



August, 2015

NWG Guild Elections To Be Held at Fall Conference on October 3

It is that time again to elect a new NWG Board of Directors. The new board will be voted upon at the guild general meeting at the Fall Conference, October 3rd.

Ballots are included in the printed Broadside as well as part of the electronic version.

Per the Guild by-laws, ballots will need to be mailed two weeks prior to the meeting to be included and valid in the final vote. Electronic votes or other means specified on the ballots will be counted in the final vote. This year, the deadline for returning ballots by mail is September 20th.

A 51% or greater majority of all votes cast is required to elect each of the officers. The new board's term will commence at the conclusion of the Fall Conference business meeting.

During the business meeting at this year's Fall Conference, ballots will be counted for the Guild's officers for the upcoming term. If you are unable to attend the conference a ballot is included inside on Page 6. This year's candidates are all new. Qualified write-in candidates are accepted (see ballot for what 'qualified' means). Officers will serve a term which will expire at the 2017 Fall Conference. The following members have stepped forward and have accepted nominations for the following positions:

NWG Officer Candidates

President- Wayne Anson

Vice-President- Brooke Brouillette

Secretary- Vacancy-Needs Volunteer

Treasurer- Faith Colburn

Historian- Traci Robison

Candidate bios and goals are on page 2

Ballots are on page 7

NWG Fall Conference in Aurora, Nebraska October 2 & 3, 2015

Come Friday evening (free to public) and listen to what our members are working on and 'hob-nob' with some of the best writers in the world- Nebraska Writers. Spend the night and/or come on Saturday to listen to Lisa give it to us straight how to arc our stories. Heather will tell us how to keep the huge amounts of money we make writing and Laura will tell us how we can do more by collaborating with our fellow writers on projects.

NWG Board Candidate Bios and Goals

Submitted by the candidates

Wayne Anson- President

After years of work in non-profits, my biography reads like fiction, but, hey, that makes a great pool of experience for real fiction. My published writing, however, has primarily been non-fiction. Full time, 100% of my life I have worked for non-profits rising quickly to program development and leadership.

I love to facilitate the work of others so they and their skills shine. Facilitating change brought about by numbers growth is where I have excelled. That is the heart that drives my involvement in the Nebraska Writers Guild and the Nebraska Writers Guild Board.

I excel in a team environment and create dynamic, forward-moving teams that create dynamic, forward-moving organizations. Detail-oriented, I have also written several by-laws as well as operations manuals that answer questions about what was formerly unclear.

The Guild continues to grow. We have passed some impressive numerical milestones in membership and conference attendance. A great foundation has been laid by past leadership and exciting dream-casting already exists. I want to help manage the transitions now thrust upon us.

Specifically, I dream of increasing the value the Members derive from the Guild and want to see our stickiness grow so that new and accomplished writers can't wait to become and remain active members. Let's do this thing together.

Brooke Brouillette- Vice President

I am a 2013 graduate of the University of Nebraska-Kearney with a degree in Elementary Education. I currently reside in Kearney and work at Shelton Elementary. My first book, *Just another Casualty*, a YA thriller novel was published in 2013 during my senior year in college. I am the co-founder of the Central Nebraska Writers Group which now boasts over twenty members. I also orchestrated the Central Nebraska Writers Group booth during the Buffalo County Fair in Kearney, Nebraska.

I am a team oriented individual and extremely organized. I would relish the opportunity to engage younger members of the group and encourage

more participation within the Guild. My biggest goal would be to organize writing retreats interspersed between the Fall and Spring Conferences to boost and inspire connections between fellow authors. The Guild is obviously an extremely successful organization and I am eager to learn, assist and lead.

Faith Colburn-Treasurer

Faith A. Colburn has lived her entire life on the Great Plains. She earned a Master of Arts from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, winning the Outstanding Thesis Award in the College of Fine Arts and Humanities for her first memoir in 2012 and the Outstanding Work of Fiction Award in 2009.

