

# The Owl's Hoot

Official Newsletter of The Ozarks Writers League 501(c)(3)

Visit the [Website](http://ozarkswritersleague.com) (ozarkswritersleague.com)

[Email Us!](mailto:ozarkwriters@gmail.com) (ozarkwriters@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Madison Woods (madison@wildoark.com)

August 2018

Volume 32, No. 3

## All About the Story

### Out on a Limb

### Our Best Effort

By: Lori Ericson, OWL President

The OWL Board of Directors, the ones who volunteer hours of work behind the scenes to make OWL conferences happen, have been mulling over our bylaws, our mission, and where to put our best efforts. I think I can speak for the Board in saying that we want to continue OWL's constant focus of providing regularly held regional conferences that bring writers and artists together for learning opportunities and networking that supports their artistic journey.

That being said, the Board opted to find out what OWLs want for the organization with a survey. If you're a new member and didn't know about it, there are always opportunities to comment to a Board member if you have ideas for the organization or concerns. If you're a longtime member who didn't know anything about the survey because you happened to be lost at sea during the several months we pushed the survey on our web page and social media and at conferences, I apologize for not sending a note in a bottle, but so glad you're back!

As for the findings, I conclude that 100% of the respondents love OWL!

On the big question of how many conferences OWL should hold each year, the responses were very close. The numbers were as follows:

#### 51.2% - Reduce the number of conferences

- 24.4% - 2 conferences
- 14.6% - 1 annual conference lasting 2-3 days
- 12.2% - 3 conferences
- 48.8% - Keep the conferences at 4 per year

Responses to the other questions the OWL Board of Directors posed in the survey were interesting as well.

- OWL's May and August meetings are the most popular, according to the respondents. 65.5% said they typically attend the May conference, while 60% said they attend in August.
- Improving skills was ranked as the primary benefit of OWL by 29% of respondents, another 26% thought networking with other authors was the primary benefit. 19% said learning something new was the primary benefit, 16.7% thought visiting with writer friends was the biggest benefit, and 9.5% responded that pitch sessions to agents, publishers and editors was most important
- Successful writers as speakers ranked slightly higher than editors/publishers/agents as speakers with 52% ranking successful writers as important OWL speakers, and 48% ranking editors/publishers/agents as important.
- Panels of professionals answering and speaking on topics were ranked 4 out of 5 on a scale of importance by 52% of respondents.
- Pitch sessions to agents, publishers and editors ranked 3 out of 5 in importance by 38% percent of respondents, and 5 out of 5 by 31%.
- Small group activities were ranked 4 out of 5 by 29%, 3 out of 5 by 24%, and 5 out of 5 by 22%.
- "How to" sessions ranked high by respondents as well, with 46% ranking such sessions as 4 out of 5 on a scale of importance, and 27% ranked them 5 out of 5.
- 96% of respondents participate in the adult writing contest.
- 36% of respondents said they heard about OWL between 2000 and 2009, and another 31% of respondents said they heard about OWL in the 1990s.
- 48% of respondents said they learned about OWL from a friend, while 38% of respondents said they learned about OWL at a writers meeting.

### Out on a Limb *continued*:

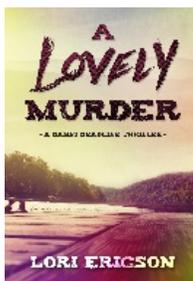
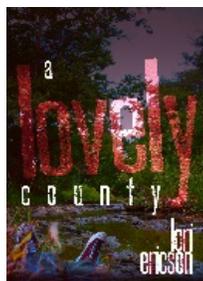
The Ozarks Writers League Board of Directors is stewing on the survey results and making plans for OWL's future. We'll provide information later this year about any changes the membership may need to vote on at the full membership meeting in November. I encourage you to be at OWL's November 17-18 conference and your voice will be heard whether you participated in the survey or not.

