



# Write Connections

Volume 19 Number 2

FEBRUARY 2004

The TAMPA WRITERS ALLIANCE is an organization of adult writers—amateur and professional, beginning and advanced—who share a keen interest in improving skills and resources. Its members, who number about 100, create works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry; as well as stage and screenplays. In addition to its monthly general meeting, the TWA conducts workshops in specific aspects of writing, provides free assistance to scholastic and literary groups, sponsors an annual writing contest open to all writers, and publishes a yearly anthology.

**Our next General Meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, in the auditorium of the John Germany Library, 900 Ashley Street, downtown Tampa. We will be performing stage readings of the winning scripts.**

## TWA 2003 CONTEST WINNERS

### DR ED HIRSHBERG

- 1<sup>ST</sup> KAL ROSENBERG (\$250.00)..... *THE NO NAME LAKE SUMMER*
- 2<sup>ND</sup> LORI ROY (\$0)..... *TONGA*
- 3<sup>RD</sup> ANGELA MASTERTSON JONES (\$0)..... *A BRIDGE BETWEEN*
- HM SANDRA KISCHUK (\$0)..... *MINDY'S CHOICE*

### FICTION

- 1<sup>ST</sup> SANDRA KISCHUK (\$50)..... *AWAKENING*
- 2<sup>ND</sup> KAL ROSENBERG (\$25)..... *RED THINGS WITH SHARP EDGES*
- 3<sup>RD</sup> CHRIS JACKSON (\$15)..... *LAST RUN*
- HM LILYAN DAYTON (\$0)..... *KEEPING WARM*

### NON-FICTION

- 1<sup>ST</sup> ANGELA MASTERTSON JONES (\$50)..... *KEEPING HOUSE*
- 2<sup>ND</sup> EDUVIGIA ANCAYA (\$25)..... *THE MILITARY HOSPITAL*
- 3<sup>RD</sup> CHARRIE HAZARD MOSCARDINI (\$15)..... *MORNING RAMBLES*
- HM not awarded

### POETRY

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PAUL MAY (\$50)..... *OUT-FISHED*
- 2<sup>ND</sup> ANGELA MASTERTSON JONES (\$25)..... *BANANA BREAD*
- 3<sup>RD</sup> EVELYN ANN ROMANO (\$15)..... *WHAT IF*
- HM CARLTON BLAIR (\$0)..... *MY MOTHER'S HANDS*

### SCRIPTS

- 1<sup>ST</sup> RICHARD AELLEN (\$50)..... *WRITER'S BLOCK*
- 2<sup>ND</sup> MARC YACHT (\$25)..... *SHE'S ON THE BUS*
- 3<sup>RD</sup> DENIS PATRICK O'CONNOR (\$15)..... *BEST TENT*
- HM WARNER CONARTON (\$0)..... *THE BLOODY PIN*

## FEBRUARY 2004 Renewals

**CATHI ASTL**  **NICOLE AUSTIN**  **CHARRIE MOSCARDINI**   
**ROBERT NORMAN**  **JEDDETH POPE**  **EVELYN ANN ROMANO**   
**ROBERT BOB SCHILL**  **LINDA TAYLOR** 

Members may bring their \$25 annual dues to the next General Meeting, or mail it to:

**Sandi Scionti, Treasurer—4506 Shamrock Road South Tampa FL 33611-2127.**

**Members receiving WC via the US mail, your renewal date is on your label.**

## “PrezNotes” — Karen McKinney

Last week, our annual awards banquet took place at Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant, Westshore Mall. Each person at my table said how much they enjoyed the quality of the food, service, and room layout for this event. Please contact a member of the Executive Committee if you had a good experience (or not) so we can decide whether to make a return visit for next year. I’d vote to go back for the tiramisu alone.

There were 123 entries in the writing contest this year in five categories: poetry, fiction, nonfiction, scripts and the Dr. Ed Hirshberg Award for Excellence in Florida Writing. Of those, 12 were from new members and six were non-members. Thank you to everyone who entered the 2003 contest and congratulations to all our winning entries and writers. (See the front page.)

