

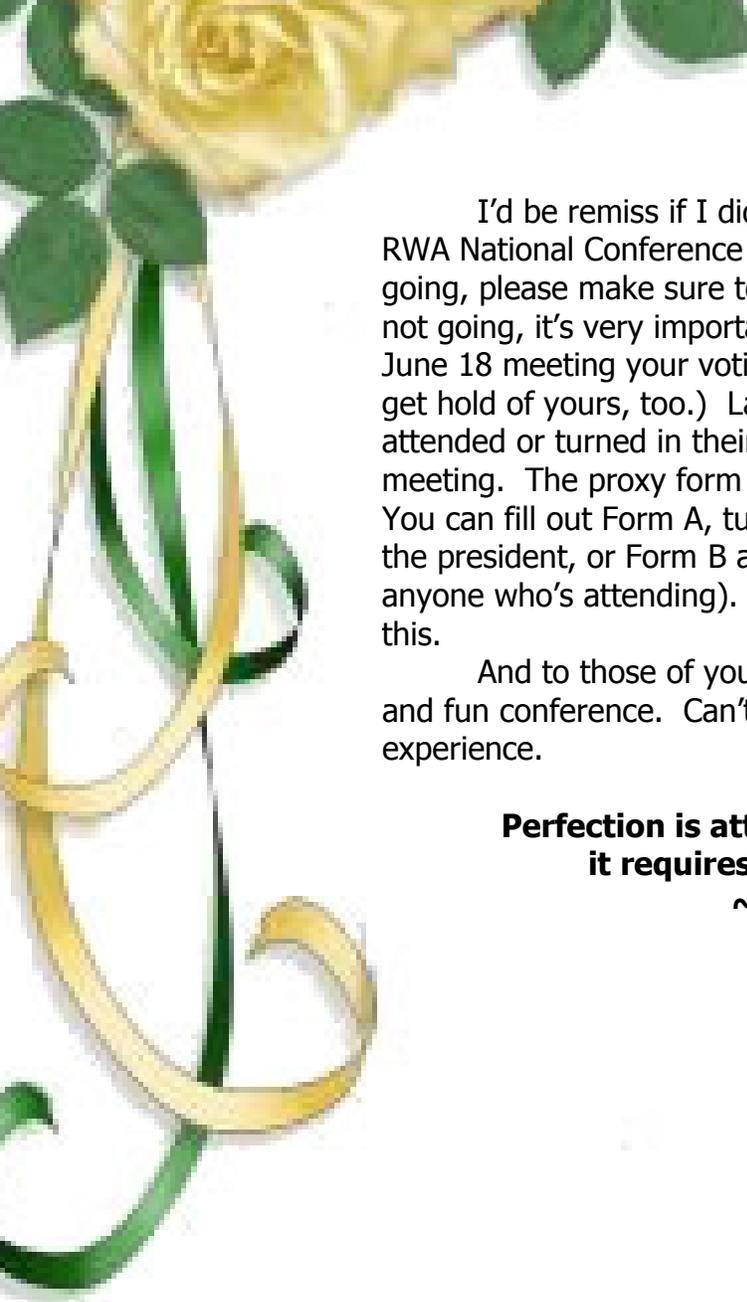
*A note from the 2011 president,
Marsha West*

We continue with the saga of my writing journey. Yes, I finally did complete the edits to *The Theatre* and pushed send to those agents who'd asked to see chapters when I'd pitched to them at conferences. Now one of those has already said no thanks, but others haven't responded one way or the other yet. I also sent a query to an agent who asked to see chapters just from the query. That's never happened before and was very exciting. Talk about an emotional rush. That old adrenalin shot down my arms, my palms got sweaty, and I nearly hyperventilated. Now I know nothing may come of the request, but it was so validating.

I concluded an online class about alpha heroes. I'm known to not write very manly men. LOL I began another class on *Infusing Your Story with Emotion*. I can already tell this is going to be challenging for me. The leader wants us to "feel" our character's emotions ourselves. I'm hard pressed to make bad things happen to my people, and I sure don't want to feel their hurt. You see why the class will be difficult for me and why I so desperately need to take it. LOL

The teacher built at least the beginning of the course on Lee Strasburg, the great New York acting coach, who took his lead from the Russian director Konstantin Stanislavsky's philosophy of acting. My old college text, which taught his method is still in a box in my garage, may be titled *The Art of Believing*. In a way, I'm ahead of the game, because I get the method. However, I was also a tad nutty in college, so going back to that stuff is not comfortable. I want to be published, so I'll do almost anything short of breaking the law or hurting someone to make that happen. For purposes of this class, it means getting in touch with some past memories. If I'm not grinning a lot at the next meeting, it will mean the course is working. LOL





I'd be remiss if I didn't mention that this month our RWA National Conference begins in New York City. If you're going, please make sure to contact Kim Campbell. If you're not going, it's very important you send to Kim or bring to the June 18 meeting your voting proxy. (Those of you going, get hold of yours, too.) Last year, not enough members attended or turned in their proxies to hold the annual meeting. The proxy form is in the May issue of the RWR. You can fill out Form A, turn over your voting authority to the president, or Form B and turn it over to Kim (technically, anyone who's attending). Please, please remember to do this.

And to those of you going, have a safe, informative, and fun conference. Can't wait to hear all about your experience.

**Perfection is attained by slow degrees;
it requires the hand of time.
~ Voltaire**

