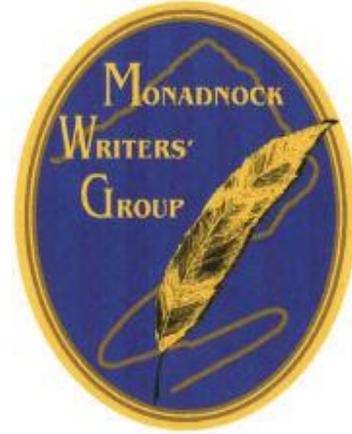


# The Quill



## June 2020: Monadnock Writers' Group Supporting Writers Since 1984

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

Mail - PO 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)  
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### General Meetings

Due to the social constraints recommended to limit spread of COVID-19, our scheduled meeting for June will be held via Zoom. The Monadnock Writers' Group normally meets every month from September through June, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m. 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.

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### June 1 – Writers' Night Out cancelled

Writers' Night Out normally 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 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.

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### June 20 - General Meeting online

Because of Covid-19 precautions and the closure of the Peterborough Library for renovations, the Monadnock Writers' Group will be hosting its annual June read-around using Zoom. You will **not** need a specialized app to join the meeting, just a computer with camera, microphone and access to e-mail. Most laptops come with camera and microphone.

Members will be sent an e-mail with simple instructions and a Zoom link by June 19. Just click that link a few minutes before 10:00 on June 20, and you'll be ready to go! Non-members may get details on how to join the meeting, by sending a message to [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com) by June 15. Put **RSVP** in the subject line of the email. In the body of the email, include your full name, your email address, and the town of residence.

**Election of MWG Board Members:** The term of office for four members of the MWG Board will end this June: Denny Caldwell (Treasurer), Carl Mabbs-Zeno (Secretary), Ann Day and Maura MacNeil. A term lasts two years. There are eight Board members.

Nominations for election to the Board closed on May 15. Carl, Ann and Maura will run for re-election. Bill Bryk has been nominated for the Board and for the Treasurer position.

MWG members will be sent an electronic ballot via Survey Monkey in June.

## ---- Publishing Opportunities ----

**New MWG Anthology:** The MWG is organizing an anthology on the theme of “Coping with COVID.” The submission period closed on June 1 with a rich medley of creative entries from near and far. The editors expect to complete their selections by the time of the MWG General Meeting on June 20.



**Smoky Quartz:** Published by the Monadnock Writers’ Group, *Smoky Quartz* is an online journal of literature and art, named after New Hampshire’s state gem. Writers and artists with ties to New Hampshire are featured in each issue. We publish poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, and a diverse selection of art and photography. See the Spring 2020 issue featuring poetry, prose and photography at <https://smokyquartz.org/>.

**Call for Submissions:** *Smoky Quartz* is now accepting submissions for the **Fall 2020 Issue**. Please submit poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, art, and photography by **September 26th**. Work received after September 26th will be considered for an upcoming issue. We welcome submissions from new, emerging, and established writers and artists with ties to New Hampshire. Please send us your best work! Note: we now accept prose pieces up to 3000 words. Visit our website for complete guidelines and to submit your work: [www.smokyquartz.org/submissions](http://www.smokyquartz.org/submissions).

**Essay Contest:** The **Monadnock Writers’ Group** is holding a high school essay contest to honor the memory of George Duncan. George was an award-winning marketing copywriter and author, and an avid writer of political commentary. He served as President of the Monadnock Writers’ Group (MWG) and was a long-time board member.



The submission period for the George Duncan Essay Contest will reopen in January 2021.

Art has something to do with the achievement of stillness in the midst of chaos...an arrest of attention in the midst of distraction.  
- Saul Bellow

## ---- Announcements ----

**Future meeting venues for MWG:** The Peterborough Town Library is breaking ground for its major renovation on June 1. Construction is expected to continue for 15 months. For further detail, go to: <https://mailchi.mp/peterboroughnh.gov/libraryprojectbegins> .

