



## DETROIT WORKING WRITERS

### AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to your August 2019 DWW newsletter! Our 119 year old organization's mission is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard.

#### DWW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Roberta Brown  
[rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com)  
248-854-2375

VICE-PRESIDENT:  
Michelle Morouse

SECRETARY: Laura Hedgecock

TREASURER: Richard Rothrock

HONORARY DIRECTOR:  
Maureen McGerty

HONORARY DIRECTOR:  
Iris Underwood

NEW MEMBERSHIP/  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:  
Joyce Harlukowicz

HISTORIAN: Iris Underwood

CRITIQUE GROUP AND  
MENTOR CHAIR: Roberta Brown

BOOK AND AUTHOR  
CHAIR: Robin Gaines

**The next DWW Board Meeting will be Saturday, September 14, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:25 a.m. at Starr Presbyterian Church, 1717 West Thirteen Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI. Please contact Roberta Brown at [rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com) if you wish to attend no later than Monday, September 9, 2019.**

### **DWW SURVEY RESULTS - PROJECTS DWW CONFERENCE**

**Our survey results included many comments about the DWW Conference - all favorable, and with many suggestions. Several members have asked me if there is going to be a conference this year.**

**The answer is no.**

**Here are several reasons why:**

**Venue and food prices continue rising while our attendance numbers continue to slightly decline. DWW just barely broke even on our last conference's revenues/expenses, and that's with rental of one less room at our MSU MEC location.**

**Even more importantly, though, is that the future of learning is increasingly occurring online. I know that I have done more learning online (i.e. Coursera, Poetry Forge) the past several years than ever before. The DWW Board is exploring offering a workshop during the winter this way - stay tuned.**

**Now, if you are still interested in a traditional conference, please contact me at [rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com) only if you are willing to run it! I have the Conference Handbook available for you as a guide. Again, contact me for more details.**



## REQUEST FOR WRITERS!

Carl Anthony is looking for writers - see his request that follows:

“Our new publication (tentatively called Future Throttle) will deal with autonomous driving, advanced driver assistance systems, vehicle perception technology, and the future infrastructure (from the tech side to the legal and business aspects) that will support the next-generation of transportation. That said, I could really use writers who are well-versed in the tech sector and have experience writing about technology.

I'm in the process now of putting together a budget and financial plan, with the hopes to have the website live and running by early 2020. We will need proficient writers - that will be mission critical - and I wanted to "stay in the family" as it were, so I'm hoping somebody in DWW is interested.

Again, we really need a writer who is tech-oriented and understands what is taking place in that sector.”

Interested? Email Carl at [carlanthony2@gmail.com](mailto:carlanthony2@gmail.com) or [carl@automoblog.net](mailto:carl@automoblog.net)



### **Publishers are making it harder for you to get e-books from the library**

Libraries have always been essential in providing public access to knowledge. And as e-books have become more popular, libraries have once again taken up the mantle of access, allowing people to freely rent and read digital books. Unfortunately,...

Read in Mic: [https://apple.news/ARiAulyziQXCrr4vcTjUb\\_Q](https://apple.news/ARiAulyziQXCrr4vcTjUb_Q)

Shared from [Apple News](#)

### DWW CRITIQUE GROUP CALENDAR FOR AUGUST THROUGH DECEMBER 2019

All meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at Starr Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak.

2019

August 10

September 14

October 12

November 9

December 14

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





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## REQUEST FOR AN EDITOR

Thank you for contacting Detroit Working Writers regarding your search for an editor.

Several questions for you:

> 1. What genre is your manuscript?

Non fiction

> 2. Is this your first, second, third, or more draft?

Third draft...maybe fourth.

> 3. Have you run your work through a critique group and/or beta readers?

No, I have not.

> 4. Have you then revised, revised, revised using given suggestions you found to be worthwhile?

I have revised based upon my ideas, suggestions from my best friend and a friend who is a writer.

> 5. Have you run your work through an app such as Grammarly, Hemingway, etc.?

No, I have not, but I'm willing to do this.

> 6. What is your elevator pitch for your work?

I've never been asked this question. I'm not sure what to say but I'll give it a try.

“This book honors my son who died 10 days before his 18th birthday from a rare congenital disease. He was a remarkable giving person...his gifts continue in his death.”

If you are interested in editing her work, please contact Connie Spight directly at

**Connie** <[cjspight@att.net](mailto:cjspight@att.net)>

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Our DWW webmistress is offering a course on Author Websites. Read the information below about what she is offering and for your code to enroll at 30% off!

**WEBSITE TIPS AND TRICKS - 15 LESSONS TO SUPERCHARGE YOUR AUTHOR WEBSITE**

You've finally figured out how to create a website to promote your book—great! But once you set it up, how will people find you? What are readers looking for anyway? How do you fix it if something looks off?

