



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

Saturday May 16 - Publishing Tips for Authors

ROBERT MORGAN is a publisher with *BookLand Press*. Robert will discuss "Publishing Tips for Authors from the Publisher's Perspective". His presentation will cover query letters, selecting the right publisher for your book, publishing contracts, the editorial process, dealing with agents, self-publishing, and book marketing and distribution.

Saturday June 20 - Who Needs an Editor?

Also: Annual General Meeting and WEN Elections

As a freelancer, FRASER SUTHERLAND has edited more than 25 published books and a vast amount of printed and online material. In a past life, he was editor and co-founder of the literary magazine *Northern Journey*, a columnist for the book-publishing trade magazine *Quill & Quire*, and managing editor of *Books in Canada*. Wearing one of his other hats, he has published 13 books of his own: eight of poetry, four of non-fiction and one of short fiction.

July 18 - Members Reading Program

This is our last meeting before the summer break. It's an opportunity for members to read their short stories, poems or non-fiction. Each reader will have five minutes at the podium.

Members who wish to read their masterpiece at the July meeting can e-mail their prose or poetry to Anna Stitski-Gemza at ibanana@hotmail.com. To make sure you get on the program, please send your selection to Anna *no later than May 31*.

August - Summer break: no meeting

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 <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.

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.

New Online Marketing Service

IndieReader.com wants to promote, market and sell your book on their premier “Indies-only” website. IndieReader will also provide you with a website page with your own URL — even if you currently have a website, you still have to drive traffic there, and you’ll be much easier to find!

- Anyone who is self-published knows it’s a rough world out there.
- As Sundance has done for Indie films — making what’s

outside the mainstream “cool” — IR will do for Indie books and authors.

- They have over 20 years experience as publicists with best-selling authors and major publishing houses.
- The fee for inclusion is \$149 US per year, but if you sign up prior to IR’s going live (in early June) IR offers a discounted rate of \$99 US.
- Exclusivity with IR is not required.

Contact amy@indiereader.com.

Member Activities

JASMINE D’COSTA, author of *Curry Is Thicker Than Water*, will be reading from her book and having a Q&A at the New Toronto Library, Parkdale Branch, (1303 Queen Street West) on 21st May, 2009, at 7.00 p.m. as part of the Asian Heritage Month. The Q&A will address the “Indian-ness” in the characters and stories. This event is free to all.

FLAVIA COSMA is in Romania on a cultural tour that includes three book launches, two International Conferences, a Poetry Festival, an International Book Fair, and three readings (whew, ed.) Flavia will be back in Canada on June 9.

ELIZABETH DUNCAN’s mystery novel, *The Cold Light of Mourning*, has opened to wonderful reviews in Canada and the United States. Elizabeth will have copies for sale at the May 16th WEN meeting.

MARIA PIA MARCHELLETTA is featured in a poetry anthology *Earth to the Moon*, which she also co-edited, published by Hidden Book Press. The anthology was released in April and can be purchased from Maria for only \$15. She can be contacted at mcappa2@rogers.com

ZOHRA ZOBERI is having a book launch at Gallery Streetsville, 223 Queen Street, Streetsville ON, on May 16 from 4 pm to 6 pm, and all WEN members are invited. The program includes video highlights from staged productions of Zohra’s plays, *Questionably Ever After* and *Window Shopping... for lasting love*. Refreshments are provided by Allan’s Touch Catering Services. Streetsville is an attractive little town and you may want to arrive early to browse the streets, especially if it’s a nice day. For more info, contact *Bridging the Gap, Enlightenment through Entertainment*, 905-450-9904 or 416-433-5607.

