



# Heart to Heart

## February Meeting

By Shannon Canard

### “The High Concept” A workshop by author Lori Wilde, February 18

“High concept” is the most important buzz phrase in publishing. It simply means that the concept, the premise of your story is so compelling it can be captured in a single, intriguing sentence. But the simplicity of the high concept is deceptive. It takes skill, creativity and hard work to craft a good one. Topics in the February 18th workshop include: Elements of the high concept, two methods for generating a high concept, examples of high concept books, how to find your high concept and ways to fix a low concept manuscript.

The power of a high concept was recently brought home to Lori when the announcement

of her latest contract with Warner brought interest from seven movie production companies. Lori has published thirty-two novels for Harlequin and Warner books. Two of her books, LICENSE TO THRILL and MISSION: IRRESISTIBLE were excerpted in Cosmopolitan magazine and LICENSE TO THRILL was featured in an article about romance novels in Redbook.

A former RITA finalist, Lori’s work has also been recognized by the National Readers’ Choice Award, Holt Medallion, Romantic Times Reviewers’ Choice and many more. Several of her books have appeared on the Walden Books best seller list.

Lori is a former registered nurse and lives in North Texas with her husband, Bill.

The first chapter sells the book.  
The last chapter sells the next book.  
Mickey Spillane

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## President's Corner

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Happy Valentines Day!

February, the short and sweet month of love and romance, where every day is a good excuse to break out the Godiva Chocolates!

It was great to see so many faces at the January meeting. It looks like 2006 has started out with an explosion of positive momentum. It was inspiring to read on the lists passed around how many of you have been productive, cranking out the pages and submitting to editors and agents. I think the race for the 2006 end-of-year awards for most pages is going to be a close one. Congratulations to everyone who met their end of the month goals. To those who didn't, February is only a few days old. Get going!

The Board is hard at work, gathering ideas and putting plans into action. Remember, we welcome your suggestions or comments so please feel free to contact any board member with your questions or concerns. We also have several areas that need volunteers. This is your group—get involved!

For those of you unable to attend the meeting last month, here are a couple of reminders:

Membership Renewals are due. Please mail your form to our new Membership Secretary or check out the website for Pay Pal options. Don't forget to email Jen FitzGerald at Jen@StormsEdge.com if you'd like to start receiving your newsletter electronically.

If you're not part of our NTRWA Loop, you're missing out on some great speakers. Each month, PAN Presents hosts an informal Q&A workshop for members only. Shelley Bradley will be online Feb. 6-10 speaking on Sexual Tension, so log on and check it out.

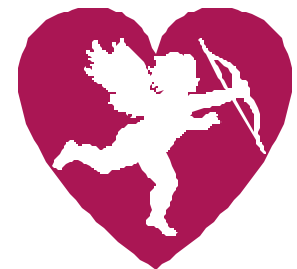
National Raffle Tickets are on sale. \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5. The winner will receive a full reimbursement of their RWA National Conference fee (value: \$325). The drawing is in May. I encourage everyone who can attend National to do so. It's an incredible experience to be surrounded by so many writers. I'm always struck by the sheer mass of informational workshops, industry news and general camaraderie.

Our VP/Program Director has a stellar line up this year. February's guest speaker will be Lori Wilde on Writing the High Concept. Hope to see you there.

And lastly, thank you for allowing me to be your president this year. It is a pleasure to serve this great organization. If you have any concerns or suggestions, I'd love to hear from you.

Happy Writing,

Sherry Davis,  
NTRWA President



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## 2006 NTRWA Board Members & Liaisons

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# Get Out Of The Way Of Your Writing

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By Sandra Ferguson

I've been writing since . . . well, since the growls of dinosaurs echoed. I'd like to believe my learning curve has been right on schedule, that I haven't wasted effort. But that's a belief and nothing more. Truth is: this writing business takes time and a fanny firmly planted in the writing chair. That said, I was surprised recently to discover I still hadn't fully learned the concept of getting out of the way of my own writing.

