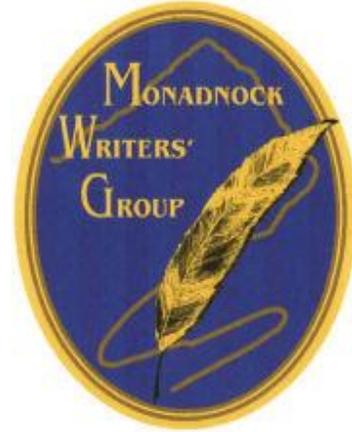


The Quill



April 2021:
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 - monadnockwriters@gmail.com

General Monthly Meetings of MWG

The Monadnock Writers' Group will meet on the third Saturday of each month through June 2021. Our meetings begin at 9:45 and continue to about 11:45. In respect for public health guidelines, these meetings are being held online for now, but our full monthly program will be included, such as regional announcements of events for writers, a ten-minute reading from a member, and a main speaker sharing professional writing experience and answering our questions. 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.

The meetings can be followed via Zoom by connecting at
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86162106433?pwd=cWRHV1NjNi9HQVU5QWhFSyt1UnlqQT09>

Follow the prompts to join with audio and join with video. You can also participate by telephone by calling 1 (646) 558-8656. Use the meeting ID: 861 6210 6433 and passcode: 744422.



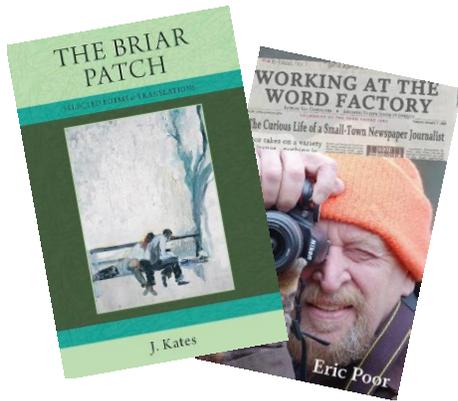
April 17

Marit Weisenberg

Marit Weisenberg recently followed the first two books in her successful science fiction series (*Select* and *Select Few*) with a mysterious novel about teenage love (*The Insomniacs*).

She has a master's degree from UCLA in Cinema and Media Studies and worked as a film and television executive for a number of years. She currently lives in Austin, Texas, with her husband and two daughters.

May 15 Publishers' Panel



Three publishers of MWG writers (Hobblebush, Bauhan and Khotso) will describe what they need from writers to get their work published and will bring out some of the different approaches that fit particular writers. You will have a chance to bring your questions to gain from their experience.



The winning essay from the George Duncan Essay Contest will be read by its author, **Davina T. Sienkiewicz**, a senior at High Mowing School in Wilton. Her paper is titled *Plastics: Their Rise and Fall from Favor*.

June 19 Read-Around

At the June event, members of the Monadnock Writers' Group will read excerpts of their own work up to ten minutes each. Every year this is an inspirational opportunity to enjoy the creative talents of our members. This intriguing visit with fellow writers will be online via Zoom at the usual link for monthly meetings. The public is welcome to attend.

Writing Opportunities

The May Sarton New Hampshire Poetry Prize: Bauhan Publishing offers an annual poetry contest in honor of New Hampshire poet May Sarton to encourage both new and experienced poets from anywhere in the world to submit their poetry in a previously unpublished collection. Your collection could potentially win \$1,000 and publication through their company so that global readership can enjoy your words!

2020 marked the tenth year of the annual May Sarton New Hampshire Poetry Prize contest. Bauhan has had the honor of working with a range of talented judges and poets to produce beautiful poetry collections. Click on the prize link below for more information on the contest, to find out how to enter, and to view the previous winners published collections! <https://bauhanpublishing.com/contests/> . It is open for submissions until June 30.

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer...
- Psalm 45

Get Your Creative Work into 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. See the Fall 2020 issue at <https://smokyquartz.org> .

