

District KAC News

PROMOTING the writing craft, GATHERING and COMPILING helpful learning and networking resources, and PROVIDING NEWS of the achievements of Kansas Authors Club District 1 members.

Volume I: Issue 7

July 2021



Inside:

Registration form to print and send to Reaona for October KAC Convention. Don't Wait!

Member Profile:

Former D-1 President Jan Stotts ready for explosion of creativity in 2021

Page 2

Support our Kansas Cowboy poets

Spontaneous Summer Preserves

Storm clouds build at dusk as
The sun illuminates billowing drama.
Mere mortals gasp at the beauty
And run to bottle it, preserve it
Like a jar of strawberry jam
So we can taste it again
During bitter cold January.
Spontaneous summer fills us,
Satisfies us, at least for an evening,
With a profound affinity
For Mother Earth and Father Sky.



How about we show our support for Kansas Cowboy Poetry?

By Kansas Authors Club State President, Duane Johnson

Editor's note: The following article will appear in the state newsletter, due out any moment. At the risk of stealing some thunder from the state organization, it is printed here first...maybe.

Cowboys and cowboy poetry are significant and unique parts of the cultural landscape of Kansas. Only a handful of other Western states can claim to be influenced and enriched by this art form and its underlying values. Perhaps no other state has such a dynamic and vital cowboy culture today.

For example, one of the most important events in the United States, the National Cowboy Poetry Rodeo, is held in Abilene each year, hosted by cowboy poet Geff Dawson of Alma (although Covid has interfered during the last two years). Some of the most distinguished cowboy poets in the United States call Kansas home. One is Tim Keane, who will be our keynote speaker at this year's convention. Tim is a three-time champion in the Kansas Cowboy Poetry Contest and winner of multiple events at the National Cowboy Poetry Rodeo, where he was overall reserve champion in 2016 and 2018.

It has been a goal of mine during the past several years to develop a connection between Kansas Authors Club and the cowboy poetry community in Kansas. To be honest, I only have a vague notion of what that connection would be.

It could entail inviting cowboy poets to district and/or state meetings to give tutorials on writing cowboy poetry. It could involve contests. It would probably start with providing cowboy poets with a broader, more "mainstream" audience, beginning with KAC members as that audience. It could eventually broaden to include the visual arts, depicting daily and family cowboy life.



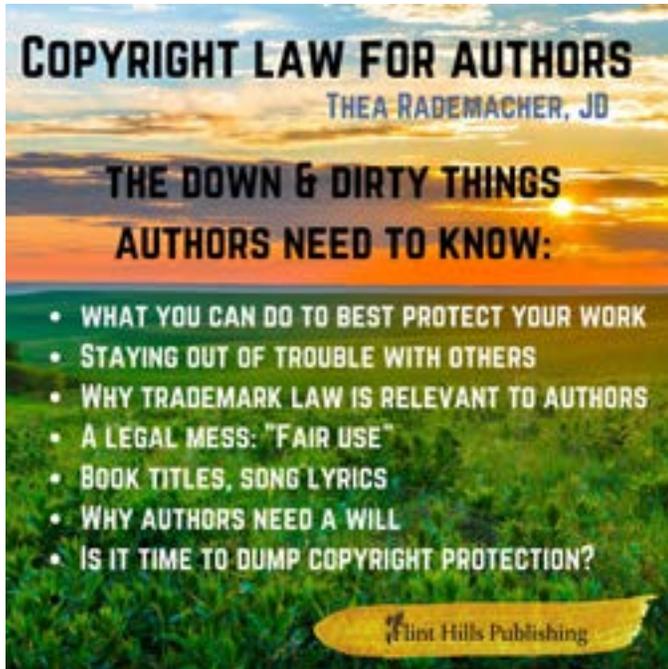
But the greater purpose would be to develop relationships and to create a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the values and way of life of the modern Kansas cowboy.

This may strike some KAC members as outside the mission of Kansas Authors Club, which focuses on the discipline of writing, editing, marketing and publishing books, stories, articles and poetry; however, the values and points of view of the writer are never far below the surface, Writers impact the perceptions, beliefs, and opinions of readers, whether on not we set out intentionally to do so.

