

Book of the Quarter



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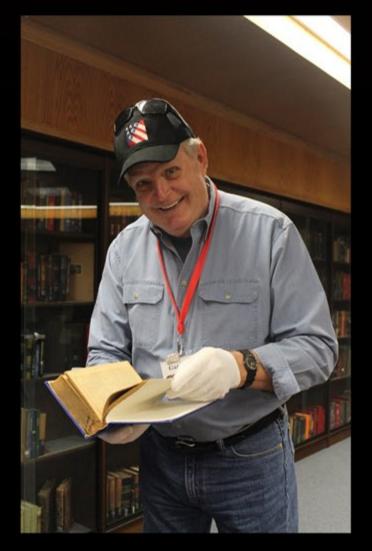


Where a bullet hits the door during a murder at the Courthouse in Pulaski County

DISPATCHES

Rescuing History One Story at a Time www.militarywriters.com

FALL 2016



MWSA member and author Gary Best in the Bruce C. Clarke Library at Fort Leonard Wood

MILITARY WRITERS SOCIETY OF AMERICA

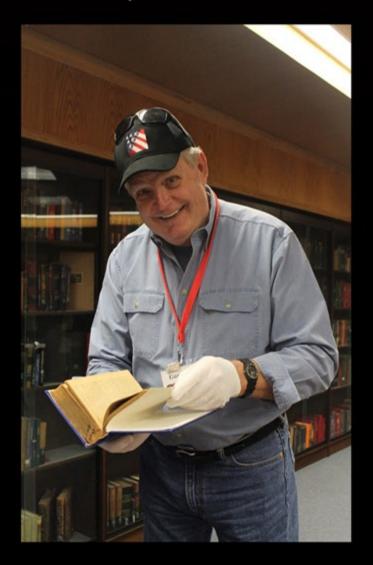
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Letter from the editor -Pat McGrath Avery

What a year we've had. In the spring we experienced the meaningful and informative retreat at Gettysburg, and this fall in Pulaski County, we covered a couple hundred years of history. Now, we begin to look forward to the 2017 conference in San Antonio next September.

Our hosts at the Pulaski County Tourism Bureau spared nothing in showing off their beautiful area and the people who make it special. Karen Hood and Laura Huffman were with us every step of our journey. A special thanks to director Beth Wiles for making it all possible.

At Fort Leonard Wood, Troy Morgan led a tour through the museums and then we visited the rare books section of the Bruce C Clarke Library. Thanks to Claretta Crawford and Kenneth Howard for letting some of us hold history in our hands.

Kathi Crawford, featured in Joyce's article, *Storytelling with Quilts*, created an awareness of what ordinary citizens, the Gone to Pieces quilters, are doing to support our veterans. Denise and Michael Seevers shared the challenges of keeping a 1903 courthouse building functional and showcasing the county's history.

Terry Primas presented the history of Route 66 and Mayor Luge Hardman led us through the Trail of Tears Memorial. Laura Huffman introduced us to Scott Van Gorden, a writer who is buried at the county poor farm. Dawnmarie Cecora took us on a ghostly adventure in the Talbot House

Bob Hathaway, a local writer, founder of the Roubidoux Writers Group, and a scuba diving instructor, introduced Chris Hill from the Ozark Cave Diving Alliance. JB King, a former sheriff, working deputy and writer, did double duty with presentations on crime and the Civil War. In both, he offered plenty to pique the interest of any storyteller.

We had a small group but the event was a huge success with attendees. If you ever need story ideas, look no further than Pulaski County. You'll never find folks more willing to share.

Elsewhere in *Dispatches*, check out Tim and Lisa Trudell's coverage of the Civil War Re-enactment at Pulaski County this summer. The Trudells are travel bloggers at www.thewalkingtourists.com and we welcome their contribution.

Micki Voelkel attended the History Crawl and wrote an article about the lack of women in history. She's on the

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Contents

President's Message - Dwight Zimmerman 3
Fort Scott - Pat McGrath Avery 4
Author Bios - Dwight Zimmerman 6
Women: Missing in Action - Micki Voelkel 8
Civil War Reenactment 10
Our Forgotten Veterans - Bob Flournoy 14
Leo and the Lab - Joe Campolo, Jr. 16
Pulaski County Photos - Avery/Faulkner 17
Storytelling with Quilts - Joyce Faulkner 22
So Much Happened - Jenny LaSala 26
Scrivener for IOS - Joyce Faulkner 28
Book of the Quarter - 30
Summer Reading List - Bob Doerr 31

faculty at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith and also happens to be Joyce Faulkner's sister. Joe Campolo shares one of his hilarious fishing stories, so take time for a good laugh. Jenny La Sala gives us another veteran biography and Bob Flourney shares his mother's story as the wife of a career military pilot.

Both Joyce Faulkner and Dwight Zimmerman give us more tips with her article on Scrivener for IOS and his on author bios. As always, check out Bob Doerr's reading list. I visited the Fort Scott National Historic Site in Fort Scott, Kansas. This beautiful old fort contains years of our westward expansion history.

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President's Message

Dwight Zimmerman

Welcome! The highlight of this issue is a report about the recent Pulaski County History Crawl. As you'll discover, the participants all had a great time learning about the rich history of the area. Thanks once again go to the programming committee, chair Joyce Faulkner and members Bob Doerr, Beth Underwood, Joe Campolo, Don Helin, Kathy Rodgers, Jack London, Gay Williams, Gayleen Reusser, Pat Avery, and Dale Throneberry for all their hard work—well done!

With this message, I'd like to update you with a summary of the decisions made at MWSA's board of directors meeting held on September 28, 2016. It was a telephone conference based in St. Robert, Missouri, a site in the Pulaski County History Crawl. Treasurer Pat Avery, Secretary Joe Epley, and board member Sandra Linhart were in Missouri. Participating by phone were me, Vice President Bob Doerr, and board members Valerie Ormond, Farrell Chiles, and Kathleen Rodgers.

A major topic of discussion was the status of the website. I'm asking for four members to step forward to work with the webmaster to maintain it. Volunteers can contact me via email at djonzim@gmail.com.

