

KWA

Celebrating our 15th year

Kansas Writers Association

all genres. all formats. ALL WRITERS.

AUGUST 2011

Volume 15, Issue 8

Editor: Starla Criser

August 20 – 1:30-4:00 pm – Rockwell Library – Promotion and The Business of Writing

Our program for the August monthly meeting will focus on Promotion and The Business of Writing. Starla Criser will present the program and lead the discussions. Please come ready to share your own experiences in promoting your work and help in suggestions for all members.

Calendar

•August 20: **Promotion and The Business of Writing**

•September 17 **Submission or Self-Publishing**

•October 15: **TBA**

•**October 15: Possible Bonus**—Road trip to Cully Abrell's after the monthly meeting

•November 19: **Contests: Pros, Cons, and Preparation**; member readings

•December 17: **Holiday Party**

New Members

Josh Cary
Susan Howell
Fuchang Liu



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
Gordon A. Kessler

So, your book's just been released, now what do you do? When you were writing your literary masterpiece, I'll bet you had no idea that you'd have as much work ahead after your book was on the bookstore shelf as you'd already put in. The writing, rewriting, revising and polishing—that's just the start, the fun stuff. Then there's the querying and manuscript submitting; that time in your writing career when your hopes are built higher than ever only to be dashed in seconds by the infamous rejection letter. Finally, after months, or most likely years, of writing and querying, your carefully crafted hope-it's-a-bestseller novel has been published, is in the stores and ready to sell. But why isn't it selling? Could it be that no one knows it's there?

Now's when the real work begins. Unless your book shows promise as a breakout best-seller, or you're already a name-brand author, your publisher probably won't spend much time or money to promote your work. After all, who better to promote your book than you? But how, and what's it going to cost you? Find out: join us at the August KWA general meeting where Starla Criser will tell us all about the business of writing and promoting!

Member News



Heather Anne Houston Cashman appeared in an interview at Sugar, Spice and Everything Paranormal about her book *Perception*, a post-apocalyptic sci-fi, which is part of her *The Tigers' Eye Trilogy*. Her website is [Heather Cashman.com](http://HeatherCashman.com).

The interview is at Sugar, Spice and Everything Paranormal: [Meet Special Guest Author Heather Cashman](#).



Everett Robert, KWA and Dramatists Guild of America member, had his Children's One Act play "The Absolutely True Story of Tom Sawyer as Told By Becky Thatcher" produced by the Hill City, KS summer children's theater program sponsored by the Graham County Arts Council, Graham County Rec Department and Graham County Community Foundation. Directed by Bill Goodwin and starring students of the Hill City school district and McPherson College of McPherson, KS. It premiered July 3 and 4 at the Frontier Stage, Hill City, KS.

Starla Criser, aka Starla Kaye, had two book covers as ads in RT Book Reviews magazines recently. The cover for *Maggie's Secret Wish*, from Decadent Publishing, appeared in the August issue. The cover for *Their Lady Gloriana*, from Black Velvet Seductions, appeared in the September issue.

Starla is also hosting a giveaway contest for 2 paperback copies of *Their Lady Gloriana* at [Goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com) until August 30. The link to enter is <http://www.goodreads.com/giveaway/show/12915-their-lady-gloriana>. Or you can enter from my website link at Starlakaye.com.

Member Blogs & Websites

Andrew Aldrich, aka Cade Russell: Author of Western fiction (<http://www.caderussell.com/>)

H. B. Berlow: The Tikiman Says (<http://tikiman1962.wordpress.com/>)

Keith Boscher: Copy writing, radio production, video narration, audio book production, jingles (<http://www.kbcreativeads.com/about.html>)

Sonny Collins: Storyteller, author, poet (<http://www.authorsden.com/visit/author.asp?id=94965>)

Starla Criser, aka Starla Kaye: Author of romance and sensual romance books and novellas (<http://starlakaye.com/>)

Starla Criser: Author of "Blossom the Cow" stories and other fun kinds of writing (<http://starlacriser.com/>)

Arlene Rains Graber: Author of *Devoted to Traveling* (<http://arlenerrainsgraber.com/>)

K. T. Hanna: Fantasy writer and producer of a gaming podcast (<http://kthanna.livejournal.com/>)

Conrad Jestmore: Mystery author and poet (<http://www.animalreikitherapy.com/Contact-Poetry-and-Prose.html>)

Gordon Kessler: [The Writer's Matrix](http://www.writersmatrix.com/) (<http://www.writersmatrix.com/>)

Mike Klaassen: Author of YA action/adventure novels (<http://www.mikeklaassen.com/>)

Samantha LaFantasie: My journey of my life: a woman, mother, wife and writer (<http://samanthalafantasie.com/>)

