Mowing Grass: A Message from President

By Cindy Jackelen, President

The temperature registered 88 degrees Sunday afternoon, June 4. Having returned from the 2017 Wyoming Writers Inc. annual conference, I decide the lawn must be mowed this afternoon.

I long to savor the afterglow of a weekend with fellow writers. Temptation to hole up and write is strong. However, duty not only calls, it screams and shouts and shakes its fists. My husband’s recent shoulder surgery limits his assistance to filling the gas tank on the mower.

The physical nature of mowing my lawn allows my mind to wander. Mowing the grass feels similar to the laborious process of editing. First, I dispose of land mines, piles of words and phrases that stink up an otherwise beautiful piece of writing. I go back and forth over the lawn many times, similar to rereading my work as I edit. Weeds jump out as I mow, just like those beautiful, glorious, colorful, wonderful adjectives - I mean dandelions - that detract from the beauty of writing.

I’ve completed moving the lawn for this week, so I can finally sit back, relax with a cold beverage, and enjoy the results of my labor. I see yet another weed I am compelled to pull but at some point, I tell myself, “Enough is enough! It’s done!” Just like the most recent chapter of my memoir.

Melted ice dilutes my drink, and I finally sit to ponder advice from faculty and volunteer member presenters at the conference. Read widely. Slash excess adjectives and adverbs. Seek inspiration in my own life. Look to unusual places like Facebook for titles. Seek primary documents for research. Hook your reader in the first few sentences. Get rid of redundancies.

I returned from conference inspired to revisit my writing and apply the advice I heard from Nina, Caskey, Clay, Kristen, Gene, Abbie, Christine, Laurie, Susan, Pat and Keri. Gratitude for their inspiration fills me.

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My goals as president for the coming year are:
• Streamline communications and operations of the Board to make volunteering a more satisfying experience. Mountains of emails overwhelm board members, so I implemented the use of shared documents in the Google+ Suite (Google Docs, Sheets, Forms, etc.) in a central location. This will improve communication while organizing and preserving documents electronically.

• Honor contributions of existing members while actively reaching out to a new generation of writers. How exciting to see so many young writers at the conference this year! My goal as president is to encourage each of you to reach out to nurture young writers in your communities. Please see my article in the next newsletter for ideas about reaching out to schools and students.

Like a lawn, Wyoming Writers, Inc. needs love, labor and maintenance, too. Bylaws must be scrutinized and weeded. Evaluation forms guide our work in planning next year’s conference. Membership, while flourishing, requires loving gratitude for our longtime members and planting seeds to encourage new members. Students need us to fertilize their love of writing, ensuring an organization that endures for generations. As president, I challenge each of you to help nurture and grow Wyoming Writers Inc.

Saturday, June 23rd, 2017 Proclaimed Wyoming Writers’ Day in Gillette

The city of Gillette honored Wyoming Writers, Inc. by proclaiming the second day of the 43rd Annual Conference to be Wyoming Writer’s Day. The text from the proclamation is as follows:

Whereas, Wyoming Writers, Inc., is a group of writers, for writers, and by writers with a love of the written word, involved in creative endeavors and a desire to do what Wyomingites do well—lend a helping hand when needed, celebrate successes and milestones together, and shoulder up when members have trouble standing alone; and

Whereas, Saturday, June 3, 2017 marks the first full day of the 43rd Annual Wyoming Writers Conference; and

Whereas, in recognition of the growing local arts community, Gillette has been chosen by Wyoming Writers, Inc. as host city; and

Whereas, Prairie Pens, the oldest surviving literary organization in Gillette, has been chosen as host writing group; and

Whereas, this event will attract and bring writers from throughout Wyoming and surrounding states.

Now therefore, be it resolved that I, Louise Carter-King, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the City of Gillette, County of Campbell and State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2017 as:

Wyoming Writers’ Day
Wyoming Writers, Inc. attracted a big audience to its 43rd annual conference in Gillette, Wyoming on June 2-4. A total of 104 writers participated, most of them from Wyoming but also several each from Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Oklahoma and Nebraska. This year’s conference was the largest since the 40th anniversary conference in Sheridan.

