

# Write Connections

A publication of and for the **Tampa Writers Alliance**



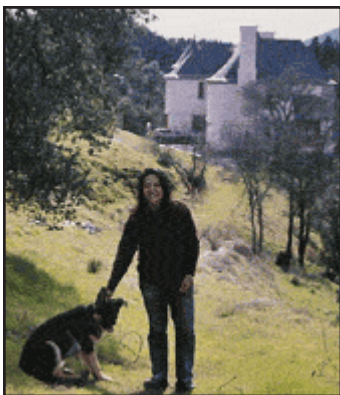
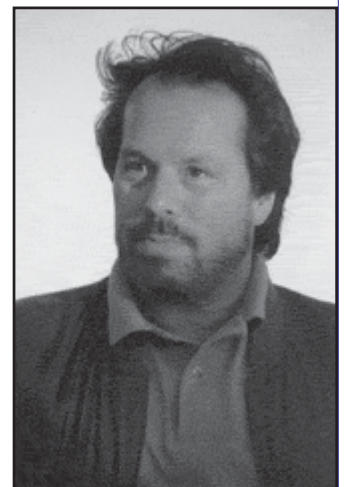
Volume 20, Number 2, March 2005

*Celebrating over Twenty Years of Service to Our Members and the Community*

## March Program

### Poets, the Movies, and In Between

**SANDY MCINTOSH's** collections of poetry include **Between Earth and Sky** (Marsh Hawk Press), **Endless Staircase** (Street Press), **Earth Works** (Long Island University), **Which Way to the Egress?** (Garfield Publishers), and two chapbooks: **Obsessional** (Tamafyhr Mountain Poetry) and **Monsters of the Antipodes** (Survivors Manual Books). His prose includes **Firing Back**, with Jodie-Beth Galos (John Wiley & Sons), **From A Chinese Kitchen** (American Cooking Guild), and **The Poets In the Poets-In-The-Schools** (Minnesota Center for Social Research, University of Minnesota). His poetry and essays have been published in **The New York Times**, **Newsday**, **The Nation**, the **Wall Street Journal**, **American Book Review**, and elsewhere. His original poetry in a film script won the Silver Medal in the Film Festival of the Americas.



Sandy's partner in poetry is award-winning poet **EILEEN TABIOS**. Alfred A. Yuson, one of the Philippines' leading contemporary poets, wrote the following for *The Philippine Star*

***I take thee, English... (for Star, Feb. 21, 2005)***

*by Alfred A. Yuson*

*A synchronicity tax, oh yes, thank goodness we don't have that yet. Otherwise I might have landed in the poorhouse last week when, starting on this column-review of certain titles that should enhance our current drive toward regaining excellence in the English language, what should fall on my lap but this heavy tome straight out of California, titled I Take Thee, English, for My Beloved.*

*Why, wonderful!*

*The book is authored by our friend Eileen R. Tabios, poet, editor, ekphrasis expert, publisher, proselytizer for Fil-Am literature. An all-around Wonder Woman, she also tends an orchard at Napa Valley when she's not consuming bottles of produce as a bibulous epicurean cum blogger on the comparative merits of the red-or-white stuff.*

**Join us Wednesday, March 2nd to hear these acclaimed authors read and talk about their works.**

**Write Connections** is all new -  
except for the parts that are old!  
Check out the new layout and content  
and decide if it meets your needs.  
*(If not, sign up to be the new editor)*

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN and WHERE

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.

The Tampa Writers Alliance meets each calendar month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at the main Tampa-Hillsborough library, downtown on Ashby Street starting at 7:00 P. M. 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 a “writing workshop” and 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 Executive Committee.

The writing contest Awards Banquet is held in January to avoid the holiday crush and 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.

The University of South Florida also maintains an archive of Alliance information that includes twenty years of anthologies, newsletters and miscellaneous records.