The answers are easier than you think.

In “Website Tips & Tricks,” you’ll gain access to a ton of useful skills to build upon the foundation you already have and maintain your site throughout the years. It’s designed for authors who have very little technical knowledge, and you can implement what you learn right away.

Just a few of the topics include:

- The three pages your website absolutely must have
- Choosing your theme and plugins
- Creating content that is reader-friendly and highlights your books
- Setting up your website so it loads faster
- Improving your website’s visibility in searches

Most importantly, you’ll become comfortable playing around with your website.

Your instructor is Barb Drozdowich, who has published 18 books on a variety of tech topics, including 7 about software and technology. She teaches several online courses and has 50+ YouTube videos, all focusing on making technology easier for beginners to understand. She breaks complex topics down into simple steps so that you can use what you learn right away.

Managing your website doesn’t have to be scary. Sign up for immediate access to “Website Tips & Tricks” and start improving your site today!

Barb says: “I’d love to offer a 30% off coupon good till the end of summer. The code is LEARNFOR30 The shortened link to the course is <http://geni.us/WebsiteTips> “

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## HOW I GOT MY PUBLISHER

By Annemarie Schiavi Pedersen

It started with a tweet.

That's how I got a publisher's contract for my historical novel *Celestina's Burnings*.

Sounds crazy, I know, but Twitter is a great resource for writers. It's easy and a great way to get your pitch seen by the publishing world. Agents, editors and publishers are all over the website, searching for their next book.

I didn't start out so enthusiastic, however. The thought of throwing out my pitch on social media made me cringe. Then, it came to me that if no one favored my tweet, my pride was all I had to lose. In that case I could always delete my pitch. No harm, no foul.

So, in a burst of bravery, I participated in a Twitter pitch party called #PitMad, where writers tweet a pitch for their completed, polished and unpublished manuscripts.





You should see this thing. Pitches come in from throughout the world, in different languages and alphabets. It's so popular that it trends on Twitter all day long.

Believe me, I had very little hope that this one tweet would be the thing that finally kickstarted my dream. A dream ten years and a hundred rejections in the making.

During the one-day event, agents and editors and publishers make requests by liking/favoriting the tweeted pitch. Back then, a tweet had to be no more than 140 characters; now, you get 280. If your tweet is liked, you're sent to the editor or publisher's website to follow their particular guidelines for submission.

In my case, unbelievably, the publisher of *Literary Wanderlust*, a small traditional publisher located in Denver, liked my tweet. That was how the publishing contract for *Celestina's Burnings* came about.

Now, before that tweet, I'd always followed the staid tradition of researching literary agents and then writing them formal email queries. Then, I'd wait. Responses sometimes came quickly, or they'd take six weeks, or in many cases, an answer never came. When a response arrived, it was usually a "canned" rejection,

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which is understandable considering the volume of requests literary agents receive for representation.

On #PitMad, there is no one policing your manuscript. It's just raw opportunity.

And if it works, #PitMad is a thing of beauty. Your pitch goes straight to a great publisher or editor.

For those interested, there are a few simple rules to follow to get you started. Check out the #PitMad or #PitchWars website. Next #PitMad pitch parties are Sept. 5, and Dec. 5.

It's still a wonder to me that Literary Wanderlust Publisher Susan Brooks somehow found, and then favored, my tweet.

The rest, I'm delighted to say, is history.

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## OUR DWW MEMBERS'

### LATEST AWARDS AND PUBLICATION CREDITS!

The following two poems were published in A Courtship of Winds:

#### [Alexander Payne Morgan](#)

##### Mouse in a Trap by Its Tail

Ulee's janitorial day is done, but  
Miss R runs up in a pleading panic.  
"The cafeteria, Ulee. Please, the kitchen girls,  
they'll faint if they see the mess."

Ulee can't say no, but this day,  
this day he's promised  
to be home to help his son.

Miss R stays in the hall  
while Ulee goes to face her horror.

It's nothing  
Ulee hasn't seen before.

The snap that should have snapped a neck  
caught only that thin body portion, the end, the tail.  
And the flailing, the rattling terror to escape  
like a chain-gang jumper, dragging,  
who's hardly got a chance.

But wanton killing isn't Ulee's way.

A flick of his thumb gives  
freedom, but stunned  
the mouse waits as if she can't cipher the courtesy  
of this happenstance.

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Ulee's thinking of other things.

My boy heading for Atlanta  
to help ole Maynard Jackson get his chance.  
Thank God our one-eyed sheriff devil  
can't patrol past the county line.  
Please God, let it be in Atlanta  
white people ain't so mean.

Ulee gives the floored living thing a finger nudge  
and feels her tiny beating heart.

He plans to walk his boy  
to catch the night bus north. Atlanta  
and whatever newer world  
he's hoping for,  
whatever he can find  
even if it kills him.

