

Southern California Writers Association Writers News

Volume 3, Number 8

August 2004



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August 21

Maryllys Wills

novelist, nonfiction writer,
teacher, past president of
the OC Chapter of
Romance Writers of
America

*Secrets of a Successful
Author: How to Publish
Again and Again*

SPECIAL ISSUE!

REVISED ASSOCIATION
BYLAWS IN THIS ISSUE OF
THE WRITERS NEWS.
MEMBERS: BE SURE TO
READ AND BE PREPARED
TO DISCUSS THEM AT THE
AUGUST MEETING.

President's Message

Elections are coming up. Your officers are doing double-duty. Pam is both Newsletter Editor and Secretary-Treasurer. That is too much work for one person. Catherine is both Vice President of Programming and Publicity Chairman. That is way too much work for one person!

Roy is President and de facto Treasurer. That is not too much work, although when you throw in the work I do as Critique Committee Chairperson, it starts to add up, but it nonetheless presents a problem in that the President and Treasurer are the only members allowed to sign checks on behalf of the organization.

In short: we need you to step up and volunteer to run for office! We are no different from any other organization. There are certain things that have to be done, obligations which have to be met, in order for us to function.

The Vice President of Programming position is most critical for our club. If we are to flourish, we need a large turnout for our meetings. We are obligated under contract to buy thirty lunches from the Claim Jumper. If we don't get a turnout of at least thirty, we lose money. If we lose money, we have only so long before we go bankrupt and have to close our doors.

Continued on page 2, column 1

August Speaker

Maryllys Wills will discuss *Secrets of a Successful Author: How to Publish Again and Again* at our August 21 meeting.

Wills is a multi-genre author, having nine published books of six different genres to her credit. She wrote the techno-thriller *Scatterpath* and four romance novels. **Wills** has written several nonfiction books, one a memoir *Higher Than Eagles*, a book about losing her son to hang gliding, for which she has received five movie options.

She spoke at our club once before about writing from the male point of view—not hard to do with five sons and a daughter.



Voted in 2000 as **Teacher of the Year**, Wills has taught novel writing on the college level for the past 18 years. She also gives writing and publishing seminars and is past president of the Orange County Chapter of the **Romance Writers of America**.

Catherine Singer, V.P. Programming

President's Message, cont. from page 1

And without great speakers, we don't get the necessary turnouts. Even with great speakers, we don't always get a good turnout. A year ago this August, we had only eighteen paid. (This for a wonderful speaker!) That is why Publicity Chairman is also such an important position.

You've all seen the routine where the sergeant yells for all volunteers to step forward, and everyone except the main character takes a step backward?

Guess who that person's going to be. We joke and kid about volunteering people.

The reality is, most of us on your executive board joined only because someone twisted our arms. Well, okay, they asked us nicely. And maybe included a bit of a guilt trip.

So: do you want to be the member who caused the demise of the club because you wouldn't run for office? Of course none of you do. But wasn't that a neat guilt trip to lay on you?

You may ask: is being a board member difficult? No, it is the easiest thing in the world! It's nothing but fun!

There can be no denying that sometimes, being a board member can be a real pain. We've had more than one major controversy, which nearly tore the club apart, leaving board members not speaking to one another.

Fortunately, we had individuals willing to step up and work as a team to hold the club together.

Right now, fingers crossed, there is peace and harmony on the board. We have a wishy-washy president that bends over backwards to keep peace among everyone, and delegates all the work so that the various board members all feel a great sense of contribution!

Wouldn't you, also, like to feel a great sense of contribution?

See you at the elections!

Good luck and good writing!

Roy King, President



The Writer's Toolbox: Cabin Notes 13 - Emotional Expression

by Victory Crayne

We go through life from one emotion to another. All the while we try to pretend we're thinking. On a recent PBS program on the adult brain, scientists expressed the following discoveries:

"We are not thinking machines. We are feeling machines that think."

