



2008 Storyteller, Tanya Ward Goodman of Los Angeles, CA, entered her memoir novel *Mighty Fond of You, Too*. Lucky Rob Spiegel gave her the award and check at the Banquet.

SWW 2008 Writing Contest **Gala Awards Banquet**

Hosting the gala 2008 SWW Awards Banquet on Saturday, September 20, at the Albuquerque Marriott Hotel for the third consecutive year, emcee and 2008 Writers Contest Chair, **John J. Candelaria**, announced the 2008 winners and entertained attendees with another of his fabulous original poems featuring the names of all the winning entries. We present it here for posterity and your enjoyment. All the talented winners--including the 2008 StoryTeller shown at the left--are published on page 4.

The Chair Speaks

By John J. Candelaria
 2008 Awards Banquet Emcee

It was a dark and stormy night in December 2007.

Your master of ceremonies took the mantle of Chair, 2008 SWW Writing Contest; sought a peak experience of undulating waves of ecstasy, wonder, and awe.

SWW leaders promised a treasure of oceanic feelings as they exclaimed, "In time you'll know *No Life But This*. You'll not be forgotten. *Breakfast with the Good Old Boys* will always come the first Saturday of the month." He felt dizzy, like he was standing *Sideways in the Kitchen*.

Past contest chairs spoke poetic words to encourage notions of limitless horizons. They whispered, "Something extremely important will happen at contest end and you won't have to *Juggle and Hide* your feelings, you'll be *Living the Wildlife*."

Not fulfilled, he caught *The Short Red Bus* to the home of last year's chair. She prayed *The Rosary Maya*, then told him, "*He That Keepeth Thee* will guide *Serena's Thunder* and *The Wild Dog of Pueblo Pintada* on those writers who would speak ill of you. Remember, we at SWW are *Mighty Fond of You, Too*." She read him *The Story of La Conquistadora*; he left encouraged.

By May 15, five hundred seventy-seven manuscripts arrived. It felt like wrestling *Bears, Horses, and Men* all at the same time.

Judges read novels, short stories, articles, nonfiction books, poetry, screenplays; looked for those *Diamonds in the Rough*. Took their new *Friends* to bed, to find *What Rises* into Third, Second, and First Place.

Critiquers read manuscripts; like *The Pecan Sheller*, they found the meat to critique.

Judge and critiquers were overwhelmed when they read catchy titles like, *Dispatchings: Funerals, Memorial Services and Special Send-Offs; Barley, the Ancient One*:

Amazing Grains for Modern Times and *Tourmaline*.

One judge dreamt about *Dark Knowledge*. She saw in her dream, the *Mirror of Stone* crack under the weight of *Fiona's Favorite Pet*.

Another visualized *The Day Abraham Lincoln's Boat Got Stuck* and realized all they had to do was *Just Add Water*.

Another imagined he was *Falling Through the Crumbling Sky* when he read stories of *Campus Violence: Lessons From the Cases*. He wondered if his fever would last during his time of *White Sands Backpacking and Natural History*.

One judge quit, as nightmares came often. He cried out, "I wrestled every night with *Ella Bandita* during the *Winter of the Metal People: The Tiguex War*," then exclaimed in confusion, "*The Bullet That Saved Me* made me realize *Henry J. Knows No Boundaries*."

Letter to winners brought joy; and questions. Was their manuscript in first, second or third place? Would my great novel win the Storyteller Award? A poet mused, could a three-line haiku poem take the coveted prize?

Today, we have come aboard as *The Antique Carousel Goes Round and Round* to honor this circle of winners. We smile, cheer, clap hands.

Soon you'll leave for home, wondering if your next manuscript will open with new, fresh and crisp words like, "It was a dark and stormy night..."

From the Editor

Yes we did it again! The 2008 SWW Writing Contest Awards Banquet was a success with nearly a hundred people attending including many of our super-talented winners. Find out who took First, Second and Third Place on page 4, and don't miss Emcee John Candelaria's daunting poem on the cover. Congratulations to all, especially the delightful 2008 Storyteller, **Tanya Ward Goodman**, whose memoir novel (a new category this year!) *Mighty Fond of You, Too* swept the field! And don't miss our Storyteller judge's comments about her work below.



We, meaning the SWW membership, will elect 2009 officers at the annual meeting next month, so come cast your vote--maybe as practice for the upcoming elections in November, though ours is sure to be less contentious.

Speaking of which, if you e-mailed anything to me just before Labor Day, you may want to check that I got it. I lost about 40 e-mails while trying to repair Microsoft Outlook (my mistake, not theirs) so feel free to make sure I received yours. And fear not: my new hard drive promises to be more reliable than I am, which isn't that tough.

Thanks for all the support you show *SW Sage* and keep your letters and stories coming. We're counting on you!

Peggy



The first sentence of the memoir *Mighty Fond of You, Too* pulled me in the way a carnival hawker pulls you into a freak show—advertising something you never knew you wanted. After the second sentence, I had to have more.

This story of a young woman and her father is a grizzly revelation told with subtle grace and is refreshingly void of the kind of self-consciousness that all too often weighs down a memoir. I am pleased to name *Mighty Fond of You, Too* the winner of the 2008 SWW Storyteller Award.

(If I ever find out who the author is, I'll be tempted to stalk her until she gives me the entire story.)

Paula Paul, Storyteller Award Judge



Keith Pyeatt and Rose Marie Kern do details at the Treasurer's table.



About half of the September meeting room. The other half is apparently floating somewhere in digital ether.



SouthWest Sage

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Proud Papa: That smile says it all. **Kirt Hickman** displays his first book: *Worlds Asunder*. Congratulations!

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Annual Membership in SouthWest Writers

Individual: \$60 (\$100 for 2 years), Two People: \$50/each, Student: Over 18* \$40, Student: Under 18* \$25, Outside U.S.: \$65, Lifetime Memberhip: \$750
 *Requires proof of student status. Download the Sage from SWW Website.

Join us! First Saturday: 10am-Noon; Workshop: 1-4 pm. Third Tuesday: 7-9 pm.
New Life Presbyterian Church, 5540 Eubank NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Heads up, Screenwriters!
Save Saturday, February 21, for the
SWW Screenwriters Conference

Details at meetings and here next month

2008 SWW Writing Contest Winners



Storyteller Award Winner

Tanya Ward Goodman, *Mighty Fond of You, Too*, Los Angeles, CA

1. Mainstream or Literary Novel

1st Place: Mike Weidner, *The Short Red Bus*, Atlanta, Georgia

2nd Place: Cynthia Coulter and Catherine Coulter, *Bears, Horses, and Men*, Springview, Nebraska and Jemez Springs, New Mexico

3rd Place: Frank F. Carden, *No Life But This*, Las Cruces, New Mexico

2. Mystery/Suspense/Thriller/Adventure Novel

1st Place: Susan Kosar Beery, *The Rosary Maya*, Pasadena, California

2nd Place: Lulyne Streeeter, *The Weeping Woman*, Seabrook, Texas

3rd Place: Lizzie K. Foley, *Breakfast with the Good Old Boys*, Santa Fe, New Mexico

