



**Our Next KWA Event
November 17**

**Rockwell Public Library
5939 E. 9th, Wichita**

1:30-2:30

Mini-Workshop

**Open Mike - Prose & Poetry Readings
Everyone Welcome**

2:30-2:45

Social Time

2:45-4:00

Program

Writing for the Stage

(Misty Maynard, Director, Kechi Playhouse)

WELCOME

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

New

Meg Rice

Mary Schultz

Renewals

Phyllis Rowland

Greg Coykendall

Sherry Phillips

Connie L. Beckett

Sallie M. Phillips

*Next KWA Board Meeting is Nov. 14.
9415 E. Harry, Suite 603, 7:00 PM.
Members Welcome.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 14—KWA Board Meeting

Nov. 17 - Playwriting

Nov. 17— Election of Officers

Nov. 30 - KWA Contest Deadline

Dec. 15 - KWA Member Holiday Party

Jan. 20, 2008—Do’s and Don’ts of Author Websites

Feb. 17— Romance

Apr. 11-13, 2008 Scene of the Crime Conference, Airport Hilton

Apr. 12, 2008 KWA Writing Competition Awards Banquet

CALL FOR ENTRIES: 2008 Anthology Cover Design

KWA announces a competition and invites submissions for a cover design for their annual anthology. Submissions are accepted from KWA members only.

Design may be in any media, art, photographic, for an upright 8 1/2 X 10 cover. Must contain the title “Words Out of the Flatlands – 2008” somewhere on the cover and “Kansas Writers Association” at the bottom of the cover design.

No entry fee. Submission deadline: Postmark November 30, 2007. Mail flat to KWA Cover Design, P O Box 2236, Wichita, KS 67201-2236 or may be handed to any KWA officer at the November meeting.

Winner will be notified by email in the February 2008 newsletter and awarded one copy of the final issue with credit listed in publication.



Market Place

Markets & News

Houghton Mifflin has sold children's publisher **Kingfisher** to the UK's **Pan Mac-Millan**.

HipsandCurves.com is looking for steamy, flash fiction stories with well-rounded women with a positive outlook about their bodies and sexy lingerie. At least one item of lingerie from the site must appear in the story in a natural and appealing way. Pays flat fee \$150-200 per story of 500-1200 words.

International Living needs issue length articles of 1500-2000 words on living, investing, and traveling. Also needs shorter 250-750 word "post cards" on destinations outside of the US. Briefs pay \$25-65, longer pieces pay more. www.internationalliving.com/write_for_us.html.

Simon & Schuster is moving their Simon Spotlight Entertainment imprint from the children's division to Pocket Books. The Simon Pulse imprint, will remain in the children's division.

No Record Press is a literary magazine (www.no-record.com) that publishes 2-3 titles per year. Based in Brooklyn they specialize in literary and experimental fiction and poetry. Writers should submit the full, previously unpublished mss from writers who have neither obtained nor are in the process of obtaining an MFA in fiction.

Sol Books is a literary journal (www.solbooks.com) that publishes 2-3 titles per year. Based in Minnesota, they offer modest advance \$250-1000 for original fiction and poetry. They are looking for a good story told well, with interesting characters and plot. They seek accurate poetry.

Wolf Pirate Publishing, Inc. publishes 8-10 titles per year (www.wolf-pirate.com). Based in Florida, they specialize in fiction. Writers can submit a query or proposal package with synopsis and 3 sample chapters.

Pedestal Magazine is where poets and fiction writers share their work, artists display paintings for sale, authors share thoughts on interviews, and reading events occur. A not-for-profit organization that relies on donations and advertising. Pays modest rates, has poetry and fiction on their site, as well as give authors space to promote their books and web sites. Go to www.thepedestalmagazine.com.

Fine Print Literary Management is interested in books for young adults. Guidelines on www.fineprintlit.com/.

