

# Eastern Idaho Writer's Ink

Newsletter for Eastern Idaho Writer's League, Inc.

December 2021  
Volume 1, Issue 1

## Welcome to Eastern Idaho Writer's League

Idaho Writer's League voted several months ago to dissolve as of December 31, 2021. This left PBIF and all other chapters of IWL with no parent organization and no non-profit status. PBIF consequently dissolved, reorganized as Eastern Idaho Writers, and applied for its own non-profit status. EIWL will be keeping the same purpose as the parent group and will be offering free introductory membership to former PBIF members and friends. We will be hosting meetings online and are also looking for potential meeting places in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, and possibly Blackfoot for critique groups and workshops. Idaho Falls Barnes & Noble is planning to let us use a part of the store for hosting open mic events. We are also hoping to have a monthly newsletter to keep connected and also to share some history of East Idaho writers. At some point we will likely be adding some contests. Membership will be the determining factor in how the organization takes shape. We are hoping to create a fun group that will be offering activities comparable to IWL.

## Save the Date!

Local author, Becky Cook, has accepted our invitation for a meet and greet workshop on January 15, 2022 from 3-5 pm. She will be sharing her experience as a writer as well as presenting some information on self publishing vs. traditional publishing. We will be announcing the location as soon as that information becomes available. The workshop should be accessible online as well.



Picture from Pocatello  
IWL Archives

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

Membership special for 2022.

Back Story—History of East Idaho Writers :  
Alice Dunn

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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—<https://www.facebook.com/Eastern-Idaho-Writers-League-100321458699927>

This page allows the group to share who we are and what we do. The general public can post messages to the group and an EIWL representative can respond. Links to useful sites as well as general information can be posted.

Private page—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/218530393745052>

This is a private page for member use. Others wishing to join us must be invited by a member. Items of a more personal nature can be posted here.

**Website:** We hope to find someone in the new Eastern Idaho Writer's League who is willing and able to build and maintain an EIWL Site.

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

**Meetings:** Members will be able to connect through via an online program as well as live meetings and workshops when possible.

## Poetry Corner News: Lost Horse Press Moves to Washington

Christine Holbert established Lost Horse Press in Sandpoint in 1989. Lost Horse Press publishes works of established poets as well as emerging poets. She has moved to 1025 South Garry Road, Liberty Lake, Washington 99019. Email: [losthorsepress@mindspring.com](mailto:losthorsepress@mindspring.com)

Christine's services include:

Reviewing and editing manuscripts

Designing covers and text

Typesetting books

Designing catalogs

Promoting Lost Horse Books

Managing marketing

## 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 Writer's League 2021-2022 Officers

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

Contact Amy [cowpirancher@aol.com](mailto: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, which was successfully performed. For several years, I edited and mostly wrote *Redwood Researcher*, a widely distributed genealogical quarterly. 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 in the process as its editing is not 100% accurate. 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. It is first of 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 my second novel on Amazon. I'm pleased to say more copies of *The Suitcase* 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.