adult novels), personal blogs (metrofamilymagazine.com/mari and marimargene.blogspot.com), several collaborative blogs (bookendbabes.com, themusicmamas.com, themusicminis.com) and an online music magazine that is currently in development.

25. Western Article-Fred Pfister is a retired English professor and a founding member of the Ozarks Writers League. He edits *The Ozarks Mountaineer*, a magazine dedicated to presenting, protecting and preserving the history, art, folklore and culture of the Ozarks. He is the author of *The Littlest Baby: A Handbook for Parents of Premature Children* and *The Insiders' Guide to Branson and the Ozarks Mountains*, and he is a frequent speaker on subjects relating to the Ozarks: Harold Bell Wright, Missouri Place Names, Ozarks Weather lore, and

other topics dealing with literature, writing, and regional history.

26. Inspirational Prose-Nancy Robinson Masters has sold more than 3,000 feature articles and stories to a variety of publications and is the author of more than 40 books. Her writing has received numerous awards, and she recently became the first woman to receive the Stephen F. Austin Award from the Texas Masons for her commitment to inspiring others to write. Her book, *Devoted to Writing*, written with Maurice Malloy, has been provided to hundreds of missionaries serving Christians around the world. Nancy is a licensed pilot who resides in the Elmdale Community near Abilene, Texas at an airport where she and her husband, Master Flight Instructor Bill Masters, reside. "Our hacienda is half hangar, half house, and all hom." Nancy@NancyRobinsonMasters.com

27. Mazie Cox Reid Column Award-Janet Short had an idea for a newspaper column called "Short Takes on Life." For four years she wrote from a primitive mountain cabin in southeastern Oklahoma. She has won various awards for her children's picture books, poetry and essays. In 2009 she again took up her weekly column. Newly married to Daniel Bradburn and relocated to Texas, she still writes as Janet Short. She is a member of the OWFI affiliate group, Web Writing Wonders.

28. Confessions-Michael Bracken is the author of 11 books and more than 1,200 shorter works. More than 800 of Bracken's short stories have appeared in literary, small press, and commercial publications worldwide, including *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, *Espionage Magazine*, *Fantastic*, *Mike Shayne Mystery Magazine*, *Northern Horror*, *Sun*, *Young World*, and many other anthologies and periodicals. Because he has sold more than 230 confessions to such magazines as *True Confessions*, *True Experience*, *True Love*, *True Romance*, and *True Story*, his fellow confession writers have crowned Bracken the "King of Confessions."

29. Nostalgia Prose-Jen Nipps is a freelance writer in Ada, Oklahoma. She is the author of *Devoted to Creating: Ignit-*

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2011 OWFI CONTEST JUDGES

ing the Spark in Everyone, which includes some nostalgic stories of the creative legacy in her family. She has judged for Romance Writers of America chapter contests and for the Norman Galaxy of Writers contest.

30. Best Juvenile Book—Over 2,000 of Mary Ann Kerl's articles and short stories have appeared in over 100 different publications, including Writer's Digest, Family Circle, Jack and Jill and others. She sold 16 books to royalty companies, including Augsburg Fortress and Honor Books. Many of her books are for children. Her husband, Bob, is a past OWFI president. Mary Ann has B.S. degrees in Journalism and Family Consumer Science and a Master's in Education with a Mass Communication specialty. She teaches communication courses online for the University of Phoenix. Her latest book, *Devoted to Economizing*, gives practical tips for living in today's economy.

31. Best Nonfiction Book—Ann Champeau is a Crème de la Crème recipient, writes and publishes feature articles, life stories and poetry.

32. Published Poetry Book—Vivian Zabel has had poetry, short stories, and articles published for over 40 years. Vivian taught English and writing, including poetry units, for 27 years and retired in 2001. She has been an editor for over 35 years, she has judged poetry and other types of writing competitions over a span of 20 years.

