



# The SouthWest Sage

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The Voice of SouthWest Writers

April 2007

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SouthWest Writers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging and supporting all people to express themselves through the written word.

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## Perseverance

By

William E. Hershey

The best descriptor for my past six years of struggling to break into the screenwriting market is perseverance.

Seven years ago at the University of Washington I tackled a screenwriting program. Why screenwriting and not some other writing project? I had always been fascinated with the power of film and its capacity to communicate at multiple levels. After spending years in a profession that required one to communicate to others about social injustice I came to believe that film might just make a significant contribution in that cause. I enrolled in the class with the expectation of a fully developed screenplay at the end. The teachers included Stewart Stern, who was nominated for academy awards for writing *Rebel Without a Cause*, *Rachel, Rachel*, and *Stella*, and Randy Sue Coburn, screenwriter for *Dorothy Parker* and *The Vicious Circle*. I thought that if I could pass their muster I was well along the way to screen success.

Two years later after many revisions, I finished my script. Soon after at a Northwest Writers Conference I lunched at a table next to a reader for Paramount Pictures. She invited me to send her a copy of my screenplay. Wow! I was in.

In a short while she sent me a rejection but asked if she might forward the script to a woman who did dialogue work for Harrison Ford's *Witness*. Yes. Yes! Now, it was finally coming together. Shortly, I got an audiotape of suggestions on dialogue. The reader offered to give me further feedback following revisions. My, but this was exciting.

I later received a second tape with further suggestions. In less than a month I had what I considered a killer script. Next I sent enquiries to multiple producers. Twelve respondents asked to see the entire play, eleven reported that "it didn't quite fit their needs." The experience of rejection was momentarily depressing but I reminded myself that I was getting quite a nice bit of exposure. Some people out there had read my enquiries and thought there might be something there. That itself gave me hope; future prospects might yet evolve.

I discovered as have other writers I know, that if you want to succeed in getting attention you need to develop survival techniques in facing disappointment. One of those techniques was to grasp at any positive straw that came my way. One producer said he liked my writing and wondered if I lived in LA and would be interested in stopping by for an interview to be a staff writer? The offer was flattering. However, I had just sold my house in Seattle in anticipation of moving to New Mexico; I was looking forward to the independence of writing in my new home, to not being responsible to a staff or company. Buoyed by the offer, I nevertheless answered, "Thank you, but no thank you."

Another rejection survival technique was not to depend on one project. I continued to write other things, another screenplay, a short article, an interview. Some of these projects were picked up, others weren't. I remembered I wasn't a failure simply because this particular screenplay had not been recognized. I thought back to the nonfiction that I had published—a book on mental health, a couple of chapters in a book on the roots of community organization. I could write and be published but, as yet, not fiction.

Soon after moving to New Mexico a producer from Santa Fe, in response to a further set of enquiries, said he would like to see my script. A month or so later he suggested he might be more interested if the story could be shifted to New Mexico. For several months I rewrote. I sent the revision to him and waited a year. I heard nothing.

Finally, after six years of writing and marketing I decided to convert the screenplay into a novel. After all, how hard could that be? One seemed to need connections to get into Hollywood; the novel world certainly would be more open. Another disappointment survival technique: When you've banged your head against a wall long enough that it truly hurts choose another wall.

About 30,000 words into the novel I got an out-of-the-blue request to read my script from an independent film producer for 20th Century Fox. Within two weeks I got word that my script had been recommended to the producer and three weeks ago I received the option contract.

I have received the first option payment for my script. Was my perseverance worth it? I think so. At bare minimum I do admit to a warm feeling of accomplishment when looking at my framed copy of the check.



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**Volunteers Needed!**

SouthWest Writers is creating a Speaker’s Bureau of published authors of either magazines articles and/or books. We are targeting the Albuquerque public schools (middle and high) to begin our voyage into this uncharted territory. We have notified the appropriate schools that we do not expect our speakers to be paid, but we would like the school to notify their parent teacher organization or parent teacher association and allow the writer to let the students know where their publications may be purchased. Books will not be sold at the school. We’re looking at speaking for about 30-45 minutes and would mainly center around the art of writing and what it takes to be a writer. Conditions may vary depending on the school.

If you are interested in putting your name on the list, please contact Melody Groves, Public Relations Chairman, at [melodygroves@comcast.net](mailto:melodygroves@comcast.net). If you prefer one area of the city, please indicate which one.

Thank you for volunteering. Who knows? The next JK Rowling may be in the audience.

**New System for Professional E-Mail Addresses**  
by Loretta Hall

One of the free benefits SouthWest Writers offers its members is the opportunity to set up a professional e-mail address. After all, an editor would rather respond to a message from LorettaHall@southwestwriters.com than to a message from HotBabe@hotmail.com (that’s just an example – don’t try to contact me at that address!). Originally, our system was set up to automatically forward mail sent to a southwestwriters.com address, sending it on to the member’s primary address (for example, at hotmail or AOL). Eventually, however, we began having problems with that system.

Some Internet service providers (ISPs) were blocking e-mail messages we automatically forwarded because they assumed the messages were spam. It became an increasing problem as more and more ISPs started blocking our forwarded messages. To get away from this problem, we have changed the way we handle messages sent to southwestwriters.com addresses. We are now providing an actual electronic mailbox at southwestwriters.com for members who request a professional e-mail address.

It turns out there’s an extra bonus to this new system. Now, when you send messages, your southwestwriters.com address appears as the “From” address on the outgoing message. This is good news for members whose addresses had previously been forwarded to an ISP (such as hotmail) that didn’t let them change the “From” address to their SWW address.

In late January, members who had SWW e-mail addresses should have received a notice from Kathleen Gens, our webmistress, explaining how to retrieve messages from their new southwestwriters.com mailboxes. She also provided instructions for telling their e-mail software (such as Internet Explorer Mail or Netscape Mail) to automatically retrieve their SWW e-mail messages. Kathleen still recommends against using Outlook or Outlook Express.

**Important note:** If you already have a southwestwriters.com e-mail address, be aware that messages sent to that address are no longer being forwarded to your “primary” e-mail address. If you have misplaced the instructions for retrieving your SWW messages or you are having trouble retrieving the messages, write to me at LorettaHall@southwestwriters.com and I will help you.

If you would like to set up a southwestwriters.com e-mail address for yourself, send me a message at LorettaHall@southwestwriters.com. This service is free to any SWW member, and will continue in effect as long as your membership is current.

