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April's meeting recognized WCCW winners of the 2019 Lucidity Ozark Poetry Retreat, discussed conference plans

During April's meeting, winners at the 2019 Lucidity Ozark Poetry Retreat were recognized and congratulated. Christine Henderson won first place for her poem "On This Day," and John McPherson and Donna Nelson won honorable mentions for their poems "The Veteran" and "The Photo Album."

Treasurer's report lists a balance of \$2,164.71.

Dot Hatfield reported that the brochure for the WCCW 2019 conference is finished and live on the website. All 2019 contests are listed in the brochure. The club is checking on availability of the display case at White County Library where we can advertising the conference.

For this month's meeting, John McPherson assigned a short story, "The Garden Party," by Katherine Mansfield, for members to read, write a critique, and share at the meeting. He asks that we not go to outside sources for interpretation but to write our own.

"What is there about this story that makes the author of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*? ... think so highly of it?" he asks. Pay attention to the story elements involved.

--Donna Nelson contributed to this article.

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.

> President/Press Agent Del Garrett Vice President John McPherson Treasurer Rhonda Roberts Secretary Donna Nelson Conference Chair Kim Vernon Webmaster Steve May

Five 'words of advice' from the Bard

Right or wrong—or should that be write or wrong—The Bard, William Shakespeare, is credited by many as the top dog when it comes to writing.

Here are five rules on how to write, attributed to the great playwrite:

- 1. Too many words: "Since brevity is the soul of wit and tediousness the limbs and outward flourishes, I will be brief."
- 2. Right choice of words: "They have been at a great feast of languages, and stolen the scraps."
- 3. Read well: "My library was dukedom large enough."
- 4. Listen more than talk: "Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice."
- 5. Rush not, find just the right phrase for

what you wish to say: "I did never know so full a voice issue from so empty a heart: but the saying is true, 'The empty vessel makes the greatest sound.'"

-- Collected by Daphne Gray-Grant and published in her free newsletter, The Publication Coach.

Next meeting May 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m. Simmons First Bank 401 South Main Searcy, Ark.