



The SouthWest Sage

Vol. 20, No. 10

The Voice of SouthWest Writers

October 2005

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

SouthWest Writers 2005 Contest Awards Banquet

by *Judy Ducharme*

A hundred contestants and well-wishers gathered at Baciú's Bread and Wine banquet room to honor the winners of the SouthWest Writers 2005 Contest. David Corwell and Joan Marsh ran the contest with efficiency and professionalism. They produced a program in which all the winners were listed, but not the order of their placement. The tension mounted as Master of Ceremonies John Candelaria read the list of winners and their homes.

All the winners received a beautiful certificate prepared by Sandy Schairer, the SWW Board Secretary, and a check: \$50 for third place, \$100 for second place and \$150 for first place. The certificate and check were mailed if the winner wasn't in attendance. In addition, \$1000 was given for the storyteller award, which was vied for by the first place winners in every category except "Poetry." Joanne Lukins, from Alexandria, Virginia, received the big award for "Up the Spiral Staircase," the winner of "Middle Grade Young Adult Short Stories."

Lynn Paskind read a moving tribute to her late husband, Martin Paskind, for whom the Marty Award was established. The Marty Award recognizes the efforts of High School journalism students who were solicited by Paskind herself. There were two categories: "Opinion or Editorial" and "News Story." Lynn announced the winner before the main categories of awards. The main contest entries were judged by John Fleck, Science Writer at The Albuquerque Journal.

At the banquet were ten first-place winners, six of whom were from New Mexico. Merimee Moffitt and Sue Houser from Albuquerque won for "Short Fiction—Article or Essay" and "Children's Nonfiction Book," respectively.

Two of the winners were from Santa Fe: Laura Davis Hays, "Science Fiction/ Fantasy/Horror Novels," and Barbara Jacksha for "Screenplay." From Hobbs, Ann Behl, for "Historical/American Frontier/ Western Novels." From Los Alamos, Helen F. Stanbro, for "Other Genres: Historical, Western, etc.,—Short Stories."

Fifty percent of the contestants were from out of state and Canada. Four of the first place winners attended from out of state. The two from California were Gail Chebab for "Mainstream and Literary Novels," and Linda Quinn for "Mystery/Suspense/Thriller/Adventure Novels." James Kelly Deuster from Union Grove, Wisconsin came the farthest to eat in Albuquerque, and earned first prize for "Mystery/Romance Short Stories."

First-place winners who did not attend the banquet included Julie V. Matherly from Tallahassee, Florida. She won first place in "Romance Novels." Our own Lela Belle Wolfert, the 'Queen of Everything,' won second and third with "Baer Necessities" and "Seasonings," two of her five completed romance novels. Laura Byrne from Brookside, New Jersey, won first prize for Category 6 "Middle Grade/ Young Adult Novel."

"Nonfiction Book" was won by Jonathan Miller from Albuquerque, followed by Kate Booth Doyle and Lucia Amsden. Susanna L. Hill from Poughquag, New York, won first and third in Category 16 "Children's Picture Book "Fiction and Nonfiction." In "Poetry," Hannah S. Wilder of Santa Fe won first, Tim Amsden won second, and Merimee Moffitt won third. Each submitted five poems to the competition.

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 SWriters@aol.com.



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Financial Report Correction

There was an error in the semi-annual financial report that appeared in the September Sage. The Accumulated Depreciation figure reflected only equipment; an additional amount for furniture should have been included. The Total Accumulated Depreciation is (\$14,707), and the Total Property and Equipment figure is \$445.56. All other figures on the report are correct.

SWW dues are \$60 per year (or \$100 for 2 years).
Two individuals joining or renewing together get a special rate of \$50 each.
Students with current proof of 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.

Wowie Zowie!

by Tom Gibbons

I wanted to open with an interjection befitting the articles we've received this month. There's an incredible variety of people and opinions here at Southwest Writers; you need look no further than this issue for proof.

The SWW 2005 Contest winners have been announced, and the awards banquet (as reported by Judy DuCharme on the cover) was a blast. The complete list of winners is on page nine—it's surprising how far-reaching this event has turned out to be! More contests are in the works, so keep coming back for more information. We want your submissions, whether you're a long-time veteran or a first-time contender. Congratulations to all the winners and the countless others who have submitted.

We have a couple of brand new contributors this month, including Penny Rogers, who offers up her extensive experience teaching grammar in what I hope will become a regular column. Also, Shirley Raye Redmond takes a look at the habits of old masters and their enthusiasm for one of our favorite subjects at Southwest Writers—workshops! Also, our contributing writers, Mary and Ted Lynn, return this month with new marketing tips. Sounds good, eh?

Don't jump ahead just yet—look to the right for a few helpful websites. Provided by our own Karen Villanueva, these links will help any freelance writer.

Last but not least, our announcements have been updated. In the wake of the tragedy in Louisiana, countless people are banding together. Writers and book lovers are no exception, and there are many opportunities to help them right now. Being a writer is a demanding lifestyle, but there's never too little time to give, especially during hard times.

At the end of summer, many of us find ourselves in transitional stages. Anxiety threatens to boil over. Remember to take time off, watch some baseball, see a movie, and spend time with your friends.

Peace,
Tom Gibbons
Sage Editor.

