

COEUR d'ALENE CHAPTER

IDAHO WRITERS' LEAGUE

Lakegazette



Celebrating our 63rd Anniversary 1943 - 2006

August 2006

P.O. BOX 1113, Hayden, Idaho 83835

COEUR d'ALENE IWL MEETINGS:

August 9 Jewett House

9:00 A.M. to Noon

NO DAY MEETING

Aug 17 Lutheran Church

1639 West Hull Loop

Coeur d'Alene (Map inside)

6:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Program: Brandilyn Collins

Refreshments: Need Volunteer

Refreshments: Need Volunteer

Next Day Meeting:

September 13 Jewett House

9 A.M. to Noon.

Need refreshment volunteer.

August Birthdays:

8/02 Marion E. Lillie

8/17 Robin Clayton

8/20 Barbara Rostad

8/22 Linda Juergensen

8/28 Dottie Maley

8/28 Larry Godwin

Need REFRESHMENT volunteers
for August Evening, September
Evening, October Evening and
November Evening.

Please contact Barbara Rostad at
(208) 777-1030 to volunteer for
Refreshments. Thank you.

Holey Moley, It's August!

by Sherry Ramsey, 1st Vice-President

Greetings IWL family! We have exciting things happening and there's never been a better time to be a member of the Coeur d'Alene Chapter. I hope everyone appreciates the hard work that goes in to making our chapter what it is. Most people come to the meetings, enjoy the program, refreshments, camaraderie with other writers and critiques. That's wonderful! It's what we want.

But I hope you realize how much of themselves some of the people give to make the group run smoothly. Larry Telles, our Grande Poobah as I like to call him, has done an exemplary job as president. His quick wit and organizational skills at the meetings make them fun. And I'm all for fun! He also puts together our chapter newsletter, which is no small feat. (No Larry, I'm not saying you have big feet.)

Jenni Hearne is our treasurer and takes time from her job to keep our books running the way they should. Liz Mastin is our secretary and records the minutes from each board meeting—did you know all these people meet for a board meeting right after our day meetings? David Hibberd is our state president and I don't think anyone but his wife realizes all the work he puts into the group he loves, with very little thanks. He also is the webmaster for our state website.

Mary Smith is finishing up with her last year as out state treasurer and you can bet no treasurer has done better for us than she has. Just in the last 8 months her management of our money has brought in the equivalent of 20 new members to the state. Sandy Smith is our Sunshine Girl! Did you even know we had one? She sends birthday and get well cards to our group, from our group. She's also the 2nd Vice President for the state.

Ann Washington joined and was instantly thrown into state secretary! Linda Juergensen is our historian—keeping track of us so the people who come after us can read about all the cool stuff we did!

Jim Turner handles the Leagazette. It's not easy getting people to submit and the chapters to turn in their news on time (sorry 'bout that Jim, I'll do better next time).



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A LETTER FROM BRANDILYN COLLINS

Barbara Rostad does a fantastic job organizing the refreshments we have at each meeting. And how many of you knew that Shirley Ellis is almost always the first person to each day meeting. She sets out all the chairs that are always lined up so nice when we walk in and gets the place ready for us. There are more people who help with grants—Gloria Warnick and Sharon Ostrom—and people who help on committees.

It's rewarding. It's fun. But most importantly it's a chance to get to know each other better. You see a different side to people and you aren't just an anonymous face. I hope each one of you will take the time to thank someone on this list for the things they do for our group. And maybe the next time we need officers some of you will consider lending your fun personalities to the mix.

Oh! You're wondering about the exciting things I said are happening, aren't you? Well, we've decided to have a Chapter Service Award for those who go beyond the call of duty. It will be named the Betty Rohrsheib Chapter Service Award, or something to that effect. It will be held at the November night meeting because what better time to thank people than near Thanksgiving? This is still just in the planning stages and is all I know for now. We've put together a committee and I'll let you know more, when we know more.

Those who have internet service will start getting a cheery reminder before each meeting, telling about the upcoming meetings. If you don't want them to come to you, please hit reply and type "no reminder" and I'll immediately take you off my email list. I don't want to be a nuisance to anyone. I believe this will bring up the attendance at our meetings.

Don't forget that we do NOT have an August day meeting. But the August night meeting will be extra special. As you already know Brandilyn Collins will be speaking about her new book, *Violet Dawn*, the first in the new Kanner Lake Series. She'll also discuss her unique marketing plan and how it's going. But if you've ever been at the church (our usual night meeting spot) in the heat of the summer, you know it gets stifling. Thank you to those who volunteered to let us use your homes for the evening, but Brandilyn beat you to it! She has invited the entire group to her home which seats almost as many as the church. We'll put her letter to the group with directions in this newsletter.

