

# NETWORK

The IWWG Journal

"Building a community among women who write."

Issue 1, 2010



## *in my own words*

### *As the Wheel Turns*

The news that we will not be returning to Skidmore in 2010 may already have unofficially reached you. The mid-June dates, which we have had to accept these past seven years, have eroded us fiscally. Graduations, weddings, Father's Day, and schools still being in session, have made it impossible for many would-be conferees to attend. Thus, when we inquired about the possibility of having somewhat later dates and were told that this would have to be our time slot for the foreseeable future, we had to bite the bullet: no longer could we afford to book our summer conference, which is our main source of income, in a place that offered us dates which an increasing number of potential conferees could not attend.

Actually, in the past ten years, we had checked out other colleges, but the facilities we saw were not adequate. Then, in the fall of this year, Shelley Ackerman asked which top schools would I choose for "Remember the Magic," and I said "Brown." She placed the first call. Even though it was already November, Brown said they could accommodate us and they had the dates we wanted: July 30-August 6, 2010!

Already two Guild delegations have visited the university to check out the campus, the dorms, the classrooms, auditoriums, dining rooms, and the places where we might "hang out" after the evening readings at night. Shelley Ackerman, Eleanor Johnson and I were the first delegation in November. Then, on December 10, Shelley Ackerman, Elizabeth Julia Stoumen, Marsha Browne, Hope Player, Rachel de Baere, and I were the second delegation. And on January 8, Marsha Browne

and Judy Adourian gathered more information. We want to be absolutely certain that we have the best possible dorms, the best possible classrooms, the best possible everything, and are as conveniently located to each other as we can possibly be.

Marsha Browne put it this way: "There is no question that people will be anxious about moving the conference from Skidmore to Brown. Many women have been coming to the summer conference for decades, and they are accustomed to having the arrival on campus feel as if they slipping into a warm, wonderful bath. They know where everything is, they know what effort is required to get to places, and they like the sense of belonging. Change is daunting, and it is natural to resist it, and resent it.

"It is this very sense of belonging, however, that can be greatly reinforced—and expanded—by moving to a different venue. Instead of feeling loyalty to the place where we convene, we can really use this as an opportunity to explore our loyalty to each other, and to the principles upon which the Guild was founded and which continue to guide our efforts. The things that IWWG stand for and promotes exist inside of each one of us, and we carry them with us everywhere we go. Hannelore has often likened the Guild to a tribe of nomads, traveling together, pitching our tents wherever we need to, and then when it is time to separate and return to our everyday lives, we pack up and carry our gear to put up elsewhere the next time.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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# NETWORK

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## NETWORK

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## PHILOSOPHY & GOALS

The International Women's Writing Guild, founded in 1976, is a network for the personal and professional empowerment of women through writing. The Guild engenders and supports the joyful camaraderie that comes from shared interests of a woman's writing community while at the same time establishing a remarkable record of achievement in the publishing world. No portfolio necessary.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

- ❖ The Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College is IWWG's archival repository.
- ❖ A Website on the Internet/Worldwide Web Offering timely information and features related to writing and the greater global women's community at [www.iwwg.org](http://www.iwwg.org).
- ❖ United Nations/Women's Issues IWWG is an official Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council.
- ❖ Prison Project "Writers Inside" Members correspond with female inmates and/or teach writing workshops.
- ❖ Facebook and other social interactive media.

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

- ❖ A frequently updated list of literary agents and independent small presses, as well as a variety of writing services (described by their specialties), is available to members. Well over 100 books are published by Guild members each year.
- ❖ Subscription to the NETWORK journal (4 issues per year).
- ❖ Health Insurance (New York City only): For information, call IWWG at (212) 737-7536.
- ❖ Dental and Vision Insurance. Contact Beth Tani, the IWWG's Health Insurance Benefits Coordinator: Phone (888) 499-4669; email [Writers@CSSAdmin.com](mailto:Writers@CSSAdmin.com); CSS website: [www.cssadmin.com](http://www.cssadmin.com).
- ❖ Participation at reduced rates in eight or more nationwide conferences, including the renowned week-long "Remember the Magic" summer writing conference in Saratoga Springs, NY.
- ❖ Participation in regional writing workshops and IWWG Kitchen Table and cluster writing/manuscript critique groups.
- ❖ Supportive encouragement and guidance from other women connected to the written word.
- ❖ Amazon.com Bookstore Page on [www.iwwg.org](http://www.iwwg.org) (for details, see page 23)

**SEE PAGE 31 FOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**In 1976, when the Guild was born, there were three major "movements" in society:**

- ❖ The Human Potential Movement
- ❖ The New Age with the notion of transformation through spiritual practice
- ❖ The Women's Movement

**The Guild fused these movements under the umbrella of writing.**

- ❖ Through writing, it said, you will access and activate your potential
- ❖ Through writing, you will raise your consciousness and experience the transformation of your former self
- ❖ Through writing you will find your voice and become an empowered and authentic woman/person

**In addition, the Guild's way became generic. Hence:**

- ❖ Accessing human potential without becoming clinical
- ❖ Accessing the spiritual without becoming institutional or a cult
- ❖ Accessing the pro-Women's Movement without becoming politicized

# NEW MEMBERS

The Guild welcomes the following 130 new members who have joined during July-Nov. 2009, and thanks the 360 members who have renewed their memberships.

## INTERNATIONAL

### CANADA

Grace Dale  
Jaana Lehtola  
Christine Penner Polle  
Katherine Sage

### MARTINIQUE

Linette A. Bruno

## UNITED STATES

### ARIZONA

Margaret Turley

### CALIFORNIA

Erin Boyle  
Michelle A. DeBerry  
Tonilyn Hornung  
Tarynn S. James  
Beverly Magid  
Joni Makings  
Edith Parker  
Andrea Riggs  
Yolaine Stout

### COLORADO

Michelle L. McMillen

### CONNECTICUT

Danica Lynn Ackerman  
Virginia Bitting  
Kathy Leonard Czepiel  
Mary DeMaio  
Jessey Ina-Lee  
Pamela Ross  
Patricia St. John  
Susan Vogt

### FLORIDA

Cecropia Ballard  
Janet Conner  
Marjorie Doughty  
Irene Kessler  
Nancy Sidrow  
Elizabeth Westmark

### ILLINOIS

Beverly Bronson  
Alita Brooks  
Carol Grannick  
Mary Lou Nugent

### MAINE

Stephanie Robinson

### MARYLAND

Melissa Crown  
Nancy Hawkins  
Dale Stein  
Leslie Stein

### MASSACHUSETTS

Mary-King Austin  
Caroline J. Farrington  
Robin Gillette  
Lisa Moore  
Marylisa Nichols  
Cynthia O'Neil  
Judith Recknagel  
Dorine Russo  
Jill Sylvester

### MICHIGAN

Ingrid P. Dean

### MINNESOTA

Theresa Rose  
Mary C. Clifford  
Lynn Cross

### MISSOURI

Kathleen Finegan

### MONTANA

Karen Stevenson

### NEW JERSEY

Joanna Marina Aris  
Evonnn Berube-Reierson  
Bari L. Ecker  
Gayle Ewing  
Mary Hoover  
Christine Kass  
Patty Keefer-Davis

Doris Kneppel  
Elinitsa "Lia" Lewis  
Deborah Reed  
Melissa Romo  
Elizabeth Santeramo  
Casey Rose Schweiger  
Karen Schweiger  
Jennifer Verrusio  
Wei Wang

### NEW MEXICO

Rachel Davis

### NEW YORK CITY

Aida Chapman Ayala  
Keisha Bush  
Sally Constain  
Cecile Cooper  
Lindsay Harris  
Salome Kassa  
Kathryn L. Payne  
Anna Maria Pellizzari  
Heidi Rain  
Kyra Robinov  
Christine M. Sandoval  
Edith Scheie  
Melanie Schmich  
Aileen Stickley  
Carolyn Straker  
Mara Stratton  
Denise Sutton  
Denise Torcicollo  
Rosemary Ulfik  
Tonya Vernooy  
Tima Vlasto  
Jacqueline Wales  
Katherine Weall  
Elaine Yu

### NEW YORK STATE

Lynn Ash  
Rita Barsky  
Debra Bradley  
Sarah Brindle  
Aphrodite Clamar  
Mary V. Haynes  
Sharon Jonas  
Yi Shun Lai

Grace Protano  
Lucille "Tootie" Richards  
Charlotte Rodziewicz  
Vickie Urquhart  
Jaclyn Vorenkamp  
Alyssa Zahler

### NORTH CAROLINA

Mary A. Berger

### OHIO

Ann Laurella DiFrangia  
Mary Jones

### OREGON

Linda Yoshida

### PENNSYLVANIA

Elizabeth Abrams-Morley  
Jo Andrews  
Susan Grillo  
Gloria Ives  
Lindsey Ann Ives  
Prudence L. Kuhn  
Joan Driscoll Lynch  
Kathryn Pepper

### RHODE ISLAND

Karen DeQuattro  
Rachel Menard

### TENNESSEE

Joanne S. Cherpack  
Susan Michael

### TEXAS

Anoek Inbar

### UTAH

Jeanne E. Fry  
Peggy Pendleton

### VIRGINIA

Kathy Smaltz

### WASHINGTON

Meri Arnett-Kremian

## *adopt-a-member*

There are a number of women who, for one reason or another, would like to belong to the Guild but find it very difficult to scrape up the membership fee. Rather than have these women disappear from our rosters, we'd like to offer Guild members the chance to sponsor these women writers. When you send your check for \$55.00 to sponsor a woman, we'll tell you the name of the adoptee as well as let the adoptee know that you have sponsored her and encourage her to write to you.

Since the beginning of the year we have 7 people who have adopted 11 members.

Currently we have about 15 women who have asked for a sponsor.

# LETTERS FROM THE MAILBAG

Readers wishing to respond to Letters... may do so by addressing their postage-paid letters to the published letter writer c/o IWWG, PO Box 810, Gracie Station, New York, NY 10028. Letters sent to either *Network* or Hannelore Hahn may be excerpted and adapted for both IWWG journal and website publication unless "not for publication" is specifically stated.

Dear Ms. Hahn,

I just wanted to tell you what a wonderfully inspiring and informative time I had at the Big Apple conference. I just joined the Guild and look forward to attending many more of your events. Thank you for all that you're doing!

— Kyra Robinov, New York, NY

(*Ed's Note:* See p. 24 for the next Big Apple Conference, April 17 and 18, 2010)

I am a clinical social worker practicing Family therapy for 28 years and I have a passion for writing.

— Bari Ecker, Randolph, NJ

Dear Hannelore,

Thank you for including me in Meet the Authors event in the Big Apple in October. I have not gotten down to the city for this event before, and now I know how much I have been missing. I enjoyed meeting new authors and exchanging smiles, hugs, and information with old friends. I especially appreciate having had the opportunity to share my new book, *Stepping Out: A Tenderfoot's Guide to the Principles, Practices, and Pleasures of Countryside Walking*, with a new audience and to encourage other "almost authors" and "already authors" to follow their dreams. I also found the Meet the Agents afternoon very informative and the contacts I made will be helpful to me in the future. For me, the welcoming atmosphere at this IWWG gathering was similar to that at other Guild events—warm, encouraging, and personal. And the National Arts Club was the perfect setting. Thank you for turning possibilities into realities.

— Eleanor Garrell Berger, Plattsburgh, NY

Writing for me is the farthest away I can get from the influence of the rest of the world. When I write, I am creating from parts of me I do not always choose to share. As I think about my place in the world, and the words created from that place deep inside me, I feel much more than I might allow myself to feel initially. Writing brings me into my body and allows me a form of expression I might miss if I didn't have

the great creative opportunity of running these magical thoughts and ideas between my head and my heart and my hands as I write.

— Mary Clifford, Sartell, MN

Dear Elizabeth,

I am in quite a magical time as I write to say a quick hello... in the early stages of labor!!! Our baby is on his way—my water broke this morning and I wanted to touch base while I remembered and had a few moments! I've yet to contact other IWWG members here in Vancouver yet... it's been quite an internal time—and so precious—as baby has grown and I've grown into mother these past many months, and now in these moments, we prepare to meet one another... feeling centered, peaceful and excited! We'll see what tonight's Full Moon has in store—or if baby wants to take some time to enter the world.

Also, I'm delighted to announce that my prose, *Waiting*, was selected for the *VoiceCatcher* anthology of Portland women writers, [www.voicecatcher.org](http://www.voicecatcher.org), and I was honored to participate in a fine arts show at the Berkeley Art Center in California over the summer, where fine artist Katie Baum and I debuted our collaborative art book of her photography and my words, *Chasing Memory*. For the exhibition, I was invited to put my "writing on the wall," and my words bookended her visual work—hopefully the first of many such installations.

— JS Nahani, Vancouver, B.C., Canada

(*Ed's Update:* JS emailed photos of Max Nahani Braunstein, born November 2 on the Full Moon.)

When I was a child, I couldn't speak well enough to be understood by others until I was 11. It took me a long time to become comfortable writing, but it happened eventually. Writing is still my favorite way to communicate. It lets me

clarify my thought processes as well as preserve share the things I have learned in life.

— Melanie Blow, Rochester, NY

Dear IWWG friends,

I've had three orthopedic surgeries in the past three years, and appreciated support from local writers as well as from more distant IWWG friends. I'm pleased to be back at my desk with articles published in 2008/2009 in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *WineBuzz*, *SOHO Cleveland*, *Lake Erie Living*, and *Cleveland Magazine*. Also, I was the writer-in-residence at the Word Lover's Retreat in November '09 in Lakeside, Ohio.

— Doris Larson, Kent, OH

I worked on Wall Street for 20 years. Then, after my divorce, I became an Accredited Financial Counselor for a nonprofit credit counseling agency. While at the agency I spoke to thousands of clients in financial trouble, most of whom were women struggling through separation, divorce or death of a spouse because they had no real financial education and no clue how to manage their money. A co-counselor and I decided to try to rectify this situation by writing a simple, easy-to-follow book entitled *Women Empowering Themselves: A Financial Survival Guide*. It has information on how to construct a budget, understand net worth, decipher credit reports, set up a savings plan, find resources, and more. Scattered throughout the book are bits of experience my co-author and I both suffered during a divorce after 20 years of marriage and raising three children. She ended up in a different financial position than I did. She had a settlement agreement that was not financially favorable, whereas I had more information and insight regarding my marital worth and the appropriate settlement for my situation. So writing the book was cathartic for both of us emotionally and also rewarding because we were able to use our experiences to help other women. Our hope is to write a series of books addressing the financial education needs for women of all

ages, from the student to the retiree.

— Hollis Colquhoun, Rumson, NJ  
(see Publication Congratulations)

Hi Hannelore,

I wanted to write and share what a great experience I had attending the Big Apple conference in October. I felt I was right where I belonged. Listening to the panel of authors gave me of feeling of yes! I am a writer! I also enjoyed listening to your comments as you referenced the energy of IWWG and all that it represents. I am a holistic counselor and spiritual writer and for me, that was music to my ears. I look forward to moving forward with the agents who were interested in my memoir.

— Jill Sylvester, Hanover, MA

I am a Family Practice physician interested in writing short stories predominantly with medical themes. I also like to write creative nonfiction.

— Ann Laurella Difrangia, Akron, OH

Dear Hannelore and Elizabeth,

Since the Big Apple conference weekend, I have remained invigorated by those

wonderful days. The warmth emanating from the many women writers who brought with them their desire to accomplish something, and the delicacy provided by the numerous, diverse works of art decorating the walls in the various rooms presented a magnificent setting. I come from France and I have been in New York many times, but this particular place and those two days were like being in a new country, in a new environment, finding yourself and continuing your urge to write, your need to learn and your intention to keep starting again. All of us, getting to know each other, took out our pens and papers to begin again and appreciated the compelling workshop of Lynne Barrett on Grimm's famous tale, *Hansel and Gretel*. It was very interesting to see such a simple story taken to pieces. We saw how Hansel and Gretel had to keep finding new solutions to the problems they were confronted with until they were safe.

The next morning we listened with admiration to the journeys of authors who had either succeeded in finding a publisher or who had managed to self-publish, all of whom had the will to keep going until they were successful. Then we were given the

opportunity to meet different agents: I was lucky enough to meet a woman agent who immediately showed interest and said that I should send her a query letter followed by a formal book proposal. Even if it doesn't go any further than that, I know that I will go on trying and follow the examples of the authors I heard in the morning. I was reminded of what the French poet Nicolas Boileau said in one of his poems ... *Hâtez-vous lentement, et, sans perdre courage, Vingt fois sur le métier remettez votre ouvrage, Polissez-le sans cesse et le repolissez, Ajoutez quelquefois et souvent effacez...* *Hasten slowly but without losing courage Twenty times restart again your work, Polish it up ceaselessly and then polish it more, Sometimes adding and often erasing...*

— Jacqueline Aupetit,  
Lausanne, Switzerland

(*Ed's Note: Jacqueline will be teaching French... With Pleasure!* at IWWG's summer conference, see Centerfold. The next Big Apple conference will be April 17 and 18, 2010, see p. 24.)



Give an IWWG membership to a friend.

*Gift memberships are acknowledged  
with a handwritten card.*

*In My Own Words (continued from Cover)*

"I believe it is important for each woman to understand that moving the conference from Skidmore is not a rash, or rancorous decision. We are moving because we want to ensure that as many women as possible can attend our summer conference."

Thank you very, very much, Marsha.

On this last comment pertaining to "as many women as possible,"

I would like to add that Brown University is located less than an hour from Boston and a three hour Amtrak ride from Penn Station in New York City (as was Skidmore in Saratoga Springs). Its airport in Providence serves major airlines and a taxi from the airport to the university is only \$10. Additionally, Brown is one of the finest universities in the country and is surrounded by a cluster of prestigious New England universities and

colleges. Brown is known as a liberal university and is headed by a female president.

Our contact with Darlene Williamson, who heads the Special Programs Office at Brown, has been especially warm. She told us that she had gone to the Brown Writing Center to tell them that The International Women's Writing Guild will be having its summer conference at Brown, at which point one of the women there exclaimed: "Oh, that's where I learned how to write!"

