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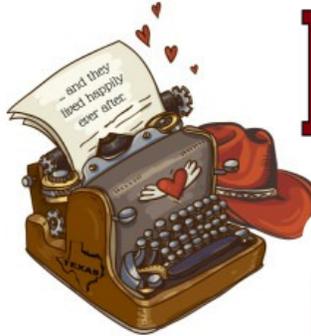
August 2018 NTRWA Newsletter

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North Texas
Romance
Writers
of America



ntrwa.org



HAPPY
Thanksgiving
NTRWA

GET PUBLISHED 10:00 to 10:30**BUSINESS MEETING & LUNCH 12:15 to 1:30*****The Heart to Heart***

NTRWA
Founded March 1983
Chapter 33, Region 5
November 2018
Volume 36, Issue 11

Meeting Dates:**December 15:** Holiday Party**January 19:** Cindy

Dees/finding your voice.

April 6, 2019: Damon Suede**Meeting Dates:****December 8:** Holiday Party**January 19:** Cindy

Dees/finding your voice.

April 6, 2019: Damon Suede**2018 BOARD**

President
Mia London

President Elect
C.A. Szarek

Secretary
Robin Nelson

**A gentle reminder -**

There is no NTRWA meeting in November.

IT'S TIME TO PLACE YOUR VOTE.

It's officially time to ring in a new RWA year with our 2019
board member elections!

You can vote by using the link below.

<https://ntrwa.org/members-only/2019-ballot/>

Your username will be your email address while your RWA
membership number is your password.

Treasurer

Cindy Dees

**Communications
Director**

Lizzie Bailey

Contest Director

Lisa Fenley

**Membership
Director**

Randee Leigh

Program Director

Linda Bolton



Want to be a part of the NTRWA machine?! Contact Audra - mia@mialondon.com

NTRWA: Yellow Rose Award Service Above and Beyond

2018 Committee Chairs

PAN Liaison

Chrissy Szarek

PRO Liaison

Randee Leigh

Bylaws

Angi Morgan

The Carolyn

Jen FitzGerald

**Great
Expectations**Amanda McMurrey,
Susan Miller,
Carolyn Rae**Hospitality**

Amanda McMurrey

Spotlight

Angi Morgan

The Yellow Rose Award is the highest honor bestowed by the chapter, in recognition of service to the authors of the NorthTexas RWA. Winners are nominated for going above and beyond the call of duty that year.

Each winner receives yellow roses, a gift card, an acrylic award and a certificate.

It's time to send in your nominations for the 2018 Yellow Rose Award for Service to NTRWA. Please send me a note (to membership@ntrwa.org) with your nominee's name and the reason(s) why you're nominating them.

Please note that the last five recipients are not eligible for the award -

Amanda McMurrey

Lisa Fenley

**Writing
Incentives**
Kim Miller

CA Czarek

35th Anniversary
Jen FitzGerald

Jen FitzGerald

**Two Step 2019
Conference**
Open

Angi Morgan



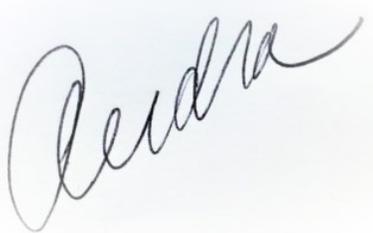
From the President
Mia London

Hello fellow NTers!

I don't have much of a letter. This is officially NaNoWriMo, and I'm sure some of you are diligently writing. For those not participating, keep writing. Don't lose your momentum.

Little reminder- December's meeting is the 8th. No GetPublished! speaker. We will have the Christmas sweater contest, ornament exchange, and some fun games to celebrate our successful year.

See you in December!



Andrea

Thanksgiving Traditions in My Family **by Carolyn Rae**

Thanksgiving means roasting a turkey, but I stopped getting up at the crack of dawn to do that. I served dinner at six-thirty, not because I wanted to sleep in, but because for years I was paid to serve Thanksgiving dinner to others either as a paid caterer or at a restaurant. Working Thanksgiving at the restaurant meant I could avoid working on Christmas.

My husband would put my previously stuffed turkey in the oven at lunchtime while I was working.

However, once disaster struck. I got a panicked call. "Honey, we dropped the turkey on the floor. What shall we do?"

"Wash it well, and put it in the oven," I told him.

After all that time in the oven, any germs would be killed. That night Thanksgiving dinner went on as usual, complete with pumpkin and pecan pies, which I had cooked the night before.

After I had grandchildren and no longer had to work on that holiday, the tradition of dinner at night worked well because grandchildren could feast at their paternal granny's house at noon and come to our house in the evening.

Now I serve sweet potato casserole, using the recipe I developed for my cookbook, *There IS Life After Lettuce*, and a cranberry gelatin salad, adapted from a family recipe since my son-in-law is a diabetic and must watch how much sugar he eats.

When I first got married, I lived in Michigan. When my husband asked me to make pecan pie, I cut up apples, added pecans, cinnamon, and nuts to the pie crust and baked it.

"That's not how you make pecan pie," he told me.

His mother gave me her recipe, made with Karo syrup, eggs, and no apples, which I use today. So, far, I have found no way to make it diabetic legal. I have included my recipe for sweet potato casserole (both regular and diabetic versions), one for the cranberry gelatin salad, and one for pecan pie.