### PRESIDENT BIO:

**Lori Ericson** grew up in her family-owned cemetery and spent years as a newspaper reporter, but isn't sure which experience helped more to shape the dark stories that spill from her head. The author and her husband, Lloyd, live in northwest Arkansas with their rescue dogs Charlie and Otis, where she often drags them all off to walk through old cemeteries occasionally. Lloyd insists

those walks occur during the daylight hours.

She's the author of the Danni Deadline Thrillers, which includes *A Lovely County*, published in January 2015, and *A Lovely Murder*, published in 2016 and received The President's Award and 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Unpublished Manuscript contest from Ozark Writers League in 2015. Look for *A Lovely Grave* from Pen-L Publishing in coming months.



**Contact Information:** [loriericson.author@gmail.com](mailto:loriericson.author@gmail.com)

**Website:** [loriericson.com](http://loriericson.com)

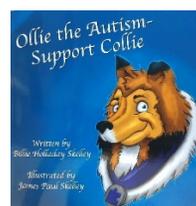
## TO DO LIST FOR OWL

- **Sign up** to pitch your book (Email [diane@dianeyates.com](mailto:diane@dianeyates.com))
- **Sign up** for a book table (Email [booniehatbandit@yahoo.com](mailto:booniehatbandit@yahoo.com))
- **Make room reservations** at Honeysuckle Inn—link at OWL website.
- **Invite** your writer friends!

## Kudos. . .For the Success of Our Members!

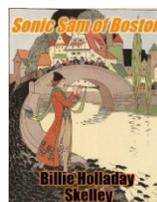
### Kudos. . .Billie Holladay Skelley Second in Series Released

The second book in Billie Holladay Skelley's Therapy Dogs series has been released: *Ollie the Autism-Support Collie*. This book provides an easy rhyming text and colorful pictures to help children understand how service dogs provide comfort and security. It highlights the training, work ethic, and dedication of these remarkable animals.



### Inclusion in The Clarion Call

Billie Holladay Skelley's story, "Sonic Sam of Boston," was one of 28 stories selected by the **Agorist Writers' Workshop** for inclusion in *The Clarion Call*, Vol. 4 - *FairyTale Riot!* which will be released in late July.



### Kudos. . .Madison Woods

#### Combining her love for art with a love for writing

An article on the Green Dragon by Madison Woods, complete with the cover and accompanying art, was published by *The Blazing Star*, the membership newsletter of the North American Native Plant Society. (June, 2018)



## Kudos. . . Bonnie K. Tesh and Margarite Stever

Bonnie K. Tesh and Margarite Stever each placed in Joplin Writers Guild Mystery Contest sponsored by Joplin Writers Guild and Always Buying Books. Tesh took second place, received a certificate and a gift certificate to Always Buying Books. Stever received a certificate for Honorable Mention.

## Kudos. . . Margarite Stever



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Crowder Quill Contest (Nonfiction)

Margarite Stever took the Silver (2nd Place) in nonfiction with "A Creek, My Dad, and Me" in the 2018 Crowder Quill competition. Her narrative was published in the Crowder Quill in May. This is her third year in a row to place and be published by the Crowder Quill. Several issues of the Crowder Quill may be downloaded for free at [crowderquill.com/](http://crowderquill.com/).

## Kudos. . . Russell Gayer



Russell will be facilitating a workshop on "How to Write Humor" this fall for the OLLI at UofA (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) fall term. The class is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am and will be held at the Drake Field location. For more information, check out the OLLI fall course catalog (coming soon) or visit their website <https://oli.uark.edu>

### Other OWLs Give a HOOT! Tell Us About Your Successes

If you have accomplishments you want to add to the Kudo's section in the next issue, email your brief writeup (3<sup>rd</sup> person, please) to [madison@wildoark.com](mailto:madison@wildoark.com). Small photos are allowed.