Marilyn Hope Lake: Author of children's books, short fiction and plays (<http://compassrosepublications.com/>)

Member Blogs & Websites

Tom Mach: Kansas novelist and poet (<http://www.tommach.com/>)

Carol Martin: Female in Motion (<http://fim-carol.blogspot.com/>)

Kelsey Norman: Concrete Girl (<http://concretekelsey.blogspot.com/>)

April Pameticky: April in Wichita (<http://aprilpameticky.wordpress.com/>)

Erin Perry O'Donnell: Professional Writer. Amateur Mom (<http://www.odcreative.com/>)

Ray "Grizzly" Racobs: Author and columnist (<http://www.grizzlysbooks.com/>)

Lois Ruby: Author of children's and YA literature (<http://www.loisruby.com/>)

Ruth Scheer: Author of children's books (<http://scheerdelightpublishing.com/aboutruth.html>)

B. D. Tharp: Author of *Feisty Family Values* (<http://bdtharp.com/>)

Richard Walkup: Author and essayist (<http://richardwalkup.com/>)

Jae Byrd Wells: Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jae-Byrd-Wells/124499860915457>)

Makayla Yokley: The Forgotten Kingdom (<http://theforgotten-kingdom.webs.com/>)

If you're not listed here and want to share your website or blog with others, send your information/link to newsletter@kwawriters.org.

KWA News

Kansas Writers Association 2011 Prose and Poetry Contest

Entries Accepted Aug. 1—Dec. 31, 2011

Fees Per Entry

Adult KWA Member: \$5
Nonmember Adult (over 18): \$8
College students (full time, any age): \$5
Youth (Grades K-12): \$2.50

Prizes

First Place: \$50
Second Place: \$25
Third Place: \$10
Honorable Mention certificates will be awarded at the judge's discretion

More contest information on the [KWA website](http://kwawriters.org/kwa-contest/) (<http://kwawriters.org/kwa-contest/>)

KWA Scene Conference—March 16-17

Confirmed Speakers

Keynote Speaker: **William Bernhardt**

William Bernhardt is the best-selling author of more than 20 novels, including the legal thriller series featuring lawyer Ben Kincaid. *Capitol Betrayal* is his latest. He has also developed the William Bernhardt Writing Programs and The Fundamentals of Fiction DVDs. Bernhardt lives in Oklahoma. His website: www.williambernhardt.com

Amy Shojai is a certified animal behavior consultant and nationally known authority on pet care and behavior. She is the award-winning author of 23 nonfiction pet books plus hundreds of articles and columns. She is also the cat behavior expert at cats.About.com. Her website is www.shojai.com.

Internet Resources for Writers—Starla Criser

RECOMMENDED YAHOO GROUPS

Childrens-F and SF Writers

The group is for writers of Middle Grade and Young Adult Fantasy and Science Fiction. They discuss the craft, marketing and publishing of these genres for ages 8 through teens. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Childrens-FandSF-Writers/>

Fantasy Writing

A group of fantasy writers and editors with daily critiquing and conversations. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Fantasy_Writing/

Fiction Writing

This group is for writers of science fiction, SF, and fantasy. They read, edit, and critique and is for writers of all levels. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Fiction_Writing/

Freelance Writing Jobs

Every Tuesday morning they provide fresh freelance jobs and writing opportunities. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/freelancewritingjobs/>

SciFi Discussion

Discussion group for readers and writers, but no blatant self-promotion. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SciFi_Discussion/

SF Writing

This is a community of writers of science fiction and other speculative fiction genres. They discuss the business of being a writer, issues/questions surrounding publishing SF, the SF industry, the mechanics and process of writing SF, basic story development and planning, and ideas. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SF-Writing/>

Speculative Fiction Writers Group

A group of science fiction, fantasy and horror writers to exchange thoughts and ideas, share experience and information, and swap critiques. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Speculative_Fiction_Writers_Group/

Write Workshop

This is a monthly writing class focusing on a variety of styles, genres and processes for writing novels, short stories and non-fiction. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Write_Workshop/

Writing and Publishing

A supportive place for writers, agents, editors, and publishers to meet, discuss markets, and writing. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/writingandpublishing/>

EDUCATION

Using Twitter to Boost Your Writing Income OnDemand Webinar

Learn the importance of participating and building a community, how to meaningfully engage other people and be a resource, how to land an assignment for a major publication by following editors on Twitter, and specific and valuable Twitter chats. Price: \$49.00. For information: http://www.writersdigestshop.com/product/using-twitter-to-boost-your-writing-income-webinar/?r=wmrbnl072211Y0362&et_mid=511511&rid=3134477

INTERNET RESOURCES FOR CHILDRENS WRITERS

Directory of Childrens Illustrators

A helpful listing for self-publishing childrens book writers. <http://www.ebookcrossroads.com/childrens-illustrators.html>

