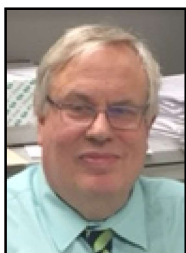


Biblio File

Wally Podrazik talked to WGN Radio's Dave Plier on Sept. 15 about the 70th anniversary of TV Guide, the writers and actors strikes and the absence of a fall TV season with reality shows and reruns. ... The Sept. 23 School Library Journal called **Gary D. Schmidt's** *The Labors of Hercules Beal* "a stunning read." ... In a post, former Midland Authors President **Richard Lindberg** writes, "All history is grass-roots." ...

Taylor Pensoneau's new novel is *Corruption Incorporated* (Downstate Publications). Watch for it in the next Literary Latest. ... **Craig Sautter** now has written a total of 130 short stories. ...



Richard Lindberg

On Sept. 17, Augie Aleksy's famed Centuries and Sleuths bookstore in Forest Park hosted a reading by **Patrick T. Reardon** from two of his poetry collections: *Puddin': The Autobiography of a Baby*, a *Memoir in Prose Poems* and *Let the Baby Sleep* (See Literary Latest, Page 5). Midland Authors member **Floyd Sullivan** had been scheduled to interview Patrick during the event but was under the weather. So Patrick's son David, a brand marketer in Chicago, stepped in. (By the way, Augie's looking for a buyer if anyone's interested). ... Michigan Poet Laureate **Nandi Comer** was scheduled to read poetry on Oct. 5 at Oakland University. ... Former SMA President **James L. Merriner's** talk about "Public Corruption: Why So Much of It? Can We Fix It?" at the Winnetka Library has been rescheduled to 7 p.m. on Nov. 9. ... In September, **Scott Turov** received the Fuller Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame. ... The audiobook, *The Graft: How a Pioneering Operation*

Turn to Page 2

Place makers: 3 authors discuss story collections



Panelists **Janice Deal** (from left), **Christina Marrocco** and **Ryan Elliott Smith** prepare to speak at the Midland Authors' October program at the Cliff Dwellers Club in Chicago.

BY THOMAS FRISBIE

It was "Winesburg Illinois" at the Midland Authors Oct. 17 program at the Cliff Dwellers Club in Chicago.

Like Sherwood Anderson, who wrote *Winesburg Ohio* partly in a rooming house in Chicago, three authors discussed how they came to write collections of short stories focused on a fictional place, much as did Anderson, a former Midland Authors member.

All three books "have an exceptionally strong sense of place," said Midland Authors Program Chair **Mary Wisniewski**, who introduced the authors and moderated the program.

The authors were **Janice Deal**, who wrote *Strange Attractors: The Ephrem Stories* about the fictional Ephrem, Illinois; **Ryan Elliott Smith**, who wrote *Fly Over This: Stories From the New Midwest*, set in the small towns of the

rural Midwest, and **Christina Marrocco**, who wrote *Addio, Love Monster*, set in fictional midcentury Mulberry Park, just outside of Chicago.

The authors started the program by giving short readings from their books.

Then Wisniewski asked about the challenges of creating a sense of place in the Midwest, which often doesn't resonate elsewhere in the country.

"I worked with wire services, Reuters and Bloomberg," she said, "and they always treat us like we weren't really there."

Smith said he tried to capture an authentic feel of the region he was writing about.

"I recorded people at a bar ... because I wanted to hear how people really talked. ... When I wrote this, my 91-year-old aunt said 'I can hear you talking when I read

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Literary Latest
New Books

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2024 Book Awards
contest rules

PAGES 6-7

Biblio File

Continued from Page 1

Sparked the Modern Age of Organ Transplants, has been released by British publisher Anthem Press. The audiobook is written and narrated by **Edmund Lawler**, who chronicled the first human organ transplant, which was led by his great uncle, Dr. Richard Lawler. It took place in 1950 at Little Company of Mary Hospital in south suburban Chicago. The audiobook is based on the print title of the same name released in 2021. ...

Universal Pictures has optioned

Jonathan Eig's *King: A Life*. ... **Jim**



Grove Mower

Schwab's blog now has more than 40,000 subscribers. ... **Grove Mower** has a new book on the way, *Dusty Money*, a trilogy of Chicago stories. ...

