

# The Creative Writer

White County Creative Writers

[www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org](http://www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org)

## Four WCCW writers take big wins at Arkansas Writers' Conference

Four members of the White County Creative Writers group won 17 prose awards and one poetry award in contests at the Arkansas Writers' Conference, June 3, in Little Rock.

**John McPherson** won 3rd place, Minute Poem, for "Co-Existence," about how lions and zebras co-exist.

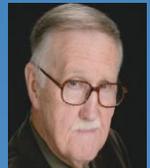
**Gary Breezeel** won 1st Place, Erdel Family Memorial Award, for "Ghost of a Chance," where a ghost provides detectives with a crucial clue to solve a murder. He also won 1st Place, Fiction Who-Dunnit Award, for "Grandma's Secret," about a secret drawer which hides the key to her granddaughter's legacy. He also took 1st Place, Moral Dilemma Award, for "Decision at Commanche Gulch," about a fugitive who forgoes escape to save the life of a sheriff.

His 2nd Place LaViness Award for Living Mystery, was "It's a Dog's Life," about a Chihuahua with an attitude which rescues a dognapped Pekingese. He also took 2nd Place, Dorothy Truex Memorial Prose Award, for "May I Have This Dance?"

where a taxi dancer falls in love with a soldier. He took 1st Honorable Mention, Lights Out! Contest, for "The Bright Lights," about a ghost scared of the dark; a 2nd Honorable Mention, Lucille Longstreth Memorial Award, for "L'Amour," about an under-sized bookworm who wins a pretty girl; and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Honorable Mention, AR Pioneer Branch NLAPW Prose Award, for "Perfect Day," about the perfect plan for popping the question that goes horribly awry.

**Kim Vernon** won 2nd place, AR Pioneer Branch NLAPW Prose Award, for "A Proposal She Couldn't Refuse," a short story about a humorous marriage proposal. She also won 3rd place, Mistletoe Award, for "Gizmo's Best Day Ever" a short story Gizmo tells about his experiences going from being ...

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McPherson



Breezeel



Vernon



Garrett

### *The Creative Writer*

is a monthly newsletter for the White County Creative Writers group of Searcy, Ark.

If you have news stories or photos to share, send them to [buddy.garrett@netzero.net](mailto:buddy.garrett@netzero.net).

Deadline for reader submission is seven days prior to each month's meeting. WCCW reserves the right to edit all submissions.

#### President

Rhonda Roberts

#### Vice President

Jason Glass

#### Secretary/Press Agent/Editor

Del Garrett

#### Treasurer

Amanda Partridge

#### Conference Chair

Kim Vernon

#### Webmaster

Steve May

### Next meeting

June 19, 2017

6:30 p.m., at

Simmons First Bank,  
401 South Main  
Street in Searcy.

## **Del Garrett announces new Triple Scoop contest**

Everything is good to go for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Triple Scoop contest. As before, submit up to three stories (Max 3 pages) or three poems. Remember, these are SEPARATE contests, don't mix stories and poems. Staple the stories separately. Do not staple the poems.

Entry fee is \$5 for the first entry and \$3 for each additional entry in each contest. I reiterate, the contests are separate with required fees for each entry. The subject matter and style are open. Restrictions are: No erotica, no politics, and no race-driven themes. Deadline is Dec. 31, 2017, with winners announced and prizes awarded, March 1, 2018.

What is different this year is instead of an entry form, simply provide a cover sheet with the title and first line of your entry and include your name, address and e-mail contact (if you have one). Place that in a sealed envelope with your check or money order and mail to me: B. Odell Garrett, 806 Rhoden Rd, Judsonia, AR 72081.

Last year, WCCW writers won most of the awards. Good luck to all.

## **Notes from our May meeting**

We discussed ways to set the pace of the stories we write.

Essentially, setting pace means an introduction of the main characters plus identifying a problem for the protagonist to solve.

The genre is not that important because all stories should have a beginning, middle, and end—a start of our journey, how we get there (character driven plot) and a resolution to the problem identified in the beginning of our story—but certain elements are needed, and expected by the publisher for each genre.

We also agreed that WCCW members will not participate in door prizes in our future conferences, leaving those for our guests..

For homework, write a story that has at least two characters talking—DIALOG ONLY—with no attribution. The goal is to be able to identify separate characters by the way and by the things they speak.

## **AWC Winners, Continued from Page 1**

captured as a stray to being adopted and given a loving home. She also won 3rd place, Scott Plantation Settlement, for "Decoration Day," a memoir about being left behind at an old country church after a pot luck when the family loads up and leaves.