It’s not too late to register for attendance to the Suncoast Writers’ Conference at USF’s St. Petersburg Campus, February 6-8. This year’s Edgar Hirshberg Address is by Norman Mailer, a “writer’s writer” for over 50 years. Along the way he has earned a Pulitzer Prize and nearly every other book award. Early registration ends Monday, January 26th. As a member of the Tampa Writers Alliance, we get a discounted price of \$190 – register under Lifelong Writers at USF. After that date, the cost goes to \$245. For registration on a secure website, go to: <http://english.cas.usf.edu/fswc>, or call 813/974-2403 (Mon-Fri) for credit card purchase.

I received a telephone call from one of the conference speakers this week wanting to know about TWA. She will mention us in all her presentations, saying how important it is to be active in your local writing organization. It is very gratifying to refer her to our own TWA website for more information. Thank you to Lucy Parker, our excellent web mistress and hard-working publicity coordinator, who helped create and maintains [www.tampawriters.org](http://www.tampawriters.org).

In my remarks at the banquet, I quoted the English author Charles Buxton who said, “**You will never ‘find’ time for anything. If you want time you must make it.**” (I love this quote.) Our contest entrants made time to write, revise, and send their work for judging.

The quote about *finding time* made me wonder about the author. Charles Buxton was born in 1823 & died in 1871, at 48 years old. It seems he mostly wrote quotes. But good ones they were. My second & last of his is this: “**Experience shows that success is due less to ability than to zeal. The winner is he who gives himself to his work, body and soul.**” Keep Writing!

### MEMBERS IN MEDIA

**WARNER CONARTON** was profiled and some of his poetry was offered by SOL MAGAZINE. He also won EDITOR’S CHOICE in their November contest about "Autumn". SOL MAGAZINE is a fun poetry e-zine with great contests. Some of our poets might want to join and participate: <http://www.sol-magazine.org>

**VEE DAYTON** had two articles (one called "Have Vaccines...Will Travel") recently published in *Nursing Spectrum*. She has been hired by the State Nursing office in Tallahassee to do PR and write articles that will be distributed to nursing magazines in the state.

**EVELYN ANN ROMANO**'s poem, "SHOE", was published in *New Mirage Quarterly*, a poetry journal in Southern California. Her poem, "RED TIDE", appeared in the 2003 *Palm Prints*, a literary Journal of USF's Lifelong Writers.

Information for this feature needs to be sent to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### THE CRITIQUE GROUP ---Warner Conarton, Coordinator

We had an overflow group on the 14th, twenty-two writers, three of whom were first timers impressed enough to ask to participate. Apparently there is a need within us afflicted as writers for suggestions, strokes and society. We supply all three boundlessly.

If you'd like to come by, our next meeting is on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. (We meet on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, excluding holidays and holiday eves.) That's at Barnes and Noble Book Sellers North, just south of Stall Road on North Dale Mabry Hwy. 7 PM, back of the store, around the table.

If you want to critique let me know ([warnerc@quixnet.net](mailto:warnerc@quixnet.net)) and I'll send you some current submissions to read. To have your work critiqued you must be a TWA member. We're running about three weeks behind. If you want to submit your ten pages double spaced...more or less...of anything, send the piece as an attachment or e-mail letter.

## CALL-FOR-SUBMISSIONS!

**CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual** is a new publication dedicated to the interdisciplinary study and artistic appreciation of the South (broadly defined) and Southern culture. To appear in Spring 2004 and to be published thereafter as an annual book by Mercer University Press, **CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual** will continue the editorial approach of *CrossRoads: A Journal of Southern Culture*, a semi-legendary periodical originally published in the early 1990s by a dedicated group of graduate students affiliated with the University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture.

The first volume of *CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual*, slated for publication in April 2004, will feature new work by leading scholars and. The scholarly work in the first volume of **CrossRoads** explores such topics as Southern language, literature, visual art, music, and food, and elucidates Southern perspectives on religion, politics, race, ethnicity, gender, and regional identity. That volume will also contain compelling creative work from a number of leading writers and visual artists from the South. To order copies of the first volume, please contact Mercer University Press via email at [mupressorders@mercer.edu](mailto:mupressorders@mercer.edu) or via phone at 800-637-2378, ext. 2880.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:** To have your work considered for the second volume of **CrossRoads**, send materials postmarked before **July 31, 2004**, to: Ted Olson, Editor, *CrossRoads: A Southern Culture, Annual* ETSU, Box 70400 Johnson City, TN 37614. Please include disposable copies of manuscripts as submissions will not be returned. Should you have any questions, you may contact the editor: [olson@etsu.edu](mailto:olson@etsu.edu) or [tedolson\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:tedolson_99@yahoo.com) or call 423-439-4379, or fax him at 423-439-4126.