And so it goes...

With love,

*Hannelore Halim*



# MEMBER NEWS

**KATHLEEN O'SHEA**, Rolling Prairie, IN: "I was recently part of a presentation of five prisoner-written plays at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC in a program called "From Prison to the Stage." It was part of the Kennedy Center's annual Page-to-Stage Festival. A popular radio station on the West Coast, KBOO.FM, has decided to broadcast our original cast recording, beginning with the play I wrote, *Her Song*. To hear/download this first broadcast, visit the station's website at <http://kboo.fm/PrisonPipeline> (scroll down the page and click the audio button for "Her Song," which follows a brief commentary by former death row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal)."

(*Ed's Note:* Kathleen will be teaching "Good Heavens: Writing from Our Religious Pasts" at our "Remember the Magic" summer conference at Brown University. See Centerfold.)

**CB FOLLETT**, Sausalito, CA, was shortlisted (ten poets) for the Strokestown International Poetry Contest, in Ireland. She was the only American. The awards came with euros for travel and a reading fee.

CB adds: "The four day poetry festival was a great adventure with lots of Irish, Gaelic, and international poets reading. Didn't win, but even the spring lambs came to the window to watch. Much more fun than trying to drive on the Irish roads and on the 'wrong' side." (See Publication Congratulations)

**MARJ HAHNE**, Lafayette, CO: "I'm hosting a one-hour show on "Holistic Globe Radio," an online channel with programming dedicated to all ideas, practices, and solutions spiritual, environmental, alternative, metaphysical, and paranormal. My show, *Coffee Folk*, is an inquiry-based conversation series grounded in some funky mélange of the arts, sciences, humanities, social entrepreneurship, and mind/body/spirit. Some recent Klatches include: November 22: "Dreaming 24/7: "Sleeping and Waking Realities" with IWWG members and workshop directors **Paula Chaffee Scardamalia** and **Zita Christian**; December 6: "Humor: The Saving Sense" with IWWG member and workshop director **Anne Walradt**; December 13: "BodySpeak: Listening to Your First Teacher" with IWWG member and workshop director **Penelope Jewell**; and December 20: "The Ecstatic Track: From Addiction to Art" with IWWG member and workshop director **Margie Ann Stanko**. Also, January 17: "Being a Millennial Mythmaker" with IWWG member and workshop director **Maureen Murdock**; and January 24: "Death: A Vital Muse" with IWWG board member and workshop director **Heather Summerhayes Cariou** and IWWG member and workshop director **Judith Searle**. The show is broadcast at [www.HolisticGlobeRadio.com](http://www.HolisticGlobeRadio.com) on Sundays at 7:00 pm EST, 6:00 pm CT, 5:00 pm MT, 4:00 pm PT.

"If you can't catch an episode in real time, there will be an Archives link, with downloadable podcasts, on the Show/Host Profile page: [www.HolisticGlobeRadio.com/ShowHost\\_Marj%20Hahne.htm](http://www.HolisticGlobeRadio.com/ShowHost_Marj%20Hahne.htm). Upcoming Klatches will be listed and updated, with links to guest webpages, at [www.CoffeeFolk.com](http://www.CoffeeFolk.com)."

(*Ed's Note:* See Centerfold about the workshops these teachers are offering at our "Remember the Magic" summer conference at Brown University.)

**HEATHER CARIOU**, Guttenberg, NJ, reports that her book, *Sixtyfive Roses: A Sister's Memoir*, placed first in the category of Autobiography/Biography at the 2009 Nashville Book Festival.

(*Ed's Note:* Heather will be teaching "Presenting and Publicizing Your Work" at our "Remember the Magic" summer conference at Brown University. See Centerfold.)

**HANNELORE HAHN**, New York, NY, is currently featured on VibrantNation, a website geared to women 50+, [www.vibrantnation.com](http://www.vibrantnation.com) (key in "Hahn" in the Search Box). In addition to being VibrantNation's Vibrant Giver for December, she has been asked to list and describe some of her favorite books (written by Guild members, of course). You can also post a comment.

IWWG has already received a number of new members due to this exposure, which was initiated by **Heather Cariou**, who will be teaching all about social networking at our 2010 summer conference.

**MEL RYANE**, Los Angeles, CA, started The Shakespeare Club at a neighborhood school in Los Angeles five years ago. Her remarkable experiences are now the subject of a blog, [www.teachingwill.com](http://www.teachingwill.com), and also a book which is being handled by a New York agent. Read the interview at Vibrant Nation: [www.vibrantnation.com/vibrant-giver/2009/11/12/mel-ryane-teaching-children-shakespeare/#reply-29591](http://www.vibrantnation.com/vibrant-giver/2009/11/12/mel-ryane-teaching-children-shakespeare/#reply-29591).

**SUSAN TIBERGHEN**, Geneva, Switzerland: "I am happy to share continued good news for my last book, *One Year to a Writing Life*, which remains a best seller on Amazon for writing books. Also, I recently had prose poems published in *Frank, An International Literary Journal*, and *Upstairs at Duroc*." (See Member Calendar)

(*Ed's Note:* Susan will be teaching "The Mosaic of Creative Nonfiction: from Journaling to Essay to Memoir" at our summer conference. See Centerfold)

**YOLANDA PALIS**, Rockville, MD, won the 2009 Ventura Valdez Poetry Award for *Abstract Painting*. It is featured at the Gival Press website, [www.givalpress.com](http://www.givalpress.com).

**ELLEN CALVERT**, Tempe, AZ: "This past spring, I was able to attend the IWWG California Conference and came away revitalized to finish and self-publish two books, *Pilgrim: Tales of a Family Cat*, about a Turkish Van cat our family rescued and adopted, and a children's book, *The Nine Goldfish in David's Pond*, for which my 81-year-old neighbor did the watercolor illustrations. I've been busy with author's events at fundraisers for animal rescue, reading to seniors residing in independent and care facilities, and the first Indie Book Festival in Sedona. I hope to attend the California conference again this spring. The presenters and participants were inspiring and encouraging." (See Publication Congratulations)

(*Ed's Note:* The California conference will be March 14-16, 2010, see p.19.)

**JUDY ADOURIAN**, Providence, RI: "I'm very happy to report that I just received a \$3,000.00 grant from the Unitarian Sunday School Society for

a Religious Education Curriculum that I wrote last year. The curriculum is called "Teaching as a Spiritual Practice Year 1" and is divided into three terms: World Religions, Hebrew Bible Stories, and Unitarian Universalist Principles. Each term is again divided into three grade levels (K-2, 3 to 4 and 5 to 6). Within each level I've written seven lesson plans which add up to 63 lesson plans. What makes this curriculum different from others is that the focus is two-fold: teaching the students and providing the teachers with weekly spiritual fulfillment. The curriculum was tested at Westminster Unitarian Church during the 2008-2009 year. Next year it will be field tested at other Universalist Unitarian churches across the country. Then comes the rewrite and finally then the marketing of the curriculum. Meanwhile I'm writing "Teaching as a Spiritual Practice Year 2," which will include the three terms of More World Religions, New Testament Bible Stories, and Famous Unitarian Universalists."

(*Ed's Note:* Judy will be teaching "Play, Write and Playwriting: Unmasking the Play Within You" and "No Pen? No Problem: Free Writing at its Most Free" at our summer conference. See Centerfold.)

**DENISE FALCONE**, Forest Hills, NY, reports that her story *Tucson* has been published by *Foundling Review*, an online literary journal. Visit [www.foundlingreview.com](http://www.foundlingreview.com). Also, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the publication of William Burroughs's controversial book, *Naked Lunch*, Denise's short story, *Naked Lunch*, appeared in *South Jersey Underground*, [www.southjerseyunderground.com](http://www.southjerseyunderground.com) (Issue #6, '09).

**GAIL SENECA**, Inverness, CA: "I'm happy to announce that my short story, *Perfect Understanding*, will appear in the Winter 2010 issue of *The Macguffin*; and my story, *Ambassador*, will appear in *Westview*."

**RONA GOFSTEIN**, Lowell, MA, updates: "I'm in the process of completing my commitment on a three-book contract with the new publisher, Ravenous Romance, [www.ravenousromance.com](http://www.ravenousromance.com), an erotic romance e-publishing house. In addition, I have some short stories in two of their anthologies: *Unmasked* appeared in the *Sextology* anthology in January '09, and *Legs*, a retelling of the little mermaid story, was in the *Spellbound* anthology released in December '08. I am particularly proud of *Spellbound*, a wonderful compilation of erotically retold fairy tales, because I was the editor. Ravenous was so pleased with the results, I have been asked to edit another anthology for them, this one of short erotic paranormal stories.

"Outside of the fiction world, I had two articles appear in the *Merrimack Valley Magazine*, September/October '08 and November/December '08 issues. I have a new website, [www.rachelkenley.com](http://www.rachelkenley.com), which is one of the pen names I use (in addition to Rowan West).

"Writing to deadline after deadline has been a huge challenge but it has definitely improved my writing skills, time management abilities, and focus." (See Publication Congratulations)

**MARILYN DAY**, Albany, NY, reports: "An older poem of mine, "My Mother's Second Sight," is being published in *The Storyteller* magazine."

**JUDI HANCOX**, East Hanover, NJ and **Nancy Weber**, Denville, NJ, are writing a book and doing workshops together with emotional scents (aromatherapy that expedites emotional healing with therapeutic-grade oils, coupled with Energy Correction Meditation). Additionally, Nancy also provided the artwork for a coffee-table book, *Flowers from*

*my Heart* by Princess Amanda, brimming with just about anything flower-related: flower facts, fables and myths. Nancy's website is [www.nancyorlenweber.com](http://www.nancyorlenweber.com)."

(*Ed's Note:* Nancy will be teaching "Sacred Powers of Creativity: Keeping in the Flow" at IWWG's summer conference. See Centerfold.)

**ANNE ELIZABETH ANDERSON**, Woodbury, CT, reports that her book, *Flourishing with Food Allergies*, just received the Pinnacle Book Award in the category "Best in the Health."

**JANET HULSTRAND**, Silver Spring MD, writes: "My article, "A New and Fresh Look at an Old Master: Renoir au XXme Siecle," was published at *Bonjour Paris*, [www.bonjourparis.com/story/neLow-and-fresh-look-old-master-renoir-au-xxme-siecl/](http://www.bonjourparis.com/story/neLow-and-fresh-look-old-master-renoir-au-xxme-siecl/). The exhibition, currently in Paris, will be in Los Angeles and Philadelphia in 2010. I also published an interview on my blog, "Writing from the Heart, Reading for the Road," with James A. Emanuel, an African-American poet living in Paris, You can read it at: <http://wingedword.wordpress.com/2009/10/26/an-interview-with-james-a-emanuel/>."

**JANICE JAKUBOWITZ**, Philadelphia, PA, reports that *Story Circle Journal* included her essay "The Grandmother She Never Knew" in their December '09 issue.

**D. H. MELHEM**, New York, NY, has been included in several anthologies this year, namely, *Paumanok: Poems and Pictures of Long Island*; *poem, home: An Anthology of Ars Poetica*; *Long Island Sounds*; *Writing Outside the Lines*; and a short story, *The Coal Bin*, in *Dinarzad's Children: An Anthology of Contemporary Arab American Fiction*, 2nd ed. (University of Arkansas Press). A poem, "Prospect," from *New York Poems* (Syracuse University Press), was translated into Arabic by poet Fady Joudah for *Meena*, a bilingual publication, and she had poems published in *White Rabbit* and *Socialism and Democracy*.

Her eighth book of poems, *Art and Politics / Politics and Art*, will be published by Syracuse in May 2010 (see their Spring catalog). D. H. invites you to visit her new interactive website, [www.dhmelhem.com](http://www.dhmelhem.com), where you can download (free) her reading from *Rest in Love*, the widely acclaimed elegy for her mother, in print since 1975.

**JULIE MALONEY**, Mendham, NJ, returned from a research trip to Bavaria, Germany in August and is going through notes and interviews for the novel she's writing. She was a featured poet on the New York City Public Library's Poetry Series in October and was a guest on blogtalk radio in November. Her essay, "Widow-In-Training," is posted on [www.more.com](http://www.more.com). Accepted for publication was her new poem "Husband," in *Tiferet*, a literary journal. (See Member Calendar)

**POLLY GUERIN**, New York, NY, introduces herself: "I'm a published author/poet and former professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology. At FIT, I wrote four text books and the script for two video productions: *Creative Fashion Presentations Book I and II* are the basis of the videos *Creative Show Productions* and *The Story of Color*. I've written extensively for magazines with a special interest in collectibles and decorative arts along with features for *Art & Antiques Magazine* and *Haute Doll*. *The Message is in the Rainbow* is with A.R.E. Press and two other novels, *The Dollhouse*

(Continued on next page)

*Murder* and *A Tale of Two Sisters*, are making the rounds. Currently, I serve as vice president on the board of Romance Writers in America, New York City Chapter, and am a trustee on the board of the A.R.E. New York Cayce Center. My lecture/power point presentation at the 10th World Congress on Art Deco at McGill University in Montreal this year in May was repeated at the art deco Beekman Tower Hotel in New York City in July.

“PollyTalk from New York appears each week on the Big Apple News Network: [www.ibcsolutions.net/pollytalk](http://www.ibcsolutions.net/pollytalk). Visit me at [www.pollytalk.com](http://www.pollytalk.com). My three blogs are [www.FashionHistorian.blogspot.com](http://www.FashionHistorian.blogspot.com), [www.awakenbeautywithEdgarCayce.blogspot.com](http://www.awakenbeautywithEdgarCayce.blogspot.com), and [www.fashionhistorian.blogspot.com](http://www.fashionhistorian.blogspot.com).”

**JOAN BARTH**, Doylestown, PA: “My book critique group decided to create a blog called Birth of a Novel, [www.birthofanovel.wordpress.com](http://www.birthofanovel.wordpress.com). Since there are five of us, we each write an essay every fifth week. My current one is called “Procrastination.” It was the result of what I learned at Skidmore—not to put ideas off, but to write about them then and there.”

**ROSALIE CONTINO**, Brooklyn, NY: “My poem “Halloween” has been published in the Fall issue of [IdeaGems.com](http://IdeaGems.com). Laurie Notch, the editor, encourages others to send in their poems, stories or drawings. Visit [wastedmindsmediagroup.com](http://wastedmindsmediagroup.com).”

**SHERRI ROSEN**, New York, NY: “I’ve had five short stories published on a wonderful online site called Mr. Beller’s Neighborhood. Visit [www.mrbellersneighborhood.com/results.php?keyword=sherri+ro](http://www.mrbellersneighborhood.com/results.php?keyword=sherri+ro).”

**JEMMA MACERA**, Ithaca, NY: “I have received Honorable Mention for my poem “Older Brother” that I submitted to Great Poems of the Western World. I read about the contest in *Network!*”

**BARBARA TRAYNOR**, Slingerlands, NY, was interviewed on Blogtalk Radio, “The Patricia Raskin Positive about her new book *Second Career Volunteer*. After retiring in 2005, Barbara drove 8,000 miles to Alaska to volunteer at a small college for a year, thus beginning her incredible journey. The interview took place on December 16, but it can be listened to on demand at any time at <https://www.blogtalkradio.com/positive-living>. (See Publication Congratulations)

**CARREN STROCK**, Brooklyn, NY, “I had an email this morning from a radio station in Melbourne, Australia about my book *Married Women Who Love Women*. Here’s part of a quote from the woman who wants to interview me ‘... after following you on Twitter and researching you, I find that your book is becoming a bit of a bible for women who are married and love women, I think you would be an excellent guest.’ ”

(*Ed’s Note*: Carren will be teaching “The Smart Writer’s Guide: What to Know Before, During and After Writing a Book” and “Photography” at our summer conference. See Centerfold.)

**MARIE ASNER**, Overland Park, KS, is the Kansas winner of the annual State Senior Poet Laureate Competition sponsored by the Kitchener Wings Foundation for American poets age 50 and older. A poet selection is made from each state. The title of her poem is “Bail Out.” She also has a story titled *A Little Sin* in a new anthology, *Thanksgiving to Christmas: A Patchwork of Stories* (AWOC Press).

**DONNA J. GELAGOTIS LEE**, Princeton Junction, NJ, reports that her poem “Just Married in the Village” appears in *Sojourn: A Journal of the Arts* (Volume 22). Her poems “Leaving You” and “Translation” appear in Issue 38 of *Jacket* magazine online and “Circumstance” appears in Issue 7:1 of *Vallum: contemporary poetry*. The theme of the issue is Luck.

**DIANE J. SCHMIDT**, Corrales, NM: “I’m happy to report that I am now the *Albuquerque Judaism Examiner* columnist. And when my column appears it is often in the top five most popular *Examiner* sites here. My text columns appear in print first in the “Spiritual Perspectives” section of the Independent newspaper (Gallup, NM), and then online with my original color photos. You will also see links to IWWG members whose books are mentioned in specific columns. Come take a look and add a pithy comment of your own at: [www.examiner.com/x-20678-Albuquerque-Judaism-Examiner](http://www.examiner.com/x-20678-Albuquerque-Judaism-Examiner).”

**JOAN LERNER**, Somerset, NJ: “I am delighted to inform you that my novel, *Among Us Women*, was a finalist in the 2009 Book Bundlz Book Pick Contest. In a nutshell, it is about women’s empowerment as viewed and experienced by three women of different ages and ethnicity.”

**LINDA LEEDY SCHNEIDER**, Grand Rapids, MI, reports that *Poems From 84th Street*, a poetry anthology chapbook Linda edited, has been accepted for publication by Pudding House Publications. It includes only poems by writers who have attended Linda’s Manhattan Workshops. Guild members included in the anthology are **Christine Graf, Joyce Jacobson, Laura L. Kieley, Lori Ludlow, Kelly de la Rocha, and Mary Allen Sochet**. Linda’s twitter poem “To a Poem Written Yesterday” was published by Unfold and recently won their Three Cheers Award. Additionally, Linda will be the Featured Poet at The Saturn Series Poetry Reading, Nightingale Lounge, East Village, New York City, on March 1. Her poem “Conversations: Emergency Room” was included in the August ’09 edition of *Glass: A Journal of Poetry*, <http://www.glass-poetry.com/volume-two/issue-two.html>. (See below).