I needed to write a recommendation letter for a Teacher of the Year nomination. One page, single spaced, one inch margins were the requirements. Wow! In writing first chapters, it normally takes me six pages just to get to the characters' name. Okay, not quite that bad, but brevity has never been one of my strong points. Could I make this teacher shine and meet the requirements?

I wrote the first several drafts as quickly as possible, trying to gather my memories and capture them on the page. Then I went to the organization stage of sharing only the most specific characteristics that

emphasized this teacher's qualifications for the award. Finally, I gleaned my words in an attempt to place the exact verb, use the perfect sentence structure and HIT my word count. Oops! I was too long, too wordy! Time to cut again. It was during this stage that the truth of my error became clear. While the words were sharp, the language clear, the grammar acceptable, I was more focused on how great my writing was than how wonderful this teacher was. It was time to learn how to get out of the way of my writing.

Focus is the key to writing for your reader. Classic literature may provide angst-filled characters in life-altering situations, but great story-telling focuses, first and foremost, on how the reader will receive your written word. According to

Great story -telling is not about showing your intelligence, but expanding a world for your reader.

Peter Bowerman's article, WRITE BETTER, EARN MORE!, "While many things make up a classic . . . Yet, to my mind, one of the most important is the ability to use ordinary, unadorned words and phrases — the building blocks of everyday speech from everyday people — to create extraordinary stories."

So how do you get out of the way of your writing? Focus on the reading, not the writing. When you find you are piling in the adverbs, adjectives, stringing it out forever, then STOP! Long elaborate phrases, extra words, writing above your readership might prove you're well-learned, but if your reader is lost, who cares? Great story-telling is not about showing your intelligence, but expanding a world for your reader.

A few plain and simple ways to determine the effectiveness of your writing can be: start by reading aloud your finished passages. Does it sound clumsy? Long-winded? Are you desperate for breath by the time you reach sentence end? Then it's time to cut.

*Continued on page 11*

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## Administration

**PAN** (Published Authors Network) is the name given to the discussion group intended to meet the needs of writers published or contracted to publish works in the romance genre.

**Heart to Heart** is published monthly by NTRWA, a non-profit organization founded in March of 1983 by aspiring and published writers of romance fiction.

**Heart to Heart** welcomes articles for publication in its monthly issues. Articles should contain fewer than 1000 words and pertain to matters of interest to romance writers.

**Heart to Heart** reserves the right to edit according to space or clarity, and to refuse articles that its editorial staff deems inappropriate for its readership. Deadline for publication is the 25th of each month.

**SISTER CHAPTERS:** Feel free to reprint articles from our newsletter as long as proper credit is provided for the chapter and the individual author.

**Non-RWA organizations** please contact the editor regarding reprints.

# Meeting Minutes

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By Paula Wachter

President Sherry Davis called the meeting to order.

Carolyn Williamson, Membership Secretary, announced our visitors: Linda Lannerd, Gretchen Craig, Julie Williams, Hurshel Farrow, Melanie Parker, and Anjalie Gilby.

Shannon Canard, Vice President and Program Director, introduced our guest speaker Karen Whiddon. After Karen's presentation, we had a short break to order lunch.

Sherry announced "First Sale" recognition awards for Candy Havens and Rosemary Clement-Moore. She also announced that open board meetings would occur after the general meeting during the months of February, May, August, and October of this year. All general members are encouraged to attend.

Sherry reminded everyone that registration for the DARA Dreamin' in Dallas conference is now taking place. There is limited space available. The conference will take place on March 31 - April 1, 2006. Sherry also reminded everyone

that registration for the RWA National Conference will be opening soon. The conference will take place from July 26 - 29 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis.

Carolyn announced that Marilyn Eudaly will be serving as Hospitality Chair and asked for a volunteer to assist in sending greeting cards to members. Carolyn reminded everyone that annual dues are being collected. Members may pay online through the Pay Pal button on the NTRWA website.

Jen FitzGerald, Newsletter Editor, requested articles for the newsletter. She said she can accept any format and the deadline is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. She mentioned she would like to see more articles from NTRWA members so please send submissions to [jen@stormsedge.com](mailto:jen@stormsedge.com). Jen also announced that members may now opt to receive the newsletter in electronic format. Members will not have to go to the website to read the newsletter, it will be delivered to your inbox if you choose this option. Jen then discussed the usage of the tape library. A \$10 deposit is required which allows you to check out three tapes

at each monthly meeting.