3. Romance Novel

1st Place: Robin Perini, *Truth and Consequences*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2nd Place: Lois Cutts Sullivan, *Diamonds in the Rough*, Los Lunas, New Mexico

3rd Place: Jill Lynn Anderson, *Windsong*, Munhall, Pennsylvania

4. Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror Novel

1st Place: Corie J. Conwell, *Mirror of Stone*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2nd Place: Keith Pyeatt, *Dark Knowledge*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

3rd Place: Montgomery Mahaffey, *Ella Bandita*, Douglas, Alaska

5. Historical/American Frontier/Western Novel

1st Place: William R. Donaldson, *Tourmaline*, Colorado Springs, Colorado

2nd Place: Dennis Herrick, *Winter of the Metal People: The Tiguex War*, Rio Rancho, NM

3rd Place: Cynthia Mines, *Heaven in a Wildflower*, Wichita, Kansas

6. Middle Grade or Young Adult Novel

1st Place: Melodie Starkey, *View From the Closet Doorway*, Aurora, Illinois

2nd Place: Lupe Ruiz-Flores, *The Pecan Sheller*, San Antonio, Texas

3rd Place: Mike Weidner, *The Short Red Bus*, Atlanta, Georgia

7. Christian Novel

1st Place: Melanie Dickerson, *The Beholder*, Harvest, Alabama

2nd Place: Pattie Burns, *He That Keepeth Thee*, Carlsbad, New Mexico

3rd Place: Melanie Dickerson, *The Woodcutter's Daughter*, Harvest, Alabama

8. Memoir Book

1st Place: Tanya Ward Goodman, *Mighty Fond of You, Too*, Los Angeles, California

2nd Place: Amy Fisher, *Living the Wildlife*, Santa Fe, New Mexico

3rd Place: Sharon van Ivan, *Juggle and Hide*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

9. Memoir Article

1st Place: Stephanie Farrow, *Friends*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2nd Place: Renee G. Rivers, *Falling Through the Crumbling Sky*, Phoenix, Arizona

3rd Place: Murray H. Edwards, *Just Add Water*, Clyde, Texas

10. Mainstream or Literary Short Story

1st Place: Jessica DeVoe, *Stained*, Capistrano Beach, California

2nd Place: Dennis Herrick, *The Bullet That Saved Me*, Rio Rancho, New Mexico

3rd Place: Charlene E. Dietz, *Wild Dog of Pueblo Pintada*, Torreon, New Mexico

11. Middle Grade or Young Adult Short Story

1st Place: Kathleen Cherry, *Breaking the Code*, Kitimat, British Columbia, Canada

2nd Place: Lauren King, *Mother, Nevertheless*, Wichita, Kansas

3rd Place: Charlene E. Dietz, *Henry J. Knows No Boundaries*, Torreon, New Mexico

12. Nonfiction Article or Essay

1st Place: Carol Jordan, *Sideways in the Kitchen*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2nd Place: John Pijawka, *White Sands Backpacking and Natural History*, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico

3rd Place: Dianne R. Layden, *Campus Violence: Lessons From the Cases*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Continued next page

Parris Award Recipient Melody Groves

When not playing gunfighter on the streets of Old Town, **Melody Groves** stays busy. Her body of published works includes the non-fiction titles *Ropes, Reins, and Rawhide: All About Rodeo and Historic Bars of the Southwest* (coming Spring 2009), while her fiction includes *Arizona War, Sonoran Rage* and *Border Ambush* with more in the wings. Melody is Publicity Chairman for Western Writers of America and Public Relations chair for SWW, where she has served on the board for years. She publishes regularly in local and regional magazines including *SW Sage*, often presents at SWW meetings, teaches classes and workshops, does critiques and helps with conferences.



Service Award Recipients

Betty Burnett regularly prepares delicious food which she brings to SWW meetings, in addition to helping arrange the food table and clean up.

Harold Burnett manages the book table, one of the busiest spots at SWW meetings. He helps display books and keeps track of sales.

Bonnie Hayes has helped manage workshops. More recently, she has taken over management of SWW classes by booking instructors, negotiating fees and promotion classes. She is a longstanding SWW board member.

Peggy Herrington edits our excellent newsletter, *SW Sage*, having taken it to a new level of editorial excellence over the past two years. She covers SWW events, helps manage workshops and is a board member.

Elsie Karr Kreischer is a founding member of SWW. A supportive presence at meetings, she tirelessly promotes SWW to her writing students. Elsie has recruited more members than anyone.

Sandy Schairer has served on the SWW board for years, recently taking on the responsibility of secretary. She often served on the conference committee, working in any capacity needed.

Jeanne Shannon accepted the formidable task of running the 2007 SWW Writing Contest. She put together a hard-working committee and made sure all aspects of the contest ran smoothly. An active board member, she serves as historian.

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13. Nonfiction Book

1st Place: Larry Greenly, *Barley, The Ancient One: Amazing Grains for Modern Times*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

1st Place: Gail Rubin, *Dispatchings: Funerals, Memorial Services and Special Send-Offs*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2nd Place: Sue Houser, *The Story of La Conquistadora*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

14. Children's Picture Book (Fiction and Nonfiction)

1st Place: Larry Greenly, *The Day Abraham Lincoln's Boat Got Stuck*, Albuquerque, N M

2nd Place: Marc Calderwood, *Fiona's Favorite Pet*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

3rd Place: Sue Houser, *The Antique Carousel Goes Round and Round*, Albuquerque, NM

15. Screenplay

1st Place: Yarrow Vincent-Wayman, *Ice Cream*, Fort Collins, Colorado

2nd Place: Scott and Paula Merrow, *Nothing is Real*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

3rd Place: Jean Hunter, *Serena's Thunder*, San Lorenzo, California

16. Poetry

1st Place: Margaret A. Gross, *Vast Life*, Ramah, New Mexico

2nd Place: Marilyn Stablein, *What Rises*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

3rd Place: Merimee Moffitt, *Three-Bucket Bath*, Albuquerque, New Mexico



From Creating Your Own Imprint to Distribution and Marketing

Creating Your Own Imprint by Christopher Valen

Authors today have three primary means of publishing. One option is to submit your manuscript to an agent or traditional publisher. There are five major publishers left and about three hundred mid-sized publishers. Since most agents and publishers are seeking the next J.K. Rowling and are overwhelmed with manuscripts, the odds are stacked against the first-time author.



A second option is to pay a subsidy publisher like iUniverse to print your book. Publish On Demand or self-publishing has a number of drawbacks because you relinquish creative control over your book, the subsidy publisher collects most of the profits, and bookstores won't stock it.

A third option involves creating your own imprint and joining the growing ranks of small and independent publishers. It was an idea my writer's group had talked about for years.

New technology is gradually changing the publishing landscape much as it changed the music industry. Traditional publishers typically print thousands of twenty-five dollar hardcovers that eventually end up on the discount table selling for five bucks. That's not a very sensible or effective business model. The development of digital printing or Print on Demand technology has dramatically increased the number of small and independent publishers. Estimates run as high as 81,000. But it's not just small and independent publishers who have elected to change their business practices. HarperCollins, one of the five major publishers, has decided to use Print on Demand technology for their mid-list authors. Print on Demand is a less risky business model and led to the creation of Conquill Press.