She earned a Master of Arts in Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts in both Journalism and Political Science from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Ms. Colburn wrote a centennial history of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and numerous articles for NEBRASKALand, Nebraska newspapers, and a social ministry organization's quarterly news magazine.

She kept books for their farm during the farm crisis of the 80s, during which, she also worked at balancing the local bank's activities at the end of each day and keeping the books for the local snack bar as a courtesy of the bank.

Traci Robison- Historian

Traci Robison published her first two novels, *The Taking* and *The Tangled*, in 2014. She is a fiction and photography contributor at SPARK, an online collaborative art project. Her short story "The Screenhouse" was featured on the Platte River Sampler in January 2015. For over a decade, she has worked as a writer and archivist.

I've worked in the Nebraska State Historical Society Archives and currently work at UNL Archives & special Collections. I would love to put my experience to work for the Guild. I would also draw from our older records to provide brief "glimpse at our history" features in our newsletter and on our website.

Secretary Position is still open

2015 Fall Conference Schedule of Events

The Leadership Center Aurora, Nebraska

Schedule of Events

Friday - Hosted by Shakespeare on the Square - 1206 L Street, Aurora, NE 68818

6:00pm - 7:00pm - Meet and Greet. There will be free hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Come early and get registered so you don't have to Saturday morning!

7:00pm - 9:00pm - Member Readings. Members of the Guild can sign up when they arrive at 6:00 to give a short (5 min) reading of their work. We have great talent in the Guild, and love to share it with others. The readings are always public and anyone is welcome to come listen. The order of the readings will be drawn from a hat, so be sure to sign up when you arrive.

Saturday - Hosted by The Leadership Center 2211 Q St (E Hwy 34), Aurora, Nebraska

8:00am - Registration

8:30am - Welcome and Announcements

8:45am - Lisa Kovanda - Story Arc.

Learning how to harness the power of story structure can free up your creativity and save you time wasted in rewrites from stories that run out of steam before the finish line or wander in the forest of meandering side plots and story hijacking characters.

10:00am - Break

10:30am - Heather Pemberton, CPA - Taxes for Writers.

Do you know what an LLC is? Do you know if you need one for your writing? From royalties to deductions, learn from a professional how to report your writing income.

11:45am - Break for Lunch (provided)

1:00pm - Business Meeting

1:45pm - Break

2:00pm - Laura Madeline Wiseman - Delightful Duos: Writers Don't Have to Work Alone. The Art of Collaboration.

3:15pm - Evaluations, Door Prize Drawings, Closing (Don't miss out on the door prizes, we're giving away a Kindle!!)

6:00 pm - Screenwriters scene plays (See article on page 7)

AGENT PITCHES

We have THREE separate agents taking pitches for the conference via Skype. Pitching sessions are open to guild members only. Attendees will choose one agent to pitch to (if desired). If there are open spots left on Saturday morning after registration, attendees may have the opportunity to do more pitches.



STEVEN HUTSON was a storyteller almost from birth; poems, articles, business letters, advertising copy, and lame excuses. But like most writers, he kept a day job; in-between gigs he found gainful employment as a clerk typist, vitamin buyer, waiter, forklift operator, lifeguard, bookkeeper, grocery manager, printer's apprentice, and meat cutter. Oh, and he went to college for a while with a major in business.

But the muse didn't give up on him, and in time he had a couple of books published. One thing led to another; he edited books for others and managed a writers' conference for several years, making many valuable contacts along the way. He has mentored hundreds of aspiring authors, and he speaks often at writers' events. He writes two blogs, and serves on the Board of Trustees for his local public library. Swimming, gardening, and cooking keep his hands busy in-between. He lives in sunny Southern California with his wife Ruth and son Bradley.

What he's looking for: He's interested in representing a wide range of fiction and nonfiction books for children and adults. Click here for more information on WordWise Media Services.