Talent runs in the family. Her daughter, **Lindsey Greenup**, won an Honorable Mention in the Scott Plantation contest for "Flower Covered Cross," about a childhood memory of Easter at church. "I am very proud of her," Vernon said. "This was the first writing contest she has ever entered."

**Del Garrett** took 1st Place, Lucille R. Longstreth Memorial Award for "Sand Dollars," about a young boy and girl looking for a 'lucky' sand dollar at the seaside. He took 3rd Place, LaViness Award for Living Mystery, for "The Girl in the Bath," about a stolen DaVinci painting.

He also won 1st Honorable Mention, Dorothy Truex Memorial Prose Award, for "The Last Dance" about a dying woman dancing with her previously expired husband in the afterlife; 1st Honorable Mention, Erdel Family Memorial Award, for "Kill Shot" about a female police cadet who, fresh from the academy, saves the president's life; 3rd Honorable Mention, Fiction Who-Dunnit, for "The Case of the Lost Family Heirloom" a mystery with a ghostly tie-in; and 3rd Honorable Mention, Mistletoe Award, for "Living the Good Life," presented in a dog's narrative voice about how good "his human pets" are to him, and how he hates the neighbor's cat.

## 2017 AWC Contest Winners

#	1 <sup>st</sup> place	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	3 <sup>rd</sup> place	1 <sup>st</sup> Hon	2 <sup>nd</sup> Hon	3 <sup>rd</sup> Hon
1	Mary Lou Moran	Marilyn Joyner	Fay Smalling Guinn	Sara Gipson	Kathy Vernich	C Allan Butkus
2	Gary Breezeel	Tom Howard	Sara Gipson	Del Garrett	C Allan Butkus	??
3	Layne Fleming	Caroline Carmack	Kim Vernon	Kathy Vernich	Marilyn Joyner	Del Garrett
4	Sally Clark	Catherine Moran	Sara Gipson	Patricia Oplinger	Renee Ramsey	Fay Smalling Guinn
5	Gary Breezeel	Marilyn Joyner	Cheryl Cleek	Sara Gipson	Jeanie Horn	Del Garrett
6	Carole Crow	Kim Vernon	Kathy Vernich	Shelley Anne Richter	Marilyn Joyner	Gary Breezeel
7	Mary Lou Moran	Carole Crow	John Swinburn	Syble Ussery	Sara Gipson	Kathy Vernich
8	Patricia Oplinger	Sandra Boutwell Falcone	C Allan Butkus	Shelley Anne Richter	Jeanie Horn	Cheryl Cleek
9	Carole Crow	Gary Breezeel	Del Garrett	Gary Hoffman	Terry Alexander	Barbara Blanks
10	Syble Ussery	Jeanie Horn	Kim Vernon	Liz Barton	Lindsey Greenup	Fay Smalling Guinn
11	Carole Crow	Sandra Boutwell Falcone	Tom Howard	Gary Breezeel	Troy Lynn Pritt	Caroline Carmack
12	C Allan Butkus	Barbara Shepherd	Sara Gipson	Marilyn Joyner	Barbara Blanks	Fay Smalling Guinn
13	Kathy Vernich	Barbara Blanks	John McPherson	Sara Gipson	John Crawford	Patricia Oplinger
14	Del Garrett	Layne Fleming	Tom Howard	Mary Lou Moran	Gary Breezeel	Sara Gipson
15	Carol Hodges	Anne Winchester	Sandra Boutwell Falcone	Syble Ussery	Tom Howard	??
16	NO ENTRIES					
17	Jeanie Horn	Mary Lou Moran	Anne Winchester	Layne Fleming	Kathy Vernich	Tom Howard
18	Gary Breezeel	Syble Ussery	Jeanie Horn	John Swinburn	Carol Hodges	Madelyn Young
19	C Allan Butkus	Barbara Shepherd	Marilyn Joyner	Kathy Vernich	Debbie Lincoln	Shelley Anne Richter
20	Marilyn Joyner	Gary Breezeel	Caroline Carmack	Del Garrett	Cheri Lynn Quattrochi	Sara Gipson

## We Need Your Flash Fiction

Please send me short (flash fiction) pieces (1,000 words MAXIMUM) that you wouldn't mind having on our web site. One Short Story or Essay, or up to three poems.

If I can get a bunch, we can change them out every two months, just to keep the site spinning a bit.

Thanks....