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This is what I learned: that everybody is talented, original and has something important to say...So remember these two things: you are talented and you are original. Be sure of that. I say that because self-trust is one of the very most important things in writing.

— Brenda Ueland, *If You Want to Write*

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#### Personal Writing Consultations at

##### “Remember the Magic” conference, Brown University

Writing is done in solitude which May Sarton calls “the richness of the soul.” It is sometimes a lonely pursuit. Come to a personal mentoring session and discuss your writing questions or dilemmas. Some possible topics are setting personal goals, finding time for writing, how and where to submit, submission, preparing a manuscript, finding a publisher, giving public readings, and organizing and preparing for public readings. These sessions will be motivational and center on the writer as an individual and her personal writing concerns. Email Linda Schneider at [loschneide@aol.com](mailto:loschneide@aol.com) to make an appointment for your 20 to 40-minute session, Monday-Thursday, August 2-5. (See Centerfold)

# KITCHEN TABLES/CLUSTERS

## ZIP CODE PARTIES

## EMAIL CLUSTERS



A Zip Code Party is an initial gathering of members and prospective members who share the same neighboring zip code. From such a one-time meeting, smaller groups may result which meet on a regular basis to critique each other's work and to stimulate writing, i.e., Clusters and Kitchen Tables. These listings represent just a few of the many Guild cluster meetings held throughout the world. If you are looking for a cluster in your area, and do not see one listed below, get in touch with IWWG in New York City. The Guild also has close to 150 Regional Contacts in all parts of the world who offer zip code parties and clusters.

### **A Note to Regional Representatives and to Members Who Have Offered to Give Local Hellos to Women Who Inquire about the Guild**

Local hellos are not always easy to write, but we wish to share this email written by Regional Rep Marty McCarty from Missouri to Razine, a fellow writer.

In addition to being very welcoming, it has the necessary components an inquirer would need and want to know, i.e., the Subject line is clear, Marty tells something about her experience with the Guild, gives our website, and shows an interest in Razine by letting her know she will visit her blog. Your local hellos may include letting the inquirer know about an IWWG Kitchen Table in the area, asking what she is writing and would hope to get out of a connection with the Guild, sharing your experience at our "Remember the Magic" conference, and so on.

We thank you for your willingness to share the Guild with others....

Email From: Martha McCarty (ahplause@aol.com) (below)

Subject: International Women's Writing Guild - greetings from a Kansas City member

*Razine: greetings from the other side of the state—one writer to another. I understand you asked about membership in IWWG and, as a long-time member, I encourage it. My son gave me my first membership years ago and it was one of the best gifts I ever got. In fact, I never would have made the journey from wishing to publishing without the support and camaraderie of IWWG.*

*I also encourage going to the Big Apple conference twice a year in New York if you can swing it. I'd never been to a conference where an entire panel of writers tell how they got published, followed by a panel of agents who tell what they're looking for.*

*I believe you're familiar with the Guild's website, www.iwwg.org, and I hope you get to meet the community of women writers yourself. We're all in this together, aren't we?*

*I'll visit your blog—and best wishes.*

— Marty McCarty

Ah! Plause! Productions, 700 Ward Pkwy., Carlyle 501, Kansas City, MO 64112, (816)756.3336, www.fiveislanddiaries.com

### **ARIZONA**

**ETHEL LEE MILLER**, Tucson, AZ, has left New Jersey and is settling into her new home: "I look forward to bringing my love of words, writing, and sharing to the Tucson writing community. I thrive on group energy. For information about joining or starting an IWWG writing cluster, or for writing support, please get in touch with Ethel at etheleemiller@me.com or (973) 460 4192."

### **CALIFORNIA**

**BEVERLY MAGID**, Sherman Oaks, CA: "I'm a new member working on my second novel and I hope to find a conveniently located workshop or other fiction writers who would like to get together for mutual support and critiques. I would also consider starting a group if the writers were all fiction writers and had comparable writing experience. Please get in touch with me at (818) 788-7012 or beverlyshirley@sbcglobal.net."

**RACHEL McKAY**, Berkeley, CA, is looking for a Kitchen Table. Her email is rachelm17@gmail.com.

### **CONNECTICUT**

**TRISH LAPIDUS**, New Haven, CT, updates us on her recent Kitchen Table gathering: "There were four of us today, a good group for a Kitchen Table writing afternoon. After making tea and getting comfortable, we introduced ourselves and what we write. We used a simple prompt that worked well for fiction and nonfiction and began to write. It was very quiet for many minutes. Afterwards, we shared our rough drafts and reflected back to the writer what we liked and what we wanted to know more about (a format taken from **Eunice Scarfe's** "Remember the Magic" summer conference workshop). We found we had written good stories and that there is something special about writing together. I promised more good prompts for next month."

"**Mary Carroll Moore**, one of our IWWG members, held the second in a series of three book signings in November for the launch of her novel *Qualities of Light*.

"I can be reached at patricialapidus@sbcglobal.net or (203) 497-9615."

### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**CAROL PECK**, Burtonsville, MD: "On October 24, the DC-area cluster met at The Writer's Center in Bethesda, MD. Nineteen women of various ages, backgrounds, and experiences—including several

*(Continued on next page)*

new members—completely filled a classroom and shared their current writing experiences: successes, problems, plans, dreams. We offered one another information about various resources and publishing opportunities. Ten of us then gave five-minute readings, to which we all responded in writing, citing specific things we liked or questions we had. As a special offering, IWWG member **Chloe Jon Paul**, author of *Entering the Age of Elegance*, described what is necessary to promote one’s book (business plan, press release, obtaining of blurbs, etc.). We hope to meet again in early spring.”

**FLORIDA**

**ANN FRAZIER HEDBERG**, Big Pine Key, FL, would like to start a Kitchen Table. If you are nearby and interested, Ann’s email is frazier\_va@yahoo.com; phone: (305) 515-2922.

**CHRISTINA EASLEY**, N. Miami Beach, FL, would like to find a Kitchen Table. Christina’s email is writeon25@yahoo.com; phone: (786) 468-0368.

**ILLINOIS**

**PATRICIA LaPOINTE**, Prospect Heights, IL, would like to be in touch with other women writers near her. Patricia’s phone number is (847) 520-7035; email: geampat8@comcast.net.

**SHEILA GEORGE**, Palos Park, IL, updates: “The Palos Park Critique/Networking Group of the IWWG extends warm congratulations to both **Marie Busta** and **Nanc Junker**. Marie’s poem, “Fall Nocturne,” has been published in *Seeding the Snow*, a chapbook published twice per year out of Naperville. Nanc was recognized with an Honorable Mention Certificate of Achievement by the Golden Poets Guild in their Spring 2009 contest for her poem “Waiting.” The contest had 7,000 entries.”

To find out about upcoming dates and activities of the Palos Park Group, contact Sheila at (708) 448-7216 or sgeorge110@aol.com.

**MARYLAND**

(see District of Columbia)

**MICHIGAN**

**COLLETTE CULLEN**, Dearborn, MI, would like to be in touch with other writing women near her. Collette’s email is collettecullen@gmail.com.

**NEW JERSEY**

**JANET HUGHES**, Princeton, NJ, wants to meet other writers in the Princeton area for a social group (just for chatting over coffee). Get in touch with her at janet.marilyn@gmail.com; (908) 907-5432.

**LYNETTE TUDORACHE**, Jersey City, NJ, would like to find/start a Kitchen Table close to where she lives. Lynette’s email is lynette@carsium.com; phone: (201) 333-7544.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

(also see Susan Tiberghien in Member Calendar)

**MARISA MOKS-UNGER**, Erie, PA: “We had a successful first group meeting in our region. Thirteen of us met at my home on October 24. While some people wanted to break into smaller critique groups, others favored a larger group. It is rare that so many people can meet at one given time each month.

“IWWG makes me very proud because it is open to all sorts of writing projects by a variety of women. It is empowering to see someone read her work for the first time and then get a sense of confidence and self-satisfaction when done.”

Marisa can be reached at (814) 459-4042 or mmoksunger@aol.com.

**VIRGINIA**

(see District of Columbia)

**IWWG WELCOMES THREE NEW REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- Ethel Lee-Miller** (Tucson area) **Arizona**
- Sydney Sweeney** (Greenville area) **Michigan**
- Talia Carner** (Bridgehampton area) **New York State**

We especially need reps in: Arizona (Phoenix/Tempe area), California (Los Angeles, Sacramento), Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey (Lincoln Park area), New York State (Long Island, Huntington area), and in places outside of the U.S.

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## Zip Code Party Notices

If you are planning a Zip Code Party, try to send the notice about it to *Network* in time for it to be featured—at least three or three-and-a-half months (one issue) prior to your scheduled date. And be sure to let us know of clusters that have formed and when they meet. If Guild brochures are needed for an event you are planning, Elizabeth at IWWG headquarters will mail them to you for the asking. Membership lists and labels are generated from IWWG headquarters in New York.

Elizabeth Julia Stoumen serves as the Guild’s Regional Contact Coordinator. Get in touch with Elizabeth at (212) 737-7536 or email her at elizabethjulia88@aol.com.

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## “In Her Own Words” Profile

# BETTY DOTSON-LEWIS

Betty Dotson-Lewis, Ph.D., writes from her daughter’s home in Lake Norman, North Carolina, but her permanent residence is high in the beautiful Appalachian Mountains in Summerville, West Virginia. She was born, raised and educated in the Appalachian coalfields. Betty has focused her writing on the coal miners and other residents who make up the coal fields—her neighbors and friends. Her published works include: *Appalachia; Spirit Triumphant* (a cultural odyssey of Appalachia); Infinity Publishing, 2004; *Sago Mine Disaster*, Infinity Publishing, 2007, *The Sunny Side of Appalachia: Bluegrass from the Grassroots*, Infinity Publishing, 2008.

One day during my sophomore year at Nicholas County High School in the Appalachian coalfields of West Virginia, my high school counselor called me into her office to find out what I was planning on doing with the rest of my life. I was fifteen years old and pretty much on my own. I said: “I plan to go to college.” Of course, I had no idea just how I might be able to accomplish this.

No one in my family had gone to college. As a matter of fact, my parents and my five brothers had moved from West Virginia to the West Coast between my ninth and tenth grades of school. They were lured to the western states of Oregon and Washington by talks of big timber and big game hunting, and several uncles and aunts and cousins moved simultaneously to the same area, including my grandmothers, all living within sight of each other. In essence, they moved a mini-Appalachian village to the West Coast. Wherever they landed, because they moved as a clan, they were always home in Appalachia. The biggest part of the clan involved in this western movement finally settled in the foothills of Mount St. Helens in Washington.

Although I went West on one trip with my family and remember sleeping in sleeping bags under the stars at night and my mother cooking our meals on a Coleman Camp Stove, I did return to Appalachia via a Greyhound bus to finish high school, which meant that I lived pretty much on my own from age fifteen on. I suppose that is the reason my high school counselor took a special interest in me, asked me what I intended to do with my life,



and then suggested that I enter Berea College in Berea, Kentucky.

When you look up Berea College on the web today, it tells you that it was founded in 1855 as the first interracial and co-educational college in the South, that it charges no tuition and admits only academically promising students, primarily from Appalachia, who have limited academic resources.

That summer after high school graduation I was able to go visit my parents on the West Coast. I had not seen them since they left West Virginia. For most students, high school graduation is a big night for the family. I remember the night of my graduation: my sister was the only member of my family able to attend. I didn’t expect my parents to travel that far to see me graduate from high school. The thought never crossed my mind. I was proud to receive several awards on that night. I knew my parents would be proud even if the subject never came up. It never did.

This trip west was by Greyhound bus: seventeen years old and alone on a four day and four night bus trip across the United States. I made notes along the way of people I met and things I saw out the window as we sped across the states. I spent that summer with my parents and brothers and worked as a waitress at one of the local diners. The lumberjacks were amused with my West Virginia twang. My parents, who migrated from the southwest town of Grundy, Buchanan County, Virginia to West Virginia, had held on to their original southwest Virginia dialect, which made them even more popular with the westerners.

When I was a senior in high school, I visited my family out West again. That summer was also the time when Sam, one of my brothers, came home from the Army. It was the Vietnam War era. My father had spent a great deal of time lobbying the President and the Governor of the state of Washington in regard to his boys and Vietnam. He presented his case: that he had five sons, three of whom had served, or were currently serving, in the military and that he wanted assurance that his two youngest drafted sons would not be shipped to Vietnam. After countless letters and phone calls, he won the case. Sam, son #4, was coming home for leave and would be shipped overseas, but not to Vietnam. His bus would arrive around three in the morning in a town forty or fifty miles from our home. My mother told me that we would need to be at the Greyhound Bus Terminal to meet him. The only odd thing about this seemingly normal situation was that I would be driving. I had no driver’s license, nor experience behind the wheel, and, of course, no experience with our flatbed truck.

(Continued on next page)

Around midnight, my mother woke me and told me it was time to get Sam. We got into the truck—with me at the wheel and my mother on the passenger side. I got the truck started and in a gear that moved forward, and then took off. The midnight surrounding the two of us was blue-black and a heavy fog hung over the lake as we drove by Mossy Rock at the base of Mount St. Helens, but the road was straight and wide with no traffic.

We were very happy to see Sam!

August rolled around. It was time for me to go to Berea College to pursue a degree in higher education. My father had never mentioned my good fortune in attaining entrance to college, especially into a college with free tuition. In fact, he never brought up the subject of my education during the entire summer. Neither did I.

Nevertheless, when it was time for me to leave in order to arrive at Berea for freshman orientation, three of my brothers got together and came up with a plan to get me a one-way ticket back from Seattle to Berea, Kentucky. They raised the money for my bus ticket by cutting down a couple of trees, sawing them into shakes and selling them on the spot.

Then, when the day came for me to leave, my father was not around. He had gone into the woods. So my brothers picked up my old green Army footlocker which my oldest brother had given me when he returned from the Army. They loaded the footlocker on the flatbed truck, stuck me inside between the two of them and headed off to the Greyhound Bus Terminal in Seattle. There, they went inside with me, purchased my one-way ticket, gave me some spending money and told me to sit up front on the bus. I did just that. And on the fourth day, late in the evening, I arrived at the College.



Most of my life has been spent in denial but finally in acceptance that this custom exists.”

The above is my story of how I got to Berea College. And why I went: because I had dreams of a better life and I knew education was the road out. But I never left the Appalachian Mountains. I am a product of my environment and my cultural heritage.

Appalachia is a land of magic. With so much natural beauty, one can easily get caught up in the mountains, the sunrises, and the sunsets. The remoteness of the region is both a blessing and a curse. Cultural customs are handed down from generation to generation. Many of these customs are wonderful, entertaining, and a source of historical information. But one custom, male dominance, is neither wonderful, nor entertaining, and often results in abuse and neglect of women and children.

Most of my life has been spent in denial but finally in acceptance that this custom exists. Yes, Appalachian women and

children are victims of neglect and abuse more often than many of us who live here care to admit. The time machine which has opened up a whole new world in the area of equality in other regions has virtually stood still or moved at a snail's pace due to the remoteness of these mountains in our region. The men in our world are taught and nurtured to become the head of household to the extent that women play a secondary role in thought and deed.

My own mother, married to my father for seventy-plus years, lived her life taking care of my father to the point of servitude. Her wants and needs came in last or not at all. My father was a great outdoorsman. His life revolved around hunting trips, buying, selling and trading hunting rifles and hunting dogs. He left my mother and the children for several days at a time with no means of transportation to and from the grocery store or wood for a fire to keep us warm in the winter. My father expected his children to attend school and do well but never attended school activities himself nor were we able to participate in outside school activities unless we could arrange for transportation to and from the activities without inconveniencing him. My mother was totally responsible for the household. My father didn't even know where his socks were kept and had no idea how to brew a pot of coffee which he drank all day long when home. When he was in his late seventies or early eighties he finally learned to make toast.

My mother accepted this as her duty. She never complained or confided to her children about these inconveniences or the lack of equality in her marriage. I loved them both more than I can say. My mother lived to the age of ninety-two. My father lived to the age of ninety-three.

I do believe my education at Berea College helped me overcome many of my feelings of inferiority learned from my mother and other women and children in the community. It was at college when I first realized I didn't have to be second, or third, or even last, even though I did not practice that for many years. More than that, it was at Berea that the atmosphere of intellect, art and diversity gave me reason to be proud of being an Appalachian.

After college and several years of ups and downs, a marriage which ended, and wrestling with my destiny in general, especially with a demanding job after which I would lose myself in quilting and gardening, I decided to act on the passion I had for the people of my mountain region. I wanted to tell the world about them, as well as give them a voice.

One of my friends at work, who knew I was totally at a loss on how to begin this project, told me to act as if it were so and it would be. I am not a Bible scholar, but that night I lifted my eyes and asked for help from above and I feel I was given the strength to move forward with purpose.

My project involves documentation through oral histories. I record on a \$19.95 handheld recorder. Until recently I captured most of my photos with a throw-away camera. When I first began, I transcribed late at night after my regular work day. Often daylight was breaking before I knew it. Many of the stories made me cry. These were my friends and neighbors I had known for years but it wasn't until I let them speak that I really knew them.

At first my collection of oral histories was posted on a website I designed. The original site was pretty terrible looking but I was so proud of what I had accomplished. The oral histories kept coming and I continued to transcribe them. I wanted a composite of people making up the coalfields. It wasn't long until I realized modern

technology is wonderful for the people who have the privilege and knowledge to own and operate a computer but most of the people I interviewed did not own a computer.

I knew then the stories had to be documented in written form. I began my first book. I already had the bulk of the contents but when I needed a cover and an ending to the book, my dream life took over my sleep life. On some nights, early in the morning, a dream would wake me with an idea for a cover to the book or the finishing touches to another part of the book needing completion. I would get out of bed, turn on my computer and make notes so I did not lose the ideas sent to me by that invisible force.

