

COLUMBIA WRITER'S GUILD

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

INTERVIEW WITH LORI YOUNKER, CWG PRESIDENT



What genre do you enjoy writing the most?

I enjoy the entire process of writing short stories and memoir pieces. I call them short works. I love taking what I have learned in fiction writing and applying it to writing dramatic scenes for real events for real people including my own experiences. As I write, themes, motives, and hidden metaphors are revealed to me that were not apparent in the initial memory. I love these surprises.

You seem to enjoy leading our local chapter. What aspect of your role as president gives you the most satisfaction?

I love being part of a team, sharing our talents for the greater good. I was terrified to take on the role to begin with since I didn't know anyone to invite to be our speakers. Now I've met so many awesome individuals and have enjoyed facilitating many events where authors find readers for their work.

What are your goals for 2016 for our chapter?

I want to be sure we have plenty of opportunities to interact with experienced writers in mini-workshops throughout the year. We'll have a Memoir Workshop in April, Poetry in May, and Meet the Masterclass Mentors in September. I'd say we are all getting great value for our \$15 yearly dues.

Also, as I've said before, when I need to step down to focus on my writing in 2017, I want to be sure I've left a strong foundation for future years. We have more than 20 individuals carrying the load throughout the year, making us an organization known for its VITALITY.

SHOW ME WRITERS MASTERCLASS 2016

Date: November 5th and 6th

Place: MU Student Center

Planning has begun for Show Me Writers Masterclass 2016! Meetings, grant writing, and speaker searching are all underway for our annual conference. There will be four tracks again: Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, Poetry, and Play/Screenwriting. Our Mentorship Program will also be available with the options of professional critiques (\$15) and one-on-one mentor meetings (\$20) for registered attendees. We will have Round Tables with Mentors on various topics, and we are planning a Visual Arts Speaker as well. Saturday at 4:15, we will have a special session, Habits of Professional Writers, with the option to continue to a session on Social Media. Sunday attendees will have the pleasure of spending the day with Chuck Sambuchino (Writer's Digest marketing expert). Each track will resume on Sunday with marketing training for their specific genres.

There will be several packages available. Attendees may choose Saturday only, Saturday Evening, Sunday only, or Full Access to both days. A new website for Show Me Writers Masterclass 2016 will be up within the month with more details!

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Help Wanted: A Call for Volunteers!

Secretary: attend meetings 1:15-1:45 before monthly meetings. Attend additional 2-3 Board Meetings. Assist with events and projects as you are able.

Vice-President: attend meetings 1:15-1:45 before monthly meetings. Attend additional 2-3 Board Meetings. Assist the President. Attend some Show Me Writers Masterclass meetings at MU.

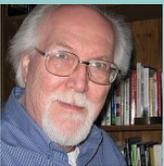
Show Me Writers Masterclass Assistant Treasurer: Our treasure needs help specifically in responsibilities relating to the annual conference. If you are interested, please contact Suzanne Pautler at smpautler@gmail.com

Ambassadors: Carry promotional materials and announce the conference to other writing groups, events, etc, which you plan to attend. Contact Brianna Boes (Administrative Assistant/Masterclass PR) at briannaboes@gmail.com.

UPCOMING GUILD MEETINGS

March 6: Revised Budget, Nominating committee or appointment of VP and Secretary for 2016. Critiques or Round Tables (International Writing Program, University of Iowa).

April 3: Memoir Madness. Speaker: Wayne Groner and Cathy Salter. Bring scrapbooks, archived family history, and memoir for table-top Show and Tell. Writing your Memoir Workshop (3:30-4:30)



Wayne E. Groner, a personal historian and writing coach who helps people write their memoirs and life stories. He is an author of *A Guide to Writing Your Memoir or Life Story: Tools, Tips, Methods, and Examples*, as well as three other nonfiction books. www.waynegroner.com



Cathy Salter, author of *Notes from Boomerang Creek*. www.cathysalter.com

"Cathy Salter has an artist's eye, a poet's ear, and a lover's heart. Her essays invite the reader to partake of a wondrous life filled with the joys of country walks, great books, travel to distant locales, and good food shared with dear friends."

—Mathew Goodman

May 1: Critiques or session with Walter Bargaen, Missouri Poet Laureate on Poetic Elements. www.walterbargaen.com

June 5: Launch of *Well Versed 2016: Under Lock and Key*. Open Mic, awards, and prize money distribution