

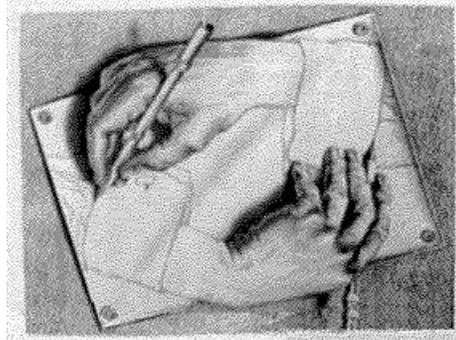
The Write Stuff

Newsletter of the Columbia Chapter –

Missouri Writers' Guild

July 2011 Issue

"...success depends on the many people who attend to the mundane details." Tim Russert, Big Russ & Me



The President's Message

As I write this, the Fourth of July is fast approaching. We're already on the downside of the solstice and yes, the year is half over. I hope that your writing for the first six months has been productive and you're working on many projects to fill out the rest of the year.

I have to admit, that summer is not the best writing time for me. There are simply too many things to do. One can't go to a concert in the park in the middle of winter, there is no grass to mow, weeds to cut or flowers to weed. However, I try to use this time to add to my writing agenda by living and taking notes of things I'd like to write about later. I hope you have a plan for your writing and are also living right now so you'll be able to write more when the weathers cools, you can't go for a walk in the park because the snow is blowing and all you want to do is stay inside.

Along with the year flying by, CCMWG has faced several problems that are not particularly new, but need to be addressed. The major one as far as I'm concerned is lack of people willing to help make the group a success. We have seen a drop-off of attendance since we've had critique meeting twice in a row followed by a speaker. We're addressing these situations as they come up. Therefore, we've added another speaker in September. Deborah Marshall, the current president of the Missouri Writers' Guild will speak on "Networking with the Pros." Deborah is making it a point to visit each and every chapter in the Guild during her term as president. She will also give us an update as to what is happening within the Guild such as the Joplin Book Project, the Missouri Warrior Writers Project and the possibility of having a booth at the Missouri Library Association Fall Conference. She might also be able to give a few details of the 2012

Conference. This should be an interesting meeting. It will be an OPEN meeting, not for CCMWG members only.

Also coming up is the end of our business year, our conference and the need to elect officers. I will be asking for volunteers for the nomination committee in August and we need help for the conference. The nomination committee, will then be looking for people to serve as our officers for the coming year. I do not want to put anyone on the spot by asking them to serve, but we do need you, the members to step up and lead. We'll need a new president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, administrative assistant and membership chair. Most of these positions are not really all that time-consuming. I'm challenging each and every one of you who is a member and has not held an office at CCMWG or who has not been one for several years, to think about what you can do to help our group move forward in the next year. If you are interested in being a board member, please contact me at evaridenour@att.net or talk to me at a meeting. I'm sure the nominating committee would love to have a full slate of people willing to hold office before they go to work.

In the meantime, we are in need of an Administrative Assistant right now. All that is left for this year is the October newsletter. Anyone who can write can do this. Our treasurer will need to resign in August so we need someone to fill in for her for the rest of the year. Please step forward and use your accounting skills to help us through the year. You who are qualified know who you are. This is not the Army – you are not putting your life on the line. The group can only be as strong as those willing to give of themselves.

President, Eva Ridenour

Member News

Don Cullimore who has been the Public Relations and Publications Director at Central Methodist University has retired after fourteen years at the University. We wish him well as he embarks on a life that he has more control over.

Successes

Sylvia Forbes recently won the Business Reporting category of the 2011 Great Plains Journalism Awards. She also placed third in Business Reporting in the 2011 Kansas City Press Club's Heart of America Contest. She has just started a new column in the MWG newsletter, called Market Mambo, which lists markets and upcoming contests for writers. This spring she served as a panelist for the Missouri Arts Council's Literary Program, as well as serving as a category chair for the 2011 Oklahoma Writer's Federation Writing Contest.

Five people from the Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild read poetry at the Monserrat Poetry Festival on June 5, 2011. These poets were selected from more than fifty entrants. Those reading were ***Evelyn Aholt, Larry Allen, Carol Buckles, Jim Coffman*** and ***Eva Ridenour***.

Contest Winners – Well Versed

Poetry

Editor's Picks:

Martin Turner, "An Auditory Polemic"
Barry Walker, "Endgame"
C. A. Young, "Cutting Pears"

Honorable Mentions:

Bridget Bufford, "Epitaph"
James H. Coffman, "J. C. Nichols Fountain, K.C."
Marilyn Hope Lake, "Love's Best Boy"

Fiction

Editor's Pick:

Linda Fisher, "Elizabeth's Lucky Day"
Von Pittman, "Lee Harvey Oswald: Whistle and

Thump"
Steve Whisnant, "It Was Only a Dream, Right?"

