



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

## Sell Your Book: Make a Contact List

by Gunda Siska

After you put together a marketing plan and read enough promotional resources to give you the big picture, the next step is to make a contact list. A contact list is people you are going to send promotional material to when your book hits the shelves or amazon.com. These are your potential customers. You can also refer to your list when you do a book signing, when you have a release party...you get the idea. This mailing list is going to be very valuable to you, your publicist and your publisher. They will eventually ask you for it. And no one can put this list together except you. Here's how to start.

Get out your Christmas card mailing list out and start adding to it. Add the people you work with, attend church with, go to the gym, add everyone you know. Then to expand even more start working on people you don't know. When you encounter a new person, start up a conversation about anything, and then move the conversation naturally to you and what you do. Tell them about the book you wrote and the stage of publishing you are in. Ask them if they would like to be keep updated on what's going on with it. Or if you are already published, ask them if they want to be invited to your next book signing. Be careful not to use the words mass emails or spam. Just tell them what you are doing in the most basic form, which is keeping your friends, family, and acquaintances updated as to the progress of your book.

To gather even more contact information, brainstorm for opportunities. At your next promotional event have a guest book for people to sign and leave their contact information. You might even have an attendant to gather people's information. Give away prizes with a drawing and ask for the information.

Be creative, but also be careful and gather the information accurately. Ask your contact person to print their information clearly. You don't want to spend your time and energy finding these contacts, only to lose their information to bad handwriting or incomplete information.

Be sure to store your precious information properly in a database that can be sorted. You are going to send out emails only to those contacts your event pertains to. That's because if you send out too many mass emails, your potential readers will get nauseated at the sight of your name. Customize your promotional efforts and, if possible, make a note in your database about where you got your contacts' information. That way in your email you can write, "Remember me from the book fair?" or wherever you met.

This whole project should be like a snowball rolling downhill. It will start out small and manageable and hopefully get bigger and bigger. Be patient. Spend the time to do it right. When it grows out of control, then it might be time to look for a publicist. Good luck.

**WRITER'S GUIDELINES** The SouthWest Sage welcomes articles about the craft and business of writing. Articles should be 250 to 750 words long, plus a 40-word bio. Submissions are preferred by e-mail in an RTF attachment with 11pt. Times New Roman font and single-spaced. Bylines are given. No payment. The editor reserves the right to edit articles for length and content. Published articles will appear on the SWW website. Send submissions to [editor@southwestwriters.com](mailto:editor@southwestwriters.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).



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.*

Never before have agents been so important in the publishing world. Writer's Market indicates that the vast number of book publishers won't look at manuscripts from un-agented writers. Overworked editors don't have the time to go through non-solicited manuscripts.

They depend on savvy agents who understand the market, know good writing, give advice to writers, and will bring them well-edited manuscripts that fit the publishers' needs. For that reason, we're bringing in three accomplished agents, an editor from Berkley, Penguin Putnam, and an editor of a sports magazine with ties to 16 more.

**Stephen Barbara** works for one of the most respected and successful literary agencies in the country: The Donald Maass Literary Agency, which regularly sells 100 books each year. He's coming to UNM/SWW's one-day writer's conference, From Start to Sales III on April 28.

# Why You Need an Agent

By Eileen Stanton

**Q.** Stephen, you are both an agent and contract manager at the agency. Which came first, and do they complement each other?

**A.** When Don hired me back in January, he asked me to handle both positions, so that's why I lead the interesting double life I do. The two functions don't correlate in a direct way, but learning the ins and outs of contracts has made me a smarter agent. I get to see what gets put in a contract (and

*Continued on page 4*

**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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*Why You Need an Agent, continued...*

what it all means) and it helps me when I'm negotiating my own deals.

**Q.** What genres of books do you personally handle?

**A.** I'm most interested in representing YA and middle-grade novels, high-quality adult literary and mainstream fiction, narrative nonfiction in the areas of military, history, and biography, and a variety of genre fiction. Pop culture is getting to be an interest as well. I'm especially looking for smart, fresh, funny writing, original premises, and writers who are hoping to establish long careers and build up their audiences.