Juliet Burns, PAN Liaison, discussed the Published Author Network program. PAN sponsors the monthly Barnes & Noble Book Club, book signings, and the PAN Q&A on the NTRWA loop. Juliet requested volunteers from PAN to conduct the June Round Table Critique. Members who have RWA PAN status should send email to [julietburns@comcast.net](mailto:julietburns@comcast.net) to join the NTRWA PAN loop.

Sandra Ferguson, PRO Liaison, discussed eligibility requirements for PRO status. Anyone with a current RWA membership and proof that a completed manuscript has been submitted to an agent or editor is eligible. Applications for PRO are located at the membership table at every meeting. Sandra asked for volunteers to submit articles and tips for inclusion on the website for the PRO page.

*Continued on page 11*

## Visiting NTRWA

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Anyone interested in the romance genre is invited to attend NTRWA meetings and workshops.

Visitors may attend three times before NTRWA requires they become members. All members of NTRWA must be members in good standing of Romance Writers of America (RWA).

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# What To Do When You're Stuck! Plotting, Plodding, and Finishing the Book

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**Presented by Karen Whiddon in January 2006**

Recap written by Gina Lee Nelson

Guest Speaker Karen Whiddon shared some tips on plotting, or what to do when you don't know what to write or just don't feel like writing:

Remember: How Bad Do You Want It?

- Look at the small picture.  
Set small goals.  
Set a timer.
  - Use headphones.
  - Put up a DO NOT DISTURB sign on your door.
  - Skip and write what you want.
  - Make a list. Choose one scene you like to write per day.
  - Make a list of threats.
  - List Ten Things the Heroine Needs to Learn
  - Give yourself permission to be bad in your first draft.
- Remember you can't fix a blank page.
- Pretend you have been given a college writing assignment.
  - Write in first person to stimulate creativity and to get in the head of your characters.

- Chart your characters. Interview them. Find photos of your characters at a celebrity database like IMDB.com.
- Chew gum. Chewing gum especially helps people with ADD focus.
- Change your location.
- Mix two elements that don't go together, e.g. spiders and a love scene.
- Listen to music.
- Read a "How to" book, e.g. Writing the Breakout Novel by Donald Maas.
- Creative visualization.
- Give yourself permission to delete your words into a storage file which you may or may not access later.
- Scented candles.
- Alternate cold and hot beverages.
- Read your story out loud.
- Brainstorm with your friends.
- Write something out of your genre.
- Consider this story your "practice book."

Remember: If you're a writer, you write!

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**We will be discussing the pros and cons of adding  
the position of President-Elect at February's meeting.**

**Please bring your questions, comments, and suggestions.**

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## Many Happy Returns...

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Happy Birthday to...

LaKisha Jordan, January 20

Shelley Bradley, January 28

Evelyn Welle, February 8

Kimori Liebelt, February 14

Lois Lazarescu, February 16



## Eeeew! Resolutions, a PRO start on the year.

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In my simple take on life, Resolutions = Goal = Task = Jobs = 4-letter words, and I despise bad language. Something in my brain revolts, demanding that I stop over-organizing and get on with the fun of life. After all, aren't we supposed to eat the steak and ignore the cholesterol? Savor the ice cream and forget the calories? Okay, so a few of my New Year's resolutions have to do with food. If we're constantly bombarded with demands to set higher goals, better organize our task schedules, or cultivate the next promotion, how can we enjoy life?

As writers, many of us, are patently comfortable being left-brained creatures. Not to imply that we can't balance our checkbook, or compute our taxes, only that the worlds we create exist beyond the ordinary plane of reality. How do we achieve a balance that isn't stifling to our creativity, but that will accomplish real writing goals?