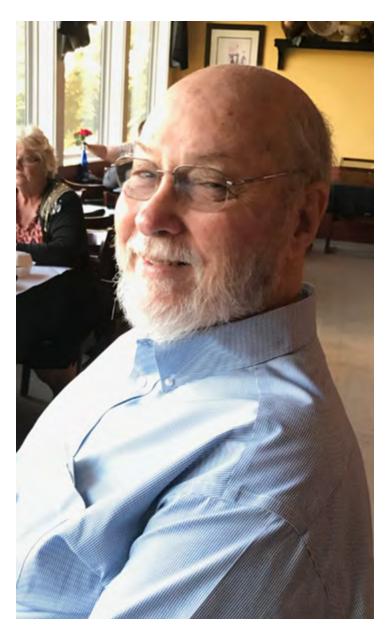
Day-to-day management of the organization was another major topic of discussion, with a resolution approved to hire a part-time administrator. Treasurer Avery was asked to develop a job description and when it is complete she will present it to the board. Board members Linhart and Ormond volunteered to assist in the search.

Next year's conference, which will include the annual membership meeting, will be held in San Antonio, Texas. Vice President Doerr, assisted by Jack London, Don Helin, and Joe Campolo, reported that good progress has been made regarding arrangements and planning for the event scheduled for September 7-10, 2017.

The status of the program committee was discussed. Current co-chairs, Joyce Faulkner and Pat Avery, will be stepping down at the end of the year. Vice President Bob Doerr will take over that committee immediately.

Board Member Joe Epley's elevation to Secretary has left a vacancy in the board. A number of candidates were discussed and I will be following up on the board's recommendation.

Our non-profit status may require us to amend our bylaws. MWSA member Donald Farinacci, a lawyer familiar with such matters, has agreed to review our bylaws and make appropriate recommendations.



Joe Epley, Secretary of MWSA



Fort Scott (Kansas) National Historic Site

Fort Scott, Kansas never saw a major battle but it played a vital role in pioneer, pre-Civil War and Civil War military history.

We visited the Fort Scott National Historic Site on a hot, muggy August afternoon, when the humidity in the air muted the green grass and heavily leafed trees. It takes at least an hour, probably more, to walk the grounds and go through the buildings. The bad news—it was a scorcher of a day and the sweat poured. The great news—the buildings are open to visitors and portray frontier military life.

First established as a fort in 1842, soldiers came to keep peace between settlers and Indians. When pushing westward, the government guaranteed land to each Indian tribe. When settlers came in large numbers, the dragoons stationed at the fort were challenged with keeping the peace. After the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848, the promise of a permanent Indian frontier died when westward expansion exploded and 'Manifest Destiny' ruled the minds of most Americans.



In 1855, the government closed the fort and sold the buildings to local settlers. Most of the townspeople were pro-slavery but abolitionists and free-staters were settling the countryside. Fort Scott, caught in the middle of a growing problem, even had two hotels: the Free-State Hotel and the Western (pro-slavery) Hotel. Imagine the discord at the two hotels—separated only

by the former parade grounds—as hostilities broke out.

By 1858, radicals from both sides made the hotels their headquarters. John Brown and James Montgomery (later a Union officer) tried to burn the Western Hotel, supposedly because a vicious raid—the Marais des Cygnes Massacre where pro-slavery forces executed 11 free-staters—had been planned at the hotel.

The border between Kansas and Missouri became a hotbed of conflict and retribution. Soon after the war started in 1861, the US Army returned to Fort Scott, setting up a supply depot for Union forces west of the Mississippi. It also served as a hospital for wounded soldiers and a safe haven for escaped slaves and Indians.

Although Confederate General Sterling Price intended to attack Fort Scott, it never happened. Had he achieved that goal, he would have replenished his badly dwindling supplies and the fate of his raid may have ended differently.

However, Union forces soundly defeated Price at the Battle of Westport (present day Kansas City, MO) in 1864, and he retreated back to Arkansas.

In 1978, the National Park Service named Fort Scott as a national historic site. Today the site includes 20 buildings, 11 restored originals and 9 reconstructions. The park is open to the public everyday except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's.









Author Bios

Dwight Jon Zimmerman

Depending on your point of view, author bios are either a necessary evil, an important marketing tool, or something in between. What you need to keep uppermost in your mind is that it's a way for the reader to vicariously connect with you. Depending on its length, it can range from a bare-bones short list of facts to a couple of paragraphs that hit a variety of career and life highlights. And it doesn't make any difference whether you've written one book or a dozen, that it's your first book or article, or whatever. An author's bio is your moment to shine, and if properly written, can serve as a go-to source that's quite versatile.

Okay, the first bio you need to write is something I call a master bio. This is one that lists all the facts about you and your work(s). Let's start with it being your first book or article (for convenience hereafter I'll use the term "work").

The basic structure of a master bio is as follows:

- ✓ First paragraph: A down-and-dirty summary of your career and/or life.
- ✓ Second paragraph: A short paragraph about your most recent work.
- ✓ Body of the bio: Here you do a series of paragraphs, in reverse chronological order, of other works. This is followed by significant moments in your professional life. This would include years of military service and in which branch, your MOS, whether or not you served in combat, decorations, etc. It would be followed by a summary of your post-military career.
- ✓ The final paragraph contains personal information: married, children, grandchildren, present residence.

And, when you compile this, add as much information as you can. The reason I say this is because the master bio is not something you give to the outside world (though certainly you can if you want), rather, it's that "Swiss Army knife" tool you'll use and update for the bios that actually are used by publishers.

To illustrate my above points, I'll pull a couple of paragraphs from my master bio and add commentary.

First paragraph:

DWIGHT JON ZIMMERMAN is a #1 New York Times bestselling and award-winning author, radio host, television and movie producer, and president of the Military Writers Society of America.

First, look at the structure. Always put your name in all-caps and boldface. The publisher may do things differently, but the whole idea is for the reader to see your name first. Then what follows in descending order are the most significant career accomplishments, ending with a significant personal achievement.

The purpose of that first paragraph is to put yourself in the best possible light and grab someone's attention in the shortest amount of space and with the fewest words. This first paragraph becomes your "boilerplate" bio.

After thirty years of knocking around the industry, I've had some notable experiences, so it is (relatively) easy for me to keep a focus on highlighting writing work I've done. In many of your cases, the most important part of your life was your military service—particularly if the bio you're writing is for your first work. And, even if like me, you didn't serve, there are still aspects of your life that can be useful. I'm going to prepare a couple template first paragraph ideas for springboards:

JANE SMITH enlisted in the U.S. Army out of high school. One of the first women solders to be assigned a combat role, she served two tours in Afghanistan and saw action in Helmand Province. She was discharged after ten years of service with the rank of sergeant first class, having been awarded the Bronze Star with "V" device, Purple Heart, amongst other decorations. Following her discharge, she became active in veterans' health issues. And I Was There, a novel based on her experiences in Afghanistan, is her first book.