Diane Seuss' poem "High Romance was printed in the May 22

New Yorker. ... **Elizabeth Tandy**

Shermer wrote "Want to Honor Labor Day? Check Your Paystub" for the Sept. 2 Time magazine.

Literary License

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P.O. Box 10419, Chicago IL 60610

Editor: Thomas Frisbie
tomfrisbie@aol.com

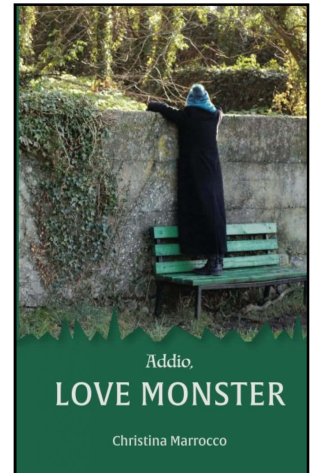
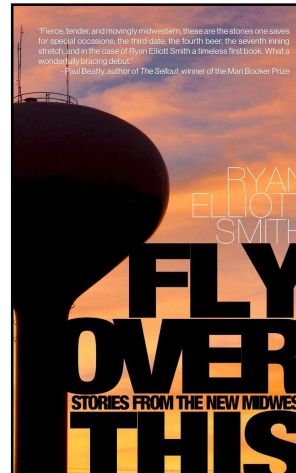
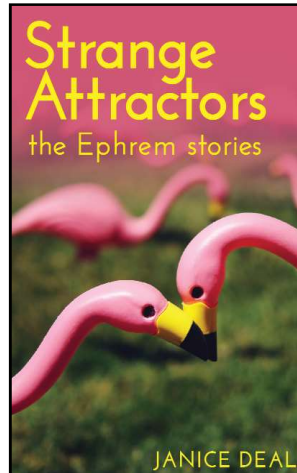
Copy Editors: Marlene Targ Brill,
Dorothea Frisbie

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Place makers Continued from Page 1



this book.' I said, 'That is exactly what I was going for.' "

Marrocco said, "A lot of ethnic writing was coming from that particular kind of setting – a neighborhood."

Marrocco said her stories are inspired by real people. The communities in and around Chicago are "beautiful places with beautiful, interesting people who are not performative. ... These stories couldn't have happened anywhere else," she said.

Deal said when she was in college, a friend gave her a copy of "The Cathedral" by Raymond Carver.

"It was not set in the Midwest, but the people were just what you said – real, not performative. ... When I did start writing, I was drawn to what I know.

"I am really drawn to the idea of digging into the human condition and our common community," she said.

Deal said she grew up in a traditional suburb, but her fictional town of Ephem is more of an exurb.

"It's got one foot in suburbia and one foot in a more rural dynamic," she said.

Her book was inspired by Volo, Illinois, and other small towns at the edge of the Chicago suburbs where she spent many evenings going to

movies and exploring the communities.

"I realized those towns were in my brain and that was where Ephrem was going to be."

Marrocco said she set her stories in a fictional community "because if you use the actual space, people will see themselves in your writing even if they are not. ... It gave me more freedom with characters."

Wisniewski pointed out that characters in Smith's books did terrible things.

"How did you make that work?" she asked.

"In some cases, the bad person was adjacent to me in real life," Smith said.

In one story, Smith writes about a troubled Army veteran who beats his wife. He said he sent the story to his military friends to read it.

"I wanted to make sure I am fair to everybody, but I also wanted to make sure I am not being too soft on people," he said. "When I had problematic things, I would get more readers."

Deal said, "We can have very harsh elements in us and we don't want to sugarcoat it,

but the things can live alongside each other."



Mary Wisniewski introduces the panelists at the Midland Authors' October program.

Watch midlandauthors.org for details about the upcoming Midland Authors November program.

Five authors will discuss five mayors



Betty O'Shaughnessy



Monroe Anderson



Kari Lydersen



Daniel Bliss

Five authors will discuss Chicago's five modern mayors at the Midland Authors' Jan. 9 program at 6 p.m at the Harold Washington Library Center 400 S. State, Chicago.

The program will be a book launch for *Chicago's Modern Mayors*, edited by Former Midland Authors President **Dick Simpson** and **Betty O'Shaughnessy**. The modern mayors are Harold Washington, Eugene Sawyer, Richard M. Daley, Rahm Emanuel and Lori Lightfoot.

The panelists will be O'Shaughnessy, **Kari Lydersen**, **Daniel Bliss** and **Monroe Anderson**. Simpson will moderate and participate on the panel.

