

# WITH PEN IN HAND

Carole Crow, Editor  
ccrow350@gmail.com

NORTHEAST TEXAS WRITER'S ORGANIZATION

April 2017

Next NETWO Meeting:  
Thurs., April 13, 6:00 PM  
Franklin Co. Cultural Arts Center  
100 Rusk Street  
Mount Vernon, TX



NETWO SPRING CONFERENCE  
Saturday, April 29, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Pizza Inn  
Pittsburg, TX

APRIL SPEAKER  
Our speaker for the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Mark Frazzone, publisher of *The Daily Tribune*. He will be sharing what editors are looking for in articles and answering questions. It's exciting that newspapers these days mostly depend on independent writers.

### *Our Sympathy*

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JORY SHERMAN FICTION  
SHORT STORY CONTEST

Just a final reminder that NETWO's annual Jory Sherman Short Story Contest (Fiction) is drawing to a close. Deadline for submission is April 1 so you need to send in that story that has been teasing you, daring you, to make it into a tale others will enjoy reading.

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# NETWO

## WRITER'S ROUNDUP

*Beginner to Expert:*  
**WE'VE GOT A TAC OFFICER FOR YOU!**

Award Winning Children Book Author's Do's and Don'ts  
Children's panel: Pet Peeves and Likes  
Beginning writer drills: Point of View and Lingo  
Defeat dialogue woes  
Step-by-step from doc to Amazon  
Make a Book Trailer Bootcamp  
Scrivener Survival Kit  
Strategizing a Successful Launch  
Jory Sherman Short Story contest winners announcement

**YOUR MISSION**  
**DEPLOYMENT: APRIL 29, 2017 AT 0900 HOURS**  
**TARGET DESTINATION: PIZZA INN, PITTSBURG, TX**

**REPORT TO :**  
**WWW.NETWO.ORG FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS**



\$75 members | \$85 nonmembers | \$10 discount if registered by April 7  
Full refund contact Shannah Ford by April 14, 75% refund by April 21 | fordshannah81@gmail.com or (903)475-4587

## 2017 NETWO Writer's Roundup Bootcamp

Saturday, April 29, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m

Pizza Inn, Pittsburg, TX

### Participant Information:

Date:	Name:
Phone:	Email:
Address:	
Existing Member: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Years:

### Preference of Workshops:

<input type="checkbox"/> Make a book trailer: Bring pics and laptop (if possible), leave with trailer Speaker: Nancy Hudgins Workshop #1	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Stages of Intimacy Speaker: Jayna Morrow Workshop #2
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## MEMBER NEWS



Her first novel, *Secrets of the Heart*, is a finalist in two different contests with the results due out in early April. Congratulations, Nancy.



### Dana Wayne Publishes Second Novel

Linda Hudgins, writing as Dana Wayne, will have her second novel, *Mail Order Groom*, available as of April 3<sup>rd</sup>. She is set for two signing events: April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Chautauqua Festival sponsored by the Longview Public Library and on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Heritage Festival in San Augustine, TX. The Heritage event spotlights East Texas Authors and will also be attended by Phillis Still and Patty Wiseman.



## TIPS FROM GAY INGRAM



### *Beginnings and Endings*

What do many literary agents consider **the** most annoying story opening? An opening passage that is set in a dream or simulation.

Your opening should be directly relevant to your story. You can say anything you want to get the reader's attention as long as your opening actually impacts the story.

Prologues seem to have gone out of favor with publishers. Prologues can act as a sort of anti-hook, purposefully distancing the reader from the story. Even the word 'prologue' declares to a reader 'the real story hasn't started yet.

Beware of being an author who begins their story with a mass of exposition. Who characters are -- their motivations and relationships -- can all wait until the reader is hooked. Resist explaining your world or characters for the first few pages.

Openings are an introduction to the tone of the novel. Use them to set the tone, personality, foreshadowing, and excitement.



The enigma of endings:

The end of a story should carry the weight of the whole story. It should make the reader look back at the whole story with a brand-new set of eyes.

There are a variety of choices in what kind of ending you can use: the cliff-hanger, the surprising but inevitable, the powerful image. John Gardner advises authors to "return and repeat." Return to bits of dialog, juicy images, and the story's most impressionable descriptions.



Another approach is to strive for an ending that succeeds both to culminate and continue the story advises Douglas Bauer in *The Stuff of Fiction; Advice on Craft*.

It's a tightrope walk, stop too early and you risk writing the often cliché cliff-hanger ending. Go too far in wrapping things up and you border on melodrama. Strive for a resolved ending and you risk the happily-ever-after feeling.

However you choose to write your ending – return and repeat, culminate and continue – face your endings the way you want your characters to face their fears. Raise your fingers to the keyboard and declare, "I can do this."





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PRESIDENT – Shannah Ford  
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VICE PRESIDENT – Joy Michele Chitsey  
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TREASURER – Earlene Callan  
tesbcallan@gmail.com

SECRETARY – Lisa Simmons  
[lirabrannon@gmail.com](mailto:lirabrannon@gmail.com)

CONTEST COORDINATOR – Galand Nuchols –  
[galandnuchols@gmail.com](mailto:galandnuchols@gmail.com)



## **NETWO Business Meeting Minutes March 9, 2017 Arts Alliance, Mt. Vernon, TX**

### **Topics:**

**Conference Update**

**Jory Sherman SS Contest**

**Discussion on use of Sentences**

### **Members Present:**

Michele Chitsey, Jean Pamplin, Galand and Tom Nuchols, Carol Olson, Vicki White, Janet Ellington & Frankie Capers.

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Carol Olson has updated the NETWO website for easier access to our April Conference. Check it out.

Galand Nuchols reminded everyone to get your Short Story Entry in by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

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Different books, movies and authors were discussed among members. Notes were taken and much gained from conversation.

Michele shared her long-time dream of a devotional book she has created and hopes to publish in the near future.

Jean shared an Illustrator's great works.

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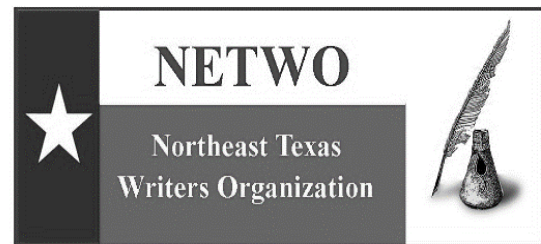
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