



PIKES PEAK Writers conference

2009

JANUARY 2009 Edition

April 23-26, 2009

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

PPWC has something
for all writers . . .

- Mystery
- Suspense
- Romance
- Science Fiction
- Fantasy
- Children's
- Young Adult
- Western
- Short Stories
- Mainstream
- Historical Fiction
- Screenwriting

Meet Editors and Agents!

The Pikes Peak Writers Conference is a project of the Pikes Peak Writers, a nonprofit organization. This conference is underwritten by the Colorado Springs Marriott Hotel and University of Denver University College.

Pikes Peak Writers Conference
4164 Austin Bluffs Parkway #246
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
(719) 531-5723
Web site:
www.pikespeakwriters.com
e-mail: info@pikespeakwriters.com

Presented by the Pikes Peak Writers

HIGH ATTITUDE WRITING: Cut to the Craft

Registration Information and Form Inside

CONFERENCE SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday: *Optional Add-on Day*

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Track One, Track Two, Track Three (Lunch Break on your own)
4:30 p.m. Optional—How to Pitch

Friday Evening: *OPENING CEREMONIES*

5:30 p.m. Faculty Meeting
7:00 p.m. Sit-down Dinner
8:00 p.m. Opening Festivities and Keynote Presentation
Pam McCutcheon and Karen Fox, PPWC Co-Directors
Jodi Anderson, Master of Ceremonies
Keynote Presentation by James N. Frey
"The Most Important Elements of Success: Your Cannon, Your Gunpowder, and Your Fuse"

Saturday Luncheon: *SPECIAL PRESENTATION*

12:15 p.m. Lunch with Keynote Presentation by Laura Resnick
"The Trick is to Keep Breathing"

Saturday Evening: *PPWC AWARDS DINNER*

7:30 p.m. Dinner
PPW/C Awards
Recognition of winners of the Pikes Peak Writers Fiction Contest
Keynote Presentation by Jeffery Deaver
"A Writer's Life—A Humorous Look at Becoming a Novelist"

Sunday Luncheon: *CLOSING CEREMONIES*

12:15 p.m. Closing Lunch
Keynote Presentation by Susan Mallery
"Keeping the Magic in Your Writing"

Schedule of Events

Thursday, April 23

Optional Add-on Day:
9:00 a.m.-12:00—Track One, Track Two, Track Three (See pg. 7)
12:00-1:00—Lunch Break (on your own)
1:00-4:00 p.m.—Track One, Track Two, Track Three (See page 7)
4:30 p.m.—Optional-How to Pitch

Friday, April 24

11:00 a.m.—Check-in Begins
12:00-4:30 p.m.—Optional Read & Critique Sessions
12:00-1:20 p.m.—Session 1
1:00 p.m.—Conference Tips for Newcomers
1:30-2:50 p.m.—Session 2
1:30 p.m.—Speed Pitching Practice Session
3:00-4:30 p.m.—Session 3
3:00 p.m.—Speed Pitching Practice Session
5:30 p.m.—Faculty and Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m.—Sit-Down Dinner
8:15 p.m.—Opening Ceremonies:
Pam McCutcheon, PPWC
Co-Director, with Jodi Anderson, Master of Ceremonies
Keynote Presentation:
James N. Frey

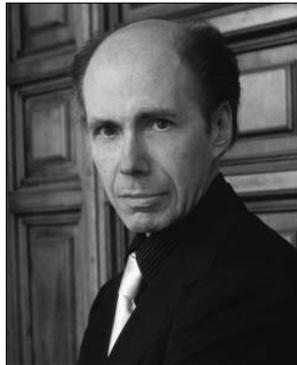
Saturday, April 25

7:30 a.m.—Continental Breakfast
7:45 a.m.—Conference Tips for Newcomers
8:00 a.m.—Late Check-in
8:40-9:40 a.m.—Session 4
9:50-10:50 a.m.—Session 5
11:00-noon—Session 6
12:30 p.m.—Lunch
Keynote Presentation:
Laura Resnick
2:00-3:10 p.m.—Booksigning
3:20-4:20 p.m.—Session 7
4:30-5:30 p.m.—Session 8
7:30 p.m.—Dinner
PPWC Awards
Recognition of the winners:
Pikes Peak Writers Fiction Contest
Keynote Presentation:
Jeffery Deaver

Sunday, April 26

8:00 a.m.—Continental Breakfast
8:45-9:40 a.m.—Session 9
9:50-10:45 a.m.—Session 10
10:55-11:50 a.m.—Session 11
12:15 p.m.—Closing Lunch
Keynote Presentation:
Susan Mallery

SPECIAL PRESENTERS



Jeffery Deaver

Jeffery Deaver was born outside of Chicago in 1950. He wrote his first book which consisted of two entire chapters when he was eleven, and he's been writing ever since. The author of 23 novels and two collections of short stories, Deaver has been nominated for six Edgar Awards from the Mystery Writers of America, an Anthony award, a Gumshoe Award, and is a three-time recipient of the Ellery Queen Reader's Award for Best Short Story of the Year. In 2001, he won the W.H. Smith Thumping Good Read Award for his Lincoln Rhyme novel *The Empty Chair*. In 2004, he was awarded the Crime Writers Association of Great Britain's Ian Fleming Steel Dagger Award for *Garden Of Beasts* and the short story *Dagger* for "The Weekender." Translated into 25 languages, his novels have appeared on a number of bestseller lists around the world, including the *New York Times*, *The Times of London*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. *The Bone Collector* was a feature release from Universal

Pictures, starring Denzel Washington as Lincoln Rhyme. *A Maiden's Grave* was made into an HBO film retitled *Dead Silence*, starring James Garner and Marlee Matlin.



