

Coeur d'Alene Chapter  
Idaho Writers League

# Lakegazette



Celebrating our 64th Anniversary 1943-2007

May 2007

P.O. BOX 1113, Hayden, Idaho 83835

## COEUR d'ALENE IWL MEETINGS:

May 9

**Jewett House**

9:00 A.M. to Noon

Program: **Larry Godwin**

**How to 'Doctor Your Poems'**

Refreshments:

Refreshments:

May 17

**Lutheran Church**

Kathleen & Ramsey Road

6:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Program: **Nikki Arana**

**Story structure**

Refreshments:

Refreshments:

**May Birthdays:**

**RUTH ANDREW 05/27**

**JOAN S HUST 05/20**

**KATHLEEN SHELTON 05/03**

### **Needed:**

**REFRESHMENT** volunteers for  
Summer meetings. Both day and  
evening meetings.

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

Thank you.

## What Goes Around, Comes Around, If Given Time!

Larry Telles

Some of you new members might not recognize the following website, [www.cdaauthorsatwork.com](http://www.cdaauthorsatwork.com). It was put together some time ago as a forum for our chapter writers. What better way to show your work and get a critique from other members. It was a wonderful idea with only one catch, it required people to participate.

This website got off with a quantum leap. Mary Smith put together a program called, "The Snowflake Method." Simply a way to write a complete novel in 60 days while keeping track of your daily progress. There were members in our group that did just that! Another exercise on that site was to type 100 words a day and post them. What a wonderful way to get your creative juices flowing. I think Jennie Hearne got beyond 400 a day at one point. I think that many members missed an opportunity to write, critique and have fun without leaving the house.

The day of the manila envelope, S.A.S.E., and a long wait at the mailbox is slowly sinking in the West just like the sun. I use my old Royal typewriter as a paperweight. Our computer is now, how business is run. Yes, we will always have critique groups, editors, agents and publishers. However, most of their day is spent on the computer. Who wants a job opening envelopes all day?

A few days ago I gave the order to kill the CdA Authors at Work website. Jennie and Wes Hansen tried to keep wood on the fire, but the spammers, hackers and pornographers won the battle in the end. The website is gone but not forgotten. Technology keeps moving forward and so should we. I hope that those who stayed away didn't do so because of viruses, spam and Trojan horses. There are many free spam filters, firewalls, and virus checkers out there that you can get.

Why not visit a few websites and look at their writer's guidelines. See how many use email for submission and how many are still in the dark ages. When you are not writing, look around. We don't have that website anymore, but next February at our Writer's Workshop I understand that "The Snowflake Method" is returning. The conference date is scheduled for February 8-9, 2007. The guest speaker is Randy Ingermanson, Publisher, Advanced Fiction Writing E-zine. If you are interested in learning more about him, go to <http://www.AdvancedFictionWriting.com>.

Even though our electronic forum is gone, technology comes in many different forms. Thank you Mary for re-introducing us to an outstanding technique.

## A Fun Group!

Sherry Ramsey

**You guys are great!** I can't help it, you are just so upbeat and fun that I love being a part of this group. When I first started as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, I let Larry know that I had a fear of speaking in front of people. In fact, I remember last summer when I tried to introduce our morning speaker, Diana Pharaoh Francis, she interrupted me and said, "Wow, Sherry. You really do suck at this!" My hands were shaking as I read off the paper.

For the past year you guys have patiently let me practice on you. I started out simply introducing people (some of the worst introductions ever made), I taught a couple of formatting classes, and then started teaching the basics classes. The other evening I taught a class on writing for magazines and newspapers. I didn't even get nervous. You guys are such a good, friendly, non-judgmental class that I've learned to calm down. Thanks for that. I've been asked to be a speaker for an hour & 1/2 at a writers retreat in Sandpoint on May 5. I practiced it on you guys and tried to cram 90 minutes of material into 70 minutes. I had to skip a few things but it was fun. Hopefully, I can pull it off without getting too nervous with a group of strangers. I'll keep you posted on whether I flop or not. Just remember, being shy doesn't get us any further in our writing. We have to take the initiative and try new things; get past our fears to get what we want.

Thanks to Anna Goodwin for teaching us how to write metaphors in our stories at the April day meeting. The May 9 day meeting will be poet and professional editor, Larry Godwin, with a program on how to 'Doctor Your Poems'. Larry recently had an article accepted with Byline Magazine so be sure to watch for it in the coming months. This meeting will be at the Jewett House from 9-12 am. Our night meeting will be May 17 at the Lutheran Church on the corner of Kathleen and Ramsey. Our speaker will be Nikki Arana on story structure. This is a program back by popular demand. Make sure to bring your own story idea because Nikki loves working with *your* stuff.

I hope you are all busy working on your entries for the IWL state contest. We still have 2 months to write and enter. You can earn enough money to buy several cartridges of ink for your printer if you place in the contest. What do you have to lose to give it a try? Have a great month!

## Poster Contest

Sandy Smith

Start doodling everyone and figure out that poster for the State Conference in September. There are crazy prizes you'll want to win—or not when you see them.

