

Wyo-Writer

Official Newsletter of
Wyoming Writers, Inc.



Vol. 33, No. 2

March 2007

33rd Annual Wyoming Writer's Conference

Submitted by Chris Williams

The site of this year's conference is Holiday Inn of the Waters in Thermopolis. A block of sleeping rooms at \$89 plus 9% tax has been reserved until May 17. If you're planning on attending conference, please call 307/864-3131 and tell them you want to reserve a room in the Wyoming Writers block to get this special rate. We've had a warning from the hotel's sales representative that rooms may be scarce in Thermopolis after May 17, as well as more expensive, so consider reserving early.

Workshops will be held in two meeting rooms in the Holiday Inn, the Indian Room and the Hunt Room. A third workshop will meet across the street at the Best Western. The schedule is beginning to gel, and you should have a conference brochure included in the March issue of the Wyo-Writer.

One of the more important aspects of a writer's conference, in addition to the invaluable tips from the experts at the workshops, is getting feedback on your own work from a professional in your genre. Four of our panelists are offering critiques this year, but due

to time and space constraints each can only fit in five critiques. The postmark deadline for submission is March 24 so that our busy experts can have lots of time to look over your writing. I expect the critique slots of our editor panelist, John Helfers, and our poet panelist, Sandra Alcosser, to fill up especially fast, so don't hesitate if you want to be included in critique. Details on submitting your work are elsewhere in this newsletter.

The bookstore will be open throughout the conference in the Western Room at the Holiday Inn. This year's bookstore is hosted by JoAnn and Gerald



Gerber of Storyteller in downtown Thermopolis. Charles Curley has written of the owners of Storyteller: "JoAnn and Gerald are long-time

Wyoming residents. After living in Shoshoni and Wamsutter, they think of Thermopolis as 'the big city', which goes to show that Wyoming will give you a unique perspective on just about anything. The Storyteller is their story." The Gerbers are willing to order 3-5 copies of each requested work, more if your publisher agrees to accept return of unsold copies. To have your books included in the conference bookstore's inventory, and available for purchase at the book signing, contact Storyteller, 528 Broadway, Thermopolis, WY 82443. Phone: 307/864-3272; fax: 307/864-3291; e-mail: storyteller@rtconnect.net. Have title, publisher, and ISBN available when you contact Storyteller.

As of this writing, the meals to be offered at conference, menu choices and prices, are still to be determined. However, for those of us who want lean, healthy, Wyoming-grown entrees, I hear rumors that that Mike and Kathy Gear's award-winning bison will be served at the banquet this year!

Look for further conference updates in next month's Wyo-Writer.

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A view from Town's end

Thin crusted flakes dust pens and keyboard, silenced for a time. Bobcat and rabbits gone. Moose came, but the plow took one. Snow fell, blew about, melts to muck above the roadbed. January-cold air froze home while we were away. Oh, rupture. A month later, warmed, pipes replaced anew, along with toilet and plants, too. Blooming.

Mind, like pipes, ice blocked, but thawing.

Most work complete: fixed, swabbed, dusted, fresh. Realwork begins.

Meetings approach. Harried times. Frantic. Boggling. Who will do the work?

"I will. No, I won't."

Who, then?

Will you?

What's the point?

Who cares? You? I do, but...

Grope in darkness, stumbling, disappointed, disappointing.

"Here's a hand. Can I help? What can I do?"

Salvation. Then...

"I quit."

"Me too."

I haven't, and I won't.

Conference approaches. Who's doing what?

Don't know all, see all. Won't whine.

Enjoyed the vice's tasks, but I've let you down as pres. I'll not quit but will wear the badge through June and try my darnedest to help make the 2007 conference terrific.

