

KWI: KANSAS WRITER'S INK

Newsletter Vol. 15. No. 14

April 2014

Kansas Writers, Inc. March 22, 2014 Meeting

Regular Meeting:

Present: Morgan Chilson, Leslie Galbraith, Tish Glasson, Reaona Hemmingway, Reed Holweger, Angela Johnson, Billie-Renee Knight, Janet Stotts, Shayne Sawyer, Cheryl Swayne

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Submitted for publication in March newsletter

Treasurer's Report: None submitted.

Correspondence: None submitted.

Unfinished Business:

Last line contest and Bloody Gavel collection: Book is half laid out and Morgan will finish this project.

Writing Retreat:

Retreat at the Elms in Excelsior Springs, MO - \$122/night for the 4th weekend in April weekend of the 26th – switched from March due to weather concerns. Reservations need to be made by April 1. Discussed possibility of KWI supplementing since the group will have to pay for rooms not booked. We have committed to 4 rooms per night as terms of our contract.

Discussed cheaper options for next year's retreat including a lodge in Missouri.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Mark Bouton as advisor to president is in charge of these

May Program: Billie-Renee Knight will present a session on point of view with writing activities and free write time.

Committee Reports:

Publicity Committee and 785 Magazine: Carey Kennedy and Janet Stotts have not met, but would like a vision or goal statement from the board on the direction of the group before they put together a plan. Morgan suggested ensuring we have our meetings publicized in all the free areas. A program at Barnes & Noble was suggested and Janet took Dick Nelson's (community relations manager at BN) information. The committee will revisit the mission statement and focus their efforts toward publicizing the group's existence and increasing membership.

Kudos: None submitted.

2014 KWI Board Members

President: Tish Glasson

Vice President: Morgan Rothenberger

Secretary: Billie-Renee Knight

Treasurer: Carey Kennedy

Membership: Shayne Sawyer

Newsletter: Romie Chavez

Advisor to the President: Mark Bouton

Past President: Morgan Rothenberger



In This Issue

- Minutes
- Workshops
- Point of View
- Camp Nanowrimo
- Pre-meetings at KWI
- Kudos

April/May Online Workshops

By Angela Johnson

Breathing Life Into Your Scene

Date: April 28-May 23, 2014

Presenter: Beth Corneilson. FMI, <http://www.rwaonlinechapter.org/campus.htm>

How to Turn Your Passion into a Career

Date: May 5-9, 2014

Presenter: Traci Hall. FMI, <http://www.frwriters.org/events/online-workshops/>.

Getting Your 15 Minutes of Fame

Date: May 5-16, 2014

Presenter: Susan Palmquist. FMI, <http://crw-rwa.ning.com/page/2013-onlineworkshops>.

Power Promotion

Date: May 5-16, 2014

Presenter: Robin Matheson. FMI, <http://crw-rwa.ning.com/page/2013-onlineworkshops>.

How to Build a Super-Heroine

Date: May 5-18, 2014

Presenter: Ellis Flynn. FMI, <http://www.romance-ffp.com/how-to-build-a-super-heroine/>.

Six Editing Strategies for Successful Writers

Date: May 5-18, 2014

Presenter: MM Pollard. FMI, <http://www.carolinaromancewriters.com/online-workshop-schedule.html>.

Advanced Plot Techniques

Date: May 5-30, 2014

Presenter: Kat Duncan. FMI, <http://lowcountryrwa.com/workshops/all-workshops/#MAY>.

Bigger Stories

Date: May 5-30, 2014

Presenter: Peter Andrews. FMI, <http://lowcountryrwa.com/workshops/all-workshops/#MAY>.

Dialogue Class

Date: May 5-30, 2014

Presenter: Beth Marrow. FMI, <http://lowcountryrwa.com/workshops/all-workshops/#MAY>.

Emergency Preparedness

Date: May 5-30, 2013

Presenter: Kathy Bremner. FMI, <http://www.rwamysterysuspense.org/coffin.php>.

How to Promote Your Book Online

Date: May 5-30, 2014

Presenter: Karen MacMurray. FMI, <http://lowcountryrwa.com/workshops/all-workshops/#MAY>.

Inside the Male Mind

Date: May 5-30, 2014

Presenter: Cynthia Richards. FMI, <http://www.yosemiteromancewriters.com/workshops>.

Q is for Query, A is for Aaack!

Date: May 5-30, 2013

Presenter: Laurie Schnebly Campbell. FMI, <http://www.rwamysterysuspense.org/coffin.php>.

How Book-to-Film Adaptations Work

Date: May 5-31, 2014

Presenter: Sally J. Walker. FMI, <http://www.romance-ffp.com/how-book-to-film-adaptations-work/>.

Overcoming Your Fear of Punctuation - A Sixteen-Step Program for Writers

Date: May 5-June 27, 2014

Presenter: MM Pollard. FMI, <http://crw-rwa.ning.com/page/2013-onlineworkshops>.

Show and Tell

Date: May 12-June 8, 2014

Presenter: Shannon Donnelly. FMI, <http://www.occrwa.org/onlineclasses.html>.

WordPress for Beginners

Date: May 5-30, 2014 Instructor:

Pepper O'Neal, web designer and author. FMI, <http://www.marylandromancewriters.com/wordpress-for-beginners/>.

Point of View

I recently attended the Mid-America Romance Authors (MARA) annual retreat, where one of the workshop presenters spoke on the topic of deep POV. She referenced from the, how to book, *Writing 21st Century Fiction*, by agent and novelist Donald Maass. She threw out a series of questions Maass presents in his book, recommending writers ask these of themselves and their characters.

What is the strongest emotion in the scene? Is it welcome? Why or why not? What's good or utterly wrong about it?

