



WWA NEWS BRIEF for April 2018

WWA News about member accomplishments, writing events, and contests is sent by email each month. Please send news bits for the May 2018 WWA News no later than Friday, April 20, 2018, to Kymberley Pekar at kpekrul.editor@gmail.com. Thank you.

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A note from Karin Schmidt, President:

Hello Friends of WWA,

Here is an updated reminder of WWA programming for 2018 that is well underway. Our dedicated Board and volunteers are hard at work planning this special year, our 70th anniversary. See the latest news below:

THE LATEST FALL CONFERENCE NEWS!

Wisconsin Writers Association Fall Conference & 70th Anniversary Celebration

September 21 – 22, 2018

Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel

375 South Moorland Road

Brookfield, WI 53005

262-364-1100

We are excited to announce that Jerry Apps will be the Friday night keynote speaker.

On Saturday afternoon, conference attendees can schedule a session with four literary agents and two publishers:

The agents are:

Jennie Goloboy - *Donald Maass Literary Agency* (SF & Fantasy)

Cynthia Zigmund - *Second City Publishing Services* (Nonfiction & Mysteries)

Michelle Grajkowski - *3 Seas Literary Agency* (Romance, Women, YA & Middle Grade)

Kimbal McCollum - *The Purcell Agency* (YA & Middle Grade)

Publishers are:

Kira Henschel - *Henschel Haus Publishing*

Philip Martin - *Creekhollow Books*

ANNOUNCING!

JADE RING CONTEST AND CREATIVE WISCONSIN COLLABORATION

For 2018, all finalists in the Jade Ring Contest (four categories, first, second, third and three honorable mentions, that's 24 entries) will receive the following:

- Winners receive a cash prize, a certificate and recognition at the Jade Ring award ceremony during the WWA Fall Writers Conference
- All winners will be published in Creative Wisconsin Anthology: 2018 Jade Ring Winners (author retains all rights following publication). *Please note there will be no Creative Wisconsin literary journal for 2018*
- Each winner will receive a complimentary copy of Creative Wisconsin Anthology containing their award-winning piece
- *Creative Wisconsin Anthology* will be available on Amazon
- Top three winners in each category will be featured at a reading during the 2018 WWA Fall Writers Conference
- Watch for details on the WWA website
- Contest submission dates are March 1 - May 10, 2018

2018 JADE RING CONTEST JUDGES:

Non-Fiction: Jerry Apps
Fiction: Kathie Giorgio
Poetry: Bruce Dethlefsen
Humor: Barry Wightman

See the [WWA website](#) for more information on judges.

WWA BOARD MEETING

1:00 – 4:00 pm, Friday, May 11, 2018

During Lakefly Writing Conference

Oshkosh Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center

1 North Main Street

Oshkosh, WI 54901

All WWA members are welcome as observers.

New WWA Business Memberships Available! Promote your writing-related service business. Just \$35 one-year annual membership for individuals who own/operate a small business that provides related writing services may join WWA and secure a listing on the Business Member Profile page of the WWA website.

Wishing you a wonderful Springtime!

Karin

karinss1945@outlook.com

Announcements

WWA does not endorse or sponsor any writing services or publishers. WWA shares the names of publishers as a service to its members.

WWA Website News: Send all changes, corrections, routine updates, questions and requests for free member Profile/Bio listings ([Find Submission Guidelines Here](#)) to be included on the WWA website to Board Member Kim Suhr at kim@redoakwriting.com.

WWA Website Spotlight: [WWA Contests & Publishing Opportunities Page](#) – There are a lot of great reasons to enter a writing contest. Leading the list is that you might have the possibility of winning one, and that can be a satisfying feeling. Then there's the cash reward, and who doesn't dream of making some money from their writing?

But with so many other writers entering contests, and with so many contests charging entrance and reading fees, is it worth your time, money and words?

Other writers who've done it will join in cheering a resounding "YES"!

Aside from the cash prize, when you win a contest that usually means publication. Publication means readership, relationships with editors, and exposure. Even if your entry is not a first-place winner, many publishers will still consider your story for publication especially if it placed in any way.