Smoky Quartz is accepting submissions for the **Fall 2021 Issue**. We publish poetry, short fiction, short nonfiction, creative nonfiction (including, personal essay, short memoir, and hybrid prose, which can integrate poetry, dialogue, and images), art, and photography.

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



Photograph by Jesseca Timmons



Cosmic Poetry: The Peterborough Poetry Project is sponsoring a contest for the best poems about the cosmos. One poem per person may be submitted and only unpublished poems are eligible. Poets with poems chosen as the best three will receive cash prizes (top

prize \$75). Poems will be considered for inclusion in a second edition of the recent book: *We Are Stardust: the universe in verse*. The maximum poem length is 44 lines. The submission deadline is May 13, 2021. See full details at <https://peterboroughpoetryproject.org/contests>

A Poetry Challenge: The Creative Hub issued a call for poetry submissions concerned with the climate emergency, the current crisis and possible aftermaths. They are looking for poetry that is inspiring, meaningful and original, and that reflects the principles, concerns and values of the Extinction Rebellion from a global, regional or local perspective. See details at: <https://xrcreative.org/poetry-submissions/>

Literature is the art least subject to external control, because it is made in private. The act of making it requires only one person, one pen, one room, some paper. (Even the room is not absolutely essential). Literature is the most low-technology of the art forms... It does not even require the traditional apparatus of publishing.

- Salmon Rushdie

A Unique Invitation for Poets: *WRITING THE LAND* is a collaborative project between local land trusts and artists to help raise awareness for the preservation of land, ecosystems, and biodiversity

With support of our partnered land trusts we help coordinate poets to “adopt” a conserved property, partnering them with that respective land trust for the calendar year. Poets will visit these adopted properties and then create poems inspired by the land. Because our current times restrict in-person events this project emphasizes the importance of individual connection to the land and will include event-sharing experiences of poets reading on behalf of the land—inspiring others to visit or donate toward the protection of these farms, ecosystems, habitats, sanctuaries, and wilderness preserves.

Writing the Land is an attempt to honor nature and our relationship with it in a way that is as equitable and transparent as it is deep and entangled. As poets and advocates, we declare our intention that the scope of this project be as inclusive—to humans and places—as we hope the mantle of protection that land trusts offer can be. Our work in writing the land will never be complete but rather gains strength, depth, beauty, and energy from a multitude of voices.

Poets who create work for *Writing the Land* poets are agreeing to give our project *First North American Serial Rights* to publish the work online as well as potentially in an annual anthology. All rights revert back to the author upon publication. We ask acknowledgment if the author chooses to republish any accepted pieces. Further details are available at: <https://www.writingtheland.org/poets>

MWG Announcements



Sunday, APRIL 11 at 4:30 on Zoom - Two poets scheduled to read at an event in Harrisville last April (then cancelled by the COVID surge) will read online through a link set up by The Toadstool.

Didi Jackson is the author of *Moon Jar*. Her poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *New England Review*, *Ploughshares*, and elsewhere. After having lived most of her life in Florida, she currently lives in South Burlington, Vermont teaching creative writing at the University of Vermont.

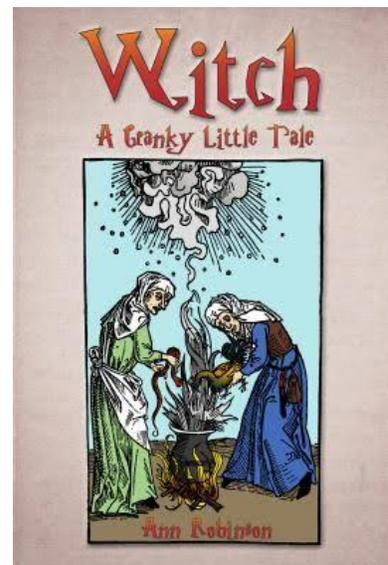
Major Jackson is the author of five collections of poetry: *The Absurd Man*, *Roll Deep*, *Holding Company*, *Hoops* (finalist for an [NAACP](#) Image Award for Outstanding Literature-Poetry), and *Leaving Saturn* (winner of the 2000 Cave Canem Poetry Prize and finalist for a National Book Critics Award Circle).

