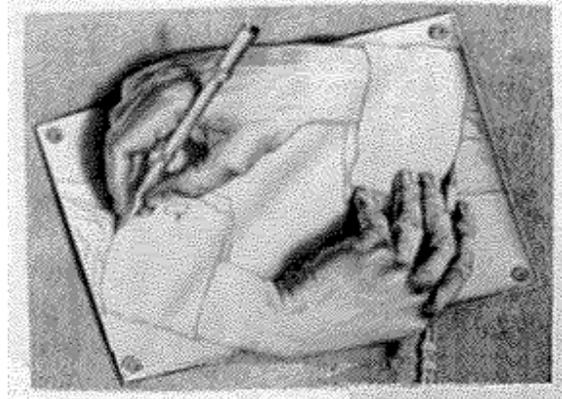


# *The Write Stuff*

~Columbia Chapter Missouri Writers' Guild~

October 2011 ~ Judy Stock,  
Guest Editor

"Youth lasts much longer than young people think."  
~ Diane



## *Message from the President*

It's hard to believe, but this will be the last "Letter from the President" for me as the business year for CCMWG is almost over. We've seen quite a few changes over this year, our major one being our meeting place. Although I believe we all enjoyed meeting at the Orr Street Studios, no one is complaining that we don't have to search for parking places anymore.

This year, our 2011 Well Versed was selected as the best journal by the Missouri Writers' Guild. Our 2012 issue is every bit as good, if not better.

Congratulations to Sylvia Forbes, Judy Stock and Linda Fisher who were the people who saw it produced. We need to thank Larry Allen for a great line-up of speakers for our upcoming conference on November 5. Our conference this year looks like one that will offer diversity as well as help to inspire us in areas where we're used to writing.

I simply could not have served as president well this year without the help of my board. Sylvia Forbes, Vice-President oversaw the publication of Well-Versed and filled my shoes as president a couple of times when I needed to be away. Tracey Naugle, who didn't know what she was getting into as secretary, has proved to be a quick learner. I thank Jennifer Brandt for being treasurer most of the year and especially thank Ida Bettis-Fogle, who has held the position for several years before, for taking up the slack and

helping out the last few months. Debra Hardin also had to resign as administrative assistant.

I thank Judy Stock for stepping up to the plate in her absence and doing this newsletter. To Liz Davis, I express heartfelt thanks as she has sent numerous messages to the entire membership throughout the year as well as try to keep our membership straight. Finally, Larry Allen my member-at-large helped with the building search as come up with the speakers for the conference and also for being "keeper of the key". When one lives as far from Columbia as I do, they don't really know whether or not they'll be there for a meeting until they make it. He has had the door open even when I'm not on time, thanks Larry!

As I say all this, I am sorry to report that we don't have a full-slate of officers yet for next year. Both the president and vice-president positions are open as well as the administrative assistant position. I urge you, if you've ever thought of serving on the CCMWG board to jump right in and DO IT this year. Being president is an important position but does not require a lot of time unless there are major decisions to be made. The vice-president position does require being editor of Well Versed, but we have experienced people willing to help that person. The administrative assistant position requires assembling the newsletter quarterly. There are people who always contribute to this, making the editor job easier. Being an officer puts you in the know of what is happening within the group. It gives you an insight you'll only get by serving. I for one

know what I've gotten more out of being an officer, first secretary then president twice than I would have by just sitting in a seat at the meetings. Think about it, then step forward and let 2012 be your year of service.

I thank everyone who had confidence in my leadership and wish each of you and CCMWG the very best for productive writing next year and in the years to come.

*Eva Ridenour, President*



## *CCMWG Annual Conference The Write Direction ~2011*

**Saturday, November 5th, 2011  
8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Unity Center  
1600 W. Broadway, Columbia Missouri**

The Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild holds an annual conference in the autumn.

Past speakers include the poets laureate of Missouri, publishers, editors, and authors who speak to specific genres, and the pros and cons of trying to become published in them.

This year's conference offers an array of speakers from a published songwriter to children's authors. All of our speakers come from outside the Columbia area and will give us a new perspective on their areas of expertise.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to meet other writers who will inspire you to spend the winter at your computer writing your own poems and prose, and get what you've had running through your head on paper at last.

Go to <http://www.ccmwg.org> and click on Conference. At the bottom of the page you can click on [Agenda \(pdf\)](#), [Presenters \(pdf\)](#), or [Registration Form \(pdf\)](#) to find the forms and the information you need.