Then too, is the benefit of having a respected editor or writer judge read your work. Consider your entry payment an opportunity to have your work sit in the hands of that judge, if only for a moment. Many will include comments and make notes on the writing, and you can almost always be assured that you'll get a more serious reading when a judge knows that you've paid for it.

Winning a contest may include a public reading of your work, and sometimes it will include a write-up about your story from an editor. In turn, these opportunities may lead to a long-term relationship with that editor, and it may even further your career.

Finally, there's nothing like a contest deadline to motivate your creativity. If you know that the contest deadline is coming up and you've put money behind the writing, you know you'll work as hard and long as you can to make it your best and meet the deadline. Entering contests force you to step up your game.

In the end, each writer decides what is right for themselves. Are you content to submit your manuscript to a magazine or book publisher? Or, are you the competitive type who wants to go for the gold (silver or bronze)? Either way, using contests can be a great way to give yourself a deadline and get your work out the door.

WWA maintains a great list of contest and publishing opportunities on our website. [Check out the list here!](#)

Red Oak Writing (ROW): Now accepting registrations for [in-person](#) and [online](#) writers' critique groups and the [Saturday Craft & Publishing Workshops](#).

UW-Madison Continuing Studies offers Writing Classes (in person and online): Manuscript critiques, writing retreats, and workshops. Prices and times vary. Check here for details: continuingstudies.wisc.edu/writing.

Focus on the First Five – Online course taught by WWA Member Robb Grindstaff: This July, Robb teams up with *Adelaide* author and writing coach Samantha Bond to present the four-week online seminar for the Romance Writers of Australia romanceaustralia.com/owl-schedule-2018. Writers will revise and polish their opening pages into a compelling start to grab the attention of agents, editors, publishers, and readers.

In September, Robb presents the program for *Savvy Authors* savvyauthors.com/blog, and in October for *Romance Writers of America's Contemporary Workshops* contemporaryromance.org/workshops.

Writers do not have to be members of RWA (the US or Australia) or even a romance writer to participate in their online writing workshops. *Savvy Authors* offers a free basic membership.

Courses are inexpensive (from \$15 to \$40), online at your convenience. This course is designed for all fiction genres. Email Robb for more details at robb@robbgrindstaff.com.

A Writer's Retreat in England: August 10-18, 2018, nine days of travel, relaxation, and writing.

For more information email steve@ardentwriterpress.com, call 256.694.6744.

Upcoming Wisconsin Romance Writers of America (WisRWA) Meetings

WisRWA - Green Bay: Wednesday, 4/4/18; 11:30 - 3:00; 1951 West Restaurant, 1951 Bond St, Green Bay. Learn about Deep Motivation/Deep Character Emotion. Gini Athey will highlight ways to use character emotions in our writing to give the reader a more fulfilling experience.

WisRWA - Chippewa Falls: Saturday, 4/14/18; 10:00-12:30; Deb's Café 1120 122nd Street, Chippewa Falls. Learn how to set goals, how to draft a timeline that will help lead you to success as we learn the ins and outs of Author Business Plans.

WisRWA - Wausau: Saturday, 4/14/18; 10:00 - 12:00; Marathon County Library, 300 North First Street, Wausau WI. Val Clarizio joins us to share her expertise in how to write our first drafts fast and get our books finished!

WisRWA - Green Bay: Wednesday, 5/2/18; 11:30 - 3:00; 1951 West Restaurant, 1951 Bond St, Green Bay. Deep POV (Point of View). As authors, we hear it all the time - but what does it mean, and how can we incorporate it into our novels? Join us as we find out!

WisRWA - Chippewa Falls: Saturday, 5/12/18; 10:00-12:30; Deb's Café 1120 122nd Street, Chippewa Falls. Conferences are a great opportunity to meet other writers, learn about craft, and of course, meet and pitch to editors and agents. Come and learn how to get the most out of your conference experience!

WisRWA - Wausau: Saturday, 5/12/18; 10:00 - 12:00; Marathon County Library, 300 North First Street, Wausau WI. Want to learn ***How to Design Memes?*** Lyn Cote and Amy Sandas will teach the ins and outs of Canva, a program that enables anyone to become a designer! Also that day, ***How to Make Up Memes Using Canva.*** Canva enables anyone to become a designer. WisRWA members Lyn Cote and Amy Sandas will walk through the process of how to use this powerful marketing tool.

