

KWA

Celebrating our 16th year

Kansas Writers Association

all genres. all formats. ALL WRITERS.

MAY 2012

Volume 16, Issue 5

Editor: David Cook

May 19—1:30-4:00 pm—Rockwell Library

Writing: Point A to Z: Starla Criser, Queen of Handouts, will be talking about the basics of writing a project in a linear manner. She will have a flow chart of the overall process and basic definitions of the pieces and parts of taking a project from the kernel of an idea, through the writing process, on to the finished product and marketing. Starla is highly prolific in large part because she's organized and has experienced all of the phases many times. She will give us her thoughts and experiences on this complicated process, lead a discussion about it, and have handouts for you. Come prepared to offer your thoughts and experiences as well.



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Gordon A. Kessler

I hope everyone is enjoying the great weather. I've found it super conducive to writing. Now, if I could just get those creative juices to flow on demand!

It sounds like I missed a great meeting in April. We received some very positive feedback from those who attended the session Phil La Fantasie did for us on websites and blogs—I could have really benefitted from that one! But I can also benefit from the programs we have scheduled for the months ahead. Talk about getting those creative juices flowing, we're stepping right back into it—writing, that is! In the coming sessions we'll be discussing: Mastering Dialogue/Narrative, Setting Details, What Is Enough, Picking up the sagging middle, Member Readings—everyone has a blast with these, Complicating the Black Moment, Wrapping Up the Book—and after all that great fun, it's Holiday Party Time! If that schedule doesn't get those imaginative juices stirred up in the right side of our brains, I don't know what will!

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. We'll see you Saturday, May 19, for a very informative session on Writing: Point A to Z! Grab a paddle—you might need a helmet and life jacket: it's sure to be like kayaking on Niagara Falls!

Calendar

- **June 16:** Mastering dialogue/narrative
- **July 21:** Setting Details: What is enough
- **Aug 18:** Picking up the sagging middle
- **Sept 15:** Member readings
- **Oct 20:** Complicating the black moment
- **Nov 17:** Wrapping up the book
- **Dec 15:** Party time!

New Members

Tom Austin
Karen Cole
Laurie Dove
Sandy Foster
Diane Roads
Johnny Sutton
Barry Pagel
Robert Taylor
Gwendolyn Heckathorn
Ashley Hiser

Member News

KWA member **Joyce Markley** wrote the musical play *Save Me A Dance*, which played at Mary Jane Teall Theatre May 4-6.

The play is the story of a girl, spanning from age 10 into her 80's, and her life adjustments.

April Pameticky will have two poems, "Heated Summer" and "You Do Not Write Poems About Rhinocerosi," appearing in the Spring issue of the *Kansas Creative Quarterly*, an online DIY/crafty magazine. <http://thekscreative.org>

Starla Criser, aka Starla Kaye, had a short story, "Testing Their Love", published in April by Black Velvet Seductions. She also had a previously serialized novel, *Aimee's Cowboy*, published as a complete novel in May by Blushing Books. And she sold a novella, *His Lady Ashlynn*, to Blushing Books. The story is the first in a new Regency romance series.

Gordon Kessler will be fiction track facilitator and speaker for Kansa Authors Club's District 2 retreat on June 2 in Excelsior Springs, MO. For more info, go to: <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/orgs/kac/District2/index.html>

Gordon Kessler's first book of his new men's action/adventure series "The E Z Knight Reports," *Knight's Ransom*, is out in Kindle eBook as well as available in paperback at Amazon.com. His second book in the series, *Knight's Big Easy*, is scheduled to be available by the end of April.

A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS WHO PLACED IN THE OWFI WRITING CONTEST:

Hazel Hart—3 placements

Gary Cummings—2 placements

Vicki Hermes-Bond— 1 placement

Everett Robert— 1 placement

Area Writers' Meetings

The Cowley County Writers Guild meets the third Thursday of every month, with the next meeting May 19 at 6:30 pm at the Ark City Public Library. They are passionate about writing, reading, and life. You do not have to be a published author to attend. Contact Carol at 620-442-6112 or email cjmartin62@yahoo.com with questions.

Wichita Area Romance Authors meets the second Sunday of every month, with exceptions for conflicts with holidays, at 4:00 pm at the Derby Recreation Center located at 801 E. Market, Derby, KS. The next meeting will be May 20. For more information see <http://www.warawriters.com/>

Kansas Authors Club: District 5 meets the second Saturday of every month, with exceptions. For information on the group and their meetings contact Susan Howell at howell@kansastraveler.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>)

Josh Cary: Indie music promotion and recording tips (<http://www.joshcaryaudio.com>)

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

Starla Criser: Owner of website with writer's tools and tips: **From Rubbish to Publish** (<http://rubbishtopublish.com/>)

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

Member Blogs & Websites

Starla Criser: Author of women's fiction, sweet romance, and "Blossom the Cow" stories (<http://starlacriser.com/>)

Bonnie Myrick Eaton, aka B. J. Myrick: Author of *Out of Control*. Currently creating a new website.

