

Coeur d'Alene Chapter IWL

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary - 1943-2003

Lakegazette



Nov/December 2003

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Questions or Submissions?
Email the Editor at
cda@idahowritersleague.com

Submissions are due to the
Editor by the 25th of the
month prior to publication.
Send submissions to
Jan19522@hotmail.com

President's Corner

Mary Smith, President

What a great ride these past two years have been. Thanks to all of you for making the experience such fun, and for making me look so good. In her column, Patti summed up our chapter's achievements. They are impressive.

We are looking forward to participating as members once again and co-chairing the Third Annual Writer's Fair. I will be co-chairing the State Conference with Sandy Smith, so Patti and I will still be very involved.

I am looking forward to watching the new officers stamp their brand on the chapter history. The energy and vision of their leadership will bring the chapter to new heights. I wish them and every one of our members a memorable journey culminating in the fulfillment of long-held dreams.

Blessings, Mary

Past, Present, Future

Where Does Our Chapter Go From Here

By Patti Dickinson

The anniversary of the founding of our chapter gave rise to an excellent celebration on October 16th. New member David Adlard contributed mightily to making it a special evening with his scrumptious buffet at a cost that all of us could afford. We thank him for that. Many spouses attended in a show of support. That also made it special and we thank them too. For those who didn't make it for one reason or another—you missed an important milestone.

Anniversaries are about the past, celebrating the formation of a union, a relationship, a club—about “making it” this far. That was our focus October 16th: on the birth of our chapter, on Jessie Cameron Alison, the lady who gave it life, and the fact that through tough years and boom times we made it to this moment.

Sixty years doesn't “just happen.” *People* make it happen, people who care.

Members Betty Rohrscheib and Marilyn Wagenius represent the spirit that made it happen. The Jessie Cameron Alison Award for extraordinary service went to Betty, an honor she richly deserves. The Summit Award for dedicated service and for Body of Work went to Marilyn, also much deserved. Longtime members Rosemary Hendrickson, Nadine Boss, and Chris Moore attended, all of them played a part in our staying power of sixty years.

Judith Farrey, Barbara Rostad, David Hibberd, Dottie Maley, Larry Telles, and

(Continued on page 7)

November 2003 History Moment

By Dottie Maley, Historian

Robin Bruce, successful history article writer, became president in 1988. She continued the successful agenda of the past few years, of having a workshop for the Wednesday morning meeting and the regular meeting on the third Thursday evening, reserved for chapter business and manuscript reading.

I couldn't begin to cover the accomplishments of the chapter this year. A lot of it will be on the CD, but a few notations in the chapter yearbook summed up the diversity and continued output of the members. Said Chris Moore, a juvenile-fiction writer whose stories had recently won awards in the IWL state competition. "Just going to meetings makes me feel like a writer. It generates a professional attitude that spurs me to edit myself objectively, and to market my manuscripts with confidence."

The summation of chapter activities also noted that, to stretch one's talent is evident when a successful article-writer like Robin Bruce tries her hand at fiction, or when a non-poet answers roll call with a couplet. During an average meeting, one might listen to novelist Faith Langstaff's latest experiences in acquiring an agent, or songwriter Marlene Davis, singing her new lyrics. Hearty laughter accompanies Marilyn Wagenius' down-to-earth humor and poetry.

Rosemary Henrickson and Nadine Boss read touching personal essays, written for their families and Beulah Strobel, with a flare for local history, displays her most recent byline in an Idaho publication. Betty Rohrscheib gives entertaining speeches in competition and self-publishes her poetry. To cite an old cliché, "and the list goes on and on."

Helen Johnson, who I have mentioned before as the lady who taught herself the art of modern Japanese Haiku, was nominated for the Pushcart Prize for non-fiction category by the Pushcart Press in New York. And for the second year in a row, Betty Thackray was awarded a "Golden Poet Award" for her poem at the World of Poetry Annual Convention in California. Her poem, "Quiet Voice," was one of 2000 winning entries selected from more than 900,000 poems submitted. Chris Moor's manuscript "The Reluctant Gourmet," a juvenile fiction work, was singled out as one of the top hundred winners in *Writer's Digest* Writing Competition, a national writing contest that received over six thousand entries

