



The Creative Writer

www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org



WCCW Christmas party next meeting

Usual blind read-around guessing game plus contest info

John McPherson described our read around for the Christmas party. The maximum for each member is 2 ½ pages double-spaced.

Kim Vernon-Rodgers shared that there are 20 entries in the Christmas contest through Saturday’s mail. Kim asked if members wanted to sponsor a contest for the 2021 AWC. Sponsorships are due by the end of November. Members agreed to sponsor a contest titled, “High Falutin’ Western Adventure.” Five required words are: cowboy, river, varmint, dance, and lasso. Limit is 1,500 words. Kim also announced Scrivening Press 2020 writing contest. See her for details.

Rhonda Roberts shared she has spoken with the White County Judge, Mike Lincoln, and the White County Extension building is available for the 2021 Conference at no cost. WCCW conference is Sept. 4, 2021.

Steve May stated he has one article left for the website blog. He asked members to write a blog post due at the January meeting. Bring your blog post to share, then e-mail to Steve in the body of the e-mail. --Donna Nelson

The Creative Writer

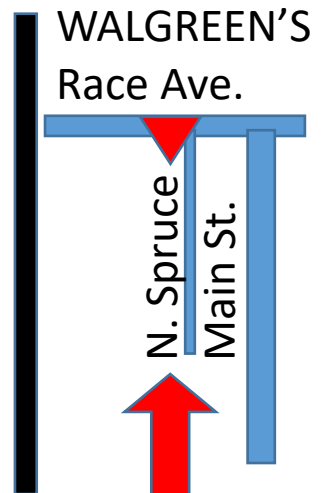
is a monthly newsletter for the White County Creative Writers of Searcy, Ark.

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

Club elects new officers for 2021

- President - Gary Rodgers
- Vice President - Kim Vernon-Rodgers
- Secretary - Anthony Wood
- Treasurer - Rhonda Roberts
- Webmaster - Steve May
- Conference Chair - Rhonda Roberts
- Press Agent - Del Garrett
- Contest Monitor - Dot Hatfield



Next Meeting

Dec. 21, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Meet at Daisy’s Lunchbox, 311 N Spruce, Searcy. It is on the west side of the Court Square.

WCCW 2020 Christmas Contests

The WCCW 2020 Christmas Contests were a great success, with several dozen entries, spread almost evenly across all contests. Here are the winners of each contest.

A Christmas Mystical Mystery short story

Contest Description: An uplifting story that highlights the magic of Christmas. (Not a murder mystery.) Story must include the following words: *angel, blizzard, candle, decorate, eggnog*. 1,000 words max.

The winners are:

- **First Place:**

Julia A. Zellner. Bulls Gap, Tenn.

- **Second Place:**

Sam Sullivan. Bono, Ark.

- **Third Place:**

MacKenzie Tastan. Vandalia, Ohio.

A Christmas Poem

Contest Description: Any form of poetry, 32 lines maximum.

The winners are:

- **First Place:**

Catherine Moran. Little Rock, Ark.

- **Second Place:**

Mike Bass. Conway, Ark.

- **Third Place:**

Christine Henderson, Cabot, Ark.

A Christmas Devotional

Contest description: Inspirational essay, devotional or Christmas related memory. 250 words max.

The winners are:

- **First Place:**

Clarissa Willis. Rogers, Ark.

- **Second Place:**

Ellen Withers. Conway, Ark.

- **Third Place:**

Tracy Martin. Wilburn, Ark.

- **Honorable Mention:**

Rhonda Roberts. Searcy, Ark.



Christmas Potluck Crisis

Gayle Glass

The tables groaned with standard fare.
A bowl of punch, some pies,
and ham and sweet potatoes shared
a corner, stacked edgewise.

Kim changed her dish to chocolate cake,
Chris switched and brought Pink Stuff.
They just assumed, with all we'd make,
there'd surely be enough.

Rhonda, as always, took up slack,
and brought some sugar free.
For leftovers, there were bowls to pack
and foil (with Christmas trees).

But as we scanned the sumptuous feast
a shortage left a hole.
We stood, aghast. Our heartbeats ceased.
NO GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE!

Traditions come and go with time,
and some things seem routine.
But in The South it's a major crime
to skip the great green bean!

We've now assigned a 'Green Bean' chair
and made a resolution.
To ensure we bring correct cuisine,
we'll confirm each contribution.

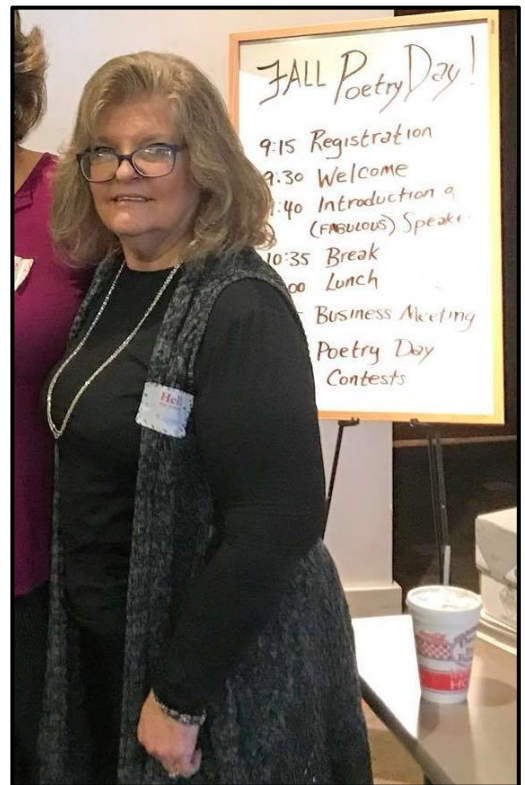
(Editor's Note: Hmmm, I think we might call this one the Ghost from a Christmas Party Past.)

SPOTLIGHT

Christine Henderson



Christine Henderson, who writes under the pen name of Gayle Glass, has garnered awards nationwide, and she has been published in anthologies such as *Writing on Walls*, and *White County Creative Writers' Park Tales* and *Who We Are*. A member of White County Creative Writers since 1995, Gayle has held all offices and managed writers' workshops for W.C.C.W., was an online poetry editor for Writers' Village University in 1997-1998, facilitated a workshop for Arkansas Tourism travel writers and presented lectures on poetry to various writing groups. In addition, she published a chapbook titled *Having Fun*, a beginners' writing guide, *Between the Lines*, and *The Looking Glass* (a blog to be resurrected soon). She has produced newsletters for various corporations and articles on subjects such as wildlife gardens, abandoned animals, and library funding for local newspapers and magazines. She was one of the founders and first president of Gin Creek Poets in Searcy, a chapter of Poets Roundtable of Arkansas, and currently serves on the board of PRA. These days she concentrates on poetry, but there's still a lot of prose in her head to be written!



Christine is also a member of Gin Creek Poets and has twice won First Place at the Lucidity Poetry Retreat plus a Readers' Choice Award.