JACK JONES is the youngest of five siblings and the only one not to have served in the military. A lifelong resident of Anytown, Pennsylvania, after graduating from Anytown State University with a degree in agriculture, he returned to the family farm where he has worked ever since. His first book, Wonderings and Wanderings, is based on stories told by his siblings during their visits home on leave, and of life-lessons he learned operating the family farm.

Now, the first thing you've no doubt noticed is that these two examples are a little longer than mine. That's because the emphasis had to shift from that of industry career highlights, to the personal. And for the personal to have context, some additional explanation was necessary. Both are brief, but they succeed in telling a lot. The real value is that there's a personal touch in them that engages the reader (as opposed to mine, which is simply a list). And, it sets the stage for elaboration later in your master bio.

Second paragraph:

This contains a brief summary (two sentences, three at the most) about your most recent work. If you were able to get some publicity quotes for the book by notable individuals, this is a good place to include them. Have no more than three. The book will contain all. Here you could lead with the statement: "[Work title] has received enthusiastic response. Those who have praised it include [the individuals and their quotes].

Here's my second paragraph. To quote Dragnet's Sgt. Joe Friday: "Just the facts":

Zimmerman's latest book is the graphic biography Steve McQueen Full Throttle Cool, drawn by Greg Scott, about the iconic actor and racing legend.

Body of the master bio:

This contains short paragraphs on other published works, or information about a work-in-progress project. As you near the end you list life/career highlights: higher education, details about military service (where stationed, what you did, etc.), memberships,

advocacies, hobbies, etc. Did you do any lecturing? Win any awards? Participate in any significant events? They can relate to your work, but they don't have to. This section basically contains a summary of your life that comes in useful as I'll explain in a bit. Again, this should be in reverse chronology, with the most recent facts in the beginning and the oldest facts at the end.

Closing paragraph:

This is where you get personal. Here's my ending: "A native of Devils Lake, North Dakota, Zimmerman presently lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife, Joëlle. They have two adult children and two cats."

Once you have you master bio written, you'll be amazed at how useful it can be, especially if you don't have much time to write one. Having all the information in one place means that you can easily tailor bios for whatever purpose ranging from "local author does charity book signing" to "local author wins award" and more!

If you'd like me to help you write your master bio, email me at: djonzim@gmail.com, and I'll be happy to help



Women: Missing in Action

Micki Voekel

"We were the people who were not in the papers. We lived in the blank white spaces at the edges of print. It gave us more freedom. We lived in the gaps between the stories."

— Margaret Atwood, The Handmaid's Tale

- ✓ A haunted house with a mysterious suicide in its past.
- ✓ Murder in a historic courthouse.
- ✓ True crime insights from a career lawman.
- ✓ Rowdy river men navigating the Big Piney River in the mid 1800s.
- ✓ Mafia notables vacationing in the Ozarks.

The October MWSA History Crawl in Pulaski County, Missouri featured dozens of fascinating stories like these. While I was intrigued with the many colorful characters we encountered during the three-day gathering, I noticed that engaging female characters were largely absent.

As an academic researcher with an interest in informal adult learning and gender, I attended the history crawl looking specifically for women's stories. Here are the women we heard about: several female inmates of the Pulaski County Poor Farm, unnamed wives and mothers of prominent local men, a prostitute featured in tales of the tie rafters along the Big Piney River, crime and murder victims, and Civil War confederate spies Emily Weaver and Mary Jane Pittman—victims of circumstance, victims of crime, or outlaws.

Why are the stories of women so seldom captured? In the past, historians and writers of fiction have primarily been men. I don't blame bias; it seems natural that men would be interested in the big stories of wars, crime, and business. A complicating factor is the difficulty of finding documentation of women's lives in the public record. Women's names change. A "respectable" woman's name appeared in the newspaper upon her marriage and upon her death. Unless they have access to diaries, paintings, crafts, or letters, historians have little information available to investigate the lives of women. As historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich wrote, "Well behaved women seldom make history."

Why don't we as writers focus on the stories of women? History tells the story of the power structure of a community. According to adult learning theorist Edward Taylor, museums and other cultural institutions are places of cognitive change, places with a unique context and specific stories, and places where the community contests or struggles with the story to tell. Cultural institutions provide a master narrative of individual and collective identity demonstrating the norms of a particular community. Translation: the cultural institutions of a place reflect the norm; in a Midwestern American community it is normal for the male point of view to be dominant.

Thankfully, I did find some interesting female stories to focus on in the present day:

- Historians Laura Huffman and Dawnmarie Cecora uncovered a lost part of history when they discovered the location of the Pulaski County Poor Farm by literally tripping over a tombstone. Through their efforts and those of the local Historical Society the Poor Farm cemetery has been restored and the graves of inmates located and marked.
- Kathi Crawford used quilting as a form of therapy to help her to recover from a disabling brain injury. A retired Seabee, she now tells the stories of military families through quilts that reflect their experiences; she even uses their uniforms as raw materials. She also works with her group the Gone to Pieces Quilting Guild to provide quilts for veterans in local retirement homes and to the families of departed soldiers.

The history crawl was organized and hosted by a group of strong and engaging women led by Karen Hood of the Pulaski County Tourism Bureau. I suspect that the historical women of Pulaski County were no less engaging and interesting than Karen, Laura, Dawnmarie, and Kathi. We just don't know much about them. So to my fellow writers, I issue a challenge. Sift through the story seeds that were sown at the History Crawl and find a way to tell the stories of the women involved. Here are a few ideas:

- Interested in the Civil War? Tell your story through the point-of-view of the wives, daughters, and widows. Research the stories of those intriguing Confederate spies Emily Weaver and Mary Jane Pittman. What does the Civil War look like through their eyes?
- Interested in true crime? Tell the story of Fort Leonard Wood MP and murderer Johnny Lee Thornton through the eyes of surviving victim Juanita Broderick. Imagine her story and write about it.
- Interested in historic buildings? Tell the story through one of the tangential females associated with the history—the wife of the Old Stagecoach Stop proprietor, the victim of the courthouse shooting, or the wife of Dr. Talbot who practiced medicine in the haunted Talbot House.
- Interested in Fort Leonard Wood? Tell the story of the female soldiers or of the families of the male troops.
- Already have a story in development? Adapt one chapter to show the point of view of supporting female characters. Tell a portion of your story through the eyes of the loyal wife, the cheating girlfriend, the grieving daughter, or the murder victim.
- After years of academic writing, I'm inspired to try my hand at fiction for the first time in decades. If as Margaret Atwood suggests women's lives are lived "in the gaps between the stories," I want to search those gaps and reveal those hidden lives. I encourage you to join me.