**George Terrell**

Novel and Short Story Author and Playwright

See My Web Site:

[www.George-Terrell.com](http://www.George-Terrell.com)

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**Is it time for you to renew your SWW membership?**

SWW dues are \$60 per year (or \$100 for 2 years). Two individuals joining or renewing together get a special rate of \$50 each. Full-time students under 18 with proof of status and current attendance can enjoy a special \$40 rate. At the \$60 rate, that’s only \$5 a month to belong to a great organization! You can now pay your dues securely online at [www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org).

### Book Signings and Lectures

**Sunday, April 1, 3pm:** Raymond Shewnack and William Frangos, *49 Trout Streams of New Mexico*. Ray Shewnack and Bill Frangos share their experiences with the state’s streams and rivers that are both beautiful and accessible. Bookworks, 4022 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM, 505-344-8139.

**Wednesday, April 4, 4pm:** Sam Tanenhaus lecture “Literary Publishing in an Age of Publishing Conglomerates.” A New York Times Book Review Editor Tanenhaus will address the changing world of global publishing and the increasingly competitive literary industry. University of New Mexico Student Union Building’s Lobo Room. Free and open to the public.

**Thursday, April 5, 7pm:** Mary Beath, *Refuge of Whirling Light* and David Johnson, *Rebirth of Wonder*. UNM Press poets Mary Beath and David Johnson join Bookworks in celebrating National Poetry Month. Now available in paperback, the poetry in *Refuge of Whirling Light* offers the reader the pleasures and insights of the unexpected, the sensations of freedom and belonging that have always drawn her to wander the land alone.

*Rebirth of Wonder* chronicles Johnson’s migrations and adventures of discover from Minnesota to New Mexico, and abroad in his travels to Mexico, Spain, and Greece. Bookworks, 4022 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 505-344-8139.

**Monday, April 9, 6:30 to 8pm:** Lela Belle Wolfert’s Writers to Writers presentation, “Things You Must Know About Poetry.” Westside Hastings (corner of Coors Rd. and Montano). Call 505-898-0624 or email dcorwell@hotmail.com.

**Thursday, April 12, 7pm:** Sam Quinones, *Antonio’s Gun and Delfino’s Dream*. *L.A. Times* journalist Sam Quinones has covered the world of Mexican immigrants for the last thirteen years—from Chicago to Oaxaca, Michoacan to southeast Los Angeles, Tijuana to Texas.

Along the way, he has uncovered stories that help illuminate all that Mexicans seek when they come north, how they change their new country, and are changed by it. Bookworks, 4022 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 505-344-8139.

**Thursday, April 12, 7pm:** Lisa Polisar, *The Ghost of Mary Prairie*. In 1961, fifteen-year-old Jake Leeds seeks the truth behind the legend of Mary McCann, a murdered girl who haunts the Oklahoma prairie in search of her killer. Barnes & Noble, 6600 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 505-883-8236.

**Friday, April 13, 12pm:** Mary Beath, *Refuge of Whirling Light*. See April 5 listing. UNM Bookstore, 2301 Central Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 505-277-7494. \*Bring your lunch and celebrate National Poetry Month with UNM Bookstore.

**Friday, April 13, 4 to 8pm:** Lela Belle Wolfert, David J. Corwell, Jerry Davis, Margaret Tessler, Sabra Steinsiek, and Jill Lane: Discussion and Book Signing. Westside Hastings (corner of Coors Rd. and Montano). Call 505-898-9227.

**Saturday, April 14, 3pm:** David Johnson, *Rebirth of Wonder*. See April 5 listing. Borders – West Side, 10420 Coors Bypass NW, Albuquerque, NM 505-792-3180.

**Monday, April 16, 7pm:** David Stuart, *The Ecuador Effect*. Dark and fast-paced, *The Ecuador Effect* combines a liberal dose of Ecuadorian Indian culture with the drama of a novel. Page One Bookstore, 11018 Montgomery NE, Albuquerque, NM 505-294-2026.

**Friday, April 20, 12pm:** David Johnson, *Rebirth of Wonder*. See April 14 listing. UNM Bookstore.

**Monday, April 23, 12pm:** *In a Dybbuk’s Raincoat*, poems by the late Bert Meyers (Bert’s son, Daniel, will present the poems). Daniel Meyers, son of the late Bert Meyers, shares his father’s poetry that has finally been collected in one volume, *In a Dybbuk’s Raincoat*.

Bert Meyers is well known for his surprising, succinct observations on the state of the world and the human condition. UNM Bookstore, 2301 Central Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 505-277-7494. \*Bring your lunch and celebrate National Poetry Month with UNM Bookstore.

**Tuesday, April 24, 7pm:** *In a Dybbuk’s Raincoat*. See April 23 listing. Page One Bookstore, 11018 Montgomery NE, Albuquerque, NM 505-294-2026.

**Sunday, April 29, 2pm:** Lisa Polisar, *The Ghost of Mary Prairie*. In 1961, fifteen-year-old Jake Leeds seeks the truth behind the legend of Mary McCann, a murdered girl who haunts the Oklahoma prairie in search of her killer. Borders – West Side, 10420 Coors Bypass NW, Albuquerque, NM 505-792-3180.

Free Professional Email Address for SWW Members

You can give editors, agents, and booksellers an address like JoeSmith@southwestwriters.com and their messages will be automatically forwarded to your existing address.

Send an e-mail message to LorettaHall@southwestwriters.com, including your choice of SWW address and your existing e-mail address.

## Announcements

**Blogger John Knudson** has a weekly poetry post. He wants poems by local poets. Contact him if you'd like to post a poem at [johnknuds@ix.netcom.com](mailto:johnknuds@ix.netcom.com) or see his blog at: <http://albbloggerque.blogspot.com>.

**Cezanne's Carrot**, a Santa Fe-based literary journal is accepting submissions of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and visual art. Find current and past issues and full submission guidelines at the website, [www.cezannescarrot.org](http://www.cezannescarrot.org).

**Funds for Writers** by C. Hope Clark, High Hope for the Freelance Writer, Go to: [www.fundsforwriters.com](http://www.fundsforwriters.com)

**Land of Enchantment Romance Authors (LERA)**. LERA is the local chapter of Romance Writers of America. They meet from noon to 3pm at the Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM, on corner of Academy and Moon, in the education building off the back parking lot. Please see [www.leranm.com](http://www.leranm.com) for details. Visitors welcome, memberships available.