Interesting websites for writers:

www.fwointl.com—A Writer's Digest Best 101 Websites pick, this website provides all sorts of free writing resources and boasts a world-class e-zine where Lisa Lenard, Mark Horner, David Morrell and Sean Murphy have been (or will be) featured cover authors.

www.thewritingshow.com—A new website by Paula Berinstein that features podcasts (live interviews that are downloadable). Currently features interviews with Mark Horner (former New Mexico KOB-TV reporter and author of *September Sacrifice*) and Sean Murphy (*The Hope Valley Hubcap King*, *The Time of New Weather*). They are accepting proposals for interview guests.

www.matilijapress.com—Patricia Fry's website offers Consulting Services For Authors and Freelance Writers. She has been writing for publication for 30 years and contributed hundreds of articles to more than 180 different magazines. She is also the author of 16 books—nine self-published, four produced by traditional publishers and three written on commission.

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New SWW Email Address Coming

SouthWest Writers is going to retire its old email address, SWriters@aol.com, in the next few months and replace it with SWWrtiersATjuno.com (use the @ symbol). Starting immediately, we are using both email addresses concurrently until we pull the plug on AOL. Please make note of this fact in your email address book.

Markets

by Mary Lynn

A conversation with novelist Parris Bonds. Meet Parris at the November 19th SWW workshop focusing on Romance and Mainstream.

Q: Tell us a little about your background—when you started writing, why....

A: “I wrote my first novel (actually hunt-and-pecked it) at the tender age of six or so on our family’s manual typewriter. A three-pager, the novel was titled “The Black Hawk Girls Ride Again.” Mom saved it for me, and I have it tucked away somewhere. Why did I write? Because I was possessed. Everyone still thinks so.”

Q: What’s the first thing beginners should do when they decide to enter the career field of a professional writer?

A: “The trite-but-true advice: keep your day job. Next, attend conferences (and enter the contests) like crazy (a major characteristic of a serious writer). Agents and editors come to conferences looking for wonderfully written, absorbing tales. Lastly, never give up on your dream.”

Q: Is there something you wish you’d known or done when you started out?

A: “I’m glad I didn’t know what awaited me at various turns. Ignorance is bliss.

Professional writing is a highly competitive business. I’d advise keeping your part of the business on the creative side of the brain. Leave the rest (marketing, promotion, accounting, etc.) to the left-brainers who do, indeed, know their business.”

Q: If you could suggest one book for your students to read to prepare them for your workshop presentation, which would it be, by whom, and why that book?

A: “I would encourage all writers to read (1) *Techniques of the Selling Writer* by Dwight

Swain, and (2) *The Writer’s Journey* by Chris Vogler. The first book explains ‘how,’ the second shows ‘why.’ The person who knows how will always have a job; the person who knows why will always be the boss.”

Q: And what should students expect to learn from your presentation?

A: “I’ll share what I know and answer anything they want to ask (about writing) in the time framework allotted. Specifically, how to plot, characterize, submit, bleed, and pray (read that as ‘beseech’ and ‘beg’).”

Q: What are you working on now?

A: “Still working on a murder mystery set on the Hopi Reservation. I took off time to track down my soul mate, marry him, and honeymoon in Europe. Now, we have to pay for it.”

Q: What percentage of your time is spent writing and what percent is spent on the business-side of writing?

A: “Of course, that can vary from assignment to assignment, but I’d guess 75% writing and agonizing, and 25% devoted to the numbers side.”

Q: Has Romance changed lately? Markets? Style?

A: “A couple of months back, at the Pasik conference in New York, publishing houses appeared to be focusing on the older female reader, as seen in such sub-genres as “Hot Flashes” and the new romance line, “Next.” Romance novels continue to make up more than 48% of all published paperback fiction.

Q: If you could give only one piece of advice to beginners, what would it be?

A: “Enjoy life, enjoy writing. No one remembers who the best seller was in June of last year, but they do remember the people who made a difference in their lives.

Learn to do your own market research! Mary Lynn would like writers to contribute to the Markets column, and she'll help you get started!

Mary is willing to share the column with guest market columnists on a regular basis, or she will accept market items you have gleaned in your research.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn how to do your own market research, share that knowledge with others, and be published in The SouthWest Sage.

*Send your items to:
Mary Lynn
c/o SouthWest Sage
or e-mail her at:
mary@writerscenter.com*

The highly recommended new edition of Mary Lynn’s Every Page Perfect is available through SWW for \$19.95, plus postage.

Recipes for Success

by Ted Lynn

Q: I have enjoyed your column for years and now have a question of my own. Can recipes be copyrighted? Is there a difference between copyrighting on the Web as opposed to copyrighting in hard print? I would like to have some recipes I find on the Web in some of my writings. For example, I have always loved the “No bake” cookies my mother made and I was interested in finding the recipe and repeating it in writing. I whacked that into the search engines and there were actually several with slight variations. Can I use them? (When I say “use them,” I mean have the recipe printed.) What about a recipe for fried chicken? I mean, how many ways are there to fry chicken?

A: The general rule is that only “a work” can be protected under the copyright act, not titles, names, or individual recipes. A cookbook that contains recipes can be protected under the law as to how the book is arranged, illustrated, and written, but not the individual recipes therein. They’re treated just as the facts about an auto accident. Even after other reporters have published their stories in their newspapers, I could also write a story using the same facts, and I would not be violating their copyright protection unless I used their exact words, phrasing, and/or slant on the incident.