Civil War Reenactment in Waynesville, Missouri

The Civil War lived again in Waynesville, if only for a brief moment. The battle between the North and the South was staged as part of the community's annual Old Settlers Day celebration. About 100 reenactors from around the region participated in the two-day event.

Pulaski County, with Waynesville as the county seat, didn't experience any major battles during the four-year war. Rather, skirmishes between the Union Army and Confederate soldiers and sympathizers were the story of the time.

The Union Army operated a fort atop a hill overlooking the area. Today, a sign commemorates Fort Waynesville. The Old Stagecoach Stop was turned into a military hospital during the war.

Reenactors took over Waynesville's park, setting up several camps, including Union and Confederate detachments, muzzle loaders and civilians. Each camp was set up in realistic fashion. The reenactors strive for accuracy in all aspects of their life, including clothing, sleeping gear, as well as the food they prepare. They can invest thousands of dollars in supporting their roles.

"...A living historian will spend months doing the research to put together their impression," said Matt Cordoves, a reenactor who helped the community organize the event. "They study photographs and look closely at all the details. Many of us make our own clothing using period patterns, materials, and threads. There are many period vendors who offer museum grade uniforms that are exact replicas of uniforms worn by soldiers during the war. The more authentic the uniform, the more realistic the presentation when educating the public."

As we strolled through the camps, we came upon a site not seen outside the real battlefields of the Civil War – President Lincoln meeting with Union General Ulysses S. Grant. Surrounded by Union Army soldiers, the two exchanged pleasantries and discussed the game plan for the day's events. Lance Mack of Marion, Iowa, portrayed President Lincoln and Wayne Issleb, a Wisconsin resident, has played General Grant for eight years.

During the meeting, an older man approached the duo. He asked, in a strong southern drawl, if Lincoln was indeed the President. Once assured he was, the man introduced himself to President Lincoln.

"The name's Booth," he joked.

"Are you related to the actor," the president asked.

"Yessir. You like the theater?"

"Well, I have not been for some time, as I have been fighting a war."

"Well," the southerner replied, "You may not want to go."

The two shook hands and parted ways. Mack stayed in character as President Lincoln, cordial and presidential. The southern reenactor, who hails from Kearney, Missouri, said he likes to tease Lincoln reenactors when he has the chance.

Reenactors enjoy discussing their roles. They strive to help educate people on the true stories of the Civil War. I've learned a lot more about the Civil War from talking with people who do a lot of research for their roles.



Both sides of the war were represented during the reenactment. We visited each camp. My family history includes ancestors from the south, and it's believed some fought for the Confederacy. So, based on the accuracy of the war, we covered the southern side, as well. I also had ancestors fight for the Union.

Missouri had the third highest number of battles during the Civil War, behind Virginia and Tennessee. Missouri also had several guerrilla attacks. Brothers Jesse and Frank James served under William Quantrill, the most famous guerrilla fighter leader.

It was easy to slip into calling the reenactors soldiers. Because that's what they were this day. Union soldiers were busy preparing for the day's events as we stopped by. We watched formations, horse drills and learned about the cannons being used.

In addition to the military camps, we visited the Kickapoo Trace Muzzleloaders camp. The group represents mountain men and explorers, who settled the country before 1840. The camp focused on life as a muzzleloader, including fire starting, trapping, hunting, Dutch

oven cooking and blacksmithing. During our visit, the men and women of the group were finishing breakfast and preparing for the day, including loading weapons and inspecting their gear.

Eventually, the day's work in both camps would lead to the battlefield. It started as a skirmish near the site of Fort Waynesville. As the Union detachment marched its way through the streets of Waynesville, soldiers from both sides engaged in gun fire exchanges.

The Union turned away the small group and continued its march. The American flag was carried before soldiers marching down the street in front of the Old Stagecoach Stop building. Onlookers applauded the troops as they passed. Their next stop was the city park, where they knew they would encounter a group of Confederate soldiers determined to take Waynesville.

As the armies gathered for battle, officers on both sides yelled out instructions. Sergeants relayed those orders to the privates and others on the front lines. The Confederates kicked off the fighting with a small horseback attack. The Union held them off.

The Union slowly maneuvered forward, taking aim at its enemy. On the other side, the Confederates stood in line ready to defend their position and start their move forward.

The Union army proved too strong and eventually took control of the battle. After about 30 minutes, the Confederate forces were decimated. The lead officer signaled a surrender.

The reenactments during the day impressed us. The people conducted themselves with professionalism.

The leaders choreograph the battle based on the area, according to Cordoves. Teams discuss the planned events ahead of time to ensure authenticity while captivating the audience.

Waynesville's reenactment was small on the scale of Civil War reenactments, Cordoves said. I can easily see the event growing bigger as the community embraced it.

The Pulaski County Museum and Historical Society members are already looking forward to the 2017 version of the Civil War.

Lisa Trudell

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Our Forgotten Veterans

Bob Flournoy

My older sister was born in August of 1942. That was just before my father was accepted as a flight cadet in the Royal Air Force program for aspiring American flyers, since the United States was ill prepared for such a thing when war broke out. He spent the next year learning his craft on several bases across our land including San Antonio, TX, Wichita, TX, Enid, OK, and Great Falls. MT. My mom waited patiently, raising their infant daughter in the home of his parents.



My mother and father

Graduation from flight school saw dad off to India where he flew "The Hump" in his C-46 until the war's end. Mom still waited though since he didn't make nit home until February of 1946. Her daughter was turning four when her daddy, and my mother's husband, finally came home.



My mother and sister

Dad attended Auburn after that on the GI Bill, getting his degree in Electrical Engineering in 1949. He went to work for the TVA in Chattanooga, TN and joined the Tennessee National Guard as a pilot to generate extra income for his family which now included me, having arrived in this world 9 months to the day after my dad's homecoming from WW2. Imagine that!

What was unimaginable at the time was that Dad's guard unit would be activated for duty in Korea. After 6 months of pre-deployment training, he left for Korea in late 1950 and returned in the Fall of 1952. My mother once again left behind to raise their son and daughter.

