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The Window

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



HIGH PLAINS WRITERS

January 2020

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter

January Meeting

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Kick off the new year with a day of workshops!
Guest presenters include local authors
Jennifer Archer, Ryan McSwain and KR Brorman.

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

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Hang on to your britches folks this newsletter is gonna be BIGGIE size with fries!

2019 was a chock full of THPW wins and 2020 is on track for a repeat.

In this installment:

- ArtsFest Update
- Member Achievements and announcements
- Website News
- 2020 Anthology update

Time to renew our membership.

Dues for the year are \$40. Students including college are only \$20!

[One click to renew or join TODAY!](#)

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ArtsFest - April 17-18, 202

We have exciting news! Amarillo College has agreed to be a part of ArtsFest. The festival will be held at the **Washington Street Amarillo campus** on **April 17 and 18**. We are still in the planning stages regarding the details; however, we will be having a dinner theatre with a one-act play about the history of THPW written by **Mike Akins**. At November's meeting, **Debra McCollum** graciously volunteered to be on the Centennial/ArtsFest committee, but we still need one or two more volunteers to assist in the final planning details. The ArtsFest and our centennial is a great way to get the word out about our organization so that it will prosper, grow, and last another 100 years. So, please be a part of THPW beyond being a member.

Email Janet Taylor or Rick DeVoe at info@texashighplainswriters.com to be a volunteer and part of the team that helps THPW see another 100 years.

2019 Member of the Year

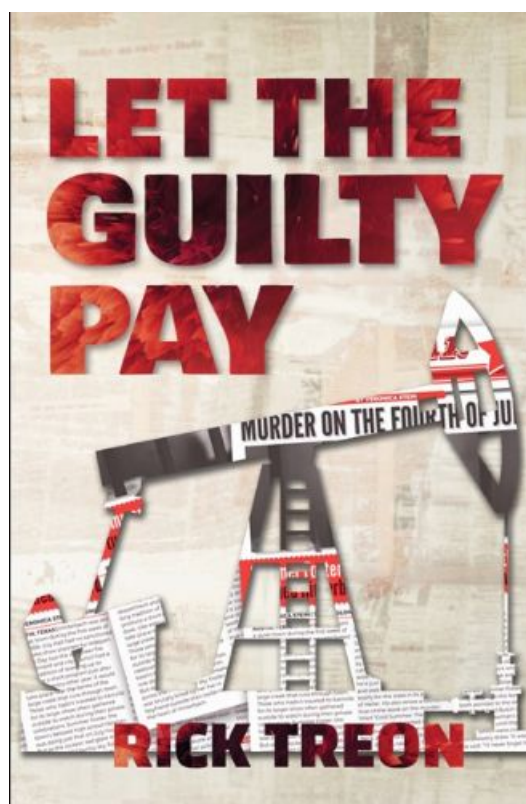
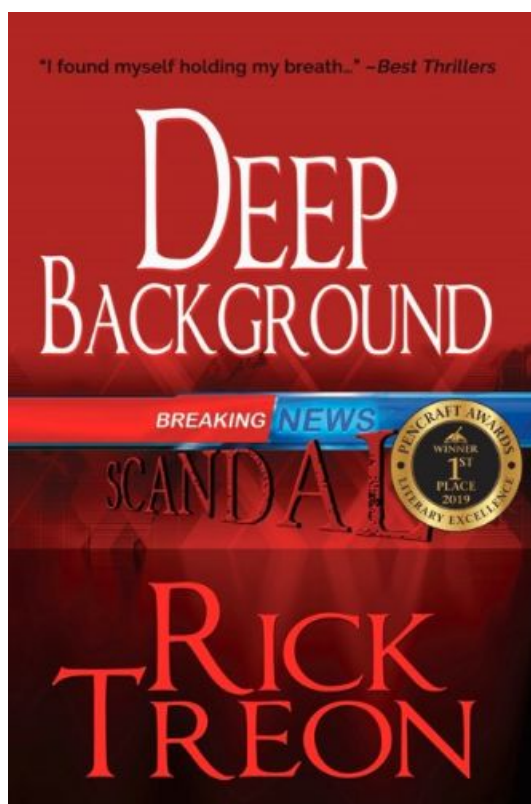
James Quiggle

This year was very productive and engaging. James wrote and published seven books. They are: Life, Death, Eternity; Biblical Essays II; A Private Commentary on the Bible: Mark's Gospel; The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus the Christ; A Private Commentary on the Bible: Judges; Understanding Dispensational Theology; The Christmas Story, As Told By God. All books are available in print and Kindle on Amazon, at Barnes and Noble for the Nook Reader, and in Epub at various national and international online outlets.