O'Shaughnessy is an adjunct professor of political science at Oakton Community College and former trustee for West



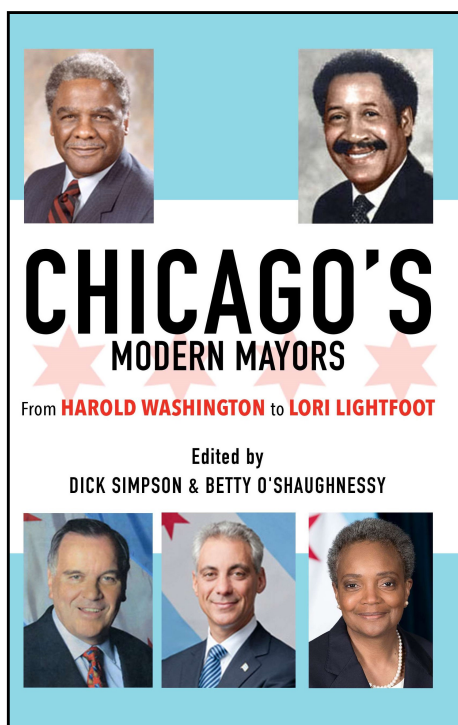
Dick Simpson

Deerfield Township. She is the co-author of *Winning Elections in the 21st Century* (Kansas University Press, 2016). Her research interests are state and federal conflict in authority, political education and

campaigns and elections.

Anderson is an award-winning journalist and former press secretary to Mayor Eugene Sawyer. Anderson has worked as a reporter at the National Observer, as assistant editor of *Ebony* magazine and as a correspondent for *Newsweek* magazine prior to joining the *Chicago Tribune*.

Later, Anderson taught feature writing at Columbia College Chicago, and for 13



years he was director of station services and community affairs at WBBM-Chicago. During this time, he became host and executive producer of the public affairs television show, "Common Ground." Anderson is one of the co-authors of the nonfiction book *Brothers* and a contributing author to *Restoration 1989: Chicago Elects a New Daley* (Holli and Green: Lyceum Books). In 2003, Anderson was named editor of N'DIGO, a black community newspaper, and in 2003, became the editor of SaVoy magazine.

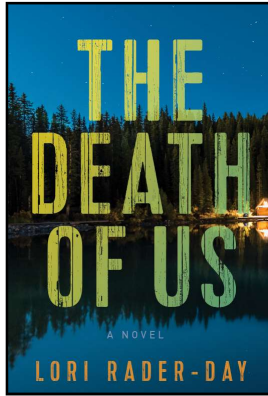
Bliss is assistant professor of political science at the Illinois Institute of Technology. He has written on economic

development policy and state and local government, specifically, the effects of redistricting and gerrymandering on local government. His research interests include state and local government, public administration and institutions and governance. Besides several academic articles, he is author of *Economic Development and Governance in Small Town America: Paths to Growth* (Routledge, 2018).

Lydersen is a Chicago-based reporter, author and journalism instructor. She is a lecturer in the graduate program at the Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications at Northwestern University and is co-director of the Social Justice News Nexus. Through 2009, she was a staff writer in the Midwest bureau of the *Washington Post*; after that she wrote for the Chicago edition of the *New York Times* through the *Chicago News Cooperative*. She has been a research associate at the Medill Watchdog Project at Northwestern and has taught journalism at Columbia College Chicago and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She writes for publications including the *Washington Post*, the *Guardian*, the *Chicago Reader* and *In These Times*, focusing on environment, energy, housing, the opioid crisis and labor. She is the author of six books, including *Shoot an Iraqi: Art, Life and Resistance Under the Gun* (City Lights, 2008) and *Revolt on Goose Island: The Chicago Window Factory Takeover and What It Says About the Economic Crisis* (Melville House, 2009).



Literary Latest



'MASTERFUL. RIVETING.

Mystery writer **Lori Rader-Day** tells Literary Latest, “I was flying home from an event in Minneapolis, maybe for the first time in since the pandemic, when I looked out the window and far below, spotted a quarry partially filled with water. And I thought, ‘I bet they have a lot of bodies in those.’”



Lori Rader-Day

JUSTIN BARBIN

“I had also been thinking about how quick we are to assume we know the story when someone goes missing or comes to harm. The husband did it, right?

