Stumptown Lit? Get out of the house!

October 19 fundraising event offers workshops, writers, book fair

By Susan Blackaby

If you're like me, you frequently find yourself at the end of your writing day still in your bathrobe. Extended isolation is a gift and a curse: You may be racking up pages in a flurry of creative industry,

but you also may be tiptoeing through the outskirts of Loonytown. Are your characters your only companions? Time to find your people!

The cornerstone of OWC is to provide opportunities for our community of writers to gather, share, learn, commiserate, and celebrate. Stumptown Lit, coming up on October 19, is just such an occasion. Plan to participate in this full-day event at Cheatham Hall, World Forestry Center, Portland.

- 9-11 a.m.: Workshop with Mary Rosenblum, the "Literary Midwife." Mary will guide participants through "Publishing Today: The Brave New World of Readers and Writers." (Register on the OWC website. The early-bird rate is \$50 until September 15.)
- 10-11 a.m.: Children's storybook hour with local picture book authors Barbara Kerley Carolyn Conahan and yours truly, Susan Blackaby.
- Noon -5 p.m.: Book fair featuring OWC authors, publishers, literary organizations and booksellers that make bookmaking happen. (Free and open to nonmembers.) If you are an author and want your book displayed on the OWC Authors tables, see the OWC website for details. Registration deadline is Sept. 15.
- OWC authors will read from their works throughout the day. (Details to follow.)
- 6 -8 p.m.: Gala reception. OWC honors Jean Auel, Oregon writing treasure and OWC founding

member. Tickets are \$50. See oregonwriterscolony. org for more information.)

Stumptown Lit promises to be an enriching and enlightening experience. Plus it's an excellent reason to actually, you know, shower and get out of your

house. Plan to join OWC for a full day of camaraderie and merrymaking—a benefit that will help OWC continue to care for our unique community.



Register now: If you are an author and would like your book to be on display on the OWC Authors tables at the book fair and the gala reception, go to oregonwriterscolony.org and click on "Get Your Book on the OWC Authors Tables at Stumptown Lit." You can register online or print out a form to send with payment of \$15.

For advertising and sponsorship opportunities, contact Marlene Howard, marlenehow@comcast.net.

Don't miss out on the latest news!

All OWC members should be receiving a short email newsletter every Sunday that lets you know about special events, new programs and other items of interest to OWC members. If you are not receiving an email with "OWC eBlast!" in the subject line on Sunday evenings, please send an email to info@oregon-writerscolony.org to let us know.

If you think the newsletter might be getting caught in your spam filter, try adding info@oregonwriterscolony.org to your address book.

OWC membership – What's in it for you?

Holly Franko, Executive Director

et's face it: Many of us, myself included, joined OWC so we could use Colonyhouse. The OWC retreat house on the Oregon Coast in Rockaway Beach is an inspiring place to escape the hustle and hassle of everyday life to focus on writing. We can reserve the house for solo use, take a group of writing buddies with us, or sign up for a Writers Week and share the house with whoever else signs up. Each option is an affordable, exceptional benefit of membership. You don't have to be published to use Colonyhouse, but you do have to be a member of OWC.

What does OWC offer aside from Colonyhouse retreats? Over the past year, we've worked hard to create a vibrant community of writers in the Portland area. Our Literary Lounge events (free admission for members) typically draw forty or more participants. It's an event that anyone can attend. We're not snobby. We don't care if you have written a best seller or haven't yet started writing. Literary Lounge events include a Q & A panel of experts followed by small-group discussions to allow members and guests to chat with the experts.

In addition to the good feeling that comes from belonging to a community of writers, your membership offers tangible rewards. OWC offers members a platform for promoting book publications, awards, readings, and classes. We distribute calls for critique groups and publishing opportunities. We'll post your writing-related news on our member news blog: mem-

ber-news@oregonwriterscolony.org, on our Facebook page and in Colonygram—all for free. (As of this writing we have 433 likes on Facebook — if you haven't done so already, please take a minute and like our page to help us reach 500!)

The goal of the OWC membership drive, launched in August, is to increase OWC membership by 50 new members. Our new Board has committed to building our core community to serve writers across the state. We are, after all, Oregon Writers Colony. Every member, including those in Eugene, Corvallis, Salem, Newport, Albany and points farther afield, are important. Through your membership you are supporting not just Colonyhouse, but also OWC outreach programs. In July, for example, we opened Colonyhouse to three different groups of young writers. This would not have been possible without membership support.

