



The Creative Writer

www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org

WCCW writers score big at AWC conference

June 3, 2023, was a great day at the AWC Conference in North Little Rock, Ark. There were about 50 people in attendance, including a dozen WCCW members, who won and/or placed in a number of contests. See the complete list on Page 2

Courtesy Photo



Notes from last month's club meeting

Lisa Lindsey is now line editor for Roan and Weatherford Publishing Associates. Michaela Campbell assisted Anthony Wood in judging short stories for an Uncle Rube contest. Anthony released the fourth book in A Tale of Two Colors series, entitled *The Storm That Carries Me Home*.

Del Garrett's *The Vault of Terror: Tales to Tell Vol 5* was released with works from WCCW members, including Gary Breezeel, Dr. Rebecca Foster, Lisa Lindsey, John McPherson, Gary Rodgers, Don Money, and, of course, Del. Del also republished a fictional representation of the Jack the Ripper story, *Whispers in the Wind: The Search for Jack the Ripper*.

Tara Forste won 1st Place for her poem, *Inevitability*, which was published in the 2022/23 Volume 4 edition of *Uncharted Literary and Art Magazine* published by Arkansas State University, Beebe.

Old Business

Steve May reminded all members to submit blog posts. The goal is one post per week.

New Business

Rhonda Roberts reminded members to submit registration forms and money for the Sept. 2 WCCW annual conference.

The May program, led by John McPherson and Donna Nelson, included members reading and commenting on poems they have written.

The program also involved Steve May reading his short story, *Reflections on a Perfect Life*. Anthony Wood led the group in a short critique containing hook, body, conflict and resolution, denouement, and grammar. We ended by trying to choose the appropriate genre for his story. — 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 June 19, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
Simmons Bank, 401 S. Main, Searcy, Ark.

WCCW Winners at AWC

Eleven members of the White County Creative Writers won a total of 45 contest awards at the 79th Annual Arkansas Writers' Conference held June 3 in North Little Rock, Ark.

Gary Breezeel won four 1st Place awards for a Christmas short story, historical fiction, a mystery and a cozy mystery. He also won five 2nd Place awards for a horror story, short mystery, a who-dunnit, science fiction and a romance story. He took five 3rd Place awards for short fiction, beginning of a novel, creative non-fiction, a fantasy and a western.

Del Garrett won two 1st Place awards for a family essay and a science fiction story, two 3rd Place awards for a mystery and free verse poetry, and a 3rd Place Honorable Mention for a mystery story.

Kim Vernon won a 1st Place in non-fiction, two 2nd Place awards for a short story and humorous poetry. She also won a 3rd Place for an essay and two Honorable Mentions for humor and mystery short stories.

Dot Hatfield won two 2nd Place awards for a Christmas story and a non-fiction entry, plus a 3rd Place for humorous poetry and an Honorable Mention for a short story.

John McPherson won a 2nd Place award for an essay and two 2nd Honorable Mention awards for a horror story and humorous poetry/

Don Money won two 1st Place awards for creative non-fiction and horror and a 3rd Place award for a mystery story.

Gary Rodgers took two 2nd Place awards for historical fiction and a mystery short story, and won Honorable Mentions for short stories, including a science fiction, western, and fantasy.

Peggy Sanders won a 1st Place for fantasy and an Honorable Mention for a supernatural fantasy.

Anthony Wood won a 1st Place Western short story.

Julia Zellner won a 1st Place Romance short story.

Mike Bass won 2nd Place for humorous poetry.

WCCW Conference Sept. 2, 2023

The 28th Annual White County Creative Writers Conference will be held on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023. The conference will be held at the White County Extension Service Building, located at 2400 Landing Road, Searcy, Ark. Registration begins at 8 a.m. There will be three morning sessions and three afternoon sessions. (The final session is a group read-around.) The conference will conclude around 4 p.m. Lunch is included. The cost to register for this event is still only \$35.

Book tables can be rented for an additional \$10. Registration deadline is Aug. 28, 2023.

Contest deadline is **July 31, 2023**. See www.whitecountyc creativewriters.org for complete listing of contests and registration form..

Special guest speakers include Clarissa Willis, author of *Fast As The Wind* and this year's Will Rogers Medallion Finalist and Linda Lowe Apple, who is the author of nonfiction, women's fiction, and children's books. She is the 2023 Arkansas Writers Hall of Fame inductee.



Clarissa Willis



Linda Lowe Apple

SPOTLIGHT

Don Money



Don Money was born and raised in Arkansas on a small farm. His interest in writing began in the sixth grade when he wrote his first short story as a Gifted and Talented project. After graduation he joined the U.S. Air Force and traveled the globe as a Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Weapons Defense Specialist. After 10 years in the service, he returned to his roots in Arkansas and now teaches Language Arts to sixth graders at Beebe Middle School.

Don and his wife Sarah, also a schoolteacher, have five children between them: Bailey, a third grade teacher in Northwest Arkansas; Logan, a soldier with the 82nd Airborne at Fort Liberty (formerly Fort Bragg) N.C.; and Tyler (11th grader); Shelby (6th grader); and Eli (3rd grader).

Many of Don's short stories are based on his role as a husband, a father, a son, a brother, a veteran, and a teacher. All other stories are inspired by an overactive imagination. Aside from writing, Don enjoys spending time with his family, working on their little family farm, and listening to Sugar, their Great Pyrenees, barking to scare off coyotes, raccoons, ghosts, the Bull Creek Sasquatch, or whatever it is she is seeing in the dark.



Don has short stories published in a variety of anthologies, including *The Vault of Terror*, *Trembling With Fear*, with Shacklebound Books, with Black Hare Press, and in *Medusa Tales Magazine*. His stories have won contests at the WCCW Conference and the Arkansas Writers' Conference.

Don can be found on Twitter [@donmoneywriting](https://twitter.com/donmoneywriting). You can read Don's posts at the WCCW Write Way Blog.