Dad decided to stay in the military at this point, having 6 years toward a 20-year retirement under his belt. As a result, we moved a dozen times between then and his retirement in 1967. During this career, he had to leave us behind several more times as he attended various military schools—and there was a time in 1959 when

he was in Germany alone before we could join him.

My mom was an army wife, having unwittingly drifted into a life style that a small town Alabama girl could never have imagined when she first met dad in 1941. One of millions, she fought three wars with him—staying at home alone, moving at the most inconvenient times, and sacrificing the home town comforts enjoyed by most women whose husbands were civilians.

Here is to mom on Veteran's Day. Here is to all the military moms who answered the call every bit as courageously as their husbands did. Sometimes I wonder who was the bravest, and who had the hardest job. As a parent now, who understands the demands of mother-hood without the additional heavy weight of a military life on their shoulders, I think I know the answer to that.



Maude Robins Cobb



Robert W Flournoy Jr and Maude Flournoy



LEO AND THE LAB

Joe Campolo Jr

Ice fishing is a hoot. Most anyone who ever fished the "hard water" has a good ice fishing story or two. I have several, but this may be the best one.

Many years ago, I went ice fishing with my friend Leo (RIP). Leo was a true outdoorsman. He fished, hunted, and trapped year round and was always up for an outing...along with a twelve pack of Stroh's.

Leo invited me to join him at his ice fishing shack on the Chain of Lakes in Lake County, Illinois. We hooked up the next Saturday morning. It was a nice day, not too cold and with little wind.

While Leo fished in his shack, I started chopping holes a short distance away to set up some tip-ups for northern pike or bass.

At that time power augers were rare and even the hand held Swedish augers hadn't made their appearance yet, so everyone chopped holes in the ice with a "spud." A spud is a large steel bar with a chisel blade welded to one end. The nature of the spud allowed one to make a hole as large as one liked, so long as you didn't mind all the grunt work required to do it.

Now the shack next to Leo's was also occupied that morning by a man and his black lab. The man had caught a small fish that he didn't want to keep so he tossed it back into the hole. Well, the lab being a lab got excited and jumped right into the hole after it!

This is where the story really gets good. The lab, swimming under water in pursuit of the fish, soon lost its bearings. It did manage to find its way under Leo's

shack, however, and quickly clamored out of the water through Leo's hole!

Imagine Leo, fishing in the dark shack, well into his cups when all of a sudden this large black creature jumped out of his hole!

Stunned, Leo started yelling, fell backward in his chair, turned onto his stomach, jumped up and with the lab right on his heels, slammed into the door, knocking it right off its hinges!

Having heard the commotion, I looked over to see Leo rapidly exiting the shack with the lab right behind him. To add insult to injury the lab knocked Leo over and trampled him before running off like a scalded cat.

The frenzied owner of the lab, having left his shack, witnessed this event and started yelling and chasing after his lab, trampling poor Leo again!

All of this rolled before my eyes as if in slow motion, and once I started laughing I couldn't stop. Once he gathered his wits about him, Leo couldn't either.

As we loosely rehung Leo's shanty door, the owner of the lab returned with the miscreant pooch in tow, and after another good laugh with a beverage or two, we all resumed our fishing efforts.

Leo passed away some years ago, but told and retold,

the story never failed to get everyone laughing, and still does to this day.

MWSA 2016 Pulaski County History Crawl Pictures



Chris Hill demonstrating cave diving equipment at the MWSA Pulaski County History Crawl



Sandi Linhart at the Route 66 Diner in St. Robert during the MWSA Pulaski County History Crawl



Joyce and John Faulkner, Bob Hathaway, Micki Voekel, Joe Campolo (hidden) and JoAnn Campolo listening to Sheriff JB King talk about crime fighting at at the MWSA Pulaski County History Crawl

MWSA 2016 Pulaski County History Crawl Pictures

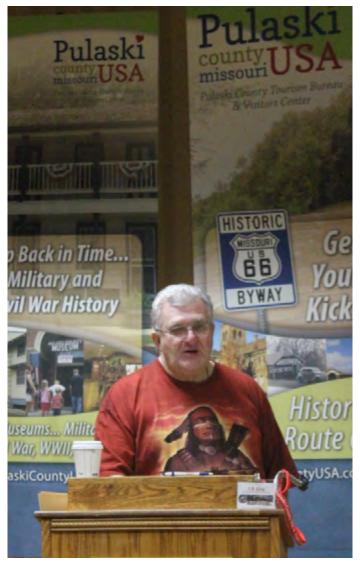


Kenneth Howard



L-R: Gary Best, Sharon Swon, Bruce Swon, Claretta Crawford, Pat Avery, Karen Hood, and Kenneth Howard





JB King sharing information about the Civil War in Pulaski County



Waynesville, MO Mayor Luge Hardman teaches about the Trail of Tears



Mayor Luge Hardman at Frogtoberfest

MWSA 2016 Pulaski County History Crawl Pictures



Joe Campolo, Jr and Pat McGrath Avery



19th Century Dentistry at the Stagecoach Stop Museum in Waynesville, MO



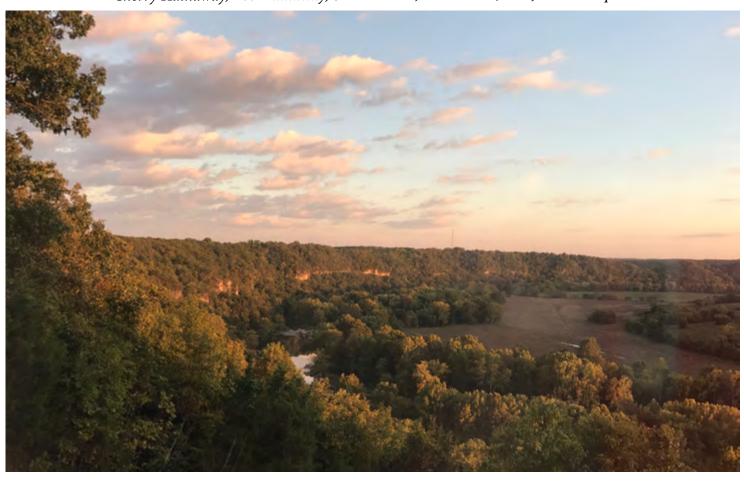
Micki Voelkel and Sandra Linhart



Michael Seevers explaining about the Pulaski County Courthouse Museum



Sherry Hathaway, Bob Hathaway, Sharon Swon, Bruce Swon, and JoAnn Campolo





Storytelling with Quilts

Joyce Faulkner

Kathi Crawford is a veteran. A Seabee married to a Seabee who loves riding her motorcycle. Like MWSA members, she is a storyteller with an eye for history, drama, and family lore. However, instead of a word processor, Kathi creates her tales with a needle and scraps of cloth—often taken from old military uniforms. She is a quilter.

