



Women Writer's Wire

Calliopes, Cookbooks and Committees, Oh My!

Calliope Committee Update:

In case you haven't noticed, Women Who Write is on the move! The Calliope committee is in full swing. We will be handing out flyers at our March meeting so that everyone can get involved in advertising our biggest fundraiser of the year. If you have a relationship with a local coffee shop, bookstore, business person, committee or group, please share a flyer with them. If you are on Facebook or subscribe to a newsletter and you think we could advertise the writing contest please contact Peggy DeKay at pdkpost@gmail.com or San Dee Crabtree at sandecrabtree@aol.com. A successful contest helps Women Who Write develop and support other worthwhile projects for

our group. Get involved and help us make the 2010 contest the best ever.

Our 2009 Calliope is available for sale on Amazon.com. We want to do whatever we can to generate additional sales of Calliope. If you were not a contributor to the 2009 anthology, please go to Amazon.com, search under books using the word "calliope" as your search "keyword." Double click on the picture of our anthology, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Create Your Own Review." You will be able to type in a short, hopefully positive review. Having reviews will help us sell more books, and will generate interest in the anthology and the group. Thank you in advance for your help.

Cookbook Committee Update:

This year we are launching our first annual Cookbook Contest, and members can enter! The Cookbook Committee, lead by San Dee Crabtree will be publishing a cookbook. The cookbook will have 64 recipes, accompanied by 64 stories that relate to the recipe. Each story is 400 words or less, and each recipe is limited to 40 lines of text. An independent judge will select 64 stories from all the entries for publication in the cookbook. The top 3 entries will receive cash prizes. Check www.womenhowrite.com/contest for complete guidelines.

Names in the News

Rita Spalding-Harpring has co-written an enrollment guide for her employer. The guide will be distributed to 7,500 employees and will be used as a guideline for choosing employee insurance benefits.

Cheri Powell recently applied for an individual retreat at Hopscotch House and has

been awarded a three day retreat. Cheri wants to use the time to work on updating her eBook, *The Practical Guide to Practically Everything You Need to Prepare for the Camino de Santiago*.

San Dee Crabtree will be debuting her first piece for the Women Writer's Wire with this edition.

I also wanted to publicly thank **Donna Lafollette**. Donna led our Haiku mini-seminar which led to the publication of two of our member's haikus in the Courier Journal.

Peggy Grimes would like us to mark our calendars for 4th Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival, set for May 15th, 2010, held at the U of L Ekstrom Library.

Have you been published this month, won a contest, received an award, or an accolade? E-mail me at pdkpost@gmail.com, put "Names in the News" in your subject line. Remember, you can never get published what is never submitted.

Inside this issue:

Calliopes, Cookbooks and Committees, Oh My	1
Names in the News	1
Top Ten Musts for an Effective Writers Website	2
Guest Columnist—San Dee "Blondie" Crabtree	2
Letter from the editor—websites	2



www.womenhowrite.com

Meetings

**First Thursday of each month
Louisville Free Public Library**

Highlands Branch in Mid-City Mall

1250 Bardstown Road

Louisville, KY

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

*Welcoming, supporting, educating and
encouraging women who aspire to
write.*

Women Who Write is an organization of women writers dedicated to excellence in literary creation. Our mission is to welcome, educate, and support women who aspire to write. We encourage women to use writing as a creative force in their lives. Women Who Write was established in 1992 in Louisville. Our co-founder, Carridder "Rita" Jones, is a published author and playwright. Many of our current members are also published. All women interested in writing, in any genre, at any level, amateur or professional, are invited to join. Each year we sponsor a poetry and short prose contest and the winners are published in our annual anthology. Selected writings from our membership are also featured. This year will be our 17th publication of *Calliope, the Annual Anthology of Women Who Write*. Annual dues are \$25.00* which entitles members to participate in our annual retreat, special events, critical response process and monthly meetings.



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Moment With a Lady Who Writes

"Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty –But everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out..."
- Phyllis Diller

Not all women that write are fifty or over but a fair number certainly are or at least near that bench mark and can easily understand the sentiments expressed here.

Women share many things that men will never understand. A woman can go on a diet and she has the support of her girlfriends and often an official support system such as Weight Watchers or Jenny Craig.

Men stop eating french-fries and lose ten pounds in two weeks. Six months later, the same women are still at Weight Watchers or Jenny Craig and are celebrating their ten pound loss and completely understand why it took that long to get to that point.

I have no idea if men writers are different than the female version but the women I know all share the same complaint. We are always searching for time to write after we have taken care of our jobs, our homes, our children, our grandchildren and certainly the men in our lives. Then that little piece of left over time is all ours and there we go to dream, to create and devise the next best writing we have ever done.

So while I'm wearing out, falling out of my chair from dehydration, starvation and insanity, I'm writing. Spreading out is a given when you spend hours sitting at a computer. Secretaries knew that years ago;

it was a job hazard warranting a workman's compensation claim. I'm convinced if more women had been involved with the earlier conception of workman's compensation for injury that 'typist butt' would have been a qualifying entry worthy of paid treatment at Weight Watchers or Jenny Craig.

I know I'm hungry when my stories turn to food and everyone is in a restaurant ordering or the sex scenes are more about the dinner that was lovingly prepared than any action in the bedroom. So here I sit and ponder, do I want carrot sticks and rice cakes to munch on while I meet deadlines and ensure my precious computer time is only slightly interrupted or does Oreos and a tall glass of good ole milk sound best.

We all know this is not much of a decision and my research proves me out. There are tons of ads in all the magazines of glorious looking women, that say "Got Milk," and after all as author, Amy Krouse Rosenthal says, "No one ever went to their deathbed saying, you know, I wish I'd eaten more rice cakes."

Blondie Crabtree, Guest Contributor and Treasurer, Women who Write. E-mail Blondie at blondie.crabtree@gmail.com



Letter from the editor

Every author needs a website. But not all websites are created equal. Here is the a list of the top six "must-haves" for your authors website.

1. *An uncluttered site that can be easily read by visitors.*
2. *Quality content that is free and downloadable to your visitor. This can be book excerpts, how-to articles like how to start a writing group, or how to write a good book proposal. Content is the key and keeps them coming back.*
3. *Timely updated material. Make sure that your site is updated frequently and that all of the links are working.*
4. *Biographical information about the author.*
5. *A contact e-mail that allows your visitors to get in touch with you. You never know when a visitor is interested in purchasing your book in bulk, or a publisher has come calling.*
6. *Blog- there simply is no better way to get noticed and create a buzz than posting frequently to your blog. After all, we are writers and what better way to keep in touch with potential book buyers than by writing.*

If it were easy, everyone would be a writer.

Peggy Fox DeRay, Editor

Our mission is to welcome, educate, support and encourage women who aspire to write.



Our vision is to be the "GoTo" place for women writers in Kentucky. Come join us!