JENNIFER JOHNSON-BLALOCK joined Liza Dawson Associates as an associate agent in 2015, having previously interned at LDA in 2013 before working as an agent's assistant at Trident Media Group. Jennifer graduated with honors from The University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in English and earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Before interning at LDA, she practiced entertainment law and taught high school English and debate.

Jennifer is focusing on nonfiction. She is looking for seasoned writers with strong platforms and is excited by narrative nonfiction and memoirs that use a unique story to explore a larger issue. Particular areas of interest include current events, social sciences, women's issues, law, business, history, the arts and pop culture, lifestyle, sports, and food, including cookbooks and health/wellness.

Jennifer is also seeking upmarket commercial fiction, especially thrillers, and is pleased to work with clients who write both fiction and nonfiction. She also has added women's fiction and contemporary YA to her list of clients. For more details about what Jennifer, please visit <http://lizadawsonassociates.com/staff/jennifer-johnson-blalock.html>

Mystery Agent from Stone Song

EMMANUELLE MORGEN represents adult and children's fiction, as well as memoir and select narrative and prescriptive nonfiction books.

Or

LEILA CAMPOLI represents prescriptive and narrative nonfiction projects in business, finance, investing, science, pop culture, and current events.

Nebraska Writers Guild Fall Conference Registration

Personal Information

Name: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Personal Website: _____

Cost:

_____ Member of NWG (\$65 early registration-\$85 after Sept. 20)

_____ Non-member of NWG (\$85 registration)

_____ I would like table space to sell my books. (NWG Members Only)

_____ Attending Friday _____ Attending Friday AND Saturday

_____ Attending Saturday _____ Attending Saturday Evening screenwriter's performances

Agent Pitches: (NWG Members Only: number in order of preference. This is critical to arranging pitches prior to the conference and determining who gets to fill the limited spots available for each agent.)

_____ **Steven Hutson** - (wide range of fiction and non-fiction books for children and adults)

_____ **Jennifer Johnson-Blalock** - (upmarket commercial fiction, especially thrillers, both fiction and non-fiction, women's fiction and contemporary YA)

_____ **Stone Song Agent** - (either Emmanuelle Morgen or Leila Campoli)

_____ I do NOT wish to pitch

Comments: _____

Payment:

Please make checks out to the NWG and mail to:

Wayne Anson,
642 N Broadwell Ave
Grand Island, NE 68803

Please mail your check on or before September 20th to ensure it will arrive on time.

Hotel Information: The Leadership Center

Call 402-694-3934 and mention "NE Writers Guild Meeting" upon booking.

Single Occupancy: 1 person per room for 1 night: \$86.80 (\$86.80 per night)

Dorm Style: 2-4 people per room for 1 night: \$108.50 (\$108.50 per night)

Check in is at 3PM.

**all prices include the necessary taxes.

New Activity Planned for Fall Conference

We are arranging to have actors at the Fall Conference's Saturday night gathering. We are looking for our playwrights and screen writers to submit short scenes for our viewing enjoyment. The scenes need to be limited to 3-5 minutes. (5 pages) 5 people maximum in each scene. No swearing, excessive violence, overt sexuality, etc. PG-PG 13 only, please. We do have younger folk who have volunteered to act. They may not be naïve, but we don't want to be accused of contributing to the delinquency. ;)

I would like a broad variety of scenes to act out –plenty of genres, varied themes to explore. If anyone feels up to a challenge, I would love to see a scene/short that shows the real struggles writers face every day. (Talking to yourself, dreaming up murders, overcoming writers block, etc. Tee hee hee!)

The author does need to be attending Fall Conference in Aurora. It doesn't make sense to act it out if you can't see it!

Please email your scene to sabrina@sabrinasumtion.com and put "fall conference script" in the subject line. Make sure to attach the scene as a word document. I will have these printed out and available to the actors to practice on Saturday.

This is a call for scripts for Saturday night after conference has ended. This is a fun extra we want to try. If you have questions, please let me know. If you have arranged reading before and have tips on how to make it a smooth moving event, please feel free to private message me!