**Local Book Clubs and Published Authors** wanted for the Author Book Club Connection (ABCC). When the information is put together it will be put on a web site so book clubs can contact the authors. If you are in a book club or a published author and would like to be part of ABCC contact Scott at [alley0412@msn.com](mailto:alley0412@msn.com).

**New company** to help writers for performance. The Screen-Play Trio is a team of experienced screen-play and stage play writers who help you write, adapt, and critique works for performance. Contact Cliff Gravel, 505-888-1747 or see the New Mexico Film Directory at [www.nmfilm.com](http://www.nmfilm.com).

**Seeking History of SouthWest Writers** The SWW Board is compiling a historical archive of the beginning and early development of SouthWest Writers. All members who can contribute information, please send email to [judyducharme](mailto:judyducharme) or [sandyschairer@southwestwriters.org](mailto:sandyschairer@southwestwriters.org).

## Conference for Children's Writers and Illustrators

This April 13 and 14, New York will come to New Mexico for a conference that happens each spring, and it is always a big hit!

Attention editors and book designers: Come to the fifth annual Handsprings Conference, a two-day event co-sponsored by the New Mexico chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI-NM) and SouthWest Writers.

After last year's Handsprings Conference, writer-illustrator Jan Thomas of Socorro was offered a two-book deal by the visiting editor. Jan says, "I learned so much about every aspect of the children's book market at the Handsprings Conference. I got my book in front of an editor, and to my amazement, got a contract!"

This year, the Big Apple publishing business will visit the Duke City in the form of Mark McVeigh, senior editor at Dutton Children's Books; Laurent Linn, senior designer at Henry Holt books; and Krista Marino, editor at Knopf Delacorte Dell, who will all speak at the conference. Also featured are New Mexico's own Katherine Hauth, Kristin Litchman, and Sally Blakemore who will lead workshops on writing, illustrating and marketing. Participants also enjoy plenty of time to network.

Conference attendees can sign up for manuscript critiques with one of the editors. Illustrators can schedule portfolio reviews with the Senior Designer. It's a rare chance to get professional feedback. "Anyone who attends the conference can submit work to these people afterward, and it will get a closer look," says Chris Eboch, SCBWI-NM regional advisor and author of *The Well of Sacrifice*. Editor/Art Designer Consultation submissions are due March 18.

This year's conference includes the traditional Friday Night Party. Partygoers will also have time to meet and network with other local writers and illustrators, and to view the portfolio display by local illustrators. And, for the first time, the conference is introducing mini book launches, where authors can briefly introduce their published works.

The Handsprings Conference will be held at the UNM Continuing Education Conference Center, North Building, 1634 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM. Writers and illustrators are invited, regardless of skill level. Download a brochure at the local website at [www.scbwi-nm.org](http://www.scbwi-nm.org) or write to Conference Registrar, 11 Arco NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

The early bird registration deadline is March 30. Prices range from \$90 - \$150 depending on membership status and registration date. The Friday evening party costs from \$15 - \$20. The sponsoring organization, the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (SCBWI) is an international organization with more than 18,000 members. New Mexico is home to 200 of those members.

Very rarely are SWW programs cancelled, but it is possible should the weather become fierce. Please remember, if you have doubts about whether a program will happen, or about the time or topic, call the SWW office number (505) 265-9485 during business hours, M-F 9am - noon.

Program Location:  
New Life Presbyterian Church  
5540 Eubank NE, Albuquerque

*Saturday, April 7 from 10am to noon*

## Open Poetry Reading

April is Poetry Month. Each year in celebration, we hold an open poetry reading during our Saturday meeting. Readers need to register in advance in order to participate. SWW members who want to read can sign up by calling our office at 265-9485 or by sending an email to the address at the bottom of our website. There is a limited number of readers we can present during our meeting. So call or email us early, as we usually fill up quickly.

*Tuesday, April 17 from 7 to 9pm*

## Prime Thyme Crime: Writing and Reading Mysteries

**Susan Wittg Albert** is on tour for her latest mystery novel, *Spanish Dagger*, available April 3. She is the author of fifteen books in the China Bayles Herbal Mysteries series. Each of her China Bayles novels is named after a plant with herbal uses; Spanish Dagger is the folk name for a type of yucca that grows here in New Mexico. Her captivating characters—including ex-attorney Bayles; her police detective husband, McQuaid; psychic sidekick, Ruby; and the people of the fictional town Pecan Springs, Texas—have put her books in stores everywhere.

Her novels are peppered with herbal advice and recipes. Albert is an engaging speaker who knows tons of plant lore, how to cook and heal with herbs—and how to hunt down a killer!

A prolific author, Albert also writes the Robin Paige historical mystery series with her husband, Bill Albert. She recently published the third book in the Cottage Tales series, collectible mysteries featuring Beatrix Potter for readers of all ages. She blogs for Amazon.com and is working on a series of ten podcasts, all about herbs. Albert recently became a part-time New Mexico resident.

*Saturday, May 5 from 10am to noon*

## Wild Things of 2007: Picture Books for Now and Tomorrow

Using selected titles and building on the speaker's writing experience, we will examine what's being published now, discuss the balance between deeply personal and universally relevant, and explore what it means to know the competition.

**Uma Krishnaswami** is the author of picture books (including *Monsoon*, a Parents' Choice recommended book, and *The Happiest Tree*, a CCBC Choice) and a middle grade novel, *Naming Maya* (an IRA Notable Book for a Global Society). Uma lives in Aztec, New Mexico. She teaches writing online through [www.writers.com](http://www.writers.com) and is on the faculty of the Vermont College MFA program in Writing for Children and Young Adults.

## SouthWest Writers Workshops

All workshops are \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members

Program Location:  
New Life Presbyterian Church  
5540 Eubank NE, Albuquerque

*Saturday, April 7 from 1 to 4pm*

# Character Clinic

From picture books to adult fiction, the marketability of your writing depends on your skill at character creation. If your book is to be successful your characters must be real and robust enough to fight their way through a mountain of slush, and fresh enough capture an editor's jaded, word-weary heart.

This hands-on clinic will ensure that your characters are fully formed and ready to rumble their way to the best-seller list!

We will explore:

The emotional contract between writer and reader—understanding the promises your characters must make to the reader in the first chapter, and how you keep those promises.