This year we're hosting two special events: Stumptown Lit, our festival for readers and writers, Oct. 19 at the World Forestry Center (see page 1), and NaNoWriMo at Colonyhouse every weekend in November, excluding Thanksgiving (see page 3). These are in addition to our annual spring conference at the Sylvia Beach Hotel and the August Founders Day event at Colonyhouse.

We couldn't do this without member support. Please take the time to renew your membership or rejoin. Better yet, renew and encourage your writer friends to join too. Bring a friend to our next Literary Lounge. Or contribute as a lifetime member. Lifetime memberships never expire, and you'll be doing your share to support the next generation of Oregon writers. For a list of our lifetime members, see page 10.



As a special bonus, new, renewing and lifetime members will receive as a gift "Forty Inspiring Quotations from A - Z by Famous Authors," collected by Lori L. Lake on behalf of Oregon Writers Colony. I hope you enjoy it.

OWC gearing up for NaNoWriMo

NaNoWriMo is National Novel Writing Month, an annual nationwide writing marathon. During November participants work to complete the first draft of a novel. Piece of cake, right?

To help you reach this audacious goal, Colonyhouse will be available to members participating in NaNoWriMo each weekend in November (excluding the Thanksgiving holiday weekend). Private rooms will be offered at the Writers Weekend price of \$100, from Friday at 4 p.m. until Sunday at 2 p.m. Four Saturday-only spots also are available each weekend for \$15 each, for those who wish to join the creative party from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

An OWC volunteer will check in each day to ensure that the coffee is on and the words are flowing. It will be like your favorite coffeehouse, only better – it's at the beach!

Rooms are assigned on a first come, first served basis, so don't delay. Contact OWC Vice President Marlene Howard to register for overnight or dayonly visits (marlenehow@comcast.net). Include NANOWRIMO in the subject line of your email.

To kick off the month in Portland, OWC will host a NaNoWriMo open house at Rosemont Court, 597 N. Dekum St., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1. Drop in for an hour or the day. Even if you're not signed up for NaNoWriMo, join us and share the creative energy of your fellow writers. The cost is free for members and Rosemont Court residents, with a suggested \$5 donation for the public.

To wrap up the month, the Literary Lounge will take place at 7 p.m. Dec. 1, at TaborSpace in Southeast Portland. It will feature Manuscript Revision.

You are going to finish, right? Stay tuned for details. Literary Lounge events are free for members and their guests; suggested donation \$5 for the public.

For more info on NaNoWriMo, see nanowrimo.org

Plan your Autumn Retreat at Colonyhouse

Access to Colonyhouse at Rockaway Beach is a great benefit of OWC membership. Only current members are granted access. The 2014 Colonyhouse calendar is open for member reservations.

Writers Weeks and Writers Weekends are reserved for members on a first-come, first-served basis. Four writers are each provided with a private room and access to the shared kitchen, living room and bathrooms.

Writers Weeks cost \$125 per person. You can get a jump on your week by arriving as early as 4 p.m. Sunday. Check-out is 2 p.m. Friday.

Writers Weekends cost \$100 per person. You may arrive at 4 p.m. Friday; check-out is 2 p.m. Sunday.

RESERVATIONS

Submit requests to Marlene Howard by email: marlenehow@comcast.net, or to P.O. Box 15200, Portland, OR 97293-5200. Telephone reservations are not accepted. Marlene will provide a reservation form, which you return with a \$50 deposit.

PAYMENT

Full payment by check or money order to OWC is required 21 days prior to the reserved dates. The \$50 deposit is nonrefundable, but may be transferred if received 21 days before the reserved date. OWC does not accept PayPal payments for house use.

September – December 2014 Availability

Sept. 3-5

Sept. 15-19 Writers Week

Sept. 20-21

Sept. 27-28

Oct. 18-19

Oct. 20-24 Writers Week

Nov. NaNoWriMo

(National Novel Writing Month)

Dec.1-5

Dec. 6-7

Dec. 8-12 Writers Week

Dec. 13-14

Dec. 15-19

Literary Lounge whets appetites







Heather Arndt Anderson



Angela M. Sanders



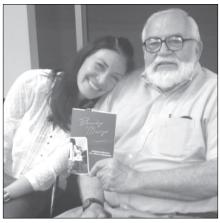
Judy Bennett

The July Literary Lounge focused on food writing. Many thanks to our four panelists **Heather Arndt Anderson**, **Judy Bennett**, **Grant Butler**, and **Angela M**. **Sanders**, for an enlightening discussion about food writing at our food-filled Literary Lounge.

