

# Wyo-Writer

Official Newsletter of:  
Wyoming Writers, Inc.



## In This Issue >>>>>

- 2.....President's Message
- 3.....Writer's Bios
- 3.....Book Festival Update
- 4.....Silent Auction A Hit
- 4.....Flathead River Conf
- 5.....News From A Broad
- 5.....Member News
- 5.....Bearlodge Anthology
- 6.....Conference News
- 7.....Conference News
- 8.....Market News
- 9.....On Writing
- 9.....WWI Major Awards
- 10.....Miscellany
- 11.....Range Writer's
- 11.....WWI Online Contest
- 11.....Member Application



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## 2006 Conference Nets Big Wins

### Winning Entries Included in Wyoming Voices 2006

The winners of the Wyoming Writers, Inc. 2006 Writing Contest were announced Saturday, June 3 at a special awards banquet held during the WWI annual conference at the Rock Springs Holiday Inn.

First place winners received cash awards of \$50 each, second place winners received \$30, and third place winners took home \$20 checks. Winners in all categories also received a certificate. First, second, and third place winning entries were published in WWI's anthology: **Wyoming Voices 2006: Winning Prose and Poetry from Wyoming Writers, Inc.** Honorable Mention winners and the titles of their notable entries are listed in *Voices*. Congratulations to the 2006 winners!

### Fiction Category

**First Place:** Tom Bass for *Twittlins*

**Second Place:** Daniel R. Lemon for *Wyoming Blues*

**Third Place:** Andy Rothleutner for *November 1981*

**Honorable Mentions:** Gretchen Dawn Yost for *In the Aspen Stand* and  
R. W. Vlach for *It Came From Outer Space* and  
Patricia A. Stuart for *Exempt*

### Non-Fiction Category

**First Place:** Daniel R. Lemon for *The Cure*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Kate Roberts for *Waiting*

**Third Place:** Kathy Watkins for *Age is in the Mind of the Older*

**Honorable Mentions:** Lauren M. McKeever for *Fishing Lessons: Wisdom Learned on  
Water* and  
Lauren M. McKeever for *Behind the Chutes*

### Free Verse Category

**First Place:** Myra L. Peak for *Cobwebs*

**Second Place:** Phyllis Dugan for *Summer Storm*

**Third Place:** Nellie A. O'Brien for *The Old Cantina*

**Honorable Mentions:** A. Rose Hill for *Tell Me About the Day* and  
Michele Sherwood for *Stayin' Alive*

The WWI Anthology: **Wyoming Voices 2006: Winning Prose and Poetry from Wyoming Writers, Inc.** is available at bookstores, gift shops, and other locations throughout Wyoming. Member coordinator for the WWI Anthology is Joe Megeath. For information on where you can obtain a copy, contact Joe at: 343 Canyon St; Lander, WY 82520, or by email at: [anthology@wyowriters.org](mailto:anthology@wyowriters.org).

Once again, congratulations to all who entered the contest for we are all winners when we enter. Please consider entering the 2007 WWI writing contests!

**Look inside for more exciting news about the 2006 WWI Writer's  
Conference!**

## President's Message

## Wyoming Writers, Inc.

### President

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### Member at Large-Region 1

Serving Park, Big Horn, & Washakie Counties:

#### **Tina Krejci**

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### Member at Large-Region 2

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307-883-3675  
[mal4@wyowriters.org](mailto:mal4@wyowriters.org)

### Member at Large-Region 5

Serving Converse, Niobrara, Platte, Goshen, Albany & Laramie counties:

**Vacant---PLEASE CONSIDER  
VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS POSITION.**

## Meet The Authors

### WWI's Contest Winners As Diverse As They Are Talented

**Phyllis Dugan** has written articles, poems, essays, short fiction, and thousands of letters, and has been published in all categories, including letters to the editor. She's a member of Western Writers of America, Wyoming Writers, Inc., Superstition Mountain Scribes, and enjoys a local writers group in Star Valley, WY, where she lives with her husband, two horses, one mule, a cat and a dog.

**Myra L. Peak** received the 2004 Frank Nelson Doubleday Award from the Wyoming Arts Council. Her poetry has appeared in the *Owen Wister Review*, *Peralta Press*, *Wyoming Voices* by Wyoming Writers, Inc., *Matter*, the *Oracle* by Western Wyoming Community College, *Whispers Down Wyoming Wind* by WyoPoets, and *High Plains Regisiter*. Myra resides in Green River, Wyoming with her husband, Terry Crowell, and their daughter, Emily.

**Kathy Watkins** has enjoyed living in the western states all of her adult life and has lived in Cheyenne, Wyoming since 1993. Kathy currently works as a church administrator. Her work is part time, which helps her pursue her main hobby, reading. Part time work provides the money to buy books and the time to read them. Her other hobbies include beading, church choir, and promoting NAMI: *National Alliance for Mental Illness*.

Writing is a natural extension of Kathy's life. At work she formulates weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters. At home she connects with family and friends through email correspondence and still occasionally hand writes messages or cards to be sent snail-mail. To write a short story or commentary is a natural flow of resources and energy for Kathy Watkins. To this author, the expression and privilege of writing provides a balance to everyday activities and her general outlook on life--as it is--and as she wishes it to be.

