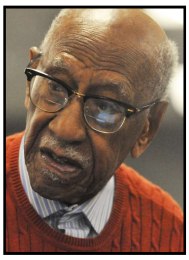
Literary License

The Society of Midland Authors
Founded 1915

December, 2018/January 2019

Biblio File

Timuel Black turned 100 on Dec. 7. WTTW.com wrote, "It's fitting that a man who made his living as an historian should see so much of it." His memoir, *Sacred Ground*, will be released in January. ... Illinois Humanities has selected **Cyndee Schaffer** to join its Road Scholars roster for 2018-20 with her presentation titled "The Journey to Mollie's War: WACS and World War II." The Road Scholars Speakers Bureau is sponsored by Illinois Humanities to send writers, historians, living history actors, etc. throughout the state of Illinois to share their programs with local audiences. ... Following a tradition of SMA members who held political office as high as the U.S. Senate, **John Wasik** writes to say, "I was sworn in as a Lake County (Illinois) commissioner on Dec. 3, after winning a seat in the general election on Nov. 6." John is the author of 17 books, and is at work on a new one: *Winning in the Robotic Workplace: How to Prosper in the Automation Age*, which will be published by ABC-Clio/Praeger in 2019. ... **David L. Harrison** writes to say, "Here's something nice that just happened to one of my new books: *Crawly School for Bugs* has been named as a Book of Notable Poetry for Children by National Council of Teachers of English. This is the third book I've had placed on the list." ... The Illinois Reading Council included **Blue Balliett's** *Out of the Wild Night,* **Claire Hartfield's** *A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919*, **Suzanne**



Timuel Black

Cyndee Schaffer

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Poll positions: Writers analyze election results

By Thomas Frisbie

Speaking on a panel nearly three years ago as part of a Society of Midland Authors program, **Don Rose** foretold the rise of Donald Trump, which then was seen as improbable.

At the Society's Feb. 9, 2016, program, Rose said that if Donald Trump won the then-upcoming South Carolina primary election, he would be virtually unstoppable for the Republican nomination. Events proved Rose was right.

On a Nov. 13 Society of Midland Authors panel with **Greg Hinz**, **Betty O'Shaughnessy** and **Dick Simpson**, Rose made a new prediction, this time for the 2020 Democratic presidential primary.

"One person stands out – as a staunch progressive who can speak to the white working class as he has getting elected three times as a senator of Ohio," Rose said. "[Sen.] Sherrod Brown is progressive as anybody, I'm sure. There might be a razor's difference between him and Bernie Sanders, but he speaks to, and has gotten, the votes. He is a proven vote-getter in the most crucial state in the country. And on his ticket I see [Minnesota senator] Amy Klobuchar, who many people think should be running for president."

Hinz, a columnist and blogger for Crain's Chicago Business, said the election will have an effect on remapping legislative districts after the 2020 Census and also on the 2020 presidential race because the Democrats elected more governors.

"Governors can do an awful lot to help their candidates for president," he said.

Also, the U.S. Senate "is potentially vulnerable to Democrats because the map is almost as bad for the Republicans [next] time as it was

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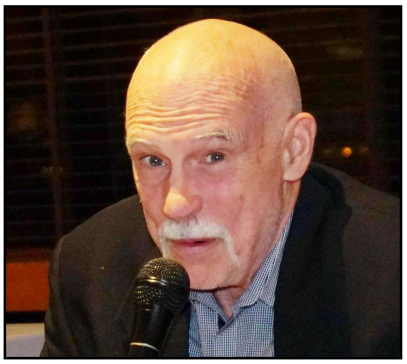

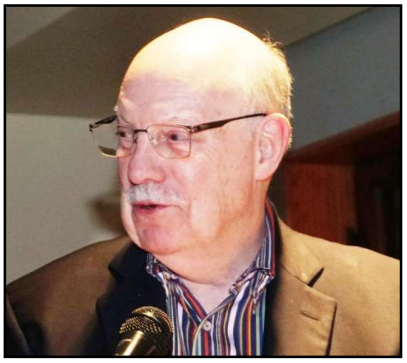

FROM TOP: Greg Hinz, Betty O'Shaughnessy, Don Rose and Dick Simpson. (Thomas Frisbie photos)