Contests

ByLine Magazine Contests:

- **New Talent Short Story.** Deadline Nov. 4. Open to any writer who has never won a cash prize in a ByLine fiction contest. Maximum length 3,000 words. Entry fee \$5. Prizes: \$50, \$30, \$20.
- **Light Verse.** Deadline Nov. 16. Poetry using satire, wordplay and punning. Poems should be brief. Any rhyme or alliteration must have a point. Entry fee \$3. Prizes: \$35, \$20, \$10.
- **Genre Fiction.** Deadline Nov. 22. Short romance story, 2000 words max. Entry fee \$5. Prizes: \$40, \$30, \$20.
- **Short Poem.** Deadline Nov. 30. Short, concise poem on any subject. Maximum 25 lines. May be unrhymed or rhymed. Entry fee \$4. Prizes: \$35, \$20, \$10.
- **Personal Memoir.** Deadline Dec. 5. An incident or remembrance from your life, written in first person, 1,000 words max. Entry fee \$5. Prizes: \$40, \$30, \$20.

For more information on all of their contests, see www.bylinemag.com/contests.asp.

Ramble Underground (Semi-Annual) Fiction Contest. Entry fee \$6. Ramble Underground is an international fiction quarterly. Winning submission wins 35% of collected entry fees. 2nd place wins 15% of collected entry fees. 3rd place received honorable mention. All winning

stories published in Winter 2008 issue. 2,500 word limit. Deadline Nov. 15. See the summer issue at www.rambleunderground.org.

Cezanne's Carrot. Theme is "The Return of the Light." Deadline is Nov. 21. Entry fee \$5 flash fiction (100—1,000 words); \$10 short fiction (1,001-3,000 words) and creative non-fiction (100-3,000 words). More info at www.cezannescarrot.org.

Letters From the Heart Contest. To celebrate the strong foundations and lasting memories that are created through letter writing, they are holding a contest for the most meaningful letters from mothers to daughters. Submissions must be original, 500-1,000 words. Deadline Nov. 30. To enter: www.lettersfromtheheart.com/deardaughter.htm.

Cahoots magazine's short fiction contest is now accepting up to 2 stories up to 3,000 words each. Entry fee \$26, which includes subscription to **Cahoots**. Deadline Dec. 15. www.cahootsmagazine.com.

John Lennon Songwriting Contest is open with a deadline of December 15. Winners will be announced March 1, 2008, including 12 Grand Prize Winners (one in each category) and 36 Finalists (3 in ea. Category). For details go to www.jlsc.com/.

8th Annual Writer's Digest Short Short Story Competition. Deadline Dec. 3. The first through 25th place manuscripts will be printed in a special competition collection. Manuscript must be 1,500 words or less. All entries must be in English, unpublished, and not submitted elsewhere when the winners are announced, Feb. 11. Entry fee \$12 per entry. Prizes: \$3000, \$1500, \$500, \$100. Winners names will appear in the May/June 2008 issue of *Writer's Digest* magazine.

Winter 2008 24-Hour Short Story Contest. Sponsored by WritersWeekly.com Limited to 500 entrants. 85 prizes, including cash. Sign up at www.writersweekly.com/misc/contest.html.

Conferences Workshops/Classes

National Novel Writing Month web site: www.nanowrimo.org/modules/cjaycontent/index.php?id=2
NaNoWriMo Blog: <http://blog.nanowrimo.org/>
NaNoWriMo Podcast: <http://nanowrimopodcast.blogspot.com/>

Kansas SCBWI (Society Children's Book Writers and Illustrators) upcoming events:

- **Story Shape-up: A Novel-Writer's Workout**, Saturday, Nov. 10, 2007.
- **No Pain, No Gain: Getting the Best From Critiques**, Saturday, January 19, 2008.
- **Taking Care of Business: Marketing & Promotion**, Saturday, March 15, 2008.

Pre-registration required. For more info go to www.kansas-scbwi.org.

Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop will be held April 3-5, 2008 in Dayton, Ohio. The 2006 workshop sold out in 12 days, so reserve your spot www.humorwriters.org/2008register.html. Keynote speakers include Garrison Keillor, Martha Bolton, Mike Peters, Connie Schultz, Aaron Yonda and Matt Sloan. Fee is \$350 including session and meals.