**Lauren M. McKeever** has been writing professionally for more than 20 years. Writing primarily as a journalist, her work has appeared in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Newsweek*, the *Rocky Mountain News*, *Salt Lake Tribune*, the *Casper Star-Tribune*, *AP* newswire and more than a dozen other newspapers and magazines. Among her favorite writing topics are Western Americana, public land use, wildlife, and issues that matter to "just plain folk." During her many years of non-fiction writing, she has written on everything from a 10-minute presidential visit, to the lives of Wyoming yurt-dwellers—and everything in between. She considers the trust people give her with their stories a great privilege, and holds the essay genre nearest to her heart. This is the first time she has submitted her essay work for competitive consideration. When she isn't writing essays or working on her book of fishing meditations, she runs Sweet Sage Communications LLC, the public relations and editorial services firm she founded some years ago. She has lived and written in northwest Wyoming for 15 winters. No need to count the summers, they're easy.

**A. Rose Hill**, a Missouri native, has lived in the same house in Sheridan, Wyoming, for more than 50 years. A charter member of Wyoming Writers, she is also a member of WyoPoets, and Range Writers. She has kept books for her husband's business, now her son's, since 1959. Mother of three adopted children, grandmother of five, she sings in her church choir and acts as church historian. Rose credits her success as a poet to a ten-year participation in a poetry round robin called Word Wranglers. She also attends many poetry workshops and she keeps SUBMITTING, SUBMITTING, SUBMITTING!

**Tom Bass** was born in London in 1971. He writes in a variety of forms including the essay, short story, and novel. Traveling to Budapest, he narrated the poems of the distinguished Hungarian poet Attila József for a DVD on his life and work, had a long poem scored by Albert Márkos for the young composers series at the Trafo Contemporary Art Space, and edited a website for the Open Society Archives on Cold War Propaganda, Music and Noise. This year, his translation of *Homecoming*, by Gábor T. Szántó, has appeared in *Pilvax Magazine*, and a short story, *Break Open the Head*, in *Blatt* (formerly the *Prague Literary Review*). He is currently working on a multi-volume project, DIG, on natural resources and failed states. He holds degrees from the University of Texas, the Central European University and Bath Spa University. He lives in Goshen County when not traveling or working in Europe.

**Andy Rothleutner** grew up in Upton, Wyoming. Since 1985, he has been writing fiction, non fiction, short stories, and essays concerned with western history and contemporary life in the American West. Andy received a Bachelor of Science in History Education from Chadron State College in 1990. He has completed graduate work in history, literature and natural resources at Chadron State College, the University of Wyoming, and Oregon State University. He worked as an educator for four years at Hay Springs, Nebraska and five years at Thermopolis, Wyoming. Additionally, he's been a wildland firefighter, ranch hand, trail ride wrangler, logger, and football and wrestling coach. Andy, his wife Margaret, and their blended family which includes six boys ("seven, if you count me," Andy says) live and work in Wyoming.

**Daniel Lemon** has been writing since third grade. After finishing Graduate School, he relocated to Wyoming to fulfill his dream of the Western lifestyle. The author of three novels, two novellas, and hundreds of short stories crammed into an old filing cabinet, Daniel is a hobby writer who has never tried to get published. But in 2004, at the urging of family and friends, he retired from a high-powered, twenty-year career with a division of Morgan Stanley to focus on writing. When he's not fly-fishing or enjoying his family, Daniel wrestles with the craft in a never-ending search for the perfect story. Married for nineteen years, Daniel and Donna live in Casper with their three children.

**Nellie O'Brien** was born in Pinedale Wyoming over ninety years ago. She had to leave home to attend her last year of high school at Laramie Prep School, because back in those days, Pinedale High only offered three years. Nellie went on to complete a two-year "normal" course at the University of Wyoming, on a scholarship. While in Laramie, she lived on the UW campus in Hoyt Hall—then a women's dorm. Nellie was initiated into *Spurs*, *Iron Skull* (an honor society), and was initiated on the top of *Old Main*. She also earned her way into *Big Sisters*, a women's honor society. Nellie had a job grading papers for Dr. Grace Raymond Hebard, which she characterizes as an experience of a lifetime! And she says that through it all, she had fun! After graduation from UW, she taught school at Kendall, Wyoming in a one-room school which held three grades, including the ninth grade.

After Nellie's three children were grown, she went to work for the State of Missouri. She retired after 25 years and had more time to write. She has published many poems including: *The Going Broke*, *Alzheimers* (which was the first poem she sold), *The Old Cantina*, *My Secret Place*, *Sun Like Thunder*, etc., etc. Why does she write? "I can't help it," she responds.

Nellie is a member of the National League of American Pen Women, The Missouri Poetry Society, Wyoming Writers, Inc. and other state and local poetry societies.

Nellie attributes her success as a writer to her "just write it down" attitude. And, she adds, "Oh, yes, never forget—I grew up on a cattle ranch near Pinedale, Wyoming. My close friends realize I am still a Wyoming ranch girl at heart!"



## State Capitol Gears Up For Wyoming Book Festival

*2007 Event Plans Underway*

The Wyoming Center For The Book invites all booksellers, publishers, authors, literary groups, libraries, and anyone else who has an interest in making their literary products available to thousands of booklovers from across Wyoming, to be a part of the **Wyoming Book Festival**, which will be held on the State Capitol grounds in Cheyenne on **September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. For further information, go to: [wyomingbookfestival.org](http://wyomingbookfestival.org) or call **307-777-7283**, for more information.

## Generous Donors Make Silent Auction A Success

*Bidders Ante Up To Take Home Coveted Items*

By  
Marcia Hensley

The Silent Auction at Wyoming Writers 32nd Annual Conference in Rock Springs raised \$1,200.00.

Special thanks go to Chris Williams, whose letters inviting donations to the Freebies tables also brought in an amazing 266 books and numerous magazine subscription gifts for the Silent Auction. I also appreciate the help of Andi Hummel who explained how the Silent Auction has worked in the past and Megan Johnson who helped us keep the money straight.