As a way to demonstrate Kansas Authors Club's desire to reach out to our state's cowboy poets, I would like to invite members to join me in contributing to the District 1 fund to pay the costs of bringing cowboy poet Tim Keane to our annual writers convention in October. We will announce the results of that contribution during the convention as a statement of our support for and appreciation of Kansas cowboy poets and their contribution to Kansas arts and culture.

You can send check to District 1 treasurer Reona Hemmingway at 115 SW Courtland Ave./Topeka, KS 66606. Please write "cowboy poet" in the Memo line. Or if you prefer using PayPal, you can send your contribution to Reona at reaonah@gmail.com.

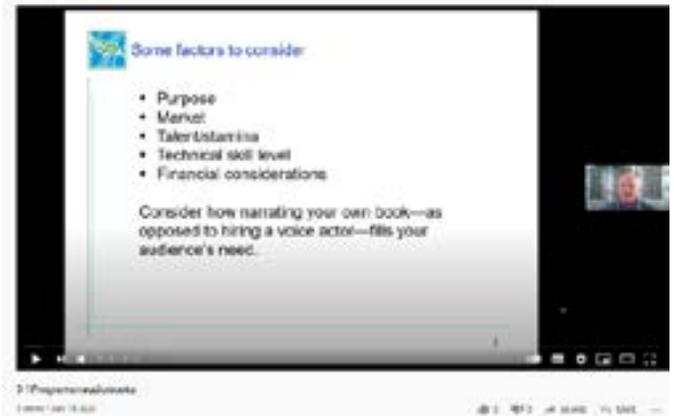
-Upcoming District Programs-



Member Thea Rademacher's program this month has information for anyone who has published or been published.

D-1 Programs for 2021

- August:** Ruth Maus on *Query Letters and Agents*
- September:** *Artist in Residence* program (poet) with Arts Connect
- October:** Convention TGIO (Thank God it's over)
- November:** *District Anthology* plans
- December:** *Read-around* and *Party*



Last month's program on audiobook narration by Craig Battrick is now live <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WKQOzrBPbw&t=23s>

Member Profile—Janet Stotts, former D-1 President

Jan settles in for lots more creativity this year

Janet Stotts is ready to kick her writing into full gear this year. That will include continuing her participation in two writers' groups (Table for Eight and a group of young poets she and Ruth Maus organized a few years ago) and finishing a children's book she's working on called "The Ordinary Fairy."

The former D-1 President's creative horizons are much broader now since she and husband Dave are safely settled into Brewster Place. To see her now, walking through the halls of Brewster and chatting with nearly every person she encounters, it's easy to see she's found a wonderful home that will be her launchpad for lots of social and creative activities.

She will be signing up to audit classes again at Washburn. And this veteran teacher took the time last month to present a program on writing to an area library with D-1 member Max Dunavan.

And boy is Jan ever relieved that she is no longer the district Kansas Authors Club President!

She stepped down as our leader last fall, having served in the office more than once since she joined several years ago. As retirement loomed for her, Jan was writing her first book when she saw an ad at the library for Kansas Authors Club and began attending district meetings in the basement of a restaurant

See Next Page



Jan Stotts is enjoying the good life at Brewster Place with chef-cooked meals in the cafe and lots of social activities.

Member Profile—Janet Stotts...(Continued)

that no longer exists.

For most of her life, Janet Stotts has been a teacher; a natural profession for her as she comes from a long line of educators. Her grandparents, an aunt, her mother and three siblings all taught. Jan taught part time for ten years at Highland Community College, four years at Mount St. Scholastica, and she taught English as a Second Language at Wichita State before being recruited to work for the Kansas Department of Education. In her ten years as a “bureaucrat” she was in charge of the state’s GED and the Adult Basic Education programs.

Jan transferred some of her leadership skills to District KAC, serving two terms as President and seeing the group through transitions and meeting at the Topeka Shawnee County Library. She even eased the district into the Zoom era of the pandemic.