James N. Frey

James N. Frey is one of America's leading creative writing teachers. For over 10 years, he conducted the popular Open Workshop at the Squaw Valley Community of Writers annual conference. He's taught and lectured at dozens of other schools and conferences, including the Oregon Writers Colony, the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, the Heartland Writers, the University of California Extension novel writing workshop, the California Writers Club conference, and others, both in America and in Europe. Frey is the author of the widely read *How to Write a Damn Good Novel*, *How to Write a Damn Good Novel II: Advanced Techniques*, *The Key: Writing Damn Good Fiction Using The Power of Myth*, and *How to Write a Damn Good Mystery: A Practical*

Step-by-Step Guide from Inspiration to Finished Manuscript. He is an award-winning playwright and the author of nine novels, including *The Long Way to Die*, which was nominated for an Edgar Award by the Mystery Writers of America, and *Winter of the Wolves*, a Literary Guild Selection.



Susan Mallery

Susan Mallery is the *New York Times* bestselling author of over 100 romances, and she has yet to run out of ideas! She has written series romances, as well as single titles, historicals, contemporaries, and even a lone time travel. Always reader favorites, her books have appeared on the Walden's bestseller list, along with the *USA Today* bestseller list and, of course, the *New York Times* list. She has won awards for everything from best single title contemporary to best Special Edition of the year and recently took home the prestigious National Reader's Choice Award. As her degree in accounting wasn't very helpful in the writing department, Susan earned a Master's in Writing Popular Fiction. Susan makes her home in the Pacific Northwest where, rumor has it, all that rain helps with creativity. Susan is married to a fabulous hero-like husband and has a six pound toy poodle...who is possibly the cutest dog on the planet.



Laura Resnick

Laura Resnick is the author of such fantasy novels as *Disappearing Nightly*, *In Legend Born*, *The Destroyer Goddess*, and *The White Dragon*, which made the "Year's Best" lists of *Publishers Weekly* and *Voya*. She has also published more than 60 short stories. Under the pseudonym Laura Leone, she is additionally the award-winning author of more than a dozen romance novels, including *Fallen From Grace*, which was a finalist for the Romance Writers of America's RITA Award. Her latest release is *Rejection, Romance and Royalties: The Wacky World of a Working Writer*, a collection of her popular columns and essays about the publishing industry and the writing life. You can find her on the Web at www.LauraResnick.com.

Literary Agents



Sandra Bond
Bond Literary Agency

Sandra worked with prominent agent Jody Rein before starting her own agency in 1998 in Denver. She works with both first-time and previously published authors, and her clients include writers of fiction in various genres, young adult fiction, and many categories of nonfiction. She is also the program administrator at the University of Denver's Publishing Institute.



Nathan Bransford
Curtis Brown Ltd.

Nathan is a literary agent with the San Francisco office of Curtis Brown Ltd., a New York-based agency that has been representing writers since 1914. He's particularly interested in literary fiction, narrative nonfiction, sports, politics, current events, young adult fiction, science fiction, and anything else he happens to like! He does not represent poetry.



Ginger Clark
Curtis Brown Ltd.

Ginger has been a literary agent with Curtis Brown LTD since 2005. She represents science fiction, fantasy, paranormal romance, paranormal chicklit, literary horror, young adult, and middle grade fiction. In addition to representing her own clients, she also represents British rights for the agency's children's list.

Previously, she worked at Writers House for six years as an assistant literary agent. Her first job in publishing was as an editorial assistant at Tor Books. She is a graduate of Bryn Mawr College. She is a member of the Contracts Committee of the AAR. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and pet chinchillas.



Kirby Kim
Endeavor

Kirby was an associate agent at the Charlotte Sheedy Literary Agency, before he moved on to Vigliano Associates where he built his list while negotiating the agency's contracts. He is currently at Endeavor where he continues to represent fiction for children and adults,

memoir, pop culture, and general nonfiction. Kirby is originally from California, where he attended Pomona College in Claremont and Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco.



Kevan Lyon
Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency

Kevan has been with the Dijkstra Agency since 2004. She handles women's fiction, with an emphasis on commercial women's fiction and all genres of romantic fiction. Her particular interest is historical fiction of all types and commercial women's fiction. She is also interested

in nonfiction, representing authors in the areas of memoir, environment, parenting, and current events. Kevan holds an MBA from the Anderson School of Management at UCLA and comes to the agency with 17 years of experience on the retail and distribution side of the publishing business. Her background on the buying and retail side of publishing affords her unique insight into what types of books will sell and how to market them. She is particularly drawn to stories that bring the reader in and loves a sweeping, complex story with strong female characters. Her authors in women's fiction span a broad range of genres from more literary, commercial projects to all genres of romance including historical, contemporary, suspense and paranormal. She loves to be surprised by a unique plot or characters and is always looking for a new, fresh voice or approach. With nonfiction projects she looks for topics that she is passionate about or that speak to issues of particular concern to women and families.



Natanya Wheeler
Lowenstein-Yost Associates Inc.

Natanya would love to find narrative nonfiction in the areas of memoir, women's issues, alternative energy or green living, politics—and anything to do with birds. She's also aggressively looking to build her fiction list with strong writers who have original and confident voices. She's particularly

interested in literary fiction that touches on current events or multi-cultural issues, women's fiction of all kinds, dark, edgy character-driven thrillers, moody mysteries, young adult and nonfiction graphic novels.

Booksigning on Saturday, 2:00-3:10 p.m.

Speakers and PPW authors attending the conference will be signing their books. PPW authors should contact Laura Hayden at suspense@suspense.net to make arrangements for consignments.

New for 2009!

Throughout the weekend, with a focus on Saturday, we will have a trade exposition for vendors, companies, and organizations who support the Pikes Peak regional writing community. A list of participating exhibitors will be available in early 2009 on the Web site.

Acquiring Editors



Catherine Frank **Viking Children's Books**

Catherine is a senior editor at Viking Children's Books, where she started her publishing career as an editorial assistant almost nine years ago. She works primarily with contemporary, literary young adult novels, nonfiction for all ages, and a small number of picture books. Some of her recent

titles include the novel in verse *Because I Am Furniture* by Thalia Chaltas, *Sandy's Circus* by Tanya Lee Stone and illustrated by Boris Kulikov, and a forthcoming book about the 1965 voter rights march from *Selma to Montgomery* by National Book Award-finalist Elizabeth Partridge. Originally from New Orleans, Catherine now lives with her husband and puppy in Brooklyn, New York.



