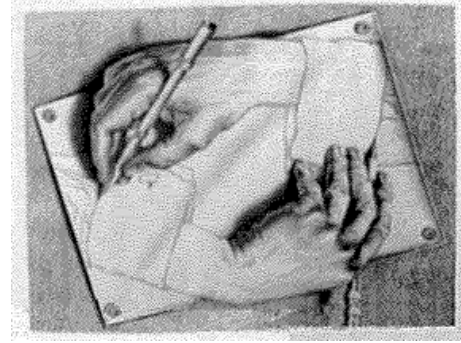


The Write Stuff

~ **Columbia Chapter Missouri Writers' Guild** ~
January 2011 ~ *Debra Hardin, Editor*



"Life can't ever really defeat a writer who is in love with writing, for life itself is a writer's lover until death - fascinating, cruel, lavish, warm, cold, treacherous, constant." ~Edna Ferber

President's Message

Happy New Year – As the old saying goes, 'the slate has been wiped clean'! Whatever you did or didn't do in 2010 is over. This is a New Year and gives us all an opportunity to start all over again if we weren't too happy about how we met our goals, we can change that in 2011.

In 2010, the Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild made some real progress under the direction of Larry Allen and his board. Thanks Larry and all, this makes it easier for the next group of people, which is me and my board, to take over. Last year, we published probably one of our most professional versions of Well-Versed and our November conference was top-rate. Our attendance at meetings holds at about 20-25 and our membership remains around the 50 mark with people coming and going regularly, but others staying and growing as we grow. We're glad to have each and every one of you.

Since the critique sessions have proved to be so popular, we're again changing our format by

having a speaker at the quarterly meetings with critique sessions at the two meetings in between. If we should see a drop in attendance, we'll return to our every-other month format for critique. Our January meeting which is just a few days away will feature Danita Woods of *Missouri Life Magazine* as speaker. So if you're interested in writing for that magazine or any other, this is your opportunity to learn what's new in the regional magazine publishing world.

As we progress through this year, you'll all have an opportunity to serve the chapter in some way. We'll need all the help we can get with the conference, we're sponsoring a poetry contest as a chapter with results to be made public at the annual Missouri Writers' Guild Conference in St. Peters in April. We'll need help preparing a basket for that contest at the conference. Someone has suggested we give books to local children to promote literacy and we'll need help with Well-Versed and our own conference to be held in October or November. So, think about ways you can help. Don't be afraid to

volunteer if you aren't asked to do something. With help, none of the jobs are so time-consuming that you can't get your own writing done. We need you!

Now, if you haven't already, start that writing project you've been thinking about. Become a successful, published writer in 2011 - WRITE.

Eva Ridenour,
President

CCMWG News and Notes

January CCMWG Meeting

Don't forget. Sunday, January 9th, 2011, 2:00 pm at Orr Street Studios. Board Members will meet at 1:00 p.m. prior to the Membership meeting.

OWL Awards

Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild members **Judy Stock** and **Linda Fisher** won awards from entries submitted to the **Ozarks Writers League** annual contest.

Stock won 1st Place in Poetry for "Canadas" and 2nd in Flash Fiction for "Perspective."

Fisher won the Ozarks Writers League's Best Book of the Year Award for *Early Onset Blog: Essays from an Online Journal*, 3rd in the Gene Andereck Short Story Award for "Sea Monkeys," and 3rd in the Dan Saults Essay Award for "In Search of the Morel."

Sixty-six members submitted more than 200 entries in nine categories.

CCMWG Membership Dues

Annual 2011 dues are \$15 and can be paid at the January meeting or mailed to Treasurer, CCMWG, POB 7628, Columbia, MO 65205. For those who have already paid, thank you. If you aren't sure, feel free to email Liz Davis at farmersdau@yahoo.com and she will be glad to look it up for you.

Montserrat Poetry Festival 2011

The Annual Montserrat Poetry will take place again Sunday, June 5, 2011 at Montserrat Vineyards, Montserrat, Missouri. If you are interested in presenting, send ten poems and your contact information to:

KMOS-TV - Poetry Festival
Univ. of Central Missouri
Wood 11
Warrensburg, MO. 64093

Submissions will be accepted through January 29th, 2011. Poets will be selected for the quality of their works, the aural accessibility of the works for a general audience and for the variety that the selected works will lend to the Poetry Festival line-up.

Submissions

Cave Hollow Press is now open for submissions! We are actively seeking full length adult mainstream or

experimental novels. Character driven novels are a plus. Please visit our website www.cavehollowpress.com for complete submission guidelines.

Local Interest

Poetry Out Loud ~ Join other poetry lovers in the Friends Room of the Columbia Public Library on February 9 at 10 a.m. for the Central Missouri Regional Contest, of the Poetry Out Loud program. Students from ten area schools will compete to move on to the state finals.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation have created Poetry Out Loud (POL), a program to encourage teens to learn about great poetry through recitation. In Missouri, Poetry Out Loud is coordinated by the Missouri Arts Council, with regional partners.