Biblio File

Continued from Page 1

Slade's *Dangerous Jane*, **Meg Fleming's** *Ready, Set, Sail,* **Barbara Rosenstock's** *Through the Window: Views of Marc Chagall's Life & Art,* **Rebecca Makkai's** *The Great Believers* and **Erika L. Sanchez's** *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* on its list of top books to read in 2019 as part of its Illinois Reads program. ... **Stan "Tex" Banash** was selected as an Illinois Bicentennial Honor 200 honoree and was scheduled to be recognized at the Dec. 3 Bicentennial Celebration at the United Center, marking the date 200 years ago that Illinois became the 21st state. He is one of 200 honorees from throughout Illinois who were honorably discharged from the military. ... Seen at the Chicago Sun-Times doing photo research for a new book: **Rich Cahan**. ... Our condolences to longtime SMA member **Harry Mark Petrakis** on the death of his wife, Diana. ... On Dec. 12 at an event held at the American Writers Museum for the Chicago Regional Chapter of the Authors Guild titled "Books & Bubbles," **Scott Turow**, past president of the Authors Guild, read from his newest novel, *Testimony*, and **Rebecca Makkai** read from her best-seller, *The Great Believers*. **James Finn Garner** read the seasonal chestnut, "Twas the Night Before Solstice" from Politically Correct Holiday Stories. The event was organized by **Arnie Bernstein** and A.L. Price, regional co-ambassadors, and many SMA members were in attendance. ... **Jim Schwab** presented back-to-back workshops on "Fundamentals of Planning for Post-Disaster Recovery" on Nov. 15 to an audience of long-term nursing care professionals at the Wisconsin Health Department's annual FOCUS conference

Meg Fleming

Stan "Tex" Banash

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SMA Program Chair Greg Borzo (right) introduces panelists (from left) Greg Hinz, Don Rose, Betty O'Shaughnessy and Dick Simpson at the SMA's Nov. 13 program.

Election

Continued from Page 1

for Democrats this time.

"The obvious question is: What's going on here? Donald Trump has a lot to do with it. He is one of the most polarizing figures in a very long time ... but he accentuated something that was already under way in American politics and in politics here in Illinois and that is a move away in the Republican Party from [its] traditional base."

O'Shaughnessy, a visiting lecturer in political science at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said, "One of the things that we see is more participation from non-traditional political actors. Hispanics voted for the first time in the same proportion as their population of eligible voters. You saw the young people coming out and voting like crazy."

As for women, "It was really exciting because women stopped being just supporters. ... They became candidates."

In previous years, women were less likely to be recruited as candidates and if they were elected, they were less likely to move up to higher offices, O'Shaughnessy said.

"This is something that seems to have changed," she said.

Simpson, an SMA board member, political consultant and professor of political science at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said the election has significant implications for states, especially in the Midwest.

"It means that [Democrats] can prevent any bad legislation that Trump might propose," Simpson said. "That is extremely important, particularly for us in places like Chicago. It means that if Trump decides: Let's cut off all the money to the cities, a few hundred million here, a few hundred million there, he can't do it because the Democrats will block it."

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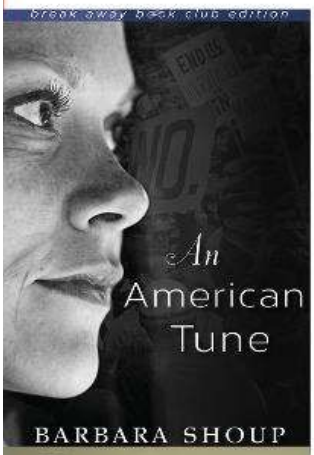
Society of Midland Authors members can now pay their membership dues, buy tickets to the annual dinner and make donations on our website with PayPal (there is a $1 fee to help cover PayPal's fee). To make a donation, visit our home page at www.midlandauthors.com and click on the "Donate" button in the upper right corner.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Midland Authors Monthly Meeting

Women Writing the Vietnam War

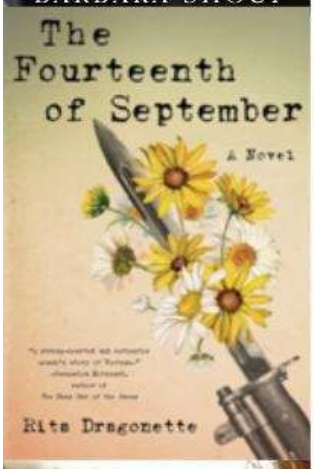
Tuesday, January 8, 2019 • Panel discussion at 6 pm
Harold Washington Library • Pritzker Auditorium • 400 South State Street



Barbara Shoup

An American Tune

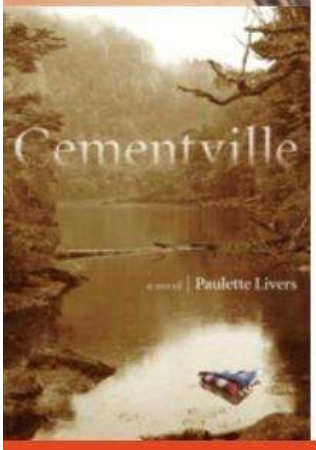
Nora Quillen hears someone call her real name, which she hasn't heard in 25 years. Back in the '60s she was Jane Barth, a student involved in the antiwar movement. The novel tells the story of Jane, a girl who fled town after she was complicit in a deadly bombing, and Nora, the wife and mother she became. It shows the irrevocability of our choices and how those choices compose the tune of our lives.