## Accommodations:

The Honeysuckle Inn & Conference Center, Branson, Missouri

OWL Room Rate: \$65 + tax  
(Includes complimentary breakfast)

OWL Conference Events are in the Cardinal Room

Web: [www.honeysuckleinn.com](http://www.honeysuckleinn.com)

Phone: (417) 335-2030

Email: [reservations@honeysuckleinn.com](mailto:reservations@honeysuckleinn.com)



## Reserve Early for Book Tables

Interested in showing off your work when there are literary agents, publishers, and editors milling around? They'll be at OWL's August 17-18 conference and you need a book table. Make sure to get a table early! They'll likely go fast. Each is limited to ½ table.

To reserve a spot for books or other art, contact Caroline Giammanco and let her know. And while you're at it, thank Caroline for her work. She's our hardworking membership chairman. She can be reached at [bonniehatbandit@yahoo.com](mailto:bonniehatbandit@yahoo.com).



August 17-18, 2018  
**OWL Conference Agenda**  
Honeysuckle Inn & Conference Center  
Branson, Missouri

**“Author Power, Pitches & Promotion”**

**Friday**

7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Stitch, Pitch and Color with Deb Werksman, Sourcebooks editor

**Saturday**

*(Pitch sessions scheduled throughout the day)*

8:00 – 9:00 Registration and OWL Coffee Social  
*(Starts Early for Art & Photo Contest Entries)*

9:00 – 9:05 President’s Opening Comments

9:05 – 9:50 *Ten Steps to Becoming an Awesome Author*  
– Jocelyn Andersen, One Way Press

9:50 – 10:00 OWL Reading

10:00 – 10:45 *How to Create Characters that Jump off the Page* – Amy Brewer & Patty Carothers, Metamorphosis Literary Agency

10:45 – 11:30 *Telling it Short* – Nancy Hartney, author of two short story books, numerous poems

11:30 – 12:30 LUNCH (on your own)

12:30 – 1:00 OWL Social and Book-Table Browsing

1:00 – 1:45 *Promotion Strategies* – Lisa Miller, Amphorae Publishers

1:45 – 2:00 OWL Reading

2:00 – 3:00 *Positioning Your Book for Today’s Reader*  
– Deb Werksman, Sourcebooks

3:00 – 3:15 Annual OWL Art and Photography Contest Awards

3:15 – 3:30 OWL Reading and Closing Remarks

***Join us for OWL’s final conference of 2018  
on November 16-17!***

## **Fun Friday Stitch & Pitch & Color**

Do you knit, needlepoint, or even whittle? If you do and you’re a writer with some apprehension about pitching your work to a publisher or agent, then this fun evening is a must for you.

Deb Werksman, editor at Sourcebooks, will give tips for a perfect pitch while OWLs get crafty. Bring your crafts and hang out for a relaxed session of practice pitching and publishing talk. For those who aren’t crafty, coloring books and colored pens will be provided.

It’s Friday night starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Cardinal Room, just in time to polish those pitching skills before your Saturday pitch appointment.

## **Guest Speaker:**



### **Jocelyn Andersen** **Finding the Awesome Writer in YOU!**

Jocelyn Andersen, is a domestic violence survivor and advocate of women's equality. She is the author of "Woman Submit! Christians & Domestic Violence" and the founder of One Way Press in 2007, a Christian book publisher. She'll give OWLs "Ten Steps to Becoming an Awesome Author" in a Saturday workshop. This session includes building your platform and branding.

Andersen launched two new lines in 2018, Forever Love Books and Novelist Press. She'll take pitches Saturday and is looking for good clean reads for her romance line, Forever Love books, and will consider a variety of genres for Novelist Press.

## Guest Speakers:



### **Amy Brewer and Patty Carothers** **Characterization is Key to Holding Readers**

Amy Brewer and Patty Carothers, literary agents for Metamorphosis Literary Agency, will present a workshop titled “How to Create Characters that Jump Off the Page.” As literary agents, they know well-written characters when they read them. And they’ll be taking pitches during the OWL August conference.

Amy Brewer has been an avid reader and lover of literature her whole life. She is a graduate of Culver-Stockton College with a theater degree because drama, romance, and angst are her lifelong passions. She is the co-writer of the Texting Prince Charming series and continues to be enthralled with the art of writing. As an agent at Metamorphosis, she has learned to utilize her skills as a certified yoga teacher to calm writers’ nerves and help guide them to the right publishers so they may realize their dreams. She is seeking anything in the romance genre or LGBTQ+, but loves an engaging fantasy too.

