



Kentucky Christian Writers Conference 2017 Executive Board and Planning Committee

KCWC Founder



Kate Thomas

Along with founding the Kentucky Christian Writers Conference in 1997, Kate was a former public school teacher and has authored four books, co-authored one, and she has published several articles in her writing career. Kate is involved with public speaking and is a member of the Advanced Writers and Speakers Association. She is a graduate of CLASSeminar. Kate is the mother of two children and grandmother of four.

Executive Board

Email: board@kychristianwriters.com



Constance Darnell

Constance Darnell is a freelance writer and public speaker who has lived in Elizabethtown, Kentucky since 1997. She has been a local commentator on WFPL radio in Louisville. Constance is also a past coordinator and currently serves on the Executive Board for the Kentucky Christian Writers Conference.

The first chapter of her book, *Songs for Martha*, was published as a feature article in Focus on the Family's *Clubhouse Magazine* under the title "Special Delivery" and nominated for The Gold Medallion Award in 2004. Her articles have also appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers including, *Kentucky Monthly Magazine*, *The News Enterprise*, and *Devotions Magazine*. Constance studied writing in the MFA program at Spalding University, and in April, 2006 she won second place for Creative Nonfiction in the *Metroversity Writing Competition* for her essay, "Conundrum."

Constance was ordained to the Christian ministry in 2010 by the Christian Family Fellowship Ministry. Together with her late husband of thirty-eight years, Dr. Robert N. Darnell, Constance wrote and published (posthumously, in 2016) a book of his creative nonfiction; *Biscuits and Firecrackers*. Dr. Darnell was a beloved physician in Elizabethtown. Constance helped to oversee his practice and shared duties as pastor to the Locust Grove Community Church for four years. Their two adult children, Ezekiel and Ariel, reside in Rineyville and Danville, Kentucky.



Karen Hart

Karen Hart attended the first KCWC and became a volunteer to help with the second. She has served as treasurer, book sales, coordinator and advisory board. She has written articles for church, women and children.



Lea Ann Young Johnson

Lea Ann is an ordained deacon in full connection of the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. She retired after 30 years of serving as a counselor in an extension ministry position at Fort Knox, KY in June 2013. She has served on the Planning Committee of Kentucky Christian Writers Conference in various positions since 2009. She has published several articles and devotions in various newsletters and Christiandevotions.com. She currently lives in Lebanon Junction with her pastor husband, Calvin.



Barbara Wells

Barbara is a Published Author and Speaker, member of AWSA Advanced Writers and Speakers Association. She served as Faculty Chair - 2006-2008, Resource Chair - 2009, Conference Emcee - 2010, Co-Coordinator - 2011, Coordinator - 2012, 2013, 2014. Host of SteeplePeople Talk AM 1330. Member of WordGirls Writing Association. Visit Barbara at BarbaraWells.webs.com.



Kentucky Christian Writers Conference 2017 Executive Board and Planning Committee

Planning Committee



Lisa Greer (Coordinator)

Email: coordinator@kychristianwriters.com

Lisa is a contract analyst, writing contract language and handling negotiations for a local Fortune 300 company. She also does freelance writing, with over 300 published articles. Lisa has been a regular contributor for local publications such as *Southern Indiana Living* and *The Capitol News*. She and her husband own a freelance writing and photography business, Olive Tree Enterprises, LLC at www.olivetreeenterprisesllc.com.



Cathy Robinson (Secretary)

Email: secretary@kychristianwriters.com

Cathy is an elementary special education teacher. She is also a freelance copyeditor, primarily serving authors in the Christian writing community. Along with her husband Michael, Cathy resides in central Kentucky, where they are the proud parents of two college-age sons. In her spare time, Cathy enjoys reading, sewing, knitting, and working on the historic Victorian home she shares with her husband.



Betty Thomason Owens (Treasurer)

Email: treasurer@kychristianwriters.com

Betty is a published author of historical fiction, contemporary fiction, and fantasy-adventure. She's a coordinator of a critique group through American Christian Fiction Writers. She is also a mentor, assisting other writers, and a co-founder of a blog dedicated to inspiring writers: [Writing Prompts & Thoughts & Ideas...Oh My!](http://WritingPrompts&Thoughts&Ideas...OhMy!) Betty is a retired business office manager and bookkeeper. Now she spends her time writing and thinking about writing, as well as babysitting her youngest grandchild. Her other interests are travel and gardening—mostly flowers, and battling an army of neighborhood squirrels and rabbits. She lives in the Fern Creek area of Louisville, Kentucky, with her husband, Bob. They have three sons, and eight grandchildren. Visit Betty's site @ <https://bettythomasonowens.com>.



Kristy Horine (Publicity Chair)

Email: publicity@kychristianwriters.com

Kristy is a Kentucky writer: journalist by trade, creative by grace. She declares herself Southern by birth and by heart. She is a mother, a wife, a daughter, a sister, an artist, a chicken keeper, a gardener, a redeemed Child of God, freelance journalist, and friend. She founded *3rd Letter Christian Writers* in Lexington, KY in August 2015 and maintains a blog at www.writeonereallife.wordpress.com. She makes her life in Paris with her husband, Eric, and four children – Hanson, Anna, Emy, and Sadie. Her professional and creative work has been published in newspapers, magazines, and anthologies in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. She believes that words have power to offer sustenance and hope and healing, and that they are the express gift of God.



