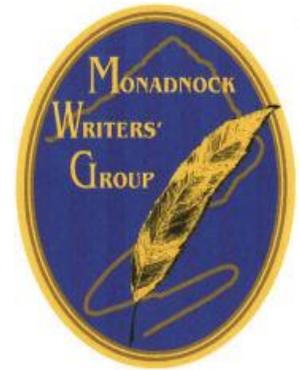


# The Quill



January 2018:  
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.

### **January 2 (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.

### **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**

The public is invited to read fiction in any form for up to three minutes in the Peterborough round of the statewide competition. Two judges will score each reader for skill in writing and presentation, and points will be deducted for exceeding the time limit. The finals will be held in Manchester, sponsored by the New Hampshire Writers Project. It was fun to listen in last year but it would be better if more people would prepare something for us all to hear.

## 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:** Speaker to be determined

## May 19: **Gary Margolis**



**Gary Margolis** is the author of several poetry books including *Fire in the Orchard* (Autumn House Press, 2002), which was nominated for the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for poetry; *Falling Awake* (University of Georgia Press, 1986); , *Below the Falls*, Addison Press. His book *Seeing the Songs* is a memoir of his travels in Ecuador, 2012.

In 2015 he published “*Raking the Winter Leaves: New and Selected Poems*” Bauhan Publishing, Peterborough. *Runner Without a Number* (Wind Ridge Publishing Voices of Vermonters) is his latest book, published in 2016.

## 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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During the Middle Ages, fewer than 1000 copies of manuscripts were produced in a typical year across Europe. In the 1700s, 10 million books were printed annually in the world. Last year more than a million new titles were printed in the United States while the world produced several trillion copies.

- *Remarkable Books* by Collins, Black, Cussans, Farndon and Parker, 2017

## **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 has been extended to January 31, 2018.** 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/>.

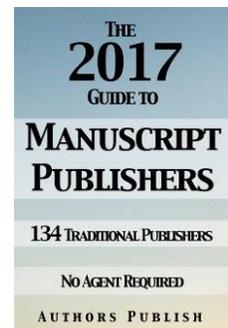
**New England Memories:** MWG member Linda Thomas has completed the Fall 2017 issue of her semiannual (spring and fall) *New England Memories* magazine, with writing and photography from MWG members and others. If you would like to submit prose, poetry, or artwork for the Spring issue issue, please read 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 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.

**Ink & Nebula:** *I&N* is an online poetry journal and writing school publishing work by established poets (Ink), and saving special space for poets who have not yet been published (Nebula). Poets who have not yet been published can submit up to five poems as “Nebula.” For this category, Ink & Nebula accepts poems that have been published on personal blogs or social media, but nowhere else. Poets who don’t fit into this category can submit up to five poems as “Ink.” For this category, Ink & Nebula does not accept previously published work of any kind. To learn more about submission, visit their website at <http://inkandnebula.com/submissions.html>.

**Free E-book for Writers:** The 2017 Guide to Manuscript Publishers features book publishers that accept submissions directly from writers. No agent or previous publishing experience is required. Featured in the book this year, in addition to the publisher reviews, is a guide to the manuscript submission process, as well as a glossary of common publishing terms. Get it [here](#).



**Marketing outlet for your work:** The Marketing Team of the New Hampshire Writers Project will post your information for free to their platforms (FB, Twitter, IG with pictures), as well as their website. Send a blurb to "[Marketing@nhwritersproject.org](mailto:Marketing@nhwritersproject.org)".

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## **Other Items**

**Prepare for our Fiction Slam in February:** Is three minutes too short for you? Take a look at the intriguing book from the PEN/Faulkner Foundation with over a hundred contributions from well-known artists-- “3 Minutes or less: Life Lessons from America’s Greatest Writers.” (published by Bloomsbury Press in 2000). These are not stand-up acts, but pithy statements on a variety of significant issues.

