



The Creative Writer

White County Creative Writers

www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org



Kim Vernon to present lesson plan on writing for contests

During last month's meeting the group discussed River's Bend Craft Store wanting local books by Arkansas writers (see last month's newsletter) and an event in Branson, Mo., the Word Girls Getaway Retreat (Dot has details).

For the March meeting, Kim Vernon will conduct a session on how to write for contests. The timing is appropriate with the Arkansas Writers' Conference deadline approaching, April 20, and our own writing contests in September.

Congrats!

The following WCCW members won awards in Del Garrett's Triple Scoop contests: Prose: 2nd Place - Gary Rogers, Redneck Yacht Club; 3rd Place - Kim Vernon, Guard Cat on Duty; 2nd HM - Gary Breezeel, Not So Sweet. Poetry: 1st Place - John McPherson, When I Was Seventeen; 3rd Place - Kim Vernon, Faces.

Next meeting

March 19. 6:30 p.m.,
Simmons First Bank,
401 South Main Street
in Searcy.

The Creative Writer

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

If you have news stories or photos to share, send them to 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.

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Daily Citizen editor discusses newspaper

Steve Watts, editor of the Searcy *Daily Citizen* was the White County Creative Writer's guest speaker for March.

His presentation on the changing reality of the newspaper was well received by the group, resulting in many questions being asked, some local but national ideas and opinions as well.

Watts has an extensive background in journalism. Born and raised in Monticello, he earned his bachelor's degree in English from the University of Monticello and went on to receive a master's of science in mass communication with an emphasis in print journalism from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

Watts served as a features/news writer for the weekly Wynne Progress and was a sports editor for both the Jacksonville Patriot and the Leader Newspaper, after which he held a copy editor position with the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette for 14 years.

It was after this that Watts found the Daily Citizen.



Photo by Del Garrett

Steve Watts, editor of the *Daily Citizen*, discusses his background in journalism and the changing role of the newspaper business at February's meeting.