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SAT., OCT. 22

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SWA FALL WRITERS CONFERENCE Saturday, Oct. 22, at the McConnell Center, Dover, NH

Wow! Our Fall Conference is fast approaching, and we have a great lineup of presenters. We hope you will join us for an inspiring day of fellowship, inspiration, and just a plain old good time.

SWA WRITERS CONTEST

The deadline for the 2012 SWA Writers Contest is fast approaching. Deadline for submission is February 1, 2012. Your winning piece will appear in the next edition of *Currents!* Entry forms, guidelines and additional information will be available at the October 22 conference and on our website: www.seacoastwritersassociation.org.

CURRENTS VII at Fall Conference

Bring your checkbook. Rediscover your pleasure at your encounter with the first-place winning entries. Share the delight of the judges at the quality of their second and third-place choices.

Currents VII contains the winning entries for the 2009, 2010, 2011 SWA writing contests. Winners, you get one author's copy free. Plan to pick up your copy at the October 22nd conference.

Copies are \$15, plus \$2.00 mailing. To order by mail, send a check for \$17.00 to Cornelia Provost, editor, *Currents VII*, P.O. 104, Chester, NH 03036. For further information, contact Cornie at 603-887-6747 or email her at CorniePrev@comcast.net.

SWA FALL CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

But That's The Way It Really Happened! – Joni Cole

Real life is full of stories that need to be shared, whether it's a quiet meaningful moment, a funny event, or a rip-roaring adventure. But how do you render a personal essay, memoir, or any work of creative nonfiction in a way that not only engages and informs readers, but also makes them care? In this interactive workshop, participants are invited to share short passages of their works-in-progress for feedback and insights into the art and craft of telling (and showing) true tales. Come ready to read, respond, and get motivated!

Joni B. Cole is the author of the recently released collection of personal essays, *Another Bad-Dog Book: Tales of Life, Love, and Neurotic Human Behavior*. Co-founder of the Writer's Center of White River Junction, she also wrote *Toxic Feedback: Helping Writers Survive and Thrive* ("I can't imagine a better guide to [writing's] rewards and perils than this fine book," *American Book Review*); and created the three-volume "This Day" series, including, *Water Cooler Diaries: Women across America Share Their Day at Work*. Joni is a contributor to *The Writer* magazine, and a frequent presenter at writing conferences around the country. For more info: www.jonibcole.com.

Form and Discovery in Poetry - Alfred Nicol

Experience the *freedom* that comes from working in form. You end up playing a little game with language—and it is *play*, but like true child's play, it's very serious play; you lose yourself in it—and the poem says what it means to say while you're occupied with kicking the words around. That way, the meaning of the poem comes as a surprise even to the poet, as Frost said, "No surprise for the writer, no surprise for the reader." Why write or read at all, if we already know how it turns out? In this workshop we will discuss various forms used in poetry and complete and share exercises that use form as our poetic playground.

Alfred Nicol's book of poetry, *Elegy for Everyone*, published in 2009, was chosen for the first Anita Dorn Memorial Prize as "a work of complex vision and stylistic mastery." He received the 2004 Richard Wilbur Award for an earlier volume, *Winter Light*, of which Jay Parini, biographer of Robert Frost, said, "This is certainly among the finest new volumes of poetry I have read in years." Nicol has collaborated with poet Rhina Espaillat and classical guitarist John Tavano in making the CD *Melopoeia*. His most recent publication is *Second Hand Second Mind*, a collaboration with his sister, the artist Elise Nicol. For more info: www.poemtree.com/Nicol.htm.

In Search of Characters - Katherine Towler

How writers find and develop characters is a mysterious business. In this workshop, we look at strategies for discovering and collecting characters, and examine some great characters in literature. We discuss the intersection between character and such elements as setting, plot, voice, point of view, and dialogue. We will complete a short writing exercise designed to help you discover more about a character (or characters). This workshop is not just for fiction writers; writers of nonfiction will find this workshop useful for discovering ways to make voice and character more complex.

Katherine Towler is the author of the Snow Island trilogy of novels: *Snow Island*, *Evening Ferry*, and *Island Light*. Set on a fictional New England island, the books tell the story of two island families over a span of 50 years, especially the impact of the wars of the 20th century on the island community. Towler teaches in the MFA Program in Writing at Southern New Hampshire University. She has received fellowships from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and Phillips Exeter Academy, where she served as the writer-in-residence. She is also a poet. Many of her poems focus on one character and fully develop that person. She lives in Portsmouth. For more info: www.katherinetowler.com/

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SWA FALL CONFERENCE MAIL REGISTRATION FORM

(please print)

Workshops will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, depending on the date of receipt of your registration form. We will try to accommodate your first choice, but workshop capacities are limited, so send in your form today! To qualify for **EARLY REGISTRATION RATE** or **FIRST TIME CONFERENCE RATE** you must return your registration form postmarked by Oct. 1, 2011, with all fees included. Checks should be made payable to: Seacoast Writers Association. Mail to: Michael Wade, 9 Brookside Drive, Stratham, NH 03885. **DO NOT MAIL TO SWA PO BOX.**

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Tel () _____

Indicate first, second and third choice by noting 1, 2, 3.