During this period, MWG will not be able to meet at the Peterborough Town Library or at its temporary location. We are researching alternative locations. Our next general meeting in-person will be September 19 if COVID restrictions allow. We hope to begin our new program season as we have for several years at the James Baldwin Library of the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough and then to hold monthly meetings at another convenient location.

### **Monadnock Pastoral Poetry Retreat – REVISED DATES:**

For over a quarter of a century this group of writers has gathered annually to celebrate new work and publications as the New Pastoral Poets and Writers. They have spent decades staying true to language written beneath the shadow of the mountain Emerson, Thoreau and Kinnell made famous—Mount Monadnock.

**Monadnock Pastoral**  
*Poets & Writers*

Please join us for the annual gathering of the Monadnock New Pastoral Poets & Writers as they host their weekend poetry retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Conference Center in Greenfield, NH. The weekend will be low-key, and collegial, but full with small group (6 maximum) workshops, an individual conference with mentors, readings by participants, writing time, social time, optional activities such as Saturday night acoustic folk music by *The Grumbling Rustics*. The conference concludes with the 30<sup>th</sup> annual reading of mentors followed by a closing banquet.

There will also be opportunity to enjoy the almost 350 acres of hiking trails at the Harris Center on Otter Lake. Registration is limited to maintain small workshop size. The deadline for registration has been extended. For further information, E-mail [rodgerwriter@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rodgerwriter@myfairpoint.net) or go to [www.monadnockpastoralpoets.org](http://www.monadnockpastoralpoets.org).

**August 28-30, 2020**, Barbara C. Harris Center, Greenfield, NH.

**Free On-line Writers' Weekly:** Have you seen *Authors Publish* at [www.authorspublish.com](http://www.authorspublish.com)? It has articles on how to write and how to publish in addition to free downloadable books.

**Writing During the Health Crisis:** For tips on being a writer during the health crisis, see the essay from *Authors Publish* at <https://www.authorspublish.com/tips-for-being-a-writer-during-the-health-crisis/>

**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)".

**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](https://twitter.com/nhwritersproj).

Fiction must stick to the facts, and the truer the facts the better the fiction – so we are told.

- Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*

---- **Also** ----

**Using an object as a symbol:** For an intriguing discussion of this writing tool go to <https://www.authorspublish.com/implementing-objective-correlative/>

**The Top 40 Publishers for New Authors:** The writing market can be overwhelming, particularly for new authors who do not have a history of past publication. It is important to note that no legitimate established presses specifically look for unpublished authors. The presses on this list were chosen because they have published a number of debut books before. See the list of publishers and short descriptions at <https://www.authorspublish.com/the-top-40-publishers-for-new-authors/>

**Are you impatient or in a rush?:** Here are brief descriptions of 17 journals that promise to respond to authors within a month of submission. <https://www.authorspublish.com/17-journals-that-respond-within-a-month/>

**Are you ambitious in writing or reading?:** For a brief description and address for 23 highly respected literary journals and magazines that publish creative writing, see <https://www.authorspublish.com/23-respected-literary-journals-and-magazines-that-publish-creative-writing/>

As a farmer, I do almost all my work with horses. As a writer, I work with a pencil or a pen and a piece of paper... I would hate to think that my work as a writer could not be done without a direct dependence on strip-mined coal... For the same reason, it matters to me that my writing is done in the daytime without electric light.

- Wendell Berry, *Why I Am Not Going to Buy a Computer*, 1987

## ---- More from the Monadnock Writers' Group ----

**Resources for Writers:** Go to the MWG website <http://www.monadnockwriters.org/> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadnockwriters/> for numerous ideas on writing, reading and publishing.

**Get something into the Quill:** If you would like to submit to our monthly newsletter please send your information to Carl at [info@monadnockwriters.org](mailto:info@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).

**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!

#### 2019-2020 Board of Directors:

President: Sara Miller; Vice President: Rodger Martin; Secretary: Carl Mabbs-Zeno; Treasurer: Denny Caldwell; Members-at-Large: Louise Werden, Maura MacNeil, Ann Day, Jesseca Timmons.