Patty Carothers has been in love with stories for as long as she can remember. She is a certified copy editor and an Oxford comma fangirl. Her adoration of all things comic book related and YA has morphed into her co-writing the Texting Prince Charming series. Engaging and realistic characters that bounce off the pages through witty and thought-provoking dialogue are a thrill for her to read. Although, most days the real question lies with a simple: Is she team Marvel or team D.C.? As an agent at Metamorphosis, she has utilized her passion for being a wordsmith and grammar guru to help writers develop their writing skills and harness their distinctive inner voices. She is seeking: Anything YA, with an innate fondness for contemporary stories whose characters she’d want to claim as her BFF.

## Guest Speaker:



### **Deb Werksman** **Positioning Your Book for Sales**

For authors—here’s the latest scoop on what’s happening with book sales, reader profiles, market conditions, and how to position your books and yourself for the most success. Deb Werksman, editorial director of romance fiction, guarantees to answer your questions (especially the ones you didn’t know to ask). The workshop is titled “Positioning Your Book for Today’s Reader.”

Werksman will also be accepting pitches for all genres, except children’s books. She’s been at Sourcebooks for 20 years, and owned her own publishing company prior to that. She is the editorial director of romance fiction, and is acquiring single title romance in all subgenres. She takes pitches for all categories that Sourcebooks publishes—children’s, YA, women’s fiction, mystery, and adult non-fiction. Sourcebooks is known for its marketing, PR and sales, and its focus on building authors’ careers.



## Guest Speaker:



### **Nancy Hartney**

#### Short Story Skills

There's more to writing a short story than first meets the eye—er, the pen. Length is a factor, which equates to using strong verbs and exact nouns. Rising tension means getting there fast. One to three characters equates to maximum people for any short story. We'll talk about these tips and other ideas for improving short fiction during this discussion/workshop in a workshop presented by Nancy Hartney.

Hartney writes short stories and has two published collections, *Washed in the Water* (2013) and *If the Creek Don't Rise* (2016), out in paperback, on Kindle, and audio. *Washed in the Water* earned the Best Published Book 2014 and the President's Award from Ozark Writers League.

Other southern tales, western stories and poetry have been published in regional anthologies and literary journals. See her website [NancyHartney.com](http://NancyHartney.com) for a list of publications. Nancy participates in the writing community as a member of several critique groups and organizations in Arkansas, Florida, Oklahoma, and Missouri. Currently, she sips sweet iced tea, her favorite heat-of-the-summer drink, while working on a novel set against the backdrop of Vietnam.

## Guest Speaker:



### **Lisa Miller**

#### All About Promotion

Lisa Miller, Business and Marketing Manager with Amphorae Publishers, will talk about book promotion, what works and what to avoid. Miller has a BA in English from the University of Baltimore and an MA in English from the University of Missouri-Saint Louis. She is a member of the Missouri Writers Guild and a member of the St. Louis Writers Guild. Lisa worked as a technical writer for many years before becoming a managing editor for new media with Liguori Publications. She also taught composition at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis, Lindenwood University, and at Saint Louis Community College – Forest Park & Meramec campuses.

Lisa has written an award-winning essay "Still Falling Snow," which appeared in *Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors* vol. 3 and has one book published.

#### **Publishers/Editors Take Pitches at OWL**

**Want to make an appointment to pitch your work?**

**See the list of August speakers taking pitches on page 7. Contact Diane Yates at [diane@dianeyates.com](mailto:diane@dianeyates.com) to set up a pitch appointment.**

## OWL Swag



### OWL Shirts and Tote Bags

Visit the website to order your own OWL t-shirts and tote bags! T-shirts go for a minimum donation of \$20, while totes are \$15. Shirts are available on OWL Conference Day.