President Chris Ellsworth challenged the participants to use what they learned at the conference to help others. “Because somewhere back home is a good idea lost inside a person who can’t express it. Be a prompt. There’s a bright mind and a willing spirit waiting to be unleashed. Be the inspiration,” he said.

A horse trainer from Campbell County, Ellsworth said, “Maybe you know a ranch kid who needs to hear it’s okay to dream up a story and write it down. Tell him it’s fine sometimes to have a pen in your hand instead of a lass rope. Choose your words carefully, and share them. Because your words matter.”

Participants attended workshops on poetry, fiction, editing, historical research, blogging and social media, self-publishing, writing for children and creative non-fiction. They also recognized winners of the annual writing contest and presented service and milestone writing awards. Read on for a full recap of the conference, including an introduction to the new Board of Directors, a list of contest and award winners and an event photo gallery.
Meet the 2017-2018 Board of Directors!

WW, Inc. elected its 2017-2018 Board of Directors at the 43rd Annual Conference. Cindy Jackelen of Buffalo was elected president of the organization. Judy Matheny of Castle Pines, Colorado, will serve as vice president, Keri DeDeo of Sheridan as secretary and Chris Williams of Green River as treasurer. Other board members include Lynn Carlson of Cheyenne, Kathy Bjornestad of Sundance and Marjane Ambler of Atlantic City.

President Cindy Jackelen from Buffalo is a fairly new member of Wyoming Writers. She is a Literacy Facilitator for the Johnson County School District. A former newspaper editor, she writes poetry, fiction and is working on memoir. Cindy moved to Wyoming 11 years ago, but returns frequently to the Minnesota River Valley to visit children and grandchildren and to prospect her past for inspiration.

From the Seat of the "Chair"

By Shanna Ferguson, 2017 Conference Chair

For those who know me, and any who might have been around me the past couple of months, you likely would have heard me repeating over and over: “June 5th, June 5th, June 5th.” It became my mantra. It seemed like it would never come, that beautiful and glorious day after Conference.

Now that June 5th, and quite a few other days, have come and gone, I can afford the luxury of glancing back, particularly at June 2-4. I likened it to giving birth—a nine-month period of planning, working, preparing.

“Labor” began Thursday, June 1st. We descended upon Cam-Plex Energy Hall setting up, decorating, checking and double-checking every detail we could think of. A member of my committee asked if we were ready. I told her it didn’t matter; this baby was coming regardless. And come you all did.

Over 100 were registered, and we fed nearly 130 at Saturday evening’s banquet. That’s a big, healthy baby!

Most of the Critique Round Tables were filled on Friday, and the Pitch Sessions were busy throughout the weekend. Workshops were all well attended.

We are very grateful to our top-notch faculty: Nina McConigley, Kristin Abraham, Caskey Russell, and Clay Landry, as well as Member Presenters: Abbie Taylor, Art Elser, Christine Williams, and Laurie Marr Wasmund, Keri DeDeo, Patricia Landy, 2017 Wyoming Poet Laureate Gene Gagliano and Susan Vittitow Mark.

Our publishing representatives, Patricia Landy (Crystal Publishing), Aaron Lansdau (Sastrugi Press), and Nancy Curtis (High Plains Press) all carried heavy schedules of pitches both Friday and Saturday. Many thanks to them.

A big shout-out to our Critique Round Table Moderators: Constance Brewer and Pat Frolander on the Poetry tables, Gene Gagliano with Children/Young Adult, Susan Mark and Kathy Bjornestad on the Fiction tables, and Andi Hummel with the Non-Fiction.

None of this could have happened on this scale without our generous sponsors: Wyoming Arts

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Because of our unique situation here, in Gillette, we had to change things up a bit to accommodate everyone this year. CAM-PLEX Multi-Events Facility was the reasonable venue choice, and with the award-winning Arbuckle Hotel across the street, the gracious and innovative members of Wyoming Writers quickly adapted to the change. The Prime Rib, here in Gillette, catered all meals each day with a great menu and friendly staff.

