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The WAG Digest

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 2

MARCH-APRIL 2014

April Is National Poetry Month WAG Speaker Series, April 13, 2014

For National Poetry Month, the Writers Alliance has a presentation by two local poets, **Tad Karmazyn** and **Mary Bast**.

Mary's talk is on "Found Poetry: A Literary Rorschach." The poetic equivalent of a collage,



Mary Bast

found poems refashion and reorder existing texts. What a poet 'sees' in a given source will be unique to the individual, similar to responses to a Rorschach Inkblot Test. Mary Bast will share a range of examples and show you how to find poetry in anything from a soup label to a political manifesto. In her most recent effort she created a poem about a Mexican Hat Dance from two pages of Kafka's *The Metamorphosis*.

Mary writes poetry, memoir, and flash fiction. During April 2013 she was one of 85 poets from seven countries who each wrote a poem a day from one of 85 Pulitzer Prize-winning works of fiction for *Pulitzer Remix*, a National Poetry Month initiative. Her source was Michael Cunningham's *The Hours*. Mary's found poetry has been published in *Bukowski on Wry*, *The Found Poetry Review*, *right hand pointing*, and *Pea River Journal*'s "Remaking Moby Dick" (see <http://windingsheets.blogspot.com> for examples).

Tad Karmazyn came to America in 1982 from his native Poland, and soon craved ways to express thoughts, emotions, and experiences in words. Back home during his youth and Technical University years, he belonged to the popular movement **Sung Poetry**, became an instructor at the Amateur Theatre of Poetry, and worked with translations from the language of poetry to that of the theatre, which



Tad Karmazyn

attracted national attention in recognized professional magazines and a prize from the Ministry of Culture and Art.

His Polish-English book of poems **Powroty/Returns** was published by the Polish Agency Marpress in Gdansk in October, 2013.

Between Tongues. This presentation is based on Tad's debut poetic installment, *Returns*, in which he returns to Poland, his Motherland, and invites listeners to travel along. He will read short poems, sing poems/songs accompanied by his wife Anna, and will share his experience of translating poems from English into Polish.

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at the Alachua County Library ([Millhopper](#)), 3145 NW 43rd Street in Gainesville. All library events are Free and open to members and non-members of the Writer's Alliance. Remember, Parking is limited. If you are unable to find a parking space, there is parking at the bank down the street from the library

"The Writers Alliance of Gainesville (WAG) promotes, encourages and supports aspiring and experienced regional writers. This goal is accomplished via WAG monthly meetings, public readings, ongoing small critique groups, a literary journal, writers' contests, and collaborations with schools and civic organizations to foster creative expression through the written word."

WAG Brags



Sydney Clary, a.k.a. Lacey Dancer, just finished a group of signings sponsored by Three Rivers Regional Library. The events showcased North Florida writers in a number of genres. She was invited to return in the month of April to do a series of workshops highlighted by readings from her current book, *Choices*, and a workshop on writing with questions and answers. Discussions are in the works for further workshops when her book, *Care Giving: Real Life Answers*, is released later this year.

Sydney is the leader of our newest POD, *Coaching: From Creation to Promotion*. There are two published writers in the group at the moment. Her blog, laceydancerauthor.com has a section for writers with tips and examples on various writing skills such as dialogue and character building.

"Writing is a joy and a passion. Coaching other writers is fun and a great way to hone my own craft and theirs. Without words and those who create them, where would civilization be?"

Congratulations to Kaye Linden for her recent publications:

For your information. *"The Scribe"* is published in *The Copperfield Review* <http://copperfieldreview.com/?p=2160>. And in print *"Ghazal for my Lover"* in *The Soundings Review* (<http://www.nila.edu/soundings/>). Both were published in February 2014.

Wendy Thornton has been invited to teach a class at Santa Fe College on publishing in the new age. (Information is available in the Conferences and Courses section of the WAG Digest and in the Santa Fe Community Education Catalogue.) She has also been invited to speak to faculty and patients at Hackensack University Medical Center, in New Jersey about her book, *Dear Oprah: How I Beat Cancer and Learned to Love Daytime TV*.

The Writers Alliance currently has 15 active pods (<http://www.writersalliance.org/pod.html>). If you're interested in joining a genre-specific critique pod, check out this page and contact the appropriate letter. Or better yet – start a new one – there is always room for more.

