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June 2018 NTRWA Newsletter

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North Texas
Romance
Writers
of America



ntrwa.org



Emily
McKay

June 16th, 11:00 am

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
June 2018
Volume 36, Issue 5

2018 BOARD

President

Mia London

President Elect

C.A. Szarek

Secretary

Robin Nelson

Treasurer

Cindy Dees

Communications

Director

Angi Morgan

Contest Director

Lisa Fenley

Membership

Director

Randee Leigh



**EMILY MCKAY
PRESENTS
BIGGER THAN BOTOX**

Sure, everyone knows how to edit a manuscript. But how do you revise one? We're not talking mansy-pansy punching-up-your-verbs revisions. We're talking my-book-is-flatlining-and-needs-a-heart-transplant revisions.

Program Director

Linda Bolton

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THE
NT MACHINE!! CONTACT MIA.

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

Writing Incentives

Kim Miller

35th Anniversary

Jen FitzGerald

Two Step 2019 Conference

Open

Maybe your critique group is harping on your convoluted plot and you're getting rejections that say they just don't feel connected to your characters. These are problems your spell checker and thesaurus can't fix. It could be time for major surgery.

This workshop will unveil three levels of revisions that will take your book from an unhealthy, flabby mess, to a thing of beauty your editor will want to clutch to her chest while singing Etta James's At Last.

~ ~ ~

Emily McKay is a four time Rita nominee. She's published twenty-five books with Harlequin, Berkley, Walker Books, and Entangled. In 2013, she won the Rita award for Best Young Adult Romance. She has over 500,000 books in print in fourteen languages.

She is a life-long fan of books, pop-culture and anything geeky. She has a black belt in Tae Kwon Do and baking cookies. When she's not kicking-butt and scooping cookie dough, she's watching videos on YouTube. Though her interests may appear broad, the common denominators are chilling suspense and snarky humor.

She lives in central Texas with her husband, kids, two mildly-psychotic dogs, two nervous cats, and nineteen chickens.



#GetPublished for June

Join us at 10:00 AM for our esteemed presenter, Clover Autrey. Bring your notebooks and your questions to learn about writing author bios.



From the President

Mia London

Hi y'all!

What does it mean to be part of a tribe in the 21st century?

Webster's defines Tribe as a group of persons having a common character, occupation, or interest.

It is beyond the family. Sometimes we are part of a "tribe" without even realizing it—like at work or church or school. In the online world, a tribe tends to form around an authority, expert, or celebrity (read: followers).

When you move, you may find you need a new tribe(s). And isn't that sometimes the hardest part of moving? We get in our groove, our routine, and almost in an instant it's all changed in our new home environment. With the exception of people with severe wanderlust, if a person cannot find a place to share their personal and professional energy, it never feels like home.

And what if you take on a new interest or hobby? That could mean a new tribe for you. Most will seek out others with common interests or goals to connect with.

In very much the same way, we at NT are a tribe. My question to you is what does your tribe mean to you? Is it about sharing triumphs or struggles? About learning your craft? About socializing and idea sharing? Any combination of those? And furthermore, what can you do to make your tribe great?

As a successful author, you are chief of your tribe, even if in a small way. Your goal is to write, publish, and sell books. You draw more and more people around you to strive to complete your goals. These tribemates take on many forms. They can be online or offline connections to you. Some, you are closer to than others.