Start with KISS. Not the rock band, they won't help at all unless your characters are stuck in a time warp from the 70s. KISS stands for Keep It Simple, Stupid. Ten years in outside sales and I learned this technique. Keep It Simple, Stupid doesn't refer to clients, your family, your agent or editor, but to yourself. Each of us has a tendency to make things more difficult

than they really need to be. Don't overcomplicate your life—your goals. Boil it down to the ultimate accolade of success. That becomes your 2006 goal.

Is this year's goal to be published? There are probably eighty-six steps to achieve that task. If you start a lined-out goal list, you'll invest a month trying to think of all the steps, another month organizing the list, another month lamenting the fact first quarter's end is upon you with nothing to show for the time, then the rest of the year desperately attempting to catch up. Save yourself the aggravation.

In order to publish you must finish the book, the article, the short story. That's your primary goal. Emblazon it on a poster, construction paper, post-it notes surrounding your computer. Then finish your project. It is irrelevant the brilliance of your query, synopsis, or first three chapters if you don't type THE END.

Does that mean writing everyday? You betcha. Daily writing duty is a task that should be scheduled in your PDA, your wall calendar, your crayon filled parent's planner. However, more crucial than listing this task is the art of putting your fanny in the chair. If you sit at the same time each day and write, your

brain turns on, gears up, fires into creativity mode. I'm not promising greatness with each keystroke. I do guarantee completed pages.

It's a given, your family will balk at these hours. The phone will continue to ring. There will be demands on your precious time. Eventually, your family will learn to fend for themselves during those pristine writing moments. Your hand will automatically set the answering machine to the 'on' position. You'll learn not to schedule doctor or dentist appointments, or time with friends during your writing hours. It's muscle memory. If you put yourself in a writing position at the same time on a consistent basis, your body and your mind will remember what to do. That's the theory behind KISS. Keep your goal simple and your commitment to achievement equally as simple.

Don't overcomplicate your life. As the Chinese proverb says, a long march starts from the very first step. So, KISS the goal and write. If you don't begin, there can be no ending.

By Sandra Ferguson  
NTRWA PRO Liaison

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### 2006 Board Meetings

**To be held after the general meetings in March, May, August, and October.**

**All general members are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

# Spotlight On... Andrea Geist

By Gina Lee Nelson

*This is a good opportunity to get to know you a little better. How was your birthday party with the gals?*

I just had one of my best birthdays ever -- the fine women of NT came over for a girls only party & sleep over. We had a great time.

One of the best results of joining the chapter has been the friends I've made.

*Tell us a little bit about yourself.*

I love dogs! My family consists of Mollie, Chester, Jax and Mabel Grace, all rescued dogs and our latest family member is Adelaide, a tortoiseshell cat. I enjoy reading and a variety of crafts such as jewelry making, polymer clay, stained glass and crochet.

*What brought you to the DFW area and how long have you lived here?*

I went to Texas Tech University then spent 2 very long years in Arkansas before moving to Austin. I moved from Austin back to DFW in 1994 -- yep, I went to high school in the area. I was a Farmerette.

*When did you start writing? How long have you been a member of NTRWA and RWA?*

When a career change was forced upon me in 2001, I evaluated what I

wanted to do. I wanted to write. My research led me to RWA and NTRWA and I joined NT. I feel comfortable in the supportive atmosphere offered by NT. NT and RWA have taught me a great deal about writing and I think my skills have improved. I think I have only missed 2 meetings since I joined. One of the best results of joining the chapter has been the friends I've made. I am especially fortunate to have Shannon Canard for a friend and critique partner.

You haven't asked what I like to write --

*Ahem, so what do you like to write?*

Everything I've written, except one MS, is contemporary with paranormal elements. Some are steamy and suspenseful.

So, what is your work in progress and where did you get the idea?

I am trying to clean up a completed manuscript - since I submitted it to the Great Expectations Contest, I'll leave out the title. I am working on the outline for a new novel for the NEXT line. I have the first chapter and the rough story line completed. It is called Taking A Chance. I had written a short story for a contest titled One Demon At A Time. This would probably be a great novel but I haven't developed the plot further - I'm waiting for an ah-ha moment.

I'm not sure where I get my ideas -- they just appear as a seed in my mind

and with nurture I have a story.