See the Group columns for specific dates, times and locations for the other meetings

*Go to the Tampa Writers Alliance web site at  
<http://tampawritersalliance.com>  
for updates and archives of past events and newsletters.*

## Join the Authors in the Park Saturday, March 19th, 9am-3pm.

Over 20 Authors (including our own Ann Turner Cook) will be on site doing book signings and selling their books at the **Ybor City Fresh Market**. Want to participate? Contact Lynn Schultz, Ybor City Fresh Market at 813.241.2442 or email: [ybormarket@yahoo.com](mailto:ybormarket@yahoo.com). Check out their website: <http://www.yborfreshmarket.citysearch.com>

## SleuthFest 2005

### The annual Florida Mystery Writers of America extravaganza begins Thursday, March 3rd in Fort Lauderdale.

Featured Speakers are Lisa Scottoline, mystery author, and Christopher Whitcomb, former FBI agent and author of several thrillers. A special treat for me (your editor) - one of my draft chapters has been selected by Barbara Parker to use in her workshop which will examine:

Do things happen too fast or too slowly? Is the chapter too wordy or does it need more detail or explanation?

Do you have a clear visual image of the setting and the characters? Are the sounds, smells, and textures vivid and specific?

Do you get a sense of the time of day, the weather, the temperature, the surroundings? Later chapters might have fewer of these details, if they’ve been well established earlier, but readers appreciate reminders.

Where is the dramatic high point of the chapter?

Does the chapter end at a place and in a manner that you find satisfying and logical?

Do you want to turn the page and find out what happens next?

*Guess my manuscript needed repairs on all counts!*

**Florida Writers Association Carrollwood Palm Group** hosts **Frank Strunk**, author of three mystery novels, local musician and county wit, at their March 19th meeting at the Carrollwood Barnes & Noble Bookstore - 10-12 am. Frank will be speaking on the topic: “Description: Why, What, When, How, and How Much.”

## April TWA General Meeting

“How To” Workshops  
Mark your calendar  
Wednesday, April 6th

### Beachside Book Bash

Have you written a book of poetry? Of history? Or mystery? The Leisure Services division of the city of Ormond Beach invites local writers to sign and sell their work at the *2005 Beachside Book Bash*, Saturday, April 9, 2005, from 10am – 4pm, on the grounds of the Case-ments Cultural Center, Ormond Beach. Refreshments provided by various youth groups, and crafts, will also be for sale.

This event is free of charge—participants are asked to bring their own tents and tables. Those interested in giving brief readings or demonstrations are encouraged to do so: a separate area with lectern and chairs will be provided.

Admission to the *2005 Beachside Book Bash* is free. Drawings for free books will be held throughout the day. Special discounts on book purchases will be offered to those donating a used children’s book to the *Recycle for Reading* program at the South Ormond Reading Room.

Interested authors and crafters must submit descriptions or photos of their work for approval. For details, contact Marian Tomblin at (386) 615-0493 or email at [Marianstomblin@aol.com](mailto:Marianstomblin@aol.com) by March 1, 2005

### TOM HOWARD/JOHN H. REID SHORT STORY CONTEST

Prizes of \$1,000, \$500, \$250 will be awarded, plus four Publication Royalty Awards of \$150 and three Encouragement Awards of \$75 each. Winning entries will be published. Submit any type of short story, essay or other work of prose, up to 8,000 words. You may submit work that has been published or won prizes elsewhere, as long as you own the anthology and online publication rights. \$10 entry fee, payable to Winning Writers. Postmark deadline: March 31. Judge: Tom Howard. Submit online or mail to:

Winning Writers

Attn: Tom Howard Short Story Contest

351 Pleasant Street, PMB 222

Northampton, MA 01060

On the Internet at:

<http://www.winningwriters.com/tomstory.htm>

## The Florida Writers Association (FWA) is compiling the Spring 2005 issue of THE FLORIDA PALM magazine.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: What’s Your Genre?

This themed issue will describe and explain various writing genres.

All FWA members are invited to submit stories or articles related to genre.

SUBMISSIONS MIGHT HAVE THEMES SUCH AS:

- How I became a mystery writer, romance novelist or Sci-Fi specialist.
- What’s the difference between nonfiction and creative nonfiction?
- Memoir anyone? How to write your story.
- Why Romantic Comedies aren’t funny to the writer.
- How I scare myself...Secrets to writing a thriller.
- Submit an excerpt or short story in any genre.

