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**Serving all writers since 1948**

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## WWA...NewsBrief

what you need to know for March 2020 Wisconsin Writers Association

Hey {Contact\_First\_Name},

Here are 10 things we thought were worth sharing this month with you!

1. A Note from WWA President Barry Wightman.
2. WWA Next Board Meeting February 5, 10:30 conference call
3. Your Board of Directors [Click Here](#)
4. 2020 Jade Ring Contest Opens Soon! [Learn More](#)
5. WWA Friends Announcements
6. WWA sponsors Novel Book Camp and Lakefly Conference [Learn More](#)
7. High School Writing Contest Deadline Nears
8. Check our website for opportunities and [Contests!](#)
9. Member News. See what our busy members have been up to! [SEE MORE HERE](#)
10. Keep up with WWA Every Day! [Follow Us on Facebook!](#) Learn where to network with other WI Writers on [WWA's Meetup Page!](#)



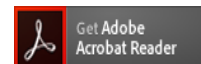
Editors Note: The WWA NewsBrief is about member accomplishments, writing events, and contests. It is delivered on the 25th of each month by email. I welcome your comments, suggestions, ideas, and yes, complaints. Please send news bits for the March 2020 issue to [me](#) by February 20th. Thank you.

## Housekeeping:

**Access Links** To access web links inserted in this NewsBrief, click on blue text to jump to the referenced web link.

To download and print a copy of this NewsBrief, [CLICK HERE](#).

Adobe Reader needed to view PDF materials Free [DOWNLOAD](#)



**WWA Website News:** Send all requests for website changes, corrections, routine updates, and questions associated with the WWA website to Board Operations Chair, Kymberley Pekrul, [kpekrul.editor@gmail.com](mailto:kpekrul.editor@gmail.com).



**Share your pride in WWA membership and promote the organization at the same time!** Download badges to include in your email signature and other areas where you want to tell the world about your associations. Visit the WWA website to [download your badge](#).

**Facebook: Keep up with WWA every day?** Follow the WWA Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/WIWrite/> – Post your exciting writing news! Stay up with the pulse of what's trending in today's shifting marketplace. Network with other members. Explore, learn, discover, connect, and keep up with authors.



**Paid a visit to the WWA website, yet?** You'll find tons of great information for writers. Check out the "[Helpful Articles for Writers](#)" page for a valuable list of resources from industry experts.

## In This Issue

- President's Message
- Announcements
- Contests
- Member News
- Opportunities and Events
- Networking Opportunities
- Publication Opportunities

## Website Refresh

We've got a great public website! Have you noticed? Check it out at: [wiwrite.org](http://wiwrite.org)

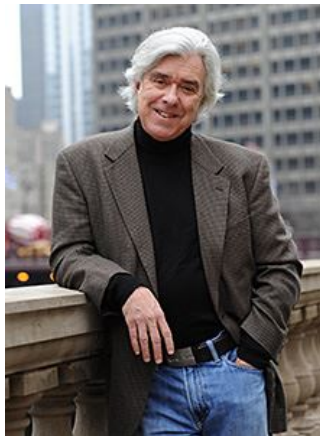
## Keep Up With Us



[Twitter](#)



[WWA Website](#)



### **WWA President's Message** **February 23, 2020**

It's March already and WWA stuff is happening! Let's get to it:

WWA's venerable **Jade Ring Writing Contest** opens on March 1. Yes, it does And you need to participate. Can *you* win the Jade Ring? Bet you can... details [here](#)

• And **WWA's High School Writing Contest** is now open. Know a student writer? Tell her or him about this – it's very cool. Details [here](#)• WWA's marvelous February 9 **Book to Film and Craft Workshop** with authors Sara Dahmen and Joanne Nelson was sadly, cruelly snowed out. (I hated to cancel...) But fear not, it's being rescheduled...look for an announcement shortly. It's too good to miss...

• Thursday, March 12, 7 PM at the Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, **WWA and Write-On Door County, will host a book talk "From the Boxing Ring to the Boardroom."** Being bullied as a south-side Milwaukee child can elicit many kinds of responses. For Hector Colon, his childhood trials led to the United Community Center boxing program (and seven subsequent USA National boxing titles). Hector Colon and author Judith Gwinn Adrian will present their forthcoming book. Details [here](#)

• Shake off the winter blues! The annual **Cabin Fever Rendezvous** is Saturday March 28 is up in the Northland in Solon Springs, 8:30 AM to noon. With workshops by authors Naomi Musch, Tom King, and Sandy Nelson, a splendid time is guaranteed for all. Details [here](#)