Support OWL, donate and get a tote or a shirt!  
<https://www.ozarkswritersleague.com/products>

## Annual OWL Art & Photography Contest/Show

Challenge your creativity and let the artist in you shine at OWL's 2018 Art & Photography Contest. All artwork and photos entered will be displayed during the conference.

Entry Fee:

- \$10 for OWL members
- \$40 for non-members of OWL (Includes membership)

Entry Deadline:

- 8:00 to 8:40 a.m. Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at OWL's Conference Day in Branson

Awards:

- Entries will be judged on Conference Day and awards presented later that afternoon.

Cliff Edom Photo Contest:

- Leave your photo entries with Jan in August to compete in the Cliff Edom Photography Contest.
- The Cliff Edom Award will be presented in November at the OWL Annual Awards Banquet.

Contest Chair:

- Jan Morrill
- Contact her at [jymorrill@gmail.com](mailto:jymorrill@gmail.com)

More Information:

- See the Art & Photography Contest page at [www.ozarkswritersleague.com](http://www.ozarkswritersleague.com) for rules and photo categories

## Publishing Power in the Pitch

Want to sign with an editor and/or agent? Your membership in OWL may soon pay off in bigger ways than ever! Get your pitch ready!

Literary agents and editors will be at OWL's August 17-18 conference to hear about your work.

Diane Yates is scheduling pitches. She'll set you up for one or two pitches on a first-come, first-serve basis. Send her a list ranking in preferences of which agents or editors you'd like to pitch, Diane will do the juggling, and let you know what time to be ready to pitch that hard work. So, get your smile on and practice! OWL will get you an audience.

### Who's taking pitches:

- **Deb Werksman**, director of romance fiction at Sourcebooks, will take pitches in all genres but children's books. She is seeking single-title romance in all subgenres but takes pitches for all categories that Sourcebooks publishes.
- **Amy Brewer**, literary agent for Metamorphosis Literary Agency, is seeking anything in the romance genre, engaging fantasy, or LGBTQ+.
- **Patty Carothers**, literary agent for Metamorphosis Literary Agency, will hear your pitch for anything YA and has a particular fondness for contemporary stories whose characters she'd want to claim as her BFF.
- **Jocelyn Andersen**, founded One Way Press in 2007, a Christian book publisher, launched two new lines in 2018, Forever Love Books and Novelist Press. She is looking for a variety of genres that are good clean reads for Novelist Press and Christian romance love stories that are "edgy" "in the real world" for her romance line, Forever Love Books.
- **Lisa Miller**, Business and Marketing Manager with Amphorae Publishers, says the company does a lot of literary fiction. She would like to hear from Sci-fi/fantasy, general romance, and regional writers as well as Queer Lit writers.

To set up your pitch sessions, contact Diane Yates by email at [diane@dianeyates.com](mailto:diane@dianeyates.com). Don't forget to rank your preferences for the pitches.

## OWL Readers Share Their Stuff

Several OWLs bravely took to the stage as OWL Readers in May to share their work with the full membership during the Saturday conference. It's interesting to hear what other OWLs are up to, and a good time to encourage fellow artists, and appreciate all types of writing.

OWLs typically read their work at the Open Mic held on Friday night prior to the conference; however, OWL has a special event in August on Friday evening, so no Open Mic Night. No worries, several special OWLs will spend up to six minutes sharing their writing with us during the conference to satisfy our OWL Open Mic fix.

Each of the August OWL Readers signed up with President Lori Ericson at the May conference. If you'd like to be an OWL Reader at the November OWL Conference, attend in August, and be one of the first four OWLs to let Lori know you'd like your moment on stage.

### August OWL Readers include:



**Jim Hamilton** is a retired weekly newspaper editor and publisher from Buffalo, Missouri. Reared on a farm in Dallas County, he was inspired to write by a high school English teacher and subsequently earned a Bachelor's Degree in Writing from Missouri State University. He was editor of his college newspaper, a journalist in the U.S. Air Force, and a community newspaper editor from 1976 until his retirement in 2015. Most of those years as a journalist were in Buffalo, where he has penned a weekly column since 1978. His columns today run in a half-dozen local newspapers. Hamilton was inducted in 2016 into the Missouri Southern State College Regional Media Hall of Fame in Joplin and the Missouri Press Association Hall of Fame in Columbia. He is also a past-president of the Ozarks Writers League, the Ozarks Press Association, and the Writers Hall of Fame.



