

WRITE AWAY

Rockford Writers' Guild | Since 1947

May Meeting Cancelled, June ?

Due to COVID-19, Illinois is still under stay-at-home orders, so our May meeting is cancelled unless the situation changes. For our June meeting, whether or not we're able to meet, please revise one of the pieces you wrote for an earlier meeting. If we're unable to meet, you can send your revised works to me and I'll send them on to James Marshall: sally@rockfordwritersguild.org

Please stay safe and healthy, everyone!

Writing Contest in Lieu of May Meeting

The theme is "New Realities." (Poems: 50 lines or less, and prose: 1,300 words or less.) Winning pieces will be published in the 2021 Winter-Spring edition of *The Rockford Review*. The prize is publication, not monetary. Deadline: 5/20. Use our online submission form or send to: sally@rockfordwritersguild.org



"Early Days" Poetry Contest Winners

Our "Early Days" poetry contest winners are listed on page three of this newsletter. Thanks again to everyone who submitted poems — we had quite a large number of submissions.

PLEASE NOTE: OUR MAY 17 MEETING IS CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS THREAT AND DUE TO STAY-AT-HOME ORDERS FOR ILLINOIS.

BOARD ELECTION

Elections take place in May by the general membership (via email) and officers are installed in June, beginning their terms of office on July 1. Please email me with your votes for our slate of candidates, deadline May 31, midnight Rockford time.

sally@rockfordwritersguild.org

Slate of RWG Board Candidates

President: Sally Hewitt
 Treasurer: Cindy Guentherman
 Vice President: Becky Wyant
 Recording Secretary: Lori Marshall
 Membership Director: Tom Walsh

Please vote for all positions or let me know if you vote for the entire slate. Thank you!

COMMENTARY CORNER

Commentary Corner is open! Contact Tom Walsh, Membership Director, if you'd like to share your writing and critique other members' poetry and prose.

membership@rockfordwritersguild.org

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

We're happy to report the winner of The Colleen Holmbeck Poetry Prize at Rockford University was announced in April. Part of the award was a gift membership to RWG. Please welcome the winner: Fatima Alzahraa Hussein. One of her poems will appear in the Summer-Fall edition of *The Rockford Review*.

GOOD NEWS about GUILD WRITERS

To have your literary good news published here and on our Facebook page every month, email sally@rockfordwritersguild.org.

Mike Bayles took Third Place in the April Wilda Morris Monthly Challenge. His poem will be available to read at wildamorris.blogspot.com. *Stat Poets* and *The Avocet* published his poetry. *Pancakes in Heaven* accepted two of his poems for publication in upcoming issues.

Joan Clark has a new book—an inspirational romance—entitled *Blue Ridge Blessings*, now available on Amazon.

Charlotte Digregorio of Winnetka, IL has a third haiku/art exhibit scheduled for the Glenview (IL) Park District from July 1 through Sept. 30. She also has an exhibit scheduled for the Northfield Public Library in Northfield, IL from July 1 through July 31. She recently received many acceptances for her short poetry. Her haiku is being featured in the 25th Silver Anniversary Edition of the Asahi Haikuist Network journal in Japan. Her haiku has also been accepted by *bottle rockets* journal, and her tanka will appear in *Red Lights* journal. (Tanka is a five-line lyrical poem that originated in Japan.) Her rengay poem, "Fabric," created in collaboration with Canadian Poet Ignatius Fay, will appear in *Frogpond journal*. (Rengay contains linked, alternating haiku verses by two poets on a certain theme.)

Eunice Fisher: Other RWG members might be interested in looking at **Eunice Fisher's** website, www.pet-drawings.com, where there are a lot of examples of her artwork. Her drawings have been displayed in several shows in the past year, and she had another show in February.

Terence Gallagher has had a short story, "Two Houses Close Together," published in *Horla* magazine: <http://www.horla.org/two-houses-close-together-by-terence-gallagher/>,

Jennifer Lagier has a poem in the inaugural issue of *Speckled Trout Review*, <https://speckledtroutreview.com/fall-2019/#JenniferL>. Her latest chapbook, *Postcards of Light*, has been accepted for publication by Presa Press.

Wilda Morris has recently had five poems accepted by *Writers' Cafe Magazine* and three by *Quill & Parchment* and one by yourdaily-poem.org. *Poetry Hall* will be publishing one of her poems in English along with a translation to Chinese.

New member **Jason Waddle's** book was published in February. You can find *Awake in Dreams, Sleeping Death Away* on Amazon, Barnes & Noble (online), and various other locations.

NEW MEMBERS

New Members for 2020: Please welcome **Kairo Brunson** of Rockford, IL; **Raymond Empereur** of Rockford, IL; **Phil Flott** of Omaha, NE; **Carol Fowler** of Elgin, IL; **Fatima Alzahraa Hussein** of Rockford, IL; **Jeramie Joseph** of Rockford, IL; **Paula Morhardt** of Stockton, IL; **Kayla Osborn** of Rockford, IL; **Jennifer Anne Rea** of Rockford, IL; and **Jason Waddle** of Hamilton, Ontario.

And, thanks to those of you who have renewed and continue to support RWG!

“Early Days” Poetry Contest Winners

Thank you to the writers who entered the *Early Days* Poetry Contest. Judges selected ten \$10 winners, whose poems will be published in the 2020 Summer-Fall edition of *The Rockford Review*.

Winners are invited to share their poems at our next meeting, whenever that might be scheduled.

Marie Asner for “Spring in 3/4.”

Maureen Baldwin for “Shoreline Menagerie.”

Olivia Diamond for “Library.”

Ryan Dowling for “The Myth of Aging.”

Cindy Guentherman for “Our First Noels.”

John Casey Kalkirtz for “Early Days Revisited.”

Judith Kittredge for “daybreak.”

Jennifer Lagier for “Noir Noel.”

Jason Waddle for “June 14 Birthday Wish.”

R.M. Yager for “In the Olden Days.”

Honorable mention: **Mark Hudson’s** “Morning Coffee” and **Bonnie Manion’s** “Another Life.”

Congratulations to all winners! And, thank you to our judges.



Join the Rockford Writers' Guild! (Or Renew)

Membership Levels:

Adult \$35 (1-yr) \$65 (2-yr) \$95 (3-yr)

Family or Couple: \$50 (1-yr) \$90 (2-yr) \$130 (3-yr)

Youth/Student \$15 (1-yr)

Library \$25 (1-yr)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Your membership with RWG is active until:

Complete form and send check or money order to Rockford Writers' Guild - PO Box 858 - Rockford, IL - 61105. Join/Renew online at www.rockfordwritersguild.org.

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