At this point, the baby metaphor breaks down a bit in that it truly “took a village” to raise this baby — before it was born.

I can’t begin to thank my site committee of Prairie Pens volunteers enough: Katie Smith, John Gutierrez, Donna Robbins, Reatha and Don Oakley, Connie Brewer, Carl Sundstrom and Larry Larsen. Early on, Katie identified our unique strengths, connected us with the right tasks, and by so doing, allowed this whole thing to come together, take on a life of its own and work smoothly.

It’s said that a woman “forgets” all the pain and grief of labor when the baby is born, the joy of the new life supersedes what came before.

I can’t say I’ve forgotten. The work was essential to the process, and I know I gained much more than I gave. I met new friends, deepened relationships and discovered strengths I didn’t know buried within myself. It was truly a labor of love.

I must say, from my point of view what transpired June 2-4, 2017 made all the effort worthwhile. It was a pleasure to see all you who took the time to come and be our guests, partake of the multiple opportunities, grow in the craft, enjoy the company, and perhaps leave with the stuff of good memories, great poems and grand stories.

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Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Join the 129 members who already have renewed their membership for 2017/2018 June 30. We are eager to welcome back the 115 whose membership expires June 30, 2017. Don’t miss out on a single issue of the newsletter or any other exciting WW, Inc. opportunities: Renew today by filling out the membership form at the end of this newsletter or by heading to the website!  [https://www.wyowriters.org/join-or-renew/](https://www.wyowriters.org/join-or-renew/)
Winners of the 2017 WW, Inc. Writing Contest

By Tom Spence, 2017 Contest Chair

“There were a record number of entries in this year’s competition,” said Contest Chair, Tom Spence. “The judges were very impressed with the quality of the submissions and lamented to me that there were no more categories in which to recognize the quality of the writing.” The winners who attended the Conference in Gillette on June 2, 3, 4, read from their submissions and received their awards. “The always reliable US Postal Service helped us reach the rest,” said Spence.

He also thanked the judges, without whom the contest could not have happened: “We are grateful to our judges who took time to read, and consider a large number of entries and to send along critical comments which were transmitted to the winners.”

Named below are the submissions honored in this year’s contest. Congratulations to all our winners!

Adult Fiction:

- 1st—Reatha Oakley: “Introducing Annie Louise Porter”
- 2nd—Laurie Marr Wasmund: “Heartbreaker”
- 3rd—Margaret Shaw: “Big Time in the Big City”

Honorable Mention:

- Michelle Morin: “The Brush”
- George Gray McVicker: “Cherokee by Blood”
- Nolcha Fox: “Marbles”
- Lori Micken: “A Last Gamble”
- Kent Moss: “My Father’s Footsteps”
- Barbara Marshak: “Voices in the Wind”
- Marian Sisneros: “Tilt”

Children’s /Young Adult Fiction:

- 1st—Lorie Braillier: “Missingkids.com”
- 2nd—Mary Louise Routh: “Two Flags in the Windows”
- 3rd—Kathy Bjornestad: “Witch of Wylder Wood”

Honorable Mention:

- Dean Petersen: “Esperanza Blanca and the 8mm”
- Karen Bradbury: “Sunshine for Stacey”

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Adult Non-Fiction:

- 1st—Steve Gardiner: “Real Sense Surreal”
- 2nd—Marilyn Davidson: “Guardian Angels Came Late”
- 3rd—Marsha Pitman: “A City Gal’s Wild West Adventures”

Honorable Mention:

- Luana Powell: “Grandpa Shorty”

Free Verse Poetry

- 1st—Sally Clark: “Crop Rotation”
- 2nd—Renee Meador: “The Dance”
- 3rd—Betsy Bernfeld: “Trying to Catch the Wind”

Honorable Mention:

