



Writers & Editors Network

[www.wenetwork.org](http://www.wenetwork.org)

# Say WEN

October 2011

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

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## **President's Message**

I had been an off-and-on attendee at breakfast meetings for some time when I finally decided to join WEN. Another professional writers group I belonged to at the time had decided to abandon its mandate to pursue a program that many of us were not in favour of, and cost more besides. The experience was instructive because it dramatically showed me what can happen when a group's leaders listen to only a few members or to none at all.

What attracted me most of all to WEN was the broad scope of our members. I was for years a corporate communicator and educator, and eventually put my shingle out as a freelance writer and editor. I then wrote a small dictionary that became a best seller in Canada... perhaps not your most solid writing credentials. But I found within WEN equally eclectic backgrounds. We have award-winning authors and playwrights. A few are working on manuscripts for major publishers. We have a number of members who teach about writing and at least one high-end editor for a fortune 500 company. We have poets who have been published and poets who self-publish. We have members who are taking up the pen (or keyboard) once again, after many years of absence. We also have a goodly number of "wannabees" who are determined to one day write their story. They all share a few things in common when it comes to WEN. Here we find kindred spirits, camaraderie, encouragement, and support.

Being a writer has never been an easy business, and certainly has rarely been cited for the social and professional support of its participants. With the writing and publishing landscape changing so rapidly—mainly because of the internet and other technologies—writers and editors more than ever need their own 'water cooler'. At WEN we meet each month to network, to share a meal, network, swap tips and stories of our successes and frustrations, and, of course, to network. We also manage to fit in a topical speaker, one who will bring us insights into writing, editing, publishing, or any aspect of our craft. And, naturally, we wrap it all up with more networking.

I'm always impressed at how many writers and editors—amateur and professional alike—choose to join WEN often at their second or even first meeting.

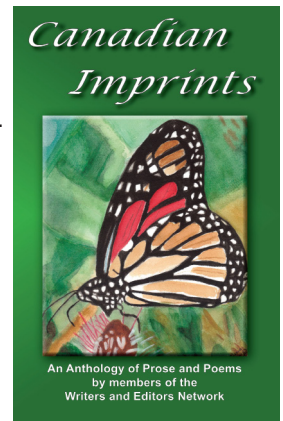
**Please submit items for the newsletter by the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month to [nathan\\_medcalf@hotmail.com](mailto:nathan_medcalf@hotmail.com) so the newsletter can be sent out prior to the breakfast network meeting. Also, please only send news that is relevant to the writers, editors, and other members in the publishing industry.**

## Organizational News

### ***WEN anthology, Canadian Imprints, now available!***

*Canadian Imprints* features a diversity of stories and poems about a wide range of topics mirroring our Canadian landscape. A total of 37 authors submitted 58 stories and 24 poems that were accepted for inclusion in the anthology. The book is 232 pages in length and full of wonderful tales, whimsical poems and musings. There is something for every reader's palette. Copies are now available for purchase for \$20.00.

Canadian Imprints is dedicated to the Writers and Editors Network which is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year in existence.



### ***Like us!***

WEN has created a Facebook Fanpage and we are inviting WEN members to like us. Our fanpage is designed to serve as a forum for WEN members to read about WEN news and upcoming events, read posts made by WEN members and to post relevant news themselves.

To like us, click on the following link or copy it into your web browser:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Writers-and-Editors-Network/260973783919700?sk=wall>.

## Members News

### ***Inscribed in wood: reading series and signings***

Bianca Lakoseljac has been busy with readings and book signings. She was one of the authors featured at the Stephen Leacock Festival in July 2011, where she read from *Bridge in the Rain*: a collection of stories linked by an inscription on a bench in Toronto's High Park.

October events:

- October 13: Bianca will read as part of Coats for Kids: Buy-one, share-one, Holy Trinity High School, Bradford, 1-6 pm
- October 15: Bianca will hold a signing session at Chapters, Queensway, 1-3 pm
- October 19: Bianca will take part in the (Not so) Nice Italian Girls reading series, at Doonley's Café, at 7:30 pm

All events are free of charge and everyone is welcome.