When my book was almost complete, out of the blue, I received an invitation to tour Japan as an Appalachian woman speaking to community members on history preservation through oral histories. I was guest historian at the Sixth International Coal Mining Congress in Akabira. This was my first trip abroad. I was so scared. I realized my sheltered lifestyle, except for a couple of trips out west to visit my parents, had kept me from knowing about the world outside my Appalachian region.

Next, I received an invitation from a company preparing documentaries for the History Channel. Again, with many reservations, I agreed to go to Hollywood, and once more, I was shocked at how little I knew about the world beyond my mountains.

My first book was published by Infinity Publishing in Pennsylvania. One person employed by Infinity and an advocate came to West Virginia to meet me before publication.

I will never forget the feeling of excitement when the first proof of my book titled *Appalachia: Spirit Triumphant* arrived. After work hours, when I had calmed down a little, I went to Walmart to pick up a few groceries but found myself rushing through the aisles showing perfect strangers my book. In fact, someone asked me where the flour was. I told them, “I don’t know but I had my

first book published,” and insisted on them leafing through it.

That was a good feeling, finishing a project with the publication of a book—but I could not rest because events and people left out of my first book kept popping up in my mind. My brain would not give me a break. I began a series of oral histories for book two when the Sago Mine Disaster occurred on January 2, 2006. I left my job that day, taking a day of vacation and traveled to the mine site. The story of the mine disaster became the featured story in my second book published in 2007 titled *Sago Mine Disaster (Featured Story) Appalachian Coalfield Stories*. Infinity Publishing picked up this book as a publishing project.

With publication of my second book, I thought I was finished, but my world was swirling with Appalachian cultural events of significant historic importance within hearing distance. One of the biggest bluegrass festivals was about to happen not more than four miles from my home. I dropped what I was doing and took up the road with my handheld recorder and throwaway camera to capture the life and times of the music mountain people for book three. This book titled *The Sunny Side of Appalachia; Bluegrass from the Grassroots* was published in September 2008. Infinity Publishing picked up publication of this book as another book in my Appalachian Mountain Project.

I have accepted that I do not know when this project will end. Recently, I reconnected with a college friend and classmate, Kathleen Colley Slusher. Our roots are Appalachia. Together we are working on a new exciting piece for publication. The setting is Appalachia where two fictional characters, like us in real life, share similar backgrounds and experiences. Kathy and I are writing our characters separately. The characters’ lives will intersect in college as friends and classmates and then later on in adult life. ❖

*Network* is open to receiving *In Her Own Words* profile submissions for this column from members. Send up to ten double-spaced pages. Narrative form usually works best and should creatively convey a sense of self, a sense of place, a strong point of view—possibly changed over time, roads taken (or not taken) and why, accomplishments and lessons learned. With only four *In Her Own Words* profiles a year, submission does not guarantee publication.

## HEALTH INSURANCE FOR IWWG MEMBERS LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY

IWWG, which has not been able to offer health insurance to its members for seven years because of changes in the health care industry, is happy to announce that comprehensive health insurance coverage is now available to members in New York City. Atlantis Health Plan offers cost-effective, comprehensive medical and hospital coverage within the five boroughs. In addition to a growing network of physicians and hospitals, members have access to state-of-the-art Atlantis Medical Group offices located in every borough. These office visits are available at no co-payment to members. Atlantis is the only health insurance company in New York City owned and operated by physicians. For more information call IWWG at (212) 737-7536. We hope this is the beginning of IWWG’s being able to offer health insurance to all our members regardless of where they reside.

# REMEMBER THE MAGIC 2010

## The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Women's Writing Guild Summer Conference

AT BROWN UNIVERSITY, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

7-Day Conference Week: July 30 – August 6, 2010

5-Day Conference: July 30 – August 4, 2010 (or any consecutive 5 days)

2 ½ Day Conference Weekend: July 30 – August 1, 2010

### PRELIMINARY WORKSHOP PROGRAM

*(Please Note: For workshop descriptions and workshop directors' bios, visit [www.iwwg.org](http://www.iwwg.org), click on Events and view the sidebar. All workshops are held once each day for the week-long period and are 90 minutes in length, unless otherwise noted.)*

#### WRITING: THE NUTS & BOLTS OF IT

JUDY L. ADOURIAN	Play, Write and Playwriting: Unmasking the Play Within You; No Pen? No Problem: Free Writing at its Most Free (two separate workshops)
LYNNE BARRETT	Plot: Finding the Heart of Your Story (Wed-Thur.)
SUSAN BAUGH	(see Critique Section)
LINDA BERGMAN	So You Think Your Life's a Movie and Other Guilty Pleasures
RAINELLE BURTON	The Muse Salon: Bringing out the Depth in Writing through Music
HEATHER CARIOU	Presenting and Publicizing Your Work
PAT CARR	Writing as Rewriting: Burnishing Your Final Manuscript
ZITA CHRISTIAN	The Key to Genre Fiction
RACHEL DE BAERE	Letters and Literature: Writing Life, Love and Longing
MARJ HAHNE	Poem=Sound=Body
SHEILA J. LEVINE	Legal Pitfalls: How to Protect Yourself and Your Work in Print and Electronic Publishing
MAUREEN MURDOCK	The Art of Memoir Writing
CAROL PECK	Hyacinths & Biscuits: The Elements of Poetry
HOPE PLAYER	Your Book is a Business: What You Need to Know to Make Money
MELISSA ROSATI	The New Rules of Book Proposals: How to Build Confidence, Community, and Connection in the Digital Age
EUNICE SCARFE	Blank Page: The Act and Art of Writing
LINDA LEEDY SCHNEIDER	Personal Writing Consultation (Mon-Thur., by appointment)
JUDITH SEARLE	Writing Effective Dialogue
MYRA SHAPIRO	Poetry as a Force of Love
KATHLEEN SPIVACK	Shaping Your Writing Project: The Inner and Outer Journey
CARREN STROCK	The Smart Writers' Guide: What to Know Before, During and After Writing a Book (Sat.-Mon.)
SUSAN TIBERGHIE	The Mosaic of Creative Nonfiction: From Journaling, to Essay, to Memoir
ANNE F. WALRADT	Writing Down the FunnyBones

#### CRITIQUE SESSIONS

SUSAN BAUGH PAT CARR	Open Critiques/Poetry
and RAINELLE BURTON SUSAN TIBERGHIE	Open Critiques/Fiction
and LYNNE BARRETT ZITA CHRISTIAN	Open Critiques/Nonfiction
and ANNE WALRADT MAUREEN MURDOCK	Open Critiques/Popular Fiction
NATALIE REID	Open Critiques/Longer Nonfiction and Memoir
	Open Critiques/The Mythological Voice

## TRANSFORMATION OF SELF AND WORK

STEPHANIE ALSTON-NERO	Sacred Rituals and Practices for Healing History
JACQUELINE AUPETIT	French... With Pleasure!
JOANNE HACKETT CHING	Intensive Journal® Workshop (\$41 workshop materials fee)
JUNE GOULD	Bearing Witness: Writing our Stories in the 21st Century
DOROTHY RANDALL GRAY	Writing the Word: Healing the Heart
JUDITH HUGE	Finding the Me in Memory: Tools for Women in Transition
JAN LAWRY	Finding Ourselves at Home
ALICE ORR	The Do It Anyway Guide to Getting Published: Adopting an Attitude of Abundance in a Time of Scarcity
KATHLEEN O'SHEA	Good Heavens: Writing From Our Religious Pasts
MAXINE POUPKO (Mahala)	Women and Hunger: Nurturing and Nourishing the Spirit

## MYTHOLOGY & NON-LINEAR KNOWLEDGE

SHELLEY ACKERMAN	Creativity and Your Astrological Chart: How Your Horoscope Reveals What You Must Write and Why
JAN PHILLIPS	The Image, the Word, the Story: Tools of Transformation
JUDITH PREST	Taking Dictation from Within: Writing from Soul Collage®
NINA REIMER	The Healing Channel: The Ancient Art of Soul Dolls (\$35 workshop materials fee)
PAULA CHAFFEE	
SCARDAMALIA	Using Dreams and Oracles for Divining Your Muse
ANNE SCHNEIDER	Mask as Metaphor (\$20 workshop materials fee)
NANCY ORLEN WEBER	Sacred Powers of Creativity: Keeping in the Flow

## THE ARTS, THE BODY & HEALTH

LYNN BALES	One-on-One Art: Watercolor, Mandala and Collage (by appointment)
SANDRA BALINT	Tai Chi in Between: Writing From the Dan Tian
CAREN STROCK	Photography (Tues-Thur.)
(to be announced)	Yoga

Come to "Remember the Magic" 2010 for FREE!

*(Room, Board and Program included)*

*Pay in full for your weekend, five-day, or seven-day stay by March 31*

*and you will be entered into a special drawing.*

*The lucky winner will be reimbursed for the full cost of her conference attendance!*

*(We expect at least 25 overnight reservations to have been paid in full by March 31,*

*which will make this drawing possible.)*

**“REMEMBER THE MAGIC 2010” CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**  
**IWWG Summer Writing Conference, Brown University, Providence, RI**

See website for workshop descriptions and workshop director bios.

7-Day Conference Week: July 30 – August 6, 2010  
5-Day Conference: July 30 – August 4, 2010 (or any consecutive 5 days)  
2 ½ Day Conference Weekend: July 30 – August 1, 2010

Send for Brochures to  
“Pass the Word.”

**7-DAY CONFERENCE** Friday, July 30 – Friday, August 6, 2010  
(includes Program & Room & Board for 7 nights, 21 meals)

**MEMBERS**  \$1,399 Single                      **NON-MEMBERS**  \$1,419 Single

**5-DAY CONFERENCE** Friday, July 30 – Wednesday, August 4 (or any consecutive 5 days)  
(Includes Program & Room & Board for 5 nights, 15 meals)

**MEMBERS**  \$1,175 Single                      **NON-MEMBERS**  \$1,205 Single

**WEEKEND CONFERENCE** Friday, July 30 - Sunday, August 1  
(Includes Program & Room & Board for 2 nights, 5 meals)

**MEMBERS**  \$510 Single                      **NON-MEMBERS**  \$540 Single

**COMMUTER DAY RATES** Friday, July 30, 7:30 p.m.: Introductory Program (highly recommended) No Fee

**COMMUTER FULL CONFERENCE** Saturday, July 31 – Thursday, August 5

**MEMBERS**  \$429                                      **NON-MEMBERS**  \$449

**SINGLE DAY WEEKEND REGISTRATION** Saturday or Sunday

**MEMBERS**  \$80                                      **NON-MEMBERS**  \$85

**SINGLE DAY WEEKDAY REGISTRATION** Monday-Thursday

**MEMBERS**  \$70                                      **NON-MEMBERS**  \$75

- I enclose a \$75 non-refundable deposit which will be applied to my registration fee (balance due by June 30, 2010).  
 I enclose \$55 for a one-year membership in the IWWG (\$65 if you wish the *Network* to be sent in the mail).  
New  Renewal   
 I am unable to attend the conference but wish to make a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards an IWWG scholarship.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (cell preferred) \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks are to be made out to *The International Women’s Writing Guild*

**Mail to: The International Women’s Writing Guild, Box 810, Gracie Station, New York, NY 10028-0082. Tel. # (212) 737-7536**

**Or pay online via PayPal at [www.iwwg.org](http://www.iwwg.org), click on Events/Calendar.**

**Attendees from non-U.S. countries who do not have U.S. bank accounts, please use PayPal online.**

Continuing Education Certificates are available to attendees who have spent ten or more hours in conference workshops. A tax deduction is allowed for education-related expenses, including registration fees, travel, accommodations and meals undertaken to improve professional skills. (Check with your accountant for pertinent tax form.)

# SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE 2010

## *Creativity. Transformation. Empowerment. Spiritual growth.*

These are the real benefits of IWWG Conferences and Workshops.

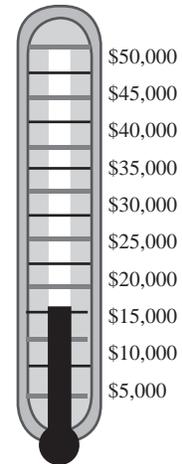
The lack of money should not prevent any woman connected to the written word from experiencing the power of the Guild Workshops and Conferences.

For the 2009 "Remember the Magic" summer conference, the IWWG gave 31 full and partial scholarships totaling \$20,000.

For the 2010 Scholarship Drive, our goal is to raise \$50,000.

Thanks to the generous contributors who so far this year have donated \$12,974.

Your tax-deductible check, payable to IWWG, will help insure that no woman will miss out on the opportunity for her words to make a difference in the world.



## A Special *thank you* to the Following Guild Members

### Who Have Contributed to the IWWG Scholarship and General Fund During the Past Three Months...

Marie A. Asner ❖ Jacqueline A. Aupetit ❖ Deanne L. Bosnak ❖ Joanne Ching ❖ Dilly Emihe  
Mildred Freeman ❖ Judith Hancox ❖ Prudence L. Kuhn ❖ Jana Linden-Ihrie ❖ Paula Lozar  
Jemma Macera ❖ Nancy Newman ❖ Hope Player  
Sunny Reilly, John A. Sellon Charitable Residual Trust ❖ Lucille "Tootie" Richards  
Linda Leedy Schneider ❖ Deirdre Sinott ❖ Kathleen Spivack  
Marylou Streznewski (in memory of Hattie Kelly) ❖ Susan Tiberghien ❖ Nancy W. Thomas  
Paula Weil ❖ Karen Wilson

### ...And Who Have Given Gift Memberships

Jacqueline A. Aupetit ❖ Eleanor Garrell Berger ❖ Suzanne Birdsall ❖ Anna Bozena Bowen (2)  
Elizabeth Donoghue ❖ Judith Dore ❖ Linda B. Durnbaugh ❖ Lisa Freedman  
Judith Hancox (2) ❖ Ina Jaffe ❖ Y. Shun Lai  
Janet Lombardi ❖ Carol Rosebrough ❖ Tanya Russ ❖ Lee Meryl Senior ❖ C.K. Simpson  
Kathleen Spivack ❖ Bonnie Woods ❖ Jennifer Wortham

### ...or Adopted Members

Barbara Bentley (5) ❖ Elizabeth "Betty" Fanelli ❖ CB Follett ❖ Claske Franck  
M. Saint-Onge ❖ Tanya Russ

### ...Donations to Upgrade IWWG's Website

Sharon D. Anderson ❖ Jacqueline Aupetit ❖ Sandra Balint ❖ Elizabeth Barrett ❖ Eleanor G. Berger  
Elsa A. Bonstein ❖ Rosemary Booth ❖ Karen Caldwell ❖ Sharon Cousins ❖ Karen Eddinger  
Marjorie Swann Edwin ❖ Christine Ellis ❖ Toni Lactiva Farkas ❖ B. Lynn Goodwin ❖ Caitlin Guthell  
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Ruth Steinberg ❖ Toni Carroll Termin ❖ Dawn Tucksmith ❖ Jeanette V. Tully ❖ Nancy Weber

**GoodSearch**, [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com), is a search engine using Yahoo that donates almost every penny to charity for every search made from their site. Under "Who Do You Goodsearch For?", please enter IWWG. Add GoodSearch to your IE, Firefox, or Mac toolbar.  
Make GoodSearch your home page.

**iGive.com** will give IWWG a percentage from every purchase you make when you shop at over 680 stores, without any extra effort or cost, and IWWG will receive a \$5 bonus for each new shopper. You will even get a charitable tax-deduction for your purchases.

# DOLPHIN'S DEN

*A Kaleidoscope of the Physical, Social and Spiritual Environment in Which We Live*  
Edited by Elizabeth Julia Stoumen



Elizabeth Julia Stoumen

**Frances Perkins: The creator of Social Security and the woman behind the New Deal...** Named Secretary of Labor by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1933, she arrived in Washington at the height of the Great Depression. Perkins pushed for massive public works projects that created millions of jobs for unemployed workers. She breathed life back into the nation's labor movement, boosting living

standards across the country. As head of the Immigration Service, she fought to bring European refugees to safety in the United States. Her greatest triumph was creating Social Security.

Housing prices had been pumped up by crazy new kinds of loans, and foreclosures of homes and farms were surging as borrowers faltered under the payments. Companies had enjoyed record profits and ploughed the money into machinery designed to boost productivity, cutting their workforces. The unemployment rate skyrocketed. Companies slashed the wages of the remaining workers, and asked them to work longer and longer hours. And then Wall Street imploded as the stock market crashed. An era of rampant speculation had come to an end. This was the scenario Franklin Delano Roosevelt faced as he entered the presidency.

FDR turned to Perkins, a long-time friend, for guidance about how best to proceed, and he asked her to join his Cabinet as Secretary of Labor. A mother and a social worker, she had spent a lifetime preparing for the job. She had studied economic boom and bust cycles, and knew they were a recurring pattern in modern industrial economies. She had a vision for how to blunt the worst of the hardship that American families were suffering, until business recovered again on its own.

She spearheaded the fight to improve the lives of America's working people while juggling her own complex family responsibilities. Perkins's ideas became the cornerstones of the most important social welfare and legislation in the nation's history, including unemployment compensation, child labor laws, and the 40-hour work week.

She proposed a system of unemployment insurance, so that when workers lost their jobs through no fault of their own, they would have some income to keep their families fed while they

looked for new jobs. Senior citizens had lost their life savings as real estate values fell and the stock market tumbled, and they needed some sort of income support, some kind of social security, when they grew too old to work. Employed people were stumbling under long work hours. She advocated the creation of a 40-hour work week and a minimum wage. Companies were hiring teenagers instead of adults to save money and she thought the time was ripe to place new restrictions on child labor.

"Nothing like this has ever been done in the United States before," she told him. "You know that, don't you?"

The challenges they would face would be great. The conservative Supreme Court, businessmen, free-market ideologues, and even some labor leaders would oppose them. They would try to block her work. They would argue that the poor should be left to fend for themselves. They would savage her reputation and would eventually try to impeach her.

But Frances Perkins would not give up.

As the first female Cabinet Secretary, the institutions she created would help future generations cope with the recurring economic downturns that she had predicted would come again. Her extraordinary achievements make her one of the most influential women of the 20th century.

