



## DETROIT WORKING WRITERS

### JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

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**Welcome to your June 2020 newsletter! Our 120 year old organization's mission is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard.**

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#### DWW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Roberta Brown  
[rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com)  
248-854-2375

VICE-PRESIDENT:  
Michelle Morouse

SECRETARY: Laura Hedgecock

TREASURER: Cindy Hampel

PROGRAM CHAIR:  
Barb Rebbeck

NEW MEMBERSHIP/  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:  
Joyce Harlukowicz

CRITIQUE GROUP CO-  
CHAIRS: Roberta Brown  
and Pat Gibson

WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER  
CHAIR:  
Roberta Brown

SOCIAL MEDIA CO-  
CHAIRS: Terry Hojnacki  
and Richard Stiennon

BOOK AND AUTHOR  
CHAIR: Robin Gaines

**The next DWW Board Meeting will be on Saturday, June 13, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. via Zoom.**

**Please contact Roberta Brown at [rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com) if you wish to attend via Zoom no later than Monday, June 8, 2020.**

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### **SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL INDIE BOOKSTORES!**

The Governor's latest Executive Order allows retail to open up with proper social distancing and masking in place. This means all of our local indie bookstores are open/in the process of opening. Call ahead to make an appointment/check for hours!

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### **Freading**

Have you checked out this new free ebook reading app? You can check out up to three books for two weeks which are renewable for another two weeks. Over 11,000 books, including new releases, are available to you. There is a learning curve in using this app, but there are plenty of tutorials to help you use it.



**DWW MEMBERS’  
LATEST AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS  
SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND  
PUBLICATION CREDITS**

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**Jean Alicia Elster Books** reports,  
“Totally geeked to have my piece, Alphabet Day, included in this special issue of the Detroit MetroTimes. It’s the 5th literary piece in order, but enjoy them all. Such good company! Wayne State University Press SCBWI-MI, Detroit Working Writers Terry Blackhawk Sydney G. James Annie Martin Emily Nowak Kristina Stonehill Live Coal Gallery Judson Press Authors  
<https://www.metrotimes.com/.../with-life-in-detroit-.../Content...>  
[The Fiction Issue](#)

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William Rathburg tells us “I received word that Mysterical-E magazine will publish my short story "Fluffy" in the next issue.”

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Meg Chorzempa says, “Chapter 6 of my memoir was published May 8, 2020, by Heart of Flesh Literary Journal.  
<https://heartoffleshlit.com/issue-three/meg-Leduc/>

Meg also tells us: Brevity Magazine picked up a piece of mine, "Running After Her". It will be published in September 2020 and possibly anthologized by Brevity in "Experiences of Disability".

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Kristin Lenz was a runner-up in the WOW! Women on Writing Winter 2020 Flash Fiction contest. The story is published online and an interview is forthcoming: <https://www.wow-womenonwriting.com/downloads/printable/95-FE1-Winter20Contest-Kristin-Bartley-Lenz.html>



Michael Kitchen tells us, “Another haiku accepted for publication in the Haiku Society of America 2020 Anthology.”



Congratulations to DWW members who won awards in the Fifth Annual Yule Love it Lavender Farm Poetry Contest:

First Place: Liza Young, *A Consequence of Warmth*

Third Place: Joyce Harlukowicz, *Luminaries*

Iris Underwood shares that “The First, Second, and Third place winners of the Fifth Annual Yule Love It Lavender Farm Poetry Contest are now available on Iris Farm & Letters website on this link: <https://www.irisfarmandletters.com/p/poetry-contest.html>

“I believe our judge Diane DeCillis recognized the sixth sense of summer in these powerful and tender pieces and gave them due honor.

The winning poems will also appear June 3 in the Tri-City Times newspaper based in Imlay City. You may find your poems online at [www.tricitytimes-online.com](http://www.tricitytimes-online.com). Scroll down to “columns.”

My little farm and I thank you for partaking in our contest. Hope to see you back next spring.

For the love of land and poetry,”

Iris



Theresa Nielsen's book "Last Chance Boys" is now ready! Her husband, Dane Nielsen, did the illustrations for the book.



Roberta Brown has an eclectic trifecta to share:

1. She read her mesostic Asparagus poem during the Ode to Asparagus virtual poetry reading sponsored by the Glen Lake Public Library as part of Empire, Michigan's Asparagus Festival.
2. One of her haikus (which was critiqued in the DWW Critique Group) has been accepted for publication in the Haiku Society of America's 2020 Anthology.
3. A radio spot she wrote and recorded at the request of WRCJ-FM 90.9 will be produced and aired starting the first week of June.



Alexander Morgan tells us "My prose poem, "The Help," has just been published in an anthology: "The Year: A Crack the Spine Anthology: 2019" It has ghosts and ICE agents, and it's set in Savannah, Georgia, so what's not to like?"



Carl Anthony writes, "I have been working with The Zebra, the nation's top insurance comparison website. They are looking to expand their automotive content. This article I wrote deals with how autonomous cars might impact insurance rates (although the jury is still out on when autonomous cars will arrive, let alone how insurance will be impacted)."

Here is the link:

<https://www.thezebra.com/resources/car-insurance/autonomous-vehicles-insurance/>



We want to promote you and your writing! Please let us know your latest writing awards/credits/publications! Email your information to Roberta Brown.

PLEASE PUT DWW WRITING/PUBLICATION NEWS IN THE SUBJECT OF YOUR EMAIL ;-) at

[rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com)

I would also like to invite members to share their publication news/reading news to our Detroit Working Writers Facebook page, as many times you have events scheduled after this monthly newsletter comes out! Please, your writing-related events only.