Rita Dragonette

The Fourteenth of September

Private Judy Talton celebrates her 19th birthday by secretly joining the campus anti-Vietnam War movement. In doing so, she jeopardizes her future and family. But her doubts have escalated with the war. Who is she if she stays in the army? What is she if she leaves? Judy's coming of conscience journey propels her toward a life-altering choice as fateful as that of any male draftee.



Paulette Livers

Cementville

Favored sons of a small town joined the National Guard hoping to avoid the draft and the killing fields of Vietnam. They were sent into combat anyway, and seven were killed in a single, horrific ambush. The return of the bodies sets off something inside of the town itself—a divisive political reality, a gnawing unease with the future—pushing the families of Cementville further into grief and alienation.

ALL ARE WELCOME · PLEASE COME!

Biblio File

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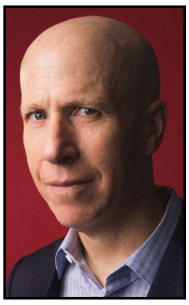
in Wisconsin Dells, at the Kalahari Resort Conference Center. Says Jim, "The Africa-themed setting was nice and amusing until you stepped outside and were promptly reminded that it was November and you were actually in Wisconsin." Among other things, Jim discussed how new federal laws and regulations regarding evacuation and post-disaster care for nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and hospitals applied to the work of the people in attendance. ... The (Toronto) Province named **Jonathan Eig's** *Ali: A Life* one of the 10 best books of 2018, calling it a "compulsively readable narrative." The London Times selected *Ali* among its "Our picks of the latest paperbacks," saying "Jonathan Eig's biography does a remarkable job of synthesising the warring elements in Ali's life." Also, Eig is scheduled to appear at the noontime program "Books Between Bites" in Batavia, Illinois, on Jan. 17. ... The Dec. 9 Washington Post quoted **Arnie Bernstein** in a story headlined "The night thousands of Nazis packed Madison Square Garden for a rally – and violence erupted." ... One Book, One Sioux County (Iowa) picked 2010 SMA Adult Fiction winner **Kent Meyers'** *The Witness of Combines* (1998) for 2018. ... In the Nov. 29 Chicago magazine, **Scott Turow** said, "Being an author is lonely, self-absorbed work. Being a lawyer puts me in a social realm. You can't practice the law alone. It's intensely social. So it meets that part of my personality and provides grist to the mill." ... In November, **Carol Ascher** won a CultureMAX Award from the Northwest Connecticut Arts Council for her exhibit at the Sharon Historical Society and her 2017 book *A Chance For Land and Fresh Air*. ... The (Ottawa, Illinois) Rutland Elementary School was covered from floor to ceiling with "creepy carrots," "nerdy birdies" and other characters from the mind of SMA award-winning author **Aaron Reynolds** when he visited on Nov. 12. ... Common Sense Media listed **Barb Rosenstock's** *Otis and Will Discover the Dive of the Bathysphere* among its "Best kids' books of 2018." ... **Christoph Irmscher** wrote "Memory is a Cat: A new translation of Uwe Johnson's massive, masterly year-in-the-life novel, *Anniversaries*" for the Weekly Standard just before it ceased publication on Dec. 17. ... **Crystal Chan** was the featured speaker at a Family Reading Night event in December at the Valley View (Illinois) Middle School's Summer Reading Challenge, which featured her novel *Bird*. ... **Dominic Pacyga** writes to say: "I just wanted to give you all an update on the Packingtown Museum Project. Thanks to our 245 donors we exceeded our goal and raised $28,272. ... It will be located in The Plant (Formerly Peer Foods) at 1400 W. 46th St. [Chicago] in the Back of the Yards." ... On Nov. 19, **Rick Kogan** wrote a Chicago Tribune story about **Dennis Foley**, who was rear-ended by a semi just outside Champaign, Illinois. Rick wrote, "He's OK now, more or less, six weeks after that crash. He's at home and saying, 'I'm not looking for sympathy. Don't want it. I'm happy to be among the walking wounded. It's funny how things can change in an instant.' " ... Backstage.com reports "**Donald Ray Pollock's** novel *The Devil All the Time* is coming to life onscreen. ... Production begins in late February and will continue into the spring." ... The Nov. 27 Chicago



Jonathan Eig

Arnie Bernstein

Scott Turow

Barb Rosenstock

Rick Kogan

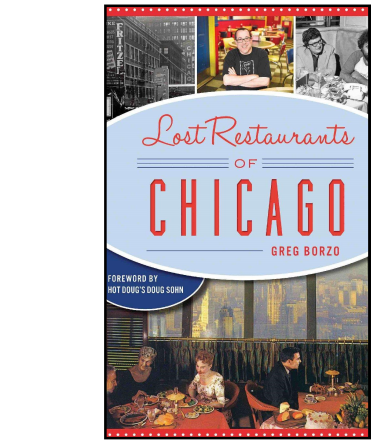
Turn to Page 6

"A narrative of a youth spent in toil among the hard, homely pioneer conditions in Wisconsin and Iowa after the Civil war and of later struggles in Boston to become a professional man of letters. Mr. Garland is unusually successful in his portraits of his father and mother....A notable memorial of a bygone phase of American life." Cleveland