Congratulations James!

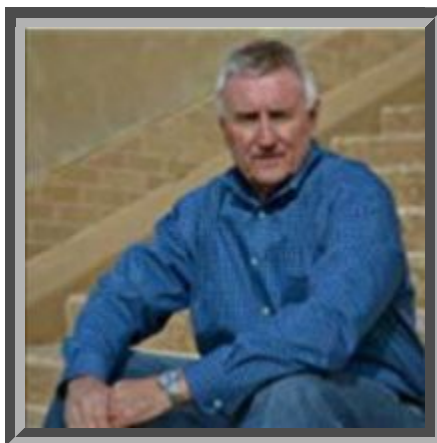
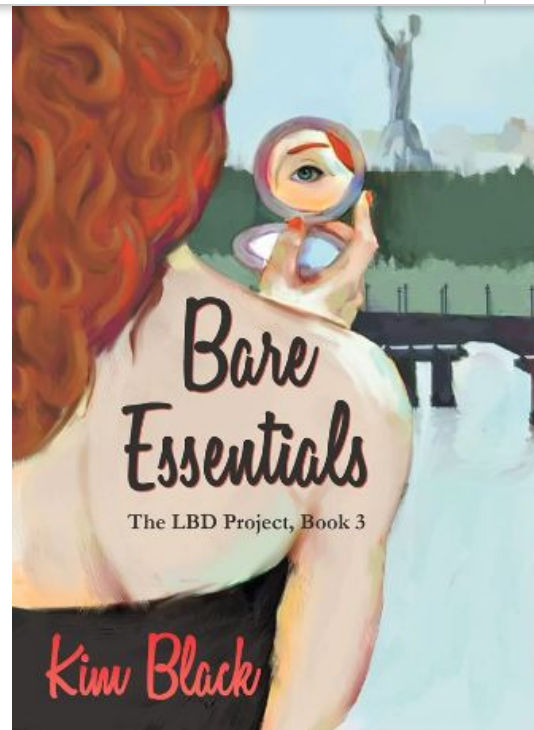
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two-book deal with **Fawkes Press** for a new series. The first novel, LET THE GUILTY PAY, is set for release on July 4, 2020. Later in 2019, his debut novel, DEEP BACKGROUND (Black Rose Writing, 2018), received the **PenCraft Award for Literary Excellence in Suspense**. To learn more about Rick and his work, visit RickTreon.com



Kim Black recently published her 2nd book this year: SHOOTING STARS TRAVELING CIRCUS. Her first book of 2019 was BARE ESSENTIALS The LBD Project Book 3.

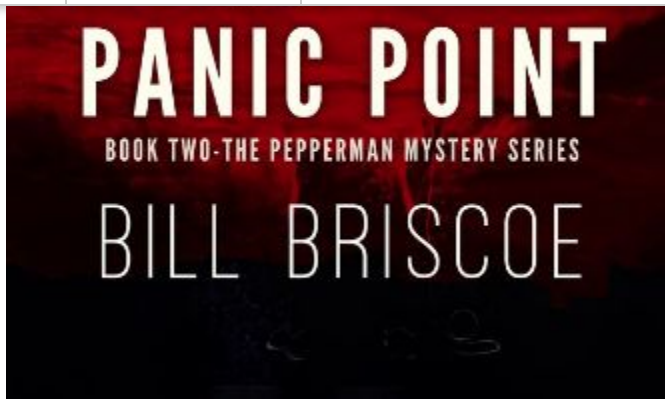
Click the covers to get your copy.

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Bill Briscoe's *Panic Point*, Book Two-
The Pepperman Mystery Series, was
named the **Solo Medalist winner--
Suspense/Thriller category for 2019
New Apple Summer E-Book Awards**.
Available at Amazon in eBook,
paperback, and audio.