— Kirstin Downey, author, *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life of Frances Perkins, FDR'S Secretary of Labor and His Moral Conscience*

**For the first time in U.S. history...** women have surpassed men and now make up more than 50% of the nation's workforce, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics announcement this fall. In 1967, by comparison, they accounted for just one-third of all workers.

Signs of the changing landscape in gender relations are just about everywhere you look: Double the number of single women are now purchasing homes in America than there are single men. Four out of every ten women are now their family's primary breadwinner, a sharp increase from past decades. The New Hampshire State Legislature is now made up of a majority of women, a first for a legislative body in the U.S., and the number of women in government continues to edge up nationwide. Women now account for 30% of math Ph.D's, up from just 5% in the

1960s. On average, women read nine books every year. Men only read four, and women account for 80% of the U.S. fiction market.

A gender education gap, in which women are far outpacing men in terms of educational achievement, has been quietly growing in America over the past few decades. In 2009, women will earn more degrees in higher education than men in every possible category, from associate level to Ph.D's, according to the U.S. Department of Education. When it comes to master's-level education, U.S. women earn 159 degrees for every 100 awarded to men.

— AOL Nation, November 6, 2009

**Publishers seek to mine book circles...** The successes of books like *The Kite Runner*, *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*, *Water for Elephants*, *Eat, Pray, Love* and *Kabul Beauty School* have been credited to the early and continuing support of reading groups. Authors and publishers are increasingly tipping their hats to the power of 8 or 10 or 12 women (and usually they are women) sitting around a dining room table, dissecting their particular book of the month, then spreading the word to their friends. Film companies are also trying to get in on the act, according to Russell Perreault, director of publicity at Vintage Books. "They're asking us how to get clubs to read books before the movie version comes out." Sara Nelson, editor of *Publishers Weekly*, said an increasingly potent sales pitch when debating the merits of a manuscript is whether "this would work for a book group."

— excerpted from the *New York Times*, November 19, 2007

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*The International Women's Writing Guild Presents*  
**THE EARLY SPRING IN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE**

**"Entering the Writer's Sacred Playground"**

March 12-14, 2010

Bosch Baháí School, Santa Cruz, California

**PROGRAM**

What happens when an essay behaves more like a poem? When memoir bleeds into fiction? Or when reportage turns into reflection? Spend a weekend dedicated to drawing from the repertoire of genres to create surprising and dynamic writing.

Whether you're a new or seasoned writer, this weekend will rejuvenate you and your craft.

**WORKSHOPS**

**The Form** – *When One Genre Meets Another*: Mary Reynolds Thompson and Richelle McClain

**The Craft** – *Playing with Language and Structure*: Rachel de Baere

**The Power of the Collaborative Process** – *Creating in Community*: Mary, Richelle and Rachel

See the IWWG website for a detailed schedule and workshop director bios.

Go to [www.IWWG.org](http://www.IWWG.org), click EVENTS/CALENDAR.

**CONFERENCE FEES**

Members:

Weekend Guests inclusive of entire program, two overnights and all meals: \$365

Weekend Commuters inclusive of program, exclusive of meals: \$150

Day Attendees – Saturday only: \$110

Day Attendees – Sunday only: \$45

Non-Members:

Weekend Guests inclusive of entire program, two overnights and all meals: \$385

Weekend Commuters inclusive of program, exclusive of meals: \$170

Day Attendees – Saturday only: \$125

Day Attendees – Sunday only: \$65

Registration Deposit (will be applied toward the full registration fee): \$40

Meals: Breakfast \$9, Lunch \$12, Dinner \$13

IWWG Annual Membership: \$55

**REGIONAL IWWG REPRESENTATIVES**

Northern California: **Rachel de Baere** (415) 456-4574, [itsmerach@comcast.net](mailto:itsmerach@comcast.net)

Southern California: **Mary Melkonian** (909) 560-3290, [martytish@mac.com](mailto:martytish@mac.com)

IWWG Headquarters: **Hannelore Hahn** (212) 737-7536, [dirhahn@aol.com](mailto:dirhahn@aol.com)

PAYMENT: You can pay by credit card at [www.iwwg.org](http://www.iwwg.org), click on Events/Calendar.

Or make a check out to IWWG and mail it to: IWWG, PO Box 810, Gracie Station, New York, NY 10028.



# PUBLICATION CONGRATULATIONS

A star after a book's title indicates it can be purchased from Amazon.com through the Guild's website, [www.iwvg.org](http://www.iwvg.org), by clicking on the Products tab on the top right of the home page and then the Amazon Bookstore's list of titles in the sidebar on the left of the screen. The IWVG's Scholarship Fund receives a referral fee from Amazon for all purchases. This does not impact on the author's royalty.

We are proud to add the following 38 books to the many books which have been published by Guild members over the past 34 years:

**SHARON D. ANDERSON**, *What Should You Do With Your Life? Diana's Story*,\* Booklocker.com, 2009; *Angels in Action*,\* Booklocker.com, 2008

*What Should You Do With Your Life?*: "Set on Cape Cod, this is a novel of a modern day Cinderella. Two fairy god angels are sent to help Diana figure out what she should do with her life. The story is sprinkled with angel dust, a prince and a surprise ending!"

*Angels in Action*: "Have you ever wondered what angels really do? Follow two angels, a seasoned veteran and a new recruit, as they work with their currently assigned human (a young woman) to assist her on her journey to enlightenment."

Visit Sharon's website at [www.angeliccommunications.com](http://www.angeliccommunications.com).

**MARIANNE BAHMANN**, *Coping with the Limelight: A Manual on Stage Fright*,\* BookSurge.com, 2009

"Do you freeze with fear when speaking before an audience? Do you break into a sweat when sitting across the desk from your boss? Marianne, a voice coach and performer, offers this book as a gift to anyone who suffers from mild anxiety or paralyzing fear. You'll learn how to identify the cause of the anxiety and what can be done

to overcome it. Unlike books about stage fright that drive home one singular message, Marianne introduces you to performers who share their experiences and how they cured their fears. Understanding cause, effect, and logical solutions will make this book indispensable."

**JESSICA BRAM**, *Happily Ever After Divorce: Notes of a Joyful Journey*,\* Health Communications Inc., 2009

"While being true to divorce's pain and challenges, Jessica's personal stories reveal the exhilaration, joy, growth, and triumphs of moving through difficult times and emerging stronger and happier at the other end. In this candid, intimately written book, you will discover: how Jessica rebuilt her self-esteem through handling everything from everyday tasks to earning a living with newly discovered talents; how children can thrive when parents approach custodial issues with respect; the delightful aspects of spending time alone, single parenting, and unexpected friendships; how she approached dating with humor and an upbeat attitude; and how, after rebuilding her life, Jessica opened her heart and found love again."

*Publishers Weekly*: "In her first book, essayist Bram convincingly disputes the common belief that there's no life after divorce. At age 41, the mother of three young children, Bram was in a loveless marriage. But she was surrounded by people who insisted it would be hell on her and her children; even the marriage counselor she and her husband saw presented her with studies about the irrevocable trauma divorce inflicts on children. But Bram was out to prove them wrong, and in her memoir, she recounts the steps she built to create a new life and take joy in finding her own true self. Whether slogging through legal paperwork, arranging custodial visits or re-entering the world of romance, Bram put her sons first, and they all came through intact. For anyone facing divorce, Bram's frank and optimistic tale shows that one can not only survive divorce but thrive in the new possibilities life will offer."

Jessica's blog is <http://jessicabram.wordpress.com>; her radio commentaries can be heard at <http://jbram.com/commentaries>; and her email address is [Jessica@jbram.com](mailto:Jessica@jbram.com).

**LINETTE BRUNO**, *A Spark in Time*,\* Outskirts Press, 2009; *Margaret and Family*,\* Outskirts Press 2009

*A Spark in Time*: "A BBC news article which appeared at the time of Dame Muriel Spark's death described her as 'one of the liveliest and most original literary talents to be discovered in Britain since the end of World War II.' Captivated by Muriel's wit and her skill in combining complicated narrative technique with richness of theme, Linette produced this work, which includes portions of five of Muriel's novels: *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *The Girls of Slender Means*, *The Mandelbaum Gate*, *The Driver's Seat* and *Memento Mori*."

*Margaret and Family*: This novel deals with the lives of those affected by the Montserrat volcano.

**ELLEN CALVERT**, *Pilgrim, Tales of a Traveling Cat*,\* AuthorHouse, 2009; *Nine Goldfish in David's Pond*, AuthorHouse, 2009

*Pilgrim*: "This is a cat's eye view of the life, travels, and adventures of an urbane feline sophisticate in the world of his favorite humans. Although only the uncharitable would call Pilgrim a 'hustler' when he meets his new family in an animal shelter, he's already in charge, riding on the vet's shoulder. Pilgrim is clearly a 'people' cat, but he's still a cat and he's soon running the new digs, defending his garden wall against intruders, falling down storm drains, devoting himself to his humans, and winning them—and us—over."

*Nine Goldfish*: "One afternoon, David brought home nine goldfish to swim in the pond...Bright orange goldfish, orange and white goldfish, orange goldfish with black freckles, and beautiful black goldfish tumbled out of the bag into the water... So begins this story of the Zen beauty of a backyard world and the ten beings who inhabit it: a young explorer, still on the cusp of discovering this private world, and the nine fish who will invite him into it, sharing it with him, teaching him, and making a connection with him as he learns to care for them. Illustrated with watercolors, it is ideal for the child learning responsibility for other living creatures in the world we share."

**HOLLIS COLQUHOUN**, co-author, *Women Empowering Themselves: A Financial Survival Guide - For Women at Risk of Drowning Financially Before, During and After Divorce*,\* Dog Ear Publishing, 2009

“This book will take you through the basic steps to calculate your financial worth, identify your financial needs and gain control of your financial destiny. Inside are simple exercises and tools to help you understand what you own and what you owe and to show you how to manage your budget and debt, whether you’re in a relationship or alone.

“Keep this guide with you as a reference, a financial record keeper and a resource; you will become more financially aware and independent. It will be like having a credit counselor in your purse! You will find: definitions of financial terms and concepts; tips for organizing your financial information; marital and personal net worth charts; personal income calculators; household expense analysis; budgeting and problem-solving tools; debt and credit report explanations; warnings of potential financial pitfalls; housing and major expense evaluations; financial considerations for divorce negotiations; savings tips and financial goal setting; and a resource directory for information and assistance.”

**ROBERTA DECAPRIO**, *The Golden Lady*,\* The Wild Rose Press, 2009

“Loving someone is hard...especially if they’re supposed to be your enemy! Willow Creek, Arizona saw its share of Indian attacks. Amanda Gregory witnessed the sorrow first hand with her father’s murder. Refusing Reverend Joshua Holmes’ proposal, Amanda decides to stay on her farm and run it alone. When she saves Proud Eagle, a wounded Apache warrior, he wins her heart, calling her his golden lady, and Amanda’s hatred of Indians begins to change. The night the Chiricahuas attack Amanda’s farm, Proud Eagle helps her to escape, taking her back to his tribe to become his wife. But their love is forbidden, and Amanda finds herself fighting the biggest battle of her life...the right to love her enemy.”

Excerpts of Roberta’s novels can be read at [www.robertadecaprio.com](http://www.robertadecaprio.com).

**MARCIA FINE**, *Stressed in Scottsdale*,\* L’Image Press, 2009

“In this satire, Marcia’s fifth novel, multi-tasking Jean Rubin races to accomplish endless errands,

care for an elderly mother forced to move to assisted living, help with her kid’s fertility problems, manage a job and fight roof rats while her anxiety level climbs to unmanageable proportions. Jean employs a variety of soothing techniques from daily stress tips to meditation, affirmations, deep breathing and a self-help group. Nothing seems to work.... Modern living isn’t for sissies. The deeper issues of the environment and political corruption are couched in laugh-out-loud funny lines.”

**ELLY FINKELSTEIN**, *Bad Girl No More*, Kindle Edition, 2009

“Jenny Denton has a secret. When her beloved grandmother dies, this young New Yorker realizes that in order to find the love and peace of mind that has always eluded her, she must leave behind those who care for her and strike out on her own. Her adventures are many and she eventually attains the self-actualization that allows her to become the person she always dreamed of being.”

**CB FOLLETT**, *And Freddie Was My Darling*,\* Many Voices Press, 2009

“An award winning poet, CB Follett focuses on the coming of adulthood with these verses, showing her innate talent with the English language, using every word as an instrument in a symphony.” — *Midwest Book Review*

“With her usual penetrating insights, CB Follett’s poems are supple and poignant. They radiate with a kind of innocence the world has lost. This book will make you laugh and cry—sometimes at the same time. It will surprise you into remembering the wild, silly, yearning person you used to be. Read it.” — Susan Terris, [www.arctospress.com](http://www.arctospress.com)

“This new poetry collection, which appears to be memoir, is more about craft and cunning... the past...emerges as fresh as sea air and as familiar as cinnamon. No sentimentality...the author gives us much more...in stories so apt, so tightly wrapped in their time, you suspect Follett has discovered an elixir for memory loss...all are unique, deft portraits, neither under or overexposed...in tone, concise detail and cadence, Follett delivers... Memoir as art or art as memoir...now I have to speak of the sheer beauty of her language, the agility of an imagist who stirs bright pebbles into her rock-solid stories... Follett has demonstrated the art of expressing the heartbeat of an experience with particulars that

give life to memory, real or imagined.” – Gail Peterson, *Bay Area Poets Seasonal Review*, Vol. 5, No. 1, Fall 2009

**RONA GOFSTEIN**, a.k.a. Rachel Kenley, *The Glass Stiletto*,\* Ravenous Romance, 2009; *Destiny’s Jewel*,\* Ravenous Romance, 2010, *Passionate Heat*,\* Ravenous Romance, 2010

*The Glass Stiletto*: “What if Cinderella didn’t want to marry the Prince? Unfortunately, in trying to avoid one suitor she finds herself in the arms of the one man she doesn’t want.”

*Destiny’s Jewel*: This is the first in the three-book Destiny Series. “Kyra L’orrac had no desire to be anywhere near a magician. But that was before she met Ellard J’aron and all her assumptions were turned upside down. Kyra was committed to her assignment: stay on Earth and guard the sapphire she was given to keep it from the magician who sought it. She knew the reasons magicians weren’t to be trusted. But Ellard isn’t what she was expecting.”

*Passionate Heat*: “When Miles Anderson left Glenway, he never wanted to see the small town again. Labeled a troublemaker and a no-account because of his parents, he was ready to move on with his life. But he didn’t think his decision would mean he’d never see Jillian Wagner again either. After Miles was gone, Jillian turned to the wrong people for support and lost her dreams in the process.

“Now an arson and explosion expert, Miles is asked by an old friend to come home and help put an end to a suspicious string of fires. He agrees, only to discover more than burned out buildings. Jillian is still there, no longer the dancer she once dreamed of becoming, and newly divorced. As buildings in Glenway continue to burn, Miles cannot help but think Jillian is a target.

“Jillian never expected to see Miles again. She had made peace with her past—mistakes and all—and was ready to move on. With his return, however, comes an abundance of old feelings, starting with anger and swiftly moving to desire and love. Miles never thought he could have a home, but with Jillian in his life again, everything is different.”

(Continued on next page)

**ANN GONZALEZ**, *Running for My Life*, WestSide Books, April 2009

“A first-time author takes on a serious and complex topic—a schizophrenic parent—and treats it with great earnestness. Andrea is buoyed up emotionally by a patient best friend, a caring and wise father, a good therapist, and a stuffed rabbit that she both treats with irony and relies on for comfort. As her disturbed mother is hospitalized, she discovers a love for running, which is cut short when she breaks her ankle. The motif of being painfully hobbled works well, though subtly, in advancing the main plot, in which Andrea confronts her fears and anxieties relating to her mother returning home; becoming the instant sweetheart of a boy track star also plays into the narrative. Teen readers who are curious about mental-health issues and family dynamics will appreciate the accessibility of those complex topics here. Gonzalez has a good ear for dialogue and shows just enough of Andrea’s adult support system to suit teens caught between the pull of independence and the uncertainties of their own wisdom. Grades 8-10.”  
— *Booklist*

**ELLEN ZELDA KESSNER**, *After the Violence: Seeking My Daughter, Myself, and the Child She Left Behind*,\* iUniverse, 2008

“This is a memoir of Ellen’s almost three-decade journey through loss, rage, and partial healing. It is also a true-crime mystery—not a “whodunit,” but a “whydunit” with diamonds, debts, betrayal—as she and her husband gradually unravel, years after the trial, the causes of their daughter’s murder. It is a love story too, as they struggle to bond with their daughter’s child across the divide of 3,000 miles and the sometime hostility of their daughter’s husband.”

**GRACE ZOLLA PROTANO**, *As Long as You Can See the Clock, You’re Okay: South Brooklyn in the ‘50s*,\* Outskirts Press, 2009

“Set mainly in Brooklyn in the 1950s, this memoir recollects growing up with a unique love embodying joy and sadness; pride and shame; tenderness and cruelty. We meet the people who most impacted Grace’s life: her brothers Jack and Sal, who gave her strength and laughter; her father Anthony, who showed her gentleness and character. We see Grace’s mother Fiorentina, who taught her kindness and wonder, but whose emotionally crippling illness stole half a childhood.”

**DIANA RAAB**, *The Guilt Gene*,\* Plain View Press, 2009

“This book is a prism with a hundred facets offering glance and glimpse and deep seeing into encounters with love, loss, longing, and epiphany. From an author who has taught us the power of memory and story, these poems take us along the road from a World War II typewriter to the eyes of an old dog. Poetry here reminds us to heed what calls to us daily.” – Kim Stafford, author

**BLANCHE COHEN SACHS**, *Strolling in Nature Early in the Morning*,\* Xlibris, 2009

This is a collection of Blanche’s poems and her fourth book. It includes “Yienan Song,” about an IWWG dancer/member of the same name.

**NADIA SAHARI**, *Breakaway: How I Survived Abuse*,\* Pink Butterfly Press, 2009

“Nadia tells the true story of her early life. She was born in Lebanon to Arab parents who were Shia Muslims. Until her early 20s, she was a victim of many abuses, including molestation, repeated beatings, rape, kidnapping and several attempts on her life. Miraculously she survived. Through it all she clung to her dream to be an actress. She never gave up. Her life story can bring hope and courage to abused women and children everywhere.”