David Fusilier, aka David LaClaire: New website (<http://www.davidlaclaire.com>)

Arlene Rains Graber: Author of Fiction and Non-Fiction books and Freelance Journalist (<http://arlenegraber.com/>)

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

Hazel Hart: Steps on the journey (<http://blog.seasonedaspirer.com/>)

Linda Hutchins: aka Linda Marie (www.queenofspecialarchetypes.com)

Conrad Jestmore: Mystery author and poet (www.conradjestmore.com)

William Brian Johnson: His adventures of storm chasing www.ruminationofthunder.com. His journey as he trips the path to publication (<http://fatherthunder.blogspot.com>)

Gordon Kessler: Author of thriller fiction and **eBook and ePublishing** (<http://www.gordonkessler.com>); Indie Writers Alliance (<http://www.indiewritersalliance.com>); Readers Matrix (<http://www.readersmatrix.com>); The Writer's Matrix (<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/>)

Marsha Lytle: Contemporary romance author of *Kylie's Song* (<http://lytle.wordpress.com>), (<http://kyliesong.wordpress.com>)

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/>)

Everett Robert: Playwright (<http://emergencyroomproductions.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/>)

Michael Watson: Author of *The Nestorian Alliance, A Jack Trader Adventure* (<http://www.adventurewithmike.com>)

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

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

NOTE: If you would like to share your writing-related or author's website or blog, please contact newsletter@kwawriters.org.

Novel Writing Workshop

Presented by multi-published author

Nancy Mehl

Topics include:

Am I Ready to Write a Novel? The Basics

Exploring Genres

Developing My Voice

Plot and Structure

How to Create Compelling Characters

Writing Effective Dialogue

Proposals and Synopses

Agents, Editors and Publishers... Oh, my!

Classes will be held for eight Saturdays in a row beginning June 9th and continuing through July 28th, 2012. Class time is from 9:30 am until 11:30 am in the second floor boardroom at City Arts, 334 N. Mead Street in Old Town, Wichita, Kansas.

Other KWA News

Scene Conference Chair: We are looking for someone to take on this position for the 2013 conference.

Contest Coordinator: We are looking for someone to take on this position for the 2013 contest.

Other Workshops

Hamline University's Summer Writing Workshop

Contact: Ian Robinson

sw-cwp@gw.hamline.edu

Or find information at the website, www.hamline.edu/sww.

Or contact Anika Eide at aeide02@hamline.edu.

Science Fiction Writers Workshop

The workshop meets June 24-July 6 on the KU campus in Lawrence, KS. The workshop usually fills, so apply early. Deadline June 1. Info at <http://www.sfcenter.ku.edu/SFworkshop.htm>

Science Fiction & Fantasy Novel Writers Workshop

The workshop meets June 24-July 6 on the KU campus in Lawrence, KS. The workshop fills up fast. Info at <http://www.sfcenter.ku.edu/novel-workshop.htm>

Taos Summer Writers' Conference

The 14th annual conference July 15-22 is named one of the Top Ten writers' conference in the U.S. It is a week long gathering drawing writers from all over and has workshops in fiction, poetry, nonfiction and screenwriting. Info at <http://www.unm.edu/~taosconf/>

Chisholm Trail Book Festival

The 4th annual book festival in Duncan, OK will be Sept 15. Authors are invited to sell their books, offer workshops, do readings of their works and autograph their books. Info at <http://www.chisholmtrailbookfestival.org/>

Market News

Total-E-Bound

They are seeking submissions for their Oberon's Court, darker side of fairyland, anthology (15-20,000 words) with a deadline of June 1, and for their Emergency Servicing medical anthology (10-15,000 words) with a deadline of July 15. Guidelines at <http://www.total-e-bound.com/submissionguidelines.asp>

Still Point Arts Quarterly

They are seeking articles, essays, fiction, and poetry about art, the idea of art, the making of art, being an artist, creativity inspiration, the artist's medium, etc. Deadlines are May 15 and August 15. Submission Guidelines at <http://www.stillpointartgallery.com/quarterly.htm>

Still Moments Publishing

They are seeking romance submissions in the following categories: Chick Lit, Romantic Comedy, Contemporary, Fantasy/Magical, Inspirational, Mystery/Suspense, Paranormal, Sensual, Western, and Young Adult. Guidelines at www.stillmomentspublishing.com/p/submissions.html