This is a poster about us. Who we are and what we do. We'd like you to include the following: chapter name, pictures of everyone with their name, list of those who are published, who have won writer, poet, lifetime and Vardis Fisher awards, (you have quite a few over the years) and any other awards.

Be sure to include Nikki with her "fairy-tale" career (just kidding Nikki, hard work pays off) Show the cover of Kaleidoscope, the student writing contest and on and on. We want to show the other chapters that we do far more than write to win the IWL contests. Get your craziest ideas out there—and build that poster. The size has to fit a normal floor easel, (easel provided), and we'll tie the poster on if we have to. Be sure and attach the poster to a sturdy back, foam core board or heavy cardboard. Writers pick up that pencil and get to doodling.

Go for it Coeur d' Alene!!!



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**Deadline:**

**the 25th of each month.**

JA "JEFF" JESKE

So this thing is old news. By now you all know that our IWL site has been hijacked by porno creeps from the otherworld and Larry is gonna shut it down.

I reported this breaking story almost exactly a year ago, but nobody gave me an ear, the time of day or a spot in the IWL Lakegazzette. Well, don't diss me, cuz I told ya so. You just read on, and it's the truth and I'm telling ya so. (Ya ya so ya can say ya heard it from me. Big deal, right?).

April, 2006

## My Skewed Site

**I sat down the other day to catch up on the IWL site.** You know, the cdaauthorsatwork.com site. It seems to me, new to this place, that most of the IWL'ers don't go there, or don't know there is such a place, or are busy writing things that really matter to 'em and so don't care, but, heck, I can't get published in the Lakegazzette so it's the one place I can type my crap and actually get people to say nice things. Maybe they're just folks who also can't get published in the—L-crooked-twiggged-logo-that-looks-like-Lake CDA-but-aint-a-logo-no more place for IWL'ers to write. I feel for 'em, like I said, I can't get a word or two in edgewise either.

So, I sat down to check things out, and clicked on my icon expecting it to pop up a familiar screen. Wrong.

So kick me off the site, or don't print me, but damn, it plopped me down on a porn site. Yeah a porn site, oh don't fool me with that crap about sandwiching it in between "Christian Authors" and "Creative Writing Retreats." I got a clue. It was the, "Look Sexy Naked" site that sent my red flags of Lutheranism boiling to the edges of my own twisted beliefs in things that are sacred. The real hook was that while the site said cdaauthorsatwork.com/COMING SOON was parked here free, it was who parked it: Big Daddy. Well if Big Daddy aint the name of every other pimp on the block, George Bush ain't the president. And the truth is I got tangled up in one of those porn sites some years back and since I have to live with my wife till death do us part, I ain't goin' there no more. The bank saw things my way and refunded the \$400 charges but my wife hasn't, and won't forget.

So, being a guilt ridden Lutheran, I thought it was just my fault. So I fiddled about, gave up, and called J-Hi.(Jenny Hearne).

"Yeah," she said, "I've had a coupla calls from people who've had problems with the site and I've talked to Dave, the admin guy. I'll give him another call and we'll get it straightened out."

You know, she didn't seem too bothered by my long-winded explanation about how our no-bad-words-good-writing-site had been infiltrated by those bad-if-you-go-there-you-might, strike that, you will see-naked females, site had been hijacked. But she's still got teenage kids at home and so I guessed that mom's get calloused to such things these days. I waited a day and tried to access the site again. Uh-hah. Same stuff.

I tried the site again on Sunday. Nuts. Still, there's the "Look Sexy Naked" site. I ain't going to give those crooks my credit card number again to see if there're really are naked females on the cdaauthorsatwork site. I mean I would if I knew I wouldn't get caught, but I already said I have and I'm not risking such a thing again. I waited 'til Monday and called the queen of Christian Romance, Mary Smith.

"So what can the two of us do?" She asked me.

"Well cripes Mary," I said. "Do ya know our cdaauthorsatwork site has been hijacked by pornographers?" I expected the skies to erupt in thunderbolts of lightening or at least in just a little rumble of thunder. But no, like J-Hi, she demurred soothingly-it's that dang teacher stuff she has-and said, "Oh is the site not being maintained?"

"Oh geez no, Mary, it is, it's just that, it's been hijacked. There's pornography stuff there, and I've been there before, and I'm not opening up that stuff and I'm not fooled about having those Christian sites wrapped around the smut to fool me. I ain't no idiot."

"Oh, yes," she said, "of course you're not." She said that so calmly that me, the fool, knew she didn't believe me. So why should she? I'm usually so full of BS that my eyes should be brown, but they're blue, still just a quart

It was the,  
"Look Sexy  
Naked" site that  
sent my red flags  
of Lutheranism  
boiling...

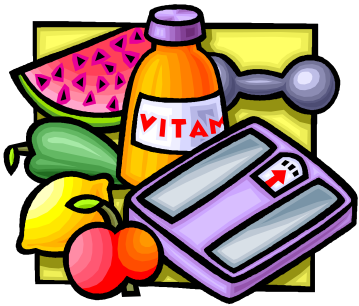
low I guess. She said she'd check it out and I went back to work. I came home and I opened up the site. It was still smut. And I, well, I had to. I opened the site.

