

The Window - THPW July Newsletter

Texas High Plains Writers <info@texashighplainswriters.com>

Wed 7/13/2022 11:58 AM

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The Window

Official eNewsletter of the Texas High Plains Writers

July 2022

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Letter From the President

Hello Word Wranglers!

Hoping your word counts are as high as the temps these days.

Welcome to all of our new members! We are thrilled to see new names and faces interacting with our Facebook Group and reviving interest in the Members Only section of the THPW website.

When the Members Only section was added to the website, we experienced some growing pains as we learned to navigate the plugins/programs available for the existing website. Our current membership dues and website traffic doesn't justify more costly solutions at this time, and the system for getting members access worked pretty smooth.

You may recall that global event a couple of years ago. *pause for laughter* The Members Only section became secondary as all of our meetings and programs were virtual and available to anyone on the main page. As we transitioned back to in-person, your Board was also handing off multiple batons.

Updating passwords, updating and creating email lists as we moved from MailChimp to MailerLite, and following up with paid members' emails got dropped. I take full responsibility for this. As new directors came on Board and duties changed hands, I neglected to make sure Technology, Membership, and Newsletter coordinated on the Membership Only access front. Thank you all for your patience. We will send out an email to paid members with the new password and instructions for accessing the Members Only section.

Big shout-out to our Technical Director, Kate Boehs, for taking on the role and fielding the

password/login/error message issues as they arise.

If you haven't joined our [Facebook Group](#), you really should! Summer Baker has inspired us with "Survival" prompts and hilarious commentary as we close in on the Anthology deadline – July 31st!! So, please hop on over and check out her posts.

Ten of us joined the online Writers World Bootcamp for May and June. THPW writers killed it. Even those of us who fell behind on lessons walked away with new skills and confidence in our ability to make our words matter. Randall Andrews, creator and instructor, has been highly complimentary of our members, how much improvement he saw, the quality of the writing, and most importantly the willingness of our participants to be TEACHABLE! I'm so thankful to the Board for sponsoring the Bootcamp and proud of everyone who participated.

Capping off the "Summer of SKILZ" – yeah, I just made that up – is Story Structure with Troy Lambert from Plottr. If you haven't heard of Plottr or looked at this program, give it a try. I've only dabbled and can see the multitude of uses beyond just plotting. Troy has a great tutorial WITH a FREE template on [creating a writing schedule](#). I created a schedule for the next six months using this template. Can't wait to see what he brings on Saturday.

As always, we are looking for ways to serve YOU! What brings you to meetings besides great snacks (thank you, Reese and Jonathan)? What engages you on social media? How can we help YOU finish your book, whether you want to publish it or not? Get it on shelves or give it to family? Connect with peers? What makes us worth \$40 and six Saturdays a year to YOU?

Happy Writing,

KRB

July's special guest

Troy Lambert!

After three decades of various careers, Troy Lambert has fulfilled his dream of writing full-time and making a living at it. He has written more than two-dozen books and is a freelance writer, content strategist, ghostwriter, publisher, and occasional editor. He will be joining us via livestream from Boise, Idaho, to share with us some helpful tips on story structure and plotting. Though he will not be with us in person, **MEMBERS WILL MEETING IN PERSON at Sharpened Iron Studios!**

- **Where:** [Sharpened Iron Studios, 1314 S. Polk St., Amarillo, TX](#) (enter by the painted horse!)
 - **When:** Panel begins at 10:15 a.m. following a general members business meeting beginning at 10 a.m. **Members may get to the venue as early as 9:30 to mingle.**
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THPW 2022 Calendar

- **January** -Tex Thompson - Editing Like A Boss
- **March** - Kim Black, Donna Rosson, Kristine Brorman - Critique Groups: Pannel discussion the Whys & Hows w/ Whos & Whats thrown in.
- **May** - Linda Broday
- **July** - Troy Lambert, Plottr - Learn how to plot like a pro!
- **September** - Blue Handle Publishing - The publishing world is changing quickly, in ways both good and bad. Get an insider's view from Amarillo's local traditional independent publisher!
- **November** - TBA

Your Board is working diligently to bring great programs that meet the needs and desires of our members. **Please let us know if you have any program ideas or requests.** We always welcome input from our members.

Critique Session Guidelines

Critique Sessions resume after the regular bi-monthly meeting.

- Times New Roman 12pt font
- Double Spaced
- Max 500 words

- Bring 5-10 copies
- Be prepared to contribute
- Be open to critique
- Be kind

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:

Board of Directors Meeting

8:45 - 9:30 a.m.

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.

Critique Session, if Announced

12:15 - 1 p.m.

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