



The Creative Writer

www.whitecountycreativewriters.org

WCCW Minutes from last month's meeting

Old Business:

Steve May, WCCW webmaster, reminded members of our goal to post a blog post every week. He reiterated members should write three blog posts per year to meet the goal. Blog post entries should be sent to steve@stevemay.com and "WCCW blogpost" written in the subject line. He reminded members of the monthly member spotlight and encouraged members to update their information on the website. He reported 1000 unique visitors to the website every month. Kim reminded members of the Valentine's Day Poetry Contest deadline, January 31. She encouraged members to submit by January 25 to insure a timely delivery.

New Business:

Lisa Lindsey, WCCW podcast manager, asked members to submit questions for her interview with Gary Rodgers and Gary Breezeel on writing entries for contests. Kim reminded members to subscribe to Writers' Monthly magazine. Rhonda Roberts, WCCW Treasurer, reminded members that 2023 membership dues are due. The annual amount is \$12.00. Accomplishments since last meeting: Rhonda Roberts submitted pitches to Simon and Schuster. Children's Book Insider had an "above the slush pile" event which increases chances for your pitch to be read. She will know by March if they are interested. Anthony Wood, WCCW vice-president, is now Assistant Managing Editor for Saddlebags Magazine. He reminded members to read the guidelines if submitting an entry.

Program:

Anthony shared plans for upcoming learning activities: 1. Developing judges. He asked for judges to volunteer as judges for upcoming contests. 2. How to critique a short story. 3. How to critique a poem. 4. How to write a screen play. 5. How to create a character arc. 6. How to create a story arc. Members read their character sketch assignments to the group. Comments were offered to help us improve our character sketches. Rhonda Roberts suggested members rethink pricing for Christmas party meal and conference meal and cost. She also reminded members who sponsor conference contests to include their name, the name of the contest, and the guidelines along with their sponsorship payment. Kim Vernon Rodgers announced a Romance Writers Guild in Oklahoma.

--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

Kim Vernon Rodgers

Vice President

Anthony Wood

Secretary

Donna Nelson

Treasurer - Conference Chair

Rhonda Roberts

Contest Monitor

Dot Hatfield

Press Agent

Del Garrett

Webmaster

Steve May

**NEXT
MEETING**

**Feb. 20, 2023
6:30 p.m.
Simmons Bank
401 S. Main, Searcy Ark.**

SPOTLIGHT

Gary Breezeel

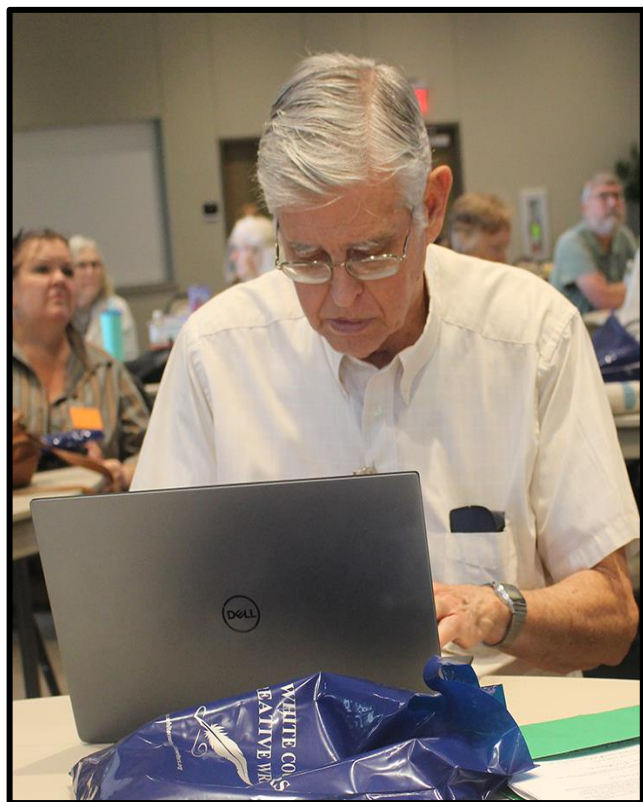


Photo by Steve May.

Always busy, even at conferences. When the idea hits, Gary writes it down.

Gary has completed a draft of his first novel and is making slow progress toward getting it ready for publication. He has several other novels at various stages of completion.

A number of Gary's short works have been published including "A Comedy of Errors" in Christmas Moments, Grace Publishing, 2014, as well as "Little Red Riding Hood Meets the Three Piggs", "A Leg to Stand On", and "Surprise Attack!" published in the WCCW Anthology of 2018.

Gary L. Breezeel is a former attorney, minister, and government accountant. Throughout all those career changes, he dreamed of being a writer when he grew up. Finally, upon retirement from his position with the U. S. Department of Defense, he fulfilled his dream.

Gary moved to Arkansas in 2010 with his wife of more than 40 years to be closer to his grandchildren.

In addition to his writing, he fills his days with reading, feeding his television addiction, touring Arkansas, and attending sports and other activities involving his grandchildren.

Besides WCCW, Gary is a member of American Christian Fiction Writers. His short stories, essays, memoirs, and poems have won numerous local contests.