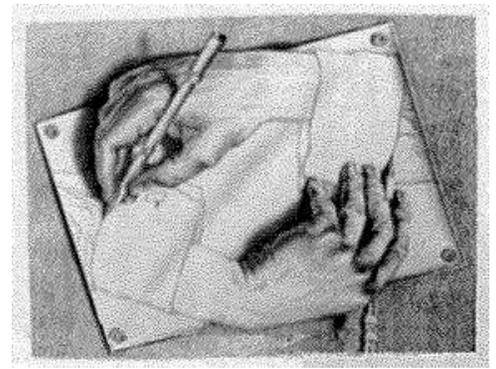


**The Write Stuff**  
~ **Columbia Chapter Missouri Writers' Guild** ~  
July 2010 ~ Debra Hardin, Editor  
[debra.hardin@gmail.com](mailto:debra.hardin@gmail.com)



**"There is a poem at the heart of things"**  
**Wallace Stevens**

### **Well-Versed 2010**

Congratulations to members and contributors of the 2010 Well-Versed. On Sunday, June 6, a pristine Missouri stunningly gorgeous day, writers and readers shared their afternoon with the public.

Thirty-five writers works were chosen for inclusion for 2010 Well-Versed. Of these writers, the following read their literary works at the launch and signing: Debbie Parker, Larry Allen, Evelyn Aholt, Jan Coffman, Jim Coffman, John Farr, Lori Galaske, Jennifer Brandt, C.A. Young, Ida Fogle, Cate Richard and Linda Fisher.

Larry Allen, chapter president, presented prizes and certificates to numerous writers for their contributions to *Well-Versed 2010*.

We appreciate the sponsorship of The Columbia Daily Tribune, Rock Spring Reviews, Mozark Press and John Farr, and urge our members to continue their affiliation and support toward our sponsors.

More than 40 guests attended the launch held at the Orr Street Studios, selling 31 books. Several members were on hand to sell their other publications.

There is a wide array of information available, on the back pages of Well-Versed, as listed in appendixes. CCMWG website is: <http://columbiawrites.coin.org>

### **Presidents Message**

The Columbia Chapter- Missouri Writer's Guild keeps rolling along. It is ninety-five years old this year. I understand there were only six members just recently, but now our numbers are forty to sixty. Congratulations to everyone who make our organization so vibrant.

Congratulations and thanks to those who helped create 2010, *Well Versed*. By the time you read this, we will have had our book signing and reading event. The next big event is the Write Direction conference, on October 23, 2010.

In recent months, more of our members have books coming out or are doing readings of one kind or another. Three members, including myself, were featured at the May 23, Montserrat Poetry Festival. Congratulations to Jim Coffman and Eva Ridenour!

Now is the time you to consider taking a leadership roll in CCMWG in the coming year. Committees forming soon will find office holders and board members to guide the future of our organization. Please volunteer, because without future leadership, we cannot continue as the vibrant organization we have been for so many years now. See you soon and keep writing!

Larry Allen ~ CCMWG President

## CCMWG News and Notes

### NEW! ONLINE CRITIQUE FORUMS

We now have an online critique forum for posting items, prose or poetry for critique. This online critique forum is available for PAID members only. By keeping the forum available to paid members only, your work is not considered published and will allow you to publish it elsewhere. Information on critique groups and the online critique forum can be found on the CCMWG website under groups: <http://columbiawrites.coin.org/groups.shtml>

If you wish to become a member of CCMWG, you may do so following the instructions on the CCMWG website: [http://columbiawrites.coin.org/about\\_us.shtml](http://columbiawrites.coin.org/about_us.shtml)

For current members, your dues must be up to date and the email address you use to register MUST be on file with CCMWG. If you are unsure which email address you have on file or if your dues are current please contact the membership chair: [http://columbiawrites.coin.org/contact\\_us.shtml](http://columbiawrites.coin.org/contact_us.shtml)

### Montserrat Poetry Festival – 2010

There is always a pleasant surprise.

Three years ago I started this little thing called the Montserrat Poetry Festival. It was a quaint affair in July's 104-degree heat. Not one of the 102 people who attended had ever before been to a poetry festival. That might have proved the key to our success. The audience stayed and enjoyed the program and asked to be notified when the next time we did another Festival.

So we did it again.

The second year we grew in numbers and stature. Missouri's poet laureate Walter Bargaen showed up. Who knew we could garner such class? The cowboy poets were a scream, and our British poet provided a bit of elegance. Or, at least in his London brogue, it sounded like elegance.

So we did it again. We're from Missouri. We could use the elegance.

And the pleasant surprise this year was the many great people we got to meet from all over the state -- including Mid-Missouri.

