



THE OWL'S HOOT

Official Newsletter of

The Ozarks Writers League 501(c)(3)

**Have you paid
your 2024
dues yet?**

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President – Ronda Del Boccio

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**For only \$30.00, you can enjoy
all that OWL has to offer this
year!**

**Mark your Calendar for the OWL Fall Writing Conference November 1st
and 2nd in Branson West**

**The 2024 OWL Fall Conference will be held at the Best Western
Branson Inn and Conference Center, 8514 State Highway 76,
Branson West, MO! Call (417) 338-2141 or use the
handy QR to reserve your room.**



Ponderings from the President's Perch

Hello, dear OWLs!

I am flying high after such a
successful spring soiree.

Despite all the hotel hoopla, we made it work! And I already
have the same hotel booked for our fall conference.

What have YOU been working on? My hope is that every
one of us is doing something to move our writing forward.

Maybe for you that means working on a book, stories,
articles, poetry, submitting, entering contests, or writing
proposals to publishers. Or a mixture of the above.

I encourage you to set your goals and reveal them to
someone. You can share them with your writing critique
group, accountability buddy, or in the Writing Goals post in
the OWL Members Only FB group.

And that reminds me to remind YOU of the OWL resources,
which will be in their own little article. We have some
excellent handouts and trainings from the pandemic days
that are still available to you.

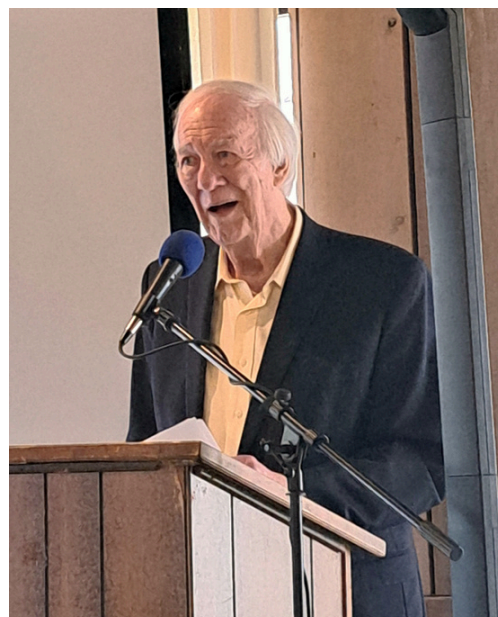
I'd also like you to consider stepping up your game for
OWL. There are lots of ways you can help out other writers
in OWL and pad your own resume. We'll soon need to elect
a new slate of officers, so give some thought to whether you
might be an officer or committee chair. More about that
later as well. We love having "new blood!"

For now, it's writing contest season, and that means it's a
great time to apply rump to seat and fingers to keys to
WRITE!

OWL Fall 2024 Conference Information

We're going back to the Best Western Inn &
Conference Center, where we met in April. They
have comfortable beds, a pool with salt water
instead of chlorine, and a restaurant on-site.

**If you missed our Spring
Conference, here are some
great speakers you didn't hear.**



**Missouri Poet Laureate David L. Harrison
gave a very interesting talk about poetry and kids!**

OWL Member Resources

OWL members have a treasure trove of goodies available to you. Our president has sent them out in emails numerous times. We won't publish the links here, since this newsletter is public, but watch your email for the following (or look them up in the OWL Members Only FB group).

- OWL Facebook Page

facebook.com/ozarkswritersleague

- Open FB group:

facebook.com/groups/ozarkswritersleague

- OWL Members Only FB group (search it on FB or see your OWL emails)

- OWL membership directory (sent in emails and under Files in Members FB Group)

- Emails from the president about all OWL happenings. These come from OWLpres "at" OzarksWritersLeague "dot" com. Whitelist us.

- YouTube Playlist of Zoom Trainings (link sent in emails and in Members FB Group)

- OWL Handouts (link sent in emails and in Members FB Group)

- Happy OWLers Mixers happen around the middle of the month whenever we don't have a conference. See the FB page events or read your emails. These mixers are free and open to nonmembers as well. If you're not already getting the emails with the link, go to bit.ly/owlmixer to sign up.

- Contests! We just had the photography contest, and the writing contest is now open. Only \$15 for OWL members to enter as many categories as you want. Such a deal! See the rules and categories on the Writing Contest 2024 page at OzarksWritersLeague.com/2024-Adult-Writing-Contests.php



Charles Templeton acquainting us with eMerge Magazine and its goals.



Jadyn from Ozark Hollow Press explaining the publishing timeline.



Rochelle Wisoff-Fields briefing us on the publishing experience: the author's viewpoint.

Congratulations to the 2024 Photo Contest Winners!



**Evelyn Smith and Julie James receive their awards from
contest coordinator Rochelle Wisoff-Fields
and judge Joan Barrett Roberts**

**If you thought the photo contest was fun, check out the Adult Writing
Contest! The categories and rules are listed on our website,
<https://ozarkswritersleague.com/2024-Adult-Writing-Contests.php>**

Conference Details

We're going back to the Best Western Inn & Conference Center, where we met in April. They have comfortable beds, a pool with salt water instead of chlorine, and a restaurant on-site.

You can virtually walk through the property using this link.

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=mnauNNnrbDV&mls=1> Just tap along and you can look into the various rooms and spaces to get familiar with the place ahead of time. **Note from Margarite: When you click the link, another will appear a bit lower higher or lower in the letter. Click the link that pops up for your virtual tour.**

OWL Fall Conference Information

Dates: Friday-Saturday, 1-2 November 2024

Location: Best Western Branson Inn and Conference Center

8514 State Highway 76, Branson West, Missouri

417-338-2141

Website: Best Western Branson Inn & Conference Center - Branson West

Google Maps Link

OWL Booking Link

CHECK-IN: 3 PM

CHECK OUT: 11 AM and you may leave bags at the desk if needed

Conference Schedule:

- Friday, Nov 1
 - o 3 PM is hotel check-in
 - o 5-7 Dinner in the Breakfast Room, which is the restaurant
 - o 7-? The OWLies Writing Contest Awards and other festivities TBD in the Branson Room (first room to right of main entrance)
- Saturday, Nov 2
 - o 8:30 Doors open
 - o Hotel check-out is 11 AM
 - o 9-3:30 Conference in the Branson Room (first room to right of main entrance)

Guest Room Rate: \$99/night plus applicable taxes and fees, honored for the surrounding dates

Amenities according to hotel website:

- Room Amenities include microwave, fridge, and hair dryer
- Hotel amenities include free WiFi for all guests, heated indoor pool, and hot tub.

Reservations: You may

- use our special link which we will have soon
- OR call 417-338-2141 and press 0 to talk to the front desk (don't use the reservation # because it goes to the national chain not the hotel).