"In all the region of autobiography, so far as I know it, I do not know quite the like of Mr. Garland's story of his life, and I should rank it with the very greatest of that kind in literature....As you read it you realize it the memorial of a generation, of a whole order of American experience; as you review it you perceive it an epic of such mood and make as has not been imagined before." W.D. Howells in N.Y.Times

Former SMA Board Member Jennifer Bartoli writes to say, "Here's a note I found pasted in a discarded [copy of] *A Son of the Middle Border* (by Hamlin Garland) from the Berwyn Public Library – a wonderful read." Garland was among the founders of the Society of Midland Authors.

Literary Latest



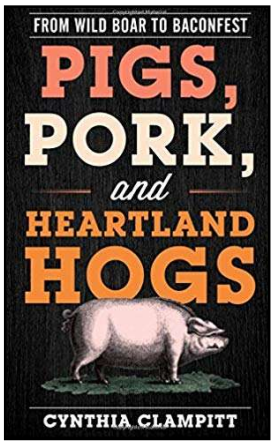
HISTORICAL ROAD MAP

Lost Restaurants of Chicago (The History Press, January 2019*),* with a foreword by Hot Doug's Doug Sohn, is **Greg Borzo's** new book.

Greg writes to say: "I wrote this book because Chicago's many great but bygone restaurants need to be remembered. By looking back at the meals we enjoyed at these restaurants over the years and the things we celebrated at them, we see ourselves when we were younger, lived different in places, had different jobs and hung out with different friends. Lost restaurants can provide a historical road map – for us as individuals and for the city, as a whole.

"Readers will be surprised at the number and variety of important, moving and even bizarre restaurants that have offered Chicagoans memorable meals and extraordinary experiences. They will enjoy being reminded of restaurants they enjoyed and recalling the circumstances surrounding those dining occasions. Also, with a new awareness that most restaurants are fleeting treasures, readers will value future restaurant meals more than ever."

Restaurants include Maxim's, Mort's Deli, Charlie Trotter's, Hot Doug's, Trader Vics, the Blackhawk and others. The book launch will be 6-7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Harold Washington Library.



PORCINE HISTORY

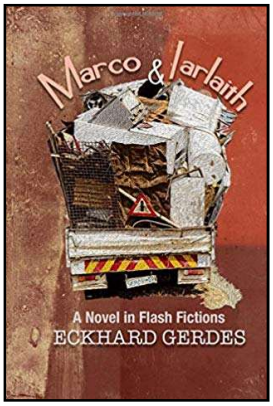
Cynthia Clampitt, author of *Midwest Maize*, has a new book out: *Pigs, Pork and Heartland Hogs: From Wild Boar to Baconfest* (Rowman & Littlefield, Oct. 16, 2018).

On her blog, Clampitt writes: "Pigs were once known as cornfields on legs, because the easiest way to get pigs to market was to feed it to pigs and then let the pigs walk to market. So the connection between pigs and corn in the Midwest dates to the earliest settlement of the region. However, the history of humans and pigs dates back a lot longer than that – current estimate is 12,000 years of association.

Cynthia Clampitt

"So there are a lot of tales of pigs through history, from the Celts inventing bacon to the Etruscans leading herds by playing trumpets."

From the publisher: "Among the first creatures to help humans attain the goal of having enough to eat was the pig, which provided not simply enough, but general abundance. Domesticated early and easily, herds grew at astonishing rates (only rabbits are more prolific). Then, as people spread around the globe, pigs and traditions went with them, with pigs making themselves at home wherever explorers or settlers carried them. Today, pork is the most commonly consumed meat in the world – and no one else in the world produces more pork than the American Midwest."



LATEST BOOK

Marco & Iarlaith: A Novel in Flash Fictions (Black Scat Books, May 31, 2018) is **Eckhard Gerdes'** latest book.

From the publisher: "Iarlaith and Marco are father and son, living along the banks of a river in a run-down cottage. Neither is employed full-time. Iarlaith works in a foundry sorting rudimentary fonts into upper and lower cases. Marco collects trash from along the riverbank, finding flotsam and rubbish discarded by tourists who use the riverbank as their jogging path. From this, Marco builds assemblage sculptures, which tourists buy from the local consignment shop. These are stories from their marginal existence, in which getting into trouble is as easy as doing nothing. At least they watch out for each other."

Eckhard Gerdes

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A kid who left his Iowa farm with $29

Literary Life by Craig Sautter

On Dec. 1, I attended the Northeastern Illinois University memorial for our friend **Bernard J. Brommel, Ph.D**. Some 120 family members, friends, and NEIU colleagues attended.