- Margaret Smith-Braniff: “Not Right Here”—“Generation X”
- Matthew Johnson: “A Two Handed World”—“Ocean Sleep”
- Constance Brewer: “Settling In”—“There is Sanctuary for a Twelve-year-old Girl in a Horse Barn”
- Sally Clark: “Los Compadres”—“One Loose Screw”
- Margaret Barkley: “When Mrs. Goodman Said Yes”
- Kathy Bjornestadt: “Storm”

Traditional Poetry

- 1st—Pat Frolander: “Ropin’ the Stars”
- 2nd—Amy Shaw: “Our First Anniversary”
- 3rd—Gregory Bell: “Depressing Nature Haikus”

Honorable Mention:

- Pat Frolander: “Grandpa”
- David Purtil: “9 11 2001”
- Art Elser: “Robin Williams”

For more photos of contest winners and to see a list of judges with selected biographies, please visit [https://www.wyowriters.org/wyoming-writers-inc-2017-writing-contest/](https://www.wyowriters.org/wyoming-writers-inc-2017-writing-contest/).
2017 Major Award Winners

During the 43rd Annual Writers Conference, WW, Inc. honored its members for achievements in their writing careers and for service to the organization. Judy Matheny, 2017 Awards Chairperson, presented the awards to the winners.

**Milestone Award:**  
Gayle Irwin

Gayle Irwin (Casper, WY) received the Milestone Award, which honors a published member for ongoing achievement in her writing career.

**Western Horizon Award:**  
Debbie Day

Debbie Day (Casper, WY) won the Western Horizon Award, which recognizes a member for their first major work published during the previous year.

**Emmie Mygatt Award:**  
Tom Spence

Tom Spence (Buffalo) was honored with the Emmie Mygatt Award for outstanding service to WW, Inc. Matheny said, “Tom embodies that spirit of generosity and brings joy to the organization.”

**Arizola Magnenat Award:**  
Lori Howe

Lori Howe was honored with the Arizola Magnenat Award for an adult, organization, business, or other entity that has provided special encouragement and motivation to writers.
2017 Conference Publicity Report

By Marjane Ambler, 2017 Publicity Chair

For 2017, several of us focused on publicity to try to make more people aware of our organization and what we offer. Now is the time for members to think about how we could reach neglected portions of your community or elsewhere in the state where writers are not aware of our organization. What myths exist about what our conference offers? How do we attract more young people?

This year, a team of Wyoming Writers took photos at the conference and sent photos of the new board, award winners, contest winners and other activities out to newspapers statewide. I took photos, Jocelyn Moore wrote down names and home towns and other details and Ann Stebner Steele sent them out. It was a lot of work, and next year we will focus more on group photos rather than taking and sending every individual’s photo to their local press.

Thanks to a generous donation from the Campbell County Convention and Visitors Bureau, we had $1000 to spend on advertising. Prior to the conference, we focused first on getting the contest announcement out to writing groups, libraries and community colleges and the University via Wyoming Press Association, Wyoming Public Radio, and social media. We also targeted neighboring states of South Dakota, Colorado and Nebraska. As a result, Contest Chair Tom Spence reported a 51% increase in contest entries.

Tom Spence recruited Steve Rzasa, a member who writes young adult fiction, to design our poster, which was colorful and attractive. It was available for download on the website. Several people, including Tom, Abbie Taylor, Christine Williams, and Reatha Oakley, contacted their local radio stations and either recorded Public Service Announcements or discussed the conference with the host. Most of the pre-conference publicity was done at no cost, but we had a tiny amount of money to spend on advertising at Wyoming Public Radio and through Wyoming Press Association.

Attendance reached a record high, but we know there are still writers out there who do not know about WW, Inc.. One big obstacle was the lack of an updated list of writing groups in the state. Please check the list on our website and see if your group is listed with an updated contact person. We need a more effective way to get our members to download the poster and post it. We were unsuccessful in getting any media people to take up our offer of press passes to the conference. And of course the constant obstacle is time for a volunteer organization.

