

# WRITER'S INK

## THE WRITER'S WORKSHOP OF BLOOMINGDALE



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August 2010

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Our August workshops will be on August 14th and August 28th from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Format rules are: Minimum, 12-pt. Times New Roman font and double spaced with one-inch margins on all sides. 4 pages maximum.

The deadline for submissions for the 2011 Writer's Workshop calendar is September 15, 2010.

### COLUMN TWO PERSONALS

My photo entitled "Hawaiian Woman, Circa 1450" was accepted to and is now part of the "A Time and a Place" juried media exhibition at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum until August 21.

*(Please send any personals to me for inclusion in the September newsletter.)*

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### ALLITERATION ALLEY

Alliteration occurs when the initial sounds of a word, beginning with a consonant or a vowel, are repeated two or more times in close succession.

A well-known example is:

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.

Like rhyme, alliteration can accentuate the beauty of language or unite words or concepts through a kind of repetition. And, like rhyme, alliteration can follow specific patterns. Sometimes consonants aren't the initial word sounds, but they are often the stressed syllables. Because alliteration is less common than rhyme, it can call attention to a word or line in a poem that might not get the same attention otherwise.



## PLACES TO SEND YOUR WORK

Every month I'd like to showcase two places to submit your work. Here are the first two:

### *Fifth Wednesday Journal*

Prose and poetry

Next submission period begins August 1, 2010. For more information:

<http://www.fifthwednesdayjournal.com/index.shtml>

From their website: A literary print journal published twice a year by Fifth Wednesday Books in Lisle, Illinois. We seek to bring together readers and the best poets and storytellers we can find, both established writers and fresh new voices.

We welcome prose and poetry in any style—traditional, realistic, modern, and experimental—you name it, as long as it meets our standards for high quality in content and form. If you think we might like your work, but are in doubt, submit it and find out.

### *Prairie Light Review*

College of DuPage Literary Magazine

Next deadline: September 15, 2010

For more information:

[http://www.cod.edu/dept/stud\\_act/PLR/index.htm#About](http://www.cod.edu/dept/stud_act/PLR/index.htm#About)

From their website: The Prairie Light Review is a juried magazine that is produced twice a year by a class of student editors enrolled in English 2210, and it highlights creative works by students, faculty, and residents of college District 502. The student editors participate in blind readings of poetry and prose, on themes/forms of many types, and blind viewings of art of many media.

Read submission guidelines carefully.

*More places next month. Got a place you want to share? Let me know.*

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## NEW WORD OF THE MONTH

### **huddledom**

A state or condition of confusion and disorder.

The church then, rising out of a **huddledom** of booths and goldsmiths' shops and open markets and stalls and jostling crowds, all closely hemmed in by the tall houses of the narrow street, must have resembled many of the foreign cathedrals of the present day.

From *Edinburgh*, 2009  
by John Fulleylove

## BOOK REVIEW

by Jill Spealman

*Poetry for Dummies*, 2001

by The Poetry Center, John Timpane, and  
Maureen Watts

Not knowing a stanza from a sonnet, I sought to learn more about poetry and was happy to find the book *Poetry for Dummies*. While it's not a new book, the subject is timeless and there's plenty of new information for even the most experienced poets.

In Part I, I learned how to read and understand poetry. Did you know poetry should be read aloud? Poets design their poems to be read aloud so you can experience the music--the sounds and rhythms. You also can experience the poem and remember more if you read it aloud. It works! Perhaps a poet can try it at our next meeting.

Part II is a survey of poetic history. The earliest poetry comes from Mesopotamia, from around 5000 years ago. There's a smattering of early poetry from Egypt, India, the Bible, Homer, China, Greece, Arabic, Japan, and finally Europe in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. You won't become an expert but you can marvel at the works. Then I read about "modern" poetry, beginning in the 19th century through to the present era. I'm still exploring a list of great poets.

Part III is devoted to writing poetry. The chapters on "Calling the Muse" and "Getting Published" are inspiring even for non-poets.

In Part IV, I especially liked the section on myths about poets and poetry, such as "poetry is only for intellectuals" and "anything you write is poetry." The book is a fairly easy read and helped me understand and appreciate the pleasures of poetry.

*Have you read an inspiring writing-related book? Share your thoughts in a book review.*

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## EDITOR'S CORNER



This is my first issue as editor and I'm happy to help.

But, it's your newsletter. It should be about you and ideas to make us all better writers. What better way to get published than to write an article or a musing and share it with the group?

Send writing and ideas to:  
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