A minimal registration gives you an opportunity to hear experienced speakers. Lunch and a.m. and p.m. snacks are included and a variety of door prizes are awarded. You can showcase your books. Come join US!



## *Well Versed ~ 2012: Get Your Entries in Order.*

Every year, the Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild publishes the anthology *Well Versed*. It has grown from what poets would call "chapbook" size to a two-hundred page volume.

Every year submissions come from a wider area, giving the judges a greater choice of works to consider. The judges are professionals in the writing field, which puts the contest for publication high on a writer's list to enter.

*Well Versed – Literary Works 2010* was named anthology of the year at the Missouri Writers' Guild Conference, an honor of which the chapter is very proud.

\* \* \*

The above is the introduction when a writer goes to the CCMWG website to procure the guidelines for *Well Versed*.

My question is "Are we running with the big dogs yet?" My answer is "Yes, we are!"

Are you ready? I hope so.

The guidelines are up on [www.ccmwg.org](http://www.ccmwg.org). The entry form is right there, too. As a paid-up member, you don't have to pay entry fees for the contest.

The deadline is October 31, 2011. You will have to work between now and deadline, but after you turn in your entry, you can sit back (LOL) and enjoy November and December.

The poetry limit has been increased up to 100 lines. Few poets write that much, but if by chance there is an entry that long, it will be accepted.

Last year, Al Beck added a drawing to one of his poems. Anybody else have any ideas?

The new e-mail address for submissions should look familiar. I changed just the year to keep myself from getting more confused. [wellversed2012@gmail.com](mailto:wellversed2012@gmail.com).

Okay, people—to your computers.



## *Well Versed ~ Literary Works 2011*

The Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild launched the new edition of the chapter's anthology, *Well Versed — Literary Works 2011*, on Sunday, August .

A goodly crowd of members, family, friends, and the press attended to listen to the writers who had contributed to the volume read their work. Hearing an author read the work gives it more panache.

The Columbia Daily Tribune and The Boonville Daily News represented the press. The Tribune gave us a great write-up. The News put in pictures of two members from Boonville. Both gave CCMWG good publicity.

Submissions are judged by professionals in the writing field. This allows the chapter to launch a professional publication. The judges for the year were:

Poetry: Fred Phister is a retired English Professor, a founding member of the Ozarks Writers League, and editor of *The Ozarks Mountaineer*.

Prose Fiction: Sheila Wood Foard has written award-winning articles, stories and books for children, young adults, and adults. She is a writing instructor for the Institute of Children' Literature.

Prose Nonfiction: Marti Attoun is a contributing editor for *American Profile* magazine and has published hundreds of articles for national magazines including *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Redbook*, and *Good Housekeeping*.

This 2011 edition contains a varied selection of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and nature photography.



## *Coming Events*

**October 2 ~ CCMWG**  
Regular meeting, 2 – 4 p.m., at Unity Center,  
1600 W. Broadway, Columbia.

**October 6-8 ~ Ozark Creative Writers, Inc.**  
43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Eureka Springs, AR, Inn  
of the Ozarks

**November 5 – CCMWG Fall Conference,**  
Columbia. See page 2.

**November 5 – Missouri SCBWI** – Annual  
Children's Writers Conference, St. Charles  
Community College,  
St. Charles, [http://www.scbwi.org/Regional-  
Chapters.aspx?R=26&sec=Conf](http://www.scbwi.org/Regional-Chapters.aspx?R=26&sec=Conf)

**November 18-19 – Ozarks Writers League**  
fall meeting, and Hillbilly Awards Banquet,  
Branson, MO

### **Poetry workshops**

Sept thru April, 3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m. - FREE  
Poetry workshops are held monthly in the  
auditorium of the University City Library, 6702  
Delmar, University City, MO. The guest poet/critic  
will lead the workshop and provide professional  
critique on selected manuscripts pre-submitted by  
attendees. For more info:  
<http://www.stlouispoetrycenter.org/workshops/>

Guest poets/critics  
Pamela Garvey - September 18, 2011  
Joshua Kryah - October 16, 2011  
Jennifer Kronovet - November 20, 2011  
Carl Phillips - January 15, 2012  
Gabriel Fried - February 19, 2012  
Robert Stewart - March 18, 2012  
Richard Newman - April 15, 2012



### **Try This Prompt at Your Next Meeting**

Select five words. Change one letter of each word  
to coin a word entirely new to the English  
language.