Silent Auction Contributors were:

### **Businesses/ organizations:**

Western Wyoming Community College Bookstore - \$30 gift certificate; White Pine Ski Lodge – 2 all day ski passes; Sweetwater County Museum – 2 books; Owen Wister Review – 1 copy of recent issue; The Fence Post – 6 coffee mugs; Range Magazine – 1 book; Star Valley Scribes – winter survival kit for writers.

### **Magazines/newspapers (subscription):**

High Country News, The Fence Post, Good Old Days Magazine, The Horn Book, Poetry Magazine, Range Magazine, Stone Soup, True West, Writers' Journal, The Writer (door prize).

### **Books from the following Publishers:**

Five Star/Thompson Gale, Leisure Books/Dorchester Publishing, Mountain Press Publishing, Peachtree Publishing, Galde Press, May Davenport Books, Range Magazine.

### **Individuals:**

Linda Hasselstrom/Windbreak House – 30% discount on Writer's Retreat and 30% discount on Writing Conversation by Mail; Andi Hummel – one manuscript edit; Marilyn Nickles – wine and chocolate; Megan Johnson – writer's organizer basket; Chris Williams – 2 Wyoming Writers T-shirts; Barbara Wild – gift basket and Cookie of the Month; Nancy Curtis – books/cards; Bill and Linda Vernon – handmade cupboard; Kayne Pyatt and Marcia Hensley – "Ragtime" lap quilt; Marcia Hensley – 2 books; Eugene Gagliano – book; Chris Valentine – several books, mystery gift, beaded necklaces; Pete Valentine – video tapes.

If anyone's name is missing, I apologize. Be assured your donation was much appreciated! And of course the Silent Auction wouldn't work without all those generous bids. **Thanks to everyone who participated to make the Silent Auction fun and successful.**

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Flathead River Writer's Conference

Event Scheduled for October 13—15, 2006

The 16th Annual Flathead River Writers' Conference will again be held at Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish, Montana. The intense workshops will be held on **October 10 -13, 2006** before the general conference on **13 - 15**. This year's presenters include fiction writers James W. Hall, Robert S. Levinson, and Dennis Foley; memoir & fiction writer Pam Houston; screenwriter/playwright, Mark Troy; agent Jeff Kleinman; Senior Editor at New American Library Kristen Weber; and magazine/ nonfiction writer Carolyn Campbell. This year there will be three, 12 person, three-day intense workshops immediately preceding the general weekend conference. James W. Hall and Dennis Foley will teach fiction and Pam Houston will teach memoir writing.

**For further information go to: [www.conference@authorsoftheflatland.com](http://www.conference@authorsoftheflatland.com), or write to:**

**Flathead River Writer's Conference; PO Box 7711; Kalispell, MT 59904**

The **ARTCORE Music & Poetry Series** begins on Monday, July 17, 7:30 p.m., at the **Nicolaysen Art Museum** in **Casper**. Lucy Woodward is featured. The series continues each Monday through Aug. 14. It includes appearances by Erin Eubanks, Justin Hackett with Ron Alexander and Luke Fankhauser, and Cornocopia. FMI: Carolyn Deuel, 307-265-1564.

**Abilene Writer's Guild** has announced their annual **Fiction Contest** which closes July 31, 2006. \$5 for one entry. \$10 for Novel category. Prizes in 9 categories: poetry, articles, inspiration, memoirs, nostalgia, short fiction, and novels. Prizes: \$100 for First Place. \$65 Second Place, \$35 Third Place. . Workshop and contest awards October 21, 2006. Contest coordinator, PO Box 2562; Abilene, TX 79604; **e-mail: [AWG@AbileneWritersGuild.org](mailto:AWG@AbileneWritersGuild.org)** website: <http://www.abilenewritersguild.org>

## News From A Broad

Greetings! I'm your new Wyo-Writer editor, Linda Vernon. From time to time this column will appear with information for working writers on a variety of subjects. I'm always open to suggestions, so if you have a particular subject you'd like to learn more about, or, if you'd like to guest here in this column, please contact me at: [wyo-writer@wyowriters.org](mailto:wyo-writer@wyowriters.org), or call 307-637-8651.

Anyone who writes—especially those who write book-length fiction or non-fiction—eventually decides that he or she needs an agent. Writer Beware, an ancillary function of Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SWFA) is an indispensable tool when one is trying to find reputable, reliable representation. Administered by book authors Victoria Strauss and Ann C. Crispin, Writer Beware maintains an ever-growing database of agent and publisher information. The organization is a junkyard dog when it comes to protecting authors. To read more about the agents on this list, and dozens of others—and for information on SWFA and Writer Beware—visit their web pages at: [www.writerbeware.org](http://www.writerbeware.org).

### Writer Beware's 20 Worst Agents~~~From Victoria Strauss:

"Below is a list of the 20 agents about which Writer Beware has received the greatest number of advisories/complaints during the past several years. None of these agents has a significant track record of sales to commercial (advance-paying) publishers, and most have virtually no documented and verified sales at all (many sales claimed by these agents turn out to be vanity publishers). All charge clients before a sale is made, whether directly, by charging fees such as reading or administrative fees, or indirectly, for "editing services." Writer Beware suggests that writers searching for agents avoid questionable agents, and instead query agents who have actual track records of sales to commercial publishing houses.

