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The Window

Official eNewsletter of Panhandle Professional Writers
d/b/a Texas High Plains Writers



HIGH PLAINS WRITERS

Spetember 2019

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter

November Meeting

Saturday, September 16, 2019

The Edward Davis Room

9th Floor

First Bank Southwest Tower (formerly Chase Tower)

600 S Tyler St., Amarillo, TX 79101

9:30 Registration 10:00 Meeting

Board member meeting to follow



Letter From The President

To all members of Texas High Plains Writers:

I'm honored to accept the presidency of Texas High Plains Writers for the historic year of 2020.

We can all look forward to meetings which address the interests and needs of the broad spectrum of authors who comprise THPW. We

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Plains as members. I hope to swell our numbers by attracting new blood from around the region, especially aspirant young authors.

As noted, 2020 is historic, because it marks a century of existence, making THPW the second longest, continually-active writers group in the country! Our centenary celebration will hold center stage at ArtsFest, now sponsored by Amarillo College, April 17th and 18th. This event, developing into one of the largest celebrations of the arts in Amarillo's history, will shine a spotlight on our organization.

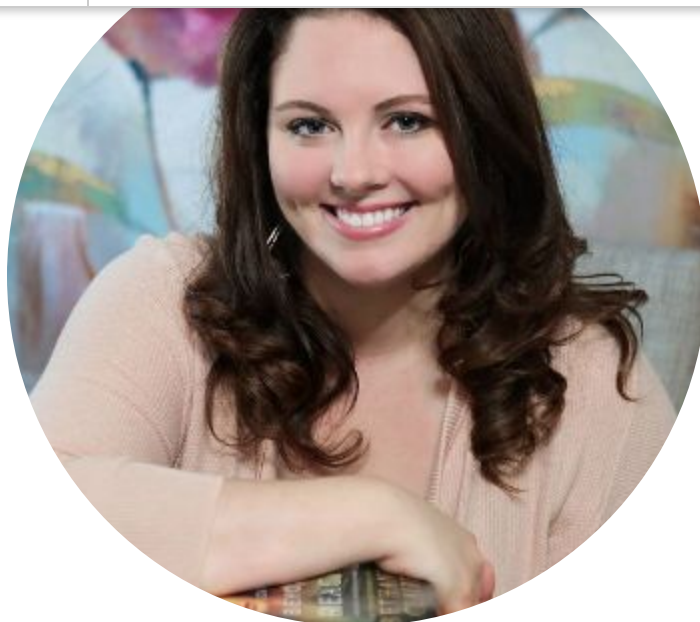
Feel free to share any thoughts and concerns about any activity of THPW with me or with members of the board. With your input and support, THPW can anticipate a banner year.

And, I hope 2020 is for you as a writer, your most productive year yet!

Rick DeVoe: President THPW

November Special Guest Bethany Claire

[The Lasting Power of The Series in Today's Ever-Changing Publishing Landscape](#)

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USA Today Bestselling author, Bethany Claire has published more than 15 books in her Morna's Legacy Series of Scottish, time-travel romances since 2013. Her books have been downloaded more than 1 million times. She is also among Audible's top audio earners for the sales of her Morna's Legacy audiobooks. She has been asked to speak on conference panels for both Audible and Apple iBooks where she has shared the difference writing a series has made in her writing career. Since beginning her publishing journey in 2013, the landscape of self-publishing has changed nearly every year, but the one thing that has held steady is the lasting power of writing a series.

In this session, Bethany will teach you everything you need to know about why you should write a series and how to execute a series so that you have the highest chance of seeing profitable sales.

Topics to be covered include:

- Why a series is the best form of built-in marketing there is and how to harness it
 - How to decide what sort of series you want to write
 - How to strategize your choice of genre
 - Elements to include in your series that keep readers wanting more
 - Meeting reader expectations for the long haul (i.e. Creating superfans)
 - And more...
-

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Spring 2020

LA FRONTERA / THE BORDER

Selected Studies in Literature



Tuesday evenings

Jan. 21— May 22

5:30 - 8:15 pm

Tuition:

\$149 CE

\$267 Academic credit

CE Registration:

www.actx.edu/ce/classes

(806) 371-2920

More than an English class

Through films, short stories, poetry, and two short novels by Mexican and Mexican-American authors, we will explore the literal, cultural, and metaphorical border (or lack thereof) between the United States and Mexico.

