

VILLAGE WRITERS' CLUB MINUTES

March 27, 2017

Coronado Community Center, Room 5

Before opening today's meeting, President Marlene Kloack asked all attendees to move from Room 6 to Room 5 where tables were set up and available for use during the writing portion of our program. Then she called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed five visitors: Joanne Hanson, Sue Hood, Jerry Clay, Jean Mayor, and Joan Choyce.

Total attendance: 22

Writing prompt: Marlene offered the following prompt for members to write about and send to the website for publication: **When I get spring fever, I want to . . .**

Minutes for the February 27 meeting were approved as posted on the website. .

Financial Report as of March 31 will be posted on the website. Balance as of March 27: Operating Fund: \$1,685.86. Anthology/Workshop Fund: \$1,979.86

Community Fair will be **Wednesday, April 5**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Coronado Community Center. This is an opportunity to showcase the club and invite new members. Published authors in the club may display their books. Volunteers signed up today to man the Village Writers' Club's table in one-hour shifts.

L'Audible Art, the club's annual presentation of stories, memoirs, essays, and poetry to friends in the community, will be **Monday, May 15**, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., in Coronado Community Center auditorium. At next month's meeting, April 24, members will practice reading their pieces to others in the club. Each presenter is limited to five minutes. Bring an extra copy of your manuscript and a short bio introduction to next month's meeting. We hope to have 15 to 20 members participate this year. Jerry Davis announced that members of the Village Carousel Theatre group are available to read your piece if you prefer not to do it yourself

Two positions are open: Marlene announced we need a member to fill the position of Vice President/Program Chairman for 2017-2018. This person will complete the unexpired term of Suzanne Bratcher who will need to resign at the end of this club year due to health problems. The club also needs a member to fill the now-vacant position of Membership Chairman. Contact Marlene, if you are willing to fill either position.

2017 Arkansas Writers' Conference will be at the Crown Plaza Hotel, Little Rock, AR, on **Saturday, June 3**. Check the AWC website for details about the program speakers and writing contests: www.arkansaswritersconference.org Members may carpool. Contact Marlene, if you are interested.

HSV Arts Council: Marlene reported that Rita Bohn has been hired as the new POA Cultural Programs Manager. Also, the annual arts festival, Hot Springs Art in the Park, will be April 28-May 7 in Hot Springs. Look for details in Spring magazine.

Program

Marlene Kloack introduced today's speaker, Karen Jordan, author of "Words That Change Everything,"

writing coach, contract editor, and former adjunct writing instructor at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock (UALR). Karen's presentation was entitled "Breaking through Your Writers' Block," and she guided the group to discuss when and where they write, what pre-writing activities they do, what seems to cause their writer's block, and what strategies they use to overcome it. Then she offered tips to help writers persevere in their writing, including moments of free-writing without self-censorship to stretch their "writing muscles." At the end of her presentation, she encouraged the group to do free-writing for five minutes. Then volunteers shared their writing with the group.

Marlene adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Notes taken by Madelyn Young