

November 9, 2008

Hudson Valley Writers Guild Newsletter

Guild Announcements: Call for Nominations, Annual Meeting Events, Memoir Project, Schenectady Community of Writers

Member Announcements: Miriam Herrera, Suzanne Rancourt, Mimi Moriarty

Area Announcements: Writers Asked to Participate in Study, Writing Workshop in Schenectady, Submissions Opportunity

Guild Announcements: A few reminders!!

Call for Nominations: If you would like to nominate yourself to be on our board, or if you would like to nominate another, please send those nominations to our Secretary, Mimi Moriarty, at winterview@earthlink.net. We will be voting for new Board Members and Officers on November 18 at our annual meeting. We are looking for nominations for President or Co-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and Data-Base Manager, as well as Board Members. See below for details of meeting.

Annual Meeting Events

Our Annual Meeting this year at the Colonie Library on November 18 is not all business. We will be sponsoring a **book swap**, and we suggest you bring in gently read books with the intention of swapping them for other books. Also, **Bonnie Alexander**, Director of the airport's **Departure Museum Shop** will be invited to stop in before the meeting (5:30 pm) and select books by local writers to sell on consignment. Her store carries books and chapbooks by local writers to fulfill its mission to support regional artists. The business meeting runs from 6:00-8:00 pm. The library is located on Albany Shaker Road, just past Wolf Road and off of exit 4 of the Northway.

Memoir Project:

This November the Hudson Valley Writers Guild is co-sponsoring Julie Gutmann, who will be reading from her manuscript *Sepia and Wool*. This event will be held at 7:00 at the Capital Region Arts Center in Troy on Monday, November 17. We encourage you to attend and support the Arts Center in this very fine series. For more information call 518-273-0552 x 231 or e-mail at Justine@theartscenteronline.org.

Here is Julie's description of the evening and her bio:

Sepia & Wool, a memoir in poetry and prose, captures the tones and textures of women's

hidden history. How did our mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers communicate the unmentionable griefs and longings we witness in the sepia eyes of old photographs? As we hold inherited lace clipped from worn dresses, or sleep beneath their fraying afghans, we just catch a murmur of voices over the knit and purl of women's craft. These poems listen for that murmur. Words and phrases translate inheritance, generations of twilights and women knitting on blue sofas.

Juliette Gutmann grew up in Troy, N.Y. and graduated from Syracuse University and The University at Albany, earning a B.A. in English and Creative Writing and Doctor of Arts in Creative Writing. After college she lived in Florence, Italy, where she taught English at The University of Florence and The European University. Her translations have appeared in Italian literary journals, and while in Italy she co-authored *Life in an Italian Town*. She currently teaches creative writing and literature at RPI.

Other opportunities from Julie:

The "Revision Strategies" Workshop includes four sessions from 6:00 to 8:00 on November 11, 18, December 2 and 9.

Upcoming for Spring 2009: Memoir & Poetry 6 sessions, March 17-April 21, 6:00-9:00

Saturday, February 7 or 21 1:00 to 5:00 Planning the Poetry Manuscript

Check the Arts Center website for more information on these later programs:
www.theartscenteronline.org.

Schenectady Community of Writers:

The HVWG is sponsoring an eclectic mix of writers who will be sharing their work on Sunday, November 16 from 2:00-4:00 pm. This event will be held in the McChesney Room of the Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton Street, in Schenectady. The writers featured this year are: Margaret Cunningham, Winifred Elze, Emil Jarczyński, Nan Johnson, Sandra L. Manchester, Catherine Norr, Susannah Risley, Catherine de Salle, and Leonard A. Slade, Jr. Bill Poppino will moderate this event. Book signings will be held from 1:30-2:00 and from 4:00-5:00. See www.scpl.org for further information.

Member Announcements:

Miriam Herrera announces the publication of her chapbook, *Kaddish for Columbus*, available from Finishing Line Press. Congratulations, Miriam!! for information, check out their website: www.finishinglinepress.com, and then click on "New Releases and Forthcoming Titles."

Suzanne Rancourt announces an expressive writing workshop:

5 Saturdays, 4-6pm
Nov 15 - Dec 20, 2008
Keepers of the Circle, Inc.
Rotterdam Jct., NY
Pre-registration required
\$75

Using the Amherst Writers and Artists (AWA) Writing Method, a safe and supportive writing community is created. The AWA Method uses a variety of writing exercises and response practices that open our throats as humans to tell our stories as artists. Writers of all ages, skill levels and styles welcome!

Internationally published author of the award winning book, [Billboard in the Clouds](#), Suzanne Rancourt is an artist of uncommon diversity. Suzanne holds an MFA in poetry, and MS in Educational Psychology and is certified to lead workshops in the AWA Method. She is an AWA Affiliate Member teaching writing to both general and special populations. To participate in or host an AWA workshop contact Suzanne at (518)470-3078, mtspiritretreats@frontiernet.net

Keepers of the Circle rents space for non-alcohol events. They have a museum, gift shop and kitchen.

Mimi Moriarty:

Poetry

A Holiday Gift for Loved Ones

Two Tuesdays: December 2 and 9

10:00 a.m.–Noon

Community Caregivers

2113 Western Avenue, Guilderland

If you are stumped every year about what to give the ones you love and care for, here's a suggestion: come to our workshop with a journal, a pen, and several family photographs. Our goal over the two weeks is to start and finish a poem that is inspired by a photograph. We will also brainstorm about how to present the photo and poem, so bring your ideas!

The workshop will be facilitated by **Mimi Moriarty**, a long-distance caregiver for her parents for many years. Mimi has an MFA from Goddard College, and her poetry has been published in many journals and magazines. Her book of poetry, *War Psalm*, was published in 2007.

The workshop is free, but please call (518) 456-2898 to register. The final date for registration is November 25.

This program is funded in part by Albany County Department for Aging, New York State Office for the Aging and the Administration on Aging.

Area Announcements:

Writers Asked to Participate in Study

Debbie, Rowe, a doctoral candidate at RPI, is conducting research on a particular element of writing. She is asking for writers to participate in a paid study, and is happy to answer any questions. Please contact her by e-mail (rowed2@rpi.edu), her preference, or call her at (518) 577-9643.

Writing Workshop in Schenectady:

The Open Door Bookstore, 128 Jay Street, Schenectady, will host a free three-part writing workshop with the theme of "Reminiscence." The workshop will be held on three Sundays in November: 11/9, 11/23 and 11/30 from 1 to 3 pm. All first-time and seasoned writers are welcome to attend. Participants will be encouraged to write personal memory pieces with the possibility of giving them as Holiday gifts for family and friends. The first workshop will include a reading of imagined family fiction by facilitator Susannah Risley. Participants will do fun writing exercises at all three workshops. Please call the Open Door @ 346-2719 to sign up, or Susannah@ 372-2159 for information. Or, just come!

(From the Editor - this came to us a bit late for you to attend the first workshop, but I'm sure you can attend the other two with no problems...)

Submissions Opportunity:

Out of Bounds Essay Bloomsbury Review of Books: Editors: Reamy Jansen & Daniel Nester - What we're looking for: fresh, off-beat nonfiction prose of no more than 300 words. Send two copies of your entry to Reamy Jansen, 16 Homestead Ave. Highland Falls, NY 10928. Include SASE, e-mail and contact number. If you wish to see a sample Out-Of-Bounds Essay, write to the Submissions Address. Message from Daniel Nester: danielnester@gmail.com.

The Hudson Valley Writers Guild offers space in its newsletter for submission and program opportunities, but does not endorse any programs or publications that are not offered through the Guild.