THE DETAILS:

- Articles and stories should be 700 words or less.
- Excerpts are good. It’s your chance to mention your complete work.
- Send name, email and/or website address, phone number and two sentence biography.
- Submissions may be sent by email or land mail.
- Email submissions should be pasted into the body of an email message, or attached as a Word document. Put FWA PALM SUB in the subject line.
- Land mail submissions should be a copy of your original.
- Editor reserves the right to edit for space.

Send submissions for the Spring 2005 issue by midnight March 15, 2005.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

Karen Favo Walsh

3315 - 37th Street North

St. Petersburg, FL 33713

[AdventuresinAD@aol.com](mailto:AdventuresinAD@aol.com)

*Meat for another issue - what the many and diverse writers organizations can do for you (and you for them) and why you should consider belonging to several - ed.*

## POETRY WORKSHOP

**Warner Conarton** will be the new coordinator of the Poetry Group, beginning with the February meeting. The group meets on the last Thursday of the month, February 25th in this case, at the Barnes and Noble Book Sellers (South) just north of Kennedy Blvd. on N. Dale Mabry Hwy. The group usually gathers around a table in the snack bar section beginning at 7 p.m. If nobody's there, look around in the back.

According to Warner, he is hoping to gradually make a few changes: 1. Put the group at an official table out of the clamor and whoosh of chit-chat and espresso machines, hopefully in the back, and ask them to turn down the intercom. 2. Supply the reader with a small, portable, but adequate mic and amplifier so all can hear and others around know something is going on over there. 3. Make it a reason for Poets-only to join the TWA - they are pretty scarce at present. 4. Get some of the other "also" poets (there's a bunch) that are TWA members to participate. 5. Try including songsters. Song lyrics are a form of poetry. Perhaps songsters too would join TWA. 6. Arrange that recorded works can be presented. (Maybe even eventually instigate a new category in the yearly contest.)

While I'm about it (Warner added,) here's a few suggestions about what I consider appropriate criticism, which is one (1) of several purposes of this group.

1. It's not just someone shooting their mouth off because she/he has an audience. (Actually that's a pretty common thing.) 2. That the person making "accusations and suggestions for improvement" has some idea what he/she is talking about, particularly with poetry, since there are many forms, rhyme and syllable and rhythm schemes, intended effects, etc. 3. That it is not just an expression of his/her dislikes. 4. That it is sandwiched between a description of the poet's strengths - and things about the poem that the critic enjoyed most. This eases the pain. In my opinion, writers and poets that claim all they want is negative criticism are playing "Kick Me," and are likely volatile, recalcitrant, vengeful, and possibly physically dangerous..

As Warner knows you all know, writers and poets are really the kind of folks whose feelings can be easily hurt. He says he certainly is not bullet-proof and, he suspects, neither are most of you. People need support and praise just for being writers, poets, playwrights, etc. That seems to him to be the main purpose of the TWA.

Crappy critiquing starts arguments amongst the participants and drives people away. Appreciative criticism rarely has that effect.

As for Warner's qualifications to coordinate this group, his first poem was published in 1935, (Willow Street School Poetry Anthology.) Anybody beat that?

So, hear that poets? Y'all come. Also let Warner know so he can put your e-mail address on the notification list.

### Angie Jones placed 2nd in the New St. Pete News 2nd Annual Poetry Contest.

Her poem "Petrichor" appeared in the January issue.

#### *Petrichor*

*There is more to a life  
than the ground it covers.  
A workday completed  
isn't simply productivity.  
It's the air behind a closed door  
when the key turns in the lock.*

*Same can be different every day.*

*There should be a word for my cat's twining  
around my legs when I come home,  
the dearness of interspecies adoration,  
stronger than an ocean's liquid coil,  
and the way scent hides beside her lips  
ready to mark me.*

*What shall we call that?*

*Petrichor is the pleasant smell  
accompanying the first rain  
after a dry spell. Amazing  
there is a word just for this.*

*Petro from the Greek word for stone  
+ ichors, the fluid flowing in the veins of the gods.*

*Petrichor—a perfect name for my cat.*

## If you think I am cat-partial, you are wrong

- I have a place in my soul for every living creature, domesticated or wild - even kids! As for cats, see the bottom of my web page at <http://johnmtaylor.com>. My trained cat, Rocky, still puts on his costume (a red bandana) and performs for his evening treats. My latest book in progress, *Gulf Winds*, features an adopted greyhound, giving me lots to research, and scaring my dear wife to death that I will actually go out and adopt one. So here - a tribute to best friends.