[Click to buy.](#) .



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Lynnette Jalufka

Won the **Speculative Category** in the **American Christian Fiction Writers First Impressions Contest!**

Congratulations Lynnette!

Lynnette is a generous and frequent contributor of excellent articles on writing craft and industry trends in our Facebook Group. You can find us and her posts [HERE](#).

Mathis Rogers

THE CHRONICLES OF BRAD, book ten—the finale—of his “SHIPWRECKED/CLIMB TO THE TOP” series, released in October 2019. The first nine books were from Kris’ POV and the finale was the series re-written from Brad’s POV. Mathis began writing the series in 1996 and finished book number nine from Kris’ in October of last year.

You may visit <https://mathisbrogers.com/shipwrecked-climb-to-the-top-collection-series/> for more information about the series and links to where the stories may be purchased, at either Amazon for Kindle or Smashwords for all eReader formats.

Mathis completed and released his paranormal book, THE DEAD CAN’T REST “in

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[rest/](#). It is also available on Kindle Unlimited.

Mathis serves on the Communication Committee for the Caprock Writers' and Illustrators' Alliance. Their "Launch" will be Saturday, February 22, 2020. It will be along the lines of THPW, but is including Illustrators and artists. More information on the group will be coming at our website <https://caprockwriters.com>.

Their motto is "Where words and pictures meet in the Lubbock area."

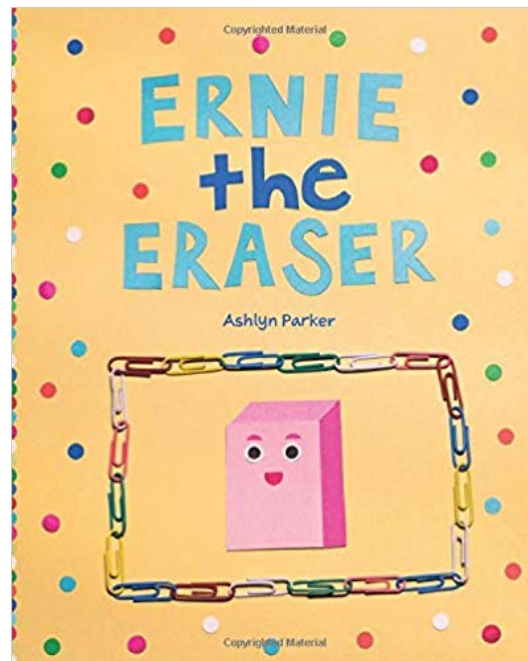
You can also Like them on Facebook at @Caprockwriters. If you know anyone in the Lubbock area, please share about this group with them.

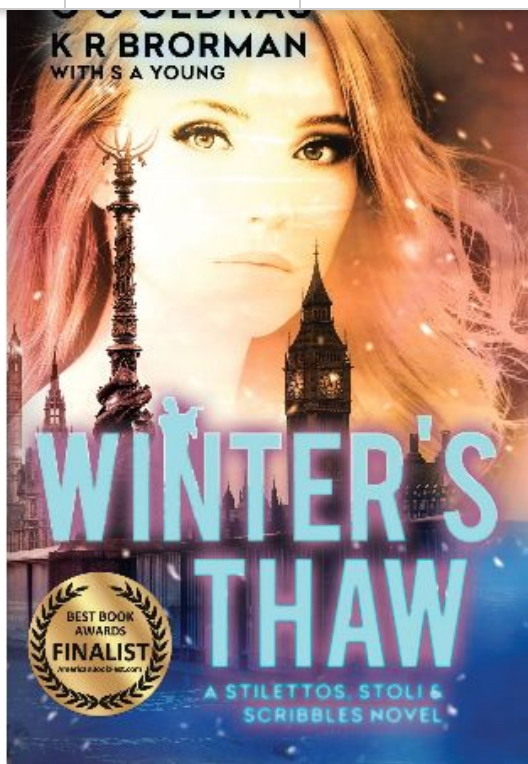
Ashlyn Parker

Ashlyn's first children's book, ERNIE THE ERASER released in August 2019.