A sneak preview for September is Joan Hust and Bette Ammon from the libraries, discussing what people are looking for. It should be really interesting for our day meeting. The September night meeting will be Karen Wright who wrote the Sequoia Seed. Karen spoke at the February day meeting but a screw up in wires booted her out of her night meeting spot. So we've rescheduled her here and the evening folks won't miss out on a great speaker.

Have a wonderful summer and I hope to see you at the meetings!

Dear IWL Members:

Greetings, all. I am so honored to be able to host your August 17 meeting (6:30 p.m.) at our home at Kidd Island Bay, Coeur d'Alene. And doubly honored to have a chance to talk to you about my new Kanner Lake suspense series and the unique marketing behind it. Through giving you a behind-the-scenes look at this series' total marketing package—both on the publisher's side and my side—I hope to give you all new ideas for promoting your own writing. A recent article in the Wall Street Journal talked about the kinds of strategies I'm employing—"using the Internet in more sophisticated ways, through email blasts, interactive games and viral marketing." The article says that current trends in publishing "are a clear call to revise the marketing playbook." I say a big Yes to that. Mass marketing is out; buzz marketing is in.

I'm so happy to share our home with you. Mark and I just adore northern Idaho, and our property at Kidd Island is to us a piece of heaven on earth. Our home is on 11 forested acres, and has a very large great room looking out to the lake. We can seat quite a lot of people in that room—as long as we have enough chairs. If you're planning on coming, it would help me greatly if you'd email me with the number in your party.



A bit about Kanner Lake. This is my fictional town set in northern Idaho, between the towns of Priest River and Spirit Lake. The first book in the series, *Violet Dawn*, releases in August with a launch party in downtown Coeur d'Alene on August 26. For more information on the Kanner Lake series, visit the Web site at: www.kannerlake.com. You can also read Scenes and Beans, the character blog (written in real time according to events in the books), at: www.kannerlake.blogspot.com. If you would like to write a post for this blog after *Violet Dawn* is released, your name and Internet site will be promoted on the Kanner Lake Web site. Finally, to read the first twelve chapters of *Violet Dawn*, serialized each week from now into August, go to: <http://kannerlake.com/violetdawnexcerpts.html>.

WHAT IS A POEM?

by Liz Mastin

Blank Verse and Enjambment

How easy can it be? **Blank Verse** is a form that requires no rhyming, but only meter. We can feel the beats in a line of poetry with the unstressed and stressed syllables – and – that is exactly what one does with Blank Verse. It has *five* two syllable beats with the stress on the second syllable of each beat – in other words it is written in *iambic pentameter*.

Blank Verse originated from Italian literature and it began as a way of writing a line that would have the “heft and weight of the classical epic”. Because of its extended line the writer could use more adjectives. Also the longer length of the line allowed for the inclusion of more words of *elevated* and *extended thought* in each line..

The inventor of Blank Verse was Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey who lived in the 1500’s in England. Among his accomplishments; his translation of The Aeneid into this Blank Verse!

Later, Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare, and John Milton made extensive use of blank verse in their poetry, writings and plays. Blank Verse proved a natural vehicle for rhythmic and sustained speech.

Rules for Blank Verse

1. It is a poem of any length with a strict ten-syllable line
2. It does not rhyme
3. It is written in iambic pentameter (five two syllable beats with the stress on the second syllables)
example: 1. **T**oday 2. *I* feel 3. *the* **e**arth 4. *is* **f**air 5. *at* **l**ast,
4. Enjambment is often a part. (*one thought dependent on the next line – to complete*)
5. Uses poetic thoughts and poetic techniques such as alliteration and assonance and imagery as desired.
6. As in most formal poetry, each line starts with a **capital letter**.

Example of Blank Verse Poetry (While following the form for the most part, Charlotte Smith varies from the iambic pentameter sometimes and throws in a few extra syllables. Poets will often take liberties like this, as needed, and it is acceptable as long as the form is followed for **the most part**.)

Note: one has to slow down and feel the beats. This takes a little practice, as we normally do not *think* so much –in beats.