Finding Distribution

Creating an imprint is just the first step in publishing your book. Hiring excellent people to edit and design the book cover and interior is essential. I work with 1106 Design (www.1106design.com) in Phoenix. Once the book design is complete, you need a quality printer and distribution channels. Fortunately, Lightning Source offers Print on Demand services and has a direct connection to Ingram, the largest wholesaler in the country. The company prints over one million books a month and can provide distribution in the United Kingdom as well.

Marketing Strategies

Whether a large, mid-sized or independent publisher publishes your book, publicity budgets are generally small or non-existent for first-time authors. Nonetheless, once your book is printed and released, marketing becomes essential.

Having a quality website is important if an author wants to increase sales of their book. John Passarella (www.authorpromo.com) designed and hosts my website. Creating a long-term

presence on the web through social networking can drive traffic to your website. Blogging can also help. I write about the social, political and economic consequences of crime and injustice in my blog entitled, Probable Cause. A book video trailer is one of the latest marketing tools available to authors. I had a video trailer designed by Ghostwriter Extraordinaire (www.gwextra.com) for *White Tombs* and added it to my website and blog. The video now appears on YouTube and many other sites where people can view it.

Authors need a publicist as well as Internet media. An excellent publicist, such as my publicist SWW member Karen Villanueva (www.authorcare.com) can get reviews, articles or listings in traditional media and online, ferret out alternative exposure opportunities, set up events and follow through to make sure everything goes well.

A Book People Will Want to Read

There are approximately 800,000 books published each year and 98 percent of them sell less than 5,000 copies, with thousands selling less than 500 copies. Still, there are advantages to publishing a book that generates good reviews. Good reviews help an author get noticed. And sending a published book that has been well received and reviewed to an agent or to a mid-sized or large publisher, along with your second manuscript, is better than sending in an unpublished manuscript.

Following the above suggestions won't guarantee that your book will sell well. Finding the right people to work with helps. I've been fortunate in that regard. In the end though, it still comes down to good writing, writing a book people enjoy and will want to read.

Christopher Valen is the Minnesota-based author/publisher of the highly acclaimed debut murder mystery White Tombs featuring John Santana, the first book in his series featuring the detective. It's written in English with generous amounts of Hispanic dialogue flowing within the story line. Visit him at christophervalen.com.

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Top 10 Reference Works for Writers and Editors

By Richard Nordquist, About.com: Grammar & Composition

Despite the ready availability of spell checkers, grammar software, and online dictionaries and style guides, every serious writer still needs a few good reference books. Yes, these are all “look it up” books, as we called them when we were kids. But most are also delightful works to browse through and occasionally get lost in.

1. The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, 4th Edition (2006) The recently updated edition of this 2,100-page heavyweight should serve you well for a generation or two. In addition to the customary definitions, word histories, examples, and quotations, it offers advice on matters of grammar and style—courtesy of its “renowned” (and still controversial) Usage Panel. Take a pass on the CD-ROM, however: the online *American Heritage Dictionary* at Bartleby.com should meet your digital needs. For the budget-minded, a close second choice in the dictionary category is the shorter and less costly *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th Edition.

2. Garner’s Modern American Usage, 2nd edition (Oxford University Press, 2003)

Since the appearance of the first edition in 1998, *Garner’s Modern American Usage* has become the standard guide for American writers and editors. Its most distinctive feature, says novelist David Foster Wallace, is that “its author is willing to acknowledge that a usage dictionary is not a bible or even a textbook but rather just the record of one smart person’s attempts to work out answers to certain very difficult questions.” That “one smart person” is lawyer and lexicographer Bryan A. Garner. Clearly and wittily, Garner leavens his prescriptive approach, as he says, “by a thorough canvassing of actual usage in modern edited prose.”

3. The Chicago Manual of Style, 15th edition (University of Chicago Press, 2003) Among U.S. book publishers, *The Chicago Manual of Style* is the most widely used guide to style, editing, and design. Running close to 1,000 pages, it’s also the most comprehensive. (In addition, an online version at chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html is available by subscription.) However, this durable guide (the first edition appeared in 1906) faces competition from more specialized reference works, such as the *AP Stylebook* (see below); *The Gregg Reference Manual* (for business professionals); *American Medical Association Manual of Style*; *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*; and the *MLA Style Manual* (used by writers in the humanities). But if your profession doesn’t have its own style guide, do this.

4. AP Stylebook

Known as “the journalist’s bible,” the *AP Stylebook* contains over 5,000 entries on matters of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage. When you have questions that other reference books ignore, go to the *AP Stylebook*: chances are good that the answers are here. For an online sample, visit Ask the Editor at apstylebook.com/ask_editor.php.

5. The Business Writer’s Handbook, 8th edition (St. Martin’s Press, 2006)

Despite the title, this reference work by Gerald Alred, Walter Oliu, and Charles Brusaw should be helpful to *all* writers, not only those in the business world. The alphabetically arranged entries cover matters ranging from the finer points of grammar and usage to conventional formats for articles, letters, reports,

and proposals. This is one of the very few textbooks that students hold on to and actually use long after they graduate.

6. The Copyeditor’s Handbook, 2nd edition (University of California Press, 2006)

Once you’ve settled on an editorial style manual (such as the *AP Stylebook* or *The Chicago Manual of Style*), consider supplementing it with Amy Einsohn’s smart and practical handbook, subtitled “A Guide for Book Publishing and Corporate Communications.” Targeting “new and aspiring copyeditors who will be working on nonfiction books, journal articles, letters, and corporate publications,” *The Copyeditor’s Handbook* is both a lucid textbook and a straightforward reference tool.

7. On Writing Well, 30th Anniversary Edition (HarperCollins, 2006)

This self-described “classic guide to writing nonfiction” by William K. Zinsser actually lives up to its publisher’s claims: “Praised for its sound advice, its clarity, and its warmth of style, . . . it is a book for anybody who wants to learn how to write, whether about people or places, science and technology, business, sports, the arts, or about yourself.”

8. The Elements of Style, 4th edition (Longman, 2000)

Yes, Strunk and White’s *Elements of Style* strikes some readers as precious, fussy, and out of date. And yet this expanded version of Professor William Strunk’s 1918 writing guide for students at Cornell University remains extremely popular. You’ll find more practical information in *The Business Writer’s Handbook*. And Joseph Williams’s *Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace* (Longman, 2006) is more thorough and contemporary. But when it comes to writing *about* style *with* style, E. B. White (long-time *New Yorker* essayist and author of *Charlotte’s Web*) really can’t be beat.

9. The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language, 2nd edition (2003)

The general reader who wants to learn more about the English language—its history, vocabulary, and grammar—will find no text more enjoyable and enlightening than this illustrated study by linguist David Crystal. Unlike the other works listed here, it offers a *descriptive* study of English—no usage rules or stylistic advice, just clear explanations of how the language works.

