

KC Convention 2017



**Western Writers
of America**

Marriott Hotel Country Club Plaza, 4445 Main Street, Kansas City, MO

Wednesday, June 21

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.: Board Meeting

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.: Registration

12:30 – 2:30 p.m.: Historical Symposium – “FROM COWTOWN TO TOM’S TOWN” – Moderated by R. Eli Paul

Session 1 – “Cowtown: Nineteenth Century Kansas City History,” will cover the topics of (1) mountain men, the Missouri River, and Indian frontier; (2) the Civil War on the Western Border; and (3) KC’s early food history, which includes the Stockyards story.

Session 2 – “Boss Tom Pendergast’s Town: Twentieth Century Kansas City History,” will cover: (1) Kansas City’s older, unique neighborhoods, including the Country Club Plaza; (2) KC’s “golden age” of the 1920s and 30s; and (3) notable Kansas Citians of the era.

3 – 5 p.m.: **Tour Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art**, – 4525 Oak Street
*(Shuttle bus transportation loading starts at 2:50 p.m.) (Co-Sponsored by Kirk Ellis/
Shadowcatcher Productions)*

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. – *President’s Welcome to Kansas City Reception (Cash bar) – Plaza Terrace – (Sponsored by Visit KC)*

Dinner on your own

9 p.m. – Roundup Room Music

Thursday, June 22

8 – 11 a.m.: Registration

8:00–9:30 a.m.: **Roundtable Breakfast** *(Ticket Required)*. –

9:45 – 10:45: **Panel:** Historic Research Topics – Missouri Valley Special Collections, Jeremy Drouin, Special Collections Manager and National Archives – KC Branch, Lori Cox–Paul

11:00 – Noon: **Panel:** Mark Twain Literary Contributions– Max McCoy, Moderator; Panelists Loren Estleman, and more

noon – 1: Lunch on your own

1 – 3 p.m.: Stagecoach Script Rehearsal

Afternoon: **Tour Arabia Steamboat Museum** – *(Co-Sponsored by Visit KC)*
(Ticket Required)

6 – 10 p.m.: **Homestead Dinner and Auction** (with cash bar). – *Launch Party for WWA Cookbook.*

10 p.m.: Roundup Room music.

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Friday, June 23

7:30 a.m.– 3 p.m.: Registration
 8:00 – 9:00: **Publicist's workshop** – Krista Rolfzen Soukup
 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.: **Panel:** "Editor, Agent and Publicist Roundup."
 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.: *Keynote Address by William Least Heat-Moon*
 Noon – 1:30 p.m.: **Spur Finalist & Hall of Fame Luncheon** (*Ticket Required*)
 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: **Panel:** Border Wars/Law and Order – Tom Clavin and more
 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: **Panel:** Fred Harvey's Empire – Dee Dee Adams
 3:00 – 3:30: Refreshment Break
 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.: General Business Meeting (*All members invited*)

Dinner on your own

6:30 p.m.: *Buses leave for KC Public Library venue*

7 – 9 p.m.: WWA Presents Script Reading of "**Stagecoach**" – Kansas City Public Library Plaza Branch, 4801 Main St. – *Public Invited* — Directed by Kirk Ellis
 10 p.m.: Roundup Room music

Saturday, June 24

9 a.m. – noon: Registration
 9 – 10 a.m.: **Presentation: Cats in the Old West**, by Preston Lewis
 9 – 10 a.m.: **Panel: The Negro Leagues Baseball** – Johnny D. Boggs, Bob Kendrick, Rob Taylor
 9:30 a.m.– noon: Board Meeting
 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.: Editor/Agent interviews
 10:30–11:30 a.m.: **Panel: Marketing/Promotion** – Chris Enss – Digital strategy for book publishers, online marketing and publicity, social media, blogs, mobile devices, e-books, virtual book tours, book trailers, and other ways to market and publicize books and engage the community of readers online

Lunch on your own.

1–2:00 p.m.: **Panel: "The Birds, The Beasts, The Land: Western Nature Writing, Past and Present."**
 Moderator Nancy Plain, Panelists: Rod Miller, Richard, Linda Jacobs, and Leisl Carr Childers
 1–2:00 p.m.: **Panel: Creating Comics/Graphic Novels** – Kellen Cutsforth, David Morrell, and more
 2:15 – 3:15 p.m.: **Panel: "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story"** — Kirk Ellis, Paul Hutton and more.
 When does an obligation to historical fidelity in dramatizations and documentaries end — or does it? This provocative (and no doubt controversial) discussion will examine the inherent responsibilities and risks. "Facts" can be manipulated, and movies and television do it all the time, even those shows purporting to tell "the real story."
 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.: **Panel: Film Panel** – Chris Enss and Howard Kazanjian – Academy Award nominee and Emmy Award winning film producer Howard Kazanjian will share his experience working on such films as *The Wild Bunch*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, and *Star Wars*.
 6–7 p.m.: Cocktail Hour (*Cash Bar*).
 7–10 p.m.: **Spur Awards Banquet** – (*Ticket Required*).
 10 p.m.: Roundup room music