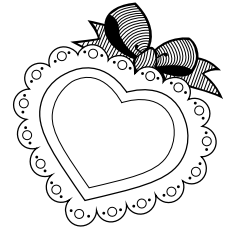


Norman Galaxy of Writers

Formed in March, 1969

Affiliated with

Oklahoma Writers Federation, Inc.



# WriteLine

FEBRUARY 6TH MEETING

## William Bernhardt Structure: Organizing Your Story for Maximum Impact

Saturday, February 6th, 2010

Norman Public Library, Room A-B



William Goldman has said that, "Writing is structure." Understanding story structure is one of the most important writing skills but one of the least frequently taught. Bernhardt will demonstrate how to organize the fundamental elements of storytelling to create breathless pace, meaningful character arcs, and a thoroughly satisfying reading experience.

William Bernhardt is an American thriller/mystery/suspense fiction author best known for his "Ben Kincaid" series of books

Bernhardt has sold more than 10 million books in several different countries throughout the world. He has twice won the Oklahoma Book Award for Best Fiction, in 1995 and 1999, and in 1998 he received the Southern Writers Guild's Gold Medal Award. In 2000, he was honored with the H. Louise Cobb Distinguished Author Award, which is given "in recognition of an outstanding body of work that has profoundly influenced the way in which we understand ourselves and American society at large." That same year, he was presented with a Career Achievement Award at the 2000 Booklovers Convention in Houston.

He has also been inducted into the Oklahoma Writers Hall of Fame, the youngest author ever so honored.

In addition to his work as a writer, Bernhardt is also a popular teacher and publisher. In 1999, he founded HAWK Publishing Group. HAWK has published books by acclaimed authors such as Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist N. Scott Momaday, Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Janis Ian, and PBS newsman Jim Lehrer. He also sponsors the HAWK Writing Workshop each summer to nurture and mentor aspiring writers.

SPEAKER NOTES BY TOM BARZCAK



### 2009 1st Place Contest Winners

Darline Hobbs, Ruth Leoffler, Kathleen Park and Keith Eaton, Bonnie Speer Creme de la Creme award winner.

## Hearing the Winning Entries

The winners of the 2009 Galaxy Contest shared their wonderful entries. The sharing was opened by Galaxy Vice President for Program Kathleen Park, with a thank you to the **judges**: Christine Rimmer, Robert Ferrier, Anne Champeau, Kristin Reid, Maria Veres, Donna Young, Jim Etter and Gloria Shirley.

Kathleen Park opened, presenting the Crème de la Crème winner, as well as 1st place winner for Nostalgia Essay: "Pals in the Golden West", by **Keith Eaton**.

**Kathleen Park** then presented again with her 1st place winner for Unrhymed Poetry: "Infinity"

**Darline Hobbs** presented her 1st Place winner for Rhymed Poetry: "The Zircon Ring Speaks". Helen Duchon read for **Janie Turnbull** presenting her 1st place winner for Short Story: "My Romantic Hero".

**Darlene Hobbs** presented again for her 1st place winner of Nonfiction Article: "Superstition or Supernatural". **Ruth Loeffler** presented her 1st place winner for Children's Fiction: "The Japanese Gardener."

**Ruth Loeffler** presented again for her 3rd place HM winner of Unrhymed Poetry: "Morning of a Winter Moon." **Neal Huffaker** presented his 2nd place winner of Rhymed Poetry: "A Rhyme too late." **Robbie Lambersen** presented her 2nd Place winner for Nostalgia Essays: "Wishes". **Russ Long** presented his 2nd place winner for Short Story: "Casino Chip Exchange".

—Tom Barzcak, Speaker Notes

**MARKETS BY ANN CHAMPEAU**

**GO FOR THE BIG BUCKS**

If you're going to spend all that time researching, writing, editing, re-writing, etc., why not go for the big money.

**OUTDOOR AMERICA** pays their free-lance writers \$1,000-\$1,500 for feature stories between 2,000 and 3,000 words. The fee grants *Outdoor America* first North American serial rights, exclusive for 30 days following publication.

