



WWA NEWS for September 2017

WWA News about member accomplishments, writing events, and contests is sent by email each month. Please send news bits for the October WWA News no later than Friday, September 22 to Kymberley Pekrul at kpekrul.editor@gmail.com. Thank you.

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A note from Karin Schmidt, President:

Dear Friends of WWA,

NEW WWA NEWS EDITOR: Please join me in welcoming Kymberley Pekrul as the new WWA News Editor. As you can see from this month's edition, she is now your contact person for submitting any information to the NEWS. Welcome, Kymberley!

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP: Coming soon! For the same price as the regular membership, members who would like to increase visibility for their writing-related business, can become a Business Member, use the member profile page to feature their logo and focus the profile on the services they provide. Watch for an announcement of this new membership soon.

WWA FALL CONFERENCE: Plan to attend the WWA Fall Writing Conference, October 6-7, 2017 held at the Hilton DoubleTree Hotel, 123 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Neenah, WI. A day filled with relevant workshops and presentations, the Jade Ring awards, writing roundtables and Kathleen Ernst as keynote speaker. See a tentative schedule on the WWA website soon.

BOARD MEETING: WWA Board of Directors meeting will be held on October 6, 2017, from 1:30-4:00 pm at the Hilton DoubleTree Hotel, 123 E. Wisconsin Ave, Neenah, WI. The meeting is open to all members who attend as non-voting observers.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED: WWA is a registered 501 (c) 3, managed by a Board of Directors and needs new board volunteers. Each term is for a three-year period. Duties include attendance at two board meetings per year and accepting a volunteer assignment that fits with your time availability. Board members focus on policy and long-range planning to fulfill the mission of supporting Wisconsin writers in achieving their individual writing goals. Please join us in this important work.

Please, if interested in further discussion or to ask questions about any of the above items contact me at; karinss1945@outlook.com. THANKS!

Announcements

Poetry & Nature with Robert Chesney at Cedar Valley in West Bend, WI: An intriguing day in the country combining poetry and nature. The day will include poetry readings and analysis of transcendental poets such as Thoreau and Emerson, poetry writing workshop, a guided nature walk, and more. Robert says everyone has a message to share concerning nature, and the poem is *The Message*. **Sat. Oct. 14, 9am-5pm.** \$45 (includes lunch) Call 262-629-9202 or visit cedar-valley.org.

Red Oak Writing Roundtables: Facilitated critique groups meet at various dates, morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. Writers register for each 4-meeting, 2-month session. (11709 W. Cleveland Avenue, West Allis, WI.) Check the Red Oak website for details here redoakwriting.com/for-adults/roundtable-critique-groups/roundtable-schedule/ Red Oak offers an online option for writers who live outside the Milwaukee metro area: redoakwriting.com/online-writers-roundtable/.

WWA Creative Wisconsin Literary Journal: Members whose works were selected for the 2017 edition have been notified. Hearty thanks to everyone who submitted prose or poetry! Look forward to reading the second Creative Wisconsin Literary Journal when it is presented at the October conference. (The Journal will also be sold on Amazon.com beginning in October.)

Reminder: WWA Website Management Change: As of May 15, Laurel Bragstad no longer manages the WWA website. If you have any requests for updates, changes, corrections, want to add your member bio, or have questions on information for the website, please contact WWA Board Member Kim Suhr at kim@redoakwriting.com. Thanks!

An example of what you can find on WWA's website:

Portage Magazine welcomes submissions "from writers and artists living in the Upper Midwest or with a relationship to the Upper Midwest" and "submissions from writers and artists who address the Upper Midwest some way in their work." Their submission window is December 1 to February 1. Read more about *Portage Magazine* here: portagemagazine.org/submissions/ "Portage Press, an extension of *Portage Magazine*, publishes literature written by Upper Midwest authors and those with a relationship to the Upper Midwest." Details here: portagemagazine.org/portage-press/

(Note: WWA does not endorse or sponsor any writing services or publishers. Names of publishers are shared as a service to WWA's members.)