10. Letting Go of the Words: Writing Web Content That Works (Morgan Kaufmann, 2007)

If you write for a blog or website, you might want to move this book to the top of your list. Easy to read and use, *Letting Go of the Words* is a helpful companion to a conventional style guide. Janice (Ginny) Redish focuses on responding to the needs (and short attention spans) of online readers. Another helpful guide in this category is *Hot Text: Web Writing That Works* (New Riders Press, 2002)—but a fresh edition is overdue.

October

SWW Events & Workshops

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

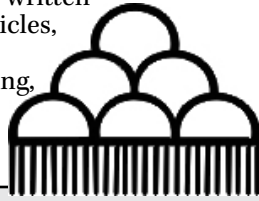
Donations of refreshments at regular SWW meetings are gratefully accepted! Please consider providing this service.

Saturday, October 4, 10:00 am to noon

Live your Life in Search of Material

Sherri Burr will discuss how to know when experiences are generating stories with value. Living broadly requires reading, surfing the 'net, seeing museums and films, interacting with friends and relatives, attending workshops. Writers must be alert to the stories in their experience, be it from a bad date, visiting a cemetery, taking in a relative for a year, or changing jobs. Does the experience make you feel like you're watching a movie? Would you find something funny if it were happening to someone else? Sometimes the tragic yields the best comedy. I will show how to embrace failure and turn experiences into columns, books, poetry and plays.

Sherri Burr joined the UNM School of Law faculty in 1988. An internationally renowned lecturer, she has spoken at universities all over the world and has written eleven books, numerous scholarly articles, and hundreds of newspaper articles. She is the recipient of awards for writing, speeches and the TV show *Arts Talk*, which she produces and hosts.



SWW programs are rarely cancelled, but it is possible depending on the weather. If you have doubts about a program taking place or about the time or topic, simply call the SWW office (505) 265-9485 during business hours, M-F, 9am- noon.

Saturday, October 4, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

\$20 for members; \$30 for non members

Generative Writing Workshop

This workshop allows participants to begin new projects. Writing in a community creates a powerful synergy and allows you to explore new territory. This is where to try out new forms and approaches. In addition to drawing upon my work and research into the performance of autobiography, we will use techniques developed by the Amherst Writers and Artists method emphasizing positive feedback and honoring the writer's privacy and process. All work is treated as fiction, releasing the creative process and keeping the focus on writing rather than the writer.

Lynn C. Miller, PhD, is author of the novels *The Fool's Journey* (2002) and *Death of a Department Chair* (2006) and co-editor of *Voices Made Flesh: Performing Women's Autobiography* (2003). She has been guest artist at dozens of universities, museums and festivals, touring performances of Edith Wharton, Gertrude Stein, and Katherine Anne Porter, and conducting writing/performance workshops. She recently left the University of Texas at Austin, where she was a professor in women's studies and theatre, to found WriteSpace International in Albuquerque where she coaches writing and creative approaches to thinking and life change.

Tuesday, October 21, 7 to 9 pm

Finding Your Hook

An editor asks what your story is about. Here's your chance to make a good impression. But if you're still rambling five minutes later, you failed. Writers often need the dreaded one-sentence synopsis--but how can you possibly sum up your work in one little sentence? When we try, too often the result is a clumsy, run-on sentence that sounds unnatural and won't sell your work. In this workshop, we'll discuss the key to a great one-sentence synopsis--finding your story's hook. Then practice turning your hook into a one-sentence synopsis and get feedback to help you refine the results.

Chris Eboch is NM Regional Advisor for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. As such, she has coordinated five conferences and attended many others. She has published over 100 articles for children and adults including "How to Succeed at a Conference" in *Writer's Digest*. Chris is the author of *The Well of Sacrifice* (Clarion Books), a middle grade historical adventure set in ninth century Guatemala. Her latest books are dramatic and inspirational biographies, *Jesse Owens: Young Record Breaker* and *Milton Hershey: Young Chocolatier*, both with Simon & Schuster. Visit her website at www.chriseboch.com.

Red Hot Internet Marketing for Authors & Publishers by Penny Sansevieri

Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 to 4:30

New Life Presbyterian Church, 5540 Eubank NE

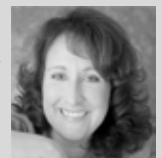
\$79 SWW/NMBA members, \$99 nonmembers

Call to reserve your spot: SWW office, 265-9485

Workshop registration includes a box lunch and Penny's book *Red Hot Internet Publicity*

Written a book and now realize that marketing it is as hard--or even harder? Marketing professional **Penny Sansevieri** is dynamic, exciting and informative. She knows that marketing your book in today's saturated market (800 books are published every day) can leave you frustrated. She will turn your frustration into determination and optimism--and make you laugh all the way.

Penny says what once worked (traditional press kits and press releases) no longer work. And newspapers, radio and TV are reducing or eliminating time and space devoted to authors and book reviews. The Internet is now the best road to your book's success. But how? When? (Hint: Long before you think.) Why? Penny will tell you.



Penny C. Sansevieri, CEO and founder of Author Marketing Experts, Inc., is a best-selling author and internationally recognized book marketing and media relations expert. Her company is one of the leaders in the publishing industry and has developed cutting-edge book marketing campaigns. Her company researched, developed and implemented the first comprehensive Internet publicity campaign called The Virtual Author Tour.

Presented by SouthWest Writers and
New Mexico Book Association

SWW Events & Workshops

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

*Saturday, November 1, 10:00 am to noon***The Great Apprenticeship:
Gear and Insight for the Journeyman
Writer**

In Medieval Europe an apprentice spent seven years under a master, learning the basics of his trade; for yet more years, as a journeyman, he had to hold his own before a critical public. The craft of writing requires a similar long apprenticeship. How do we recognize and gain the tools of our peculiar calling? Without a master handy, how do we get a perspective on our work?

Join award-winning author-illustrator **Betsy James** in a conversation about how to build your own apprenticeship, with particular attention to the skills of peer critique. Don't miss Betsy's article in this issue on page 12.

Saturday, November 1, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
\$20 for members; \$30 for non members**The Write Answers:
Solutions for Authors and Authoring**

In his June presentation, internationally accredited speaker and facilitator **Ron Chapman** explored our inner obstructions to success. Now in *The Write Answers* he'll offer his unique expertise in a facilitated trouble-shooting session that not only provides information on our challenges as writers and in the writing process, but provides interactive opportunities for each participant to tackle their personal barriers to success.

Bring several questions about what you perceive to be obstacles or your *stuckness*. Explore what you perceive as a limitation or obstacle and Ron will help you see the opportunity within. Ron will take those questions or experiences and work with you to find real solutions. From his own journey as a writer and author and through working with small presses and trying to get name and book recognition, Ron knows where you've been and how to move beyond limited thinking.