Till next time,

Slainte, Bob

WW, Inc. Needs Your Help

Wyoming Writers, Inc. is recognized as one of the top writers clubs in the nation. All the members who can attend, enjoy the conference with always great workshops and opportunities for meeting other writers and editors. All enjoy sharing internet information on writing, and the information from MALs. The elected Officers do the various jobs to put on a great conference, and make the decisions needed to keep us running well. Every year the Board needs more volunteers to take on these jobs, and to take the specific jobs of committee chairs so that we have a contest, an awards committee, scholarship fund applications and winners, and all the jobs that need doing. Most jobs don't need a lot of time, they just need to be done. Please think about volunteering a bit of YOUR time to keep WW, Inc. running smoothly each year. Working with or on the Board keeps you informed of how WW, Inc. functions, it's also fun, it's interesting, and it will let you do that volunteer work to keep your soul happy by helping others. After all, if there's no volunteers, there's no organization. Please do your part to keep WW, Inc. the strong organization it is now and, with your help, will be in the future. This year has been especially erratic, with out Past Pres. moving to outback Alaska, our President moving to very small town and into a huge old house with almost insurmountable problems, including frozen pipes in the lengthy below zero weather, our VP moving to OR, and perhaps there will be more vacancies coming up. Volunteer to be President, Vice President, or to do any of the jobs that come open. Become a part of a big dynamic and vital writer's club that has survived 33 years because of the tenacity and guts of its members. Take a challenge and surprise yourself with your unacknowledged skills.

Thanks in advance, Phyllis Dugan,

Past President (2 years), Past Vice President (3/4 year),

Past Scholarship Chair (4 years), and now

MAL Region Four (2 years so far).

PS. Get involved and broaden your world, too.

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Wyo-Writer Editor

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Conference Manuscript Critiques

Submitted by Chris Williams

There are only five slots reserved for critiques from each of our panelists, so hurry to be the first to submit your fiction/nonfiction, poems, or screenplays. Slots will be filled by postmark date; the first five in any category to submit work for critique will be forwarded to our panelists. Those manuscripts not meeting the deadline, or in any number past the first five, will be returned to senders.

Screenplay: Tim Sandlin, author of 11 screenplays for hire, will look at the first 20 pages of your screenplay.

Poetry: Sandra Alcosser, National Poetry Series poet, will critique up to three one-page poems.

Fiction/Nonfiction: John Helfers, editor at Tekno books, will accept a one-page query plus the first ten pages of adult book-length fiction or nonfiction.

Children's: Toran Isom, children's/YA columnist and educator, will consider a one-page query plus up to ten pages of children's/YA literature.

Postmark deadline March 24. Fee \$20 for each submission. Please make checks payable to the panelist who will be critiquing your work.

Mail submissions to: Chris Williams, 3229 NW Gumwood Ave., Corvallis, OR 97330. Contact Chris at cwillia1041@yahoo.com or 541/602-0700 for more details.

Member News

Wyoming Writer member Tom Bishop, of Atlantic City, WY, is celebrating his success with a 232-page paperback printed by the University of New Mexico

Press. "The Great Mormon Cricket Flyfishing Festival and Other Western Stories." The book will be out in March 2007.

Wyoming Writers 33rd Annual Conference Faculty Meet W. Michael and Kathleen O'Neal Gear

Submitted by Chris Williams

Each month from now until May, this series of articles will focus on the conference workshops being offered by this year's panelists. For February/March, we are featuring Kathleen and Michael Gear, long-time Wyoming Writers, Inc. supporters and sustaining members.

Mike was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He received his Master's in Anthropology from Colorado State and began work in 1978 as an archaeologist for Western Wyoming College. A professional archaeologist for 29 years, Mike began writing full-time in 1985. Kathy, born on a small farm near Pixley, California, received her Master's Degree *Summa Cum Laude* from California State University in Chico. She also studied biblical history and archaeology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. Working on her Ph.D. in American Indian History, she arrived in Wyoming in 1980 to serve as the Wyoming state historian, and later archaeologist, for the United States Department of the Interior. Fate brought Mike and Kathy together at an archaeological conference in Laramie, and today they continue to conduct work through their firm, Wind River Archaeological Consultants.