Not. They were selling tea or pills or some stuff to lose weight. And there weren't no buxom babes in scantily attired hardly nothings. And the dang thing didn't have links to other sites. And I didn't have to enter a credit card number. And I don't want help becoming a Christian Romance writer, yet. And I've lost interest in looking any farther.

So there you have it, a blast from the past. That is what came down a year ago and I was right on top of it. And now I don't even get my site back. It's gone. Dissed. History. Gone. Caput. I'll just have to give up writin' 'cuz they ain't no place left for me to put my dribble on a page. And the worst of my suffering is that I never did see no smut. And this is old news?

**Editors note...**

**I hope you read Larry's column...(Pg 1) the cdaauthorsatwork site is history :-( !**



**The Writer's Notebook**

Nikki Arana

A fragment of life.  
Shards of shattered dreams.  
Transitory thoughts.  
Pressed between icy  
white pages. Freeze dried.  
Brought to life later.  
Infused with living  
water.



# POET'S CORNER



**Seagulls Reflecting the Sea**

Elizabeth Mastin

Seagulls sailing, dipping, waving,  
Over oceans – flying flush;  
Undersides of wings reflecting,  
Silken feathers with turquoise blush.

Turquoise blush! To think how these  
Wide wings reflecting sea deploy  
Evidence of heaven's secret:  
"Turquoise is the shade of joy".

There are times when beauty wears  
The strangest tone, the strangest guise.  
Oh for stunning, fleeting moments:  
Turquoise seagulls sailing by.

# The Poets and Their Poems

Liz Mastin

## William Wordsworth

1770 - 1850

*“Poetry: the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings from emotions recollected in tranquility”*

William Wordsworth

**H**appy Spring everyone! This is a season William Wordsworth loved the most: the poet who was to be the first major Romantic poet to “celebrate nature” and “the common man” and to employ language understood by the common man. Before Wordsworth, poetry had been written largely in an elevated and relatively inaccessible language by poets such as Alexander Pope. Influencing poets of nature thereafter, (including Robert Frost), Wordsworth’s importance to nature poetry and literature cannot be overestimated.



William Wordsworth was born April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1770 in a small town called Cockermouth in northern England. Cockermouth, located in the beautiful hilly Lake District, lays surrounded by small pastures and tangled woods, full of wildflowers, small animals and various wonders of nature. His father was an attorney and the family lived in a beautiful brick mansion overlooking the winding River Derwent. Wordsworth had three brothers and one sister, (Dorothy), who lived with him her entire life. His young boyhood was delightful as he loved to explore in the hills, wander the woods and swim in the river. He enjoyed hunting birds and would set little traps for them and all the time he seemed aware of all the glory of nature.

His life changed drastically however, when at eight years old his mother died. Five years later his father also died and he became separated from his siblings. He would need his happy early childhood memories to

see him through troubled times. He relied on these memories and the joy of nature for the rest of his life. He would also need to be able to reconcile life, death and eternity in his mind. Nature would prove to Wordsworth a strong healing force.

Wordsworth was sent to live with his two uncles in a small village called Hawkshead. He wouldn’t see his sister Dorothy again for nine years. Wordsworth attended Hawkshead Grammar School and then St. Johns College in Cambridge. He was a daydreamer and thus his college years were not distinguished. Towards the end of his college career, he took a walking tour through England. He strolled through the Alps, Italy and finally the French countryside. You might say he was among the first of modern day backpackers, leaving college without any set plans and unsure of his future. Just as he once had rambled the hills in his early childhood, he rambled through Europe taking notes and writing along the way.

The French Revolution had just begun and Wordsworth sympathized to some extent with the French cause: a decision he would later regret and for which his conscience would suffer. In 1791, while still in France, he had a lover Annette Vallon, and together they produced a daughter named Carolyne. As things worsened during the revolution and when terror (became) a part of it, Wordsworth decided to return to England intending to send for Annette and Carolyne later. However, he instead decided to marry an old childhood friend, Mary Hutchinson. He sent financial support to Annette at a later time.

In 1795, Wordsworth met Samuel Taylor Coleridge and they formed a type of symbiotic partnership. They became lifelong friends and together wrote “*The Lyrical Ballads*”, a very noteworthy and important work in the English Romantic movement. Wordsworth was only twenty eight years old at the time. Among the ballads were Wordsworth’s “*Tintern Abbey*” and Coleridge’s “*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*.”

