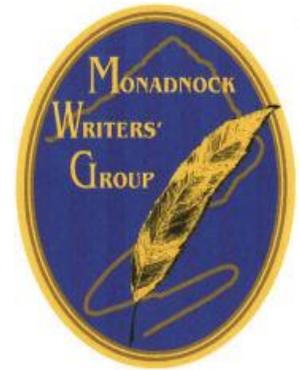


# The Quill



December 2017:  
**Monadnock Writers' Group**  
Supporting Writers Since 1984

P.O. Box 3071, Peterborough, NH 03458

<http://www.monadnockwriters.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadnockwriters/>

Monadnock Writers' Group is a non-profit 501-(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible.

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## **Calendar of Events**

The **Monadnock Writers' Group** meets on the third Saturday of every month from September through June, **9:45 to 11:45 a.m.** Beginning in October, we meet at the **Peterborough Town Library** in the lower level meeting room. The Speaker Series is open to the public and free of charge. Our speakers are instructive and inspirational for writers of all literary forms, genres, and levels of experience.

### **December 4: Writers' Night Out**

MWG members get together at **Brady's American Grill** in Peterborough for informal socializing with drinks and/or dinner, 7:00 to about 9:00.

### **December 5 (and each following Tuesday): Open writing session**

Come to the Greenfield Library at 10:00 to noon on Tuesdays (enter through the back door) to dedicate two hours toward your personal writing project in the company and support of motivated writers.

### **December 16: MWG Member Read Around**

Members of the Monadnock Writers' Group read excerpts of their own work up to ten minutes each. The public is welcome to attend.

### **January 20: Melanie Brooks**



Melanie Brooks, author of *Writing Hard Stories: Celebrated Memoirists Who Shaped Art from Trauma*, teaches professional writing at Northeastern University in Boston and Merrimack College, and creative writing at Nashua Community College.

“Unpacking experiences of life and loss is at the core of my writing. My writing is the vehicle through which I'm learning to understand that impact. The stories filling the pages are helping me to better understand myself.”

## February 10: Three-Minute Fiction Slam

Two judges will score each reader in this preliminary round of the New Hampshire statewide competition. Anyone may participate in this event.

## February 17: Tammi Truax



Tammi works at an elementary school and as a Connections program facilitator for the NH Humanities Council teaching new adult readers. In 2008, with NH poet Kyle Potvin, Tammi founded The Prickly Pear Poetry Project: Processing the Cancer Experience Through Poetry. The project is a two-hour workshop based on the profound healing power of reading and writing poetry for people whose lives have been impacted by cancer.

## March 17: Linda Reilly



Armed with a degree in Criminal Justice, Linda Reilly once contemplated a career in law enforcement. But life took a twist, and instead she found her niche in real estate closings and title examination, where the dusty tomes in the Registry of Deeds enticed her into solving mysteries of a different sort. Raised in a sleepy town in the Berkshires, Linda's a dyed-in-the-wool New Englander. A member of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America, she lives in southern New Hampshire with her husband.

**April 21** – currently open

## May 19: Gary Margolis



Gary Margolis is Associate Professor of English and American Literatures (part-time) at Middlebury College. His third book, “Fire in the Orchard” was nominated for the 2002 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. His poem, “The Interview” was featured on National Public Radio’s “The Story.” His fourth book of poems, “Below the Falls is a book that responds to the loss of Middlebury College student, Nicholas Garza, our country's wars, and the things that sustain us.

## June 16: Member Read-Around

Members of the Monadnock Writers’ Group read excerpts of their own work up to ten minutes each. The public is welcome to attend.

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***Publisher Open House in Peterborough:*** Bauhan Publishing, based in Dublin, NH, will hold its annual open house and holiday party in Bass Hall on **December 1** at 6:00-8:00. You can meet their authors, several of whom have been speakers at the MWG.

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## **Outlets for your work**

### **Anthology to be published by MWG:** *The Mud Chronicles: A New England Anthology*

seeks submissions of poetry, fiction, nonfiction and images from New England writers and those who have a strong connection with the region. It seeks work that reveals the transitional essence of “the fifth season” in both physical and emotional landscapes.

**Submission Guidelines:** The submission period will close on December 31, 2017. Please send only previously unpublished work. Send submissions to:

[REDACTED]

**To Submit:** In the subject line of the email include title (s) of work submitted. In the body of the email please include a short biography statement of no more than 100 words with full name included.