One recent case concerned publication of a phonebook that copied another phonebook. The court ruled that the names, addresses, and phone numbers were not protected under the copyright law. Only the way the phone book was organized, illustrated, and presented as “a work” were protected under the copyright statutes.

So you can copy recipes and other factual information without cooking your goose (or was that frying your chicken?).

Any SWW members with questions, please forward them so we can all learn about the business of writing.

Ted Lynn has published more than 1,000 articles and photos in magazines and newspapers. A U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, Ted has spent two decades writing contracts and teaching copyright, trademark, tax, and contract law at universities throughout the southwest.

It Happened

by Judy Ducharme

Storytelling with Emotional Voltage

SouthWest Writers meeting, August 6, 2005

Carolyn Flynn is the editor of *The Albuquerque Journal Sage* and the single mother of six-year-old twins. She writes about empowerment and using painful experiences as inspiration. At the Saturday meeting, Flynn made a good case for writing from the pain in your life and provided a way to access it. Carolyn spoke of electric wires, and how in a group of them, only one is alive. In your writings, there is a live wire, or a connection to something in you that helps you write with authenticity. This “something” is usually based on pain.

As an introduction, she read parts of several wonderful pieces. Tilly Olsen wrote “Tell Me a Riddle.” About a mother ironing and thinking of her daughter, there is a sense of urgency to the writing. “The Lover,” by Marguerite Dumas, was just as electrifying. It was about a young woman crossing the Mekong River to go to her lover, knowing nothing in her life would be the same again. “Anywhere But Here” by Mona Simpson was dredged from the loss of the author’s father.

Flynn said that, in writing a ten-minute free-write each day, we can discover our live wire, the part of us that is based in pain, to write from. She called it ‘deep diarrhea.’ The true source of your creativity never goes away. Once you find the true source you can write with authenticity, uniqueness, urgency and emotional truth. Look to your writing to find the live wire.

Carolyn suggested exercises to help us increase our abilities, including:

- 1) Describe a face no one wants to see.
- 2) Go through writings you already have to find that which sparks your interest.

Carolyn discussed living the “live wire life” by using the time that you have to write, rather than waiting for huge blocks of time. Get your priorities straight and make sure what you do fits with your writing life. Balance your writing life by spending 75 percent writing, 10 percent marketing and 15 percent in workshops or enhancing your knowledge. Don’t elude your muse. Reward yourself when you finish writing. Honor your writing. Respect its natural pace. Take a walk. Read.

The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Creative Visualization will come out in the fall.

Continued on next page...

It Happened, cont'd

by Judy Ducharme

**A Spectator to the Grand Adventure of Our Time:
Writing About Science
SouthWest Writers meeting, August 16, 2005**

Sixty people listened to John Fleck explain his passion for science on Tuesday night. John has a City Desk at *The Albuquerque Journal*, is the lone science writer and has contacts with scientific folks all over the state. The clips he read to us showed a fine grasp of communicating obtuse scientific concepts to the masses.

His love of cutting-edge science was born when he was a reporter for Southern California's now defunct *Herald-Examiner*. The usual science writer was off, so John's editor sent him to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory as they were sending Voyager up. Walking by a dim cubicle, he saw a round lighted thing in the center of a computer screen—he was seeing Neptune, the first time anyone had. A science writer was born.

John's beat is broad and covers New Mexico. He has contacts everywhere in the areas that interest him, including: Nuclear weapons issues; the National Laboratories; Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP); weather and climate, especially the drought patterns, limited water resources.

John's favorite science is geology. In the early twentieth century plate tectonics came together in the Valle Grande—the Caldera. He took a cameraman and accompanied John Geissman from UNM's Earth and Planetary Sciences Department. Their mission: to find the last piece of the puzzle in explaining plate tectonics.

He read the article he wrote in 2002 about the northern New Mexico tree die-off. The lead was "Craig Allen's trees are dying." Craig Allen works for the USGS, watching the drought effects on the ecosystem every day in Bandelier National Monument.

He read other articles and told stories of his being right there when something new happened. John was entertaining and informative in talking about translating science for the lay person. Read his articles in *The Albuquerque Journal*.

**Dimension in Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction
by Sean Murphy
SouthWest Writers Conference August 20, 2005**

Thirty people enjoyed the expertise of Sean Murphy as he taught Dimension in Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction. "I've developed a method that strengthens each of these areas (that students struggle with)—a sort of "Nautilus" approach for developing all the muscles we use as writers. This will be an active day of writing, perfect for jump-starting a project, deepening our voices, and overcoming blocks." This quote is from Sean Murphy's answer to "What should students expect to learn from your presentation?" asked by Mary Lynn in "Markets," August 2005, p.4.

He began by telling us his experiences as a writer. His advice, once you have a complete manuscript in hand, is to enter contests, all contests, to get past the barriers erected by publishers against new fiction. If you finish in the top 20 percent and write a wonderful query letter and pitch to the right publisher, you have a chance of being published.

Sean taught us to free-write ten minutes each day to practice writing, to make space to write a project, and to add dimension by creating a multilevel piece with a timeline that skitters back and forth. Write in third person omniscient. Use weather, culture, race—anything that rounds out the characters, develops the plot, and enhances the setting. Consider at least two random things, events, or ideas that link together.