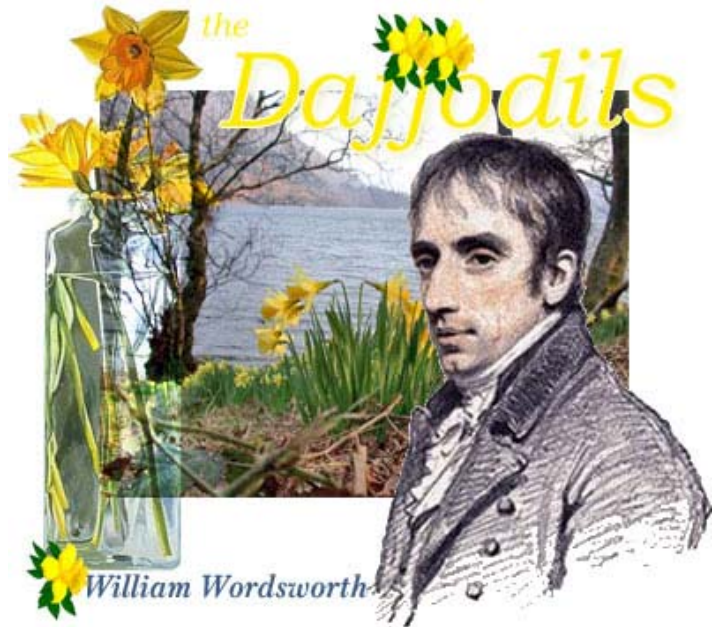
Wordsworth lived a short time in Germany where he wrote the “*Lucy Poems*” and his autobiographical poem “*The Prelude*,” (considered a central work of the Romantic literary theory). Then he returned to England for good, back to the same Lake District where he had lived as a child.

He and his wife Mary enjoyed life in a charming cottage all covered in vines and flowers called *the Dove Cottage*. He wrote his best poetry while living there and raised his children there. Later he and his family moved to a larger home: Rudal Mount. He had four children but lost three of them to diseases for which there was no cure at that time. He grieved the most for his daughter Dora who died of Tuberculosis in 1847. He planted his sloping hillside with beautiful golden daffodils in remembrance of her.

William Wordsworth loved nature and was an avid gardener. It was said of Wordsworth by classical critic Mathew Arnold “*Wordsworth’s extraordinary power with which he feels the joy offered to us in nature — the joy offered to us in the simple primary affections and duties ... renders it so as to make us share it.*”

Wordsworth, Coleridge and another poet, Robert Southby, were great friends to the end and they were well known in the lake district; people fondly referring to them as “*The Lake Poets.*”

William Wordsworth was made **poet Laureate in 1843** and he died in 1850. He was eighty years old.



I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o’er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
    A host of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine  
    And twinkle on the Milky Way,  
They stretched in never-ending line  
    Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they  
    Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:  
    A poet could not but be gay,  
    In such jocund company:  
I gazed – and gazed – but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
    In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
    Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
    And dances with the daffodils.



Volumns of Wordsworth’s memoirs.

### You can write a poem like this

1. **Note:** this poem is written in four beats (tetrameter)
2. The stress is on the second syllable of a word for the most part making it (iambic.)  
da DUM da DUM da DUM da DUM
3. The rhyme scheme is **ababcc**.
4. Use **simple words. Celebrate nature!**

# It's t he Season for Cranberry

By Joan S. Hust

**It's the cranberry season.** Either you like them or you don't. Before you decide whether or not you like cranberries let me tell you about this colorful herb. It should not only be served on a holiday, but in-between all the holidays, and throughout all the year. Let it tickle your palate, and enhance your home as a floral arrangement.



The American cranberry is known as the trailing swamp cranberry. The common name is Vinca Madagascar periwinkle. The scientific name is Catharanthus roseus. Cranberry fruits have long been valued for their pleasant acidulous flavor and have become a very popular in sauces, relishes, cocktails, fruit drinks, and jellies. They are favored at Thanksgiving time, but I highly recommend them

with not only your turkey at Thanksgiving but also with your ham at Christmas. Fourteen patrons that I queried one afternoon at work said that they served cranberries in one form or another at all socials, potlucks, and dinner parties.

The cranberry grows in mountain forests, and damp bogs from Alaska to Tennessee. There are tours for the public in the state of Washington. The flowers are purple or pink. They bloom from late spring to late summer. They produce bright red fruits in the fall. Don't bite into one, as it is not a good taste. Home gardens have not been successful growing cranberries, as they really need wet, boggy, and acidic soil amended with leaf mold or peat moss.

American scientists in 1923 showed that the urine of test subjects became more acidic after eating large amounts of cranberries. Bacteria favors an alkaline medium for growth so they thought that a diet which included cranberries might be helpful in preventing and treating urinary tract infections from reoccurring. Women suffering from UTI began drinking commercial cranberry juice, and said that it heeled them. JAMA reported in 1994 that cranberry juice did reduce the frequency of both bacteriuria and pyuria in elderly women. This study provided the first good clinical evidence in a large sampling of patients on the benefits of cranberry juice cocktail for UTI.

Cranberry sauce did not become a national tradition until after the Civil War. General Ulysses S. Grant considered Cranberry sauce an essential part of a Thanksgiving dinner, and he ordered it served to Union troops during the siege of Petersburg in 1864. New England sailors that ate the bright red berries did not develop scurvy. The *King's American Dispensatory* had this prescription: A split cranberry held in position by a daub of starch paste will quickly relieve the pain and inflammation attending boils on the tip of the nose.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Which state produces the most cranberries?