**Half an Odd Couple**

By Vee Dayton

Orange stripes, rippled fur and golden eyes  
 Glinting in the dark upon our bed.  
 A slithery slide beneath the covers,  
 So quick, it made me jump.

Oscar left Felix behind last week.  
 As he left us—such a surprise!  
 Five, he'd be on Valentine's  
 Hey, way too young he was!

In corners, about to leap,  
 Sloshing water from his dish,  
 Anything to make us notice  
 What a great and silly guy he was.

Whoever heard of cats and clots?  
 Never before, and never again.  
 Only bad blood could stop  
 That husky, brawny, cat he was.

Goodbye, you scamp  
 You rotten cat, you mischief-maker,  
 You trouble maker,  
 Just a darn bad cat he was.

## Attention, attention....

The following members are due to renew. Don't miss out on another exciting year full of promise and high expectations - please pay at the next meeting or send your check to the treasurer - see back page for address:

Cathie Asti  
 Mario Bartoletti  
 Ann Cook  
 Allison Corsones  
 Jeff Corydon

Karen McKinney  
 Joan Nelson  
 Beth Otero  
 Denise Passmore  
 Jeddeth Pope

Dominique DiCamillo  
 Rebecca Elliott  
 Bea Ferland  
 Edward Kurtz  
 James McEachern

Carrie Rainwater  
 Evelyn Ann Romano  
 Robert Schill  
 Elizabeth Taylor  
 Wade Wetherington  
 Brunetta Winters-Kaye



## TWA Critique Group

Charles Greenwood, Coordinator

- How do you indicate a telepathic dialogue?
- How many sides of a telephone conversation should you show?
- Do you absolutely have to use dialogue tags?
- Can you eliminate tags by using unique character voices?

The TWA Critique Group has discussed and recommended solutions to all of these issues within the last three meetings. If you also struggle with these problems, then maybe the Critique Group can help.

The group evaluates fiction, non-fiction, and even poetry. All genres are welcome. Some of our members are just beginning their writing career, others are award-winning authors, and some are professional writers. Consequently, each piece generates a wide spectrum of opinions. We give honest feedback in a positive and gentle manner designed to help you improve your writing.

The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 7-9 PM in the right rear of the Barnes and Noble bookstore at 11802 North Dale Mabry Highway (next to Piccadilly cafeteria). That's just south of Stall Road. If you see Borders, you're too far north.

If you are interested in participating, email me at [charles\\_greenwood@yahoo.com](mailto:charles_greenwood@yahoo.com) and I'll send you more

information and the submissions for the next meeting. Please be aware that only TWA members may submit pieces for evaluation by the group.

I hope to see you at the next meeting!

Charles

## Recent Member Publications

**Vee Dayton** was recently published in *Advance for Nurses* with her article, "Fighting Flu" which addressed the issue of flu vaccine availability and its importance to the people of the region.

## Warner's Suggestion:

I think a list of websites of interest to writers would make a good monthly section for Write Connections. Sort of a *Website of the Month* thing.

I would contribute the website of my favorite Fantasy-Science Fiction writer, C. H. Cherryh, (Caroline Janice Cherry) <http://www.cherryh.com> whom most critics consider one of the current very best. She writes fantasy that can immediately transport you to that La La Land of vivid sword and/or sorcery or, seemingly effortlessly, make all the machinery of true science fiction operate realistically, or mix them together. She does future and past, and excels at what is described as building other worlds, a great E.T. anthropologist, by most's definition. We have much to learn from her about writing of any sort.

## POD PUDDLES

As of February 22, 2005, the TWA has five active novel pods. For more information, or if you are interested in starting a novel pod in your area, contact Paul May at [paul@paulrmay.com](mailto:paul@paulrmay.com). Curious? More to come on PODS next month! Impatient? Ask at the General Meeting March 2nd.

The novel pods are sanctioned by the Tampa Writers Alliance. As such, all who participate should be TWA members in good standing.

