

The Writers Bloc

Jan 2008
Vol 2 Issue 6

Jan Meeting Schedule

Next Business Meeting
Jan 28, 2008
Critique at 5: PM

Break at 6:45PM
Bus, Mtg. 7PM

Officers PRESIDENT

Peggy P. Freeman

VICE PRESIDENT

Tony Blake

SECRETARY

Janie Hall

TREASURER

Violet Pollard

HOSPITALITY

Carol Cook

PUBLICITY

Holly Harrison

NEWSLETTER

Joe Bonpensiero



Our January program will be a real treat:

Alyce James, a "founding-mother" of the Writers Bloc will present a program on preserving family

memories. Alyce started her business, Precious Legacy, wherein she interviews family members, collects stories and creates a lasting record on CD for future generations. Alyce's presentation will cover the process and rewards of capturing family lore to pass down. By the way, pick up a copy of Alyce's novel "Final Reward." It will catch you up in the web of a fine mystery.

Writers Bloc Meeting Minutes .Dec 10th

The Chips books came in for those who had ordered. For those not at meeting, if the books were needed for Christmas presents you could pick them up from Peggy Freeman.

Otherwise, the books will be available at next meeting in Jan.

Everyone wrote a short story, poem, or something different from his or her usual form of writing. Each entry was rolled, tied, and put in a sack. Members picked something to read, and then everyone wrote the name of person they thought wrote it. After all pieces were read, the true

Writers were revealed. Bruce London and Robert Taylor guessed the Most correct answers. Everyone reported on their number of submissions, rejections, and acceptances. Janie Hall won the trophy for this year with 20 submissions, 1 rejection, and 2 pending answers. Overall, Business was Minimal, as this was a Christmas party. . January and February will be busy getting ready for the "Writing on the Brazos" conference in March.

J.H., secretary.



MEMO FROM: PEGGY

January is the best time of the year to set goals. If you have not set your goals for this year do so now

.Plan to finish a novel or finish three chapters or write 4 short stories.

Make writing everyday a part of your goal. Set a goal to submit your work to 4 places.

Attend a writing conference. "Oh, yeah! You can do this one." We have a conference at a great price right here in Granbury... And, for Writer's Bloc Members Don't Forget, those wanting a critique should register ASAP or they won't get in. With only two editors and one agent from Top Company's, critique slots will go fast.

Plan to learn, plan to work, plan to sell...plan to reach your goal of writing, selling, publishing.

We will work on this at our meeting Monday night. See you there.

www.peggypurserfreeman.com

Conference Web site

<http://writersblocgranbury.tripod.com/>



Toot The BRAGS Horn

The Writer's Bloc meets each month at The Estates on Lake Granbury 916 E. Hwy 377
NL Suggestions to joebo1@charter.net

Our own Lloyd Christensen recently sat for, and passed the University of Texas Professional Project Manager exam. Hoo-Rah Lloyd. If you need a computer project or program managed, Call Lloyd.



Writing Down the Brazos Bigger Than Ever!

March is the month for Writing Down the Brazos. The annual writers conference on writing and publishing is hosted by Tarleton's Langdon Center and Granbury's Writer's Bloc. This year Janice Horak, Director of the Langdon Center, invites writers to attend another wonderful weekend of workshops to help you gain the skills to publish. The Langdon Center is located at 308 East Pearl Street, Granbury.

Speakers this year include:

Jennie Dunham, Agent for Durham Literary, Inc. of New York will join us. Jenny founded Durham Literary Inc. August 2000 and is a member of AAR (Association of Authors Representatives) since 1993 .

She started her career at John Brockman Associates and then spent 6 years at Russell & Volkening before founding Dunham Literary.

She is a frequent speaker at writer's conferences throughout the country.

Dunham Literary represents.

*Literary Fiction and Non-Fiction
Alternative Spirituality & Children's Books*

"We tend towards literary, character-driven writing rather than to the mass-or commercial markets. Sometimes we handle clients who write other types of books, but we do so less frequently. We are not currently looking for any alternative spirituality projects."

Types of Projects Dunham Literary does not represent Poetry (for adults), Horror, Westerns, Romance, Individual short stories and articles

Erin Garrow of Boyds Mills Press, will also join us. Erin *acquires and edits books for young reader*. Mr. Garrow creates novels, nonfiction, poetry collections, and picture books. He is interested in manuscripts that use precise language.. He will be sharing valuable information from one of the best publishers.

Paula Murphey, editor for "Boys Life" brings her expertise on the nationally circulated magazine market. Paula is senior editor at "Boys' Life" magazine and *She* will speak on "Selling to *Boys' Life* and Other National Magazines." After graduating with an M.A. in English from the University of Texas at Tyler, Paula tried her hand at teaching and writing/editing in the advertising industry before landing in the journalism world. Paula lives in

Arlington, Texas, with her husband, cat and TCU horned frog stepdaughter. Mary Beth Miller, a new resident to Granbury and a Young Adult Author, writes contemporary teen novels. Her first novel, *Aimee*, is about a girl recovering from the loss of her best friend to suicide. It has connected with teens from as far away as Singapore. Her second novel, *On the Head of a Pin*, will be out in March from Dutton.

Poet, Alan Birkelbach will be on hand to not only share tips on writing poetry but will offer workshops on writing and publishing poetry. Texas native Birkelbach so effortlessly writes of the landscape and people of Texas that it is hard to not get drawn into the world of his poetry. With the ability to take on voices of men and women, and depict everything from the everyday to the phenomenal, his poems come to life, playing out in the homes, backyards, and wide open spaces of Texas. Birkelbach was appointed the Texas State Poet Laureate in 2005 by the Texas Legislature. New and Selected Works is the first in TCU Press' Texas Poet Laureate series, which currently contains collections from Birkelbach, Red Steagall, and Steven Fromholz.



Writers Bloc Members

If interested in getting your fingers on a copy of The Writers' Market Guide so you can market your great stories or poetry, Go to writersmarket.com. Enter in our club's username = `wbloc`, Then our password = `granbury`. This is a great resource that will help you cast your net.