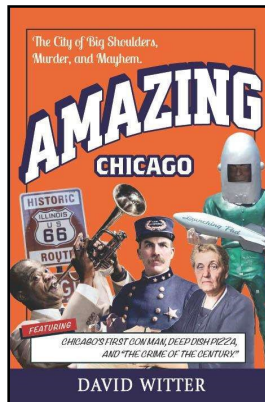
The boyfriend. Well, what if the going theory that the boyfriend did it turned out to be wrong, but too late for the boyfriend?

“That’s the origin of the story, which features a family just barely hanging on to each other, and a mother who will do anything to protect her kid.”

The Death of Us came out Oct. 3 from HarperCollins/William Morrow. From the publisher: “[T]he discovery of [a] car dredges up more questions than answers. What really happened on the night of Ashley’s disappearance? Was it a tragic accident, or something far more sinister?”

Midland Authors member **Tracy Clark**

wrote, “*The Death of Us* is a deftly crafted, winding road of family secrets, unsolved disappearance, murder, betrayal and complicated lives caught in the crosshairs of suspicion and lies. Masterful. Riveting.”



'MAGNIFICENT URBAN TAPESTRY'

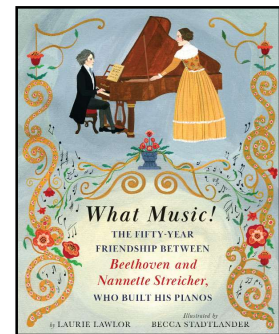
David Witter's new book *Amazing Chicago* is out (Reedy Press, Sept. 15, 2023).

“As the author of *Oldest Chicago I* and *II*, I have always been interested in Chicago history, especially historic places that still exist,” Witter said. “This is what separates Chicago from the suburbs and many other cities. While *Oldest Chicago* covered much, *Amazing Chicago* gave me the opportunity to delve into Chicago’s great musical legacy. In the “Dark Tales” section, I was also able to explore the connection between Chicago’s history of corruption that caused disasters like the Iroquois Fire, the crime of gangsters and serial killers, and the many creepy, haunted and ghostly sites that have become their legacy.”

From the publisher: “Architectural splendor, industrial might, creativity and leaders who helped shape a nation are just a few of the attributes that have made Chicago one of the greatest cities in America.

“Add to these the culinary and cultural contributions of almost two centuries of

immigrants and migrants, and you have a magnificent urban tapestry in a city that features iconic landmarks and historical treasures, as well as oddities and curiosities that will astound you. In *Amazing Chicago*, you will read about them all, from the obvious to the hidden.”



NEW NONFICTION BOOK

Laurie Lawlor tells Literary Latest, “I’m delighted to let you know about my new nonfiction book for readers age 6 and up, which will be released Oct. 23.

“It’s a remarkable yet little-known true story of the relationship between genius composer Beethoven and Nannette Streicher, a unique 19th century woman entrepreneur who built his pianos. Writing their dual-biography (which culminates in the stupendous Ninth Symphony ‘Ode To Joy’) meant delving into 60-plus surviving letters Beethoven wrote to Streicher in his lifetime.



Laurie Lawlor

“Despite personal tragedies, deafness and other bouts with ill health, they remained friends through thick and thin – changing the course of musical history.

“*What Music! The Fifty-Year Friendship between Beethoven and Nannette Streicher, Who Built his Pianos* (Holiday House) is vividly illustrated by

Turn to Page 5

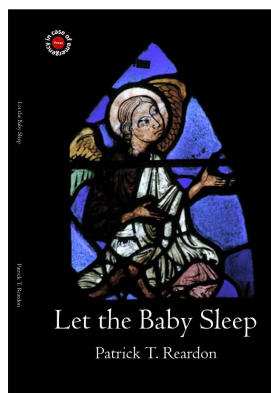
Literary Latest

Continued from Page 4

talented Becca Stadtlander.”

From the publisher: “*What Music!* tells of their struggle to achieve a shared dream: ‘to make the piano sing.’ While Beethoven composed more than 700 ground-shattering works – ranging from symphonies to sonatas – Streicher raised a family in Vienna and created some of the most respected, path-breaking instruments in Europe. Superstar Beethoven remained a devoted customer, even after his tragic hearing loss. A lifelong bachelor and neighbor, Beethoven found refuge in the Streicher family’s home. Throughout triumph and tragedy, they remained steadfast friends.”