Location	Facilitator	Email Address	Status
Brandon	Sarah Byrn	sarakali@tampabay.rr.com	Open
South Tampa	KC Lucchese	kclukz@earthlink.net	Open
Carrollwood	Wendi Christner	ForWendi@aol.com	Closed to new members
Carrollwood	Lark Underwood	the1lark@hotmail.com	Open to 1 intermediate or advanced writer
Citrus Hills	Lou Kiefer	kiefers@digitalusa.net	Open

## Written and Edited; Now Whirring Nervously on the Hard Drive

**Where to start?** Have you written - or started - a good novel, wads of paper hiding back there in your closet or 0's and 1's filling your hard drive? Once again I will paraphrase (and probably misquote) Alex Haley: Apply your seat to the seat. In my words, persist and write, rewrite and polish until you have a manuscript that causes others to have a positive reaction. This is all directed toward fiction, but most also applies, or can be translated by the fluent, into nonfiction.

**First**, expose your work to the harsh light of criticism. Get the manuscript out and take it to a writing group or find someone with whom you can exchange critiques. Someone will want to read and offer suggestions. Not family, though. Get someone else to critique your work. As a rule, you will either get "Oh, that's nice." from a miserable piece of work; or scowls of disapproval over something that is really pretty good. For some reason, family just doesn't work - at least for me. I'm always an optimist, though, so try it once, maybe your family or partner is the exception. But probably only if they are also a writer. And even more to gain, I've found that critiquing other's works always help you understand your own flaws.

**If you are a little shaky** on the craft and skills of writing a good book, there are many references that can help. And if you think you are extraordinarily skilled by virtue of writing all those tech manual at the plant or class outlines from the course you are teaching.....guess what...fiction writing is just not the same. Another reason to join a critique group. I am ten years into learning to write fiction and just bought a copy of the Chicago Manual of Style, to defend an argument I was having with an editor. Got the book home.....and discovered I was wrong as mud.

**The old traditional way** to publishing still works - kinda. Buy or borrow the very latest edition of Writers Market and/or the Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Publishers, Editors & Literary Agents. Look up agents who say they are interested in the style of work you produce, read their guidelines and submit accordingly. ....Now wait.....If no success, then following the same procedure, submitting directly to likely publishers.....Now wait some more..... This process usually does work, if you have enough patience - AND - a good book. Agents and publishers are constantly changing - so make sure you are using the latest editions for your research. You

have taken years to write a good book. It will probably take another year or so to get an agent to take it on, then another year to tease a publisher to bite, and another before you see it in print.

**If you really have a great book** and more luck than any one human should have, maybe you'll get picked up. But the traditional world of publishing is finicky, VERY bottom line driven. You've got to match a perfect book with a talented agent and a receptive publisher. I suspect that most of us need more than a dollop of luck to make this match.

**That, my friends, is the traditional publishing model.** It is the way the established authors make the big bucks, and where you at least should try to learn the pleasantries of filing rejections notes; seldom personalized, more often haphazard and obvious machine copies; a sign the twenty-year old fresh English Lit graduate who is your face of the industry is overwhelmed with submissions.

**Unfortunately, it doesn't always work**, even when the book is good. Sometimes the desired confluence of buyer and seller just never aligns. If your patience runs out, or other circumstances intervene (like you have been submitting this manuscript for five years and you're not sure the Postal Service will continue to deliver mail to the nursing home you have signed up for), there are other options.

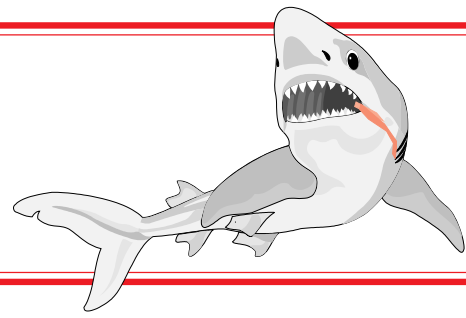
**Independent publishing can put you in control of the publishing process.** This can be good or bad, depending on your editorial and computer skill level, and the time and resources you apply.

