

The Creative Writer

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NEWSLETTER

The Creative Writer is a monthly newsletter for the White County Creative Writers Group of Searcy, Arkansas.

If you have news, announcements or other items of interest to submit to the newsletter or would like to receive the WCCW monthly newsletter please contact Debra Wantulok at wantulok@sbcglobal.net

Research! Research! Research!

Kim Greenup Dot Hatfield gave a program about research, and passed out the attached hand-out listing some popular web sites that are useful in different types of research.

She stated that the type and level of research required will depend on what you are writing. When writing non-fiction, your research is expected to include primary and secondary sources that can be independently verified. Though not held to such high standards, she advised that even in fiction, research is necessary to insure that your events, locations, and details match your time period and location.

She pointed out that

even minor discrepancies can be distracting to the reader. By putting some time into your research you will have a stronger piece of writing.

Let your fingers do the walking...

[Www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)

[Www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

Bible Verse and translations

[Www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

Library of Congress

[Www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

Smithsonian

[Www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

National Archives

[Www.historicaltextarchive.com](http://www.historicaltextarchive.com)

Historical Text Archive

[Www.earlyamerica.com](http://www.earlyamerica.com)



Archiving Early America

[Www.acca.org](http://www.acca.org)

Am. Antique Car Association

[Www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

Research Book Titles

[Www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)

Movie and TV actors

[Www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

Slang for certain year

Cost of house, car, or goods

Research for mystery writers

Google Maps

Social Security Website

September Meeting!

October 20th, 6:30PM at **Simmons First Bank**, 401 South Main Street, **Searcy, AR 72143**.

Don't forget the assignment! Come do some listening research even if you didn't have time to write.

Assignment

The assignment for October is to bring an excerpt of something you're writing that uses some research that you have recently done. Sample should be a maximum of 1 page double spaced. Be prepared to tell how you did your research.

Research that encourages.

Don't forget to utilize one of our best and most overlooked resources. Take time to visit some of the elderly who experienced life during the time period if possible. They enjoy sharing their stories. Example: <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/19446/19446-h/19446-h.htm>

Need a Contest to Enter?

www.christwriters.info/deadlines.php

Nov. 01 -

[NinjaEssays Writing Contest](#) - Free contest for 800-1000 word essays written to their themes

[Alive Now: Happiness](#) - Fiction, nonfiction, poetry, prayers & meditations

[Time of Singing Winter Poetry Contest](#) - Humorous or light poems up to 16 lines

[Pockets: Caring for Creation](#) - Christian children's devotional magazine; fiction, nonfiction, poetry, puzzles, games, recipes

[South Dakota State Poetry Society Annual Contest](#) - 8 categories to enter

[Massachusetts State Poetry Society Contest](#) - "Poet's Choice" contest for poems up to 40 lines

[Eclectically Criminal Anthology](#) - 1000 to 5000 words where crime is a major plot element.

Nov. 02 -

[Pikes Peak Writers Fiction Writing Contest](#) - 6 categories to enter

Nov. 03 -

[SHINE brightly magazine](#) - Christian magazine for girls 9-14; fiction & nonfiction; current theme is Growing Up

Nov. 07 -

[Children's Writer Kindergarten Story Contest](#) - Up to 150 words for ages 5 and 6

Nov. 10 -

[Writer Advice's 2nd Scintillating Starts Contest](#) - Submit the opening of your book, up to 1500 words

Nov. 13 -

[VIA Poetry on the Move Contest](#) - Submit 1-3 poems of no more than 10 lines each

Nov. 15 -

[Poetry Society of New Hampshire](#) - Enter up to 5 poems of 40 lines each

Nov. 30 -

[God's Promises for Provision Anthology](#) - 750-1000 words creative nonfiction

[Family Blessings: Prayers, Poems, and Traditions](#) - Submission of poetry no more than 24 lines; prose no more than 250 words

"Research is the process of going up alleys to see if they are blind."

— Marston Bates, The Nature Of Natural History

NaNoWriMo

www.nanowrimo.org

How It Works

During NaNoWriMo, you write 50,000 words in the 30 days of November. The challenge may be hard, but the logistics are not! Here, let us guide you through 'em.

1. Sign up for our website with that big, blue "Sign Up!" button on the home-page. You'll get an email validation link a few minutes later.

2. As part of the sign-up process, you'll choose a home region for in-person events near you. This is totally optional, but we think it's a pretty awesome part of the NaNo experience.

3. Our user dashboard will usher you through the rest of your account set-up stuff. Click on the grayed-out

badges to fill out your profile, say hello in our forums, and add writing buddies.

4. On October 1, you'll be able to add information about your upcoming novel to your profile. Giving your work a title or brief synopsis gets you 225% more pumped for November. It's a fact.

5. You can also use October to read past author pep talks, grab participant web badges, meet folks in the forums, and learn more about our nonprofit.

6. At midnight on November 1, start writing. Work on your manuscript using any method where you can track your word count. Word-processing program, notebook, typewriter, stone slab: they all work.

7. Update your word count whenever you can. Some like every day; others prefer a few times a week. No matter when, you can do it in that word-count update menu at the top of

every page on our site.

8. Stay motivated with pep talks (we'll send them to your on-site inbox and your email), forum chatter, and in-person events in your region. There's also a big world of NaNo out there in social media: find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Tumblr](#), [YouTube](#), and [Pinterest](#).

9. Starting on November 25, you can validate your novel to win. If it's over 50,000 words, paste the text into the word-count validator. A few robotic calculations later, we'll declare you an official NaNoWriMo winner! From there, you'll be able to collect a few prime novelist goodies.

10. If you enjoy your NaNo experience, please donate to support our mission. We believe in making this a more creative world, and we'd love your help getting there. (Here's more about [why others donate](#), as well as [additional ways to give](#).)