



# Say WEN

The Writers & Editors Network

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

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## WEN Breakfast Meetings

### *December 13 - Showcase of Members' Talents*

The December 13th Breakfast meeting promises to be a memorable event for WEN members and guests. Not only will you enjoy a special holiday buffet breakfast, but 10 talented WEN members will read their short stories, creative non-fiction, or poetry. The Breakfast itself will be a special feast, as a gift from the Canadiana Restaurant. In addition to the great selection we are used to, festive items will be added at no extra cost to us. There will also be a raffle for several gift baskets during the December Breakfast. Be sure to get your tickets upon arrival and be prepared for a festive time!

The meeting takes place at The Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza (see below) from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. In order to accommodate all guests for this special event, **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**. Please contact Mickey ASAP by e-mail: [mickeytc@sympatico.ca](mailto:mickeytc@sympatico.ca) or call (905) 824-5035 to reserve your spot. Also, if you have registered and then find that you cannot attend, please let Mickey know as soon as possible.

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### *Fruits of Your Labours*

The WEN "Chap Book" has arrived! The end product of the Pro'se Project, the book includes the best stories submitted by WEN members. The stories were edited by WEN member Fraser Sutherland, and the book was then created by Heidy Lawrance, also a WEN member, and her team at [wemakebooks.ca](http://wemakebooks.ca). Copies will be available for purchase at the December 13th WEN Breakfast at \$15 per copy. Make the WEN Chap Book your gift of choice this year, and be sure to get the authors to autograph your copies.

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### *Breakfast Registration*

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.

**Pre-registration for Breakfast Meetings is required.** Please register six working days prior to the meeting date so we can guarantee enough seating, food and restaurant staff. Registration is \$14 for members and \$17 for non-members. Please sign in at the registration desk between **8:45 a.m. and 9:10 a.m.** at the Canadiana. The meeting ends at 11:30 a.m.

To register, visit <http://www.wenetwork.org/breakfast-networking.html> or contact Breakfast Co-ordinator Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin by phone 905-824-5035 or email [mickeytc@sympatico.ca](mailto:mickeytc@sympatico.ca).

### *Location*

Meetings are held on the **third Saturday of the month** (except in December) at the **Canadiana Restaurant and Banquet Hall** (Six Points Plaza, 5230 Dundas Street West, Toronto, near the Kipling subway station) downstairs in the Banquet Hall. Our breakfast buffet provides a variety of hot and cold dishes and a selection of fresh fruit and pastries for your enjoyment.

## President's Message

Dear members,

This is our last Breakfast of 2008. We look forward to our New Year! For those who did not renew through oversight, there is still a possibility of continuing your membership.

The WEN book is in. You will be able to purchase it at the December Breakfast meeting. It is priced at \$15, and the income from sales will be ploughed back into our Development Fund. Make it your favourite Christmas gift and help WEN to raise

funds for future projects including the book launch of members' books to be held in February.

See you all on the 13th of December 2008 for our next breakfast, which is a very special breakfast that Mickey and the Canadiana will be arranging.

Happy Holidays!

**Jasmine D'Costa, WEN President**

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## Members Set Agenda for Future WEN Speakers

Thank you for taking the time to fill out and submit the Guest Speaker Surveys.

After tabulating the results, the topics chosen most to less frequently were:

- publishing
- agents
- authors
- marketing
- self-publishing
- how to stimulate creativity
- how to write a proposal, and how to jump start your writing career

A number of other excellent topics were suggested by WEN Members:

- business side of writing including income taxes and legal advice
- websites; blogging
- cover letters; getting a book or proposal reviewed

- memoir writing and poetry
- Art Council grants

As your Program Co-ordinator, I am confident that our 2009 WEN Speaker Series will prove to be a dynamic and exciting program that will not only address many of these topics, but will inspire and motivate us all as we continue on our personal journeys. (Any remaining topics from the survey will carry over for the speaker selection in 2010.)

A brochure of confirmed speakers, topics and meeting dates will be published shortly by the WEN Communications Committee to enable members to organize their schedules and calendars.

Thank you to the following WEN Members who volunteered to serve on the Programming Committee:

GAYLE DZIS  
MEL SARNESE

MARIE HERRELL  
JENNIFER TRAVIS

**Angela Collier, WEN Program Co-ordinator**  
([acollier@sympatico.ca](mailto:acollier@sympatico.ca))

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## A Different Style of Motivation

The World-Wide Web is filled with sites to help writers get down to business. One site that has a unique, perhaps discomfoting, approach is Write or Die. That's correct, *Write or Die!*

The concept is simple. Log onto the website [lab.drwicked.com/writeordie.html](http://lab.drwicked.com/writeordie.html), set your writing goal, and then start writing. The web-based application will keep you aware of when you're slacking off with anything from a polite warning to threats of ill treatment.