Three films are included: a recent documentary, *The River and the Wall*, the adaption of Cormac McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*, and a classic film about immigration, *El Norte*.



A section of the barrier, made out of steel slats, ending in the Pacific Ocean in San Diego—Tijuana © Tomas Castelazo, www.tomascastelazo.com / [Wikimedia Commons](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Border_barrier_in_San_Diego.jpg)

Registration begins in November and is open to Continuing Education students.

For more information contact Dr. Edward C. Hudson
echudson@actx.edu
(806) 371-5197



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Mathis Rogers presented the following members:

2020 Slate of Officers THPW Board of Directors

President: Rick DeVoe
President- Elect: Suzana Sandoval
Past President-Rick Brown

Board members completing their 2nd year of 2-year Term:

Secretary: Ashley Grotegut (19-20)
Membership: Donna Rosson (19-20)
Programs: Mistie Walser / Rick Brown (19-20) co-chair
Publicity/Newletter: Kristine Brorman (19-20)

Board members 2-year term
Treasurer: Janet Taylor (20-21)
Hospitality: Karen Gammage
Technology: Kim Black (20-21)
Events/Workshops: OPEN

Thank you Natalie, Phyllis and Mathis for taking on the task of recruiting members to serve.

From the Editor's Desk:

It's impossible to believe you've allowed me to stay at this job for a whole year, AND more unbelievable, are letting me come back for second!

2020 is going to be an exciting year for THPW. Let's all grab this comet, make our mark, and ensure that in 2120 writers, poets and artists are as inspired by us as we are of those first women who gathered for tea and a love of writing.

Have a blessed and safe Thanksgiving.
Write fearlessly,
KRB



Critique Session Guidelines

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have a story or a poem meeting to be critiques, can last up to a couple of hours. We suggest that your material not exceed approximately 750 to 1,000 words. Please bring at about five copies of your story or poem. If possible, it is helpful if you bring a short synopsis of your story so those critiquing have some background. We ask that you format your manuscript as follows:

1. Use white 8.5 by 11-inch paper.
2. Double space using either Times New Roman 12 or similar font.
3. In the header, give your last name, a slash (/), and a short title on the left and the page number on the right (at the top of each page).
4. Use one-inch margins.
5. Use one side of the paper only.
6. If possible, use line numbering.
7. Note: Your synopsis may be single-spaced.

Each person, in turn, will read 1,000 words or less (15 to 20 minutes) or the author will read their own writing, based on preference; then, the group facilitator will ask for discussion from the group. While each person is reading, we urge all other participants to offer written comments on the manuscript. All copies will be returned to each author.

The goal of every critique is: "How can we make it better."

Meetings are held on the third Saturday in odd-numbered months: January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. There is no fee for members of Texas High Plains Writers to attend our regular bi-monthly meetings. A \$10 fee may apply to nonmembers.

(Note: We must occasionally switch our meeting location, or we may need to change the date to avoid conflicts. So, please check the address and date for each meeting.)

Our meetings/programs follow this schedule:

Check-In and Meet & Greet

9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Program/Presentation

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Lunch On Your Own

12:15 - 1 p.m.

Critique Session, if Announced

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Need to contact us?

Write to us at:

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Amarillo, TX 79114

Email us:

info@texashighplainswriters.com



Byline and credited articles represent the views of the authors. Publication neither implies approval of the opinion or the accuracy of the facts stated. We welcome submission, news, member announcements, and any information that might be of interest to the writing community. We will happily promote new releases and book signing events for THPW members.

Kristine R. Brorman - Publicity Chair/Newsletter Editor
email - theblondekb@gmail.com

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