I told his grandson, Andy Brommel, who Bernie had brought to a couple of SMA banquets when he was younger, that I was representing SMA, and that he should tell the family how much we valued Bernie and his SMA contributions and friendship.

Bernie was praised as a philanthropist for the 27 scholarships he has set up and funded for NEIU students, not to mention for the science building that bears his name. A letter from one student who earned his Determination Against All Odds scholarship and eventually earned her own Ph.D., related how she was inspired by and is following his example by setting up a scholarship for students who follow her.

Bernie, a kid who left his Iowa farm with $29 in his pocket seeking an higher education, donated over $2.5 million to NEIU, where he taught for 26 years.

Another notable event was that NEIU president Dr. Gloria J. Gibson read a resolution from the Illinois House sponsored by Rep. Sara Feigenholtz that saluted Bernie for his teaching, writing, and philanthropy. It also cited some of his notable students, including **Richard Lindberg** and the bill's sponsor.

Finally, the event ended when Bernie's partner, Dr. Carl Ratner, a professor of voice at Western Michigan University's School of Music, who Bernie had urged to get his higher degrees, sang a rousing rendition of "American Anthem," which has been sung at several presidential inaugurations and heralds the place of education in American society, to a standing ovation.

A memorial was held on Dec. 1 for former SMA President Bernard Brommel.

Literary Latest

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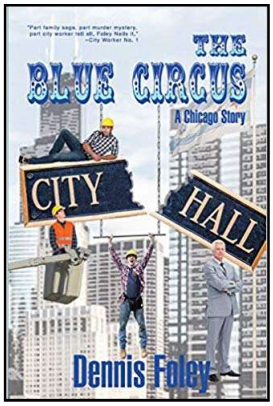
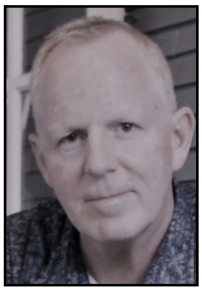


'WILD ROMP'

The Blue Circus (Side Street Press, (Sept. 11, 2018) is **Dennis Foley's** new book.

From the publisher: "Author Dennis Foley offers a wild romp through assorted Chicago neighborhoods, dive bars, shady political deals and more that only an insider can tell. In Foley's story, Danny Lonigan, a disbarred attorney, gets a job as a City of Chicago electrician with the help of his union boss big brother and attempts to earn an honest paycheck and stay clean. But once he befriends mob-connected city worker, Jimmy "the Hat" Scarpelli, Danny Lonigan's world will never be the same. From Rogers Park to Hegewisch, from the mayor's office to tiny Street's and San yard lunch rooms, at times tender, often humorous, and always gritty, *The Blue Circus* offers insight into the politics of the City of Big Shoulders and the Lonigan family as its members fight to survive.



Dennis Foley

"Chicago speak is such a great language and in *The Blue Circus*, Dennis Foley, a native Southsider, brings that language, the city itself and its rambunctious characters to life. Neighborhood streets, dive bars, and shady city deals waltz across the page, spread out like a deck of cards. But Foley holds some of the cards back and delivers them in a timely fashion, causing the reader to shake his head and marvel."

Biblio File

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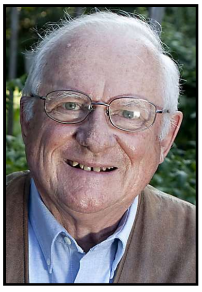
Tribune wrote: "**Erika L. Sanchez** grew frustrated about not seeing herself reflected or reading about experiences like hers in literature; of feeling as if her Mexican-American culture and identity were not being taken into account. 'I grew up reading in English and I couldn't find myself in books.' said the Cicero-born author." ... **Jerry Apps** was scheduled to appear on a Wisconsin Historical Society Press panel discussion Dec. 9. ... **Stuart Dybek's** short story collection *The Coast of Chicago* was among the titles Chicago mayoral candidates on Jan 1. told the Chicago Sun-Times they considered the best books ever written about Chicago.



Jerry Apps

Follow Biblio File on Twitter at @BiblioFile_SMA.

New Members

Syed Afzal Haider, a senior editor of the Chicago Quarterly Review, is the author of *To Be With Her* (Weavers Press, 2010).

His short stories and essays have appeared in a variety of literary magazines, been nominated for Pushcart Prizes and won short fiction awards.

Syed Afzal Haider

He was born in India, grew up in Pakistan and was educated in America, studying electrical engineering, psychology and social work.

He was nominated by **Craig Sautter.**

Steven Wingate, an associate professor at South Dakota State University, is the author of the novel *Of Fathers and Fire* (University of Nebraska Press, 2009); the story collection *Wifeshopping* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2008), and the prose poem collections *The Birth of Trigonometry in the Bones of Olduvai* (2013) and *Thirty-One Octets: Incantations and Meditations* (2014).