**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.

**Writers Night Out beyond the Monadnock Region:** The NHWP organizes 13 Writers Night Out groups across New Hampshire. In December we had an on-line “zoom chat.” The groups represented in the chat described a range of formats. Some have a monthly read-around;

some have their participants describe what they are reading. A few mentioned difficulty in finding a quiet place to meet. The group in Epping will meet for the first time in January 2018. All writers are welcome at any of the groups. To find other locations around New Hampshire see the NHWP website ([www.nhwritersproject.org](http://www.nhwritersproject.org)) and the Writers' Night Out page: <https://www.nhwritersproject.org/writers-night-out/>.

**Fantasy-, Science Fiction-, and Horror-writing Workshop:** You may experience six weeks (June 2 – July 13, 2018) of directed study with Jeanne Calvelos, former senior editor at Bantam Doubleday and winner of the World Fantasy Award. She promises in-depth feedback on your work; intensive sessions on character, plot, word-building, style, and more; and one-on-one attention and guidance. The course will be held at Saint Amselm College, Manchester. The application deadline April 7. For more information go to [www.odysseyworkshop.org](http://www.odysseyworkshop.org).

**Writers Retreat in England:** Celebrate literature and writing while visiting sites of Roman Britain, Shakespeare's England and modern London, August 10-18, 2018, sponsored by The Ardent Writer Press. For more information, go to: [www.writersretreatinengland.com](http://www.writersretreatinengland.com).

**Writer's Corner at Greenfield's Stephenson Library:** Take a look at the offerings outlined below from the library in Greenfield at <https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/stephenson-memorial-library/library-services/pages/writers-corner>

Try the new and exciting digital software, "Press-Books" to create your own e-book. Submissions are automatically reviewed by Library Journal editors.



Submit your e-book for review using Bibliolabs "Self-e" platform next! If your book is picked to be "highlighted" it will be featured nationally through the bibliolab library.

Looking for other Indie authors in New Hampshire? Authors who have submitted their works through the Self-e platform are in the Indie author database.



**Monadnock Writer's New Calendar is Available:** The 2018 *Poetry Through the Year* from MWG's own Ann Day is at the Toadstool Book Store with her photography and poetry. See Ann at the MWG meeting or contact her at [REDACTED]

**Book Review- "Several Short Sentences about Writing"**

The point of the book is to liberate authors from the constraints to creativity and expression imposed by conventional teaching about writing. Despite this pervasive focus, Klinkenborg is respectful of grammar and certain other conventions to the extent they empower communication. He illustrates his point with an unstructured presentation in simple sentences that are individually clear and often insightful but ultimately tedious. Perhaps it would serve well if read in short segments although he offers no chapter organization to facilitate that

approach. I found some passages to preserve in my notes but I do not need to keep the book. I will donate it to the first person who asks me for it.

The author of this 2012 book (Verlyn Klinkenborg) was a member of the editorial board of the New York Times in addition to writing numerous books of non-fiction. (Reviewed by Carl M-Z)

You can't revise or discard what you don't consciously recognize. These assumptions and prohibitions and obligations are the imprint of your education and the culture you live in. Distrust them.

-Verlyn Klinkenborg

**New York Times Column for Writers:** The NYT has started an advice column for writers. Roxanne Gay (author of the recent non-fiction bestsellers *Bad Feminist* and *Hunger, and a professor at Purdue*) answers questions from writers in the *Sunday Review* (i.e., editorial section). Among her topics this week was setting goals, ranging in her experience from “having a best-selling book by the time she was thirty-five” eventually pared down to “getting a handful of words you don't totally hate on the page.”

**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 [monadnockwriters@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:monadnockwriters@monadnockwriters.org) or to Linda Thomas at [linda@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:linda@monadnockwriters.org). 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 [REDACTED].

**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.

**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!

The only thing to do with a cliché is send it to the sports page or the speechwriters, where it will live forever.  
-Verlyn Klinkenborg

#### **2017-2018 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