2008 OWFI Writers Conference is at the new Sheraton Hotel and Reed Center, Midwest City, OK on May 1-3, 2008. There are 25 speakers, 40 seminars, 7 editors and 5 agents. J.A. Jance, Seattle based *New York Times* best-selling author is the keynote speaker. No limit on registrations. There will be editor/agent appointments, and a book room will accommodate book signings and offer attendees books for sale.

The hotel has only 151 rooms, and with an expected 400 plus, it's important to get your reservation in early. The Holiday Inn Express is within

walking distance, and the Hampton Inn is also close. The Sheraton is a non-smoking facility, but there are several lovely patios, for this purpose.

Go to www.owfi.org/ for details. Contest entry deadline is February 1st.

Romance Writers'

Community is a helpful group of romance writers at various points in their careers. (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RWClist/>) offers a great way to stay in touch, share market news, how-to information, ask questions, etc.

Do you write poetry?

Some KWA writers are looking for a new poetry critique group. If you write poetry and are interested, contact Colleen at ckjohnston@aol.com. There is no particular date or hour set for meeting so make your preferences known. This group is not for those with no experience in poetry at all.

Want to help out the kids?

It's fall and the school year is in full swing. Debi Corrigan, the Volunteer / Partner Support Director for the Wichita Public Schools was pleased to hear that some KWA members are interested in becoming reading tutors.

There are several training dates available. Make time in your schedule each week or every other week for this important commitment.

The dates remaining for training are:

- November 7: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- November 15: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- December 3: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

All training sessions will take place at the Focht Instructional Support Center, 412 S. Main, Wichita, Ks.

67202. Anyone who would like to attend a training session must call and make a reservation with Amanda Sutton at 973-5118 or e-mail her asutton@usd259.net at least twenty four hours in advance so they can make appropriate plans. They also request that you try to arrive a few minutes early. The three elementary schools that Debi would appreciate help at this time are:

- Adams Elementary School, 1002 N. Oliver, (east side)
- Spaght Elementary School 2316 E. 10th (east/mid-town)
- Kensler Elementary School, 1030 Wilbur Lane (west side).

All three of these schools are what she referred to as "high need" schools.

To learn more about tutoring and to download a registration form to be filled out before you attend the training session, go to: <http://ptr.usd259.org/connections.htm>.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to call Debi Corrigan at 973-5159 or if I can answer any questions e-mail me at vhblondie@aol.com with "School Tutoring" in the subject line.

Thank you for your support on this project.

Vicki Hermes-Bond (Grant Coordinator)

Have you ever had lunch with an agent or editor?

Now's your chance, get involved in the 2008 Scene of the Crime Conference committee. Contact Janet Bahl at nuts4ks@cox.net

Better Hurry....

If you're interested in being on the 2008 Board, contact the nominating committee: Bonnie Tharp (bdtharp@cox.net) or Vicki Hermes-Bond (vblonde@aol.com).

"If it is to be, it is up to me."—Emerson

KWA Writing Competition Open With New Categories

Several new categories have been inaugurated for entries in the KWA annual competition. Novels are now split into three sections. "Thriller, Mystery and Suspense" will be one of the new sections; Romance novels the second. Mainstream, Literary and Other genres will make up the third. Instead of the previous first twenty pages of the novel, judges will look at the first five pages only - which is what editors and agents focus on as presenting the premise of the book.

Memoirs will be separated from Creative non-fiction making two separate categories. Stories About Wichita will be dropped this year because of lack of interest in the previous contests.

The deadline for entries in the annual writers' competition has been extended to November 30 this year. Winners will be notified in the February 2008 and awards presented at the rescheduled Awards Banquet in April at Scene of the Crime. There will be no change in entry fees from 2006. Find your complete Rules and Regulation sheet on our web site kwawriters.org.