NWG Member Spotlight

Carolyn R Scheidies

For the last six months, I have focused on some of the projects for which I've gotten the rights returned, since one of my publishers decided to fold. I have books I am updating and bringing out in both print and Kindle. I have found some projects take a whole lot of time-like my book for new mothers by mothers, HELP! I'M A NEW MOTHER. So many mothers contributed to the original. My daughter thought I should bring out a new edition for her generation. That meant contacting original contributors and adding new ones. It meant making sure information was correct. Lots and lots of time. But it is out and looking good.

Fiction projects don't take quite so much work, though contemporary novels take more updating than my historicals. I still have more projects to go. Meanwhile, my agent seeks markets for my new projects.

Faith A. Colburn

I expect to receive the first copies of my new book this coming week. It's called *Prairie Landscapes* and I call it a mash up of Ted Kooser's *Local Wonders*, Roger Welch's *Shingling the Fog* and my own lifetime of environmental journalism. *Prairie Landscapes* represents the rambling of one mind prowling around on the Great Plains.

With its focus on families and landed communities, it brings you face to face with the grasslands and their creatures. It's comprised of 133 short essays (about 300-700 words) and some prose poems, in sections including *Landscapes*, *Creatures*, *Our Humanity*, *Extended Families*, *Our Neighborhoods* and *our Future*.

Cort Fernald

I have published my crime novel: *KEEPER of an Ordinary* and it is available on Amazon and B&N and other locations.

Nebraska Writers Guild Fall Board Election Ballot

2015 Ballot for Nebraska Writers Guild Board

Elected officers will serve from October 3, 2015 until the Fall Conference of October 2017

Instructions: Check beside the candidate of choice for the designated office. A “Write-in Candidate” is the equivalent of a nomination from the floor and must be a person who has met the qualifications for the office per the applicable by-law section listed by each officer, and who has agreed to run for the office.

President- (per the Nebraska Writers Guild By-laws, Section 5.2)

Wayne Anson, Grand Island, NE, Joined 2012

OR Write in Candidate _____

Vice-President- (per the Nebraska Writers Guild By-laws, Section 5.3)

Brook Brouillette, Kearney, NE, Joined 2013

OR Write in Candidate _____

Secretary- (per the Nebraska Writers Guild By-laws, Section 5.4)

Vacant

OR Write in Candidate _____

Treasurer- (per the Nebraska Writers Guild By-laws, Section 5.5)

Faith Colburn, North Platte, NE, Joined 2012

OR Write in Candidate _____

Historian- (per the Nebraska Writers Guild By-laws, Section 5.6)

Traci Robison, Lincoln, NE, Joined 2015

OR Write in Candidate _____

Nebraska Writers Guild

3533 Spruce Drive,

Scottsbluff, NE 69361.

Nebraska Writers Guild

3121 "W" Street
Lincoln, NE 68503

Write Across Nebraska 2015

The weekend of July 17-19, 2015 was the Writers Guild annual Write Across Nebraska weekend.

The purpose of WAN is to encourage all writers (not just members of the guild) to write. If anyone wants to get together and write, that is perfectly fine. Any person is welcome to invite others to meet and write.

Last year the event produced 210,800 words. WAN totals for 2015: 67,964 words.

Congratulations to all who wrote their hearts out over the weekend.

NWG State Fair Booth

Almost 30 NWG members have signed up to man the NWG booth at the Nebraska State Fair, August 29-September 7, 2015.

A few time slots are open for members to man the booth. Contact Charlene Neely at poetrygrandma@yahoo.com if you are available.

Of course, stopping by to hang out and relieve someone is also appreciated.

Upcoming NWG Calendar Dates

September 20 - Deadline for mailing Fall Conference registration and Ballots.

November 15 - Articles for December Broadside

March 1 - Deadline for membership dues

April - Spring Conference