WAG Speaker Series

And coming on May 18, 2014:



"The Inner Critic: Where Writing and Spirit Collide"

Disarming the inner critic. For more than four decades, Lezlie Laws has dedicated herself to the study of language, story and spirit as they are shaped in literature and in relationships. After earning her PhD, she began a career of teaching English and directing writing programs, first at the University of Missouri, and for the last 24 years at Rollins College in Winter Park. She is the founder of LifeArt Studio, offering workshops, retreats and coaching in creativity and the creative process, creative living, yoga asana and the yogic tradition. She also teaches yoga in Orlando.

Just for Fun!

When comforting a grammar Nazi, I always say softly..."Oh there, their, they're."



ROTTENCARDS USER CARD

HOW TO WRITE GOOD

1. Avoid Alliteration. Always.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. Avoid cliches like the plague. They're old hat.
4. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
5. Be more or less specific.
6. Writes should never generalize.
- Seven: Be consistent!
8. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
9. Who needs rhetorical questions?
10. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.

30 Ways in 30 Days

Celebrate National Poetry Month



Celebrate Poem in Your Pocket Day

The idea is simple: select a poem you love, carry it with you, then share it with co-workers, family, and friends.



Read a book of poetry

"Poetry is a response to the daily necessity of getting the world right."



Memorize a poem

"Getting a poem or prose passage truly 'by heart' implies getting it by mind and memory and understanding and delight."



Revisit a poem

"America is a country of second acts, so today, why not brush the dust off these classics and give them a fresh read?"



Put poetry in an unexpected place

"Books should be brought to the doorstep like electricity, or like milk in England: they should be considered utilities."



Bring a poem to your place of worship

"We define poetry as the unofficial view of being, and bringing the art of language in contact with your spiritual practices can deepen both."



Attend a poetry reading

"Readings have been occurring for decades around the world in universities, bookstores, cafes, corner pubs, and coffee-houses."



Play Exquisite Corpse

"Each participant is unaware of what the others have written, thus producing a surprising—sometimes absurd—yet often beautiful poem."



Read a poem at an open mic

"It's a great way to meet other writers in your area and find out about your local writing community."



Support literary organizations

"Many national and local literary organizations offer programs that reach out to the general public to broaden the recognition of poets and their work."



Listen on your commute

"Often, hearing an author read their own work can clarify questions surrounding their work's tone."



Subscribe to a literary magazine

"Full of surprising and challenging poetry, short fiction, interviews, and reviews, literary journals are at the forefront of contemporary poetry."



Start a notebook on Poets.org

"Poets.org lets users build their own personal portable online commonplace book out of the materials on our site."



Put a poem in a letter

"It's always a treat to get a letter, but finding a poem in the envelope makes the experience extra special."



Watch a poetry movie

"What better time than National Poetry Month to gather some friends, watch a poetry-related movie, and perhaps discuss some of the poet's work after the film?"



Take a poem out to lunch

"Adding a poem to lunch puts some poetry in your day and gives you something great to read while you eat."



Put a poem on the pavement

"Go one step beyond hopscotch squares and write a poem in chalk on your sidewalk."



Recite a poem to family and friends

"You can use holidays or birthdays as an opportunity to celebrate with a poem that is dear to you, or one that reminds you of the season."

30 Ways in 30 Days(Continued)



Organize a poetry reading

"When looking for a venue, consider your local library, coffee shop, bookstore, art gallery, bar or performance space."



Promote public support for poetry

"Every year, Congress decides how much money will be given to the National Endowment for the Arts to be distributed all across America."



Start a poetry reading group

"Select books that would engage discussion and not intimidate the reader new to poetry."



Read interviews and literary criticism

"Reading reviews can also be a helpful exercise and lend direction to your future reading."



Buy a book of poems for your library

"Many libraries have undergone or are facing severe cuts in funding. These cuts are often made manifest on library shelves."



Start a commonplace book

"Since the Renaissance, devoted readers have been copying their favorite poems and quotations into notebooks to form their own personal anthologies called commonplace books."



Integrate poetry with technology

"Many email programs allow you to create personalized signatures that are automatically added to the end of every email you send."



Ask the Post Office for more poet stamps

"To be eligible, suggested poets must have been deceased for at least ten years and must be American or of American descent."



Sign up for a poetry class or workshop

"Colleges and arts centers often make individual courses in literature and writing available to the general public."



Subscribe to our free newsletter

"Short and to the point, the Poets.org Update, our electronic newsletter, will keep you informed on Academy news and events."



Write a letter to a poet

"Let the poets who you are reading know that you appreciate their work by sending them a letter."



Visit a poetry landmark

"Visiting physical spaces associated with a favorite writer is a memorable way to pay homage to their life and work."

Want to hear famous poets read their work? Check out these readings on the Poets and Writers page (<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/639>) Enjoy!



