

Saturday Writers Newsletter

Saturday
Writers



Writers Encouraging Writers Since 2002

A Chapter of the Missouri Writers Guild

A Nonprofit Organization / Corporation

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January 2023

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Join us on the last Saturday of the month for our monthly meetings!

- Room 240 at the Spencer Road Library Branch in St. Peters.
- Doors open at 10:30 a.m.
- Pre-writing Salon for members only in Room 265 at 10 a.m.
- We will continue to offer Zoom participation. It is available to all for the January meeting, and only to members for the remainder of the year.

January 2023 Speaker

Publishing is a continually changing world whether it be traditional or indie, novel or short story. The world of the author is just as flexible and unpredictable, but you *can* succeed. Just open your mind to the new ideas! But you may not be aware of all the new opportunities available to a writer. In fact, you might be surprised at what you're missing as you delete those words you've spent hours writing. My goal in this presentation is to acquaint you with changes in the book world, writing styles, places to query, author roadblocks and more.

Bestselling author Claudia Shelton writes fast-paced romantic suspense, contemporary/ military romance, and crosses over into the suspense/ mystery/thriller category, also. She has published seven books and has an upcoming

trilogy setting to debut February 2023. Her books center on characters filled with courage, determination, and empathy; and where suspense is concerned, her stories are packed with red herrings, foreshadowing and plot twists. She's received Amazon #1 Bestseller banner in Contemporary and Literature Fiction, and also in Holiday Fiction. On a personal note, Claudia is a nature and music lover, a traveler and water person, with life goals of making moments to remember. Her main priority is spending time with family, friends and her two sweet, conniving rescue dogs, Gidget and Daisy.

You can reach Claudia here:

Website & Newsletter: -

[http://
claudiasheltonauthor.com/
/](http://claudiasheltonauthor.com/)

FB - [https://
www.facebook.com/
ClaudiaSheltonWriter](https://www.facebook.com/ClaudiaSheltonWriter)

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FB Readers Group -
Books, Readers &
Heroes: Claudia's Team
-[https://](https://www.facebook.com/groups/841790133897195)

[www.facebook.com/
groups/84179013389719
5](https://www.facebook.com/groups/841790133897195)

Check out all her books
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B00JN283DO/
ref=aufr_dp_mata_ds](https://www.amazon.com/Claudia-Shelton/e/B00JN283DO/?ref=aufr_dp_mata_ds)

From the President's Desk

Goals for 2023

Another new year—happy 2023! I hope you accomplished all your goals in 2022. Remember those goals you set last January? My article a year ago was all about setting goals. I suggested everyone make goals, write them down, make a plan, and track their progress. I also suggested both short-term and long-term goals. Don't have vague goals like, I want to write more. Exactly how are you going to accomplish that? A goal is nothing more than a wish until there is a plan in place and a way to measure progress.

I fell a bit short of my writing goals for last year. I did not write as many stories as I wanted, and I did not complete my longer work-in-progress and send it to a magazine for publication. However, I did complete a first draft of my first novel length work. It is always better to have ambitious goals and fall short than to have small, easy goals and complete them all.

My personal goals for 2023 include writing 8 short stories for Saturday Writers contests, completing and submitting my longer story to a science fiction magazine for publication, and complete a second draft of my first novel and have it reviewed by beta

readers.

I also have some goals for Saturday Writers in 2023. Last year was a very successful year and I hope to build on that success and make 2023 even better. Here are my plans:

1. Hold 9 regular meetings on the last Saturday of each month, January to September.
2. Have 4 workshops in the month of October
3. Release our anthology with a book signing event in the spring
4. Be part of the St. Louis Writers Guild Conference on Saturday March 4.
5. Have 9 open mic events
6. Participate in 2 Pen & Paint receptions on 1 June and 2 November.
7. Have a Holiday Party on Saturday 2 December
8. Have at least 2 additional social events for the SW membership
9. Coordinate with the St. Louis Writers Guild and possibly team up for a combined activity.
10. Attend as many book fairs as we reasonably can to sell more books and promote the name of Saturday Writers.

We have already had our first officers meeting of 2023 where we discussed these goals and



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many other ways to improve our organization. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to help with Saturday Writers, please let me or any of the officers know. I'm looking forward to a great 2023.

Until next month, keep focused on your goals and write, write, write.

Jeffrey Czuchna – 2023 President

Pen and Paint Contest

Theme: Anything goes - But remember artists are looking for a piece that visually speaks to them.

Prose: 1,000-word limit

Poetry: 50-line limit

Cost: FREE for members

Deadline: January 28, 2023 by midnight.

For more information on this contest, visit our website [here](#). To enter, visit [this](#) page.

We have a new award structure this year. Our 1st place winners will be awarded \$30, 2nd place will be awarded \$20, and 3rd place winners will earn \$10. You can't win if you don't enter!

Upcoming Events

January Meeting: January 28th

February Open Mic: February 9th, 6:30-9 at Rendezvous Cafe

February Meeting: February 25th

March Open Mic: Tuesday, April 12th, 7-9 p.m. at Shamrock's Pub & Grill

March Meeting: March 25th

Membership

It's time again to renew your membership! There are so many advantages to being a member of Saturday Writers. You get monthly meetings with speakers who are professional writers, workshops in October, critique groups, networking, a holiday party, open mics, and more!

If you are new to us, a yearly membership is \$35.

A returning membership is \$30, but only if you renew before February 28th, so take advantage of the savings now.

We have a same household discount if two or more people in the family join together.

You are always welcome to pay \$5 at the door when you come.

For the membership form, visit our website [here](#).

To pay your yearly fee, visit our website [here](#).

Officers and Volunteers

President: Jeffrey Czuchna
president@saturdaywriters.org

Vice President: Donna Mork Reed
vicepresident@saturdaywriters.org

Secretary: Holly Elliott
secretary@saturdaywriters.org

Treasurer: Diane How
diane.h@saturdaywriters.org

Assistant Treasurer: Alice Vierck

Volunteers/Chair Positions

Directors: Brad Watson, Jennifer Hasheider

Speaker/Workshop Chair: Jeffrey Czuchna

Contest Chair: Heather Hartmann

Newsletter Editor: Beatrice Underwood-Sweet

Website Chair: Mark Vago

Membership Chair: Diane How

Membership Assistant: Denise Wilson

Anthology Chair: Brad Watson

Social Media Chair: Pat Wahler

Publicity Chairs: Pat Wahler

Hospitality Chair: Bob Weismiller

Hospitality Assistant: David Reed

Holiday Party Chair: Donna Mork Reed

Poet Laureate: Robert Sebacher

Writing/Critique Groups

Members Online Critique: Susan Moreland

Tuesday Round-Table: Tammy Lough

Wednesday Novel Group: Brad Watson

Wednesday WIP Cafe: Jim Ladendecker

Thursday Novel Group: Bob Crandall

Children's/YA Critique: Heather Hartmann

Pre-Meeting Saturday WIP Cafe &

Creative Writing Salon: Robert Sebacher

Write-In Chair: Brad Watson