Maybe this will make you stop and think. It is from a speech given by Betty Rohrscheib and is entitled, "The Ten Most Beautiful Words According To Funk." Wilfred J. Funk, Poet, Editor, Publisher, Lexicographer and President of Funk & Wagnall's, once listed what he considered the ten most beautiful words in the English language—beautiful in meaning and the musical arrangement of their letters. After sifting through thousands and thousands of words, this is the list he compiled and the order in which he listed them. . . *Dawn, Hush, Lullaby, Murmuring, Tranquil, Mist, Chimes, Luminous, Golden, and Melody.*

And, a little published fact released in 1988 that should continue to spur us on the greater heights. "For those of you who may not know, the Idaho Writers' League is the oldest such organization in the state with the most prestigious writers in Idaho. The Writers' League will celebrate its fiftieth (50th) birthday in 1990, the year of the state's centennial celebration.

What's Your Literary IQ

#3

By Larry Telles

How many of the following "great first lines" from literature can you identify? Give yourself a point for the book title and one for the author of the five following examples. The year the book was published is provided as a hint. Ten points is a perfect score. Give it a try!

1. The mole had been working very hard all the morning, spring cleaning his little home. (1908).
2. Robert Cohn was once the middle weight champion of Princeton. (1926).
3. The bench on which Dobbs was sitting was not so good. (1927).
4. In the town there were two mules, and they were always together. (1940).
5. A squat grey building of only thirty-four stories. (1932).

What is your score?

10 – 09 points: Genius!
08 – 07 points: Very good, you have done your homework.
06 – 05 points: You're just average. You will do better next time.
04 – 03 points: Get a library card.
02 – 01 points: Can you read?

(Continued on page 5)

Birthdays:

Jacklyn Gilfillan	11/01
Noah Buntain	11/08
Susan Newcomb	11/08
Marilyn Wagenius	11/16
Patty May	11/18
David Hibberd	11/21
Patti Dickinson	11/28
Kristin Howard	12/14
Larry Telles	12/14

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all of these chapter members.

The 8th grade in 1895

By Patti Dickinson

Remember when our grandparents, great-grandparents, and such stated that they only had an 8th grade education? Well, check this out. Could any of us have passed the 8th grade in 1895?

(LOOK CLOSELY... THAT'S EIGHTEEN NINETY-FIVE) This is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, KS, USA. It was taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, KS, and reprinted by the Salina Journal.

8th Grade Final Exam: Salina, KS -1895

Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of Capital Letters.
2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no Modifications.
3. Define Verse, Stanza, and Paragraph.
4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb? Give Principal Parts of lie, play and run.
5. Define Case, Illustrate each Case.
6. What is Punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of Punctuation.
- 7-10. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Arithmetic (Time, 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft. deep, 10 feet long and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50 cts/bushel, deducting 1050 lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find cost of 6720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per metre?
8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance that is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt

U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe?

(Continued on page 6)

IWL Membership Dues

Because of changes made last year, the annual membership dues for the IWL were due in October. They are now overdue, so they must be turned in ASAP. Members need to send their \$25.00 fees payable to IWL to Judith Farrey, P.O. Box 516, Athol, ID 83801-0516

Dear IWL Members,

I want to express my thanks to all of you for the beautiful service award presented to me on our 60th anniversary. It has been such a pleasure to participate in this group and to share in hearing the fabulous variety of written material our members create. How fortunate our chapter is to have the leadership which inspires willing cooperation from the membership and which appreciates the results. I look forward to ongoing participation in our excellent chapter.

With Gratitude,

Barbara Rostad

November Meetings

By Patty May

Come join us Wednesday morning, November 12th to hear our guest speaker Sholeh Johnson. Working in the field of law and as a state lobbyist and congressional aide Sholeh lived mostly in Texas and Iran. Having written for high school and college publications, she then served as writer and managing editor for an international trade law journal in law school.

With her husband and two children she moved to North Idaho in 1999 for, you guessed it, the quality of life. Since June of 2002 Sholeh's been in her first paid writing position with the *Coeur d'Alene Press* writing a thrice-weekly

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Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, November 12th
9:00AM to Noon**

Monthly day meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Chapter

Held at the Jewett House, We will hear from Sholeh Johnson, columnist for the Coeur d'Alene Press. Elections for next year's officers will take place at this meeting and the Thursday evening meeting.

**Thursday, November 20th
6:30PM to 9:30PM**

Monthly evening meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Chapter

Join us as we continue with our Gary Provost workshop. The meeting is held at the LDS Church on Honeysuckle and Maple in Hayden. Election of Officers for 2004.