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### HOW TO HAVE YOUR BOOKS LISTED ON OUR DWW WEBSITE

Please take advantage of our website to list all of your published books! Click on "About Us," then go to the "Members Only" section and enter your super secret password. Scroll down to Member's Books and fill out the required information. Once you have completed all the sections, click Submit, and let our webmistress work her magic.

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### DWW BOARD CHANGES

In May, the Board underwent several changes. Treasurer Richard Rothrock had to resign in order to attend to urgent matters at his church. Cindy Hampel stepped up and was voted in as Treasurer by the Board. Maureen McGerty and Iris Underwood have resigned their Board positions; Maureen will be continuing on the New Membership Committee. Terry Hojnacki and Richard Stienon have volunteered to be Social Media CoChairs. Finally, Pat Gibson has agreed to CoChair the Critique Group. We thank those who are leaving for their past service and welcome those who are new to the Board!



## PREVIEWS OF COMING ATTRACTIONS

Since we are still not able to meet indoors or outdoors due to social distancing and masking requirements, our Program Director Barb Rebbeck has been busy organizing the following Zoom workshops/activities for us:

**Saturday, July 18, 2020 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**  
**Lessons Learned on a 12-Year Publishing Journey**

DWW author, Richard Stienon has written and published six books with a seventh planned for a June 2020 launch. In this Zoom webinar he will share what he has learned from his experiences publishing with an imprint of Rowman & Littlefield and his decision to self-publish his next books. He will describe some of the frustrations with Amazon Createspace/KDP that led him to the next stage: printing and warehousing books and the ensuing problems in distributing through Amazon. If you want to explore being your own publisher, you will want to tune in!

Free for DWW members; \$25.00 for nonmembers. Registration via Eventbrite.

To register, click here.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lessons-learned-on-a-12-year-publishing-journey-tickets-107382812884>

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**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020**  
**7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

## **Writing (about) Your Family History**

Laura Hedgecock

Start putting the family story to paper. Laura Hedgecock discusses practical and creative ways to document the past and write the stories of relatives and ancestors.

### Laura's Bio:

Laura Hedgecock is an author, speaker, and genealogy blogger passionate about helping others tell stories which connect loved ones with their family and ancestry.

Her book, [MEMORIES OF ME: A COMPLETE GUIDE TO TELLING AND SHARING THE STORIES OF YOUR LIFE](#), guides and empowers memory collectors with down-to-earth, practical advice and creative ideas. Her website, [TreasureChestofMemories.com](#), provides practical advice on preserving and sharing memories and family stories.

Laura serves as President of the 3400+ member GeneaBloggers organization and secretary of Detroit Working Writers. She has also authored *BLOGGING FOR FAMILY HISTORY*, which provides a road map for launching a blog and making it successful.

To register, click here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/writing-about-your-family-history-tickets-107383697530>

### **FALLING FOR A GOOD BOOK**

In conjunction with the Royal Oak Public Library, Barb Rebbeck has rescheduled the Springing to Mind series as Falling for a Good Book. ROPL will present our DWW author readings online at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Tuesday, Oct. 6, Memoir.

Tuesday, Nov 10, Sci Fi.

Monday, Dec 7, YA .

Watch for upcoming author updates!



## **Social Media News:**

Thank you, Roberta, for all you've done to keep DWW's Facebook page active, and thank you to my Social Media co-chair, Richard, for taking on our Twitter account.

I've accepted the challenge of promoting DWW and our members through Facebook and LinkedIn. I'm sure everyone has news you'd like to share with a broader audience. That's what Social Media is about!

My goal is to share our members accomplishments, events, book availability, etc on our social media platforms. We'll be sharing your news on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. (Twitter details will be up to Richard) To help in this endeavor, I'm offering a few submission guidelines:

### **For Facebook and LinkedIn posts:**

- Keep your submissions short and sweet. (I can do some editing, but if it's too time intensive, I'll do what the old fashioned newspaper editors did and only share the top of the story. Who, what, when, where, and why.)
  - Include the link to your event or where your book can be purchased.
  - If you'd like to include an image, attach it in your email. (JPG format only)
  - Upcoming events should be submitted a minimum of 2-3 weeks prior to the event.
  - Please email your news to: [socialmedia4dww@gmail.com](mailto:socialmedia4dww@gmail.com)
- (This email will be checked every 7 to 10 days so please be aware of your time-line for book launches and events.)

If you're a do-it-yourselfer, you are always welcome to share



appropriate posts on DWW pages.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to help promote our organization and our members. If you have any suggestions you'd like to share, I'm open to the assistance.

Remember –

**Follow** DWW on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/detroitworkingwriters>, on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/15953515>, and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/DetWkgWriters/>.

Happy Writing,  
Terry Hojnacki  
DWW Social Media Co-Chair

## **TWITTER**

As part of our reinvigorated social media effort, Richard Stiennon has jumped in to be our Twitter wrangler. Don't be surprised if you see likes and reTweets from @DetWkgWriters. Richard asks that you supply him with your Twitter handle so he can add you to the curated list of DWW members. He will use that to elevate your Tweets. Email him at

[richard@it-harvest.com](mailto:richard@it-harvest.com)



## **DWW CRITIQUE GROUP CALENDAR 2020**

All Critique Group meetings are scheduled for the second Saturday of the month and will be held via Zoom during the COVID 19 pandemic. Print out and post on your refrigerator!

2020

June 13

July 11

August 8

September 12

October 10

November 14

December 12