



Say WEN

The Writers & Editors Network

www.wenetwork.org

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

WEN Breakfast Meetings

August, 2009

There is no WEN meeting. Enjoy the summer break!

September 19: Breathing Life into Biographies

Elizabeth MacLeod is the award-winning author of more than 35 books for children. Many of these books are biographies, including *The Kids Book of Great Canadians*, *The Kids Book of Great Canadian Women* and the *Snapshot* biographies, a series of ten books about such famous people as Albert Einstein, Lucy Maud Montgomery, the Wright Brothers and more. For many years, Liz has also been an editor of books and magazines for both adults and children.

October 17: Step Into The Spotlight

After 10 years as a Dean's List litigation lawyer, TSUFIT left law for the limelight, performing comedy on national television and gaining international attention for her debut music CD. TSUFIT is now a marketing strategist who coaches entrepreneurs and CEOs to be stars. She is a popular radio and television show guest, keynote speaker, seminar leader, coach and mom.

November 21: Building the writer's audience

Shane Joseph is a graduate of the Humber School for Writers. His first novel *Redemption in Paradise* was published in 2004 and his short story collection *Fringe Dwellers* in 2008. His short stories on Canadian themes have appeared in *Existere*, in three Canadian anthologies and in literary journals in Sri Lanka and India.

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 well before the meeting date so we can guarantee enough seating, food and restaurant staff. Registration is \$15 for members and \$18 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. If you find that you cannot attend a meeting after registering, please let us know.

To register, visit www.wenetwork.org/breakfast-networking.html or contact Breakfast Co-ordinator Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin by phone 905-824-5035 or email 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


First, let me thank the members of WEN for electing me President. I am looking forward to serving you in this capacity. In this regard, I want to be known as a President who listens. So please feel free to approach me on any subject concerning WEN. I cannot always promise to act on your requests, but I do promise always to listen and, if appropriate, to bring your comments and concerns before the board.

I also ask that you support me and all the newly elected board members in the discharge of our duties. The first couple of months are always challenging for a new executive, and I ask for your patience in this regard.


WEN is a great organization because it has great members with outstanding credentials who can network and socialize in an atmosphere of camaraderie that is almost unequalled, anywhere. Let us all work together to see that this is and remains our greatest asset.


Dr. Glenn S. Reid, D.Mgt.
WEN President, 2009-2010

Member News

 It's official: I, ALISON BRUCE, am secretary on the executive of *Crime Writers Canada*. Also, I've entered a contest on TextNovel.com. The winner gets a publishing contract. To qualify for the final round, I need votes — all it takes is a couple of clicks.

I have two stories entered. *Music, Love and Romance* is set in England, WWII, and is loosely based on stories my mother told me of growing up in that period. *Tasha Wood* is serious about helping the war effort. Her beautiful cousin Norma is more interested in having fun and enlists her American boyfriend in her quest to match Tasha up with one of his fellow pilots. They almost have her when Tasha catches her mother out with another man.

 *El Paso Trail*, by ALISON BRUCE, is a historical romance set in Texas after the Civil War. Texas Ranger Jase Strachan is following a confidence man in hopes of catching him retrieving his ill-gotten gains. Marly Landers is masquerading as a boy so she can follow the man who used her to steal from the people of her town. En route they get involved with a murder that puts their other business, and blossoming romance, on the back burner.

 Check out "Cool People Doing Cool Things" on the *Creative Fusion* Facebook page. You'll find interviews with WEN members RICHARD BEST discussing frugal wine choices and his latest book *The Frugal Oenophile's Winegrape Primer*, and JASMINE D'COSTA discussing her book, *Curry is Thicker than Water* and her new creative endeavours. If you are a cool person doing cool things, e-mail WEN member ANNE PTASZNIK at creativefusion@hotmail.com to tell her why she should interview you next!






 FRANCES FROMMER would like to extend an invitation to all WEN members to her book launch for *Surviving and Thriving Solo: Options When You Live Alone*. The event will be held on Sunday October 18, 2009 from 2-6 p.m. at


IMAGE MAKER, 175 Lakeshore Road East in Mississauga (1 block east of Hurontario Street on south side). Please RSVP to frances010@sympatico.ca or call (905) 822-8108.

 WEN member JATIN NAIK recently launched his website on the internet, thus marking the beginning of his online presence on cyberspace. Visit his website at <http://www.indrajatin.com>. Jatin will also be launching a Web Portal, which is a huge innovation that will need many contributions from writers, authors, poets, graphic artists, journalists, web designers, and others. Interested members may get in touch with Jatin at njatin@yahoo.com

 STEVENS HAN has won 1st prize in the Poetry category at the *Stellar Literary Festival*, hosted by the City of Oshawa on June 13th. His poem, "Spider," is a metaphorical work about the immigrant's life.

 THERESA FRASER has quite a bit on the go these days. She was featured as a guest columnist in *The Cambridge Times*. Her book *Billy Had To Move* was published last March and she also has a regular column in our *National Canadian Play Therapy* magazine.

 TRISHA SMITH is the author of *Holiday in Hell* (www.holidayinhell.ca; trisha@holidayinhell.ca). You can now purchase *Holiday in Hell* at Indigo Yorkdale, Toronto, McNally Robinson Book Sellers At The Shops Of Don Mills & Lawrence East, York University Book Store, Toronto, and Amazon, as well as Audreys Book Store In Edmonton, Alberta.

