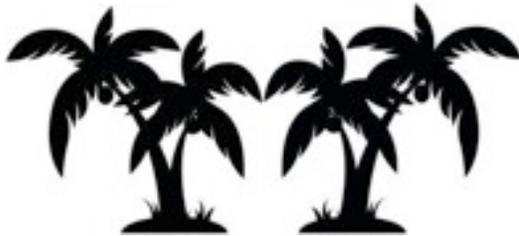

Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

January Speaker --- Lara Bernhardt

Topic: *The Dramatic Rise in Author-Controlled Audiobooks--And How You Can Participate.*

Lara Bernhardt is an actress, audiobook narrator, singer, and writer. Her impressive stage credits include Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. She is also a professional audiobook producer and has read more than two dozen of them, including *A Run for Love* by Callie Hutton. Her first novel is titled *Shadow of the Taj*.



WE WILL BE MEETING IN ROOM 225 IN THE ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH UNTIL THE END OF 2016.



I was taught to do math and read at the same time. So you're six years old, you're reading 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' and it becomes rapidly obvious that there are only two kinds of men in the world: dwarves and Prince Charmings. And the odds are seven is to one against your finding the prince. That's why little girls don't do math.

~~~Emily Levine

This is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one.  
~~~seen on a New Year's sign

President's Message

by Shelley Pagach (pay-jack)

Happy New Year from Oklahoma City Writers! This is the time for fresh starts and new beginnings. I hope you've written down enough resolutions to keep you busy until at least the end of the month. That way when a few get broken you have a few to fall back on. At least that's my plan anyway.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the OWFI conference coming this May. Don't forget to enter the contest. The deadline is coming up!

I'm so excited to see what's in store for OKC Writers! We are already off to a great start. Lara Bernhardt is visiting this month sharing the wonders of audio books. I can't wait to learn more! Hope to see you all there!



Member News

Terri Cummings has selected to read her poetry at the Southwest Popular and American Culture Association in Albuquerque in February, and the Scissortail Creative Writing Festival late March/early April.

Barbara Shepherd won the following in the Norman Galaxy of Writers 2015 Contest:
 1st Place -- Short Story, "Ride the River"
 3rd Place -- Rhymed Poetry, "Falling 101"
 1st Place -- Unrhymed Poetry, "Power of a River Stone"

The television show *Forensic Files* ran the show about the murder of Rob Andrew. Featured was an interview with our **Judy Gigstadt**. The book, *Fatal Holiday: A True Crime Story* is her story about living next door to the murder.



An aged Christian, with the snow of time upon his head, may remind us that those points of earth are whitest which are nearest to heaven.

~~~Edwin Hubbel Chapin

## Opportunities for Writers

**Barbara Shepherd** is a sponsor for the Fiction Writers Retreat, June 4-5, 2016 at Tom Steed Community Learning Center, Rose State College in Midwest City. For more information, click on the Fiction Writers Retreat tab on [barbarashepherd.com](http://barbarashepherd.com)

**Carolyn Leonard** publishes the *Writers Reminder* with information about all things that matter to writers. You can find it by typing *Writers Reminder* in your search engine.

**Bill Bernhardt's** summer writing retreats are scheduled for:  
 May 18-22, 2016 Eureka Spring Retreat, The Writers Colony at Dairy Hollow  
 June 9-12, 2016 Nashua NH (Boston area) Retreat  
 June 23-26, 2016 Huntington Beach (Anaheim area) California Retreat  
 June 30-July 3, 2016 Durango Colorado Retreat  
 July 21-24, 2016 Oahu, Hawaii

For more information:  
[williambernhardt.com/red\\_sneaker\\_wc/writing\\_retreats.php](http://williambernhardt.com/red_sneaker_wc/writing_retreats.php)

~~~~~

Each month Bill sends a free eNewsletter filled with tips and news for writers. To be added to the mailing list, sign up here: williambernhardt.com/red_sneaker_wc/

Coming Soon

Tom Barczak, an artist, turned architect, turned writer, will be our speaker in February.