An internationally recognized and accredited speaker and consultant, Chapman nurtures creative thought and action while facilitating personal and professional growth and organization and leadership development, assisting clients in deepening their awareness, changing their perceptions, and cultivating insight and understanding to allow any challenge or problem to be overcome. A self-described full-time, all-time student of human, organizational, and cultural dynamics, Chapman, through his company, Magnetic North LLC, travels throughout the United States, Europe and recently, Zimbabwe, Africa, delivering powerful keynote addresses and conducting *Seeing True* seminars and workshops. Author of *Seeing True: Ninety Contemplations in Ninety Days*, *What a Wonderful World* and the *Seeing True* series of audio discs *The Way of Success in Leadership* and *The Way of Spirit*. Chapman is also a national award-winning social radio commentator.

**Welcome
New Members!**

Tabby Friedman

John R. Miller	Jim Scarantino
Laura L. Mudd	Martha Heard
Susan McAdam	Norma Wimberly
Mary E. Samek	Peter Simonson
Florence Putnam	Tamara Couture
Anne Starbuck	Sharon A. Ahern
Robyn Carrillo	Susan Crandall
Deborah Begel	Veronica Tiller
Paul Bolduc	Roberta Wilson
Clark Whitehorn	Karen Bovee
Brent Sampson	Carol Whitercarver
Tim McKee	Mary Reinhardt
Mitch Blacher	Sandy Bazinet
Lisa Dale Norton	Anne Weaver

*Tuesday, November 18, 7 to 9 pm***The Write Combination**

The Thurlos will discuss how they got published, how they've learned to work as a team, what you need to get from yourself, and what strategies and skills you need to develop in order to break into the industry and keep your sanity.

David and Aimée Thurlo have been married for thirty-eight years. David was raised on the Navajo Indian Reservation and left Shiprock to complete his education at the University of New Mexico. Aimée, born in Havana, Cuba, has lived in New Mexico for thirty-eight years. They currently have three poodles and one horse. Their home life can best be described as chaotic - but interesting.

Career writers, the Thurlos have 67 published novels to date. They are best known for their Ella Clah series about a Navajo FBI agent turned cop, but also have the Sister Agatha mystery series set in Bernalillo, and the Lee Nez novels featuring a half vampire NM state policeman. They've just completed the fourth novel in their Brotherhood of Warriors series for Harlequin Intrigue, and are now doing revisions for *The Bad Samaritan*, their sixth Sister Agatha novel, due out next spring. The Thurlos' novels, translated into many different languages, are available around the world.

For information about benefits for SWW members contact: **Cheri Eicher**

INDEPENDENT MEANS

Group Benefits (505) 890-0358
(800) 883-4310

Independentmeans@comcast.net

Announcements

If you are interested in forming a **poetry critique group** with other SW poets, contact **Elizabeth Ann Galligan** at the SWW meetings or by e-mail to galliganea@msn.com or call (505) 275-6343. Frequency of the meetings and times will be determined by the group.

Poetry Open House, 1:00 - 4:30 pm, October 18, January 24, 2009, April 25, 2009 at **Billy Brown's** home, 2909 Monterey Ave SE, Albuquerque (3 streets south of Coal, 3 houses east of Girard). Read your own poems or poems by other poets or just relax, listen, and enjoy the magic of poetry. We provide the iced tea. Optional: You may bring a snack to share. Happily continuing our fourth year of these lovely events!

SWW member seeks someone to read her final version of a contemporary suspense/romance novel set in Sicily. She would be happy to return the favor. If interested, write to judy.woods01@comcast.net.

Gerald M. Weinberg's latest non-fiction, just out from Dorset House Publishing, is now available.

Perfect Software (And Other Illusions About Testing) "Finally! A book about software testing written by someone who actually understands software testing. I consider Jerry to be the greatest living tester. Jerry tests everything. Jerry tests me. It's been forty-seven years since Weinberg first wrote on software testing, and his ideas today are still ahead of their time. Read this and get your head straight about testing."—James Bach, consulting software tester, author of *Lessons Learned in Software Testing*.

The Rag, a monthly poetry broadsheet, is seeking submissions and subscribers. Email poems (not too long, please!) to theragabq@yahoo.com or mail to **Karin Bradberry**, 11322 Campo del Sol NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123. New editors' subscription discount: \$15 will take you through December 2009. Checks payable to Karin Bradberry. If emailing poems, include your name and address so we can send you two copies of *The Rag* when/if your poems are published. There is no theme for the November issue.

Greetings from Gulf Coast Writer's Association! We are writing to announce a **Call for Submissions** of short fiction to our second GCWA anthology. There is no entry fee. GCWA will pay \$25.00 (or two free copies) to contributors whose work is selected for publication; all rights revert to authors upon publication. Stories must be set in the South and clearly capture a southern tone. Themes might include coming-of-age, family relationships, fitting in, social life (in its many facets), dreams/aspirations. We will also consider previously published stories that meet this criteria. Deadline for submissions is March 15, 2009. Interested writers will find all the information they need at gcwriters.org.

Loretta Hall, author of *Underground Buildings: More than Meets the Eye*, will be speaking at the International Green Ideas Show in Albuquerque on October 25, 2008, from 11:00-noon. Her topic is "In Touch with the Earth: Building to Conserve Energy." In addition to a series of talks, the Green Ideas Show will feature 100 exhibits of earth-friendly products and services. The Discovery Channel will be on hand to film a segment on the winner of the Greenovator Award for the most innovative product exhibited. The Green Ideas Show is being held in conjunction with the Albuquerque Home and Lifestyle Show at Expo New Mexico.

Writing to Recover

By Michelle Holtby

"Only those who risk going too far can possibly find out how far they can go." -T.S. Eliot

I never knew I could write. I wrote term papers in college and business proposals while working in advertising. But, that's different. That's academic writing, done from the brain. Writing my book *Bipolar No More: A Memoir of Hope and Recovery* came from my heart. After five years of journaling and filling up countless notebooks, I thought "I should write a book. I have enough material here to cover a variety of topics."



My daily journaling led me to conversations with God. He would talk to me through my writing. His voice replaced the negative voices in my head. I began to look forward to our time together. One hour each morning, after my coffee, with my dog, Tigger, by my side. I remember feeling such inner peace. My anxiety disappeared during this time and very, very slowly I began to trust God again and listen to Him.

It was a healing process and I'm so thankful for the experiences I've gone through to get here. If I can help people on their journey to wellness it will all have been worth it. As I tell people, "It's time for this book to be 'born'."

I realize now that everything happens for a reason—the good, the bad and the ugly. I initially thought of my bipolar disorder as the worst thing I've ever experienced. Over the years it has become the best thing that ever happened to me. I have received numerous gifts from having this diagnosis. The biggest gift is having a second chance at life. Now I am God-driven and feel I'm living on purpose. Writing *Bipolar No More*, a book about hope and recovery, and giving presentations in the community about living with a mental illness are how I give back.

I believe being a published author is only the beginning of my journey. I also have a website, where each month I'll extract a theme from my book and write on that topic. I invite you to visit it: bipolarnomore.com. I'll also have several book signings in the upcoming months. Please check my website for updated information. My book is available to purchase online and at SWW meetings beginning October 4.

I want to thank Southwest Writers for its tremendous support. Numerous people helped my dream come true: Peggy Herrington, for teaching me "show" vs. "tell," Larry Greenly, a patient editor who was amazed at my ability to "crank out the chapters" and for guidance while working with a self-publisher, and for all the SWW members who encouraged me—your kind words and support have remained with me. Thank you.

