

The Writer's Wire

Women Who Write: A Place, a Space, a Voice

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WOMEN WHO WRITE, INC.

Encouraging,
supporting and
educating women
who aspire to write

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RETREAT REFLECTIONS

In just a couple of weeks (Nov. 1–2), Women Who Write will host their annual Writer's Retreat for all our current members. This will be the perfect opportunity to bring the stories, novels, and poetry you have been thinking about or working on and “retreat” to a quiet corner of the house, the garden or grounds of Hopscotch House and write to your heart's content.



I don't know about most of you, but I am living in daily anticipation of getting away from mundane chores and distracting tasks, and focusing on what I love best. What I am most looking forward to is the challenge of discovering what kind of “chunky” writer I actually am: short and sweet, or long and detailed!

Either way, there are a few things I hope each of you who chooses to join us will take away from our dedicated time together:

1. Make time to be there: this is a wonderful opportunity to give yourself the gift of time to write on your own terms. Our lives are so hectic all year long, and we all have so much to do for others, but this is a chance to listen to your inner voice and capture your thoughts and feelings on paper.
2. Make a start: perhaps you are like me and you have an outline or an idea that you want to explore. Well, now is your time to commit to yourself and either get that work started, find your way out of a fix in the middle, or conclude your story with just the right ending . . . no matter where you are in the process of writing, we invite you to engage in it during the retreat.
3. Make a friend: yes, many of us will be there and we'll share meals, walks and even a bonfire, so this will be the perfect time to find another woman in the group with whom you connect and share your writing experiences.

Overall, this will be a weekend of uninterrupted time for you to spend as you please: by yourself at a keyboard, or in conversations with others. I look forward to seeing you there!

—Jessica Luetzow

MEMBER NEWS

Women Who Write member Judith C. Owens-Lalude will be signing and selling copies of her books at the Louisville Genealogical Society annual book fair and seminar, Saturday, Oct. 18, 8:30–4 p.m. at Beargrass Christian Church, 4100 Shelbyville Rd., Louisville.



Those of you doing family history research or other historical research may be interested in some of the workshops, including ones on searching in courthouse records, using archived newspapers, using the Draper manuscript collection, and DNA testing. See <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kylgs/seminar1.htm>.

ABOUT WOMEN WHO WRITE

Membership: Our goal is to encourage, support and educate all women who aspire to write. Our group is diverse and dynamic, and includes writers who are just starting out, those who are newly published, and those in the middle of their careers.

Regular meetings are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Highlands-Shelby Park Library, Mid City Mall, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Louisville, Ky.

WOMEN WHO WRITE BOARD

Director	Jessica Luetzow
Associate Director	Paula Dillmann
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TWO KENTUCKY AUTHORS BRING EXPERTISE TO RETREAT

Two gifted Kentucky speakers will present at the Women Who Write retreat Nov. 1 and 2.

On Saturday, Nov. 1, at 2 p.m., **Mary Hemlepp** is the author of *If No One is Looking, Do We Have to Try as Hard and Other Ponderings of Women Over Fifty*. In writing her book, Mary conducted interviews and informal discussions with hundreds of women. Her book explores issues related to women's health, fitness, relationships, finance, work life, and well-being. Mary is a 50-something marketing and communication professional, currently working for Kentucky Community & Technical College System.

On Sunday, Nov. 2, at 10:30, **Bobbie Smith Bryant**, author of *Forty Acres & a Red-Belly Ford* and *Passions of the Black Patch: Cooking & Quilting in Western Kentucky*, will speak on "Writing Lessons from the Family Farm." She will discuss how to determine your purpose, identify your audience, conduct research, write and rewrite, work with an editor, and publish and market your work. Bobbie grew up on a 10-generation tobacco farm in Western Kentucky. She serves the Kentucky League of Cities as a community development advisor.

WRITE A NOVEL IN A MONTH? ARE YOU CRAZY?

