

Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

June 2019

June Speaker~~~

Traci Ison Schafer
Topic ~~ World Building



Traci Ison Schafer lives in Ada, Oklahoma, and is a Price Analyst for the United States Air Force. She's a native of Ohio and started her career at the infamous Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which she used as the backdrop for her first book, the science fiction novel *The Anuan Legacy*.

Traci is current Past President of the Oklahoma City Writers and is an officer on the Executive Board of the Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc., where she serves as First Vice President.

She remains active in the writing community in the Dayton, Ohio, area where she's a founding member of the critique group The Plot Sisters (est. 2012) and has served as a panelist at the Antioch Writers' Workshop at the University of Dayton.

Traci has a master's degree in business, a bachelor's degree in science education, and has earned teaching certifications in several science fields including physics, astronomy,

and earth science. She's curious about all things beyond the physical world such as aliens, reincarnation, and psychic abilities, making them among her favorite writing topics.

Traci's writing has earned several awards, including Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY) Silver Medalist in Sci-fi/Fantasy/Horror E-book; National Indie Excellence Award (NIEA) Winner in Science Fiction; NIEA Finalist in New Adult; and Finalist for the Independent Author Network (IAN) Science Fiction Book of the Year. When not busy writing,

Traci enjoys spending time with her family.

Bring a piece of paper~~~Traci will include an interactive exercise.



President's Message

Laci Liter

...One kid is holding a shovel like a baseball bat while the other pitches dirt clumps, wait no, those are rocks hurtling straight for the windows. In all fairness, I did tell them to go outside and play in the dirt, but rocks?!? I am pinned in the second story nursery by a baby who only just nodded of...

...No wonder I haven't been getting much writing done. Fast forward to a new morning. The kids are all sleeping, even the baby, and I drink my tea in peace. I might get some writing done. The giddy thought dances around while I bring out the laptop and pour a new fresh cup of tea. But when I sit down, ...

What? Why? I've waited so long! It's been days and days (maybe a week? What month is it?) Why are the words not pouring out of me?

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President's Message

(from page 1)

...It happens again on another morning. Clearly, something is not working. Right at the moment I feel as if I might burst if I don't release some creative pressure, I draw a blank. [Insert curse word of choice]. The WIP I've spent the last year on is now on hiatus and I'm left with empty, fumbling hand...

Member News

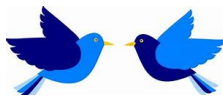
John Dwyer's book **MUSTANG** was #1 on the June 1st Oklahoma Best Sellers list.

Shelley Richter won the following in the 2019 Arkansas Writers Contest: HM Short Story "The Mail Carrier's Route," HM Short Story "Bring on the Parade," HM Poetry "Bards to the Rescue," HM Inspirational "Saving Bridgett," 2nd Place Short Story "Bessie," 2nd Place Mystery Short Story "The Dark Inside."

Opportunities for Writers

Roxana Cazan recommends the following site for members who like to enter contests. Regardless where you are on your writing journey, finding the right writing contests in 2019 can be hugely beneficial to jumpstart your career...

[The Ultimate List of FREE Writing Contests in 2019 - Jerry Jenkins](#)
jerryjenkins.com



"Here is a lesson in creative writing. First rule: Do not use semicolons. They are transvestite hermaphrodites representing absolutely nothing. All they do is show you've been to college."

--Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Elected Officers

President: Laci Liter

568-9525, lacirai@gmail.com

1st VP, Programs: Kathleen Listman,
682-225-9604, knlistman@gmail.com

2nd VP, Membership: Shelley Pagach,
496-8749, sepagach.ocwi@gmail.com

Treasurer: Nelda Paden, 833-2611,
neldapaden@aol.com

Secretary: Lorelei Sawtelle, 603-8856,
lsawtelle@cox.net

Appointed Officers

Newsletter: Inez Phillips, 620-7850,
inezbowman.cox.net

Hospitality: Kevin Sawtelle

Publicity Chair: Peggy Farris,
203-0284, wwillows@pldi.net

Webmaster: Shelley Pagach

Nominating Chair: TBA

Yearbook Chair: Shelley White,
Shelleywhite74@yahoo.com

Contest Chair:

Roxana Cazan, roxanalcazan@gmail.com

Historian: Office of the President

OWFI Reporter: TBA

Workshop Chair: Kathleen Listman

Audio/Visual: TBA, if needed

OWFI Delegates

Laci Liter

568-9504 lacirai@gmail.com

Marcia Preston. 570-3824,
marcia@marciapreston.com

OWFI Alternates:

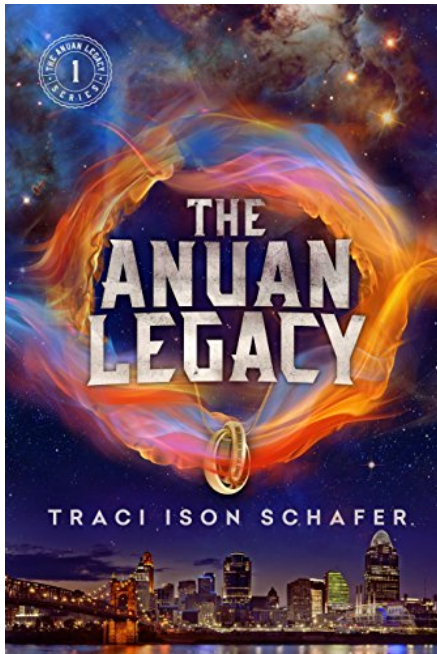
Carolyn Leonard, 720-2324,
carolynleonard@me.com



I try to create sympathy for my characters, then turn the monsters loose.

– Stephen King

Traci's Latest



Victoria Spencer isn't satisfied with her internship at the Air Force Research Laboratories, so why can't she stop thinking about a classified project that doesn't involve her? Unable to resist the pull the project has on her, Victoria breaks into the restricted lab where the project is located and finds a captured alien pilot. Fearing what the government might do to him, she helps him escape. But the extraterrestrial, Gaige, has a secret--Victoria is the reason he's on Earth. As the pair flee from federal agents, who seem to be backed by a force beyond Earth means, Victoria is drawn closer to Gaige, his world, and his people. She soon realizes her life is no longer her own, and a hidden power lying within her could be the key to unlocking her destiny . . . or lead to her destruction.



"Read, read, read. Read everything--trash, classics, good and bad, and see how they do it. Just like a carpenter who works as an apprentice and studies the master. Read! You'll absorb it. Then write. If it's good, you'll find out. If it's not, throw it out of the window."

--William Faulkner

Oklahoma City Writers, Inc. meets in St. Luke's Methodist Church at NW 15th and Harvey, Oklahoma City. Enter through the north door by the handicap parking and go to Room 130
Coffee at 9:45 Meeting at 10:00

Send your news to
inezbowman@cox.net

Not that we are nosey, we just want to know what you are writing, where and when it's published, sold, if it won a prize, etc.



"When your story is ready for rewrite, cut it to the bone. Get rid of every ounce of excess fat. This is going to hurt; revising a story down to the bare essentials is always a little like murdering children, but it must be done."

— Stephen King



“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.”
— Louis L’Amour

