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The President's Corner
by Angi Platt



"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." ~ *January President's Corner*

Goals. Encouragement. Take Action. Keep Writing. Distractions. Recognition. Write some more. And the next step – Submitting.

You have a request. YAY ! Maybe you went to a local conference or you've attended the RWA® national conference, but you have a request. The first thing you want to do is say a blessing over the actual pages and get your baby in the mail to the editor or agent.

Slow down. Take a breath. You want to submit the BEST work you have, so don't rush. Remember all those fellow writers who've offered to look at it one last time? Don't forget them. They mean what they offered.

My advice? Print yourself (or anyone) a copy of your submission and have them read it for errors. Read it yourself--backwards. Oh yeah, that's a copy-editing trick (a job from my life before kids). Beginning at the end of your submission, read each paragraph for errors. Proceed through each paragraph back to the beginning of your manuscript. Separating the paragraphs, keeps you from "getting into your story" and missing the errors you might have bypassed before.

Today's publishing industry isn't the same as thirty years ago -- hey, it's not even the same as four years ago. This year at national, I heard more and more authors stating that their editors are also their copy-editors. Will you lose a sale because of a misspelled word? Not if the story is one they want. But a better over-all product leaves a better over-all impression.

So send your best and get submitting!

Just. Keep. Writing.

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