

KWI: KANSAS WRITER'S INK

Newsletter Vol. 15. No. 12

February 2014

A special message from our Vice President, Morgan Rothenberger

Hello everyone,

Join us in February to hear Deb Goodrich Bisel, a local author, speaker and historian, talk about marketing. Deb is a smart, savvy marketer, propelling her book sales through speaking engagements, as well as guest appearances on radio and television.

Here's what Amazon.com author information has to say about her: Debra Goodrich Bisel grew up in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and North Carolina. She began writing for The Enterprise, the local newspaper in Stuart, VA, when she was 15. She later worked for The Mount Airy News, the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel, the Suburbanite, as well as WPAQ, WSYD, and KMAJ (am) Radio. She made various forays into publishing magazines, including the Kansas Journal of Military History, and is a contributor to TK Magazine.

She has been a guest on C-SPAN, numerous radio talk shows, and has appeared in many documentaries on various history topics. She serves on the selection committee for the Kansas Hall of Fame at the Great Overland Station and is president of the Shawnee County (KS) Historical Society. She blogs for Mother Earth News under the section, Healthy People, Healthy Planet.

Deb is a sought-after public speaker and is a member of the EME Speakers Bureau. Contact her at debbisel@yahoo.com.

Hope to see you there,

Morgan

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



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2014: The Year of the Writer

March Online Workshops

By Angela Johnson

Principles of Good Website Design for Writers

Date: March 3–14, 2014

Presenter: Cathy Chant. FMI, <http://lowcountryrwa.com/workshops/all-workshops/#MAR>.

How to Make Genre Clichés Work for Your Reader and What to Do with the Other Clichés in Your Manuscript

Date: March 3–17, 2014

Presenter: MM Pollard. FMI, <http://www.passionateink.org/workshops/>.

10 Practical Tips to Help You Self-Publish Successfully

Date: March 3–21, 2014

Presenter: Delaney Diamond. FMI, <http://lowcountryrwa.com/workshops/all-workshops/#MAR>.

Business on a Shoestring

Date: March 3–28, 2013

Presenter: Pepper O’Neal. FMI, <http://www.rwamysterysuspense.org/coffin.php>.

Deep Story Techniques I

Dates: March 3–28, 2014

Presenter: Carol Hughes. FMI, <http://www.starrwa.org / carolhenry@frontiernet.net>.

Historical Research for Fiction Writers

Date: March 3–28, 2014

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

How to Write Fast Again

Date: March 3–28, 2014

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

Whose Head Are We In? The Nitty Gritty of Point of View

Date: March 3–28, 2014

Presenter: Susan Palmquist. FMI, <http://www.yosemiteromancewriters.com/workshops>.

Thrills & Chills: Writing Romantic Suspense and Thrillers

Date: March 3–28, 2013

Presenter: Allison Brennan. FMI, <http://www.rwamysterysuspense.org/coffin.php>.

New Kid on the Block: A Guide to Writing New Adult

Date: March 3–30, 2014

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

With a Million Words to Choose from, How Does a Writer Get the Words Right?

Date: March 3–30, 2014

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

Writing Holiday Stories

Date: March 10–April 6, 2014

Presenter: Beth Daniels. FMI, <http://www.occrwa.org/onlineclasses.html>.

Editing and Revision: 6 Tips to Polishing Your Work

By Romie Chavez

Writing stories always seems like the easy part for me. It's what happens after the story is over that makes me want to run for the hills. Revision and editing are the most time consuming part of writing novels, short stories, poems, etc. Unfortunately, it is something we all must do in order to ensure our writing is at its best. An article submitted by Billie-Renee Knight, lists six revision tips for polishing your work before submitting for publication. The advice is derived from author Nancy J. Cavanaugh.

Nancy J. Cavanaugh is the author of *This Journal Belongs to Ratchet*, a novel for middle graders. The book is a coming of age story about a girl named Rachel "Ratchet" Vance and her life with her widowed father. The book took 20 years to write, according to the article, and she has provided six tips developed over that time period to help other writers be mindful of their craft.

