

# The Creative Writer

White County Creative Writers

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

## October nominations topic of discussion at next meeting

All members are urged to attend the October meeting to nominate new officers for the coming year.

Volunteers are welcome to speak up. WCCW has grown over the past year and experienced “oldies” will still help lead the club into new areas of success for 2018, but for any club to grow it must be open to new ideas, new strategies and opportunities, while adhering to the basics of the writing craft. Newer members are asked to take a turn at helping lead the group.

Also open for discussion will be what training concepts will achieve those goals; i.e., a resurgence of our speakers bureau for both the club training sessions and for visiting other clubs and organizations to spread the story of who we are and what we do.

Bring copies of your current work in progress.

### *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 [del.garrett.s0ke@gmail.com](mailto:del.garrett.s0ke@gmail.com). 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

## List of our WCCW conference winners

The winners from our group for the WCCW conference are listed on the web page.

Congratulations to Gary L. Breezeel, Jim Gabelhausen, Del Garrett, Christine Henderson, John McPherson, Amanda J. Partridge, Kim Vernon, and Debbie Wantulok (see web page for the complete list of awards they each won).

### Next meeting

Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m., at  
Simmons First Bank,  
401 South Main Street,  
in Searcy.

## Ready to write Your next novel?

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing.

On Nov. 1, participants begin working towards the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30.

NaNoWriMo is for *anyone* who has ever thought about writing a novel.

“We provide the support, encouragement, and good old-fashioned kick in the pants you need to write the rough draft of your novel in November,” states the staff’s web page.

Want to set up a special event for the project?

NaNoWriMo’s Come Write In program connects libraries, bookstores, and other neighborhood spaces with their local NaNoWriMo participants to build vibrant writing communities.

Every November, thousands of writers around the world congregate at Come Write In spaces to pursue their creative dreams and write the first draft of their novel.

For more information, go to <https://nanowrimo.org/>.

# *Want to write a great spy novel?*

Steve Kroft, correspondent with 60 Minutes, interviewed John le Carré -- the pen name of David Cornwell, an ex-spy for Britain's famed MI6, whose page-turner spy thrillers have made him one of the most successful authors of the past 60 years.

## **Highlights of the Interview:**

For the most part, the novels of John le Carré, are about spies and espionage. That's the subject matter anyway and the setting, but they're also about human nature and behavior; about honor, ambition, careerism and conflicting loyalties that could apply to any profession.

The spymaster/novelist shared five rules about writing:



**Tip 1** – Make the verb do the work. Avoid adjectives.

**Tip 2** – Keep a journal. He explained how he records everything he can about where he visits (locations for future novels). “This is the stuff ... that I bring back here to this room, masses and masses of it, the memories, the observations, things like color, smell.” The most important observations, he notes, are his *first* impressions, when his senses are still shocked by newness and not dulled by experience.

**Tip 3** - Start your story as late as possible and use flashbacks to tell the back story. He said he knows he must get his reader's attention with the opening lines. To do that, he jumps into the action straightaway, then uses flashbacks to explain how his characters got there.

**Tip 4** – Avoid “fuzzy” endings. Once he's figured out a novel's theme, the next most important element of a book is its ending.

**Tip 5**– Start writing by 7:30 a.m. and do it every day even when you don't want to.

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## **EDITOR'S NOTES:**

Tip 1 – Mark Twain said. “When you catch an adjective, kill it.” He added: “I don't mean utterly, but kill most of them--then the rest will be valuable. They weaken when they are close together. They give strength when they are far apart.”

Tip 2 – A journal doesn't have to be a diary. Write a diary or just jot down your memory jogger notes.

Tip 3 – General rule is use flashbacks, but *sparingly*.

Tip 4 -- Many writers say write the ending first.

Tip 5 – Simply means set a routine and stick with it.





*Del Garrett's*

# TRIPLE SCOOP WRITING CONTEST



Hello. My name is Del Garrett. I'm a writer, editor and a former publisher, and for years I have been sponsoring writing contests for the Arkansas Writers' Conference and the White County Creative Writers Conference. I've decided to offer this Triple Scoop contest to other writers so I'm reaching out to all writing clubs and encouraging you to include me in your lists of contest sponsors. I'm doing this for two reasons. I like to read and I wouldn't be where I am today if I hadn't first submitted to contests—so this is sort of my way to give something back to other writers. Cold, hard cash! Here are the rules and this year's deadline. I hope to hear from you and award you with prize money.

## Welcome to the Triple Scoop Fiction and Poetry contests.

There are three chances to win in each category.

Prizes are \$50 for 1st place; \$35 for 2nd place and \$15 for 3rd place.

**Contest Rules:** You may enter up to three submissions in each separate contest. Each submission will be considered for all prizes. Entry fees are \$5 for the first entry, \$3 for each additional entry.

Poetry—one page only, single or double spaced, limit three entries.

Fiction—limit three entries, maximum three pages each entry.

Use standard format: 12-point size font, double spaced, on 8 1/2 X 11-inch white bond paper.

***Do Not list your identification on the typed pages.***

Include a cover sheet with your name, address, e-mail, title of your entry and first line of story or poem.

Place this cover letter and your entry fee in a sealed envelope stapled to your submission.

Staple all fiction submissions separately (do not staple poetry pages).

Restrictions: No erotica and no political or racial comments.

***Do not mix prose and poetry—keep each contest separate.***

No e-mail, paper submissions only.

Violations may result in disqualification. No refunds.

Mail all submissions to: Del Garrett, 806 Rhoden Rd, Judsonia, AR 72081.

Make checks or money orders payable to: B. Odell Garrett. Do Not Send Cash.

All submissions will be shredded 30 days after the deadline.

All rights are automatically returned to the author effective January 1st, 2018. We do not publish your work.

***Contest Deadline is December 31st, 2017.***

Winners will be announced and prizes mailed on March 1st, 2018.

For more information about me, please go to Amazon.com and enter my name in the search window for books.

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT DEL GARRETT AT: [del.garrett.s0ke@gmail.com](mailto:del.garrett.s0ke@gmail.com)