Cedar Key—Photo by Ken Booth

Submitting to Literary Journals

By Wendy Thornton

Have you ever planned to submit to a literary magazine or journal and seen the phrase “No Sim Sub?” That stands for no simultaneous submissions. Thanks to online submission managers such as *Submittable* (which used to be *Submishmash*), *Tell it Slant*, and the appropriately named *Submission Manager*, literary magazines and journals are being slammed with submissions. Some are totally inappropriate for the journal they’re submitted to, but it’s so easy to submit – why not?

In response, some literary magazines have started fighting back. They have started to charge a small fee, usually \$2.00 to \$3.00, for submissions. And some journals refuse to allow writers to submit to other journals while they are reviewing your material. If all the journals decided to adopt these rules, writers would literally grow old and die before they were published. For some solid information on submitting from the perspective of the editor of an excellent literary journal, *Gulf Coast*, read these articles:

Part I

<http://gulfcoastmag.org/blog/archives/218-Part-I-Submissions.-Like-Sex.html>

Part II

<https://gulfcoastmag.org/blog/archives/219-Part-II-What-the-Simultaneous-Submitter-Needs-to-Know.html>

An excellent article on the various types of submission systems was put together by Elizabeth Weaver, a writer at CMS Critic. (Bear in mind, CMS stands for **Content management systems** and covers related software and technologies. This is a relatively technical article about the systems used for submission – geared towards editors and purchasers of submission management systems.) [3 Submission Management Systems for Literary Journals: an Overview](http://www.cmscritic.com/3-submission-management-systems-for-literary-journals-an-overview/#Ux9gcPldXTq) (<http://www.cmscritic.com/3-submission-management-systems-for-literary-journals-an-overview/#Ux9gcPldXTq>)." Weaver gives a comprehensive overview of *Tell it Slant*, *Submittable* and *Submission Manager*.

To find journals to submit to, go to www.newpages.com. They have a list of all the best journals, they have lists of journals that are looking for special submissions, and they have lists of contests. You can also find similar items at www.duotrope.com but that site charges a monthly fee. On the other hand, it lists a lot more edgy, online journals where the requirements are not as strict and the writing is a bit more freestyle.

So here’s what you do – pick a magazine you want to contribute to. Let’s say you decide to submit to *A Clean, Well-Lighted Place* (the title of which comes from a classic short story by Ernest Hemingway, by the way). Go to their web site, take a look at the materials they print, go to the submissions page, and read the directions. Some journals want a cover page, some want nothing, not even your name on the submission.

So you go here: <http://www.lightedplace.com/>

Submitting (Continued)

Look at Submit: <http://www.lightedplace.com/submit.html> . There will usually be a link to something called, *Submissions*, *How to Submit*, *Submit*, *Submit Here*, etc. On some journal pages, the information is hard to find. You know why? Because the editors want you to read their journal! Take a hint.

Read the directions for submission. Then look for the link to *Submittable*. On this site it is:

<http://acwlp.submishmash.com/Submit>

You will fill in some information – your name, address, telephone number, etc. . For *Submittable*, you only do this one time, and you can then submit to multiple journals.

If you want, this would be a good time to set up a Paypal account. It's very secure and is an easy way to submit the small fees some journals now require. Paypal is also really easy to set up.

But this particular journal, *A Clean, Well-Lighted Place*, doesn't require a fee so you'll just sign up for *Submittable* and send your stuff. You put in the following information:

Title of piece

A cover letter – Include the genre of the piece, i.e., fiction, poetry, non-fiction. Don't tell the editor anything about the submission. They don't care. Let the work speak for itself.

Usually you can write a short bio right below your cover letter. Keep it to 100 words or less (some journals even want 50 words). You can say you're published in this or that, or you can say you've got a degree in whatever, or you can even say you're a member of the Writers Alliance of Gainesville. Just keep it short and sweet and write in the third person.

Join their mailing lists if you want to. They frequently tell you when contests open or when a new issue is listed.

Then attach your file and click submit. You're done.

The best thing about all the submission managers is that they keep track of your submissions for you. Most can be downloaded into a spreadsheet if you'd like. For instance, *Submittable* gives you:

- the date you submitted,
- name of the piece,
- the name of the journal you submitted to,
- and whether your piece was accepted, received, declined or in progress.

Remember, don't randomly submit your work. Editors are already overwhelmed with inappropriate submissions. Read their journals – almost every literary journal has samples on their Web site. It's impossible to purchase a copy of every literary magazine you want to submit to, unless you have unlimited funds, but you should at least try to review the pieces posted.