It was a completely satisfying workshop, fortified by a fifteen-minute directed meditation and a few flexible free-writes. Sean Murphy lived up to his promise.

Judy Ducharme, MLS University of Alabama, 1982, is retired from 18 years as Senior Medical Librarian at UNM Health Sciences Library. Judy is revising her historical novel set in New York at the turn of the twentieth century.

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Lessons from Jack Lewis

by Shirley Raye Raymond

In recent years, the successful *Lord of the Rings* movies have won J.R.R. Tolkien a legion of new fans. I have no doubt that the upcoming film adaptation of *The Chronicles of Narnia* will do the same for a close friend of Tolkien's, C.S. Lewis.

Tolkien and Lewis were members of the same writers group, known as the Inklings, for more than 15 years. In fact, Lewis usually hosted the Thursday night critique sessions in his rooms at Magdalene College.

"Jack made things seem larger than life," Walter Hooper, Lewis' former secretary, told me some years ago when we met in Oxford. "Everything had more meaning around him." I learned a lot about Lewis and his writing chums during that hour's chat, and I also got an "inkling" of what it takes to ensure the success of a writer's group.

(1) The Inklings had specified goals. They knew what they wanted to write and why. They had purposeful critique sessions. When their manuscripts were rejected (including Lewis's and Tolkien's), the members helped find ways to make the manuscripts more marketable. They shared info about publishers. They networked. Writing was not a form of therapy or a haphazard leisure activity. Each member was committed to professionalism. More than once, Lewis was quoted as saying, "Write to be read."

Members of the group, which included Nevill Coghill, Owen Barfield, and Lewis' close friend, Charles Williams, took this advice to heart and all enjoyed literary success to varying degrees. Even "Warnie" Lewis, Jack's brother, wrote several noteworthy books of his own.

(2) They had a commitment to craft. Too many beginning writers spend more time anticipating the joy of book signings and royalty checks than concentrating on good writing. Take Lewis's *The Last Battle*: it won the prestigious Carnegie Medal for best children's book of the year when it was released in 1956. Lewis, Tolkien, Williams and the other Inklings had (and continue to have) phenomenal publishing successes because they mercilessly

honed and polished their prose. The commitment to craft has paid off for decades.

(3) Last but not least, they had synergy. This word is generally defined as "cooperation" or "the working together of two or more parts to stimulate new ideas that result in greater productivity for all parts." Synergy promotes new ideas to fruition. For instance, when *The Hobbit* was published in 1937, Lewis wrote glowing reviews of Tolkien's book for a wide variety of publications including *The Times Literary Supplement*, which helped to ensure the book's success. The members supported one another all through the brainstorming, writing, revising and marketing aspects of one another's work.

They genuinely liked each other, too, and met twice a week socially on Tuesdays at the local pub and on Thursdays for reading and critiquing. They brought with them their best intentions to make the group work. John Wain, one of the younger members of the group, once described the Thursday night meetings (right down to the enamel beer-jug) with fond fervor, declaring, "the best of (the critique sessions) were as good as anything I shall live to see."

As a long-time member of SWW, I've benefited immensely from friendships and the synergy within the organization, particularly with those SWW members living in Los Alamos. I encourage those serious about succeeding in the world of writing and publication to forget the fickle Muse and those who dance in serendipitous attendance upon her. Instead, take advantage of what SWW has to offer and learn a few valuable lessons from Lewis and the Inklings.

Shirley Raye Redmond has sold over 400 magazine articles and 9 books, including Patriots in Petticoats (Random House), recently named one of the best children's books of the year by the Bank Street College of Education in NY.

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The Write Way

by Penny Rogers

Editors and their assistants are busy people, and that's an understatement. When your query, proposal or manuscript arrives in their hands, they are looking for the quickest way to lay it aside. Nothing will get the job done faster than errors in grammar. So what does this mean to you, the author? It means a review of the rules, even if you think you have them in hand. Let's do a little checking up.

Match the following expressions in column A to the completion in column B:

- | A | B |
|--|--|
| 1. Whenever I write a story | a. are late when they arrive. |
| 2. Neither the boy nor the girl | b. show up early in the morning. |
| 3. A dream or a new idea | c. arrives on time every day. |
| 4. Both the teachers and the principal | d. it is important to focus on the plot. |
| 5. The sunbeams | e. has endless possibilities. |

Look back at the second sentence in the first paragraph. Why, when there are three subjects mentioned in the opening clause, is the verb singular? Agreement of subject and verb is basic. If the three items had been joined by "and," the verb would have been plural, but since the word "or" indicates a choice, you match the verb to the nearest noun. "The boys or the dog has eaten the steak," or "the dog or the boys have eaten it"; both versions are correct. It is usually best to use the latter form, in which the plural noun is nearer to the verb. 'Neither...nor' follows the same rule.

Do you have an aversion to the terms subject, verb, singular, plural, present and past tense? Does it sound too much like high school English class? Don't worry—read on.

The subject is the person, place, thing or idea you are writing about in each sentence. Well, what's a sentence? It is a complete thought. "The dog barks." It's about the dog—the subject. The action is the verb—barks. The subject and verb are both singular—they agree. Make them both plural: "The dogs bark." That is subject/verb agreement. The time of the action is the tense. If you write in past tense, you avoid the problem of subject/verb agreement except when using the verb "to be," which must become either "was" or "were." When you have a subject and a verb, you have a complete thought—a sentence.