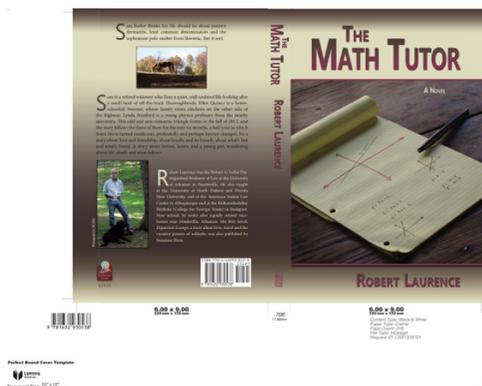
OWL Member **Noreen Gallagher** formerly wrote memory pieces for *Ireland's Own*, Ireland's oldest magazine. She's currently working on a memoir of her "own story." Her writing goals include publication of her short stories in an anthology coupled with her poetry and illustrations. Gallagher, who has two daughters who are both artists, also paints using acrylics.

"I love painting and writing. It is my goal to paint pictures and add scripture to bring glory to the ONE who has blessed me with these beautiful gifts," Gallagher said.



**Rochelle Wisoff-Fields** lives in Belton, MO with her first husband Jan of 46 years. She facilitates a blog challenge called Friday Fictioneers and is recognized worldwide for her addiction to purple. In addition to hundreds of hundred-word flash fictions she has published a trilogy of novels: *Please Say Kaddish for Me*, *From Silt and Ashes*, and *As One Must, One Can*. She also has a short story anthology called *This, That and Sometimes the Other*. Her coffee table book entitled *A Stone for the Journey* will be out later this year. Rochelle is not known for brief titles.

August OWL Readers *continued*:



**Robert Laurence** was the Robert A. Leflar Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He also taught at the University of North Dakota and Florida State University, and at the American Indian Law Center in Albuquerque and at the College for Foreign Trade in Budapest. Now retired, he looks after equally retired racehorses near Hindsville, Arkansas. His first novel, *Departure Lounge*, a story about love, travel and the curative powers of solitude, was followed by his second novel, *The Math Tutor*, the story of a retired professor who thinks he's settling into a life as a widower when everything is shaken up when he takes on a tutoring student.

## The OWL Board of Directors

### OWL Officers:

President - Lori Ericson  
Vice President - Russell Gayer  
Secretary - Kent Bonham  
Treasurer - Beth Ulrich

### OWL Board Members:

Past President - Diane Yates  
Historian - Fred Pfister  
Membership Chairperson - Caroline Giammanco  
Fund Raising Chairperson - John Crawford  
Social Media Publicity Chairperson - Ronda Del Boccio  
Writing Contest Chairperson - Rochelle Wisoff-Fields  
Youth Writing Contest Chair - Diana West  
Photo & Art Contest Chairperson - Jan Morrill Vanek  
Board Member-at-Large - Brenda Black  
Board Member-at-Large - Lloyd Ericson

## OWL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

August 17, 2018

5 p.m., Honeysuckle Inn & Conference  
Center Branson

Call to order

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Membership Report

Fundraising Efforts

1. Tee shirts
2. Raffle of Kindle Fire

Old Business

1. Honorary membership

New Business

1. November Banquet
2. Revisions to OWL Bylaws

Adjourn

## OZARKS WRITERS LEAGUE BOARD MINUTES

May 18, 2018

**CALLED TO ORDER BY:** Lori Ericson at 5:03 p.m.

**THOSE PRESENT:** Caroline Giammanco, Ronda Del Boccio, Rochelle Fields, Beth Ulrich, John Crawford, Brenda Black, Russell Gayer, Lloyd Ericson, & Lori Ericson.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** All present agreed they had read the minutes of the February 16, 2018 board meeting and had no questions or comments.

