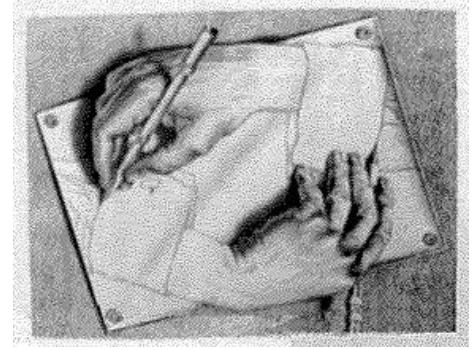


The Write Stuff
~ **Columbia Chapter Missouri Writers' Guild** ~
April 2011 ~ *Debra Hardin, Editor*



"Everywhere I go I find that a poet has been there before me." ~ Sigmund Freud

President's Message

Well, the first quarter of 2011 is over. It has proved to be a bit more interesting than I'd anticipated or wanted, but the Columbia Chapter of the Missouri Writers' Guild is moving onward. In February, we learned that we were being priced out of our meeting place, the Orr Street Studios where we'd been meeting for two or three years. Parking there wasn't all that great. We probably should have taken the hint when they moved us from a studio to the hallway a few months ago. But as anyone who has been in the position of needing to find a meeting place knows, this is a task one doesn't want to pursue unless they "have to." However, after our rent was doubled, tripled, or quadrupled, we're not exactly sure, we knew it was time to move on.

Several people within the group had ideas where we might go which was wonderful and gave this person who lives 45 miles from Columbia a great place to start. I thank each and every one of you for your suggestions and help. We settled on The Unity Center, 1600 W. Broadway because it is

somewhat centrally located, has a room that juts out into the parking lot where we can meet, has a parking lot that is on flat land. This appears to be a very good location. Carol Buckels of our group suggested it and helped with negotiations on the price. Thanks Carol.

I also thank Larry Allen for touring a couple of other locations and helping with the final decision. He will be the "keeper of the key" since he lives in Columbia. One never knows when they're traveling as far as I do whether or not they'll get there in time to open. Larry has also contacted Columbia College and gotten sponsorship for our October/November conference. The chair of the English Creative Writing Department seems to be quite excited about promoting it to her students and encouraging faculty to participate. Hopefully we've already got 4-6 speakers committed. As soon as the college settles its calendar we'll be able to announce a date.

With this all settled, we're looking forward to the April meeting with poet, Marta

Ferguson speaking. The critique meetings have been holding our attendance so May and June will be critique months. Please note, if you haven't our June meeting will be on the second Sunday rather than the first. This is June 12. The reason for the change is that five of our members, Evelyn Aholt, Larry Allen, Carol Buckels, Jim Coffman, and I will be reading at the Monserrat Poetry Festival in Monserrat. This will allow other members who might want to attend not to have to miss a meeting.

Spring is finally here, after a long snowy winter. Go out, listen to the birds chirp and the frogs croak, and then write about them or something else. Finish your novel, edit that poem, query an editor about an article you've wanted to write for years. Mostly though, WRITE!

Eva Ridenour ~ President

CCMWG News and Notes

Twitter

Sylvia Forbes has recently started announcing upcoming writing contests regularly on Twitter. To receive her tweets, follow her at @missouriwriter. (Twitter is free.)

Poetry Enthusiasts

Missouri's first poet laureate, Walter Bargaen, helped produce a

major poet laureate event which took place in Kansas. Can Poetry Save the World? 20 Poets Laureate Converged in Lawrence, Kansas to find out that "Poetry has the power to bring us together, help us find a language of connection and unity, and through that discovery, craft lives of greater meaning and build communities of greater strength,"

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, poet laureate of Kansas, and organizer of a this national event that brought poets laureate together from throughout the U.S. "In our convergence, we looked and spoke about what poetry has to say about our social fabric, spiritual paths, and healing potential for ourselves and our culture."

