

## Current News & Views

Attend the next open WCWF board meeting - Wed. Apr 10, 11am, 740 Gunnison, GJ.

**WRITE OUT LOUD** deadline May 15. Send your one-act plays, flash fiction, essays, slam poems, poetry or memoir to be performed on June 28 & 29 at KAFM. Plays max time 15 minutes, all others 5 minutes. Send to [wwriters@gmail.com](mailto:writers@gmail.com)

Take the opportunity this month to read your poetry out loud. Hear how it sounds to you. See what you learn. Get feedback. Three poetry events and poetry night at the library give you this rare opportunity to share. Don't miss out.

Submissions for the \$1000 Fischer Prize and \$500 Cantor Award are now being accepted at [www.tel-lurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds](http://www.tel-lurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds). See page 4 for more information.

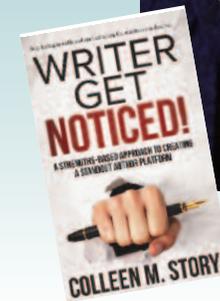
WCWF survives on dues and grants. Pay your dues, make a donation or find out what you can sponsor at [www.westerncoloradowriters.org](http://www.westerncoloradowriters.org).

Send news and contributions to [virg@leafmedia.com](mailto:virg@leafmedia.com)

## Colleen Story Returns to GJ for Writers Night April 2 The Art Center, 7th & Orchard, 5:30-7:30 Standing Out in a Noisy Publishing World

In today's world, you need to market yourself. That means you have to find a way to draw readers to you, but just how do you do that? Colleen will show you how.

**Colleen M. Story** inspires writers to overcome modern-day challenges and find creative fulfillment in their work. Her first non-fiction book, *Overwhelmed Writer Rescue*, was named Book by Book Publicity's Best Writing/Publishing Book in 2018 Her latest release, *Writer Get Noticed!*, is a strengths-based guide to help writers break the spell of invisibility and discover unique author platforms that will draw readers their way.



## April is POETRY Month

Honor poetry with three events, a slam contest, a write/read event and a performance/discussion

**April 1st, 5pm**  
Spoken on 12th St.  
**Slam Contest**

- 16 & older; no hate speech
- bring 4 pieces; enter at [vowelsraps@gmail.com](mailto:vowelsraps@gmail.com)

**FUNDRAISER**  
Buy a Firkin beer  
to support WCWF

Kannah Creek  
1960 No 12th

**POETRY** April 16  
with Poet Ann Harter and

6:30-7 writing; 7-8 reading at Red  
Lion Gallery and Art Studio  
546 Main (north side of street)  
\*mercantile bldg. downstairs, handi-  
cap accessible via back door  
elevator (by AMB bank)  
Drinks and snacks provided

April 28, 4-7 pm  
KAFM Radio Room



FOR THE EARTHBOUND  
See Page 2



# Bach to Beowulf to Batik

## Conversations about the sounds and threads of the creative life

WCWF's new series takes off from the Rabbit Holes of 2018 to present a Sunday afternoon performance and discussion on the creative life, process and inspiration. Four artists, two from the world of music, one from the world of visual art, and one from the world of words, come together to present and discuss their art. We hope you will come and get inspired with us.



Sue Van Voorhees, fiber artist, combines fabric, paint and other materials into scenes from national parks, fine art, daily life and nature.

With a B. S. in Textiles and Clothing Design, Sue veered into Marketing Communications positions in the corporate world until retirement when she returned to fabric – her first love.

See more of her work at <http://theartquiltassociation.com/home/artist-showcase/our-artists-s-z/sue-van-voorhees/>



Dr. L. Luis Lopez taught English, Latin, Ancient Greek, and Mythology at CMU. He has an MA from St. John's College in Santa Fe and a Ph.D. in Medieval and Anglo Saxon Literature from UNM.

He has published five books of poetry, *Each Month I Sing* receiving the American Book Award in 2008. He works in Spanish Colonial Tin work and juniper root sculptures. More at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L.\\_Luis\\_Lopez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L._Luis_Lopez)

Sunday  
April 28  
4-7pm  
KAFM  
Radio Room  
1310 Ute Ave, GJ  
Open Mic  
and Social  
Afterward



Representing the world of sound will be Violinist, Alisha Bean, Assistant Concert Master for GJ Symphony, and Mistress of classical and Celtic music, and Jack Delmore, Former concert tenor, Voice professor at Colorado Mesa University.

### WHAT YOU MISSED!

## WORDS FOR CHANGE *See story on page 3*



Mary Hertert of *Old Broads for the Wilderness*, co-sponsor, discusses the event with Carol Welch.