A special shout-out goes to **Montego Bay** catering, for the delicious Jamaican treats they donated. The bread pudding with rum sauce will not soon be forgotten.



Martha Ragland



Judy Bennett & Bob Zimmer



Photos by Linda Leslie and Lesley Unthank

The June Key
Delta Community
House created
a lovely
atmosphere for
Literary Lounge:
'Food on the Page.'

OWC members and guests enjoyed plenty of good food, conversation and information.

Founders Day celebrants gather at Colonyhouse



Outgoing President Marlene Howard passes the gavel to Becky Kjelstrom.

Members and guests celebrated Oregon Writers Colony's Founders Day on Aug. 10 at Colonyhouse. Several dozen people joined the Board of Directors for a celebration of OWC that included lunch and afternoon workshops led by Bill Cameron, Lori L. Lake and Sue Parman.

Special thanks goes to Valerie Brooks, Carol Cole, Jill Elliott, Carol Stout, Lori Lake, Luca Hart, Bill and Jill Cameron, Sue Parman, Becky Kjelstrom, D'Norgia Taylor-Price, Lois Jean Bousquet, Rae and Woody Richen, Marlene and Spud Howard, and Bob Zimmer for their contributions of food and effort.

Cindy Brown added some mayhem to the day with her photoshoot. She was documenting "All the Best Places to Hide the Body" at Colonyhouse – just in fun as promotion for "MacDeath," her mystery to be released in January from Henery Press.

Lois Jean Bousquet is not quite hidden in the garden.



Kathleen Glanville tries out the bathtub for size for a dead body.



Jill Cameron discovers Bill's lifeless legs under porch.

OWC fosters young creative writers



Children's author Julie Blair, left, joins members of the Happy Valley Writers Club: Priscilla Mounemack, Vanisa Khamkhosy, Carissa Russell and Natalia Justice, in front of an ancient coast Spruce.

Photo by Woody Richen



Club members, from left: Stephanie Harris, Long Phan, Emma Bancroy, Amanda Sinha (orange shirt), Vanisa Khamkhosy and Natalia Justice.



Zakiya Kilgore, left, and Jared Skilowitz (with his lucky pencil). Photo by Rae Richen

Happy Valley Writers Club

By Rae Richen

The Happy Valley Writing Club from North Clackamas is middle school writers who meet weekly during the school year. I've had the pleasure of teaching this group with mystery writer Bill Cameron since 2011.

The Writing Club meets weekly for sessions that focus on developing dynamic characters, creating a story arc, testing points of view and using setting to impart tone. We play with style – writing outside a favorite style, which for this age group is a variation on sci-fi/fantasy. We hear short stories written by established YA writers. We also practice the art of critique. What works? What leaves the reader wanting more?

Each spring, the club is invited to read at the Rain or Shine Coffee House. To prepare, the students work on public reading skills. We learn to look at the audience. We practice reading slowly and clearly. We build confidence. We also have some good laughs and realize our distracting habits. This year, we had a diction lesson on pronounc-

ing consonants. At our reading we joked about attending middle school, not Mill School.

The club concludes its annual efforts with a weekend summer excursion to Colonyhouse. OWC also sponsors the publication of their stories in an anthology Bill and I edit and design.

These writers are enthusiastic, creative and so full of ideas that they sometimes struggle to finish. New ideas for other stories push their way into each student's mind. What a great problem. Perseverance, writing without self-editing, rewriting – these are challenging for adults. Having a multitude of ideas is like having a team of wonderful horses, wildly pulling your writing cart in different directions. The driver – the writer – must learn to control the energy.

These students will get there, I know. Some from past years still send us stories. When I'm in my rocker on the porch of the old folks' home, I look forward to reading stories by grown-up Happy Valley kids.

