



The Creative Writer

www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org



Presentation for November will be on 'parallelism'

Club members celebrated Dot Hatfield's birthday with refreshments as the meeting was conducted. Minutes of September meeting read by Donna Nelson and accepted by members as read. Treasurer's report by Rhonda Roberts showed a current balance of \$1,441.02.

This month's meeting will be for nominations and elections of 2020 officers of WCCW.

Members shared their current homework assignment reading an award-winning piece or other non award-winning writing, or a writing from a prompt on a slip of paper drawn from a suggestion box.

John McPherson read a list of motivations for writing, then announced that during November's meeting we will review parallelism, how to recognize and use it in our writing.

"After a short discussion on 'parallelism' all who wish to may share any "secrets" they employ to get their creative juices flowing," he said.

Next meeting

Nov. 18, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Simmons First Bank
401 South Main
Searcy, Ark.

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

What is the BEST WAY to write a story?

What is the best way to write? That's a question often asked by beginning writers. Truth is, there's no 'best way' that applies to all; there is only the way that works best for one person—you.

Some writers prefer a rigid outline while others avoid outlines like the plague. I've tried both ways and the only outline I use now is a quick memo about what motivates my characters, both internally and externally.

In my exploration of the 'best way' I learned from famed literary agent Albert Zuckerman in his book "Writing the Block Buster Novel" that your story must have two settings—the overall giant story and the individual character's story.

For example, any story about The Alamo is NOT a story about Texas' independence from Mexico, it's always about Davy Crocket, or Jim Bowie and maybe even Mrs. Dickinson. The overall story is the external conflict, but the real story—the internal conflict—that grabs the readers is about the main character(s). If you think about it like a stage play, the Alamo is the backdrop while the real story is what happens to the characters standing in front of the chapel.

And a word on rewriting: Stephen King, and practically every other successful writer tells us that we first tell the story to ourselves, then edit out what doesn't move the story along. —*Del Garrett.*

SPOTLIGHT

Donna Hensley Nelson
WCCW Secretary



Donna Hensley Nelson's current project is a Student Handbook of Literary Terms. This compilation of 40+ terms from Junior High and High School literature includes definitions and examples of usage. Many of the examples are from Donna's poetry. The goal for publication is Spring 2020.

Donna has published three poetry collections and nine children's books through her self-publishing company, Uniquely Formed Publications. Since joining Gin Creek Poets in February 2018 and White County Creative Writers in April 2018, Donna has placed in a number of poetry and prose contests.

The two-day Author's Corner at Delta Arts Show in Newport is an annual event

for Donna. Another annual favorite is the ChildCare Aware Preschool Conference at UACCB in Batesville. She has had sales and book-signing events in Searcy, Heber Springs, Augusta, and Jacksonville. Her most enjoyable appointments are book fairs and readings at local preschools.

"My goal for the near future is to publish the Student Handbook, but in a year of two, I hope to publish another poetry collection. Until then, I plan to continue writing poetry and prose for contests.