We met Kathi during the MWSA Pulaski County History Crawl in St. Robert, Missouri. As we waited for her to speak, I remember thinking, "Yeah, yeah, yeah. Quilting may be a time-honored art form, but how can they tell stories? They are just beautiful bed spreads or wall hangings." Boy, was I wrong. Quilting, as I found out, is as rich a vehicle for historic storytelling as any novel, ballad, or biography.

Quilt designs run from high-quality materials stitched into elaborate portraits or landscapes and used as wall-hangings in museums or art galleries—to personal pieces made from treasured objects like a World War I uniform sewn into a coverlet to warm the passengers in an early 20th Century vehicle or a child's bedspread made from his own baby clothes. My mother-in-law started a quilt for each of my children the week that I announced my pregnancies. I was touched to know that some day, her loving efforts might be all they had of her.

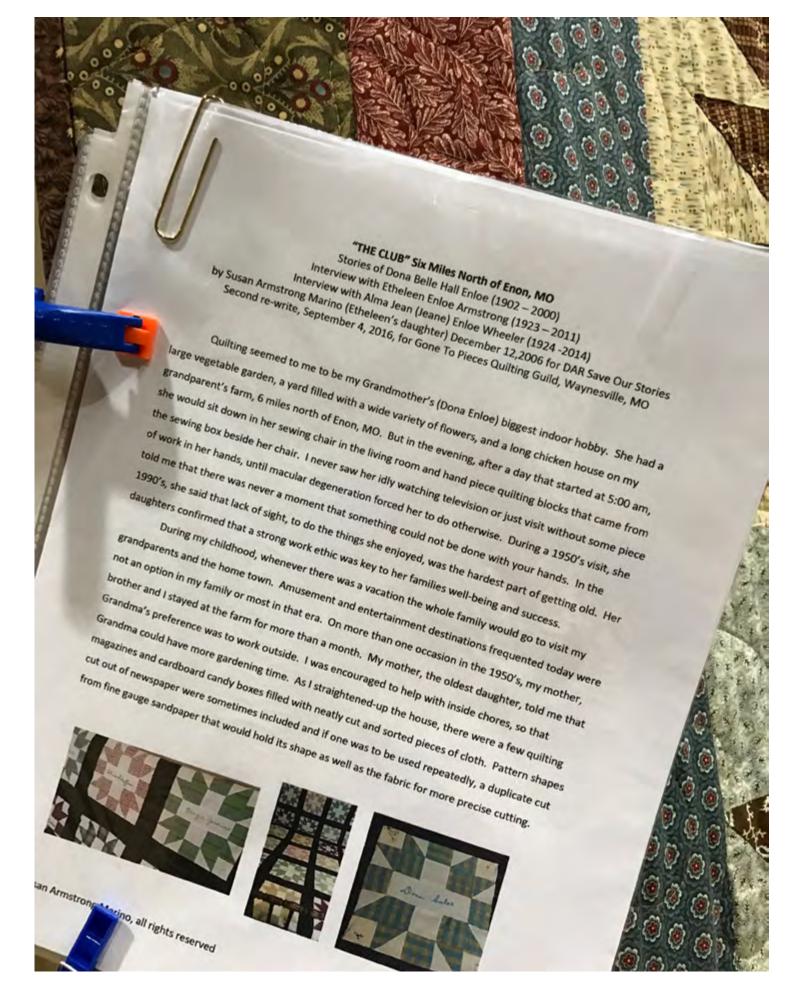
From Kathi's presentation, we learned that she is a member of the "Gone to Pieces Quilting Guild" in Waynesville, Missouri. I am sure that there are similar organizations all over the country—in fact, my late mother-in-law and sister-in-law enjoyed the many local and regional shows and fairs where quilts were submitted for contests or displays. And Kathi's group does all of those things too.

However, Kathi's group goes further. They create

special one-of-a-kind quilts for folks who are going through crises in their lives. She shared a case about a young military man who had died. At the visitation, his family sat together close to the coffin, grieving together. Off to the side, Kathi noticed a sad-faced woman sitting by herself. Asking a few questions, she learned that this woman was the young man's birth mother. Everyone's heart broke for her. So at the graveyard, after the military handed the adoptive mother the folded flag and folks were leaving, a member of the guild handed the birth mother a quilt with the flag on it so she would have something that represented her son and his sacrifice for our country.

After Kathi told us several stories like the first, she turned to her own quilts hanging in the room. All were beautiful, unique, and special—from one made from her old uniform to an award-winning beauty representing her deep religious faith. However, it was a large traditional quilt using a Civil War era pattern that left its story imprinted in our memories. It was Kathi's therapy quilt.

It seems that Kathi was in a serious motorcycle crash. She broke almost every bone in her body and sustained a serious brain injury. Her survival was miraculous. Now, she jokingly calls herself a "half wit" because literally half of her brain is missing. She had to relearn life—how to walk, talk, read. And she did it so well that none of us had a clue that she'd recovered from such a grievous accident. We examined the complex, pieced-together pattern she'd used to help her focus. It was hard, she said, and would be tedious work for anyone. But there it was hanging a few feet away from us—a testament to who Kathi was and is—a beautiful, talented, determined, big-hearted woman whose personal story transfixed and inspired us.



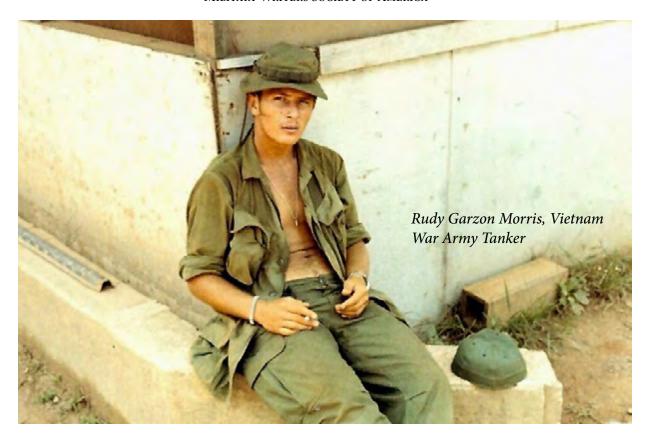












So Much Happened In Our Lives Over The Last Forty Years

Rudy Garzon Morris served in Vietnam as an Army tanker.