Writers Digest Blogs

- Poetic Asides blog at www.writersdigest.com/poeticasides/
- The Writers Perspective is about the publishing industry and other writing-related news at www.writersdigest.com/writersperspective/
- Questions & Quandaries answers grammatical, ethical, business and writing-related questions at www.writersdigest.com/qq/
- The Writers Life gives readers Kevin Alexander's take on starting a writing career at www.writersdigest.com/writerslife/

Additional Blogs of possible interest:

- Funds for Writers Blog at www.hopeclark.blogspot.com
- Guide to Literary Agents (Chuck Sambuchino) at www.guidetoliteraryagents.com
- Children's Writers & Illustrators Market (editor Alice Pope) at cwim.blogspot.com
- BD Blog at bdtharp.weebly.com

Criteria

By A. Lisette Walker

The fiction I usually write can best be termed 'speculative' – it's neither magical realism, science fiction, or fantasy, but it doesn't stick with reality very long

either, even if it does start out in the here and now. I wanted to do something different for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). I think I've decided to do a chick-lit novel, for several reasons.

First, however, I do have to confess, I don't read much chick-lit. I might browse through it in stores, and most characters seem to be lovely, high-heel wearing girls (they really aren't mature enough to be labeled women, no matter what their age) with dependency issues. Been there, done that, don't especially relate.

I want to see a character who is more like me: someone who would never wear heels to work, who's never fit into a size four and isn't going to worry her head about it now, who knows her own mind and is not afraid to act on her decisions, who is actually a little more likely to order a beer instead of a cosmopolitan and can actually kill a spider on her own. Hopefully I have overlooked similar characters in other books, and she can join their swelling ranks. I doubt it, but I can hope.

A more germane reason is language. Being able to use naughty words without interrupting the flow was actually my first criteria when trying to come up with something to work on for NaNoWriMo. I like using obscure words and writing baroque Victorian sentences. It actually comes naturally to me, although I often pretend I have done it for effect when people compliment me on how the quaint language I use sets the tone of the story. I probably need to write something where I have to use modern vernacular, use naughty words and they won't seem out of place.

Past critics of my work have also complained that I tend to obscure the relations my characters have with each other. They probably have a point – it's hard to write descriptive bedroom scenes when using Victorian parlance. Unless the specific episode was important to the plot, I always felt it was just as well to leave people at the bedroom door, clearly on their way to doing something – but it was apparently clear to me but to no one else. I have resolved that no one should have any questions about whether my characters get it on or not, and to this end a chick-lit novel seems like a great place to put that resolution into practice.

Whether or not I 'win' this November by reaching 50,000 words, I think that shaking myself out of my comfort zone will bring suitable rewards.

...Procrastination

By Janet Bahl

What could be worse for a writer than procrastinating and not finishing an article or inventing the next chapter in your book? Well, maybe Writer's Block can be more devastating, but procrastinating maintains a close second place, don't you think? Suspending your writing will impact on your life.

Procrastination, cont.

Usually, a procrastinator follows three paths:

1. **Do nothing.** Take a nap or walk the dog so that we don't have to sit down and write. How about waiting for the right mood or holding off for more ideas before we actually begin? Here's where the familiar term, Time Management, should kick in. Ignoring completion of a writing assignment might make it go away...forever.
2. **Work on something less important.** We habitually search for distractions, such as checking our email, and create anxiety that we may not be quite ready to write. We may call a friend or bake that cake we're craving.
3. **Work on something more important.** When we complete another project rather than the one we're putting off, it means that we have used the procrastinating skill well. Remember that it isn't always bad because now we actually finished another task, even though the other "problem" is still glaring at us. Prolonging our writing successes can affect both our career and our personal life when we decide not to proceed to the finish right now.

Missed opportunities or even serious consequences might be the result. There is no cure, but there is hope for us procrastinators in the world. First of all, don't think that you are alone. Psychology Today recently stated that at least 20% of us avoid a project because of fear of failure, low self-worth, distractions, chronic stress or wasted time. So here are some ways on how to procrastinate better:

1. **Enjoy yourself.** We should not feel that we are stuck on a project that's no fun. Writing involves continuous choices.
2. **Write in Pieces.** Break down the whole picture by finishing one piece at a time. You can cut your time into 30-minute segments and reward yourself with a snack or watching a just-released movie after writing for a short period of time. Anyone can create something for 30 minutes because we can see the end to it real quick. A combination of 30-minute sessions will develop into a completed project.
3. **Just Start.** It's much better to write down anything than to not write at all. The old saying, put off today what you can do tomorrow, should not apply to writers.