A slight variation on the traditional process is to go to one of the small electronic publishers, most of which now also publish in paper. Many of these small publishers can have you contracted and a book on the street in six months (if minimal editing and cover design is required) or at most a year after you submit. The best single source for a listing of these outfits is through EPIC, the electronic publishing's professional author organization - which I highly recommend.

However you decide to publish, you are still responsible for your own editing, promotion and marketing unless you are one of the top ten or twenty authors in the USA (a Parker (Barbara or Robert) or Tom Clancy or W.E.B. Griffith). Or maybe you will be. **Just received my 4Q04 royalty check - a keeper, so keep your seat to the seat and watch for yours.**

jmt

# From the Shark's Den



***Bet you thought you would never see the old "Shark's Den" logo again - well - I'm back.***

For you relatively new members, "the Shark's Den" was the trademark I first used to distribute coordinator's notes from the Critique Group, then later my editorials in the Write Connection. So I thought I would resurrect it again, with a slight improvement - note the blood trailing from the jaws. Be prepared to be bloodied..

**Here we go - the new (or resurrected) newsletter elements that I hope to entice members to write - or I will be forced to shamelessly write myself and force upon you:**

**Feature Articles** - primarily about writing, but always somehow related to literature, perhaps tenuously, but somehow!

**Poetry** - terrible plots, by and large, with really flaky characters, but a viable filler, nevertheless, especially since most poems seem to have a lot of white space.

**Book promotions** - members who have books on the market get a bit of exposure. NOW - for the good part. I would really like to have some insightful reviews of members works, keeping in mind our goals include helping our members learn how to improve their writing. Think the authors can stand the heat? Just consider the reviews as an extension of the Critique Group. Speaking of which....

**Critique Group excerpts** - I would like to include excerpts of some of the pieces submitted to the Critique Groups - probably best after they have been critiqued and rewritten - with some comments by the author how the Group helped improve the work.

**Novel Pods** - What are you guys doing, meeting dark nights in God-knows-where isolated very small rooms? Bring a little light to your musings, and tell the rest of us what is going on, how the Pods work, if special medications are needed.

**Photos** - This is a newsletter that goes to an organization with a membership of around a hundred souls. My experience is that about twenty are active, and the other eighty don't even know what the rest of the group looks like (perhaps that is a good thing in some cases.) I want

to add photos of our activities and meetings just to show what a great time is had and entice the outside eighty to attend if possible.

**Interviews/bio sketches** - Since we all don't know each other, a short piece telling about individual backgrounds and interests and how they influence their writing will be of interest. Many of our members didn't know Ed Hirshberg, Harold Love or MaryAlice Thomas, just three of the members who were strong influences on my writing before we lost them. I would dearly like to read a short piece about them written by those who knew them well, in addition to learning more about our active members (not to wish anything sinister on you). This is a good place to acknowledge that I am not always politically correct as judged by a few. I never intend to embarrass anyone, slight any good deed nor fault an intention. Where I do, even if by mistake, I leave it to you, the intrepid reader and writer, to correct my error in the next edition. Tough on you if you let it slide.

**Now - what are your suggestions?** Warner has already come up with one good idea - including suggestions about web sites of interest. Lark has previously included links, along with a lot of other good ideas that I will retain such as contest information, new markets, suggested references and bits and pieces from the grand poo-bahs (see *The Mikado*) of this august group.

**One last note** - I would like the Alliance to consider adding a horror/fantasy/science fiction category (the specifics and details I will leave to the Executive Committee) to the contest categories in honor of MaryAlice, a most prolific, entertaining and award-winning writer of horror, past

officer and supporter of the Alliance. Please give this some thought before we finalize the 2005 contest rules.

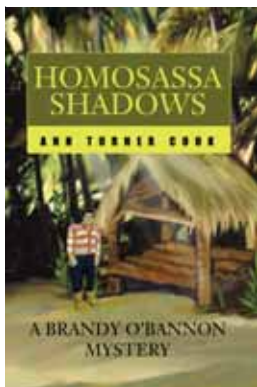
jmt



## MEMBER BOOKS

The following books were authored by members of the Tampa Writers Alliance.  
Contact the Write Connections Editor to feature your book here.

