

# WRITER'S INK

## THE WRITER'S WORKSHOP OF BLOOMINGDALE

### JUNE 2010

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Our June workshops will be on June 12<sup>th</sup> and June 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

The deadline for the 2011 literary calendar is September 15, 2010.

#### SIMILE SPOTLIGHT

“He followed me into my apartment, bending over to pick up my tiny, black-and-white cat, Tina, who along with her portly, dove-gray sister, Miss Priss, were waiting by the door **like shoppers at a department-store grand-opening sale.**”

“Now the moon hung in the sky **like one of those star-spangled orbs they have in ballrooms**, casting a shower of diamonds across the water, making the beach look **like snow.**”  
(compound adjectives as well)

“Frosty, her Maltese, lay in the crook of her arm as always (alliteration) **like a great benign growth no one had seen fit to remove.**”

Source:

Wilson, Karen Ann. 1994. *Eight Dogs Flying*. Berkley Prime Crime. Pp. 23 and 72.

#### COLUMN TWO PERSONALS

Congratulations to members, John Flaherty, Jill Spealman, and Chris Aument for their publications in the College of DuPage's *Prairie Light Review*, Spring 2010, vol. xxxi, no. 2!

John's poem is “A Late Spring.” Jill's poem is “Hoarfrost.” Chris' poem is “Story for Richard.” They read their poems at the party sponsored by the *Prairie Light Review* on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### COORDINATE ADJECTIVES

When two or more adjectives come in front of a noun and modify it with equal emphasis or equal value, they are called *coordinate adjectives*. These coordinate adjectives are separated from each other with a comma.

For this comma to be correct, the adjectives must modify more or less the same quality of the noun; that is, they are more or less synonyms.

He was a genuine, down-to-earth kind of guy.  
She used effective, valuable contributions.  
He is a competent, efficient employee.

A test to see whether this comma is correct is to reverse the order of the adjectives. If the order is absolutely arbitrary—that is, it does not matter which one comes first—the comma is needed.

It had been a difficult, taxing day.  
It had been a taxing, difficult day.  
I would say he is a handsome, attractive man.  
I would say he is an attractive, handsome man.

Source:

Wakeman Wells, Margie. “On Words: Coordinate Adjectives.” *Journal of Court Reporting*. March 2010. P. 19.



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### **WORD OF THE MONTH**

Since there were a plethora of inquiries about “taxonomy” in my journal article submission, I looked it up in Wikipedia:

“**Taxonomy** is the practice and science of classification...arranged in a hierarchical structure.”

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### **KEEP WRITING!**

From: Mary Ann Fristoe  
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