Rudy's older brother was in the Marine Corps in the mid sixties. Rudy's father served in the US Navy during WWII. Rudy did basic training in Fort Ord, California in 1970, AIT in Fort Knox, and was in Nam 1970 to 1971. He was in Chi Chi, Pleiku, and Quang Tri, to name a few. Rudy did mark a map of Nam all of the places that he had been to.

I have all of my husband's orders and letters that he sent me from Nam. We planned our wedding through letters back and forth during his tour in Nam. It was nothing like the soldiers communicating home now. We communicated only through letters.

This is our wedding picture from July 17, 1971. So much happened in our lives over the last 40 plus years...



Rudy and Margee Morris

They were on the border of Cambodia and Laos where they weren't supposed to be. Rudy relived his memories of war. We never knew when he was with us and/or when he was in Nam. We had to deal with his PTSD for 40 years mostly on our own. There was one memory that Rudy talked about where a Black American soldier killed Rudy's buddy, Terry Albright over a yellow towel that a Vietnamese girl had given him. Then the

soldier turned the gun on Rudy who blanked out what happened after Terry was shot and could never remember how he did not get shot.



Terry Albright

That day changed Rudy forever. Rudy spoke of another incident when their tank got hit and was on fire. Rudy went inside and pulled out a wounded buddy just in time before the tank blew up. He was put in for Purple Heart but was told he was just doing his job and never received one. He also talked about the Agent Orange raining down on them and drinking and bathing in the water. Rudy got some small pieces of shrapnel in his tummy from a tank blowing up. He was lucky.

His greatest fear was not making it home and dealing with a few drugged up soldiers in his units some of who apparently had a choice of jail or going into Army. It was really tough on the military guys after having to shoot kids that were rigged with bombs. He came home a very angry person. It was really tough dealing with him and to start our marriage at same time. One time he almost strangled me. When he realized what he was doing he stopped and broke down and cried. He promised he would never do that again and didn't.

After returning home from Nam, Rudy could not wear his uniform, but was still called a baby killer and spit on. When the United States pulled out of Vietnam, my husband was angry because we lost so many young guys for nothing.

If Rudy wasn't at work, he was golfing and never missed work. But he began having nausea and coming home early with the complaint of smelling something that reminded him of Nam. Since we had been together so long, I knew that something was wrong and called the doctor. The doctor was surprised that I called on that

basis but explained the smells ere mini seizures. Rudy never had a full-blown seizure. The smells stopped after his surgery but the tumor grew back each time. He had a total of 4 Gamma Knife tumors, which were growing on both sides of his brain, at which hospice began. After his doctor told him to not drive anymore, I took him back and forth to play golf. He golfed right up to September 2011. We knew that when he quit golfing, he would be gone from us soon. Rudy lived 21 months after the initial diagnosis in March 2010 and passed away two months before he turned 60. Death seems to bring out the worst in some family members and at times splits the family apart. This family photo of Rudy with our grandchildren was taken on our annual trip to Pumpkin Patch. It was a good day for Rudy.



Annual Pumpkin Patch With Morris Family

I began the group Vietnam Veterans with Glioblatoma Multiforme Stage 4 Brain Cancer group www. facebook.com/groups/VietnamVeteranGlioblastom/ in an ongoing effort looking for Nam Vets with GBM-4 Brain cancer to add to the ever growing list with the Veterans Administration who still says Agent Orange did not the cause GBM-4 Brain Cancer. Please also visit and "Like" our page to show your support, www.facebook.com/NamTanker/?fref=ts

We will continue to fight until the Glioblastoma Multiforme Brain Tumor is on the VA's Presumptive list.

~ Margee Simon Morris

Veteran Interviews and Stories Compiled by Jenny La Sala www.JennyLasala.com

TIPS AND TRICKS: Scrivener for IOS

Joyce Faulkner

It's here at long last and it was well-worth the wait. For those of us who swear by Scrivener, the IOS version is finally available from the Apple store or directly from the Literature & Latte site. The first big surprise was that despite early rumors, the iPad/iPhone version is full-featured and syncs back to your Mac or Windows versions either on your computers or in Dropbox. And pardon me for stating the obvious, that means that you can work on your books wherever you are and have it all come together in one piece. I am also experimenting with how well it will facilitate collaboration and will report back on that in a later article.

Like the original Scrivener, it was developed by Keith Blount at Literature and Latte, Ltd in Cornwell, England. As the story goes, Keith was working on his doctoral thesis and a novel at the same time. He could find nothing that satisfied the multiple needs of an author—a place where he could store and categorize research for multiple projects and make it easily accessible while he was writing. He wanted a program that would allow him to track changes, monitor his progress, give him access to images, video and audio assets without having to change software. The Mac and Windows version of the software does these things magnificently—but could these features translate easily to our portable devices?



Screenshot from the Tutorial

Apparently, it took some doing and a lot of time, however, Keith kept to his original vision—a repository for the whole project from start to finish. If you are familiar with IOS and Scrivener, the learning curve is about two days. The functions are the same but they look different and you have to poke around to find what you want. However, if you have never used Scrivener on your regular computer, I recommend the videos on www.literaturelatte.com.

Here are my early observations. As always, you can define status and type of file. For example, I usually break my novels into chapters, scenes, and passages—and indicate whether they are a sketch, first draft or an edited file but those things are easily defined for your personal process. You can still leave notes to yourself about this or that scene which is helpful for those of us who jump from project to project and forget our original intentions.

Scrivener for IOS provides templates for fiction, nonfiction, screen-writing, and plays. It also allows you to create your own. You can export to Word or PDF or epub. Most importantly as I mentioned earlier, you can leave the whole thing on your iPad or you can sync it to your computer.



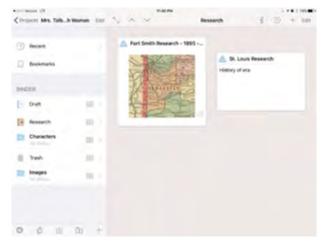
List of Projects

As you can see above, while the IOS version has the look and feel of an iPad app, it's clearly the Scrivener interface. The tutorial is well-organized and useful especially if you understand the original software and

you are searching for a way to do something specific. However, it will be easy for newbies to use too.

