



DETROIT WORKING WRITERS NEWSLETTER

DWW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Greetings lovely and handsome DWW writers!

Welcome to your July 2017 newsletter - thank you all so much for entrusting me with the leadership of our 117 year old organization whose mission is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard.

Membership dues must be paid by August 1. To pay by PayPal: click [HERE](#)., or make your check out to Detroit Working Writers and mail to
PO Box 82395
Rochester, MI 48308

You will find a great number of activities and events listed in this newsletter - take advantage of them and enjoy!

Roberta Brown
President

**YOU ARE INVITED!
DWW BOARD MEETING
10:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON
SATURDAY, July 22, 2017
TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY, CONFERENCE ROOM
510 West Big Beaver Road
Troy, MI 48084**

All DWW members are welcome to attend this Board Meeting. Please RSVP to

**Roberta Brown
rlbrown417@gmail.com
248-854-2375**

by Monday, July 17, 2017, so we can make sure we have enough chairs.



**DWW WORKSHOP:
MICROFICTION/MACRO INCOME
AT YULE LOVE IT LAVENDER FARM**

Saturday, July 15, 2017

12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Microfiction/Macro Income at Yule Love It Lavender Farm. The lavender is in bloom, and we are ready to immerse ourselves with Dorene O'Brien, facilitator, and Iris Lee Underwood, farm owner and host. Microfiction, the haiku of the prose world, is one of the most popular contemporary writing forms with major literary magazines requesting submissions and sponsoring high paying contests. A microfiction story can be read quickly, hence its title "smoke long" in China for stories that can be read in the time it takes to finish a cigarette. In this workshop students will learn the art of literary brevity through reading masterful examples of the form and writing microfiction stories of 50-300 words for publication or as launching pads for larger works. In addition, we will discuss potential venues for workshop creations.

Event includes a catered vegetarian lunch.

Only 5 spots left - register now!

Buy tickets [here](#)

**Yule Love It Lavender Farm
960 Yule Road
Leonard, MI 48367**

DWW CRITIQUE
GROUP CALENDAR
FOR JULY -
DECEMBER 2017

All meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at Lukich's Restaurant in Troy.

JULY 8

AUGUST 12

SEPTEMBER 9

OCTOBER 14

NOVEMBER 11

DECEMBER 9

Watch your email for your invitation to submit your work for critiquing!



FIRST ANNUAL DETROIT BOOKFEST
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 16, 2017
Eastern Market

We thank Vernie Dale for organizing a DWW Book Table at this event! This is your opportunity to promote and sell your books/chapbooks. We will be located at Eastern Market Shed 5; the tables are under the name Dale. There is still space available for you! Please contact Vernie at verondale@yahoo.com or 586-412-9444.

Remember that more than just the BookFest is going on - you can spend the entire day enjoying all that Eastern Market has to offer. Come and support our writers!

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL KERRYTOWN BOOKFEST
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

This will be the first time that DWW will have a booth at the Kerrytown Bookfest, and we thank Aubri Adkins and Linda Sienkiewicz for arranging this. Please contact them at

aubri.k.adkins@gmail.com or 313-320-1696

lindaksienk@live.com or 248-808-4446

for sign up information now!



DETROIT WORKING WRITERS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ONE COMMUNITY, MANY VOICES

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

**MSU MANAGEMENT EDUCATION CENTER
811 W. SQUARE LAKE
TROY, MI 48098**

Featuring our own Vice-President Weam Namou as our Keynote Speaker (Write Your Story) and Workshop Presenter!

Our Website Developer is now preparing our Registration Form/ Eventbrite Registration for our Conference. Once this is "live," a separate email will be sent to you with the information.

Workshop presentations include:

**Successful Self-Publishing
Split a Gut and Create: Humor and Writing
How I Succeeded in Writing My Memoir
Song of Myself: A Poetry Workshop
Effective Use of Point of View in Fiction**

Panel Discussion/Q & A: Revisioning the Writing Life

This panel consists of a local librarian, a cable TV production manager, a Managing Editor/freelance writer (our own Michael Dwyer), and a book coach (our own Virginia Bailey Parker). A report from local indie bookstore Book Beat will also be shared.