Bipolar No More: A Memoir of Hope and Recovery is Michelle Holtby's first published book. Her diagnosis of bipolar disorder brought her to a place where she is able to candidly share her fears, shame, anger and humor. For more information about Michelle and her book, please visit her website at bipolarnomore.com.

Revising Fiction

13 Ways to Show Character Emotions, Part III

by Kirt Hickman

This month's column completes a three-part look at techniques that can help you to show your characters' emotions effectively. So far, we've learned to:

1. Use emotional honesty.
2. Convey the source of the emotion.
3. Avoid clichés.
4. Use metaphor.
5. Use concrete details.
6. Use internal monologue.
7. Use dialog.
8. Show physical response.

Additional techniques include:

9. Have the character respond to the emotion in an unexpected way.

Snider pulled Chase aside. "That was a lovely exercise," he spat, "but you haven't answered the basic question: Why?" Veins bulged in his forehead as he said the last word. His eyes, crazed as though he was on the verge of a breakdown, spoke of the unbelievable pressure that he must be under. Chase had thought he'd understood, but matters were apparently worse than he'd imagined.

"Look, Morgan." Snider dropped his voice. "You must answer that question. And soon. I'm getting to the point where I don't even care if it's the right answer." He looked Chase in the eye. "You hear what I'm saying?"

In this example from my science fiction novel, *Worlds Asunder*, Snider responds to his stress by essentially telling Chase to lie. This is surprising, because Snider's primary concern has been his own reputation, which could be ruined by such a lie.

This technique can be tricky to employ because the emotional response must be believable, even though it's unexpected. The key is to make it specific to the character. I do this here by incorporating one of Snider's tag lines: "You hear what I'm saying?"

10. Use one emotion to express another.

The following day they received a broken transmission from Snider, crackling through a faulty connection in the comm gear. A pair of geologists had arrived on the scene and found Herrera's bodyguard dead in the cabin. Chase swallowed hard and bowed his head for a moment...

"Everyone else is missing," Snider finished.

The news was good and bad. It reminded Chase of the fragility of life and the cold ruthlessness of space. And he mourned the loss, even though he hadn't known the man. But according to Snider's report, the rover was still moving. Somehow the others had found the means to endure without the protection of a ship or habitat.

In this example, I talk about mourning over the man found in the wreckage, but because Chase didn't know the man, there's no basis for his grief. What he's actually feeling is hope for those



that still live. The mention of mourning is a way to express Chase's hope by contrasting it with another, dissimilar, emotion.

11. Use external setting to mirror your character's emotions.

In the following example, Bill has just awoken from a coma. Dana has stepped away from his bedside to allow the nurse to assess his condition. Notice how I use the sunlight in the hospital room to reflect Dana's feelings.

The sun warmed the room through the durapane window, suddenly now bright and cheerful as if it had just risen. Dana returned to Bill's side and kissed him again, this time on the mouth. "I thought I'd lost you."

12. Use character action.

Gerri threw the contract onto the floor, snatched up her coat, and stormed from the room.

This example uses Gerri's actions to show her anger.

13. Express the emotion in a way that is specific to the character.

[President Powers] felt like she had when she was twelve, when she and her friends were playing in the surf off the South Carolina coast. She'd waded in too far and a large wave had washed over her, pulled her under.

China armed in Earth orbit and the United States ignorant. She couldn't breathe. A cold pressure squeezed in around her, holding her down while she was powerless to prevent it. She heard Norton slam the table through the muffled sound that filled her ears. They were arguing, Norton and O'Leary, but only Norton's voice penetrated the president's consciousness with the words incompetent and consequences.

Finally, like it had when she was twelve, the wave receded and she came up for air. She banged her cane on the hardwood floor to bring civility back to the meeting.

In this example, I use a specific event from President Powers' childhood to express her sense of being overwhelmed in a way that is specific to her.

The techniques in this three-part column are valuable tools to master. If you'd like to see a more in-depth treatment of this topic, I recommend *Creating Character Emotions*, by Ann Hood.¹

¹Ann Hood, *Creating Character Emotions*, Story Press Books, 1998.

Kirt Hickman has Bachelor and Master degrees in electrical engineering from UNM. He has worked with high-energy laser optics, microelectronics, and other technologies relevant to science fiction, and leverages his knowledge and experience to enrich his stories.. Worlds Asunder is his first novel.

SWW Classes

Classes are held at the SWW office at 3721 Morris St. NE, Suite A, in Albuquerque, which is available to members wishing to teach writing skills. SouthWest Writers is not responsible for the opinions and methods of the instructors. However, constructive criticism and comments are welcome, which should be sent to the office. Classes are limited to 14 and may be tax deductible. Register by calling SWW (505) 265-9485 between 9 am and noon weekdays.

October 2-23 (skip Oct.30) Nov 6, Thursdays 6:30-9:00pm
\$75 members, \$85 non-members

Advanced Short Story Writing

You've written the initial draft(s) of your short story. Now what? Bring your work to this class and hone your storytelling skills further through the process of honest and positive peer review. The first class will focus on constructive critiquing techniques. We will then critique one another's stories, and discuss any topics of interest to the class. Requirement: Participants must have at least one, 5,000 words or less short story (maybe two, depending on class size) completed and ready to submit before the first session.

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 SWW Storyteller Award. He has an M.A. in Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University.

October 6 – 27 Monday Evenings. 6:30-8:30pm
\$65 members. \$75 non-members

Revising Fiction: Making Sense of the Madness Part II How to Write it Well

Class 1: Scenes

Class 2: Polishing Prose

Class 3: Dialog

Class 4: Finishing Touches & Critiques

Kirt Hickman was a technical writer for fourteen years before branching into fiction. He's made a living out of taking complex sets of requirements, or in this case advice, and boiling them down into simple, effective procedures. His methodical approach to self-editing can help you convert your first draft from mess to masterpiece. Kirt has completed five novels and is currently working on a book titled *Revising Fiction--Making Sense of the Madness*. He's been an SWW mentor since the inception of the mentoring program and has participated in discussion or critique panels for multiple SWW conferences.

November 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2008. Mondays, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
\$65 members, \$75 non-members

Do-It-Yourself Web Sites

Learn to create and maintain your own web site without knowing HTML codes. Using template-based programs and reliable but inexpensive hosts, your site will cost less than \$15/month. We'll discuss domain names, hosting options, web site design concepts, search engine rankings, and inexpensive (or free) site-building software. In-class demonstrations and take-home exercises will get you started establishing your Internet presence.

Nonfiction author **Loretta Hall** has built four web sites. Her site SubsurfaceBuildings.com is the top search result for "underground buildings." A Top 20 Architecture site, it also received a 2007 Regional Award of Excellence from the Society for Technical Communication.

On Peer Critique

By Betsy James

Critique is good for us.

It's literary fish oil. We writers need it, we love to be criticized, we long for it like April 15th and stomach flu, it will buy us immortality and atone for the time we told our younger siblings the Tabasco was pop.