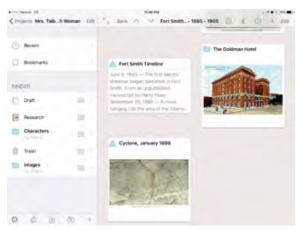
Depending on whether you store files to your device or sync them to Dropbox, you can have access to as many projects as you want or need.

The following screenshots are taken from a book I'm defining on my iPad.



Research folder can be personalized

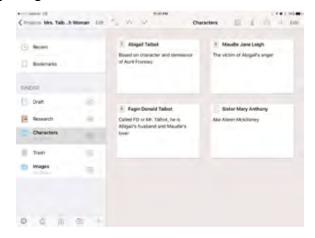
My process works well with Scrivener's flexibility. I may or may not start with chapter one and go straight through to chapter 30. I may write all of the scenes that take place in Fort Smith in one push or everything having to do with one historical event defined before I start anything else. Scrivener facilitates putting all the pieces of my story together by allowing me to drag them into the proper sequence.



The screenshot above shows note cards with images. Back in the day, I would cut out pictures and tape them to my paper cards...or even draw something on them. I color coded them with crayons to keep track of twists in my plot. Scrivener allows me to use all of these old-fashioned approaches within the interface. This means that with my iPad, I can move projects forward while traveling and use those tools that matter to me.

Cards are a useful way to identify people, places, and things. I especially like having maps (real or hand drawn) which allow me to know where my characters are in my imaginary biosphere and what they look like.

Each file and folder has metadata associated with it which can be customized. For example, you can include a short sketch of the action or an image or even a brief note about the purpose of a given chapter, scene, or passage.

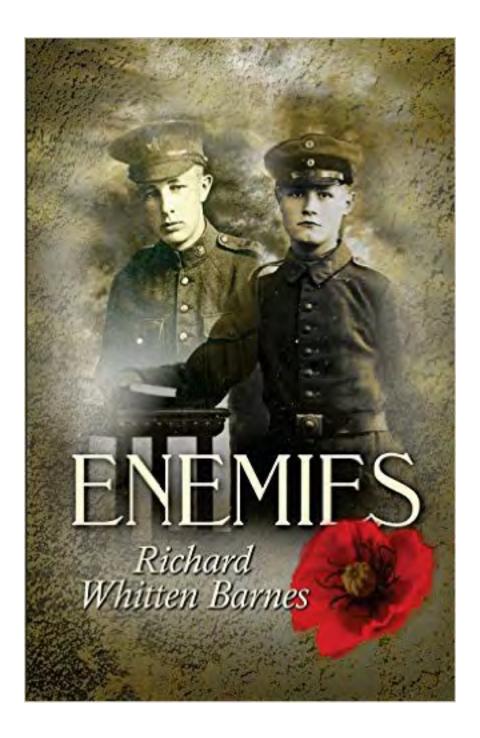


I prefer the note card approach because as an old timer, I learned to plot with them back in the 60s and although I do love the technical version, those are the concepts that I am most comfortable using. However, you can also use that same technique for character development. Who are these people? Are they actors or reactors? While a single document/card works for most characters, there might be a few that are so complex or crucial that I might need several documents to fully describe a villain. In that case, I can create a folder which will allow me to keep all my information about a particular character together but at the portal, they will still look like a note card

Before Scrivener for IOS was available, I'd use my iPad and a stylus to create maps of neighborhoods that don't really exist or to sketch the faces of the characters I was envisioning or to add a layer over the top of a public map and sketch my chase scenes—adding notes about what might happen at this location or that. Then I'd jiggle around to get those elements into Scrivener on my computer. Now, it's an easy transition. You can import pictures into an image folder like in the desktop version or you can choose maps and photos right from your Photos Stream.

The essence of this software is flexibility. If you are as structured in your approach as I am, you will love that aspect. However, if you simply sit down and knock out what's on your mind, this is a great tool for that too.

Best Book of the Fall Quarter



It is November 11, 1968, fifty years to the day since the armistice of the Great War.. The seventy year old German diplomat Jurgen Stern is in Ottawa, Canada on a special assignment. He rescues a portfolio mistakenly left behind in his hotel lobby by a man near his own age. Inside are drawings that are obviously from a soldier's perspective of WW1. One of the sketches is so intriguing he is compelled to find this man and learn the truth about it. The story reverts back to 1916 when Brian MacLennan, a farm boy from northern Ontario joins the Canadian Expeditionary Force. At the same time, young Jurgen Stern has been conscripted by the Imperial German Army. Their experiences in that brutal war are followed until they become entangled in a way that will take fifty years to unravel. The two men face the consequences of those events a half century in the past and must put them right.

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MWSA Recommended Reading List – Autumn 2016

The Military Writers Society of America (MWSA) is an organization of hundreds of writers, poets, and artists drawn together by a common bond of military service. One purpose of our Society is to review the written works of our members. From a compilation of book reviews, we've selected the following as our 2016 Autumn Recommended Reading List:

Shrapnel Wounds by Tom Crowley

Currents - Anthology

Journey of an Adventuresome Dane by Jasmine Tritten

Enemies by Richard Barnes

The Court-Marshall of Benedict Arnold by Richard McMahon

The Lost Celt by A. E. Conran

The Barbarossa Covenant by Ian O'Connor

Welcome to FOB Haiku by Randy Brown

Never Fear by Bob D'Angelo

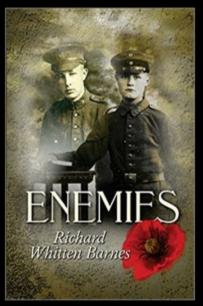
Death Ship by Joseph Badal

Battle Rattle by Roger Boas

I was at a book signing the other day and a young man in his mid twenties or so stopped by my table and admired one of my book covers. "Do you like mysteries?" I asked. "Oh no, I don't read, I just like the cover," he said. I get a lot of that "I don't read" stuff, and none of them are embarrassed by saying it. Yesterday, I saw an article that stated fewer people are reading books. Video games, social media, and streaming video have apparently taken over our younger generation's free time. So, unless you're under thirty and can't help yourselves, I suggest you buck the trend, be a rebel, stand your ground and defiantly read another book! Grab your Kindle, Nook, IPad, or an old fashioned book. The list above would be a great place to find a new book. More info about the books listed above and the authors can be found at www.mwsadispatches.com.







Book of the Quarter







Where a bullet hits the door during a murder at the Courthouse in Pulaski County