Example: from “Beachy Head’s” first two lines:

1. An ear/ 2. ly wor/ 3. shiper/ 4. at na/ 5. tures
shrine

1. I loved/ 2. her rud/ 3. est scenes/ 4. warrens/
5. and dens

From Beachy Head

By Charlotte Smith

An early worshipper at Nature’s shrine,
I loved her rudest scenes warrens, and heaths
And yellow commons, and birch-shaded hollows,
And hedge rows, bordering unfrequented lanes
Bowered with wild roses, and the clasping woodbine
Where purple tassels of the tangling vetch
With bittersweet, and bryony inweave,
And the dew fills the silver bindweed’s cups –
I loved to trace the brooks whose humid banks
Nourish the harebell, and the freckled pagil;
And stroll among o’ershadowing woods of beech,
Lending in Summer, from the heats of noon
A whispering shade; while haply there reclines
Some pensive lover of uncultured flowers,
Who, from the tumps with bright green mosses clad,
Plucks the wood sorrel, with its light thin leaves,
Heart-shaped, and triply folded; and its root
Creeping like beaded coral; or who there
Gathers. The copse’s pride, anemones,
With rays like golden studs on ivory laid
Most delicate: but touched with purple clouds,
Fit crown for April’s fair but changeful brow.

Note that this poem has many **enjambments** (lines that are not end stopped nor are complete thoughts in themselves, but continue into the next)

An example two lines with **enjambment** are the lines:

**“I loved to trace the brooks whose humid banks
Nourish the harebell, and the freckled pagil;**

You can see that if one reads only “I loved to trace the brooks whose humid banks”

It is not a complete thought and it needs the second line. Thus it is enjambed in the place where it needs to continue with “Nourish.”

Note also that each line begins with a capital letter even though this poem is one flowing sentence. This is tradition in form poetry (to start each line with a capital letter)

From Julius Ceasar (111.ii. 70 – 104)

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears.
I have come to bury Ceasar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interred with their bones.
So let it be with Ceasar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Ceasar was ambitious.
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Ceasar answered it. Etc.

Enjoy trying Blank Verse!!

My attempt (just a short one) I emboldened the second syllable which is the strong accent.

*1.Today /2. the sun /3. will beat /4. upon /5. my head
1.As waves /2. splash on /3. the pil /4. ings of /5. my dock*

1.And chil /2. dren ga /3. ther in /4. the lake /5. to play etc.

ALFALFA

by Joan S. Hust

Did you know that ALFALFA is a restorative tonic and helps to treat chronic and acute digestive weaknesses? It also aids in the assimilation of proteins, iron, calcium, and other trace minerals. It helps to build and revitalize the body. Various acute and chronic inflammatory symptoms associated with degeneration and aging can be alleviated with Alfalfa.

The Chinese has used alfalfa since the sixth century to treat kidney stones, and to relieve fluid retention and swelling. It is a perennial herb that grows throughout the world in a variety of climates. Alfalfa grows to about 3 feet and has blue- violet flowers and clover like leaves very small and normally olive-green in color that blooms from July to September. . It has a root system that can reach down more than 40 feet, and is very drought resistant.

First discovered by the Arabs, they dubbed this valuable plant the “father of all foods”. They fed alfalfa to their horses claiming it made the animals swift and strong. The leaves of the alfalfa plant are rich in minerals and nutrients, including calcium, magnesium, potassium, and carotene (useful against both heart disease and cancer). Leaf tablets are also rich in protein, vitamins E and K. Alfalfa extract is used by food makers as a source of chlorophyll and carotene.

The leaves of this remarkable legume contain eight essential amino acids. It is a good laxative and a natural diuretic. It is useful in the treatment of urinary tract infections, kidney, bladder and prostate disorders. It alkalizes and detoxifies the body, and especially the liver. It promotes pituitary gland function and contains an anti-fungus agent.

The scientific names for Alfalfa are *Medicago sativo*, *Feuille De luzerne*, *Lucerne*, *Medicago*, *Phytoestrogen*, and *Purple Medick*. It is from the pea family, and was first discovered by the Arabs. They dubbed this valuable plant the “father of all foods”.

Alfalfa is known as the “Queen of Forages”. It is not only the oldest cultivated forage crop in the US, but it is one of the most palatable and nutritious. It is rich in protein, vitamins, and minerals. When you cut it prior to bloom it is low in fiber and high in energy. It is prized as a primary component in dairy cattle rations and is an important feed for horses, beef cattle, sheep, and milk goats. Supposedly it is the oldest known plant used for livestock feed with records of its use as early as 1,000 BC in the Middle East.

Alfalfa is usually planted in April or May using a machine called a drill. The drill places the seed into the ground about a half-inch deep. Each row is about four to five inches apart. Alfalfa is a perennial crop, which means it will grow in the same field four or five years in a row without replanting. Farmers like alfalfa because it is a legume plant, which places nitrogen in the soil. The nitrogen is food for the soil and helps feed other plants such as corn, which may be grown later in the same field.