Visit [www.nadiasaharibook.com](http://www.nadiasaharibook.com) and view a trailer about *Breakaway*.

**PEGGY SAPPHIRE**, *In the End a Circle*, Antrim House, 2009

“Peggy Sapphire’s poetry engages soulfully, artfully and unflinchingly with the hard realities. ‘The heart is not a bone,’ she writes, and one feels that bittersweet wisdom in these poems that shake us up and let us down firmly but gently—wiser and gladder for having read them.”

— Baron Wormser, former Poet Laureate of Maine  
This is Peggy’s second poetry collection. Visit [www.PeggySapphire.com](http://www.PeggySapphire.com) (inscribed by request).

**DEBORAH J. TARANTO**, *The Land of Crystals*,\* AuthorHouse, 2005

From the Prologue: “It has been said that to record the events of the past is to in some way relive them if not in body, but in mind. The details of a time nearly forgotten by the aged, and barely spoken of by the young, have left a bittersweet taste on my lips.

“There is no other place on earth, in as

much accordance with my knowledge of the vast surrounding lands that could compare to this mystical and magical environment. This my home, once nearly destroyed by avarice and lust, now flourishes in the promise of forgiveness.

“I have seen the perils of youth, experienced the trance of two loves, and tasted the wisdom of age. In so much as I have lived my youth not giving a damn, I have aged with its curse of neglect on my soul. I am the talisman of my time who so unfortunately must record the events of the past. It is with me that they began; it is with my survivors that they must live on.” – King William of Crystaldom, 1143 AD

**BARBARA M. TRAYNOR**, *Second Career Volunteer: A passionate, pennywise approach to retirement*,\* The Troy Bookmakers, 2009 [available for review]

“As a single parent of three and administrative assistant for over 45 years, pipe dreams stockpiled. I never imagined the possibility of retirement, much less becoming a long-term, long-distance volunteer. Yet, the concept of spending a year as a volunteer in Alaska would evolve and become a courageous adventure.

“This book details a personal journey from constraint to freedom, irrespective of finances because there are organizations who utilize volunteers to supplement staff, offering housing, meals, and even stipends. Read how to achieve this lifestyle along with personal interviews of volunteers who the author worked and lived with, plus self-evaluation forms, organization evaluation forms, and an A-Z grid of websites detailing organizations looking for volunteers like you. Planned to retire but had to postpone due to less income than anticipated? Don’t change a thing! You can retire on a limited income and still live those dreams of new places and different faces.”

“The perfect book for anyone yearning to make a difference in their retirement while living on a budget!” – IWWG member Prill Boyle, author of *Defying Gravity*.

**TORI VELLE**, *Jake the Snake*,\* AuthorHouse, 2009

“This is a sweet story about the relationship between humans and animals. One rainy afternoon, Jake helped three children out of a sticky situation. At first, the children feared Jake because of the way he looked. Jake did not mean to frighten them and just wanted to play in the

game. It was not until the children needed Jake's help that they felt bad for the way they treated him. Jake gladly rescued the children and asked for nothing in return. It was then that the children realized that judging others by the way they look hurts everyone. The next day, they made Jake a gift to say thank you and that they were sorry. From then on, the children and Jake played together having learned valuable lessons about friendship, feelings, and fun!"

**JACQUELINE WALES**, *The Fearless Factor*,\* Pantulan Press, 2009

"This self-help book assists women in moving forward from being stuck in fear with practical and inspirational advice on seizing the life they want and know they deserve! Packed with stories from the trenches, and insight from women around the world who have been there, done that, it is a must-have for those who are ready to move on to the next stage of living. Using the jungle of life as her framework, readers are taken through the process of facing their biggest fears and given ways to overcome them (whether they are related to money, relationships, career, age or motherhood). From learning how to dump emotional baggage that is useless and potentially dangerous to succeeding at stepping away from needing jobs or people to fill them up, readers can learn to detach, let go, and trust their own instincts."

**WRAGGS WALL**, aka Ramona, *Some Things Good, Some Things Evil*,\* Infinity Press, 2009

"This is a fictionalized story based on real-life people who lived in Harlem and were hidden deeply within the many faces of abuse."

**TERRY L. WHITE**, *Chesapeake Visions*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2010; *Chesapeake Harvest*,\* Write Words Inc., 2009, *Chesapeake Legacy*,\* Write Words Inc., 2009; *Chesapeake Destiny*,\*

Write Words, Inc., 2009; *Imagine*,\* Write Words Inc., 2009; *Bride of the Condor*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2008; *The Last Priestess*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2008; *Nazca Star*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2008; *The Picker*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2008; *Planning Community Events Made Easy*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2006; *Hang Your Head Over*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2005; *Hell or High Water*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2004; *Crazy Quilt*,\* Write Words, Inc., 2003

"*Chesapeake Harvest*, *Chesapeake Legacy* and *Chesapeake Destiny* are three books in Terry's *Chesapeake Heritage* series. The books follow the lives of three women in the same family and the changes that occur in one plantation on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Mary in *Chesapeake Harvest* is an indentured servant who ends up owning the plantation Baron's Hope. Hannah acquires the name of Heron when she is banished from the white settlement in which she was born. Alone, Hannah battles prejudice and danger before she finds a home with the Nanticoke Indians and a tranquil life on Elliott's Island. In *Chesapeake Destiny*, Jane marries her father's brutal overseer. Mesmerized by her husband's power, Jane only comes to realize her true worth when a wandering artist paints her portrait."

"*Imagine* is a story about a young female rookie cop in pursuit of a serial killer."

"*The Bride of the Condor* series is a trilogy set in pre-Colombian Peru. In *The Last Priestess*, Qwana fights to preserve the worship of the Moon Goddess and falls in love with an explorer from another world. In *Nazca Star*, Qwana fights the evil priest who worships the bloodthirsty Sun God. In *Bride of the Condor*, Qwana urges her charges ever higher to avoid the evil priests of the Sun God. After a long struggle, Qwana finds a peaceful place where people still recognize the Goddess."

"*The Picker* is the story of a young man who believes he can make it in Music City. He spends his whole life following his dream, no matter how much it hurts the people he leaves behind, before he realizes that each of us star in our own show."

"*Planning Community Events Made Easy* covers everything, from writing press releases, to recruiting volunteers, to finding an inexpensive clean-up crew."

"*Hang Your Head Over* is the story of a woman who returns to the mountain town of her youth where she uncovers a terrible secret."

"*Hell or High Water* is the story of a woman with magical healing skills who is forced to leave her isolated home when the valley is flooded for a rural electrification project."

"*Crazy Quilt* contains more than a dozen short stories with a rural flavor."

## **NEW OFFERING! BOOK REVIEWS**

We would like to link up IWWG authors with other IWWG members who would like to review their books.

If you would like your book reviewed, please email [elizabethjulia88@aol.com](mailto:elizabethjulia88@aol.com) the title, date of publication, publisher, and description. If you would like to review members' books, let us know if you see a book listed above which you might like to review, or let us know what kinds of books would interest you.

## **THE AMAZON BOOKSTORE PAGE ON IWWG'S WEBSITE**

Click the "Products" tab on the upper right and then on the alphabetical listings of authors in the left sidebar. Visitors who click on an icon of a book's cover or title will be taken to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) where they can read more about the author and the book, and, if they wish, purchase the book. The Guild's Scholarship Fund receives a referral fee of 15 percent of the price of all books sold through the IWWG's website (this does not impact on the author's royalty) and smaller fees for other products purchased by visitors who remain on Amazon.com.

Let IWWG know that your book is available. Authors whose published books are not yet available on Amazon.com can go to [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) for instructions on how to join Amazon's Advantage Program and have their work offered for sale online.

## **IWWG AGENT LIST**

The IWWG Guild-associated agent list is updated every few months. The current one was revised on Oct. 27, 2009. For a copy, please send an SASE to IWWG. A current one is always sent with new and renewed memberships.

# THE BIG APPLE WRITING WORKSHOPS & OPEN HOUSE: MEET THE AUTHORS / MEET THE AGENTS



April 17-18, 2010  
National Arts Club  
15 Gramercy Park South (near East 20<sup>th</sup> Street)  
New York City

## PROGRAM

Saturday, April 17

***Memoir: Writing and Publishing Your Life Stories*** with Susan Tiberghien

There is an urgency today to share real-life stories and to learn from one another. It is through memoir—writing memoir and reading memoir—that we find meaning in our lives and discover our connectedness, our oneness with another, our common humanity.

9:00 - 9:30 am Registration

9:30 - 10:15 am Introduction

10:15 AM – 12:30 pm ***The Art and Craft of Memoir*** with Susan Tiberghien

Memoir is not an autobiography, but a chosen facet of a life. By narrowing the lens, memoir becomes a window into your life.

12:30 - 1:45 PM Lunch

1:45 - 5:00 PM ***Publishing Your Memoirs*** with Susan Tiberghien, Hope Player, Sheila Levine, Melissa Rosati

(for complete workshop schedule and director bios visit [www.IWWG.org](http://www.IWWG.org) and click EVENTS/CALENDAR)

Sunday, April 18

Open House: Meet the Authors/Meet the Agents

## REGISTRATION FEES

(Attend all Saturday and Sunday events and save up to \$70.00, or pay for individual sessions)

Special Full Conference Discount (Both days, all events)

Members: \$180.00 Non-Members: \$205.00 (*a sumptuous buffet lunch is included on both days*)

Saturday, April 17 (9:00 am – 5:00 pm)

"Writing and Publishing Your Life Stories"

Members: \$125.00 Non-Members: \$135.00 (*buffet lunch is included*)

Sunday Full-Day - Discount (morning and afternoon sessions)

Members: \$125.00 Non-Members: \$135.00 (*buffet lunch is included*)

Sunday, April 18 (10:00 am - 1:00 pm)

MEET THE AUTHORS Open House & Book Fair

Members: \$50.00 Non-Members: \$60.00 (*buffet lunch on-site may be requested for \$25*)

MEET THE AGENTS Open House (2:30 PM to 6:00 PM)

INTRODUCTORY AGENT FORUM & ONE-ON-ONE MEETING WITH AGENTS

Members: \$75.00 Non-Members: \$85.00

IWWG MEMBERSHIP: \$55.00 (Members receive discounts on all IWWG workshop fees.)

To join the IWWG online, click on the following link: <http://iwwg.org/index.php?section=join>

**Visit the landmark National Arts Club** at [http://www.nationalartsclub.org/pb\\_About\\_tour.htm](http://www.nationalartsclub.org/pb_About_tour.htm).

To register online for the Big Apple Conference and pay with a credit card, click on the following link:  
<http://iwwg.org/index.php?page=1042>

To register by mail, send a check to: IWWG, PO Box 810, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028.



# Bulletin Board

Opportunities of Interest to Members Culled From Member and Non-Member Sources. (Listings are usually only repeated once a year—each issue provides you with the newest and widest selection.)

## POETRY (Deadlines)

**\* IWWG Member Christy Woods, Spirit First**, PO Box 8076, Langley Park, MD 20787, announces its first poetry contest. Awards \$150, \$75, \$50 and publication on website and in newsletter (authors retain full rights). "Poetry submissions may be of any length and any style but must have a theme of meditation, mindfulness, stillness, or silence. They may reflect any discipline or any faith or none." No RF. Submit up to 3 poems and a cover note with name, address, phone, email; names should not appear on the poems. Submit via email, [Meditate@SpiritFirst.org](mailto:Meditate@SpiritFirst.org), or address above. DL January 31.

**Toadlily Press**, Quartet Series, PO Box 2, Chappaqua, NY 10514, will publish 4 chapbooks in a perfect-bound book. Awards \$100 and 25 copies. Submit 16-18 pages of poetry (2 copies). No RF. GL at <http://toadlilypress.com/submit>. DL January 31.

**The WB Yeats Society of New York**, Poetry Competition, National Arts Club, 15 Gramercy Park S., New York, NY 10003, awards \$250, \$100, 2-year memberships, and a bookstore appearance. Submit unpublished poems up to 60 lines (any subject). RF \$8 (\$7 each additional). Type each poem on a 8 1/2 x 11 sheet without author's name and attach 3x5 card with name, address, phone, email. PM DL February 1.

**CityLit Project**, First Black Infinity Poetry Prize, 120 S. Curley St., Baltimore, MD 21224, recognizes African American poets under 40 who have not published in book-length form. Submit ms up to 30 pages with cover sheet. Winner receives publication, small honorarium, 25 copies. RF \$15. GL at [www.citylitproject.org](http://www.citylitproject.org). PM DL February 1.

**Pecan Grove Press**, Poetry Chapbook Competition, Box AL, 1 Camino Santa Maria, San Antonio, TX 78228, awards \$250, publication, and 10 copies of chapbook. "The poems should work together as if they were paintings in an exhibition." Send 32-40 pages. GL at <http://library.stmarytx.edu/pgpress/contest>. DL February 1.

**Strokestown International Poetry Prize**, Strokestown, County Roscommon, Ireland, awards approximately \$5,000, \$2,000, \$1,000 for unpublished poems up to 70 lines. RF \$6. Entry form at [www.strokestownpoetry.org](http://www.strokestownpoetry.org). DL February 5.

**The Writers Place**, PO Box 11426, Pensacola, FL 32524, requests poems. RF \$10 (for 3 poems, up to 5 pages total); \$15 (4-6 poems, up to 10 pages total). GL at [www.thewritersplace.org/poetry\\_submission.php](http://www.thewritersplace.org/poetry_submission.php). Early DL February 1. Add \$5 per submission submitted after February 1 but before February 15.

**Omnidawn**, Chapbook Poetry Contest, 3263 Kempton Ave., Oakland, CA 94611, awards \$1,000, publication and 100 copies of chapbook. RF \$15. Send 20-30 pages. GL at [www.omnidawn.com/contest/chapbook.htm](http://www.omnidawn.com/contest/chapbook.htm). PM DL February 28.

**Connecticut River Review**, Poetry Contest, Connecticut Poetry Society, PO Box 270554, W. Hartford, CT 06127, awards \$400, \$300, \$100 and publication. RF \$15 for up to 3 unpublished poems, each up to 80 lines. Submit 2 copies (one with contact information, one without). GL at <http://ct-poetry-society.org/contests.htm#crrcontest>. DL February 28.

**Snake Nation Press**, Violet Reed Haas Prize for Poetry, 2920 N. Oak St., Valdosta, GA 31602, awards \$1,000 and publication for 50-75 pages of poems. "We publish writing that both newly interprets life in its everyday

reality and that opens the reader's eyes to internal landscapes that have not yet been envisioned. We believe that good writing fortifies a belief in the value of human life and effort, but above all the work must connect intuition and experience to cast a spell of surprised recognition that shocks the reader with what was thought to be familiar." RF \$25. [www.snakenationpress.org/guidelines.html](http://www.snakenationpress.org/guidelines.html). PM DL March 1.

**Indiana University South Bend**, Lester M. Wolfson Poetry Award, English Dept., 1700 Mishawaka Ave., PO Box 7111, South Bend, IN 46634, awards \$1,000, publication and 50 copies of a chapbook. "Manuscripts should exhibit an awareness of the contemporary 'voice' in American poetry, an awareness of our moment in time as poets. We're excited to receive poetry that is experimental as well as work of a more formalist bent, as long as it reflects a complexity and sophistication of thought and language. Urgency, yes; melodrama, not so much." GL at <http://wolfsonpoetry.wordpress.com>; [Davdee@iusb.edu](mailto:Davdee@iusb.edu). DL March 1.

**South Carolina Review Poetry Contest**, Clemson University, 611 Strode Tower, Box 340522, Clemson, SC 29634, awards \$500, \$100, \$50 and publication for unpublished poems. RF \$20 for up to 4 poems, 10 pages maximum. GL at [www.clemson.edu/caah/cedp/cudp/scr/poetry\\_contest.pdf](http://www.clemson.edu/caah/cedp/cudp/scr/poetry_contest.pdf). DL March 15.

**FutureCycle**, Poetry Book Prize, Robert S. King, Ed., PO Box 680695, Marietta, GA 30068, awards \$1,000, publication in both print and ebook formats, and 25 copies of a full-length book. RF \$25 includes Poetry Book Prize Bundle. [www.futurecycle.org/PoetryBundle.org](http://www.futurecycle.org/PoetryBundle.org). GL at [www.futurecycle.org/Contest.aspx](http://www.futurecycle.org/Contest.aspx); [bookcontest@futurecycle.org](mailto:bookcontest@futurecycle.org). DL March 31.

**University of Derby Buxton**, "A Breath of Fresh Air," Christine Sweetmore, Buxton Poetry Competition, Devonshire Road, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6RY, United Kingdom, offers poetry contests, up to 40 lines, for adults (Open), Young People, and Children. RF £5 for adults, free to others. Awards £300, £200, £100, publication and a reading (Open), along with 15 Finalists. GL at [www.derby.ac.uk/files/buxton\\_poetry\\_competition\\_2010.pdf](http://www.derby.ac.uk/files/buxton_poetry_competition_2010.pdf). DL April 1.

**Wergle Flomp**, "Humor Poetry Contest," 351 Pleasant St., PMB 222, Northampton, MA 01060, awards a total of \$3,600 with a top prize of \$1,500 for humor poems. No RF. GL at [www.winningwriters.com/contests/wergle/we\\_guidelines.php](http://www.winningwriters.com/contests/wergle/we_guidelines.php). DL April 1.

## FICTION (Deadlines)

**Symphony Space**, Stella Kupferberg Memorial Short Story Prize, 2537 Broadway, New York, NY 10025, awards \$1,000, possible broadcast as part of the *Selected Shorts* public radio series, and a reading at Symphony Space. RF \$25. Submit a short story up to 750 words on the theme "Apartments and Neighbors." GL at [www.symphonyspace.org/shorts/writing\\_contest](http://www.symphonyspace.org/shorts/writing_contest). DL January 29.