"We are emotional people. There is no such thing as a non-emotional moment in life."

"We think by feeling."

The way I look at it, every day, all day, outside of the thinking you have to do for your day job and even sometimes in that too, you react emotionally to events and people and *then* decide what to think and say to people. You, and all the wonderful people on this planet, are emotional beings first, thinkers second.

Tell your story so it touches the emotions of your readers. Learn to *show* what the characters in your story are doing that reveals their emotions.

Continued on page 3, column 1

Membership Information

Pauline Bent V.P. Membership
atarque1@yahoo.com

Meeting Reservations

Roy King H (760) 955-5027
3kings@urs2.net

2004 Executive Committee

President	Roy King
V.P. Programming	Catherine Singer
V.P. Membership	Pauline Bent
Secretary/Treasurer	Pamela Rocke
Publicity Director	Catherine Singer
Webmaster	Pamela Rocke
Newsletter Editor	Pamela Rocke
Associate Editor	Nancy Darnall
Tape Librarian	Sharon Walters

www.ocwriter.com

SCWA Critique Committee

Open to members of SCWA

Nonfiction & Fiction **Roy King** 3kings@urs2.net

Roy will take any amount of writing for critique. He prefers to see the entire ms at one time. *Mail* your ms to Roy at 15772 Heatherdale Rd., Victorville, CA 92394.

Poetry **Dr. Joyce Wheeler**

Joyce will critique up to five poems. Please *mail* your work to Joyce at 3801 Chestnut Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807.

Cabin Notes 13 - Emotional Expression, cont. from page 2

Some of us are better at reading the emotions of others. Some people stay in their cocoon minds and react to what others say as if it was a personal comment on themselves. You know the types. Self-centered.

Guess what? A lot of people are self-centered. And they show their emotions all the time in their body language and the words coming out of their mouths.

Guess what? A lot of people out there are self-centered. And they show their emotions all the time in their body language and the words coming out of their mouths. Study them to read their emotions. See if you can guess what they are feeling inside. It'll make a better writer out of you.

I have often stumbled over the right way to describe an emotion in a scene. The best way I found to *write* it is to *do* it and watch myself in my body language, facial expressions, and choice of words.

For example, here is what I wrote in the viewpoint of one eccentric character who came to the funeral of a friend:

"I tried to act consoling, nodding my head when someone mentioned poor ol' Charlie's name. He's the one lying down. But frankly, I got bored. I stepped out in the hallway to get a change of scenery when - wham! Something hit me in the hip. Darned near knocked me over too.

"A kid, running past me. His buddy stopped short. Must have been

playing tag or somethin'. The face of the little guy who hit me started out full-of-life happy, with a big grin and smiling eyes that glistened. In less time than it takes to move your hands from the keyboard to the mouse, his whole demeanor slammed into oh-my-gosh-we're-gonna-get-it-now. Head turned my way, mouth dropped half open, eyebrows closer together, eyes wide and fully focused on me.

"Kids. You gotta love 'em. They show their emotions all day..."

"Kids. You gotta love 'em. They show their emotions all day. Don't even try to hold 'em back. It's what makes them so beautiful."

You get the idea. If your writing has not won the acclaim you have sought for long, perhaps you need to spruce up your descriptions of emotion. It is a strong way to draw your readers into caring about your characters, too.

Now if you'll excuse me, I gotta find that boy and thank him. He gave me an idea for a character.

Victory Crayne, victory@crayne.com, writer of science fiction novels, as well as short stories and nonfiction articles on the "Victory Page for Fiction Writers" at www.crayne.com. Look there for "How to Critique Fiction" and several of her stories. Better known on the Internet than in Orange County, "Victory Crayne" will turn up on more than 900 links on Google.



SCWA presents...

September 18, 2004

Craig Strickland

sci-fi, horror, and
children's writer; teacher

Learning From Rejection

The path to publication is littered with those annoying slips of paper. Published author Craig Strickland discusses what you can learn from your rejection slips and how you can use that knowledge to get published.