*Where do you see yourself in five years?*

My goal is to be published. I want to have at least 3 books published. I want our slot machine business to be successful enough that I have more time to write. I'd also like to win a big lottery-- but this is what I want.

Where do I see myself? Well, I'm superstitious so I don't want to jinx myself, really.

*What accomplishment are you most proud of?*

Wow, that is a tough question. I try to live my life by the tenet of John Wesley. 'Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.' So when I have helped someone or an animal, I'm pleased. Last year I placed in the Great Expectations romantic suspense category-- that made me proud and happy.

*Continued on page 10*



**Newsletters are now available in electronic format.**

**If you are interested in receiving your newsletter via email,  
please contact Jen FitzGerald at [jen@stormsedge.com](mailto:jen@stormsedge.com) or 817-457-6414.**

# Member News

Angi Platt and her co-writing efforts with Tami Cowden will be represented by Roberta Brown. Angi and Tami will be writing as Morgan Fey.

Maryann Romano, writing as Maya Reynolds, signed a contract with Jacky Sachs of Bookends Literary Agency.

Juliet Burns submitted Royal Series: Prince of Scandal to Silhouette Desire.

Angi Platt submitted Bad Boy Uncovered to Kensington.

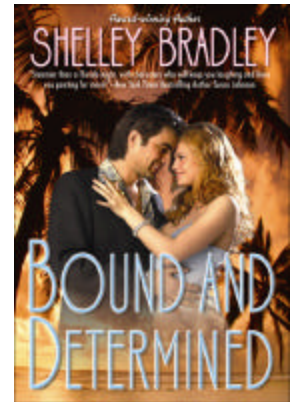
Anjalie A. Gilby submitted The Sorca to Gislason.

Maryann Romano submitted You've Been A Bad Girl to Kensington.

Shelley Bradley submitted two proposals to Berkeley; one for Undercover Stranger and one for Naughty Business.

Ron Campbell has a finished a manuscript and is excitedly, though reluctantly, entering contests and is actively looking for an agent.

Shelley Bradley is excited to announce that her latest release, Bound and Determined is now available.



Her next signing is Saturday, February 25th at Barnes & Noble, Stonebriar (Frisco) at 3 pm with Lorraine Heath, Katherine Garbera and Kathleen Baldwin.

Gail Dayton completed a 100,000+ word manuscript called The Eternal Rose.

Angela Cavener finished a 90,000 word manuscript called Operation: After-Life.

Cheryl Hathaway finished an 84,000 word manuscript called Night Flight.

Wow, you all were a prolific bunch this past month... Kudos to all of you who wrote and edited and proudly listed your totals, but due to space considerations, only the top five producers will be listed...

## NEW PAGES ~ Top 5

Rosemary C. Moore, 200  
Paula Wachter, 150  
Shelley Bradley, 94  
Ron Campbell, 80  
Sandra Ferguson, 55

## EDITED PAGES ~ Top 5

Paula M. Wachter, 300  
Shelley Bradley, 286  
Belinda Bass, 150  
Sandra Ferguson, 140  
Angi Platt, 130

Way to go everyone. Keep those fannies in the chair and the fingers on the keyboard!



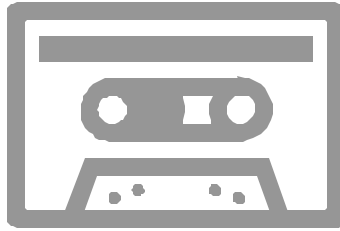
## Tape Talk & Reviews

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Did you know that NTRWA has a tape library with approximately 200 titles? From plotting and voice to writing a synopsis, there's something for everyone, including "Discovering Story Magic" by Robin Perini and Laura Baker and "Going Deep with POV" by Suzanne Brockmann.

But, you say, you don't have a cassette player in your car, the best place for you to actually listen to a tape. Well, this year, we will be attempting to convert some of the most popular craft titles to CD!

The complete tape listing is available on NT's web site in several formats.



Save it to your PC, or print it. Peruse it and come ready to check out the tape of your choice at the next meeting. To check tapes out, you must make a \$10 deposit.