- But That's The Way It Really Happened!*** ~~~~~ _____
- Form and Discovery in Poetry*** ~~~~~ _____
- In Search of Characters*** ~~~~~ _____
- Writing and Publishing for Children*** ~~~~~ _____

CONFERENCE FEES (Continental breakfast, and full lunch included)

Registrations Postmarked by Oct. 1:

- \$40.00 First-time Conference fee ~~~~~\$ _____
- \$45.00 Early registration, member ~~~~~\$ _____
- \$60.00 Early registration, non-member ~~~~~\$ _____

Registrations Postmarked after Oct. 1:

- \$55.00 member ~~~~~\$ _____
- \$70.00 non-member ~~~~~\$ _____
- \$20.00 Note-taker, interpreter or aide, meal cost only ~~~~~\$ _____
- Renew my membership or join SWA (\$25.00 annual membership fee) ~~~\$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: ~~~~~\$ _____

If you would like registration confirmation, please include a SASE or postcard, or print your e-mail address here (_____). The Registrar will notify you if a workshop is filled and it is necessary to give you your third choice.

TIME TO RENEW? Your membership must be current in order to receive the member discount.
(Check your mailing label or e-mail for renewal date.)

CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS? Cancellations postmarked by Oct. 1 will incur a \$10.00 administration fee. Sorry, no refunds after Oct. 1.

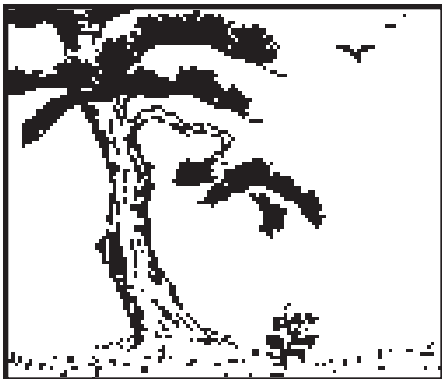
GOODBYE

Hugh A. Harter, of Portsmouth left this world on August 13, 2011. Local writers will remember him at the monthly Portsmouth Poetry Hoots. Professor Harter received his BA *cum laude* in 1947 and PhD in 1959 from Ohio State University, an MA *cum laude* from Mexico City College, the University of the Americas in 1951 and a Doctor of Letters from Alma College. An international scholar and author writing in several languages, Dr. Harter's works, awards and accolades are too numerous to list here. We will miss his cheery presence and his love of language.

BOOK SALES

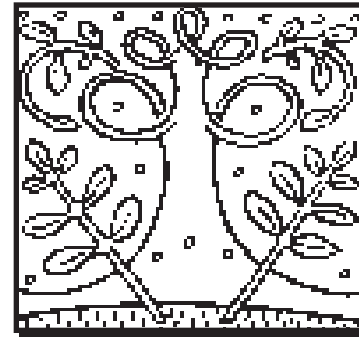
Our Conference Book Sale gives conferees the opportunity to purchase presenters' and other writers' books. Writers (other than presenters) who wish to make their own published books available for sale are welcome to do so, but must manage such sales themselves. Purchasers: Sorry, Cash or Checks only. No credit card sales.

"Gently Used" Book Sale – If you have books on writing or other books you've finished with that your fellow writers might enjoy, please bring them to the conference for sale. We'll sell them at \$1.00 for hardcovers and 50-cents for paperbacks, proceeds to benefit SWA.



MEMBER NEWS

SWA Board members **Pat Parnell** and **Tammi Truax** recently had poems accepted for publication in the *The Widow's Handbook* from a field of 500 submissions. The anthology of poems and essays on bereavement is due out in 2012. Both Pat and Tammi found the call for submissions in the SWA newsletter.



SWA POETS TO STAR IN AREA READINGS

The winning poets from *Currents VII*, the SWA anthology of writing contest winners for 2009, 2010, and 2011, have been invited to appear as featured readers at two seacoast area events. They will read their winning poems and one or two other poems.

Poetry@WaterStreet hosts the *Currents VII* poets on Wednesday, November 9, at 6:30 p.m. The reading is held at Water Street Books, 125 Water St., Exeter. Contact John Ferguson for further information (jbf@fergus.com).

On Wednesday, January 4, the SWA Poets will welcome the 2012 poetry season at the Portsmouth Poetry Hoot, sponsored by the Portsmouth Poet Laureate Project. The Hoot meets at 7:00 p.m. at Café Espresso, 800 Islington St., Portsmouth. For more information, go to www.pplp.org.

Admission is free and open to the public at both readings. Each featured reading is followed by an Open Mic, with all readers welcome. Copies of *Currents VII* will be for sale at both events.