You get the Zoom link, register ahead of time through www.Toadbooks.com/Loomzoom.

New Book from MWG Member: Ann Robinson announces her first novel: *Witch, A Cranky Little Tale*, released by Peter E. Randall Publisher on October 26, 2020.

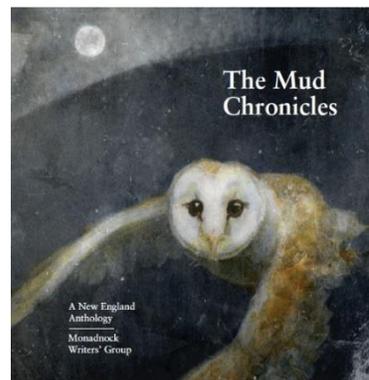
Midwest reviewer Julie Summers writes this in "Bookshelf": "Witch deftly blends humor, Wiccan precepts, as well as adroitly fashioned and memorable characters. A thoroughly enjoyable read from first page to last, Ann Robinson's tale will prove to be a unique and welcome addition to Contemporary Women's Fiction collections in general, and personal Magical Realism/Humorous Fantasy reading lists in particular."

Local readers may purchase *Witch* in paperback at Toadstool Bookshops in Keene, Peterborough and Milford. Ann's first book, a collection of short fiction entitled "Ordinary Perils", published by Peter Randall in 2002, is still available at a reduced price. For details, send a query to monadnockwriters@gmail.com.

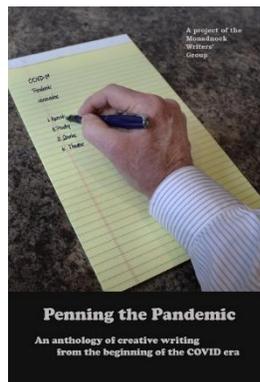


Timely Books from MWG: The newest anthologies from MWG provide different orientations to the spring of 2021.

The Mud Chronicles: Experience of our “fifth season” highlights this anthology, showing how much landscape and seasonal cues matter to our contributors. Plus, beings of metaphor that we are, the fifth season reminds us of emotional transitions, of times that don’t fit smoothly in the unfolding of a life, that mark a shift in who we were and who we will become.



Copies at a discounted price are available for pick up in Peterborough. For details contact: monadnockwriters@gmail.com



Penning the Pandemic: The creative writing in this volume shares the shock, the anguish, the courage, and the resilience of humanity in extraordinary times. After science and politics have had their say, art is left to record what the survivors felt and what they learned at heart.

It is available at the Toadstool in Peterborough and for order from any other online or brick-and-mortar retail bookseller. Copies at a discounted price are available for pick up in Peterborough. For details contact: monadnockwriters@gmail.com

New from NaNoWriMo:

National Novel Writing Month has expanded to a year-round organization to encourage writers online at no charge.

Camp NaNoWriMo is their next, great writing adventure for young writers. Every April and July, take the chance to do something new with your writing... with all the flexibility that Camp offers. You can set your own writing goal (you’re not locked into 50,000 words!), and work on any writing project, novel or not. Go to: <https://ywp.nanowrimo.org/pages/camp-nanowrimo>



More from the Monadnock Writers’ Group

Openings at our Writers’ Group: At our June meeting, MWG will hold elections for new officers. Please consider joining our Board or serving as Treasurer, Secretary or Editor of the Quill. To learn more about what these roles encompass, contact us at monadnockwriters@gmail.com .

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 monadnockwriters@gmail.com 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.

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.

Literature is an interim report from the consciousness of the artist, and so it can never be 'finished' or 'perfect'.
- Salmon Rushdie

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 at monadnockwriters@gmail.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!

2020-2021 Board of Directors:

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