33. Best Fiction Book—Carol Johnson received the Crème de la Crème award in 1991 for her short story, "Wednesday's Child." Since then she has won numerous other awards, published a book of nonfiction (1993) and a novel (2006). Her novel, *Everlasting*, was a finalist in fiction for the Oklahoma Book Awards. She teaches creative writing, literature, and composition full-time

at Tulsa Community College. She makes her home near downtown Tulsa, OK, with five cats and one husband, roughly in that order.

Crème de la Crème—Robyn Conley Robyn Conley, the book doctor, speaks and writes about writing, editing, and marketing what you write. Her books include: *BE YOUR OWN BOOK DOCTOR*, which gives a checklist of editing tips for writers, and *What Really Matters to Me*, a journal that helps people discover their goals, and then offers practical tips to make those dreams come true. Her other published titles include a diversity of topics, such as *BEYOND THE BRANCHES*, *Writing and Scrapping Your Complete Family Tree* and *Pray the Bible with Paper and Pen*. Her biographies include: *John Grisham*, *Cartoonists*, *Alexander G. Bell*, and the juvenile reference books: *Meerkats*; *Depression*; *Motion Pictures*; and *The Automobile*. Robyn has sold to major magazines, such as *The Writer*, *Writer's Digest*, *ABA: Student Lawyer*, and a score of others.

Crème de la Crème—Deborah Bouziden has been writing and publishing articles and books since 1985. Currently, she has had 14 books published, 5 in the works, and too many articles to count. Look for her 15th book to be released in October 2011. Check out her website to learn more, www.deborahbouziden.com

Crème de la Crème—Soli has published articles, essays, columns, short fiction for adults and children, and poetry. She is a past author of the month for Highlights Magazine, received an Oklahoma Book Award in 2008 and two nominations for the Pushcart Prize.

OWFI 2011 Conference Sponsors

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Crème de la Crème
AWOC.COM

Two Categories
Tulsa NightWriters
Betty Ward Widney

One Category
Bartlesville WordWeavers
Linda Basinger
Peggy Fielding
Fort Worth Writers – Mainstream Novel category
The Inklings
Sue McMurphy – Contemporary Romance Novel category
Norman Galaxy of Writers
Oklahoma City Writers
P.A.W.S.
Red River Writers – Poetry, Unrhymed-Long category

Half Category
McAlester McSherry Writers
Toy Venable

Other Donations
Pen & Keyboard Writers
Linda Apple
Barbara Shepherd
Danna Brady

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Affiliate

OKLAHOMA CITY WRITERS

OKC

Acceptances and Sales

SHELLEY ANNE RICHTER sold a poem "Ladybug" to *Mature Living* magazine for the May 2011 issue.

MARIA VERES sold three poems to *Ancient Paths Literary Magazine*: "Up on the Lord's Farm," "Give Us This Day" and "Pastor Jordan Reminds Us How to Behave in Church." The poem "Eat Your Broccoli" will appear in the anthology Broken Circles: The Hunger Project.

MARIA VERES also sold a short story "The Forty-Third Year" to *Crosstimbers* magazine.

Professional Activities

JUDY HOWARD book signing events for her book 1905 Cookbook – Food for Body and Soul in Oklahoma City, Norman, Tulsa and New Orleans.

MARIA VERES is now teaching a class on writing at Francis Tuttle Vo-Tech.

NORMAN GALAXY OF WRITERS

JUDY GIGSTAD gave a talk and signed books at Mabel Fry Public Library in April.

SANDI SOLI read from Ain't Nobody Sing Like Me: New Oklahoma Writing along with other contributors of the book in April.

Lucinda Thierry was featured as the March Author of the Month by the Oklahoma Black Book Writers Association.

Club News

OKLAHOMA CITY WRITERS has a new web page at www.okcwriters.com.