**Writing Submissions:** Send up to three poems in one document (individual poems should be on separate pages), or up to 2500 words of fiction or nonfiction (double spaced), in a Word file (.doc/.docx) or Rich Text Format (.rft) attachment in your email. Do not include identifying authorship in the attachment.

**Visual Image Submissions:** Submit up to three images in color or black and white. Attached files should be no more than 5 MB each in .jpg format. Do not include identifying authorship in the attachment. Editorial decisions and notification of acceptance will be made no later than July 1, 2018.

Please note that due to the volume of submissions we will only be sending out notices of acceptance. If your work is accepted elsewhere before final editorial decisions are made please contact us at [REDACTED].

The Monadnock Writers’ Group has published six anthologies over the years. The most recent of which, *Shadow and Light—A Literary Anthology on Memory*, is available at <https://monadnockwriters.org/publications-2/>.

**Ten new literary journals:** The following journals began in the past year. As new publications, they may be more open to new talent than the more established journals are.

**Counterclock:** This online literary and art publication founded in summer 2017 is dedicated to showcasing high-quality poetry, fiction, nonfiction, visual art, and cross-genre work. They publish writing on a quarterly basis and have just published their first issue. To learn more, visit their website [here](#).

**The Hunger:** The Hunger is a new online journal of visceral literature. They publish poetry, fiction, non-fiction, hybrid work, and visual art—all, they say, with the intention of gutting you. They are looking for work that’s honest, vulnerable and raw, and creates a hunger for more. You can learn more [here](#).

**Speculative City:** This literary journal publishes speculative and provocative works that are centered within a cityscape. They want to encourage writers and characters often

underrepresented in speculative fiction, such as people of color, queer people, working-class people, and people with disabilities. They are a paying market. They close to submissions December 15th. They have yet to publish their first issue. To learn more, go [here](#).

**Guesthouse:** Founded by two women writers about to complete the University of Iowa's Masters of Fine Arts program, Guesthouse has a well-crafted website and a dual focus on fiction and poetry. They are accepting submissions for their second issue. To learn more, visit their website [here](#).

**Riggwelter:** Riggwelter publishes poetry, fiction, visual art, and experimental media. They are looking for work that makes them fall in love, work with that ineffable something that makes them stop, and then start again in an entirely new direction. Their first issue is available online, and the foreword provides some thoughts by the editor about the process of selecting work for Riggwelter. You can learn more [here](#).

**Ariel Chart:** Ariel Chart is seeking brief writing. Based in Australia, they publish short works of poetry and microfiction. Like most small things, tiny pieces of writing are often ignored in the publishing world. Ariel Chart hopes to help. They aim to champion meaningful literary works, no matter how small. You can read the work published on their website to get a sense of what they like. You can learn more [here](#).

**Small Orange:** Each issue will contain the work of seven poets, one visual artist and one interview. They have a great visual focused website and the poems they publish are generally beautifully crafted. To learn more, visit their website [here](#).

**Months To Years:** They aim to publish creative nonfiction (as well as poetry, photography and art) that explores the human experience in terms of how it relates to mortality. They are a digital journal and will be publishing their first issue this winter. Learn more [here](#).

**The Mantle:** This is an ambitious new literary journal that will be published on a quarterly basis. They publish only poetry. They will read all submissions blind. To learn more, visit their [website](#).

**Dream Pop Journal:** This is a quarterly online journal of poetry, prose, and art. Dream Pop Journal publishes experimental, non-narrative writing. The editors say "We are inspired by songwriters such as Liz Fraser of the Cocteau Twins and the composer Wim Mertens, artists who create their own transcendent languages". To learn more, visit their site [website](#).

### ***Three listings of Sci Fi publishers who pay***

**[SFWA Qualifying Markets](#):** Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA) is a well-respected organization for authors and publishers of science fiction, fantasy, and related genres. To qualify for membership in the organization, authors must sell a story to a qualifying market; each of these markets is vetted by SFWA for several standards of legitimacy (including professional pay rates) before being granted qualifying status. SFWA also runs the [Writer Beware](#) website, which helps educate authors against scams.

**[Ralan.com](#):** Ralan filters the expansive market list by pay rate (professional, semi-pro, nominal, etc) and by manuscript types (anthologies, books, poetry, etc). Each entry on the list is followed by a series of essential information, such as types of speculative fiction

accepted (sci-fi fantasy, horror, etc), accepted word count, response time (RT), and much more.

