

Norman Galaxy of Writers

Formed in March, 1969

Affiliated with

Oklahoma Writers Federation, Inc.



# WriteLine

## DECEMBER 10TH MEETING

### Holiday Luncheon Contest Winners Election, Gifts to CCFI

Saturday, December 10th, 11 AM to 1 PM  
University Lutheran Church, 914 Elm Ave.  
(Park in back off of College Ave.)

"It's the most exciting time of the year!" as the song goes. Bring your dish, salad or dessert to share at the Holiday Luncheon. Sherry Bynum will provide the meats. Volunteers can help set up and clean up.

We will celebrate a wonderful year with our current leaders (see page 4) and elect new officers.

We also congratulate those who entered the 2011 Galaxy of Writers Contest and will honor the winners! (Please pick up your entries from Keith Eaton, or have someone to get them to you if you can't be there.)

#### Norman Galaxy of Writers 2012 Slate of Officers

President: Kathleen Park

President-Elect: Tom Barczak

Vice-President, Program Chair: Andrew Horton

Treasurer: Linda Basinger

Secretary: Nomination from the floor

Any member can make a nomination from the floor provided they have the approval of the nominee.

According to our Bylaws, Kathleen Park, current President-Elect, will assume her duties as President on January 1, 2012 and Sherry Bynum will assume her duties as Past President.

#### Galaxy gift giving: Diapers & Books 4 Kids!

This year we are asking each member to share their love for books by bringing a children's book to our Holiday Luncheon on Saturday, December 10. The books will be donated to Center for Children and Families, Inc. (CCFI).

We understand that the Center is always in need of disposable diapers. So, if you would like to bring a package of disposable diapers too, your donation will be appreciated.

—Sherry Bynum, President

## SPEAKER NOTES BY RUTH LOEFFLER

### Linda Apple, "Living in History"

Our Nov. 5th Speaker was Linda Apple. She is a popular motivational speaker and teacher for both women's and writers' groups and conferences. She has also served as Arkansas Regional Speaker Trainer for Stonecroft Ministries. Linda lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas, with her husband, Neal, their five children, three "daughters-in-love" and 7 grandchildren.



Getting up at 2 AM, her day with Galaxy started with their six hour drive to Norman. Husband Neal helped with driving, selling books, and cheerleading.

Creative NonFiction is a relatively new term, which encompasses other terms: personal essay, inspirational article, prose humor and feature article. The Oklahoma Fall Arts Institute at Quartz Mountain introduced it in 1994 with an adult four-day workshop with Lee Gutkind, founder and editor of a popular new journal, "Creative Nonfiction." A closer look at this style reveals it to be very similar to *Newsweek*, and other magazines, newspapers, and television profiles and essays.

Linda Apple's broad range of writing illustrates the centrality of the style and techniques in the larger context of NonFiction. Linda described her readership and the feedback she gets from them. She started getting letters from people everywhere about how much her writing helped them deal with tragedies. Many readers related their need "to write from the soul." There are "many strings from the soul. For the good of others, become a blanket—for all our children."

We are living in History, Apple said. With the OKC Bombing, television broke through the day to show the inconceivable happenings, the back of the Murrah Building, pealed back, bleeding victims sitting on curbs, parents running towards the Children's Center. Apple read from a history book the objective description of this awful event. Then she read the story of her own personal experience and reaction. It is these details written in the immediate personal gut reaction to the events that brings history to life with "creative Nonfiction".

Some of these details which a fiction writer would

MARKETS BY ANN CHAMPEAU

# Editors Need Six Months Notice

Magazine editors may work as much as six months in advance. So to get your manuscripts to editors in time for the appropriate issue, a plan-ahead calendar can keep you organized.

In **January** submit for *August* issues. Start by thinking about swim parties, getting ready for school and last-of-the-summer vacation trips.

**February** is submission time for *September*. Plan a Labor Day party. Advise folks how to organize their closets for winter. Share your secrets for winterizing your garden.