Don't get discouraged by rejections – this is a very competitive field. You are competing with everyone from MFA students to professors to experienced writers. If your piece gets rejected a lot, take it back and rewrite it. Rejection will eventually lead to acceptance – you just have to keep trying!

Calls for Submission

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BACOPA LITERARY MAGAZINE – The Writers Alliance Sponsored Journal – is now open for submissions:

The Writer's Alliance of Gainesville proudly announces that it is now planning the 2014 issue of its annual print journal the *Bacopa Literary Review*. This means, of course, that it has established open submission dates for poetry, fiction and creative nonfiction.

General (non-contest) Submissions: January 1-March 31 (*Ending Soon!*)

Contest Submissions: April 1-June 30

For submission guidelines, go to this site: <https://writersallianceofgainesville.submittable.com/submit>

Bacopa is a great literary journal, beautiful edited and published. Get your submissions in soon – publication in this prestigious journal would be a premier addition to your writing resume.

NOTE: Request to WAG Digest Editor from Blue Lyra Review:

Hi. I hope this is the Wendy from the pieces on Connotation Press. Either way, I am an editor at *Blue Lyra Review* looking for pieces of fiction (and other genres too like art and nonfiction) for an upcoming issue. Check us out online and see we have published writers like Marge Piercy and John MacDonald.

While normally this is an invite for one writer only, I am interested in having more Florida writers submit as one of our "bases" is in Georgia and we don't get many southern writers for some reason, so please feel free to pass this notice around.

All the best,

Matthew E. Silverman, poetry and art editor, publisher

Adrienne Ross Scanlan, nonfiction editor

Lou Amyx, managing editor

Nancy Naomi Carlson, translations editor

B. Kari Moore, fiction editor

Lenore Weiss, copy editor

Laura Hong, web editor

<http://bluelyrareview.com/>

Calls for Submission

Anthology Seeking Submissions from Queer and Trans* People of Color

Email/Online submission deadline: April 30, 2014

Seeking writing and visual art by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Trans*, Two-Spirit and other gender and sexuality non-conforming People of Color (QTPOC), that address various aspects of QTPOC experience, including but not limited to writing that illuminates histories and the present, in regards to racism, sexism, homoantagonism, transantagonism, classism, ableism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, imperialism, orientalism, social movements, community healing, social justice, imagination and possibility, freedom. Please see website for full details: reveries-rage.tumblr.com.

ASHLAND CREEK PRESS SEEKS SUBMISSIONS ABOUT ENVIRONMENT & ANIMAL PROTECTION

Online submission deadline: Year-Round

Ashland Creek Press is currently accepting submissions of book-length fiction and nonfiction on the themes of the environment, animal protection, ecology, and wildlife—above all, we're looking for exceptional, well-written, engaging stories. We are open to many genres (young adult, mystery, literary fiction) as long as the stories are relevant to the themes listed above. Submissions MUST be made online using the service Submittable.

Visit www.ashlandcreekpress.com/submissions.html for complete details.

CHANGING HARM TO HARMONY: A book of poems and letters. Theme: "Bullies and Bystanders." Deadline May 31. Send 5 pages, poems and/or letters, include all contact info (SASE, if you don't have an e-mail address) to: Joseph Zaccardi, Marin County Poet Laureate, P.O. Box 1179, Fairfax, CA 94978.

INTERNATIONAL WAR POETRY ANTHOLOGY. WaterWood Press will accept war poetry beginning April 15. This volume will be the sequel to *Against Agamemnon: War Poetry 2009*. Editor: James Adams (Pulitzer Prize nominee for *Noble Savage*). Submission guidelines: original poems/translations on war in any style. No previously published work. 1–3 poems per poet (3 copies per poem). No more than 30 lines per poem. Include SASE and cover letter. All entries postmarked by August 1. No fees. Mail (only) submissions to: WaterWood Press, 47 Waterwood, Huntsville, TX 77320. Attn: 2014 War Poetry Editor.

SEEKING NONFICTION personal essays about traumatic events growing up in a home with mentally ill parents or siblings, diagnosed or not. Stories about "slipping through the system's cracks" preferred. Pseudonyms OK. 1,000–4,000 words. \$10 honorarium if included in final publication. More details: children_ofmentalillness.wordpress.com.

Submit final piece to: advocatingcreatively@gmail.com.

WHISPERING ANGEL Books is accepting submissions of short stories and poetry for our anthology on miracles and extraordinary blessings. Deadline: April 30. For complete details and guidelines, visit www.whisperingangelbooks.com.

Calls for Submission



Rivet: The Journal of Writing That Risks

publishes new literary work that breaks from confines of mainstream realism to surprise, delight, and challenge readers.