Environmentalist author and guest speaker Stephen Trimble leads a discussion.



Jim Spehar leads one of the discussion groups, another led by Linda Skinner (rt).



Our own Linda and Joe Skinner who spearheaded the event for WCWF.

## Van Pelt Scores at Writers Night with his Top Ten Writing Tips

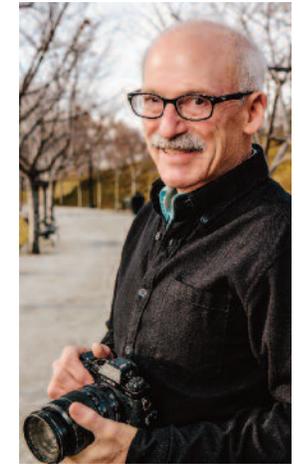
Character, dialogue, setting, beginning, ending, ideas, plotting, process, mental habits, and revision: Van Pelt delivered the best ideas from each of these aspects of writing fiction.

We filled The Art Center's Colorado Room with 32 guests. Attendees were asked to write down their own suggestions for how to work with or improve each of these aspects of writing and offer them to the speaker for future use. Van Pelt can be found on FaceBook and at [jamesvanpelt.com](http://jamesvanpelt.com).



## WORDS FOR CHANGE EMPOWERS WRITERS

This joint production by WCWF and the Old Broads for the Wilderness drew 52 people to CMU, some representing more than 27 agencies, most of which deal with environmental issues. "It was an energizing event!" says WCWF program director and presenter, Linda Skinner, who "was amazed at the beauty, depth, and diverse individuality of the responses to short writing prompts in my workshop." After the presentation by Stephen Trimble, attendees broke into smaller groups to study how to present their ideas in the form of essays, letters to the editor, with presenters.



Keynote speaker  
Stephen Trimble



Small groups were taught by  
Charlie Quimby, Jim Spehar, and  
Linda Skinner (left).

# BEACON

Do you love meeting new people and recording their stories? The BEACON Senior Newspaper is looking for fresh voices to join their freelance writing staff. Send a cover letter and writing samples to

<mailto:beacon@pendantpublishing.com>

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TO POETRY.

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## AROUND THE REGION

### Grand Junction

#### Mesa County Library

Poetry Night - Wed., Apr. 10, 6pm. With Lisa Connors and Jennifer Hancock, assistant professor of English at CMU. Find other events at [mesacountylibraries.org](http://mesacountylibraries.org).

#### Poets & Writers of CMU

CMU Poetry Reading Apr. 15. 7pm, 560 Salon, 354 Main St. GJ. Open reading featuring Wendy Videlock. Last reading of the season.

#### Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers



The 2020 RMFW anthology is seeking short story submissions from members, as well as volunteers to serve on the review board. Last month's program featured Natasha Watts, one of the editors, who spoke on the 2020 theme, WILD, and gave a presentation of the well written short story. Don't miss this opportunity to submit your short story for lots of publicity and freebies from RMFW – and your name in print!

April 13, 8-4, Table Mountain Inn - Book in a Day, One-On-One Critique, Q/A, and Pitch. More details at [rmfw.org](http://rmfw.org).

Contact Terri Benson: [tbenson@gjincubator.org](mailto:tbenson@gjincubator.org)

Check out all their offerings at:

<http://rmfw.org/events/free-programs/ws/>

#### Ridgway

Ridgway's Open Bard Series, usually the first Thursday, promptly at 6:30 at the Sherbino Theater. Check for current info here.

<https://www.facebook.com/RidgwayPoetry-Series/>

### Fruita



#### At the Lithic

138 South Park Sq., #202, Fruita, CO - Th-Sat, 12-8. Check out Lithic Book Store's New Calendar of Events at

<https://lithicbookstore.com/western-slope-literary-calendar/2018-01/>

#### Talking Gourds Tour

April 29, 6:30pm, at the Meadowlark House. and April 30, 6pm, at Telluride Arts HQ, during National Poetry Month, we'll be hosting Kathleen Cain of Denver. The theme will be Cottonwood Trees.

Wednesday, May 1, the Wilkinson Public Library will host Cain at a free Walk 'n Talk about cottonwood trees from 11am to 1pm.

Kathleen Cain is a poet and nonfiction writer. She was an early recipient of a poetry fellowship from the Colorado Council on the Arts. Her poems have appeared in many literary magazines and anthologies.

For other locations and times, contact Art Goodtimes, [shroompa@gmail.com](mailto:shroompa@gmail.com)

#### Aspen

Aspen Poets Society reading and open mic is usually on the last Sunday of the month.

