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THE WRITE STUFF

Northwest Ohio Christian Writers

January 2011

“SETTING WRITING GOALS”

January 28, 2011 - 10 a.m.

**Dayspring Church – Assembly of God
17360 N. Dixie Highway (Rt.25)
(just north of Bowling Green)**

(See the end of the newsletter for directions)

We all set goals at the beginning of the year, right? But this year did you set a writing goal for yourself? How about a personal mission statement? Good results tend to happen when you put your intentions down on paper. So come and let **Shelley Lee** help you walk through the process as she gives us instructive ways to make our writing dreams come true.

**BUSINESS MEETING AND PROGRAM – 10 A.M.
LUNCH – NOON – BROWN BAG OR NEARBY FAST FOOD
CRITIQUE SESSION – 1-2 P.M.
(please bring several or more copies of what you want critiqued)**

**REMEMBER...IF THE BOWLING GREEN SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED OR
DELAYED DUE TO BAD WEATHER WE DO NOT MEET.**

EXTEND AN INVITATION

If you have friends interested in writing, tell them about us. We meet on the fourth Friday of January, March, May, July, and September. And don't forget to mention the fall seminar that features experienced speakers who share their writing and editing expertise. **Members get a price break on this.**



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SEMINAR A GREAT SUCCESS!

Dennis Hensley once again wowed the large group of writers who gathered for our annual Christian Writers Seminar on October 30. He touched on many aspects of Christian and secular writing with expertise and humor, giving everyone there a chance to fill their notebooks with valuable information.

Watch for information about our next seminar to be held in October or November – date and speaker to be announced soon.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANNUAL RETREAT

We'll again gather at the beautiful Lial Retreat Center in Whitehouse, OH on **May 13 and 14**. So keep those days open for a spring treat when everything will be in bloom in the lovely country setting- including our writing ideas!

STILL LOOKING FOR SUBMISSIONS

We'd like to feature one of our members in each issue of our newsletter. If you'd like to submit a piece, just email to me. First come, first published. Please limit your word count to 125 words. **We're waiting.....**

DUES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 31!

\$10 FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP

#3 NEWSLETTER ONLY

Pay at the meeting or send to

Linda Tippett at 5679 Monroe St. #109

Sylvania, OH 43560

Make check out to Northwest Ohio

Christian Writers

Thank you!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Remember that our group is a member of ACW – American Christian Writers. If you want to attend any of their conferences, or receive any of their magazines, you get a 10% discount. Our group's chapter number is #3080.

- **COLORADO CHRISTIAN WRITERS CONFERENCE - May 11-14, 2011**
Registration opens Feb. 1. This is a good one, with many editors present. Organized by Marlene Bagnall who also does the Greater Philadelphia Writers Conference.,
For more information – www.writehisanswer.com/Colorado

- **WHITE ROSE PUBLISHING** is looking for “entertaining Christian romances.” Check it out at www.whiterosepublishing.com
 - **ACW(American Christian Writers)** hosts free seminars in churches to “help church attendees learn how to develop a ministry of writing”. A church in the Toledo area is giving consideration to hosting such a seminar. We’ll keep you posted on developments.
- **THE FIRST LINE** – a quarterly writers contest. They create a line which must be the first line of a short story. Winners get published in their quarterly and win some cash, too. See their web page www.thefirstline.com

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

SOME WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT:

www.writergazette.com

www.writersweekly.com

www.worldwidefreelance.com

www.writerincome.com

All these have helpful information and are worth looking into.

WITH PEN IN HAND EDITING SERVICE: Reasonable rates and worth checking out. A Christian-oriented business. www.peninhand.net

FAITHWRITERS:

Largest online destination for Christian writers. Includes a “Critique Circle” and a weekly “Writing Challenge. www.faithwriters.com

ALLSPIRIT: Offers include inspiring quotations, a poetry index, and a special bonus of a free e-greeting card service. www.allspirit.co.uk

BELIEFNET: A multi-faith e-community, it includes a number of “Daily Offerings”, thought-provoking feature articles, a dozen newsletters to choose from and discussion and dialogue groups. www.beliefnet.org

CHRISTIAN BOOK VIDEOS - the one-stop viewing place for Christian book videos on the Internet. They’re also called book previews or Book Trailers and are video ads for Christian books – a handy shortcut to find the kind of book you want to read. Now Christian booklovers can go to one website and view book videos for their favorite authors as well as find new ones. www.christianbooksvideos.com

CAPSTONE FICTION – a new inspirational fiction publishing house, newly listed in the 2008 Christian Writers’ Market Guide. Check it out www.capstonefiction.com

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CHRISTIAN STORY TELLER – A nonprofit website of Christian authors for Christian authors by Christian authors. It highlights up-and-coming authors and books, and offers marketing seminar and education for Christian writing. Publishes an interesting newsletter.

Get details at www.christianstoryteller.com

INTERESTING AND INCREDIBLY VARIED WEBSITE of writing helps, book recommendations, articles, contests, publishing news, and Christian inspiration. www.aprilboyer.com This is really worth a look. She works out of Ashland, OH.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

Children's Writer & Illustrator's Market – www.cwim.com

Poet's Market – www.poetsmarket.com

Guide to Literary Agents – www.guidetoliteraryagents.com

MEMBERS' MEMOS

No news is NOT good news for this spot!

Keep the news coming about your successes!

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**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR
WEBSITE...www.nwocw.org**

QUESTION AND ANSWER TIME

Q. When submitting a story via email for a contest, how should it be formatted?
Text format? Single or double spaced? Or what?

A. Competition submission guidelines – much like all writing guidelines – are determined by whoever is in charge of that particular competition. Because sponsors of the events vary, the submission process and formatting vary as well. It's most important to follow their guidelines.

It's true that some competitions won't specify all the particulars, and you may be left scratching your head. When in doubt, you can follow these general rules when submitting for writing competitions.

- * Double space (except for poetry and scriptwriting).
- * Use a standard font, like Courier, Times New Roman or Arial
- * Be sure your name and contact info is at the top of the submission
- * Cut and paste in body of email. (Don't send as an attachment unless specifically requested).



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- * Avoid using smart quotes (the curly quote marks). You can turn off the function in Word
- * Keep in mind that bold, italics and other formatting often don't come through when pasted into an email, so avoid them if possible.

- Brian Kiems, Editor, *Writer's Digest Magazine*

ALMOST THE LAST WORD

I A freelancer is a writer who is paid per story, per word, or even perhaps.

I read
 In a book
 That a man called
 Christ
 Went about doing good.

It is very disconcerting to me
 That I am so easily
 Satisfied
 With just
 Going about.

- George Small

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28 - "Setting Writing Goals" Shelley Lee
February 25 – Lunch Bunch at Panera's
March 25 – "Report from Indianapolis Writers Conference"
Kathy Douglas and Brenda Young
April 15 – Lunch Bunch at Panera's
May 13 & 14 - Annual Retreat - Lial Retreat Center
June 23 – Lunch Bunch at Panera's
July 22- Meeting- Program TBA
August 26 – Lunch Bunch at Panera's
September 23 – Meeting – Program TBA
October or November – Seminar – Date TBA



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Send newsletter information to andamija@bex.net or to Linda Tippett, 5679 Monroe St. #109, Sylvania, OH 43560.

DIRECTIONS TO DAYSPRING CHURCH : The church is located a couple miles north of Bowling Green on Route 25 (North Dixie Highway). From the Toledo area take the Perrysburg exit south off I-475/23 on to Route 25. Church will be on the left. Church phone number is 419-352-0672