Twenty poets laureate, including former U.S. poet laureate Ted Kooser, came to Lawrence Kansas on March 13-14 for Poet Laureati: A National Convergence of State Poets Laureate. The event, organized by United Poets Laureate -- a group of Midwestern Poets Laureate -- brought together U.S. poet laureate Ted Kooser, plus W.E. Butts (NH), Marilyn L. Taylor (WI), Peggy Shumaker (AK), Walter Bargaen (MO), Mary Swander (IA), Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg (KS), Sue Brennan Walker (AL), Lisa Starr (RI), Denise Low (KS), Norbert Krapf (IN), Marjory Wentworth (SC), Mary Crow (CO), David Romtvedt (WY), David Evans (SD), Jonathan

Holden (KS), Joyce Brinkman (IN), Karla Morton (TX), Bruce Dethlefsen (WI) and Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda (VA).

"It was a landmark poetry extravaganza that brought together some of our nation's best poets, who are deeply involved in and committed to serving their communities and showing us how the poetry can show us more of who we are, where we live, and how to make the most of our lives," said Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, poet laureate of Kansas and organizer of the convergence.

CCMWG poets, Jan and Jim Coffman, attended the Convergence of Poets Laureate in Lawrence, KS. They write this about their attendance at the event.

What a wonderful time we had. The main draw was Ted Kooser, former U.S. Poet Laureate. The others there were state Poets Laureate from, perhaps, 15 - 20 states. Some were former and some current Poets Laureate.

Soon after we arrived, I was able to get acquainted with Mr. Kooser. We chatted. I was able to hand him one of his books to autograph, then was able to give him my two books. He surprised me by calling after me and asking if I had autographed them. No, I hadn't, so I signed them, and slyly listed my email address under my signature. In a

perfect world, he will read my books and email me with a comment. Jan was with me with her camera and took several pictures.

CCMWG ONLINE CRITIQUE FORUMS FOR PROSE AND POETRY

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 so you can access the online critique forum may do so following the instructions on the CCMWG website (Please use the email address you give CCMWG to register with so your membership can be confirmed):

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 wish to change it or want to know if your dues are current please contact the membership chair

http://columbiawrites.coin.org/contact_us.shtml

To register for the online forum you can find the registration page here (Again use your email address on file with CCMWG) <http://radio-nowhere.org/CWG/index.php>

If you have trouble registering or just want to confirm that your request was received, please email me, Cathy Daily at:

enchanted_ghost2001@yahoo.com (there is an underscore between enchanted and ghost) with the CCMWG Online Critique in the subject line.

The registration process shouldn't take more than 24-48 hours. If it does please email me, so I may determine what the issue is. Feel free to email me if you have questions or concerns about using the online forum. I will do my best to assist you.

Cathy Daily

Liability and Defamation

For all those writers that have a blog and allow guest bloggers or comments, or have a website where you allow users to post comments, you may be interested in this article from the Harvard Law School on liability and defamation.

<http://www.citmedialaw.org/legal-guide/publishing-statements-and-content-others>

Feel free to forward to other writers. Sylvia Forbes

Published

Evelyn Holt's poem *Early Glasgow*, MO was published in The Glasgow Missourian.

Jimmy Capps' short story, "Working on Shorty's House" will be published the fall in *Mysteries of the Ozarks IV*.

Linda Fisher's Alzheimer's blog www.earlyonset.blogspot.com was awarded 1st place in the Top 50 Best-Written Alzheimer's Blogs by Forensic Science Education and Career Information at www.forensicscience.net. Linda will distribute copies of her book *Early Onset Alzheimer's: Encourage, Inspire, and Inform* (April 2011) to legislators at the 2011 Alzheimer's Action Summit in Washington DC in May. On June 24, Linda will be a speaker at the Southwest Missouri Alzheimer's Caregiver Conference on the topic of "Communication: Hear Their Voices" and will sign copies of her Alzheimer's books.

Linda Fisher

Montserrat

Montserrat Poetry Festival

Nearly fifty writers submitted for the Montserrat Poetry Festival. In the current one-day format we were able to accommodate less than half of the applicants...and

of those we had to squeeze down the time frames on most to just 20 minutes apiece. In a few instances veteran presenters were bypassed in order to make room for new writers. And, of course, selections were made in order to provide an overall program of breadth and variety.

There are some in this year's schedule who have submitted once or twice before and this year made the slate. Thank you for your persistence and continued interest in the Festival.