Common use: The parts used for this versatile herb is the whole herb and the leaf, but also it is a folk remedy for arthritis, diabetes, asthma, hay fever, and is reputed to be an excellent appetite stimulant and overall tonic. It is an excellent source of nutritive properties with minerals, chlorophyll and vitamins. Alfalfa is high in chlorophyll and nutrients. Treating with alfalfa preparations is generally without side effects, however the seeds contain a slightly toxic amino acid L-canavanine.

Benefits of Alfalfa:

- Useful as a nutritive tonic
- Has anti-hemorrhagic and diuretic properties

- Promotes digestion and assimilation of vitamins, minerals
- Blocks the absorption of cholesterol and prevents the formation of atherosclerotic plaque
- Rich in detoxifying chlorophyll
- Increases stamina and strength
- High in phytoestrogens - stimulates hormone functions

Nutrient Content of Alfalfa:

Alfalfa leaves contain beta-carotene, vitamins C, D, E, and the coagulant, Vitamin K. It also contains various trace minerals, including calcium, potassium, and iron.

Generally regarded as safe by the FDA. Alfalfa is slow and has deep action so it should be taken regularly (on a daily basis) for treating chronic disorders. Contact dermatitis has occurred in hypersensitive individuals.

***Growing a “garden” of sprouts requires much less effort than traditional outdoors or window gardens. Rinsing and draining several different kinds of sprouts takes only about 15 minutes a day and can provide a large variety of fresh vegetables not available in markets...and all for just pennies a day. ***

Combinations of Dry Seeds to Sprout Together

1. 2 t. alfalfa or clover, 2 t. mung, 1 t. wheat and 1/4 t. radish - good in salads, sandwiches, soups and omelets
2. 2 t. mung bean, 1 t. lentil, 2 t. soybean, 2 t. sunflower, sprouted 2-3 days - good in stir-fry dishes, salads, sandwiches, casseroles and patties
3. 2 t. mung bean, 1 t. sunflower, 2 t. lentil, 2 t. garbanzo bean, sprouted 3-4 days, then cooked and mashed - good as sandwich spread, in casseroles, and as the base for patties
4. 2 t. alfalfa, 4 t. mung, 2 t. lentil - good as lettuce replacement on sandwiches, tacos, as a decorative border around cracked wheat or pasta salads

Sprouting Times

These seeds sprout in 2-3 days: wheat, all beans, rye, oats, rice, sunflower, lentil and buckwheat

These seeds can be sprouted until green leaves appear, usually in 4-5 days: alfalfa, radish, clover and cabbage

After 2-3 days, when hulls have fallen off of the small seeds, place sprouts in a large jar and cover with water. Mix and stir to separate sprouts from hulls. Unsprouted seeds will settle to the bottom and hulls will float to the top. Skim off hulls, and then hold on to sprouts as you pour off remaining water and unsprouted seeds. Return to original container to finish sprouting.

Sprouting in a Quart Jar

Put seeds in a quart jar (2 T. small seeds like alfalfa or clover, 1/2 c. beans or grains), and cover with 3-4 times as much water as seeds. After soaking, place a piece of nylon net or fiberglass window screen over the top of the jar. Secure with a jar ring or wide elastic band. Pour off soaking water (contains nutrients, so save for making soups, to replace liquid in recipes, or to water your plants), and rinse well with lukewarm water.

Most failures at sprouting occur because sprouts sour and mold if they are too wet. For better drainage, drain for up to 1/2 hour with jar tilted at an angle. When no water drips from sprouts, roll jar so that most seeds coat sides of jar. Then lay jar on its side in a warm (about 70 degrees), dark place and rinse with lukewarm water twice a day (or just often enough to keep moist for alfalfa or clover) until sprouts have reached the desired length. Beans should be rinsed thoroughly and not overcrowded in the jar.

Sprouting in a Tray

Spread soaked seeds evenly in homemade or commercial trays with plastic mesh or fiberglass screen bottoms. The mesh should be fine enough to keep small seeds from falling through. Drain with the tray tilted so that surface tension is relieved. When no water drips from sprouts, put tray in a warm place (about 70 degrees) and cover with a lid or cloth to retain moisture and keep out the light. As with jar instructions above, small seeds usually need to be rinsed or sprayed with lukewarm water often enough to keep moist, but beans and larger seeds should be thoroughly rinsed with lukewarm water at least twice a day and not overcrowded.