Please let us know if you saw any of the photos or the post-conference press release so that we know what works! We also want to know if you have any ideas for spreading the word or want to help. Contact Marjane Ambler, marjane.ambler@gmail.com | 307/332-3732.
Steve Rzasa has recently had two books released: *Man Behind the Wheel*, a near future science-fiction mystery; and *Multiverse*, a collection of short stories. Both are available on Amazon:

- [https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B06XPYBQSY/](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B06XPYBQSY/) - Man Behind the Wheel
- [https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B07214PV4Y/](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B07214PV4Y/) - Multiverse

Julianne Couch is the author of a Kansas Notable Book for 2017. Her non-fiction exploration of contemporary small towns is titled *The Small Town Midwest: Resilience and Hope in the Twenty-first Century* (University of Iowa Press). The Kansas State Library awards “Notable” status to 15 books annually. Books either have some relevance to Kansas, or are written by authors with Kansas connections. In this case, it is both. Julianne will be part of the awards event at the State Capital in Topeka and be a featured author at the Kansas Book Festival, in September.

M.W. Gordon, author of the award winning Macduff Brooks Fly Fishing Mysteries, has released a the ninth episode of Lucinda and Macduff Brooks' adventures. *Toxic Trout* turns to deaths associated with an abandoned Montana gold mine toxic waste spill that kills thousands of trout in Mill Creek and the Yellowstone River in Paradise Valley. The Brooks find themselves unintentionally drawn into the problems caused by the mine spill. *Toxic Trout* is the first of the series available in hardbound as well as softbound and an e-book.

Mike and Kathy Gear have eight releases scheduled in the coming twelve months:

- [SUN BORN](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in mass market paperback from Tor Books - Aug. 29, '17
- [COMING OF THE STORM](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in trade paperback from Gallery Books - Nov. 8, 2017
- [MOON HUNT](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B06X6Q546V/) in hardback/e-format from Tor Books - November 29, 2017
- [FLIGHT OF THE HAWK](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in hardback/e-format from Five Star Press - Jan. 16, '18
- [DONOVAN: OUTPOST](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in hardback/e-format from DAW Books - Feb. 9, '18
- [MAZE MASTER](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in hardback/e-format from St. Martin’s Press - Spring '18
- [THIS SCORCHED EARTH](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in hardback/e-format from Forge Books - April '18
- [DONOVAN: ABANDONED](https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B01NQZ0RQK/) in hardback/e-format from DAW Books, Fall '18.

Kimberly Brown self-published *Appalachian Diary: One family’s story of tragedy and redemption during the Harlan County, Kentucky, coal strikes*, a new book that is available on Amazon.com in paperback and for Kindle.

Gayle M. Irwin’s short story, “Jasmine’s Journey,” about a dog she transported for a regional rescue, will be part of the upcoming *Chicken Soup for the Soul* book titled *The Dog Really Did That?* which is scheduled for release on August 8. This will be Irwin’s seventh story in a *Chicken Soup* book during the past nine years.

Gayle has had a busy few months, and things aren’t slowing down! May 1-7, Gayle partnered with other children’s authors for multiple events for Children’s Book Week. In addition, May 1 - 7 was Be Kind to Animals Week, and Gayle provided activity pages about kindness toward animals for young audience members that day. On July 15th, Gayle will participate in a special book signing for “They Served with Honor: Vietnam.” She and other freelance writers from across the state will gather at the

Continued on page 12
Natrona County International Airport for an event sponsored by the Casper Star Tribune and Casper Journal. "This two-year endeavor touched my heart," Irwin said. "I not only learned a lot about the war and our military's sacrifice, but I heard their stories of struggle and recovery -- our veterans are special people who can teach us all about courage, perseverance, and friendship, and I'm honored to have shared their stories."

Cork Kelly won gold medals in the 50-, 100- and 200- meter breaststroke events in the 80-84 ages group at the Western Iowa Senior Games in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He has now competed in six states: Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, Nebraska, Hawaii and Iowa. He trains at the Pinedale Aquatic Center, where he is the poet in residence.