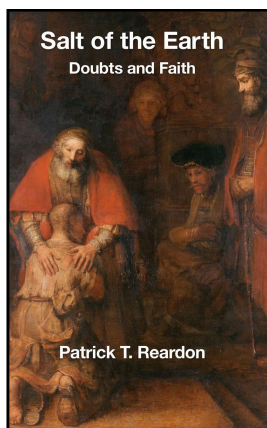
In a starred review, Booklist said, “In language as strong and melodic as her subjects’ music, Lawlor chronicles a lifelong friendship between two people as opposite in background and personality ‘as fast and slow, loud and soft, high and low.’”



TWO BOOKS OF POETRY IN TWO MONTHS

In the space of two months this summer, **Patrick T. Reardon** published two books of poetry: *Let the Baby Sleep* from the Australian publisher In Case of Emergency (July 19), and *Salt of the Earth: Doubts and Faith* from Kelsay Books in Utah (Sept. 18).

Publisher Howard Firkin wrote that *Let the Baby Sleep* “is a fearlessly exploratory collection of poems” in which Reardon “dissects the world of his childhood, his upbringing, his relationships with his parents and siblings, his maturation and



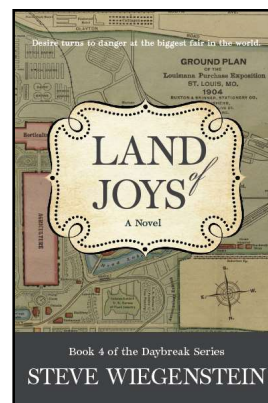
growth, and the wrenching shock of his brother’s suicide. With extraordinary skill and grace, he exposes the worlds – physical, mental, spiritual – that he inhabited and is forced still to inhabit, and asks us to confront them with him. ... The poems are, by turns, gentle, harrowing, contemplative, heartfelt, but always insistently demonstrative, insistently declarative. There is no turning away.”

Michael Leach, publisher emeritus of Orbis Books and author of *Soul Seeing*, describes Reardon as “a tough Chicago newsman” and “a poet who hears music in the all-night thunder of a Chicago El, a historian of Chicago who archives its circulatory system of alleys, streets and neighborhoods, a spiritual seeker so open-minded that he still goes to church. That is why his new book of poems *The Salt of the Earth* is so damn tough, so rooted in the gritty heart of the city, and so profoundly spiritual...His book is about belief and doubt, its spine fixed on asphalt and its heart free in heaven. It is everything poetry is supposed to be.”

Reardon, who covered urban affairs and the book industry throughout his 32-year career as a Chicago Tribune reporter, has now published six poetry collections since 2017. “Most of my poems,” Reardon said, “are rooted in my experiences as a lifelong Chicagoan and as someone who daily traveled the streets of the city and suburbs as a reporter. I may write about wacky angels and mournful rain-snows, but they’re usually happening on a cityscape that screams Chicago.”



Patrick Reardon



‘A BRAND-NEW STORY’

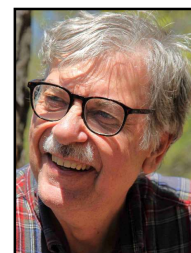
Steve Wiegenstein's new book is *Land of Joys* (Amphorae Publishing Group, Sept. 26, 2023), a novel that wrestles with issues of race, representation and American ideals in the setting of the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair. A group of people from the fictional Ozarks village of Daybreak travel to the Fair to be exhibited as ‘authentic hillbillies,’ setting off a chain of encounters, entanglement and danger that changes everyone’s lives forever.

Wiegenstein tells Literary Latest, “Although this novel is part of my larger series of historical novels, it takes on a brand-new story and stands by itself. I was drawn to the St. Louis World’s Fair as an almost mythical event in regional history. It’s an event that casts a light into the world of its time but also reflects forward into our present and future.”

Wiegenstein adds, “The central character of *Land of Joys* is Charlotte Turner, who continues from the previous books but is now a grandmother and fiercely protective of her 14-year-old granddaughter, Petey.

“Their relationship is the central dynamic of the story for me.”

Reviewing *Land of Joys*, John Mort wrote in *Down Along the Piney*: “*Land of Joys* is an entertaining and thoughtful novel, and Wiegenstein is a tireless crusader for Ozarks – and Missouri – literature. He should be represented in every library.”