<http://www.nowtoronto.com/books/listings/listing.cfm?listingid=800058101&subsection=&category=&nav=1>

## **Other News**

### ***Lyrical Wild Berries Harvest***

The International Writers' Festival: "Lyrical Wild Berries Harvest" is coming back for its 4<sup>th</sup> edition at Val-David. The International Writers' and Artists' Residency at Val-David is proud to present the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the multilingual poetry festival: "Lyrical Wild Berries Harvest"

October 29-30 from 2:30-7:30 pm

At the Residence, 1045, rue du Renard et du Corbeau, Val-David

[www.flaviacosma.com/Val\\_David.html](http://www.flaviacosma.com/Val_David.html)

On Sunday, October 30, from 11.30 to 12.30 there will be a conference: "Nouvelles approches de la poesie/New approaches to poetry" presented by Claudia Coutu-Radmore

On this occasion more than twenty writers and artists will read from their work and present their art. The public will have the opportunity to meet poets from Romania, Italy, Argentina, Mexico, Cleveland, Massachusetts, Ile de la Reunion, Serbia, Guinea, France, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and the Laurentians. There will be paintings, masks, and photo exhibitions.

Free admission. For more info please contact Flavia Cosma—Director, the International Writers' and Artists' Residency, Val-David, at [flaviacosma@rogers.com](mailto:flaviacosma@rogers.com).

### ***An evening with Mike Carey***

Come out to this free event and spend an evening with British Horror/comics writer Mike Carey.

Monday, October 17 at 6:30 pm

Merril Collection, Lillian H. Smith Library, 239 College St.

Mike Carey was born in 1959 in Liverpool, England, where both his parents worked in a bread factory and Mike "got [his] first glimpse of hell." After a start writing for the British comic magazine 2000AD, he wrote the entire run of the Eisner-nominated comic Lucifer—a story about the devil's quest for autonomy in a deterministic universe—for DC/Vertigo, as well as a 40-issue run of Hellblazer. Lucifer has been described as "a work of genius in the dark fantasy genre" and "the best fantasy comic around." He is an ongoing writer for DC, Marvel, and independent comics.

Mr. Carey's first prose novel, *The Devil You Know*, a horror/mystery starring freelance exorcist Felix Caster, was released in the UK by Orbit books in April 2006, and as a hardcover in the US in July 2007. Four sequels have since followed.

[www.friendsofmerril.org/](http://www.friendsofmerril.org/)

## 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](http://www.wenetwork.org).

## Breakfast Networking

Canadiana Restaurant (Six Points Plaza, 5230 Dundas Street West, Toronto) 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Cost: \$15 for WEN members and \$20 for non-WEN members.

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.

### October 15, 2011

D.J. (Dorothy) McIntosh is the former co-editor of the Crime Writers of Canada's newsletter, Fingerprints, and is a Toronto-based writer of novels and short mystery fiction. Her short story "The Hounds of Winter", published in Blood on the Holly by Baskerville Books (Toronto, 2007), was nominated for the 2008 Arthur Ellis Award for Best Short Story. "A View to Die For" appeared in Bloody Words: The Anthology, also published by Baskerville Books (Toronto, 2003). McIntosh graduated with a B.A. in English from the University of Toronto.

### November 19, 2011

Author and poet, Debbie Ouellet lives in Loretto, Ontario. Her children's book, "How Robin Saved Spring" (Henry Holt, 2009) received the Horace Mann Upstanders Honor Book Award and was named Amazon.ca's Pick of the Month and Cookie Magazine's Book of the Month. Her teen novels for reluctant readers, "A Hero's Worth" and "Legend of the Ring" were published by HIP Books (2009 and 2011). Debbie is working on her third teen novel for HIP Books titled "Wave", to be published in 2012. Debbie chairs the Vaughan Poets' Circle and performs spoken word poetry at schools and literary events across the GTA. [www.debbieouellet.com](http://www.debbieouellet.com).

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## Board Appointments

Member Reading Coordinator: John Ambury

WOTS: Vacant

## Founders

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## Say WEN is produced by The Writers & Editors Network

The Writers & Editors Network publishes Say WEN as a service to members and friends. Content is submitted by members and WEN does not verify the accuracy of submissions. The deadline for submissions for each issue is the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month.