November is National Novel Writing Month, a.k.a. NaNoWriMo. According to the [website](#), NaNoWriMo "is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. On Nov. 1, participants begin working towards the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30. Valuing enthusiasm, determination, and a deadline, NaNoWriMo is for *anyone* who has ever thought fleetingly about writing a novel." If you're up for the challenge, check out the details on the NaNoWriMo [website](#) and get started.

GOT NEWS?

The *Writer's Wire* belongs to the members of Women Who Write. If you have news, essays, book reviews, announcements or anything else you would like to submit for publication in the *Writer's Wire*, please email it to [Jessica Luetzow](#) no later than the 10th of each month.

WOMEN WHO WRITE HEAD TO THE KENTUCKY BOOK FAIR

The [Kentucky Book Fair](#) is the state's premier literary event. This year's book fair, the 33rd, will be on Saturday, Nov. 15, at the Frankfort Convention Center, Frankfort, Ky. (The main book fair is preceded by the Fourth Annual Children's Day, on Nov. 14 at the same location.)

The Kentucky Book Fair attracts writers of all genres and readers from all walks of life in a celebration of shared passion—the importance and promotion of writing and reading. Each year, more than 150 authors attend the fair, prepared to sign their latest books and meet their readers. The fair draws approximately 4,000 visitors from Kentucky and surrounding states.

The Kentucky Book Fair strives to include writers of all genres—including current events, regional nonfiction, fiction, children's books, poetry, cookbooks and mysteries—from a mix of national, regional and state writers.

And it's all for a good cause. Net proceeds from the Kentucky Book Fair fund grants to Kentucky libraries for local book purchasing and other literacy-related causes, a total that now exceeds \$368,000.

Several members of Women Who Write plan to attend the book fair. Make a fun day of it by carpooling, enjoying the drive to Frankfort, wandering through the book fair, and having lunch together. What a great way to get to know other WWW members and the region's many great writers.



*Frankfort Convention Center,
site of the annual Kentucky Book Fair*

CONTESTS & MARKETS

- [Glimmer Train Very Short Fiction Award](#): Unpublished up to 3,000 words. First, \$1,500; second, \$500; third, \$300. Deadline Oct. 31.
- [Lexi Rudnitsky First \[Poetry\] Book Prize](#): Open to women poets with American citizenship. First prize for an unpublished poetry collection of at least 40 pages: \$1,000 advance, publication, and residency at the Civitella Ranieri Center, a renowned artists retreat housed in a fifteenth-century castle in Umbertide, Italy (picture below). Entry fee \$25. Deadline Oct. 31.



- [Rhino Founders Prize](#) for poetry: winner receives \$300, publication in the next issue, and will be nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Two runners-up receive \$50 and other prizes. Entry fee \$10. Deadline Oct. 31.
- [Nilsen Literary Prize for a First Novel](#): \$2,000 and publication by Southeast Missouri State University for winning unpublished novel, novella, or collection of closely linked short stories. Entry fee \$22. Deadline Nov. 1.
- [Tennessee Williams Literary Festival Fiction Contest](#): Grand prize: \$1,500, plus domestic airfare up to \$500 and accommodations to attend festival in New Orleans. Publication in *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* magazine. See details online. Entry fee \$25. Deadline 5 p.m. Nov. 16. Related [one-act play contest](#) has deadline of Nov. 1.
- [Prize for Women Playwrights](#) sponsored by Kentucky Women's Writers Conference and Actors Guild of Lexington. The winner receives a world premiere production for a paying audience plus a cash prize of \$500, and the winning script will be workshopped before production. Deadline: Nov. 1.
- [Howard Nemerov Sonnet Award](#) for an original, unpublished sonnet. Writers may enter up to 12 sonnets. Winner receives \$1,000. Entry fee \$3. Deadline Nov. 15.

