



Vol. XXIII, No. 9

# MARKINGS

September 2009

For information on the included items and more, please visit our Web site:

[www.twaonline.org](http://www.twaonline.org)

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*The Tallahassee Writers Association Newsletter*

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## Program Notes

TWA monthly general meetings begin at 6:30 P.M. the third Thursday of each month at the American Legion Hall on Lake Ella Drive.

### **Sept. 17: Susan Womble**

Susan Womble, a self-proclaimed “nerd,” recently won the gold medal in the Children’s Category at the Florida Book Awards for her novel *Newt’s World: Beginnings*. It tells the story of a wheelchair-using boy with a passion for video games and computer programs. Ms. Womble has taught reading, writing, language arts for many years in the Leon County School system and is certified in exceptional student education. The book, which she characterizes as being about acceptance and tolerance, is designed with teachability in mind, and she has created a companion workbook to use as a teaching tool.

### **Oct. 15: Murder Mystery**

The public is invited to this one. For our program Oct. 15, the TWA will present *That Ain’t Red Paint*, a murder mystery that is sure to be loads of fun. If you’ve always wanted to play detective, the Tallahassee Writers Association’s murder mystery party is your chance to show off your Sherlock Holmes skills.

Dan Damerville will play the role of a best-selling author whose latest book, *That Ain’t Red Paint: Murder in the National Gallery*, has just been released. His critique group is throwing a book launch party for him, and you are invited to

attend. But fame hasn’t made this author beloved. The question is: who wants him dead? Or maybe it should be: who doesn’t?

Damerville teaches English at Tallahassee Community College and has performed frequently in the Tallahassee community theater scene.

Admission is \$5 for nonmembers and free for TWA members, but we ask that you bring an hors d’oeuvres. There will be a cash bar. Guests are encouraged to come in costume, if they wish, for this pre-Halloween party.

TWA members collaborated on the plot and will assume roles in the mystery. They include Evie Beazley, Laura Garrison, Donna Meredith, John Rushing and Ted Simmons.

Everyone at the party will serve as witnesses to events and as detectives. The first to unmask the murderer will win advance reading copies of mysteries from Barnes & Noble Booksellers.

Our murder mystery party is a not-to-be-missed evening of fun and mayhem. Hope to see you there!

## Garage Sale

It’s time to clean out those closets and cabinets and gather up your junk—ahem—treasures to donate to the TWA garage sale. The annual sale will be Saturday, Oct. 3, at Terry Crowley’s home, 2411 Napoleon Bonaparte Dr. in Lafayette Oaks subdivision.

Terry’s neighborhood garage sale is that morning, so we should have a lot of traffic and no overhead costs.

*Continued on page 2*

*Continued from page 1*

All donations should be pre-priced. You can drop them off at Terry's home the morning of Oct. 3 from 6:00 A.M. on.

For earlier delivery of items that can be transported in the trunk of a car, call Donna Meredith at 878-2931 to arrange a time to deliver items to her house. Or with prior arrangement, you may bring items to the Sept. 17 general meeting. Be sure to call Donna and let her know if you plan to do this.

Here are directions to Terry's house: Head east on Mahan Drive. Go three miles past the intersection of Mahan and Capital Circle to the stoplight at Champagne Drive. Turn left into Lafayette Oaks at the stoplight. There is a gate, which should be open the morning of the sale. Take the first right as you come out of the gate. Drive about .8 mile to 2411 Napoleon Bonaparte. Terry has a circular driveway.

TWA could really use a little extra cash flow right now, so go through your belongings and find some items to donate.

## **Advisory Council**

Merry Ortega, a longtime school district administrator, is the newest member to join the TWA's recently established Advisory Council. Merry has 30-plus years experience in education, from classroom teaching to principal to district administrator. Most recently, she was principal at Lincoln High and previously director of secondary schools for the Leon County Schools system.

Merry has been an enthusiastic supporter of our Big Bend Writers' Guild for high school students and is a big fan of teenagers and all students. She is now retired from Leon County Schools and said she looks forward to being on our Advisory Council. Welcome aboard, Merry!

## **Last Call**

This is the last call for entries to be submitted for the TWA's annual writing contests: Seven Hills—for short stories, creative nonfiction, children's picture books and, new this year, 500-word flash fiction; Penumbra—for poetry and haiku; and Playwriting—which has three categories: Celtic Knots, Stagelight and Autumnlight.

Postmark deadline for Seven Hills is Sept. 30; for Penumbra and Playwriting, Oct. 1. Visit the TWA Web site at [www.twaonline.org](http://www.twaonline.org) for complete contest rules and prizes.

## **Day on Writing**

Oct. 20 has been designated as the National Day on Writing, and TWA invites all writers to take part. Everything is all set up for TWA to be part of the National Gallery of Writing. This gallery will provide a variety of writing from the Tallahassee Writing Association. We hope each TWA member will either submit one piece of writing or a link to a piece of your writing. If you don't have anything else to link to or to post, write a piece on why you write or the value of writing. The skills, creativity and effort put in by each member will prevail through each individual piece. It will be fun to read some of the samples we post!

