



**COEUR d'ALENE
IWL MEETINGS:**

January 13 Jewett House

9:00 A.P. to Noon

Program: The Art of Critiquing
Mary Smith, Larry Telles
Please bring something to read
or share!

**January 21 Lutheran Church
Ramsey Road and Kathleen**

6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Program: The Art of Critiquing
Mary Smith, Larry Telles
Please bring something to read
or share!

Day & Evening Meeting:

Mini-Class: Sandy Smith.
Subject: Settings

Refreshment Volunteers:

If you would like to help in the
New Year, please contact
Barbara Rostad, Hospitality
Chair: (208) 777-1030

**IS THIS THE YEAR YOU ARE
GOING TO VOLUNTEER TO
MAKE THIS CHAPTER THE
BEST IN THE STATE?**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

We are beginning our 67th year
as a chapter of the Idaho Writer's
League. Welcome aboard!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Larry Telles, President

The Look Ahead in 2010

A new calendar is on your wall. A new year is just over a week old. The sky is gray, our wind has a bite, and the ground sounds like walking on Corn Flakes. This awakening of old man winter gives us all reason to hunker down and write. The goal of the board for this one-year term is to reach back and re-introduce the craft of writing.



In the next twelve months we hope that you will follow the example of the leadership and put an emphasis on putting pen to paper. We certainly have a core of mentors among our chapter members of both poets and prose. Where else can you find someone who can look at your work and give you the help you may need?

Many of our members come to the meeting for an opportunity to read and get their work critiqued. This will be the focus of our first meeting of the New Year. When your article, story, poem, etc is finally on paper, you can't tweak it with some practical advice. The thought of having someone in your immediate family advise you is out of the question. Why everything you write is wonderful! Ever been there before?

What about the new writer? They might not have anything ready to critique. This is true to a point. What if they use they're ten minutes to ask a question or advise on a subject or situation. In a fully functioning critique session everyone is a winner. You can take home suggestions from four to six members who may or not write the same genre than you.

The month of January, 2010, is critique month at the Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the Idaho Writers League meetings. Beginner, intermediate, or advance writer, there is something for you. I don't believe in New Year's resolutions for myself, but how about this scenario. Come to the meeting, listen to the presentation, and participate in one of the critique groups. In this session

you ask questions about an idea you had for a story. You take the advise given at this session and once home you start writing.

You may be writing for the IWL State contests that starts on February 1st and closes on July 1st. Our chapter will be the host of this year's conference, which is celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of IWL. The contest has both an assigned title and theme sections and an open one also. This year the assigned titles are: *The Silent Roar*, or *Under the Loose Floorboard*. The assigned themes are: *Yesterday's Headlines*, or *Strange Places*. Those should get your gray matter activated.

A small group in our chapter are hobby writers and I don't want to leave them out of this conversation. They are those that write for and read to their grandchildren. These charming stories or poems may not to see the light of day for a long time if ever. It is sad to see talented writers not wanting to share their gift with others. Besides, today's generation doesn't read. They don't pay for news because it is free on the Internet. Newspapers are suffering and so are those that write articles for newspapers. Later in the year we plan to have a speaker talk about that very subject: "For whom are you writing?"

When people who belong to a writers group don't submit what they write, the result is a one-page newsletter. I hope that this year you will write, get it critiqued, and volunteer for something. It is a reward that can't be matched. See you at the meeting on Wednesday .if you have something to read, bring it to share! PLEASE!

CHANGE IN JANUARY DAY MEETING PROGRAM

Gary Edwards, our scheduled speaker fell on the ice and broke his leg. We all hope that you get well quickly, Gary.

DUES ARE DUE!

\$35.00 for the year. Twenty dollars stays in the chapter and the remaining fifteen goes to the state to run the writing contests, etc.

2010 Officers

Larry Telles: President
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Sandy Smith: 1st VP & Co-Program Director
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IWL
EMPOWERING
WRITERS
FOR 70 YEARS



Coeur d'Alene Inn
September 24, 25, 2010