



Write Connections

Volume 19 Number 12

December 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.

Popular Florida Novelist Tim Dorsey to Speak

Our next General Meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday, DECEMBER 1ST, in the auditorium of the John Germany Library, 900 Ashley Street, downtown Tampa.

"Vulgar, violent and gaudier than sunsets on the Keys," says the New York Times about best-selling Tampa novelist Tim Dorsey's books, while the Chicago Tribune discovers in Dorsey's hilarious Florida tales "...some of the most wacky villains and situations since Hiaasen stuck a plastic alligator down a stranger's throat." In February, a seventh Dorsey novel, *Torpedo Juice*, is scheduled for publication, and the author will discuss his new book and his writing career at the monthly meeting of the Tampa Writers Alliance on Wednesday, December 1. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium of the John F. Germany Main Library, 900 N. Ashley Dr. The public is invited to attend free of charge.

A lifelong Floridian, Dorsey is a former Tampa Tribune reporter who left the paper in 1999 to write full time. His outrageously funny crime novels include, in order of appearance, *Florida Roadkill*, *Hammerhead Ranch Hotel*, *Orange Crush*, *Triggerfish Twist*, *Stingray Shuffle*, and *Cadillac Beach*. However, the story chronology does not follow the book publication chronology, Dorsey explains, which is why "dead people show up in the later books." Dorsey's novels have been published in five countries, and he now writes a monthly column, "At Bay," for *Tampa Bay Illustrated* magazine. Dorsey lives in Tampa with his wife and two daughters.

December 2004 Renewals

CHRISTINE CARDIN  **BETH LAHUSKY** 

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

Frank Cáceres, Treasurer—34731 Double Eagle Court Zephyrhills FL 33541.

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

THE CRITIQUE GROUP ---Warner Conarton, Coordinator

You are invited to attend the TWA Critique Group whether you are presently a member or not. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month, 7 PM at Barnes and Noble Booksellers North. That's just south of Stall Road on North Dale Mabry (Stall Road is just south of Fletcher.) Borders is just north of there too. Wrong place.

If you do decide to attend and want to understand what's happening, notify me and I will send you the submissions we will be critiquing. Submissions (members only) are sent to me. I distribute them to those who attend, and we go around the table with comments.

Critiquing, as well as being critiqued, I think, is a valuable experience for any writer. We're kind (and encouraging) and fun. Writers are a sensitive lot. Y'all come by. Contact me at warnerc@quixnet.net

MEMBERS IN MEDIA

VEE DAYTON's article "*Immunization Update*," a CEU (Continuing Education Unit) for nurses to keep their licensure current, was published in the October 25th edition of *Advance for Nurses*.

ANGELA MASTERSON JONES' personal essay "The Moment of Exposure" appeared in the September 19 *St. Petersburg Times* Sunday Journal. Her first full-length poetry collection, *BROKEN KISSES*, was published in October and can be purchased by e-mailing DoubleRayPress@aol.com. To receive a \$2 discount off the \$10 book price, please enclose this note with your order.

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

Everyone has a talent; what is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the dark place where it leads.

Erica Jong

Punctuation has the primary responsibility of contributing to the plainness of one's meaning. It has the secondary responsibility of being as invisible as possible, of not calling attention to itself."

—Paul Robinson author of *Opera, Sex, and Other Vital Matters*

POETRY WORKSHOP

The meetings are held at Barnes & Noble's south in the Café, near Kennedy at 7pm in the café on the LAST THURSDAY of the month. The **December** meeting will be **12/30/04**. Contact Workshop Coordinator Lark Underwood at the1lark@hotmail.com or go to www.tampawriters.org for more information.

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. It is currently on hiatus until **February 2005**.

MOUNT DORA FESTIVAL OF MUSIC & LITERATURE:

Contest includes poetry, nonfiction, short story, story for juveniles, and one-act plays. Visit the festival website www.mtdorafest.com or request guidelines by writing to

Mount Dora Festival of Music & Literature

P.O. Box 712

Mount Dora, FL 32756,

or call 352-385-1010.

Submission deadline: **JANUARY 15, 2005**.

NEW MILLENNIUM WRITINGS

Winner of a Golden Press Card Award for Excellence

Now accepting submissions for the 19th Consecutive **New Millennium**

\$1,000 for best Poem,

\$1,000 for best Fiction,

\$1,000 for best Nonfiction

(Nonfiction includes essays, profiles, memoirs, interviews, creative nonfiction, travel, humor, etc.)

Winners published in NMW and on their website

The deadline for the current NMW Awards contest has been extended to **January 31, 2005**.

This deadline is final.