Don't drown your sprouts!

Sprouting seeds are mini-gardens, and NO garden likes to be drowned in water. Keep sprouts slightly damp, but never dripping wet. If you have several trays, they can be stacked on top of one another, covered with a burlap cloth and watered through only the top tray. Again, pay special attention to beans. Rolling a paper towel and placing one end in a container of water and the other on top of a tray or stack of trays, which have been covered with a paper towel, can create a wick. When the water container is higher than the trays, the water will travel down the towel to the lower surface. This is especially helpful in keeping sprouts moist when you are away from home. Lower trays do not stay evenly moist, so be sure to rinse each tray thoroughly once a day.

***Recipes:

Curried Rice Salad

- 2 c. cooked brown rice
- 2 t. beef bouillon
- 1 c. diced celery
- 1/2 c. fat-free grated cheese (opt.)
- 1/2 t. curry powder
- 1/3 c. fat-free mayonnaise
- 2 T. chopped onions
- 1 c. alfalfa sprouts

Mix all ingredients except sprouts together and serve, topped with sprouts and freshly diced tomatoes, if available. This is also an excellent pita bread filling. Serves 4.

Super Easy Sun Salad

- 2 c. 2-3 day sprouted sunflower seeds
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 1 t. olive oil

Mix all ingredients (add salt to taste) and serve plain or on a bed of lettuce or sprouts. Serves 4.

Cucumber and Sprout Salad

- 1 cucumber, diced
- 4 tomatoes, diced
- French or Ranch dressing
- Salad greens
- 1 c. alfalfa sprouts

Mix cucumber and tomatoes and place on a bed of fresh salad greens, surrounded by alfalfa sprouts, and topped with French or Ranch dressing. This is also good with sprouted or toasted sesame seeds sprinkled on top. Serves 6.

Garbanzo Bean Salad

- 1 c. chopped mung bean sprouts
- 1 chopped tomato
- 2 T. fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 c. chopped celery
- 2 c. sprouted garbanzo beans
- 1/2 c. diced cucumber
- 1/4 c. chopped green onion
- French or oil and lemon dressing

Steam garbanzo bean sprouts until tender/crunchy. Cool and mix with other ingredients. Chill and serve with Sweet and Sour Sauce or Ranch dressing. Serves 4. Sprinkle with sesame seeds, if desired.

How can this be used in our diet other than as sprouts in a salad?

Try it with Ranch dressing.

Alfalfa Sprouts Curry

- 2 Tbs corn, peanut or vegetable oil
- 1 C chopped onion
- 2 cloves chopped garlic
- 1/2 C chopped sweet pepper
- 2+ tsp curry powder
- 1/4 tsp cayenne pepper (optional)
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 1/2 C vegetable or chicken stock
- 2 C chopped alfalfa sprouts (salt to taste)
- 1 tsp liquid cornstarch (dissolve in 1 tsp water)

Use a wok or large frying pan & heat the oil.

Sauté the onion, garlic, and peppers.

Add curry, cayenne, soy sauce, stock, alfalfa sprouts.

Mix well and simmer for 2 minutes.

Stir in liquid cornstarch till it thickens.

Serve hot.

Now let's sit down in our favorite recliner, and have a hot cup of alfalfa tea by mixing it with a little mint and lemon grass, and read a poem by Carl Sandburg that goes something like this: ...one night in Kansas with a hot wind on the alfalfa...I want to give you green and golden fields, alfalfa, wheat in sunlight...

Also a poem by Harry Kemp...of yellow grain, Rakish bumblebees have wheeled, looting the alfalfa field.

Last but not least

Food for Thought By D. Woodhouse in 1994:

Your poem was DILL-ightful
A SAGE you truly are
You PEPPER-ed up my morning
With your verse from ALFALFA

Remember that a hot cup of Alfalfa tea is soothing. Alfalfa sprouts are great in salads, and the leaves may be used raw or cooked as a vegetable.

According to the Natural Medicines

Comprehension Database there are safety concerns. Alfalfa is safe for most adults, but alfalfa can make the skin extra sensitive to sunlight and might increase the chance of getting sunburn.

Do not take alfalfa if:

- You have lupus
- You have diabetes
- You have breast cancer
- You have uterine cancer.
- You have ovarian cancer.
- You have endometriosis.
- You have uterine fibroids.
- You have received a kidney transplant.
- Always...Always...Always...

Consult your Family Physician if you have any questions.

IT TAKES MORE THAN TALENT.....