What they want is that every story have a direct connection to the Izaak Walton League of America, a conservation organization that works at the local, state and national levels. The magazine is mailed quarterly to the League's 40,000 members as well as to members of Congress and other national leaders who set conservation policy. Their mission is to provide information and inspiration to protect America's outdoors through grassroots action. The magazine is published in January, April, July, and October.

All stories should have **two goals: to inform and to inspire**. The editors want writing that has a conversational tone, speaks directly and concisely, and provides a fresh perspective. They encourage writers to employ scene, characterization, narrative, and other tools of literary nonfiction.

Their biggest **pet peeve** is receiving queries from writers who have never read the magazine or researched the Izaak Walton League's work. Most queries are rejected because they simply fail to demonstrate a connection to the League.

**Queries:** Letter queries (Editor, IWLA, 707 Conservation Lane, Gaithersburg MD 20878-2983) should be one page and must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. E-mail queries (oa@iwla.org) should be brief and without large attachments.

**Photographs:** Payment for front cover photos is \$500 and \$100-\$450 for inside photos. Their scope of coverage is broad, and it's best for photographers to check out the Web site for the latest issues they are working on. Some subjects they regularly search for are stream restoration, litter, habitat loss, sprawl, human-wildlife conflicts, air pollution, wetland protection, agricultural conservation, clean and renewable energy, sustainable forestry, conversation on private lands, outdoor ethics, public land management, fisheries conservation, game species, and scenes of individuals and families enjoying the outdoors. Do not send original material until requested.

Sample copies are available for \$2.50 each at The Izaak Walton League of America, 707 Conservation Lane, Gaitherburg MD 20878-2983.

—Ann Champeau, *Markets*



**You can have anything you want—as long as you don't need it.**

—Dr. Joe Vitale

**MINUTES BY DARLINE HOBBS**

**January 9th Minutes**

Galaxy of Writers met January 9, 2010, in the Lowry Room at the Norman library, from 10-12 o'clock.

Sherry Bynum, president, called the meeting to order at 10:10 o'clock. She encouraged everyone to get their name tag that Helen Duchon made for the group.

**Reports:**

**Minutes** were approved as printed in the *WriteLine*.

**Treasurer's report.** Vickey Malone Kennedy, treasurer, reported a Current Balance of \$1109.75. Copy with the secretary and *WriteLine* editor. (See page 3). It was moved and passed to accept the treasurer's report.

The committee to consider sponsors for the Galaxy writing contest. Kathleen Park, Sherry Bynum and Helen Duchon volunteered.

**Friday Writers:** Frances Searcey encouraged members to join the class.

**Norman Arts Council Roundtable:** Sherry Bynum will serve on the Grants Panel. Helen Duchon, Galaxy's rep, said the Roundtable met at Anne Harris' house for potluck and entertainment by founders of SWAN, Song Writers Association of Norman.

**WriteLine:** Helen Duchon, editor, asked for a someone to report on the program to follow after the business meeting. Tom Barczak volunteered to do "Speaker Notes".

**Publicity:** Marilyn Flier send meeting notices to the *Transcript*; Helen emails to *Oklahoman* and KGOU; Vickey Kennedy posts on website: [www.nonprofitpages.com/normangalaxy/](http://www.nonprofitpages.com/normangalaxy/); Mary Spaulding is dispersing the brochures to the library, writing classes and bookstores.

**Madelaine Culp-Havey;** doing better; card signed by all to send to her.

**OWFI 2010 contest and conference:** Vickey Kennedy and Dion Mayes Burnett attended the board meeting, Dec. 6th at Embassy Suites on S. Meridian. They volunteered to coordinate volunteers and listed all the jobs we could fill:

**New Business:**

1. Moved and passed to appoint Vickie Kennedy and Dion Mayes Burnett as OWFI Representatives
2. Moved and passed to donate \$105 to OWFI for use in any category where needed.
3. Moved and passed to form a committee to discuss a writing workshop. Volunteers were Kathleen Park, chair, Sherry Bynum, Helen Duchon, and Frances Searcey

**Program:**

Kathleen Park, program chair, thanked Mark Hardick for a job well done as acting contest chair for the Galaxy Writers writing contest.

Kathleen called on first place winners of the Galaxy contest to read their works. Some 2nd place winners read, but time did not permit everyone to read.