Hannah Conway (Faculty Chair)

Email: faculty@kychristianwriters.com

Hannah is a military wife, mother of two, middle school teacher, speaker, and an author with Olivia Kimbrell Press. Her novels are a deployment experience of their own, threaded with faith, and filled with twists, sure to thrill turns, and encouragement. Hannah is agented by Jessie Kirkland, and is a member of both the American Christian Fiction Writers, and My Book Therapy. Though Hannah is native to Elizabethtown, KY, she and her family now reside in Tennessee outside of Ft. Campbell. Connect with Hannah at www.hannahrconway.com.



Kentucky Christian Writers Conference 2017 Executive Board and Planning Committee



Crystal Murray (Registrar)

Email: registrar@kychristianwriters.com

As a former coordinator for KCWC, Crystal has a heart for the ministry of this wonderful conference. She has seen many writers blossom from what they've learned while attending classes here. She knows the behind the scenes sacrifices and prayers that make KCWC a success, and she hopes to contribute to that success as this year's registrar. When not volunteering for KCWC or as president of Louisville Christian Writers, Crystal loves to write poetry, play with color in the form of digital and real kaleidoscopes, and spend time with her husband and kitty cats.



Gregg Bridgeman (Publications)

Email: publications@kychristainwriters.com

Gregg began operating Olivia Kimbrell Press in 2011 acting as Editor-in-Chief. Then as now, he operates the press as a ministry. The primary objective remains that of lifting up and helping ministry-minded Biblical authors fulfill the Great Commission -- to bring the Gospel message to the entire world -- for every tribe and every nation. Gregg currently serves in the National Guard, is a decorated combat veteran, and is best known for his technical savvy and attention to the smallest detail.



Hallee Bridgeman (Resource Chair)

Email: resources@kychristainwriters.com

Hallee is a best-selling Christian author who writes action-packed romantic suspense focusing on realistic characters who face real world problems. Her work has been described as everything from refreshing to heart-stopping exciting and edgy. Hallee loves coffee, campy action movies, and regular date nights with her husband. Above all else, she loves God with all of her heart, soul, mind, and strength; has been redeemed by the blood of Christ; and relies on the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide her.



Nicki Bishop (Historian)

Email: historian@kychristianwriters.com

Nicki is a lover of Jesus and a happily married mama of four. She makes her home in Bowling Green, KY, where she teaches music and art to children from K3-12th grade, plays violin and mandolin for church, and enjoys watercolor painting and songwriting. As a freelance writer and editor, her writing has been published in periodicals such as *Focus on the Family Magazine*, and she currently does editing work for *Heart to Heart Publishing* in Morgantown, KY. Her most recent project is fiction writing, with a goal to show the grace of God to the lost through storytelling—key verse, Ephesians 2:8. You can find her @MNickiBishop on Facebook and Twitter, or visit her website: <https://wheregracefoundme.wordpress.com/>.



Marty Fulkerson (Facility Chair)

Marty is the Church Administrator at Grace Heartland Church (GHC), the host site for the KCWC. He has been a part of the GHC Family since 1996. Marty has served as Treasurer and Chairman of the Board of Elders before coming on staff as Church Administrator in April 2011. He is a former small business owner and banker; and is in his 14th year on the Elizabethtown City Council. Marty is an auctioneer and realtor. He and his wife, Rhonda, had a son, Dawson.



Kentucky Christian Writers Conference 2017 Executive Board and Planning Committee



Carlton W. Hughes (Blog Administrator @ <http://kychristianwriters.blogspot.com/>)
Email: blog@kychristianwriters.com

Carlton's work has been featured in *Let All Nature Sing*, a 365-day devotional from Worthy Publishing; *Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Dating Game*; *Simple Little Words*; the Instructor's manual and test bank for Inter-Act, an interpersonal communication textbook; and a Christmas play collection from Carpenter's Son publishing. He will also be featured in Worthy's upcoming devotional about dogs. Carlton is a regular contributor to two blogs, almostanauthor.com and writingpromptsthoughtsideas.wordpress.com. He has won awards for playwriting from Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference and for his work in children's ministry from the Church of God denomination. In his day job, Carlton is a professor of communication at Southeast Kentucky Community College and a site coordinator for the dual credit program at Harlan County High School. He is the children's pastor at Lynch Church of God and a year-round volunteer and Relay Center Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child. He and his wife Kathy have two sons, Noah and Ethan. Carlton is a fan of chocolate, good books, basketball, and classic television shows like "I Love Lucy."



Connie Camden (Webmaster @ <http://www.kychristianwriters.com/>)
Email: webmaster@kychristianwriters.com

Connie retired in 2010 from State Government as an Executive Staff Advisor to pursue her passion for Christian writing and public speaking. In 2011 she reached a goal of becoming a published poet when three of her poems were published by Christian Devotions. In addition to poetry, journaling, and devotional writing, Connie has crafted and delivered inspirational messages for various church and women's ministry events since 1996. She served in Women's Ministry leadership at Buck Run Baptist Church from 1999 - 2010; and as Director of the community-based ministry, Women In God's Service (WIGS) from 2007 - 2012. Currently, she teaches Adult Sunday School classes at her local church. In 2011 Connie was hired by NTT Data, Inc. and is contracted with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Office of Information Technology as a Business Analyst. She is a native of Frankfort, KY where she lives with her husband of 31 years. They have two adult children, a granddaughter, granddog and grandcat.