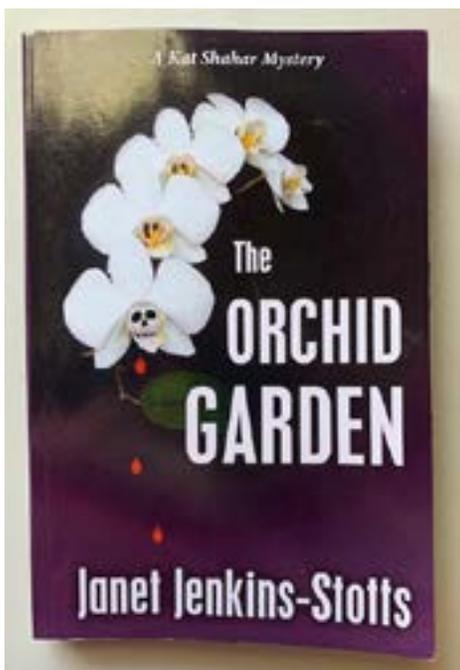
Jan wrote her first book, *The Orchid Garden*, in the 30-day time-frame of NANOWRIMO. Eventually it saw six

revisions until she self-published it on Createspace.

The delightful murder/female detective mystery takes place in China and in Kansas. Jan had the wonderful experience of traveling to China in 2002 with her step-daughter when she adopted an 11-month-old girl from an orphanage.

Her foreign trip

insights flavor much of the novel. But so does her experience teaching ESL in Kansas. That’s what her murder victim in *Orchid* did, before getting pushed over a railing of the library to her death in fictional



Jan Stotts wrote her first book in 30 days of NANOWRIMO and published it after numerous revisions.

Riverton, KS.

The book Jan published is billed as a Kat Shahar Mystery, after the namesake red-headed detective, who runs an investigative agency named Gadfly out of her home base in Israel. Kat is called home by the death of her favorite aunt, who is mysteriously killed, dying with a secret that her niece tries to uncover. But you’ll just have to read this fast-paced thriller yourself. I’m just hoping that Jan doesn’t leave us hanging and comes up with more Kat Shahar stories soon.

Post a poem and maybe win a bag of coffee

A coffee shop in Raleigh, NC has opened its website for people to post poems, but only their own work. You need to create a (free) account to do so. There is no limit per month, but each month one poem will be selected for the author to receive a free bag of coffee. The link is: <https://larryscoffee.com/community/add-your-poem>. (From Duane Herrmann)

Full Page Ads \$100
Size 4.5” wide x 7.5” High

Sizes and Prices for Convention Program Ads. Advertise your book cover or business. Send a jpeg or pdf file to Carol Yoho.

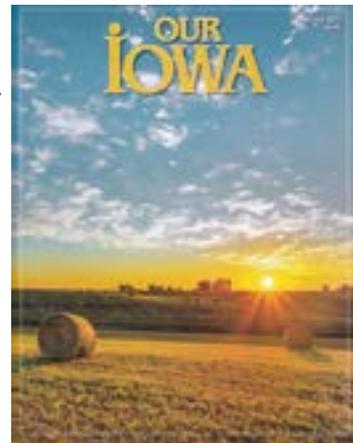
Half Page Ads
\$50
Size 4.5” wide x 3.75” High

Business card and/or 1/4 Page Ads \$25.
Size 2.25” wide x 3.75 high for vertical or 4.5” wide x 1.875” for horizontal

Member Noteworthy News

Member
Thumbs Up

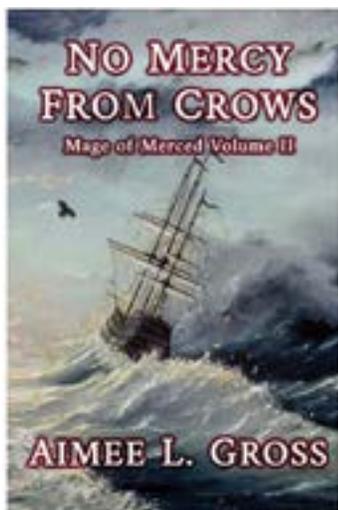
D1 Member Roger Droz story
featured in Iowa lifestyle magazine



Roger Droz waxes nostalgic about bikes, baseball and delivering the daily paper as a 12-year-old in an article picked up recently by Our Iowa magazine. Droz will have you laughing out loud about the different paper pitches he and his friend used that summer in the 1950s in Fairfield, Iowa. The kind of pitch for the papers depended on whether the customer was good about paying their bills. If not, the paper might “accidentally” land on a roof.