• Led by the amazing **Dasha Kelly, Poet Laureate of Milwaukee, The Dynamic Page at the Retreat** is back – short fiction lifted from page to stage with voice over professionals, and real-time painting. April 7, 7 PM. Details [here](#)

• Registration is now open for the wonderful **Lakefly Writers Conference** in Oshkosh, May 8 – 9. WWA members get a very nice discount. Check your email for the WWA discount code, then register [here](#)

Besides all this, look for **WWA at Untitled Town** in Green Bay, April 23 – 26. WWA is an **Untitled Town** sponsor and is hosting an **Open Mic Night** on Friday evening, April 24 at the Amphora Wine Bar, 131 N. Broadway, downtown Green Bay. Have an adult beverage and read your stuff! Details coming.

Supporting writers all over Wisconsin. It's what we do. Tell your writerly friends. Join. Renew. Participate.

Keep on writing...

Barry

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## Meet Your Board

**New Board Member:** The WWA Board of Directors invite you to join them in welcoming the newest member of the board. **Catherine Lanser** (Gove) has joined the WWA Board of Directors. Catherine is from Madison and writes creative nonfiction. She is looking for a home for her memoir which tells how she found her identity and a place in her large family, told through the lens of the brain. A marketer, by day, Catherine can't wait to help WWA with events, membership and other efforts. Welcome, Catherine. The WWA Board looks forward to working with you! The WWA Board looks forward to working with Catherine!

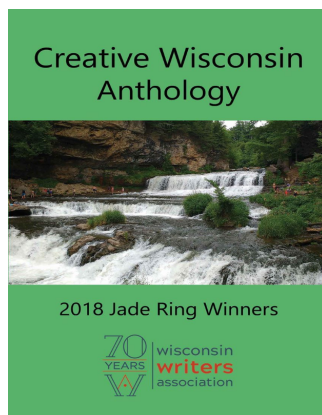
**Board Members Needed:** WWA, a registered 501(c)3, is managed by a Board of Directors. Board members focus on policy and the goals of the mission to support Wisconsin writers to achieve their own writing goals. Visit the [Board of Directors](#). If interested in joining the board, contact [Barry Wightman](#). Not ready for the board, consider volunteering: [Check out the opportunities](#)

**Next WWA Board conference call:** **\*Note\*** call has been rescheduled to **March 11, 2020, 10:30 am**. – all members are welcome as observers. For details, contact [Kymberley](#).

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**WWA Business Membership Available:** Promote your writing-related service business. Just \$35 one-year annual membership for individuals who own/operate a business that provides related writing services may join WWA and secure a listing on the [Business Member Profile Directory](#) page of the WWA website.

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## **Promote and Support Wisconsin Authors!**

### **Order Your Copy of the WWA Creative Wisconsin Anthology Today!**

Order online: [WWA Shop](#) or by mail: send a \$10 check to Kymberley Pekar, W1347 Pit Road, Mount Calvary, WI 53057-9508 (please include the address to which to send the copy sent).

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### **Writing Quote of the Month:**

“Every secret of a writer’s soul, every experience of his life, every quality of his mind, is written large in his works.” — Virginia Woolf

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# The Jade Ring

## Writing Contest

### WWA is pleased to announce the 72nd Annual Jade Ring Contest

Opens for submissions March 1; deadline June 5, 2020. **New cash awards!**

All winners, runners-up, and honorable mentions will be published in Wisconsin Creative Anthology, plus...

**First Place:** \$100 plus a coveted Jade Ring or \$200; publication in Wisconsin People & Ideas magazine.

**Second Place:** \$100.

**Third Place:** \$50

**Honorable Mention** (three per category): one-year WWA membership (new or renew)

### Categories:

**Fiction** : welcomes submissions of short story, flash fiction, novel excerpt, romance, mystery, humor, fantasy, science fiction with 2,000- word limit.

**Nonfiction:** welcomes entries of articles, essays, nostalgia, memoir, self-help, etc. limited to 2,000 words. |

**Poetry:** open to any style or theme. Up to 3 poems per entry, limit one poem per page.

### Meet the judges...

Entries in **fiction** will be judged by **r.r. campbell**, author, writing coach, and founder of the Writescast Network podcast

**B.J. Hollars** will judge **nonfiction** entries. He is the author of several books will judge. Among his awards is the Truman Capote Prize for Literary Nonfiction and the Anne Be and James B. McMillan Prize.

**Poetry** entries will be judged by **Dasha Kelly**, Poet Laureate of Milwaukee. She is the author of three poetry collections, four spoken word albums, and two novels.