&

Marketing Your Short Stories

A portfolio of published stories is not only gratifying, it can pave the way to your career as a published novelist. Prolific writer Craig Strickland discusses the fine art of marketing short stories in both traditional and Internet markets.

July Highlights

“Get this tattooed on your body: If you are a published writer, you are getting stolen blind by screenwriters,” says Keith Sharon of the *Orange County Register*, who spoke in July on **How to Turn a Feature Article into a Screenplay**.

Now writing his sixth screenplay, Sharon explained how the Hollywood industry culls through everything published for ideas, even contest writing. The secret with a story based on a news article, which is in the public domain, is to get the life rights from the real person involved.

With comedic timing, Sharon kept the group laughing as he recounted the ups and downs of his five screenplays thus far, including *Showtime*, starring Robert De Niro and Eddie Murphy: interviews with the real-life equivalents of his characters, the art of the deal, and script changes imposed by others.

The backbone of screenplays is interviews. A writer must “ask the right questions to elicit colorful images.” Sharon started in sports writing, a good path, he says, because “rules get bent in sports writing.”

He laughed as he described the ending of one interview where he and the real-life character had squabbled over the \$7 breakfast check. “No,” the man said, “go tell your paper that the best bank robber in the U.S. bought you breakfast!”

“Find a villain and make him worse,” he [Sharon] advises.

Since real life solutions are not as good as fiction, Sharon suggests starting with a good ending and working backwards for the drama, plot, and emotion. He visualizes camera angles for his scenes but also stresses using all the senses for vividness.

“Find a villain and make him worse,” he advises. In Hollywood it’s “pure good versus pure evil—no subtleties.” Even subtitles will be removed. However, later he discussed characters who have hints of being heroes but not full-fledged ones. Mainly, they have to be compelling to watch.

Another necessity is a great entrance and exit of the star.

Another necessity is a great entrance and exit of the star. “Have them explode the door,” Sharon suggests.

The difference between Hollywood and independent movies is that independents are “easier to write but harder to sell.” They often have a different structure and usually are by writer-directors. “The director always wins the argument about what’s in or out; that’s why everyone wants to be the director.”

In the initial, face-to-face pitch meeting, Sharon says the writer practically has to be an actor him/herself and go through all the emotions of the story while being short and blunt. The best way to sell the idea is for the writer to script his ideas beforehand. Any nervousness on the writer’s part is perceived as a lack of confidence in his material. In addition, although everyone in the film business looks rich, Sharon stresses that they are very careful about committing money.

One studio said Sharon was “going to be the next big thing.” Meanwhile he kept having to do 15-page outlines different ways. He learned how to be cagey. When he was asked for his best five ideas for subsequent films, capitalizing on the one under consideration, he was careful to save his best idea for the

third suggestion. It became *Peach Fuzz*, for which Sharon is now in negotiation.

When questioned about how he protects himself from piracy, on one particular screenplay Sharon says he is unprotected except that he has a contract with the real-life person. Also, Hollywood studios have lawyers who “vet” the script and tell the writer what he can and cannot say. “Anyone who complains gets paid off,” he adds.

Because the screenwriter is considered a hindrance on the set, he stays away.

Because the screenwriter is considered a hindrance on the set, he stays away. Besides that, those around are not to look directly at the stars—especially Robert De Niro. However, when he did have one chance to look over the script reader’s shoulder during the filming of *Showtime*, Sharon choked up as he realized about 40% was still in his own wording.

Sharon has had several scripts optioned for \$5-15,000. For *Showtime*, he received \$75,000 up front and more later. The writer also gets bonuses and residuals. “A bonus can be between the high six figures and the low seven figures,” he smiled.

When money previously ran out, Keith Sharon’s fallback position was being a reporter for the *Orange County Register*. However, now the newspaper has said it will pay him to write screenplays—and yes, from news articles.