Ulee will clean up here, discard the bloody trap,  
tell Miss R all is well.

He gives the mouse another nudge.  
"Go on," he says. "Don't be a fool.  
Run."

## H.G. Wells Investigates the Tragedy of Colour in America

Traveling in ex-Confederate terrain,  
the inventor of The Time Machine asks  
his white southern hostess to explain:

"How do you see your grandchildren  
and the grandchildren of these people living  
side by side?"

She goes pale at the very thought  
of "side by side," as he anticipates she will.

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Her response is fluttering, deflective, shrewd:  
"You have to be one of us to feel this  
question at all as it ought to be felt."

The canny Darwinian knows he's posed  
an unanswerable paradox.  
The cornerstone of these people's faith,  
their unalterable binary,  
ignores history and biology.

The lady's mother in the hot night deigned  
her Big Daddy play his manly game of  
genes, but familial plantation love  
turned hard when the property ran to debt.

The Englishman pretends to be confused:  
"But they're your kin."  
"And we care for them," she assures, "as if  
our very own children."

Note: "You have to be one of us..." is quoted from H.G. Wells' "The Future in America" (1906). The other quotes are paraphrases and interpolations, all from "Chapter XII. The Tragedy of Colour."

**[Nancy Owen Nelson](#)**  
[July 15 at 2:44 PM](#) ·

My poetry book, *Portals: A Memoir in Verse* is available through this link from publisher Kelsay Books as well as [amazon.com](#). Please note the beauty of the cover by photographic artist, [Danny Rebb](#)!

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KELSAYBOOKS.COM

Meg Chorzempa reports: “Just spending my summer... editing and designing a magazine! Thanks to Free Press intern and Romeo High School student Katie Medley for another great article!”

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## Feature



The Orchards Golf Club was ranked the No. 1 public golf course in Metro Detroit by Free Press sportswriter Carlos Monarrez in 2019. (Courtesy Photo)

**TEG UP**

**Romeo  
Golf Courses  
Ranked Best in  
Metro Detroit**

BY KATELYNN MEDLEY



**ROMEO** Romeo has long been known for its bountiful orchards and rich farmlands. But the area is gaining a reputation for another superlative: the best public golf courses in Metro Detroit.

Romeo's The Orchards Golf Club was rated No. 1 and Greystone Golf Club & Banquet Center No. 3 among the region's public golf courses by Detroit Free Press sportswriter Carlos Monarrez in 2019. It is the second-straight year each course was awarded those spots. Local golfers who have visited either or both courses would not be surprised by the high rankings. Golf is a sport of patience and precision, and these two courses provide the challenges the game requires, while also going above and beyond in making a day on the links a satisfying experience.

**ORCHARDS** **The Orchards Golf Club**

The Orchards Manager, Jeff Stalcup, takes great pride in his club's top ranking. "It's pretty special to be the No. 1 in Metro Detroit," Stalcup says. "Not only in 2019, but we've had a lot of awards since we opened the golf course in 1993. It just shows that the golf course has held its position throughout time. It's very special." Stalcup attributes his club's success to the intricate design of the course and great service. The Orchard's motto is "Your club for the day," meaning, while it is publicly accessible, you are treated with the respect and level of service you would anticipate as a member



## Feature // SPORTS



Women's new Greystone Golf Course & Banquet Center is among the top-rated public golf courses in Metro Detroit. (Courtesy Photos)

### MORE INFO

**The Orchards Golf Club**  
 62500 Graysstone Rd  
 Washington, MI 48094  
 (586) 764-7200  
[www.theorchards.com](http://www.theorchards.com)

**Greystone Golf Club & Banquet Center**  
 47500 Wood Rd  
 Washington, MI 48094  
 (586) 762-7030  
[www.golfgreystone.com](http://www.golfgreystone.com)

service and if you give them the opportunity, they will deliver a day of fun, challenge, and satisfaction.

About Greystone, Monaster writes, "Jonny Matthews' design is superb. The highlight is the 16th, 17th and 18th holes that wrap around a water-filled quarry and comprise what likely are the best three finishing holes in Michigan."

The Mitt TV encourages golfers to visit these exemplary courses and courses. The challenge, service, and beauty of these courses are sure to please golfers of all skill levels from near and far.

of a private club.

Monaster says, "The Orchards is as true a test of golf as you will find, with so much variety that all 14 clubs will be dirty by the end of your round. The course offers elevation, subtle greens and a staff that provides impeccable service."

"The course isn't difficult, but it's challenging," Stalup says. "You're using different clubs in your bag, a different variety of shots. It's fun but challenging. I think everyone needs to come and experience the Orchards Golf Club, and I think they will be very satisfied leaving here."

If you are a golfer looking to spend your day at a beautiful course, keep The Orchards Golf Club in mind. It is your club for the day.