Steve Wiegenstein

Rules for the 2024 book awards

The Midland Authors is now accepting submissions for its annual literary awards, which will honor books by Midwestern authors published in 2023.

Please read the following rules carefully before submitting.

These rules are also posted on our website at midlandauthors.org/how-to-submit/ (Please note that we are using a new domain, midlandauthors.org, at this time rather than our previous .com website.)

2024 Competition Rules (for Books Published in 2023)

The Midland Authors Awards recognize book writing excellence by Midwestern authors. Three judges on each committee will select one winner that is best in that category. Category winners receive \$750 and a recognition award. Judges may also deem up to three honorees as worthy of recognition. Each honoree will receive a commemorative award. All honors will be given out at the awards banquet on May 14, 2024.

Follow the directions below to submit a book and pay the entry fee.

To enter this year's competition, fill out the online entry form for each nominated book. A printed entry form must also accompany each book sent to each of the three judges in its category, and the entry form must also be mailed to SMA President Gerry Plecki, at the address listed for him in the judge's category. Note: If your entry is in the Adult Nonfiction category, you will not need to send him an extra form – the entry form you mail him with your book will suffice.

This totals four printed forms per title (one to each of the three judges, and one to Gerry Plecki, competition coordinator) in addition to the online form which you will submit electronically. A copy of your book (with the required entry form) must be sent to each judge in your category. Entry forms must specify payment information. Books unaccompanied by completed entry forms will not be considered.

Each book entry must have a 2023 publication date that corresponds with its copyright date.

A book may be nominated by its author or publisher. The author must either reside in, be born in, or have strong ties to one

of the 12 Midland states SMA represents: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin. If the author lives outside these states, please indicate any connection to the Midwest on the "comments" section of the entry form.

Each submission requires an entry fee of \$35, \$30 for members. The online form allows payment by PayPal or credit card.

To pay by a mail service, send a check and a printed copy of the entry form to Gerry Plecki, SMA President, 33 King Henry Road SE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065. If you pay by check or money order, be sure to write the author's name on the face of the check or money order so we can confirm the paid entry. A copy of the entry form should also accompany each book that you mail to each of the three judges in your category. A copy of the submission form is on Page 7.

We do not accept e-books; only print editions will be judged. Books by deceased authors are eligible, providing that at least one of the authors meets the residency protocol and other requirements.

A book may be entered in only one category, not several categories. Submissions must be postmarked by Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. We urge early submissions. Send entries to the appropriate judges under your category of Contest Judges listed below.

Make sure your book entry goes to judges in the proper category. (For example, all children's books go to children's categories, rather than Poetry or Biography and Memoir, which are for adult submissions only.) Books submitted to improper categories will be disqualified.

Any judge who has a conflict of interest with a submission will be recused from discussion of that entry.

For comments, questions, or to confirm an entry has reached the judges, contact Gerry Plecki at gplecki@travelbrokers.com

SEND ONE COPY OF THE BOOK AND ONE ENTRY FORM TO EACH OF THE THREE JUDGES IN THE BOOK'S CATEGORY AND ONE ENTRY FORM TO THE COMPETITION COORDINATOR

Judges:

History

Joseph Gustaitis (Chair), 1824 West Erie St., Chicago, IL 60622

Greg Borzo, 520 S. State St, Apt. 1009, Chicago, IL 60605

David Witter, 4417 N. La Porte Ave., Chicago, IL 60630

Bernard J. Brommel Award for Biography and Memoir

Bob Remer, (Chair) 5840 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60660

Hugh Eakin, 1041 Grand Avenue, Box 130, Saint Paul, MN 55105

Donna Urbikas, 33 W. Ontario St., Unit 19E, Chicago, IL 60654

Adult Fiction

Rita Woods (Chair), 13925 Acorn Ridge Dr., Homer Glen, IL 60491

Andrew Graff, PO Box 706, Cedarville, OH 45314

Wendy Schuchart, 1690 Forest Glen Drive, Green Bay, WI 54304

Richard Frisbie Award for Adult Nonfiction

Gerry Plecki (Chair), 33 King Henry Rd. SE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Kathleen Hale, 1656 Sargent Place, Los Angeles, CA 90026

James Dunlap Nowlan, 938½ N. Main St., Princeton, IL 61356

Poetry

Sun Yung Shin (Chair), 5245 Chicago Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55417