Contests

The Betty Award Writing Contest for kids ages 8-12- submission deadline Oct. 7, 2017. More info here: <http://www.thebettyaward.com>

The Ghost Story Supernatural Fiction Award- for full-length short stories on a supernatural theme **is now open for submissions.** The short story competition winner will receive \$1,000 and publication in *The Ghost Story*. Two other writers will receive Honorable Mention and Second Honorable Mention awards that include publication and cash prizes of \$250 and \$100 respectively. Winning stories will appear on Midsummer's Eve and October 31. **The upcoming deadline is September 30, 2017.** Info here: <http://www.theghoststory.com/tgs-fiction-award>

The Mill Prize for Short Fiction- Entrants must be 18 years or older, reside, work or attend school in the Fox Cities (within a 25-mile radius of Appleton) or have participated in Mill classes past or present. Submission deadline Sept. 23. More info here: <http://millwriters.org/the-2017-mill-prize-for-short-fiction-submission-guidelines/>

The Mill Prize for Poetry- Entrants must be 18 or older, reside, work, or attend school in the Fox Cities (within a 25-mile radius of Appleton) or participants in Mill Classes, past or present. Submission deadline Sept. 23. More info here: <http://millwriters.org/the-2017-mill-prize-for-poetry-submission-guidelines/>

Fall Conference

It's time to register for this year's WWA Writers Conference!

October 6-7 in Neenah at the newly remodeled Hilton DoubleTree Hotel. (This is the old Riverside Hotel where our conference took place last year.)

Due to some computer issues, hotel miscommunication and renovation, and other unfortunate delays, the conference schedule, registration form, descriptive list of speakers, and table rental information was delayed. On Monday, Sept. 4, emails were sent to all members with those important forms attached and instructions for registering and making hotel accommodations. If you have not received the forms in your email, please email Laurel Bragstad at laurel715@att.net. The forms will be uploaded to WWA's website by Sept. 8. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the conference on October 6-7 at the Riverwalk Hotel in Neenah. Thanks.

An exciting lineup of speakers will lead presentations and workshops on many aspects of writing. Attendees will learn from authors: Christi Craig, Kathleen Ernst (keynote), Max Garland, Kira Henschel, Jim Higgins (Friday evening), Lora Hyler, Nancy Martin, Rex Owens, Lisa Rivero, Christine Schimpf, Kim Suhr, Lisa Vihos, Barry Wightman.

Plan for another exciting and information-packed conference, and a chance to connect with friends and other writers!

Member News

Congratulations to member Barbara Germiot, her first chapbook, *Look, the Silence*, has been published by Antrim House Press. The book is available from the author, email Barbara at barb@germiot.net, or visit or the publisher at <http://antrimhousebooks.com/germiot.html>.

Congratulations to member Susan Lindsley, who placed as a finalist in the Georgia Author of the Year Awards for her memoir *Possum Cops, Poachers, and The Counterfeit Game Warden*. The book covers forty years of Susan's life as a deer and turkey hunter, and poacher hunter, as well as being a strong advocate for wildlife. She tells of her friendly "battles" (discussions) with Game Management personnel over such matters as bag limits and deer population control. Additionally, this summer at the Southeastern Writers Association Susan took home five awards including a first and second place for limericks, first place for a short story, second place for speculative fiction, and an honorable mention for a novel first chapter. The short stories will be published in one of her two collections due out this fall: *Whitetails and Tall Tales or Emperor of the United American States*.

Congratulations to member Debbie McKinney of Mauston! Her book, *Bringing Hope: A Disaster Relief Journey* was released on August 1, 2017. This memoir is about Debbie's 20 years as a volunteer with the American Red Cross. Debbie reports, "This book would have never happened if not for the WWA!" For more info visit Debbie's [author website](#).

Congratulations to member Joanne Nelson, who won a Hal Prize in the Poetry, Photography & Prose contest with her nonfiction winning essay, *Things That Won't Happen Again*, and an honorable mention piece, *On Coming Home From the Conference*, published in [The Peninsula Pulse](#). Also, Joanne's piece, *Just Leave the Damn Thing Open* is scheduled to appear in the next issue of [The Museum of Americana literary review](#).

Congratulations to Kathleen Ernst, whose book *A Memory of Muskets* book seven of the Ernest's Chloe Ellefson mysteries aired on many WPR stations across the state August 7th – September 1st. A special abridged version was read by host Jim Fleming during his popular radio program *Chapter a Day*. Kathleen will be the keynote speaker at this year's WWA's conference in October. For more info visit Kathleen's <https://sitesandstories.wordpress.com/2017/08/04/chapter-a-day/>.