Characters as collaborative constructs—using your readers' own joys and sorrows to help them invest emotionally in your characters

Rags and ribbons, flesh and bones—making sure your characters are completely believable in the context of your book.

Space is limited, so sign up early. Bring complete picture books (2000 words or less) or the first chapter of your novel and a synopsis, and get ready to shine.

**Kersten Hamilton** is a prolific writer known for her fast-paced storylines and dynamic characters. She is the author of twenty-four books for children and young adults, as well as articles and dramas for adults. The first two books of Hamilton's new mid-grade series, "Caleb Pascale and the Peculiar People," are now available from Standard Publications. Her second and third picture books from Viking will be available in 2008.

For more information on Hamilton or her books, visit [kerstenhamilton.com](http://kerstenhamilton.com).

*Saturday, May 5 from 1 to 4pm*

# Tick-Talk: A Journey Through the Pathways (and Minefields) of Dialogue in Fiction

This workshop will build on a faculty lecture I gave this spring at Vermont College and will include exercises in dialogue writing. For the most part the information will be applicable to chapter book, short story, or novel writers. If there is interest I will include picture book dialogue.

**Uma Krishnaswami** is the author of picture books (including *Monsoon*, a Parents' Choice recommended book, and *The Happiest Tree*, a CCBC Choice) and a middle grade novel, *Naming Maya* (an IRA Notable Book for a Global Society). Uma lives in Aztec. She teaches writing online through [www.writers.com](http://www.writers.com) and is on the faculty of the Vermont College MFA program in Writing for Children and Young Adults.

Donations of refreshments at the regular SWW meetings will be gratefully accepted!  
Please consider providing this valuable service to our organization.

## SWW Conference Room Classes\*

*Wednesdays, 7 to 9pm starting April 4 (3 weeks)*

### A Brush up Course: How to Write for Children

Break your bad habits and join a brush-up class. Re-invent the tools of writing and see how soon your name will appear in print. It just takes a little know-how and a lot of hard work but it can be done. It might be fun! Give it a try!

**Elsie Kreischer** is the author of three award winning children's books. For 22 years of teaching how it is done at UNM Enrichment Center. She is a demanding teacher: ready, willing and able to help you scare all the bad habits away and make you an author. \$45 members, \$55 non-members, maximum 14 students.

*Tuesdays, 7 to 8:45pm starting April 10 (5 weeks)*

### Putting the Story in History

This class is taught by Chris Eboch. \$145 members, \$195 non-members (includes SWW membership) minimum 8 students; maximum 14.

*Thursdays, 7 to 9pm starting April 12 (3 weeks)*

### The Business Side of Writing

A Renaissance man with a distinguished three-decade long career as a professional engineer, **Fred Aiken** is now in his sixth year as a Chemistry, Geology and Astronomy teacher at Rio Grande High School. In addition to a Masters Degree in Education from the College of Santa Fe, he also earned a Masters of Business Administration degree from Cleveland State University. His writing credits include articles in *Guide Post Magazine*, *Angels on Earth* and numerous technical articles and symposium proceedings. His seminar, "The Business Side of Writing" has been well received in New Mexico and elsewhere. \$45 SWW members, \$55 non-members minimum 4 students; maximum 14.

*Saturdays, 11am to 1 pm starting April 14 (6 weeks)*

### The Heart of Memoir

This class will help you discover the story you want to tell and develop an outline. Participants must be willing to dig into the depths of who they are. Go to [www.highbelow.com](http://www.highbelow.com) and click instruction for class syllabus.

In 1998, **Dina (McQueen) Wolff** received her M.A. in Biography/Autobiography from Vermont's Goddard College. During her graduate studies, Dina discovered her Grandfather Wolff's autobiography and decided to self-publish her grandfather's book, which was released under Authentic Publishing in 2000. Since then, Dina has helped many writers discover their story, how to outline and write it, acted as editor and also helped publish their books. \$200 for members, \$250 for non-members (includes SWW membership) minimum 6, maximum 14 students.

\*All classes are at 3721 Morris St. NE Suite A, Albuquerque, NM 87111-3611. Call (505) 265-9485 if you are interested in hosting a class.

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# Contest Connection

by Jeanne Shannon

The 2007 contest deadline of May 1 is fast approaching, so now's the time to make sure you understand the contest rules and guidelines. They're all on the website ([www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org)), along with the entry form and some valuable tips and reminders. Click on Annual Contest for the list of contest information files.

If you can't print a contest file as a pdf (short for "portable document format"), it may be because you don't have the proper software installed on your computer. The pdf files require Adobe Acrobat Reader, which you can download free from the Internet or go to the SWW website, <http://southwestwriters.com>.

Our judges are excited about the contest and are looking forward to reading your entries. If you have any questions, you may e-mail me at [js2007sww@yahoo.com](mailto:js2007sww@yahoo.com)

## Member Successes

**Kelly Eagle's** short story, "Nite," is the true story of a miserable marriage and will be her first published work, purchased for the spring edition of the new magazine *True Experience*.

**Jeannine Van Eperen** has two books coming out in March. *Interlude* is a contemporary romance set in New Mexico and published by Whiskey Creek Press. *Heir to the Good Times* is general fiction set in Chicago and Yuma, Arizona, published by Wings ePress. Both are available in print and as ebooks. Van Eperen's website is [www.jeanninevaneperen.com](http://www.jeanninevaneperen.com).

**Scott Merrow's** story, "The Good Mother," came in 5th (out of nearly 10,000 entries) in the *Writer's Digest* Short Short Story Contest. The story will be published in the *Writer's Digest* Short Short Story Collection and will appear online.

**Lois Duncan** will be a featured speaker at the Arizona Book Festival in Phoenix, AZ, April 14.

**Nancy Marano** won the Cat Writer's Association (CWA) Muse Medallion for Best Newspaper Column for "Cat Chat," published in *PETroglyphs*. She also won the 2007 Shojai Mentor Award, which is given to CWA members who have supported another person in their writing or publishing success.

## General Rules

Photocopies are acceptable. The Short Nonfiction Article or Essay can address *any* topic, but don't include charts or pictures. Spanish Language Nonfiction/Article or Essay has the same requirements as the Short Nonfiction Article or Essay category but must be written in Spanish. There is no limit to the number of times you may enter, but each entry must be submitted separately (in its own envelope, with a separate Contest Entry Form and a non-refundable entry fee).

