



The Next Chapter

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The Roving Pen

by Tamara Kratzer, Newsletter Editor

Pretty hard to roam much right now unless you want to get soggy. I guess that doesn't inconvenience our group. Just more writing out of the pen. Though while the pen is mightier than sharp objects, apparently not little buggers. So write when you can, it is a distracting world out there.

Of course if you have to go out and about, a perfect opportunity was up Friday, May 10. The East Texas Writers Association had their meeting—second Friday of the month— at Catfish Village in Longview at 2005 Tolar Rd with guess who as speaker? Our, once, very own Caleb Pirtle. And the topic was *The Art of Making Your Stories Sizzle* which sounds interesting. Wouldn't doubt that. Hope you made it.

Around here ETWG is keeping busy. Last Nutz and Boltz, members had a lively conversation with Mike Wigington. Be prepared for the next one. Anything about writing goes. Saturday May 11, of course, is the

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Speaker Back for July Writers Conference

by Tamara Kratzer

Approaching on the horizon is something that our writers look to every year—besides writing. Our writers conference is coming July 20. Four speakers will present topics to the group and each gets a spotlight. The first one up is Suzette Doescher. No, you're not seeing double. She is back to help us further get into the heads of your not average person.

A native of that fascinating historical city of New Orleans, Suzette also graduated from Tulane University School of Social Work there. Working as a licensed clinical social worker for over twenty years, she has experience in areas of substance abuse, dual diagnosis, and adult and adolescent mental health. Along the way she relocated to Texas after Hurricane Katrina.

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Kay Sellers founded the group back in May 2004.

Now three speakers—Linda Nelson Ellis, Pat LaVigne, and Mike Wigington—tell us how they did it as authors.

Get Ready to Party for ETWG's 15th Birthday!

by Tamara Kratzer

We may not have celebrated last year, but this year's anniversary party will more than make up for the shortage. On Saturday May the 11th, members will be out celebrating the 15th anniversary of the East Texas Writers Guild's creation back in 2004.

From 11:30 am to 2 pm, we will meet at Sweet Sue's at 3350 S SW Loop 323 Tyler, TX 75701 for food and fun. Cost will be \$15 per person or \$28 for two. Dinner includes drink, all the food you can eat from the buffet, including salad and dessert. Fun includes door prizes, speaker, and everyone—yes, that includes you—gets a favor at the door. So we're all winners. Did you doubt it, being in this group?

So, cliché aside, be there or be square. For more information, you can either call Janice Ernest at (903)521-4183 or janiceernest1@gmail.com.

THAT MOMENT WHEN YOU FINISH A BOOK, LOOK AROUND, AND REALIZE THAT EVERYONE IS JUST CARRYING ON WITH THEIR LIVES...



AS THOUGH YOU DIDN'T JUST EXPERIENCE EMOTIONAL TRAUMA AT THE HANDS OF A PAPERBACK.

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anniversary of our group. You don't want to miss it. Really. You don't. And if you haven't heard, the annual writer's conference is coming back July 20. Early bird registration ends June 1st. More to come.

If the weather is getting you down, there is always a good book or a good write. For now the books will do. Perhaps that'll put the hitchhiking germ to bed. Can't sleep and cough at the same time. More roaming next time.

Notes from the President

by Mike Wigington

This year we celebrate the guild's 15th anniversary and while I was not a part of its founding, I wanted to say thank you to each and everyone of you that helps keep this fine organization going. We are blessed to have such fine folks. We have a great guild and I want to see it continue on into the future. To nurture future writers and help them on their journey is the only way this is going to happen. We cannot wait for people to find us. We should be telling every writer we meet about our guild and how much it helps us. Only together will we make it on our own journey as writers and authors. We need each other. I know that we as writers often feel like we are alone. We sit at our desk staring at a screen or a page and no one is there to guide us on what to write, what to plot, how to twist that plot, or how to publish that completed manuscript. But you know, reaching out and coming to the meetings, it sure helped me to figure some things out. I am grateful for this group. You guys are great!

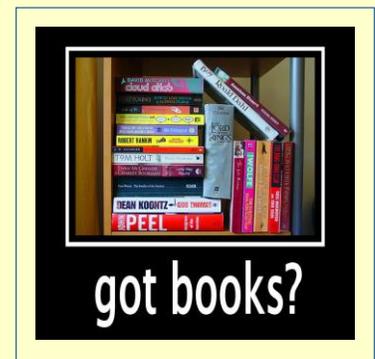
*"Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I
remember. Involve me
and I learn."*
— Benjamin Franklin

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She currently has a part time private practice in Commerce, TX where she specializes in treating adult clients with trauma, post-traumatic stress, depression, and anxiety. She also treats veterans experiencing severe post-traumatic stress and dissociation.

Suzette is certified in trauma therapy, hypnotherapy, EMDR and Archetypal Pattern Analysis. She can also enthrall a room full of authors about dissociative identity disorder and related mental health topics.

Prepare to become more informed about all those fascinating details that can help make for some interesting characters. Your characters need more dysfunctional behaviors and unhealthy coping skills than you do. Learn a way to make it happen. Then you can make characters that are touching or just plain cracked that can keep your readers on the edge of your every page or lead them on wild trips.



Writer's Events

Never too early to get ready for some writer fun:

June 1-2 Longview Comic Con Maude Cobb Convention & Activity Complex 100 Grand Blvd Longview, TX 75604 \$15 per day or \$25 for the weekend. Find more at longviewcomiccon.com. OK, not writing exactly unless you looking for inspiration. Geek, anyone?

June 22-23 2019 Dallas-Fort Worth Writers Conference at the Hurst Conference Center, 1601 Campus Dr Hurst, TX 76054 dfwcon.org. Educational on writing. \$269 Sat/\$229 Sun \$399 until June 14 then goes up (and it really does pay to give it over early)

TNC Newsletter and ETWG Information

TNC Submission Guidelines and deadlines

All submitted data must be received by the last Monday of the month prior to the month in which art/ad/etc. will appear.

Length—up to 500 words (ask if more)

Format—single space, no indent

Fonts—12 pt. Times New Roman

Photos—jpeg with caption instructions

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ETWG



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