**Q.** What are some of your recent sales?

**A.** I sold 14 projects in 2006, most of which were debut YA or middle-grade. Recent sales include *The Joy of Spooking* (Margaret McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster), *Dead is the New Black* (Harcourt Children's), both in three-book deals, *Never Cry Werewolf* (HarperCollins Children's), *Libby Fawcett's Secret Blog* (Amulet Books), and *This Book Isn't Fat, It's Pleasantly Plump* (Scholastic).

**Q.** What are you looking for in a novel?

**A.** It's strange to say, but I don't really know what makes a novel work for me. Voice. Talent. Humor. Wit. These are words, but they don't convey precisely what attracts me to a novel. I just know I'm reading something great when it comes alive off the page and I can't put it down.

**Q.** What do you want to see in a nonfiction book?

**A.** A topic that hasn't been broached; or a new look at an old topic. Generally, subject matter that's meaningful, relevant, timely. It's always preferable if the author has strong credentials and a big platform, as well.

**Q.** What do you want to hear in a short pitch session?

**A.** Speaking just for myself, I like a more conversational pitch session. Tell me a little about yourself. Tell me what kind of writing you do. Give me an idea of the project you're hoping to get representation for, if you can, bring me a few pages to look at. Ultimately, I can't decide on a project without seeing a sample, so don't be too nervous about the pitch itself. I go to conferences to find new writers, so have the confidence that I'm eager to see what you've written.

**Q.** What are the best and worst things about your job?

**A.** Above all else I like the satisfaction that comes from selling a debut novel and thus launching a new career. It's a great feeling, making that call to the writer who you know is going to be just bouncing off the walls. There's nothing about the job I really dislike though – even going through the slush pile can be exciting, because you never know what you're going to find. Each day is dynamic that way.

## Love Books?

Get your feet wet doing a book review, collect a writing sample, and even keep the book. This month's book, *Hot Coffee and Cold Truth* is a collection of thirteen stories inspired by our western landscape and culture.

The *Sage* is very open to new writers, so don't be shy. Email a few lines about yourself and why you should be the one to do the review to [editor@southwestwriters.com](mailto:editor@southwestwriters.com).

# Book Signings and Events

## Book Signings

**Saturday, February 10th, Raphael Cristy, *Charles M. Russell: The Storyteller's Art*.** Cristy shows how Russell, well known for his sketches, paintings, and sculptures of the Old West, was also an accomplished "local color" writer who amused his peers with stories that delivered sharp observations and humorous treatment of the American West. Cristy has performed "Charlie Russell's Yarns" since 1976 in a variety of venues. *Charles M. Russell* is now available in paperback. At 3 pm, Borders—West Side, 10420 Coors Bypass NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 505-792-3180.

**Saturday, February 17th, Slim Randles, *Sun Dog Days*.** Now available in paperback, *Sun Dog Days* presents a captivating tale of two middle-aged cowboys who rekindle their friendship while running wild horses. At 3 pm, Borders—West Side, 10420 Coors Bypass NW, Albuquerque, NM, 505-792-3180.

## Workshops and Events

**Land of Enchantment Romance Authors (LERA).** LERA is the local chapter of Romance Writers of America. This month, LERA is meeting Saturday, February 17, not the usual date, which is the second Saturday of each month. The usual date will be resumed after February. 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.

**Rick Reichman** will teach Beginning and Advanced screenwriting classes at Santa Fe Community College this spring. Rick Reichman's students have sold scripts to Fox, Warner Brothers, HBO, Showtime, PBS, TNN, all the major networks and such shows as "Roseanne," "Home Improvement," "Friends," "Buffy The Vampire Slayer," and "Strong Medicine," to name a few. Register between now and January 20th at (505) 428-1270.

**Every Tuesday, 10-11:15am: Craft of Writing Workshops** Taught by author/essayist/poet Linda Sonna. \$10, Drop-ins welcome. Wired Café, Taos (505) 737-9092.

## Workshops and Events

**Every Friday, 6-7pm: Poetry and Short Prose Readings.** Newcomers are welcome to participate. For more information or questions, call Kamden weekdays at Title Wave Books, 1408 Eubank NE (505) 294-9495.

## Author Services and Calls for Submissions

**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://albloggerque.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).

**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 screenplay 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).