Any entry failing to comply with these rules will be critiqued, but will NOT be judged. Contacting a judge regarding your entry before the winners are announced is an automatic disqualification.

See [www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org). Finalists are notified by mail and listed on the SWW website with the title of their entry. First, second and third place winners receive cash prizes of \$150, \$100 and \$50, respectively. First place winners also compete for the **\$1000 Storyteller Award**. Winners are honored at a contest awards banquet (tba).

1. **Deadline:** Entries must be postmarked by May 1, 2007 or they will be returned. No hand deliveries or E-mail submissions are accepted.
2. **Submit** two copies of your entry, which must be original, unpublished, unsold, and not optioned prior to May 1, 2007. Your entry **must not have been previously selected as a SWW 1st place contest winner** within the same category. One entry copy will be sent to the judge; the other will be critiqued by a qualified consultant.
3. **Write the Category Number** on the outside envelope, under your return address.
4. **SASE:** Include a 9" x 12" return envelope with the SAME amount of postage used to mail in your entry so the critique and all contents of your submission package can be returned to you. **NO METERED POSTAGE ON RETURN ENVELOPES** (USPS will not deliver). **Entries with inadequate return postage will NOT be returned.** An optional self-addressed, stamped postcard will be returned to you to verify receipt of your entry.
5. **Your name must appear in only four locations or your entry will be disqualified:**
  - Contest Entry Form
  - Return address on outside entry envelope
  - SASE
  - Optional notification postcard.
6. **Your signature** (and any co-author's signature) **MUST** appear on the Contest Entry Form.

## SPECIFIC CATEGORY GUIDELINES

**NOVELS:** First 20 pages or fewer, double-space. Begin with prologue and/or first chapter, and single-space, one page synopsis.

1. **Mainstream and Literary**
2. **Mystery, Suspense, Thriller, or Adventure**
3. **Romance**
4. **Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Horror**
5. **Historical or American Frontier/Western**
6. **Middle Grade (4th-6th grade) or Young Adult (7th grade and up).** You must type *Middle Grade* or *Young Adult* in the top right corner of the first page.
7. **Inspirational or Spiritual**

**SHORT STORIES:** Up to 5,000 words, with word count in top right corner on 1st page.

8. **Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Horror** (double-spaced)
9. **Mainstream and Literary** (double-spaced)
10. **Mystery or Romance** (double-spaced)
11. **Other Genres: Historical, Western, etc.** (double-spaced)
12. **Middle Grade (4th-6th grade) or Young Adult (7th grade and up).** (double-spaced) You must type *Middle Grade* or *Young Adult* in the top right corner of the first page.

**SHORT NONFICTION:** (Print word count upper right corner)

13. **Nonfiction Article or Essay:** 800-3,000 words, double-spaced, any topic, plus a one page query letter, single-spaced, to the appropriate target publication.
14. **Children's Nonfiction Article:** Middle Grade (4th-6th grade) or Young Adult (7th grade and up). 500-800 words, double-spaced, plus a one page query letter, single-spaced, to the appropriate target publication.

### OTHER:

15. **Nonfiction Book:** The first 20 pages or fewer, double-spaced plus a one page query letter, single-spaced, and a three page proposal, double-spaced, (include market competition, audience, summary, and chapter headings). No charts, graphs, etc.
16. **Children's Mystery or Suspense Book:** Middle Grade (4th - 6th grade) Young Adult (7th grade and up). The first 20 pages or fewer, double-spaced, plus a one page synopsis, single-spaced.
17. **Children's Picture Book (Fiction and Nonfiction):** Target age: 4-7 years old. No more than six pages, double-spaced, (**text only**) for a 32-page book. **NO** illustrations.
18. **Screenplay:** The first 20 pages, plus a one page single-spaced synopsis **that tells the complete story.** Use accepted screenplay format; 12 point Courier only and it **must** be bound with brads. **NO** stage plays or TV series, please. You must include the total page count of the screenplay in the top right corner of the first page.
19. **Poetry:** 5 pages or fewer, any spacing, even if more than one poem. **NO graphics.**
20. **Spanish Language Nonfiction Article/Essay:** Written in Spanish only; 800-3,000 words, double-spaced, any topic, plus a one page query letter, single-spaced, to the appropriate target publication. (Word count upper right corner.) See Spanish language link on website.

**The outside envelope for each submitted entry must be labeled with one of the category numbers above; write the number on the envelope, under your return address. Use Category Specific Guidelines with the General Contest Rules and the Contest Entry Form.**

# 2007 SWW CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Complete this form for **each** entry. Please **print legibly**. The form may be photocopied or duplicated from southwestwriters.org, but all **signatures must be original**. **Mail each entry separately**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 How did you hear about the contest? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Entry Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Category (circle one):**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

**Entry Fees (NON-REFUNDABLE) Please circle one.**

All categories (except poetry):	\$29 SWW Member	\$44 Non-Member
Poetry:	\$18 SWW Member	\$28 Non-Member

**Mail by May 1, 2007**

Check or money order (in US\$) payable to SouthWest Writers. *Do not send cash.*  
 This Contest Entry Form, completed and signed.  
 Two (2) copies of your entry. Consult the General Contest Rules.  
 SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope), which must contain the **same** amount of postage used on the outside envelope. **NO metered postage** on return envelopes.

*Entries with inadequate return postage will NOT be returned.*

Write category number entered under your return address on the outside envelope.  
 Optional: Self-addressed, stamped postcard (acknowledges receipt of entry).

**Mail To: SouthWest Writers Contest 2007**  
**3721 Morris NE, Suite A**  
**Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111-3611**

**Contestant's Agreement**

In consideration for SouthWest Writers' (SWW) acceptance of my work for review in the SWW Contest 2007, I hereby submit my entry and fee, and agree to be bound by the contest rules stated herein. I understand that any questions regarding the interpretation of these rules, and any matters relating to the contest, which are not specifically covered by the rules, will be decided solely at the discretion of the contest officials. I will accept as final and be bound by all judges' decisions. I understand and agree that my manuscript will be subjectively evaluated, and SWW cannot accept liability for consequences arising from any opinion expressed. I hold harmless and indemnify SWW, its agents, employees, and volunteers for any and all losses, costs, or expenses incurred from any dispute arising from my participation in the contest. I acknowledge by my signature below that I have read, understood, and agree to be bound by these rules. I understand that my contest submission will not be accepted without my signature below, and that under no condition will my entry fee be refunded.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author's signature, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



The SouthWest  
Sage



*Eileen Stanton is an award-winning author, co-founder and past president of SWW, and long-time teacher at three universities, including the University of New Mexico. She has honed her interviewing talents over 15 years on the radio and in thousands of articles. She brings this expertise to the Sage's Markets column each month.*

*Let her know what questions you want answered.*

*Her email is estanton@cableone.net.*

## The Right Time and Place for Westerns

By Eileen Stanton

Once again, I'm interviewing a judge from SWW's 2007 Contest. Allison Brandau is Editorial Assistant at The Berkley Publishing Group (Penguin Putnam). She handles Historical and American Frontier/Western Novels.