Internet Resources

The Savvy Book Marketer

Article: "Plan a Book Launch Party for an Ebook" <http://bit.ly/JKV2Lz>

Article: "Five Inexpensive Ways to Market Your Book" <http://bit.ly/KzgLgs>

Marketing Tips

Article: "Make Your Mark at a Book Industry Trade Show" <http://bit.ly/ITAjsE>

Article: "5 Ways to Use Smashwords Coupons to Market Your Book" <http://bit.ly/IRZWGL>

Article: "FastStone Photo Resizer" <http://bit.ly/KO2Oro>

Article: "Google's Call Me Widget" <http://bit.ly/JiYuBK>

Article: "What is the Best Time of Day To Publish Your Blog Post?" <http://bit.ly/yI8jyl>

Market News: Contests

Fantasy Fiction Writing Contest

They are looking for stories of up to 8,000 words within any fantasy sub-genre; traditional fantasy, epic fantasy, urban fantasy, steam-punk, etc. Monetary prizes and a chance to be published in their Fantasy-Faction Anthology. Deadline June 1. Info at <http://fantasywritingcontest.com/>

Ghost Story Writing Contest

The fourth annual writing contest and fundraiser for Dr. Eugene Clark Library in Lockhart, Texas, is seeking ghost story entries of 5,000 words or less. There are cash prizes and trophies. Deadline: July 1. Rules and entry form at <http://clarklibraryfriends.com>

2012 Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition

The competition is an internationally respected short fiction contest, now in its 32 nd year. Info at: <http://www.shortstorycompetition.com>

Eva Eliot, Editorial Assistant: shortstorykw@gmail.com

Whispering Prairie Press Annual Writing Contest Now Open

We are open and accepting submissions for the annual Whispering Prairie Press writers' contest through June 30th, 2012.

Our contest allows us to recognize and honor talented writers across the globe. Prizes awarded in each of our categories: essay, flash fiction, poetry, and our special category in honor of Rex Rogers for sonnet or villanelles, only.

Head over to <http://www.wppress.org/main/contest/> for the complete details.

By participating in the contest you help Whispering Prairie Press raise funds for the publication costs of Kansas City Voices, as well as enabling us to continue our out reach to promote arts and literature in the KC Metro area.

Fiction500 Contest

We cordially invite your members and associates to enter our **Fiction500 contest** for May. Deadline May 14. Entry fee: \$12. The contest in a nutshell:

Writers submit an original work of fiction no longer than 500 words, based on our prompt.

We accept only 500 entries.

Faculty from the country's top MFA Creative Writing Programs judge the contest

The winning author receives \$500 cash.

Second-place author receives \$200, and third-place author receives \$100.

We publish winning stories (and honorable mentions) on our website.

At the end of the year, we e-publish an anthology of the year's winners for the Kindle, Nook and iPad.

Details are at www.Fiction500.com.

Mark Drozda, Executive Director Fiction500

PHONE [\(858\) 775-9299](tel:(858)775-9299) FAX [\(858\) 259-1800](tel:(858)259-1800)

Dream Quest One Poetry & Writing Contest—Summer 2012

Open to anyone who loves expressing innermost thoughts and feelings into the beautiful art of poetry or writing a short story that is worth telling everyone. Write a poem, thirty lines or fewer on any subject, style, or form. And/or write a short story, five pages maximum, on any subject or theme, creative writing fiction or non-fiction (including essay compositions, diary, journal entries and screenwriting).

Deadline July 31. Info at: [http://](http://www.dreamquestone.com)

www.dreamquestone.com

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Kansas Writers Association

P.O. Box 2236, Wichita, KS 67201

Newsletter Submissions

Submit articles and member news by the 20th of the month to David Cook 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, 2012, includes our monthly newsletter and discounts on KWA programs. Current dues for **new and renewing members** are \$30 for a mailed newsletter, \$20 for an emailed newsletter, and \$0 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**.

2012 KWA Board Members

President - Gordon Kessler, president@kwawriters.org

Vice President - Ray "Grizzly" Racobs, vp@kwawriters.org

Secretary - April Pameticky, secretary@kwawriters.org

Treasurer - Starla Criser, treasurer@kwawriters.org

Newsletter -- David Cook, newsletter@kwawriters.org

Electronic Communications - Erin O'Donnell, web@kwawriters.org

Contest Coordinator—Ray "Grizzly" Racobs, contest@kwawriters.org

Promotions - Janet Bahl, pr@kwawriters.org

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

Youth Advisor - Makayla Yokley, youth@kwawriters.org

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

Member At Large - Samantha LaFantasie, 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>