Wisconsin produces about half of the United States' annual crop of cranberries. Massachusetts produces about another third of the crop. The remaining U. S. cranberry crop comes mainly from New Jersey.

### 2. Is it true that cranberries are one of only three fruits native to North America?

Not quite. We have not been able to track down the origin of this statement, but it seems to be a misinterpretation of the more-defensible claim that of commercially-important fruits, only three originated in North America, in the sense that they were not known in other parts of the world. These are the cranberry, the blueberry, and the Concord type blue grape.

## The Absentees

Ogden Nash

I'd ride a cock horse to Banbury

Cross

For giblet gravy and cranberry sauce,  
Two treats which are held in reserve by  
the waiter

Till you've finished your turkey and  
mashed potater.



### **3. Were cranberries served at the first Thanksgiving?**

Native Americans used cranberries (and other berries) for food, and they may have brought some, but there is no direct evidence that they did so.

The first known use of the word “cranberries” in English occurred in a letter written by the missionary John Eliot in 1647. *Cranberry Harvest: A History of Cranberry Growing in Massachusetts* 1990.

### **4. How do you make dried cranberries?**

Commercial dried sweetened cranberries are made using food processing methods and equipment not available for home use.

If you want to experiment with home drying of cranberries, you can find advice in two books: Mary Bell, *Mary Bell's Complete Dehydrator Cookbook* 1994, and Deanna DeLong, *How to Dry Food*, 1992.

Both authors recommend using water that has been brought to a boil to pop the skins of the cranberries. Mary Bell recommends then freezing the berries to further break down cell walls before dehydrating the cranberries. A sweetener such as sugar or corn syrup can be used at some stage of the process.

### **5. What is the best way to freeze cranberries?**

If you buy cranberries in a plastic bag, the bag can go directly into the freezer. Bulk cranberries can be frozen in a freezer bag or freezer container. Cranberries will last up to nine months in the freezer. Frozen cranberries can be used in recipes without thawing; since frozen berries will be soft when thawed, it is easier to chop or grind them while frozen.

### **6. Where can I find an image of a cranberry scoop? How were cranberry scoops used?**

Cranberry scoops were introduced in the 1850's as an aid in the manual picking of cranberries. The first cranberry scoops were wooden baskets with comb-like wooden teeth that would pull the berries off the vines into the basket.

### **7. Does cranberry juice really help prevent urinary tract infections?**

Cranberry juice has been traditionally used to prevent and treat urinary tract infections. It is thought to help prevent bacteria from adhering to the walls of the urinary tract. Evidence is still inconclusive, and further research is needed. One recent study indicates that cranberry juice is good for preventing urinary tract infections, but may not be effective for treating existing infections. Cranberry juice may also have antioxidant and anticancer properties. Again, more research is needed.

*To track current medical research, you can use [www.medlineplus.gov](http://www.medlineplus.gov) which is provided by the United States National Library of Medicine to index the medical journal literature. Use “cranberry\*” as the search term to retrieve citations of articles dealing with cranberries, and cranberry juice. The health information is in layperson's language.*

### **8. Where does white cranberry juice come from?**

White cranberry juice was introduced into the market in 2001, and is made from regular cranberries that are harvested about three weeks early, after they are mature, but before they turn red.

### **9. What was the cranberry scare of 1959?**

On November 9, 1959, Arthur S. Flemming, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare announced that some cranberries grown in Oregon and Washington State had been found to have been contaminated with aminotriazole, a weed killer that had been found to cause cancer in rats. When questioned, he said that if a housewife is unable to determine the origin of fresh or canned cranberries, “to be on the safe side, she doesn't buy.” Cranberries were pulled from grocery shelves and sales dropped suddenly. Coming shortly before the holidays this caused a crisis in the industry. After testing it was found that very few shipments of cranberries were contaminated. It was also doubtful that aminotriazole in the amounts likely to be ingested by a human being eating cranberries, presented a real health risk. Both Flemming and Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson made a point of announcing that they would have cranberries with their holiday dinners. By Christmas large quantities of cranberries were available bearing labels saying that they had either been tested by the Food and Drug Administration or otherwise certified safe. The “cranberry scare of 1959” caused damage that took the cranberry industry many years to recover. (Contemporary articles in the *New York Times*.)

Healing with cranberry is unique among healing herbs. The juice prevents UTI (Urinary Tract Infection) germs from adhering to the lining of the urinary tract that reduces the likelihood of infection. It also helps in deodorizing urine. Cranberry should be used in medicinal amounts with approval from your doctor. Three of the health benefits of cranberry juice are that it emulsifies fat as it contains high levels of organic acids that have an emulsifying effect upon fat deposits. Urinary tract infections caused by a strain of E coli bacteria cranberry juice compounds may help. Some of the compounds block the bacteria from sticking to the cells in the body so that the body can flush the bacteria out. A respiratory infection study results in 2002 at the annual meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America suggest that cranberry juice may inhibit a type of bacteria that is a common cause of respiratory infections in children.