**March.** Think jack-o-lanterns, easy-to-make costumes, and weatherizing your home. Any article or story appropriate for an *October* issue.

**April: November** subjects should be submitted in this month. There's election day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and lung cancer awareness month.

**May** brings visualizing the wonders of *December*. Send in the original ideas you had last year while you observed your Christmas traditions, while you marveled over the miracles in your life, and while you wrapped gifts for the homeless shelter.

**June** brings you to the challenge of a new year and *January*. Instead of sending an article about resolutions, send in one for a year full of blessings, a blessing each month you want to give to someone.

**July** becomes your month for valentines, hearts, romance, tax tips and how to keep your heart healthy for American Heart Month. Send in those stories, articles, and poems for an editor's *February* issue.

**August** requires articles for *March*. They could be about spring-break activities or St. Pat's day. March is also Red Cross month and National Women's History month.

**September.** Get those *April* manuscripts mailed or e-mailed for recognizing Animal Cruelty Prevention month, for bicycling safety, spring gardening tips and Tackle Your Clutter month.

**October.** Editors need material for their *May* issues. Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Air Forces Day are a few of the special days. Other ideas can be ideas making summer camp a memorable time, graduation celebrations, and its also Clean Air Month.

**November** is the time to concentrate on *June*. Flag Day can be written about in all kinds of ways. Which state did each star represent? How do you discard a tattered flag? Then there are the wedding ideas. How to have a memorable but inexpensive wedding. Giving a meaningful wedding gift. June is also a time for making plans for outdoor fun and trips. Lots of things to write about.

**December** is the month to send in your *July* ideas. Make it an anti-boredom month with family fun escapades. How many different ways can you prepare hot

10/1/2011 MINUTES BY RUTH CASTILLO, SEC.

# November 5, 2011 Minutes:

Norman Galaxy of Writers met on November 5, 2011, at the Firehouse Art Center at 10:15 AM. President Sherry Bynum called the meeting to order.

### Reports:

Minutes from the October meeting were approved as published in the *WriteLine*. Treasurer's report was approved as published.

Helen Duchon, reporting on the Arts & Humanities Roundtable, announced that the new wing of the OU art museum is now open.

Marilyn Fleeer, Publicity, said she will continue to be responsible for finding a meeting place each month but needs someone to take over media outreach.

Frances Searcey said that Friday Writers, which meets at the Senior Citizens Center every Friday from 10:00 AM to noon, is "putting along."

Vickey Kennedy announced that OK Writers' Federation, Inc. (OWFI) will be meeting on December 11, 2011 (see OWFI website for details).

Galaxy warmly welcomed one new guest at our meeting: David Corply, who writes children's literature.

### Old Business:

Keith Eaton, contest chair for Galaxy's 2011 Writing Contest, said he will be accepting contest entries through today and that there are many submissions.

President Sherry Bynum announced the purchase of a new compact sound system for \$113.61. She also reported that the nominating committee has met and is working on a new slate of officers.

### New Business:

Our next meeting will be held on the second Saturday of the month, December 10, 2011, at the University Lutheran Church, 914 Elm at 11:00 AM. It's our holiday luncheon so please bring a dish to share for the potluck. Sherry Bynum suggested that we also bring a new children's book to donate to a children's center.

### Speaker:

Program Chair Keith Eaton then introduced our informative and entertaining speaker Linda Apple from Fayetteville, AR, who spoke about creative non-fiction.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

—Ruth Castillo, Secretary



dogs because July is National Hot Dog month.

If you can't seem to get your mind around July in December or Christmas in May, write your articles/poems/stories with a Christmas theme in December and your poem about fireworks in July and tuck them away in folders tagged "To be Mailed in May for Christmas" or "To be mailed in December for July." **Planning ahead** are the key words.