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Children's Books: Writing and Publishing Children's Literature - Jeremy Townsend

Children's books are one of the few genres that have maintained a strong presence in the ever changing world of printed books. The education and library markets have provided a rare haven for children's book authors. But finding a publisher and reaching those markets is a major challenge. In this workshop we will begin building a toolbox that will help your children's book get noticed and give you a fuller understanding of

these important markets. The first half of the workshop will deal with the overall book publishing process, beginning with query letters and continuing through post-publication responsibilities of the author. The second half of the workshop will be the time to share your manuscript or a proposal for a project.

Jeremy Townsend has been involved in book publishing since 1981, most recently as president of Publishing Works, Inc., and its subsidy division, Peapod Press. For more info, check her out on the website of Publishing Works: publishingworks.com/

COMING EVENTS

SWA workshop presenter **Joann Duncanson** signs her latest book, *Eight Crayons*, on Wed., Sept. 21, 7 pm, at Screammers Cafe, 79 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham. For more information, check www.jsnow-duncanson.com or call 603-775-7577.

The New Hampshire chapter of Romance Writers of America is hosting a conference at the Sheraton Harborside in Portsmouth on September 23-24. For further information, see nhrwa.com/events.html.

On September 24th poets, artists, and musicians gather worldwide to celebrate the energy of the spoken word and to strengthen community by fostering sustainability and social change. More than 400 events are scheduled in over 350 cities representing over 70 countries. In our area, events are scheduled in Exeter (bmoore28@comcast.net), and Portland, Maine (wesleymcnair@yahoo.com).

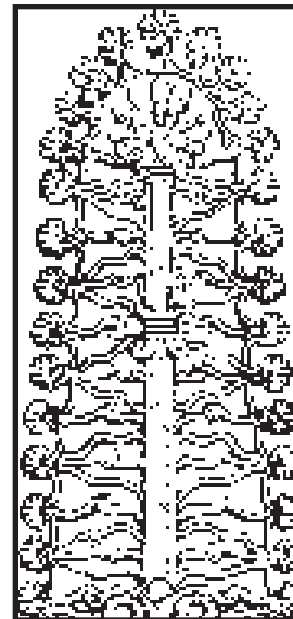
For more info: www.bigbridge.org/100thousandpoets-forchange.

The October 29th quarterly meeting of the Poetry Society of NH will be held at the Manchester City Library, 405 Pine Street, Manchester. There is a municipal lot across the street and many small places to eat nearby. The public is welcome to listen to the Members' Open Mic at 11:00 a.m. and the featured readers at 12:00 p.m. in the Library auditorium. Featured readers are the initial poets in the Hobbleshush Granite State Poetry Series: Charles Pratt, author of *From the Box Marked "Some Are Missing,"* and Becky Sakellariou, author of *Earth Listening*.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Become a friend of Seacoast Writers Association on Facebook and find us at seacoastwritersassociation.org.

Mainecrimewriters.com features blogs written by Maine authors and anyone else who wants to participate.



**DIRECTIONS TO
MCCONNELL CENTER/
DOVER ADULT LEARNING CENTER
61 Locust St. (Next to Dover Public Library)
603-742-1030**

Park behind Dover Library (driveway between the two buildings). Enter at Door #3.

Take the elevator to cafeteria on the first floor or go directly to the cafeteria entrance (marked "Green Bean") from the parking lot.

From the Spaulding Turnpike (Rte. 16) North or South: Exit 8E (Downtown Dover, Rte. 9, Silver St.) Woodman Park Elem. on your left. At second set of lights take Left on Locust St.

From Weeks Crossing (The intersection where Chili's restaurant is): South on Central Ave. into downtown Dover. Pass all of the stores to Lower Square, through light. Take the first right after Dover City Hall on to Hale St. Cross Locust St. into driveway to parking.

From Durham: Rte. 108 to Dover past Dover H.S. through lights at Sawyer Mills Apts. At lights at Burger King, turn left on Locust St.

From Rtes. 9 & 155: Follow route to junction of 9 & 155. Cross over the Spaulding Turnpike to Silver St.

(Downtown Dover, Rte. 9). Follow directions from above for Exit 8E.

From Concord: Take Rte. 4 through Lee traffic circle, continue exit Rte. 108N Dover/Durham. Turn left. Follow directions above from Durham.

From Rte. 101 East (Manchester) or West (Seacoast): Take 101 to Exit 7 (Rte. 125N). Follow directions above for either Rte. 155 or Lee traffic circle.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 a.m. - Registration and continental breakfast

9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Welcome and Business Meeting

9:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - Morning Workshops

12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch, book sales, networking

1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. - Afternoon Workshops

3:15 p.m. - Turn in evaluation forms

SAFE HOME AND HAPPY

Seacoast Writers Association
PO Box 6553
Portsmouth, NH 03802-6553



Mark your Calendar

Seacoast Writers
Fall

CONFERENCE

McConnell Center/Dover Adult Learning
Center, 61 Locust St., 603-742-1030

Saturday, Oct. 22,

8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