Winners of NMW Awards are showcased along with interviews and profiles of famous writers such as Ken Kesey, John Updike, Lee Smith, Cormac McCarthy, Lucille Clifton, Shelby Foote, Paul West, Norman Mailer, Sharyn McCrumb, and William Kennedy. There are tributes to writers for the ages, including Faulkner, Hemingway, Dickinson, Keats, Percy, Warren and others. Also included are prize-winning stories, poems and articles, plus humor, graphic arts and writing advice. NMW has a color cover with 208 pages.

To Enter, follow these guidelines:

1. **No restrictions** as to style or content.
2. **Winners and selected finalists will be published** in the 2005 issue *NMW*, which those who entered **will receive** for entering. Winners will also be published online at their web site.
3. Send any time between now and midnight of **January 31, 2005**.
4. Simultaneous & multiple submissions welcome.
5. **Each Fiction or Nonfiction** submission is a **separate** entry and should total no more than 6,000 words.
6. **Each Poetry** entry may include **up to three poems**, not to exceed five pages total.
7. **Put name, address and category entered on the first page.**
8. **Manuscripts will not be returned.** Send a business-size SASE (or an IRC if outside the U.S.) for a list of winners or await your book.
9. **Include \$17 check** payable to *New Millennium Writings*—with each submission. (see Entry Form at the website: www.newmillenniumwritings.com/awards.html).
10. Send to "NMW," Room M2, PO Box 2463, Knoxville, TN 37901
11. You may want to scan their FAQ (frequently asked questions) page for additional information.

2005 AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION

DATE: JANUARY 20, 2005 (a THURSDAY night)

LOCATION: MISE EN PLACE – 442 W. KENNEDY BLVD — TAMPA

TIME: 6:30P - 9:00P (Cash bar opens at 6:30p, dinner starts at 7:00p, awards 8ish)

COST: \$30.00 per person (tax and gratuity included) (**NO** TICKETS ARE SENT)

MENU: FIXED:

Soup Course: Tuscan White Bean & Vegetable Soup w/goat cheese sundried tomato & basil focaccia toast

Salad Course: Mixed greens with grapefruit, snow peapods, radishes, grape tomatoes, and chai vinaigrette

Entrée Course: Brandy herb-rubbed roasted chicken with wild mushroom ragout, artichoke and cheese mash, and brown butter sautéed greens.

OR

Tofu Portobello Lasagna with black-peppered angel hair, charred tomato red pepper sauce and arugula salade.

Dessert Course: Chocolate pecan toffee mousse with toffee sauce and crème anglaise.

Drinks: Coffee, Tea, or Water.



CHECK: Make Payable To: **TAMPA WRITERS ALLIANCE**

MAIL TO: TWA TREASURER
Frank Cáceres
34731 Double Eagle Court
Zephyrhills FL 33541

RESERVATIONS

NEEDED BY: JANUARY 14, 2005

YOUR
NAME: _____

GUEST
NAME: _____

_____ CHICKEN
OF DINNERS

_____ PORTOBELLO LASAGNA
OF DINNERS

TWA Directory

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
President	Jim Chaplin	813-835-4255	jpcflorida@hotmail.com
Vice President	Sandra Kischuk	813-935-7760	sjkischuk@juno.com
Secretary	Marc Yacht	727-868-1016	myacht@tampabay.rr.com
Treasurer	Frank Cáceres	813-783-3385	twa-treasurer@novel-guy.com
Member-at-Large	Cathie Astl	813-994-5455	cathieastl@hotmail.com
Critique	Warner Conarton	352-588-3228	warnerc@quixnet.net
Editor	Lark Underwood	813-908-3095	the1lark@hotmail.com
Publicity	Lucy Parker	813-996-1130	lvparker@cytex.com
Events Coordinator	YOU?		
TWA WEBSITE			WWW.TAMPAWRITERS.ORG

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

GENERAL FYI

- ☼ TWA meets each calendar month on the 1st 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 usually a "writing workshop" & the February meeting is a staged reading of the winners of the Script category from the previous year's writing contest. February is also the month—every 2 years—TWA elects its new ExCom.
- ☼ 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 31st of December of the previous year (i.e. to get the 2005 WORDSMITH, you must have joined by 12/31/04) 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 3rd Wednesday of the month at the MMH building at USF. Open to all writers and aspiring writers.
Contact **Martha Lakis**, at 813-974-8021 or mglakis@admin.usf.edu for more info.

PASAWOR (Pasco Authors and Writers Organization)

This group meets the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 12:30 to 3:00 pm, at the Pasco Art Council-5744 Moog Rd in Holiday, FL.
Contact Barbara Harrington at bshadowbooks@ij.net or call 727-572-6345.

Tampa Writers Alliance

Write Connections

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