Celia Johnson **Grand Central Publishing**

Celia works in editorial at Grand Central Publishing, editing both fiction and nonfiction. Her primary areas of interest include commercial fiction (thrillers, mysteries, and suspense novels), narrative nonfiction, and pop culture.



Jennifer Pooley **William Morrow**

Jennifer is a senior editor who has been with William Morrow since 1998. She has acquired a wide variety of books across the Morrow and Harper Perennial imprints including such novels as Michael Zadoorian's *The Leisure Seeker* and Willy Vlautin's *Northline*, both optioned to Sharp Independent at HarperCollins (sharpindependent.com) and on the nonfiction side such titles as the national bestseller *Summer at Tiffany* by Marjorie Hart (a memoir she discovered at the San Diego State University Writers' Conference in January 2006), Jennifer Sey's *Chalked Up*; and *The Indifferent Stars Above: The Harrowing Saga*

of a Donner Party Bride by Daniel James Brown. She is actively seeking new voices in literary and mainstream fiction and nonfiction (memoir, history, biography, journalism, social, and popular science), and she also acquires the occasional gift/pop culture titles. Note: She cannot accept/open/nor return unsolicited submissions either previous to or following the conference, nor can she answer e-mail queries. She also does not acquire genre titles of any kind: crime, thriller, or romance, and can promise that if you don't spell check your appointment pages, that she will not enjoy reading them!

Shelly Shapiro **Del Rey Books**

In her more than 20 years at Random House's Del Rey Books imprint, Shelly has worked with such *New York Times* bestselling authors as Anne McCaffrey, Elizabeth Moon, Arthur C. Clarke, Larry Niven, Greg Bear, Frederik Pohl, David Eddings, Terry Brooks, Barbara Hambly, R.A. Salvatore, and many, many others. She is now editor-at-large, responsible for all the Del Rey *Star Wars* fiction. She also continues to be Del Rey's McCaffrey editor, working with both Anne and Todd McCaffrey.



Leslie Wainger **Book Doctor, Editor-at-Large**

Leslie is the author of *Writing a Romance Novel for Dummies* (Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2004), which serves not only as a guide to writing romance but to writing strong, salable popular fiction, no matter what the genre. Leslie's career in publishing began almost 30 years ago, when

she joined Silhouette Books, then a division of Simon & Schuster, as an editorial assistant. She was part of the editorial team that launched the company's first series, Silhouette Romance, which debuted in May 1980. She continued in series romance publishing and was actively involved in the development of seven other series: Silhouette Special Edition, Silhouette Desire, Silhouette Intimate Moments, Harlequin Historicals, Silhouette Shadows, Silhouette Bombshell and Silhouette Nocturne, both at Simon & Schuster and at Harlequin Enterprises, which purchased the Silhouette imprint in 1984. While rising to the position of executive editor, she expanded her expertise into single-title fiction and now has extensive experience not only in series and single-title romance, but in general women's fiction, historicals, paranormal, horror, thriller, romantic suspense, fantasy and mystery. She has won awards for her editing, including the Romance Writers of America Industry Award. Numerous books she's edited have been featured on noted bestseller lists, including the *New York Times*, *USA Today* and *Publishers Weekly*, and many of the books she's edited are award winners.

Pikes Peak Writers

One of the very first benefits you can get by joining Pikes Peak Writers is a discount on your conference fee. All memberships run for one year from the time of signup, and the cost is \$35. If you are not a member of PPW, please check the block on the registration form. See our Web site at www.pikespeakwriters.com.

To contact us or be added to our mailing list, please e-mail info@pikespeakwriters.com. Pikes Peak Writers, organizer of the Pikes Peak Writers Conference, is incorporated in the state of Colorado and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Pikes Peak Writers Scholarship Fund

The Pikes Peak Writers organization will offer a limited number of scholarships to aspiring writers who couldn't otherwise afford to attend the 2009 Pikes Peak Writers Conference. Awarded scholarships will include full registration fee. In return for the full registration fee, scholarship recipients will help out as needed on site during the conference and will be asked to submit a piece for the PPW *NewsMagazine*. The scholarships are possible through the generous contributions by many friends and participants of the Pikes Peak Writers Conference since 1993.

Send your name and address, the financial circumstances that prevent you from attending at your own expense, your writing aspirations and your writing experience, limited to one page. In addition, we highly recommend that you attach a short (limit 500 words) sample of your writing.

A PPWC scholarship covers only your conference fee, which includes all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch. The scholarship does NOT include the Thursday Optional Add-on Day, transportation or lodging costs. If you live out of town, you should include in your letter general details on how you plan to deal with those costs. The postmark deadline for this application is February 28, 2009.

Applicants should e-mail submissions to scholarship@pikespeakwriters.com or snail mail to:

PPWC Scholarships
4164 Austin Bluffs Pkwy #246
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations due to emergencies are handled on an individual basis. If an emergency arises, please **contact us immediately** to discuss your situation. Our phone number is (719) 531-5723 and our e-mail is info@pikespeakwriters.com.

Authors and Specialists



Jodi Anderson

Jodi Anderson (aka Jodi Dawson) is a multi-published author in 15 languages. Crediting the PPWC and its prestigious writing contest, as well as the Pikes Peak Romance Writers, with starting her on the road to publication, Jodi now

writes full-time in fiction and nonfiction, presents workshops, and uses any opportunity to gain control of the microphone in front of a captive audience.



