

The Quill



April 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.

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.** 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.

April 15: Henry Walters

Poet **Henry Walters**, Writer-in-Residence at New Hampshire's Dublin School was born in Chicago in 1984 and grew up in Indiana and Michigan. He studied Latin and Greek literature at Harvard College, beekeeping in Sicily, and falconry in Ireland. He has worked as a teacher, a naturalist, and a steward of a wildlife sanctuary, and is the recipient of Better Magazine's 2014 prize for poetry.

Walters is the author of the play, *Objects in Mirror*, and a collection of poems, *Field Guide A Tempo*, which has been named a finalist for the 2016 Kate Tufts Discovery Award. He lives in a house he built himself in the beech and hemlock woods of southern New Hampshire.

May 20: Dan Szczesny

Dan Szczesny is a long-time journalist and author living in New Hampshire. His books include *The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie*, a hiking memoir about a one year, 225-mile journey through some of New Hampshire's least known wilderness with his 10-year-old foster daughter. Also, *The Nepal Chronicles*, about a month long trek to Everest Base Camp and marriage in Kathmandu.

His first collection of fiction, *Sing and Other Short Stories*, and includes a variety of short fiction spanning Dan's 25 year career as a writer and journalist. His latest book, *Mosquito Rain: Alaskan Travel Essays* is an illustrated travelogue of Dan and his wife's journey to discover the true meaning of the Last Frontier. Dan is also the Editor of *Murder Ink*, a series of New England-based Pulp Fiction anthologies set in or around the newsroom. Volume Two is set for release in 2017. You can learn more about his work at his website: <https://danszczesny.wordpress.com/>

June 17: Member Read-Around

We conclude our program year with a “read-around.” The public is welcome to attend and hear Monadnock Writers’ Group members read excerpts from their work. Please bring short excerpts from your writing or a few poems to share (five to ten minutes’ reading time per member). Please note that in the interest of time, this is not a critique session. It is your chance to shine and hear your voice within a welcoming writer community.

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** (www.nhwritersproject.org). 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 are listed on the NHWP website.

New Hampshire Writers Night: - The first statewide Writers’ Night Out will be held at the Hatbox Theater in Concord on Sunday, May 14 at 6:00. This is a chance to meet writers from our parts of the state and to share experience with our local groups.

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. See them on Facebook: "The New Hampshire Writers' Project." Follow them on Twitter: "nhwritersproj."

NH Poet Laureate and Open Mic in Peterborough: To kick off National Poetry Month, and to raise awareness and funds for our state’s immigrants and refugees benefiting from the services of the Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success, New Hampshire poet laureate Alice B. Fogel and other local poets will read at the Trumpet Fine Arts Gallery in Peterborough. All are welcome to listen and read.

- Friday, April 7 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Trumpet Fine Arts Gallery on Grove Street in Peterborough.
- Donations to the Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success are appreciated.
- Light refreshments will be served.

How to Write: Joni Cole will do a reading/workshop based on her new book *Good Naked: Reflections on How to Write More, Write Better, and Be Happier* at Toadstool in Keene on Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m. To pre-order or for a sneak peek of *Good Naked*, visit www.jonibcole.com

Author Joni Cole...disabuses common misconceptions of how one should think, act, and be as a writer, exchanging those myths for ideas that feed creativity and productivity. Essentially, one doesn’t have to suffer to be a genuine artist." —*Library Journal*.



Weekly Writing Opportunities: Twice a week from 3:00 to 5:00, writers gather to work on their individual projects. These are excellent opportunities to dedicate time for your personal writing project

in the company and support of motivated writers. A discussion of what attendees have written may follow the writing time.

Greenfield Library: On Tuesdays, writers work on their individual projects at the lower level of the Stephenson Memorial Library, Greenfield, NH, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Location is the lower room, with walk-in entrance on the back side of the library, even if the main front entrance to the library is locked. New attendees should contact Carl Mabbs-Zeno ([REDACTED]) to be on the list to be notified in case of cancellation.

Jaffrey Civic Center: On Wednesdays, writers work on their individual projects in the Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main Street, Jaffrey at 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Wi-Fi is also available. New attendees should contact Karen Ayers ([REDACTED]) to be on the list to be notified in case of cancellation.

Outlets for your work:

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. Visit <http://smokyquartz.org> online for additional information about the publication, submission guidelines, and to enjoy archived issues. If you have a Twitter account, the handle for *Smoky Quartz* is “@SmokyQuartzNH” .