**ENTER and see RULES [here](#)**

### WWA High School Student Writing Contest!

# High School Writing Contest

FICTION & NONFICTION

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## **CASH AWARDS FOR 1ST, 2ND, 3RD PLACE WINNERS**

- ♦ Open February - April 30, 2020
  - ♦ Open to any Wisconsin junior or senior high school student
  - ♦ No entry fee
  - ♦ 1,500 word maximum
  - ♦ Click this section to find contest details and submission form
- 

### **Member News:**

Got News? Send your member news by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the upcoming month's WWA NewsBrief issue. Send to the [editor](#).



## Jade Ring Team

Jade ring Contest managers, Christine Schultz and Barb Messick, are pleased to welcome Tom Malin to the team. He's learning the ropes to be ready to take over some responsibilities as current managers rotate out of the roles.

Tom bring a wealth of contest experience with him. He's earned accolades through a number of contest entries, winning and placing, including the Hal Grutzmacher Award for Literature. He has also published several short stories and participated in short story and poetry readings.

**2nd Act Writers** was chosen as the April group for the **Local Author Slam** at the Mystery to Me Bookstore on Madison's Monroe Street on April 16, 2020 at 7 pm. Other local authors that evening will be firefighter novelist Greg Renz, mystic chaplain memoirist Kathy Collins and incarceration/artist witness memoir author Judy Adrian.

**“Time to Write Your Story,”** a writing workshop facilitated by WWA member Laurel Bragstad, is being offered by the Greenfield Park & Recreation Department in April and May in the Greenfield City Hall building. Each 4-part session will cover topics and practice relevant to novel, short story and memoir, including: story structure, character development, tension, narration, dialog, and editing. Dates: Wednesdays, April 8-29 and Wednesdays, May 13-June 3, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. All writing abilities welcome. To register, call the Greenfield Park & Rec office at 414-297-9008.

**Member discount to WWA members** for the Saturday Craft & Publishing Workshops at Red Oak Writing Studio. WWA members enjoy a special rate of \$45 (a \$5 discount!) For more info, contact [Kim](#) or call 414-881-7276 or visit the [website](#)

**The Paid Writer: How to Start Freelancing ...Without Writing for Free**

Saturday, March 14 9:30 am - Noon ( deadline - Mon., March 9) Register [online](#)

You've said you want to make a living as a writer. You've even spent a fair share of time sitting at the kitchen table researching freelance writing, only to walk away with your head spinning, rather than enlightened. Participants will learn the common misconceptions about being a paid writer, take the critical first steps that many writers skip, and walk away with an action plan for writing productivity and profit. With Jessica Noel.

**Whose Point of View is it Anyway?** Janet Burroway, author of 8 novels.

Saturday, April 18, 2020 9:30 am - noon Register [Here](#) Space is limited

Point of Point of View is the most complex element of fiction writing, the most difficult to understand and the most difficult to accomplish. It consists of many moving parts. This workshop deals with the practice of point of view: How can you understand POV in the fiction of others and yourself? How do you choose what person to write in? How can you be consistent when the reader needs external information? Must you really be consistent? How can you show physically a character whose viewpoint we share? How do you show the backstory? How do you signal an unreliable narrator? How do you make one sympathetic? The method will be a combination of practicum—analyzing published passages—writing prompts and Q&A.

**WWA is a proud sponsor **Novel-in-Progress Book Camp and Writing Retreat****

Book Camp & Writing Retreat, two six-day, residential programs focused on the craft of long-form writing, publishing, and networking among new friends (writers all.) It will be held Sunday evening, May 17 through Saturday morning, May 23, 2020, the week before Memorial Day. The event is hosted by member Dave Rank.

The Book Camp is a hands-on workshop led by published novelists, editors, and literary agents, providing craft classes, one-on-one consultations for your Work-In-Progress, group critiques of your writing, and presentations on writing and publishing. A roster of writers are already lining up to attend, so reserve your spot by contacting director [Dave](#) as soon as possible.



## Why join WWA? Here's another exciting reason...this members-only benefit!

We are looking for more reviewers as well as reviews. Email [Lisa](#) for more information. To submit a request for reviews, please visit [WiWrite.org](http://WiWrite.org), to read book reviews in full or to request a review of your book.

Please enjoy two book reviews by our talented volunteer WWA members.



## UPCOMING CLASSES, CONFERENCES, RETREATS, WORKSHOPS & WRITING FESTIVALS...

### Announcements

WWA forges relationships to help us better serve our membership, improve our organization's performance, and engage our professional networks.

