

Eastern Idaho Writers Ink

Welcome to Eastern Idaho Writers League

We are in the formative stage of the group that was formerly IWL—PBIF chapter. With our EIWL Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws approved, we are now accepting members. EIWL has chosen to keep the same purpose as the parent IWL group which officially dissolves 12/31/21. The Board has decided to offer free introductory membership to former PBIF members and friends as we launch the new group. We have the ability to host meetings by Zoom and are also looking for meeting places in Pocatello, Idaho Falls and possibly Blackfoot for critique groups. We also are working with Barnes & Noble to set up some open mic events. We also have interest in building a youth group in conjunction with Bonneville County 4-H.

We have a newsletter and plan to share some history of our east Idaho writers in each addition. At some point we will likely add some contests. How the group takes shape will be determined as we build membership. We would like to have a fun group that offers much of what IWL had but avoid the mistakes that lead to its dissolution.

Save the Date!

Becky Cook has accepted our invitation for a meet and greet workshop on January 15, 2022 from 3-5 pm. In addition to Becky sharing her experience as a writer, she will share some information on self publishing vs. traditional publishing. Location TBA and should be accessible on zoom.



Picture from Pocatello
IWL Archives

Front page news: New group, new name— familiar purpose.

Membership special for 2022.

Back Story—History of East Idaho Writers :
Alice Dunn

Special points of interest

- Lost Horse Press gets a new location
- Idaho Magazine 2022 Fiction Contest

Connect

We have several ways to stay connected as a group:

Facebook:

Join us at Eastern Idaho Writer's League.

Public page to share who we are and what we plan to do. This does allow for the general public to send messages and for admin to respond. We can share links to helpful sites and post very generalized information.

Private page This requires a member invite and is a private page for sharing ideas with additional security over the public page. Facebook profile required as well as linked to an existing member.

Website: Hopefully we can find someone in the group to the task of building and updating a site.

Monthly newsletter: We would like this to be mainly emailed but realize we have some members who wish to receive hard copies so can make every attempt to have this reach everyone.

Poetry Corner News: Lost Horse Press Moves to Washington

Lost Horse Press has recently moved from Sandpoint to Washington State. Lost Horse Press is a 501 (3) (c) nonprofit, independent press. In June of 1998, Christine Holbert established Lost Horse Press which publishes works of emerging as well as established poets in addition to various literary promotions and activities.

Some of the services that Christine performs:

Reviewing and editing manuscripts

Designs covers and text

Typesets books

Designs catalogs

Promotes Lost Horse books

Manages Marketing

Lost Horse Press

1025 South Garry Road

Liberty Lake, WA 99019

Email losthorsepress@mindspring.com

IDAHO Magazine Fiction Contest

Sponsored by Rediscovered Books

We're calling for imaginative, well-developed stories with interesting characters, emotional punch, and a distinctly Idaho flavor.

ENTRY FEE

Open to all ages: \$10 first entry, \$5 each additional entry
Receive one FREE entry when you order a new subscription!

PRIZES

First Place: \$100
Second Place: \$50
Third Place: \$25

The top three place-winners receive *IDAHO magazine's* Tensegrity Award, a beautiful and intricate handmade structure of sticks and string held together through tension and compression.

DEADLINE

JANUARY 31

2,500 WORD MAXIMUM! All entries must be postmarked by JANUARY 31. No science fiction. All stories must have an Idaho setting, theme or character as the central element of the story. All stories must be unpublished. Entries with insufficient postage will be returned to sender. Successful entries will not be returned.

INSTRUCTIONS

On a cover letter please include your name, address, phone number, email, category, word count and story title. DO NOT place your name on any page of your entry. You must include four (4) copies of your story.

SEND ENTRIES AND FEES TO

IDAHO magazine Fiction Contest
P.O. Box 586, Boise, ID 83701

QUESTIONS?

(208) 336.0653 or (800) 655.0653

Eastern Idaho Writers 2021-2022 Officers

President: Terri Robinson Vice President :Alice Dunn Treasurer: Bret Wilson Secretary: Amy McClellan

Contact Amy cowpirancher@aol.com with membership questions, ideas, or newsletter submissions. If you have a favorite Eastern Idaho author please add to our Back Story page. This issue features our very own Alice Dunn.

Back Story: A History of Eastern Idaho Writers—Alice Dunn

My *nom de plume* is Alicia Tycho. I'm Alice Smith Henderson Dunn. Smith is my mother's maiden name. I got married at eighteen, just before I enrolled at Idaho State College. Every time a form required my full name, someone asked, "Have you been married twice?" See why?

I was born on a ranch outside the little "city" in Southeast Idaho named Arimo. (Yes, Idaho did away with villages.) Books were my chief playmates, and I always wanted to write stories like them. I was so disappointed when, in the second grade, a fourth grader's story beat mine out in the school writing contest. In high school, I did get a poem published in *1947 Intermountain High School Poetry Anthology*, about like those vanity poetry books I also tried. At age ninety, I'm still trying to find an honest-to-goodness publisher.

I married my husband, Wendell, 71 years and 18 days before I was widowed. We both earned bachelor degrees at Idaho State College before it became a university. I taught school and was an extension agent (who wrote a newspaper column) until he graduated. We owned a drug store in California. I was in charge of greeting cards. Certain I wrote better epigrams than the ones I was selling, I was disappointed when the company rejected my ideas. Today, that is a fat file.

While raising my six children, I scribbled off numerous poems and wrote social news for the local newspaper, two histories for my church, and several performed mini-plays. My theater group, tired of paying royalties, had me write a three-act musical. We successfully performed. For several years, I edited and mostly wrote *Redwood Researcher*, a genealogical quarterly, distributed widely. With the last child through high school, I went back to college and earned a masters degree, this time in English literature, squeezing in writing classes. Stories and plays from my California State College at Humboldt days cram my files.

After selling the store, we moved back to Idaho, where I found Idaho Writer's League. I was a member for thirty-seven years. What you get out of a writing group is in direct proportion to what you put in, and I have benefitted greatly from conferences and the input of other members. 24-Hour Books published *Pearls*, an anthology of Pocatello Chapter members' writings, including mine. I learned a lot as its not 100% accurate editor. Never-the-less, we sold all but 2 of the 225 copies we ordered.

After trying many styles and genres and having my best luck, financially, with articles published in magazines and newspapers, out of desperation, I created a self-illustrated children's book. I gave all 30 hand-made, hard-back copies to my grandchildren. The first in a series, with three more in varying stages of completion, once I find an illustrator, I'll look for a publisher.

Also self-published, bound and on the bookshelf, are 2 family histories (I sold the 60 copies of the hard bound history), three travel journals, and a chapbook of my poetry. At eighty-nine, discouraged with selling any fiction, I published *The Suitcase* on Amazon, my second novel. I'm pleased to say more copies have sold than I have friends I know about. My first novel, still in the editing process, is benefitting from what I learned during its editing, so for this one, I hope to find a "legitimate" publisher.

I'm still writing whatever comes to mind. This week I've been translating an Old-Swedish poem to English. Hah! Just a mite over-ambitious, don't you agree? If and when I'm truly a published author, I'll settle on one style and one genre—if I live so long.