**NM Poetry Tangents:** Call for submissions for local poets and writers for a NM based poetry anthology to be published in January. The project will feature selections by Sandra Cisneros and Jimmy Santiago Baca. For more information go to <http://nmpoetrytangents.com> or send an e-mail to Zach at [tigerbrighttiger@yahoo.com](mailto:tigerbrighttiger@yahoo.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@southwestwriters.org) or [sandyschairer@southwestwriters.org](mailto:sandyschairer@southwestwriters.org).

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, February 3, 8:30 to 10am*

## New Member Breakfast

Members and prospective members are invited to a free breakfast at New Life Presbyterian Church (5540 Eubank NE). This event welcomes our new members. The breakfast is also a great opportunity to meet other writers and learn the benefits of SWW membership. The regular meeting follows at 10 am.

*Saturday, February 3, 10am to Noon*

## The Heart of Memoir Writing: How to get to the truth of who you are and where you came from

In this brief introduction to writing memoir from the heart, **Dina R. McQueen** will present her technique of mapping out a life. This process allows the writer to discover the golden thread of her/his life, a connecting link that, in the end, develops a clear and definite understanding and appreciation for each transformative moment lived.

Dina has been in the publishing industry for 20 years. In 1998 she received her M.A. in Biography/Autobiography from Goddard College in Vermont. She has edited, designed, and published more than ten books. Dina lives in Santa Fe with her husband and provides writers with a variety of services, from coaching and editing, to book design and consulting for those who wish to self-publish.

*Tuesday February 20 from 7 to 9pm*

## Writing and Publishing Poetry: Some Things I've Learned along the Way

**Jeanne Shannon** says, “‘Show, don’t tell’ applies to poetry as well as fiction. I will offer some tips about how to show an experience in a way that makes the reader feel a part of it, rather than simply observing it from a distance. I’ll also talk about recent trends in poetry and what we mean when we call a poem ‘experimental.’ For example, how do experimental poems deal with traditional elements of poetry such as narrative, lyricism, and closure? Then I’ll address some do’s and don’ts to ignore at your peril when submitting poetry for publication.”

Jeanne Shannon has been writing poetry since childhood. She has published three full-length collections of her poetry and nine chapbooks. Her work has appeared in numerous small-press and university publications in the United States, Canada, England and Japan. These include *Blue Mesa Review*, *Quarter After Eight*, *Bardsong*, *Appalachian Heritage*, and the UNM Press anthology titled *In Company: New Mexico Poets After 1960*. She founded *Blackberry* poetry magazine in the 1970s and currently is editor/publisher of The Wildflower Press, a small-press book publisher in Albuquerque.

## SouthWest Writers Workshops

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

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

Saturday, February 3, 2007, 1-4pm

# Writing Magazine Articles that Sell

The workshop covers all aspects of writing magazine articles:

- Developing a great idea
- Matching the idea with the right magazine
- Turning the idea into a pitch
- Finding the right sources
- Drafting the article
- Meeting deadlines
- Turning an assignment into a working relationship

The workshop will also look at the different type of magazine articles:

- Feature articles
- Sidebars
- Recurring columns
- Beat reporting
- Profiles
- Reviews
- Section editing

**Larry Greenly** is widely published with his non-fiction articles. He is the literary editor of *albuquerqueARTS*, a former copy editor for several publications, and the current president of SouthWest Writers. As well as writing feature articles and profiles, Larry has also written recurring columns on a variety of subjects.

**Robert Spiegel** is contributing editor to a number of trade publications. He has held the senior editor position at *Ecommerce Business* and *Electronic News*. He is also the former owner and publisher of *Chile Pepper* magazine. He is currently vice-president of SouthWest Writers.

Saturday, March 3 from 1-4pm

# Selling Yourself in 60 Seconds or Less Pitching to producers, publishers and passers-by

This workshop will focus on how writers can pitch their projects. We will do case studies and critiques on several people's pitches in the room through role playing. Every attendee will get a free written evaluation of the pitch by Jonathan Miller.

Jonathan Miller has four published books and has had his projects optioned on several occasions by Hollywood producers. He was an Associate Producer on the nationally syndicated show, *Arrest and Trial*. Jonathan holds the store sales records in stores all over America. He's a graduate of the Albuquerque Academy, Cornell, University of Colorado Law School and the American Film Institute.

This workshop is \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members.