Now let's make a subordinate clause. Try putting the word "if" before the sentence about the dog. "If the dog barks...." Well, what happens? You need to finish the thought with a consequence like "the baby will cry." When we put a subordinator (non-grammatical term for a subordinating conjunction) at the beginning of a sentence, it is no longer a complete thought. Now the sentence has a subordinate clause and a main clause. Both clauses have a subject and a verb.

Some subjects are tricky and can be either singular or plural. Take the word "committee," for example. The committee [acting as a unit] agrees on the action. The committee [acting on individual opinions] disagree about the action. If you feel uncomfortable with the plural, try putting in the word "members." The committee members disagree. The same rule applies to words like "team," "board," "group," etc. As a writer, you have the privilege of using any subject and verb you want, so long as they agree.

If you have a question, send an email to Progersnm@aol.com or look for an answer in any grammar reference book. Just watch out for differences in the books published in England.

Oh yes, the answers to the matching quiz are 1-d, 2-c, 3-e, 4-a, 5-b.

Penny Rogers has a master's degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. She has taught English for eighteen years including three years at the Centro de Studios Norteamericanos in Valencia, Spain, and ten years at Albuquerque T-VI.

Is it time for you to renew your SWW membership? Check the website.
It is now secure for online renewals and new memberships.

Storyteller Award

*Up the Spiral Staircase*Joanne Lukins
Alexandria, VA

Mainstream Novels and Literary Novels

1st Place: <i>Coming Home</i> Gail Chehab Poway, CA	2nd Place: <i>By Fortunes Whim</i> Roberta J. Franke Pittsburgh, PA	3rd Place: <i>Ruth</i> Raquel Troyce Corrales, NM
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Mystery/Suspense/Thriller/Adventure Novels

1st Place: <i>Out With a Bang</i> Linda Quinn Toluca Lake, CA	2nd Place: <i>White Heat</i> Paul D. Marks Santa Clarita, CA	3rd Place: <i>Babylon Bayou</i> Conley Clark Placitas, NM
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Romance Novels

1st Place: <i>Love du Jour</i> Julie V. Matherly Tallahassee, FL	2nd Place: <i>Baer Necessity</i> Lela Belle Wolfert Albuquerque, NM	3rd Place: <i>Seasonings</i> Lela Belle Wolfert Albuquerque, NM
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Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror Novels

1st Place: <i>The Atlantis Material</i> Laura Davis Hays Santa Fe, NM	2nd Place: <i>Ring of Fire</i> Kathy R. Coleman Phoenix, AZ	3rd Place: <i>Rites of Planets</i> Steve Laurent Oak Park, IL
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Historical/Am. Frontier/Western Novels

1st Place: <i>Noisy Water Mining Co.</i> Anne Behl Hobbs, NM	2nd Place: <i>The Dahlgren Papers</i> Gerald R. Hibbs Edmond, OK	3rd Place: <i>The Wind's Will</i> George Youngblood Spring, TX
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Middle Grade/Young Adult Novels

1st Place: <i>I Spy</i> Laura Byrne Brookside, NJ	2nd Place: <i>Michelle in the Mirror</i> Sheila Wyborny Cypress, TX	3rd Place: <i>A Teenager's Unwilling Journey to Different</i> Tami Casias Sonoma, CA
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Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror Short Stories

1st Place: "The Wendigo" Susanna Jones Steamboat Springs, CO	2nd Place: "Homecoming" Charles Botsford Albuquerque, NM	3rd Place: "Dead Man Breathing" David J. Corwell Albuquerque, NM
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Mainstream and Literary Short Stories

1st Place: "Coulrophobia" Jacob M. Appel New York, NY	2nd Place: "Girl in Red" William Connor Phoenix, AZ	3rd Place: "The Sentry" Elizabeth Appell Kentfield, CA
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Mystery/Romance Short Stories

1st Place: "An Ant on the Move" James Kelly Deuster Union Grove, WI	2nd Place: "The Coded Message" Jerry Kerrisk Santa Fe, NM	3rd Place: "They're Old, They're Sick. They Bump into Things." David O. Wiley Phoenix, AZ
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Other Genres: Historical, Western, etc. Short Stories

1st Place: "OjoRojo" Helen F. Stanbro Los Alamos, NM	2nd Place: "The Man God" William Johnstone Roswell, NM	3rd Place: "The Grapevine Story" Thomas P. Murphy Irving, TX
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Middle Grade Young Adult Short Stories

1st Place: "Up the Spiral Stairs" Joanne Lukens Alexandria, VA	2nd Place: "French Braid" Lindsey Carmichael Edmonton, AB, Canada	3rd Place: "The Great Train Adventures Of Elizabeth and Robert #1: A Winter Rescue" Karl H. Kregor Santa Fe, NM
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Short Fiction—Article or Essay

1st Place: "Learning to Speak Up, Out, and Over the Edge" Merimee Moffitt Albuquerque, NM	2nd Place: "Ten Years After—Lessons From the School of Survival" Nancy Costea Albuquerque, NM	3rd Place: "Had My Daughter Deported So She Could Stay" Raquel Troyce Corrales, NM
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Short Nonfiction Article—Children's Nonfiction Article:

No winners selected in this category

Nonfiction Book

1st Place: <i>Legal Lapdances</i> Jonathan Miller Albuquerque, NM	2nd Place: <i>The River that Binds Us</i> Kate Booth Doyle Del Norte, CO	3rd Place: <i>Your Healing Heart</i> Lucia Amsden Ramah, NM
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Children's Nonfiction Book

1st Place: "Hot Foot Teddy:" <i>The True Story of Smokey Bear</i> Sue Houser Albuquerque, NM	2nd Place: <i>In Search of the Real Macbeth</i> Wendy M. Bickel Albuquerque, NM	3rd Place: <i>Little Space Pioneers</i> Esther Farris Albuquerque, NM
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Children's Picture Book (Fiction and Nonfiction)

1st Place: <i>Not Yet, Rose</i> Susanna L. Hill Poughquag, NY	2nd Place: <i>Pan Dulce, the Old Fashioned Way</i> Eleanor Y. Coldwell El Paso, TX	3rd Place: <i>Wild Annabelle</i> Susanna L. Hill Poughquag, NY
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Screenplay

1st Place: <i>Lac Mirage</i> Barbara Jacksha Santa Fe, NM	2nd Place: <i>Queer Eye for the Dead Guy</i> Rick DeMille Little Gun, TX	3rd Place: <i>Violet Pontiac</i> Gary L. Hillyard Nogal, NM
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Poetry

1st Place: "Coyote Snow" Hannah S. Wilder Santa Fe, NM	2nd Place: "The Pond At Plum Thicket Farm" Tim Amsden Ramah, NM	3rd Place: "Miki" Merimee Moffitt Albuquerque, NM
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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, October 1, 8:30 am–10:00 am

New Member Continental Breakfast

Members and prospective members are invited to a free breakfast on Saturday, October 1st at 8:30 am at the New Life Presbyterian Church (5540 Eubank NE). This event honors our new members and is sponsored by Cheri Eicher of Independent Means, SWW's insurance provider. This is an opportunity to meet other writers and learn about the benefits of being a member of SWW. The annual meeting follows at 10 am.

Saturday, October 1, 10 am–noon

A Conversation with Stephen R. Donaldson

World-renowned fiction author, Stephen R. Donaldson, will present a short address about his writing techniques and an extensive question-and-answer session. A number of his books, including his most recent, *The Last Chronicles of Thomas Covenant: The Runes of Earth*, will be available for purchase, courtesy of Bookworks. Have your questions ready!

Tuesday, October 18, 7–9 pm

Developing a Column Writing Style

An evening with Charlotte Balcomb Lane, professional journalist and columnist. Lane has been a food writer, restaurant reviewer, movie reviewer, gossip columnist and retail reporter, both at *The Albuquerque Journal* and *The Orlando Sentinel*. Lane will share the tricks she has learned of the trade for developing a voice and a readable conversational style.

Saturday, November 5, 10 am–noon

Writing Mainstream vs. Writing Genre

Paula Paul is the award-winning author of 20 novels, which include both mainstream and genre fiction. She will discuss the differences between the two, as well as the similarities. She will offer advice on how to make the switch from one to another, and why. Both the craft and marketing aspects will be discussed.

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

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

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All other manuscripts up to ten pages: \$35

Thereafter: \$3.50/page

We request that you e-mail your announcements about writing-related activities to SWriters@aol.com no later than the first day of the month preceding publication. Please limit the announcement to 60 words or less.

- * **Louisiana Disaster Relief Fund** Monetary Donations are being received to assist libraries in Southern Louisiana. For more info visit www.ala.org.
- * **Independent Booksellers need your help!** The American Booksellers Association has created a Bookseller Relief Fund to aid independent bookstores affected by Hurricane Katrina. www.bookweb.org.
- * **Donate Books** The Katrina Literary Collective has been created to collect and distribute books to victims of the hurricane. Contact Amber Communications Group at amberbk@aol.com.
- * **Assist Arts Organizations** The Southern Arts Federation has set up an emergency relief fund to assist artists and arts organizations in Gulf Communities. Visit www.southarts.org.
- * **Land of Enchantment Romance Authors** meets *second Saturday of each month* at noon. Potential members can attend three meetings to see if they would like to join. www.leranm.org.
- * **Steffanie Gibbons** is the editor of *New At Home*, a magazine for people who have just bought a house in Albuquerque or Santa Fe. They are looking for writers for assigned feature topics. steffanieg@aol.com.
- * **Call for Fiction Submissions** The Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley Award. *Deadline is October 1!* visit www.rsbd.net.
- * **Writers to Writers Presentation:** *Revising Fiction - Making Sense of the Madness* by Kirt Hickman. *October 10*, 6:30 PM. Westside Hastings (corner of Coors Rd. and Montano) in Albuquerque. Contact David at (505) 898-0624 or dcorwell@hotmail.com.
- * **Co-op Holiday Bookstore** Cottonwood Mall. Sign up by *October 10*. www.nmbookcoop.com.
- * **SWW Presents Writing Workshops** Who Are Those Guys? Crafting Believable 3-Dimensional Characters—Tuesday, *October 11*, 6-9 pm. AND I Have an Idea! Writing for Magazines—Tuesday, *October 25*, 6-9 pm. 3721 Morris NE, Albuquerque, NM. To register: (505) 265-9485.
- * **Tony Hillerman Mystery Short Story Contest** is seeking stories that include a cowboy and/or Native American character. *Deadline October 15*. www.sfworkshops.com.
- * **Melody Groves** is assembling a list of magazine articles published by SWW writers. Please include the name and subject and where it can be found. *Deadline October 18*. MelodyGroves@southwestwriters.com.
- * **Sixth Annual Storytellers Festival** Feat. Susan Klein, Derek Burrows and Karahkwahawi. Taos, NM. *October 21-22*. www.somostaos.org.
- * **Glorieta Christian Writers Conference** Glorieta, NM. *October 26-30*. www.classservices.com.
- * **2nd Annual Western Kentucky Book Expo** *Saturday, October 29*. psmith@ucadvocate.com.
- * **Tony Hillerman Writers Conference—Focus on Mystery** at the Albuquerque Hilton, *November 3-6*. www.sfworkshops.com.
- * **Nimrod International Journal** is currently accepting quality fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction for publication in the spring 2006 issue. Deadline for submissions is *December 15, 2005*. Send to: Nimrod, The University of Tulsa, 600 S. College Ave., Tulsa, OK 74104.

