

# The Quill



## October 2018: Monadnock Writers' Group Supporting Writers Since 1984

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

Mail - P.O. Box 3071, Peterborough, NH 03458  
Website - <http://www.monadnockwriters.org/>  
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadnockwriters/>  
E-mail- [info@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:info@monadnockwriters.org)  
[president@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:president@monadnockwriters.org)  
[treasurer@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:treasurer@monadnockwriters.org)  
[webmanager@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:webmanager@monadnockwriters.org)  
[quill@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:quill@monadnockwriters.org)

## 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.

## October 1: **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 **Brady's American Grill** in Peterborough, located a mile north of Peterborough center on U.S. 202 (Concord Street) in Brady's Plaza.

## Writing Sessions

### October 4 (and each following Thursday):

Come to the Greenfield Library at 2:00 to 4:00 on Thursday (enter through the back door) to dedicate two hours toward your personal writing project in the company and support of motivated writers.

### October 8 (and each following Monday):

Beginning October 8, there will also be weekly Open Writing Sessions at 10:00 to noon on Mondays at the Jaffrey Parks and Recreation Program Building, 31 Howard Hill Rd.



## MWG Speaker Series

---

**October 20**

**Chip Blake**



Though he studied ecology, **H. Emerson Blake**, or Chip, as he is known to most people, has been ensconced in the world of small publishing, editing, and nature writing. He has been *Orion's* Editor-in-Chief since 2005, and also serves as the Executive Director of The Orion Society. Previously he was Editor-in-Chief of Milkweed Editions, and before that he served as *Orion's* Managing Editor. **Orion** is a bimonthly, advertisement-free, magazine focused on nature, culture, and place addressing environmental and societal issues based in Great Barrington, MA. Chip's tenure as editor and environmentalist has guided his path through the fields of ecology and literature, cementing his role as a prominent voice in the environmental movement in New England and across the nation.

---

**November 17**

**Elaine Isaak**



**Elaine Isaak** is the author of *The Singer's Crown* (Eos, 2005), and its sequels, as well as the "Tales of Bladesend" epic novellas. As E. C. Ambrose, she wrote "The Dark Apostle" historical fantasy novels about medieval surgery, which began with *Elisha Barber* (DAW 2013), and concluded with volume five, *Elisha Daemon* (2018). Her short fiction has won the Tenebris Press Flash Fiction contest and appeared in the *New Hampshire Pulp Fiction* series, *Fireside* magazine and *Uncle John's Bathroom Reader*. A graduate of the Odyssey Speculative Fiction workshop, she has returned to teach there as well. In addition to writing and teaching about writing, Elaine works part time as an adventure guide and rock climbing instructor. Visit [www.TheDarkApostle.com](http://www.TheDarkApostle.com) or [www.ElaineIsaak.com](http://www.ElaineIsaak.com) to find out why you do not want to be her hero.

---

**December 15**

**Read-Around**



**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.

---

.....

## Outlets for your work

**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 next 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.

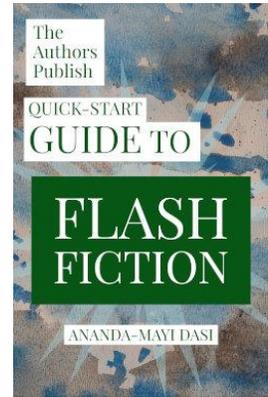
*Smoky Quartz* is open for submissions from October 1, 2018 - January 15, 2019 for the Spring 2019 issue. Work received after January 15th will be considered for an upcoming issue. It welcomes submissions from new, emerging, and established writers and artists. Please send in your best work!

***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)".

***Free Book: The Authors Publish Quick-Start Guide to Flash Fiction***

A 68 page guide to writing and publishing flash fiction with 60 Publishers and 60 Prompts, plus quick inspiration to get you started.

For your free copy, go to [www.authorspublish.com/flash-fiction/](http://www.authorspublish.com/flash-fiction/)



\*\*\*\*\*

**Other Items**

***Mud Chronicles:*** Editing on *The Mud Chronicles: A New England Anthology*, a project of the Monadnock Writers' Group, has been completed and the final preparation for publishing is underway. We expect to have it available before the end of November. The editorial staff are very enthusiastic about the quality of the work in the publication.

***Spring Poetry Competition with Cathedral of the Pines:*** MWG organized a poetry competition during the month of May. The winning poems were selected by poet Meg Kearney and placed on plaques along a gentle trail at Cathedral of the Pines. The winning entries were read at an event in June. Stop by Cathedral of the Pines in Ridge and take the path to Grassy Pond and read the poems yourself in the beautiful woodland setting. Congratulations to poets Rodger Martin, Eric Poor, and Deni Dickler.



***Writers Night Out beyond the Monadnock Region:*** The NHWP organizes 13 Writers Night Out groups across New Hampshire. Some have a monthly read-around; some have their participants describe what they are reading; some are like ours in being mostly social events. All writers are welcome at any of the groups. To find other locations around New Hampshire see the NHWP Writers Night Out page: <https://www.nhwritersproject.org/writers-night-out/>.

Why did I write? What sin to me unknown  
Dipt me in ink, my Parents, or my own?  
- Alexander Pope in an epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot, 1735

***Get something into the Quill:*** If you would like to submit to our monthly newsletter please send your information to Carl at [quill@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:quill@monadnockwriters.org) at least four days before the end of the month. As a member, you may include your author events and announcements.

***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:*** 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 [mabbszenoc@yahoo.com](mailto:mabbszenoc@yahoo.com) 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 I do not find a publisher for it, I shall probably hang myself.  
- Fiodor Dostoyevsky in a letter to his brother

### **2018-2019 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



## ***Willa Cather's Spirit Lives On!***

October 19-20, 2018

A National Celebration of Willa Cather in Jaffrey, NH  
& the 100th Anniversary of *My Ántonia*

***Come celebrate Cather in words, music, theater and food  
in the places and autumn mountain air she loved!***

***Tickets are \$75 \* RESERVE EARLY \* Only 140 tickets!***

*Details at [jaffreychamber.com](http://jaffreychamber.com)*

### ***Agenda:***

***Friday evening, Oct. 19:*** Welcome Reception. The Cather *My Ántonia* Celebration will start in the red brick Jaffrey Civic Center.

***Saturday, Oct. 20:*** Saturday events will begin at the Meetinghouse followed by guided visits to three Cather sites where young Project Shakespeare actors will enact passages from *My Ántonia*.

- Tour sites will include the grave where Willa was buried in 1947 and where Edith Lewis was buried 25 years later; the Melville Academy Museum display on Willa and Edith; and the field where Willa wrote *My Ántonia* in a tent and also wrote *One of Ours*.
- Following the tours, guests will enjoy a boxed lunch provided by the Shattuck Golf Club Grill.
- After lunch, Ashley Olson and Tracy Tucker, directors of the Willa Cather Foundation, will give a presentation on *My Ántonia* at the 1775 Jaffrey Meetinghouse.
- Virginia Eskin will treat guests to a Piano Recital/Lecture entitled, "How Willa Cather Played Music Into Her Writing" at First Church.
- The afternoon will be topped by a Cather-themed dinner (cash bar) at the Shattuck Club Ballroom, site of the former Shattuck Inn.

***JAFFREY SPONSORS:*** *Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce, Jaffrey Civic Center, Jaffrey Historical Society, The Trustees and Friends of the Jaffrey Library, Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society and the First Church in Jaffrey.* ***NATIONAL SPONSORS:*** *The Willa Cather Foundation and The MacDowell Colony.*

*Virginia Eskin*