D1 Member Aimee Gross
publishes second book in
YA fantasy trilogy

Member
Thumbs Up



Congrats to Aimee Gross, who recently announced the launch of a second YA fantasy novel in her fantasy trilogy. Following Judian Lebannen’s coming of age in the debut novel *If Crows Know Best*, the young mage in *No Mercy* sets sail to parts unknown. He is pursued by a sinister cabal who seeks revenge—and he finds the cost of eluding them grows ever steeper.

Early reviewers found the story “gripping” and recommend the novel for fans of Le Guin’s Earthsea Trilogy.

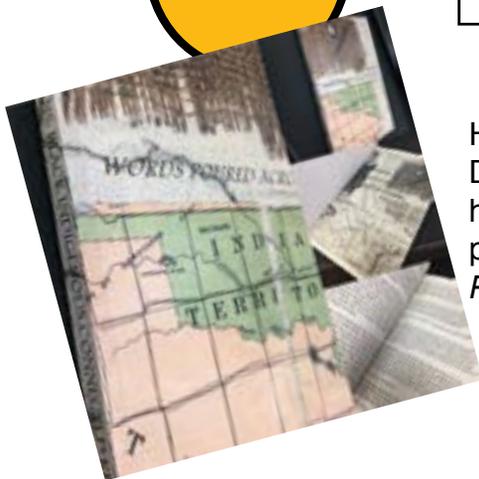
No Mercy From Crows, Mage of Merced Volume II is available on Amazon in ebook and print format, as well as on Kindle Unlimited.

Member
Thumbs Up

The ever-prolific Duane Herrman does it
again...this time in Hawaiian publication

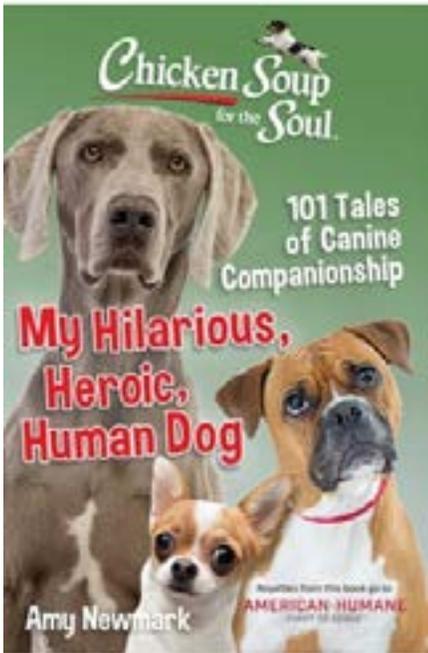
Number 91 of the Hawai'i Review, published by the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, has just been released. It features six poems by Duane L. Herrmann, D1 member, dealing with the loss of his Native heritage. He is the second most prominent author in that issue. His poems are: *Not Evident*, p.76; *Fire Tender*, p.77; *I Am*, p.78; *Hidden in Plain Sight*, p.79; *Stolen Children*, p.80; *Humanity in Process*, 81.

Page
5



Member Noteworthy News

Member
Thumbs Up



Evie Green to be published in Chicken Soup book

Evie Green, a District 1 KAC member since 2000 and a former district vice-president, has been notified that an essay of hers will be featured in a **Chicken Soup for the Soul** book to be published this fall. Evie's essay will be published in **My Hilarious, Heroic, Human Dog: 101 Tales of Canine Companionship**.

News from Roundtable Bookstore

Poetry & Pours in NOTO

In July we will be live streaming on the 9th & 30th at 8:30 pm. It will be streamed on Facebook Live. We are excited to be presenting Poetry & Pours in NOTO and hope you will watch the live stream on the 2nd and 4th Friday evenings. In July we will be live streaming on the 2nd and 5th instead of our normal schedule.

Open Expressions Open Mic Night

We are excited to be partnering with Sunflower Sutras to host Open Expression Open Mic nights again! Open Expressions Open Mic night will be the third Friday each month 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Anyone is welcome to come and share or just sit and enjoy the art. In July Open Expressions Open Mic night will be July 16th.

Want to audit classes for free at WU?

