



Write Connections

Volume 22 Number 10

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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.



Get Ready to Party October 3rd!

Our next regular meeting, October 3, will be a pot luck House Party at the home of President, Sandra Kischuk. Every member, new member, and prospective member is invited. TWA will supply the party-ware plus beer, wine, ice, and cheese ...yum!

Members should bring something to share, a bucket of chicken, possum, collards, pizza, cherry pie, whatever. We're not picky, just hungry. **And don't forget this is the deadline for the writing contest. Bring your manuscripts. Jim Young will be on hand to receive them.** This is your grand opportunity to interact with other great writers. **WE WILL NOT BE MEETING AT THE LIBRARY IN OCTOBER! The Party is at Sandra Kischuk's house, 2107 West Fore Drive, Tampa, FL 33612. Phone 813-935-7760.**

Directions from I-275 N: Exit Busch Blvd. Take Busch Blvd west to Florida Avenue. Turn right onto Florida Avenue and head north to Linebaugh Avenue. Turn left onto Linebaugh Avenue and head west to Armenia Avenue. Turn right onto Armenia Avenue and head north until you come to W. Fore Drive, (on the left.) Turn left onto W. Fore and go to stop sign. Turn right and you'll see 2107 on the right. Park along the street.

Something to Start Thinking About

The elected officers shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and member-at-large. The term of office for executive committee and officers shall be two years. No member may hold the same office more than one consecutive regular term.

Candidates for office shall be sought from the general membership by a three person nominating committee appointed by the executive committee in the November preceding an election year. The nominating committee's slate shall be published in the January issue of the TWA newsletter. Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the January general meeting.

Elections shall be held during the February general meeting. Announcement of the officers so elected shall be published in the March issue of the TWA newsletter. Officers shall be installed and take office from the Call to Order at the March general meeting.

Note: Prose, notices, press releases and one time book promotions may appear in newsletter if space permits and you submit to the editor before the 20th of each month.

"A Writer's Life...Calendar and Notes" from TWA president Sandra Kischuk

Sometimes what I write has everything to do with where I write it. I may come to absorb the *ambience* of the location, to remind myself of a feeling I had before, but had not yet captured. It is refreshing a faded snapshot, filling in details, or looking at something from a slightly different angle than what I remembered. My thought for the month is:

- If you change where you stand, you change what you see.

Extend that.

- If you change where you walk, you change how you feel.
- If you change where you sit, you change your experience.
- If you change how you look, you change whom you meet.

(Yep, put the makeup on and my experience at Home Depot is *completely* different than on the days I am *flying under the radar*.)

It is almost scary to realize how much we influence our world...and that what we *put out there* is often very closely related to what we get back. Many times, we define our reality. If we tell ourselves, "I'm so busy, I don't have time for..." our minds will work very hard at ensuring that is the way it happens. We fulfill what we tell ourselves exists.

So I could argue for what I can't do, and make that a reality by arguing for it, or I can decide to change what I see, what I think, what I feel, what I experience, and who I meet.

Very often, we don't get what we want just the way we want it. We don't have people clearing the path before us so we can spend our time exploring our genius and writing the next great American novel. We don't have people dedicating their existence to ensuring that we fulfill our destinies. We have to do it for ourselves.

And it's not like it's easy to do. We don't have the luxury of huge blocks of uninterrupted time. We have spouses and children, friends and work, bills and mending—whether it is the button that popped off our clothing, the body we neglected too long, or the torn relationship that needs our attention.

I can claim those small scraps of time between the other stuff, and use them to move in a new direction. Like weeds growing in the cracks of the sidewalk, all I need to do is get things started. I am only looking for a space where there is room for my thoughts, to snatch up small moments. Those little pieces of time—one word, a sentence, a paragraph—get stitched together by repetition, until I finally have a large body of work.

Today, I'm sitting on the back porch of my parent's home, watching a yellow-striped black giant swallowtail hovering over the three-foot-high red pentas. I hear a blue jay in their neighbor's yard. It is a quiet Sunday morning...and the world, at least this small corner of it, hasn't yet wakened. This is where I am writing now—but writing is something I have done in my car in parking lots and at park picnic tables, propped up in bed, in the family room at friend's homes, on airplanes, in hotel lobbies, waiting in the doctor's office, and perched at high, round bar tables with music blaring around me (isn't it strange that we can go to places surrounded by people, then listen to music so loud there is no chance to communicate or interact with them?).

What I write may have very little to do with where I am. This story has had nothing to do with where I am...yet it has everything to do with it. And that is a discipline and a gift.

Wordsmith 2006 & 2007

Unclaimed reserved copies of Wordsmith 2006 & 2007 are no longer reserved or free. All Wordsmith 2006 and 2007 are now on sale at \$10.00 per copy. Shipping is \$3 per book. Send checks to James Young at the address below.

