

The Window - THPW September Newsletter

Texas High Plains Writers <info@texashighplainswriters.com>

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The Window

Official eNewsletter of the Texas High Plains Writers



HIGH PLAINS WRITERS

September 2023

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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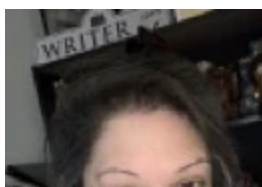
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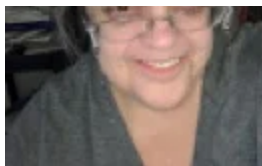
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Letter From the President

Are you as surprised as I am that the first day of Autumn is merely days away? Events like the Amarillo Tri-State Fair and



parade bring back childhood memories and also a reflection of the past year.

I've been contemplating my involvement with Texas High Plains Writers. There is great value in being a part of an organization where you can meet - in person - like-minded people. Speaking face-to-face with others who share your passion can be encouraging and motivating, not to mention great networking. I've rarely met any group more welcoming. And our speakers are engaged and informative in different aspects of the writing journey.

However, volunteering on the board of directors brings a new perspective to membership. The opportunity to be a part of the behind-the-scenes work (sometimes scramble) to meet the needs of our members and 100+ year-old organization has been rewarding and enlightening. And sometimes outright fun.

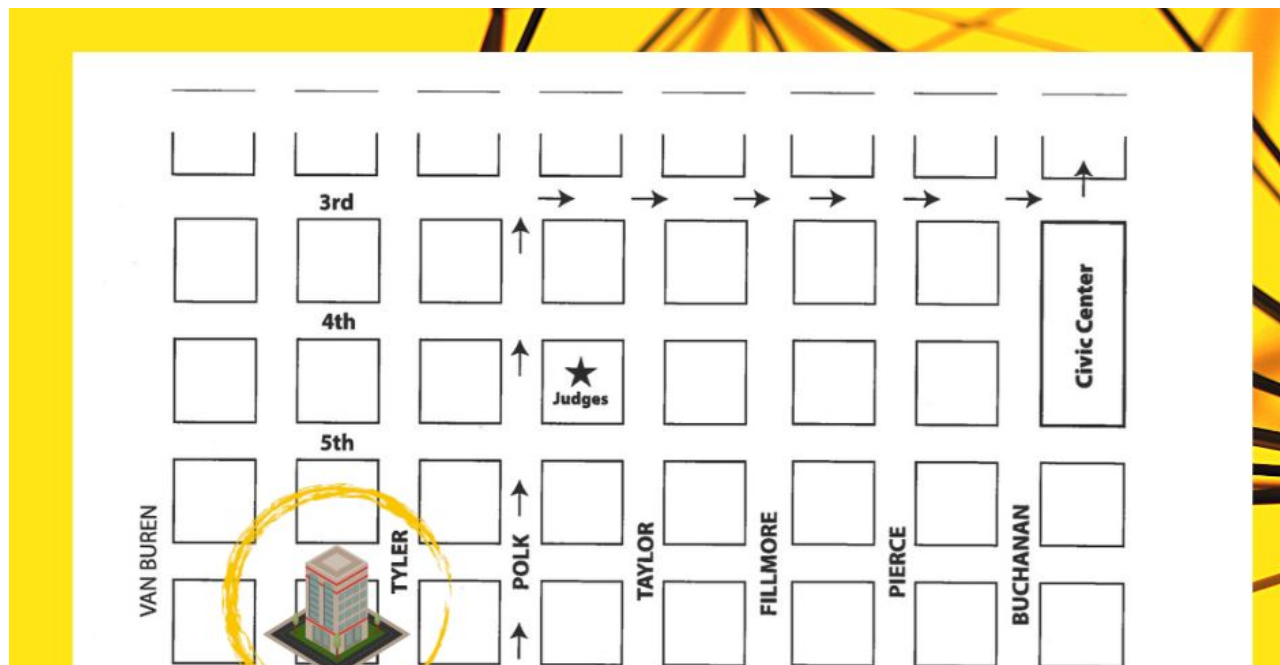
Every year, half of the THPW Board of Director positions open for a two-year term. On months we don't have an in-person membership meeting, the board conveniently meets online. At the September meeting, the Nominating Committee will announce candidates for the open board positions. Feel free to add your name to the list. Voting occurs at the November meeting.