**1. The Abacus Group Literary Agency; 2. Allred and Allred Literary Agents** (refers clients to "book doctor" Victor West of Pacific Literary Services); **3. Capital Literary Agency** (formerly American Literary Agents of Washington, Inc.); **4. Barbara Bauer Literary Agency; 5. Benedict & Associates** (also d/b/a B.A. Literary Agency); **6. Sherwood Broome, Inc.;** **7. Desert Rose Literary Agency;** **8. Arthur Fleming Associates;** **9. Finesse Literary Agency** (Karen Carr); **10. Brock Gannon Literary Agency;** **11. Harris Literary Agency;** **12. The Literary Agency Group** (which includes the following: Children's Literary Agency; Christian Literary Agency; New York Literary Agency; Poets Literary Agency; The Screenplay Agency; Stylus Literary Agency (formerly ST Literary Agency); Writers Literary & Publishing Services Company (the editing arm of the above-mentioned agencies); **13. Martin-McLean Literary Associates;** **14. Mocknick Productions Literary Agency, Inc.;** **15. B.K. Nelson, Inc.;** **16. The Robins Agency** (Cris Robins); **17. Michelle Rooney Literary Agency** (also d/b/a Creative Literary Agency and Simply Nonfiction); **18. Southeast Literary Agency;** **19. Mark Sullivan Associates;** **20. West Coast Literary Associates** (also d/b/a California Literary Services)"

Thanks to WRITER BEWARE for providing this information.

## Member News

Sleeping Bear Press has released **Gene Gagliano's** newest book: *Four Wheels West, a Wyoming Counting Book*, illustrated by Susan Guy. It is the companion book to: *C is for Cowboy, a Wyoming Alphabet Book*.

Notorious Press has released *Soul Taster: Four Dark Tales*, by **Ken Rand** ([www.notoriouspress.com](http://www.notoriouspress.com)). Details and ordering information can be found at Ken's web page: [www.sfwa.org/members/rand](http://www.sfwa.org/members/rand).



Author **Anthony J. Sacco** of Pine Bluffs reports that his two books: *Little Sister Lost* and *The China Comm* are on the shelves at Waldenbooks, Frontier Mall, Cheyenne. For more information got to: [www.saccoservices.com](http://www.saccoservices.com).



**Charles W. Popovich** reports that his non-fiction: *Sheridan, Wyoming: Selected Historical Articles* has been reprinted for the fourth time. It is one of three books Charlie has written about Sheridan. His other two: *Sheridan County Schools, A History: With Emphasis On The Rural Schools of Sheridan County* and *Wyoming and Area Historical Sites* as well as are available at bookstores in Sheridan. For info, contact the author: [cpopovic@fiberpipe.net](mailto:cpopovic@fiberpipe.net).



## Bearlodge Anthology Hits the Shelves

By  
Andi Hummel

Just in time for your summer reading, Many Kites Press and the Bearlodge Writers of Sundance announce the release of their new anthology: *In the Shadow of the Bear Lodge*.

Kicking off with a publication party at Devils Tower on July 9, the book calls immediate attention with an eye-catching cover design—artwork by renowned Sundance artist Sarah Rogers—and the heart of this freewheeling, unthemed collection pulses to satisfy every taste. Poets will appreciate the music and truths shared by Bearlodge bards. Historians will delight to an excerpt from an upcoming book on regional military history, memories of a ghost town, and a poignant piece of fiction set in Deadwood circa 1890.

Like flash fiction? Laugh when Maude takes care of a friend's problem. Settle into a longer work and learn the experiences of a young fisherman determined to get the best of a Buddhist monk. Touch magic in a medieval fantasy, come back to reality with shared memories, and discover the crossed-finger truth of a rancher's wedding vows . . . hang on, hang on. The style and stories—whatever form they take—are intriguing.

For information on price and availability of *In the Shadow of the Bear Lodge*, contact the publisher, Many Kites Press, in Rapid City, SD at [www.manykitespress.com](http://www.manykitespress.com); Backpacket Books, in Sundance, WY 82729 (1-307-283-2665); or check the Bearlodge Writers website at [www.bearlodgewriters.com](http://www.bearlodgewriters.com).



## Wyoming Writers, Inc. Writer's Conference, June 2006 Rock Springs



A few of our award winners are shown here. Left to Right are: Gretchen Yost of Pinedale, Honorable Mention for her fiction 'In The Aspen Stands'; Tom Bass, of Torrington, who traveled from Budapest, Hungary to attend the conference: 1st Place in Fiction for 'Twitlins'; Lauren McKeever, of Pinedale, TWO Honorable Mentions in non-fiction for: 'Fishing Lessons' and 'Out of the Chutes'; Michele Sherwood of Green River, an Honorable Mention in Free Verse Poetry for 'Stayin' Alive'.

### Wyo-Writer Soon On Web

Susan Vittitow, WWI webmaster, reports that the Wyo-Writer will soon be available on the internet at our web pages: [www.wyowriters.org](http://www.wyowriters.org). Watch this space for further updates on this subject. Once the link to the electronic version of the Wyo-Writer is up and running, you'll be given a site password. From there you can read the newsletter at your leisure. But remember, electronic delivery is entirely optional. A printed version of the Wyo-Writer will always be available for those who prefer that method of receipt.



Kane Pyatt of Rock Springs, our Conference Chair, performs from 'Bring Back My Body To Me', a collaborative piece she co-wrote.



Author Mike Shay (L), and Wyoming's Poet Laureate, David Romvedt at the book signing event sponsored by Book & Bean in Rock Springs. Mr. Romvedt taught several workshops at the WWI conference. Mr. Shay presented a reading from his book: 'The Weight of A Body'.