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



# Contest Connection

## CONTEST INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

The information about the 2007 Writer's Contest is posted on the website ([www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org)) under **Annual Contest**. If you are planning to participate this year, take a look at the information. (See "How to Get Started" below.) Remember, entries must be postmarked by May 1.

## CATEGORY CHANGES

Please note the new list of categories. **Children's Nonfiction Book** is not included; it has been replaced by **Children's Mystery or Suspense Book**. And there's a new category this year: **Inspirational or Spiritual Novel**. Entries in this category may be based in any spiritual tradition, or in no specific tradition, as long as they have an inspirational or spiritual focus.

## NEW CRITIQUERS

Highly qualified new critiquers have been selected for three categories in this year's contest: Mainstream or Literary Novel, Screenplay, and Poetry. (Of course, every entry in the contest receives a critique, whether it is one of the winning manuscripts or not.)

## JUDGES WE HAVE SO FAR

These agents and editors have signed on, and several others are pending. This list will be updated each month in the *Sage*.

**Mainstream and Literary Novel**, Danielle Svetcov, Associate, Levine/Greenberg Literary Agency.

**Romance Novel**, Pattie Steele-Perkins, Steele-Perkins Literary Agency.

**Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Horror Novel**, Elizabeth Evans, Reece Halsey North Literary Agency.

**Historical or American Frontier/Western Novel**, Allison Brandau, Editorial Assistant, the Berkley Publishing Group.

**Mainstream or Literary Short Story**, John Daniel, Editor, Daniel & Daniel Publishers.

**Historical, Western, etc., Short Story**, Fred Sauceman, Editor, *Now & Then* Magazine.

**Middle Grade or Young Adult Short Story**, May-May Sugihara, Editor, *SPIDER* Magazine.

**Nonfiction Article or Essay**, Kathryn Compton, Editor-in-Chief, *Grit, American Life and Traditions* Magazine, Ogden Publications.

**Nonfiction Book**, Mike Larsen, Agent, Larsen-Pomada Literary Agency.

## HOW TO GET STARTED

It's easy!

Go to our website at [www.southwestwriters.org](http://www.southwestwriters.org). Click on **Annual Contest**. There you will find the **Contest Rules**, **Category Specific Guidelines**, **Tips and Resources**, and the **Contest Entry Form**.

Print each section so that you can refer to the forms when you are preparing your final manuscript for the contest.

You will see that there are now twenty categories (genres). You may submit entries in one or all of the genres. Each submission, however, must be accompanied by a separate entry form. With each submission you will also pay a non-refundable entry fee.

Make sure you go over the **Tips and Resources** sheet, which explains things such as:

- Including in your submission packet a 9 x 12 return envelope—an SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) with the same amount of postage used to mail in your entry.
- Including a query letter of one (1) page, addressed to an appropriate publication.
- Reminders that you should **not put your name anywhere** on the manuscript, query letter, synopsis, or proposal—to do so will disqualify your entry;

Keep writing. It's only February. You have until May 1. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail me at [js2007sww@yahoo.com](mailto:js2007sww@yahoo.com).

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Jeanne Shannon

## SWW International Monthly Writing Competition

**February 2007**  
**Romance**

February is the month for lovers. Submit a romantic anecdote about one of your personal experiences.

Length: up to four double-spaced pages. Postmark deadline: 28 February 2007.

**March 2007**  
**The Children's Novel**

See how well you do with openings of children's novels. Any genre.

Length: the first three pages, double-spaced. Postmark deadline: 31 March 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

to the winners of the November  
2006 SWW International Monthly  
Writing Competition:  
**Humor**

**1st Prize: Bonnie Hayes**, Albuquerque, NM for  
*Welcome to New Mexico*

**2nd Prize: Gary Ness**, Albuquerque, NM for  
*Potty Tales #57*

**3rd Prize: Ben F. Williams, Jr.**, Tucson, AZ, NM for  
*Father of Invention*

### HONORABLE MENTIONS (alphabetical order):

**Bonnie Hayes**, Albuquerque, NM for  
*Plague Warning: New Mexico 2006*

**Gary Ness**, Albuquerque, NM for  
*Heart Attack*

**Gary Ness**, Albuquerque, NM for  
*How to Select a Gravesite*

**Frank L. Ocasio**, Bronx, NY for  
*A Lesson on Ingenuity from a  
Boomerang and a Few Sea Lions*

**Terry Sachko**, Albuquerque, NM for  
*A Birthday to Remember*

## How Would You Like To See Your Byline Here?

We need your articles for the Sage!

