

Say WEN

May 2012

www.wenetwork.org

Dedicated to encouraging and promoting the art and skill of writing and editing.

Breakfast Networking

WEN's monthly meetings offer an ideal environment to refine your knowledge of the writing and editing business through our guest speakers, and also to network with peers from your own community who have similar interests. There is generally an opportunity to purchase autographed copies of guest speakers' books. Our breakfast buffet provides a variety of hot and cold dishes and a selection of fresh fruit and pastries for your enjoyment.

Breakfasts are held at the Canadiana Restaurant located at Six Points Plaza, 5230 Dundas Street (Dundas and Kipling) from 9 am to 11:30 am.

Advance registration is required. This is your last day to register. Please contact Anna Stitski by replying to this e-mail (breakfasts@wenetwork.org) or at ibanana@hotmail.com or by phone at 905-272-1478. If you have registered but find that you cannot attend, please let Anna know as soon as possible.

Cost is \$15 for WEN members and \$20 for non-members.

May 19, 2012: Andrew Pyper

Andrew Pyper was born in Stratford, Ontario, in 1968. He received a B.A. and M.A. in English Literature from McGill University, as well as a law degree from the University of Toronto. Although called to the bar in 1996, he has never practiced.

The Guardians, Andrew's fifth novel, is to be published in Canada (Doubleday Canada) in January 2011, the U.K. (Orion) in February 2011.

April 21, 2012: Shane Serra

As an owner of a local office of a global company, I represent a network of consultants dedicated to your marketing excellence. The letter "I" represents Internet not one person. WSI is the largest global network of Internet Consultants dedicated to offer leading edge strategies to help your business increase sales and decrease cost.

With the economic uncertainty it is time to stop doing what you always did. We all work hard enough. Now the time is to work smarter!

Letter from the President

I'm afraid I was tardy last month and didn't get my piece ready in time for the newsletter. I had a very timely theme, too: the weather. And it looks like I can draw on that theme again this month as the weather still can't seem to make up it's mind. We go from unseasonably warm to unseasonably cool. And despite this, I see that the plants are sprouting and blooming just fine.

WEN too appears to be blooming. We had a wonderful attendance at the April meeting and the group in attendance were as animated as ever. We had some major announcements that I'd like to remind you of. First of all, our elections and Annual General Meeting will be held at the June breakfast. Between now and then we hope to see a full roster of candidates so WEN can have a complete board in the coming year. Many hands, as they say...

If you've been toying with the idea of getting involved, I hope you think seriously about submitting your name for a position on the board or as a volunteer. Or if you know someone who would make a great addition to the board, why not ask that person to consider running? And remember: Nothing is cast in stone and all positions are open to all comers.

Newsletter editor Nathan Medcalf made an impassioned plea for volunteers at the April meeting. As it now stands, board members do all of the footwork on behalf of WEN. No one is complaining, but there are times when having a few more bodies would be a big help.

Despite my many years in the Information Technology industry, I'm finding it harder than ever to keep up with the changes that are happening on my computer screen. And yet, for the most part they are worth catching up to. For example, WEN has a website that we all can use to stay informed, and it has lately been upgraded to allow us to each have OUR OWN LITTLE WEB PAGE. How cool is that? If you missed the "How To" article in the March Say WEN that has detailed steps on how to join in, see the newsletter at wenetwork.org.

WEN also has a facebook page. If you're not on facebook, you're not alone. It can be rather intimidating; but a lot of people who are otherwise computer phobic are jumping into facebook like it's the best thing ever. The WEN page is a 'group', so you have to look for and join the group. Once there, you can say hello, introduce yourself, start a discussion, whatever. And you may discover that social networking works for you.

Richard Best

Organizational News

July 21, 2012: Call for Member Readings Submissions

The program for the July meeting will be the always-popular Readings by Members of WEN. If you have something you'd like to read, please note these requirements:

1. You must be a Member in good standing, and the piece must have been written by you.
2. You must be able to read the piece in five minutes or less. Please read it aloud, with all the necessary pauses and emphasis, and time it—time goes by more quickly than you might think.
3. Poems and short prose, complete or excerpts, are welcome. No motivational or inspirational pieces.
4. E-mail your submission (MS-Word attachment, with word count) to jfambury.shire@yahoo.ca. Include "July Member Readings" in the subject line. We need to review the readings ahead of time so we can arrange a varied and interesting program.
5. Submissions will be accepted in the order received only until the program is full. That usually happens within a week or so of this first announcement – so do get your entry in soon!
6. See No. 2!

Volunteer. Nominate. Vote.

Election day is June 16, 2012. The WEN organization relies on its volunteers to continue its legacy.

If you wish to volunteer your talent and skills, fill out the attached nomination form by clicking the link below. All positions are open and are for a one year term. Nomination forms can be handed in to Anna Stitski.