### Thanks From Ken Rand

At the WWI Conference it was learned that WWI member and presenter Ken Rand has been diagnosed with a condition called pseudomyxoma peritonei. In Ken's words, "It's rare, there is no cure, and it's fatal. Symptoms are tummy ache and fatigue. It's cancer-like in some ways, not like it in others. An oncologist told me (and I've read the literature to confirm) that 5-year survival prospects are good, 10-year prospects are not. Onset for me was January 2001. So, I'm looking at months-years. So I'm preparing as if it's weeks—just in case. I'm very practical that way, always have been. I have a literary executor and he'll see that my family benefits from my writing and that I'll be around, at least in print (and audio) for a long time. I'm OK. I'm not in any pain (usually) and I'm coping with the fatigue. I'm not scared, or angry, or disappointed, or desperate, or in denial. I've decided to skip all that and go straight to acceptance. 'God grant me the serenity . . .' and so on." Ken also has a message for the WWI members who wrote to him in a leather journal set out on the registration table at the WWI conference. Said Ken, "Will you please convey my thanks to the WWI membership in your next newsletter? I'm afraid I'll miss saying Thank You! to somebody, and I want to make sure I say it to everybody. Thanks—ya'll know who you are."

**You can e-mail Ken Rand at [krand27577@aol.com](mailto:krand27577@aol.com)**

*From Mike Shay at wylitmail*

## Wyoming Writers, Inc. Writer's Conference, June 2006 Rock Springs

### Christian Contest Opportunity

League of Minnesota Poets

**Prizes are: \$20.00, \$15.00, \$10.00**

**Subject: Prayer or Praise of Thanksgiving**

**30 Line Limit**

**Deadline: July 31, 2006**

**For Contest Flyer send a SASE and request to:**

**Christina Flaugher**

**57310 166<sup>th</sup> Lane**

Good Thunder, Minnesota 56037

**Or e-mail her at: [ChrisMo14@aol.com](mailto:ChrisMo14@aol.com)**

*Sent by Chris Valentine*



Marcia Hensley (left), Silent Auction Chair, and Kayne Pyatt (right), Conference Chair, nominated Barbara Smith (center), of Rock Springs for the Arizola Magnenat Award in recognition of her encouragement and motivation of her fellow writers.



The open mic sessions were dedicated to Utah's Poet Laureate, Ken Brewer, who died recently after a battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Here, his daughter, Jennifer Sorenson of Green River, reads from his last book: 'When Dogs Quit Flying'.

**BOOKS AND THE OUTDOORS:** Susan Vittitow and Tina Lackey have teamed up for another terrific edition of Wyoming Library Roundup. Theme of the spring 2006 issue is "Outdoors" with profiles of writers who treat Wyoming's landscape as a distinct character in their work. That includes mystery writer C.J. Box, outdoor writer and hunter Jim Zumbo, conservationist Mardy Murie, and essayist Ted Kerasote. The mag also includes reviews of outdoor-oriented books, including "The Open Space of Democracy" by current Jackson resident Terry Tempest Williams and "Decade of the Wolf: Returning the Wild to Yellowstone" by Douglas W. Smith and Gary Ferguson. FMI: <http://will.state.wy.us/roundup>.



Myra Peak reads at the open mic. Her poem 'Cobwebs' won First Place in Poetry.

*Market News*  
By  
**A. M. Hummel**

*(The following information has been gathered from several sources: The Pennwriter, the newsletter of Pennwriters, Inc., a Pennsylvania-based multi-genre writers' organization; WYOLITMAIL, compiled for the Wyoming Arts Council; and Kathy Ptacek's Gila Queen's Guide to Markets.)*

**A new Young Adult market beckons!**—**Llewellyn Worldwide**, which has a new mystery imprint called Midnight Ink (<http://www.midnightinkbooks.com>), has a new line making its debut soon! Aimed at the YA market, **FLUX** will be placing seven books on the market this fall, and the company is anticipating another 21 titles to be released in 2007. Acquiring editor Andrew Karre is looking for fantasy, horror, literary fiction, and coming-of-age fiction. They're accepting submissions from agented and unagented authors, and want to see your complete manuscripts and proposals. More information, and guidelines, available at [http://www.llewellyn.com/history/flux\\_submissions.pdf](http://www.llewellyn.com/history/flux_submissions.pdf).

**Frontier Airlines' in-flight looking for fiction**—**WILD Blue Yonder**, Frontier Airlines' (based in Denver) in-flight magazine, needs family-oriented stories set in and around the cities to which Frontier flies. Stories of no more than 2,000 words may be submitted to Dorsea at [dorseabanning@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dorseabanning@sbcglobal.net).

**Contributors wanted**—"The U.S.-Mexico Border: An Encyclopedia of Culture and Politics" is soon to be published by **Greenwood Press**. Available topics vary in length from 250 to 1500 words. Contributors of multiple short entries or longer essays receive a copy of the publication and a modest compensation. Deadline for contributions is Sept. 15. Interested writers should contact Andrew G. Wood at [andrew-wood@utulsa.edu](mailto:andrew-wood@utulsa.edu). Please indicate your area of expertise and qualifications. Graduate students and borderlands specialists are encouraged to apply.

"**The Fossil Record**" seeks original work addressing the following theme: "Muscle Cars of the Nixon Era." Please see guidelines at <http://www.thefossil.com>.

**ECOTONE** welcomes unsolicited works of creative nonfiction, fiction, and poetry with a specific focus on place and borders-geographical, interpersonal, sexual, spiritual, etc. "Our audience appreciates literary fiction that is vital, thorny, and alive." Submissions accepted August 15-April 30 annually. See Web site for details: <http://www.uncw.edu/ecotone>.