Su Child and Contemporary Indian Awareness reported on KODI a summary of this summer's Indian events. Upcoming collaborations between groups include wonderful educational programs on American Indians from Cody museum's annual Solstice Powwow and a July-August Contemporary Indian Art and Media exhibit in the Cody City Hall Foyer. The National Museum of the American Indian has shipped 400 past issues to distribute in Cody's downtown for participating shops to provide to tourists and residents alike.

The Meaning of Success

By Echo Klaproth

For many, perhaps most, success is the opposite of failure and is the status of having achieved and accomplished an aim or goal. I believe it is important to make ourselves aware of what that in general means in our life. Some might define it as luxury and title, whereas others might consider a life full of joy and happiness with their family as the true meaning of success. Once you have figured out what is important for you personally, you are able to focus on your visions and goals.

How does this pertain to me or you as a writer, regardless of genre?

As I sat in on different workshops at our 2017 Wyoming Writers Conference in June, I couldn’t help but appreciate that all of the presenters stated that they started by experiencing something that moved them to put pen to paper. Whether that something ever amounted to much as an article, poem, or chapter in a book was secondary to their thinking at the time. They simply were moved to save the experience with words. The reward was extended whenever, through the sharing of their writing, another person(s) enjoyed and likewise was able to experience an emotion or a reaction from their effort.

For me, that’s enough. That’s success simply and succinctly defined. If a particular piece doesn’t raise much of a reaction, so be it. If the writing is well-received and someone tells me that it touched their heart, then, and in the cowboy vernacular, WAHOO!

My point is, that success goes beyond any common definitions such as: being wealthy, owning a lot of tangibles, having earned degrees or selling thousands of books. Quite the opposite for me: true success in life is measured instead with the reaction from people who are able to smile, shed a tear or feel they are not alone in their emotions because of a piece of writing I created. For this writer, that’s the meaning of success.

*A full-length edition of this column was originally published on Writing Wyoming, Susan Mark and Lynn Carlson’s blog on 6/20/17: http://www.writingwyoming.com/2017/06/the-meaning-of-success.html?m=1
Markets

Compiled by Abbie Johnson Taylor

Wyoming Writers, Inc. does not endorse any publications mentioned here. Please read all guidelines carefully before submitting. If possible, it’s always a good idea to read at least one issue of a magazine to get more of an idea of the type of work they publish. Some publications have online editions and back issues available for purchase.

Aesthetica Magazine's creative writing contest is now open to works of fiction and poetry. Winners will receive monetary awards plus publication in an anthology, a consultation with literary agents, membership in The Poetry Society, a subscription to Granta, and free books. The deadline is August 31st. For guidelines, visit http://www.aestheticamagazine.com/creative-writing-award/.

October 15th is the deadline for submissions to the WyoPoets 2018 members-only chapbook. The theme is hunger and yearning. If you’re not a member of WyoPoets, you can join the organization and then submit your work. Selected poets will receive a copy of the chapbook. For more information and to download the guidelines, go to http://www.wyopoets.org/chapbooks.html.

WTAW Press is now accepting submissions. They publish all sorts of prose books, and their reading period ends September 15th. Excerpts from full-length manuscripts could appear in their chapbook series. Work must be submitted online. For guidelines, visit https://www.wtawpress.org/submissions.

SLAB is a university-based journal that combines literature and spoken word. Their reading period runs from August to December. They seek poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and text-based art. Work must be submitted online. For more information, visit http://www.slablitmag.org/details_submissionGuidelines.html.

The Wyoming Arts Council Creative Writing Fellowships open for submissions Wednesday, July 5. The deadline is Wednesday, August 16. Categories are Creative Nonfiction, Fiction, and Poetry. Submissions will be accepted through Submittable. Submission guidelines and eligibility requirements will be available on the WAC website: http://wyoarts.state.wy.us/wac-grant/creative-writing-fellowships/.

WyoPoets Elects New Officers

At its business meeting at the Wyoming Writers conference in June, WyoPoets elected new officers to its board. Susan Vittitow Mark is now President, Lyndi O'Laughlin is Vice President, Susan Wilcox is Treasurer and Patricia Frolander is Secretary. Myra Peak continues as Past President. Thanks go to outgoing board members Art Elser, Treasurer, and Echo Klaproth, Secretary.