New England Memories: The Fall 2016 Issue of *New England Memories*, published by MWG member Linda Thomas, features work by Parker Towle, Janet Banks, Deborah Murphy, Tom Sheehan, Tom Sacramona, and others. Please read the Submission Guidelines at www.newenglandmemories.com for more information.

MWG Anthology: 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/> . We are now beginning the preparation of a new volume and seek members interested in serving on the editorial board or otherwise helping prepare the publication. Please send a message to monadnockwriters@gmail.com or contact any member of the MWG Board to indicate your interest.

Other Items:

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 [REDACTED] .

New Book from MWG Member: Becky Sakellariou has published *No Foothold in this Geography*, a collection of poems from the last five years with Blue Light Press in San Francisco. It is also available at the Toadstool book stores and on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Foothold-Geography-Becky-Dennison-Sakellariou/dp/1421837749/> .

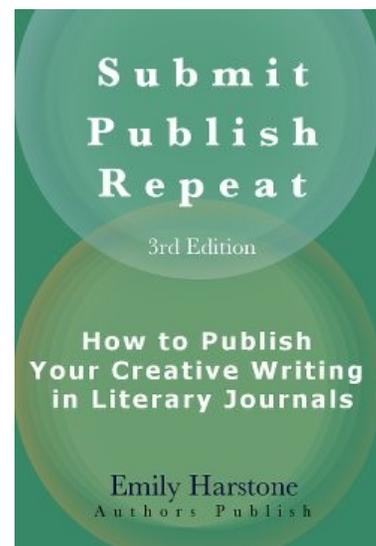
She will reading on the following dates:

- March 15, Gibson's Bookstore, Concord NH, 7 pm.

- April 14, Hancock, NH Public Library, 7 pm
- April 19, Brattleboro Brooks Memorial Library, 7 pm (check the time)
- April 29, Toadstool Bookstore, Peterborough, NH, 11 am

Free E-Books and Articles for writers:

- 1) For a free e-book on how to navigate publishing in the often confusing world of literary journals, go to <http://www.authorspublish.com/download-page-submit-publish-repeat-3rd-edition/>
- 2) For links to a broad range of advice for publishing see *How to Get an Agent for Your Book* at <http://www.authorspublish.com/how-to-get-an-agent-for-your-book/> .
- 3) Submitting to journals with a quick response time is one of the best ways to stay motivated. See *Fifteen Literary Journals That Respond Within A Month* at <http://www.authorspublish.com/fifteen-literary-journals-that-respond-within-a-month/>



Finishing a book is just like you took a child out in the back yard and shot it. —Truman Capote

- 4) Most authors probably wish they had a gauge of some kind to stick into the pages to tell them when their book is done. It is not just new, inexperienced writers who have that wish. Many published authors say the same thing: it's hard to know when to put down the virtual pen. For advice on this see the article at <http://blog.bookbaby.com/2017/03/when-do-you-know-your-book-is-done/> or the article at <http://blog.bookbaby.com/2015/01/how-to-know-when-youre-done-writing-your-novel/>.



- 5) Serious about publishing? Get free daily e-mails about publications open to submissions from **The Creative Writers Opportunities List**. To subscribe to the list, send a blank e-mail to: crwropps-b-subscribe@yahoogroups.com .
- 6) See **NewPages.com** for news, information, and guides to literary magazines, independent publishers, creative writing programs, alternative periodicals, indie bookstores, writing contests, and more. <https://www.newpages.com/> .
- 7) Virginia Brasch is a romantic suspense writer who offers the *Evocative Word Lists for Writing* at <http://www.authorspublish.com/evocative-word-lists-for-writing/> .

Who are we?: 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. If you wish to be included in the bio sector, submit at

[REDACTED] 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.

3-Minute Fiction Slam Winners: In

February, the MWG held a regional Fiction Slam that was won by Ann Day, as reported in last month's Quill. The ten regional winners met for the Statewide competition Manchester in March and offered a diverse and exciting show. The competition was won by Peggy MacFarland of Nashua, shown between Mark Michael Adams of Newmarket (3rd place) and Cheryl Cooper of Barnhart (2nd place).



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!

I will not be one of those who says "write what you know." I will say "write what you love."

- Diane Les Becquets to the Monadnock Writers Group, 3-18-2017

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.