We seek writing that crosses boundaries of form, content, and style — either subtly or radically. Send us works of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction that are too fabulist, surrealist, or experimental for traditional publishers. We are glad to consider work that uses genre elements in interesting ways (e.g. an urban noir fairy tale), but we are not looking for work that is primarily aimed at a genre audience (e.g. high fantasy or hard science fiction). To get a feel for the range of writing that interests us, check out the anthology [*Writing That Risks: New Work from Beyond the Mainstream*](#).

General Guidelines:

- All submissions must be previously unpublished in print or electronically (electronic publication includes posting the work on a publicly viewable website or personal blog).
- One submission per person, per reading cycle.
- Simultaneous submissions are OK as long as you notify us right away if the work is accepted elsewhere.
- Documents should be formatted for readability.

Please include a brief cover letter and bio with your submission.

Length Guidelines:

- **Fiction:** Submit one short story or up to 5 pieces of flash fiction in one document. Length of each piece should be between 15 and 15,000 words, give or take.
- **Poetry:** Submit up to 5 poems in one document. Each poem should be long enough to engage, short enough to not require its own chapbook.
- **Nonfiction:** Submit one essay or up to 5 short related pieces. Length guidelines are the same as those for fiction. Topic is wide open. Surprise us.

Hybrid: Is your work hard to label? Yay! Just use the guidelines above that match most closely.

Permissions and Payment:

Authors retain copyright over their work. Authors give *Rivet* the right to publish the work on the *Rivet* website; this right is exclusive for 6 months from the date of publication. Thereafter, the author is welcome to reprint the work elsewhere. At this time, *Rivet* cannot pay authors for their work; however we hope to be able to do so soon.

Please send your submission via the [Rivet portal \(http://rivetjournal.com/\)](http://rivetjournal.com/) on Submittable. We look forward to reading your work!

Calls for Submission

Call for Manuscripts: Magazines

1966—An online journal of creative nonfiction seeks pieces of literary nonfiction with a research component—anything from immersion writing to nature writing to travel writing to memoir with some element of research to ??. To read submission guidelines and our current issue, visit www.1966journal.org.

BETWEEN THE LINES is a journal on social justice and is based at Holy Names University, recognized as the most diverse university in the nation. The editors welcome nonfiction submissions for its inaugural issue; they seek prose and poetry with themes of immigration, disability, politics, and social consciousness. For guidelines, visit hnu.edu/betweenthelines.

CHANGES IN LIFE monthly online newsletter is seeking personal essays from women of all ages. New writers are encouraged to submit their work. For details and submission guidelines, see www.changesinlife.com.

THE CHATTAHOOCHEE REVIEW seeks submissions for its Fall/Winter 2014 double issue with a special focus on "Skin." Literal and figurative explorations of the theme welcome. We're particularly interested in sophisticated treatments, whether of sexuality, race, health, species, food, anatomy, or surfaces. Please submit online by September 1 at <http://thechattahoocheereview.gpc.edu>.

SUFI JOURNAL seeks poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction that in some way addresses themes related to Sufism; other established spiritual traditions and paths; or a personal spiritual quest, discovery, or understanding. Contributors receive copies of magazine. Submissions accepted on an ongoing basis. Direct all inquiries and submissions to sufijournal@gmail.com.

BATHHOUSE JOURNAL CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: RADICALISM PART 2

Email/Online submission deadline: March 30, 2014

BathHouse Journal, the international hybrid arts mag is currently accepting your submissions for our next issue, Vol. 11.1, featuring works of a radical nature. Please send creative experiments, hybrids, and critiques that play in provocative intersections and extremes—radicalism in politics, environment, race, and gender. We are looking for work that redefines and recontextualizes form, genre, and every ism imaginable. Please send work to [eic\(at\)bhjournal\(dot\)net](mailto:eic(at)bhjournal(dot)net) as an email attachment. Acceptable extensions are: Text (.doc .rtf .pdf) Image (HD.jpg .gif) Audio (.mp3 .m4a) Video/Film (.avi .mpg .flv). For larger size files, a dropbox/youtube/vimeo link or an external host is preferred. Please include a brief bio and artist statement along with your work. www.bhjournal.net

Calls for Submission

The Bitter Oleander



Issues per Year: 2
 Issue Price: \$8
 Subscription: \$15
 Circulation: 1,000 to 2,500
 Website: www.bitteroleander.com
 Genres Published: Poetry, Fiction
 Submission Guidelines: www.bitteroleander.com/submission.html
 Reading Period: Jan 1 to Dec 31
 Reporting Time: Less than 3 months
 Charges Reading Fee: No
 Accepts Electronic Submissions: Yes
 Accepts Simultaneous Submissions: Yes
 Accepts Unsolicited Submissions: Yes

Editorial Focus

We are looking for poems that vault us to a new level of understanding an individual's true perception, and not one that falls under the customs of a dictated language which only obeys the known, the understood and the repetitive. Be imaginative, not fantastical which is never the same.