Bill Brooks

Bill began his professional writing career after 16 years as a healthcare professional. When he decided to write a novel, he was lucky to have it published by the second publisher he sent it to in 1992. He's published another 20 novels since. He had

three novels released in 2007 and has two due for release in 2009, and one in 2010. In addition to his writing, he teaches the craft in workshops across the country, including the famed Chautauqua Institute in New York. He created and ran the Blue Ridge Writers Program in Asheville for four years. He can be contacted via e-mail at pen95@yahoo.com and his Web site: www.authorbillbrooks.com



Wendy Burt-Thomas

Wendy Burt-Thomas is the author of three books, *The Writer's Digest Guide to Query Letters* (Dec. 2008, *Writer's Digest Books*), *Oh, Solo Mia! The Hip Chick's Guide to Fun for One* (April 2001, McGraw-Hill), and *Work It, Girl! 101 Tips for the Hip*

Working Chick (June 2003, McGraw-Hill). She is a full-time freelance writer, editor and copywriter whose credentials also include more than 1,000 published articles, essays, short stories, poems and greeting cards.



Deb Courtney

Deb holds a degree in Fiction from the University of South Florida, where she was a Saunders Scholar in Fiction. She has had numerous short stories published and has worked as a freelance journalist. Her background includes marketing and

public relations in several business sectors, and she is currently an associate editor with the PPW *NewsMag* and writes a weekly column for the PPW Web site.



A.C. Crispin

A.C. Crispin is the author of three best-selling Star Wars novels, four top-selling Star Trek novels, plus the novelization of the famous television miniseries *V*. Her major science fiction undertaking was the StarBridge series for Berkley/Putnam.

Series titles are: *StarBridge*, *Silent Dances*, *Shadow World*, *Serpent's Gift*, *Silent Songs*, *Voices of Chaos*, and *Ancestor's World*. *StarBridge* was on the American Library

Association's YA Services Division's list of Best Books of 1991, and *Silent Dances*, co-authored with Kathleen O'Malley, made the 1991 preliminary Nebula ballot. *Serpent's Gift* was on the 1993 Recommended Books for the Teen Age by the NY Public Library. *Silent Songs* (co-authored with Kathleen O'Malley) was nominated for the A.L.A. YA "Best Books" list. She has been active in SFWA since 1992. With Victoria Strauss, she co-founded SFWA's famous "Writer Beware" scam watchdog committee. She's currently writing the first full-length *Pirates of the Caribbean* novel for Disney.



Karen Fox

Karen has always enjoyed adventure and the paranormal, and it shows. Her first two books were futuristic romances for Leisure. *Somewhere My Love* was a RITA finalist for Best Paranormal. She followed these up with other paranormal

romances for Berkley and Zebra. Following her Air Force husband, she's lived all over while raising three children and working full-time. She is a member of Pikes Peak Romance Writers and Pikes Peak Writers. A member of the Romance Writers of America association, Karen spent the last four years serving on the National Board of Directors.



Allegra Johnston

Allegra Johnston is a former military officer—turned English professor—turned defense analyst. One thing she has always been, though, is a storyteller. Allegra wrote her first book at the age of five (it has yet to be published). She lives in

Colorado and writes novels that interweave her love of history, legend, and romance.



Laura Hayden

Laura attended PPWC's inaugural year as the bookstore coordinator and contest winner.

Since then, she's sold 12 novels and four short stories to seven publishers under two names while living in six different states. Laura is a four-time former

director of PPWC, a founding board member of PPW, is now PPWC's first FORMER president, and knows where all the bodies are buried. The first book in her new series, *America The Beautiful*, was released in April 2008.



Ron Heimbecher

Ron owns ChaliceMedia LLC, specializing in emerging technology publications across nearly 50 Web sites. Writing as Ron Chalice, he has published an illustrated poetry collection and a suspense novella. In addition to corporate and public sector

management careers, he has been a musician/ composer, writer/director and actor. Credits include situation comedy, long-running television ad campaigns, music videos, and leading roles in independent films. Ron is currently president of Pikes Peak Writers.

Thursday Options

See page 7 for an overview.

Friday Options

In addition to workshops and panels, starting this year, we will be offering two different options for Read & Critique sessions with editors and agents on Friday afternoon. Be sure to mark which type of appointment you prefer on your registration form. Because the first page of your manuscript is your best selling tool, we have two types of critiques to reflect that. If you don't hook someone in the first page, you're not going to get them to read further.

Read & Critique 1-2-3

One page—two minutes—three panelists. The critical first page of an attendee's manuscript is presented anonymously to a panel of experts (one published author, one agent, and one editor) who provide immediate impressions and suggestions.

Read & Critique "X"

Bring only the first page of your story—in standard manuscript format—and read it in front of an editor or agent in order to receive immediate constructive feedback. Find out if your first page has the "X" factor, that special something that makes an editor or agent turn to the next page.

Priority will be given to contest winners when scheduling these appointments. Otherwise, your appointment will be based on the date your registration is received. If you are not reading, you are welcome to sit in and hear first-hand the advice given to those who are presenting their manuscripts. If you provide an e-mail address on the registration form or an SAS postcard, we will pre-notify you of your appointment before the conference. Otherwise, the appointment schedules will be listed on the bulletin board on the Friday start date.

Authors and Specialists



R.T. Lawton

R.T., president of the Rocky Mountain MWA Chapter, has 60 published short stories in *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*, the *Who Died In Here?* anthology, the *U-Solve-It* mini-mysteries in *Woman's World Magazine* and other publications. Having a

Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Criminal Justice, R.T. is a Vietnam vet and a retired federal law enforcement agent. He currently resides in Colorado with his wife Kiti, who is also his first reader.

Deborah LeBlanc

Deborah is an award-winning author from Lafayette, Louisiana. She is a business owner, a licensed death scene investigator, and an active member of two national paranormal investigation teams. She takes her passion for literacy



and a powerful ability to motivate to high schools around the country. She is the president of the Horror Writers Association, the Writers' Guild of Acadiana, Mystery Writers of America's Southwest Chapter, and an active member of Sisters in Crime, the National Association of Women Writers, and International Thriller Writers Inc. She created the LeBlanc Literacy Challenge, a national campaign designed to encourage people to read and founded Literacy Inc., whose mission is fighting the growing illiteracy rate in America's teens. Her latest novel is *Water Witch*.