**A new market for poetry, check it out!**—Folks, I know nothing about this one, but it is regional! The new journal *The Rogue* "wants poetry with a salt ring around its hat, words that rove in contempt of bad weather. No collegiate ditties. Nothing that wanders off the page and doesn't come back." **PO Box 484, Pocatello ID 83204.**

**Ahhhh! Share your baseball stories**—**108 Magazine, Sandlot Media Inc., 517 N. Mountain Ave., Suite 237, Upland, CA 91786.** This quarterly welcomes unsolicited submissions of original and fresh fiction, nonfiction, photographs, illustrations, and cartoons relating to baseball and its historical and/or cultural connection to society and community. Submit not more than one story or nonfiction feature, three poems, three baseball memories, or one letter to the editor at the time, online or as hard copy—and no more than four unsolicited submissions per writer per year. Please do not submit any simultaneously submitted or previously published material. Digital submissions should be sent as a PDF attachment to E-mail to the following addresses: fiction, [poems@108mag.com](mailto:poems@108mag.com); Letter to Editor - [letters@108mag.com](mailto:letters@108mag.com); Sandlot Scrapbook (interesting baseball memory of less than 200 words), [scrapbook@108mag.com](mailto:scrapbook@108mag.com). To ensure your digital submission is not mistaken for spam, avoid using ambiguous or general subject line titles—Submission - [TITLE OF ARTICLE]' works fine. Hardcopy manuscripts should be sent by standard mail or delivery service (i.e., FedEx, UPS, Express Mail) to address listed above. Photos, etc. may be submitted either on-line or via hardcopy routes. Pays **50¢-\$1/word, \$100-\$500** (photos/illustrations/cartoons), **negotiable rates** (cover art), on acceptance. All submissions, including letters to the editor, should include author's name, phone number, address, and E-mail account.

## On Writing

By  
L.G. Vernon

Before I sat down to write this column, I thought nothing could be easier. *Of course I know why I write*, I said to myself. But sitting here in front of this keyboard, I've found it's not quite as simple as I thought.

My mother wrote. And my grandmother—both of them published authors. So I grew up learning to be still while Momma scribbled at her desk; I learned that the mysterious nighttime glow emanating down the hallway wasn't from a spaceship, but rather the living room lamp—where Mom worked unpestered in the silence of our sleeping house. Her stories were almost always about us: her family. And her newspaper column *The Hall Closet*, ran in my hometown newspaper for many years. I admired my mother so completely that I couldn't imagine anything finer than being just like her; and so, I wrote.

Like most kids, when I was about thirteen my head spun around three times, I grew fangs, developed a sarcastic wit—and continued to write. I wrote for my high school newspaper and the yearbook, and won poetry awards and academic letters. By the time I was seventeen, my head had stopped spinning, and I once again thought Mom hung the moon. I'd grown a chest and pimples, wore mini-skirts, and ironed my hair—and continued to write.

During my senior year, Grandma suggested I write to this 'nice young man'—the son of good friends of hers—who was stationed with the Army in Vietnam. So, for a year, I wrote—and I watched the news, hoping against hope I'd see him just once, and praying to God I wouldn't. He was wounded during Tet of '68; and I wrote, and I wrote, and I wrote. He came home after graduation. I saw him just once and my heart flew away like a covey of quail. By the following February, we were married and living in northern California, 80-miles from town and 8-miles from the nearest neighbor. No electricity. By the light of kerosene lamps, I wrote.

We eventually left our wilderness home and returned to the city, where we both went to college, and where we both ended up in law enforcement—and yes, I wrote—learning well that the pen is indeed mightier than the sword. Then, after 20-years of childlessness, we were blessed with our daughter and, when she was 5-months old, were doubly blessed with a transfer off the Mexican border—to Wyoming. I determined to be a stay-at-home mom. I bought a computer, opened a home-office, and I wrote.

I've written freelance for 18-years—and been published in national and international publications on a variety of subjects, mostly law enforcement-related. A few years ago, at the urging of that boy I wrote to so very long ago, I stopped writing articles, and began writing a book. But our daughter was still in school, and, like most stay-at-home moms, I didn't stay at home, I lived in my car—and, you guessed it—continued to write. Our girl left for college just about a year ago, and I finished that book in four months. I'm busy pitching it to agents and working on the sequel

What does this all boil down to? That writing, for me, is intrinsic, maybe even genetic. It's been part and parcel of who I am virtually all my life. And it all started because I thought Momma hung the moon. Sadly, she's been gone for years now. But, when I think of her, which is often, I smile—and I write.

### Wyoming Writers, Inc. Honors Three With Major Awards

**Each year, Wyoming Writers Inc. honors those who have excelled in their own writing careers, and those who have helped others excel, with the presentation of its major awards, given at the annual conference banquet. This year's major award winners are:**

**Bonnie Sargent, of Casper: The Emmie Mygatt Award:** Bonnie received Wyoming Writers' highest honor, for her outstanding service to the Wyoming Writers, Inc. When a job needs to be done, Bonnie does it. She serves on the executive board as a Member at Large for the central part of the state, and has made major donations to the conference silent auctions of river writing retreats conducted by Page Lambert. She was nominated by a consensus of several board members and committee chairs. This award is given each year in honor and memory of one of WW Inc.'s founders, Emmie Mygatt.

**Barbara Smith, of Rock Springs: The Arizola Magnenat Award:**

The Arizola Magnenat Award is given to any adult, organization, business or other entity that has provided special encouragement and motivation to writers. Barbara Smith, a writing instructor at Western Wyoming Community College, has inspired numerous writers by organizing writing workshops in Sweetwater County and bringing high-quality visiting writers to the area. She was nominated by Kayne Pyatt and Marcia Hensley. The Arizola Magnenat is the only major award open to those who are not members of Wyoming Writers.

