

GCLS AWARDS PROCESS

INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Donna Brown, a member of GCLS since the beginning, did not attend a convention until the third one in Atlanta, as it took a while “to screw up my courage to show up.” She served as a Goldie judge for one term but, except for volunteering at the conventions, has had no involvement in the organization in a governing capacity. Currently working as an Administrative Assistant for the Hampden County (MA) Sheriff’s Support Services Department, Donna hopes to retire in the next two or three years. She has many friends who are members of GCLS, including both readers and writers.

Jane Chen has attended four conferences and awards ceremonies. She won a Goldie in 2010 writing under the pen name Trinity Tam (with Nell Stark) for *everafter*. She had never served as a judge or been involved in the awards process in any capacity prior to her appointment to the Independent Review Committee. Jane is a vice president of marketing at Live Nation and holds a BA in East Asian Studies from Harvard University. Her wife, Nell Stark, also writes under her legal name, Katie Lynch.

Virginia Dodge (Jenny) Fielder, a GCLS member for seven years, has attended 10 conferences and awards ceremonies. Prior to her appointment as chair of the Independent Review Committee, she had never served as a judge or been involved in the awards process in any capacity. A retired corporate executive and researcher for the newspaper industry, Jenny holds an MA in Journalism and a PhD in Mass Communications from Indiana University-Bloomington. She lives in Middle Tennessee with her long-time partner, Goldie winner KG MacGregor.

Leigh Howell has been attending GCLS conferences with her sister, Lynne Pierce of Lesfic Unbound, for eight years and has been a member for seven. She was a high school English and Drama teacher for 38 years. She has worked with children’s theatre for 25 years and serves as the President and Artistic Director of the Children’s Theatre of South Hill. Leigh worked as an editor for Blue Feather Books after her retirement from teaching. She resides with husband Steve in rural Virginia. Leigh loves visiting her grown children, Stephanie and Drew, so she can enjoy city life again.

Mary Jane (MJ) Lowe, a member of GCLS since the beginning in 2004, has attended 12 conferences. She served on the Board of Directors in 2008-2010 and as Awards Administrator for 2012-2014. She worked several years as a Public Historian/Researcher for a range of government entities and, for nearly 20 years, has worked in public libraries. MJ holds an MA in History from Western Kentucky University, and an MS in Library and Information Sciences from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She lives in the foothills west of Denver and considers herself lucky to call several lesbian authors friends.

Elaine (Lainie) Lynch has been a supporter of GCLS since 2005, attending 12 conventions and serving as a Goldie judge five times. She has been reviewing books since 2005 and was selected in 2007 by Amazon to be a VINE program reviewer. A graduate of Villanova University with concentrations in English, Economics and History, Lainie is a retired corporate banking operations manager with a focus on Quality Control. She is married to GCLS Trailblazer and Goldie winner Lee Lynch.

Rosa Moran, a GCLS member since its inception, has attended all conferences and awards ceremonies. She served as a judge for four years in the early years of the organization and has presented awards at five of the events. Rosa currently works as a Systems Developer in the Department of Information Technology with Prince William County (PWC), VA government. She has been with PWC for 29 years. Rosa has a BA in Public Administration with a minor in Information Systems from George Mason University. She is single and lives in the northern Virginia area where she grew up and has lived most of her life.

Sharon Owens is an avid reader who has belonged to GCLS for eight years and attended six conferences. She has not previously been involved in the awards process, but she has presented Goldie Awards at the past three conferences. Sharon is a retired library worker and former attorney who lives in Philadelphia, PA.