



**ABILENE WRITERS GUILD**  
**AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER**  
**KEEPING MEMBERS IN TOUCH**  
**ABILENE WRITERS GUILD.ORG**  
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### Challenges of the Writer

The love of writing and the passion to paint word pictures by using those visions that appear in our minds in various forms is the making of an author. The strong desire to write is the motivation to get one on the way to publication.

I have maybe a half dozen books that I have begun stored on my AWG flash drive. Along with that are scores of poems with several lines waiting in que to be finished. There are reasons why they are still waiting. As writers we all face challenges. Some of the ones I deal with will be mentioned here. In future articles more in depth discussion of the challenges and ways to confront them will be discussed.

Authors know that the strong desire to write, and/or the measure of talents and abilities do not spare them from facing challenges. There are perks that lie within attaining success as a writer; even so, being a writer has its own set of difficulties and challenges making the profession a demanding and tough job. It doesn't really matter whether you are a beginner, a seasoned amateur, or a #1 Best Seller, writing can be equally challenging. Writing preferences or genres have little to do with the number of difficulties that challenge the writer.

The author who works from home can quickly experience loneliness. Believing that

one of the perks of the profession is the ability to work independently or remotely from your own home can cause a lot of isolation. That, in turn, can have an impact on creativity and productivity. Those who work from home often tend to be greater procrastinators at getting the job done. This is especially true of those who are working on longer projects.

We hear a lot about the challenge of writer's block. Writer's block is probably the most famous of all the challenges of the writer, and seems to be the most dreaded of all the difficulties that must be dealt with. Trying to come up with an idea for a new project can be frustrating. Writer's block might even rear its ugly head right in the middle of a project that the writer has been working on for a long time. Being unable to come up with new ideas can be stressful and can sometimes last for weeks.

A close relative to writer's block is the feeling of not being creative. Every writer would love to find the catchiest open line for the novel or article as well as the beginning of each new chapter. A line that would certainly keep the reader reading. Rather than simply jotting down something to later build on we get bogged down in the idea of creating GREAT ideas.

Until next time, write on.

Kay Talley  
*AWG President*



**Lou Mouglin:** BRAG: Still scripting for Warrant, trying to finish up 2nd history book. SAG: Trying to finish 2nd history book, waiting for 3 novels to be pubbed.

**Chuck Webber:** BRAG: I sent in two different pieces for contests for publication

**David Dodge:** BRAG/SAG: I'm back working on number 16 of my series. It's been hard to do things when I get busy with other things.

**Marguerite Gray:** BRAG: I'm editing Whispers of Wisdom to send to my publisher. I'm writing a short story *What's in a Name?*

**Cindy Mims:** BRAG: I turned in August entry in July. SAG: Going to see my granddaughter pitch at two softball games made me miss AWG meeting! BRAG: She pitched a great game!



**Jo Cox:** READING: *Nothing Knew* by S. Westley King which continues the story from *Under the Sun*. This one kept me reading too and I want the next book. This series is not for "kids." It contains the traumas of life that many of us struggle with for decades.

**Lou Mouglin:** READING: J. A. Jance and Craig Stephen Copland mysteries, *The Drive in '65*

**Chuck Webber:** Reading: *Dark Night of the Soul* by St John of the Cross and *Selected Poems of Maya Angelou*

**Carolyn Dycus:** READING: *Listen to Me* by Tess Garritsen, *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrick Blackman and *The Candy House* by Jennifer Egan.

### Our Officers

President: Kay Talley-Leach	(2024)
Executive VP: Darla McCloud	(2023)
Program VP: Sharon Ellison	(2024)
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Board Member: Mary Berry	(2024)
Board Member: Ron Davis	(2024)
Alt. Board Member: Carolyn Dycus	(2023)
Monthly Contest Coordinator: Linda Gordon	



**Mary Berry:** READING: I've been revisiting some Texas history - *Lust for Glory* by Stephen Hardin is a very readable account of the people and events (1821 to 1846) that shaped Texas. Stephen Hardin also wrote the forward to a reprint of the autobiographical *The Life of Robert Hall* originally published in 1898, a firsthand account of some of those same people and events (with a Texas tall tale or two thrown in). In my spare time for the enjoyment of my husband I have been reading aloud some of his favorite *Jack Reacher* novels by Lee Child.

**Marguerite Gray:** READING: *When the Day Comes* by Gabrielle Meyer and *Harry Potter y la piedra filosofal* by J.K. Rowling in Spanish.

**Stuart Caffey:** READING: One of Debbie Macomber's old books, *Starry Night*.

**Kay Talley-Leach:** READING: Just finished *Under the Sun* by S. Westly King. I am now reading his next book in the Redemption Gray series: *Nothing Knew*.

## ***Our Life Members***

*Stewart Caffey, Nancy Masters  
Alice Greenwood, David Dodge  
Betty Thomason*

Members gain the status by gift from the membership as a whole, by paying a one-time fee of \$600, by receiving the honor as a gift from another, or by reaching the age of 90 while a member of AWG

## ***Membership***

### ***Don't Miss Out***

Secure your Membership

Update Your Dues

\$25.00 Single membership

\$35.00 family membership

Please mail your dues to

Gail McMillan

419 Meadow Ln

Abilene, TX 7960

Or Give to Gail at the August meeting

If you joined AWG since March 2022

your dues come due next year

Don't let this be your last newsletter

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Annual Contest**

**Start your project now**

**Watch for Rules in  
September Newsletter  
and on the Website**

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## **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

**August 1 – October 1**

**eMerge Magazine**

**prose, poetry, recipes, photos  
to publish in 4 issues in 2023  
[emerge-writerscolony.org](http://emerge-writerscolony.org)**

## ***CREATIVE SPARKS***

***OUR OWN***

### **SUANNA DAVIS**

Will be presenting our  
program on Thursday

night August 25. Suanna

is a published author, primarily in  
non-fiction, with a book on English  
and literature and much experience  
teaching those subjects. In 2019 she  
began working on children's books.

Right now most of her writing energy  
is going toward a fantasy young adult  
novel set in the ancient world BC.