William Bernhardt will be the speaker February 6th.

—Darline Hobbs, *Secretary*

**BRAG SHEET**

**Sales and Acceptances**

**HELEN DUCHON: PRODUCED:** *UWA Newsletter* for University Women’s Association, Jan.-Feb. 2010 and *Galaxy’s WriteLine* for Jan. and Feb. 2010.

**KEITH EATON: PUBLISHED:** Article on the Allied Arts Fund Raising Campaign in *Distinctly Oklahoma* mag for January 2010.

**VICKEY MALONE KENNEDY: SALE:** My story ‘Bobby Sue Almost Got Married’ will appear in *A Stitch in Time Saves None* an anthology published by Yard Dog Press, [www.yarddogpress.com](http://www.yarddogpress.com) which is scheduled for release June 2010.

**PATRICIA HARVEY** is a regular contributor to the *Woodmen* and the *Cheyenne Editions*, weekly newspapers serving Colorado Springs, CO. Her feature stories have appeared in one or both of the Editions since 2004, and can be found at [www.waltpub.com](http://www.waltpub.com).

**STAN SOLLOWAY & MIKE KRAWCZYK:** Comedy Empire Press has PUBLISHED two new books: *Golfreaks* and *Sports Fans are Crazy*.

Also this month we’ve published 4 *Silliman on Sports* columns: (click “Articles” @ [sillimanonsports.com](http://sillimanonsports.com))

**1/4/10 “The Trial Of Mike “Blackbeard” Leach”**  
The wrongful dismissal trial of Coach Mike Leach vs. Texas Tech is still off in the future but, if you’re like us, you can’t wait.

**1/12/10 “Texas Stadium Implosion To Be Cheesy”**  
Kraft buys promotion rights to a public implosion for a mere \$ 75,000, plus another \$ 75,000 worth of Mac and Cheese given to Irving charities.

**1/19/10 “Skeered At The Skirvin”** Effie is the apparition haunting the Skirvin Hotel, where the Knicks stayed for two nights.

**1/26/10 “Nascar Fan-Friendly Suggestions”** In an effort to make their sport more fan friendly, NASCAR is dialing back some of their safety rules.

**Contests**

**BARBARA SHEPHERD** won 2nd Place in Lone Stars International Light of the Stars Contest for her poem, “Creative Spirit,” named a Lone Star Poet and the poem was published in *Lone Stars Magazine*.

**Professional Activities**

**BARBARA SHEPHERD** presented a program in January for Wordwrights-OKC Christian Writers on formatting manuscripts.

**MARK HARDICK** gave a poetry reading at the Proforming Arts Studio at the Depot, Jan. 10, 2010. He calls it “Leaf by leaf, by leaf, by leaf.”

**Member News**

**KEITH EATON** had a double hernia repair surgery first week in January, so asked Kathleen Park to read for him. “I am reading four Cormack McCarthy books while recuperating.”

**MADELAINE (Havey) CULP:** Galaxy past president is still undergoing chemo for cancer, but now she is

**TREASURER’S REPORT - VICKEY KENNEDY**

PREVIOUS BALANCE: 11/7/09	\$ 1074.28
INCOME	
Deposit	195.00
Deposit	75.00
Deposit	196.00
TOTAL:	\$466.00

BALANCE AFTER DEPOSITS \$1540.28

EXPENSES

Helen Duchon: Writeline	\$14.22
Helen Duchon: Certificates	40.88
Anna Myers: Speaker	25.00
Mark Hardick: Contest	42.88
Ann Champeau: Dinner	37.55
Contest awards	180.00
OWFI: DUES	90.00
TOTAL:	\$430.53

CURRENT BALANCE: 1/5/10 \$1109.75

PREVIOUS BALANCE: 1/5/10 \$1109.75

INCOME

Christine Rimmer NGW & OWFI	\$30.00
Jocelyn Pedersen NGW	\$15.00
Thomas Barczak NGW & OWFI	\$35.00
Russell Long NGW & OWFI	\$35.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS:	\$115.00

BALANCE AFTER DEPOSITS \$1224.75

EXPENSES

Helen Duchon: Writeline	\$15.61
OWFI: Dues	\$60.00

CURRENT BALANCE: 1/21/10 \$1149.14



taking it in pill form. Her right arm is still numb so she cannot write with pen nor computer. Madelaine is at Manorcare; 2900 Parklawn; Midwest City, OK, 73110. Room, 450, direct phone line: 405-736-9004.