[Nomination Form](#)

[Executive Job Description](#)



Join the WEN team.

Executive Positions (elected)

President

The CEO and 'face' of the organization, WEN's president is Master of Ceremonies for all breakfast meetings and the Annual General Meeting. Responsible for ensuring that the program and business of the day are presented. Chairs Board meetings and is responsible for seeing that organizational matters are addressed and that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried out.

Vice President

In the absence of the President, the VP is responsible for performing the President's duties including Master of Ceremonies for meetings and chairing Board meetings.

Treasurer

Maintains all financial records for the organization including bank accounts, budgets and financial statements. Receives and deposits all dues and fees, and ensures that the bills are paid.

Secretary

Prepares the agenda for Board meetings. Takes minutes at all Board Meetings, the Annual General Meeting and any special meetings. Maintains the organization's minutes book.

Board Positions (elected)

Breakfast Coordinator

Makes all breakfast arrangements with the venue

including expected number of attendees and table setup. Handles phone and email inquiries and takes advanced breakfast registrations. Works with restaurant during the meeting to ensure smooth running of the program.

Program Coordinator

Sets the program of topics and speakers for the year. Locates and contacts speakers, introduces speakers

Newsletter Advertising Proposal

The newsletter will be 8 pages and include no more than 25% (2 pages) of advertising averaged over 12 months.

Throughout the trial, business-card-sized ads are \$10 and 1/4-page-sized ads are \$25.

At these rates, if the newsletter sold five business-card-sized ads and two 1/4-page-sized ads in each issue, (equivalent to one page of advertising), the newsletter would bring in \$1100/year.

This is the equivalent of increasing the cost of membership by \$10.

(This is a 1/4-page-sized ad)

Criteria for an ad

- Services or products for the publishing industry
- Services or products for small businesses and freelancers
- An industry-related event with an entry fee

Criteria for an announcement

- News from a WEN member about her or himself
- News about a recent event in which a WEN member participated
- News about a project or work undertaken by a WEN member

and thanks them after their presentations. Co-ordinates arrangements for book sales and signings at the breakfast meetings.

Newsletter Editor

Responsible for publishing the newsletter, Say WEN. With the help of the Communication Co-ordinator, sends out the newsletter.

Membership Coordinator

Maintains membership records and sends out renewal notices.

Director at Large/Special Events Coordinator

WEN's "gun for hire" assists with or initiates special projects, such as the WEN Authors Showcase.

Communications Coordinator

Facilitates communications by a variety of means including mail, email and personal visits. Sends out

notification of meetings and events, and assists in preparing promotional material.

Appointments

Web Master

Updates and maintains content on the WEN web site.

Member Reading Coordinator

Recruits members to read at the July and December meetings. Receives and approves material to be read, and prepares the reading agenda. Introduces readers at the meetings, and prepares certificates of recognition.

Archivist

Collects WEN documents and pictures, organizes material, and provides copies of materials for display and promotion.

N.B. Detailed job descriptions are available upon request.

Member News

Free prints

Dave Cook is pleased to announce that he will be offering prints by Lance Russwurm, a renowned artist who specializes in painting in acrylics and watercolours, with the purchase of his books. The prints, beautifully framed and signed by the artist, are of subjects written about in Dave's series *Fading History* – stories of historical interest. The prints being offered are of the CF 105 AVRO Arrow in flight, the Lancaster Bomber, and the last great steam engine in commercial service in Canada, Bullet Nosed-Betty (CN 6060 locomotive).

A bird in a cage

Thelma Wheatley announces the publication of her new, creative non-fiction book:



DAVE COOK

1077 North Service Road
#39 P.O. Box 20014
Mississauga, Ontario
L4Y 1A6

www.fadinghistory.ca
cook.dave@rogers.com

905-279-3579

Thelma Wheatley
*And Neither Have I Wings to Fly: Labelled and
Locked Up in Canada's Oldest Institution*
Inanna Publication, York University
June 2012.

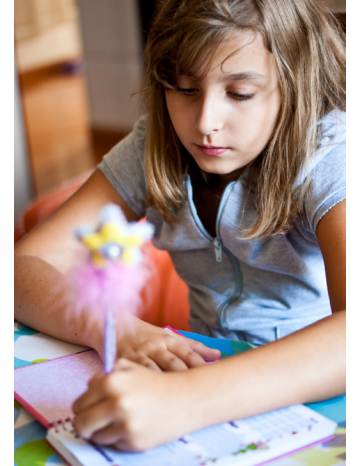
The book – a true story – is scheduled for print the last week of May or beginning of June. Book launch at OISE in June, to be announced.