**Malahat Review Novella Prize**, University of Victoria, PO Box 1700, Stn CSC, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2, Canada, requests submissions of fiction between 10,000 and 20,000 words. Awards \$500 CDN plus \$40 CDN per printed page. RF \$35 CDN, \$40 US for American entries, \$45 US elsewhere. Any genre, subject, or aesthetic approach. PM DL February 1.

**Houston Writers Guild**, 12523 Folkcrest Way, Stafford, TX 77477, awards \$1,000, \$300 and \$200 for Mainstream, Literary, Romance,

*(Continued on next page)*

Romantic Suspense, Historical, Saga, Mystery, Thriller, Spy, Action, Adventure, Sci-fi, Fantasy, Screenplay and Synopsis, or Nonfiction. GL at [www.houstonwritersguild.org](http://www.houstonwritersguild.org); [info@houstonwritersguild.org](mailto:info@houstonwritersguild.org). PM DL February 28.

#### NONFICTION (Deadlines)

**Oregon Quarterly**, Northwest Perspectives, Essay Contest, 5228 University of Oregon, 204 Alder Building, Eugene, OR 97403, requests unpublished nonfiction up to 2000 words (Open), 1500 words (Student). Awards \$75 to \$750 and a reading. No RF. One entry per person. GL at [www.oregonquarterly.com/essay.php](http://www.oregonquarterly.com/essay.php). PM DL January 31.

**Chicken Soup Anthologies**, 3201 SW 15 St., Deerfield Beach FL 33442, requests submissions on these topics: *Family Matters*: "Do you have a great story about a wacky or dysfunctional family member; funny or serious? Submit under your real name, but we expect most of you to use pen names for publication and change the names of family members to protect the innocent (or guilty!)." DL February 28. *New Moms*: "Becoming a new mom is the most amazing experience, unique and unlike any other. This book celebrates the physical, emotional, and spiritual experience of having a child and creating a family. We're looking for heartwarming, insightful, and humorous early motherhood stories about raising babies and toddlers. DL February 28. *Preteens*: "Those years from 9-12 can be rough both physically and emotionally. You're not a kid but you're not yet a teen. There are so many issues to deal with and sometimes it feels like you are all alone. You're not! The stories in this book, almost all of them written by preteens just like you, will prove that. We are looking for stories that will inspire you, make you laugh, make you think and let you know that life is not as bad as it might seem." DL June 30. *Teens*: "The stories in this book, written almost entirely by teens, will serve as your guide on topics such as the daily pressures of life, love, school, friendships, parents, and much more." DL June 30. *Other*: "If you have a great story (300-800 words), but don't see a book that it fits, go to our website and submit it under 'No Specific Title.' Pays \$200." [www.chickensoup.com](http://www.chickensoup.com); [webmaster@chickensoupforthesoul.com](mailto:webmaster@chickensoupforthesoul.com).

**Fourth Genre: Explorations in Nonfiction**, Michigan State University, Michael Steinberg Essay Prize, English Dept., 201 Morrill Hall, E. Lansing, MI 48824, awards \$1,000 and publication for essays or memoirs up to 6000 words. RF \$15. GL at [www.msupress.msu.edu/journals/fg/index.php?Page=prize](http://www.msupress.msu.edu/journals/fg/index.php?Page=prize); [genre4@msu.edu](mailto:genre4@msu.edu). PM DL February 18.

**New Media Women**, J-Lab Grants for Interactive Journalism, 3201 New Mexico Ave. NW, #330, Washington, DC 20016, will give 8 women-led start-ups that generate new ideas in the world of news and information and model a spirit of journalistic entrepreneurship \$12,000 each in funding to launch their ideas and to blog about the process during the first year of their projects. GL at [www.newmediawomen.org/site/proposal\\_guidelines](http://www.newmediawomen.org/site/proposal_guidelines). DL April 12.

**Notes and Grace Notes**, Harmoni McGlothlin, Publ./Ed., "First Annual Discovering the Undiscovered Novel/Memoir Contest," 10254 Alexandria St., Ventura, CA 93004, requests mss of 70,000-100,000 words. Awards publication, choice of \$1,000 or \$500 advance and royalty agreement. Runners up also receive cash prizes and free books. GL at [http://shop.notesandgracenotes.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=7&Itemid=11](http://shop.notesandgracenotes.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7&Itemid=11). RF \$25. DL April 15.

#### NONFICTION (No Deadlines)

**Quill & Quire**, 111 Queen Street E., #320, Tor., Ont. M5C 1S2, Canada, is the monthly magazine of the Canadian book trade, reaching an audience of primarily publishers, booksellers, librarians, and writers. "We publish short 300 to 3000-word news and feature articles about the business of writing, publishing and bookselling in Canada. Also author profiles (generally 1800-2000 words) and brief reviews of Canadian books." [www.quillandquire.com/faq.cfm#20](http://www.quillandquire.com/faq.cfm#20). Pays 45¢/word (CND).

**Sierra**, 85 Second St., 2nd fl., San Francisco CA 94105, publishes writing, photography, and art about the natural world. "Our readers are environmentally concerned, politically diverse, and actively enjoy the outdoors. We're looking for painstaking reporting and smart writing that will provoke, entertain, inform, and enlighten and are eager to work with professional writers with ideas for stories that are germane to our motto, 'Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet,' yet genuinely fresh. *Features*: Strong, well-researched, literate nonfiction storytelling about significant environmental and conservation issues, adventure travel, nature, self-propelled sports, trends in green living. Cast new light on well-established issues. We look for stories of national or international significance; local issues, while sometimes useful as examples of broader trends, are seldom of interest in themselves. We're always looking for adventure-travel pieces that weave events, discoveries, and environmental insights into the narrative. We're more interested in showcasing environmental solutions than adding to the list of environmental problems. We publish dramatic investigative stories that have the potential to reach a broad audience. Nonfiction essays on the natural world are welcome (no descriptive wildlife articles unless larger conservation issues figure strongly). We're not interested in editorials, general essays about environmentalism, highly technical writing, unsolicited cartoons, poetry or fiction. Features range from 500-5000 words with pay starting at about 75¢ a word. Sections open to freelancers for articles of 100-1500 words (pay is usually \$50 to \$1,000): *Enjoy*: Colorful, upbeat take on green living. At turns practical and whimsical, this section informs readers about the latest (and best) trends, products, and tips in food, fashion, housing, outdoor recreation, transportation, etc. Includes Q&As with green innovators in the lifestyle field and short takes on books, music, movies, art, and other media that should be on any well-rounded environmentalist's radar. Writers are encouraged to submit queries on light, positive, inspiring topics that will help readers add value to their lives (not more work, or more guilt). We especially welcome ideas incorporating lists, factoids, photos, how-tos, recipes, quotes, statistics, tips, and other quick-hit presentations of 50-200 words. *Explore*: Describe a superlative place, including fascinating natural and cultural facts, in 300 words. *Grapple*: Environmental issues of national or international concern; regional issues with national implications. Focused articles (100-700 words), provocative, well-researched investigations. *Act*: First-person accounts of ordinary folks doing extraordinary things. Publishes 100 to 150-word, quotation from an interview that explains the person's actions, motivations, and impact. *Comfort Zone*: Home, apartment, office, building, or community that incorporates environmentally responsible design and building practices while telling a story about how and why the structure was built and what it's like to live or work there. *Mixed Media*: Reviews of current and classic books, magazines, films, videos, games, and/or radio spots focusing on a central theme. These are assigned to established authors, actors, directors, or editors with a measure of expertise in the area and an engaging, entertaining writing style." [www.sierraclub.org/sierra/submissions](http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/submissions); [Sierra@sierraclub.org](mailto:Sierra@sierraclub.org) (queries); [photo.submissions@sierraclub.org](mailto:photo.submissions@sierraclub.org) (photos).

#### SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY (Deadlines)

**PARSEC Science Fiction and Fantasy Short Story Contest**, Ann Cecil, 2966 Voelkel Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15216-2036, requests unpublished stories up to 3500 words in the science fiction, fantasy or horror genre on the theme "The Color of Silence." "Use this as a metaphor, literally, or anything in between for your genre story. As this is a themed contest, your interpretation of the theme element must be integral to the story. Awards \$200, \$100, \$50 and possible publication. No RF. GL at [www.parsec-sff.org/contest/contest10.html](http://www.parsec-sff.org/contest/contest10.html). PM DL April 15.

#### ASSORTED (Deadlines)

**Prompts and Pieces**, Michaeline Della Ferra, P.O. Box 103, Maynard, MA 01754, seeks creative writing prompt and response pieces of up to 3500 words, fiction, nonfiction for anthology. Contributors receive book upon publication (traditional publisher). Include bio and SASE. [mdellafera@charter.net](mailto:mdellafera@charter.net). DL January 30.

**Cervena Barva Press**, PO Box 440357, West Somerville, MA 02144-3222, announces 2 chapbook prizes: *Fiction Chapbook Prize*: Awards 25 copies and \$100. RF \$12 (includes winning chapbook). Send 24 pages, contact page with title, phone number and email. *Poetry Chapbook Prize*: Awards 25 copies and \$100. RF \$11 (includes winning chapbook). Send 3-24 poems, title page with contact information, title and email. GLs at [www.cervenabarvapress.com](http://www.cervenabarvapress.com); [submissions@cervenabarvapress.com](mailto:submissions@cervenabarvapress.com). DLs January 31.

**William Saroyan International Prize for Writing**, Admin., Stanford University Libraries, 557 Escondido Mall, Stanford, CA 94305, "recognizes newly published works of fiction and nonfiction with a \$5,000 award for the winner in each category. The prize is designed to encourage new or emerging writers and honor the Saroyan literary legacy of originality, vitality and stylistic innovation." GL and entry form at <http://library.stanford.edu/saroyan/faq.html>; [sonialee@stanford.edu](mailto:sonialee@stanford.edu). DL January 31.

**Coffee House Press**, Dame Lisbet Throckmorton Fiction Contest, PO Box 399, Forest Hill, MD 21050, requests short stories, or chapters that stand on their own, up to 3500 words. Awards \$350, \$125, \$75, \$50, publication and copies. RF \$17. GL at [www.coffeehousefiction.com](http://www.coffeehousefiction.com). PM DL January 31.

**Rattle: Poetry for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**, "Humor Issue," 12411 Ventura Blvd., Studio City, CA 91604, requests Poetry: The tribute section will feature humorous poetry (light verse, puns, parodies). Essays: A series of short essays on different aspects of humor in poetry, or a longer introduction to the history of humor in verse (1000-5000 words, 3000 preferred). Artwork: Divider art for this issue; photography, paintings, or collages on the humor theme. Query with questions. [www.rattle.com/callsforsubs.htm](http://www.rattle.com/callsforsubs.htm); [tim@rattle.com](mailto:tim@rattle.com). DL February 1.

**Memoir (and)**, PO Box 1398, Sausalito, CA 94966, requests Nonfiction Prose, Poetry, Experimental Works, Graphic Memoir. Four cash awards of \$500, \$250, \$100, \$100, copies and publication. NO RFs. GL at <http://memoirjournal.squarespace.com/contest-details>. PM DL February 15.

**Outrider Press/TallGrass Writers**, 2036 North Winds Dr., Dyer, IN 46311, awards \$500 and copies for both Poetry (up to 28 lines) and Fiction/Essays (up to 2500 words) for an anthology on the theme "Seasons of Change": nature/environment; also socioeconomic, geopolitical, and deep personal change. RF \$16 (up to 4 poems); \$16 for fiction/essays. GL at [outriderpress@sbcglobal.net](mailto:outriderpress@sbcglobal.net); [tallgrassguild@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tallgrassguild@sbcglobal.net) or [outriderpress@sbcglobal.net](mailto:outriderpress@sbcglobal.net). DL February 27.

**Upstreet**, Box 105, Richmond, MA 01254, requests submissions "with an edge." Short fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry. Pays in copies. GL at [www.upstreet-mag.org](http://www.upstreet-mag.org); [editor@upstreet-mag.org](mailto:editor@upstreet-mag.org). DL March 1.

**Winning Writers**, Tom Howard/John H. Reid Short Story Contest, 351 Pleasant St., PMB 222, Northampton, MA 01060, awards \$3,000, \$1,000, \$400, \$250, plus 6 prizes of \$150 each for a short story, essay, or other work of prose up to 5000 words. RF \$15. GL at [www.winningwriters.com/contests/tomstory/ts\\_guidelines.php](http://www.winningwriters.com/contests/tomstory/ts_guidelines.php). PM DL March 31.

**Witness**, Black Mountain Institute, University of Nevada, Box 455085, Las Vegas, NV 89154, seeks unpublished stories, essays, memoir, poems with an international focus, particularly on "Blurring Borders" for a special portfolio. "We don't favor particular styles or genres. In general, we seek work that ventures away from the American experience and into international terrain, and that promotes the modern writer as witness to his or her times." Pays \$10 per printed page. <http://witness.blackmountaininstitute.org/submit>. DL April 1.

## ASSORTED (No Deadlines)

**Recovering the Self: A Journal of Hope and Healing**, Ernest Dempsey, Editor-in-Chief, Loving Healing Press, 5145 Pontiac Tr., Ann Arbor, MI 48105, is a new publication seeking submissions of unpublished informative articles (usually 1000-4000 words), poetry, artwork, short stories, and commentary with respect to adults, children and elders in America and abroad: Personal growth; Relationships and family; Trauma recovery; Living with disabilities; Substance abuse recovery, Co-dependence and addiction; Military veterans' issues; Struggle for cultural or gender identity; and Bereavement. Pays 2 copies of the edition in which your work appears. GL at [www.recoveringself.com/about/write-for-us](http://www.recoveringself.com/about/write-for-us); [editor@recoveringself.com](mailto:editor@recoveringself.com).

**Fractured West**, a new journal of flash fiction, prose poetry, microfiction, sudden fiction, vignettes, and short short stories, seeks submissions up to 500 words for its premiere issue. Enter by email. Send only one entry and wait for a decision before sending another. Submissions accepted year-round. "We like Honesty, fury, humiliation, and unusual beauty; stories that hurt to write, that are uncomfortable to read; literary, genre, and experimental/non-narrative works." Rolling deadline. GL at [www.fracturedwest.com](http://www.fracturedwest.com); [submissions@fracturedwest.com](mailto:submissions@fracturedwest.com).

**Minnetonka Review**, PO Box 386, Spring Park, MN 55384, seeks fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. Two \$150 prizes awarded each issue. No RF. GL at [www.minnetonkareview.com](http://www.minnetonkareview.com).

**Palabra**, PO Box 86146, Los Angeles, CA 90086, invites Chicano/Latino writers to submit fiction, flash fiction, poetry, novel excerpts, experimental/cross-genre work, and short plays that explore new directions in Chicano and Latino literary art. Some pay. GL at [www.palabralitmag.com](http://www.palabralitmag.com); [info@palabralitmag.com](mailto:info@palabralitmag.com) (queries).

**The Teacher's Voice**, PO Box 150384, Kew Gardens, NY 11415, seeks submissions for theme issues as well as: corporate/profit/non-profit privatization of public education in poor and working class communities; public schools turning into factory-modeled dumbed-down test-prep mills; parent, student, teacher disempowerment; apathy (especially of the secure and privileged). GL at [www.the-teachers-voice.org](http://www.the-teachers-voice.org); [editor@the-teachers-voice.org](mailto:editor@the-teachers-voice.org).

**Silk Road**, Pacific University, MFA Office, Chapman Hall, 2043 College Way, Forest Grove, OR 97116, requests submissions on "Secret Places." "We have no set definition of what that means, in part because one person's hidden space is not another's—that's why it's secret. So we're wondering: What would surprise us about a previously undisclosed or unnoticed location in your neighborhood, country, house or heart? What shouldn't we and the rest of the world know (but you're going to tell us anyway)? Send fiction, poetry, nonfiction, or a form we can't anticipate. If you have images, mention that in a cover letter too." GL at <http://silkroad.pacificu.edu/index.html>. DL March 1.

## SMALL PRESSES (Deadlines)

**Little Red Tree Publishing**, 635 Ocean Ave., New London, CT 06320: "Our mantra is to produce books that delight, entertain and educate. We plan to publish 12 poetry books in 2010. We're also sponsoring 2 contests: "The Vernice Quebodeaux Prize for Women": The late Vernice Quebodeaux, born in Egan, LA, was a poet who spent a lifetime struggling with the demands of raising children, family feuds, bigotry, apathy, and indifference to her writing aspirations. On her death, the beginnings of a book of poetry was found by her daughter and incorporated into a book, *Sunday's in the South*. We're honoring her life and cherished goals by creating this competition to recognize the specific unique voices of women poets." Awards \$1,000, publication of 60 to 100-page ms, and a royalty contract. RF \$20. GL at [www.winningwriters.com/pdf/advertisers/littleredtree/lrt\\_vernice\\_quebodeaux\\_prize\\_4.pdf](http://www.winningwriters.com/pdf/advertisers/littleredtree/lrt_vernice_quebodeaux_prize_4.pdf). Also

(Continued on next page)

the "International Poetry Prize" awarding publication, \$1,000, \$250, readings, and 5 finalists will each receive \$50. RF \$5 per poem. GL at [www.winningwriters.com/pdf/advertisers/littleredtree/lrt\\_intl\\_poetry\\_prize\\_4.pdf](http://www.winningwriters.com/pdf/advertisers/littleredtree/lrt_intl_poetry_prize_4.pdf). PM DLs January 31.

#### SMALL PRESSES (No Deadlines)

**Tendre Press**, 134 North Overhill Dr., Bloomington, IN 47408: "If you have written your spiritual autobiography and wish it to be considered for publication, we're looking for manuscripts that dynamically describe the evolution of a soul through the arc of a lifetime. We will also consider shorter essays concerning the soul's journey, for an anthology of such works." Visit <http://tendrepres.com/submissions>.

