

## Current News & Views

Monthly WCWF board meeting

Send your helpful input to us at  
[writersforum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com)

Next Meeting is Aug. 12 at 3:30

## Save the Date

September 7 Writers Night featuring  
Carrie Schaeffer on *Making the Familiar Strange: New Writing Perspectives*

GJ author, Patrick G. Metoyer, hosts a  
Dr. Seuss tribute evening: Thurs.,  
Sept. 2, 6:30 at the Central Library. Au-  
dience participation encouraged.

Trickster Ridge Presents: A Conflu-  
ence for the Love of Poetry, for the  
Love of Learning, Sept 10-12. Discus-  
sions, renga parties, African dance,  
readings, music, and more. Link:  
<https://60db2438797d0.site123.me/>

THIRD ANNUAL SLAMMING BRICKS  
POETRY EVENT, Saturday, Sept. 11,  
6:30, Charlie Dwellington's, 1st and  
main. Details to be announced.

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

# THE POETIC IMAGINATION

with Wendy Videlock

Join us as we explore the imaginary realm as it pertains to  
language and the art of metaphor as it pertains to poetry.



Wendy is an award winning poet living  
in Palisade whose poems and critical  
essays appear in *Hudson Review*, *The  
New York Times*, *Poetry*, *Rattle*, and  
other venues. Her books are available  
from Able Muse Press.

**WCWF Writers Night • Aug. 3, 2021 LIVE!**

**6pm at The Art Center**

**7th and Orchard, Grand Junction, CO**

Registration appreciated, please go to

[westerncoloradowriters.org](http://westerncoloradowriters.org).

**RMFW presents:**

**"A Beginners Guide to  
Writing Compelling Villains."**

On Sat., Aug. 20, 9-noon, Jason  
Evans at the Business Incubator,  
2591 Legacy Way, GJ. Coffee, tea  
and snacks available. RSVP ap-  
preciated at

[rmfw.westslope@gmail.com](mailto:rmfw.westslope@gmail.com)

**RMFW & WCWF**

**Critique Groups Forming  
Discussion and planning:**

Live: Sat, Aug 14, 9-noon,  
Business Incubator, GJ  
ZOOM: Aug. 10, 6pm,

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77923358786?pwd=dHlsK0x1ZlVqd-kViTzFiVHpESVRiUT09>

Info contact:

[cjmiller@gobrainstorm.net](mailto:cjmiller@gobrainstorm.net)

## **NO MORE WCWF?**

Only six people are cur-  
rently holding WCWF  
together and three are  
retiring from the Board  
in December – the presi-  
dent, the secretary and  
the publicity and  
newsletter producer.  
Who will replace us?  
We have served for  
many years and kept  
this wonderful group  
alive, presenting oppor-  
tunities for writers and  
providing services to the  
community. We would  
be leaving a viable  
401C-3 organization  
with a sound budget and  
local support. **Will you  
let WCWF die?**

Contact: [writersfo-  
rum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com) to  
help keep us alive.



## Virtual Conference Registration is Open!

RMFW is including a virtual component to the 2021 Colorado Gold Conference!

On **Saturday, Oct 16th**, you'll be able to tune in **LIVE** to 12+ of the workshops at the conference from the comfort of your own home! This virtual conference registration includes a **pitch session with an agent** on Sunday, Oct 17th, and live streaming of the Saturday night **banquet** featuring the Colorado Gold Rush Awards Ceremony and **keynote speech** by New York Times Best-selling author, Rachel Howzell Hall. **PLUS**, you'll get full access to the recorded sessions after the conference!

Member registration for the virtual-only conference starts at \$189, non-member \$239. See a list of the virtual workshops at <https://rmfw.org/conference-virtual-only/> If you have any questions or ideas, feel free to contact co-chairs Kate and Mira through [conference@rmfw.org](mailto:conference@rmfw.org).

### RMFW RETREAT

Aug. 5-8

Write, network, and critique at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Colorado Springs. Lodging and meals included. Rooms going fast. Contact Bernadette at

[retreat@rmfw.org](mailto:retreat@rmfw.org)

## RMFW ANTHOLOGY SUBMISSIONS!

For all the short story writers in the Grand Valley, RMFW is excited to announce the working theme of the 2022 RMFW Anthology, "Re/New."

Their requests for fulfilling the theme:

"We seek stories of recreation and renewal, old tales refreshed, worlds and cultures re-imagined.

"Give us creatures and characters who confound our commonly held beliefs and mythologies at once familiar and foreign.

"Ask and answer the question what-if in ways we've never encountered, spoken in voices we're eager to meet again for the first time."

For information go to [rmfw.org](http://rmfw.org) or email [anthology@rmfw.org](mailto:anthology@rmfw.org).