EVENTS FOR WRITERS

- Oct. 18, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Second Annual Local Kentucky Author Book Bazaar at Bakery Blessings & Bookstore, @ the Bar, 1999 Harrodsburg Rd., Lexington. Contact Jan Sullivan at Jan@Aprilword.com for information.
- Oct. 24–26: **Write Away** writing retreat, led by **Cathy Fyock** (*On Your Mark: From First Word to First Draft in Six Weeks*), Wooded Glen Retreat and Conference Center in Henryville, Ind. Call 502-445-6539 or contact Cathy@CathyFyock.com.
- Oct. 25, 10 a.m. to noon: Writing & Marketing a 10-Minute Play, **Carnegie Center**, 251 W. 2nd St., Lexington. Nancy Gall-Clayton, instructor. \$35.



- Oct. 30, 6–8 p.m.: **Ekphrastic poetry** (poetry inspired by art) with Thomas Moore College writer-in-residence Pauletta Hansel, Baker Hunt Art and Cultural Center, 620 Greenup St., Covington, KY. \$25. Registration required at <http://bakerhunt.org/ekphrastic-poetry/> or (859) 431-0020.
- Nov. 1–2: **Women Who Write retreat** at Hopscotch House in Louisville. Free; open to regular and distance members only. See article.
- Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.: Regular meeting of **Women Who Write**. Highlands-Shelby Park Library in Mid-City Mall, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Louisville.
- Nov. 6, 6 p.m.: **Rick Bragg**, Pulitzer Prize winning and New York Times bestselling author, reads from and signs his newest book *Jerry Lee Lewis: His Own Story*, a bio of the rock-and-roll legend. Bob Kirby Branch of the Warren County Public Library, 1225 State St., Bowling Green, KY. Free tickets; email geraldk@warrenpl.org. Call 270-782-0252 or visit the [website](#) for more information.

- Nov. 8, 9:30 to noon: **Story from Setting**, part of the “Second Saturday” series through Shape and Flow Writing Studio. Setting is one of the most evocative elements of story. Learn more at this class held at the Conrad-Caldwell House Museum on St. James Court in Louisville. Kimberly Crum, instructor. \$25. Register [online](#).
- Nov. 9, 2–4 p.m.: **Introduction to Fiction Writing**, Scott Country Public Library, 104 S. Bradford Lane, Georgetown, KY. Call 502-863-3566 to register. Free.
- Nov. 15, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.: **Writer’s Block Festival**, NULU District, Green Building, 732 E. Market St. Louisville, KY. Panels, workshops, readings, and resources. Free and open to the public, except for small-group workshops (\$25 each) requiring pre-registration. See more [online](#).
- Nov. 15; **Kentucky Book Fair**, Frankfort, KY. (See article in this newsletter.)
- **Nov. 21, 9 p.m. to Nov. 22, 9 a.m. Overnight Write-In**, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, 161 Lexington Green Circle, Lexington. Participating in NaNoWriMo? Wind up weeks of writing with other writers. Optional group sessions during the night and refreshments provided. Bring a pillow, blanket, and writing materials. See [website](#) for info; call 859-273-2911 to reserve a spot. \$35.
- Dec. 13, 9:30 to noon: **Writing the Dramatic Monologue**, part of the “Second Saturday” series through Shape and Flow Writing Studio, Mellwood Art & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Ave., Louisville KY. Nancy Gall-Clayton, award-winning playwright and popular instructor, will coach participants on how to write dramatic monologues. \$25.

GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

- The **Thurber House Residency in Children’s Literature** offers a month-long retreat in the furnished third-floor apartment of Thurber House in Columbus, Ohio. The author can focus on his/her own writing project, and spend up to ten hours per week teaching children the joys of writing in both a community-based agency and as a part of the Thurber House Summer Writing Camp for children. Deadline Oct. 31, 2014.
- **ArtHub**, a new organization, provides visual and literary artists a chance to concentrate on their creative efforts by offering free space to live and work in downtown Kingman, AZ. Planned completion of the project is in December 2014. The residency program will begin in January 2015. Deadline Nov. 15, 2014.