Cranberry Salad

2 cups fresh cranberries
 1 cup diced celery (optional)
 2 oranges (peel or not), cut up
 1 cup sugar (or 1/3 cup sugar and 1 2/3 cup Stevia or Splenda for diabetics)
 1 cup Stevia or Splenda
 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
 2 pkg. sugar free lime gelatin
 1 ½ cup boiling water
 1 Tbs. vanilla

Grind cranberries and oranges together. Add sugar and Stevia or Splenda. Stir and let sit overnight in the refrigerator. In the morning, mix gelatin and boiling water. Add fruit, celery, and nuts. Chill four hours. Serves 10

Pecan Pie

3 eggs
 1 cup dark (blue label) Karo
 ½ cup sugar
 ½ cup melted margarine or butter (1 stick)
 1 ½ cup chopped pecans
 1 pie crust
 Whipped cream

Bake pie crust (poke with fork first) at 400 degrees until set but not done. (about 7-10 min). Stir three broken eggs with fork. Add Karo syrup and mix well. Add ½ cup sugar and mix. Pour in melted margarine or butter and mix. Add vanilla and stir. Add pecans, and pour into baked piecrust. Bake at 350 degrees until filling is not liquid in the center. Cool and serve with whipped cream.

Sweet Potato Casserole from *There IS Life After Lettuce*

1 large can sweet potatoes or 3 cups cooked sweet potatoes
 1 cup sugar or 24 pkg. Sweet 'n Low (for diabetics)
 3 eggs (or 3 egg whites for diabetic version)
 2 Tbs. margarine, melted
 1 cup skim milk
 ½ tsp. nutmeg
 ½ tsp. cinnamon
 1 tsp. vanilla

Topping

1/3 cup dry breadcrumbs
 2 Tbs. brown sugar

¼ cup chopped pecans
1 ½ Tbs. melted margarine

Mash the sweet potatoes and mix in the rest of the ingredients except Topping ones. Spread in 8 X 8 casserole dish and bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Sprinkle on topping and bake 15 minutes more. For microwave, cook on high for 8-9 minutes, add topping, and cook 8-9 minutes more.

Yield is 8 servings of ½ cup each. For non-diabetics, use the full amount of sugar and double the topping ingredients. For the diabetic version, 220 calories, 7.7 grams fat .5 mg. cholesterol, 33 g. carbohydrates, 7 grams sugar, and 194 mg. sodium.



Special congratulations to NTRWA member ME Murray on the acceptance of her short story "On Bullying" by Scarlet Leaf Review. We are so proud of you!



UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

November 9-11, 2018

Fresh Fiction's Readers and Ritas

<http://www.freshfiction.com>

March 29, 2019 | 11:00am-4:00pm



Home Run Author Event

<https://www.facebook.com/HomeRunAuthorEvent>

Have an event you want to share? Email us via newsletter@ntrwa.org so we can add it to the list!

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 20, 2018

A regular meeting for the North Texas Romance Writers of America (NTRWA) was held on Saturday, October 20, 2018 at the La Hacienda Restaurant in Colleyville, Texas. The President and the President-Elect were present. The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Audra Lewandowski:

- The next meeting is in December with the Holiday Party. There will be a Christmas sweater Contest and ornament exchange.
- There was a motion put forward that \$500.00 be put towards a 4-5-day 20 berth cruise in November 2020. And, another \$500 used towards the fees of the first 20 NT members to sign up.
- The motion was passed unanimously.
- Remember the tip jar for Javier. Those tips he does not have to share.

President Elect: Chrissy Szarek:

- The elections are coming up and multiple positions are available. Please come forward if you're interested.

Secretary: Robin Nelson reported:

- The September 2018 minutes were approved for audit.

Treasurer: Cindy Dees reported:

- There is \$15,870.11 currently in the account.

Program Director: Linda Bolton reported:

- There is no program in December.
- In January Cindy Dees will be presenting about finding your voice
- Please let Linda know if there are any topics you want to see presented.

Membership Director: Randee Paraskevopoulos: Not Present.

- RWA will be taken care of membership going forward. The renewal will be done yearly based on when you joined.

Communications Director: Lizzie Bailey reported:

- November book covers needed.
- Feel free to send over news and article for the newsletter.

Contests Director: Lisa Fenley reported:

- The contests start in November.
- The contest pays helps pay for all the fun stuff like cruises please help out with judging.
- Category Coordinators are needed for the next year. Please contact Amanda McMurrey if interested. Eight to nine people are needed.

Great Expectations Contest: Amanda McMurrey reported: Not present.**COMMITTEE COORDINATOR REPORTS:****PAN Liaison: Chrissy Szarek reported:**

- RWA pins for milestones (starting at 5 books published.) Pins are \$10 apiece. Order through RWA. If you make PAN let Chrissy Szarcek know.

PRO Liaison: Randee Paraskevopoulos reported:

- If you are not a PRO member, please see Randee for application information. PRO pins must be purchased from RWA.
- PRO membership allows you on the NT PRO loop, where training and information are provided to our chapter PRO members.

Hospitality: Amanda McMurrey reported: Not present.**Unfinished Business: None to report.**

New Business:

Cruise Committee

- November 2020 Retreat Cruise.
- They are looking at Royal Caribbean with a stay of 5 days 4 nights or Thursday – Tuesday.
- Twenty berths will be reserved at \$500.00.
- \$100 will be given to the first twenty who sign up.
- All rooms dare double occupancy and include meals. Specialty foods, alcohol and soda are extra. If one occupant purchases a package the other must as well.
- Balcony will go for \$750.00 a person.
- Ocean View will go for \$520.00 a person
- Inside Cabin will go for \$450.00.
- There will also be a semi-private lounge for writers, speakers, brainstorming.

Regina Richards recently attended Digital Book World. Please see her for more information on what she learned about Amazon, Apple, Walmart, Alliance of Independent Authors, Ingram Spark and Bookstacked.

Next Business Meeting: 10:45 a.m. on December 08, 2018 at La Hacienda.
The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.
Submitted electronically by Robin Nelson.

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www.ntrwa.org

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