

# Moab Poets and Writers

Summer 2006

Volume 3, Issue 2

## Moab Poets and Writers Seasonal Newsletter

### Upcoming Events

- ❖ July 28th - Pot Luck  
Open Mic at Gold Bar  
Campground
- ❖ Glyphs III Submissions  
Deadline

### In This Issue

- ❖ Call for Submissions
- ❖ Moab's Western Stars  
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Mail and Website
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### Call for Submissions to Glyphs III

MP&W is calling for submissions of poetry and prose to *Glyphs III*, which is scheduled to be published in late Spring 2007. Look for articles and ads about our call for submissions in the *Times-Independent*, *San Juan Record*, and *Moab Happenings*.

You will find detailed information about the schedule and submission guidelines on our website at <http://www.moabpoetsandwriters.org>

Note that this issue of *Glyphs* will be theme-based, so be sure your submissions relate to the Colorado Plateau or Southeastern Utah.

The folks serving on the Glyphs III committee are: Nancy Kurtz, Marcy Hafner, Joan Gough, Ann Gordon, Monette Clark, and Anne Stewart. Thank you!

### Moab's Western Stars Changes Hands

Members of the MP&W board of directors voted to end their sponsorship of the Western Stars event.

The MARC board of directors has decided to sponsor the Western Stars event next year. Rusty Salmon and Ann Gordon have transferred the Western Stars website and event information to Janet Lowe at the MARC.

Many members of MP&W have been enthusiastic about the Western Stars event. We wish the MARC every success in sponsoring this fun-filled event in February.



## New Addresses for MP&W

### New Website Address

Our webmaster purchased the domain name for MP&W and moved our website from Geocities to its own address on the Web! Check out: <http://www.moabpoetsandwriters.com> -- thank you, Ann.

### New Mailing Address

Our mailbox at Canyonlands Copy Center moved when the center moved. Our new mailing address is:

Moab Poets and Writers  
375 South Main, PMB 123  
Moab, UT 84532



Use this address to mail us your hard copy submissions for *Glyphs III*.

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## MP&W Prose Group

Writer's block got you in a slump?! One solution for getting out of the blank screen syndrome is to join the prose group that meets on alternate Fridays at the Marc.

Organized by Monette Clark, the group met for the first time on Tuesday, September 17, 2002 when a format of free writing, discussions and critiquing was established. The faces have changed since then, but the goal of a friendly, supportive atmosphere to help local writers improve their skills has remained the same.

Being a writer is often a solitary pursuit. Too many of us feel there is no place to turn to express our frustrations and triumphs. Sharing your work with other members of the group helps overcome that isolation.

"We'd be lost without it," is a comment commonly heard when the group meets. For more information contact Marcy at 259-6197

## MP&W Board Changes

### New Board Member and Two Board Positions Filled

Connie Baty has been confirmed as a new board member. Welcome Connie! Marcy Hafner now serves the board of directors as Secretary. Carol Almson will serve as the Membership representative. We appreciate these ladies' willingness to serve this organization and to help MP&W move forward!

### Two Board Members Resign

Resignations have been tendered by board members Salmon and Fox. Rusty Salmon resigned from the board of directors in May. She will be sorely missed. As the creator of Western Stars, she brought cowboy poetry and performance to Moab. On the board, Rusty was willing to pitch in and help where needed. Her careful record keeping and expertise as treasurer will be hard to replace. Thank you, Rusty, for your enthusiasm and for your many contributions to Moab Poets and Writers. Good luck with whatever lies ahead for you.

In July we received a second resignation. Founding member of MP&W, Julie Fox, resigned from the board due to her current workload at EklectiCafe. Thank you, Julie, for your inspiration and for the creativity you brought to MP&W from its inception. We will still be turning to you for the historical perspective you can offer and occasionally for your "can do" attitude.



## On Writing and Publishing - *Monthly column by Michaelene Pendleton*

### Research

Research is the backbone of writing, whether you're doing fiction or nonfiction. Most of us who have made it through the education system have some facility with the research process: go to library, search the reference section, check out books, make notes. If you're an up-to-date writer, you perform roughly the same steps, except you use a computer and the Internet.

Since I'm an old fogey, I find the Internet (or the Web) to be broad, but shallow, and for me it is no replacement for a good research library. The Web can, however, give you key words that you can use in a deeper search. And if you live in a community where the nearest research library is over 200 miles away, then the Web is a lifesaver for researchers.

One of the most overlooked sources for research is children's books. What, you may

ask, would an adult writer find in a book aimed at a juvenile reader? The answer: the basic knowledge of the subject. A book written for children doesn't try to provide adult level information, but instead is clearly written, covering the main points of a subject. You can make a good research outline from perusing juvenile books and texts on your subject.

Each time a generation dies off, we lose irreplaceable information. Technical knowledge progresses, but social information falls through the cracks. Any time you can learn from a primary source, you are preserving a human voice that will someday be lost. Remember that a sole source will give you only one side of a story. Confirmation from other sources will ground your work and give it credence.

Good research doesn't mean that the resulting book will be good, but bad research will ensure a bad book.

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## Writing Workshop with Susan Ossana

On Saturday, April 29th, mystery and contemporary fantasy writer, Susan Ossana held a fiction writing workshop at the Senior Center. Susan has also taught a novel writing class, which met at the Marc once a week.

Susan is a published author with more publications in the works to go on the market. As a resident of Moab, some of her stories take place on the Colorado Plateau.

The workshop started with a round table of introductions and expectations of the workshop. She then led the group through some worthwhile activities, all geared to sharpen a writer's skills. Susan also answered the many questions that came up about finding an agent.

Those who participated came away feeling that

they had learned a lot. What's more, they had a good time doing it.



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