When we tried this, on changing one letter of the  
word *enigma*, we came up with *enigpa*, which led  
to the new definition:

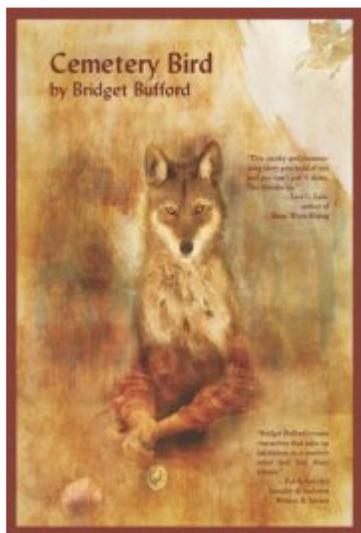
“What Dad is when he is on a toot and the kids  
can't figure out what is the matter with him.”



## Brag Board

### Congratulations to Bridget Bufford

Bridget Bufford announced *Cemetery Bird*, her new book, has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Reviews available on Amazon, with print and online reviews forthcoming.



Bridget held a signing at Get Lost Bookshop, 8 S 9th Street, Columbia Missouri, 66201, Thursday, September 15 at 7 p.m., and will hold another at Left Bank Books – CWE, 399 N. Euclid Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri 63108, Monday, September 26 at 7 p.m. Here is the link to Left Bank Books. <http://www.left-bank.com/event/bridget-bufford-cemetery-bird>.

The story revolves around a United States Forest Service Hotshot who gets injured on the job and returns home to care for her nephew, a teenage boy with autism.

*Cemetery Bird* is now available at these online retailers:

[http://www.amazon.com/Cemetery-Bird-Bridget-Bufford/dp/1934081337/ref=lh\\_ni\\_t](http://www.amazon.com/Cemetery-Bird-Bridget-Bufford/dp/1934081337/ref=lh_ni_t)  
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/cemetery-bird-bridget-bufford/1103216547?ean=9781934081334&itm=1&usri=cemetery%2bbird>  
<http://www.casperianbooks.com/catalog/1-934081-33-7.html>

Go to [http://www.bridgetbufford.com/CEMETERY\\_BIRD](http://www.bridgetbufford.com/CEMETERY_BIRD)

or <http://www.facebook.com/Cemetery.Bird> for more information.

Pick up *Cemetery Bird*, a fascinating story for anyone who enjoys a good read!



### Arline Chandler in the News

Arline Chandler, while not a member, was a first-time contributor to *Well Versed—Literary Works 2011*, with “The Important Stuff—Loyalty and Integrity,” awarded second place in nonfiction, and “Legacy of Love,” which was also published.

I thought you might be interested in this.

Arline sent an e-mail with a link to an interview about her book, *The Heart of Branson: The Entertaining Families of America's Live Music Show Capital*, (History Press, 2010). Her book traces the history of the stars and families that founded Branson's entertainment industry— and who sustain it today.

<http://countrymusicnewsinternational.blogspot.com/2011/08/interview-with-arline-chandler-heart-of.html>

You'll find a very interesting interview giving insight into Arline's life writing of the entertainers who have given Branson, Missouri a place on the world map.

She lives in Heber Springs, Arkansas. [www.arlinechandler.com](http://www.arlinechandler.com) and [www.rvlife.com/1256/arline](http://www.rvlife.com/1256/arline) will find her.



### Linda Fisher Interview on KMZU

KMZU interviewed Linda Fisher regarding the Alzheimer's Walk in Sedalia on Saturday, September 10.

Linda, who is very active in the organization she helped organize, said she hoped they edited the interview, as she couldn't keep herself from saying several times the walk was awesome.

To hear her interview, you can go to: <http://www.kmzu.com/2011/09/walk-to-end-alzheimers-surpasses-goal/>



## Sylvia Forbes Receives Award

Sylvia Forbes received an honorable mention for an essay entered in the 2011 Whispering Prairie Press contest.



## KOPN, 89.5, interviews Carolyn Mulford

KOPN's Jill Sheets, host of *Penquin Tracks*, interviewed Carolyn Mulford July 12 as part of a series on authors who write for middle grade and young adult readers. Carolyn's credits include a middle grade historical novel (*The Feedsack Dress*), three YA nonfiction books, and educational materials for various levels.

Sheets broadcast the 25-minute interview in July and again in September. She plans to post it on station's website ([www.kopn.org/archives](http://www.kopn.org/archives)).

The interview covered such topics as Carolyn's writing process, the differences in writing fiction and nonfiction, her works in progress for both children and adults, and the best advice on writing she ever received. The advice included:

1. Don't give up (particularly in writing and marketing fiction);
2. Know your readers (particularly in writing nonfiction);
3. Read what you want to write.