Brian Mandabach

Brian spent his first 18 years on the swampy shore of Bakers Lake, northwest of Chicago. He earned an English degree at Colorado College, dabbled in song and short fiction writing, with publications in *Leviathan*, *Colages and Bricollages*, and



Cattails. He produced *Lay of the Land*, a public radio program featuring readings by Wendell Berry, Terry Tempest Williams, and Barbara Kingsolver. His articles and essays appeared regularly in *The Colorado Springs Independent*. When a teenaged girl in his neighborhood took her own life, Mandabach was haunted by her and developed the character that became Cassie and the novel that became *Or Not*. He teaches writing and literature to eighth graders in Colorado Springs, where he lives with his family who do not approve of the hours he spends blogging, chatting on Myspace, and updating www.mandabach.com.



Pam McCutcheon

Industrial engineer by day and writer by night, Pam is the award-winning author of romance novels, fantasy short stories as Pamela Luzier, YA urban fantasy as Parker Blue, and two nonfiction how-to books for writers: *Writing the Fiction Synopsis* and *The Writer's Brainstorming Kit*. A popular speaker on the craft of writing, she has been involved with the PPWC every year since its inception and serves as co-director with Karen Fox for this year's conference. Her most recent release is the YA urban fantasy *Bite Me* by Parker Blue from Bell Bridge Books.

Sue Mitchell

Sue has a degree in English from Northern Arizona University. Her work has appeared in literary magazines including *George and Mertie's Place*, *Poetry Motel* and *Wordwrights*. She writes and produces television commercials, promotions and programs locally. She has also written and produced projects for TLC, regional ABC, NBC and CBS affiliates. In addition, she consults on a variety of public relations projects including PPWC.



Linda Rohrbough

Linda has been writing professionally since 1989, has more than 5,000 articles, seven books and numerous awards for her fiction and nonfiction. Her newest nonfiction book, *Weight Loss Surgery with the Adjustable Gastric Band* (Da Capo Lifelong Books, March 2008), is now available, and she is a columnist for the *PPW NewsMagazine*. Visit her Web site at www.LindaRohrbough.com.



Linda Seger

Dr. Seger created and defined the job of script consultant in 1981, when she began her business. Since then, she has consulted on over 2,000 scripts, and 100 produced films. She's the author of eight books on screenwriting and three on spirituality, and has taught and/or given talks in 31 countries.



Angel Smits

Every Thursday night you'll find Angel at her neighborhood bookstore—writing. She's written since grade school, but until she discovered the magic of Improv Writing, reaching her dream of publication remained elusive. Angel won RWA's



Golden Heart award and placed multiple times in the Paul Gillette Writing Contest. Her books, *Memory Whispers* and *Raging Sprits* are paranormal romances, and her nonfiction articles have appeared in *Wild West Magazine* and several local publications. She lives in Colorado Springs with her husband and two children.

Other Options for Friday and Saturday

For Newcomers

We're pleased to welcome a number of writers attending their first PPWC or even their first writing conference. Got questions? Show up Friday at 1 p.m. for a special "tween session to listen to "old heads" give tips on planning which sessions to attend, conference etiquette, pacing and generally what to expect. We'll repeat the session Saturday morning at 7:45 a.m. Come down early, grab some breakfast and we'll dish out the how, when, and whys of the conference. Both sessions are great chances to ask your neophyte questions and not be embarrassed.

Speed Pitching

Never pitched before? Practice makes perfect. Here's your chance to perfect your project's pitch prior to performance by writing it down and trying it out ahead of time. We offer tips, hints, guidelines and support in helping everyone refine their pitch for an upcoming editor/agent appointment. This year we've broken the session into two parts. To learn how to pitch, come to the Marriott Hotel on Thursday, April 23 at 4:30 p.m. to Conference Rooms A, B, C. Sessions will be open on Friday, April 24, for you to practice that pitch on published authors.

Editor/Agent Pitches

If you have a **finished** manuscript or nonfiction proposal that you want to pitch to an agent or editor, you may sign up for a eight-minute interview on Saturday. These interviews offer a rare opportunity to go one-on-one with the editors and agents. Priority will be given to contest winners and early registrants. All editors and agents will be taking pitches.

Thursday Optional Add-on Day

This year, we're offering a special add-on full-day workshop for conference attendees. It will take place on Thursday and run from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. with an hour break for lunch on your own. The workshop will feature three tracks geared toward different writing levels and will be very hands-on. Track ONE is *Thinking it Through*, Track TWO is *Fleshing it Out*, and Track THREE is *Giving it Wings*. Attendees may only choose one track.

Conference attendees may add on this workshop for \$50 (for PPW members) or \$75 (for nonmembers). If you can't make the conference but want to attend the workshop, you may attend Thursday for \$70 (for PPW members) or \$95 (for nonmembers).

Don't miss this great opportunity. Add it to your registration form and come prepared to work.

Track One: Thinking it Through

Angel Smits, Leader

The purpose of this workshop is as much about a writer learning about themselves and their writing as it is learning how someone else has done it. All sessions are designed to be interactive and to provide time to work on YOUR ideas and work. The workshop will include:

Genre Basics

Instruction and discussion of discovering what your genre is, what the genres are and even what exactly is a genre.

Getting Started—The Beginning

Some of the principles from *Hooked* by Les Edgerton will be discussed, Story Worthy Question, and Improv/Draft Writing

Cornerstones—Characters

Who's in your head? What's driving them. GMC.

Cornerstones—Plot

Plotting boards

Bricks in the Wall—Learning and Teaching Yourself

All the tools writers need to study. All the craft topics will be touched on and references given.

Filling in the Cracks—Business

Contests, Critiques, Agents, Markets, etc.

Track Two: Fleshing it Out

Linda Rohrbough, Leader

Take Your Novel To The Next Level With Tools The Pros Use

Take your novel writing to the professional level in this hands-on full-day intermediate-level workshop that allows you to see and use the same tools *New York Times* best-selling authors use. Propel yourself ahead by putting meat on the bones of your manuscript in the process using:

- plotting grids
- story line development tracking tools
- character arc development worksheets
- character development grids
- subplot development utensils.