**Friday, November 21st 11:00 AM
to 8:00 PM**

Children's Village Fundraiser Hayden Lake Country Club

Tickets are \$19.50 and are available at The Village at 1350 W. Hanley (8

a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed during lunch.) Call them at 667-1189. There will be a silent auction, arranged by Marge Murphy and Bernie Clark. There will also be a *Kaleidoscope* table. All *Kaleidoscope* authors are invited to join in autographing copies.

**Friday, November 21st 6:30PM to
8:00 PM**

Open mike readings at Borders on Hwy 95.

All chapter members are invited to bring their work to read.

**Wednesday, December 10th 9:00AM
to Noon**

Monthly day meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Chapter

Held at the Jewett House. Ho-ho-ho. It's our annual Christmas party. See the article on page 5. The new officers for 2004 will be instated.

**Because of the Holidays, no
Thursday evening meeting will be
held in December.**

**Friday, December 19th 6:30PM to
8:00PM**

Open mike readings at Borders

on Hwy 95.

All chapter members are invited to bring their work to read. Patrick from Borders indicated that they are working on some special events for this night.

Suggested Writing.

We encourage you to write each month. During the months of the IWL annual writing contest we will select an assigned title or assigned theme to write about. The rest of the year, we suggest different topics for the members. Upcoming topics are:

November:

Assigned Theme: Mystery Writing
Any of the eight contest categories.

December:

Assigned Title: Know Thyself
Any of the eight contest categories.

January:

Assigned Title: Have You Been
Through The Silver Valley

February:

Assigned Theme:
Writing With Your Heart

Refreshments:

At this point it does not appear that we have any volunteers for refreshments for our November or December meetings. Those who do not want to do readings over the growling of empty stomachs may volunteer for refreshments by contacting Barbara Rostad. See below for info on contacting her.

We ask our members to provide refreshments for our regular meetings. It would ease the demands on those bringing refreshments if we could get two volunteers for each meeting. Please remember to get a replacement if you are unable to fulfill your commitment. Last month's night meeting had no refreshments. We appreciate your help.

To volunteer please contact Barbara Rostad at 208 777-1030 or by email at lilac9950@surfbest.net.

Member Profiles:

Each month we will profile members of our chapter. We have requested that ALL chapter members submit a bio about themselves. A profile of 250-500 words is requested. Tell us about yourself, family life, work life, writing life, etc. Let us get to know you better.

David E. Hibberd

It occurred to me that my entry into the Idaho Writers' League in 2001 happened at about the same time my grandson entered into the world. Perhaps that is why my latest story is about him. Either that, or it because it has been almost a week since I've seen him.

I am not one of those writers who knew from the time I was three years old that I wanted to write. I was too busy learning to read at that age to worry about writing. It took me until my senior year in high school to get an introduction to creative writing, thanks to my junior year English teacher who decided to flunk me. However, that wasn't enough to get me motivated.

I took a stab in the early 90s and actually submitted some short stories which quickly got shot down, along with my drive to write.

Then, in 2001, I was asked to create a website. A dear friend, Mary Smith, and the State President of the IWL, Sandy Smith approached me about doing the IWL website. Because of that I became a member of the IWL

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Recognitions

Joe Butler had an article in the *Coeur d'Alene Press* about our 60th anniversary celebration. The article included pictures of chapter members with their awards and the grand-daughter of chapter founder, Jessie Cameron Alison and family friend, with the first recipient of the Jessie Cameron Alison Award, Betty Rohrscheib.

Mary Smith's new book is one of two novellas with the same theme - A Prairie Christmas and packaged under one cover. The title is *The Christmas Necklace*. It is a historical romance set in 1871 during the first Christmas after the Chicago Fire, published by Barbour Publishing, Inc., Heartsong Presents. Mary has been publishing with Barbour for ten years. Her first new book in 6 years, it is scheduled for Christmas, 2005 and should be in stores in late September.

Nikki Arana said that she has signed a contract to be represented by Natasha Kern Agency. Natasha Kern will be representing her and her book, *A Love Ordained*, to seven publishers, Putnam, Zondervan, Tyndale, and others. She is offering a two book deal in the mid five figure range.

And it all started at the IWL in the summer of 2001!

April Anderton had two items published in craft magazines this past month and is now writing a monthly column for an online magazine at <http://www.scrapbook-bytes.com>. It is a paid assignment so that's even better! :)

Robin Heflin reports that she has no successes yet, but she recently submitted a short story to *Good Housekeeping* and another short story to *ByLine*. She has also queried *Grit* magazine on a nonfiction article.