Congratulations to Seelie Kay, for her third book *Kinky Briefs, Thrice*, a collection of sizzling short stories about lawyers in love, with a dash of kink, was published Sept.8 by [eXtasy Books](#). For more info visit www.seeliekay.com or follow Kay on Twitter or Facebook.

Congratulations to Christine Keleny, her mystery - [Intrigue in Istanbul: An Agnes Kelly Mystery Adventure](#), won a 2017 Midwest Book Award (2016 recipient of a Moonbeam Children's Book Award). The screenplay based on the story additionally placed in the top 20% out of 7000 entries in the Nicholl Fellowship screenplay contest. Christine is soliciting online book reviews at Amazon.com.

Opportunities and Events

WWA Member Christine Keleny wants to remind everyone about the Author Book Expo, coming to New Glarus on Sunday, September 3 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Swiss United Church of Christ, during the Wilhelm Tell Fest and Art-in-the-Park event. Table fees: \$25, full table; \$15 half table. (Tables will be inside if it rains.) Proceeds go toward the church's El Salvador child education mission. View details at newglarusbookexpo.blogspot.com.

Shake Rag Alley Poetry Writing Workshop- Mineral Point, WI. Sept. 16-17. The workshop explores the process and craft of poetry writing through a close examination of the work of each participant. Please send poems via e-mail to ShakeRagAlley1@gmail.com, subject line "Poetry Writing Workshop" and your last name. Deadline for receiving poems is Thur., September 8th.

2017 Pinney Mini Book Festival- Sept. 23, 1 pm, Madison Public Library Three successful Wisconsin authors, Fabu, Lori M. Lee, and Sarah White will reveal tips and tricks for getting published. More info: <http://wisconsinbookfestival.org/events/2017-pinney-mini-book-festival>

Threshold Showcase of Authors: September 23, 10-1:30; Lawrence & Vivian Stockhausen Center, 2380 W. Washington Street, West Bend. An opportunity to sell your books, meet other authors, and support individuals with disabilities. Display space is \$20; space is limited to 30 authors. Requests by two or more authors to share a table will be allowed. For more info and to reserve your space, contact Don Ensenbach at dle031238@gmail.com for a registration form.

Poetry Writing Online Course - Taking the Poetic Leap: Revise and refine your poetry to achieve potentially publishable work. Be propelled through dynamic exercises, in-depth analysis, and craft tips that you can use right away. At the end of each unit, polish and submit a one-page poem for professional critique. Start anytime; complete within one year. \$165, 2 CEU credits; Instructor: Angela Rydell, UW-Madison. See more here:

continuingstudies.wisc.edu/classes/online-poetry-writing-taking-poetic-leap

Writing Your Mindful Journey Announces Three Class Offering Options: Learn to combine your writing with an awareness of the present moment. Classes offer guided writing exercises, discussion, and reflection with easy mindfulness meditations to enhance creativity. Appropriate for beginning writers/meditators as well as those with more experience. A three-week class is being offered Sunday mornings at Rooted in Mindfulness in Brookfield, WI and a six-week class will be offered on Monday evenings at UW Waukesha. More information can be found at wakeupthewriterwithin.com. A relaxing day extended version will be held at the beautiful Cedar Valley Retreat Center in West Bend, WI on Oct. 14th, 2017. Contact Joanne Nelson at 262.361.3316 for registration information.

UW-Madison Continuing Studies offers Writing Classes (in person and online): Manuscript critiques, writing retreats, and workshops. Prices and times vary. Check here for details: continuingstudies.wisc.edu/writing

For your young family members: The Milwaukee Public Museum announces its 10th annual poetry competition for Wisconsin students in grades 3-12. Submission deadline is April 27, **2018**. This year's theme "focuses on ten iconic exhibits that highlight the Museum, its collections, and mission, and celebrate its legacy as one of the region's most treasured cultural institutions Read more here: mpm.edu/plan-visit/educators/poetry-competition.

A Writer's Retreat in England: August 10-18, 2018, nine days of travel, relaxation, and writing. For more information email steve@ardentwriterpress.com, call 256.694.6744 or visit <https://www.writersretreatinengland.com/>.

Publication Opportunities

2019 Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Calendar — Submission period is September 1 – December 1, 2017. Open to all poets who have a connection to Wisconsin. See guidelines here: wfop.org/poets-calendar

Take care and happy writing!

Submitted by: Kymberley Pekrul and Mary Zinda

<http://www.wiwrite.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/WIWrite>