Norman

Acceptances and Sales

ANN CHAMPEAU: Her second mini-mystery, "The Bewildering Burglaries," accepted by *Woman's World Magazine*. *Oklahoma Today* accepted her poem "Oklahoma Prairie" And the poem was chosen to be recorded for the blind of Oklahoma.

Market columns for WriteLine,

Galaxy's newsletter: "The Bonnie Speer Award," "Parent Teachers Organizations," "Good Cooks Cook Up Cooking Articles."

ROBERT FERRIER: Two poems, "Glover River" and "The Violin Maker" accepted by *Red Lion Square* and will appear online at <http://www.redlionsq.com>. Poem "Discretion" published in *Cross Timbers Journal*. Video poems, "Cain," and "Journal Entry, Pride," performed on *You Tube*. Twenty more will be uploaded to *You Tube* to the video chapbook series, "Dante Dreams Inferno." <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=611efZ5kILg>.

FRANCES SEARCEY: A report for the *Norman Transcript* of Galaxy contest winners, their winning entries, and the judge for each category. A poem, "The Crinkled Medical-Appointment Suit" published in *2010 Blood & Thunder Musings on the Art of Medicine*.

BARBARA SHEPHERD: Poem "Afternoon Magic," published in *Lone Star Magazine*.

RUSS LONG: Full-page article, "A Marine Pilot's Trust is in His Plane," and "Saddened by (ED) McMahon Passing," in the *Norman Transcript* for Veteran's Day edition. His Christmas story was published in the *Transcript*. His 65th anniversary story was also published

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Affiliate News

Continued

in the *Transcript*.

KATHLEEN NORRIS

PARK: published *Norman Bahá'I Cluster Newsletter*. In *Galaxy's WriteLine*, she published 'Clarity Trumps Convention,' 'Potpourri,' and 'Sandra Dark, Seizing Opportunities, 101.' Article 'Newspaper for Moore Launching' for *The Journal Record*

KEITH EATON: *Distinctly Oklahoma* article, "One of Our Own,"

STAN SOLLOWAY: *Silliman on Sports*, *SillimanOnSports.com*: "Golfer Moe Norman: The Best Ball Striker You Never Heard of," "2010 Year of Wussification for the NFL," "Other Cafes Who'll Fire Employees for Letting Peterson Use the Restroom," "Silliman Says to Sacramento and Memphis: Switch Team Names," John Daly's Sober, Slimmer and Still Rockin', but Where's Hooters?" "Forks vs Smallville," "Remembering Wade Phillips Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered," Iron Mike Tyson Says Eat Your F__ing Veggies!" Phil Jackson Mind Tricks Pat Riley and the Heat," "Cam Out of

Jam? Reflections on our Favorite Newton," "Mets Mixed in Madoff Mess: What's in a Name," "Favre's Legacy: Streak, Packs, Passes, Picks, Pics, Implosion," "Jeff Should Hire Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as Coach." Also 10 articles for *Bleacher Report*, which is linked to *USA Today*, *LA Times*, *India Times*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Washington Times* and *NY Daily News*. These can be read on bleacherreport.com/stan-silliman. For *Silliman on Sports*: "Blake Griffin Influencing NBA Trade Activity," "20,000 Women Heard About Wilt's 100 Point Game," "Defending The Criami Heat," "Drive An Announce Batty: Madrid vs Malaga," also articles for *Bleacher Report*. "If Maya Angelou Poeticized Griffin's 47 Point MLK Day Outburst," "I Only Watch the Super Bowl for the Commercials," "Super Bowl XLV Recap; Something for Everyone," "Brett Favre: Did Dancing With the Stars-Miss a Bet?," "Montana to Montana: Am I Dreaming or What?,"

NEIL HUFFAKER: Christmas story, "Prosthetics for Snowy," in *Norman Transcript*.