The 5 W's and an H of how to get published

You love to write and you're good at it. Everyone that reads your articles, essays, and manuscripts says so. But for some reason your submissions return unpublished. Here is a quick checklist that might help you figure out why.

Want - Do you really want to be a writer? There is a story told of a professor that had a talented student in his writing class. The student asked the professor if he thought he wrote well enough to have a career in writing. The professor said, "No, you should pursue some other line of work." Years later the student ran into the professor at the 20th Class Reunion. "Professor, I took your advice and majored in business and now own my own company." "That's a shame, you were such a talented writer." The student replied, "What do you mean? Why did you discourage me?" The professor hesitated, then said "I tell every student that asks me if I think he has what it takes just what I told you. If they believe me and accept my words then I know that they don't have the fire in their belly, the drive that writers must have to keep writing in the face of constant rejection. Those with the fire ignore what I've told them." Do you really want to be a writer? Do you have the fire?

Willing - Are you willing to make sacrifices? You must make time to write, research and rewrite. For most of us quality writing time is something that we struggle to find. But something as simple as getting up one hour early every day can make a big difference. On the eighth day you will have picked up 8 full hours. That's what I call an 8-day week. How much of your time is discretionary? What are you willing to give up to make more time for writing? Are you willing to set a schedule and more importantly are you willing to keep that commitment?

Are you willing to deal with constant rejection. Each of us must find a way not to personalize rejection. For myself, when that SASE comes back with the form letter saying "No Thanks", I choose to think of it as one step closer to an acceptance or an assignment. When I am published I will think, "It took 20, 30, 40 rejections until I was published." Whatever that number is I am one rejection closer. Keep them coming. I also read about successful published authors and take note of their many rejections. Without fail their response was to keep trying. If you don't keep trying, you won't get published.

Write - Write every day. Write when you feel like it and write when you don't. Challenge yourself, write in genres that you've never tried. Write about subjects you've been afraid to tackle. When you write what you know, write what you feel. Don't censor yourself, take chances, be vulnerable. Spend writing time rewriting and editing. That is writing too. As Samuel Johnson said, "What is written without effort is in general read without pleasure."

Work - There is real work involved beyond the creative process of writing. Non-fiction article/essay writershave you studied the publication you are submitting to? Did you get a copy of the guidelines? Did you follow them? Fiction book writers do you know what subjects are currently in demand? What are publishers looking for? Do you know if you need an agent or how to get one? Do you know how to write a proposal? Do you know what you should be paid? All of these are tasks that must be undertaken apart from your writing. This is the business side of writing and it is as much a part of your success as your talent.

Wait - It takes time for research, for phone calls to be returned, for mail to be delivered and for creative thoughts to come. Don't settle for one resource when you need several to give an unbiased, well-rounded viewpoint. Don't settle for a string of adjectives to describe your character so you can get on with your story when well thought out dialogue would not only introduce the hero but also bond him to the

reader. Don't submit your work without letting it "cool off". Put it away a few days and then take the time to edit, edit, edit.

Hone - It takes time to develop the skill to craft a great article or book. Read the type of books and articles you are interested in writing. Read books about writing. Take classes. Join organizations dedicated to the advancement of writers. Attend conferences. Develop relationships with other writers. Build an arsenal of resources like reference books, Internet savvy, and business knowledge. Surround yourself with positive people.

It takes more than talent to become a successful published writer. It takes a willingness to make sacrifices, a commitment to the process, patience, a belief in yourself and above all a fire to write.

Nikki Arana

COASTAL GEORGIA AUTHOR PAMELA BAUER MUELLER WINS 2006 GEORGIA AUTHOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

ATLANTA (GA) – Pamela Bauer Mueller is the recipient of the **2006 Georgia Author of the Year Award** in the Children's/Young Adult category for her book, *Neptune's Honor: A Story of Loyalty and Love*. The awards were presented by the Georgia Writers Association at their annual event held in Atlanta on June 18, 2006.

Neptune's Honor is based on a real person, a child slave named Neptune Small who lived on coastal Georgia's St. Simons Island. The story begins in 1837 and ends after the Civil War. Neptune was a companion to the plantation family's oldest son, Henry Lord Page King. Just five months apart in age, the boys were inseparable throughout their youth. As he comes of age, Neptune marries and begins a family, but still accompanies King when he enlists during the Civil War. He later brings his body home, traveling over five hundred miles.