Tips From the Editor

We prefer shorter poems, one or two pages, and for short fiction we will only consider pieces at or below 2,500 words. We are looking for imaginative work, work that tries to interpret the unknown and does not settle in the complacency of ordinary, repetitive language. If you are submitting from overseas, or do not reside in the U.S., we accept e-mail submissions.

Contact Information

Paul Roth, Editor & Publisher
 4983 Tall Oaks Drive
 Fayetteville, NY 13066-9776
info@bitteroleander.com

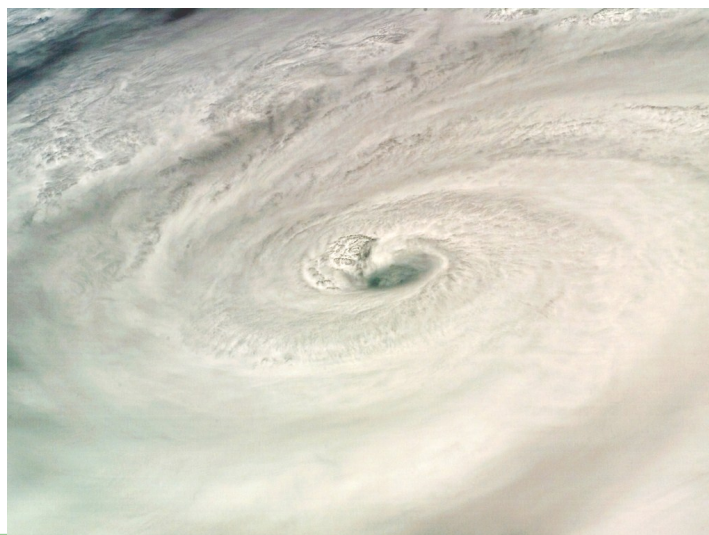


Photo by NASA

Contests

THE IOWA REVIEW INVITES SUBMISSIONS TO VETERANS' WRITING CONTEST

Postmark deadline: April 15 - May 15, 2014

The Iowa Review invites submissions beginning April 15th to the Jeff Sharlet Memorial Award for Veterans writing contest, featuring guest judge Anthony Swofford. \$1,000 first-prize award, \$750 second-prize award, \$500 to three runners-up, plus publication in our Spring 2015 issue. See full rules at iowareview.org/veteranswritingcontest. This creative writing contest is made possible by a gift from the family of Jeff Sharlet (1942–69), a Vietnam veteran and antiwar writer and activist. It is open to U.S. military veterans and active duty personnel writing in any genre and about any subject matter.

THE GEORGIA REVIEW'S LORAIN WILLIAMS POETRY PRIZE

Open from 1 April - 15 May 2014;
submit online or postmark by 15 May

The Georgia Review announces the second annual Loraine Williams Poetry Prize—\$1,000 and publication in *The Georgia Review* for a single poem, originally written in English and never before published either in print or online. The winning poem will be announced on 15 August 2014. Current subscribers may enter free of charge; nonsubscribers may begin a subscription at the time of entry—\$35 for four issues, which is \$5 off the regular price—or pay an entry fee of \$15. For full submission details, visit www.thegeorgiareview.com.

THE RUSTY TOQUE'S 2014 FICTION CHAPBOOK CONTEST

Online submission deadline: June 1, 2014

The Rusty Toque is pleased to announce its 2014 Fiction Chapbook Contest. Send us 25 to 40 pages of fiction (short stories, micro-fictions, longer stories welcome). This year's judge is Lee Henderson. Contest open to all writers except students, faculty, staff of Western University. 1ST PLACE will receive \$800 + chapbook publication (e-book and print) + a fiction prize pack. Up to 2 finalists will receive \$50 + a fiction prize pack + an excerpt or story from their chapbook published online in *The Rusty Toque*. Other notable entries will receive an honorable mention on our website. www.therustytoque.com/fiction-chapbook-contest.html

Contests

VALLUM AWARD FOR POETRY 2014

Online/Postmark submission deadline: July 15, 2014

2014 Contest Judge: George Elliott Clarke

1st Prize: \$750, 2nd Prize: \$250 + publication in *Vallum*. *Vallum* is accepting original and previously unpublished poetry submissions for the Vallum Award for Poetry 2014. Some of the best poets in the world have graced the pages of *Vallum: Contemporary Poetry*. Get your word on! Entry fee: \$25 CAD for Canadian residents, \$25 USD for international entrants, which includes a free one-year subscription to *Vallum*. Entries accepted both by Paypal and by postal mail. For more information please visit: www.vallummag.com/contestrules.html.

