

# LA PLUME

*Keep writing*

## Official Newsletter of the Writers' Guild of Acadiana

### **Board Members:**

President Sudie Landry, Vice President Christopher Fontenot, Treasurer Beth Davis, Publicist Ellen Threatts, Webmaster & Newsletter John Comeaux, John Francois and all past WGA Presidents in good standing.

### **Next Meeting:**

Our meetings are suspended until further notice. We hope to resume in 2021. We are actively searching for a location to meet.

### **Upcoming Prompts:**

TBA

### **WEB Page and Facebook**

Our web page is here: <https://www.writersguildacadiana.org/default.html>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/writersguildacadiana.org/>

The Writers' Guild is always willing to share the **success stories** of its members. Be sure to let us know about your writing. We will put your blurb on our website, on our Facebook page, and on this newsletter. Let's highlight and showcase our writers! Send us a synopsis or your own paragraph about the work you are working on or have published, and how to get it.

Send to either Sudie at [praisemusicpro@cox.net](mailto:praisemusicpro@cox.net) , or John at [jpcoman9@gmail.com](mailto:jpcoman9@gmail.com) .

### **◆ Writing Tips**

*Do you have too many emails? Is your address on too many lists? Are you swamped and cannot keep up with your emails?*

*Me too. But the ones from the following author/writer sites are keepers in my opinion.*

The **Writer's Digest** emails are always full of useful information and tips. I may not get inspiration every week, but often there are hints and ideas to make the overflow worthwhile.

[www.writersdigest.com](http://www.writersdigest.com)

**Book Baby** wants your business, but also offers free emails with things like "5-step self-publishing guide" free for downloading.

[www.bookbaby.com](http://www.bookbaby.com)

**Publisher's Weekly** lets you know what books, and genres, are selling this week. Interesting, but I won't be changing my writing to match today's hip styles. I notice that poetry is actually growing in popularity, if some of our members are interested in that area.

[www.publishersweekly.com](http://www.publishersweekly.com)

**Writer's Relief** also wants your business, but also gives emails with hints and tips such as "How to Ruin the Ending of your Short Story or Novel". That seems useful, right?

[WritersRelief@wrelief.com](mailto:WritersRelief@wrelief.com)

**The Writers' Workshop** in Asheville, NC offers contests for Poetry, hard times writing, literary fiction, and memoirs.

[writersw@gmail.com](mailto:writersw@gmail.com)

Closer to home, the **Bayou Writers Group** of Lake Charles may be of interest to our western friends and members. They are publishing an anthology of stories about 2020, but also hold workshops.

[bayouwritersgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:bayouwritersgroup@hotmail.com)

## ◆ **CONTESTS, CONFERENCES & FESTIVALS:**

Do you belong to a professional organization in your area of writing or illustration? I am a member of **SCBWI**, Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. But I also get emails from **NTTB**, the North Texas Teen Book Festival. There are so many, it's hard to keep up.

## ◆ **BRIDGE TO PUBLICATION, MARKETING**

### **Copy, right?**

*So you've written your final draft, and you're ready to send it off to agents, publishers, or self-publishing. USA copyright law says it is copyrighted once you have written it. But if you want to register that copyright with the US copyright office, you visit **eco.copyright.gov** and make an account. You pay a small fee, like \$60. I think, and upload your copy to the website.*

*People who heard my talk know that I recommend that you do this. I registered my "Troll Move" in 1992, many years before Dreamworks came out with their Troll movies. So I'm protected. Imagine trying to find a publisher and convincing them that my troll stories are original, not derivatives of the current motion pictures. Not gonna happen.*

## **WAPO Wants YOU**

Want your opinion piece published in the Washington Post? Mark Lasswell is looking for more voices. Visit the website and read about his quest for more writing from different areas of the USA and life.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/12/17/best-wapo-opeds-2020/>

**Members please note:**

WGA values your membership and we hope that you will give every consideration to renewing it. Membership fee is pending for 2021. In addition, members receive a monthly newsletter along with first notice for workshops, seminars, and conferences put on by the Writers' Guild.

Write to Writers' Guild of Acadiana, Inc., P.O. Box 51532, Lafayette, LA, 70505-1532.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone/Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you find out about us?** \_\_\_\_\_

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