JOCELYN PEDERSEN: Articles, "Name of the Work," and "Woman of Substance" in *Silk Magazine*, and "Noble

News," "Holiday Gala Saturday," "Noble Ready for Lights Contest," "New Noble Event, Holiday Showcase," "The Gift of a Lifetime: Mayor Gary Hayes donates kidney," "Noble Residents Welcome New Gourmet Business," "Noble Names First Female Superintendent," in *Norman Transcript*.

HELEN DUCHON: Publishes *League of Women Voters* newsletter, "Voter," and "WriteLine" for *Galaxy*.

Wrote speaker notes for Warren Vieth for *Galaxy's WriteLine*.

Published obituary "Annabelle Kendall Earnheart in *Norman Transcript*."

MIKE KRAWCZYK published cartoons.

PATRICIA HARVEY: Articles: "Life Coach to the Rescue," about another *Galaxy* member, Judith Evans;

"Women in the Arts: Helen Duchon," in *Silk Magazine*.

CINDY NOBLE: Article, "Beginning Figure Skaters Compete at Blazers' Ice Centre," for *The Moore American*.

JUDY HOWARD: Published 1905 Cookbook-Food for Body and Soul.

CONNIE ECKSTEIN: Blog "Stemz and Roses," reflections on life as a female engineer.

Contests

ROBERT FERRIER: Photo-

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Affiliate News

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graph, "Bound" received an Honorable Mention from the *Norman Park Foundation Tree Photo Contest*.

BARBARA SHEPHERD: First Place in the *Oklahoma City Writers, Inc. Annual Contest*, for a feature article, "You Can't Keep a Good Woman Down." 2nd Place in Galaxy's contest for "You Can't Keep a Good Woman down," Honorable Mention for "The Angler, in short story; 2nd place for "Mountain Top" in unrhymed poetry; 1st place for "Francisco and the Mayan King," in children's fiction; honorable mention for "The New Vending Machines, Rx and Weed."

OL' TASCOSA WORDSLINGERS

DION Mayes-Burnett: First Place for her Short Story "White Roses." This story earned the **Bonnie Speer Crème de la Crème Award** for the best of the best in Galaxy's annual contest.

Neal Huffaker: 1ST place in Galaxy's annual contest for his non-fiction article, "More

Light, Less Heat on Global Warming,"; 1st place in unrhymed poetry for "Give and

MID-OKLAHOMA WRITERS

Take,"; 1st place in nostalgic essay category for "Stone Mountain Sweethearts.,"; 2nd place in children's fiction for "Gentle Magic.,"; 2nd place for "False Idol," in Rhymed Poetry; Honorable Mention for "The Bridge," in unrhymed poetry; 3rd place for Democracy Run Amok," for nonfiction article; Honorable Mention for "Tidda Pup and his Boy," in nostalgic essay.

DARLINE HOBBS: 2nd place in Galaxy's short story contest for "A Job Well Done," 3rd place in short story for "Aunt Josie." Honorable mention for "The Old Tire," in rhymed poetry. 2nd place for "Six Sisters," in nostalgic essay.

KEITH A. EATON: 1st place for "Boys of Normandy," in rhymed poetry.

JENNIFER DICAMILLO: 3rd place for "Upon My Mother's Passing," for rhymed poetry. 3rd place for "Grandpa Merrill's House," in nostalgic essay. 3rd place for "Punch Yourself in the Head," in children's fiction.

VICKIE MALONE KEN-

NEDY won 1st place for in Short Story for the 2011 Darrell Awards.