Pamela Bauer Mueller was raised in Oregon, graduated from Lewis and Clark College in Portland (OR), and worked as a flight attendant for Pan American Airlines before moving to Mexico City, where she lived for eighteen years. Pamela is bicultural as well as bilingual. During her time in Mexico she worked as a commercial model, actress, and an English and Spanish language instructor. After returning to the United States, Pamela worked for twelve years as a U.S. Customs Inspector.

After serving six years in San Diego, California, she was selected to work a foreign assignment in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Pamela took early retirement to pursue her writing career and follow her husband Michael to Brunswick (GA) when he was hired as an instructor at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. They reside on St. Simons Island.

In addition to Neptune's Honor, which was also a 2006 finalist in the Independent Publisher Book Awards, Pamela is the author of *The Kiska Trilogy* and *Hello, Goodbye, I Love You*. Her newest book, *An Angry Drum Echoed: Mary Musgrove, Queen of the Creeks* will be published this fall.

Book Sales Statistics: From Publishers Weekly

(some sobering statistics:)

In 2004, Nielsen Bookscan tracked sales of 1.2 million books in the US.

Of those 1.2 million, 950,000 sold fewer than 99 (yes, ninety-nine) copies each.

Another 200,000 sold fewer than 1,000 copies.

Only 25,000 books sold more than 5,000 copies.

Fewer than 500 sold more than 100,000 copies.

Only 10 books sold more than a million copies each.

THE AVERAGE BOOK IN THE US SELLS ABOUT 500 COPIES.

Now we know why the majority of writers have day/night jobs or married well.

Mary Smith

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!

It's not too late to register for the IWL State Conference in Boise, Idaho on September 29 & 30, 2006.

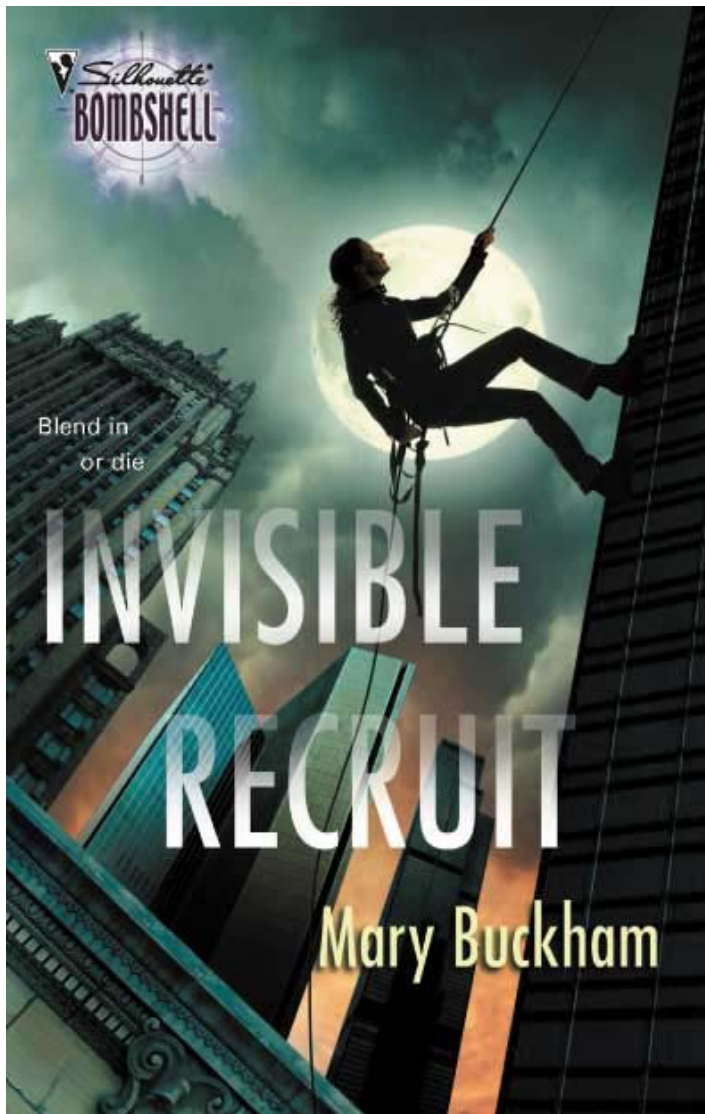
All the necessary information is located on our Web site: www.idahowritersleague.com

Michael Marsden has room in his van for the trip down and back. Give him a call if interested.

INVISIBLE RECRUIT IS OUT NOW!

Hi There!

Just a quick note to let you know that INVISIBLE RECRUIT, Book #1 of my IR-5 Bombshell series is on store shelves now!