KAC members, if you're age 60 and over and interested in FREE classes at Washburn University click on the link below. I've been auditing classes there for - ahem - many years and can testify it's a fantastic way to keep your writing and thinking skills sharp. Plus I've made many new friends of all ages and greatly expanded my writing circle.

To read about the program and to sign up, see:

<https://www.washburn.edu/academics/community-continuing-education/audit-program.html>

For the fall semester's classes see: <https://banssb-lb-prod.washburn.edu/StudentRegistrationSsb/ssb/term/termSelection?mode=search>

- Then click inside the first box, select Fall 2021. Click Continue. A new page appears. Click inside the Subject box. A dropdown menu appears with an alphabetical list of general topics (English, History, etc.) Select what interests you and classes in that subject will appear.

Auditors are not allowed to register until all paying students have registered (to insure there is enough room for them first.) So, have one of two alternate classes you'd like in case your first choice is already full. Many times you can also talk to the teacher ahead of time for his/her permission to attend, but you must still formally register on the Auditors' Registration day, which this fall is August 20 in Morgan Hall, Room 100.

As an auditor you will receive a student photo ID, student number, and student Washburn email address, which entitle you to a lot of perks, such as half-price subscription to The New York Times and much more. If you like learning, take advantage of this fantastic opportunity! I'm happy to discuss with anyone who has questions.

(From Ruth Maus)

-Convention News-



It's time to register for the convention D-1 is hosting!

Members register today to receive the Early Bird Rate of \$68. (Price after August 15 is \$90.)

Student registration \$20.

Non-members register for \$100, includes membership (starts time of registration through end of 2022). (Price after August 15 is \$115.)

Meal information:

Saturday Dinner \$39 (chicken parmesan or vegetarian options)

Sunday Deli-buffet \$34 (regular and vegetarian options)

Meal prices include service and tax

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

The Workshop Ticket Price is good for virtual and in-person attendance.

Meal tickets for those who attend in person can be purchased with your registration.

You can also purchase advertising space in the convention program when you register. See more about the opportunity to advertise on the state website.

No refunds after September 15th.

The Early Bird Rate expires on August 15, so don't delay, register today!

Preferred way to register is via your Submittable account for easy access to updates and instructions on attending workshops.

July Treasurer's Report

Calendar Year Ending 12/31/21		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	2021 Annual Report
Balance of		3,259.00	3,259.00	3,259.00	3,259.00	3,718.10	3,968.10	3,920.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,259.00
Income	Donation				456.50	250.00								456.50
														250.00
	Total Receipts				456.50	250.00								706.50
Expenses	Speaker's Meals													
	Postage						11.00							11.00
	Supplies													
	Advertising													
	Speaker Fee						35.00	35.00						70.00
	Booth Fee													
	Total Expenses						46.00	70.00						116.00
	Net Increase/Decrease				456.50	250.00	(16.00)	(35.00)						620.50
Ending Balance		3,259.00	3,259.00	3,259.00	3,718.10	3,968.10	3,920.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10
petty Cash /Checks to Deposit								500.00						
Total Funds		3,259.00	3,259.00	3,259.00	3,718.10	3,968.10	3,920.10	4,385.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	3,885.10	
Respectfully Submitted														
Roseita E. Hernandez	Treasurer													

Convention Registration Form

Kansas Authors Club State Writing Conference & Convention • Hosted by District 1 • October 9-10, 2021
(there will be an informal gathering & read-around for those who arrive on the 8th)
Ramada Topeka Downtown, 420 East Sixth Street, Topeka, KS 66607

KAC 2021 Convention Registration Form

Early Bird Deadline: Aug. 15, 2021

Please use one form per person:

Member ___ District ___ Non-member ___

Check # _____

Mail Check & Registration Form to:

KAC District 1
Attn: Reona Hemmingway, Registration Chair
3201 SW Stone Ave.
Topeka 66614

We will acknowledge receipt of your form if you confirm here: Text message ___ Email ___

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone : (____) ____ - _____ Email: _____

Early Bird Rate (deadline: August 15, 2021)