### Hot Cranberry Tea

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 3C washed cranberries | 3 ½ Quarts water   |
| 12 cloves             | 4 cinnamon sticks  |
| juice of 2 lemons     | juice of 2 oranges |
| 2C sugar or Splenda   |                    |

Combine cranberries, water, cloves, and cinnamon in a pot and bring to a boil.

Cover, reduce heat and simmer 12 minutes. Strain through cheesecloth gently squeezing.

Return to the pot. Add lemon, orange juice, and sugar or Splenda. Serve hot.

### Almond Cranberry Biscotti

|                       |                                      |        |             |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| 3-4 C flour           | 2 ½ C sugar                          | 4 eggs | 2 egg yolks |
| 1 tsp baking powder   | 1/8 tsp salt                         |        |             |
| 1 tsp vanilla extract | 1- 2/3 C raw toasted chopped almonds |        |             |
|                       | 1 C dried cranberries                |        |             |

Pour flour into mixing bowl. Make a well in the center, and add sugar, 3 eggs. Yolks, baking powder, salt, and vanilla. Stir until smooth. Mix in the almonds, and stir again.

Grease, flour 2 baking sheets. Divide dough in half. Roll each piece of dough on floured surface into 2 ½ inch wide logs. Place logs 2 inches apart. Beat the rest of the eggs and brush over the tops of the logs. Heat oven to 350°. Bake 50 minutes. Remove and set the temperature at 325°. Cut logs ½ inch diagonally. Return to oven for 15 minutes. Cool on racks.

## member s r ecommend These books

- ◆ *Marshall Plan for Novel Writing*  
Evan Marshall (Writer's Digest Books)
- ◆ *Writing Romance Novels for Dummies*  
Leslie Wainger (Wiley Publishing)
- ◆ *Scene and Structure*  
Jack M. Bickman (Writer's Digest Books)
- ◆ *Plot and Structure*  
James Scott Bell (Writer's Digest Books)
- ◆ *Writers Guide to Character Traits*  
Linda N. Edelstein (Writer's Digest Books)
- ◆ *Men are From Mars, Women are From Venus*  
John Gray (Harper Collins)
- ◆ *You Just Don't Understand/Women & Men in Conversation*  
Deborah Tannen (Ballantine Books)
- ◆ *Character and Viewpoint*  
Orson Scott Card (Writer's Digest Books)
- ◆ *Dialog*  
Gloria Kempton (Writer's Digest Books)
- ◆ *Self-Editing for Fiction Writers*  
Renni Brown and Dave King (Harper Perennial)
- ◆ *Writing Analysis and Application*  
Robert F. Willson, Jr. (MacMillan, 1980)
- ◆ *A Writers Reference*  
Diana Hacker (Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press)
- ◆ *Chicago Manual of Style, 14<sup>th</sup> Addn.*  
(U of Chicago, 1993)
- ◆ *Chicago Manual of Style, 11<sup>th</sup> Addn.*  
(U of Chicago, 1949)
- ◆ *Respectfully Quoted*  
ed. Suzy Platt (Dorsett Press/Marlboro Books)
- ◆ *Dictionary of Word/Phrase Origin*  
William & Mary Morris (Harper- Row)
- ◆ *Elements of Style*  
William Strunk & E.B. White (Allyn and Bacon)

## Why Do First Manuscripts So Often Get Rejected?

Nikki Arana

The biggest reason that new writers receive rejections is because they send out their ms (manuscript) before it is ready. So many unpubbed writers think when they finish their first ms, they've finished a book. In almost all cases, they've finished a first draft. If it has been written with the guidance of a critique group of other unpublished authors, it's probably a good first draft, if it was written without any mentoring, it's probably a detailed outline. That's what the first draft of my first book was . . . the agent I sent it to is the one who told me. (grimaces)

The first step toward publication is to learn how to write a book. This takes time unless you hire a professional. There are professional editors, Sometimes called developmental editors, who can do that. But it is VERY expensive, around \$75 an hour. They work with you step by step as you write. Like going to college and you're the only one in class. You end up with a book that only needs polishing. You always think of improvements after the first time through. But by then you are knowledgeable enough to make informed decisions on your own. Remember, you only get one chance to make a first impression with an editor or agent.

I've heard people say, if you use an editor the writing won't be your own and how will you produce a second book of the same quality. I find no basis for a comment like that. I've never had any editor change a word of my writing that had the effect of changing my voice. The concern that you can't deliver that quality of writing after you get the contract isn't true either. I'm writing my fifth book and still use the same professional structure editor I did on my first book. I still occasionally have payoffs without setups, have the hero do unheroic things, and have something in the story that doesn't make it to the page. But now, those things seldom happen, so it takes the editor less time and has become much more affordable. I consider the money I spend as my college tuition. Most editors accept payments.