**MOTION to Approve Secretary's Report:** Caroline

**SECONDED:** Rochelle

**MINUTES APPROVED**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer reported an amount of \$1874 in OWL bank balance at of April 2018. Over \$600 in expenses have been incurred for August meeting as of today.

**DISCUSSION:** Beth mentioned that once again the youth writing contest winners are not cashing their checks in a timely fashion. Discussion included providing the winners with gift cards in the future. Beth will ask Diana to communicate with 2018 winners regarding the issue.

**MOTION to Approve Treasurer's Report:** Brenda

**SECONDED:** Ronda Del Boccio

**REPORT ACCEPTED**

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Current membership is 85 paid members (of which 2 renewed & 8 joined at May meeting) and 15 Lifetime members.

Discussion included increasing publicity about OWL meetings and in general to increase participation.

**NO MOTIONS MADE**

## OWL Board Minutes *continued*:

### OLD BUSINESS:

**MEMBER SURVEY:** Lori summarized the results of the membership survey: 45 responses; with the responses on the big issue of the number of meetings per year almost even with 51% wanting some change in meeting schedule/49% wanting no change. The biggest percentage of those in favor of change wanted two conferences per year. Other details will be released in a summary prior to the August meeting.

Lori will coordinate an email discussion regarding by-laws change for OWL meeting schedule so that the change can be broached at the August meeting and voted on by members in November.

**FUNDRAISING EFFORTS:** Kindle will be raffled at November meeting with ticket sales in May, August, & November before raffle. New tee-shirts with large OWL logo on back will be offered beginning in May for a recommended \$20 donation. Additional OWL totes have been purchased to be offered beginning in May for a recommended \$15 donation.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Honorary four-year membership for Youth Contest Winners:* Currently one-year is provided (as for speakers), but has not been emphasized. Four-year to begin with 2019 winners. **All agreed.**
2. *Publicity:* Discussion included running ad in local papers (region-wide) in addition to meeting flyers and press releases. Caroline will be doing publicity on Face Book as well in particular for recruitment.
3. *Membership dues:* Lori pointed out that there was confusion in February regarding the “discount” membership fee and recommended we remove any “early discount” offer & charge \$30 for each calendar year regardless of when the fee is paid. **All agreed.**
4. *Officer Term Limits:* Lori pointed out that both she and Beth will be “termed-out” as officers after 2018 per current by-laws (revised in 2016). Lori will coordinate an email discussion regarding possible revision to the term limits and qualifications for future officers as stipulated in the current by-laws to be broached at the August meeting and voted on by members in November.

**MEETING ADJOURNED BY:** Lori at 6:09  
(Minutes are a draft and may be amended prior to approval.)

Have something to share in the  
newsletter?  
Deadline for next *The OWL's Hoot*: Oct. 1  
Email me at [madison@wildozark.com](mailto:madison@wildozark.com).



## OWL Fundraiser Kindle Fire Raffle

Support the Ozarks Writers League! Purchase raffle tickets for a Kindle Fire at the August Conference. Drawing will be held during the November Conference, but don't worry, you don't have to be present to win. We'll get the Kindle to you.



Raffle tickets are \$5, or five for \$20. Buy as many tickets as you can, increase your chances, and support our writer's organization. Challenge your OWL friends to buy more than you, because there's a special gift in November for the OWL who buys the most raffle tickets!

## OWL Recommendation

OWL Robert Laurence recommends “an interesting interview about a writer's life” featuring Author Anne Tyler in a recent New York Times article. It's worth the read. Other OWLs can check it out at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/05/books/anne-tyler-clock-dance.html>

**Don't Miss  
OWL's Final Meeting of 2018!**

**November 16-17**

**“Facts, Fiction &  
Fulfilling a Promise”**

**AND**

**OWL Annual Awards Banquet  
Friday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m.  
Little Hacienda Restaurant  
(across the street and up the hill from  
Honeysuckle Inn)**