Note her answer when asked best advice she could give writers who want to be published, she said, "Get an agent." That's why the third one-day conference I'm chairing for UNM and SWW on the April 28, "From Start to Sales" will feature your choice of three agents in addition to two editors and a Private Investigator. To sign up, call 277-0077 to sign up and get a brochure. Once you decide to whom you will give your 10-minute pitch, email me at [estanton@cableone.net](mailto:estanton@cableone.net).

**Q.** What was your background before coming to the Berkley Publishing Group?

**A.** I was a journalism undergrad at Northwestern University, also an avid reader. But I think that goes without saying.

**Q.** What changes do you see in today's Historical or American Frontier/Western Novels?

**A.** To honest, this is one of the few genres that have remained consistent. The elements that have made western novels successful in the past continue to appeal to fans of the genre.

**Q.** What elements do you look for in these kinds of novel manuscripts?

**A.** Obviously, well-defined characters are really important. Also, given that most readers won't have first hand experience with the frontier environment, I would look for authors that can make a foreign lifestyle relatable to anyone who picks up the book.

**Q.** What do you want to see when you judge the first chapter and synopsis of a novel?

**A.** I want to see that the author knows where they are going with the story. The synopsis needs to be clear and concise, but not so concise that I can't follow the thread of the story. Don't worry so much about the details, focus more on how we are going to get from beginning to end, and make sure that it makes logical sense.

The biggest mistake I see when reading a first chapter is that the author has spent too much time on "the setup." The most success-

ful books are those that jump right into the action. The back-story – while it may be important – should just reveal itself naturally as the plot progresses. It's hard to get a sense for the writer's style and talent when all we have is set up.

**Q.** How has television affected the audience and sales of books in these genres?

**A.** I don't have stats and numbers to give you. On the one hand, if people are watching TV, they aren't reading, so that can't be good for sales. On the other hand, television often sparks interest in a subject that a reader might wish to explore more thoroughly. I think the two coexist pretty harmoniously.

**Q.** What turns you off when reading a manuscript?

**A.** It may seem small, but when I come across misspellings and blatant grammatical errors, I am less inclined to continue reading a proposal or manuscript. In this day of spellchecker – and even grammar check on most computer programs – these kinds of mistakes should not happen. A manuscript proposal is akin to a cover letter for a job application. It is our first impression of you. It should be the best one possible. Proofread, proofread again and then have a friend look it over once more before you submit anything. We're editors, after all; we notice these things.

**Q.** What do you wish I'd asked?

**A.** The best advice that I can offer a potential author is to seek representation before submitting to publishing houses. Agented submissions go to the top of the "to read" pile and many of the major publishing houses have a firm policy of not accepting unsolicited manuscripts and queries.

## Contests

*Note: This information is provided as a convenience. Before entering, be sure to check the listed website at the end of each listing for submission guidelines and information or write the sponsors to make sure a contest is right for you.*

**Don't forget the SouthWest Writers 2007 Annual Contest,** deadline 5/1/07 (postmark), with 20 categories of novels, short stories, nonfiction, children's, screenplay, poetry, and Spanish nonfiction. Prizes include \$150 first, \$100 second, and \$50 third in each category and a \$1,000 Storyteller award. Entry fees are \$18 for poetry (\$28 for nonmembers), \$29 for all other categories (\$44 for nonmembers). Details at our website: <http://www.southwestwriters.com>.

**Deadline: 4/2/07.** Thriller, mystery, suspense, or sci-fi novels. Iota Novel Writing Contest. Prize: \$1,000 and publication of novel. Entry fee: \$10. Author must be unpublished and have a "Southwest connection, either by the author's personal connection of by some element in the manuscript." NOTE: this is a start-up small publisher in California with no history of publication (first novel yet to be released). SWW's contact with them has been positive, but as with any contest, we encourage writers to visit the sponsoring organization's website and/or contact them to make sure it's right for you. Submission guidelines and information: <http://www.bijouresearch.com/IotaHome.asp>.

**Deadline: 4/15/07 (postmark).** Short stories and poetry. George Garrett Fiction Award/Vachel Lindsay Poetry Award. Prizes: \$500 fiction, \$400 poetry. All entries eligible for publication in *Willow Springs*. Entry fee: \$10. Word limit for fiction: 7,000 words. Limit for poetry: 6 poems per submission. All entries must be original and unpublished. Submission requirements and information at: <http://willowsprings.ewu.edu/Contests.htm>.

**Deadline: 5/1/07 (postmark).** Short stories. The Journal's Short Story Contest (Ohio State University). Prize: \$1,000 and publication. Entry fee: \$10. All styles, subject matter, and forms accepted up to 7,500 words. All submissions considered for publication. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://english.osu.edu/research/journals/thejournal/shortstorycontest.cfm>.

**Deadline: 5/10/07 (postmark).** Short stories. Howard Frank Mosher Short Fiction Prize (Vermont College), judged by Wally Lamb. Prizes: \$1,000 and publication. Entry fee: \$15. Original, unpublished, short story not to exceed 10,000 words. No multiple submissions. All entries considered for publication. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.tui.edu/hungermtn/hfm.asp>.