Tip #1: Listen to your critique group. Listening to your group's feedback makes you dig deeper into the story, making them stronger and better.

Tip #2: Listen to other authors. Writing begins with reading. If you want to write funny stories, read funny books. Like mysteries? Do you want to write one? Read the genre to get a sense of what's out there. However, don't just read as a reader would, read it as a writer would and listen.

Tip #3: Listen to writing teachers. Take a writing class or workshop (Angela Johnson provides us with a list of some great workshops. Hint. Hint. Wink. Wink.). Listen to what other authors are trying to teach you and then go back to your manuscript and see if there is anything you can do to make it better.

Tip #4: Listen to your editor. Once you finally hit it big, listen to your editor with an open mind. Don't get defensive or argumentative. Listen to them. They love your story and want to see you be successful. A good editor always has a vision for what your book can truly be.

Tip #5: Listen to yourself. After listening to everyone else give you advice, decide what works best for you. There may be pieces of advice that are not good for you, stand your ground and stay true to yourself. But before you do this, make sure you've taken the time to truly listen to what others had to say first.

Tip #6: Listen to reviews. When your book is published, there will be reviews—some good and some bad. Listen to all or most of it and learn from it what you can. Use it as a learning experience for the new project(s) you're currently working on. Maybe this will help make the next book even better.

Overall the article was very interesting and provided some interesting tips. If you like the article and want to read more, check out the website: <http://www.writersdigest.com/editor-blogs/guide-to-literary-agents/p...>

Kansas Writers, Inc.

January 25, 2014 Meeting

Regular Meeting:

Present: Mark Bouton, Romie, Chavez, Morgan Chilson, Leslie Galbraith, Deirdre Gordon-Hazim, Amy Gross, Ian Hall, Reaona Hemmingway, Angela Johnson, Carey Kennedy, Billie-Renee Knight, Janet Stotts, Stacey Thowe, Kevin Wilson

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Submitted for publication in January newsletter

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Treasurer, Carey Kennedy

Correspondence: None submitted.

Unfinished Business:

Last line contest and Bloody Gavel collection:

Only 3 entries submitted for the last line contest so no adjudication was conducted. Editing on Bloody Gavel and First line contest submissions will be completed by next meeting. Current discussion is to combine all contest submissions for one publication after running a second first line contest. Decision to be made at a later time.

Publicity Committee and 785 Magazine:

Carey Kennedy and Janet Stotts will meet to prepare proposals for publicity activities. Carey will contact 785 Magazine editor to see about highlighting/promoting local authors. No firm date set for proposals to be presented to the group at large.

By-laws:

A copy of the by-laws still needs to be located and distributed for revisions.

New Business:

February meeting:

Dixie Lee, a local personality, will speak about marketing and public speaking.

March meeting:

Will be held in the Marvin Auditorium. Laura Moriarity will speak. Members are asked to invite guests.

Writing Retreat:

Retreat at the Elms - \$117 - \$129 4th weekend in April – switched from March due to weather concerns. RSVP with Morgan within the next month.

Committee Reports: None submitted.

Kudos:

Mark Bouton was featured in Senior Monthly magazine.

KWI Next Meeting:

February 22nd, 2014

Where:

Topeka Shawnee County
Public Library

1515 SW 10th

Time:

10:00 AM Critique session

12:30 Business Meeting

1:00-2:00 Speaker

Community Writing
Events

KWI Meeting on March 22nd, 2014, will be held in Marvin Auditorium. Laura Moriarity will speak. Invite your fellow writers to attend. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity.

Writing Retreat 4th weekend in April. RSVP with Morgan.

Financials

Beginning balance: \$3,132.30

Revenue: \$0.00

Expenses: \$0.00

Ending balance: 3,132.30

Visit us online at:

www.kansaswritersinc.com

www.kswriters.wordpress.com