Honorable Mentions:

Lori Galaske, "At the Quick Stop Shop"
Edna Bell-Pearson, "Isla Aguada"
Linda Fisher, "A Walk in the Park"

Nonfiction

Editor's Picks:

Robert Hodgson, "One Curious Apartment"
Arline Chandler, "The Important Stuff"
Annie Withers, "Myrtle"

Honorable Mentions:

C. A. Neilson, "The Broken Glass"
Edna Bell-Pearson, "Going Home Again"
C. A. Neilson, "What's In a Name?"

Other News

Sylvia Forbes has started "Tweeting" about upcoming writing contests. For far, she's announced more than thirty contests that have deadlines this summer as well and four calls for anthology submissions. More writing contests will be added each week. If you're interested in writing contest information, follow @Missouriwriter.

If you are not familiar with Twitter yet, all you have to do is set up a username and password at www.twitter.com. Just because you have an account does not mean that you have to tweet, unless you want to. There are other Missouri writers on Twitter, too including former MWG president Donna Volkenannt, Dianna Graveman, and Linda O'Connell. Join the fun, follow them, too.

Upcoming CCMWG Meetings

Sunday, July 10 – Louise Jackson, Speaker - Louise A. Jackson is the author of two novels and three picture books: *Exiled! From Tragedy to Triumph on the Missouri Frontier*, *Gone To Texas: From Virginia to Adventure*, *His for Hope*, *Grandpa Had a Windmill*, *Grandma Had a Churn* and *Over on the River*. She has written professional articles

published in *The Reading Teacher*, *Language Arts*, *Journal of the West*, and *Roundup*. In addition to being recognized for her writing, Jackson is much in demand as a speaker. Her spirited presentations to children and youth in schools and libraries and her practical in-service sessions with teachers and librarians are highly praised. A fifth-generation Texan, Jackson grew up on the family ranch in Central Texas, where she and her younger brother climbed trees, rode horses, and raised orphan goats and calves. She attended a one-teacher school and a three-teacher school during her elementary years and graduated from a small rural high school. Her career in teaching included stints in both Texas and Wyoming. She was an elementary classroom teacher, a special reading teacher, and a university professor of reading and language arts. Jackson now lives in Springfield, Missouri. She likes to read, write, garden, hike and travel. She has been to most of the U.S. and to parts of Canada, Mexico, Western Europe and Argentina.

August 7 – Critique and possible launch of *Well Versed*

September 11, 2011 - Deborah Marshall, Networking with the Pros - Deborah, president of the Missouri Writers' Guild, is a former newspaper reporter and editor who now writes historical fiction, creative nonfiction and short stories, and dabbles in poetry. She was the first female sportswriter in Missouri while reporting for the Hannibal Courier-Post in 1977. Debbie has been a marketing coordinator for ophthalmologists and optometrists and contributing editor for publications of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Her work has also been published in professional journals, newspapers, magazines and anthologies. She has participated in the Iowa Writing Festival and Washington University's Summer Writers Institute. Debbie is currently at work on her second historical fiction novel in her "Yesterday's Ladies" series, giving a voice to some of the lesser-known but nevertheless notorious women in history. She is also a member of St. Louis Writers Guild and AWP.

October 2, 2011 - Election of Officers and Speaker Maureen Stanton - Creative Nonfiction: A Genre for the 21st Century.

She will consider the rise in popularity of memoir, literary journalism, and even the quiet form of the

personal essay in the past twenty years and continuing, and will explore why the genre of literary or "creative" nonfiction is particularly emergent, and useful, in this cultural moment. Maureen Stanton teaches creative nonfiction writing in the English Department at MU. Her essays have appeared in *Creative Nonfiction*, *Fourth Genre*, *Iowa Review*, *American Literary Review*, *The Sun*, and *Riverteeth*, among other journals, as well as several anthologies, including *Best of The Sun*, *Best of Brevity*, *Best Texas Writing*, and *The Riverteeth Reader*. Five of her essays have been listed as "Notable Essays" in *Best American Essays* (Houghton Mifflin 1998, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008). Her nonfiction has received a Pushcart Prize, the Mary Roberts Rinehard Award, the Penelope Niven Award, the Iowa Review Award, The American Literary Review Nonfiction Prize, and the Thomas J. Hruska Prize from *Passages North*. She has twice received an Individual Artist grant from the Maine Arts Commission, and a 2006 National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship, and grants from the Vogelstein Fund and the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund. She has been Writer-in-Residence at St. Mary's College of Maryland, the Ronald Goldfarb Family Fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and a fellow at the MacDowell Colony. Her book, *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money: Seeking History and Hidden Gems in Flea-Market America*, which explores the subculture of flea markets, antiques, from The Penguin Press, came out just this summer.