With over 200 non-fiction publications on archaeology, history, publishing, and bison history and management, Kathy and Mike are best known to Wyoming Writers, Inc. members as novel-

length fiction series writers. Writing as a team and separately, they have published forty novels in - count them!- five genres: historical fiction, western, mystery, science fiction, and modern thriller. With more than 17 million copies in print, their novels are *USA Today* bestsellers, as well as international bestsellers. Famed, and awarded, primarily for their First North American series, Mike is also known for his westerns and science fiction, and Kathy for her historicals and the ground-breaking *In Me* series.

With awards ranging from the American Bible Society to Western Writers of America to Wyoming Writers, Inc.'s Arizola Magnenat Award and Emmie Mygatt Award, Mike and Kathy have garnered many honors for their writing, as well as recognition of their service to other writers.

For those writers in mid-career who have mastered the basics and feel ready to present their work to a larger readership than their local writing group (or their moms), and those recently published authors who wonder what comes next, the Gears' workshops will focus on the professional aspects of writing.

Their first planned workshop is entitled, "How to Sell Your Work." For those of us who have been trying for years to break in to publishing without success, the topics Mike and Kathy plan to cover sound intriguing. The first will address such questions as, *What should a manuscript look like?*

~~~~~continued on page 5

## 2007 Memorial Scholarship

Emmie Mygatt was one of the founders of Wyoming Writers, Inc. Emmie believed writers can live anywhere, and she helped other believe it as well. Before her death in 1977, Emmie gave the gift of \$500 to be "joyously spent for an unusual opportunity approved by all." Wyoming Writer, Inc. used her gift to create the Memorial Scholarship Fund to offer writers financial assistance so that they can attend our conference. Every year, WW Inc. members literally "pass the hat" to build this scholarship fund.

If you or someone you know would benefit from a tuition scholarship to this year's conference, please fill out the form below and send it to C. J. Clark, 32 Harmon Road, Hardy, AR 72542. Please type or print answers to application questions. Photocopies are okay. Please use a separate sheet of paper if more space is needed. Applications must be received by April 30, 2007. If you have any questions, please call 870-257-4214 or email [armidillo72542@yahoo.com](mailto:armidillo72542@yahoo.com).

### MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

If you or someone you know would benefit from a tuition scholarship to the Wyoming Writers' annual conference, please fill out this form and send it to C.J. Clark, 32 Harmon Road, Hardy, AR 72542. Please print, type, or write legibly. If more space is needed, use a separate sheet of paper. Deadline for applications is the last Friday in April. Self-nominations accepted.

Name of Writer: \_\_\_\_\_ WWI Member? \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

**State in your own words why you believe the nominee should be considered for a scholarship:**

List any unusual circumstances (i.e. illness, financial burden, etc.):

What type of writing does the nominee do?

Has the nominee been published? If yes, list publications:

Please list any other information the scholarship committee should consider:

**Application submitted by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Committee Use Only:*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Applicant Approved*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Applicant Not Approved*

continued from page 3

Conference Faculty - W. Michael & Kathleen O'Neal Gear

Does it really matter how big your margins are or if you use the right font? How do you act when you meet an editor or agent? What's a good agent? What's a good editor? And the one all struggling novel writers would like answered: Where do you go to meet the editors and agents who can make or break your career?

The Gears' second workshop will deal with "How to Present Yourself as a Professional." They ask: *Want to hear author horror stories?* This panel will focus on the mistakes authors make when they try to sell their work. (I'll bet a few of us have our own version of this horror story.) Already published? Worried about signings, trade shows, interviews? Advance your career with this crash course on the dos and don'ts of advancing your career. Mike and Kathy add: *And yes, Virginia, there are specific rules of etiquette - it's just that, outside of this conference, no one in publishing will bother to tell you what they are!*

And for those of us who've been writing for 20 years without snagging an editor or agent, the Gears' final workshop will hand us The Keys to Success: Tenacity vs. Talent. Making us take a