Notes from the Kansas Book Festival:

By Judy Nichols

I attended the Kansas Book Festival for the first time this year, and wanted to share some insights. I was generally impressed by the quality of the speakers and their willingness to open themselves and their work up to scrutiny. It was fun to other Kansas Writer's Association members.

Sessions were divided between Adult (AD), Children's (CH) & Young Adult (YA) sessions. Some were "readings" where the author talked about the newest work and answered questions. Some were panel discussions of writing.

LOL: Funny Fiction panel (CH) - JB Cheaney (*Middle of Somewhere*) and LD Harkraker (*Airball*)

They each read from their books and talked about keeping the funny bits scattered throughout and tied to little things. Both talked about drawing on personal experiences (camping and playing sports poorly as a child) to keep the emotions and situations real. My favorite passages paraphrased -- little brother catches his hair on fire with a flaming marshmallow and his sister puts it out with a half can of Dr. Pepper (*Middle of Somewhere*) and Duncan the sweaty kid gets the basketball but hugs it so close trying to keep control of it that when he tries to dribble it, the ball is stuck to his sweaty torso and he gets called for double-dribbling (*Airball*). Advice: Writing is a job. Treat it as such. Be serious about it and committed to it. Try scenes out on kids to see what they think is funny.

Ally Carter (YA) – (*If I Tell You I Love You, I'll Have to Kill You*) and (*Cross Your Heart and Hope to Spy*)

Got the idea for a series about girls' spy school while watching a flashback episode of "Alias" on TV with the sound turned off. She picks a character and asks herself "what's the worst that could happen" ... then goes from there. She takes her manuscripts to a local book talk group who reads it in lieu of one of their other book choices and has teachers read it to their classes for feedback.

Advice/Tips: You must LIKE the act of writing and must be able to sit (stay still) for long periods of time. (She writes longhand then transcribes it into the computer -- I was astonished at how many of the authors said the same thing!) She storyboards the major points of the book on a wall with large Post-It notes, that way she can rearrange the order of them as circumstances develop in the book.

Advice: Be disciplined. If you are a writer, write. Put characters under duress early in the story to show who they are (antagonist/protagonist) and what they want. Get out of the way -- don't over-think it.

Fantastic Fiction (CH-YA) - Roderick Townley (*Sylvie*) series and (*Red Thread*)

Roderick was a boring speaker who was clearly uncomfortable, kept repeating himself, and ignored questions even though he kept asking for them. He told us he decided to write these stories after telling them to his wife and daughter at night to put them to sleep! I was disappointed to not gain any insight into writing fantasy, and wished I'd had the courage to bail out of that session like many other people.

Real Teens (YA) - Ally Carter, Randi Hacker (*Life as I Knew It*), Lois Ruby (*Shanghai Shadows*), and Richard

Notes from the KS Book Fest, cont.

Uhlig (*Last Dance at the Frosty Queen*).

Very entertaining and informative panel. Their books are all very different (chick-lit adventure from Ally, family drama from Randi, historical drama from Lois, and small town coming of age from Richard), but all of them write longhand (see a pattern?) and transcribe into the computer. Randi spoke to the chemical connection in the brain that happens when the physical 'act' of writing takes place.

Advice: You must like the people you are writing about (Ally & Richard). Play with the tense (past or present) and point of view (first, Omniscient, 3rd) to find what is best for each book (all). Lois had one book that started in omniscient and switched to 1st after the first chapter. Be conscious of your source of conflict: internal, external, and/or both. (Ally) To get published, BE TENACIOUS (Richard). Think like a telemarketer. It's a numbers game. Become knowledgeable about who is publishing what and representing whom... publishersweekly.com to stay up on current deals. (Ally) Make sure your work is very good before you send it out... agents and editors keep files of submissions and note sloppy ones.

Q: How do you work?

Lois: start with character and ask 75 questions. Then do research. Bring research and character together and just let the story tell itself -- dump it onto the page and stay out of the way. Then rewrite, rewrite, rewrite.