Note: Do not send your entry without writing to the sponsor or checking a website for guidelines and entry fees, and always include an SASE!

Deadline varies: *ByLine Magazine*, monthly contests, varying topics. See the current issue or www.bylinemag.com/contests.asp.

Deadline 10/1/05. San Juan College's Fine Arts Committee is accepting entries to its Sixth Biennial Play Competition. Contact Linda Baker at (505) 566-3202.

Deadline 10/1/05. Queens International Film Festival. www.queensfilmfestival.com.

Deadline 10/15/05. Scriptapalooza 7th Annual Television Writing Competition. www.scriptapaloozaTV.com

Deadline 10/17/05. The Screenwriter Dig. www.thescreenwriterdig.com.

Deadline 10/21/05. Hellfire's Short Horror Screenplay Competition. hellfires.netfirms.com.

Deadline 11/15/05. Bancroft Prize. www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/eguides/amerihist/bancroft.html.

Deadline 12/31/05. Sydney Taylor Book Award. www.jewishlibraries.org

ByLine Magazine's Silver Anniversary Celebration

Limited time special offer for SWW members. One year (\$24) is now just \$18 in the US. 2 years (\$42) is now just \$33.

To subscribe, send a check to ByLine, PO Box 5240, Edmond, OK 73083-5240. Provide your name and mailing address.

www.bylinemag.com.

Expires October 31, 2005.

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For those members wishing to receive an e-mail notice of SWW Events and Meetings, please send a request to be placed on the E-Alert system. Send the request to Gail Rubin at publicity@southwestwriters.org.

Send information by e-mail in rich text format (.rtf) to SWriters@aol.com. Please be brief.

Barbara DuBois's review of *Rivers for Life* was published in the August *Bosque Notebook*. She has also published a poem, "Refuge."

Sandy Schairer has published her book *Extremely Short Stories for Busy People—ABC 123* and will be offering autographed copies for sale at the Southwest Writers meeting.

Dr. Marilyn Walker's self-help book, *When Death Touches You*, has been published and is currently available on paperback. Dr. Anna Ulrich, International Reading Association Consultant, says, "When death intrudes, we all need help. This guide is sensitive and powerful. I highly recommend it." It can be ordered through any bookstore.

Karen Villanueva's interview with authors Richard and Karilee Shames, *Feeling Fat, Fuzzy, or Frazzled* appeared in the September issue of New Mexico's *Living Natural* magazine.

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 SWriters@aol.com. Don't miss this unique chance for free publicity and fame...and your right to brag!

Everyone Spread the Word to:

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SouthWest Writers has office space for rent.
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Submit addition or deletion requests or changes to
SWriters@aol.com.

**Wanting to Start Groups/
Looking for a Group**

Poetry:

Billy Brown
(505) 401-8139
welbert@aol.com

Short Nonfiction:

Suzann Owings
(505) 867-0567

**Any Genre,
Rio Rancho area:**

Winnie Keith
(505) 771-8059
w.leone@giftsbyleone.com

**Any Genre,
Rio Rancho area:**

Alice Harpley
riograndema@cableone.net

**Any Genre,
Rio Rancho area:**

Bob Harpley
(505) 867-1408
quasiburro@cableone.net

Historical Romance:

Leah Dodd
(505) 890-0210
patandleah@peoplepc.com

SF/F:

Joel Holt
(505) 265-1938
loki265@hotmail.com

Fantasy/Romance:

Heidi Punke
(505) 271-9772
heidiandmitch@yahoo.com

Any Genre in Santa Fe:

Mary Mazza-Anderson
cmmom@zianet.com

Fantasy/Poetry:

Janet Belovarsky
(505) 891-9529
royalbloodseries@aol.com

Groups Seeking Members

Any Genre:

Tina Ortega
2nd and 4th Thursday 6 pm
at Moriarty Library
(505) 832-2513
jleksutin@hotmail.com

**The Santa Fe Screenwriter's
Group:**

Susan Burns
(505) 474-8268
thursday51@aol.com

Novels/Short Stories:

Saturday afternoons at
Albuquerque Main Public
Library on Copper
Jack Phelan
(505) 292-0576
(505) 256-3500

Albuquerque Nonfiction:

Meets weekly at the old
Albuquerque Press Club
Marianne Powers
(505) 892-4990
drifty@aol.com

**Westside Scribes,
Screenwriters:**

Every other Thursday
Flying Star on Rio Grande Blvd.
Marc Calderwood
skatingkokopelli@hotmail.com
897-6474

Mystery/SF:

Fred Aiken
(505) 856-2145
FredAiken@southwestwriters.com

Novels/Short Stories:

Janeen Anderson
(505) 899-5624
janeen@janglya.com

Fiction & Nonfiction:

Paula High
(505) 271-0837
plhigh@abq.com

Any Genre:

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

New SWW Members

Martha Bass

Karen Alexander

Virginia Green

Starley Thompson

Carolyn Flynn

John Fleck

Lalani Darling

John Luick

Lind Quinn

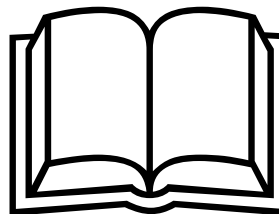
Betty Burnett

Linda Olen

Chet Evans

Mike Smukul

David Gelsanliter



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Business card size: \$16

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For information
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Cheri Eicher
INDEPENDENT MEANS
Group Benefits
(505) 299-5919
(800) 883-4310

SWW Board Meeting will be held at the SWW office on Tuesday, October 6, 2005, at 6 pm

Here we are:

3721 Morris St. NE Suite A
Albuquerque, NM 87111-3611
phone: (505) 265-9485 fax: (505) 265-9483
e-mail: SWriters@aol.com
web: www.southwestwriters.org

Recent Board Meeting Highlights

- ◆ SWW Member Marianne Powers brought the board an idea to have the SWW website link to members' websites and vice versa. The board is checking into the feasibility of putting links on the website, the costs, and fees.
- ◆ The conference with Sean Murphy was a success. Approximately 25 people attended. Costs were approx. \$1300, in` take was \$2868, with a net income of over \$1500. The next conference in November will be titled *Write Your Way to a Best Seller* and will feature Scott Egan, Parris Bonds and Claire Gerus.
- ◆ The SWW Awards Banquet was a success. Many winners came from out of town to receive their certificates and prizes, one as far away as Wisconsin. Winner helen Stanbro informed the contest committee co-chairs that she donated her prize money to the hurricane relief fund.
- ◆ The annual meeting will feature Stephen R. Donaldson, science fiction author. The new member breakfast is scheduled before the meeting on Oct. 1, and Loretta Hall will be presenting a workshop after the meeting. Board extended thanks to Cheri Eicher, SWW insurance broker, for her contribution to the new member breakfast.
- ◆ The SWW Critique Service has received \$3,244.00 for critiquing manuscripts so far this year.
- ◆ Policies, Procedures, and Bylaws Chair will be proposing changes in the election procedures so that voting will be easier and less costly in future years.

Board meetings are open to members as non-voting guests.

Members may see the complete minutes for the year (and previous years) on file in the SWW office. Office hours: M-F, 9am-noon.

President

Rob Spiegel

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

VP/Office Coordinator/Parliamentarian

Larry Greenly

(505) 293-8550 · LarryGreenly@southwestwriters.com

Secretary

Sandy Schairer

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

Treasurer

Loretta Hall

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

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Melody Groves

MelodyGroves@southwestwriters.com

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Edith Greenly

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Policies, Procedures, and Audit/Historian

Lela Belle Wolfert

(505) 899-2952

Volunteer Coordinator

Cal Coates

(505) 323-4929 · CDCoates@southwestwriters.com

Members At Large

Judy Ducharme

(505) 256-9659 · JudyDucharme@southwestwriters.com

Writer's Contest 2005 Co-Chairs

David Corwell

(505) 898-0624 · DavidCorwell@southwestwriters.com

Joan Marsh

JoanMarsh@southwestwriters.com

Nomination Committee Chair

Fred Aiken

(505) 856-2145 · FredAiken@southwestwriters.com

Other Key Positions

SWW Sage Editor

Tom Gibbons

sageeditor@southwestwriters.com

E-lert Mistress

Gail Rubin

publicity@southwestwriters.org

Speaker Coordinator

Larry Greenly

(505) 293-8550 · LarryGreenly@southwestwriters.com

Interim Conference Chair

Lela Belle Wolfert

(505) 899-2952



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



The SouthWest Sage

SouthWest Writers
3721 Morris NE
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See your membership card or mailing label for renewal date. Renew to retain your membership benefits. You may now do this securely online.

You Don't Say!

Whether it's a matter of getting the most current information or enlivening your research with anecdotes and personal insights, you're going to have to interview people sooner or later. This three-hour workshop will teach you how to interview like a pro. Learn what to do before, during, and after the interview—and what *not* to do. Find out how to

- tailor the interview to suit its purpose
- interview in person or over the phone
- deal with difficult interviewees
- be prepared to answer *their* questions

Instructor Loretta Hall is the author of four nonfiction books and 200 articles. She is a member of SouthWest Writers, the Construction Writers Association, and the Society for Technical Communication.

When: Saturday, October 1, 2005; 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Where: New Life Presbyterian Church (5540 Eubank NE)

How: Call the SWW office at 265-9485 (M-F, 9-12), or register at the door

How Much: \$20 for SWW members; \$30 for non-members