closer look at our most secret desires, Kathy and Mike will ask us the soul-searching questions such as, *Do you really want to be a successful author? How badly?* The answer is, in their words, that many of us believe that all we have to do is write a wonderful book, and then sit back collecting royalties while other people market and sell our work. But the truth, this multi-published team of authors say, is it's not that easy. And Kathy and Mike know - the market is overloaded with titles, publishers are scrambling, small bookstores are vanishing and even long-established authors can't sell their latest work.

If you want to publish your work, don't miss a single Gear workshop. For the price of admission to the conference, you can get the freshest perspective, a true insider's view. "It ain't pretty," Kathy and Mike say, "but [we] will tell you the truth about what it takes to compete in the modern world of publishing."

*Look for a profile of Montana Poet Laureate Sandra Alcosser and a review of her planned workshops in the April issue of Wyo-Writer!*



## Comments from the Catch Pen

A few months after my second hip replacement, I begged my husband to help me saddle up my big buckskin. With numerous words of warning and reminders that this might not be a wise decision, George caught up the gelding and helped me saddle up, then helped me mount him. It was far from a pretty project, with scars and healing still going on in my right hip, and 57 stitches still in place across the top of my "cheek" and down the right side of my leg. He knew that he couldn't change my mind in spite of his preaching, and the only thing left for him to do was to help me and make sure that I didn't have a wreck.

Still chiding me that Casey Jack was not the best choice for me to try to ride so soon after my surgeries, he stood at the gate and reluctantly opened it to let us out to ride across the pasture, reminding me of what I didn't need to be reminded of: that Casey Jack had a reputation for muscle-bound clumsiness, stubborn ways and occasional hot-headed temperament. But I also knew that Casey was a big-hearted, kind horse. I was depending on him to understand my newly-acquired limitations and take care of me. We walked slowly through the gate, unsure and watchful.

Though painful, awkward, and uncomfortable, it was wonderful to be on my horse after so many months. Riding that day was not like it had been all the years of my life prior to that point: high-spirited, fast - close to reckless abandon. It was deliberate, cautious, and slow. That day, a change had come to that big buckskin: he knew that things were different, and I believe he sensed it was his turn to take care of *me*, as I had always taken care of *him*.

Never once did he stumble or act up; never once did he toss his head and dance around. He dropped his head and walked across the pasture solidly, carefully, as if selecting the best

spots to place his big feet so as not to jar me or trip. In one sunny fall afternoon, he changed into a completely horse, and he was returning the care and kindness that he had been given all his life.

And so a new stage in both our lives was born that day, and he began to take care of me.

The same sort of change needs to come about with the organizations and groups that we belong to. We glean so much from what is offered from these organizations, we grow and develop, and when it is time, we give back. We reinvest what we have learned, help and encourage members that are stumbling along, and solidify the foundation, purpose, and goal. Oftentimes, the change is awkward and ungainly...things are misplaced and in disarray, but those who are passionate and caring, who have gleaned and grown and developed, pick up the reins and guide everything back on the trail. Others join in; the foundation is once again strengthened, and growth and development begins to thrive again.

Wyoming Writers, Inc. has been the first pony for so many just learning to ride, and it has helped and encouraged writers to develop skills and confidence to put that saddle on the big horse, and gallop up and over the rolling foothills of discovery and growth. After the ride, it's time to give back with a cool bath, grooming, and sustenance.

Where are you in your life's ride? And where do you want to go? Are you willing to reinvest in something that has given much to your growth and maturity as a writer? Consider what you might have to offer this wonderful organization and its members...and enjoy the ride.

Shelagh Wisdom  
Editor, Wyo-Writer

## Market News

Submitted by A.M. Hummel