November 5, 2011 - Conference, Unity Center, Columbia Missouri (More on this elsewhere in this newsletter)

December - Readings and Holiday celebration

Information Needed

Sylvia Forbes is the current historian on the 2011-12 Missouri Writers' Guild Board. She requests copies of CCMWG's flyers, brochures, membership lists and other documents, to put in the MWG Archives. If you have info, send documents to her at P.O. Box 522, Fayette, MO 65248, or bring to the July meeting. Email her at sylvia@forbesfreelance.com if you have questions about what to include in the archives.

Joplin Donation

At the June meeting of CCMWG the group voted to send \$500 to the Red Cross in Joplin. Members who want to donate individually can do so by giving their donation to our treasurer then those donations will be forwarded to Deborah Marshall, MWG president to send on to Joplin. Thanks for such a generous response in light of the tragedy in which our sister chapter – Joplin has been involved in.

Upcoming Events

Ozarks Romance Authors Annual Conference, Saturday, July 23, 2011, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., The Clarion Hotel Conference Center, 3333 S. Glenstone Ave., Springfield, Missouri. More info at <http://ozarks-romance-authors.com/2011-annual-conference>

Ozark Creative Writers, Inc presents their The 43rd Annual Conference, Eureka Springs, Arkansas, at the Inn of the Ozarks. More info at <http://www.ozarkcreativewriters.org>

FOR CHILDREN'S WRITERS. Jill Sheets, host of Penguin Tracks, a radio talk show for children on KOPN, is looking for children's writers to interview. Email her at mail@kopn.org if you are a children's writer that has published a book and are interested in being interviewed. Be sure to include her name and name of her show in your email

The Joplin (MO) Writers' Guild, in coordination with the Missouri Writers' Guild, is seeking fiction, non-fiction and poetry to be included in an anthology, Storm Country, to be published near the end of the summer. All proceeds from book sales will go to the purchase of books for school libraries damaged or destroyed by the May 22nd tornado. Midwest writers are encouraged to submit their original work June 1st through July 15th. Submit work with the theme of storms and severe weather in the Midwest. All forms of stormy weather should be considered: ice, floods, tornadoes, wind, and snow. Include name, address, phone number, and email address on first page of submission. Please go to . for more information.

July 15-17 – Iowa City Book Festival, Iowa City, IA, <http://www.iowacitybookfestival.org/>

July 30 – The Third Annual Summer Workshop, Ozark Writers & Illustrators for Children (OWAIC), The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell Ave., Springfield, MO 65810, www.owaic.org

August 6 – American Christian Writers Workshop, Lamplighter Inn – North, 2820 N. Glenstone Ave., Springfield, MO 65803, www.acwriters.com

August 18-19 – Writing in the Ozarks, workshop Ye Olde English Inn, Hollister, MO, www.ozarkadventures.org

October 14-16 – Southern Festival of Books, Nashville, TN, <http://www.humanitiestennessee.org/festival/current.php>

October – Sunflower State Book Festival – has been canceled for 2011

November 5 – Missouri SCBWI – Annual Children's Writers Conference, St. Charles Community College, St. Charles, <http://www.scbwi.org/Regional-Chapters.aspx>

The 2011 MCC-Longview Literary Festival fourth annual event will take place Friday and Saturday, October 14 and 15, 2011 (10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. both days) at the Mel Aytes Education Center on the campus of MCC-Longview. The Longview Literary Festival will feature readings, panel discussions, and autograph sessions as well as provide an area for sales of books to attendees. If you plan on attending, (1) you wish a table to promote your work, (2) you would like to participate in panel discussions, (3) you would like to do a reading, and (4) if you have any suggestions to help make this year's event a great one. Be sure to include a short bio, so we can include your information as we develop our website contact Susan Satterfield E-Mail: Susan.Satterfield@mccck.edu Phone: 816-524-4852

Facebook Friends

Are you on Facebook? The Missouri Writers' Guild has a Facebook Fan Page. To find out the latest happenings about MWG, make sure to "like" the page. There's also a separate MWG members-only

page, where members can post writing-related info for others in the Guild.