**WWA Affiliate Announcements:** *WWA develops long-lasting partnerships between complementary organizations and businesses where a mutually beneficial relationship serves each organization's interests. WWA will consider proposals to work together or on events and projects but does not guarantee acceptance.*



## UW Continuing Studies Writing Program

### UW's Writers Institute

**March 26-29, 2020**

**Registration is now open!** The annual event features learning opportunities for every genre, beginner to advanced, from craft to publishing. Register before February 25th and save \$40. [Learn more here.](#)

**Madison Continuing Studies** offers additional [Writing Classes](#), in person and online, manuscript critiques, writing retreats, and workshops. Prices and times vary. [Check here for details.](#)



### Lakefly Writers Conference

**May 8-9, 2020 – Oshkosh, WI**

EVERYONE HAS A STORY! Join our supportive community of writers at the Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center for our 6th annual two-day conference. We offer over a dozen workshops on the craft and business of writing designed to inspire and guide your creative journey. [Learn More](#)

**Lakefly Writers Contest** is open and accepting submissions until March 13, 2020

For complete contest details, Visit the [website](#). [Questions?](#) or call Oshkosh Public Library at 920-236-5203, ask for Ruth

No Entry Fee Cash Awards: \$100, \$75, \$50 Check here for complete contest rules.

### Categories

Flash Fiction: max 750 words Any genre No theme

Short Story: max 3,000 words; Theme: True Love

Poetry: max 75 lines, any form or style, free verse or formal, no theme

Teen Short Story: Open to 18 years old & younger, max 1,500 words, any genre, no theme

Contest supported, in part, by grants from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation and the Wisconsin Arts Board.

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### Announcements from our WWA Friends:

*WWA provides a monthly listing of non-sponsored, non-affiliate opportunities for its membership community. WWA shares this information solely as a service to its members.*



**Red Oak Writing** offers programs for writers of all levels of ability and experience: Registration is open for [Roundtable Critique Groups \(online and in person\)](#), [Craft & Publishing Workshops](#), and [Youth Creative Writing Camps](#).

The Masters  
Review



**Subscribe to Masters Review**

Find contests and other writing opportunities. Masters Review offers a quality platform for emerging writers. [Click here for details](#).

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## Contests

Here are a few...for more visit our contest page on the [WWA website!](#)

### [Green Stories Flash Fiction Contest](#)

NO ENTRY FEE. Deadline March 21, 2020. Length 500 words. First prize £500, second prize £100, third prize £50. Additional prizes of £50 for the best student submission (18-25 years) and £50 for the best < 18-year submission. Open to all, as long as it has not been published elsewhere. All submissions must be in English and conform to the green stories criteria of showing a positive vision of what a sustainable society might look like or in some way smuggling in green solutions/policies/characters in the context of an otherwise mainstream story.

### [Lindisfarne Prize for Debut Crime Fiction](#)

NO ENTRY FEE. Deadline March 31, 2020. Open to all new writers who are from, or whose work celebrates, the north of England and who have not previously had a crime or thriller story published in any form. Entrants must submit a short story of no more than 10,000 words or the first two chapters and a synopsis of their work in progress to be considered. The winning entry will be awarded a prize of £2,500 to support the completion of their work, as well as free editorial and mentoring services from a local independent publisher and funding towards a year's membership of industry associations. They must not have had any of their crime or thriller work published before, traditionally or independently (including self-published).

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## Good Reasons to Go North!

### **Cabin Fever Rendezvous**

Saturday, March 28th, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Solon Springs Community Center in Solon Springs, WI is hosted by The St Croix Writers of Solon Springs will host presentations including *Your GPS for Success*, *No Flat Stanleys - Creating Dimensional Characters With Whom Your Readers Will Bond* and *Let's Talk About Writing Our Life's Stories*. There will also be an open mic session for participants to read their work; refreshments; book displays and book sales featuring local writers. [Learn more.](#)

### **Draft & Craft!**

Tuesdays, beginning March 3 through May 5

**Date:** Tuesday evenings, March 3 through May 5, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Cost:** Pay as you can (\$10 per session suggested minimum donation)

**Location:** Viroqua Food Co-op's Community Room, *except* for the sessions on 3/17 and 4/21, which will be held at the Vernon County Museum, 410 S Center Ave, Viroqua

**Registration:** No registration needed

Draft & Craft is a no-pressure, informal workshop that provides challenging prompts on a variety of topics, giving participants time to think and write. Led by a rotating cast of DWC instructors, the sessions for spring 2020 include instigating and heightening drama in your writing, making new work from found materials, crafting an attention-getting pitch letter, and writing great dialogue. Registration not required. Just bring pen and paper and be ready to enjoy excellent company, intriguing discussions--and fun!