—Ann Champeau, Markets

**BRAG SHEET****Sales, Publications and Acceptances**

**BOB MAGARIAN: PUBLISHED:** His second suspense novel, *"72 Hours"* with Infinity, which went on sale Friday November 18th. For more information, please visit his Web site: [www.robortamagarian.com](http://www.robortamagarian.com) or <http://www.facebook.com/robortamagarian>

**ANDREW HORTON: PUBLISHED:** his 25th book, *Make A Joyful Noise: Essays on Comparative Cinema, Literature and Culture* (Lightning Source Press) He and co-editor Joanna Rapf completed and turned in their manuscript for their anthology of 24 contributed essays, *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Film Comedy* that will be published 2012.

**ROBERT FERRIER: ACCEPTED:** Poems, "Going Digital" and "Birth of a Twister"; *Mobius Magazine*; Flushing, NY; November, 2011.

**SUSAN BRASSFIELD COGAN: PUBLISHED:** Novel *"Black Jade Dragon,"* on Amazon Kindle, November 25, 2011. For more information go to [www.coganbooks.net](http://www.coganbooks.net)

**ROBBIE LAMBERSON: SOLD:** Tate Publishing accepted the final draft of her book, *"My Sarah."* Look for *"My Sarah"* about the first of the year.

**TOM BARCZAK: PUBLISHED:** *Awakening Evarun* (Part II of VI) [Kindle Edition] Author & Illustrator, released (11/2011).

**STAN SOLLOWAY:** Performing in Las Vegas at the Las Vegas Comedy Club on Christmas Eve.

I'm still the top Kwipster in the country leading by about 40 %. You can also find me on "Funny for Money" and if everyone in the **Galaxy** votes for me I may win the weekly \$ 100 to \$ 500 prizes. Also the first voter can also win the same money if I win.

**MIKE KRAWCZYK** and **STAN** are compiling a new book: *"Coaches, Characters and Mascots"*

**CONNIE ECKSTEIN: BLOG ARTICLE:** "STEMz and Roses" updated. Free coffee to anyone who comments on the blog! <http://wp.me/p11ZnA-5P>

**Professional Activities**

**ROBERT FERRIER:** Won 1st place in 2011 Norman Tree Photo Contest; Photo, "Old and Open"; Norman, OK; November, 2011.

**JUDY HOWARD:** Displays of "Thanking Our Troops—God Bless America Touring Quilts"; Food for Body and Soul Quilt Exhibits; *1905 Cookbook* reviews; Civil War Quilt Trunk Show program. Various dates & locations: (11/4-5/11) Lee's Summit, MO; (11/9/20110, Checotah Public Library; (11/11/11) Okeene Library, (11/11-13/11) 45th Infantry Museum; (11/17/11) North Park Mall, OKC; (11/30- 1/31) North Park Mall, OKC.

**Club News**

**Galaxy has Facebook 'Community'** Post what you learned from speakers at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Norman-Galaxy-of-Writers/270487429638795>

**SPEAKER NOTES BY RUTH LOEFFLER**

capture are the viewer's sensory feelings, what he or she feels in the attempt to stand up, how the sounds of the terrible event impact her heart and mind, what smells shock her nose. Using the techniques of fiction convert the facts of history into a personal drama, making a greater impact on the reader.

Think of Sept. 11, Tuesday, 9/11. Hijackers hijacked 3 planes and crashed them into the World Trade Center. Personal accounts of where they were, how they found out, saw it on television a little before 8:00 am, called a friend, a husband.

"Where are you? Have you seen the TV? A plane just crashed into the World Trade Center?"

Another jet flying toward the tower. Another jet sliced into the second tower.

People jumping out of windows! "Oh, God! Oh, God!"

"Did any of us leave our homes that morning thinking it might be the last day of our lives?" Linda Apple brings this terrible tragedy into the focus of what we can expect and what we know about the rest of our lives.

"None of us are guaranteed another hour of life."

**Always leave a little lesson at the end. "Live each day before you die."**

Readers write her that she gives them hope, guidance, help, or perhaps a smile and a chuckle.