You'll also get to see first-hand editing tools for smoothing the rough spots on your completed novel.

Track Three: Giving it Wings

Sue Mitchell and Ron Heimbecher, Leaders

This workshop includes:

Publicity, Promotion and Media Relations for Writers

An overview, including creating a marketing action plan, self-promotion, press releases, media relations, FREE marketing resources, the BIG interview, media tracking, and defining success.

Press Releases: Writing, Targeting, Distribution and Media

Business of Writing, including how to target a release to make it timely, how to distribute a release, how to follow up with the media and tracking, and an interactive press release exercise.

The Marketing Plan Review

Advanced Business of Writing, including a success survey worksheet, and a quick overview of strategic marketing action plans. Bring your marketing plan or outline for evaluation and discussion in breakout groups, present your worksheet results during the session, and get input, ideas and encouragement

Instructions for Readings or Meetings With Editors and Agents

If you wish to participate in a Reading and/or Meeting as outlined below, 1) read up on the procedures, 2) choose with whom you wish to read or meet, 3) choose alternatives, and 4) complete the appropriate section on the registration form. Please check the Web site at pikespeakwriters.com for information and updates on what the editors/agents are looking for.

1) FRIDAY AFTERNOON READING SESSIONS

We are offering two types of read and critique on Friday afternoon in three different sessions beginning at 12:00 noon and running through 4:30 p.m. **Read & Critique 1-2-3** offers one page—two minutes—three panelists. The first page of an attendee's manuscript will be read anonymously in front of one published author, one agent and one editor for immediate impressions and suggestions. This type of reading offers a unique perspective from each area of the publishing industry. **Read & Critique "X"** allows the attendee to read the first page of his/her manuscript in front of an editor or agent in order to receive instant feedback.

Please mark the type of Read & Critique appointment you wish to receive on your registration form. These slots are filled in order of receipt of conference registration with contest winners being given priority. We make every effort to accommodate as many as possible with their selected choice, but make no guarantees. Due to last-minute cancellations, some slots might be available when you check in at the conference registration table, beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Friday. All conference attendees are welcome to sit in and listen to the readings and critiques, even if you are not slotted to read.

Ground Rules: Only the first page of your manuscript is read. In the case of **Read & Critique 1-2-3**, the page will be read anonymously. For **Read & Critique "X"**, the writer reads the page. For **Read & Critique 1-2-3**, bring four copies of your one-page submission in STANDARD MANUSCRIPT FORMAT. Submissions to 1-2-3 sessions will be read anonymously. This means the moderator will read it aloud without revealing the writer's name. If your name appears in the header of your submission, that's okay—the moderator will not reveal it to the audience. However, the panelists will see it on their copies. You may elect to omit your name or line it out. For **Read & Critique "X"**, bring an extra copy of your one-page submission in STANDARD MANUSCRIPT FORMAT.

You are allowed five minutes for a **Read & Critique "X"** and seven minutes for a **Read & Critique 1-2-3** appointment. This includes the time to read the entry AND receive feedback.

If a submission is not in standard format, it will not be read, so don't try to sneak in a few extra lines or "cheat" by using single-spacing. Plan to attend the entire session you are assigned to. **Please do not bring your entire manuscript** in anticipation of giving it to an editor. If they are interested in your manuscript, they will ask you to send it to them. Indicate your first three preferences for editor or agent with whom you want to read on the conference registration form. The PPWC staff will try to match you with **ONE** of your preferences and will notify you by e-mail. We will not contact you by phone or postal mail unless you include an SAS postcard.

2) EDITOR/AGENT PITCH MEETINGS

We are providing eight-minute interview opportunities between writers and agents or editors on Saturday and Sunday, simultaneous with the conference sessions. We are scheduling two minutes between appointments for situating the next pitcher. The purpose of these meetings is to give conference attendees who have **completed** manuscripts the chance to pitch themselves and their work to a literary agent or an editor. The meeting **slots are filled based on receipt of conference registration** with priority given to writing contest winners. **No guarantees are made.**

Ground Rules: These pitch meetings are designed to accommodate as many writers as possible and to maximize the limited time of the agents/editors who have agreed to these interviews. Come prepared. The PPWC staff will schedule your appointments, notify you via e-mail and in your conference registration packet, and will direct you to the interview. You will have a maximum of eight minutes for your presentation and the staff strictly enforces this rule. Review the editor/agent's preferences in their bios to see what material they want to see at the pitch session. However, please **do not bring your entire manuscript** in anticipation of giving it to an editor or agent. If they are interested in seeing your work, they will ask you to send it. Sign up on the conference registration form and include your e-mail address if you have one. Please choose up to three preferences for the editors or agents you wish to meet with, ensuring they represent/acquire your genre or type of manuscript. The PPWC staff will try to match you with **ONE** of your preferences. You will receive a notice in your conference registration packet alerting you of your session. Further, we will attempt to contact you via e-mail approximately two weeks prior to the conference if you provide an e-mail address. However, we will not contact you by phone or postal mail unless you send a SAS postcard. Any additional meeting opportunities, cancellations, or changes must be made during the conference at the Pitch Meeting Desk. Please be professional and show up 10 minutes prior to your scheduled time. Note, the scheduled meeting times may conflict with the conference sessions.

Conference Handouts

Handouts can be downloaded from our Web site before conference begins. A booklet will **NOT** be provided at the conference this year. Check www.pikespeakwriters.com in March to download the handout materials.

ALL PARTICIPANTS:

WE NEED AN ACCURATE COUNT OF ATTENDEES AND YOUR SELECTIONS OF FACULTY APPOINTMENTS, MEALS, ETC.



2009 PPWC REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

If you do not receive a confirmation within two weeks, please notify us.