### *Wants compelling, female-focused fantasy!*

**Luna Books Harlequin, 233 Broadway, Suite 1001, New York, NY 10279.** Executive editor Mary-Theresa Hussey reports *Luna Books* wants emotionally complex, sweeping stories that highlight the inner female power. Whether the heroine is on a quest to save the world, or someone or something important to her, discover her past or develop her own abilities, these stories are involving, gripping, and need to sweep the reader away into a detailed, convincing world. They may also contain romantic subplots that enhance the main story but such should not become the focus of the novel. Settings should be "other worlds, alternate historical, or contemporary"; the point of view "first, third, multiple, but predominately from the female character's"; and the tone, "appropriate to the story." *Luna* is looking for 100,000-150,000 words and asks that authors submit a detailed synopsis and three sample chapters or the complete manuscript if available. Simultaneous submissions are acceptable. If a previous editorial relationship in the company has been established, that can be continued or authors may submit to the editor listed above." For more information: <http://www.eharlequin.com>.

### *Music industry expertise? Try this one:*

**Mix Magazine (c/o Primedia Business Magazines, 6400 Hollis St., Suite 12, Emeryville, CA 94608 or e-mail [gpetersen@primediabusiness.com](mailto:gpetersen@primediabusiness.com))** is a monthly geared toward professionals in music/sound production, recording, and post production industry. Editorial director George Petersen likes in-depth technical pieces that are "applications-oriented." Looking for nonfiction here, 500-2000 words, including how-to, interview/profile, new product, technical and project/studio spotlight articles. Payment is on publication for all rights and queries are preferred by mail. If you can provide good photos, that's more money in your pocket but they do pay \$300-\$800 for assigned articles and \$300-\$400 for unsolicited material. Interested? Check out the website at [mixonline.com](http://mixonline.com).

### *Here's an interesting contest for you!*

**Family Circle**, a leading women's mag, has a contest for you if you qualify as an amateur! If you've ever dreamed of becoming a writer, they're ready to help make that dream come true. This 2007 contest is just getting started (March 1) and entries postmarked through August 31, 2007 and received by September 7, 2007 will be accepted. To enter, send your original fiction short story of no more than 2500 words to: **Family Circle Fiction Writing Contest, c/o Family Circle Magazine, 375 Lexington Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10017.** Entries must follow standard format for submission (typed, double-spaced, pages numbered and included the author's name, address, daytime phone and e-mail address), and must not have been published or awarded any prize previously. The contest is open to amateur writers who are 21 or older, legal residents of the fifty United States or the District of Columbia, and authors may submit up to two entries in this contest. One grand prize winner will walk away with \$750 and possible publication in the magazine, plus a certificate good for an online mediabistro.com course (valued at up to \$610) and a one-year mediabistro.com AvantGuild membership (valued at \$49). Two runners-up will each be awarded \$250 plus the one-year AvantGuild membership mentioned previously, plus possible publication on [familycircle.com](http://familycircle.com). For more information and the official rules, check [familycircle.com/fiction](http://familycircle.com/fiction).

### *And some valuable info for our children's writers:*

Dear Author: Every few months, Highlights editors compile

a list of their current needs to share with prospective authors. Below, you will find a detailed description of the types of stories Highlights editors are currently seeking. You may also find these updates at [www.Highlights.com](http://www.Highlights.com). Follow the "About Us" link to "Contributor Guidelines," and you will see "Current Needs" listed in the right-hand column. Thank you for your interest in Highlights. Happy writing! Sincerely,  
The Editors

### **Highlights Winter Wish List 2006-2007**

**Kim Griswell, Coordinating Editor**

#### **Adventure**

Articles that feature adventurous travel. Not the "family vacation" kind of thing, unless your family goes to study turtles in the Gallapagos Islands, as does the author of "Stars and Sea Lions" (June 2006). We prefer articles that feature kids in some way. Publishable-quality photos are almost essential for these articles, since it would be difficult (or impossible) for us to acquire photos if the writer couldn't provide them. Please remember that even adventure articles need a focus—not simply "We went here and did this," but something that reveals the meaning behind the travel or the reason for the adventure, etc., 750 words maximum.

#### **Marileta Robinson, Senior Editor**

##### **Fiction for Young Readers**

We need humorous stories written for beginning readers, 500 words maximum.

