



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

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.

You Are Invited

You are invited to a book launch for *Surviving & Thriving Solo: Options When You Live Alone* by FRANCES FROMMER, to be held at The Walden Club, 1400 Walden Circle on Sunday October 18th from 2-6 p.m.

Walden Circle is located one block east of Southdown Rd. and north of Lakeshore Rd. in Mississauga. There is a Spoon and Fork restaurant at the corner.

Parking Options:

- By the club (limited spaces);
- 1271 Walden Circle condominium Visitor Parking;
- Clarkson GO station at Southdown & Lakeshore, west side of Southdown. Cross bridge to Walden Circle and walk south.

Please RSVP by October 8th to 905-822-8108 or frances010@sympatico.ca. For more information, call Walden Club at 905-823-9500.

Fusing Creativity

First of all, I hope you had a delightful summer!

I'm sending this missive to my WEN, Jolly Lit and friends list to let you know that I have started a new feature on my *Creative Fusion Facebook* page. It's called *Cool People Doing Cool Things*. I started with a Canada Day edition with WEN member RICHARD BEST, who gives tips on wine selections, and reveals why you need to know the grapes to make a good choice.

Please join *Creative Fusion* as a fan in Facebook. You'll know it's mine because there is a really nice picture of me — so nice you probably won't know it's me. Or go to this link: <http://bit.ly/ora2C>, which is the "tinyurl" (if you don't know what a "tiny URL" is, we need to talk! I give social media lessons now as part of my work.) If you're still having difficulty, e-mail me and I'll guide you.

Anne Ptasznik

Meet The Work And The Author

Holiday in Hell (Asteroid Publishing 2009) by TRISHA SMITH is a true story about violence and the quest for justice. While on vacation in Cuba, Trisha was brutally beaten by her boyfriend who, as she later found out, was on probation at that time for a similar offence. She arrived at Pearson Airport in a wheelchair, incapacitated, very close to death, in the same airplane with her offender. How painful was her surprise when she saw him going past waiting police, no question asked? Responding to her protest, the policewoman explained coolly that no law in Canada exists to detain or charge him, as the crime was committed outside of Canada's territorial jurisdiction.

Trisha's struggle for justice was relentless and fearless. She tried all venues: publicity in the newspapers; TV shows; radio shows and interviews; and even a public petition to the Minister of Justice requesting to amend the antiquated law. Nothing worked. After years of nerve-wrenching legal battles, the perpetrator was eventually charged, but not for the actual crime — for which he could get up to 14 years in prison — but for the breach of probation, resulting in nine months in jail.

During her ordeal, Trisha found out a sad but ironic truth: the sure way to get justice for such a crime would be her or his death. Her case is a warning to all Canadians travelling abroad: There is no law to protect against violence; one gets an adequate justice only if one dies.

TRISHA SMITH is a teacher, artist, and a writer. Her inquisitiveness took her into research, interviews and, eventually, writing at Ecology Canada Magazine and other publications. While working under the Secretariat of State as a Bilingual Co-ordinator, Ms. Smith compiled Canadian youths' artistic works for the United Nations Conference 'Habitat Exhibit' in Vancouver. Ms. Smith has illustrated educational publications and books. Her legal advocacy has become the subject of 14 newspaper articles (the Toronto Star) and several TV news shows (CITY-TV).

Where does "Manuscript" Come From?

The word *manuscript* comes from the Latin "manu scriptum", which literally means "written with hands". The word typically refers to any document that is produced manually — through handwriting, chiselling or other method — without the use of machines.

Marilyn Fraser



Synopsis: The Priest and his Karma

It's 1964. Sebastian Lobo has returned to Goa after a ten-year absence. He left his homeland in a flood of anger and despair, and he's been running ever since, running from his guilt, his pain, and his past vocation. He is employed as a reporter for a newspaper in Panjim and no one knows who he used to be. Now, after having separated himself from the Catholic Church for a decade, he is consumed by an overwhelming desire to experience the sacrament of confession once again. But in the confessional he realizes in horror that the priest is from his old parish and denies him the sacrament.

Sebastian is now hounded by both God and the Devil as he struggles to see justice prevail by confronting his former adversary, his struggle leading him to Bombay, Montreal, Toronto, and back again to Old Goa.

BEN ANTÃO has been a journalist, teacher, writer and a financial planner and lives in Toronto, Canada. A graduate of the University of Bombay (MA in English) and the University of Toronto (B.Ed.), he has published four novels, two memoirs, two travelogues, and several short stories. This is his fifth novel.

The Priest and his Karma is available from Amazon.ca, Chapters and McNally Robinson, and from the author (ben.antao@rogers.com) for \$24.95

WEN's booth at WOTS Has Moved

The WEN booth at Word On The Street is in a new location this year. We will be in booth WB7 in the Writer's Block, which has also been relocated to the northeast corner of Queen's Park Crescent East in Toronto.