## Bardic Trails Zoom poetry

Poet Jane Lunin Perel of Rhode Island ("Sky"), will read at the Bardic Trails Zoom poetry webinar Tuesday, **Aug. 3 at 7 p.m.** Register to get URL & password. Go to: [telluridlibrary.org/events](http://telluridlibrary.org/events).

Following her reading, there will be a short Question and Answer session with co-hosts, Goodtimes and Rosemerry Wah-tola Trommer.

### Future Bardic Trails

**Sept. 7** with Anna Scotti of California ("Fuel"), **Oct. 5** with Renee Podunovich of Cortez ("Tree"), **Nov. 2** with Debbi Brody of New Mexico ("The New"), and **Dec. 7** with Al Zolynas of California ("Flesh").

## My Love for Jane (not Austen)

When I first read Jane Hirshfield's *Nine Gates* about writing poetry I was smitten. I have never understood how much a poem could mean until I saw some through her eyes. Recently I have been introduced to another book of her essays entitled *Ten Windows*. I could not make it past the preface before I had to go and read it to my husband who is also an artist. I don't think she will mind if I share that first paragraph here. –The editor

*"Good art is a truing of vision, in the way a saw is trued in the saw shop, to cut more cleanly. It is also a changing of vision. Entering a good poem, a person feels, tastes, hears, thinks, and sees in altered ways. Why ask art into a life at all, if not to be transformed and enlarged by its presence and mysterious means? Some hunger for more is in us – more range, more depth, more feeling: more associative freedom, more beauty. More perplexity and more friction of interest. More prismatic grief and unstunted delight, more longing, more darkness. More saturation and permeability in knowing our own existence as also the existence of others. More capacity to be astonished. Art adds to the sum of the lives we would have...were it even possible to live without it. And by changing selves, one by one, art changes also the outer world that selves create and share."*  
– Jane Hirshfield

## WCWF Wrap-Up

The Board's next meeting, August 12, 3:30, at CFI. Meetings are open to members. We are happy to have visitors.

The Board met on July 15. Writers Nights are scheduled through February 2022.

Our work with the library's anthology is proceeding according to plan.

We are participating and supporting the Pride Slam, Pride Anthology and Teen Cyber-Strong projects.

WCWF is in need of Board members in order to keep from having to shut down. Three members who have held the work of WCWF together for years are leaving the board at the end of 2021. Will you consider keeping this valuable organization alive? Otherwise there will be **no more newsletters, no more Writers Night and no more workshops.**

### WCWF Board Members

Linda Skinner, Pres.

Virginia Jensen, Vice Pres.

Jane Miller, Sec.

Erica Kitzman, Treas.

Carly Smith

Caleb Ferganchick • Annette Ferriole

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.

## Writer Chicks Coffee Club

Looking for a chance to connect with fellow writers and talk all things writing? Join us every Wednesday morning from 9-10 a.m. at the downtown Enstrom's for coffee and camaraderie. Or toffee. We don't judge! Join our Facebook group of the same name.



For more information contact Melody at [MelodyJones@MelodyJonesAuthor.com](mailto:MelodyJones@MelodyJonesAuthor.com)

(Sorry fellas, ladies only.)

### Confluence Studios,

634 Main in GJ is dedicated to bringing art and community together to build a more vibrant, creative, and sustainable home for all of us in the Grand Valley.

Check out their many classes and opportunities for creating a variety of craft, art and writing at:

[www.imconfluencestudios.com](http://www.imconfluencestudios.com) or  
[facebook.com/imconfluencestudios/](https://facebook.com/imconfluencestudios/)

Endings in a novel confer a kind of liberty that life stubbornly denies us: to come to a full stop that is not death and discover exactly where we are in relation to the events leading to a conclusion.

– Susan Sontag

## Accomplishments

The editors of Moon City Press would like to congratulate Claudia Putnam of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, for winning the 2020 Moon City Poetry Award competition. Claudia's book, *The Land of Stone and River*, will be published later this year and she will receive the \$1000 prize.

In Claudia Putnam's *Wild Thing in Our Known World*, we are grounded in landscape, in earth, sea, and sky. Mother Nature is twofold here—



what's outside the window as well as the world where a woman raises a son. The poems in this chapbook move effortlessly between the relationship—both human and with nature—"the sun falls only through the skylight...a woman put on her glasses / to peer at

your child." Time slows as Putnam examines the world around us: the crows, a hummingbird mafia, a room astir with ladybugs, the moon's dark face, and as the reader we contently exist in their beauty—"having no way to rob time of these moments."— Review by Kelli Russell Agodon, award-winning author.

Claudia lives in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. She writes both poetry and fiction; her work appears in over two dozen literary journals. She was the 2011-2012 George Bennett Fellow at Phillips Exeter Academy, benefitted from a Ragdale Foundation fellowship, and taught writing at the University of Colorado. Now she is focusing on her writing fulltime. When not staring at a computer screen, she does all the Colorado outdoor stuff. For more information, please visit [www.claudiaputnam.com](http://www.claudiaputnam.com).