Glenda Rynn

Catherine Singer is on vacation and will return for our August meeting.

Members may purchase taped copies of this presentation from SCWA Tape Librarian Sharon Walters. Contact Walters at swwaltz@surfside.net.

April 10, 2004 - DRAFT

For discussion at the general meeting Saturday, August 21, 2004.

The Southern California Writers Association

ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

ARTICLE I — NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1: NAME. The name of this organization shall be The Southern California Writers Association (Herein “SCWA”).

Section 2: PURPOSE. The purpose of the SCWA shall be to provide a forum for promoting the welfare, fellowship, spirit, education, information, and encouragement among published and unpublished writers in the Southern California area.

Section 3: NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE. The SCWA shall issue a monthly Newsletter promoting the purpose of the Association and will maintain a website for the same purpose and to bring the SCWA to the attention of the general public.

ARTICLE II — FISCAL AND MEMBERSHIP YEAR

The SCWA fiscal and membership year shall be from January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: ELIGIBILITY. Membership in the SCWA shall be open to aspiring unpublished and published writers of all genres, editors, literary agents, publishers, booksellers, patrons and others interested in supporting the purpose of the SCWA.

Section 2: ANNUAL DUES. Membership in good standing requires the payment of annual dues, as determined by the SCWA BOARD, due and payable each year by February 28. Membership dues will be prorated for new members joining after that date.

Section 3: PRIVILEGES. Members in good standing are entitled to vote in all elections of the SCWA, to receive the monthly SCWA Newsletter, and other membership benefits as noticed from time to time in the SCWA Newsletter.

ARTICLE IV — GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1: REGULAR MEETINGS. Regular meetings of the SCWA shall be at a time and place selected by the BOARD.

Section 2: MEETING NOTIFICATION. Notification of the regular meetings shall be published in the SCWA Newsletter and mailed to all members no later than ten days prior to the meeting date. If a general membership vote is anticipated at a regular meeting, complete information of the issue to be voted on shall be included in the meeting notification.

Section 3: SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings of the general membership may be called by the President or by any three members of the BOARD acting jointly. Notification of such meeting shall be given at least two weeks in advance and shall include the issue constituting the reason for the meeting and the nature of any general membership vote that will be solicited.

Section 4: QUORUM. The number of members in good standing present at a general or special membership meeting shall constitute a quorum for the business of the meeting. The vote of a simple majority of the quorum shall be required for passing any issue presented at the meeting with the exception of an amendment to these Association Bylaws which, as required in ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS, shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the quorum.

Section 5: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the procedure of all meetings of the SCWA BOARD, all ad hoc committee meetings, and the SCWA general and special membership meetings.

ARTICLE V — OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT

Section 1: OFFICERS. The governing body of the SCWA (herein the “BOARD”) shall be elected by a simple majority of the general membership present at the October general meeting, each to serve a term of one fiscal year. The BOARD officers shall include the President, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Membership, Secretary/Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor.

Section 2: MANAGEMENT. The general management of the SCWA shall be vested in the BOARD and BOARD-selected special supporting members including, but not limited to, a Meeting Coordinator, a Publicity Director, and other special assignment members or ad hoc committees. Special supporting members may be granted voting privileges at specific BOARD meetings at the discretion of a majority of the BOARD.

Section 3: REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS. The BOARD shall meet at least quarterly at a time and place set by the President with the concurrence of at least two other BOARD members. Written notice of these meetings shall be provided to all BOARD members at least two weeks in advance. Such written notice may be provided by email.

Section 4: SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS. Special or emergency BOARD meetings may be called by the President or a majority of the BOARD members, and notice of such meetings, with date, time, place, and agenda, shall be given to all BOARD members at least a week in advance. The BOARD, with majority approval, may establish and periodically modify as necessary, a procedure for holding email meetings when deemed appropriate by the President or by any three members of the BOARD. Such an email meeting procedure should include an advance notice requirement, an email noticing that the meeting is convened, a method for assuring simultaneous communication among the members during the meeting period, and an email noticing that the meeting is adjourned.

