

# WCCW writers win big at Ozark Conference

# Accolades/Accomplishments:

\* Ozark Creative Writers Conference: Gary Rodgers and Kim Vernon were opening speakers at OCW – See the winners' list on Page 2.

\* John McPherson won six poetry awards for Poetry Day. Alyssa Darby won 14 awards.

\* Del Garrett's Civil War story was published on a podcast and is now on the WCCW website. He is now working on two anthologies and also needs short stories for his Vault of Terror by Dec. 31, 2024, and shorts for a cozy mystery anthology by Feb. 28, 2024.

\* Gary Breezeel is a finalist for the Scrivenings Press Get Pubbed contest. The winner will be announced at a conference in Hot Springs in November.

\* Anthony Wood's book The Name Tree came out on Oct. 26, and all proceeds will go to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

\* The Western Anthology for WCCW is now available in print for \$10.

\* WCCW Conference Report: Spent: \$5,944.56; Coming in: \$6,041.

## 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 prowriter001@yahoo.com. Deadline for reader submission is seven days prior to each month's meeting. WCCW reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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

## **New Topics:**

\* We need to consider a new place for our monthly meetings as our group is outgrowing Simmons Bank.

\* We'll also need to be thinking of officers for next year by the November meeting.

\* We are considering having the Christmas party at the Carmichael Center and having finger foods as a potluck to reduce cost and have a large enough venue.

\* Rhonda Roberts and Gary Rodgers did a talk on writing short stories and Westerns.

\* Next month's assignment: write a Western, 750 words max.



# Six White County Creative Writers won a total of 33 awards at the 2024 Ozark Creative Writers Conference in Eureka Springs, Ark., Oct. 10-12, 2024.

#### Gary Rodgers:

1<sup>st</sup> Place, Grand Conference Award – "I'm Not Crazy, Am I?"
1<sup>st</sup> Place, Mike Willis Inspiration Award – "Bull and Bologna Birthday"
1<sup>st</sup> Place, From Dusk Till Dawn – "Red River Terror"
1<sup>st</sup> Place, Historical Romance – "Fort Roots Reunion"
1<sup>st</sup> Place, Senior Moments – "Living Beats Surviving"
2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Quotable Quote Blog – "Change Your Mind"
3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Hometown Nostalgia Column – "King, The Olympian"
1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention, Oxbow Award – "Reborn on the Red River"
1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention, Native American Short Story – "The Departure"
3<sup>rd</sup> Honorable Mention, A Scream In The Night – "The Cavern Dweller"
3<sup>rd</sup> Honorable Mention, Fish Out OF Water Tale – "Too Pretty to Die"

#### Kim Vernon:

1st Place, Oxbow Award – "The Rustler's Repentance"
1st Place, Middle Grade Fiction, "Passage to the Unknown"
2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Haiku – "Thirsty Brittle Grass"
3rd Place, My Favorite Trip/Essay - "Red Dust and Blue Skies"
3rd Place, Well That Went Sideways - "Detour on the Way to a Man's Home"
3rd Place, Senior Moments - "Now Hiring, Chauffeur"
3rd Place, Flash Fiction - "Alzheimer's Night"
2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention, Tall Tales – "The Chase is On"
2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention, Point A to Z – "Not What it Appears"

#### **Rhonda Roberts:**

1st Place, Best Forst Paragraph – "The Dead End Job" 1st Place, Things That Go Bump In The Night – "The Thong" 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Tail Tales – "George" 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Native American Short Story – "The Rez"

#### Don Money:

1<sup>st</sup> Place, Quotable Quote Blog – "Never Defeated"
2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Everything But The Kitchen Sink – "Borrowed Time"
3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Oxbow Award – "Ol' Switcheroo"
3<sup>rd</sup> Honorable Mention, Flash Fiction – "Sandbar Sirens"
1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention, Velda Brotherton Memorial – "Atlanta"

#### Anthony Wood:

2<sup>nd</sup> Place, My Favorite Day in Nature – "The Honesty of Unclothed Trees"
 2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention, Things That Go Bump In the Night – "A Knot Finally Tied"

Bambi George: 3<sup>rd</sup> Honorable Mention, Tail Tales – "Tales from an Autumn Love Story"











