LARRY BIERMAN
By Comparison: Going Beyond Simile and Metaphor
Submitted by Susan Cogan

Saturday, April 13, 2013
10 am—12 p.m.
University Lutheran Church

Norman poet, Larry Bierman, was born in Oklahoma City but has lived near Campus Corner since moving to Norman in 1970. The Contemporary Arts Foundation published his first two books, Shake My Faith-Kiss This (1974) and So Longing Goes On (1977). Both books are available in the single volume Two Books issued in 2010. Since then he has four complete collections of poetry and a dozen chapbooks. His newest book of poems A Cardboard Door is due for release this month.

He has been a featured reader at the Performing Arts Studio, at Café Plaid, and has shared the microphone at with Oklahoma poets at OU’s Mark Allen Everett Poetry Series, as well as at venues in the Paseo District of Oklahoma City.

Larry, who has a BA in English from the University of Oklahoma, has worked as Poet-in-the-Schools, a program of the Oklahoma Arts Council. As part of his work with the organization, he edited four tabloid anthologies of poetry written by students throughout the State of Oklahoma.

For two years in a row he was honored to be keynote poet at the Paseo Arts Award Banquet. The Norman Street Players regularly performed Larry’s songs and poems at festivals and events during the 1980s. Larry presented talks to Morning Star Church and to the West Wind Unitarian Universalist Congregation where he is also a member. WL
March 9, 2013 Minutes

-Mary Payne

Call to order by president Tom Barczak.
Minutes. Linda Basinger moved to approve the minutes and several voices seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report. Sherry Bynum moved to approve the report as printed in the Write-Line and several voices seconded. Motion carried.

Announcements

Tom Barczak said he and Sherry Bynum promoted Galaxy at a Kiwanis meeting this month. Club members were impressed and made a donation to Galaxy.

Tom said he needed volunteers for Member Moments during 2013. Contact him if you would like to read a sample of your writing to the group.

Marilyn Fleer announced that March is Galaxy’s birthday month, because the club started in March of 1969—44 years ago. It grew out of Professor Campbell’s professional writing courses.

The OWFI Conference is the first weekend of May at Norman’s Embassy Suites. March 15 is the deadline for early registration. After that date, it goes up $25. They need volunteers to help with registration, etc. If you want an appointment with an agent or editor, you must sign up through the website.

Helen Duchon reported there will be a Norman Round-Table meeting on March 13 at 1:30 p.m. at the Mainsite Art Gallery where the mayoral candidates will talk about the arts. It is free and open to the public.

Stan Solloway is in New York City where he had back surgery.

Robert Ferrier’s mother, Rose, is turning 99. If you would like to send a birthday card, The address is 2559 Cypress, Norman, OK.

The next meeting will be April 13 at the University Lutheran Church.

Meeting adjourned to hear Katherine West reading the first chapter of her new “novel-in-progress.” Our featured speaker was Carol Cole-Frowe, an independent journalist.

Katherine West read her modern Rumpelstiltskin story with dramatic flurry and informative body language.

Carol Cole-Frowe stressed that she is not a freelance writer, but rather, an independent journalist. She gave us the “back story” of her success and a great handout of resources for independent journalists. WL
Eight Steps for Marketing

This month I want to share eight steps suggested by Rosemary Gladieus, writer and workshop leader, for getting articles accepted.

1. Aim at a particular audience. You can’t hit the bulls-eye if you don’t know your target.

2. Care about your subject. If you don’t, you can’t expect your reader to be interested.

3. Research is necessary to good article writing. Cleverness cannot replace accuracy.

4. Spotlighting something special makes your writing come alive.

5. The title must be an eye-catcher.

6. Cover letters that sail the seven C’s of article writing: certainty, captivation, clarity, conciseness, completeness, creative ideas, and contacts.

7. Neatness.

8. Return address, e-mail address, telephone number and any other manner an editor can easily contact you.

March 2013 Report

PREVIOUS BALANCE .................................................. $999.74

DEPOSITS

Dion Mayes-Burnett, 2013 Galaxy Dues ........................................ $15.00

Ck #1073 (voided) ................................................ $50.00*

TOTAL DEPOSITS ................................................... $65.00

SUBTOTAL .......................................................... $1,064.74

EXPENSES

Emilia Buchanan, Feb WriteLine Expense (Ck #1075) $17.54

TOTAL EXPENSES .............................................. $17.54

CURRENT BALANCE .............................................. $1,047.20

* Mistakenly wrote a $50 check to the Lutheran Student Center. They’d been paid in December by Check #1047.

The Right to Brag

KEITH EATON: Distinctly Oklahoma Magazine article April issue, interview with Billie Letts


NEAL HUFFAKER: Poetry Society of Oklahoma Writing Contest Winners; First Place, Echo Sonnet “Endings”; First Place, Blank Verse Poem “Perilous Passage”; Second Place, Free Verse “Springtime”; 2nd HM, Limerick “The Party’s Over”

SANDY SOLI: Poem, “Meadowlarks” in the current issue of Oklahoma Today. She will be among readers at the Scissortail Festival at ECU in Ada and will be featured reader for the Dallas Poets Community at Half Price Books on the evening of April 5. Sandra also will read at the Performing Arts Center in Norman at 2 pm on April 14.

ANDY HORTON: wrapping up a wonderful semester teaching an OU Presidential Dream Course on the nature of laughter and is inviting everyone to see the last guest speaker, Lizz Winstead, the co-creator of The Daily Show on Tuesday, April 16th.

I’m recovering from surgery right now, friends, and don’t feel creative. But here’s a funny piece whose origin I cannot give; one of those things that come in the email. I hope you enjoy it.

—Kathleen Norris Park

Paraprosdokian Sentence

Paraprosdokian Sentence: A figure of speech that uses an unexpected ending to a series or phrase. I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn’t work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness. Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience. Going to your house of worship doesn’t make you a religious person, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car. The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it’s still on the list. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak. If I agreed with you we’d both be wrong. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public. War does not determine who is right—only who is left. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad. The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese. Evening news is where they begin with “Good evening,” and then proceed to tell you why it isn’t. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research. A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station. How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?