The Sage Editor wants articles on SWW meetings and events. This is your chance to flex your reporting muscles, send in your opinions, test out a new style, have fun writing and get published in the Sage.

We prefer articles be saved as Word documents and sent by email. Don't forget to tell us what the article is about and a little bit about yourself.

Please send to  
[editor@southwestwriters.com](mailto:editor@southwestwriters.com).

*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.*

**Deadline: 2/15/07 (postmark) (2/28/07 late entry).** Personal story/memoir. *Memoirs Ink's* Half-Yearly Personal Essay Contest. Prize: \$1,000 first, \$500 second, \$250 third. Winners will be published online. Entry fee if postmarked by 2/15/07: \$15/first entry, \$10/each additional entry. Add \$5/entry if postmarked between 2/15/07 and 2/28/07. Must be less than 1,500 words and written in first person. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.memoirsink.com/docs/contest1.html>.

**Deadline: 2/15/07.** Poetry chapbook. Brushfire Award. Prize: \$1,000 and publication in *pacificREVIEW's* Spring 2007 issue. Entry fee: \$15. Up to 5 poems, any style, any length. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/english/pacificREVIEW/PRsubmissions.html>.

**Deadline: 3/1/07.** Screenplay. BlueCat Screenplay Competition. Prize: \$10,000. Finalists receive \$1,500. Feedback given to all writers. Entry fee: \$45. Includes written script analysis. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.bluecatscreenplay.com>.

**Deadline: 3/1/07.** Poetry, Short Story, Novel Excerpt or Essay. Writers at Work Fellowship Competition, \$1,500 prize in each category. Winners will be read at Writers at Work conference in June and published in *Quarterly West*. Submit 6 poems (10 pages max), or one short story, novel excerpt or essay of no more than 5,000 words. Entry fee: \$15/entry. Guidelines at [www.writersatwork.org](http://www.writersatwork.org).

**Deadline: 3/1/07.** Short fiction. The Fulton Prize for Short Fiction by *The Adirondack Review* and Black Lawrence Press. Prize: \$250 and publication in *The Adirondack Review*. \$25 honorarium and publication for honorable mention. Entry Fee: \$10 for one story, \$15 for two stories, \$20 for three stories. Must be an unpublished story. No word length restrictions. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.adirondackreview.homestead.com/FultonPrize.html>.

**Deadline: 3/15/07.** Poetry. The 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel Poetry Award. Prize: \$1,000 first place and publication in the *Bellingham Review*. Runners-up and finalists may be considered for publication. Entry fee: \$15/first entry (up to 3 poems). Each ad-

ditional entry is \$10. Submission guidelines and information at [www.ac.wvu.edu/%7Ebhreview/guidelines2007.doc](http://www.ac.wvu.edu/%7Ebhreview/guidelines2007.doc).

**Deadline: 3/15/07.** Creative nonfiction. The Annie Dillard Award for Creative Nonfiction. Prize: \$1,000 first place and publication in the *Bellingham Review*. Runners-up and finalists may be considered for publication. Entry fee: \$15/first entry. Each additional entry is \$10. Maximum length of 8,000 words. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/%7Ebhreview/guidelines2007.doc>.

**Deadline: 3/15/07.** Short fiction. The Tobias Wolff Award for Fiction. Prize: \$1,000 first place and publication in the *Bellingham Review*. Runners-up and finalists may be considered for publication. Entry fee: \$15/first entry. Each additional entry is \$10. Maximum length of 8,000 words. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/%7Ebhreview/guidelines2007.doc>.

**Deadline: 3/21/07.** One-page story. 2007 One-Page Story Contest. Prize: \$150 first, \$100 second, \$50 third. Eight notable entries receive \$25 Barnes & Noble gift cards. Entry fee: \$5. How tight can you write? Create a story of 300 words or fewer on any subject with a discernible beginning, middle, and end. Submission guidelines and information at: <http://www.nebpublishing.com>.