**JILL BROWN** and husband David (who broke his neck, 8/11/09) left rehab in Denver and moved back to their home in Colorado Springs in time for Christmas. They have been learning to take care of themselves at home, with the help of Jill’s parents. Jill was sending daily reports on [www.caringbridge.org/visit/davidlbrown](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/davidlbrown). That has ended and her parents have returned to their home. Their next project is to write a book about the ordeal and how God sustained them.

**HELEN DUCHON’s** husband Claude had heart ablation surgery, Jan. 22 at OU HSC. The purpose was to ‘short circuit’ tachycardia attacks. He is recovering nicely. Helen’s blood pressure, however, is taking a bit more time to recover.

## What's the Difference?

English, American English, like our “Melting Pot” country itself, is such a mix. But we careful writers want to avoid mix-ups. Here are some commonly confused words and a few funnies thrown in for a smile.

**Ingenious, ingenuous:** The first means clever (an *ingenious* solution) and the second either frank and open or naïve (an *ingenuous* maiden).

**Linage, lineage:** Most authorities restricted *linage* to refer to printed lines, most often used concerning advertising. *Lineage* refers to blood lines.

**Sight, site, cite:** *Sight* means vision or something seen; a *site* is a location (a building site); and *cite* is a verb meaning to give as an example or charge with an offense.

**Observance, observation:** An *observance* is a taking note of or acting in consonance with a tradition or duty or custom. An *observation* is the viewing, regarding, or perceiving of something. Try this: A little boy finds a good place for *observation* of a parade in *observance* of the Fourth of July.

**Pour, pore:** The first means to tip out of a container. *Pore* means to read studiously.

**Pail, pale:** The first means bucket; the second a limit (usually to behavior or good taste). Language authority Roy Copperud had fun with these by quoting a newspaper account: “‘This kind of conduct was considered beyond the pail.’ That must have been the pail that is used for pouring over books.”

**Practical, practicable:** What is *practicable* is capable of being done or accomplished; feasible: Building a space station now seems practicable. What is *practical* is useful or adapted to use or actual conditions: *Practical* solutions are needed, not theoretical ones.

**Hone, home:** *Hone* means to sharpen, whet, or smooth—*hone* your knives, *hone* your skills. *Home* as a verb means to find or go toward home. Think of a homing pigeon or the homing device in an airplane. Yet you hear the mistake every day: “I’m honing in on my target.” Don’t do it.

**Incredible, incredulous:** *Incredible* means unbelievable; *incredulous* means unbelieving, skeptical: He had an *incredulous* look in his eye after hearing the *incredible* story.

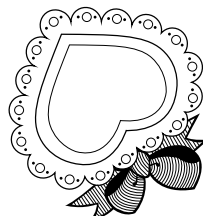
—Kathleen Norris Park, Grammarian

### CHANGES IN ADDRESS REQUESTED

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2010 Dues for Galaxy are \$15  
2010 Dues for OWFI are \$20  
Mail to Vickie Kennedy, Treasurer  
721 E. Boyd St.  
Norman, OK 73071

Feb. 6, 2010  
10:00 AM  
Norman Public Library  
Room A-B  
Bill Bernhardt  
Structure



405-364-7818	Sherry Bynum	President
405-310-6512	Kathleen Park	VP-Programs
405-321-8304	Darline Hobbs	Secretary
405-447-3623	Vickie Kennedy	Treasurer
405-329-2485	Helen Duchon	Editor
405-364-0232	Ann Champeau	Cheer/Members
405-321-6404	Frances Searcy	Friday Writers
405-364-0232	Ann Champeau	Markets
405-321-8834	Marilyn Fleer	Publicity
405-310-6512	Kathleen Park	Grammarian
405-329-2485	Helen Duchon	NAC Roundtable
405-364-6428	Mary Spaulding	Recruitment
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