Professional Activities

JUDY HOWARD: Presentation at *Centennial Stitches Quilt Trunk Show*. Signed "Heavenly Patchwork I & II, Centennial Stitches" and "Thanking our Troups," at the *Mid Del Stitching Sisters Quilt Guild* in Midwest City. Pres-

PEN AND KEYBOARD

entation at "The Buchanan Antique Market," of "Thanking Our Troops – God Bless America Touring Quilts," at the *Modern Living Building, OKC Fairgrounds*. She autographed her books of which the profits go to provide quilts for wounded soldiers. Presented and curated the exhibit at the OSU/OKC Farmers Market, "God Bless America Touring Quilts" for the Winter Festival. *Northpark Mall* exhibited "Thanking Our Troops – God Bless America Touring Quilts. Book Signings for *1905 Cookbook-Food for Body and Soul* and exhibited quilts at The Book Place in Broken Arrow, Savory Chef and Steve's Books in Tulsa. God Bless America Touring Quilts exhibit

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in Made In Oklahoma Festival, Seminole, Best of Books in Edmond, for Daughters of the American Revolution in Ponca City, autographed new book *Oklahoma Pioneer 1905 Cookbook-Food for Body and Soul* at Shepherds of Love Ministry Luncheon at the Village Baptist Church Youth Center in OKC.

FRANCES SEARCEY: Chaired the 2010 Galaxy Writing Contest. Chairs the Friday Writers, Galaxy's critique group that meets every Friday morning at the Senior Center. Served as OWFI's Feature Article category chair.

JOCELYN PEDERSEN: Facilitated a workshop, "Feature Writing," Oklahoma Scholastic Media – Fall Media Monday. High School students from around the state came to OU to attend the Journalism and Mass Communication conference geared toward high school students. Graduated with Master of Professional Writing Degree from OU.

KATHLEEN Norris Park: Copy-edited *Moore Monthly Magazine*.

INGA BLANTON: Signing her 5th book of, "Misalliance,"

of the Antarean Odyssey at *Hastings* in Norman, Feb. 5.

BARBARA SHEPHERD: Re-elected Treasurer for Wordwrights-OKC Christian Writers Group.

STAN SOLLOWAY: Participated in the *Laughing Skull Comedy* contest in Austin, Texas. Helped raise money for

TULSA NIGHT-WRITERS

Food for Friends & Shelter in Norman by doing comedy at the Sooner Theater.

Member News

HELEN DUCHON and her husband, Claude, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

JULIE COOK: A long-time member, Galaxy's only life-member, and treasurer of Galaxy for many years died January 18, 2011.

CHRISTINE RIMMER REYNOLDS, a much-published romance novel writer, a sought-after speaker, and a long-time member of Galaxy is moving to Portland, Oregon.

RUSS LONG and his wife Nell returned from a tour of Croatia where they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

CINDY NOBLE gave birth to John Bradley Noble on July 21,

2-1-. He comes to meeting sometimes.

OTW

Novels & New Books

LINDA BRODAY & PHYLISS MIRANDA: NOVEL: Anthology, Give Me a Texas Outlaw, Kensington (07/10), chosen by Doubleday, Rhapsody, Literary Guild, and will be a Book of the Month Club selection.

Professional Activities

NATALIE BRIGHT & PHYLISS MIRANDA: FACULTY: Frontiers in Writing Conference, June 25-26, Amarillo College.

Nancy Keel: JUDGE: Central Florida Romance Writers, Touch of Magic Paranormal Romance contest.

Mid OK

Acceptances and Sales

JOHN PRIMO (writing as Jaz Primo): TRADE PAPERBACK AND E-BOOK: "A Bloody London Sunset," 2nd in Trilogy, published by Rutherford Literary Group.

DAVID ROPER: HIGH FIVE MAGAZINE: "The Three Little Worms Have a Birthday" (March), "Elijah Wants to Be a Cowboy" and "Brain Tricks" (April). STORIES FOR CHILDREN: "Retro Rocks" and "David Has a Secret" (May).

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Continued

Contest Winnings

DAVID ROPER: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, WESTERN STORY: 1st Place, "Good for What Ails You;" SHORT-SHORT STORY: 1st Place, "The Day the Little Red Hen Laid Two Eggs; NON-FICTION: 3rd Place, "The Legend of Jesse B."