I had known Larry Allen in a previous life, but little did I know that he had developed into such a cunning and cultured writer...delving into history with the precision of a sharpshooter on Tuesday. My introduction to Eva Ridenour and Jim Coffman was a bit more commonplace. I read their stuff. That was all it took to know that they had something special to bring to the Montserrat Festival audience. All three took to the stage and did Mid-Missouri (and the Columbia Chapter of the Writer's Guild) proud.

I can't tell you all the work and worry that goes into putting on such a Festival and the emotional difficulty of having to pare down the list of presenters when there are so many good writers to choose from.

I do know that in meeting people like Larry, and Eva and Jim, and in hearing their work on stage, and in watching the faces throughout the crowd, it's all worthwhile.

Mark Pearce -KMOS-TV  
The Montserrat Poetry Festival

The **2011 Montserrat Poetry Festival** will take place on Sunday afternoon, May 22, 2011. Submissions for presentation slots will be accepted in mid-October through the end of January. Email Mark Pearce at [mpearce@embarqmail.com](mailto:mpearce@embarqmail.com) to be placed on the notification list.

Editors Note: Congratulations Larry, Eva and Jim. Well done! Photos of our members Montserrat readings are included at the end of this newsletter.

### **Altercation's Location**

Two aspects  
of decision-making  
wrestle on reality's gravel bed:  
Idealism and Politics.

One is dressed  
in spiritual abstraction;  
the other in functional ambition.

The audience is mostly made up  
of screaming conservative traditionalists.  
A few dreamers stand quietly in the back.

The roar of habitual ritual  
occasionally makes the  
antiquated roof cave in.

Only the dreamers escape.

Al Beck [abeck@marktwain.net](mailto:abeck@marktwain.net)  
CCMWG member

### **Associated Writing Programs: AWP**

The first "best thing" about the AWP meetings is the opportunity to get away for a few days to an interesting place. I have attended conferences in Vancouver, New York, Chicago, and Denver. The sessions are always inspiring. I inevitably come back wanting to write, write, and write.

The book fair is a great opportunity to connect with editors and publishers and to see what current writing is making news in whatever field interests you. The sessions tend to be crowded. They didn't close registration early this year like they did in New York, but in two of the sessions there were so many attendees that I sat on the floor--not so comfortable with my knees!

I recommend the conference for anyone who wants to write and, hey, if you itemize deductions and can show any writing income for the year the expenses are tax deductible!

David Collins.  
Professor of English  
Westminster College

*(Editor's note)* Each year, AWP holds its Annual Conference in a different region of North America in order to celebrate the outstanding authors, teachers, writing programs, literary centers, and small press publishers of that region. The Conference typically features 350 presentations: readings, lectures, panel discussions, and Forums plus hundreds of book signings, receptions, dances, and informal gatherings. The conference attracts more than 8,000 attendees and more than 500 publishers. It's one of the biggest and liveliest literary gatherings in North America. <http://www.awpwriter.org/ave>

### **Well Versed 2011 Submission**

*Well Versed* is a year-round activity for CCMWG. Submissions for 2011 are accepted until October 31, 2010. We invite submissions from published and unpublished authors, members and nonmembers. For rules, visit the CCMWG website at:  
<http://columbiawrites.co.in.org/index.htm>

### **Cate Richard**

Cate has created a blog to share thoughts on "hope" and her other writing. Feedback is welcome and appreciated! Visit her blog at:

<http://www.featherthing.wordpress.com>

### **Sylvia Forbes**

Sylvia Forbes was recently awarded a health journalism fellowship from the Association of Healthcare Journalists (AHCJ). The fellowships are awarded nationally each year. The award includes, among other things, an all-expenses paid trip to their conference, this year held in Chicago.

Sylvia taught a self-publishing workshop in February at the Churchill National Museum in Fulton, and will be teaching it again in September in Marshall, MO. Contact [sylvia@forbesfreelance.com](mailto:sylvia@forbesfreelance.com) for more information.

Recent publications (in 2010) include: 3 articles - on archaeology digs, Yucatan pyramids and Rome for Prime magazine; on dollhouses for Rural Missouri magazine; Two articles - on collecting sleighs and collecting sewing machines for Discover MidAmerica magazine, and about a dozen health articles for a health company newsletter. Currently Sylvia is editing her book, *Bylines 2011*, due out late this summer.

### **Linda Fisher**

Linda won two prizes in the Missouri Writers Guild President's Contest.

Best Essay in a Magazine, Anthology or Journal ~ The Cat and Toad Exercise Plan; Best Short Story ~ A Prisoner of my Dreams (this story was published in 2009 *Well Versed*)

### ***Nuts and Bolts...of the industry*** **More Than One Million Titles**

Bowker, the company that issues and tracks ISBN numbers, reports that traditional publishing produced 288,355 titles in 2009. Print-on-demand services produced 764,448 titles, for a total of more than one million titles published last year.