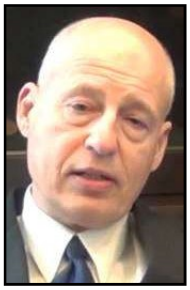
Kate Heiberger

Steven Wingate

He also is the author of poems, essays and digital media projects, in addition to fiction, including the digital memoir "daddy-labyrinth," which premiered in 2014 at the Art/Science Museum of Singapore

He was nominated by **Melissa Fraterrigo**.

Theodore J. Karamanski is the author of *Schooner Passage: Sailing Ships and the Lake Michigan Frontier"* (Wayne State University Press, 2000); *Blackbird's Song: Andrew Blackbird and the Odawa People* (Michigan State University Press, 2012) and other books. He also is co-editor of *Civil War Chicago: Eyewitness to History*, with **Eileen McMahon**, (Ohio State University Press, 2014).



Theodore J. Karamanski

He is professor of history and director of the Public History Graduate Program at Loyola University Chicago.

He was nominated by **Dominic Pacyga**.

Leland James is the author of four books of poetry, three children's books in verse, and two books on creative writing and poetry craft.

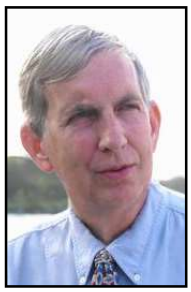
Leland James

His most recent works include *Muse* (Kelsay Books, 2018) and the children's book *Wordplay With Perspicacious the Cat* (Little Red Tree Publishing, 2018). His work has appeared in the journals Rattle, Haiku Quarterly, the South Carolina Review, and Spoon River Poetry Review, among many others.

He was the winner of the Aesthetica Magazine Creative Writing Award for Poetry, the Little Red Tree International Poetry Prize, the Portland Pen Poetry Contest, the Writer's Forum short poem contest, an Atlanta Review International Publication Prize, and the Franklin-Christoph Merit Award for Poetry. James has been featured in **Ted Kooser's** column "American Life in Poetry" and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

He was nominated by **Marlene Targ Brill**.

Thomas Benz is the author of *Home and Castle* (Snake Castle Press, 2018).



Thomas Benz

He also has had 17 stories published in various literary journals, such as the Madison Review, The William and Mary Review, the Mid-Season Review and others.

He won the 2017 Serena McDonald Kennedy Award for a short story collection sponsored by Snake Nation Press and the Solstice Short Story Contest in 2011. and was a finalist in the Flannery O'Connor Short Fiction Collection Contest in 2013 and 2015.

He was nominated by **Barbara Barnett**.

Patricia Sutton is the author of *Capsized! The Forgotten Story of the SS Eastland Disaster* (Chicago Review Press).

SMA member **Kate Hannigan** wrote of *Capsized!*: "A riveting page-turner sure to grab readers' attention. Patricia Sutton's well-researched *Capsized!* will leave you shocked, saddened, and unable to put it down."

Patricia Sutton

Sutton is a former elementary/middle school teacher and curriculum author. She was a Golden Apple Award finalist for teacher excellence in the Chicago area.

She was nominated by **Thomas Frisbie**.

Literary Largess

Dues cover mailings and other organizational expenses, but the Society always needs additional money for programs such as the awards at the annual May book awards banquet. Thanks to **Dan Gerber**, **Jeannie Morris**, **Peter Nolan**, **Dominic Pacyga, David Radavich, Robert Remer, Meg Tebo**, **Jon Teaford,** and **Claude Walker,** who made recent contributions.

In 1965, the Society turned 50

This is Part 28 of the history of the Society.

In 1965, **Saul Bellow** accepted an SMA award for his novel *Herzog* – with Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley presenting the prize.

The author later recalled: "Mayor Daley in a little City Hall ceremony gave me a $500 check on behalf of the Midland Authors' Society. 'Mr. Mayor, have you read *Herzog*?' asked one of the reporters standing by. 'I've looked into it,' said Daley, yielding no ground. Art is not the mayor's dish. Indeed, why should it be? I much prefer his neglect to the kind of interest Stalin took in poetry, phoning Pasternak to chat with him about Mandelstam and, shortly afterwards, sending Mandelstam to die."

That was also the year when the SMA celebrated its 50th birthday, and Daley issued a proclamation that April 24 was Society of Midland Authors Day. He posed for photos, which ran in the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times, handing the proclamation to Bellow, **Gwendolyn Brooks** and **Harry Mark Petrakis**. In a 2015 interview with the Tribune, Harry Mark Petrakis laughed as he remembered that day.

"I picked up Saul in Hyde Park and picked up Gwendolyn, who lived a few blocks away from me," he said. "Several reporters present asked the mayor if he had read my new collection, *Pericles on 31st Street*, which was just released at the time. He said yeah and acknowledged it, but when they asked if he read Bellow, he seemed uncomfortable to answer."

Former Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley issues a proclamation naming April 24, 1965, Society of Midland Authors Day. He handed the proclamation to (from left) Harry Mark Petrakis, Gwendolyn Brooks and Saul Bellow.