Tape RW8-19, *Book In A Week* by April Kihlstrom.

"It's only a week," says April Kihlstrom, "to find out if your idea works." But even if it doesn't, April says there's still value in the exercise. Always evaluate the week and ask yourself: 'What did you learn about yourself?' and 'What did you learn about your writing?'.

This is a really great tape. April Kihlstrom is very tape friendly and has a ton of suggestions for getting your first draft done in a week. And if life happens as it often times does, April says, "Go with it and don't worry."

Tape Review by Jen FitzGerald

## Book Club News & Reviews

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Join the NTRWA Book Club monthly at the Barnes & Noble in North Richland Hills. The group usually meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM. All members of NTRWA are welcome to join the discussion.

In January, the book club read [Dead Reckoning](#) by Linda Castillo. It received an average of 4 Boots from the members.

"Linda Castillo continues to make a name for herself in romantic suspense with her new release [Dead Reckoning](#)," says Andrea Geist.

Juliet Burns says: "Linda has a very dark voice, and her plots always have several twists and turns you never expect. Her characters are flawed, yet completely sympathetic. The heroine

*Dead Reckoning* received a



4 Boot Rating

is full of secrets and the hero is strong and sexy. The book kept me on the edge of my seat and up way past my bedtime!"

March: [Bound and Determined](#) by Shelley Bradley

April: [Something Wicked](#) by Evelyn Vaughn

## Welcome Visitors and New Members...

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Welcome to Melanie Parker, Linda Lannerd, and Anjalie Gilby who visited us for the first time. Hope to see you again. Anjalie joined the chapter at the meeting.

Welcome back to Gretchen Craig, Julie Williams, and Hurshel Farrow who visited with us again.

New member, Diana Loftin, attended her first meeting. Glad to meet you.

## Spotlight On... Andrea Geist

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*Continued from page 7*

*I asked one of your critique partners to describe your strengths, both in your writing and your personality, for the rest of us. Here's what she said, "Andrea is generous, kind and thoughtful. These qualities give her writing a sweetness and sincerity that is 100 percent genuine. She has a unique sense of humor and it shows in her work, bringing sparkle and intelligence to her dialogue."*

Wow, that is so kind. See what wonderful friends I have? I have been told I write 'sweet' stuff, so when I

am writing very steamy / erotic, I guess we should call it Sweet Smut. Calling my sense of humor unique was a nice way of saying weird or offbeat. But then I march to the sound of a distant plumber. And I can pun with the best of them.

*Write on!*

New to romance writing, Gina Nelson joined RWA and NTRWA in the fall of 2005. She's working on the final draft of her first manuscript, a short contemporary romance set in New York City, her stomping ground for seven exhilarating years. Gina currently lives in Dallas with her husband, three boys, and a house full of testosterone.

## PAN: In the Loop

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NT is delighted to present a monthly online session with our authors entitled IN THE LOOP!!

On the first full week of each month one of our authors will present a daily article on writing. Anyone who is subscribed to the NT yahoo loop will automatically receive this free monthly post presented by NT PAN members.

February 6th - 10th

Shelley Bradley  
Presents  
Sexual Tension

March 6th - 10th

Gail Dayton  
Presents  
{to be determined}

## Jen's Journal

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Wow... my first edition of the newsletter. I'm so excited. I've been planning and working towards this goal since the middle of 2005. I did research. I brainstormed. I collected information. And then I lost it all in a hard drive crash.

But no matter. Things happen for a reason and so I had to redo my plans. Hopefully, you'll enjoy

my efforts. If there's something you'd like to see, let me know. And I really want to see contributions to the newsletter from as many of you as possible. I may be contacting you and asking you to do something specific. If at all possible, please say yes. If you can't say yes now, please tell me when a better time to ask would be.

Oh, and one more thing... Rubbing elbows with published authors is pretty cool! At the January meeting, Shelley Bradley called me by name. I thought to myself, "WOW—*Shelley Bradley knows my name!*"

Here's to a wonderful 2006.