JEANNE SHIRLEY: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, NON-FICTION: 1st Place, "Grandmother Effie: How She Helped Win the West; WESTERN: 3RD Place, "The Making of a Legend."

JUDY DURBIN: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, POETRY: 1st Place, "The Last Time."

BARBARA SHEPHERD: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, WESTERN STORY: 2nd Place, "Rustlers of the Staked Plains," POETRY: 3rd Place, "A Final Goodbye," SHORT-SHORT STORY: 3rd Place, "The Portrait Painter."

BETTY PERSONETTE: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, POETRY: 2nd Place, "Out of Body."

CHARLES VASSEL: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, SHORT-SHORT STORY: 2nd

Place, "The Mysterious Mr. Smith," 3rd Place, NON-FICTION: "The Miracle Baby."

JEANNIE SKINNER: Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest, SHORT-SHORT STORY: Honorable Mention, "The Chest of Drawers,"

Professional Activities

JAN HALL: At the March led members of the Mid-Oklahoma Writers in a writing exercise used in the book Now Write.

DAVID ROPER: Spoke at the April meeting of Mid-Oklahoma Writers on the subject: "Rejection Slips/ Care and Feeding of Rejection Slips."

P&K

Acceptances and Sales

MIKE HINKLE: ARTICLES: "Protecting misbehaving 'friends' always has a price," *The Edmond Sun* (02/16/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x1275139285/Protecting-misbehaving-friends-always-has-a-price> ; "Taking on Watson in the brave, new world," *The Edmond Sun* (02/23/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x186198528/Taking-on-Watson-in-the-brave-new-world> ; "Ancient tale has modern bearing," *The Edmond Sun* (03/02/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x651389780/Ancient-tale-has>

modern-bearing ; "From Hawaii: Author Michael W. Hinkle," *vehoae* (03/05/11), <http://vehoae.wordpress.com/> ; "Pheromone escapade leaves lasting impression," *The Edmond Sun* (03/09/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x977544805/Pheromone-escapade-leaves-lasting-impression/print> ; "Currency trading focuses on trust," *The Edmond Sun* (03/16/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x449494925/Currency-trading-focuses-on-trust/print> ; "Division over religious symbols can be carried to extreme," *The Edmond Sun* (03/23/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x915417793/Division-over-religious-symbols-can-be-carried-to-extreme/print> ; "Search for wealth, power, prestige an empty quest," *The Edmond Sun* (04/14/11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x1540196726/Search-for-wealth-power-prestige-an-empty-quest> ; "This Reinheitsgebot's for you," *The Edmond Sun* (04-20-11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x333449686/This-Reinheitsgebot-s-for-you> ; "Science explores how deep moral fortitude really goes," *The Edmond Sun* (04-27-11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x976267321/Science->

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explores-how-deep-moral-fortitude-really-goes ; “Turning tide against malaria worthy of worldwide resources,” *The Edmond Sun* (05-04-11), <http://www.edmondsun.com/opinion/x340275464/Turning-tide-against-malaria-worthy-of-worldwide-resources> ;

Novels & New Books

HORTON DEAKINS: FICTION BOOK: *Time Pullers*, 4RV Publishing, LLC (05/10/2011)

VAN OSDOL, WILLIAM R.: NON-FICTION BOOK: *Billy Ray from Jet: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly!* Publish America (April 2011)

VEHOAE: NON-FICTION BOOK: *Conscience: Breaching Social Amnesia*, 4RV Publishing, LLC (01/27/11).

VIVIAN GILBERT ZABEL: FICTION BOOK: *Stolen*, 4RV Publishing, LLC (Nov 2011).

Professional Activities

HORTON DEAKINS: North Texas Book Festival: Denton, Texas (04-16-11), Book Signing & Tour.