These submissions can include-but are not limited to-analytical academic essays, oral histories, memoirs, profile essays, photo essays, creative writing, and artwork. The main criteria ensuring consideration are that all submitted materials should (to borrow Faulkner's famous phrase) "tell about the South" and that they should do so memorably.

## THE NEXT PALABRA LOCA

**Palabra Loca** (Word Crazy) is a monthly poetry series that occurs the first Monday of each month at Viva la Frida. Hosted by Rhonda J. Nelson and Stazja, the series has a local featured reader, a visiting featured reader and a monthly themed open mike.

On Monday, February 2, 2004, poet Casey Mensing and a yet to be announced out of town guest poet are the featured readers at **Palabra Loca**. February open mike theme: LOVE IS PAIN.

Sign up for open mike: 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Readings from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Guests will also be treated to the Viva la Frida starving artists menu, with dinner options priced really cheap. Three bucks gets you in the door. For more information: [palabraloca@aol.com](mailto:palabraloca@aol.com) Location: Viva la Frida, 5901 N. Florida Ave. Tampa

## POETRY WORKSHOP

The meetings are held at Barnes & Noble's south, near Kennedy at 7pm in the café on the LAST THURSDAY of the month. The FEBRUARY meeting will be 2/26/04.

Contact Workshop Coordinator Lark Underwood for more information.  
**[the1lark@hotmail.com](mailto:the1lark@hotmail.com)**

## THE GATHERING

The GATHERING is the TWA's monthly social event where members and other friends get together to enjoy good food along with good conversation. Our next one will be at Sandra Kischuk's house. Check your roster for address; Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

## TWA Directory

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
President	<b>Karen McKinney</b>	813-831-0841	wpmjr@msn.com
Vice President			
Secretary			
Treasurer	<b>Sandi Scionti</b>	813-839-0075	sscionti@gte.net
Member-at-Large	<b>Sandra Kischuk</b>	813-935-7760	sjkischuk@juno.com
Critique	<b>Warner Conarton</b>	352-588-3228	warnerc@quixnet.net
Editor	<b>M. Lark Underwood</b>	813-908-3095	the1lark@hotmail.com
Publicity	<b>Lucy Parker</b>	813-996-1130	lvparker@cytex.com

### PINAWOR (Pinellas Authors and Writers Organization)

This writers' group meets each Saturday, 9:30 am to noon, at the Highlands Recreation Center Complex, 400 N. Highlands Avenue, Largo. Contact **Elenora Rose Sabin, 727-345-3376** or [elanora36@yahoo.com](mailto:elanora36@yahoo.com)

### GENERAL FYI

- ✓ TWA meets each calendar month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at the main Tampa library. The only exceptions are those first Wednesdays coinciding with a holiday, in which case the membership is notified in the newsletter of the alternative date/day several months in advance.
- ✓ The January meeting is moving to a tradition of "writing workshop" & the February meeting is a staged reading of the winners of the Script category from the previous year's writing contest.
- ✓ The writing contest Awards Banquet is held in January to avoid the holiday crush & allow us better venues and prices. It is usually scheduled for the latter part of the month.
- ✓ To receive your free membership copy of THE WORDSMITH, our annual anthology, you must have been a member in good standing (paid up!) by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the previous year (i.e. to get the 2004 WORDSMITH, you must have joined by 12/31/03) and you must have "actively selected" to receive one. Contact Lark Underwood and "actively select" your copy. We only print a few archival copies beyond what we need for members, so if you do not let us know you want one, when it comes time, you'll have to either regret your lack of attention/effort or pay for a copy—if any are left.

**Lifelong Writers**, the membership arm of the *Florida Center for Writers*, meets 7pm to 9pm the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the MMH building at USF. Open to all writers and aspiring writers. Terra Pressler facilitates.

Contact **Martha Lakis**, at 813-974-8021 or [mglakis@admin.usf.edu](mailto:mglakis@admin.usf.edu) for more info.

## Tampa Writers Alliance *Write Connections*

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