Ally: start with character and premise (spy school) then think of worst that could happen. Works in scenes, writing and transcribing them (and sending them out for critique), and rearranging them via storyboard to find the best flow for story.

Richard: start with character -- best fiction is character driven. Use screen-writing techniques to better structure the story and make characters clear early on to your readers -- for instance, a character who stops to pet a dog is a good character -- Always open on an event.

True Lies: Turning Real Life into Novels (AD) - Rilla Askew (*Fire in Beulah*) and Whitney Terrell (*King of Kings County*). Both novels based on real events - Tulsa race riots of 1921 and development of KC to exclude people of color - and written by white writers. Fiction is "lies that tell the truth." Doing research takes a lot of time -- Tulsa newspaper records were missing from Tulsa libraries & Rilla had to search for other accounts once she stumbled onto the story. Whitney's family is related to the Nicholls' who developed KC. Often good stories are buried the deepest: search for the hidden and the ugly. Follow your curiosity, keep digging, go to primary sources when you can. Research the "everydayness" of the time period for

those small details to make the story real. Play with point of view to find the best fit for the story.

Advice: Make your story universal. The story is NOT about the event -- the event just happens in your story. The story is about characters and how they relate to one another and how they grow. That's what will sell it -- not the event that is often of local interest only.

Advice *gem*: Write ahead of your research. This allows you to be more creative and fluid in your writing. You can check facts later and adjust, but too much research limits your creativity and boxes you in. Do research along the way, but stay ahead in your writing.

Advice: When doing research - look for nontraditional sources: small newspapers or newsletters from community neighborhoods, organizations and related agencies, nontraditional newspapers. Always read newspaper accounts between the lines -- what's missing? What aren't they telling you?

Advice: Your characters are fictional ones. Don't tie them to real people both for protection against libel and freedom to create. It's a novel, not history.

Advice: Have courage. Step into the danger zone. When "you start to sweat about what you're writing (wondering if you are overstepping your bounds or going to anger someone), you are on the right track." (Whitney)

Q: Did either of you ever get hate mail about your work? Not hate mail. Just hate silence. The Midwest is "polite."

Richard Uhlig (YA) – (*Last Dance at the Frosty Queen*) and (*Boy Minus Girl* (2009)).

He read from his book which has graphic language typical of teen boys and talked about his journey from growing up in Herrington, Kansas to living in NY and writing for YA's. The journey was insightful in that every stop on his journey has come into his writing for teens. Asked about the language, he said it needed to be true to the characters and the time and (like sex) not gratuitous... there must be a reason for it. When writing for YA's, "every word counts."

History Comes Alive (CH-YA) - Cheryl Harness (*Remarkable Rough-Riding Life of Theodore Roosevelt*) (biography series) and (*Just for You to Know*) (novel), Christie Breault (*Logan West: Printer's Devil*), and George Brandsberg (*Afoot: a Tale of the Great Dakota Turkey Drive*).

Each read from their recent releases and talked briefly about writing them... leaving only a few minutes for Q/A. RE: research: local museums of any size, look for small and everyday details to include. Christie was told her book had "three good things: about Kansas (NY thinks we're "exotic"), about a boy, and has a happy ending."

Member News CONGRATULATIONS!



Jennifer Sparlin children's short story, "Hideaway Island," was published in the October 2007 issue of *Beyond Centauri*.

Dr. Bill DeArmond's story, "The Old Man in the Tree" appears in the current issue of *Trail of Indiscretion*. An interview with DeArmond was featured in the article "End of An Era for TBS, Braves, Fans" in the Sept. 30 edition of *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

Myrne Roe's book *Under Hope's Roof* is about 14 people in Wichita who faced homelessness and found hope under the roofs of Inter Faith Ministries Wichita homeless and housing program. A signing and reading will feature Myrne and two of the book's subjects at Watermark Books, Nov. 8 at 7:00 PM.

William Mark Simmons had his first public appearance in Kansas since the early '90's on Oct. 20 at Hastings Bookstore in Hutchinson. Four of Mark's novels are Halloween favorites: *One Foot In The Grave*, *Dead on My Feet*, *Habeas Corpses*, and *Dead Easy*.

