

January 2019

Heartland Writers Guild



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January Meeting

Our next meeting is Sunday, January 20, from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 pm. at the First Presbyterian Church, 206 E Washington Street, Jackson, Missouri. A presentation will be given by Tracy Satterfield, children's book author, and Easton Satterfield, illustrator. They will share their experiences of writing and illustrating children's books.

If anyone would like to share a reading from some of their work, please bring it with you. We look forward to hearing about your projects for 2019.

Reminder: Dues are \$24 for the year and are due by February 15. Couples have a reduced rate of \$30. Please bring a check or cash to the next meeting to pay your dues for 2019.

Missouri Writers Guild Conference

Registration is now open for the 2019 Missouri Writers Guild Conference. Several of our members will be attending the conference, and some will be presenting there as well. You are encouraged to attend the conference, where you can benefit from the networking opportunities, get the chance to enter writing contests, and pitch your next book idea.

The conference will be held May 17 through May 19 at the Drury Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The early bird registration price is \$135 through Feb. 15. You can find more information and register for the conference at missouriwritersguild.org.

Next Meeting Date

Sunday, January 20
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian
Church basement
206 E. Washington St.
Jackson, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2018

Mary Rechenberg called the meeting to order. Thirteen members were present.

Program

Greg Stout presented a program on his route to publishing books about trains. He has published the following non-fiction titles: *Route of the Eagles* and *Rock Island Lines*. His latest success is the YA novel, *Gideon's Ghost*, due out early next year by Beacon Publishing. Greg contributed much of his success to reading novels as a commuter and a teacher. Follow-up discussions centered around the need for an online presence on social media, the need for an agent, how to market locally, and recommendations for publishers.

Business Meeting

Old Business

John Fisher reported on last month's field trip to Jonesboro. Mary mentioned Ste. Genevieve and/or Kaskaskia for next year's field trip.

New Business:

We will vote on the following slate of officers for 2019:

President: Mary Rechenberg

Vice President: Tim Morgan

Treasurer: John Fisher

Secretary: Mary Ann Heinsman

Be thinking about what presentations you would like to hear or give next year.

Member News:

John Fisher reported that he got the edit back on his Missouri Historical Review article.

Mary Rechenberg received copies of her book, *How Do I Know God Loves Me*.

Amanda Flinn signed a contract for her board book, *Yoga Baby*, in 2020.

Mary Rechenberg closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Heinsman

Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2018

Mary Rechenberg called the meeting to order. (#) members and (#) guests were present. Members introduced themselves and share the highlights from their 2018 writing year and plans for 2019.

Old Business

Carol Fisher moved to accept the following slate of officers for 2019:

President: Mary Rechenberg

Vice President: Tim Morgan

Treasurer: John Fisher

Secretary: Mary Ann Heinsman

Rachel Ashworth seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Rachel Ashworth would like to compile a list of HWG member's work and share on Facebook as a reading list for 2019. If any member would like their work shared on this list, please email titles and links to purchase to Rachel.

John Fisher shared that the Missouri Rural Magazine will sponsor a workshop for writers wanting to submit to their magazine on January 29, 2019. Please see John for details.

The Missouri Writers Guild's annual conference will be held at the new Drury Hotel May 17-18, 2018.

Because this is a great opportunity for local writers to network and hone their craft members are encouraged to attend. Watch the Missouri Writers Guild's website for information.

Sarah Geringer shared about the progress on her book about Christian meditation that is due out later in 2019. She also shared how using Amazon Ad Services can boost book sales.

Member signed up to plan our monthly meetings for 2019:

January-Carol Fisher

February-John Fisher

March-Sarah Geringer

April-Bill and Sharon Hopkins

May-No Meeting, Members are encouraged to attend MWG Conference

June-Mary Ann Heinsman
(Meeting will be 4th Sunday due to Father's Day)

July-Rachel Ashworth

August-Karen Uban

September-

October-Field Trip

November-Amanda Flinn

December-Christmas Party

Mary Rechenberg announced that during inclement weather in the winter months, she will send an email to members the morning of the meeting to alert them that the meeting is cancelled. Members exchanged writing gifts and enjoyed Christmas treats.

Mary Rechenberg closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Heinsman

Snippets

By Sarah Geringer, Editor

Happy new year, friends! The new year is a great time to look back on your writing milestones from 2018 and plan ahead for 2019. Have you taken this important step? It's not too late!

I spent time looking over my successes from 2018, and I recently got to speak about them at a ladies' brunch in Sikeston. Charting your journey is not just beneficial for you, but it is inspirational for others. Consider sharing what you learned at our next meeting, in a blog post, or at the next speaking opportunity you have (maybe as a speaker in our upcoming meetings).

I encourage you to try one new thing this year. Challenge yourself to read a certain number of books. Write in a different genre than normal. Post regularly to one social media outlet. Track your stats every week. Whatever you do this year will pay dividends in your writing journey, both now and in the future!

The Heartland Writers Guild Journal

Submit newsletter info
by the 15th of the month to:
Sarah Geringer, Editor
sarah@sarahgeringer.com

heartlandwriters.org



Member submissions to *The Journal* are encouraged.

No fee will be paid, but a byline will be given if info is provided.

All submissions are subject to editing and will be printed on a space-available basis.

A word count of up to 200 words is requested.

Welcome topics include guild news, awards and achievements, and family occurrences. Photos must be in .jpg format and 1 MB or less.

Some forms of advertising, such as new publication information for member books and member book signings, are also accepted.

Articles printed with member by-line are considered "credits" by other publishers for that writers' portfolio.