



ABILENE WRITERS GUILD

OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

KEEPING MEMBERS IN TOUCH

ABILENE WRITERS GUILD.ORG

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Fall Refreshing

After such a long, very hot summer, we have certainly welcomed the first few cooler days when it was actually chilly enough to step back into the house and grab a sweater. Gentle breezes of early predawn walks kiss my skin and fill my lungs bringing about both respite and stimulation. I feel a certain sense of rebellion in the breezes' determination to overthrow the heat of summer and claim more pleasant days as we transition from all the busy-ness and bright buzzing "activities" of summer into the quiet calmness of winter. It's like goodness sandwiched between blazing summer and chilly winter, the "cooling off" season. Shades of night arrive earlier, temperatures begin to drop, often bringing about a sudden burst of growth in vegetation; displaying their last hoorah before its growth decreases preparing for rest through the winter.

The approaching holidays of the season intrinsically produce happiness or trigger memories of past joys that spawn a desire to keep drinking in the freshness of the change of seasons. Our senses drive us to the outdoors to embrace the beauty of color and creation.

Although we think of springtime as a time of rebirth and a certain sadness touches our emotions in the coming of autumn as we leave the more carefree days of summer, at the same time there is also rebirth as we look to "new beginnings"

that fall initiates. Electricity in the fall air stimulates us to more academic activity. What can be more inviting than to curl up with a good book, really diving into it on a chilly day, inspiring us to reach for our laptops and jot down those things that will create our own books. In spring, flowers silently proclaim the resurrection of life with vibrant color; in the fall, in amazing color, every leaf declares the glory of life and rest.

I have been amazed how, as every season approaches, I am always ready for it. In the fall I love the soft lights set about my house, and find the feeling of having spring decorations gracing each room extremely foreign. Yet, in springtime I am always ready for the pastels of Easter and the radiant greens of rebirth. I have learned to live in the beauty of each season.

Regardless of the season, I always have words inside of me that are wanting to burst forth onto the written page to express what I feel, see, hear, and taste. Today, as we celebrate fall, what better time to sit down and create your story, your poem, your article to submit to AWG's annual contest. The deadline for submission is November 30. So, write on fellow writers, WRITE ON.

Kay Talley-Leach
AWG President



BRAGS and SAGS

Suanna Davis: BRAG: I joined a critique group and am editing based on feedback.

Chuck Anderson: BRAG: Some of you may remember that I left retirement and returned to teaching in a special education classroom. Most of my middle school students have real academic delays, and significant remedial needs, all compounded by a two-year pandemic. We're nine weeks into the school year and while some days it feels like I'm trying to pull my own teeth, last week in English class my students passed the fifty-thousand-word mark for the year. Well worth bragging about. Very proud of their accomplishments.

David Dodge: BRAG: My latest book, *Rose McKenna*, is finally published. Now I can concentrate on number 17.

Marguerite Gray: BRAG: *Keeping Christmas Vol. 1* released on October 4! This is an anthology of short stories featuring castles, Christmas, and romance.

Cindy Mims: BRAG: I've learned Renweb, Google classroom, Google slides, GeniusSignup, and passwords. I look forward to learning more technology that will also enhance my writing! I love October and fall!!!

Nancy Masters: BRAG: Will be the workshop speaker for the Bosque Arts Center "Books on the Bosque" Writing Conference in Clifton on November 12.

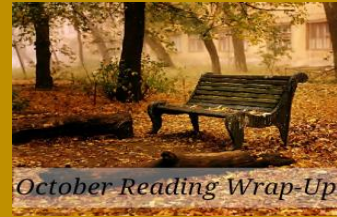
Coy Roper: BRAG: I have started my latest project--writing a screenplay based on my western novel "The Journey from Hell." I should complete the script in two or three months.

Sharon Ellison: BRAG: I edited a book in one sitting! Only took three and a half hours. :)

Ron Davis: BRAG: I went to FenCon, which is a Literary Science Fiction Convention in DFW. I had an author table there and sold a few books.

Arianna Rodriquez: BRAGS: I have made 3 meetings with 3 different author coaches to help me develop my story better SAGS: I don't think I would be able to afford the author coaches services for about a month.

WHAT AWG READS



Stewart Caffey: READING: I am finally reading *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom.

Marguerite Gray: READING: *Remarkably, Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt and *Blessings in the Bargain* by Kari Trumbo.

Kay Talley-Leach: READING: Finished *Nothing Knew* by S. Westly King. I have begun *Shepherd of the Hills* by Harold Bell Wright, written in 1907. It depicts a mostly fictional story of mountain folklore and forgiveness, and has been translated into seven languages since its release. The motivation came for me to read this book as I was visiting Branson, MO, the setting of the story. Writing and language style is quite different in the early 1900's.

Linda Gordon: READING: "Freedom from Snakes" by Darryl T. Horn, "News of the World" by Paulette Jiles

OCTOBER'S PROGRAM

Dr. Duane Hale

Join us October 27 at 7 PM where he will discuss American Indian Records and Research focusing on American Indian Census Roles

Dr. Hale went to college at Abilene Christian where he played football, got a degree in math and taught in public school for nine years. He later returned to get a degree in history. After he received his PH.D in Oklahoma in American Indian History and American Western History he worked with Indians and in Indian research and writing for 15 years.