Through all of the excitement and pain of this process, we have compiled a presentation slate you're going to love. The 2011 Poetry Festival will feature Missouri Poet Laureate David Clewell. We'll have published and unpublished writers...the rustic and the refined. We'll have writers that focus upon UFOs, World War II, snakes, fishing, Lizzy Borden and so much more.

So whether you were selected as presenter this year or not, I do hope you'll join us on June 5th at Montserrat Vineyards, in Montserrat Missouri (USA) for the marvelous time that is The Montserrat Poetry Festival. And bring along your dearest friends

Mark Pearce

2011 Montserrat Poetry Festival

Sunday, June 5, 2011

Performance Schedule

1:00 E. John Knapp, Jefferson City

1:20 Alex Wales, Warrensburg

1:40 Faith Bemiss, Sedalia

2:00 Neal Torrey, Bolivar

2:20 Carol Gorski Buckles,
Rocheport

2:40 Gustavo Adolfo Aybar,
Kansas City

3:00 Brent Martin, Jefferson City

3:20 Tony Shaffer, Warrensburg

3:40 Diana Chang, Fulton

4:00 David Clewell, St. Louis

4:40 Columbia Writers' Guild –

Larry Allen, Eva Ridenour, James
Coffman

5:10 Bernard Hartge, Chamois

5:30 Clarence Wolfshohl, Fulton

5:50 Connie Koch, Sedalia

6:10 Christina Pacosz, Kansas City

6:30 Tantra Zawadi, New York City

7:00 Robert Milton Ingram,
Independence

7:20 Evelyn Aholt, Glasgow

7:40 Daniel Mollenkamp,
Warrensburg

Submissions

SWITCHGRASS BOOKS, the fiction imprint of Northern Illinois University Press, seeks submissions of full-length literary novels set in or about the Midwest by authors with Midwestern ties. For submission guidelines, please visit www.switchgrass.niu.edu. Mail manuscripts to Northern Illinois University Press, Switchgrass Books, 2280 Bethany Road, DeKalb, IL 60115
Sylvia Forbes

Industry Items of Interest

Borders announced recently that they will go through Chapter 11 bankruptcy. As part of their restructuring, they will close 200 of their 642 stores, and refocus their strategy more on online and digital book-selling. Borders had \$1.28 billion in assets, \$1.29 billion in debts, and owes \$178.8 million to vendors and \$18.6 million to landlords.

They will close 6 stores in Missouri, including: Ballwin, MO, Central Plaza 15355-A Manchester Road Chesterfield, M,O Chesterfield Mall 2040 Chesterfield Mall Kansas City, MO, Shops at Boardwalk 8628 North Boardwalk Avenue Springfield, MO, Primrose Marketplace 3300 S. Glenstone Avenue

St. Peters, MO, Mid Rivers Mall
1320 Mid Rivers Mall
St. Joseph, MO, The Shoppes At North Village 5201 North Belt Highway, Suite 127
Sylvia Forbes

Photography

For those writers who accompany their words with photos, The Rocky Mountain School of Photography will be holding, for the first time, a weekend photography seminar in Springfield, MO, on April 16-17, at the University Plaza Hotel. Coast is \$179. More info available at <https://www.rmosp.com/weekends/ExtendedInformation.aspx?wid=127&type=details&prog=14>
Sylvia Forbes

Poetry Workshop Series

The Columbia Public Library will be hosting a series of poetry workshops during the month of April. Actually, it's the same workshop offered on three different Tuesday evenings : April 12, April 19 & April 26.

Link and the description:
<http://www.dbrl.org/calendar?m=&w=col&interest=&s=poetry>

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 › 7-8:30 p.m. Columbia Public Library, Conference Room B
Celebrate National Poetry Month by taking part in a workshop with poet Thom Dawkins. Thom will lead each one of three sessions

with a brief talk about getting started and discuss various poetry styles: poems of address, poems that tell stories and poems in the form of a litany. Workshop participants can share their work, give and receive constructive feedback and meet other writers in the area. Thom Dawkins is an MFA candidate at Chatham University whose publication credits include the New Orleans Review, Puerto del Sol, The Café Review and The New Formalist. Registration begins Monday, March 21.