As a way to say thank you to my former students and clients, I'm offering a BUY A BOOK get one of the following WRITER UNIV courses I'll be teaching at half off. Either:

SEX BETWEEN THE PAGES: UNDERSTANDING AND WRITING SEXUAL TENSION—October 2006

or

PLOTTING WITH THE MYTHIC STRUCTURE: CREATING SUREFIRE PLOTS THAT SELL—May 2007

Just buy INVISIBLE RECRUIT before May 20th—email me at Mary@MaryBuckham.com and tell me where you bought

the book, the transaction number and which course you would like to use your credit for.

Or give your credit to a friend. :-)

For more information about the courses visit www.writeruniv.com

To contact Mary email Mary@MaryBuckham.com

Thank you and I hope you enjoy the book!

Here's what's being said about the book:

“INVISIBLE RECRUIT is an exciting blend of action, suspense, and intriguing characters.”

~~Jennifer Bishop-Romance Reviews Today

INVISIBLE RECRUIT is book one of what is likely to be an outstanding new Bombshell series. All the characters are exciting and come with enough baggage to give us Bombshell lovers enough excitement for months! Vaughn and M. T's relationship is both volatile and sensual, the perfect combination for excellent romantic suspense. The only down side to this new series is that readers will have to wait awhile for the second installment. This one is highly recommended. FOUR AND A HALF STARS!

~~ Livia Holton, Romance Readers Connection

INVISIBLE RECRUIT is a fast-paced, great read...” 4 STARS!

~~Alexandrea Kay-Romantic Times

To read an excerpt visit Mary's website www.MaryBuckham.com

You can find this book at your nearest Borders, Barnes & Noble, Waldenbooks and some Walmarts, Fred Meyers or on Amazon.com.

THANK YOU AGAIN! Mary B :-)

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Reporters - Positions open

If you have any stories, poems, articles, or just bits of information, send it to the email address above. Deadline: the 25th of each month.



IDAHO
Humanities
COUNCIL

2006 North Idaho
Distinguished Humanities
Dinner & Lecture

Featuring Author and Journalist

Susan Orlean

The Idaho Humanities Council is bringing acclaimed author and journalist Susan Orlean to Coeur d'Alene for the 3rd Annual North Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture and Dinner. The event includes dinner, lecture, question and answer and a book signing. A special reception for Benefactors to meet with the author prior to the dinner will be held at a private home. Orlean's books will be available for sale at the event.

Orlean has contributed to *The New Yorker* since 1987. Prior to that she was a contributing editor at *Rolling Stone* and also at *Vogue*, where she wrote on numerous figures in the music and fashion industries. Previously, she had been a columnist for the *Boston Phoenix* and the *Boston Globe Sunday Magazine*. She has also written for *The New York Times Magazine*, *Spy*, *Esquire*, and *Outside*.

Orlean has written several books, including, *The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup: My Encounters with Ordinary People*, a collection of stories which was released in January 2001; *Red Sox and Blue Fish* (1989), a compilation of columns she wrote for the *Globe Sunday Magazine*; *Saturday Night* (1990), a journal of essays which chronicle the Saturday nights she spent in communities across the country; *The Orchid Thief*, (1999) a narrative about orchid poachers in Florida. *The Orchid Thief* inspired the movie *Adaptation*, written by Charlie Kaufman and directed by Spike Jonze.

Date: Friday, October 20th, 2006

Place: Coeur d'Alene Resort

Time: 7:30 p.m.



General tickets are \$40...Benefactor tickets are \$100

Seating is assigned to tables of eight. Early reservations are recommended.
Benefactor seats include private reception at the Hagadone home with Ms. Orlean
before dinner and close in seating at the event.

Please call the Idaho Humanities Council toll free at 888-345-5346 or visit
www.idahohumanities.org (under news) to make reservations.

**Coeur d'Alene Chapter
Idaho Writers League
P.O. Box 1113
Hayden, Idaho 83835 USA**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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2nd Vice President

Position Open

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Publicity

Position Open

Who is the Idaho Writers' League?

Purpose of the organization:

The Idaho Writers' League is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes for the promotion of social welfare including:

- A. To promote and maintain a high standard of literary output and to recognize accomplishments of Idaho writers.
- B. To stimulate public respect and support for the art and profession of writing.
- C. To provide a unified organization for writers and those with serious interest in writing and literary skills.
- D. To encourage new writing talent, to exchange ideas through the League publication, and local and state meetings.
- E. To stimulate writing by means of contests and recognition awards.
- F. To encourage regional activity among neighboring chapters.