 WAHEED RABBANI's historical fiction novel, *Doctor Margaret's Sea Chest*, is now available as an e-Book in Kindle, i-Phone, Sony Reader, PDF, and other formats, at his publisher's website, <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/2726>, where you can read a full quarter of the novel online at no charge.

Welcome to WEN's New Board of Directors

President: **Glenn S. Reid**

Vice President: **Maria Marchelletta**

Secretary: **Barbro Stalbecker-Pountney**

Treasurer: **Lawrence Coughlin**

Membership Coordinator: **Irene Hodgson**

Breakfast Coordinator: **Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin**

Program Coordinator: **Elizabeth Duncan**

Newsletter Editor: **Richard Best**

Director at Large: **Brian Hull**

Communication Coordinator: *vacant*

Non-elected positions (to be approved by the new Board)

Outreach Committee: **Linda Torney**

Web Master: **Nathan Medcalf**

Public Relations: **Berardo Manari**

Word on the Street: **Herb Ware**, assisted by **Jatin Naik**

Update on WOTS

This year at *Word On The Street*, WEN is highlighting its published authors. In addition, we are developing a program to help promote members whose work supports writing, everything from editing and artistry to printing and publishing. We will have details up soon on the WEN website. WOTS runs on Sunday, Sept. 28.

Meanwhile, we need a couple of volunteers to design promotional displays for the day. Contact Herb Ware at 416-848-1510 if you would like to help. (Did I mention that all volunteers will get a Cool WEN t-shirt?)

At least 10 of our authors will be signing and selling their books at the booth. We have plans to also promote member authors who cannot make it to WOTS or whose work is not yet released but want their work promoted. We need to know who you are so, using the subject *WOTS AUTHOR*, send a brief (promotional) description of your publication and a brief bio to wenwots@writeware.ca.

Our other members, especially those in the editing field will also have their businesses promoted. We'll need your business cards and a brief profile of you and your work. If you would like take part in this promotion, send an e-mail subject *WOTS PROMOTION* to WOTS coordinator (Herb) at wenwots@writeware.ca.

As we have in past years, WEN will be offering a draw for sets of books and a free breakfast. The free breakfasts are supplied by the Board. The books are a combination of members' published works and at least one purchased reference book (thesaurus, dictionary, etc.) in each draw

package. For this to work successfully, we need volunteers to help distribute draw tickets and encourage visitors to fill them in, and volunteers to be at the booth to talk about WEN's virtues. If you would like to volunteer to help out on that day (and get a t-shirt) send an email, subject *WOTS VOLUNTEER*, mentioning when you plan to be available, to wenwots@writeware.ca.

Life-saving Tip: Too Short - Too Dangerous

Most women sit too close to the steering wheel.

The manufacturers of cars and trucks have been designing them with the average, sturdy 5'8" male in mind for years and this is still the norm. That means the seat and pedals and all of the adjusting knobs on the dash are ergonomically great if you are within a couple of inches of 5'8" in height. Since most women are shorter and of smaller stature, we find it a challenge to reach the foot pedals without cramming ourselves close up to the steering wheel. The danger here is when we are in a crash or hard breaking situation. If we do not have about 12" between the wheel and our chest, there is a great danger of being injured by the air bag that is there to save us. Unless you have seen this happen, you cannot imagine the force that is exerted upon your body when an air bag deploys. You definitely do not want to be the 3-6" away like we see with so many female or senior drivers.

The immediate solution is to start moving the seat back further or changing the slope of the back rest until you have that magic 12" space between your chest and the wheel AND you can still see to drive properly. Don't go immediately there, because it will scare you. Do it gradually. In case you cannot get into that good, safe position and still reach the pedals, look for someone to permanently install pedal extenders. And don't accept the inconvenience of the other driver of your car who is taller than you as an excuse to keep you from being safe. They can just move back to the maximum position or be cramped up a bit. The future solution is that your next car needs to be equipped with adjustable foot pedals. You can also check out places that alter vehicles for handicapped drivers. If you are 5'3" or under, let's face it, that is a handicap when the vehicle was designed for 5'8". You should be test driving no less than 15 different kinds of cars when you go shopping for your next vehicle. You will be able to find one to fit you and if you cannot within all aspects you seek, have your new vehicle altered so you are sitting in a safe position.

SUSAN WINLAW - Speaker, Publisher, Editor, Co-Author of *Car Advice For Women (and Smart Men)*, available for sale exclusively at www.caradviceforwomen.com. Contact me for a special link for friends and family.

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.

Officers

President	Glenn S. Reid
Past President	Dr. Jasmine D'Costa
Vice-President	Maria Marchelletta
Treasurer	Lawrence Coughlin
Secretary	Barbro Stalbecker-Pountney

Directors

Program Co-ordinator	Elizabeth Duncan
Breakfast Co-ordinator	Mickey Turnbull-Coughlin
Membership Co-ordinator	Irene Hodgson
Communications Co-ordinator	Vacant
Newsletter Editor	Richard Best
Director at large	Brian Hull

Board Appointments & Non-elected Positions (to be approved by the new Board)

Member Reading Co-ordinator	Open
Workshop Co-ordinator	Open
Outreach Committee	Linda Torney
Web Master	Nathan Medcalf
Public Relations	Berardo Manari
Word on the Street	Herb Ware, assisted by Jatin Naik

e-news@wenetwork.org • www.wenetwork.org

Founders

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



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