Section 5: QUORUM. A quorum for all BOARD meetings shall be three of the five elected members of the BOARD. In the absence of any BOARD member, the proxy for that member's vote for that meeting shall vest in the SCWA President unless the absent member has given a written, signed proxy to another BOARD member who is present at the meeting. If the absent member has given a written, signed proxy to another BOARD member, the absent member will be considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum. In the absence of the President, any unassigned proxies shall vest in the Vice President of Programming.

Section 6: BOARD MEMBER ABSENCES. If any BOARD member is absent from more than two regular or special BOARD meetings, that member will be removed from the BOARD unless a majority of the BOARD members agree that one

or both of the absences should be excused. In the event of such a removal, the President may appoint a replacement to serve until the next general membership meeting, at which time the President shall call for a vote to ratify his appointment by a majority of those members present. Should such ratification fail, the President shall call for nominations from the floor and a new vote. If no nominations are forthcoming, the ratification of the President's appointee shall be assumed and the appointee shall serve the complete term of the removed member. In the event that the President is the member removed, the duties enumerated in this Section 6 shall be the responsibility of the Vice President of Programming.

Section 7: DISMISSAL OF BOARD MEMBERS. In the spirit of collegiality, the BOARD, by a vote of four of the five elected members, may remove a member from office if the member is deemed to be disruptive, speciously argumentative, or generally displays comportment inhibiting the business of the BOARD. In such an event, a replacement shall be placed in the vacated office in accordance with the procedure outlined in Section 6, next above.

Section 8: EXPENSES. Reasonable personal expenses of BOARD members and appointed members supporting the BOARD on special assignments shall be reimbursed by the Secretary/Treasurer who shall be the sole determinant of the reasonableness of the expense.

ARTICLE VI — BOARD MEMBER DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES

Section 1: PRESIDENT. The President shall preside at all meetings of the SCWA and shall also serve as ex officio member of all committees of the SCWA. The President shall provide, at the February general membership meeting, an annual report outlining the highlights of the past year and any plans or proposals for the coming year.

Section 2: VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMMING. The Vice President of Programming shall maintain and propose to the BOARD for its approval an updated six month speaker's schedule at each BOARD meeting. The report shall indicate those speaker commitments that have been confirmed and those that are pending. And the schedule shall extend beyond the tenure of the incumbent Vice President. In the event that the previous Vice President of Programming has not provided for speakers to fill periods beyond his tenure, the BOARD shall temporarily suspend the time constraints of this requirement and work diligently as a team to bring the speaker commitments current. Speaker's honoraria shall be negotiated by the Vice President of Programming subject to confirmation by the President. In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President of Programming shall preside at all meetings and perform all regular duties of the President.

Section 3: VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP. The Vice President of Membership is responsible for planning and coordinating activities pertaining to recruiting and retaining membership in the SCWA including notice to members of annual dues payment dates and follow-up notices to delinquent members. The Vice President of Membership shall maintain up-to-date records of members, provide address labels to support timely Newsletter mailings and as required by other members of the BOARD, and shall provide new members with a copy of these Association Bylaws.

Section 4: SECRETARY / TREASURER. The Secretary/Treasurer shall account for all funds of the SCWA, and shall be the custodian of such funds which shall be deposited in a bank approved by the BOARD, shall present a current financial report at each BOARD meeting, and shall prepare an annual financial report and budget for approval of the BOARD at the March meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep all minutes and reports pertaining to SCWA business, and is responsible for maintaining records of all BOARD correspondence.