PAUL COLLINS, author of *Mystery of Everyman’s Way* was interviewed on www.suite101.com. The interview can be found online at writingfiction.suite101.com/article.cfm/how_to_write_publishable_science_fiction. Daniel

Workman, a journalist with www.examiner.com, is also planning another article on Paul’s successes at book promotion. (www.myspace.com/authorpaulcollins or www.twitter.com/authorpcollins)

REVA STERN, author of *The Water Buffalo That Shed Her Girdle*, cordially invites WEN members and guests to attend her upcoming readings and book signings at the following locations:

May 23, 1:00 – 3:00 pm: Chapters, Bayview Village Mall, 2901 Bayview Avenue, Toronto

May 30, 2:00 – 5:00 pm: World’s Biggest Book Store, 20 Edward St., Toronto (Near Yonge St. and Dundas St.)

June 6, 3:00 – 5:00 pm: Chapters, 189 Rathburn Rd. W., Mississauga (North of Square One Shopping Mall)

Webmaster JATIN NAIK had yet another accomplishment last month. He was recently in Vancouver to cover the *JUNO Awards* ceremony, where he attended the awards press conference and met Canadian singers and musicians the likes of rocker Sam Roberts; country musician George Canyon; R&B vocalist Divine Brown; and “world” musician Jayme Stone.

Contest Op-

Jatin Naik with 8-time JUNO and 3-time Grammy Awards winner, “Angel” songstress/singer Sarah MacLachlan



portunity

The 2009 Canadian Aid Literary Award Contest has been announced! Contest details and entry guidelines have been posted on Canadian Aid Charity's websites www.canadianaid.org (www.canadianaid.com). This year the contest has great judges, great corporate sponsors and many dedicated volunteers. For more details, contact Robert at booklandpress@rogers.com.

Promotion for Your Work

Chapter and Verse is a website devoted to promotion of Canadian authors and their books. For those who have books and for those who would like to know more about Canadian books and Canadian authors, please go to the website www.chapterandverse.ca. For authors who would like to be featured contact Fredrick Rocque at fredrocq@rogers.com.

Submitted by Jasmine d'Acosta

"What a successful book launch! The joy and excitement about your book are contagious"

These were the words of Daria Sharanewych, librarian for the Children's Department at Mississauga Central Library. She was describing the launch of *When the Cherry Blossoms Fell* by JENNIFER MARUNO, published by Napoleon Press.

Sprays of cherry blossoms, pots of green tea and trays of mochi welcomed those who wished to hear Jennifer read and take home a signed copy of her first children's novel. On hand to welcome the guests were 8-year old Emiko Arai and 15-year old Jamie Aitken, wearing traditional Japanese kimonos and carrying paper parasols.

In 1988 Jennifer was contracted to write a teacher's guide for a book especially created to commemorate the events of World War 2 in Canada, but she found it difficult to do the necessary research. The history books had left out much of the truth.

When Jennifer met Eiko Kitagawa Maruno, she was unaware of Eiko's history. At times, Eiko referred to "camp" and the hardships that went with it. Soon her story became the key to unlocking this historical secret. Eiko shared her story — along with her photographs — over time.

This episode in Japanese-Canadian history turned into a novel. *When the Cherry Blossoms Fell* is the story of nine-year-old Michiko Minagawa, who wants to be proud of her heritage but can't because the world is at war and the Government of Canada has taken unprecedented actions against her community, treating all Japanese people as enemy aliens.

On May 2, Napoleon Publishing launched the book, which is recommended for middle-grade readers. The launch coincided with the beginning of Asian Heritage Month. 93-year old Eiko Maruno attended the celebration, along with members of her family.

On May 3, Jennifer signed many copies of her new book at Chapters on the Queensway in Etobicoke. Her next book signing is on May 29th at Coles in Erin Mills Town Centre, Mississauga, from 6 until 9 pm.

"There is no such thing as inspiration. There is work and there is a commitment to show up, and then there is the alchemy that lets you create better writing than you thought you could write. These things are a result of daily commitment and practice, not positive thinking or feel-good visualizations"

Sonia Simone

www.copyblogger.com

Reality Check

Macleans's magazine reported recent British figures showing that, out of a total of 120,000 authors who earned any royalties, just 500 of them account for a full third of \$3.6 billion in sales last year.



Submitted by Marilyn Fraser

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

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Founders

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

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