JACQUE GRAHAM: North Texas Book Festival: Denton, Texas (04-16-11), Book Sign-

ings & Tour

MICHAEL W. HINKLE: Tucson Festival of Books: Tucson, Arizona (03/12/11), Workshop Presenter: The Print On-Demand Experience – Book/Movie Biz.

VIVIAN ZABEL: North Texas Book Festival: Denton, Texas (04-16-11), Book Signings & Tour.

VIVIAN ZABEL: OWFI: Oklahoma City, OK (05/05-07/11), Workshop Presenter: Submission Etiquette 101. TNW

Acceptance and Sales

SARA SUE HOKLOTUBBE: BOOK: *American Café* (University of Arizona 2011).

SALLY JADLOW: DEVOTIONAL: “Powerful Names,” (Christian Broadcasting Network).

CAROL JOHNSON: ESSAY: “Poets, Writers, and the Search for Lubricant,” (*This Land Press* 6/2010); textbook review (Bedford/St. Martin’s).

MIKE KOCH: SHORT STORY: “Emily’s Shadow” in *Short Sips: Coffee House Flash Fiction* (Wicked East); “A Most Unusual Discovery” in *Evolutionary Blueprint*; “Titus” in *Carnival* (Static Movement).

JIM LAUGHTER: BOOK: *Space Trader*, Volume 3 of the *Galactic Axia* youth adventure series. Volume I of the series,

Escape to Destiny, was re-issued with a new cover. Books are available on Kindle.

VICKIE MCDONOUGH: BOOKS: *Texas Trails: A Morgan Family Series: Long Trail Home* (Fall 2011). *Whispers on the Prairie* series: *Winds of Change* (Spring 2012, Guidepost Books).

CAROL SNOW: POEM: “The Snow Globe,” *Harp Strings Poetry Journal* (Winter 2010).

CARLA STEWART: BOOK: *Stardust* (Summer 2012).

GLORIA TEAGUE: BOOK: *Evil Transgressions*, written under a pseudonym, GT Everett (available on Kindle); ARTICLE: *You and Me Magazine*.

DALE WHISMAN: STAGE PLAY: *Down the Road* (Off Broadway, (6/1), 27 shows.

Contest Winnings

CAROLYN STEELE: Oklahoma City Writers’ Contest: JUVENILE SHORT STORY: 2ND Place; “The Warrior and The Mist,” 2nd place; ADULT SHORT STORY: “Waitin’ for a Friend,” HM; SHORT STORY: “The Soldier, 1836,” 3rd Place, Art Affair Literary Contest; WESTERN SHORT STORY: “Waitin’ for a Friend,” HM, Art Affair Literary Contest.

Honors and Awards

Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc.

PROMOTING HIGHER STANDARDS FOR THE WRITTEN WORD
Supporting writers and the craft of writing in Oklahoma,
the United States and around the world.



Affiliate News

Continued

BARBARA HOWELL:

Book, *Splinters: The Pain, The Passion, The Point*, featured in GD USA, a "Best of the Best" graphic design annual.

SALLY JADLOW: BOOK:

God's Little Miracle Book (AWOC, 2010); as of February it is the best seller at AWOCbooks.com.

CARLA STEWART: BOOK:

Chasing Lilacs named to the Pulpwood Queens' Bestseller List for January 2011, and also named a finalist in fiction for the Oklahoma Book Award.

Professional Activities

SARA SUE HOKLOTUBBE:

SPEAKER: guest on *Native America Calling*, based in Albuquerque, NM; panelist AT Tucson Festiville of Books, Tucson, AZ; panelist at The Big Chile in Santa Fe, NM.

JUDITH HOUSTON-

EMERSON: ART/NOVEL:

Solo exhibition of paintings, *The Shape Shift* series, in conjunction with her debut historical novel, *The Myth Makers*, at NSU Broken Arrow this winter; appeared at the renowned open mic venue Cornelia Street Café in the East Village in NY; signed books at the Fort Smith

Museum of History.