Hazel Hart received second honorable mention for her short story "Possibilities" and 2nd place for first pages of a novel "Family History" in the 2007 Kansas Authors Club competition.

B.D. Tharp has two articles, one on 3 local inspirational writers and Jazz singer, musician, Donna Tucker in the November edition of *Womens Focus*; as well as winning Writer's Digest Contest Honorable Mention in the stage play category for *Feisty Fossils*.

CRITIQUE GROUPS

"**Finding Our Voices**" online critique group is looking for members who wish to join. This group is for anyone trying something new. Maybe you are new to writing or perhaps trying a different genre. Fiction and non-fiction welcome. For information email Sara.Huter@intrustbank.com.

The Quill to Computer Guild has changed its meeting night to *Tuesday evening*. We are a critique group for beginning writers and all genres of work. We will review anything from punctuation to plot to story covered. We meet at Borders, 1715 N. Rock Road at 7:00 PM in the

coffee shop area. We're very informal and often discuss a wide variety of topics. Let us know if you plan on attending the first time so the time and place can be verified with you.

For more information, contact: Linda Graves 945-5535, info@sgdrugfree.com or John Cleaver, 263-0084, trap-shot88@sbcglobal.net.

Internet Resources

- **Unabridged Dictionary:** <http://dictionary.com>
- **Thesaurus:** www.thesaurus.com (also has a dictionary & encyclopedia)
- **Word Counter** ranks the most frequently used words in any given body of text. Great for "overused" words that stuck in your head. www.wordcounter.com
- **Audio Reader** reads your 2,000 words back by using one of four voices. Go to: www.readplease.com
- **Plagiarism:** go to www.plagiarismchecker.com
- **Cliché Finder:** <http://cliche.theinfo.org/>
- **Quick facts:** go to www.barleby.com/, refdesk.com, wikipedia.com
- **Legal questions:** go to <http://literarylawguide.com/resources.htm>
- **Writers Beware Alerts:** Go to sfa.org/beware
- **Freelance opportunities:** <http://fundsforwriters.com>
- **National Novel Writing Month** (November) www.nanowrimo.org
- **Independent Editors Group** Go to www.bookdocs.com
- **Consulting Editors Alliance** <http://consulting-editors.com>
- **Pat Holt** go to www.holtuncensored.com (independent editor)
- Robyn Conley Weaver, **Book Doctor**, go to bookdoctor@earthlink.net
- **Publicity** www.publicityhound.com/
- **Grants & Markets** www.fundsforwriters.com/
- **Writing Markets**, agents, publishers, contests, advice, etc. WritersMarket.com
- **Novel & Short Story Writer's Market** www.novelandshortstory.com
- **Children's Writer's & Illustrators Market** www.cwim.com
- **Poet's Market** www.poetsmarket.com
- **Songwriter's Market** www.songwritersmarket.com
- **Shawguides writing conference database:** <http://writing.shawguides.com>
- **The Screenwriters Web** articles, columns, tutorials, interviews, etc. <http://breakingin.net/>
- **Fiction Addition** resources for fiction writers and readers <http://fictionaddiction.net>
- **Kansas Historical Society** back issues of small town newspapers at www.kshs.org/collections/newspapers.

KWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**2007****PRESIDENT**

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Gordon Kessler

MEMBERSHIP

Jeanette Shepler

GRANT COORDINATOR

Victoria Hermes-Bond

Newsletter Submissions

Send your **newsletter submissions**: articles, member news, or encouraging quotes by the **20th of each month** prior to publication to **bdtharp@cox.net** or by snail mail to BD Tharp, 1813 N. Robin Rd., Wichita, KS 67212. All email attachments should have "KWA" in the subject line and can be submitted in Word or RTF format.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION
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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Calendar of Events
- New & Renewing Members
- Critique Groups
- Internet Resources
- TONS of Contests, Markets, Conferences
- Member News!
- Blogs
- KWA Competition is OPEN
- Be A Tutor & Reap Rewards
- Criteria (NaNoWriMo)
- Procrastination
- Notes from the Kansas Book Festival