SOUTHWEST REVIEW 2014 DAVID NATHAN MEYERSON PRIZE FOR FICTION

Postmark deadline: May 1, 2014

This is an annual contest with a prize of \$1,000 plus publication. Open to writers who have not published a book of fiction, either a novel or collection of stories. Submissions must be no longer than 8,000 words. No simultaneous or previously published works. Name, address, and contact information should appear only on a cover letter. Postmarked Deadline: May 1, 2014. Entry fee: \$25 per story. Mail entries with a check or money order to: The Meyerson Fiction Prize, P.O. Box 750374, Dallas, TX 75275-0374, or enter online at www.smu.edu/southwestreview.



Photo of African Daisies taken by WAG Member Georgia O'Boyle

Conferences, Classes, Etc.

Writers Alliance of Gainesville Workshop Presented by Richard Gartee



Better e-Book Formatting

Sunday, March 23, 2014, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Millhopper Library - Meeting Room A

Have you found the automated conversion of PDF files to e-book offered by Kindle Direct unsatisfactory?

With the right tools and a little effort you can produce e-pub files that do not require conversion and thus give you more control. If you can use a word processor to copy and paste, you have 90% of the skills required to learn this.

The workshop will train you to use two free software programs: Sigil, and Kindle Previewer. Programs are available for both Windows and Mac.

Sigil is a free software program that makes it easy to create, format, and package ebooks in the EPUB format. Its What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get interface makes it as easy to use as a wordprocessor. The ability to copy and paste Word documents into Sigil makes setting up chapters a breeze. [Click here to download Sigil.](#)

Kindle Previewer is a graphical user interface tool that emulates how books display across various Kindle devices and apps. It also packages your e-pub file into Kindle format (mobi.) [Click here to download Kindle Previewer.](#)

It is suggested that you download both programs prior to the workshop. If you have a laptop you are welcome to bring it, but it is NOT a requirement to have a computer at the workshop.



Conferences, Classes, Etc.

WAG Member Wendy Thornton is offering a course in the Santa Fe College Community Education program:

Publishing Your Work

ENG0002.1FI

Wendy Thornton

6 Thursdays, starts 4/10, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Santa Fe College – NW Campus, Room A-29
3000 NW 83rd St

Fee: \$54

Join WAG member Wendy Thornton for an overview of the modern world of publishing. Whether you have a book of poetry, memoir, graphic novel, mystery or other, you no doubt want your work in print or available as an e-book. How do you get your work published in today's competitive market? Learn about the different types of publishing options available, how to prepare a query letter, find an agent or self publish, depending on your individual needs. Enrollment is limited.

Register here: <http://www.sfcollge.edu/cied/communityed/index.php?section=register>



Cumberland Falls, KY—Photo by Ken Booth

Conferences, Classes, Etc.

WAG Member Jack Owen Speaks at the Hawthorne Public Library
(<http://www.aclib.us/hawthorne>) A Map is available on this page.

How-to Turn Readers into Writers

Event Type: Book Discussion/Author Event Age Group(s): Adult (19 and up), Seniors, Teen (12-18)

Date: 3/22/2014

Start Time: 2:00 PM

End Time: 3:00 PM

Description: Readers who want to become WRITERS can find out How To Do It at a talk scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday afternoon, March 22, 2014, at Hawthorne Library, given by internationally published British-born journalist and author, Jack M. D. Owen.

He has spent a lifetime writing for newspapers and magazines in the UK & USA, authored several books - including Palm Beach Scandals, Jekyll Island Enigma and Midshipman Porter (a series). Owen was a charter member and former president of FABAA (Florida Antiquarian Booksellers Association) which recently held its 33rd Book Fair at the Coliseum, St. Petersburg.