James A. Young
2826 Keysville Rd East
Lithia, FL 33547

ATTENTION

Start Planning For St Petersburg Times Festival of Reading

- **Saturday, October 27:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.—St Petersburg Times Festival of Reading. This event is of special benefit to TWA members. Each year TWA purchases one or more booths at this event for TWA members to promote and sell their books. This has turned out to be a great opportunity for our published authors. Last year they sold over \$500.00 worth of books. And authors can keep the proceeds of their book sales. Get your seat at the table reserved early lest you get left out. It's first come, first serve. Seats are limited. So, go ahead, mark your calendar and then call Sandra Kischuk: 813.935.7760 to reserve your seat at the table.

TWA Critique Group – Al Lucas, Coordinator

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm. NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER.

Please send your submissions and other appropriate information to Al Lucas, ALthePhilosopher@aol.com. All genres are welcome. We accept short stories, novel chapters, and even poetry. 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.

Visitors are welcome to attend if interested in joining, but only members' works will be discussed, generally 4-5 pieces per session. Dues are only \$35 yearly beginning the month you join. For further information, visit our Website at: www.tampawriters.org

The Poetry Group

4th Thursday of each month. Barnes and Noble Booksellers (North) Just south of Stall Road which is just south of Fletcher on North Dale Mabry. 7 PM, way in the back of the store.

Yes, the Tampa Writers Alliance has a meeting for poets. We meet at the Barnes & Noble Booksellers (North) just south of Stall Road on North Dale Mabry Hwy. We get together at the tables in the back on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 PM. If you're lucky, all you'll need is a bunch of copies of your work (We average about 15 poets per meeting, plus who-knows-what.) Copies are not even compulsory. You can read yours or sing yours or have someone else do it for you. If you only appreciate poetry, bring your favorite to read. We go round and round the table. If you want critique, ask for it. Otherwise, we're there just to enjoy hearing each other emote and comment. Seriously, something bazare almost always happens, so be ready. As for that, we always manage to have a lot of fun anyway, yes, in spite of everything. Give us a try. Free admission.

Warner D. Conarton, Tampa Writers Alliance Poetry Group Coordinator

e-mail: warnerdconarton@netscape.com

Web-page: warnerconarton.com

GET PUBLISHED NOW!

Learn how to market your manuscript during this one-day intensive workshop for writers, taught by former publisher, Molli Nickell. **October 13, 9AM to 5 PM in Eastlake Woodlands, Oldsmar**

Your manuscript is well under way—or even completed. Now what? It's time to introduce your work to an agent or publisher. In order to do this effectively, you'll have to learn to write three vital sales documents. This workshop will teach you how!

With 25 years experience in publishing (as both author and publisher), Molli Nickell is uniquely qualified to teach you how to write the marketing documents you need.

Once you've mastered the techniques of writing a professional query and cover letter as well as a compelling first page, you'll greatly increase the odds that your manuscript will be requested by an agent or publisher (which moves you one step closer to becoming a published author).

During this one-day intensive workshop you will:

1. Complete a draft of a professional query letter
2. Complete a cover letter to accompany your manuscript
3. Re-write the opening paragraph of your manuscript

Can you accomplish this in one day? Absolutely.

Workshop information:

Date: Saturday, October 13, 2007

Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Place: East Lake Woodlands Country Club 1055 East Lake Woodlands Parkway, Oldsmar, FL 34677 (East of Tampa Rd. And McMullen Booth intersection.)

Fee: \$75 which includes all-day beverage service and lunch

Workshop space is limited to 24. Reserve your space by completing the form below and sending it, along with a check to:

Molli Nickell
305 Woods Landing Trail
Oldsmar, FL 34677

Got questions? Email Molli at mollikatee@yahoo.com

For more information about marketing your work, check out Molli's website, www.getpublishednow.biz

-----GET PUBLISHED NOW REGISTRATION FORM-----

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

(This is for ease of communication. Your email address will never be shared)

You'll receive email acknowledgement of your registration along with location directions. You'll also receive a list of what to bring with you besides a positive attitude and anticipation of a day spent with other writers and filled with facts, writing and food as you acquire the knowledge you need to become a published author.

My check for \$75 is enclosed _____

Do you require a vegetarian lunch? Yes _____ No _____

Mail to: Molli Nickell 305 Woods Landing Trail, Oldsmar, FL 34677

TWA Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Cell Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

To join TWA and receive full membership benefits, fill out the application above and mail it with your check for **\$35** (payable to Tampa Writers Alliance) to:

**James A. Young, Treasurer
Tampa Writers Alliance
2826 Keysville Rd E.
Lithia, FL 33547**

TWA Directory

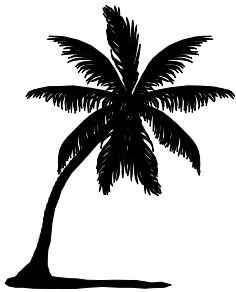
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Contest Coordinator	James A. Young	813-391-1139	jayoung@mindspring.com

TWA WEBSITE

WWW.TAMPAWRITERS.ORG

Don't Forget to mark your calendar for the TWA party October 3rd.

Stay Cool and **Write On!**



Tampa Writers Alliance
Write Connections
 c/o James A. Young
 2826 Keyville Rd E
 Lithia, FL 33547