### Sherri Rosen Publicity

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454 Manhattan Avenue, #3J, NYC 10026  
[www.sherrirosen.com](http://www.sherrirosen.com)

**Trails Books**, Mark Knickelbine, Mng. Ed., 923 Williamson St., Madison WI 53703, publishes hardcover and trade paperback and reprints. "We're looking for writers to accept assignments for regional books about travel, outdoor activities, sports, gardening, food, nature, ghost stories, the supernatural, history, photography, and children's books. Previous book writing experience is helpful, but what's most important is that you possess strong writing skills, meet deadlines, and have a background and interest in topics that will excite our readers. Send a resume, 3 writing samples, and a list of topics you'd like to write about. If you meet our requirements, we will contact you about book assignments that match your background and interests. We also consider unsolicited concepts and mss for publication. Our titles focus on the upper Midwest generally and the specific states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana. We do not publish fiction, poetry, essays, or personal memoirs." GL at [www.trailsbooks.com](http://www.trailsbooks.com); [mknickelbine@bigearthpublishing.com](mailto:mknickelbine@bigearthpublishing.com). Reports in at least 6 months.

**Carina Press**, Harlequin Enterprises, 225 Duncan Mill Rd., Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K9, Canada, is a new digital publishing line featuring books in the genres of romance, erotica, science fiction, fantasy, horror, mystery, women's fiction, and more. "If the book of your heart fits into a niche that has very little shelf space in a traditional bookstore, we're eager to read your story." GL at [www.carinapress.com](http://www.carinapress.com); [submissions@carinapress.com](mailto:submissions@carinapress.com); [http://carinapress.com/?pge\\_id=2](http://carinapress.com/?pge_id=2).

**Oceanview Publishing**, 61 Paradise Rd., Ipswich, MA 01938, requests submissions of adult fiction and nonfiction manuscripts (with a primary interest in the mystery, thriller and suspense genre). GL at [www.oceanviewpub.com/Submissions.htm](http://www.oceanviewpub.com/Submissions.htm).

**Pill Hill Press**, 343 W. 4 St., Chadron, NE 69337, publishes fantasy, science fiction, horror, mystery and romance, with the occasional experimental or unclassified novel. All stories must have powerful character-driven plots and range between 60,000-120,000 words. GL at [www.pillhillpress.com/novel-submissions.html](http://www.pillhillpress.com/novel-submissions.html).

#### AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS/RESIDENCIES (Deadlines)

**Vermont Studio Center**, Fellowships, PO Box 613, Johnson, VT 05656, accepts 12 writers each month for 2 to 12-week poetry, fiction, and nonfiction residencies. Writers working in journalism, screen and playwriting, children's literature, or translation may also apply, but are not eligible for Full Fellowship awards. Application fee \$25. GL at [www.vermontstudiocenter.org](http://www.vermontstudiocenter.org). DL February 15.

**University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Ron Kuka, Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing, English Dept., 600 N. Park St., 6195B Helen C. White Hall, Madison, WI 53706, awards fellowships in Fiction and Poetry. You must have completed an MFA or Ph.D. in Creative Writing and must not have published a book. Fellowship is \$27,000 and fellows spend an academic year in residence teaching a creative course each semester and giving a public reading from work-in-progress. Send up to 10 pages of poetry or a story up to 30 pages. Application fee \$45. GL at <http://creativewriting.wisc.edu/fellowships/poetryfiction.html>. DL February 28 (do not submit before February 1).

**James Jones Literary Society**, First Novel Fellowship, M.A./M.F.A. in Creative Writing, Wilkes University, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766, awards \$10,000 and 2 runner-up prizes of \$750 each to an American author of a first novel-in-progress. RF \$25. GL at [www.wilkes.edu/pages/1159.asp](http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/1159.asp); [graduatestudies@wilkes.edu](mailto:graduatestudies@wilkes.edu). PM DL March 1.

#### ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS/WEBSITES (Deadlines)

**Melusine, or Women of the 21st Century**, announces its first annual poetry contest: The Vivienne Haigh-Wood Prize. Awards \$500 and publication. RF \$10 for up to 3 poems. Finalists will also be published. GL at <http://melusine21cent.com/mag/submit>. DL February 15.

**Per Contra**, seeks unpublished literary fiction (flash fiction and short stories) up to 3000 words. Email submissions to [percontrafiction@yahoo.com](mailto:percontrafiction@yahoo.com). GL at [www.percontra.net/16guidelinesfiction.htm](http://www.percontra.net/16guidelinesfiction.htm). DL March 1.

#### ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS/WEBSITES (No Deadlines)

**Bound Off, A Monthly Literary Audio Magazine**, broadcasts literary short fiction with podcasting technology. "We aspire to showcase work that is compelling and driven by narrative, with a force that keeps the listener listening, from both established and emerging writers. We seek work of 250-2500 words (no nonfiction or personal essays, poetry, stories for children). Although we are an audio publication, we will evaluate manuscripts the old-fashioned way. Our readers and podcast engineers will produce the audio version of your story. While we aim to give authors the chance to read their own work, audio quality is a high priority." GL at [http://boundoff.com/?page\\_id=7](http://boundoff.com/?page_id=7); [inquiry@boundoff.com](mailto:inquiry@boundoff.com).

**Sleet Magazine**, "hails the beautiful and the antibeautiful. Poetry, fiction, flash. Also 'irregulars' (genre-crossing writing) that overflows borders or maybe never had any. It could be an impression, a vignette, a one-line flash. It may be comprised of a single piece or a combination of work. An irregular must be able to stand on its own and not be more than 500 words." [www.sleetmagazine.com/pages/submissions.html](http://www.sleetmagazine.com/pages/submissions.html); [editor@sleetmagazine.com](mailto:editor@sleetmagazine.com).

**Imitation Fruit**, a biannual, is looking for fun and upbeat short stories, creative nonfiction, poetry, and artwork. Send up to 5 poems or 15 pages of prose. [www.imitationfruit.com](http://www.imitationfruit.com); [submissions@imitationfruit.com](mailto:submissions@imitationfruit.com).

**LanguageandCulture.net**, a biannual, seeks poetry and prose submissions. Also accept translations. Send 3-5 poems or up to 2 prose pieces with bio. <http://languageandculture.net/guidelines.html>; [review@languageandculture.net](mailto:review@languageandculture.net).

**Gumshoe Review, A Literary Investigation**, Gayle Surrrette, Ed., 16440 Baden Westwood Rd., Brandywine, MD 20613, requests unpublished short fiction mysteries and nonfiction articles about the mystery field. Pays 5¢ a word (up to \$50) for 1000 words maximum (fiction and essays). GL at [www.gumshoereview.com/php/Review-id.php?id=1852](http://www.gumshoereview.com/php/Review-id.php?id=1852); [editor@gumshoereview.com](mailto:editor@gumshoereview.com).

**Raving Dove**, Jo-Ann Moss, Ed., PO Box 28, West Linn, OR 97068, an online journal, states its mission: "To share thought-provoking poetry and prose that champions human rights and social justice, and opposes physical and psychological violence in all its forms, including war, discrimination against sexual orientation, and every shade of bigotry. Submit original poetry, creative nonfiction (up to 1000 words), and fiction (up to 2000 words) that coincides with one of these themes. We publish material about the ramifications of violence, along with messages about kindness and hope. Poetry content is more important than technical perfection and free verse is preferred over other forms. International submissions encouraged. We're not a political publication; our messages are universal in nature." GL at <http://ravingdove.org/submissions>; [ravingdove@gmail.com](mailto:ravingdove@gmail.com).

**Flashquake**, a quarterly, focuses on flash fiction, flash nonfiction (memoirs, essays, creative nonfiction, humor) and short poetry. Pays: \$5 to \$25. GL at [www.flashquake.org/guidelines.html](http://www.flashquake.org/guidelines.html).

**Physiognomy in Letters**, Deborah Arndt, 165 Bernard Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901, publishes poetry online. There is no pay. [www.physiognomyinletters.com/1.html](http://www.physiognomyinletters.com/1.html); [editor@physiognomyinletters.com](mailto:editor@physiognomyinletters.com).

**Bulletin Board Key:** MS = Manuscript RF = Reading Fee  
GL=Guidelines PM=Postmark DL=Deadline

*The International Women's Writing Guild Presents*  
**"PREPARING TO BLOOM" ILLINOIS WORKSHOP/RETREAT**

May 1, 2010 (Saturday)  
(10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

with Rainelle Burton and Margaret Dubay Mikus  
St. Francis Woods Campus, The Port  
Frankfort, IL (30 minutes from Chicago)

Refresh. Restore. Relax. Join us for a nurturing, co-creative day in a lovely, peaceful place. Reflect and plant seeds of insight and awareness that can bloom in the coming seasons. Facilitated by two masters of improvisation who will use music, poetry, and storytelling to help you access your creative muse. Return to harmony, balance your energy, remember how to breathe deeply. Re-connect with kindred spirits. Come and be your true self away from the roles you play and layers of complexity. For just one inspiring, joyful day. Be willing!

**Rainelle Burton** was a writer-in-residence in the Interdisciplinary Studies Department at Wayne State University, Visiting Writer in the Hope College Visiting Writers Series, and a Visiting Writer in the Michigan State University Michigan Writers Series. Her novel, *The Root Worker*, is in hard cover and paperback in the U.S. and was published by The Overlook Press ('01), Penguin Putnam ('02) and in Great Britain by Overlook UK ('03). It has been reviewed and featured in *O* (Oprah) magazine, *Publishers Weekly*, *Ebony*, *Essence*, *the Chicago Tribune*, *Madison Times*, and the *Ann Arbor News*. It was a Borders Books Recommended Book; BookSense 76 Independent Booksellers Association pick; and Great Lakes Book Award finalist. Rainelle is the author and facilitator of the Literary Landscape Workshop Series and institute fellow in the Detroit Institute for Creative Writers, sponsored by the College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs at Wayne State University.

**Margaret Dubay Mikus, Ph.D.**, was a molecular genetics research scientist and teacher. Healing from multiple sclerosis in 1995 awakened her dormant creativity. To "sing from the heart," she has been writing a poetic journal for 15 years. She is a poet, singer, healer, photographer and storyteller. Her book, *As Easy as Breathing: Reclaiming Power for Healing and Transformation —Poems, Letters and Inner Listening*, has helped many make positive changes in their lives. You can hear Margaret on her CD, *Full Blooming: Selections from a Poetic Journal* available on iTunes. More of her story is on [www.FullBlooming.com](http://www.FullBlooming.com), <http://www.fullblooming.com>, and her blog, Space of Grace, <http://margaretdubaymikusblog.blogspot.com>.

**Hannelore Hahn**, Founder & Executive Director of IWWG, will join us for the day.

COST: \$55 members/\$60 non-members (lunch additional).

(Note: For those who wish to stay overnight, accommodations are available. Spa/massage offerings are available at The Poverello Holistic Center on site: [www.portforprayer.org](http://www.portforprayer.org), and the WoodSong Sacred Sound and Wellness Spa: [www.woodsong.us/spaofferings.html](http://www.woodsong.us/spaofferings.html).)

To register online and pay with a credit card, visit [www.IWWG.org](http://www.IWWG.org) and click EVENTS/CALENDAR.

To register by Mail, send a check to: IWWG, PO Box 810, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028

# classifieds

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## SUNDAY CHICKEN WITH MARJ

a teleclass to get your juices drippin'

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I am looking for someone who shares my life-long interest in peace, civil and human rights, women's rights, the environment, nonviolent economic alternatives, etc., who would want to live in my apartment in Santa Cruz and be my "caregiver." She/they would do some of the housework and if it becomes necessary, provide personal care. The rent is very low, and we would share utility and food/household supplies costs.

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## NORTH SHORE, NASSAU COUNTY: ONGOING WORKSHOPS, EDITING SESSIONS AND PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS

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*"A nice peaceful place with good light..."*

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Instructor Janet Hulstrand, IWWG Member  
[janet.hulstrand@gmail.com](mailto:janet.hulstrand@gmail.com)

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Sheila J. Levine is an attorney with extensive experience in publishing law. Services include drafting, reviewing and negotiating book, agency and distribution contracts; copyright and trademark research and registrations; advice and counsel on rights and royalty disputes; and client representation in litigations and arbitrations. (212) 866-5353; [sheillev@aol.com](mailto:sheillev@aol.com)

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If you order from [hai.younglivingworld.com](http://hai.younglivingworld.com), please email Nancy at [Lightwing@aol.com](mailto:Lightwing@aol.com) and notify her you are a member of the Guild. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the IWWG.

Ad Guidelines and Rates: Suitability for a Classified Ad is determined by subject matter. Secretarial/computer services, tours, housing rentals, audio/video tapes and other "fee-based" notices will be featured in this section when submitted to NETWORK with payment of 60¢ per word (payable to IWWG). Note: Guild members announcing recently published books for sale will be mentioned in the Publication Congratulations section at no charge. Non-member notices—classified and display—will be included at the discretion of the Editor. Query first by mail or phone. Camera-ready Display Ad Rates: \$60 for 1/8 page; \$110 for 1/4 page.

*Please make sure that IWWG has your current contact information,  
especially your email address.*

## FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: THE MATTER OF BEQUESTS

A bequest differs from a donation in some respects. A Donation is a sum of money donated to IWWG to assist with the giving of scholarships to its events or with general expenses. A Bequest usually is stated in a will to be paid out after a person has passed. Both Donations and Bequests are fully tax-deductible.

A General Bequest to the International Women's Writing Guild might read like this: "I bequeath to the International Women's Writing Guild, a nonprofit corporation in the city of New York, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_."

Bequests may be made in any amount, both large and small, and may be designated for a specific purpose such as Scholarships. They are fully tax-deductible donations. You may wish to discuss this with your accountant or lawyer.

Note: The International Women's Writing Guild is fiscally managed by the New York Foundation of the Arts and annually audited by the accounting firm Loeb & Troper.



# Member Calendar

Non-IWWG Sponsored Events

## 2010

### Jacqueline Aupetit

**January 9-June 26** (every second and fourth Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm)  
"Expressions of Today"  
(Development of personal expression through different writing genres. Class taught in French.)  
Pippa Bookstore  
Paris, France  
j.aupetit@bluewin.ch

### Marcia Ivans

**January 26, March 23, May 18** (Tuesdays, 7:00 pm)  
"Poetry and Pastries Open Poetry Readings"  
Café Beethoven, 262 Main St.  
Chatham, NJ  
marciaivans@aol.com; (973) 301-3256

### Julie Maloney

**January 30** (10:00 am-4:00 pm)  
"Winter Writing Wellness Day"  
(Writing, Gentle Yoga, Meditation, Lunch)  
Randolph, NJ  
**March 17 - May 5**  
(Wednesdays, 9:30 am-12:30 pm)  
**March 18 - May 6** (Thursdays, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm)  
"Writers Workshop Series"  
Randolph, NJ  
**April 23-25**  
"Writer's Weekend Retreat"  
The Beacon House

Sea Girt, NJ  
Women Reading Aloud  
(973) 927-6354; julie@womenreadingaloud.org;  
www.womenreadingaloud.org

### Susan Tiberghien

**February 5-7**  
"7th Geneva Writers' Conference"  
(workshops, panels, readings, and networking)  
Bellevue, Switzerland (near Geneva)  
www.genevawritersgroup.org

### Janet Hulstrand

**April 13-19**  
"Writing from the Heart" workshop  
Essoyes, France  
www.essayesschool.com  
http://wingedword.wordpress.com

### Susan Tiberghien

**April 21**  
"Seeing Beauty with Words" (afternoon workshop)  
with Susan Tiberghien  
facilitated by **Marion Mitchell** and  
**Linda Wisniewski**  
Philadelphia, PA  
Marion Mitchell, (215) 713 0161;  
marionmitchell@comcast.net

## IWWG MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Day # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to:**  
International Women's Writing Guild

*Please mail to:*  
Hannelore Hahn (Executive Director)  
IWWG  
PO Box 810, Gracie Station  
New York, NY 10028

If you wish to pay online via PayPal, go to  
www.iwwg.org and click on Join.

The International Women's Writing Guild is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization. All contributions to the Guild are fully tax deductible.

### Membership Type:

- Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ \$55 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
With Mailed copy of Network \$65 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Youth Member (18 & under) \$30 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Donation/Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(tax-deductible)
- Adopt-a-Member or Gift Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(include email address of recipient)  
(tax-deductible)

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# CALENDAR

2010

MARCH 12-14 (WEEKEND) (SEE P. 19)

**Early Spring in California  
Conference**

*The Writers Sacred Playground*

"The Form – When One Genre  
Meets Another" with

Mary Reynolds Thompson and  
Richelle McClain

"The Craft – Playing with Language  
and Structure" with Rachel de Baere

"The Power of the Collaborative  
Process – Creating in Community"

with Mary, Richelle and Rachel  
Bosch Bahá'i Retreat Center  
Santa Cruz, CA

APRIL 17-18 (WEEKEND) (SEE P. 24)

**Big Apple Conference**

Workshop (Saturday)

Morning: "Memoir: Writing and Publishing  
Your Life Stories" with Susan Tiberghien

Afternoon: "Publishing Your Memoirs"

with Susan Tiberghien and guest speakers:  
Sheila Levine, Hope Player, Melissa Rosati

Open House: Meet the Authors/

Meet the Agents (Sunday)

National Arts Club

15 Gramercy Park South (near E. 20<sup>th</sup> St.)

New York City

MAY 1 (SATURDAY) (ALL DAY) (SEE P. 29)

**Workshop/Retreat in Illinois**

"Preparing to Bloom"

with Rainelle Burton and Margaret Dubay Mikus

St. Francis Woods Campus, The Port

Frankfort, IL (near Chicago)

MAY 16 (SUNDAY) (9:30 AM-4:00 PM)

**Michigan Open House**

Members and interested women from  
Michigan and Ohio will get together for the  
second year.

Michigan League

911 N. University

Ann Arbor, MI

The event is free of charge.

Bring your own lunch.

Call Rainelle Burton: (248) 796-1461

JULY 30 - AUGUST 6 (FULL WEEK) (SEE CENTERFOLD)

**Remember the Magic**

(IWWG's 33rd conference year)

Brown University

Providence, RI

FOR BROCHURES CALL (212) 737-7536 OR DOWNLOAD THEM FROM THE IWWG WEBSITE AT: [WWW.IWWG.ORG](http://WWW.IWWG.ORG)



The International  
Women's Writing Guild  
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New York, NY 10028