Bellow later made what the Tribune called "one of his infrequent ceremonial appearances" to accept an award from the Society on May 15, 1984, for his novel *Humboldt's Gift*.

As former SMA President **Richard Frisbie** later recalled, "Bellow reminisced about surviving the Depression thanks to the Federal Writers' Program. He judged correctly that the topic of making a living as a writer during hard times would enthrall an audience of authors."

Literary Lore

Robert Loerzel

"That Bellow has chosen to remain in Chicago, unlike Algren and so many of his contemporaries, suggests that he prefers the relative anonymity that comes with being a writer in Chicago," Chicago Tribune Book World editor **John Blades** observed in 1983. "Perhaps it is its unpretentious atmosphere, free of any literary affectation, that makes Chicago so congenial for other writers of national reputation."

But after living in Chicago for most of his literary life, Bellow moved in 1993 to the Boston area, where he died in 2005. He was inducted into the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame in 2010.

The SMA awards banquet on April 6, 1968, was held at the American Furniture Mart-even as Chicago was wracked by the riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

As one article about the dinner noted, the banquet went on "while ugliness of violence was defacing the city." The article said the meeting was a "testimony to the power that flows from the trinity of reason, creative talent, and man's quest for truth." SMA President **Arthur Weinberg** presented awards that evening to **Studs Terkel**, **Herman Kogan**, **Era Bell Thompson**, **Morris Philipson** and **Marcia Lee Masters**.

> *"He judged correctly that the topic of making a living as a writer in hard times would enthrall an audience of authors."*

Midland Authors public meeting

Buzz Ride: Driven to Disruption

An inside look at Uber...and its passengers

What: **Society of Midland Authors** monthly meeting
When: Tuesday, **Feb. 12, 2019**. Reception at 6 p.m.; presentation at 7 p.m.
Where: **Cliff Dwellers,** 200 S. Michigan, 22nd floor penthouse (with a great view!)

Free and open to the public. You're invited!

After researching ride-sharing and other disruptive businesses for a possible *Harvard Business Review* article, Pat White (a pen name) went undercover to research how ride sharing affects commerce. Soon his business study warped into a study of humanity ...and himself. Come along for the bumpy ride as this sharp-tongued observer shares the variously wild, dark, humorous and even touching side of Chicago nightlife.

Follow this well-to-do, 50-something, father of two—with a Mercedes—as he drives Uber at night on Chicago's tough streets. Some of the strangers he picked up were over-privileged, over-served Millennials en route to their next thrill or wherever they were crashing for the night. Many treated him like he was invisible, making out, arguing, discussing sex and drugs, and lying to lovers on the phone about their whereabouts. Others asked him to join their partying or sought his counsel on intimate details of their lives. Still others were just looking to pick a fight.

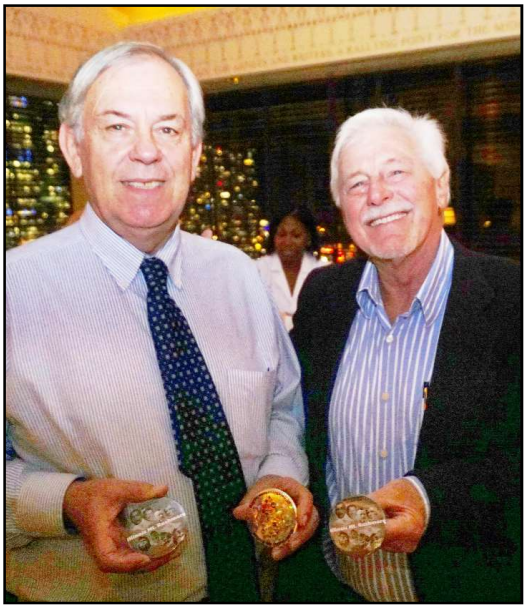
Buzz Ride is published by Lake Claremont Press.

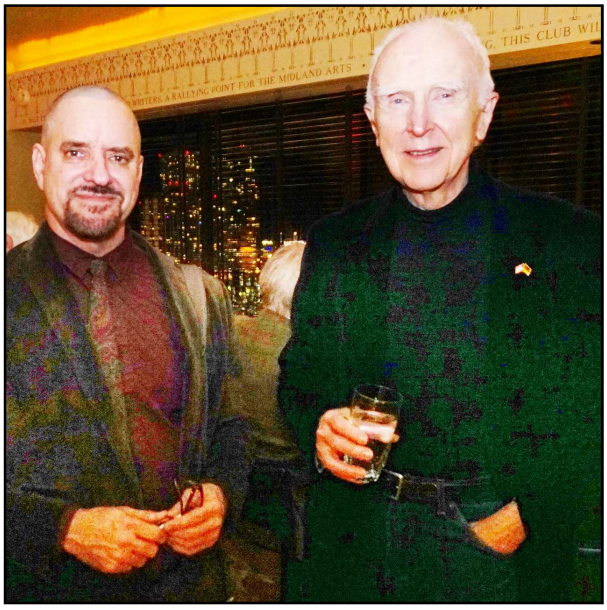
"*Buzz Ride* is a book to read and to shove into other people's hands."
– Arnie Bernstein, author of *Swastika Nation* and *Hollywood on Lake Michigan*

