

# Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.

March 2019

## March Speaker

Jesse Sauer

**Topic** ~~ In favor of a poetics of impermanence

Jesse Sauer is a graduate of Columbia University with a degree in Poetry, After spending two years teaching in China, he came to Oklahoma where he obtained a Master's Degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) from Oklahoma City University. Currently, he is a senior instructor in English as a Second Language (ESL).



## President's Message

Laci Liter

March has been a blur of cleaning house and creating my nest for when my baby arrives. Closets have been reorganized, junk drawers have been purged and I have let go of many, many things that no longer serve me. Also this month, I've been doing a lot of reading and reflecting. Besides the junk drawer, what have I been holding onto mentally, emotionally and spiritually that no longer serves me? One of the things I cling to is my perception of creativity as a wind-up toy that I can make to perform to my will. When my

creativity doesn't perform? *Bad, creativity.*

After reading Elizabeth Gilbert's book, Big Magic, I realized this perception is not only unhealthy for me, but also for my creativity. Creativity is a sentient, *sensitive* entity that lives in me, out of me, and throughout the whole planet. And what happens when a sentient being has been mistreated? Chances are it'll find a new place to go.

So, I've decided that it's high time I treat my creativity with some respect. I'm letting go of my antiquated, and frankly pretty rude, idea of creativity as something I can *make* appear at will and instead, I'm going to graciously host my creativity like a guest of honor. I'm going to do the dishes and laundry *before* creativity comes over. Maybe I'll bring in some of those blooming daffodils to brighten up the table. I'll definitely make sure I've showered. Then, I'll be ready to entertain whatever magical, wonderful thing creativity has brought to me today.

If you find that creativity has been elusive, I invite you to join me in celebrating creativity. A small gesture of love can change everything.

Happy spring!



## Elected Officers

**President: Laci Liter**

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**1st VP, Programs: Kathleen Listman,**

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**2nd VP, Membership: Shelley Pagach,**

496-8749, sepagach.ocwi@gmail.com

**Treasurer: Nelda Paden, 833-2611,**

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**Secretary: Lorelei Sawtelle, 317-7845,**

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## Appointed Officers

**Newsletter: Inez Phillips, 620-7850,**

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**Publicity Chair: Peggy Farris,**

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**Webmaster: Shelley Pagach**

**Nominating Chair: TBA**

**Yearbook Chair: Shelley Pagach, 496-8749,**

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**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**

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**Marcia Preston. 570-3824,**

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**OWFI Alternates:**

**Carolyn Leonard, 720-2324,**

[carolynleonard@me.com](mailto:carolynleonard@me.com)



May the Devil cut the toes  
off our foes, that we may know them by their  
limping.

## Member News

**Barbara Shepherd** won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Poetry, Short-Short Story, Non-Fiction, and Children's categories in the Mid-Oklahoma Writers Contest and received the Crème de la Crème

**Carolyn B. Leonard** Carolyn Leonard spoke to the Retired Metro Minister's Association on Thursday, February 28. She took them on a tour of "Tiptoe Through the Tombstones," as described in her book "Who's your Daddy?"

## Opportunities for Writers

The Arkansas Writers' Conference entry information and contests are available on their website. The deadline the April 20 and they do not return manuscripts. The winners list is published of their website. Entry fee of \$20 enable one to enter all contests. Out-of-state entrants are limited to 10 contests.

## Irish Toasts

May the hinges of our friendship never grow rusty.

Here's to eyes in your heads and none in your spuds.

May misfortune follow you the rest of your life, but never catch up.

May the Good Lord take a liking to you, ... but not too soon!

May you die in bed at 95 years,

May the leprechauns be near you,  
To spread luck along your way.  
And may all the Irish angels,  
Smile upon you St. Patrick's Day.

# OWFI News

By Marcia Preston

Plans are going well for the 2019 annual conference. Keynote speaker is Meg Gardiner, bestselling author of thrillers, past winner of the Edgar Award, and a *Jeopardy* champion! Other speakers include agents, editors, and published writers. See the complete list and a tentative schedule at [www.owfi.org](http://www.owfi.org).

Sign up SOON; the cost goes up March 16th.

Contest Chair Aleasha Shelnett reported 858 entries in this year's contest, which includes 34 categories. Judges are currently working on their category entries.

OWFI is participating in a book drive for the Salvation Army, and members attending the conference are asked to bring books for all ages. This will help with our grant requests in the future.

Costume theme for the Friday night dinner is Good vs. Evil. Come dressed as a favorite hero(ine) or villain. (Not a requirement, but it's fun.)

Best of Books will provide the book room again this year, and members with titles published in 2017, 2018, or 2019 may sign up through the website. Look for the "bookstore" tab.

Stay up to date on OWFI events at the website (listed above) or OWFI Facebook page.



# February Meeting Notes

Thanks to the editor's Cox email snafu, the meeting notes for February must be accessed through Facebook. Perhaps, the Cox service people will solve the problem before AT&T gets the opportunity to do better.



## Congratulations to Shelley Pagach for being elected OWFI president for 2020.

She will be looking for volunteers. When she calls remember~~ask not what your writing club can do for you—ask what you can do for your writing club. She will appreciate all of the volunteers who will make her year a success.



## NEED MEMBER NEWS

*I will start filling in the blank spaces with stories about my 3 beautiful and brilliant cats. Even worse, the grandchildren, who are too old to be cute, might end up in the newsletter.*

Help me out. Send some news to [inezbowman@cox.net](mailto:inezbowman@cox.net).



May the road rise to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face.  
And rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

Inez Phillips  
6200 N. Quapah Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

## **Oklahoma City Writers, Inc.**

**Saturday, March 16, 2019**

**Coffee at 9:45      Meeting at 10:00**

We meet in the St. Luke's Methodist Church at NW 15<sup>th</sup> and Harvey, Oklahoma City. Enter through the north door by handicap parking and go to Room 130.

**March Speaker:    *Jesse Sauer***

**Topic: *In favor of a poetics of impermanence***