CAROL JOHNSON:

SPEAKER: Route 66 Night Writers; Precious Jewels book club; CLASS: taught a two-day class at Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless on Writing the Memoir; CLASS: Writing the Novel, TCC, Fall 2011.

JP JONES: SPEAKER: marketing and promotion conference in Branson, MO.

JACKIE KING: INTER-

VIEW: Eva's Sanctuary

CHUCK SASSER:

CLASSES: "Want to be a Writer" at TCC Metro campus and "Mystery, Suspense, Sci-Fi" at SE campus; BOOK SIGNING: Hastings Books in Muskogee in March, signing for *Predator: The Remote-Control Air War Over Iraq and Afghanistan* (with Matt Martin, Zenith, 2010).

MICHAEL VANCE: SIGNING: *Weird Horror Tales* and *Weird Horror Tales: The Feasting* at Starbase 21.

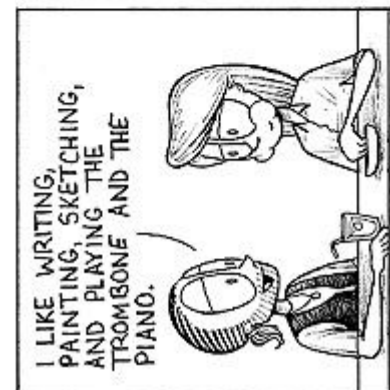
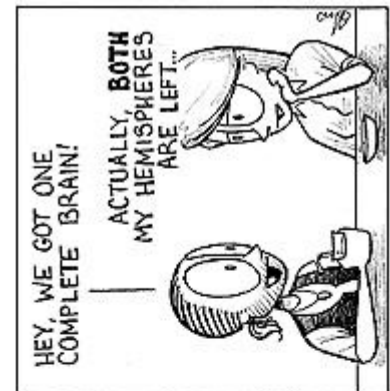
DALE WHISMAN: ACTING: appeared in the production of Tracy Letts' "Man from Nebraska" at the Tulsa PAC.

CLUB NEWS

OFFICER ELECTIONS:

NEW OFFICERS: PRESIDENT: Bob Avey; VICE-PRESIDENT: Valerie Gawthrop; TREASURER: Brad Smith; GREETER: Joyce Ross; NIGHT SCRIPTS EDITORS:

Jane Green and Carol Johnson. **WARMUP CONTEST WINNERS:** 1st Place: Mike Koch, "A Mother's Dream"; 2nd Place: Claudia Stumpf, "The Saga of Little Sid"; 3rd Place, Gloria Shirley, "Frozen Field"; HM, Joan Rhine, "Maximizing Skills."



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Joanna Beth Tweedy



Max McCoy



Foxy Hens and the Rooster?

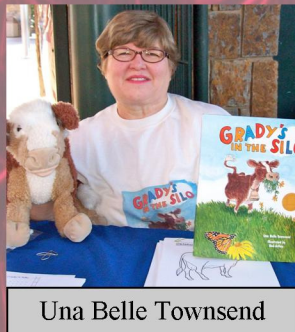
WRITE NOW! 2011 OWFI CONFERENCE



Basket Wars by Oklahoma Writers



Writers of the Purple Sage



Una Belle Townsend

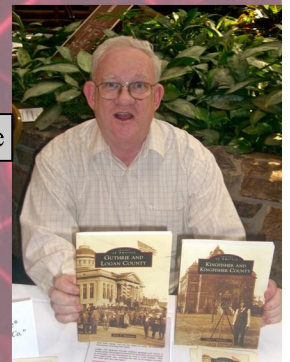


Chuck Sasser (right) 2011 Honorary Life Member



Once and Future Presidents
Linda Apple and Dan Case

Glenn McIntyre



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The Oklahoma Writer's Federation, Inc. is a non-profit federation of writer's groups dedicated to promoting higher standards for the written word.



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Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc

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CONTEST PHOTO! See page 8 for details.