Section 5: NEWSLETTER EDITOR. The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for timely preparation and distribution of the SCWA monthly Newsletter. The Newsletter Editor shall set the format and formulate editorial policies, planning, and content of the Newsletter with the goal of notifying the membership of current activities, coming events of the SCWA, and other things deemed of interest to the membership. The Newsletter Editor shall also serve as the primary contact with the SCWA website.

Section 6: SPECIAL APPOINTED BOARD ASSISTANTS. The BOARD may appoint special non-voting members to

the BOARD such as, but not limited to, a Meeting Coordinator and a Publicity Director. The duties and responsibilities of these members shall be defined by the President with the concurrence of a majority of the BOARD.

Section 7: AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES. The President, the Vice President of Programming, and the Secretary/Treasurer are each authorized to sign checks and other official documents pertaining to the SCWA.

ARTICLE VII — LIABILITY

The BOARD, or any elected or appointed officer of the SCWA, shall not be held personally liable for contracts, agreements, or actions taken by them in good faith on behalf of the SCWA and its members.

ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

These ASSOCIATION BYLAWS may be amended by a two-thirds vote of active members present at a regular or special meeting, provided the proposed amendment has the prior approval of the BOARD, is not in conflict with the purposes and objectives of the SCWA, and that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the membership of the SCWA in writing not less than thirty days prior to the amendment ratification meeting.

SCWA Board of Officers wants to thank **William Berg** for his dedicated and dogged work in revising the Association Bylaws. Bill spent a great deal of time and effort gathering information, disseminating drafts, and communication with board member.

This new draft of the SCWA Bylaws was accepted and approved for presentation to the General Membership.

Your Board of Officers

2004

President	Roy King	Secretary/Treasurer	Pamela Rocke
V.P. Programming	Catherine Singer	Newsletter Editor	Pamela Rocke
V.P. Membership	Pauline Chavez Bent	Associate Editor	Nancy Darnall
Director of Public Relations	Catherine Singer	Tape Librarian	Sharon Walters
Webmaster	Pamela Rocke		

Speakers: 2004

Martin J. Smith, mystery writer
Walter Hunt, Science fiction writer
Laurie Thomas, short story writer & teacher
Susan Perry, Ph.D., author, advice columnist
Gayle Brandeis, novelist
Claudia Suzanne, publisher, ghostwriter
Keith Sharon, OC Register journalist, screenwriter
Maryalys Wills, novelist, nonfiction writer, romance writer
Craig Strickland, author, educator
Sally Stich, author, educator
Barbara DeMarco-Barrett, author, radio talk show host
Alan Lane, author, screenwriter

Some of Our Past

Speakers:
Robert McKee
Jacqueline Marcell
B.J. Robbins
Helie Lee
Joyce Chapman
Barbara Potter
Mike Foley
Earlene Fowler
Erich Hoeber
Suzanne Forester
Sherri Board

SCWA News & Announcements

Member Publications

SCWA member **Bert Millspaugh** announces the publication of his novel, a sci-fi thriller titled *The Deadly Seeker: Humanoid from the Planet Venus*.

“In the 1970s, a Soviet Union space probe brought back a living Venusian child. Now, the Venusians want it back. They send a deadly seeker, a tall humanoid creature, to find and retrieve the infant, but a navigational error lands the spacecraft in Montana where the seeker goes on a killing spree of both men and livestock. Mike Jenner, Idaho rancher and ex-Army Officer, is determined to destroy the seeker after finding a hired hand hideously killed and then the merciless death of his girlfriend's father.”

—From AuthorHouse

To learn more about the novel and author, visit Millspaugh's website at www.deadlyseeker.com. To purchase a copy, go to the website's Buy the Book link. A link is also provided at the official SCWA website—Member News page at www.ocwriter.com/membernews.html.

Contest Awards

Sci-fi writer and SCWA member **Victory Crayne** was a double-winner in the recent **SFNovelist Short Story Contest**. Crayne submitted two stories. Both stories tied for first place in a contest which focused on characterization.

Crayne tells me she is “proud as the top peach in a fruit basket.” Congratulations, Victory!