After you know as much as your unpublished critique partners, professional editing is the next step toward publication. Yes, there are always those

stories of a newbie sending out an ms and selling it. But out of the hundreds, even thousands of writers who submit mss, that happens very rarely. It is getting harder and harder to break into print. If difficult finances prevent you from using an editor, then try and find a pubbed author to guide you. They can be just as valuable, but often can't give the time needed. There are also conferences, workshops, and classes. It will just take a little longer going that route.

Pray with all your heart and work with all your might. Give your God-given call and God-given talent every opportunity to prosper.

### Nikki Arana Workshop

Don't forget a special writing opportunity, the Nikki Arana Workshop will be an all-day event at the Sandpoint Community Hall from 9-4 on May 12. It's only \$35 and that includes a sandwich lunch.

Anyone interested contact Sherry at [Lramsey@supersat2.net](mailto:Lramsey@supersat2.net) or call 208-290-8749.

### Learning from Others

Nancy Barnes

Here is an inspirational tidbit I ran across when I first began writing and have kept in my files for years. Many times when I have become overwhelmed and buried by a particular writing task, I think back to this passage and it has helped me, eventually, dig my way out again.

*If I could do this book properly it would be one of the really fine books and a truly American book. But I am assailed with my own ignorance and inability. I'll just have to work from a background of these. Honesty. If I can keep an honesty it is all I can expect of my poor brain. . . . If I can do that it will be all my lack of genius can produce. For no one else knows my lack of ability the way I do. I am pushing against it all the time.*

From the daily journal of John Steinbeck, written less than four weeks after starting *The Grapes of Wrath*.

## Notes, News, Announcements and other unpaid political incursions

### PENUMBRA POETRY & HAIKU 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONTEST

**Sponsored by the Tallahassee Writers' Association**  
**Up to \$200** in cash prizes and publication in annual  
contest anthology. Mail entries with fees of \$5 per poem  
and/or \$3 per haiku to: TWA Penumbra, PO Box 15995,  
Tallahassee, FL, 32317-5995. Deadline JUNE 30 2007.  
Contest email and complete entry guidelines at sponsor  
web site [www.tallahasseewriters.net](http://www.tallahasseewriters.net)

*Tallahassee Writers Association is recognized as an  
official 501(c)(3) non-profit group for the education  
and encouragement of amateur and professional  
writers.*

Carole Timin, Contest Director

### Book Readers Take Note

Here is a site that lays tons of new issues in all genres right  
in front of you. It's worth checking out!

**Bookreporter.com Newsletter**

[newsletter@bookreporter.pmailus.com](mailto:newsletter@bookreporter.pmailus.com)

**The Spokesman-Review** is looking for more  
correspondents in the area of Athol, Bayview, Spirit Lake,  
Twin Lakes, Rathdrum, Post Falls, Hauser Lake and State  
Line. If you live in any of these areas and have ideas for  
feature articles, please let me know and I'll pass your  
name along to Tad Brooks, editor for Your Voice, Post  
Falls, Rathdrum and the Handle Extra.

Mary Jane Honegger  
(208) 687-2900



Joan Hust ....I guess the photo says it all!

### Remembering Barbaro

kathy cooney dobbs

From the start  
he raced ahead  
sleek and swift  
this thoroughbred  
.round the bend and  
bound for the finish line  
leaving contenders far behind

His stride was smooth  
and steady, easy  
almost effortless it seemed  
as he galloped full speed  
into history

May six two thousand six  
with a six and a half length lead  
crowds cheered and cheered  
chanting his name  
Barbaro ! Barbaro !  
Winner of the Derby  
and instant fame;  
a Red Rose blanket  
draping him in victory

A fortnight later  
excitement grew  
around the track  
at Pimlico  
but the spirited  
favorite  
fell at the gate ;  
his hind leg broken  
he could run no more  
and gone his chance  
the Triple Crown

Yet crowds still roared  
and called his name  
Barbaro ! Barbaro !  
It was his perseverance  
and fight for life  
made him a hero  
of hope; a Champion renown

# SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN WRITERS RENEWAL

## May 4-5, 2007

By Joan S. Hust

It is not too late to attend this conference. The SPU Fellows Present:

### **GOD ALLOWS U-TURNS: Find New Purpose for Your Writing Career**

The special guest speaker is ALLISON BOTTKE. Allison Bottke is the founder of God Allows U-Turns, and international outreach that includes nonfiction and fiction books, tracts, logo merchandise, a line of greeting cards, a speaking ministry, and a foundation. Her story is one you will not want to miss as it is one of triumph and tragedy. She can have compassion with every struggling writer and has quite an impressive rejection collection all her own. Then she turned herself around, changed the focus and within five years had 20 published books, and you can do the same if you let her help you change your focus. Her first novel was *A Stitch in Time*, and bombarded the chick-lit genre. It was released last summer. She lives with her husband on a 20 acre farm in Minnesota. Visit her website: [www.godallowsueturns.com](http://www.godallowsueturns.com). What HE has done for her HE can do for you!!