**Deadline: 5/15/07 (postmark).** Short Story. Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition. Prizes: \$1,000 first place, \$500 second place, \$500 third place. Entry fee: \$10 if postmarked by 5/1/07, \$15 otherwise. Stories must be original, unpublished, typed and double-spaced, and 3,000 words or less. No theme restrictions. Fiction only. Only open to writers whose fiction has NOT appeared in a nationally distributed publication with a circulation of 5,000 or more. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.shortstorycompetition.com/>

**Deadline: 5/15/07 (postmark).** Short Story. Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition. Prizes: \$1,000 first place, \$500 second place, \$500 third place. Entry fee: \$10 if postmarked by 5/1/07, \$15 otherwise. Stories must be original, unpublished, typed and double-spaced, and 3,000 words or less. No theme restrictions. Fiction only. Only open to writers whose fiction has NOT appeared in a nationally distributed publication with a circulation of 5,000 or more. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.shortstorycompetition.com/>

**Deadline: 5/15/07 (postmark).** Short stories, articles, poetry, scripts, plays. *Writer's Digest* 76th Annual Writing Competition. Over \$30,000 in cash and prizes, including a grand prize of \$3,000 and a 3-day trip to New York City to meet and dine with four editors or agents of your choice. Cash prizes (\$1,000 first, \$500 second, \$250 third, \$100 fourth, \$50 fifth, and \$25 sixth through tenth) awarded in each of ten categories — Inspirational, memoirs/personal essay, magazine feature article, genre short story, mainstream/literary short story, rhyming poetry, non-rhyming poetry, stage play, TV/movie script, and children's/young adult fiction. Entry fee: \$10 first poem, \$5 for each additional. All other entries are \$15 for first manuscript, \$10 for each additional manuscript. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.writersdigest.com/contests>.

**Deadline: 5/18/07 (postmark).** Short stories. St. Louis Short Story Competition. Prize: \$5,000 grand prize (winner take all). Entry fee: \$10. Entries must be under 3,500 words. No limitations on genre or topic. Multiple entries accepted (with individual entry fees). Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.stlshortstory.com>.

**Deadline: 5/31/07 (postmark):** Short stories, short stories for children, personal essay/memoir, poetry. The Society of Southwestern Authors 2007 Writing Contest. Prizes: \$300 first, \$150 second, \$75 third in all four categories. Honorable mentions: \$25. Entry fee: \$10/entry. Critiques are an additional \$25/entry. No simultaneous entries. Short stories - 2,500 words max. Short stories for children - 1,500 words max. Memoir - 2,500 words max. Poetry - 40 lines max. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.ssa-az.org/contest.html>.

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*Keith Pyeatt is the outgoing conference chair at SouthWest Writers and the incoming treasurer. He writes psychological, paranormal thrillers and has a website at: <http://www.keithpyeatt.com>.*

## SWW International Monthly Writing Competition

### April 2007: Poetry

April is poetry month. Submit a poem of any subject in any format, spacing and length. Postmark deadline: 30 April 2007.

#### EASY INSTRUCTIONS

- Open to any writer in the world.
- All entries must be postmarked by the date listed.
- Original, unpublished work only.
- No cover sheets.
- Print the following information on first page:  
Name; Address; Phone; E-mail (if any); Category Name.
- Manuscripts prepared in standard format: 1" margins, double-spaced unless otherwise specified.
- Entries are not returned, so there's no need for an SASE.
- \$5 entry fee for SWW members; \$10 entry fee for nonmembers.
- You may enter more than once, but an entry fee must accompany each entry.
- Decisions of the judges are final.
- Prizes: \$50 1st Prize; \$30 2nd Prize; \$20 3rd Prize and certificates.
- Mail entries to:

SWW Monthly Writing Competition  
3721 Morris St NE, Ste A  
Albuquerque, NM 87111

(Print name of category under your return address)

### Congratulations! Winners of the December 2006 Monthly Competition, Holiday Poetry

**1st Prize:** Charles J. Garcia, Erie, CO for *In One Small Way*

**2nd Prize:** Susan J. Alexis, Albuquerque, NM for *The Ghosts of Christmas Past*

**3rd Prize:** Joshua Swenson, Tucson, AZ, NM for *South Pole Santa and the Elfengineers*

## Board Meeting Highlights

Board discussed Sisters in Crime with Stephanie Hainsfurther: Joint meeting with SWW and Sisters in Crime is April 17th at 7:30 PM. Susan Wittig Albert, The author of *Spanish Dagger*; will be speaking. Books Works will be selling books including the speaker's books.

President Larry Greenly reported that at the February second program attendance was 60 for the breakfast, and 155 at the regular Saturday program, a record number. The workshop that day was attended by 42 people. Workshops are very popular.

SWW is still seeing a Conference Coordinator for the Board. Conferences through April are already set up. If you are interested, contact Larry Greenly at the office before noon.

New Member Breakfast: David Corwell wishes to thank everyone who participated and attended making it a huge success. Attendees were excited about having "Genre Tables" to sit with others interested in the same genre. The memoir genre expanded to three tables full of interested writers.

Website and Sage: Larry Greenly reported that the contest info is on the website and appeared in the March Sage. Kathleen the web mistress updates the website quickly. Lee Ross the Sage editor is doing a great job.

Contest: Publicity is still going out, all the critiquers and judges are selected. The list of Judges is posted on the website. The judges are excellent and should attract entries.

SWW is holding sponsored classes in the SWW Office Board Room presented by experts in their field of writing. Please keep an eye out for announcements and flyers. There is a fee. Classes have to remain small because of space limitations.

There will be an in-house financial audit of the financial report from the annual meeting. The financial reports and official minutes are open for viewing in the SWW office.

## Odds & Ends

### Critique Groups

Submit addition or deletion requests or changes to SWWriters@juno.com.

*Wanting to Start Groups/  
Looking for a Group*

**\*Any Genre, Albuquerque:**

Meet every two weeks on Friday in NE Heights  
*Krys Douglas*  
505-830-3015

**\*Any Genre, Albuquerque:**

GLBT Writers  
*Jim McDonough*  
505-688-2954  
jim@queerwriters.com

**\*Any Genre, Las Cruces:**

*Barbara Villemez*  
505-522-5734

**\*Fiction Writers**

Will meet every three weeks at Erna Ferguson Library, 6-8pm.  
*Bill Howden, 505-341-4474*

**\*Any Genre, Santa Fe:**

*Mary Mazza-Anderson*  
cmmom@zianet.com

**\*Fantasy/Romance:**

*Heidi Punke*  
505-271-9772  
heidiandmitch@yahoo.com

**\*Historical Romance:**

*Leah Dodd*  
505-890-0210, patandleah@peoplepc.com

**Lester Libo**

is looking for a critique group in the fiction genre. lesterml1@comcast.net.