TWA member and FSU student Jessica Egan is going to be our curator. Your submission will be previewed by her. She will notify you within a month if your submission will be posted publicly in the gallery. If your submission is posted, any Internet user will be able to view it. Descriptive information about you and your submission, of course, will not be posted without your consent. Public viewing of galleries will begin on October 20, 2009, the National Day on Writing.

*Continued on page 4*

## ABOUT TWA

The Tallahassee Writers Association is a diverse, dynamic group of writers, published and unpublished, who reside in the greater Tallahassee area. The purpose of the Tallahassee Writers Association is to provide education, connection, and encouragement for professional and novice writers.

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### *MARKINGS* Volume XXIII, Number 9 September 2009

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the Tallahassee Writers Association.

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## DUES

Annual dues are \$30.00; student membership is half of regular membership, and a family membership is \$45.00. Make checks out to Tallahassee Writers Association and mail payments to: TWA, ATTN: Treasurer, P.O. Box 3428, Tallahassee FL 32315-3428

## Program Meeting Calendar for 2009

### MONTHLY PROGRAM NOTES

Program Meetings begin at 6:30 and run until 8:00 P.M. From 8:00-9:00 P.M., various workshops, writing exercises and critique sessions will be held. This will balance the professional development segment and the hands-on help writers have requested. Note: On nights events are planned off-site, the option of group critique or writing workshops may be held at usual meeting time and place. Watch *Markings* for notice.

*Markings* is a monthly publication of the Tallahassee Writers Association. Published material is copyrighted by the author and represents the views of the author, not the opinion of the Board or the editor, unless otherwise indicated. All material for and about writers and writing will be considered for publication. Material may be submitted electronically via email, on disk, or SD Media. These will be returned with SASE or by other arrangement.

The newsletter is available to all members by e-mail and on the TWA Web site. Only a restricted few are mailed to members who don't have a computer or e-mail.

*Classified advertising:* Free classified advertisements, **from members only**, will be accepted for publication on a space-available basis to be determined by the editor. Content of all advertisements is the responsibility of the advertiser and is limited to business card size.

Deadline for submission of all material is the Monday following the first weekend of the month of publication. Submissions should be sent to: Copy Editor - TWA Markings, P.O. Box 3428, Tallahassee, FL, 32315-3428 or email to [newsletter@tallahasseewriters.net](mailto:newsletter@tallahasseewriters.net).

TWA provides a complimentary copy of *Markings* to visitors to our monthly meetings. If you would like to continue to receive *Markings*, please contact one of the Board members listed in the preceding column for information on becoming a member of TWA.

So hurry up and send in a sample of your work to the gallery!

This is the direct link: <http://galleryofwriting.org/galleries/145399>

For more information visit the Web site: <http://www.ncte.org/dayonwriting>

in progress. Registration is limited at the retreat so all may enjoy individualized attention. Visit [www.FictionAmongFriends.com](http://www.FictionAmongFriends.com) for details and registration forms. Contact WAG member Perky Granger for additional information: [PersisGranger@aol.com](mailto:PersisGranger@aol.com) or (after Oct.15) 352-463-3089.

## Book-Sale Tent

Michèle Beaudin has reserved a TWA tent for Sept. 26, Oct. 10 and Oct. 24 at the Tallahassee Downtown Marketplace in the Chain of Parks. TWA members with published books can sell their books at the tent for a fee of \$1 per book sold. This is a nice opportunity to get some exposure for your work and to make some book sales. Michèle is the author of *Crossing the 50-Yard Line*.

## Writers' News

Julie Matherly's inspirational story titled, *The Makeover*, is featured in the Sept./Oct. 2009 issue of *Angels on Earth* magazine published by Guideposts. The story is about how an unexpected friend helped her find meaning to life within the dark cloud of grief.

## Writers Retreat

Immerse yourself in writing for four days at the St. George Island Writers Retreat, Nov. 12–15. The retreat begins with a day of workshops in Apalachicola on the 12<sup>th</sup> (also available à la carte, for those not opting to enroll in the rest of the retreat), with evening readings by authors involved in the event. Friday through Sunday award-winning novelist Adrian Fogelin will lead workshops and discussion groups and offer private consultations while no more than 12 writers toil on their own works

## Did You Know ?

Business Membership in TWA includes free card size advertisement in *Markings*—on a space available basis. Join today!

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# MARKINGS—SEPTEMBER 2009

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## *September Meeting*

**MEETING DATE:** *Third Thursday of each month. This month, Susan L. Womble, winner of the Children's Literature Gold Medal in the 2008 Florida Book Awards for her novel Newt's World: Beginnings.*

**MEETING PLACE:** *American Legion Hall, 229 Lake Ella Drive.*

Visit TWA online at: <http://twaonline.org>  
or do a search for *Tallahassee writers.*