#### **Carolyn Yoder, Senior Editor**

##### **World Cultures**

- Intimate looks at other peoples and their traditions—particularly in northern and southern Africa, Asia (not India), Europe, Canada, the Caribbean and the Pacific. (Articles on children.)
- Holidays—first person.
- U.S. History
- Modern history (20th century), particularly the Civil Rights movement
- Holidays, particularly Christmas and Thanksgiving
- Articles that touch on the diversity of people in the United States
- Biographies of U.S. subjects as children
- Anecdotal articles on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln
- Articles on patriotic themes
- HUMOROUS articles on U.S. history (review back issues for articles on Lincoln and humor, Washington and his teeth, Jefferson getting his life mask, and Ben Franklin and his love of exercise)

#### **Judy Burke, Senior Editor**

##### **Fiction for 8- to 12-year-olds**

We're currently looking for funny stories with boy protagonists, Easter stories (no Easter bunnies, please), Kwanzaa stories, Ramadan stories, Hanukkah stories, Passover stories, and contemporary stories set in foreign countries, 800 words maximum.

##### • One-Page Activities

We're interested in 300-word activities of all kinds. At this time, we're especially interested in indoor and outdoor games that involve exercise, creativity, and/or humor.

##### • Sports

We could especially use profiles of contemporary female athletes. We're always interested in sports articles that focus either on a known athlete (a squeaky-clean one), on the development of specific skills (for example, shooting a

*Market News continued*

basketball), or on the challenges faced by athletes of any kind (for example, staying positive when your team is losing). Successful articles often include quotes gained from personal interviews with athletes or experts and useful tips for readers who play that sport, 800 words maximum.

**Andy Boyles, Science Editor****Science and Nature Articles**

We put a high value on articles that show science as a process—that is, articles that follow a scientist or group of scientists as they try to solve one of nature's mysteries or that show someone of elementary-school age engaging with nature in a healthy, inquisitive way. We are always looking for science articles about animals that are of high interest to kids. For example, an article might follow researchers who study cougars or a young person who is involved with horses. The article may cover a long period of time or tell the adventures of one day, but information about the animals and/or the research should arise naturally in the course of the action, so our readers will learn something about both. Also, we are in need of short Science Corner pieces that inspire young readers to explore the science in their everyday environment or to do a simple activity or experiment. See a recent issue for the format. We also look for safe, fun one-page experiments (400 words or fewer) more in-depth than those found in the Science Corner. These activities should introduce kids to some greater concept and require minimal parental involvement.

We currently have enough articles about birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects (especially bees), and volcanoes. Having said that, a clear storyline that reveals the process of science is a strong component. If we received a good story about a scientist studying birds that live on a volcano and eat reptiles that have a symbiotic relationship with amphibians that eat insects (even bees), we'd probably buy it.

Our guidelines state that our word limit is 800, but articles that are even shorter (350-400 words) are especially welcome as possible one-page features. Interesting approaches to botany, chemistry, anatomy, and geology and the earth sciences, are welcome.

**Jo'le Dujardin, Associate Editor****• Crafts**

We have a need for original crafts that encourage play, such as toys, costumes, and games, as well as open-ended art projects. We're also seeking crafts that are appealing to boys, holiday crafts, and crafts from various cultures.

**• Younger Nonfiction**

Younger nonfiction should be written for readers ages 4-8 and should not exceed 450 words. Things we're looking for include first-person accounts of fieldwork, photo essays, arts stories, accessible biographies of key historical figures, ancient history, high-interest animals, details from urban life (workers, transportation, etc.). All articles should have a clear focus and relevance to young kids.

**• Gallant Kids**

We're looking for leads or articles about kids who take an active role in making positive changes in their communities. Articles should be 350 words or fewer, and the child featured should be no older than 13.

Linda Rose, Assistant Editor

**• Full-Page Puzzle Activities**

On the inside-back cover of each issue, we publish a large visual puzzle of some sort. We like to vary the kind of puzzle presented here, and we're always looking for fresh ideas that appeal to a variety of readers and abilities.

