

WWA Convention in St. Louis, Missouri June 17th – 20th, 2026

Where the West Meets the South

Tuesday June 16, 2026

3PM – Board Meeting

Wednesday June 17, 2026

9:00am—Leave Hotel for Day Trip

9:30am – 11am *Bellefontaine Cemetery Tour*

11:30am – 2pm *Missouri Historical Society (Lunch Included)*

2:30pm – 4pm *St. Louis Soldiers Memorial Museum*

4:30 Arrive at Hotel

6pm Freshman Welcome

6:30pm Convention Welcome and Hors D'oeuvres

8pm Roundup Room Music

Thursday June 18, 2026

9am – 10am *Bridger, Beckwourth, and the Mountain Men in St. Louis*– Art Burton and Bill Markley

9am – 10am *B, B, B* (Beers, Baseball, and Blues) – Johnny Boggs, Scott Smith, and Harry Musselwhite

10:30am – 11:30am *Tales from the Santa Fe Trail*– Dr. Frances Levine

10:30am – 11:30am *Writing Historical Fiction* – Candace Simar

12pm-1pm – *Roundup Luncheon* (Invitation Only)

Lunch on Your Own

1:30pm – 2:20pm – *Route 66* – Bob Boze Bell and Stuart Rosebrook

1:30pm – 2:20pm – *Researching Lewis and Clark* – Chris Gordon, Director of Library and Research at the Missouri Historical Society

2:30pm – 4pm – Agents, Publishers, and Editor's session

4pm – 5pm - *Happy Birthday, America! You Don't Look a Day Over 250!* – Natalie Bright and Joe Brown

Dinner on your own

7pm-9pm Roundup Room Music

Friday June 19, 2026

9am – 10am Roundtable Discussions (*Donuts, Danish, and Coffee Provided*) – Rotating with 5 minute Breaks

- A. Spur Awards: What Judges Want you to Know – Bob Yoho, Spur Awards Chairman
- B. Writing Fiction Proposals for University Presses – Dan Williams, TCU Press
- C. How to Promote your Book – Krista Rolfzen Soukup, Blue Cottage Agency
- D. From Script to Screen – Thadd Turner, Film Producer
- E. How Authors Can Publish Independently – Tom Goodman and Karen Fitzjerrell

10:15am – 11:15am *Kansas/Missouri War* – Scott Smith

10:15am – 11:15am – *Antique Instruments and Writing Western Music* – Allan and Katy Chapman

11:30am – 1pm Spur Finalist Luncheon (*Ticket Required*)

11:15am – 1pm *Lunch on your own if you are not attending finalist luncheon*

1:30pm – 2:30pm Homestead Board Meeting

1:30pm – 2:30pm *Literary Kinship: South Meets West* – **Moderator:** Burke De Boer **Panelists:** James Wade, Professor William Jensen, Chris Mullen, and Dr. Lucy Griffith

1:30pm-2:45pm – *An AV tour of St. Louis* – CVB Rep

3pm – 4:30pm Agent and Editor Pitch Sessions

3pm – 4:30pm *“Stone by Stone—Building the Bellefontaine Cemetery”* – Joe Shields, Bellefontaine Cemetery Director of Development

5pm-7pm WWA Rendezvous – Silent Auction and Raffle (*Dinner Buffet Provided*).

7pm-9pm Music Session

Saturday June 20, 2026

8:30am – 10am WWA Membership Meeting (*Vote for 2029 Convention – Danish and Coffee Provided*)

10:15am – 11:30am – Paul Andrew Hutton Keynote Address

Noon – 1pm *Past Presidents Luncheon* (Invitation Only)

Lunch on Your Own

1pm – 3pm – Agent and Editor Pitch Sessions

1pm – 3pm – WWA Board Meeting

1pm – 2:30pm – *Mark Twain and Writing with Humor* – Preston Lewis and Burke De Boer

1pm – 2:30pm – *“Knowing Your Rights” Information for Authors* – Krista Rolfzen Soukup of Blue Cottage Agency and Kirk Ellis

3:00pm – 4:30pm A Conversation with 2026 Owen Wister Recipient Paul Andrew Hutton. **Moderators:** Stuart Rosebrook and Bob Boze Bell

Break

6:30pm – Spur Awards Reception and Cash Bar

7pm – 9pm Spur Award Banquet

9:30pm – Close Roundup Room Music