___ Member Registration (virtual and in person) \$65

___ Student registration \$20

___ Nonmembers register \$100, includes membership (starts time of registration through end of 2022).

___ Saturday Dinner \$39 (select ___ chicken parmesan OR ___ vegetarian option) *meal prices include service and tax*

___ Sunday Deli-buffet \$34 (select ___ regular OR ___ vegetarian option) *meal prices include service and tax*

Regular Rate (after August 15, 2021)

___ Member Registration (virtual and in person) \$90

___ Student registration \$20

___ Nonmembers register \$115, includes membership (starts time of registration through end of 2022).

___ Saturday Dinner \$39 (select ___ chicken parmesan OR ___ vegetarian option) *meal prices include service and tax*

___ Sunday Deli-buffet \$34 (select ___ regular OR ___ vegetarian option) *meal prices include service and tax*

Important Things to Know:

- Registration price is good for virtual and in-person attendance.
- *No refunds after September 15th.*

Separate reservations for hotel should be made as soon as possible. Make your room reservations by contacting the hotel at 785-234-5400. Request "**AUTHORS CLUB**" at the time of booking in order to receive the group rate. Room rate includes breakfast buffet. Rate \$93.00 (not including tourism fee, sales and lodging tax.)

Minutes, Reports

Kansas Authors Club – District One

Meeting Minutes June 19, 2021

Present: Anne Spry, Max Dunavan, Craig Battrick, Duane Johnson, Duane Herrmann, Connie Michaelis, Glory and Reaona Hemmingway, Carol Yoho, Fred Applehantz, Aimee Gross, Roger Droz, Audrey Bosley, and Ruth Maus.
President Spry brought the meeting together at 1:02 P.M. and welcomed those in attendance.

Program: First on our agenda was Craig Battrick, a professional audio reader, writer and editor presenting on the the pros, cons and considerations on narrating your own audiobooks. He narrated a slide presentation and discussed the topic in some depth. (The slides are available by requesting copies from Anne Spry). Issues to consider included your purpose, market, stamina and talent, technical skills, recording studios, and much more. Anne recorded the presentation and there will be a link on the district one web page and newsletter. The program closed with a question and answer session. Thank you Mr. Battrick for your enlightening presentation on audiobook recordings.

Business Meeting: We identified a new D-1 member, Krystal Yeagon. Welcome Krystal!

Secretary's Report by Max Dunavan was included in the newsletter and is posted on the district one section of Kansas Authors Club web page. A motion was made to approve the report. The report was moved, seconded (Ruth and Aimee) and passed by a majority vote, as submitted.

Treasurer's Report by Reaona Hemmingway was provided verbally. A motion was made to approve the report. The report was moved, seconded (by Max and Ruth) and approved by majority vote. We began the month with \$3716.10 and ended with \$3916.10.

Membership and Marketing Committee (M and M): Ruth provided an overview of the committee's efforts since the last meeting. Jan Stotts and Max Dunavan provided a writers presentation at the Osaloosa Library. M and M met to iron out the convention budget, set pricing and discuss fundraising initiatives on several occasions and will be presenting that to the state planning group Monday morning, July 21. The M and M committee will also meet at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday morning by Zoom to move the work on advertising sales and polish the convention program. Within a few days the online convention "all in one" registration will be available. We are pleased that the structure has now been put in place. If members and others want to advertise their writings, companies, and/or

services, there are now very reasonably priced (\$25) ads available. Ad proceeds will be used to help fund the convention. Please consider supporting the convention through an ad.

New Business: District One has a new Facebook page "Authors of NE Kansas". This page will eventually be a second place for the public to locate information about District One and permit us to use Facebook opportunities to share our recorded programs, an open mic and holiday programs to the national/international communities.

Check the Kansas Authors Club website to register for the Tuesday evening guest author presentations. Ruth Maus again provided an impromptu tutorial to assist members to locate and sign up for the member news links.. The link automatically sends out Kansas Authors Club (KAC) news and member opportunities vis email. District One thanks our many volunteers and officers for the endless hours they put into making our club and our world a better place. We especially appreciate the time that Anne has spent putting together our beautiful newsletter. We have gotten some exposure from the last two First Friday Art Walk booths. If member authors want to make sales at those selling opportunities, please contact Anne or Ruth to volunteer at the booth and help us talk to people about Kansas Authors Club.