For more information Contact Lisa Zimet at (970)379-2136 or [lisamaxz@aol.com](mailto:lisamaxz@aol.com)

Pitkin County Library hosts an Open Mic with music, poetry and art every first Thursday, 5-8pm. To sign up in advance email: [monique.rodriquez@pitkincounty.com](mailto:monique.rodriquez@pitkincounty.com)

## WCWF Member Accomplishments

Virginia Jensen, WCWF Board member, ex-chairman and publicity designer, is happy to announce that two of her poems have been accepted in the Cherry House Press' upcoming Dream anthology. Her poems are entitled "Lost Dreamer" and "Night Treks." Virginia credits the blog Duotrope for her success. She says, "When you have poems on a publication's theme, the chances of being accepted are greatly increased. I wrote the poems while participating in a dream group with a number of friends, so they are special to me." The anthology will be published in April. Check out [www.facebook.com/CherryHousePress](http://www.facebook.com/CherryHousePress) and [duotrope.com](http://duotrope.com)

### What have you accomplished?

As a WCWF member, you can reach our newsletter audience of hundreds waiting to hear about your writing successes. Be an inspiration. Tell us what you've done! Send accomplishments to: [virg@leafmedia.com](mailto:virg@leafmedia.com)

### Fischer Prize and Colorado Cantor Awards for Poetry

The Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds poetry program is proud to announce its annual Fischer Prize national contest with over \$3000 in awards and travel stipends. And for Colorado poets, that includes a special \$500 Cantor Award for the best poem by a Colorado writer who enters the Fischer Prize contest.

For contest rules visit Fischer Prize. Contest deadline is May 1, 2019.

# WCWF Wrap-Up

## Report from the Board

The Board met Mar.13, 2019, in the CFI Solarium with members Joe Wilcox, Virginia Jensen, Joe Skinner and Linda Skinner, Linda Evans, Carly Smith and Chris Kanaly.

The financial report and the minutes were approved. Carly reported on the status of Facebook and we discussed media. Joe reported on MACO meeting.

The board voted to be more responsible about getting press releases from attendees at events in order to use their photos in promotions.

Carley is working with local poets to start a Third Tuesday poetry session.

***The Board needs new members. Attend the April 10 meeting. Get everything FREE if you join.***

## WCWF Board Members

Chairman - Joe Wilcox  
 Secretary/Treasurer - Joe Skinner  
 Program Director - Linda Skinner  
 PR/Newsletter - Virginia Jensen  
 Linda Evans • Carly Smith  
 Chris Kanaly

To contact a board member email to:  
[wwritersforum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com)

## General Information

Pay your dues or make a donation at [www.westerncoloradowriters.org](http://www.westerncoloradowriters.org), or send a check to WCWF, 740 Gunnison Ave., Suite 205, GJ, CO 81501. Check out and like our Facebook page so that you'll be even more up to date. Volunteers who can help with PR, set up events, and liaison with community groups are welcome. You *are* WCWF.

# Western Slope Writers' Calendar - April 2019

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed | Thu  | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|-----|--|-----|-----|
| <b>APRIL:<br/>           READ<br/>           MORE<br/>           POETRY</b>              | 1<br><br>Slam, Kannah Creek, 5pm, p.1                            | 2<br><br>Writers Night at the Art Center, <b>NEW LOCATION</b> , 5:30-7:30pm, p.1 | 3   | 4<br>Prose Critique, 1:30-3:30<br><br>Open Bard Poetry Reading, Ridgway, p 4<br><br>Pitkin Cty. Lib.; 5-8pm, p.4 | 5   | 6   |
|  | 7  | 8  | 9   | 10<br><br><b>Board Meeting 11am, CFI, p.1</b><br><br>Poetry Night, GJ Library, 6pm, p.4                          | 11  | 12  |
| 14   | 15<br><br>CMU Poetry Reading, 7pm, p.4                           | 16<br><br>Poetry Read/Write, Red Lion, 7pm, p.1                                  | 17  | 18<br><br>Prose Critique Groups, 1:30-3:30; 6-8pm  | 19  | 20  |
| 21   | 22   | 23   | 24  | 25   | 26  | 27  |
| 28<br><br>WINGS for the Earthbound, KAFM, 4-7, p.1<br><br>Poets Read, 6:30pm, Aspen, p.4 | 29<br><br>Talking Gourds Poetry Reading, Meadowlark, 6:30pm, p 4 | 30<br><br>Talking Gourds Poetry Reading, Telluride, 6pm, p 4                     | 31  | <p><i>“We write to taste life twice, in the moment and in retrospect.”</i><br/>           — Anais Nin</p>        |     |     |