Nandi Comer, PO Box 211064, Detroit, MI 48221

Emilio Degrazia, 211 W. Wabasha St., Winona, MN 55987

Children's Fiction

Sandra Renner (Chair) 420 Summit Ave., Suite 401, St. Paul, MN 55102

Laura Hirshfield, 3318 Noyes Street, Evanston, IL 60201

W. Nikola-Lisa, 4908 N. Paulina Street, Chicago, IL 60640-3419

Children's Reading Round Table Award for Children's Nonfiction

Marlene Targ Brill (Chair), 314 Lawndale, Wilmette, IL 60091

Jingmai O'Connor, 600 S. Dearborn Apt. 904, Chicago, IL 60605

Jill Esbaum, 5545 270th St., Dixon, IA, 52745

Awards Entry Form

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: January 31, 2024 Print four copies of this form and send one copy with your payment. One copy should also go with each of the books that go to the three judges in your entry's category. Please type or print clearly. Note: We need author contact information to communicate with winner: providing only editor's contact information will disqualify the book.

Name of book: _____

Publisher: _____

Publication date: (If publication date differs from copyright date, please explain in "Comments" section below.)

Author: _____

Author's address: (must be author's info) _____

Author's email address: (must be author's actual email address) _____

Category of entry (check one). Entries improperly categorized will be disqualified:

ADULT FICTION

BIOGRAPHY and MEMOIR: (Adult)

ADULT NONFICTION

CHILDREN'S FICTION

POETRY (Adult)

CHILDREN'S NONFICTION

HISTORY

I nominate the above work for a Society of Midland Authors Award.

(An author may nominate their own work.)

Your name: _____

Signature: _____

Company and Business title: _____

Telephone and/or email address: _____

Address: _____

If the author is not currently a resident of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota or Wisconsin, please explain the author's connection to this region: _____

Comments: _____

Final chapters

In 2013, **Jennifer Bartoli-Kalina**, the late children's book author and a longtime Midland Authors member, recalled how at one Midland Authors meeting, "I sat next to **Alzina Stone Dale**, who was rocking in an antique chair before a blazing fire and telling us of a biography she had written about a so-called obscure English author. Ignorant, I kept quiet and went home to meet G.K. Chesterton in an old poetry collection."

Bringing Chesterton to new readers was one of the many accomplishments of Ms. Dale, who died on June 5, 2020, at age 89. She was a longtime member of the Midland Authors.

Ms. Dale, whose legal name was Mary Alzina Dale but who used Alzina Stone Dale as her pen name, was a freelance author and lecturer who wrote biographies of Dorothy L. Sayers, G.K. Chesterton, and T.S. Eliot. She also edited *Love All: The Comedies of Dorothy L. Sayers*,

Dorothy L. Sayers, the Centenary Celebration and *Sayers on Holmes*. Ms. Dale also co-wrote mystery travel guides to London and England and wrote mystery travel guides to New York, Washington, D.C., and Chicago, two of which won Malice Domestic's Agatha Awards.



Alzina Stone Dale

Ms. Stone graduated from Swarthmore College in 1952 and volunteered to go overseas with Quakers to help rebuild war-torn Europe. Sent to a Finnish work camp near the Arctic Circle she helped clear woods for farms, then met college friends to backpack through Western Europe, ending up in London. She wrote about those experiences in *When the Postwar World Was New* (Tate, 2010).

Recounting her experiences upon which the book was based, Ms. Stone told Literary License in 2010 about "our constant shoving to get rid of the young Italian guys who liked to pat us! Sedate whistles weren't enough, they wanted to

feel the goods! On the other hand, once I'd cleared forests in Finland, I could swing onto a train's third-class compartment with my knapsack and shove any old Italian grandmother who hit me with her umbrella to get on first! I did, too. Finally, just being in London made me a 'mad' lover of British mysteries as well as history, walking all over and then reading the books which I bought cheaply on Charing Cross Road."

Married in 1956, Ms. Dale received an M.A. in Literature and Theology from the University of Chicago in 1957. During her career, she gave lectures and seminars on mysteries and their authors at the Newberry Library and ran workshops on family history for Urban Gateways.

Ms. Dale was a longtime resident of Chicago's Hyde Park and Sawyer, Michigan.

Upon getting an errant check returned to her in 2012, Ms Dale wrote to say, "The nicest part is I think I may spend it buying myself a couple of my UK pals' mysteries. I've been very lucky to get to know Anne Perry and the Keatings – all of whom have visited us here."

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