OFFICE USE ONLY
Ck Date _____
Ck. No. _____
Ck. Amt. _____
Conf. Date _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____

E-mail _____

We encourage e-mail addresses for all registrants, especially those seeking appointments. PPW does not release or resell e-mail addresses.

Green is Good, and YOU can help! Paper copies of the registration are expensive, time consuming to process, and damaging to our environment.

Please check this box to receive conference information electronically in the future.

Are You Published In Novel-Length Fiction? If so, and if you'd like a couple of your titles listed on your nametag, please list them below.

1. _____

2. _____

Conference Meals IMPORTANT!!!!

Please check the meals you plan to attend: **NOTE: A ticket for each meal checked below is required and is included in your registration packet at check-in at no extra charge.** You may bring guests to the Saturday Banquet for \$45 per ticket or the Sunday Lunch for \$30. The menus are for regular and vegetarian. **Accurate information is absolutely required** by the hotel in order to plan meals for the entire conference. **There can be no substitutes once choices are made.**

FRIDAY NIGHT SIT-DOWN DINNER:

I plan to attend the Friday Night Sit-Down Dinner.

A TICKET IS REQUIRED FOR THIS FUNCTION.

Please check box if you plan to attend.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST: Continental Breakfast

SATURDAY LUNCH: Regular Vegetarian

SATURDAY DINNER: Regular Vegetarian

GUESTS for SATURDAY DINNER: Regular Vegetarian

Regular Vegetarian

SUNDAY BREAKFAST: Continental Breakfast

SUNDAY LUNCH: Regular Vegetarian

GUESTS for SUNDAY LUNCH: Regular Vegetarian

NOTE: No meals are provided for Thursday Optional Add-on Day

ALLERGIES? _____

I plan to attend the SUNDAY LUNCH ONLY:

Regular Vegetarian

Special Needs:

If you have special needs, such as a disability, please contact us, and we will make every effort to accommodate your needs.

REGISTRATION CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

2009 PPWC REGISTRATION FORM

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

SIGN-UP 1: THURSDAY Optional Add-on Day (Choose ONE)

- Track One: Thinking it Through (Beginner)
 Track Two: Fleshing it Out (Intermediate)
 Track Three: Giving it Wings (Advanced)

Circle one:

Conference Attendees Add-on Workshop: \$50 Members \$ _____
 \$75 Nonmembers \$ _____

Non-Conference Attendees \$70 Members \$ _____
 \$95 Nonmembers \$ _____

TOTAL FOR THURSDAY ONLY \$ _____

(NOTE: If you are adding Thursday to your conference registration, please carry this total forward to the next column.)

SIGN-UP 2: FRIDAY AFTERNOON READING SESSIONS

Please indicate a maximum of three editors for whom you'd like to read on Friday in order of preference (with a #1, #2, or #3). We will assign you ONE of your choices if possible.

Read & Critique 1-2-3

- Nathan Bransford Ginger Clark Catherine Frank Celia Johnson
 Jennifer Pooley

Read & Critique "X"

- Sandra Bond Kirby Kim Kevan Lyon Shelly Shapiro
 Leslie Wainger Natanya Wheeler

SIGN-UP 3: SATURDAY EDITOR/AGENT PITCH MEETINGS

Please indicate a maximum of three editors and/or agents for whom you'd like to interview with during the conference in order of preference (with a #1, #2, or #3). We will assign you ONE of your choices if possible.

- Sandra Bond Nathan Bransford Ginger Clark
 Catherine Frank Celia Johnson Kirby Kim Kevan Lyon
 Jennifer Pooley Shelly Shapiro Leslie Wainger
 Natanya Wheeler

What's Covered in the Registration Fees:

The registration fee covers all conference materials, which will be given to you at check-in, the welcome dinner on Friday evening, all conference presentations and workshops, breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and the dinner on Saturday evening. **NOTE: THURSDAY OPTIONS ARE EXTRA.**

Circle one:

PPW Members may register early, January 15, 2009:

\$295 for PPW members

Open registration begins February 1, 2009:

\$295 for PPW members \$350 for nonmembers

Registrations postmarked AFTER April 1, 2009:

\$360 for PPW members \$415 for nonmembers

My registration fee based on rules above is: _____

Extra Saturday Dinner Tickets:

_____ @ \$45 \$ _____

Join the Pikes Peak Writers:

Membership dues for one year \$35 \$ _____

Renew my PPW Membership: \$35 \$ _____

TOTAL FOR THURSDAY \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

If you want to attend Sunday Lunch only:

_____ @ \$30 \$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

You can pay by check, credit card, or PayPal. Make check or money order payable to: **Pikes Peak Writers**

To pay by credit card: Call (719) 531-5723. We take Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.

Send this form with your payment to: Pikes Peak Writers, 4164 Austin Bluffs Parkway #246, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Workshops and Panels

Workshops, keynotes, schedule times, and final details will be provided in your registration packet at the conference and on our Web site.

Spotlight on Agents (two sessions)

Features our invited agents and allow them a chance to talk about their preferences and their agencies before opening the floor to questions. No pitches are allowed at these sessions.

Spotlight on Publishers (two sessions)

Invited editors will speak about their preferences and their publishing companies before opening the floor to questions. No pitches allowed in these sessions.

New Author Panel

These recently-sold authors tell their stories of what led to their first sales, then open the floor for questions.

The Author/Agent Relationship

An overview of what to expect in the author/agent relationship from the query process to the submission, sale, and publishing of your book.

Nonfiction Book Proposals: How to Write One

This workshop explains the necessity and importance of writing a good book proposal for your nonfiction book.

How to Write the Commercial Novel: From Idea to Sold!

Learn the elements of constructing novels, including developing the protagonist, characters, conflict, setting as character, selling the novel, preparing your manuscript, writing queries, and the importance of a good agent.

Write in a Conversational Tone to Engage the Reader

This method of writing a story in the “conversational” tone will aid both the first-timer and the seasoned writer in getting up close and personal in engaging the reader.

Essential Elements for Crafting a Novel That Editors Want to Buy

Learn how to avoid the biggest mistakes made by aspiring writers. Don't keep spinning your wheels when there are tried and true methods to get you moving toward publication.