Often this page offers several activities within one (for example, using one illustration for a maze, a few riddles, a

"find the..." puzzle, etc.). Submissions to this area ideally include detailed art directions/notes, as well as succinct and easily understood activity directions for the reader. (Artwork or photos do not need to be submitted with the manuscript but are welcome if you have them.)

**Tiffany Hoffman, Editorial Intern****• Short Activities**

We're looking for short puzzles, activities, teasers, and interesting tidbits to go on our mixed pages. We are especially interested in math puzzles—that do not resemble school activities—and games of all kinds. We do not encourage writing in our magazine, so please do not submit activities that would require children to write or draw on the page.

**Tips and Resources**

Highlights recommends reviewing the magazine's contributor guidelines available on [www.Highlights.com](http://www.Highlights.com) in the About Us section. Also, it can be helpful to read through back issues, which can be found at most local libraries. For examples of stories, articles, and crafts we have published in the past, visit [www.HighlightsKids.com](http://www.HighlightsKids.com), click on "Fun Finder" in the left column, then peruse "Highlights Stories" under Story Soup, "Science Stories" under Science in Action, and "Crafts" under Express Yourself.

## Wyoming State Historical Society Position Available

Wyoming's State Historical Society is looking for an executive secretary to aid in the organization's mission to provide direction and support for historical research and preservation in the Cowboy State.

Established in 1953, the WSHS is a non-profit organization made up of members from across Wyoming and throughout the world interested in the history of Wyoming and the West.

The executive secretary position is a part-time, 20-hour a week, at-will contract. Qualifications include a working general knowledge of the Society and its functions; a bachelor's degree or higher (history, museum science, or related field preferred but not essential); excellent skills in computer word processing, desktop publishing, and data basing programs; availability and ability to travel around the state as needed; and the ability to coordinate with state and local agencies, attend meetings and prepare publicity.

The position will start at \$14 per hour to start, negotiable after the first six months.

A position description is available from Jeremy. Johnston@northwestcollege.edu. Letter of application, qualifications and references are due March 30; job starts mid-April.

Please send application materials to the Wyoming State Historical Society, c/o Jeremy Johnston, Northwest College, 231 West 6th Street, Powell, Wyoming, 82435.

The society's programs include the annual History Day competition, and annual Trek, the Lola Homsher Grant, and an annual history award. Key among its publications are the Wyoming History News, and the quarterly "Annals of Wyoming: The Wyoming History Journal."

**2005 - 2006**  
**PATRON MEMBERS**  
*The Fence Post* - Chuck Ballou  
 Endeavor Books

**SUSTAINING MEMBERS**

Joe Megeath  
 John Beach  
 Kathleen Gear  
 Michael Gear  
 Myra Mumma  
 Susan Vittitow

**THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!**

*St. Patty's Day CHEERS to those who so willingly and graciously helped me pull this newsletter together!*

*There are many to thank: Phyllis Dugan and Megan Johnson, for your mentoring, your endless giving to Wyoming Writers, and your awesome friendship. I hope that Wyoming Writers, Inc. understands all that you do for this organization. To Andi Hummel, I thank you and admire you for your continued sharing and timely market news, cheerful encouragement and ever-present positive attitude. To Susan Vittitow, your willingness to "do whatever" and keep communications open and flowing for Wyoming Writers is so commendable! You are an inspiration and a jewel! To Christine Williams, many thanks for your enthusiastic, helpful and supportive contributions. Nancy Ruskowsky, the conference brochures look fantastic, and your kind words are very much appreciated.*

*Many have contributed to sew together some raveled ends in the multi-colored quilt that is Wyoming Writers, Inc. There may have been some slipped stitches and popped buttons, but it's all worthy of repair. Any incorrect information, address changes, etc., will be rectified as soon as possible. Members, please let your MALs know of your concerns and suggestions. Most of all, be patient and offer your help! This is EVERYONE'S organization and there are so many great things about Wyoming Writers!*



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

**WYOMING WRITERS, INC.**

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*Address Correction Requested*



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