Events

Free poetry reading on Sept. 10

Our next Literary Lounge: Verse of Ages, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 10, at TaborSpace, 5441 S.E. Belmont. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The popular twice-a-year multigenerational poetry reading features poets in each decade of life: children, teens, 20-somethings, all the way to 80-somethings. The Commons at TaborSpace provides a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere to hear and meet local poets. And there's a coffee bar too!

Admission is free for members; \$5 suggested donation for nonmembers.

September's lineup:

Kid stuff: Samantha DePinto Teens: Zariah Lowe 20s: Sarah Alibabaie 30s: Judith Pulman 40s: T.L. Cooper 50s: Vargus Pike 60s: Kelley Reynolds Jacquez 70s: Annette White Parks 80s: Marlene Hill

If you would like to read at the next Verse of Ages in April, contact Becky Kjelstrom at beckykjelstrom@oregonwriterscolony. org.

Elizabeth Lyon to speak at December Literary Lounge: Manuscript Revision

Mark your calendars and prepare your questions for this spe-

cial opportunity to learn from Elizabeth Lyon, an expert on revising and editing manuscripts.



As the follow-up to November's National Novel Writing Month, Elizabeth will be our guest at Literary Lounge: Manuscript Revision at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, at TaborSpace, 5441 S.E. Belmont.

She is the author of six books on writing and editing, and is perhaps best known for her *Manuscript Makeover: Revision Techniques No Fiction Writer Should Ignore.* She recently launched a series of booklets on writing, the first of which is *Writing Subtext.* http://www.elizabethlyon.com/

Admission to Literary Lounge is free for OWC members, \$5 suggested donation for nonmembers. Doors open at 6:30.

Rain or Shine series kicks off Oct. 2

We're back! OWC and Rain or Shine Coffee House are teaming up again to bring you a thought-provoking, entertaining reading series on Thursday nights. This season we'll be meeting the first and third Thursdays of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Rain or Shine Coffee House, 5941 S.E. Division Street. www.rainorshinepdx.com

We'll feature literary readings open to all in a friendly set¬ting. If you're interested in reading your poetry, fic¬tion or nonfiction, published or in progress, contact Charlotte Dixon at char-dixon@comcast. net. We also need volunteers to emcee, so if you'd like to polish up your public speaking skills, let Charlotte know. Rain or Shine will stay open late just for us, so support them and your fellow writers by coming out as often as you can!

June WITH highlights small press publishing

On June 6-8, the Spring Writer in the House program at Colonyhouse highlighted small-press publishing. Laura Stanfill, publisher of Portland-based Forest Avenue Press, provided participants with a highly informative session on small-press publishing. She shared her experience with the challenges associated with the publication and distribution of print-on-demand and e-books, while also speaking to the advantages for authors of working with small presses such as Forest Avenue Press. Laura also offered participants critiques of query letters and writing samples. Thanks to Fresh, 9120 5th St. in Bay City, and to Sweet Perfection, 1911 2nd St. in Tillamook for their contributions. Fresh provided excellent soup, beautiful salad, and homemade bread, and Sweet Perfection supplied outrageous brownies and divine lemon bars! We appreciate the generosity of these local business. Please help us support them!

New Releases

Rending the Garment

Willa Schneberg's new poetry collection, "Rending the Garment," was released from Mudfish/Box Turtle Press, NYC. "Rending the Garment" is a narrative tapestry encompassing persona poems, prose poems, flash fiction, imagined meetings with historical figures, ancestral



appearances and ephemera. This series of linked poems explores the life and times of one Jewish family. Philip Schultz, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet describes "Rending the Garment" as "a fresh, original and moving addition to our literature." See Willa's website: www.threewayconversation.org.

Sparked by Love

Peggy Bird's "Sparked By Love" was released by Crimson Romance on June 16. It's the first book in Peggy's Holiday for Romance series. Glass blower Leo Wilson meets Shannon Morgan when his glass fireworks installation is accepted for the Fourth of July celebration in Vancouver, Washington. She approves the permits. Sparks fly — the wrong kind at first — then the right kind



burst into flame. But when Shannon's father and ex-boy-friend complicate her life, Leo is left wondering if the sparks are enough to hold her.

Water

Emily Pittman Newberry announces the creation of the artists' book, "Water," in collaboration with Portland artist Shu-Ju Wang. This handmade, limited-edition book contains two poems by Emily under the title "Water Suite," along with Shu-Ju's evocative art. The main poem is a meditation on water as it transitions through rain and snow, and the way that the rest of nature interacts with these ever-changing forms.