### GREYSTONE

#### Greystone Golf Club & Banquet Center

Coming close behind Orchards in the Free Press ranking in Greystone, which was rated third, Sportsweek Monaster ranked Greystone high because of its "superb, fun, and challenging" course.

Greystone owner David Weber is appreciative of the high ranking. "We are humbled and honored to be in the top three best courses in southeast Michigan," Weber says. "As a team, we strive to do our best every day. Our guest's satisfaction is priority number one."

With a lush green course, Greystone provides great

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—Celia Monaster  
 Detroit Free Press Contributor

## Feature



The Orchards Golf Club was ranked the No. 1 public golf course in Metro Detroit by Free Press contributor Celia Monaster in 2014. (Courtesy Photos)



### Best Golf Courses Ranked Best in Metro Detroit

BY KATHLYNN MEDLEY



**NEWS** Women has long been known for its beautiful orchards and rich farmlands, but the area is gaining a reputation for providing exceptional for the public golf courses in Metro Detroit.

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Natural attributes like cliffs access to the intricate design of the course and great service. The Orchards makes a "best club for the day" meaning, while it is publicly accessible, you are treated with the respect and level of service you would anticipate at a member



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Angela Rochon issues this invitation: “All are welcome to the Algonac City Park on August 30 and 31 for the free annual Algonac Art Fair. It is a juried and lovely event every Labor Day weekend. The Piece to Peace Cancer Quilt is on display and expands as people add their stories to the quilt. Angela Rochon plans to launch her upcoming book, Piece to Peace Cancer Quilt then and there.

On the basis of FATHERless, her father’s memoir and hers along with the quilt book the NASW invited A Rochon to present at the 9/26-9/28/19 National Conference of Social Workers. She explores the benefits of Reminisce on the Brain.”

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Ron Herron received this: “We at Z Publishing House would like to congratulate you for having your poetry accepted into our upcoming Emerging Poets 2019 series! The poem of yours that we will be publishing in this collection is titled "1919."

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Annemarie Schiavi Pedersen’s historical novel Celestina’s

Burnings will be released Jan. 1, 2020. Preorders available at Amazon and Literary Wanderlust in October 2019.

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Mary Merlo shares: “Good news! I have a second children's short story published online. It appeared yesterday in Smarty Pants Magazine for Kids and is entitled "Sanjay and Shadows." They even published author info and indicate membership in Detroit Working Writers. Yay for DWW! Here is the link:

<https://smartypantsmagazineforkids.com/2019/07/14/storytime-sunday-sanjay-and-shadows/>

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I have to tell you this is another learning lesson for me. I had submitted this story in the DWW Writing Competition, but it did not receive recognition. I was disappointed but liked the story, so I submitted elsewhere and took a chance. Lesson learned: Never give up! Keep trying.”



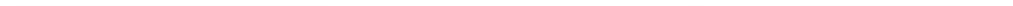
Theresa Nielsen tells us “I am currently writing a quilting column for the “Country Register,” a newspaper for quilters and some artists. The July/August issue is available now in quilt shops around Michigan.”

We want to promote you and your writing! Please let us know your latest writing awards/credits/publications! Email your information to Roberta Brown.

PLEASE PUT DWW WRITING/PUBLICATION NEWS IN THE SUBJECT OF YOUR EMAIL ;-)  
**at**

**[rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com)**

**I would also like to invite members to share their publication news/reading news to our Detroit Working Writers Facebook page, as many times you have events scheduled after this monthly newsletter comes out! Please, your writing-related events only.**





## HOW TO HAVE YOUR BOOKS LISTED ON OUR DWW WEBSITE

**Please take advantage of our website to list all of your published books! Click on “About Us,” then go to the “Members Only” section and enter your super secret password. Scroll down to Member’s Books and fill out the required information. Once you have completed all the sections, click Submit, and let our webmistress work her magic!**

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Sandy White tells us “I think writers might be interested in this offer, available any days of the week during the time frames mentioned.”

<https://laketolake.com/offers/writers-retreat-lake-huron/>

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Greetings Fellow Writers.

The University of New Orleans Press is excited to announce that our fifth annual UNO Publishing Lab Prize is now open. We hope that you can forward this call for submissions to your members. We have always believed in paying our authors, and for the fifth year of the Publishing Lab, the advance has been increased from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

The University of New Orleans Press is looking for full-length fiction manuscripts, either novels or short story collections, for the fifth annual Publishing Lab Prize. The selected author will receive a ten thousand dollar (\$10,000) advance on royalties and a contract to publish their winning manuscript with UNO Press. The work does not have to be regionally focused. There is no word limit. There is no limit on subjects covered. Submissions are open until August 31st. More information, including the Submittable link, can be found at:

<http://www.unopress.org/lab.aspx>

Thank you for your time,

Thomas Price  
UNO Press