WisRWA - Milwaukee: Saturday, 5/19/17; 9:00-11:30 am at Mayfair Mall (Garden Suites Community Room, Lower Level). Join authors and hunker down to write, share ideas, and brainstorm to solve any roadblocks. Vicky Hinshaw will focus on Stress Relief for Authors.

WisRWA - 2018 Workshop - Unlock Your A Game: October 5-6, 2018; one day workshop featuring Heidi Cullinan as she presents "*Unlock Your A Game*," a full-day workshop that starts at square one and lays out a personalized plan for genre fiction careers of every stripe. Give us a few hours, and we'll revamp your promo mojo. For more about this, visit the [A Game website](#). If your drive is a long one, a room block at the Grand Lodge and Waterpark in Rothschild on the south side of Wausau, promises a true Northwoods experience. For a peek, [click here](#).

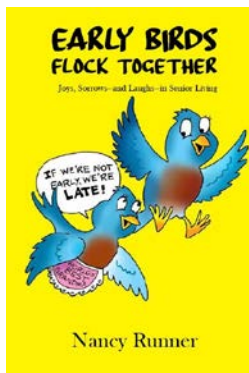
Contests

Bo Carter Memorial Writing Contest: Now accepting entries for the 2018 contest until April 16. Awards prizes will be given for fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Read more details at <https://waukeshawritersworkshop.org/tag/bo-carter-writing-contest/>. [Submission guidelines here.](#)

For your young family members - The Milwaukee Public Museum announces its 10th annual poetry competition for Wisconsin students in grades 3-12. Submission deadline is April 27, 2018. This year's theme "focuses on ten iconic exhibits that highlight the Museum, its collections, and mission, and celebrate its legacy as one of the region's most treasured cultural institutions Read more here: mpm.edu/plan-visit/educators/poetry-competition.

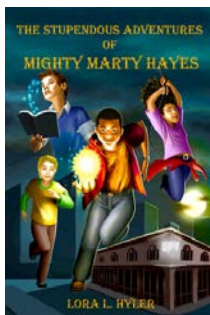
Member News

Got News? Send your member news by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the upcoming month's WWA NewsBrief issue. Send to kpekrul.editor@gmail.com.



Congratulations to WWA Member Nancy Runner - Nancy's new book *Early Birds Flock Together (Joys, Sorrows - and Laughs - in Senior Living)* is being published in April 2018 by *Orange Hat Publishing Company*. The book is a memoir addressing concerns many seniors face: Should I sell my house? Apartment or condo? Downsizing is overwhelming! Nancy wrote the book after moving to a completely new town, which meant new doctors, finding a new church, seeking new friends and stepping out of her comfort zone. There's senior moment laughs along the way, as well as wisdom learned over a lifetime. One reader said, "It's like you read my mind." \$15, available from Nancy by email at nancyrunner@hotmail.com, or order from Amazon or your favorite bookstore.

Congratulations to Bayfield County author and marathon athlete, Jim Anderson for his second book *Pedal, Pole, and Pant: Canada and Beyond!* A 200-page, "photo tour" of Canada, one marathon at a time. Published by WWA member James Brakken's *Badger Valley Publishing*, the second Anderson book also includes races in Mexico, the Grand Canyon, and the Great Wall of China. Anderson writes about the history of each region and offers his readers far more than how, where, or when to run. Both of his books (the first about his quest to run in every U.S. state - beginning this quest at the age of 52) show us the people and the past of the places he runs, bikes, and skis. See excerpts from these books at James Brakken's BadgerValley.com along with nine other "up north" books from Wisconsin authors.