*Christine Henderson*

*(And update your Member profile -- paragraph and photo)*

## JULY 7 – JULY 8, 2017

### Siloam Springs Writers Guild: First Summer Writers Conference

◆◆◆◆◆

Fanning the Flame  
Keeping the Passion Alive

Fellowship Hall: First Baptist Church, 2000 Dawn Hill Road,  
Siloam Springs, AR

**THERE WILL BE DOOR PRIZES!!**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	
Friday	6:30 p.m.	Check in		
	7 p.m.	Opening Remarks	Gene Linzey, SSWG President	
		Opening Prayer	Charles Yancy, SSWG Chaplain	
		Introduction of speakers	Gene Linzey, SSWG President	
	8 p.m.	Using Passion to Drive your Story	Paul Linzey, MFA, D.Min	
Saturday	8:30 a.m.	Check in		
	9 a.m.	Insights on Poetry	Dennis Patton, PRA President	
	10 a.m.	Creative Fiction	Traci Manos, MFA	
	11 a.m.	Adding Depth to Your Writing	Paul Linzey, MFA, D.Min	
		Sessions	Paul Linzey, MFA, D.Min Dennis Patton, PRA President Traci Manos, MFA	Noon
		Closing Remarks	Gene Linzey, SSWG President	Q & A

For information: Gene Linzey 479-228-3627 [masters.servant@cox.net](mailto:masters.servant@cox.net)  
Ted Weathers 479-373-6383 [tednjane@tjweathers.us](mailto:tednjane@tjweathers.us)

# Conference Fee Schedule:

Early-Bird registration fees are good through June 24.  
Add \$5 to register June 25 or later.

- **Adults - \$30 for Friday and Saturday (includes Friday meal)**
  - **Adults - \$15 for Saturday only**
  - **Students - \$15 for Friday and Saturday (includes Friday meal)**
  - **Students - \$10 for Saturday only**
  - **Meal will be catered by the Siloam Springs Rib Crib Restaurant**
- Students include elementary through university undergraduates**

Siloam Springs Writers Guild  
First Summer Writers Conference  
July 7 – 8, 2017

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Friday and Saturday \$30 w/ dinner included

Saturday Only \$15

Student: elementary through college undergraduates

Student \$15 Friday & Saturday w/ dinner included

Student \$10 Saturday on

To register, send Form + check or money order by June 24 to:

Siloam Springs Writers Guild  
1600 Rosewood Lane  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

**Siloam Springs Writers Guild:  
First Summer Writers Conference**

**Fellowship Hall: First Baptist Church, 2000 Dawn Hill Road, Siloam Springs, AR**

**Speakers**

**Paul Linzey: Writer, Speaker, Mentor**

After completing an MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Tampa with a dual emphasis in fiction and nonfiction, Dr. Linzey teaches *Creative Writing* at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida. He has written articles for several religious and military publications, and after returning from Iraq, was featured in live interviews on CNN and the Miami Herald. He was a writer/editor for Life Publisher's "The Warriors Bible," which was published in 2014. Then in 2015, he completed a book called *Safest Place in Iraq*, and his poem *Hope Renewed* will soon be published in "Time Of Singing: A Journal Of Christian Poetry". He is working on a new book about the principles for creating a successful marriage, and is a regular contributor to a number of magazines. He has provided personal and professional mentoring for several hundred people over the past twenty years. In addition to writing and teaching, he developed the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, a new degree program that kicks off in the fall of 2017 at Southeastern University. He was recently selected to be the Chair of the Department of Humanities.

**Dennis Patton: President of the Poet's Roundtable of Arkansas**

Growing up in Clarksville, Arkansas with a mother who continuously read to her young children, Dennis Patton has enjoyed poetry from childhood. Moving to Little Rock, Arkansas, Dennis saw a weekly poetry column in the *Saline Courier* which included an invitation to all who enjoyed or wrote poetry, and that prompted him to become a member of Saline County branch of Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA) in 2005. An avid hunter and fisherman, he takes pen and pad along with his coffee, sandwich, and gun to the deer stand; and at times his writing prevents him from getting that trophy. His poems have been published in the local newspaper, the *Saline Courier*; in the *Mau-Mag*, a quarterly periodical; the *Calliope*, a writer's workshop; and in the *Encore*, a publication for prize poems of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. He has won awards in Arkansas poetry contests as well as in other states. He has judged poetry contests in several states' poetry societies as well as in the NFSPS annual contests. His love for poetry has convinced him that life is too short to be without poetry.

**Traci Rae Manos: Advisor, Co-Curricular Coordinator, JBU**

**Traci Rae Manos** is the Advisor and Co-Curricular Coordinator of the Honors Scholars Program at JBU. She earned a B.A. in English Literature from John Brown University in 2001 and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Arkansas in 2014. She has studied poetry in Oxford, U.K. and the Iowa Writers' Workshop. In 2015, Manos was nominated for the Masters Thesis Award at the University of Arkansas and was selected as a finalist for the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. Her poem, "Outlaw Country", won the 2014 Guy Owen Award from *Southern Poetry Review*. Her interests include creative writing, singing/songwriting, Americana music, and riding horses.