

Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

April Speakers~~Casey Cowan & M. G. Miller

Topic: *Oghma Publishing*

Casey Cowan is a writer, photographer, and graphic designer who has worked in and around the journalism, printing, and literary fields for twenty years. In early 2013, he and fellow member Patty Stith cofounded Oghma Creative Media, a Fayetteville-based renaissance press dedicated to rewriting the rules of the publishing industry. As President and Creative Director there, Casey helps brand, promote, and publish authors, illustrators, artists, and musicians nationwide. During the three minutes a day he's not promoting other authors and raising his five rowdy teenage children, he also writes, and is currently in the process of penning his first **novel, *Tarleton's Quarter***. In November 2014, that three minutes was reduced by half when he was elected to serve as President of Ozarks Writers' League for 2015.

Our second speaker for April will be G.M. (Mike) Miller. Mike will mostly be answering questions at the meeting about his experience with Oghma, publishing his last two novels: *Bayou Jesus* and *Seven Devils*. Mike describes himself as an avid cinephile of classic film and an aficionado of all things Verde. He lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and works at the University of Arkansas.

M.G. Miller is the author of numerous Southern Gothic novels ranging from literary fiction to psychological thrillers and horror. His work has received Best Novel awards from Arkansas and Oklahoma states, a Deep South Prize from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and an Arkansas Governor's Award for Literature. M.G. is also Editor-in-Chief of "Into the Shadows," a new magazine of speculative fiction.



MAY RAFFLE

Bill Boudreau upgraded and has donated his unneeded Kindle Fire Oklahoma City Writers for a fundraiser. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5.00. The winner's name will be drawn at the May meeting. The only catch—you have to be present to win. Since the Kindle is used, Oklahoma City Writers does not provide a guarantee. Its specs: *Amazon Kindle Fire HD 7" Standing Leather Case, Onyx Black, Dolby Audio, Dual-Band Wi-Fi, 16 GB. includes charger and Stylus. Bought in 2013 Reason for upgrade: Using Windows 8.1 app to read Kindle downloads.*

President's Message

by Dana Seaton

April at last! The month holds the potential for balmy weather, which means that after the 15th we can put new plants in the ground with a decent expectation they won't freeze to death. Also after that date we can forget about income tax until next year. As I thought about what I would write for the newsletter, I wondered what else might take place in April. My research revealed some surprising information. In addition to April Fool's Day and Easter, it seems that every day of April 2015 offers a chance to celebrate something. There's International Tattooing Day, National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day, Tweed Day, Walk Around Things Day, Tell a Lie day, Go For Broke Day, Big Wind Day, Plan Your Epitaph Day, Take a Chance Day, and Blah, Blah, Blah Day, to name a few. Of special interest to writers are Children's Book Day, Hug a Newsmen Day, Tell a Story Day, Scrabble Day, Rubber Eraser Day, National Librarian Day, and Great Poetry Reading Day. In short, April has something for everyone. No excuse for not finding some fun, something interesting, something bizarre to ponder and perhaps write about. April can get our creative juices flowing.



My goal in life is to be as good a person as my dog already thinks I am.

~~~Anonymous

When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.

~~~Franklin D. Roosevelt

March Speaker

by

Paula Severe, Secretary

Lori Ericson spoke about the differences between fiction and nonfiction writing. She began her career as a newspaper reporter before moving into fiction writing.

She learned that the "just the facts" style of writing did not work when she started writing fiction. She had to develop her voice. Lori described voice as her personality as it is reflected in her writing.

Lori spoke about living next to the family owned cemetery. She read an article she wrote of the time the bleeding ghost broke into their home and tried to take a bath. She also shared a passage from one of her books.



Coming Soon

Jim Laughter will speak on finding time to write at our May meeting.



The difference between impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination.

~~~Tommy Lasorda

Dogs come when they are called. Cats take a message and get back to you.

~~~Mary Bly

If not now, when?

~~~Talmud

### Member News

**Trina Lee** won Judge's Choice at the Mid Del Art Guild Show.

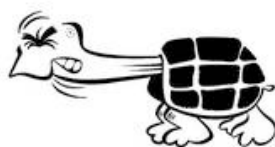
**M. J. Van Deventer-Shelton** has two articles published in current magazines March issues.

She has the cover story in *Oklahoma* magazine, titled "Home & Garden ~ The latest trends in sustainable living."

Another article by M. J. is featured in the March/April issue of the *Triple AAA Home & Away* magazine ~ OK's City on the Move ~ Muskogee.

M. J. returned to live in her hometown of Muskogee in October 2012, after marrying her grade school sweetheart. In the article she uncovers her hometown's colorful past and bright future.

**Lucinda Thierry-Riles** announced that the new quarterly issue of her publication "The Written Word Magazine" is available on line.



**MMMMMore  
Member news needed**

Email it to  
inezbowman@cox.net



Anybody who doesn't what soap tastes like never washed a dog.  
~~~Franklin P. Jones