Judith Farrey submitted a letter to the editor of the *Coeur d'Alene Press*.

David Hibberd has a query letter submitted to *Writer's Digest* for an article titled "Seven Steps to a Successful Writer's Group."



CHRISTMAS PARTY

By Tomia Browning

The winter holidays are fast approaching, which means it's time to think about the December day meeting, when our chapter holds its annual Christmas Party.

EVERYONE is encouraged (practically required☺) to bring something to read. In fact, the first hour of our party is devoted to the readings. The assigned themes for any genre are *All That Glitters* and *Not Your Everyday Christmas*.

For the gift exchange, I am hoping to stretch you creatively. Bring to the meeting a wrapped, filled mug. It can be filled with an assortment of anything; pens, post-its, soap, tea, and chocolate all work well. Do not spend more than five dollars on your mug. Make it simple and be creative.

There will be a food sign up sheet at the November day meeting. Please be sure to sign up for a food item. If you can't make November's meeting, but would like to come in December and bring a dish, please contact Barbara Rostad at 777-1030 or by email at lilac9950@surfbest.net, or contact Tomia Browning at 687-6071 or by email at tbrowning@icehouse.net.

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LITERARY IQ ANSWERS:

1. "Wind in the Willows" Kenneth Grahame.
2. "The Sun Also Rises" Ernest Hemingway.
3. "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" Berwick Traven Torsvan.
4. "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter" Carson McCullers.
5. "Brave New World" Aldous Huxley.

From the Editor

By David E. Hibberd Co-Editor

I was shopping the other day and noticed all the seasonal decorations in their reds and greens with fancy ornaments, ribbons, and stockings. Of course I knew immediately that they could only mean one thing- Halloween is here. It also means something else. With the Christmas holiday coming up faster than a rejection letter, it also means that this is the last newsletter for 2003.

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column. Plan to be at our November 12th meeting at the Jewett House at 9 a.m. to hear Sholeh speak about her writing career and some of the facets of writing unique to her career as a columnist.

Did you enjoy Gary Provost's video workshop as much as I did? If so you'll have the opportunity to continue with Provost's workshop at the November evening IWL meeting. He is an author of articles, a column for Writer's Digest magazine, fiction and non-fiction, mystery, true crime, young adult, picture books, and is in great demand as a seminar and conference speaker. Bring pencil, paper and let's get to work. The November 20th evening meeting will be held at the Hayden LDS church on the corner of Honeysuckle and Maple at 6:30 p.m.

(Continued from page 3)

8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

Orthography (Time, one hour)

1. What is meant by the following: Alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, and syllabication?
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: Trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals?
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u.'
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication

Geography (Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth

Also, notice that the exam took six hours to complete. Gives the saying " He only had an 8th grade education" a whole new meaning, doesn't it?

(Continued from page 5)

Who among us had any idea what a year 2003 would be as we closed out 2002?

With Mary in the driver's seat and Patti riding shotgun, we peeled out of 2002 with our engines roaring and our tires squealing and we have hardly had time to look back. They taught us, guided us, encouraged us, amazed us, loved us, and made us better than what we were.

Fortunately for us we have a wonderful historian in Dottie Maley that is capturing for us the history of the Coeur d'Alene chapter as we finish our 60th year as a chapter. With each issue of the Lakegazette, Dottie has not only brought us a look at our past, but she was always the first person each month to submit her articles.

Janet See has been there each month, quietly gathering information for the newsletters. What you get each month would be a bunch of ramblings from me, if it wasn't for Jan.

Patty May has helped plan our monthly meetings and then provided write-ups for them in the newsletters.

Elizabeth Mastin, Richard Baker, and Michael Marsden were just some of the members who contributed poetry for our enjoyment.

April Anderton, Yvonne Deitz, and Larry Godwin are a few of the members we learned about through their profiles.

So many others have contributed to the Lakegazette throughout the year that there isn't enough space to thank them all individually. For those of you who added your thoughts and words to the pages of our newsletters, I thank you.

2004 is coming up fast. We will have new leaders and new approaches to accomplishing the mission of the IWL. I encourage those who haven't contributed to the newsletter to let us hear from you.

