

The Writer's Wire

Women Who Write: A Place, a Space, a Voice

December 15, 2015



SO LONG, BUT NOT FAREWELL

Here we are at the end of the year *and* the end of my two-year term! I can hardly believe how quickly the past two years have flown by.

I would be remiss if I didn't wholeheartedly thank the incredible women who served on the board with me. It seems like only yesterday I was stepping into the high-heeled lace-up sneakers of Susan Lindsey, who led the group so wonderfully before, and who was kind enough to stay on as associate director of PR and communications, a position that increased our writers' conversations, as well as improved our outreach to both current and prospective members. Susan also helped us elevate our writers' workshop to a full-fledged conference by working with her network of authors and securing the most amazing and inspiring speakers.

I more than thoroughly enjoyed working with my partner in crime, Paula Dillmann, who as associate director, ended up being the Rhoda to my Mary. Keeping me on task is a full-time job, and she did it while exercising great wit and humor. Holly Hinson was not only a pleasure to work with as our treasurer, but her blog *Holly Ascending*, took all of us along on her personal journey of self-discovery and enlightenment. Charlet Johnson literally kept us all on the same page, and moving in the same direction, as our indispensable secretary. It wasn't easy keeping up with our growth these past two years!

Speaking of the growth of Women Who Write, we closed out the year and the term of this board (2014-2015) with some impressive numbers: 59 members, which is a 34 percent increase; 147 newsletter recipients, which is an 82 percent increase; and 606 Facebook followers, which is a 66 percent increase! It has truly been an honor to lead our organization these past two years, and taking a page out of Susan's book, I am staying on the new board and doing our PR and communications. I'm also writing more now, too, and that is what we are all about. See you all in the New Year!



WOMEN WHO WRITE, INC.

Encouraging, supporting and educating women who aspire to write

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—Jessica Luetzow

FUN WAS HAD BY ALL

This was the second year for our annual holiday luncheon at the Olive Garden where more than a dozen old and new members took some time to slow down and catch up with good food and even better conversation. We were delighted that Brandon, our server from last year, just happened to be assigned to our table. We were pleased to hear that he will graduate from the seminary this spring and will travel throughout Asia and Africa doing mission work.



ABOUT WOMEN WHO WRITE

Membership: Our goal is to encourage, support and educate all women who aspire to write. Our group is diverse and dynamic, and includes writers who are just starting out, those who are newly published, and those in the middle of their careers.

Regular meetings are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Highlands-Shelby Park Library, Mid City Mall, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Louisville, Kentucky.

WOMEN WHO WRITE BOARD

Director[Jessica Luetzow](#)
Associate Director.....Paula Dillmann
Associate Director, Communication & PR, Editor
.....[Susan E. Lindsey](#)
Secretary..... Charlet Johnson
Treasurer.....Holly Hinson

MEET THE NEW WWW BOARD

Selene Phillips, Director: Selene is a member of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe nation in Wisconsin. She is a professor at the University of Louisville in the Communication Department, where she teaches writing and Native American Studies. Her “i miss lac du flambeau” piece won the 2013 WWW International Poetry Contest. Besides writing, she enjoys her two great nephews and looks forward to the arrival of their baby sister.

Dana Lindley, Associate Director: Dana retired from a career with the United States Senate and the *Better Homes and Gardens* book division. Now she spends time with her grandchildren or reading, gardening, and traveling. She has published numerous short essays and continues to work on her second novel.

Melony Dixon, Treasurer: Melony works as a bookkeeper for a racehorse practice. She started writing a few years ago and enjoys the outlet and creativity it offers her.

Joan Dubay, Secretary: Joan is a retired Jefferson County Public Schools K/1 teacher, and has been a member of WWW since the autumn of 2012. She is an observer of life, in search of a genre.

Jessica Luetzow, Associate Director, PR & Communication: Jessica is the past director of Women Who Write. She has an MA in English literature from the University of California at San Diego. After ten plus years in corporate positions, she is finally chasing the dream that has always been waiting just out of reach—writing a book. She hopes to keep the group growing by sharing the story of Women Who Write.