**Top Science Fiction and Fantasy Magazines:** This is a ranked list of sci-fi and fantasy magazines based mainly on the number of industry awards and nominations (Hugos, Nebulas, etc) each magazine's stories has received in the last ten years. If you aspire to write award-winning short sci-fi, these are likely publications to read and to consider for submissions.

**New England Memories:** MWG member Linda Thomas has completed the Fall 2017 issue of her semiannual (spring and fall) *New England Memories* magazine, with writing and photography from MWG members and others. If you would like to submit prose, poetry, or artwork for the Spring issue issue, please read the submission guidelines and past issues at [www.newenglandmemories.com](http://www.newenglandmemories.com).

**Smoky Quartz:** *Smoky Quartz* is the semi-annual online publication of The Monadnock Writers' Group that publishes poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction and a diverse selection of art and photography. You can read *Smoky Quartz* online at <http://smokyquartz.org/>. Contributing writers and artists retain all rights to their work.

*Smoky Quartz* is taking a hiatus this fall in order to save time for its staff to focus on the MWG Anthology. *The Smoky Quartz* website will announce when it begins again to accept submissions.

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## **Other Items**

**Nori Odoi:** Nori Odoi, who was a member of MWG in recent years, passed away on November 19, 2017. Nori loved writing both poetry and fiction and in her own humble words had "mostly been published by accident or conspiracy." She was the founder of Writers' Time on Tuesdays at the Stephenson Memorial Library in Greenfield, where MWG members still gather and write. Nori's work has been published in the anthology *One Thousand Words for War*, *New England Memories* magazine, and in a book of her poetry titled *On Darkness and the Quality of Light*. She also kept a beautifully written and inspirational blog on [CaringBridge](http://CaringBridge) that documented her journey with pancreatic cancer this past year. Nori was also a volunteer in her community, a talented baker and chef, and owner of NoriOh! Confections & Catering.

A Celebration of Nori's life will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Main Street, Peterborough. Her family suggests you have dinner before you come, but please save room to enjoy some of Nori's delicious desserts, prepared by church members, after the celebration.

If you would like to make a donation in Nori's memory to the nonprofit of her choice, you can do so at <http://support.pancan.org/goto/norioidoi>.

**Writers' Night Out:** Writers' Night Out is the first Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. to about 9:00 p.m, except July, September, and January (when the first Monday often conflicts with

holidays). This is largely a social gathering of writers at various locations across the state, co-sponsored by the **New Hampshire Writers' Project**. The MWG gets together at **Brady's American Grill** in Peterborough, located a mile north of Peterborough center on U.S. 202 (Concord Street) in Brady's Plaza near the Monadnock Community Hospital access road. Other locations around New Hampshire are listed on the NHWP website ([www.nhwritersproject.org](http://www.nhwritersproject.org)) and Writers' Night Out page: <https://www.nhwritersproject.org/writers-night-out/>.

***Is this your last issue of the Quill?:*** We at the Quill are patient in waiting for members to renew for the year, but we also wish to avoid filing the mailbox of people who have decided not to renew, sooo, if you have not paid your dues for the 2017-2018 year by the end of this month, this is your last issue!

***Book Review- "Draft No. 4: On the Writing Process"***

John McPhee's latest book illustrates his talent for informing his readers while entertaining them. This book provided enough pithy thoughts on writing that I may have to start putting in two boxed quotes in each issue of *The Quill*. McPhee's 50 years of writing for the *New Yorker*, his teaching at Princeton, and his publishing 35 books have not distanced him entirely from the same problems many of us in the MWG face. The many topics on which he offers advice include confronting those slow parts of the writing process; capturing the value of fact checking, even in fiction; structuring the work; and finding a publishing outlet.

No two writers are the same, like snowflakes and fingerprints. Because of this fact, there is no real competition between writers. Writing is a matter strictly of developing oneself. You compete only with yourself.  
-John McPhee

***Weekly Writing Opportunities:*** Some members of the Monadnock Writers' Group find that setting aside a specific time and place for writing regularly in the company of other writers encourages their creative productivity. MWG has set up writing sessions at the Greenfield Library on Tuesdays from 10 am to noon. They are mostly silent although sometimes people read a selection from the day's output at the end of a session.

Other days may be set up for shared writing sessions at other times and places. To express your interest and availability to participate in Greenfield Library, go to <https://doodle.com/poll/r25vs2vwkcf9bfs9> . To express your interest and availability to participate in Jaffrey Library, go to <https://doodle.com/poll/bpx8f4cnmi9dykct> .

