

January 2009
The President's Corner
by Angi Platt



Hello fellow chapter mates and welcome to 2009. For six months, I've been wondering what I'd write in this column that you couldn't find in the rest of the newsletter or by reading the website. Six long months and I still feel at a loss. Then I realized it's 2009. Good grief...2009.

I've been in RWA without publishing more years than I want to admit. I've been writing longer, even though I didn't know anything about submitting back then. I've made life-long friends through this organization and hate that some have set aside their writing for other pursuits. They were good storytellers. I've struggled over the last two or three years, being on the cusp of selling. (Or at least that's how an agent and many friends described it.) I've had rejection letters from editors who apologized for not having a place for the book. (Now that will really depress you.)

I wondered if I should join the many storytellers who spend their time NOT torturing themselves over every word. NOT worrying if their character is growing. NOT worrying if they're persecuting two heroic fictional characters enough. I wondered if I should give up. I wondered...about two minutes.

Even though the writing hasn't flowed... Even though I allow volunteer work and family to detour my daily objective of five pages... Even though I fight for every word on the page... I'm a writer. Not just a storyteller, but a writer. The stories have to be on the page for me. I MUST get them on the page eventually. I just have to. And I will sell them one day.

So 2009 is my year. It's my time to get that story on the page and finish projects that deserve to be finished. It can be your year too. Let's grab it together and do all we can to help ourselves further along the road to publication.

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