Visit WEN at Word On The Street, Sunday, Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

7 Reasons to be at WOTS ... and to bring a friend

1. Eight of our authors will be signing their books
2. Many of our other members' books and businesses will be highlighted
3. Visitors have a great opportunity to win several excellent books (3 draws)
4. WOTS offers the Wordshop Marquee: Seven sessions, including *The writer's Guide to Getting Published in Perilous Times*, and *Can a Writer Really Earn a Living?*
5. WOTS has best-selling author readings by Margaret Atwood, Nino Ricci, Elizabeth May, and several others
6. WOTS will offer at least 258 book and magazine exhibits; 248 of Canada's top authors, poets, storytellers and presenters; and 198 readings as well as performances, workshops and other events.
7. You'll have a great time!

Books In The Park 2009

JENNIFER MARUNO was one of twelve authors invited to The Mimico Party in the Park held on June 23 in Toronto. Amid the sounds of jazz and bagpipes and the smell of hot dogs and candy floss, the authors met the neighbourhood and signed copies of their books. Over 1500 residents of all ages visited The Books in the Park area.

Michael Ignatieff, on hand to present his book as a raffle prize, visited with Jennifer to discuss her novel *When the Cherry Blossoms Fell* and left with a copy of Jennifer's book.



Writers' Retreat

Work on your creative projects and gather with fellow writers and artists at a new *International Writers' and Artists' Residency* in beautiful Val David, Quebec, Canada. (75 Km North of Montreal, 50 Km South of Mount Tremblant). This residence operates all year.

For more info, see www.flaviacosma.com or email Flavia Cosma at flaviacosma@rogers.com

Flavia Cosma

Plasticine Poetry

What: Plasticine Poetry Series and Open Mic

Who: Philip Arima, Jasmine DaCosta, Marilyn Gear Pilling, Jim Johnstone. Hosted by Cathy Petch.

When : Sunday, September 20, 2009, 6:00 pm

Where: "The Central", 603 Markham St. (1 block W. of Bathurst subway station)

Admission is free. Visit www.thecentral.ca for more info.

Wooden Horse Is Looking For A News Writer

We are looking for a part-time freelance writer to help us with collecting and writing news about magazines for our newsletter, blog, Twitter feed, and any other venues we have planned. We estimate that we will need your services for approximately 10 hours per week.

We are looking for someone, who has the proven ability to write fast, timely, correctly and can quickly grasp and communicate the essence of the story and its impact on our readers. And although our writing is very much based on facts, we like to see your writing be clear, easy-to-understand - and entertaining.

This is a paid position, although not much (\$10/hour) at this time, but there is one special benefit: access to the Magazines Database. You will work as a freelance contractor — not as an employee — and to submit invoices for your work. (No other benefits, financial or otherwise except the aforementioned Database access, apply.)

Being part of the fast-growing and exciting "The Horse" is, of course, priceless ... and you'll get some terrific clips.

From the Wordnik website: <http://www.wordnik.com/>

Submitted by Marilyn Fraser

Member News

JOHN AMBURY has been awarded a \$1,000 U.S. bursary through InnoCentive, Inc. for his technical proposal on New [non-textile] End Uses for Cotton. John divides his word processing time between technical writing, short fiction, and poetry.

ELIZABETH DUNCAN and best-selling UK mystery writer Peter James, author of the Roy Grace police procedural series, will launch the first event of the autumn Fine Print season on Thursday, Oct. 1 at the Queen and Beaver pub, 35 Elm Street, Toronto. 7 p.m. Call (416-361-0032) or email thefineprint@benmcnallybooks.com to RSVP. Admission is free.

On Sunday, September 13, 2009, JENNIFER MARUNO was one of the local authors helping to celebrate books, writers and readers at the *Mississauga Literary Festival*. Jennifer read an excerpt from her novel, *When the Cherry Blossoms Fell*, in the Local Authors' Salon in the LIVE Cuisine dining room at the Living Arts Center. In the afternoon, she was a judge for the Kids? Library Idol Contest where children, dressed as their favourite book characters, pitched their favourite book.

FLAVIA COSMA will be participating in the International Festival of Poetry, Bambamarca, Peru, from September 21 to 28 September with a paper titled *Algunos pensamientos sobre la poesía y los poetas en el exilio - La contribución de los escritores étnicos a la identidad cultural de Canadá* (Thoughts about poetry and poets in exile - The contribution of ethnic writers to Canada's cultural identity.)

Celebrating Books & Writers

WAHEED RABBANI was interviewed, on radio stations across the US and in Canada, about his historical fiction novel, *Doctor Margaret's Sea Chest*. The podcast of one interview on AMOCA Florida radio station can be heard at: <http://tiny.cc/zwimf>.

WAHEED (WALLY) RABBANIM is author of *The Azadi Trilogy, Book I: Doctor Margaret's Sea Chest* in paperback, available from Amazon, Chapters/Indigo, McNally Robinson, B&N, other Bookstores.

E-Book, in iPhone, Kindle, Sony Reader, PDF, etc: Smashwords.com (25% readable for FREE).

Audio Book (coming soon): Amazon, Audible.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 co-operation with other organizations.

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

Founders

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