

Newsletter for Eastern Idaho Writers League, Inc.

Conference Update: New Addition to Speaker Lineup

We are just starting our publicity campaign for our upcoming conference and should have between 20-40 attendees. Please feel free to share event information with other writers as the facilities are large enough to host more if needed.

We have a change to the speaker lineup with Robin Lee Hatcher having a crisis arise and no longer able to participate. We are pleased to announce that Brenda Baumgartner Stanley will fill the vacant spot.

Finetuning our schedule but plans include:

Breakfast: Pastries, assorted fruit, and morning beverages provided.

Lunch: Baked potato bar, salad, and desert.

Dinner: On your own for cleanup and preparation for community pie social and book sales event.

Pie Social from 6:30 -9:00

Books sales and meet and greet with our speakers. We can also have some open mic time if there is an interest. Please include a note with your registration form if you would like to participate.

Brenda Stanley Bio

Brenda (Baumgartner) Stanley is a writer and journalist who spent over two decades as a television news anchor and investigative reporter with the NBC affiliate-KPVI in Idaho. She was recognized by the Scripps Howard Foundation Award, the Hearst Journalism Award, the Idaho Press Club, and the Society for Professional Journalists. She is the author of six novels and four cookbooks, including several best sellers and a Goodreads best book. She writes a weekly column for The Idaho State Journal about cooking called "Tales of the Dinner Belle". Brenda is the mother of five children, including two sets of twins, and a grandmother of eight. She and her veterinarian husband, Dave, live on a small ranch in Blackfoot, Idaho, with their dogs, horses, chickens, sheep, and whatever else Brenda decides to add to her "petting zoo."



Inside this issue

Conference Schedule.....	2
Almotto's Progress	2
IWL Archives:	3
Back Story: Meet Rod Miller	4

Special points of interest

Contact Terri Robinson for conference registration information.
robinsonwritenow@gmail.com

EIWL Website under construction

**2022 EIWL Conference:
“Fall in Love With Writing”
Bonneville County Fairgrounds
September 17, 2022**

9:00 a.m. Kitty Fleischman: History of Idaho Writers and IDAHO magazine

10:00 a.m. Rod Miller:
How to get your book off to a good start

11:00 a.m. Bret Wilson
Character and plot development

12:00 p.m. Baked Potato Luncheon and
“Scrabble Game”

1:00 p.m. Rod Miller: 13 Lies They Tell
Writers

2:00 p.m. Brenda Baumgartner Stanley
Organization and Inspiration

3: 00 p.m. Brenda Baumgartner Stanley
Traditional Publishing Q & A

4:00 Becky Cook:
Self Publishing and Marketing

5:00 –6:30 Dinner on your own

6:30-9:00 p.m. Pie Social, Book Sales and
Open Mic event.

Regular Conference Fees —\$75
Under 18 years of age or over 80—\$50
Book Sales Table Fee —\$10 for non
conference attendees or included with
conference fees.

Almotto’s Progress



Almotto Legacy Publishing has completed its first project. Our content approval and audio sound recording director has highly approved our efforts. Wesley also did some work on the cover design.

We went with a local printer and were pleased with the result . We still have a few copies that will be available at EIWL conference.

Full Course by Amy McClellan is a collection of short stories and poems mostly inspired by assigned themes and titles in the IWL writing contests.

Archives: Vardis Fisher Award

By Amy McClellan

The Vardis Fisher Award was created after the author's death in remembrance of his close association with the Idaho Writer's League. Early in my association with IWL, I chanced upon the Vardis Fisher memorial on a drive home from Swan Valley. I mentioned the Vardis Fisher Award to my husband who proceeded to quiz me on Vardis Fisher. I realized I needed to do some research.

My speculation that Mr. Fisher must have been a truly funny man to have his name on this award was clarified in several conversations informing me that his wife (Opal) had started the award more in memory of the lack of humor in his writings. Probably his most popular book was the novel *Mountain Man* which was the inspiration for the film *Jeremiah Johnson*, starring Robert Redford.

Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter
1976	Shirley Boise	Boise	2001	Randy Mecham	Pocatello
1977	Mary Hencley	Pocatello	2002	Helen Campbell	Sandpoint
1978	Fran Crone (Krone)	Coeur d'Alene	2003	Earline Reid	Idaho Falls
1979	Eva Peterson	Lewis-Clark Chapter	2004	Barbara K. Rostad	Coeur d'Alene
1980	Sandra Lundquist	Idaho Falls	2005	Amy McClellan	Idaho Falls
1981	Marilyn Wagenius	Coeur d'Alene	2006	Amy McClellan	Idaho Falls
1983	Madis Chapin		2007	Amy McClellan	Idaho Falls
1984	Jean Liebenthal	Idaho Falls	2008	Bruce Bash	Idaho Falls
1985	Jean Liebenthal	Idaho Falls	2009	Loy Ann Bell	Idaho Falls
1986	Margaret Skelton	Idaho Falls	2010	Rachel McClellan	Idaho Falls
1987	Deana Jensen	Idaho Falls	2011	Murray Edwards	Idaho Falls
1988	Deana Jensen	Idaho Falls	2012	Mc Kenzi Warnock	Pocatello
1989	Don Atkinson	Boise	2013	Cynthia Deatherage	Idaho Falls
1990	Don Atkinson	Boise	2014	Randy Mecham	Pocatello
1991	Ethel Gossard	Member at large	2015	Janice Abel	Coeur d'Alene
1992	Deana Jensen	Idaho Falls	2016	Marlene Moser	Palouse
1993	Betty Rohrscheib	Coeur d'Alene	2017	Vaughn Phelps	Twin Falls
1994	Madelyne Voeller	Pocatello Chapter	2018	Randy Mecham	Pocatello
1995	Randy Mecham	Pocatello	2019	Randy Mecham	Pocatello
1997	Ann Vycital	Boise	2020	Lila Bolme	Coeur d'Alene
1998	Randy Mecham	Pocatello			
1999	Don Atkinson	Boise			
2000	Kathryn Hamshar (tie)	Sandpoint			
2000	Randy Mecham (tie)	Pocatello			

Back Story: Meet Rod Miller

Rod Miller is a four-time winner and six-time finalist for the Western Writers of America Spur Award, recognized for novels, short stories, poetry, and a song. He is also a two-time winner and four-time finalist for the Western Fictioneers Peacemaker Award for his novels and short stories. Other awards for his work have come from Westerners International and the Academy of Western Artists. In 2012 the League of Utah Writers named him Writer of the Year.

Miller writes fiction, poetry, and history related to the American West and is author of twelve novels to date, a collection of short stories, four nonfiction books, and three collections of poetry. His short stories, poetry, and nonfiction also appear in several anthologies, and he has written numerous magazine articles and book reviews.

A lifelong Westerner, Miller was raised in a cowboy family, grew up among horses and cattle, and is a former rodeo contestant. He worked as a cowboy, farm and ranch hand, in a hard rock mine, as a radio disc jockey, in television production, and spent forty years as an advertising agency copywriter and creative director.

A frequent presenter at writers' conferences and other events, Miller also reads and lectures to a variety of community groups.