Well, that's one viewpoint. Yet writers write best when the possibilities in their work are clearly acknowledged, then reflected on. Hence the technique called "peer critique," which trains writers to give courteous feedback to their peers, and analyze their own writing at the same time. A few of its traits:

Find something about the piece that worked. Its author has spent anywhere from three days to forty years on it; if you jump right into what you think is wrong, its writer will freak out. Invariably. This is a law of God.

That courtesy applies even when the writing in question is chaotic, ungrammatical, delusional, and you hate what it says. A human voice is having a go at being heard; if nothing else a reader can listen for passion or camaraderie. "I could tell you were intensely interested in this." "My Brittany sticks his nose up joggers' crotches too." Or (worst imaginable case) "That period on page three brought me to a full stop!"

Once you have said, "I was really moved when the chicken sang," then you can say, respectfully, "The bit about the drunken carhop didn't work for me."

In critique it helps to avoid the word but. "I liked chapter 2, but chapter 3 didn't work for me," means You blew it, whereas "I liked chapter 2, and chapter 3 didn't work for me" is an observation about a work in progress. (Bonus: avoiding that word smooths out relationships, too.)

Peer critique assumes that writing is connection, hence best governed by the rules of respectful communication. It ain't sissy; the writer whose work is on the table must listen, but may not speak. When your book is on a shelf in the bookstore you won't be at the customer's elbow to explain that it's not quite finished, page forty gave you trouble, and your psychotic aunt Hetty forced you to change the POV in the final draft. Your work must stand for itself.

And after you've been through a few rounds of the wise way to get your literary fish oil—peer critique—it will.

Betsy James, award-winning author-illustrator of sixteen books for young adults and children, will speak at SWW on November 9. Beginning in January, she will facilitate an 8-week class in aspects of prose fiction. The skills of peer critique will be taught and modeled. Limited to 10 students.

Free Writing Class for Seniors

SWW offers a free writing class at Bear Canyon Senior Center every Monday from 3:00-4:15pm. Starting in September 2008, the class time will be 1:30 to 2:45pm. Taught by Larry Greenly and Rob Spiegel, classes are free to members of any Albuquerque Senior Center. Membership is open to anyone over 50 and annual dues are \$13. Bear Canyon is two blocks north of Montgomery, one block east of Eubank.

Picnic by a Pond

By Len Hecht

The green frog blended in with the lily pad that it sat on. Only the bulging eyes were clearly visible. They seemed to stare at the couple on the bank of the pond.

Ralph wasn't quite sure why he had agreed to Norma's idea of a picnic. He just knew he wanted to be with her. He had always thought that picnics were for the young, or for people in a Cezanne painting. Cezanne was dead almost a century and Ralph was pushing fifty himself. He didn't mind feeling slightly out of place as long as Norma was there with him.

Sitting upright with no backrest wasn't very comfortable, and he would have preferred a gin and tonic, rather than the jug of white wine Norma had chilled. But he was there with Norma, and that made up for everything.

It had been a long time since he had enjoyed the company of a female. A brief, bad marriage almost thirty years ago had convinced him never again to let a woman get too close.

The Navy had been his life, submarines his home.

While fellow shipmates had hankered for their wives and sweethearts on the long boring voyages under the ice caps, he had been content. With his rise in rank to chief had come the luxury of a small cabin of his own, his retreat from the small talk of home ashore, and women.

Not that he had been a monk. There had been brief steamy interludes in dozens of ports those thirty years. Not with tramps, well, not all with tramps. Most were women, who like him, just never seemed to quite fit in.

Women, who had to be satisfied with just snatches of happiness, All in all it hadn't been so bad, his life, he thought. Now there was Norma.

At twenty-eight, Norma was about the prettiest thing he had ever seen. Her long, dark hair framed a face close to ivory. Deep set auburn eyes shone out at him. She never seemed to be anything other than perfectly groomed. A hint of jasmine



blanketed her like a South Pacific night. He would go anywhere, any time, just to be with Norma. So strong was her hold over him.

They had taken long walks on the beach, grinned at monkeys in the zoo, watched penguins frolic at the seaquarium. No matter to him that he had seen them in the wild on that voyage to Antarctica, six years ago. That was in another life, before Norma.

He loved to watch her, whether it was eating tacos from a street vendor, or laughing at the mime in the park. She could intensely stare at a Gauguin in a gallery, or smile at a passing child. He just loved to watch.

When she had held his hand walking through Chinatown, he knew he'd never felt greater pleasure.

It was as if, all those years, he had been buried beneath the sea, in a nuclear coffin, simply in storage, waiting for Norma..

Now they sat by the pond, with the frog on the lily pad, staring at them. She had said she wanted a quiet spot to talk. There was something she had to tell him, something very important. He hoped that it was not bad news. He hoped that she was not going away. He had waited so long for Norma. He didn't think he could bear losing her.

He had hardly tasted the tuna sandwich she had prepared. The white wine hadn't been strong enough to quiet his nerve. He stared back at the frog while waiting for whatever announcement Norma had in store.

At last, Norma spoke. "In six months I'm going to have a baby."

The frog croaked three times and disappeared into the blue water.

"Dad, you are going to be a grandfather."

George Terrell

**Novel, Short Story
Author and Playwright**

See My Web site: WWW.TerrellBooks.com

SWW International Monthly Writing Competition

Congratulations to the winners of our June 2008 International Monthly Writing Competition: Flash Fiction.



1st Prize: S.L. Allen & D.A. Snyder, Albuquerque, NM for "Fatal Flight."

2nd Prize: Scott Merrow, Albuquerque, NM for "The Book of Stan."

3rd Prize: Frank Carden, Las Cruces, NM for "The Bedroom."

Honorable Mentions (alphabetical):

S.L. Allen & D.A. Snyder, Albuquerque, NM for "No Such Thing as Monsters."

Stan Euston, Albuquerque, NM for "Learning to Write."

Jan Fenimore, Rio Rancho, NM for "Siren Alert."

Mel Gellenthien, Sandia Park, NM for "Glimmering Mass."

Mel Gellenthien, Sandia Park, NM for "Wealth."

Scott Merrow, Albuquerque, NM for "Julia Needs a Change."

Scott Merrow, Albuquerque, NM for "The Cube."

Scott Merrow, Albuquerque, NM for "A Ghost in the Embers."

Jo E. Schilling, Edmonds, WA for "Haywire and Stampede."

Ron Schultz, Albuquerque, NM for "Improv."

Charlotte H. Stocck, Albuquerque, NM for "The Silk Scarf."

The judge's comments are on the SWW website.

Want your contest entry to be considered for publication in *SW Sage*? Submit it to the editor. You will retain copyright.