**\*Poetry:**

*Billy Brown*  
505-401-8139, welbert@aol.com

**\*Sci Fi/Fantasy:**

*Joel Holt*  
505-265-1938, loki265@hotmail.com

**\*Short Nonfiction:**

*Suzann Owings*  
505-867-0567

*Groups Seeking  
Members*

**\*American Theater Ensemble Screenwriters and Playwrights:**

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7pm at Puccini's Golden West, 620 Central Ave SW, 505-242-2353, elreytheater@qwest.net.

*Groups Seeking  
Members*

**Any Genre:**

Meets once a month on Sunday afternoons  
*Michael Franco*  
MDLindell@aol.com

**\*Any Genre, including childrens, Albuquerque:**

Meets the first Wednesday of the month, 7-9pm, Hastings Superstore, Wyoming and Montgomery  
*Sabra Steinsiek*  
505-260-1837

**\*Any Genre, Moriarty:**

Second and fourth Thursday each month, 6pm at the Moriarty Library  
*Tina Ortega*  
505-832-2513, jleksutin@hotmail.com

**\*Any Genre, Rio Rancho:**

*Alice Harpley and Bob Harpley*  
505-867-1408,  
riversedgebob@cableone.net  
riograndema@cableone.net

**\*Land of Enchantment Romance Authors:**

Meets the second Saturday of each month at noon. Potential members, attend three meetings to try it out. leranm.org.

**\*Mystery/Sci Fi:**

*Fred Aiken*  
505-856-2145  
FredAiken@southwestwriters.com

**\*Novels/Short Stories:**

*Janeen Anderson*  
505-899-5624, janeen@janglya.com

**\*Novel/Memoir**

Meet online and monthly, NE Albuquerque.  
*Nancy Costea, 505-323-9681*  
costeawood@comcast.net

**\*Novels/Short Stories:**

Meets Saturday afternoons Albuquerque Main Public Library on Copper.  
*Jack Phelan, 505-292-0576 or 256-3500*

**\*The Screaming Ninja Screenwriters:**

Meets every other Thursday, Flying Star on 7th and Silver. *Marc Calderwood*  
505-897-6474,  
skatingkokopelli@hotmail.com

## SouthWest Sage Ad Rates

### Worldwide Circulation on the Internet

The SWW website receives hundreds of thousands of page requests every month.

*Business card size:* \$16

*1/8 page:* \$24

*1/4 page:* \$36

*1/3 page:* \$45

*1/2 page:* \$75

*Full page:* \$100

*15% discount for 3 mos.*

*20% discount for 6 mos.*

### Deadline:

1st of each month for the following month.

Payment due with camera-ready ad copy.

For information about benefits for SWW members contact:

**Cheri Eicher**

**INDEPENDENT  
MEANS**

Group Benefits  
(505) 299-5919  
(800) 883-4310

Independentmeans@comcast.net

SWW Board Meeting will be held at the SWW office on Tuesday, April 3, 2007, at 6 pm

3721 Morris St. NE Suite A  
Albuquerque, NM 87111-3611  
phone: (505) 265-9485 fax: (505) 265-9483  
e-mail: SWWriters@juno.com  
web: http://southwestwriters.com

# New SWW Members

Angela Cook	Cate Cardwell	Kathy Luker
Gail Gibbs	Rebecca Welch	Timothy Holland
Dorothy Best	Dominique Jones	Kate Padilla
Linda Mertz	Jonathan Sacks	Joycelyn Campbell
Steve Shaw	Dwight R. Jennison	Mason Tuck
Stacy Sacco	Maggie McDonnell	

**Need a new book (or almost anything else)?  
Save Money and Support SWW!**

Go to [www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org)  
and click on the  
amazon.com box.  
You save money &  
SWW receives a commission.

## New SWW Email Address is Here

SouthWest Writers has retired its old AOL address and has replaced it with SWWriters@juno.com.  
Please make note of it in your email address book.

SWW is happy to announce the enormously expanded list of writer's resources website links is now on the SWW website.  
Check it out.

### President/Office Coordinator

Larry Greenly  
SWWriters@juno.com

### Vice-President

Rob Spiegel  
(505) 275-2556 · RobSpiegel@comcast.net

### Secretary/Parliamentarian

Sandy Schairer  
(505) 281-0546 · SandySchairer@southwestwriters.com

### Treasurer

Keith Pyeatt  
(505) 890-5545 · keith@keithpyeatt.com

### Membership

Larry Greenly  
(505) 265-9485 · SWWriters@juno.com

### Public Relations

Melody Groves  
MelodyGroves@southwestwriters.com

### Critique Service

Edith Greenly  
(505) 265-9485 · SWWriters@juno.com

### Policies Procedures, and Audit

Lela Belle Wolfert  
(505) 899-2952

### Volunteer Coordinator

Ron Schultz  
RonSchultz@southwestwriters.com

### Workshop Coordinator

Loretta Hall  
(505) 764-9906 · LorettaHall@southwestwriters.com

### Conference Chair

Pending

### Historian

Judy Ducharme  
(505) 256-9659

JudyDucharme@southwestwriters.com  
**Book Table/New Member Breakfast**

David Corwell  
(505) 898-0624 · dcorwell@hotmail.com

### Writer's Contest 2007 Chair

Jeanne Shannon  
(505) 296-0691 · js2007sww@yahoo.com

### Class Coordinator

Bonnie Hayes  
(505) 821-5372 BonnHayes@aol.com

### Other Key Positions

### SWW Sage Editor

Lee Ross  
editor@southwestwriters.com

### SWW Sage Assistant Editor

Jeanne Shannon  
(505) 296-0691 · jspoetry@aol.com

### E-lert Mistress

Gail Rubin  
publicity@southwestwriters.com

### Speaker Coordinator

Rob Spiegel  
(505) 275-2556 · RobSpiegel@southwestwriters.com

## The SouthWest Sage

SouthWest Writers

3721 Morris NE

Albuquerque NM 87111

[www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org)

[SWWriters@juno.com](mailto:SWWriters@juno.com)

**See your membership card or mailing label for renewal date. Renew to retain your membership benefits. You may now do this securely online.**

# Ron Schultz: Exceptional Member of the Month

SouthWest Writers exists because of its dedicated board of directors, great speakers and technical help of all kinds, but it wouldn't exist without the wonderful, enthusiastic members. While they may not have a title within the organization or spend much time at the podium, our great members need to be appreciated, so we're making an effort. This month, Ron Schultz is our exceptional member.

Ron Schultz has made big waves as a speaker and workshop MC. He is also happy to tell other members when they've done well and is generally the type of member any organization is thrilled to have.