You can read more about Carolyn's work and find writing tips and resources at her website, <http://carolynmulford.com>. If you write fiction, take a look at the report on her News page on why agents and editors stop reading.



## Liz Davis Has a CD Out

Liz Davis has a "read only" CD out which contains the first year of "Historically Yours," the history column she writes for *The Boonville Daily News*.

As she has done a lot of research on the Civil War for her writing, she knows the value of libraries in our country. This led her to donate 25% of the proceeds from the sale of the CD to the fund for a new building for the Boonville Library Building Fund.

Liz says, "It isn't much, but by doing this, I'm getting the word out about how important it is to have good libraries. Books are how we decipher past history."

Boonslick Creative Writers had a booth at Boonville's Festival of Lights the evening of September 8. Liz's end of the booth had her CDs, brochures for the library, a floor plan of the new building, and a container to hold donations. She did receive donations and has already turned them in to the Friends of the Library.

An added note is the editor of The Cooper County voice interviewed Liz about her CD and her plans for donating part of the proceeds to the library building fund.

For more information, Liz's e-mail is [farmersdau@yahoo.com](mailto:farmersdau@yahoo.com).



## Fun Things to Do

### Poetry at Random

The Poetry Foundation has created a free Poetry app for the iPhone. Shake the iPhone, and a random selection of poems are revealed.

You can also search through the poems by author, or by theme, and can easily share poems through Twitter or Facebook.



## From the Nominating Committee

### Thank you to those who will serve.

Everyone leads very busy lives. We deal with two-career households, school events that all happen the wrong night, and offspring going all directions in different activities.

We ask a lot, but most members find it rewarding to take an office. E-mail [j-stock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j-stock@sbcglobal.net) and let her know you are willing to step up and be counted.



## Resources

### Mulford's Notes on Killer-Nashville

Carolyn Mulford found out at Killer Nashville just what can kill a manuscript.

The following is taken from her web site.

"Why Agents and Editors Stop Reading posted on September 1, 2011 by Carolyn

"Submit a perfect manuscript, advised a panel of agents and editors at Killer Nashville, a mystery writers' conference held August 25-28, 2011.

"The turmoil in the publishing world has made it even harder to persuade anyone to represent or publish your book. Agents and editors who find imperfections on the first page often dismiss the whole manuscript.

"What makes them stop reading? Lots of things, according to agents Jill Marr of Sandra Dijkstra and Jeff Kleinman of Folio and editors Deni Dietz of Five Star and Martin Shepard of Permanent Press. A volunteer read aloud eight first pages submitted by conference participants. Each panelist called "Stop" when the reader reached something unacceptable. The reader finished only one full page."

Carolyn follows with one list on mechanics and another on content. You can catch up on these lists and what she learned about the rapid demise of manuscripts by going to [www.carolynmulford.com](http://www.carolynmulford.com).



### IRS Mileage Rates Change

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that the optional standard mileage rate for business use of a vehicle has increased 45 cents to 55.5 cents per mile for all business miles driven on or after July 1, 2011, up from 51 cents for the first six months of the year. The increased rate used for computing deductible medical or moving expenses is 23.5 cents per mile. The 14 cents-per-mile rate used for providing services to charitable organizations is set by statute and did not change. using these rates, just in case there

are any changes.



## Contests

### SATURDAY WRITERS 10TH ANNUAL SHORT STORY CONTEST

<http://www.saturdaywriters.blogspot.com>

\$7 ENTRY FEE

Open to all writers. Open subject and genre. (No pornography or gore.) Word limit: 2011. Deadline: November 1, 2011.

Maximum of three entries. (Members of Saturday Writers, MWG or any MWG Chapters: \$5 per entry.) Submit a separate fee for each entry, but may be included in one check.

Prizes:

1st Place - \$100, 2nd Place - \$50, 3rd Place - \$25. Must be unpublished. Any publication on blogs, other Internet sites, etc. are considered as already published. No names on actual story. Include cover sheet with story title, name, address, etc. Send two copies of each entry to: Saturday Writers, PO Box 2093, St. Peters, MO 63376. E-mail: [Writergal53@gmail.com](mailto:Writergal53@gmail.com)



## Last Reminder

### Conference

Early-Bird registration ends October 5. Register for a table at no cost to members. This can mean big savings.

### Well Versed ~ Literary Works 2012

Deadline for entries is Halloween. No entry fee for CCMWG members. You may join or renew membership for \$15 to take advantage of the above guideline. Make note of it on your check. Good wishes follow you and your entries.