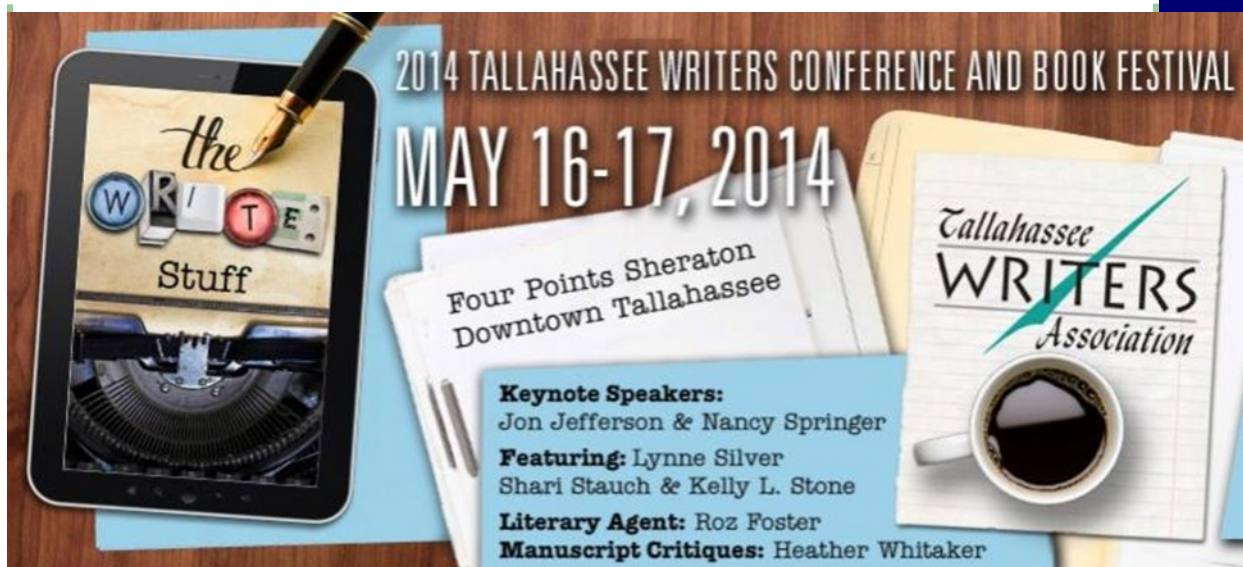
"Any reader CAN become a writer in the genre of the author they most admire or the subject they favor, whether its crime, cooking or catching fish. There's nothing mystical about story-telling. Two year-olds do it all the time. However, if I had a dollar for every one who failed to follow through on their desire to write a book - I'd be edging Bill Gates out of the race for the Richest Man in the World Contest!" Owen said.

How to get from wishful thinking to reality will be part of the presentation and Q&A session. No Questions are off the table. Whether they range, from "How much is my Gutenberg Bible worth" to "How can I turn my manuscript into a Kindle book?"



Sarasota, FL—Photo by Ken Booth

Conferences, Classes, Etc.



<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e8tnovjld642ed43>

2014 Tallahassee Writers Conference & Book Festival

Tallahassee's stellar event for writers and booklovers held every year. Keynote Speaker: Nancy Springer ~ Kick-Off Speaker: Jon Jefferson ~ Distinguished faculty: Lynne Silver, Shari Stauch and Kelly L. Stone. ~ Manuscript Critiques by Editor Heather Whitaker ~ Pitch Appointments and Critiques by Literary Agent Roz Foster, The Dijkstra Agency

When

Friday May 16, 2014 at 6:00 PM EDT

-to-

Saturday May 17, 2014 at 6:00 PM EDT

[Add to Calendar](#)

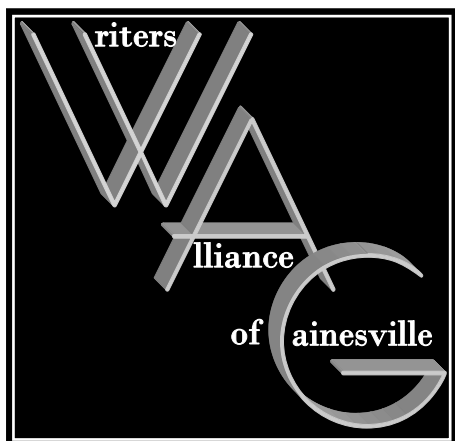
Where

Four Points Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown

316 West Tennessee Street

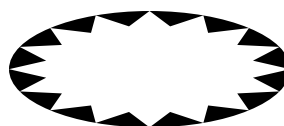
Tallahassee, FL 32301





Writer's Alliance of Gainesville
A not-for-profit Florida corporation
p.o.box 358396
gainesville/florida/32635-8396
352-336-8062/wagmail@cox.net
<http://writersallianceofgainesville.org>

The Writers Alliance of Gainesville (WAG) promotes, encourages and supports aspiring and experienced regional writers. This goal is accomplished via WAG monthly meetings, public readings, ongoing small critique groups, a literary journal, writers' contests, and collaborations with schools and civic organizations to foster creative expression through the written word.



Providence Canyon State Park, GA—Photo by Ken Booth