Childrens Publishers

A-Z listing of American Children's publisher listings. http://www.signaleader.com/childrens_book_publishers/a_book_publishers.html

The Writing for Children Resource Site

Articles to learn the basics of the art, craft, and business of writing for children. <http://www.gkbledsoe.com/articles/welcome.html>

Market News: Contests & Other Opportunities

MARKETS

Out of Bounds Press

An independent publisher is seeking authors who write novels, novellas, short stories, non-fiction (memoir, how-to, self-help). For submission guidelines: <http://outofboundspress.com/submissions/>

CONTESTS

July Unpublished Fiction Authors Print Ready Competition

Creative Print Publishing is seeking entries in their monthly contest for novels. One winner each month will be published, promoted and marketed. For information on submission: <http://www.creativeprintpublishing.com/publishing/competitions/competition-entry.php>

Aesthetica—Creative Works Competition

This is an international competition to find new artists and writers. There are three categories: Artwork & Photography, Fiction and Poetry. Deadline: August 31, 2011. For guidelines: http://www.aestheticamagazine.com/submission_guide.htm

Hunger Mountain Creative Nonfiction Prize

An annual contest for the best writing in the boundless field of creative nonfiction. Deadline: Sept. 10. For guidelines: <http://www.hungermtn.org/hunger-mountain-creative-nonfiction-prize/>

Fault Zone: Words from the Edge

San Francisco/Peninsula Writers Club presents its contest for an anthology of short stories. The stories must relate to the anthology's theme in some way. Deadline: Sept. 30, 2011. For contest information: <http://www.cwc-peninsula.org/Fault-Zone-Contest.html>

2012 One-Act Play Contest

The 26th Annual Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival (March 21-25, 2012) is accepting submission for their annual contest for previously unproduced, non-

published or performed one act plays. Deadline: Nov. 1, 2011. For guidelines: <http://www.tennesseewilliams.net/article.php?story=2012-1actplaycontest>

CONFERENCE

The New York Pitch Conference—Sept. 22-25, 2011

This conference is held four times a year and features acquisition editors from major houses. It focuses on the art of the novel pitch. You will network with the best industry professionals in New York. For information: <http://newyorkpitchconference.com/>

Ninth Annual Southern California Writers' Conference—Sept. 23-25, 2011

"A Weekend for Words" conference in Newport Beach, CA offers extended one-on-one evaluation of advance submissions and dozens of read & critique and Q&A workshops. For information: <http://www.writersconference.com/la>

EPICon 2012—March 8-12, 2012

The Electronic Publishing Industry Coalition's annual conference is the gathering place for authors, publishers, and other electronic publishing industry professionals. They share the newest industry information, ideas, and explore new markets. Mingle with authors, cover artists, editors, publishers and reviewers in the Ebook industry. For information: <http://www.epicorg.com/epicon-2012.html>

26th Annual Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival — March 21-25, 2012

Exciting literary panels, enlightening master classes, stimulating theater events, fun musical performances, and mouth-watering culinary presentations. Hobnob with stars. For information: <http://www.tennesseewilliams.net/index.php>

AUGUST 2011

Kansas Writers Association

P.O. Box 2236, Wichita, KS 67201

Newsletter Submissions

Submit articles and member news by the 20th of the month to Starla Criser at newsletter@kwawriters.org or to our address above. Put "KWA" in the subject line for emails, and send information in the body of the email, not as an attachment.

Join KWA

Membership through Dec. 31, 2011, includes our monthly newsletter and discounts on KWA programs. Current prorated dues for **new members** are \$13 for a mailed newsletter, \$10 for an emailed newsletter, and \$6 for youth 18 and under. Join online at www.kwawriters.org (click on Membership), or download the form there and send it with payment to **P.O. Box 2236, Wichita, KS 67201**.

2011 KWA Board Members

President - Gordon Kessler, president@kwawriters.org

Vice President - Phyllis Rowland, vp@kwawriters.org

Secretary - Starla Criser, secretary@kwawriters.org

Treasurer - Mikelle Fraizer, treasurer@kwawriters.org

Newsletter -- Starla Criser, newsletter@kwawriters.org

Website Coordinator - Erin O'Donnell, web@kwawriters.org

Promotions - Janet Bahl, pr@kwawriters.org

Scene Conference Chair - Erin O'Donnell, scene@kwawriters.org

Youth Advisor - Ray "Grizzly" Racobs, youth@kwawriters.org

Member At Large - Sonny Collins, board@kwawriters.org

Member At Large - Ray "Grizzly" Racobs, board@kwawriters.org

Our mission: to inform, support, encourage, and promote the writer.

The Kansas Writers Association is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

<http://www.kwawriters.org>