



Writer's Connection

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

Quinte Writer's Guild Newsletter

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REMINDERS

- *Mark Your Calendar with these Upcoming Meeting Dates for the remainder of 2003:*
 - **November 4,**
 - **December 2**
- *Monthly Dues are \$3.*
- *Membership is \$15*

WHERE WE WRITERS MEET: WHARF STREET DEBATING CLUB 34 S. FRONT ST.

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Board & Executive
.....

President:
Pamela Stork
pstork@hotmail.com

Vice President:
Ruth Howard

Treasurer:
Maureen Wood
imagery@sympatico.ca

Recording Secretary:
Angela McPherson
somehulabaloo@yahoo.ca

House Manager:
Susan Brannigan-Rampp
rampp@sympatico.ca

Hello Guild Members!

Welcome to the Fall issue of the Writer's Connection. We have our first Workshop scheduled for January. Please check out page two for details. If all goes well we will try to make this a yearly or quarterly event.

Hope you enjoy the newsletter. As always kudos, suggestions and content are welcome.

Maureen

From Our President!

Hallowe'en Message from Pam

A bunch of us had a great time at our first workshop before the October meeting. We tried a timed exercise in creative writing that tested our powers of, not only shaping the written word, but beating the clock. It was fun...but more than a little **scary** to let the others see what you could do without the luxury of editing before presenting the finished product. I urge you all to join us for the next pre-meeting get-together to **exorcize** your fears of winging it! If you try to come prepared you won't have a **ghost** of a chance of fitting in. Sorry, gang, I am trying to be clever but the **spirit** just isn't moving me.

In all seriousness, I think I am happiest about our group when new members talk about how really, truly scared they were to come and/or read the first time and how their fears vanish when they get to know us.

You are all to be congratulated on helping to create an atmosphere which makes writers welcome.

It's a **boo-tiful** thing!

Pam

December Meeting-Christmas Celebration

W H E N: Tuesday December 2

T I M E: 6 p.m.

W H E R E: Wharf Street Debating Club

W H A T T O B R I N G: Nothing! The Guild is going to have this meeting catered so it is imperative that we know if you are attending.

C O S T: \$0.00, zippo, nada
Merry Christmas from the Guild

CALL TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE:

Angela: 967-0193

Sue: 966-3803

Do you have ideas as to whom we should get to cater and what?

Call or email Pam: 966-1755

We will be accepting monetary donations for our annual donation to Christmas Sharing.

Member News

- **Maureen Wood** sold one-time print rights for her poem "Jaded Life" to Book Lover's Haven, a newsletter by Chistell Publishing (<http://www.chistell.com>). It is to appear in either their October or November issue.
- If you haven't checked it out yet, pick up a copy of "On Quinte Sports" to see many articles by **Paul Corman**. He has a featured column every month as well as playing a major role in other articles.

Upcoming Workshops/Speakers

We have our first workshop scheduled.

Saturday January 17th.

Pre-registration is required to assure numbers.

This workshop will be free to members with a nominal fee for non-members.

There will be three two hour sessions.

Session One: 9:30-11:30

Session Two: 12:30-2:30

Session Three: 3:00-5:00

Registration is required for each session you wish to attend. There will be prizes for those in attendance (TBA in brochure).

If you know of anyone who might like to sponsor a prize please refer them to Maureen.

Speakers:

Mystery Author Rosemary Aubert

Sheila Wray-Gregoire

Jo-Anne Wilson

There will be a separate mail out with more information on speakers, content and registration form.

Writing Websites

- **How to write a novel in ten weeks** (long link, include it all)- <http://web.archive.org/web/20021204221404/http://www.reporters.net/jbreid/course10weeks.htm>
- **mslexia**: the magazine for women who write- <http://www.mslexia.co.uk/index02.htm>
- **2 day poem contest**- http://www.contemporaryverse2.ca/2day/contest_2day_results.html
- **Smart Writers** (check out the section For Writers) - <http://www.smartwriters.com>

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Market of the Month

Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine

Writers' Guidelines

(From their website: <http://www.themysteryplace.com>)

Finding new authors is a great pleasure for all of us here, and we look forward to reading the fiction you send us. Since we do read all submissions, there is no need to query first; please send the entire story. You don't need an agent.

Because this is a mystery magazine, the stories we buy must fall into that genre in some sense or another. We are interested in nearly every kind of mystery, however: stories of detection of the classic kind, police procedurals, private eye tales, suspense, courtroom dramas, stories of espionage, and so on. We ask only that the story be about a crime (or the threat or fear of one). We sometimes accept ghost stories or supernatural tales, but those also should involve a crime.

You might find it useful to read one or more issues of AHMM; that should give you an idea of the kind of fiction we buy. For a sample copy, send a check made out to AHMM for \$5.00 to

475 Park Ave. South,
11th floor,
New York, NY 10016.

Style. We prefer that stories not be longer than 14,000 words; most of the stories in the magazine are considerably shorter than that. They should, of course, be well-written. We are looking for stories that have not been previously published elsewhere, and among them for those that are fresh, well-told, and absorbing. They should be entirely fiction: please do not send us stories based on actual crimes, for instance, or other real-life events.

Manuscript preparation. Manuscripts should be typed on plain white paper (not erasable paper) and double-spaced (not space-and-a-half), with your name and address at the top of the first page. The title of the story as well as the byline you want to use should be on the first page of the story also. (We prefer that there not be a separate title page.) If you use a word processor, please do not justify the right-hand margin. Every page of the story should be numbered, preferably in the upper right-hand corner. If you number the pages by hand, be sure before you start that no page has been omitted. Do not use the italic, large-size, or boldface characters some computers are capable of generating. Underline words to indicate italics.

Indent for each paragraph. Do not leave 1-line spaces between paragraphs. The number of lines per page should be uniform, or mostly so.

Stories should be mailed to us flat, with the pages bound together by a paper clip only — not stapled or enclosed in a binder. A cover letter isn't necessary. If you want the manuscript returned in the event we cannot use it, you must include a self-addressed stamped envelope; contributors outside the U.S.A. should send International Reply Coupons in lieu of stamps. If you have sent us a photocopy and do not want it back, please advise us of that and enclose a smaller SASE for our response. Please keep a copy of any material submitted, since we cannot be responsible for lost or misdelivered mail.

Revisions. Revised versions of a story should be submitted only on our request, as a rule. At the very least, tell us in a cover letter that the story has been submitted before but has been revised, and explain how.

NOTE: Stories submitted to AHMM are not also considered by or for Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, though we share the same address. Submissions to EQMM must be made separately.

We do not accept simultaneous submissions.

**"I LOVE REVISIONS.
WHERE ELSE IN LIFE CAN
SPILLED MILK BE
TRANSFORMED INTO ICE
CREAM."
—KATHERINE PATERSON,
NOVELIST**