What's the strongest emotion of the POV character? What are the three secondary emotions this character is feeling?

Now... take that scene, and delete the primary emotion. Replace it with a secondary emotion. This brings up subtleties you may not have thought of.

An example of this might be anger. Your character is angry, which may be shown a variety of ways; yelling, hitting, scowling, growling. If the underlying or secondary emotion is fear or insecurity or something else, then showing one or more of those emotions digs deeper into the character's POV. So your character may be scowling at another character, but he's doing it out of fear. Digging, discovering and revealing what drives a character's action is deep POV.

Write the one thing you're afraid to say, think, or put in your story. It should feel like it's too much, an event, occurrence, something too strong for your genre, something you don't want anyone to know. Take personal taboos and go for it. Write the wildest scene... then go further. If you feel resistance doing this, then you've discovered where you need to push your writing.

And finally to push your characters, put her greatest fear next to his greatest fear and see what happens.

Respectfully submitted by,

Shayne Sawyer

Camp Nanowrimo

By: Billie-Renee Knight

The frenzy and chaos of November's National Novel Writing Month is just too great to be confined to a single month of the year. After the high of the December 1 celebration party too many Wrimos find themselves descending into a kind of post partum blues following the highs and lows of racing toward that 50,000 word goal in 30 days. Enter Camp Nanowrimo. Now Wrimos can get a fix of their favorite noveling craziness during the months of April and July. The premise is the same as the November event, but on a smaller scale. Writers can set their own word count goals for the month-long activity rather than go for the standard 50,000 word goal.

If you've already missed the April event, you can still plan ahead for the July event. Camp Nanowrimo can be accessed through your regular Nanowrimo page at www.nanowrimo.org.

Enthusiasm

by Eleanor Liu

ENTHUSIASM is a remarkable word. The ancient Greeks used it to describe an inspired person: “en” means “in”. and “theos” means “God”. Literally “God in us”. The enthusiastic person they thought, was one who reflected the presence of an in-dwelling God. The Greeks, as usual, not only had a word for it, but the right word.

No other single human characteristic (with the possible exception of kindness) contributes so much to happy and successful living. Wise men have always known this. “Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm”. Is a quote from Emerson.

It can be defined as the ability to react with eagerness. The enthusiastic person has the capacity for generating excitement about ideas, people, events – anything. He responds to the stimuli of life not only with his five senses and his brain, but with his emotions as well. He feels things, he cares.

Enthusiasm is more than simple excitement, though. It involves affection for the object that arouses it. The enthusiastic person loves the thing he feels excited about , great or small, important or unimportant, a marriage partner or an ice cream cone. When he feels enthusiastic, he gives out love, and this – I’m sure – is the in-dwelling that the Greeks had in mind – or perhaps a fragment of the Kingdom of God that the Bible says is within us.

Because it has optimism in it, and it is closely allied with cheerfulness, enthusiasm has the power to lift people over the rough places in life. Enthusiasm, the love power inside, can support us in those times.

Enthusiasm has to be selective – one does not have to be enthusiastic about everything.

One wonderful thing about enthusiasm is that it is so easy to kindle a blaze if the spark is there. Each of us has some of that divine spark, more perhaps than we know. Enthusiasm, like any other form of love power, needs to be expressed.

Enthusiasm – the greatest gift in the world! But to keep it, you have to give it away.

Pre-Meetings at KWI

We have some new members and others who may not be familiar with how we're doing the 10 a.m. meetings that happen before our "formal" KWI meetings, which begin at 12:30. So I thought I'd remind everyone how this part of the meeting is working these days. We changed these meetings to critique meetings. Those in attendance can bring up to 10 pages, double-spaced, that will be read out loud and critiqued. If we get too many people to get them all done between 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. (when officers have a meeting and others go to lunch), then we'll keep track of who was there and didn't get critiqued so they can go first the next week.

This critiquing has been valuable. First, hearing your work read out loud can be an excellent learning experience. Second, to hear the opinions of others can help to focus in on the good and bad in your chapter or section. Third, it's just fun to hear all the creativity and excellent writing in our group!

If you want to attend and not submit anything for critique, that's fine. Please come and help critique, and we're confident you'll get over your shyness and plp something in the middle of the table for review.

Respectfully submitted by,

Morgan Rothenberger

KUDOS

In case you missed it on the KS Writers Inc Facebook page, Ian Hall decided upon a name for his novel that he begun at the Elms several years ago. He's entitled it Clockwork Confederates, Volume 1 of the "Steampunk Detectives" Series.

Good luck to Billie-Renee Knight, Romie Chavez, Janet Stotts, and other members on their chapters for the Community Novel this year. Please keep us informed of how it's going!

KWI: May Program

Billie-Renee Knight will present a refresher course on viewpoint, choosing an appropriate viewpoint for your work and several short writing exercises to help you keep it all straight. Notes and handouts will be included.

PenPaperWrite

Submitted by: Billie-Renee Knight

PenPaperWrite is an online community for writers who wish to improve their writing skills. The company makes its money operating a variety of writing services such as one-on-one coaching, group coaching, manuscript reviews, and story consultations along with an intensive writing course called 60 Scenes in 60 Days. However, they also offer a variety of free webinars for writers as well as downloadable handouts to help writers brainstorm and write their novels in an organized, logical fashion.

Check them out at www.penpaperwrite.com or on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/penpaperwrite?ref=br_tf

KWI Next Meeting:

[April Retreat](#)

Where:

The Elms in Excelsior
Springs, MO

When:

April 25th-27th

[May Meeting](#)

Where:

Topeka Shawnee County
Public Library

When:

May 24th, 2014

Topic: Viewpoint

Financials

None Submitted

Visit us online at:

www.kansaswritersinc.com

www.kswriters.wordpress.com