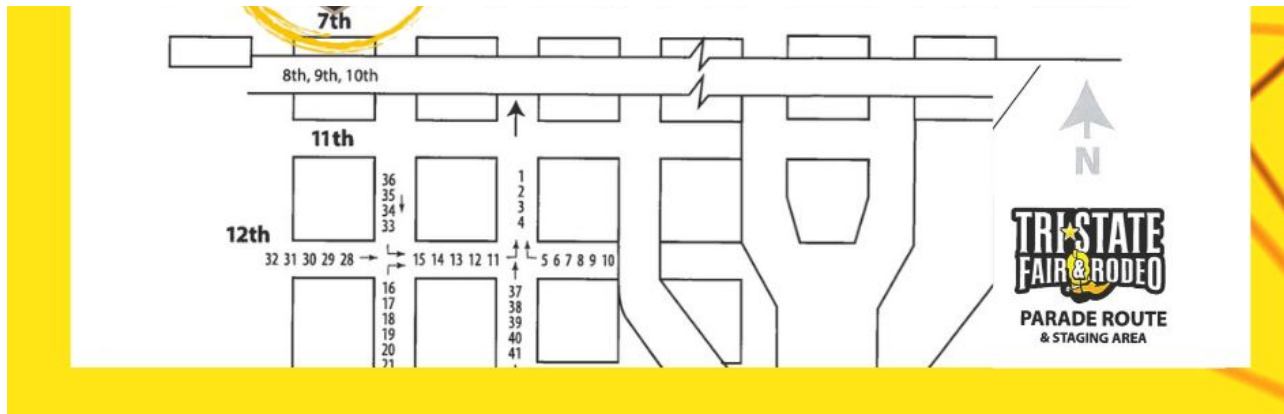
I encourage you to take the next step in your membership and become part of the board of directors. Your help is needed and appreciated. Don't miss this opportunity.

See you at the meeting!

Donna

Tri-State Fair Parade Route Reminder





Just a reminder the Tri-State Fair Parade begins at 10:00am, September 16. They begin staging around 8:30-9:00am. Polk Street will be CLOSED to cross traffic pretty early, AND there will be much more traffic than usual. Plan accordingly.

**THPW Regular Meeting - Ed Davis Room, 9th Floor,
Chase Tower, 600 S. Tyler St.**

Remember Tyler St is ONE WAY, North. Harrison St is ONE WAY, South. (shown, not labeled on map - between VanBuren and Tyler)

September Guest Speaker

Dr Frank Sobey

Harmonizing Form and Content in a Poem

Dr. Frank Sobey currently serves as the associate vice president of academic affairs at Amarillo College. He has previously served as dean of arts and sciences and chair of the English department. Dr. Sobey joined Amarillo College in 2005 teaching full time in the English department. He holds an Ed.D. in higher education administration, as well as an M.A. in English, from Texas Tech University. His literary interests include modern and postmodern American and British poetry. His favorites poets are R. S. Thomas, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, Wallace Stevens, Seamus Heaney, and Geoffrey Hill. His favorite novelists are



Dostoevsky and Cormac McCarthy. He has three children and has been married to his wife, Liberty, for twenty-four years.

Discord Group/Critique Forum

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new Discord server, specifically designed to serve as a critique group for our esteemed writers' community. This platform will provide an excellent space for sharing and receiving constructive feedback on your writing projects, fostering a supportive and collaborative environment.

To ensure a seamless onboarding process for everyone, we have outlined the steps below for joining our exclusive Discord server:

Step 1: Verify Your Membership

Membership in the Texas High Plains Writers group is a prerequisite for accessing our Discord server. As the server is exclusive to paid members, kindly ensure that you have become a paid member by following the appropriate process (details on our website). We will be verifying membership status before sending out invitations.

Step 2: Get Discord on Your Preferred Device

To join the server, you will need to have the Discord app installed on your preferred device. Discord is available on both smartphones and computers. If you wish to use Discord on your computer, please click on the following link to download the desktop version: <https://discord.com>.

If you already have Discord on your device, please ensure you know your account information (username and password).

Please note that you can use the same Discord account across multiple devices, so you only need to create one account that works for both your phone and your computer.

Step 3: Request an Invitation

Once you have confirmed your Texas High Plains Writers membership and have Discord set up on your device, it's time to request an invitation to our Discord server. Simply send an email to info@texashighplainswriters.com

With the subject line: Discord group, and include the following details:

Your Discord account name (username)

Your full name

Date of your most recent renewal of your Texas High Plains Writers membership (details for verification).

Kindly refrain from including your Discord account password, as we do not require it for the invitation process.

Once we receive your request, we will promptly send you an invite within the Discord app, granting you access to our vibrant community of writers and critique partners.

If you encounter any issues or have any questions during the process, please feel free to reach out to us on our Facebook group, and we will be more than happy to assist you.

We look forward to welcoming you to our new Discord critique group and exploring the boundless creativity and talent that makes up the Texas High Plains Writers community!

Happy writing and critiquing!

Kim Black and Samuel Black

Texas High Plains Writers

From the Inbox

Using AI to Develop and Workshop Your Characters

Award-winning author Laura Picklesimer shares her investigations into how using AI to develop and workshop your fictional characters may actually be feasible (and how it might come up short).

*"A question that emerged for me was this: How might writers harness AI in their daily activities while still **relying on their own ingenuity and independent thought?**"*

~ Laura Picklesimer

Source: Writer's Digest Monday Motivation

THPW 2023 Calendar

- **January** -Speed Dating Author Style
- **March** - World and Character Building Workshop
- **May** - **Speed Dating Round 2**
- **July** - Rick Treon - From Page to Screen
- **September** - **Dr. Frank Sobey -Harmonizing Form and Content in a Poem**
- **November** - **Board Elections Luncheon**

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.

Our meetings/programs follow this schedule:

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.)

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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