An artist talk and performance will be at the John Wilson Special Collections, Multnomah County Library at 6 p.m. Sept. 10, and at Stonehenge Studios, 3508 SW Corbett Ave., at 7 p.m. Dec. 11.

A Question of Mortality

Susan Clayton-Goldner announces the publication of her latest book, "A Question of Mortality," a collection of

poems released by Wellstone Press. Paulann Petersen, Oregon Poet Laureate, notes: "'A Question of Mortality' takes us, step by step, through the difficult terrain of family history — its griefs, its losses, its regrets — offering up image-rich lines that 'go by foot/into celebration or sadness...' This collection is the child of memory, its poems rising from that place where recollection does its epiphanic work. In the quotidian, Susan Clayton-Goldner's voice seeks and finds the mystery that restores both the poet and the reader."

The Lanvin Murders

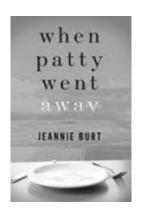
Angela M. Sanders' first mystery novel, "The Lanvin Murders," became available in June. The novel is a mash-up of Portlandia and Agatha Christie, with a few dozen vintage dresses tossed into the mix. Joanna Hayworth, Portland vintage clothing store owner, wants to turn her back on the modern world and retreat into



a curated life of satin cocktail gowns, icy martinis and old movies. When Joanna finds a key in the 1930s Lanvin coat of an ex-showgirl, everything changes. The elderly woman turns up dead, and Joanna is pulled into a long-ago drama of back room deals, blackmail and lost love. She must find a real – and present-day – killer before she becomes his next victim. See www.angelamsanders.com.

When Patty Went Away

Jeannie Burt's new novel, "When Patty Went Away," is published by Muskrat Press. This family drama is set in the mid-1970s, in a remote Northwest farming community. When troubled 15-year-old Patty Pugh disappears, Jack McIntyre, a quiet farmer, and his beloved daughter, seem to be the only ones who care. No one looks for the girl. Jack's search will require him to



rise against his wife and the customs of his community. His quest lands him in the underbelly of Montreal, where he encounters a world he could never imagine. Midwest Book Review called the novel a "...minor literary masterpiece."

Other News

Anne Hendren reads from Project Runaway

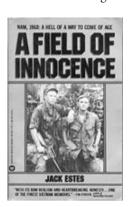
Anne Hendren will read from "Project Runway" at 7 Continued on page 9

Member News.

p.m. Sept. 8 at Another Read Through bookstore, 3932 N. Mississippi Ave., in Portland. "Project Runway" combines New York Garment District intrigue with Western U.S. quilting skills.

Jack Estes publishes essay in The Oregonian

Jack Estes wrote a guest column for The Oregonian about the meaning of Memorial Day. His parents served in



World War II and are buried in Willamette National Cemetery. Estes served in Southeast Asia and recalls how little he thought of Memorial Day as an 18-year-old Marine. The passing years have made Memorial Day more important as "Those boys, who perished, are back with me again." Estes also authored the Vietnam memoir, "A Field of Innocence." Contact Jack at: Jackestes@comcast.net.

Daniel H. Wilson featured on The Authors Road

Science-fiction writer Daniel H. Wilson describes how someone with a PhD in robotics became a best-selling author in a video interview that's sure to inspire writers of all genres. Wilson, the author of "Robopocalypse," "Robogenesis" and "How to Survive a Robot Uprising," says writing about what you love is essential. Wilson's latest project is an interactive story experience for an iPhone. See http://authorsroad.com/DanielHWilson.html

Greg Nokes published in Oregon Encyclopedia

Greg Nokes, author of two books about Oregon history, has written two articles on Oregon's experience with slavery and exclusion laws for Oregon Encyclopedia. Greg says the Oregon Historical Society's website is an excellent online resource for Oregon history. See www.ohs.org/



Critique group seeks additional member

Small critique group seeks a member committed to moving steadily forward with their novel. We meet every week, during the daytime at my home in Milwaukie. We concentrate on prose fiction. Within that genre, we're an eclectic bunch. We have romance, mystery and science fiction, so far. Contact Marlene Hill at 503-353-6666 or marlenetaevs@comcast.net.

