



The Creative Writer

www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org

Notes from the June WCCW meeting

Awards for the month: 1) Dot Hatfield's article, Finding My Voice, was published in the 2022/23 Volume 4 edition of Uncharted Literary; Art Magazine by Arkansas State University, Beebe. 2) John McPherson was appointed poetry editor for Saddlebags Express. 3) Anthony Wood's fourth book, The Storm that Carries Me Home, has been released. 4) Alyssa Darby won first honorable mention in the PRA June contest for her poem, "The Step." 5) Donna Nelson won second honorable mention in the PRA June contest for her poem, "A Sea of Sunflowers." 6) WCCW contestants brought home 45 wins from AWC!

Old Business

Steve May reminded all members we need blog posts! Steve mentioned ideas for posts. He reminded members word minimum for posts is 300 words.

New Business

AWC contestants read their winning entries aloud for other members.

Steve May announced the subject for teaching in the July 17 meeting will be Writing to Inspire. You will not need to bring a finished assignment to class, but you will need to be prepared for a future assignment.

--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

Most common punctuation mark, the comma

This is a partial list showing the most common uses.

1. Use a comma to join two independent clauses and a coordinating conjunction (and, but, or, for, nor, so). Use a comma after an introductory phrase, prepositional phrase, or dependent clause.
2. Use a comma to separate elements in a series. Although there is no set rule that requires a comma before the last item in a series, it seems to be a general academic convention to include it.
3. Use a comma between coordinate adjectives (adjectives that are equal and reversible).
4 Use a comma after a transitional element (however, therefore, also, otherwise,)
5. Use a comma in a number. 15,000,000
6. Use a comma to separate a city name from the state.
Avoid comma splices (two independent clauses joined only by a comma). Instead, separate the clauses with a period,

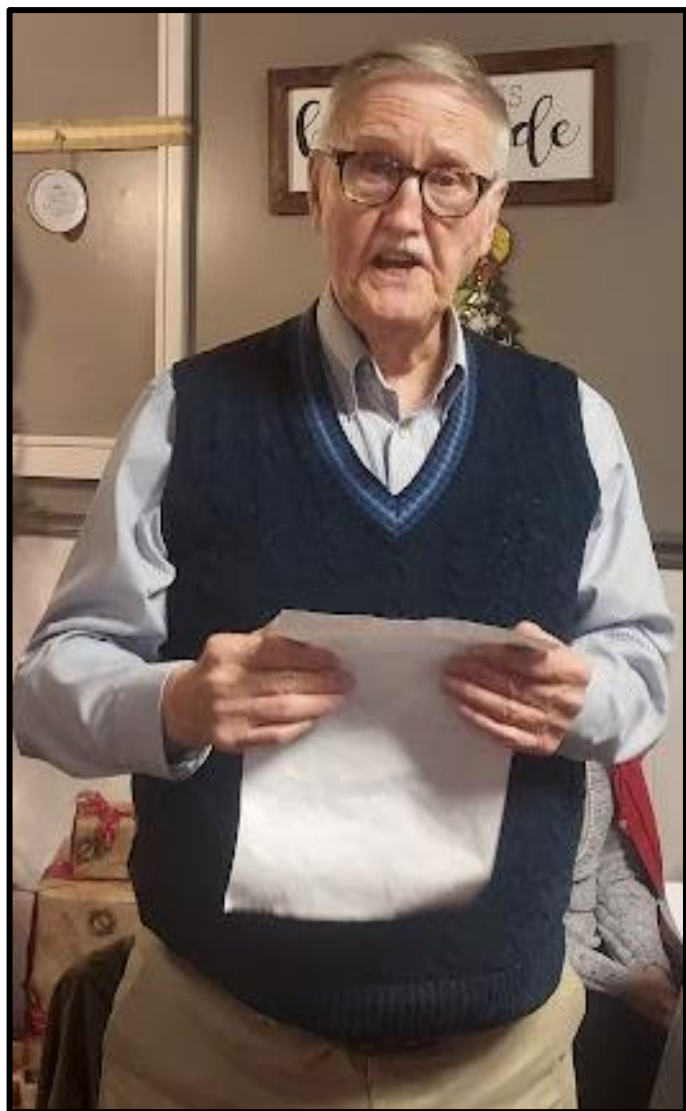
--Source, Purdue University

**NEXT
MEETING**

**July 17, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
Simmons Bank, 401 S. Main, Searcy, Ark.**

SPOTLIGHT

John McPherson



Photos by Steve May.

John McPherson was born and grew up in White County. Graduated from Bradford High School in 1957. Married his high-school sweetheart, Hazel Morgan, in 1958. Lived in Little Rock for 42 years, where a son and a daughter were born and raised. John attended UALR part time while working full time for the USPS and completed requirements for a BBA degree in 1974.

After he retired as manager of Transportation and Networks and Hazel retired as bookkeeper for the Pulaski County Special School District, they moved to Russellville, Ark. After Hazel died in 2012, John moved to Searcy.

After a couple of years in Searcy he began meeting with the White County Creative Writers. A short while later some members formed a chapter of Poets Roundtable of Arkansas, called Gin Creek Poets.

He began entering writing contests in his mid seventies. Awards have been satisfactory. He has had poems published in *Avocet*, a nature poetry quarterly, as well as the weekly on-line version, in *Cantos*, a publication of Missouri Baptist College, WCCW and PRA anthologies.

His short stories have appeared in Del Garret's Vault of Terror anthologies. He is presently serving as president of Gin Creek Poets, and recently named poetry editor for *Saddlebags Express*. He has previously served as president of WCCW.