Critique Groups

Submit requests to SWWriters@juno.com

*Wanting to Start Groups/
Looking for a Group*

Nonfiction, Valencia County

Karen Keese 505-261-0040
skywriter@wildblue.net

Memoirs, Santa Fe

Leona Stucky-Abbott
505-820-2433

Any Genre, Albuquerque

Meet every other Friday
NE Heights
Krys Douglas
505-830-3015

Any Genre, Las Cruces

Barbara Villemez
505-522-5734

Poetry

Billy Brown 505-401-8139, welbert53@aol.com

Short Story, Poetry, Screenplay

Santa Fe

Robert Evans 505-690-6651
reevans1@mac.com

Children's Books Santa Fe
ldiemand@cybermesa.com

*Groups Seeking
Members*

Any Genre

Estancia Valley Writers Group

Critiques and moral support
Moriarty Community Library
2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
Tina Ortega 505-832-2513

Any Genre, Rio Rancho:

Alice Harpley and Bob Harpley
505-867-1408 riversedgebob@cable-one.net
riograndema@cableone.net

Land of Enchantment Romance Authors

Meets second Saturdays at noon.
leranm.com

The Screaming Ninja Screenwriters

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

Memoirs, Albuquerque

John Ward
505.856.6768
JohnRWard@q.com

October Contest Halloween Anecdote

Write a short memoir (a single anecdote) of a true and personal Halloween-related incident for a memoir type magazine, such as *Reminisce Magazine*. Make it focused on an anecdote, not the history of Halloween, etc., and incorporate the year and location. Tight, concise writing will win. Revise until unnecessary words are gone. 350 words maximum, double-spaced. Winners will be sent en masse on spec from SWW to *Reminisce Magazine* for possible future publication. Indicate whether you want to be included.

Instructions

- Open to any writer in the world.
- Original, unpublished work only.
- No cover sheets.
- Print the following 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 no need for an SASE.
- \$5 entry fee for SWW members; \$10 non-members.
- 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 category name under your return address)

Any Genre

Albuquerque Press Club

201 Highland Park Cir. SE
First Tuesdays 7 pm
Samantha 401-1561 or sclark.abq@earthlink.net

SouthWest Sage Advertising Rates

Worldwide Internet Circulation

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. Layout available for a small fee.

Keith Pyeatt sold his latest novel to Regal Crest Press (regalcrest.biz). *Struck* is a paranormal thriller set in Albuquerque and Chaco Canyon, and it's scheduled to be released in July 2009. Sample a chapter and find out more about Keith's novels at keithpyeatt.com.

Jeanne Shannon has a poem in the October issue of *Sage Trail*, a story online at ficklemuses.com, and a memoir article in *The Coalfield Progress*, her hometown newspaper in Norton, Virginia.

Dennis Herrick won two second-place awards in the 2008 SWW contest in the categories of historical/American frontier/western novel and of mainstream/literary short story.

Elizabeth Ann Galligan's poem "The Grave Singer" has been selected for publication in a poetry anthology entitled *Looking Back to Place* by Harwood Arts Center Old School Books. Elizabeth is both co-editor and contributor to the series *Pioneers in Education; Essays in Honor of Paulo Freire (2008)* by Nova Science Press. The chapter, co-authored with Dr. Diane Pinky of Santa Fe Community College, is entitled "Dialogues on Teaching Practice and Praxis." The book is available at novapublishers.com.

Frank Carden's novella, *Prostitutes of Post Office Street*, is now out in paperback, published by Sol Books. Available on line at Barnes and Noble, and Amazon.com. The reader is dropped into the red-light district of Galveston, where crooked cops and down-on-their-luck prostitutes dwell. Yet, in this seedy part of town, there is a picture of hope as his characters seek to rise above the pain of broken hearts and misplaced passions, and break free from the ruts their lives have fallen into. "Raw. Passionate. Tender. Vulnerable. Carden slips you into the hidden and wonderfully personal stories of these women and those close to them." -Mari Ulmer, author of *Midnight at the Camposanto* and *Cart of Death*. "Clearly, this is a book of fiction. That's my story and I'm sticking to it." -Carden

Peggy Swager's dog training book, *Training the Hard to Train Dog*, will be released in November by TFH. More information on her book is at her website peggyswager.com.

Michelle Holtby has published her first book, *Bipolar No More: A Memoir of Hope and Recovery*. She will be available for autographs and questions at SWW meetings. Also, be sure to check out her awesome website: bipolarnomore.com. It has an audio excerpt and a video interview that will blow you away!

A college textbook: *A Design Manual*, 4th edition, by **Shirl Brainard**, has recently been sold to Russia. The book, published by Prentice Hall, will be translated and sold in Russia. Shirl also published an article in *Prime Time* and will be doing a book review for the same publication.

SW Sage editor, **Peggy Herrington**, has accepted the newly created position of Associate Editor for *albuquerqueARTS* magazine. Peggy also had an article about QVC shopping channel host, Jacque Gonzales, who hails from Albuquerque, published in *Albuquerque The Magazine's* October issue.

From **Jerry R. Davis**: Recently, I did several book talks and signings in my home state of Michigan. During the short trip I sold fifty books for a total of just over \$600.00. I've begun making copies of my illustrations (which I drew myself) and after matting and framing, have them available for sale at my book talks and signings. Those illustrations also get me into venues like art shows where I sell my books as well as the illustrations. To date I have sold \$2,000.00 worth of the illustrations. I just learned last week that my latest book, *Leafing Through My Family Tree*, is a finalist in the 2008 New Mexico Book Awards.

Shirley Raye Redmond has sold her 19th and 20th book titles. *Where's Blind Tom Today?* (nonfiction picture book, Mountain Press) and *Rosemary's Glove* (Regency romance, Avalon Books) will be released next summer.

The Amy Kitchener Foundation of Springfield MO has named **Barbara DuBois** as the New Mexico Senior Poet Laureate for 2008!

The MoonQuest: A True Fantasy was named a finalist in the Science Fiction/Fantasy category in the 2008 New Mexico Book Awards. Both *The MoonQuest: A True Fantasy* and *The Voice of the Muse: Answering the Call to Write* earned more 5-star reviews on Amazon in September, bringing the *The MoonQuest's* total to 15 and *The Voice of the Muse's* to 13. Both books continue to get rave reviews all over the internet. **Mark David Gerson** was interviewed twice in September for the books show on KSJE Radio in Farmington. He has two internet radio interviews scheduled for November: "Champagne Sundays" on the 16th (bigbendmagazine.com/Champagne-Sundaysindex.htm) and "Opening Your Intuitive Eye" on the 18th (achieveradio.com/sherri_devereau). Named a "featured expert" on writing and personal growth topics for the web site ezineArticles.com and on writing for the website writingspirit.com. Also named an "inspirational luminary" on the web site inspiremetoday.com.

From **Pat Bost**: "The Ill-Fated Chickens," a short anecdote I wrote about a year ago for Larry and Rob's Monday class at Bear Canyon, was accepted and published in the September '08 issue of *Reminisce Magazine*. The article has been on file at the magazine for all of this time. It was written and submitted as a class exercise. Larry and Rob are repeating the same exercise with their present class. Thanks to both of them. I would never have written the anecdote or tried that magazine without that class.

Karin Bradberry is the new co-editor of a monthly Albuquerque poetry broadsheet, *The Rag*, which has been around for over 10 years. See announcements for submission guidelines and information.

Inspire other writers by sharing your successes. It really does work. Write them in third-person and send to the editor at peg@msn.com. You and many others will be glad you did!



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