

# WRITE AWAY

Rockford Writers' Guild | Since 1947

## July Meeting Cancelled

Due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, we've decided to cancel our July meeting. In lieu of the meeting, we'll have a contest — a drawing regarding Commentary Corner submissions. Look for an email to all RWG members about this on July 15.

Please stay safe and healthy, everyone!

## HAPPY 4TH OF JULY AND CANADA DAY!



*Credit: dreamstime.com*

## “New Realities” Contest Winners

Our “New Realities” contest winners are listed on page three of this newsletter. Thanks to everyone who submitted poems and stories — once again, we had a large number of submissions.

## Invitation From Poets & Patrons of Chicago:

Poetry contest with 14 themed categories, plus a free sonnet contest with 2 categories (traditional and modern). Cash prizes. Deadline September 1, 2020. Contests are open to all, except one category open to Chicago area residents only (Rockford is included in the definition of “Chicago area”). Go to [www.poetsandpatrons.net](http://www.poetsandpatrons.net) for details and guidelines..

**PLEASE NOTE: OUR JULY 19 MEETING IS CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS THREAT. OUR NEW VENUE WHEN WE'RE ABLE TO MEET AGAIN WILL BE IN THE YMCA'S HARDING ROOM. (See the notice below.)**

## SUMMER-FALL ROCKFORD REVIEW

I sent the Summer-Fall Members' Only issue of *The Rockford Review* to the printer on June 24, and we should be able to mail them around the second or third week of July. Members who ordered extra books, please mail your checks (\$12 per book) to RWG, P.O. Box 858, Rockford, IL 61105.

If you'd rather pay online, you can order On the Abyss and I'll know you are ordering the Summer-Fall edition. The cover for the Summer-Fall edition will be posted after we mail the books.

## 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](mailto:membership@rockfordwritersguild.org)

## CHANGE of MEETING VENUE

The RWG Board made a decision to change our meeting place, from the Burpee Museum to the YMCA of Rock River Valley Harding Room. The YMCA meeting room is half the cost of the Burpee Museum meeting room, and is also smaller and cozier. When we can meet again, we'll meet here:

**YMCA of Rock River Valley**  
200 Y Blvd.  
Rockford, IL  
(815) 987-8100

### GOOD NEWS about GUILD WRITERS

To have your literary good news published here and on our Facebook page every month, email [sally@rockfordwritersguild.org](mailto:sally@rockfordwritersguild.org).

*The Poets' Art* accepted one of **Mike Bayles'** poems for publication this fall.

**Charlotte Digregorio** of Winnetka, IL is honored to be a guest speaker (via Zoom) at the National Meeting of the Haiku Society of America, on July 11. She will speak on The Art of Blogging, as she has had her own daily blog for five and a half years. She showcases the work of writers from 60 countries. [www.charlottedigregorio.wordpress.com](http://www.charlottedigregorio.wordpress.com).

**Phil Flott** has had a poem accepted for the fall issue of *Pensive: A Global Journal of Spirituality and the Arts*.

**Paula Morhardt** will have two books published this summer: "Days of Daze" will be out May 29 and "Night Maze" on June 5. Both are books of poetry, full of mystery and wonder, June bugs and wolves, monsters under the bed and marines taking children. "Widow's Walk: How My World Ended and What Happened After," Paula's story of loss after her husband died suddenly and her mother died the next day, currently available on Amazon, will be coming out with Fox Pointe Publishing in October, and its companion volume, "Widow's Tears of Sorrow," a book of poems about loss, will be out in November. Books are available at <https://www.foxpointepublishing.com/shop-now>.

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

One of **d.n. simmers'** recent poems, "Reaching out beyond the waves," was accepted in *Fine Lines* for their next issue. He's working on the final corrections of his fourth book.

**Paul Smith** has a piece called "Spreadsheet" published in *Another Chicago Magazine*.

**RM Yager's** photography and poem were accepted in the April issue of the *Front Porch Review*, and her poetry was also accepted in *StepAway Magazine*, a journal in the UK, for their #31 edition as well as their recent "Lockdown" issue.

### 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; **Karen Guler**, Rockford, IL; **Fatima Alzahraa Hussein** of Rockford, IL; **Jeramie Joseph** of Rockford, IL; **Paula Morhardt** of Stockton, IL; **Kayla Osborn** of Rockford, IL; **Tricia and John Plescia**, Chana, 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!

### **“New Realities” Contest Winners**

Thank you to the writers who entered the *New Realities* writing contest. The judge selected five winners, whose poems will be published in the 2021 Winter-Spring edition of *The Rockford Review*.

**Marie Asner** for “High Flyer”

**Cindy Guentherman** for “As the Seasons Change”

**Judith Kittredge** for “Severe Mirror”

**Wilda Morris** for “Korean Fan”

**d.n. simmers** for “The dead touching the dead living”

Congratulations to all winners!

### **Meet Our Board Members:**

#### **Say Hello to Becky Wyant, Vice President!**

One year ago I joined the Rockford Writers’ Guild. Associating with such an interesting group of writers and hearing their poems and stories has been a real pleasure.

A few years back, I retired from elementary school teaching and moved to “our fair city” to care for my son’s children. What a good time we’re having. Observing their developing writing skills and having time for my own creative writing are things I enjoy most. Written language, at any age, for any purpose, in any language, is an amazing human accomplishment to me. I especially like children’s literature and try my hand at writing “read-aloud” stories that I would like to read aloud to kids (or grown up kids).

This coming year is offering up challenges as to how we will proceed. But I see us still being inspired by one another and supporting each other’s expressions through written word.

Keep your pencils sharpened and I’ll talk to you later!



## **Rockford Writers' Guild Board of Directors**

**Sally Hewitt** President & Editor  
**Cindy Guentherman** Treasurer, Social Media Editor  
**Becky Wyant** Vice President  
**Lori Marshall** Recording Secretary  
**Tom Walsh** Membership Director  
**Hana Ferguson** Social Media Director

## **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 level: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete form and send (snail mail) check or money order to:

Rockford Writers' Guild

P.O. Box 858

Rockford, IL 61105

Or, Join/Renew online at [www.rockfordwritersguild.org](http://www.rockfordwritersguild.org).