Writer Beware: Publisher/Agent Scams to Watch Out For

This workshop is an overview of how to pick the right agent, how to write a strong query letter—including what not to put in your query letter—and general things to look for in an agency.

Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy for Today's Markets

Is science fiction becoming impossible to sell? Has fantasy hit its peak? Join this panel to learn what's going on in this crazy market.

Revision: How a Manuscript Looks Before and After

Using examples from books the instructor has acquired and edited, “before” and “after” versions of manuscripts will be presented to illustrate three different revision techniques.

Coping with Your Inner Willwaws

Instructor will offer some palliatives to keep you from going more psychotic. The first is an existential leap of faith. The second is knowing who you really are.

How to Plot a Damn Good Thriller

Learn to get your reader by the throat and keep squeezing until Dr. Evil gets his gray matter smeared all over his white leather upholstery.

Daily Life in the Middle Ages

Add accuracy and depth to your medieval fiction by becoming familiar with clothing, food preparation, games, and arts of the time period.

So You Need an Informant: Using Them in Your Novel

Everything about informants, from the tricky business of use by real law enforcement, to the hard boiled Private Eye who slips the lowlife 50 bucks, to any genre where you, the author, need to somehow get information to your reader.

Brief, but Deadly: Writing the Mystery Short Story

Proven ideas on writing the mystery short story. Plus a look at the current mystery market and tips on improving your chances.

Ten Steps to Creating Good, Bad, and Unforgettable Characters

How to create characters readers will not forget.

Book Marketing and Promotions: What Works, What Doesn't

How to not only sell your books but sell out!

Writing More While Writing Better

The art of increasing one's writing output without compromising quality. It's easy, it makes sense and it's practical. Both plotters and pantsers can learn to write more, starting now.

Sagging Middles: Making the Middle the Best Part of Your Book

The middle is the biggest, longest, hardest part of any book. Worse, it's an easy place to get lost or mess up. What's supposed to happen there? How can you make it interesting?

Twenty Questions for Newbies: How to Break into Publishing

Addresses the questions most commonly asked by aspiring writers about breaking into publishing, from queries and submissions, through negotiating a contract.

Story Development: Fine-tune Your Story From a Basic Idea

This lively, interactive session examines principles and practices for developing, constructing, revising, and fine-tuning a story from a basic idea.

Shaping and Structuring Your Story

How to shape and structure your storyline to keep the reader and audience connected, engaged, and oriented.

Creating a Transformational Arc for Your Characters

Characters change and grow in many stories. This workshop shows how to map out the transformational arc of your characters, and how to clarify the influences that help them transform.

Expressing the Theme of Story Without Getting Preachy

How do you get across your ideas without getting talky and preachy? This workshop shows how to communicate ideas, and what ideas work well in stories.

Writing the Perfect Query Letter

A workshop focused on writing a query letter to an agent.

Back Story, Point of View, and Foreshadowing

Learn from established authors how to make good use of these tools in your writing toolbox.

Current Trends in Romance

An author, agent, and editor discuss current trends in romance, the danger of trying to follow trends, and how to start one.

Writing for the Children's and Young Adult Markets

An author, agent, and editor discuss these markets, including what's hot and how to sell to them.

Writing the Historical Novel

How much history is too much? Are some time periods hard to sell? Is there a market for these kind of books? An established historical author will answer these questions and more.

Beginnings and Endings

The beginning of your book hooks the reader into wanting to read more. The ending makes them come back for the next book. Join our established authors as they show you how to make both wow the reader.

2009 Pikes Peak Writers Conference

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Pikes Peak Writers

4164 Austin Bluffs Parkway #246
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Hotel Accommodations:

Enhance your conference experience by staying at the hosting hotel. The 2009 Pikes Peak Writers Conference will return to the beautiful Colorado Springs Marriott. Located at 5580 Tech Center Drive, Exit 148 off Interstate 25, the Colorado Springs Marriott offers panoramic views of Pikes Peak and the front range—a truly inspirational setting for our 17th Conference. The Colorado Springs Marriott, an enthusiastic host of our 2009 Conference, will sponsor the sit-down dinner on Friday evening and has set attractive room rates at \$105 single or double occupancy. These rates are guaranteed for reservations made by March 23, 2009 (and might still be available on a space-available basis for calls after that date).

The attractive rates offered by the Marriott make this a great option even if you live close enough to commute. Most of our out-of-town presenters will be staying at the Marriott. Participants at our earlier PPWCs discovered that some of the best off-the-cuff advice occurs after hours as speakers unwind from the day.

**For reservations call direct to the Colorado Springs Marriott :
(719) 260-1800. And visit www.pikespeakwriters.com for a special link which will allow you
to make your Marriott reservations online at the conference rate.**

Sponsors:

The 2009 Pikes Peak Writers Conference is sponsored by the **University of Denver University College** and the **Colorado Springs Marriott Hotel**.

The Pikes Peak Writers appreciates the continued cooperation of the Pikes Peak Library District and the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District for supporting the year-round education of regional writers.

**If you want your name removed from this mailing list,
please contact us at info@pikespeakwriters.com.**

Green is Good and YOU can help. Paper copies of this document are expensive, time-consuming to produce, and damaging to our environment. Go to PikesPeakWriters.com and click the “Green Me” button on the home page if you want to receive conference information electronically in the future.



Conference Bookstore

Once again, the Conference Bookstore will offer a wide variety of books by our speakers as well as many selections to enhance your writing skills. PPW members who are attending the conference but are not on faculty may have their books available for sale on consignment. You should contact Laura Hayden at suspense@suspense.net to make arrangements for consignment.

Conference faculty will be on hand throughout the conference (including at the booksigning Saturday afternoon) to sign books you purchase in the PPWC bookstore. Watch the Bookstore Bulletin Board for specific signing times.

NOTE: We accept VISA, Mastercard and Discover on purchases of at least \$15. We also accept cash and checks.