Part of this time he was in the classroom. He taught several classes at the University of Minnesota on various periods of Native or American Indian History. His book "Researching and Writing Tribal Histories," addressed several aspects of Indian research including genealogical research. He has worked with 500 tribes in the US and Canada, has given speeches in 25 states, and taught college level history in Texas for 29 years....20 of which were Texas History Classes.

Before he returned home to Texas, he was head of Native American Research Information Service at OU for four years.

Our Officers

President: Kay Talley-Leach
(2024)
Executive VP: Darla McCloud
(2023)
Program VP: Sharon Ellison
(2024)
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(2023)
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Board Member: Chuck Weber
(2023)
Board Member: Mary Berry
(2024)
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(2024)
Alt. Board Member: Carolyn Dycus
(2023)

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



WRITING OPPORTUNITY TSaunders Pubs THE AMERICA COLLECTION

Poetry 30 lines

Short Stories 1000 words

This is a very exciting project that will celebrate America, its people and its landscape. Email submissions to:

tsaunderspubs@gmail.com

Deadline: December 28, 2022

<https://tsaunderspubs.weebly.com>



ABILENE WRITERS GUILD ANNUAL CONTEST 2022 RULES & CATEGORIES

General information:

website: abilenewritersguild.org

1. Open to any person 15 or older.
2. Entries must be postmarked between Oct. 1, 2022, and Nov. 30, 2022!
3. Categories with fewer than 5 entries are not eligible for prizes but may be critiqued if judges agree.
4. Categories, descriptions, maximum lengths, entry fees: page 2. Do NOT count title in your word count.
5. All entries must be your original work, unpublished as of October 1, 2022. Publication on the internet IS publication. The work must not have earned a cash award in any PREVIOUS AWG Annual Contest. However, Honorable Mentions from past annual contests may be re-entered and any AWG monthly members-only contest entry is eligible IF it fits the category. Use font type 12: Times New Roman preferred. Type on one side of the page.
6. Separate Cover Sheets for each entry. Upper left corner: your name, complete address, phone number and email address. Upper right corner: category and number of words or lines. Space down to the middle of page and enter your title on the cover sheet.
7. First page, Poetry/Flash Fiction entries, categories 1-4: Upper right corner: category and number of lines or words. Do not count your title in the word count. Double space down, center your title, double space down again and begin manuscript. Single space. NO author's name on this page.
8. First page, Prose Categories 5-9: Double space all pages with one-inch margins. Upper right corner: type category and number of words. Do not count your title in the word count. Double space down, center your title; double space down again and begin manuscript. On all following pages: type entry title and page number in upper right corner. NO author's name on this or following pages.

Mail Entries Only: Staple your cover sheet to your entry. Attach payment with a paper clip to your entry. For multiple entries, be sure your check covers all entries and fill out the registration form or facsimile thereof. If you want your entry/entries returned, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope with adequate postage; otherwise, your entry will be discarded on or after May 31, 2023. (Needs one stamp per 5 pages in a #10 letter-size envelope.) Our judges, professionals in their fields, are asked to critique each entry, but we cannot guarantee same.

REMINDER: As in the majority of writing contests, entries not meeting the guidelines will be disqualified and fees will not be refunded. Please follow the rules carefully. Decisions of the judges are final. Winners will be announced at our Annual Awards Workshop to be held in March 2023 and will be published on our Website by April 15, 2023. Prizes will be mailed to winners who cannot attend the Workshop. Please check our website and/or Newsletter for location, date, time and other details of the March 2023 Workshop. Entries will be available for pickup immediately following the Workshop.

You may also bring entries to AWG's October and November meetings if you are in the area.

Prizes:	Categories 1,2,3,4	Categories 5,6,7,8,9
First Place:	\$70	\$100
Second Place:	45	65
Third Place:	25	35

ABILENE WRITERS GUILD 2022 CONTEST ENTRY FORM

**MAIL TO: AWG, c/o 862 Grand Ave, Abilene, TX 79605 Email questions:
AWGWrite@gmail.com**

Your email address: _____

Printed Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Street Address: _____ **City:** _____ **St:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Make check or money order payable to: Abilene Writers Guild

of entries in Categories 1-4 _____ **X \$7 each = \$** _____

of entries in Categories 5-9 _____ **X \$10 each = \$** _____

Your Check Number _____ **TOTAL \$** _____

CATEGORIES

MAXIMUM WORDS/LINES

ENTRY FEE

1. Poetry, Rhymed, any style	50 lines	\$7
2. Poetry, Uhrhymed, any style	50 lines	7

Flash categories, 3 and 4, require use of the five prompt words:

*3. Flash Poetry: <u>starlight, flood, amusement, flower, power</u>	100 words	7
*4. Flash Fiction: <u>practical, audition, caretaker, thunderstorm, headstrong</u>	100 words	7

5. Children's stories	preschool or elementary-age readers	750 words	\$10
6. Inspiration	any form: prose, drama, religious	1200 words	10
7. Memoir/Nostalgia	take reader back to a former time	1200 words	10
8. Fiction for Adults	short story for teens and older	1200 words	10
9. Science Fiction	short story for teens and older	1200 words	10

You may enter as many times as you wish in one or multiple categories!