Other News

Advantage a disadvantaged child

A teacher in a poor district and her classroom (1st/2nd grade) is desperately in need of books. If you have any children's books taking up space on your bookshelf that you would like to donate to a good cause, please send them to:

Kimberly Kear
Lilian J. Rice Elementary
915 4th Ave.
Chula Vista, CA 91911



Upcoming Events

Phunky Poetic People

What it is phunky poetic people? This is the place to get the low down on all the hip-to-jive Plasticine Poetry happenings.

The Plasticine Poetry Series is located at Pauper's Pub (2nd floor), 539 Bloor St. W. (1 block east of Bathurst subway). Readings start at 6 p.m.

Upcoming readings:

May 27
Susan Glickman
Rod Weatherbie
Lesley Shimatakahara
Sue Chenette

JUNE 24
Christian
Maureen Hynes
Mary Walters
Luciano Iacobelli

ECW Press Spring Party

ECW Press Spring Literary Party

Monday, 14 May, 7 pm
The Sister, 1554 Queen Street West

This is a free event

Readings by:

David Balzer, author of Contrivances
Heather A. Clark, author of Chai Tea Sunday
Joey Comeau, author of The Complete Lockpick Pornography
Sky Gilbert, author of Come Back
George Murray, author of Whiteout

The Rewards of Editorial Abuse

I like my editors ruthless. They get paid to pick my work apart without softening the blows.

I want salt, not sugar. Simon, not Paula.

I've written eight drafts of my upcoming novel, *The Orphans of the Creek*. It's been through three different editors and two writing mentors and at times their criticisms have been nothing short of scathing.

But that's not necessarily a sign of bad writing. More so, it suggests great editing. Editing is one of the single most important investments you will make for your book.



While it's important to check credentials and ask for references, also ask a prospective editor to do a 750 free sample edit of your work. Seeing their notes is the best way to determine if an editor is a good fit for you.

Then you can get ready for the abuse!

So what was the reward for all the criticism my manuscript endured? My ninth draft will be my last, with one final proofread afterwards. Then it will be ready for my readers.

So, don't fret if your editor's criticisms seem harsh. All writers go through it. Besides, how else will you ever get published?

*Richard S. Todd is a Toronto-born, author, blogger, and social media guy. His works include novels *Raincloud* and *The Orphans of the Creek* (publishing in 2012) and the short story *Clive*.*

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blog: raincloudbook.wordpress.com

facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Author-Richard-S-Todd

Twitter: [authorstodd](https://twitter.com/authorstodd)

"You might cry when you read my comments, but your fiction will be a lot better when I'm through with it."

Affordable, quality editing & manuscript evaluation.

nathan_medcalf@hotmail.com.



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ACTING STUDIO

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UPCOMING WORKSHOP

For Authors, Speakers, Storytellers

SPEAK! CAPTURE! EMPOWER!

Hands-on Intensive 1-Day Workshop

Learn how to capture and hold the attention of your listeners and draw them into the world of your story so that they will be eager to know more about you and your work.

Learn how to speak from your heart;
Learn to use your voice & body to connect;
Gain confidence reading with and without a microphone.

Sat., June 2, 2012 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

COST: \$90 WEN Members: \$81 - SAVE 10%

Participants: Max 15

INFO & REGISTRATION: 416-236-9011

www.siriustheatrical.com

Mission Statement

The Writers & Editors Network is an organization dedicated to encouraging and promoting the art and skill of writing and editing. WEN aims to foster literacy and to assist, empower, and provide moral support to writers and editors from all disciplines. WEN will network, mentor, and educate members independently and in cooperation with other organizations.



www.wenetwork.org

Board Of Directors 2011-2012

President: Richard Best

president@wenetwork.org

Past President: Dr. Glenn S Reid, D.Mgt

Vice President: Maria Marchelletta

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Secretary: Jasmine Jackman

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treasurer@wenetwork.org

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breakfasts@wenetwork.org

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membership@wenetwork.org

Program Coordinator: Maria Marchelletta

programs@wenetwork.org

Newsletter Editor: Nathan Medcalf

enews@wenetwork.org

Web Master: Maurus Cappa

treasurer@wenetwork.org

Director at Large: Vacant

directoratlarge@wenetwork.org

Board Appointments

Member Reading Coordinator: John Ambury

Founders

Patricia Armstrong

Lawrence Coughlin

Marilyn Fraser

Marjorie Ludlow Green

Say WEN is produced by The Writers & Editors Network

The Writers & Editors Network publishes Say WEN as a service to members and friends. WEN freely publishes news about members and events in which our members participate and welcomes other news and events that may benefit our members. WEN does not verify the accuracy of submissions.

Say WEN is distributed the first week of each month, excluding August, to more than 100 WEN members and it is posted online at wenetwork.org.

Submissions to Say WEN are directed to the Newsletter Editor. The cut off date for submissions is the 1st of the month.

Next submission deadline: June 1.

Newsletter editor: Nathan Medcalf

Contact: nathan_medcalf@hotmail.com