OWFI News

The annual contest is open until January 31. To access the contest rules, categories, forms, and entry procedures, type OWFI in your internet browser.

The entry procedures have changed. It is still all electronic except for the published book categories. You won't have to fight with the drop box this time. You are encouraged to send your entries a week or two early so the category chair can contact you for corrections if they are needed.

If the entry procedures seem confusing, think about them for a while (a shot of tequila may help), then read them again. The contest gurus hope that they have worked out all the kinks that happened last year.

Now is the time to work on the entries you sent in to our fall contest, and enter them in the OWFI contest. It's a great ego boost to win and OWFI pays better.

Elected Officers

President: Shelley Pagach,
603-3903, shella.sp@gmail.com
1st VP, Programs: John Biggs
728-0198
johnbiggs73162@yahoo.com
2nd VP, Membership: Lorelei
Sawtell **Treasurer:** Ed Doney,
416-3439, eddoney@gmail.com
Secretary: Trina Lee

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
TBA
Yearbook Chair:
VP of Membership
Shelley Pagach
Contest Chair: Gail Mattingly
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,
shella.sp@gmail.com
2015 OWFI Alternates
Dana Seaton
Carolyn Leonard



“The road to hell is paved with
works-in-progress.”
—Philip Roth

It’s That Time of the Year

Ed Doney, our treasurer,
is collecting 2016 dues
now. You can give it to him
at the meetings or send
your \$20 to him at his
residence:

3608 Katherine Ct.
Edmond, OK 73013



***If you won money in the
contest, be kind to Ed,
and
CASH THE CHECK.***



“I think we should model parts of
the English language after the
Inuits, who have 52 words for
snow. Why don’t we have 52
words for love? Instead, I have
to rely on metaphors like, Her
love was as pure as yellow
snow.”

— Jarod Kintz

“The snow doesn’t give a soft
white damn whom it touches.”
— e.e. cummings

“A lot of people like snow. I find it
to be an unnecessary freezing of
water.”

— Carl Reiner

“Advice is like snow - the
softer it falls, the longer it
dwells upon, and the deeper
it sinks into the mind.”
---Samuel Taylor Coleridge

“I used to be Snow White, but
I drifted.”
~~~Mae West

## December Meeting

The 2016 officers were  
elected by acclamation  
~President-Shelley Pagach  
~VP of Membership-Trina Lee  
~VP of Programs-John Biggs  
~Secretary-Lorelei Sawtelle  
~Treasurer-Ed Doney

Peggy Chambers, Enid  
Writers, spoke about the  
importance of setting to your  
story whether it is fiction or  
nonfiction. She said that you  
have to consider the time of  
the setting whether it is in the  
past, present or future as well  
as the emotions it evokes. If  
you haven’t been to a certain  
place, you have to invent it.

Peggy asked the members  
write four brief stories with  
different types of settings.  
Several people volunteered to  
read theirs to the crowd.



**Send you member news  
to inezbowman@cox.net**



“Resting on your laurels is as  
dangerous as resting when you  
are walking in the snow. You  
doze off and die in your sleep.”  
~~~Ludwig Wittgenstein

“Imagination will often carry us to
worlds that never were. But
without it we go nowhere.”
~~~Carl Sagan

# OKLAHOMA CITY WRITERS, INC.

**Time: 10:15**

**Date:** Saturday, January 16

**Meeting place:**

**St. Luke's United Methodist Church**

15th and Harvey

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Enter through the northwest door, take the elevator to 2nd floor,  
go to room 225

We will meet here until December 2016.

**December Speaker**~~Lara Bernhardt

**Topic** ~~ *The Dramatic Rise in Author-Controlled Audiobooks--  
and How You Can Participate*

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**Inez Phillips**

**6200 N. Quapah Avenue**

**Oklahoma City, OK 73112**