If you find that you occasionally drift away from your writing, having Write or Die constantly looking over your shoulder may be just the thing.

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## WEN Members, We need you!

The WEN Nominations Committee would like you to consider running for the following positions on the WEN Board. Positions carry a term of one year, with the new Board being elected each year at the June Breakfast Meeting. Let us know if you would like to take on any of these roles. Or perhaps you know of a WEN member who should be on our next Board.

**PRESIDENT:** Chairs the Breakfast and Board Meetings, hosts monthly breakfasts, makes announcements, leads WEN to achieve its goals.

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Assists the President, taking on the roles of the President when the President is unavailable.

**TREASURER:** Maintains the WEN budget, accounting, banking, and registration table.

**SECRETARY:** Takes notes at the Board Meetings, creates and distributes the Board meeting agenda and minutes.

**MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR:** Maintains membership records, sends out renewal notices, staffs the registration table.

**PROGRAM CO-ORDINATOR:** Locates and books Breakfast speakers, and welcomes and introduces them at the meetings.

**BREAKFAST CO-ORDINATOR:** Accepts Breakfast reservations, communicates with the Canadiana Restaurant to insure the correct number of servings.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Edits, assembles and distributes *Say WEN*, our monthly newsletter.

**COMMUNICATIONS CO-ORDINATOR:** Oversees the website and WEN communications and publications.

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** Takes on specific duties as assigned by the President/Board of Directors.

Each Board Director welcomes volunteer support in carrying out their duties. Sharing responsibilities makes each role more manageable. If you, or you and a friend, are interested in getting involved as volunteers, are interested in taking on any of these roles, or have suggestions as to other roles/committees we should be considering in order to meet the needs of the membership and to make WEN a dynamic organization, please let your voice and ideas be heard. Speak to anyone on the board, or to me, Marie Maksymiw, WEN Secretary and Chair of the Nominations Committee, at: [m\\_maksymiw@sympatico.ca](mailto:m_maksymiw@sympatico.ca)

## Support Your Local Author

BookLand Press is hosting a Toronto launch for my novel, *Dead Girl Diaries*, in conjunction with another new book and a wonderful collection of poetry, *The Serenity of Stone* from Toronto poet, Michael Fraser (the foreword is written by Austin Clarke). I'm hoping some of you who live in the area will come out to the launch. Many of my Kitchener-Waterloo friends can't travel to the event, so I would really appreciate if you could drop by.

For further info, please email me at [mariannepaul@rogers.com](mailto:mariannepaul@rogers.com) or visit my Awards webpage, [www.mariannepaul.com/awards.html](http://www.mariannepaul.com/awards.html). You can also download a PDF invitation to the event from [www.mariannepaul.com/Launch Invitation.pdf](http://www.mariannepaul.com/Launch%20Invitation.pdf).

*Marianne Paul*

**WHEN:** Tuesday December 16  
6-8 p.m.

**WHERE:** Supermarket Art Bar  
268 Augusta Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario



**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 co-operation with other organizations.

## WEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007-2008

*Officers*

President	Dr. Jasmine D'Costa
Past President	Gay Peppin (ex-officio)
Vice-President	Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin
Treasurer	Lawrence Coughlin
Secretary	Marie Maksymiw

*Directors*

Program Co-ordinator	Elizabeth Duncan (2007-2008) Angela Collier (2008-2009)
Breakfast Co-ordinator	Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin
Membership Co-ordinator	Irene Hodgson
Communications Co-ordinator	Anna Stitski-Gamza
Newsletter Editor	Richard Best
Director at large	Mary Ellen Koroscil

*Board Appointments*

Member Reading Co-ordinator	Marilyn Fraser
Media Co-ordinator	Berardo Manari
Webmaster	Jatin Naik
Workshop Co-ordinator	<i>Open</i>

*Founders*

Patricia Armstrong • Lawrence Coughlin • Marilyn Fraser  
Marjorie Ludlow Green • Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin

[e-news@wenetwork.org](mailto:e-news@wenetwork.org) • [www.wenetwork.org](http://www.wenetwork.org)

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