David Oates teaching course at Sitka

David Oates will be teaching "Honing the Very Short Personal Essay" at the Sitka Center for Art and



Ecology on Sept. 7 and 8 in Otis, Oregon. David will help you craft two short, polished essays in the two-day workshop. Writers will draw inspiration from their own lives in addition to learning from examples read together and observations made during walks

about the Sitka Center. Cost is \$235. See https://www.sitkacenter.com/classes/detail.lasso?recid=2095

Poet Nancy Flynn to read in Seattle

Portland poet Nancy Flynn will be among the poets and writers reading from their work at Jack Straw Cultural Center in Seattle on Sept. 12 to celebrate the Raven Chronicle's latest journal, "Sound Tracks." The celebration will be from 7 to 9 p.m. at 4261 Roosevelt Way NE. The event is free and open to the public. Copies of the \$9 magazine will be on sale. See http://nancy-flynn.com/readings.html

Peggy Bird wins National Readers Choice Award

Peggy Bird reports that her book "Together Again"

received a National Readers Choice Award for 2013 at the annual Romance Writers of America meeting. "Together Again" tells the story of Margo, a deputy DA, and Tony, a Philadelphia police detective who grew up next door to each other and reconnect at a



class reunion. http://www.peggybirdwrites.net

Please welcome the incoming OWC Board of Directors

Becky Kjelstrom, President Marlene Howard, Vice President for Colonyhouse D'Norgia Taylor-Price, Treasurer Susan Blackaby, Secretary

Brad Bortnem Bill Cameron
Sarah Gilbert Lori L. Lake
Linda Leslie Judy O'Neill
Susan Parman Rae Richen

Bob Zimmer

Irene Emmert

Donor Thanks!

A big round of applause goes out to our Lifetime Members

Consider adding your name to the list.

Marlene Howard Jean M. Auel Iean Bennett Karen Keltz Brad Bortnem and **Judith Massee** Laurel Hermanson Gina Ochsner Sharon Parker Jean Bradley Susan Parman Larry Brooks Wo Schiffman Jessica Chesbro Rizwan Virk Megan Clark Andrine de la Rocha Diane Wagner

Send us

your news

so we can share your

succeses!

- Have you published?
- Got a book coming out soon?
- Is your poetry on the bookshelves?
- Or on the web?
- Are you reading or performing your writing or the public?
- Have you been awarded a prize or placed in a contest?

Send your news to:

member-news@ oregonwriterscolony.org

- Include your name, address, and phone number.
- Include the title of your work, the publisher and a short description of the story, poem, article or essay
- If you can, send us a digital cover photo in color or black/ white, from 170 to 300 dpi.

Sharon Wood-Wortman



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to: Oregon Writers Colony Membership P.O. Box 15200 Portland, OR 97293-5200

membership@oregonwriterscolony.org

Member Name(s): Date:		
Add	ress:	
City	/State/Zip:	
Phone: Email:		
I wi	sh to join Oregon Writers Colony at the following membership level:	
0	REGULAR membership: \$40 per year You will receive four issues of the Colonygram, email updates, and member rates at workshops and conferences. Subject to availability you will also have use of the Colonyhouse at Rockaway Beach, the OWC writer's retreat, at rates below market value.	\$
0	COUPLES (two people at the same residence): \$70 per year You will receive one copy of the four issues of the Colonygram, email updates to one email address, member rates at workshops and conferences, and access to the Colonyhouse.	\$
0	STUDENT (must be a full-time student): \$25 per year	\$
0	RENEW my membership: (at any of the above rates)	\$
0	LIFETIME membership: \$500 (no membership reminders)	\$
0	GIFT membership: (at any of the above rates) Please fill out contact information for gift recipient(s).	\$
0	ADDITIONAL DONATION:	\$
	Total Enclosed:	\$
Area	as of writing interest:	
Pub	lished works:	



A Community of Writers PO Box 15200, Portland, OR 97293-5200

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Bob Zimmer

Oregon Writers Colony

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Colonyhouse: Marlene Howard marlenehow@comcast.net

Executive Director: Holly Franko hollyfranko@oregonwriterscolony.org

Oregon Writers Colony is a nonprofit organization representing and nurturing professional and novice writers. OWC is a place for people working together to provide opportunities whereby writers are supported and encouraged in a community of their peers.