"A sticky backseat view of Chicago after midnight."
– Bull Garlington, author of *The Full English*

For more information, contact Greg Borzo: (312) 636-8968; gborzo@comcast.net

After the balloting is over





TOP: The audience listens as panelists at the Society of Midland Authors' Nov. 13 program analyze the Nov. 6 elections at the Cliff Dwellers Club in Chicago. FAR LEFT: Former SMA President Craig Sautter (left) and Claude Walker display Walker's Illinois Bicentennial buttons. LEFT: Bryan Smith (left) and Gunter Nitsche.

SMA Vice President Marlene Targ Brill, Kathy Harper and SMA Program Chair Greg Borzo.

Kevin O'Shaughnessy and SMA Board Member Dick Simpson.

Note from the SMA Board of Directors: *Members of the Society of Midland Authors are encouraged to nominate authors from our 12-state region who have published with a recognized publisher. The nominations will be considered by the SMA board at its next meeting. The 12 states are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin. The nomination form is below. Send it to Society of Midland Authors, P.O. Box 10419, Chicago, IL 60610. You can also email it as a PDF to Membership Secretary Thomas Frisbie at tomfrisbie@aol.com.*

For the use of members only.

The Society of Midland Authors

NOMINATION FORM

☐ Author Member: Author Members must be an "author or co-author of a book demonstrating literary style and published by a recognized publisher, or of a published or professionally produced play."

☐ Associate Member: Associate members (without voting rights) may be "persons having some connection with literature, such as librarians, teachers, publishers, and editors."

Name:

Address:

Qualifying residence or place of birth:

Biography:

Phone number(s):

E-mail address:

Name of proposer:

Signature:

Date:

WORKS:

	Title:	Publisher:	Year:
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2:			
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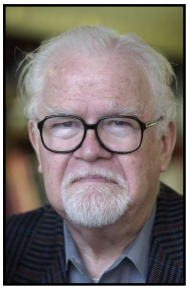
12:			

Final chapters

Wilbert Hasbrouck, whose book *The Chicago Architectural Club* (Monacelli Press) was a finalist in the 2006 Society of Midland Authors book awards and who also was an architect and bookstore owner, died in February at age 86.



Wilbert Hasbrouck

Mr. Hasbrouck was a longtime member of the Society. In 2009, Literary License wrote: "Wilbert Hasbrouck is an unusual SMA member: He qualifies for membership both as an author and as a bookstore co-owner. Or at least he did until Aug. 31, when his iconic Prairie Avenue Bookshop in Chicago's South Loop closed after more than 30 years.

"The store, described as the largest architectural bookshop in the world, was a welcome center for the local architectural and design community. It also had a huge online catalog of books on architecture and design that served a global readership. But the growth of online book retailing, rising South Loop rents and the now-highest sales taxes of any major city in the country cut into sales.

"Marylin and Wilbert Hasbrouck founded the Prairie Avenue School Press in 1961 to reprint Louis Sullivan's *A System of Architectural Ornament*. In 1964 the Hasbroucks established the Prairie School Review, a quarterly journal devoted to Prairie School architecture. The Prairie Avenue Bookshop opened in 1974 and in the early 1980s was one of the first independent bookstores to move aggressively into computers, shipping books around the world. By the late 1980s, it had become a second home for architects and architectural historians, who met there regularly."

As a Chicago architect, Mr. Hasbrouck also specialized in historic renovation for more than 40 years. In 2006, Literary License wrote, "From 1968 through 1975, [Mr. Hasbrouck] was the executive director of both the Chicago Chapter and the Illinois Council of the American Institute of Architects. ... In 1986 he was named Preservationist of the Year by the Chicago Coordinating Council for Landmarks Preservation. [Mr.] Hasbrouck was given a distinguished service award by the American Institute of Architects, Chicago Chapter, in 1975. He was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 1973."

The Glessner House Museum wrote, "Considered one of the founding fathers of the preservation movement in Chicago, [Mr. Hasbrouck's] projects included some of the most recognizable buildings in Chicago and the Midwest, including Frank Lloyd Wright's Dana-Thomas House in Springfield, Louis Sullivan's Peoples Savings Bank in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and William Le Baron Jenney's Manhattan Building."

Pauline Saliga, executive director of the Chicago-based Society of Architectural Historians, told the Chicago Tribune, "[Mr. Hasbrouck] distinguished himself "with high-quality restoration work on a lot of Chicago's important 19th-century buildings. But he also was kind of an intellectual backbone of Chicago because of his passion for the Prairie Avenue bookshop."

Literary License
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