**Deadline: 3/31/07.** Short Story. 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Tom Howard/John H. Reid Short Story Contest. Prizes: \$1,200 first, \$800 second, \$400 third, and 4 high distinction awards of \$200 each. Top ten stories published on the Winning Writers website. Entry fee: \$12/entry. Any original short story, essay, or other work of prose up to 5,000 words. No style or theme restrictions. Submission guidelines and information at: [http://www.winningwriters.com/contests/tomstory/ts\\_guidelines.php](http://www.winningwriters.com/contests/tomstory/ts_guidelines.php).

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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>.*

# Local Workshop: Croak and Dagger

The Croak and Dagger Albuquerque Chapter of The Sister's in Crime extends a special invitation to members of Southwest Writers to join them for dastardly duels and felonious fun at their regular meetings.

In 2007, the Croak and Dagger Chapter is hosting an exciting line-up of programs and on-line classes that are sure to spur the dead or alive muse in you.

On **Tuesday, February 27th at 7pm** Croak and Dagger presents an evening of espionage. Speaker Rob Kresge spent 30 years in the CIA, 10 of them in the Counterterrorist Center, of which he was a founding member. On 9/11 he was the senior analyst responsible for warning of terrorist attacks on US interests. He will speak about spy thrillers and writing realistically about espionage and terrorists.

We'll also hear from mystery writer Pati Nagle, and self-publisher Ruth Brown Jimenez.

Throughout the year we expect to hear from a variety of fascinating experts about crime-related topics.

Free to all members, is *The Nooseletter*, a killer newsletter that contains great book reviews, sensational articles, and the ever-popular "Rob's Random Shots."

Also free is a not-to-miss on-line class by Lucinda Schroeder, "Inside the Criminal Mind," which will be conducted in March

2007. Schroeder has a BA in Criminology, is a retired federal agent and is the author of "A Hunt for Justice." In her four-week, interactive class students will learn how to characterize killers, what motivates them, what "signatures" mean, the meaning of MO and much more!

Meetings are held every third Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m., at the James Joseph Dwyer Memorial Police Substation, 12700 Montgomery Blvd., NE, one block east of Tramway.

If the substation parking lot is full, additional parking is available just below the substation; the entrance to that lot is via a driveway below the substation on the right.

All program meetings are open are free to the public. A \$20 annual membership gives you access to the *The Nooseletter* and Schroeder's on-line class. Fees may be brought to the meeting or sent in with the membership form at the Croak and Dagger website, along with the mailing address. Make checks to "Sisters in Crime."

For more information about visit [www.croak-and-dagger.com](http://www.croak-and-dagger.com) or write Lucinda Schroeder at [ventana@aol.com](mailto:ventana@aol.com).

## SouthWest Writers Critique Service

A thorough critique and assessment of your manuscript by published writers, teachers or agents.

Books, articles, short stories, stage plays and screenplays... even poetry. Turnaround is approximately two weeks.

Query letter up to three pages: \$15, Synopsis up to three pages: \$25

All other manuscripts up to ten pages: \$35

Thereafter: \$3.50/page

# Writing Short Stories

Everyone has stories to tell. Come to this class and begin yours! As we move from using ideas as springboards to selling completed pieces in the marketplace, you will learn how to get started, tackle common writing dilemmas, develop the structure of your story, and be well underway on a project of your own. And with plenty of time to enter the SWW annual contest!

David J. Corwell's short fiction has appeared in *Dead in Thirteen Flashes* and *Cloaked in Shadow: Dark Tales of Elves*. His writing has won five national writing awards, including the 2003 SWW Storyteller Award. He recently finished his first novel and received his M. A. in Writing Popular Fiction at Seton Hill University. David is also a graduate of the Odyssey Fantasy Writing Workshop and the Borderlands Press Writer's Boot Camp. He has been a critiquer for the annual SWW writing contest and critique service and a panelist at SWW writing conferences.

This course is on Wednesdays, March 14, 21, and 28, from 7 to 9pm at the SouthWest Writers' office:

3721 Morris NE, Suite A  
(north of Comanche on the West side of Morris)

The cost is \$45.00. Call 505- 265-9485 for more information.

## 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.

# Award Winning Children's Author to Open Santa Fe Writing Series

On February 17 award winning author Pat Mora will open Wordharvest's winter/spring writing workshop series in Santa Fe. This is a hands-on program on writing for children. The author of more than two dozen books for kids and adults, Mora is know for her poetic use of language and her masterful skill as a story teller. In the workshop she will share her *Seven Secrets of Creativity*, and help students to create their own books.