WISDOM FROM WRITERS

“Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time.”

—Laura Ingalls Wilder

CONTESTS, MARKETS & GRANTS*

- [Splice Today's Political Writing Contest](#). \$1,000, top prize; \$500, second; \$250, third. Tell us which candidates will win the Democratic and GOP nominations and compete for the presidency next November. The essay can be objective or partisan. Deadline Dec. 31. Essay length 1,500-3,000 words. Send to [Russ Smith](#). \$500.
- [Gemini Poetry Open](#). Grand prize: \$1,000 and publication online in the March 2016 issue of *Gemini*. Entry fee \$5 for up to three poems. Deadline Jan. 2.
- [Yemassee Writing Prizes](#) for fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. First prizes for fiction and poetry are \$1,000 each; first prize for nonfiction is \$500. Entry fee \$10-\$15. Deadline Jan. 15.
- [Monadnock Essay Collection Prize](#) is a new writing contest for a book-length collection (120-160 pages or 50,000-60,000 words) of previously unpublished nonfiction essays. Prize \$1000 plus publication by Bauhan Publishing and 100 copies. Entry fee \$30. Deadline Jan. 15, 2016.
- [Masters Review, Short Story](#) (up to 6,000 words) Award for New Writers. \$2,000 and publication in *Masters Review* will be given twice yearly. Deadline Jan.15. Entry fee: \$20.
- [South Carolina First Novel Award](#). Accepting manuscripts between 150-400 pages. Winner receives a \$1,000 advance against royalties. Hub City Press will publish at least 2,000 copies of the books. Entry fee \$35. Deadline March 15.
- [Azule Residencies](#). AZULE is an emerging art and community-based organization with retreat and residency programs for anyone wishing to enjoy Appalachia. 50 miles from Asheville, NC.

*Be sure to check contest websites for complete rules and submission guidelines.

EVENTS FOR WRITERS

- Dec. 29, doors open 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m. [The Moth](#), an open-mic storytelling competition, featuring true stories on “joy.” Headliners Music Hall, 1386 Lexington Rd.; Louisville. \$8.
- Jan. 2, 10 a.m. [Storytelling performance](#): StageOne StoryTellers takes your favorite children’s books and brings them to life as only StageOne knows how. The Kentucky Center for the Arts, 501 W Main St., Louisville. \$6.
- Jan. 4, 7 p.m. [Portland Poetry Series](#), featuring monthly poetry readings McQuixote Books & Coffee, 1512 Portland Ave., Louisville.

- Jan. 6, 11 a.m., Interactive Children’s Reading: WUOL 90.5’s Sara Soltau, featuring the picture book, *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf. [Carmichael’s Kids](#), 1313 Bardstown Rd., Louisville. Free.
- Jan. 8, 7 p.m. [InKY Reading Series](#) featuring Jericho Brown (poetry), Kirby Gann (fiction) and special guest, Biana Bargo. The Bard’s Town, 1801 Bardstown Rd., Louisville.
- Jan. 11, 6 p.m. [Flying Out Loud monthly poetry reading](#). Anyone interested in reading contact [Steve Cambron](#). Sunergos Coffee Shop, 2122 South Preston St., Louisville.
- Jan. 28, 7 p.m. Ryan Clark and Joe Cox reading and signing their book, *The Kentucky Wildcat Fans’ Bucket List*. [Carmichael’s Bookstore](#), 2720 Frankfort Ave., Louisville.

START THE NEW YEAR WITH A MEMOIR CLASS



Write your Life: [A Memoir Workshop](#). The next evening workshop begins Monday, Jan. 4. The next morning workshop begins Wednesday, Jan. 6.

Morning six-week sessions are 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and evening six-week sessions are 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Classes will be held at [Shape & Flow Writing Studio](#), 1860 Mellwood Ave. Studio 123, Louisville KY 40206.

Reserve your spot today! Cost per six-week session: \$160. To reserve your place in a workshop group, please contact Kimberly Crum by phone at 502-417-3424, or e-mail shapeandflow@gmail.com.