Several of the D-1 authors have new recently published poems and announced book releases. Let us celebrate with them..Fred Applehantz is publishing a piece about nature and forests in the *Tennessee Journal*, Duane Herrmann has just published six poems in *Hawai'i Review* (note those in the district one newsletter and on the state web page,)Roger Droz has published a memoir article in *Our Iowa*, and Aimee Gross is now releasing the second book in her trilogy on Monday. Congratulations to ALL of our published writers

The meeting ended at three and the next district one general membership zoom is scheduled for July 17at 1:00 p.m. Watch for the link that Anne sends out.

MINUTES of KAC District 1

Marketing Committee - June 22, 2021

Present: Ruth Maus, Chair; Anne Spry, Max Dunavan

1. Discussion about meal and registration pricing at the conference. Figuring in the cost of tax and 20% surcharge, plus the cost deducted by Submittable means we will need to adjust what we charge attendees.

Minutes, Reports

MINUTES of KAC District 1 Marketing Committee - July 6, 2021

2. We also need to allow attendees to purchase each meal separately, allowing them to select only one if they wish.
3. Anne has asked the Ramada to figure the cost of a buffet with only *one* meat for Saturday and to figure the cost of a deli-style buffet for Sunday. When Anne receives those we will conduct an impromptu Marketing meeting to discuss and hopefully settle on the convention meals/prices.
4. There was a brief discussion of “what if we have to go to an all virtual convention” if the Ramada isn’t able to meet our needs. The Ramada said they understand if they can’t meet our needs and we want to cancel, but to please give them notice as soon as we know that. We discussed possibly recording our guest speakers in a local recording studio as an option.
5. We need to make sure all our speakers are OK being recorded and determine if some speakers will be recording from their home.
6. We need to offer a *downloadable paper registration form* for those who wish to send in their registration by USPS and pay with a check.
7. We need to include a “No refund after September 15th” on the registration.
8. Ruth will get this information to Tracy as soon as new meal prices have been determined.
9. Max mentioned we could advertise the convention in the region’s JAAA newsletters.
10. Ruth suggested we purchase an ad in the *Washburn Review* once school resumes.
11. Ruth will ask Sarah about the availability of ArtsConnect for First Friday in August. We will not attempt a First Friday in July due to the holiday long weekend.
12. Anne reported the Kansas Center For the book no longer exists. Anne gave the new name and contact info to Max so he can reach out to them as a potential partner. Anne will also update the mailing list.
13. Anne will add to the July monthly general meeting a discussion of the new Facebook page.
14. Ruth will send a blurb to Anne about auditing classes at WU for inclusion in the monthly newsletter.
15. The Revised Projected Convention Budget dated June 22nd is below.

Present: Ruth Maus, Chair; Anne Spry, Max Dunavan

1. All convention speakers are confirmed except for some of the Sunday panelists for the Future of Book Publishing event. Anne is still securing more panelists.
2. Max and his wife are graciously donating funds to help sponsor the Cowboy Poet keynote speaker and will also secure a grant for \$250 for the hospitality refreshments. Thanks, Max! (Max gets a free ad for his book for this.)
3. Much discussion about the size and prices for advertising. Anne will speak to Tracy and finalize these.
4. Once that is done, Ruth will craft a pitch for every KAC member and partner statewide to showcase their writing or writing-related service by purchasing at least a \$25 ad in the convention program. This will be sent to the district presidents so they can broadcast this email to their local members.
5. Ruth will ask Tracy if there is a way to e-blast editors, publishers, printers, illustrators, etc.
6. Anne and Duane will do some face-to-face solicitation of ads from local businesses. Anne will also make some phone solicitations.
7. Max will ask Barbara Waterman-Peters if she could solicit some ads from her contacts at NOTO and otherwise. Barbara is also obtaining the price for us to possibly purchase an ad in the *Washburn Review* to get students to attend the convention.
8. Ruth will design a flyer to attract students to the convention and will ask Washburn for permission to distribute it. We will also email to many high schools and colleges throughout the area/state.
9. Anne will design the “hard copy” convention registration form and the advertising form so Tracy can post it on the website.
10. Anne will place an item on the agenda for the district meeting about the status of returning to in-person monthly meetings at the TSCPL.



(Just a summer flower filler photo)

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 6th at 9:00 a.m.