A goal without a plan is just a wish.
~~~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery

### Fall Contest

There are ONLY 23 weeks until your entries in the Oklahoma City Writers Fall Contest are due. September 19 is roaring toward us at an alarming speed.

Last year some of our categories did not make. The shame of it all! Since I, Inez Phillips, the contest chair, cannot enter, I expect all of the other members to submit an entry in at least one (1) category.

Consider yourselves warned. I shall nag, harass, bully, bedevil, pester, provoke, bother, hound, torment, bug, hassle, harry, and plague all of you until I get enough entries for every category to make.



### Dues are Due

To be included in the 2015 Membership directory, you must pay your annual dues no later than May 1.



## Elected Officers

**President:** Dana Seaton,  
376-0762, dana.seaton1@att.net  
**1st VP, Programs:** John Biggs  
728-0198  
johnbiggs73162@yahoo.com  
**2nd VP, Membership:** Shelley  
Pagach, 603-3903,  
shelbell.sp@gmail.com  
**Treasurer:** Ed Doney,  
341-0031, cell 416-3439,  
eddoney@gmail.com  
**Secretary:** Paula Severe,  
943-4338, paula12@cox.net

## Appointed Officers

**Newsletter:** Inez Phillips,  
946-0981, inezbowman.cox.net  
**Publicity Chair:** Barbara  
Shepherd, 478-0919,  
okcwriters@aol.com  
**Webmaster:** Pam Morgan  
401-2019,  
pamelanred@outlook.com  
**Nominating Chair**  
David Severe, 946-4838,  
dsevere@cox.net  
**Yearbook Chair:**  
VP of Membership  
Shelley Pagach  
**Contest Chair:** Inez Phillips,  
**Historian:** Office of the President  
**OWFI Reporter:** Wayne  
Harris-Wyrick, 603-6566,  
wizardwyane@juno.com  
**Workshop Chair:**  
TBA  
**Audio/Visual:**  
Bill Boudreau  
**2015 OWFI Delegates:**  
Bill Boudreau, 946-6588,  
bill@billboudreau.com  
Linda Shelby, 390-1451,  
okielas@aol.com  
Shelley Pagach, 603-3903,  
shelbell.sp@gmail.com  
**2015 OWFI Alternates**  
Dana Seaton  
Carolyn Leonard

## Save the Date

### OWFI SPRING CONFERENCE

May 1 – May 2  
Embassy Suites, Oklahoma  
City, Oklahoma  
You can register by going to  
the website. Just type OWFI  
in your browser.

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### SHORT COURSE ON WRITING

September 18-20, 2015  
To be held in the Community  
Learning Center on the Rose  
State College Campus in  
Midwest City

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### THE MYSTERY OF SHAKESPEARE

Tuesday, April 21, 2015  
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.  
CCE Forum Building  
1704 Asp Ave, Norman  
Room A-Conference  
\$5

Gordon Greene will answer  
some of the questions such  
as why do we know so little  
about the man believed by  
many to be the greatest writer  
in the English language? How  
could a small-town boy with  
no more than a grammar  
school education have  
earned such a reputation?

## Passages

Longtime Oklahoma City  
Writers and Poetry Society of  
Oklahoma member, Flo Mason,  
passed away Wednesday,  
March 18. Flo, an award-winning  
poet, was active in our group as  
long as her husband was able to  
bring her to the meetings.

## Donations

Bring your donations for  
the OWFI Basket Wars to the  
meeting this Saturday.  
Suggested items include  
pencils, pens, paper, wine,  
books, note pads or anything  
else you think a writer needs.

Shelley Pagach is heading  
up our Basket Wars effort.  
Her contact number is  
496-8749.

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## Board Actions

The board voted to  
sponsor a category in the  
OWFI contest. Oklahoma City  
Writers will reserve a table at  
the Saturday banquet for our  
members.

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Genius may have its limitations,  
but stupidity is not thus  
handicapped.

~~~Elbert Hubbard

When Alexander the Great
visited Diogenes and asked
whether he could do anything for
the famed teacher, Diogenes
replied: "Only stand out of my
light." Perhaps someday we
shall know how to heighten
creativity. Until then, one of the
best things we can do for
creative men and women is to
stand out of their light.

~~~John W. Gardner

If you don't have time to read,  
you don't have the time (or the  
tools) to write. Simple as that.

~~~ Stephen King

OKLAHOMA CITY WRITERS, INC.

Time: 10:15

Date: Saturday, April 18

Meeting place: Across the hall from

Full Circle Bookstore

1900 NW Expressway in
50 Penn Place
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Speakers: Casey Cowan & M. G Miller

Topic: *Oghma*

Inez Phillips

6200 N. Quapah Avenue

Oklahoma City, OK 73112