Happy Holidays :)

(Continued from page 1)

Michael Marsden also represent that spirit. Each one has left his or her stamp on our chapter. Certificates for service went to seventeen members who have helped along the way. Mary Smith and I both got emotional, our heartfelt feelings of gratitude and respect for each other still strong after two years. I say Mary is made of the same cloth as Betty and Marilyn and Jessie Cameron Alison and is responsible for saving this chapter. She claims I had something to do with it. Okay, maybe a little. We have made great strides in the last two years: offering monthly programs and special workshops to improve our writing—always striving to “raise the bar.” We share what we’ve written and receive TLF; we’ve fostered critique groups, put on two successful Writers Fairs, conducted a highly successful student writing contest, and produced *Kaleidoscope*. “We’ve come a long way, baby.” So here we are, now what?

The third annual Writers Fair is all set with a great lineup of speakers. We now have speakers calling us, wanting to give workshops—that is momentum. Mary and I may be stepping down but we are available to talk to; we still *care*. This is an opportunity for new leadership, new ideas, new energy.

What’s in the future for our chapter? On-line writing classes through our website? Retreats with the best/brightest writers on how to write creative non-fiction? Novelist weekends to share ideas and brainstorm problems? Statewide children’s writing contests? Essay groups, short story groups, or forming one devoted to memoirs? Field trips? Another collective work? The future is filled with possibilities.

Whatever our writing goals, this chapter can accomplish them together. It takes more *caring* than time. People who care *make* the time. I know we have members who do. So okay, now’s the time to step up to the plate. Let’s make it happen.

Cool Website:

A friend of mine sent me a link to this site, <http://www.nanowrimo.org/index.php>. If you are serious about writing and have thought about writing a novel, check out the site. November is the National Novel Writing Month and the challenge is to write a 50,000 word novel starting November 1st and ending November 30th.

The key here is quantity and speed, not quality. Everyone reaching the 50K word limit is a winner and receive a certificate. If you are looking for a good challenge, this will do it.

Writing Opportunity:

At the conference in Burley, Kitty Fleischman of Idaho Magazine (<http://www.idahomagazine.net>) told us about the magazine. Each month, one city or town in Idaho is selected as the Spotlight City. In February of 2004, Coeur d’Alene will be the spotlight city. This presents to us an opportunity to write about our city and present its people, its history, its uniqueness, etc.

Fire up those computers, sharpen those pencils, uncap those pens and send something in. Time is short, because they like a couple of months lead time for articles.

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Entries in the 2002 and 2003 writing contests brought me three first place awards, two second place awards and two honorable mentions. I also received two Vardis Fisher nominations.

I have submitted entries for contests outside of the IWL and received a first place selection for one of them. Mostly, I have submitted letters to the paper and had one letter published in a national magazine. I am currently working on a proposed article for Writer’s Digest and a human interest story for Idaho Magazine.

I have passed the half-century mark in my life and will celebrate my twenty-eighth wedding anniversary in a couple of months.

- My wife, Sherrie, is very supportive of me and is a talented storyteller. We have two sons, one daughter, a son-in-law, and the best grandson anyone could ask for.

I grew up in Utah and this last August I reached the point where I spent half of my life living in Utah and half of my life living in Washington.

I enjoy writing humor, science fiction, and my memoirs. I also spend time working on family history.

Stay tuned to this column where next month we either learn about more chapter members, or I talk about the trauma of diagramming sentences.

- Paying market for articles, fiction & poetry
- Contests with cash prizes
- Practical tips on writing and selling
- Annual Poetry Chapbook Competition
- *ByLine* Short Fiction & Poetry Awards

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www.ByLineMag.com

Contact: Patti Dickinson, Idaho Representative

pattid@imbris.com

Look for our *Kaleidoscope* ad in this month’s issue of *ByLine Magazine*.

Coeur d'Alene Chapter
Idaho Writers League
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Larry Telles: 60th Anniversary Book Project Chair

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Secretary:

(Position Available)

Who is the Idaho Writers' League?

Purpose of the organization:

The Idaho Writers' League is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes for the promotion of social welfare including:

- A. To promote and maintain a high standard of literary output and to recognize accomplishments of Idaho writers.
- B. To stimulate public respect and support for the art and profession of writing.
- C. To provide a unified organization for writers and those with serious interest in writing and literary skills.
- D. To encourage new writing talent, to exchange ideas through the League publication, and local and state meetings.
- E. To stimulate writing by means of contests and recognition awards.
- F. To encourage regional activity among neighboring chapters.