The series continues with two programs on writing fiction, a session on telling your personal story and a workshop on how to promote yourself and sell your book to an agent, publisher or the public. The writing workshops are designed to accommodate writers at all levels.

All workshops run from 9am to 4pm and cost \$130, which includes lunch, snacks and all materials. Classes are limited to 15 participants; early registration is encouraged. The workshops are held at the home of a Santa Fe writer near downtown (directions given upon registration.) All instructors are published authors who enjoy teaching.

### The schedule:

Feb. 17, Pat Mora, Zing of Writing Children's Books

Feb. 24, Paula Paul, Pacing Your Novel

March 24, Laura Baker, The Purposeful Writer— Explorations in Fiction

March 31, Nancy London, *Descansos*, The Power of Our Personal Story

April 28, Pari Noskin Taichert, Think "Published" to Get Published.

All the presenters live in Santa Fe or Albuquerque.

"We are honored to have Pat Mora with us to open the series," Wordharvest co-founder Jean Schaumberg said. "New Mexico has so many talented writers who like to teach, and we are happy to have an opportunity to share their passion and experience."

Wordharvest also offers a summer series of one-day workshops and the Tony Hillerman Conference: Focus on Mystery in November. For more information see [www.wordharvest.com](http://www.wordharvest.com) or call 505-471-1565.

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# Member Successes

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**Jeanne Shannon** will have a poem in the *Earthships* anthology of New Mexican poetry, to be published this spring by New Mexico Poetry Tangents.

**Diantha Wilde** has sold an e-story to Erotique Press, date of release to be announced

**Mary Lou Heaphy** has published *A Cliffie Experience: Tales of New Mexico 1902-1940*. It is a look at Albuquerque in the early 20th century through the eyes of Clifford "Cliffie" Myrick, a female nurse who cares for tuberculosis patients. Cliffie collected rugs, pottery and husbands and socialized with people like Clyde Tingley and Alvarado Hotel architect Charles Whittlesy who also built her home, the Hall Log House now known as the Albuquerque Press Club.

**Gerald (Jerry) M. Weinberg's** book, *Weinberg on Writing: The Fieldstone Method* was one of three finalists for the *USA Book News* Best Books 2006 Award in the Writing/Publishing Category. It is published by Dorset House Publishing.

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*Your successes could be on this page and our worldwide website to be seen by agents, editors, publishers, producers, and search engines. But you have to do more than just talk, you have to e-mail your successes to [editor@southwestwriters.com](mailto:editor@southwestwriters.com). Don't miss this unique chance for free publicity and fame...and your right to brag! Send information by e-mail in rich text format (.rtf) to [editor@southwestwriters.com](mailto:editor@southwestwriters.com).*

## DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

The new *Sage* deadline is the  
10th of each month.

The *SouthWest Sage* welcomes articles about the craft and business of writing. Articles should be 250 to 750 words long, plus a 40-word bio. Submissions are preferred by e-mail in a Word attachment with 11pt. Times New Roman font and single-spaced. Bylines are given. No payment. The editor reserves the right to edit articles for length and content.

Send submissions to  
[editor@southwestwriters.com](mailto:editor@southwestwriters.com).

**Critique Groups**

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

*Wanting to Start Groups/  
Looking for a Group*

**\*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

**\*Writing-for-fun:**

East Mountains near Edgewood  
Sandy Schairer  
sandschairer@southwestwriters.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, February 6, 2006, 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**

Sonya Ewan	Dr. Wayne Mayerowitz
Mary Lou Fisk	Elly Van Mil
Janis Gonzales	Desiree Woodland
Merry Hangen	Patricia Osmundsen
Tom McCready	Ben Williams
Dawn McCready	Eugenia Eberle
JoAnne L. Weaver	Richard Eberle

**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@southwestwriters.com

#### **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 · DavidCorwell@southwestwriters.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.**

# Message from the Secretary

The new 2007 board has gotten off to a great start. Read developments in future issues of the Sage. All minutes are filed in the office for open viewing by any SWW member in good standing.

Happy New Year,

Sandy Schairer, secretary.