Thanks for a great year!

I have enjoyed working as the administrative assistant for the last year. In a job filled with many positives, the highlight was working with all of our volunteers and members. I will be turning over the reins to Christine Williams, Treasurer and Acting Administrative Assistant, on July 1st. See you around the writing table!

~Ann Stebner Steele
President Chris Ellsworth congratulates Marilyn Davidson (Buffalo WY) for her 2nd place win in the Adult Nonfiction category of the 2017 writing contest for her work entitled "Guardian Angels Came Later."

President Chris Ellsworth congratulates Marsha Mittman (Spearfish, SD) for her win in the Adult Nonfiction category of the 2017 writing contest for her work entitled "A City Gal's Wild West Adventures."

Margaret Smith-Braniff of Buffalo, WY and Colorado resident Art Elser celebrate another year dedicated to the written word.

Writers (left to right) Susan Mark, Mandie Hines, Judy Matheny, Lori Micken and Carolyn Dickerson worked together to hone their craft.

Board member Jocelyn Moore congratulates Cork Kelly contributing writer to Blood, Water, Wind, and Stone: An Anthology of Wyoming Writers, (Sastrugi Press, Jackson, WY) and Mary Brodie, winner in the WW, Inc. writing contest, Children's & Young Adult Fiction category for her submission entitled "Two Flags in the Windows."

After his reading, Michael Sudmeier, Wyoming Arts Council Fellow, & Mary Katherine Scott celebrate being inspired to keep writing!
Jeanne Rogers (Sundance, WY) presented the Gaydell Collier Memorial Scholarship to Corinna German (Laurel, MT) on the left and Andrew Call (Farson, WY) on the right. Gaydell Collier, a founding member of WW, Inc. and Bearlodge Writers, was dedicated to the craft of writing and encouraging her fellow writers.

Writers participating in a critique group for Children's and Young Adult Literature pictured left to right, Cindy Bower (Casper), Holly Moseley (Camp Crook, SD), Gene Gagliano (Buffalo), Cathy Ringler (Powell), Debbie Day (Casper) and Dean Petersen (Cheyenne).

Wyoming Poet Laureate Gene Gagliano and Debbie Day explore characterization during Gene’s workshop.

Participants in the Nonfiction literature critique group worked together. Left to right: Melissa Cook (Burlington), Val Burgess (Sheridan), Andi Hummel (Hulette), John Gutierrez (Gillette) and Thesanica Eunice Chan (Cheyenne, F E Warren Air Force Base).

Jeanne Rogers (Sundance, WY) presented the Gaydell Collier Memorial Scholarship to Corinna German (Laurel, MT) on the left and Andrew Call (Farson, WY) on the right. Gaydell Collier, a founding member of WW, Inc. and Bearlodge Writers, was dedicated to the craft of writing and encouraging her fellow writers.

President Chris Ellsworth congratulates Kathy Bjornestad (Sundance, WY) for her win in the Children’s and Young Adult Fiction category of the 2017 writing contest for her work entitled “Witch of Wylder Wood.”
Faculty Nina McConigley, Caskey Russell and Clay Landry relax after two days of facilitating writing workshops.

Faculty member Kristin Abraham and WW, Inc. member Susan Vittitow Mark think up new ways to crack open old (fairy) tales.

Wyoming Writers, Inc. Membership Form

Please PRINT all information

Member Status:
New member____ Renewal____ Student Member____
(Students, please include student verification: copy of student ID or letter from school official)

Name:_________________________________________ Company Name________________

Address______________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip______________________________________________________________

Day phone________________________ Night phone______________________________

Email____________________________ Website______________________________

Dues (please check one)____________________________________________________________________________________

____ Student $10
____ Regular $35
____ Sustaining $75
____ Patron $50

Make checks payable to:
Wyoming Writers, Inc.

Mail to:
PO Box 1287
Green River, WY 82935

Please note: All memberships expire June 30 each year, regardless of the date you join.