Jen FitzGerald

# Get Out of the Way Of Your Writing

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*Continued from page 3*

Second, integrate yourself into a critique group. Outside eyes can quickly find the flaws in your writing. School your critique group in your own weaknesses, such as, lazy language, added tags, or too much setting.

Third, initiate the use of an outside reader. Someone you trust to not fall in love with every cliché you slap to paper. They don't need to hammer grammar, or cull your characterization. Those jobs are for your critique group. An outside reader should look for overall flow and comprehension of the piece. If 'huh?' seems to be the reader's general comment, then you aren't focused on the reader during your writing process.

Next, give the article, the scene, the chapter some breathing room. Leave it alone, then come back to it. Even a few days separated from the writing can provide clarity.

Finally, give yourself a word limit for the scene or chapter, then stick to it. Write all you want, but turn into the toughest editor alive when you're cutting for word count. Stay true to the word count and much of your extraneous language can be eliminated.

I don't know if my recommendation letter will assist my teaching friend in achieving a Disney Teacher of the Year award. I do know that my writing focused on the subject, a great teacher, and read well. What more could any writer need to find success?

Sandra Ferguson, a free-lance writer, calls Texas home. Her love of family and the Lone Star state influence her writing of romantic suspense, non-fiction articles and fillers, and anything else she can pen to paper that will pay the bills.

## Meeting Minutes Continued

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*Continued from page 4*

Angi Platt, Contest Committee Chair and Publicity Director, gave an update on NTRWA's Great Expectations Contest. She stated that electronic submission have saved money for the chapter due to a large decrease in postage. The financial projections for the contest show the profit for the contest being greater than last year.

Michella Chappell, Ways and Means Committee Co-Chair, discussed baskets and donations. Michella reminded everyone that small gift items in addition to books are accepted. All money collected from these raffles go toward funding chapter events and

activities. Michella also discussed the basket for the National Conference. Gift cards for national chain stores in any amount will be accepted. Sherry announced that raffle tickets for a free National Conference ticket would begin in February.

Sherry announced the formation of a Silver Anniversary Committee to plan some special activities and programs for NTRWA Silver Anniversary year 2007. Jen FitzGerald is the committee chair. If you are interested in being on the committee, contact Jen at [jen@stormsedge.com](mailto:jen@stormsedge.com) or 817-457-6414.

Tara Waldie, Treasurer, read the treasurer's report. Patricia Vermiere made a motion to accept the report, Angi Platt seconded it, and

the motion passed. Tara then discussed the proposed budget for 2006. After a few questions from members, Jen FitzGerald made the motion to accept the proposed 2006 budget. Patricia Vermiere seconded the motion and it was passed.

Mary Karlik made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Juliet seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.



**Jen FitzGerald**  
**Newsletter Editor**  
**7000 Robinhood Lane**  
**Fort Worth, Texas 76112**

[www.NTRWA.com](http://www.NTRWA.com)

NTRWA  
2100 W. Northwest Hwy  
Suite 114-1081  
Grapevine, TX 76051

## Meeting Information

February 18, 2006

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NTRWA Monthly Meeting

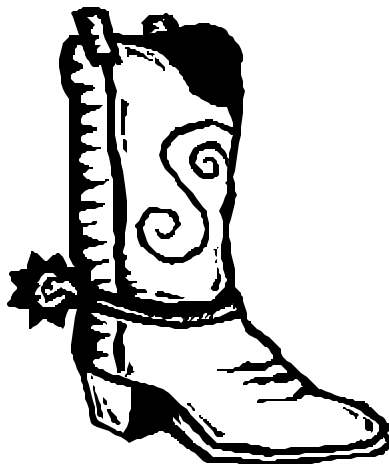
La Hacienda Ranch

5250 Highway 121 South

Colleyville, TX

10:00 ~ 10:30 Meet & Greet  
10:30 ~ 10:45 Welcome & Announcements  
10:45 ~ 11:45 Workshop  
11:45 ~ 12:00 Break/Order Lunch  
12:00 ~ 1:00 Business Meeting

**Visitors Welcome**



**"The High Concept"**  
**By Lori Wilde**