Traditional publishers published 45,000 novels, 32,300 children's books, 19,300 religion titles, 15,400 science titles, and 26,000 economics titles, among some of the many categories published.

Three companies (BiblioBazaar, Books LLC, and Kessinger Publishing) published almost 700,000 titles (mostly reprints of copyright-free books).

The top POD publishers were CreateSpace (21,819 titles), Lulu.com (10,386 titles), Xlibris (10,161), AuthorHouse (9,445 titles), and PublishAmerica (5,689 titles).

### **Rules for Fiction-Writing**

Read the Top 10 Rules for Writing Fiction as designated by each of 14 different fiction writers.

Irish novelist Roddy Doyle, writes: Do spend a few minutes a day working on the cover biography - "He divides his time between Kabul and Tierra del Fuego." Then get back to work!

Yes, there is actually some good advice in the article, as well as the funny ones. Read the article at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2010/feb/20/ten-rules-for-writing-fiction-part-one>

### **Ad Pages Vanishing for Magazines**

This article, in the New York Times, says that American magazines lost 58,340 ad pages in 2009. Read about which were hardest hit at

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/13/business/media/13circ.html>.

## **Members Offerings**

Sylvia Forbes submitted these tech-based informational articles.

### **It's a Mobile World**

Gartner, Inc., a leading information technology research and advisory company, in January gave a prediction that by 2013, mobile phones will overtake PCs as the most common Web access device worldwide. There are currently many opportunities for writers to be writing apps for mobile devices.

### **Kindle on your computer?**

E-books are growing more popular and experts expect digital publishing to overtake print publishing within 5-8 years. Amazon's Kindle, an e-reader, is at the forefront of this revolution, but is pricey at \$259.

Amazon has released Kindle for PC and Kindle for Mac. And it's FREE. You can now store and read Amazon's more than 450,000 e-books on your computer, rather than on a separate Kindle device.

You still have to buy the e-books themselves, but you don't pay for the reader if you install it on your computer. If you already have a Kindle and install Kindle on your computer, your reading is automatically synchronized between the devices.

### **Mobile Journalism**

The field of mobile journalism is rapidly improving due to breakthroughs in technology. At the University of Missouri, a professor and two journalism students did a real-world test of the latest technology by traveling to the Vancouver Olympics

and reporting news from there, using no other technology but an Apple iPhone and iPhone software programs from VeriCorder Technology, Inc.

The iPhone and software allowed them to record interviews, take photos, and edit both the audio and photographs and combine them into a single news story, then publish it online.

According to the researchers, they felt the software was advanced enough, but the hardware was lacking and did not make it possible yet to deliver a professional quality product. However, for the general blogger or citizen journalist, they felt these current tools were adequate.

Read more at <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2010/0323-the-future-of-journalism-is-here-mu-professor-says/>.

### **Editor Notes:**

It is my great pleasure to be of service to the members of CCMWG as editor of *The Write Stuff*.

I hope you have enjoyed my maiden voyage as editor and continue to share your stories, tidbits and ramblings with me for future newsletter inclusion. I have taken the liberty to edit submissions for length but tried to keep content intact as much as possible.

Our next newsletter is due out in October 2010. Please forward your pieces to me at: [debra.hardin@gmail.com](mailto:debra.hardin@gmail.com)

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

P.S. I have read that using Century Gothic font saves a lot of printer ink, thus Century Gothic is used exclusively throughout this publication.

# **The Write Direction 2010 Writing Conference**

**Meet Mid-Missouri Writers!**

**Saturday October 23rd, 8:00am-4:00pm**

**Dulany Hall, Columbia College**

**Keynote** – Prof. David Clewell, Missouri's Poet Laureate

Presented by  
Columbia College Humanities Department and  
The Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild

For more information or to register go to  
<http://columbiawrites.coin.org>. Registration fee: includes: breakfast  
snacks, information packet, lunch, and participation in your choice of  
four breakout sessions. Participants are strongly encouraged to  
register early as space is limited.

**Come see what area writers are doing, who is being published,  
and how you can join them!**

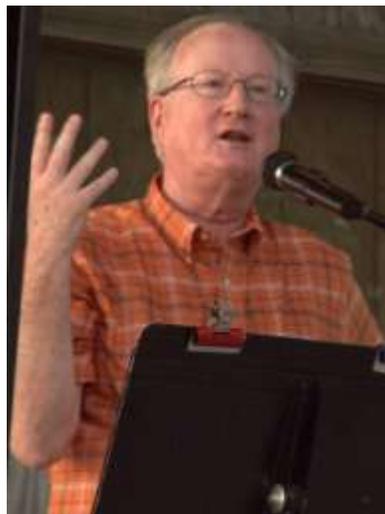
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## **Montserrat Poetry Festival 2010**



**Eva Ridenhour**

**Larry Allen**



**Jim Coffman**