**Mike Shay, of Cheyenne: The Western Horizon Award:**

Mike Shay has edited books, but this year his first book as an author was published. Wyoming Writers honored his collection of short stories, *The Weight of a Body* with the Western Horizon Award. This award recognized members' first major works published between May 2005 and May 1, 2006. Mike was nominated by Susan Vittitow.

## Miscellany---Tips, News, Contests, and Happenings

*A Compendium of Literary Information brought to you from all over.*

"The Eleventh Muse" **Poetry Contest** 2006 offers a \$200 first prize. Postmark deadline is Dec. 1. Submit 1-6 unpublished poems (100 lines or less per poem). Entry fee is \$5 for 1 poem, \$10 for up to 3 poems, \$15 for up to 6 poems. Include check or money order payable to Poetry West. Cover sheet with name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and poem titles. Send entries to: "The Eleventh Muse" Poetry Contest, PO Box 2413, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Submit entries as MS Word or RTF attachments to: [poetrywest@yahoo.com](mailto:poetrywest@yahoo.com) and pay your entry fee via Paypal to the same e-mail address.

**HUSEAS DOCUMENTS HOPKINSON MURDERS:** Marion McMillan Huseas has released her book, "Legacy of Fear: Mark Hopkinson and the Bridger Valley Murders." She documents Hopkinson's brutal crime spree in southwestern WYO and the consequences, resulting in the "the most complicated murder investigation in the history of Wyoming jurisprudence." Marion is the author of three books relating to Western history, including "Sweetwater Gold," the story of the state's gold rush which won first prize from the National Federation of Press Women. She has worked as a curator of history at the Wyoming State Museum in Cheyenne and at the Fort Bridger State Historical Site near Evanston. FMI: Merimac Publishing Company, 307-640-2444.

This year's **Author's Day** at the **Wyoming State Fair** in Douglas is Saturday, Aug. 19. Authors interested in promoting their books should reserve a space by e-mailing Chip Carlson at: [chiptheauthor@hotmail.com](mailto:chiptheauthor@hotmail.com). He emphasizes that "this is a truly great way to gain publicity, meet a lot of interesting people and sell books."

**NIGHT HERON BUYS A&A COLLECTION:** Melodie Edwards, proprietor of Night Heron Books in Laramie, writes that her store has purchased the stock at Adams & Adams Booksellers. Here's what she told wyolitmail: "I wouldn't mind letting the Wyoming book reading community know that we (at Night Heron Books in Laramie) feel we're performing a public service by keeping the Adams & Adams collection together. We won't be moving our location (107 Ivinson Ave.), but will be putting as much of the A&A collection on our shelves as possible. The rest of it will go online. Our internet books can be viewed at [www.nightheronbooks.com](http://www.nightheronbooks.com). I also wouldn't mind if you let people know that we will be taking a break from book buying until further notice as we get these 20,000 books sorted through." The next event at Night Heron Books is on Saturday, April 22, 7 p.m., when Colorado poet Bill Tremblay reads from his work. FMI: 307-742-9028.

**BROWN'S NEW BOOK:** Corinne Joy Brown sends word that her new book, "Sanctuary Ranch" (Five Star Expressions), has been released to rave reviews on BookList and B&N. It's set in a fictional town near Cody. FMI: <http://www.corinneiovbrown.com>.

**2006 PILGRIMAGE WRITING AWARD:** Prize is \$1000. The theme for this writing contest is restoration. Restoration involves repair, rehabilitation, maybe even rebirth. Restoration is the recovery of something that has been lost. We're interested in restoration as it applies to soul and spirit, but the winning essay will also transcend the personal. It might involve a community or an ecosystem. It might involve an act of conflict resolution or peacemaking. It might have to do with the restoration of justice. As always we're looking for writing that is at once experiential and reflective. And we're looking for previously unpublished creative non-fiction up to 2,500 words in length. Please send entries to: Pilgrimage Writing Award, Box 696, Crestone, CO 81131.

From **Glimmer Train Stories:** We are interested in reading your original, unpublished stories! Open to all writers, all themes, all lengths, so have at it! (We don't publish stories for children and we don't publish works longer than 20,000 words, I'm sorry.) We do consider unpublished novel excerpts if they feel like complete stories. Multiple submissions are fine. (You can send more than one submission per competition, if you like, or submit the same story for different categories, if it qualifies). No simultaneous submissions, please. When we accept a story for publication, we are purchasing first-publication rights. (Once we've published your story, you are free to, for instance, include it in your own collection.) Note: In an effort to save our backs from heavy mail buckets, we ask that you send your work via our new online submission procedure. It's easy, and will save you postage and paper. Submit between May 1 and July 15. Reading fee: \$15 per story. FMI: <http://www.glimmertrain.com/fictionopen.html>.

**ROTTMAN PUBLISHES FANTASY STORY:** Cheyenne author S.L. Rottman had her first fantasy short story published in "Dreams and Visions: Fourteen Flights of Fantasy" (edited by M. Jerry and Helen Weiss; Starscape Press). This collection of short stories for young adults also includes works by Joan Bauer, David Lubar, and Mel Glenn, just to name a few. Susan says that writing fantasy is a new challenge for her, since she usually sticks with realistic fiction, but she enjoyed the opportunity to be part of this collection.

**WYOMINGITES WANTED:** From Kristin Koplin: I am writing from the Anderson Center Red Wing, Minnesota. Situated on 330 acres near the picturesque bluffs of the Mississippi River, the Anderson Center is the largest artist community in Minnesota and the second largest in the Upper Midwest. May through October, we offer residency-fellowships of 2-4 weeks to artists, writers and scholars. They include room, board and quiet workspace. Since 1995, the Center has hosted residents from 35 states and 18 foreign countries and it would be wonderful to have a resident from Wyoming. This is a great opportunity for both emerging and established writers, to advance their artistic careers.