Dan Chaon, author of *Await Your Reply*, the One Read book for Columbia in 2010, will give a reading, Jan. 27, 7:30 pm; and a lecture, Jan. 28, 4pm, Reynolds Alumni Center. For more information contact: MU's Creative Writing Program, 573-884-7775.

Columbia Public Library Display: If anyone in the Writers' Guild has an award-winning book published that's in the library's collection contact Ida Fogles at ida@fogles.net.

Creative Writing of Columbia presents: The Amherst Writers & Artists Method workshop. It is open to anyone with a desire to write; it is particularly well-suited for beginning writers, those who have not written in some time, and writers seeking to change styles/genre (i.e. business writers, academics, journalists). Eight week sessions \$120; scholarships available Friday mornings 10:00 am – 12:30 pm from January 7 through February 25.

Creative Writing of Columbia presents: The Next Level workshop. This workshop is particularly well-suited for creative writers involved in ongoing projects: short stories, novels, collections. Anyone with a desire to write is welcome. Eight week sessions \$120. Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 9:30 pm. January 5 through February 23.

For information on Creative Writing of Columbia workshops contact Bridget Bufford, www.bridgetbufford.com

Industry Orts of Interest

National Book Critics Circle will present: **The Next Decade in Book Culture** on January 19, 2011 at 7 p.m. in Johnson County Central Resource Library 9875 W. 87th St.

Overland Park, Kansas.

Denise Low, Kansas poet laureate 2007-2009, received her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and her M.F.A. in poetry from Wichita State University. Her books *To the Stars: Kansas Poets* and *Words of a Prairie Alchemist* are Notable Book of Kansas winners. She is a member of the National Book Critics Circle and vice president on the AWP.

Mark Luce is chair of the English Department at the Barstow School in Kansas City, Missouri. He is a current member and former board member of the National Book Critics Circle

Steve Weinberg has been involved with the National Book Critics Circle for 20 years, including service on its board of directors. His book reviews and book-related essays have appeared in dozens of magazines and newspapers, ranging from *The Kansas City Star* to *The New York Times* to *Publishers Weekly*. Weinberg, based in Columbia, Missouri, is the author of eight nonfiction books.

Moderator John Mark Eberhart is the Reader's Advisory Coordinator for Johnson County Library in Overland Park, Kansas. He is the author of two verse collections, *Night Watch* and *Broken Time*, which was a finalist for the 2009 Thorpe Menn Award.

The Frost Farm Prize

New Metrical Poetry Contest Announced on January 4, 2011, The Trustees of the Robert Frost Farm in Derry, New Hampshire and the Hyla Brook Poets announce a new prize for metrical poetry: The Frost Farm Prize. The winner of the inaugural contest, judged by award-winning writer and editor William Baer, will walk away with \$1,000 and in invitation, with honorarium, to read as part of The Hyla Brook Reading Series at the Robert Frost Farm in Derry in the summer of 2011.

Full rules are available at:
<http://on.fb.me/FrostFarmPrize>

Complete Frost Farm Prize Guidelines:

Poems must be original, unpublished and metrical (any metrical form). No translations. There is no limit to the number of poems entered by an individual, but an entry fee of \$5 US per poem must accompany the submission (entry fees from outside the United States must be paid in cash or by check drawn on a U.S. bank). Make checks payable to the "Trustees of the Robert Frost Farm." Please type the author's name, address, phone number and e-mail address on the back of each entry. Entries will be submitted to the judge anonymously.

Deadline: Postmarked by April 1, 2011 Send entries to:

The Frost Farm Prize 26 Pond Rd
Derry, NH 03038

Enclose a SASE for notification of
the contest results. These are the
complete guidelines.

To Share

Song: SUPERFICIALITY By Al Beck in his 14th book of poetry, drawings, song lyrics and essays on learning: LESSONS FROM AN OPEN MIND

Chorus (between each verse)

Superficiality
is a life's reality
when obsession serves your souless goal

1. Take the low road - see it fail
React quite aptly with a wail
Every rogue has walked this trail
of Superficiality

2. Envy is the perfect crime
Honor loses every time.
Make a promise: wash off the grime
of Superficiality

3. Some may object to this kind of verse
Cause lightweight thinking can be a curse
How can anything be much worse
than Superficiality?

4. Go pay your dues - get ready for the ride
It's where all worthwhile humans abide
Stop livin' on mental oblivion's side
reject Superficiality

5. Wisdom's force is a muse to berate
The greater plan is to prevaricate.
Ignorance is the gift to celebrate
Onward Superficiality!

Editor's Note:

I am now accepting submissions for Spring 2011 Newsletter. Please submit to debra.hardin@gmail.com with a subject line "CCMWG Submission" I cannot accept ZIP files, sorry! If you send photos, please use jpeg format.
Debra Hardin ~ Editor