And while we're on the subject of the computer, please remember that although you may feel you and another member of CCMWG are good friends, this does not open the door for either of you to send political or religious material that you might forward to other family or friends to them. Please respect the fact that your philosophical differences may differ and keep correspondence to writing. Thanks.

The Missouri Writers' Guild Joplin Book Project

The Missouri Writers' Guild Joplin Book Project. The Missouri Writers' Guild has been collecting books for a new high school library in Joplin, since the whole school was destroyed. They have collected almost 10,000 new and gently used books. They've also obtained a commitment from a school library that is consolidating, for them to donate tables and chairs and other library equipment to Joplin. Books and furniture will be transported later this summer. (You can get more from Deb Marshall, MWG Pres, if you're interested in details)

Contests

Writer's Digest Short Short Writing Competition

America loves all things short. The sitcom. Short stops. Tom Cruise. Short shorts! Plop down and start thinking about your next short story to enter. In 1,500 words or less and you could win \$3,000 and a trip to the 2012 *Writer's Digest* Conference.

The deadline is November 15.

Prizes:

First Place: \$3,000 and a trip to the Writer's Digest Conference

Second Place: \$1,500

Third Place: \$500

Fourth Through Tenth Place: \$100

Eleventh Through Twenty-Fifth Place: \$50 Gift Certificate to the Writer's Digest Shop

Writer's Digest Poetry Awards

Poetry lasts. Fling your words to the ages. Enter your poetry — haiku, non-rhyming, epic, rhyming, WHATEVER — and you could win cash and bragging rights! Not to mention a trip to the *Writer's Digest* Conference in NYC.

Deadline: December 1.

PRIZES

First Place: \$500 and a trip to the Writer's Digest Conference

Second Place: \$250

Third Place: \$100

Fourth Through Tenth Place: \$25

Eleventh Through Twenty-Fifth Place: \$50 Gift Certificate to the Writer's Digest Shop

From Robert Lee Brewer: "I will consider poetry submissions for the *2013 Poet's Market*. 20 previously unpublished poems will be selected for publication in the book, and the poets will receive a paycheck for their poems." Deadline is August 15. Pays: "publication, \$50 payment, and a contributor copy of the *2013 Poet's Market*." For more information/detailed guidelines, see <http://bit.ly/lpLaGQ>.

CCMWG – Write Direction Conference

November 5, 2011 - Unity Center

Line up of speakers at this time with very short bios. The full list will appear on our website www.ccmwg.org as soon as they are all firmed up. :

Keynote – Jane Ellen Ibur – “Writing Like My Hans on Fire – a life of writing and teaching poetry” – Award-winning writer, teacher, lecturer who has poems and stories appearing in literary magazines and anthologies nationwide.

Noon Speaker/entertainer– Will West – song writer, singer, guitarist has appeared on Grand Ole Opry, Opry in Missouri and now operates Will West Music & Sound in Jefferson City

Lee Ann Russell – past president and honorary life member of Springfield Writers Guild and honorary member of Missouri State Poetry Society, former treasurer and newsletter editor of Ozarks Writers league and member MWG.

Larry Cunningham – retired Lt. Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps., runner, writer and voracious reader. Writes fiction, essays, articles and poetry.

Together, Ms. Russell and Mr. Cunningham will present “The Power of Poetic Principles in Prose,” and “Does Poetry Matter?”

Mark Pearce - will read from his poetry, discuss the Monserat Poetry Festival and philosophy behind it and speak on the importance of introducing more local poetry into public discourse. Professional broadcaster having worked at public broadcast stations KMOS-TV and KTBG-FM/90.9, The Bridge in Warrensburg since 1987.

Harold Dellinger – The Peculiar Art of the Anthology – A bookseller, publisher, editor and writer on historical and literary subjects including the James-Younger Gang, The Missouri-Kansas Border War and Civil War and early Kansas City baseball.

Becky Imhauser – Probing the Pasty: Adding History to the Writer’s Toolbelt – No bio yet

Brian Katcher – The Ins and Outs of Young Adult Fiction – Author of “Almost Perfect,” winner of 2011 Stonewall Book Award for children’s Literature and author of “Playing With Matches” 2010 Gateway Award nominee and winner of 2011 North Carolina Youth Book Award.

There will also be a couple more speakers who have yet to be contracted. Sounds like an interesting variety of creativity.

And Thanks

to anyone and everyone who contributed in any way to this issue of *The Write Stuff*. Without your help, this would not have been possible. Think about being the editor yourself. It’s very rewarding to see your work in print.

The Substitute Editor