

## Board Members

2019-2020

President: Tish Glasson

Vice President: Jason Glasson

Secretary: Leslie Galbraith

Treasurer: Shayne Sawyer

Membership: Morgan Chilson

Newsletter: Brittany Willes

Advisor to the President: Billie-Renee Knight

KWI Blog

Interested in writing a blog for KWI? Contact Tish Glasson, [bearwmnkwi@gmail.com](mailto:bearwmnkwi@gmail.com)

Visit us online at:  
[www.kswritersinc.com](http://www.kswritersinc.com),  
[www.kswriters.wordpress.com](http://www.kswriters.wordpress.com)

# Kansas Writers, Inc.

## March 2020 Newsletter



### Ponderings and Smackerals:

Fellow Writers,

As we all know, the mark of a true writer is engineering any excuse to avoid actually writing. To this end, our esteemed president has gone above and beyond. Last month she got out of her part of the newsletter by being struck down with a kidney infection. This month, it was a trip to the E.R. for a nasty fall at work. Kudos for commitment, I guess.

Thus, you are stuck with (not so) sage words of wisdom from your dear newsletter editor once again. Given the strange times we currently find ourselves in, I wish I had something more comforting to say besides: breathe.

If any of you are experiencing the levels of anxiety that I am (oh the joys of the writer's hyperactive imagination), the best advice I have for you is to breathe, try to stay calm, and journal. While I have no doubt we will get through these next weeks/months, I also believe this is a time we are going to want to remember for a variety of reasons. So grab your journals and start chronicling everything you are seeing, feeling, and fearing. Don't forget to add a little hope as well. Personally, I'm keeping a list of at least one good thing that happens each week. These are often very simple things like reading a good book, starting a new show on Netflix, or suddenly finding myself with extra time to work on my novel.

I encourage you all to spend a little time finding the positives in your lives right now. We're going to need as much as we can get.

## KWI Meetings

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### Next Meeting

When: April 24-26, 2020

Where: Lake Wabaunsee

Topic: Annual Writing Retreat

### Future Meeting

When: May 23, 2020

Where: TSCPL Anton Room

Topic:

### Meeting Format

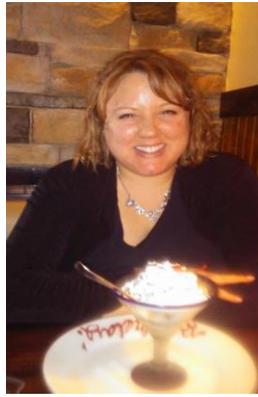
Open Writing: 9:30am -  
10:00am

Critiquing: 10:00am - 11:30am

Board Meeting: 11:30am -  
12:00pm

Member Meeting: 12:30pm -  
1:00 pm

Program: 1:00 pm - 2:30pm



## The Peanut Gallery: Cassie Nicholas

For Cassie, life as a writer started out as just a journal, which later became the basis to many novels. The journey has been a long one since beginning to write in 2015 and continues to this day. She has written Young Adult but is venturing into Romance and Erotica. Her self-published novel, *Need for You*, is available on Amazon.com.

### Q: What is the worst writing advice you've ever received?

When someone told me that it's the characters you fall in love with, not the plot, I questioned it. I really like a good plot and think it sells a story. If there are great characters and a weak plot, well, I think it's missing something. I'm all about the central story/plot and want to see a variety of characters. When writing my own stories and being too character driven, I feel that I lose something, I might miss what's happening.

### Q. Who are some of your writing inspirations?

I particularly like team writers for some reason. On accident I have bumped into these books and found great stories. Like *Fitness Junkie* by Lucy Sykes and Jo Piazza or *The Unhoneymooners* by Christina Lauren. Christina Lauren is a combination of the two authors' names. They inspire me with their willingness to try their ideas on someone else. I emulate this with my writers' group. Also, they are funny but not afraid to go deep either.

### Q. What is the first book that made you cry?

Probably a book by Danielle Steele

### Q. If you were to take a literary pilgrimage, where would you go?

I would go to Hawaii and rewrite *The Unhoneymooners*... just for kicks and giggles.

### Q In *The Lord of the Rings* the character Treebeard is based on Tolkien's good friend C.S. Lewis. If you were to appear in someone else's novel, what character would you be and what purpose do you serve?

I would appear in my friend's romance novel as the best friend and work through the novel in realizing that I am the leading lady.

## March Meeting: Canceled



Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library is closed until March 29<sup>th</sup> – possibly longer. As such, there will be no meeting this month.

For now, we are still planning to hold the Annual Writing Retreat in April.

## Annual Writer's Retreat 2020:

KWI members,

At this time, we are still planning to hold our retreat at the Lake Wabaunsee house in Wabaunsee County, KS.



We had a great experience last year at Lake Wabaunsee, so we've booked the same house again for this year.

The dates are April 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> (Friday evening through Sunday morning)

Expect a fun weekend of eating, drinking, hot tubing, bbq-ing, and the all-important WRITING! (We can sneak some critiques in as well.)

KWI Treasurer, Shayne Huxtable, will happily take your \$50.00 non-refundable deposit either at our monthly meeting or via the mail. Her mailing address is: 2601 SW Western Ave, Topeka, KS. 66611  
Make checks out to: KWI

Shayne Huxtable  
Treasurer

## February Meeting Minutes: 2/22/2020

**I.** Called to order at 12:35 p.m. by president

**II.** Members present: Romie Chavez, Alisha Davis, Richard Forque, Leslie Galbraith, Jason Glasson, Tish Glasson, Shayne Huxtable, Billie-Renee Knight, Julie Nischan

**III.** Correspondence – Shayne received a thank you letter from the American Cancer Society for the memoriam we sent for Leslie’s mother/Billie-Renee’s stepmother.

**IV.** Financials for January 2020

Beginning balance: \$3731.46

Expenses: \$100.00

Income \$60.00

Ending balance: \$3691.46

**V.** Old Business

**A.** Group novel – Romie is currently working on his chapter. Cassie is up next.

**B.** Policies & Procedures amendment – The board has received the new wording on the program reimbursement, which will be published in March’s newsletter and voted on by the membership during the March meeting. The wording is attached.

**C.** Programs – Next program on writing craft – dialogue by Romie Chavez. Will work on a topic for May. No program for April as it is the annual retreat.

**D.** Retreat is April 24-26. Shayne has 7 deposits at this time. Leslie Galbraith and Jason Glasson, the Retreat Committee chairs will call a meeting for Wednesday, February 26 at Chinese restaurant at Hunter’s Ridge at 6:00 p.m.

**E.** Email – Billie-Renee set up a gmail account for the group – kswritersinc@gmail.com. Billie-Renee will monitor the account and forward the emails we receive.

**F.** Branding committee – KWI is a trademarked logo so we need to go with KWInc. The committee has agreed on green and black along with a modern font. Jason Glasson suggested the KWI be in green and the lower case inc in black.

**G.** Next Spotlight is Cassie Nicholas.

**VI.** New Business – no new business

**VII.** Kudos – none submitted except The Chiefs won the Super Bowl!

**VIII.** Door Prize – Richard Forque won the door prize this month.

**IX.** Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. by the president.



"I have decided that all future board meetings will be held before lunch."

## Financials

### February 2020

**Beginning Cash Balance:**  
\$3,691.46

**Income: \$370.00**

**Expenses: \$0.00**

**Ending Cash Balance: \$4,061.46**