Register by phone: 574-443-3161 or in person at the 2nd floor Reference Desk.
Ida Bettis Fogle

Creative Writing of Columbia Presents: The Amherst Writers & Artists Method

This workshop 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).

- Write in response to a variety of exercises
 - Identify strengths in your writing
 - Build trust in your unique voice
 - Share skills in a supportive setting
-

8 week sessions \$120; scholarships available

Friday mornings 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

3/11/2011 to 4/29/2011

Creative Writing of Columbia Presents: The Next Level

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.

- Work on your memoir, novel, essays, or poetry
 - Exchange resources on writing and publishing
 - Identify your writing strengths
 - Receive critique in a supportive setting
 - Network with published writers
- Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 9:30 pm
3/16/2011 to 5/04/2011
8 Weeks \$120

Bridget Bufford, Author

Copyright and Trademark Seminar & Clinic

Saturday, April 9 at Orr Street Studios in Columbia
Presents in collaboration with the University of Missouri's Association of Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law and the Kansas City Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

COPYRIGHT BASICS

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Do you have pressing questions about copyright? Get the nuts-and-bolts from our Mizzou law student volunteers.

TRADEMARK BASICS

10:45 - 11:30 a.m.

Want to protect your logo? Your band name? Our Mizzou law student volunteers will explain what trademark is all about.

WHAT'S THE VISUAL ARTISTS RIGHTS ACT, ANYWAY?

11:30 - Noon

VARA recognizes moral rights, which protect an artist's honor and reputation. But the scope of the law is narrow. Our law students will explain using examples of recent cases.

LUNCH

Noon - 12:30 p.m.

COPYRIGHT & TRADEMARK CLINIC

12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Attorneys from Columbia, Kansas City and St. Louis will conduct our clinic. You'll have an opportunity to spend 20 minutes talking to one-on-one to a volunteer. Consultations will be scheduled on Saturday morning and may not be available if you do not register in advance.

\$25 in advance (\$15 for Orr Street Studios resident artists)

\$45 at the door

Tuition includes all workshops, the clinic, breakfast and lunch.

This program is being presented with the support of the City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs and the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

Please contact the City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs for a registration form (the form did not come with the article submitted...sorry!)

Kansas City Workshops

Hosted by the Kansas City Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts, these workshops are either free or \$10 - it wasn't clear in their press release, but is a very good deal even at \$10.

Sylvia Forbes

Tuesday, April 12, 20

What Everyone Needs to Know About Copyrights

6 - 8 p.m.

Arts Incubator, 115 W. 18th St.,
Kansas City, MO 64108

Learn the basics of copyright law: who owns what, how much you can use of someone else's work, what's really "fair" about "fair use," what happens when you sell a piece, and how to avoid disputes! Myths will be debunked and famous artists' infringements analyzed.

Please pre-register by putting the presentation title in the subject line of an email, all of your

contact information in the body and email to admin@kcvlaa.org.

CCMWG Poetry
(What this organization and newsletter are about....More submissions CCMWG poets, please!)

Growing Older

We are the elderly
living in the shadows
of sunlit substances.

Our mental resources
fill the warm fireplace
in great glowing coals.

From life's winter world
memories curl together under
passion's worn-torn blanket.

Most fingertips still rub
the edges of excitement's
tantalizing textures.

So don't shut the closet door on
this bracket where we're hanging
or you'll be kept wide awake

throughout the night by
all our brilliant banging.

Al Beck c 2011 ~ From his latest
book recently released by
publisher.

Basket Wars are back!

Each MWG
chapter is
invited to
donate a
basket or
baskets for
our Silent



Auction at the "Just Write"
Conference in April 2011.

Here are a few theme ideas to
get your creative juices flowing:

Tea Time
Movie Night Fun
Coffee Lovers
Sports Mania
Book Lovers
BBQ Time
Chocolate Delight
Game Night

Items can be placed in an
appropriate container to go
along with the theme of your
choice. Be creative and HAVE
FUN!

Barbara Hodges, HBO (Head
Basket Organizer) Email
writerink59@yahoo.com with
questions

Editors Note:

Please pardon the lines
throughout this document. My
editing skills are being sorely
tested by this crazy auto format!
Submissions for July 2011 **The Write
Stuff** welcome anytime at
debra.hardin@gmail.com

More poetry!