**Driftless Writing Center****Reading & Open Mic**

Friday, March 13, 7pm

MacHelp, 210 S. Main St., Viroqua

Angela Light will read from her new book, **In Light, Always Light**, followed by an open mic. Bring 5 minutes of writing to share.

**Workshop: Poetry as a Visual Art Form**

Saturday, March 14, 10am - Noon

The Commons, E. Jefferson St., Viroqua

\$35 per person (inquire about scholarship opportunities)

Pre-registration required, [register here](#)

Focusing on craft and form, exploration of white space, caesuras, em dash and elliptical poetry used effectively by poets, including C.D.Wright, Simon Ortiz, Allison Adelle Hedge Coke, Adrienne Rich, Jean Valentine, Claudia Rankine, Joan Nayiyuk Kane, and Layli Long Soldier. Bring one poem on any subject to edit during this time. [Register now](#)

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**Writers Groups** Writing is a solitary endeavor, but we can learn so much from fellow writers, sharing our works, listening to others share theirs improves our writing. Do you know of writers groups in your area that welcome new members? Share them with us, send your information to the [editor](#). Let's work together!

**The Kenosha Writers Guild** meets at the beautiful Carthage College on the shores of Lake Michigan. See videos of members and their success and upcoming events at [Kenosha Writers Guild](#).

**Lake Geneva writing group** meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 1-3 pm at the [Lake Geneva Public Library](#). For more information, contact [Rachel](#).

**Monthly Poetry Readings** First Tuesday of each month at Suzy's Steakhouse in Portage WI; 6:00 - 8:00 pm. The group extends an invitation to Wisconsin Writers to attend or to request an opportunity to be a Featured Poet. The goal for each month is to have one male and one female Featured Poet and time for Open Mic. Contact June Paul at [junepaul@gmail.com](mailto:junepaul@gmail.com) to learn about current openings.

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## Opportunities and Events:

**Do you know of an event?** Send event news by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the upcoming month's WWA NewsBrief issue. Send to the [editor](#).

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## Networking Opportunities:

**Did you know that WWA is On Meetup?** Yep, we've been on Meetup since November 2018. What's Meetup you ask? It's a new way for Wisconsin Writers to connect with writing groups and events around the state! Connect through Meetup with other writers you know from all over Wisconsin, learn about writing-related events that happen everywhere! WWA now has 210 Meetup members! Meetup is a great member benefit coordinated by board member Adrienne Hulburt who regularly adds new conferences, events, and interesting writer events and anything else that gets thrown her way onto the WWA Meetup events calendar. Follow the link below to join WWA's, Meetup Page!

<https://www.meetup.com/WisconsinWritersAssociation/>

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## Publication Opportunities:

**The Masters Review/New Voices** – The Masters Review New Voices category is open year-round to any new or emerging author who has not published a work of fiction or narrative nonfiction of novel length. Authors with short story collections are free to submit. They accept simultaneous and multiple submissions but ask that you inform them immediately if your story is accepted elsewhere. They pay New Voices authors \$0.10/word up to \$200 and do not charge submission fees but are highly selective. To read previously published stories, or to submit a piece of fiction or narrative nonfiction up to 7000 words, please see the [New Voices](#) page of their website.

**Join the group that supports you throughout Wisconsin!**

**Become a member here!**

You write. Wisconsin writes!  
WWA Monthly NewsBrief

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NewsBrief Editor Barbara Messick

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[facebook.com/WIWrite](https://facebook.com/WIWrite)

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## 2020 WWA NewsBrief Submission Deadline Calendar:

To help WWA Members and our Partner Groups & Organizations schedule submissions for inclusion in the WWA NewsBrief, we've put together a handy Issue/Deadline Reference (see below) for the upcoming year. Feel free to print and keep the reference in a convenient place to schedule your news submissions.

*Please note that the November and December NewsBrief is combined into one issue. Also, the January NewsBrief has an earlier December submission deadline to allow for timely distribution to members before Christmas week each year.*

- **April NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Friday, March 20, 2020
- **May NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Monday, April 20, 2020
- **June NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Wednesday, May 20, 2020
- **July NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Saturday, June 20, 2020
- **August NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Monday, July 20, 2020
- **September NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Thursday, August 20, 2020
- **October NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Sunday, September 20, 2020
- **November/December NewsBrief 2020** - Deadline Tuesday, October 20, 2020
- **January NewsBrief 2021** - Deadline Wednesday, **December 13**, 2020  
**Note:** earlier deadline for January submissions