You've never seen a panel like this before! Find out how to get your self-published book in a library, how your ebook can get library exposure, how to market yourself on local cable TV, what Managing Editors look for, how Publishers Weekly is looking at self-published work, and much, much more. Come with your questions and see how to reinvent yourself in today's writing world!



OUR DWW MEMBERS

CONTEST WINNERS, AWARDS, AND PUBLICATION CREDITS!

Our writers have been busy earning awards! Here are just a few of which I have been notified:

Robin Gaines' book "Invincible Summers" has won Honorable Mentions in five festivals: Los Angeles Book Festival 2017, Paris Book Festival 2017, Amsterdam Book Festival 2017, New York Book Festival 2017, and the Beach Book Festival 2017.

Kristin Lenz' book "The Art of Holding On and Letting Go" was a Young Adult finalist for the Bookseller's Best Award from the Greater Detroit Romance Writers of America. It was also chosen by the Michigan Reading Association for the Great Lakes Great Books 2017-2018 state-wide literature program.

Linda Sienkiewicz' debut novel "In the Context of Love" is a finalist in the Eric Hoffer Book Awards, USA Book News Best Book Awards, Readers' Favorite Awards, and Sarton Women's Book Awards.

Jean Alicia Elster has been awarded a 2017 Kresge Literary Arts Fellowship in Young Adult Fiction! This was the FOURTH TIME she applied - keep in mind Literary Arts is only awarded every other year, so look at the perseverance it took. She ALMOST didn't apply the fourth time, but she decided to try again, and did ONE THING differently: the previous three times, she submitted her writing samples as a "flowing one into another." This time? She sent her "wild" writing that "gave me a tingle in my back - I just sent them my heart."

We want to promote you and your writing! Starting this month, you will be receiving via email from Aubri Adkins a request through Survey Monkey to keep us up to date on what you are writing. We will then publish your accolades in this newsletter and post on our website/Social Media as well.



IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we report the passing of DWW Lifetime member Corinne Abatt. Here is her obituary as printed on the Desmond and Sons website:

CORINNE ABATT

May 31, 1924

June 22, 2017

Award-winning journalist, devoted daughter, wife, mother and grandmother.

Corinne (Co) Miriam Reed was born in Canton, OH on May 31, 1924, to Clair S. and Miriam L. Reed; the younger of two children.

She graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and obtained her Master's Degree in Speech and Communication from Miami University of Ohio.

Co met her husband Floyd while she was doing PR for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and he was working for the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

They married in 1951, moved to Michigan in 1955 and had four children; Cynthia Abatt, Reed Allen Abatt (d. 1955), F. George Abatt (Mary Jo) and Julie Maher (Bill). After Floyd's death in 1965, Corinne began her journalism career at the Southfield News and later became the long-time Arts Editor and writer for the Birmingham Eccentric. She won the Governor's Award for Excellence in Media in 1990.

Co retired from the newspaper in 1991, but continued working as a freelance writer.

She was a long-time member of Northbrook Presbyterian Church in Beverly Hills, a member of Detroit Women Writers



(later Detroit Working Writers) and Cranbrook Writer's Guild. She had a close knit group of women writer friends who met frequently to support each other and their work.

Co loved to brag about her children to all who would listen and with the arrival of her grandchildren, George P. Ryan, El-lie Maher and Joe Maher, she became "Coco." She loved to talk about her family history, her childhood in Ohio with her beloved father, mother and older brother Carroll.

She played golf and bridge well into her 80s and she loved to garden, travel, and entertain.

Coco could fill a room with her presence, her storytelling, her enthusiasm and her eternal optimism. She was a force of nature who will be deeply missed.

Memorial donations may be made to Northbrook Presby-terian Church in Beverly Hills (northbrookpc.org), or The De-troit Institute of Arts (DIA.org).

I attended Corinne's visitation on Monday, June 26, and had the pleasure of meeting her daughter Cynthia. As we talked, Cynthia shared with me that her mother had this one regret:

"I'll never be a great writer."

Think about that. This stirred many thoughts within me - what is great? Defined how and by who? Is that why we write?

My response to Cynthia was this:

"If what we have written stirs the emotions of our readers, then we are great writers."

Honor Corinne by stirring some emotions with your writing today!