—Ruth Loeffler, Speaker Notes

**TREASURER'S REPORT - VICKEY KENNEDY**

<b>Previous Balance, Oct 14, 2011</b>	<b>\$ 1016.41</b>
<b>Deposits</b>	
BILLBE, Wanda, NGW & OWFI DUES	\$ 30.00
BLANTON, Inge, NGW & OWFI DUES	30.00
CORBLY, David, NGW & OWFI DUES	30.00
ECKSTEIN, Conni, Contest fee	4.00
FERRIER, Marsha, NGW & OWFI DUES	30.00
FERRIER, Robert, Contest fee	4.00
FORBES, Sylvia, NGW DUES	15.00
GRADY, Mary Ellen, NGW & OWFI DUES	30.00
FOX, Gretchin, NGW DUES	15.00
FOX, Gretchin, Contest fees	4.00
LONG, Russell L., NGW & OWFI DUES	30.00
NYSTROM, Judith, NGW DUES	15.00
RICHTER, Shelley Anne, NGW DUES	15.00
RICHTER, Shelley Anne, Contest fees	12.00
SHEPHERD, Barbara, NGW DUES	15.00
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 279.00</b>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 1295.41</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
APPLE, Linda, Nov. Speaker(ck709)	\$ 35.00
OWFI, Dues for: (ck710)	90.00
DUCHON, Helen, WriteLine (ck711)	15.30
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 140.30</b>
<b>Current Balance, Nov. 28, 2011</b>	<b>\$ 1155.11</b>

Note: FLEER, Marilyn gave me a check for \$15 written to OWFI for OWFI dues, sent to OWFI

WATCHING YOUR LANGUAGE BY KATHLEEN NORRIS PARK

## What's the Difference?



Could be a great deal. . . Take *immensity* and *enormity*, for example. Think they mean the same? Something like hugeness? Not so. *Immensity* means marked by greatness; especially in size or degree: the immensity of the Grand Canyon, say. But *enormity* is a noun of another color. It means a grave offense against order, right, or decency; the state of or quality of being immoderate, monstrous or outrageous, especially great wickedness: It was only later that Guido understood the enormity of the ruler's actions against the helpless villagers. Only a third meaning in Webster's allows "the quality of being huge."

*Compose* and *comprise* are constantly misused. *Compose* means to put together or create, as in music or writing; constitute: Fifty writers compose our club. But *comprise* means to encompass, include, or make up. Our club comprises fifty writers. *Comprise* takes an object. Don't say "comprised of"; use "composed of" if you can't do without the extra word.

Can nothing really matter? Yes, indeed. That's the

nothing or space between words you might see as compound. Take *everyday* and *every day*, for example. You see them dropped carelessly into the wrong places all the time. If you want an adjective such as *everyday* routine or *everyday* clothes, that's the one: no space. But if you mean you do this work *every day*, or wear that cap *every day*, then be careful to put the space between them.

And commas! Dear Gussie, what sticky wickets lie waiting to rise up and snag us there. You might write "my husband Joe" but the reader could correctly take it to mean you have more than one husband. (Ah, yes, there's my husband Art, my husband Leo, my husband Pete.) You need those commas around his name: my husband, Joe, phoned. Now you've shown that he's the only one. Another example, "The people who came to the service stood waiting." The reader can figure then, that other people did not wait. If you write "The people, who came to the service, stood waiting," we know you're talking about all the people. And they all waited.

—Kathleen Norris Park, Grammarian  
<knpark@yahoo.com>

### CHANGES IN ADDRESS REQUESTED

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2012 Dues for Galaxy are \$15  
2012 Dues for OWFI are \$20  
Mail to Vickie Kennedy, Treasurer  
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Norman, OK 73070

**Holiday Luncheon**  
**2011 Writers Contest**  
Dec. 10, 2011  
11:00 AM to 1 PM  
University Lutheran Church  
914 Elm Ave.  
Park off College Ave.



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NAC Roundtable	Helen Duchon	405-329-2485
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