Ernie the Eraser has no friends. The pencils think he rubs in their mistakes, when he really works hard to rub them away! His quest for friendship takes a toll one day after he's bounced off the desk by his angry student. Surprisingly, this mishap turns into one mistake he'll never erase.

Click the cover. Order today.



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WINTER'S THAW, released in September 2019, is the second book in KR's co-authored series and continues where book one, EDEN'S FALL left off.

WINTER'S THAW was named a FINALIST in the Best Book Awards Fiction/Romance category for 2019, continuing the success of EDEN'S FALL, FINALIST in the same category 2018. *Click the cover. Order today.*

Following the brilliant advice of Shayla Raquel, THPW's September guest speaker, KR is revamping her website and rebranding as she pursues solo writing projects. Look for SMOKE (working title), a romantic suspense set in the aftermath of devastating wildfires in the Texas Panhandle in 2020.

Members Only Section is Live

Texas High Plains Writers rolls out the Members Only Section of our website, after much work and anticipation. Members can now access all of the videos of speakers from the last few years, as well as a membership directory.

However, **the directory is only as accurate as those participating**. We currently have only 16 members taking advantage of this feature on our website. This is the perfect time to get online and create your Member Profile. Here are the easy steps to follow on the website:

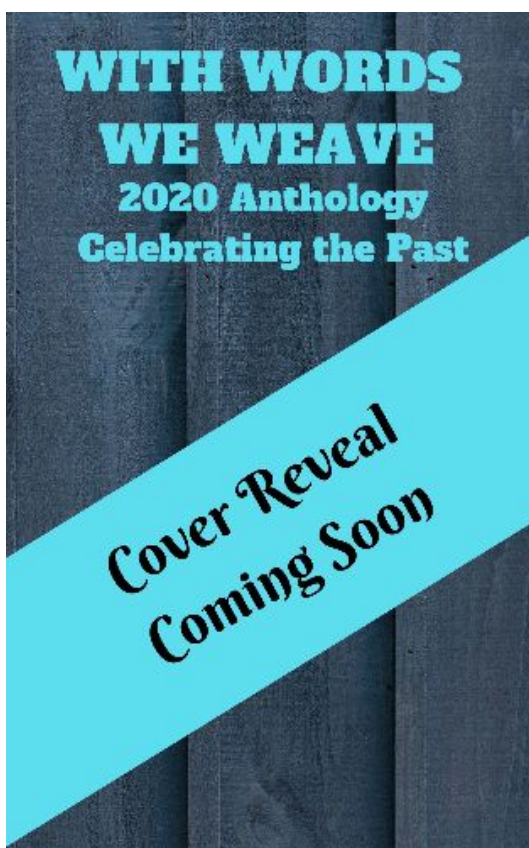
1. Pay or renew your annual dues today! Save by paying by January 31, 2020.
2. Go to the "Members Only" tab at the upper right hand of the Home page menu.
3. Click "Member Log-In" from the drop-down menu.
4. Create a Username and Password. (Check your THPW email from

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5. Create a full member profile with more information about your writing.

Please include a photo so that other members will recognize you at the next meeting.

Voila! You have access to everything. Simply go back to the Members Only tab and choose from the options on the drop-down to see the directory and videos from past meetings. Only paid members whose dues are current will have access to this section, so remember to keep your membership active. Also, remember to update your profile regularly.



2020 Anthology Update

Cover and interior layout are almost complete. Currently 188 pages and according to our past President, Rick Brown, who had the privilege of editing, "we have some really great stories in this edition."

The anthology will be released and available by ArtsFest. Authors will be notified in the coming weeks.

2020 Slate of Officers THPW Board of Directors

President: Rick DeVoe

President- Elect: Suzana Sandoval

Past President-Rick Brown

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Board members completing their 2-year or 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)

Final note:

"A goal with out a plan is just a wish."

"If your dreams don't scare you a little they aren't big enough."

"Fear is a liar."

I hope 2020 is filled with big dreams, big plans and fearlessness
writing for you.

Happy and blessed New Year,
KRB



Critique Session Guidelines

To participate in the critique session, you do not need to have a piece to be critiqued. The sessions begin at 1 p.m. and, depending on the number of those who have a story or a poem needing to be critiqued, 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.

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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

website - <http://stilettosstoliandscribbles.com>

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