This renewal will help you find your way in the complicated worlds of royalty publishing and self-publishing. You will meet experts who have been that way before and who know how to navigate today's selective, highly competitive marketplace. Let Allison tell you how she found her way to publishing success and how you can too. It doesn't make any difference if you are a writing newcomer or a seasoned author as you will learn from a host of engaging Christian writers, speakers, editors, and literary agents. I encourage you to take the time spending a weekend studying how, praying for, and to your great surprise to find a new direction for your writing talents. Then you can even deduct the weekend as a business expense and feel like a million bucks.

Learn from the following leaders in Christian publishing:

- Sharon Norris Elliott
- Sheryl Fullerton
- Terry Glaspey
- Chip MacGregor
- Don Pape
- Christopher Soderstrom
- Jan Alkire
- Judy Bodmer
- Janet Carey
- Athena Dean
- Clint Kelly
- Bette Nordberg
- Laurie Sargent
- Dick Staub
- Christine Tangvald
- Linda Wagner

Think seriously about attending this conference. You will return not only motivated, but better equipped to be a better writer, and well connected to the top notch leaders in Christian publishing!

The following will tell you what our Editorial/Publishing leaders really want and need. Take for example Sheryl Fullerton, Executive Editor, Jossey-Bass...Chip MacGregor, Literary Agent, MacGregor Literary...Don Pape, Publisher, Cook Communications Ministries...Christopher Soderstrom, Nonfiction Editor, Bethany House Publishing...Terry Glaspey, Harvest House Publishers.

This conference is sponsored by the Seattle Pacific University Fellows. It is a community of friends and alumni of Seattle Pacific. This group has committed to come alongside the University to support its mission of "Engaging the Culture, Changing the World" through the transforming gospel of Jesus Christ.

**More info: 206-281-2723 [www.spu.edu](http://www.spu.edu)**

Hey...for less than \$150.00 this could be the beginning of a most exciting, God-filled, blessed writing career of a lifetime because HE Loves you, and You love Him. To know Him and make Him known is our objective. Isn't it?

Introduce yourself to me at "An evening with Allison Bottke" on the third floor in the Gwinn Commons. See you there!

# Success Stories

## Yvonne Deitz

Hi, Everyone!

First of all, thanks to all of you once more for your wonderful support regarding the book my two retired English teacher friends and I wrote!

We were interviewed in March for the TV program produced by NIC titled NIC Public Forum. This 30-minute interview aired three times the last weekend in April over the Idaho PublicTV station and on KSPS TV Channel 7 from Spokane.

I was out of town that weekend, but I do have a video of it, so I've seen it. The people who interviewed us were very kind and very good to us, and we all had a great time doing it!

Thanks again for your support!

**Kathy Dobbs** had two articles in the Handle Extra, her debut in the Spokesman.

## Linda Juergensen

I got published by Spokesman Review's Home section April 17 for my article on Alpaca Showcase, page 8. I was very pleased and excited. Thanks Sherry for the encouragement that you have given me.

**Barb Lund** was given her own column in the Post Falls/Rathdrum Voice.

## Liz Mastin

I just heard from the poet Thomas Hubbard and my poem is now on his poem of the week on his site Gazoobitales. The poems (are usually there) longer than a week: more like two weeks to a month.

Unless it is gone by then, people can find my poem with me reading it at [www.gazoobitales.com](http://www.gazoobitales.com). Click on "poem of the week" and then figure out how to get the sound to work (can be tricky).

Anyway I am excited about it as Thomas publishes very good poets and as a Native American poet, prefers socially meaningful poems and I am honored.

My poem is about Blackhawk Helicopters and the sadness of war. He teaches poetry at the tulalip Indian Reservation and teaches at seminars as well as owning a small Seattle press. He was the 1995 winner of the Seattle Grand Slam.

Hooray, hooray!!

## Sherry Ramsey

I had an article about the Coeur d'Alene Explorers on the cover of the Spokesman Review Handle Extra and it covered the entire centerfold. The police department sent me a thank you and asked where they could get 15 copies. I also had 4 other articles in the Spokesman in April.



## Congratulations to all HORN TOOTERS!!

What a fantastic turnout of success stories this month! We have authors featured in newspapers, on the internet and on TV. Coeur d'Alene chapter of the IWL is a hard workin' group!

I do believe that Sherry Ramsey's enthusiasm is spreading!

Remember — all authors need to get involved in self-promotion. Let it start here!

Send an email telling about your work.. What it is and where we can look for it. Let your success be an inspiration to others!

Send your **SUCCESS STORIES** to [jimturner1@juno.com](mailto:jimturner1@juno.com)

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

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

## **2007 Officers**

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**Larry Telles:** President

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**Jim Turner:** 2nd Vice President - Newsletter Editor

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**Barbara Rostad:** Hospitality Chair

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**Sandy Smith:** Sunshine Committee (for a few more months)

263-7207 sandy@netw.com

**Mary L. Smith:** Special Projects

762-4081 (marynl@verizon.net)

**Patti Dickinson:** Very, Very Special Projects

667-8912 (pattid@imbris.com)

## **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.