### COMING SOON - A New Mystery from the pen of Ann Turner Cook **HOMOSASSA SHADOWS**



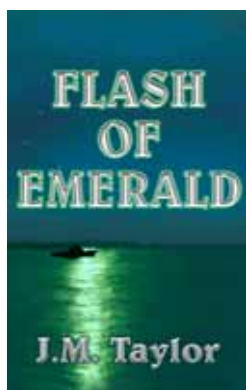
An eerie beauty settles over Tiger Tail Island, a wild refuge along Florida's Gulf Coast. But treachery and violence are woven throughout the island's blood history. The latest death is that of treasure hunter Timothy Hart, who discovered, then took to his grave, Tiger Tail Island's most extraordinary secret.

Newspaper reporter and crime buff Brandy O'Bannon has come to the quaint town of Homosassa to make a decision that will alter the course of her life. But she is soon drawn deeply into a web of intrigue as she seeks to unravel the mystery of Hart's murder. Brandy encounters a strange mix of characters more interested in Hart's discovery than in his death.

Brandy's amateur sleuthing tries the patience of homicide detective Sgt. Jeremiah Strong. But they join forces in a race against the clock to solve the crime. The intertwined fate of two Indian children, born centuries apart, rests on their success. Read more about Ann and her books on her web site at <http://annturnercook.com>



### Racing to see which will be published first: **Seminole Smoke or Gulf Winds**



J. M. Taylor's award winning Suncoast thriller, *Flash of Emerald*, is set in such familiar surroundings as Ybor City, MacDill AFB, University of Tampa and Peter O'Knight airport. His second novel, *Behind the Green Water*, is set in a local unexpected familiar to many Tampa Bay families - the deserts and mountains of the Middle East, especially northern Iraq. Hard Shell Word Factory, which publishes over 200 authors, recently announced their top forty sellers of 2005. *Behind the Green Water* ranked fourth on the list, followed closely by *Flash of Emerald* at sixth. *Seminole Smoke* is a Second Seminole War Young Adult adventure and *Gulf Winds* is the second exciting thriller exploring the waterways, dirt roads and high-rise offices of the Suncoast. Read more about Taylor on his web site at <http://johnmtaylor.com>.

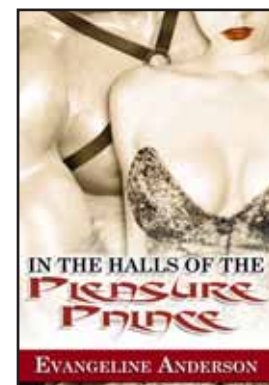
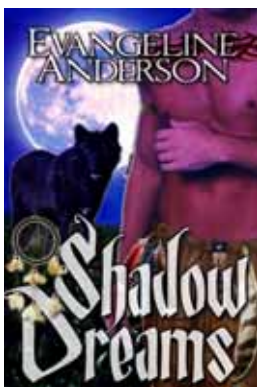


## Evangeline Anderson

Author of Paranormal/Science Fiction Erotica

*"Be still when you have nothing to say; when genuine passion moves you, say what you've got to say, and say it hot."*

Evangeline Anderson is a registered MRI tech who would rather be writing. She is thirty-something and lives in Florida with a husband, three cats and a college-age sister but no kids because enough is enough already. She had been writing stories for her own gratification for a number of years before it occurred to her to try and get paid for it. To her delight, she found it was actually possible to get money for her crazy ideas and she has been writing science fiction and paranormal romance steadily ever since. Read more about Anderson and her books at <http://evangelineanderson.com>.



*Pinawor*, Pinellas Authors and Writers Organization, meets each Saturday at the Highlands Recreation Complex, 400 N. Highland Avenue, Largo, from 9:30 to Noon. Contact Elenora Rose Sabin at 727-345-3376 for more information.

*St. Petersburg Writers' Club* meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Piccadilly Restaurant, 1900 34th Street N., St. Petersburg.

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Tampa Writers Alliance is a nonprofit, self-help support group for aspiring and published writers of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, scripts and plays. Annual membership dues are \$25 and include the monthly newsletter, *Write Connections*, and one copy of the *WordSmith*, our anthology of annual contest winners.

To join or renew, please make your check out to Tampa Writers Alliance and mail to:

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