SFNovelist is a cyberspace critique community. Visit them online at www.sfnovelist.com.

Professional Book Writing School

Claudia Suzanne and **Wambtac Communications** announces the launch of the **Professional Book Writing School**, providing a masters-level book business education.

The school will offer classes in business, creativity, writing, editing, and ghostwriting. Its website will be located at www.pbws.org.

For more information, contact Suzanne at pbws@wambtac.com, or visit the school's website at <http://www.pbws.org>.

SCWA Board of Officers—2005

Yes, it's that time of year again. Time to select the people who make the Southern California Writers Association a successful organization.

Now is the time to volunteer for one of the offices. Elections are held at the October general meeting. If you are interested in serving, please contact Roy King, SCWA president at 3kings@urs2.net, or Pamela Roche at kashka@compuserve.com.

Positions include:

- ⇒ President
- ⇒ Vice President Programming
- ⇒ Vice President Membership
- ⇒ Publicity Director
- ⇒ Secretary
- ⇒ Treasurer
- ⇒ Newsletter Editor
- ⇒ Meeting Coordinator

In the Spotlight: Vice President of Programming

The most exciting and glamorous board position is, without a doubt, the

Vice President of Programming. The V.P. Programming recruits all of the speakers for SCWA's monthly meetings.

Have you ever wondered why you are asked to fill out those slips of paper detailing your writing interests when you joined the association or when you renewed your membership? It is because the V.P. of Programming needs to know what topics will capture the interests of club members.

Some of the job involves research and communication with other board members...and more research.

So where is the glamour? It is in speaking with numerous bestselling authors, screenwriters, top-flight editors, agents, talented educators, journalists, nonfiction writers and a bevy of other writing and publishing professionals.

Whether or not the Dan Browns, the Earlene Fowlers, Stephen Kings, or Robert McKees agree to speak before the organization, as V.P. Programming, you've had the experience of interacting with them on a professional level.

The insider's knowledge, experience, and unparalleled contact you gain as V.P. Programming make *this* board position a “must have” for the upwardly mobile writer.

Pamela Roche,
Editor, Writers News

Do you have news to share? The *Writers News* wants to know. Please e-mail news about your writing career successes, failures, and in between to Pam Roche at kashka@compuserve.com.

August Meeting

Saturday, August 21, 2004

Claim Jumper Restaurant
Banquet Room Entrance, rear of building
18050 Brookhurst St., Fountain Valley, CA
For directions, call (714) 963-6711.



Secrets of a Successful Author:

How to Publish Again
and Again

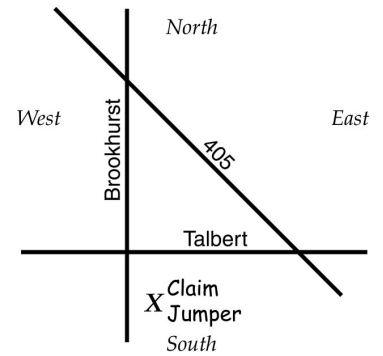
Maryalys Wills

novelist, nonfiction writer & teacher, past
president of the OC Chapter of Romance
Writers of America

Secrets of a Successful Author: How to Publish Again and Again

Registration & Networking: 9:30 a.m.
Meeting & Program: 10:00 a.m.
Lunch: 11:30 a.m.
Afternoon Program: 12:15 p.m.
Members & Non-Members: \$20.00

RSVP before August 16: Roy King, 15772 Heatherdale Rd., Victorville, CA 92394. Check must accompany reservations. Make checks payable to SCWA.
RSVP on or after August 16: Roy King *home* (760) 955-5027; *e-mail* 3kings@urs2.net — bring check to door. For more information, go to www.ocwriter.com. *Be sure to RSVP whenever possible!*



**Walk-ins & Guests
always welcome**

Southern California Writers Association

Writers News

Pamela Rocke, Editor

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