***Member Biographies:*** Members are encouraged to write up a short personal profile (biography) for posting on the Monadnock Writers' Group website "Members" section, and to our Facebook page if you so choose. Please submit your new or updated profile by e-mail as a paragraph or two including:

- what kind of writing you do,
- where you live now and where you came from,

- what you have published or plan to publish, and
- anything about yourself that might help other members approach you with some relevant ideas or conversation.

For the Website: Maximum 200 words, 3rd person, please feel free to include links to your own website, most recent publication, and other social media links. Submit your profile for the MWG website to our email at [REDACTED] or to Linda Thomas at [REDACTED]. The Monadnock Writers' Group website is located at <https://monadnockwriters.org/>.

For Facebook: A short bio, feel free to include a link, 140 characters counting your name but not the link. Send your Facebook bio to [REDACTED]. The MWG Facebook group can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadnockwriters/>.

**MWG Bloggers:** Let us know if you would like your blog to be listed on the MWG website and Facebook page. Send your details to [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com).

**New Hampshire Writers Project:** NHWP is *New Hampshire Magazine's* "Best of NH 2013" winner for "Cultural Catalyst." Stay up to date with NHWP online: [www.nhwritersproject.org](http://www.nhwritersproject.org). See them on Facebook: "The New Hampshire Writers' Project." Follow them on Twitter: nhwritersproj.

Political advocacy workshop: On Sunday December 2, NHWP is having an in-person workshop with Tracy Hahn-Burkett. She will be presenting: Political Writing: Advocacy. Tracy is a writer and former D.C. public policy advocate. She served as a member of U.S. Senator Herb Kohl's Judiciary Committee staff and was Deputy and Acting Director of Public Policy for the civil rights and civil liberties nonprofit, People for the American Way. She also worked in post-Communist Czechoslovakia, teaching English and coordinating Western assistance programs for the Federal Assembly and the Czech National Council. For further information, go to the NHWP [Workshops page](#).

Fiction-writing webinar: Join author and host Gary Devore for an All Fiction Genre Critique Webinar on Saturday, December 9 from 7 to 9 PM. So NaNoWriMo is over. Now what? Join other exhausted NH Writers' Project members for an evening in. We'll read and critique as a group a short selection from your work-in-progress. Limited to 5 participants. Registration ends at midnight, Saturday, December 2, 2017. Writing selections must be submitted by this date as well. Sign up here on the [Workshops page](#). This one is for members only, so if you are not a NHWP member and you are interested, you'll want to [join](#) today!

Flash fiction webinar Get a jump on the 3-minute fiction competition by joining Ed Ting's **Flash Fiction** webinar, scheduled for Tuesday, 7:00-8:00, January 9th. Members only pay \$10, and get the benefit of connecting with other writers, and a video of the webinar. Sign up here on the [Workshops page](#).

**Who are we at MWG?:** Established in 1984, the primary mission of the Monadnock Writers' Group is to offer fellowship and support to professional writers and to those actively engaged in developing their writing skills. For more about us and to say something about yourself, see the Monadnock Writers' Group Members page (<https://monadnockwriters.org/membership/our-members/>) where you can read short biographies of our members and you can get in touch with someone doing work related to your own or just to share work that is interesting.

### **Monadnock Writers' Group Membership Information:**

- Program year membership - September through June
  - Regular membership \$30
  - Students and seniors \$25
  - Patron \$50
  - Benefactor \$100
  - Corporate \$250
- Individual members are encouraged to announce their own projects such as workshops, social gatherings, group support sessions, or whatever the writing-related endeavor. Feel free to take the floor at the monthly meeting, or contact the newsletter editor [REDACTED] to send an announcement to the membership in the monthly newsletter.
- Bring a friend to one of our monthly meetings, and if they join MWG, you will receive a \$20 gift certificate for the Toadstool Bookshop!

If you poured water on a great poem, you would get a novel.  
- Gloria Steinem

**2016-2017 Board of Directors:**

President: Sara Miller; Vice President: Rodger Martin; Secretary: Carl Mabbs-Zeno; Treasurer: Denny Caldwell;  
Members-at-Large: Martha Eichler, Maura MacNeil, Terry Kepner, Ann Day.  
*Ex-Officio President:* Tina Rapp; *Ex-Officio Member At Large:* George Duncan.