Congratulations to WWA Member Lora Hyler, author of *The Stupendous Adventures of Mighty Marty Hayes*. Lora will appear at Boswell Book Company, 2559 N. Downer Avenue, Milwaukee, WI to launch the book on Thursday, April 12, 6:30 pm. The event will include a reading from *The Stupendous Adventures of Mighty Marty Hayes* and a book signing to celebrate the publication of the middle-grade novel. Independent Milwaukee bookstore Boswell's, owned by Daniel Goldin, is hosting the book launch along with Lora's publisher, [HenschelHAUS Publishing, Inc.](http://HenschelHAUSPublishing.com) Boswell's will have books available for purchase.

Opportunities and Events

Writers on Writing, events hosted by the English department at [Mount Mary University](#), brings authors to campus to talk about their successful work, challenges they overcame, and the craft they love. Upcoming dates include:

- **Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.** author Christopher Mohar will be at Mount Mary University. Christopher Mohar has been the recipient of a Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fellowship and *The Southwest Review's* McGinnis Ritchie Award for fiction and teaches creative writing at Mount Mary University.

For questions, contact Karen Murray at murrayk@mtmary.edu or 414-930-3359. Please refer to the attached flyers for details and more about the authors.

Lakefly Writers Conference - May 11-12, 2018 Join the Lakefly Writers Conference supportive community of writers for a two-day conference. A dozen workshops on the craft and business of writing designed to inspire and guide your creative journey. Watch the website for details as they become posted. WWA's spring board meeting will be Friday before the conference. Visit lakeflywriters.org.

Publication Opportunities

Talos Press: is accepting submissions of science fiction, fantasy, and horror. To learn more, visit their submission page at <http://www.talospress.com/guidelines>.

New Mexico Review: is seeking submissions of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and photography. The Review is published twice a year online, in May and December. They read submissions from January 15 through March 30, and from September 1 through November 1. Authors published in the journal should wait for at least two issues before submitting again. If you would like to learn more or submit to New Mexico Review, please visit their website at <http://nmreview.nmhu.edu/submissions-2/>.

[Reader's Digest](#) is seeking submissions of anecdotes, jokes and other stories. Pay varies depending on which you submit.

[Chicken Soup for the Soul](#) seeks inspirational stories for their blog and book series. They pay \$200 a month after the book's publication if your story is accepted.

[Greatist](#) is looking for personal essays of greatness. They pay \$125 and up, and their guidelines note that first drafts should fall between 1,000 to 1,500 words.

[The Sun Magazine](#) is looking for writers' thought-provoking personal essays. Their guidelines recommend that readers pick up a copy before they submit to familiarize themselves with style. For nonfiction essays, they pay \$300 to \$2,000 per piece.

[Your Tango](#) is looking for personal stories about love, sex, and relationships.

[The Penny Hoarder](#) pays for personal stories and essays relating to personal finance. Word count is 800-900 words per piece on average, with payment between \$50 and \$75 with bonuses for articles that get a certain number of shares and readers to the site.

[Doctor of Credit](#) is looking for stories relating specifically to credit cards.

[A Fine Parent](#) is seeking personal essays from parents. See their guidelines for their current topic schedule. They pay \$75 for articles accepted for publication.

[Brain, Child Magazine](#) is a child and development magazine taking submissions of essays 1,500 words to 4,500.

[Scary Mommy](#) accepts submissions from mothers on parenting issues and how they've handled them.

[Her View From Home](#) is a parenting publication written by mothers. Pay is based on the number of views your piece gets on the website.

[Backpacker](#) pays for travel-related stories, and – buying all rights to your essay – they pay between 40¢ and \$1 per word depending on the piece.

[Great Escape Publishing](#) seeks stories about travel writing – particularly the business-related end of it. They pay \$50 to \$75 for articles featured on the website and \$100 to \$150 for your interviews and personal stories.

[GoNomad](#) is a great market for starter travel writers, and they pay \$25 per personal essay.

[Go World Travel](#) accepts submissions from travel writers and pays \$30 to \$40 per submission. See their submission guidelines at <https://www.goworldtravel.com/submissions/>.

2020 Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Calendar Start Planning now. Submission period is September 1 – December 1, 2018. Open to all poets who have a connection to Wisconsin. See guidelines here: wfop.org/poets-calendar.

Take care and happy writing!

Submitted by: Kymberley Pekarul and Mary Zinda

<http://www.wiwrite.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/WIWrite>