FMI: <http://www.andersoncenter.org/>.

Range Writer's of Sheridan Spring Writing Contest 2006  
Winners List

**Fiction – Judge: Nancy Ruskowsky**

- First Place – *Wyoming Blues* by Daniel R. Lemon
- Second Place – *Red* by Jim Rolf
- Honorable Mention – *Herman* by Linda Crocilla
- Honorable Mention - *Spaghettied Plates* by Myra Peak
- Honorable Mention -*Mrs. Albert Nelson's Murder* by

**Cathy Anderson**

**Non-Fiction – Judge: Laurie Creasy**

- First Place – *Radio Hero* by **Christine Valentine**
- Second Place – *The Clothesline* by Ann Maria Mattila
- Honorable Mention – *Coming To My Senses* by **Abigail Taylor**
- Honorable Mention -*Dummies And Dollies* by **John D. Nesbitt**

**Traditional Verse – Judge: Cornelius Kelly**

- First Place – *Gallery* by **Lee Ann Siebken**
- Second Place – *Lone Winter* by **John D. Nesbitt**
- Honorable Mention – *Range Rhyming* by Jim Rolf
- Honorable Mention – *Springtime in the Rockies* by Jim Rolf
- Honorable Mention – *A Turkey's Thanksgiving* by Eugene Shea

**Free Verse – Judge: Ginny Oldenbach**

- First Place – *DaVinci* by **Cathy Anderson**
- Second Place – *A Celebration of Love: Sunday Dinner* by **A. Rose Hill**
- Honorable Mention -*No Legendary Name* by Katie Smith

NOTE: Winners in **BOLD** are members of WWI.  
**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**First-Ever Wyo-Writer  
 Online Writing Contest**

**Enter the Wyo-Writer Jumpstart Your Story  
 Contest, Today at:**

**<http://wyowritecreativecorner.blogspot.com/>**

Wyo-Writer proudly announces its first-ever online writing contest. Entries are limited to 500 words, in any genre. There is no entry fee, no limit to the number of entries you may make, and **absolutely no prizes, whatsoever.** First, second, and third place winners, overall, will be announced here, in the Wyo-Writer, and online at [www.wyowriters.org](http://www.wyowriters.org). Certificates will be awarded if the judges can figure out how to use the graphics program to make them.

**Your plot 'jumpstart' is The Arrival.** It doesn't matter who or what shows up, just as long as something does, in 500 words or less.

**Deadline for entries is Thursday, August 3, 2006.**

**Post your entries online at:**

**<http://wyowritecreativecorner.blogspot.com/>**

**This blog spot is password protected.**

**Use the following username and password for  
 access to the site:**

**Username-----wyowriters  
 Password-----wyowrite1974**

**Wyoming Writers, Inc. Membership Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Members: *Enclose student verification: student ID card or letter from school official.*

**Please circle the categories which best describe your writing:**

- |                               |                             |                           |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| AB autobiography/biography    | M mysteries                 | SH self help/health       |
| BE business/economics         | MA magazine articles        | SM science/medical        |
| C cookbooks                   | N nonfiction books          | T textbooks               |
| CS contemporary social issues | NP news articles            | TE technical              |
| F fiction books               | P poetry                    | TH thrillers              |
| FA fantasy                    | PR publicity/press releases | TR travel                 |
| H history                     | R romance                   | VP visual/performing arts |
| HU humor                      | S short stories             | W westerns                |
|                               | SF science fiction          | O other writing           |

**Member Status  
 (Please check one)**

- New Member
- Renewal
- Student Member

**DUES (Check one)**

- \_\_\_ Student Member \$10.
- \_\_\_ Regular Member \$25
- \_\_\_ Sustaining Member \$75
- \_\_\_ Patron Member \$250

Mail this form and payment to:

Megan Johnson  
 PO Box 818  
 Thayne, WY 83127-0818

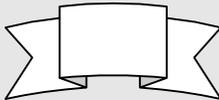
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*All memberships  
 expire June 30th of each year,  
 regardless of when you join!*

**2005-2006  
PATRON MEMBERS**

*The Fence Post-Chuck Ballou  
Endeavor Books*



Sustaining Members

**John Beach**

*Michael and Kathleen Gear*

*Joe Megeath*

**Hear Ye!! Hear Ye!!**

Your success is part of WWI's history. Please send your clippings, photos, notices of achievement or other materials about your writing career to our **Historian, Cynthia Vannoy** at: **444 W. Alger Apt 3; Sheridan, WY 82801.**



If you have a story idea suitable for our pages, or have news you'd like the rest of WWI to hear about, please contact **Wyo-Writer editor, Linda Vernon** at [wyo-writer@wyowriters.org](mailto:wyo-writer@wyowriters.org), or write to her at: **LG Vernon; 7800 La Paz Drive; Cheyenne, WY 82009**



**PICTURE YOURSELF  
← HERE**

*We need a contest chair, and we need one NOW!! Imagine your name in lights. Fame. Fortune---well, maybe not. But if you'd like to serve WWI in this position, contact the WWI Board, today!!!!*

**Visit the Wyoming Writers, Inc. website at [www.wyowriters.org](http://www.wyowriters.org)**

**Wyoming Writers, Inc.**

7800 La Paz Drive

Cheyenne, WY 82009-9502

Address Correction Requested

*Wyoming Writers, Inc. does its best to provide correct, up-to-date information to its subscribers, however, readers should carefully investigate the credentials of any publications, markets, contest listings, or web pages appearing in this newsletter prior to making submissions.*



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**To:**