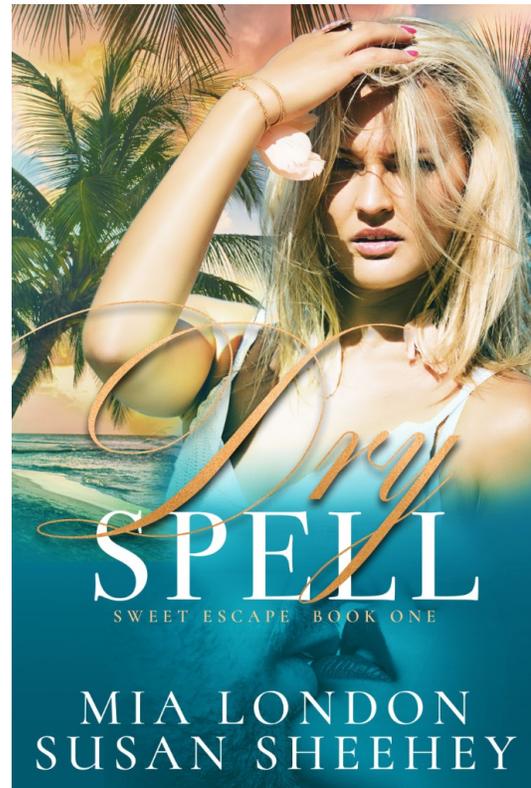
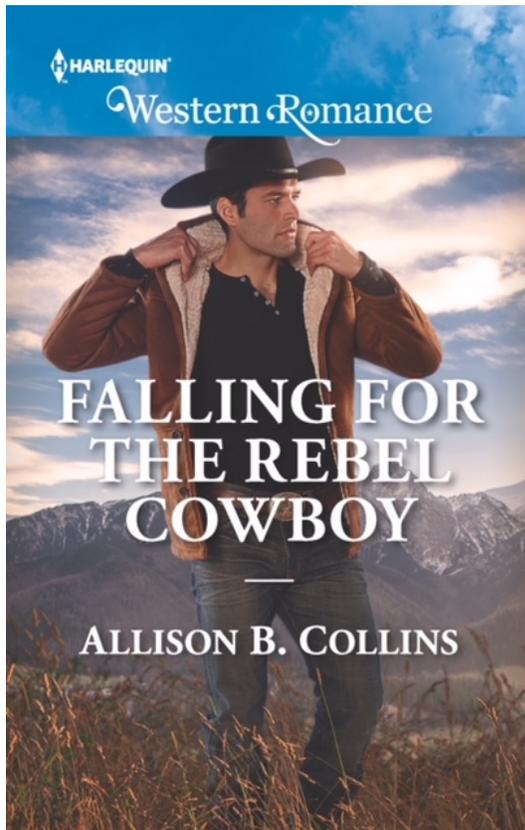
I dare say, you can call it a group, a clan, a family, or a tribe, but everyone needs one. It is crucial for our survival as individuals and as a whole. Simply put, people **like** to belong to a tribe(s). Make yours great, connect with yours, and they will help you succeed as an author.

Best wishes!

Audra



Member Releases



Dear North Texas . . .

Have you seen our new website: NTRWA.ORG? Your Membership Director, Randee Leigh, did this for us.

If you're a published author not yet included on our published page, please send randee@randeeleigh.com a short, 50-word bio, your headshot, and covers of up to five books (published in the last three years, please).



Did you know you can schedule a Twitter post?

Here's how:

- * To schedule posts, you need to visit their “Ad” website:
<https://ads.twitter.com/onboarding/18ce54pquesq/welcome?onboarding=true>
- * On the right-hand side you will see “New Tweet”
 - o If you don’t see it, go to the top under “Creative”
- * Type out your tweet as you normally would, add a photo, etc.
- * Then make sure the “Promoted-only” box is **unchecked**.
- * Click “Done,” then at the bottom, next to “Tweet”, select the arrow and hit “Schedule”.
- * Choose the date and time.
- * Click “Schedule.”
- * You should see all that you have scheduled under Creative, Tweets, then under “Promoted-only tweets”, click “Scheduled Tweets.”

Tweeting about 6x a day is good!

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES of MAY 19, 2018

A regular meeting for the North Texas Romance Writers of America (NTRWA) was held on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the La Hacienda Restaurant in Colleyville, Texas. The President and the President-Elect were present. The meeting was called to order at 12:56 p.m.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Audra Lewandowski:

- The Carolyn and Great Expectations Contests were hugely successful this year and brought in a lot of revenue.
- Planning for the Two Step Conference is underway and Damon Suede has been hired to present.

President Elect: Chrissy Szarek: No report.

Secretary: Robin Nelson reported:

- The April 21, 2017 minutes were approved and filed for audit.

Treasurer: Cindy Dees reported: Not Present.

- \$17,585 total assets to date.

Program Director: Linda Bolton reported: Not Present.

- The speaker for June's Program is Emily McKay. She will be speaking about editing with her program called Bigger Than Botox.

Membership Director: Randee Paraskevopoulos

- Remember to leave name tags at meetings.
- Please make sure Randee has your updated information.

Communications Director: Angi Morgan reported: Not Present.

Contests Director: Lisa Fenley reported:

- Huge thanks to Susan Person Miller, Amanda McMurrey, Angi Morgan and Carolyn Williams for all their work with the Great Expectations Contest. Another huge Thanks to Jen Fitzgerald for her work with the Carolyn. Thanks also to the category coordinators.
- Amanda McMurrey will be taking the lead on the Great Expectations Contest for next year.

Great Expectations Contest: Amanda McMurrey reported:

- Winners were announced.
- Category Coordinators are needed for next year. Please contact Amanda if interested. Eight to nine people are needed.

Carolyn Contest: Jen Fitzgerald reported: Not Present.

- Winners have been announced.
- This is Jen Fitzgerald's last year with the Carolyn Contest and someone needs to step up.

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 Szarek know.

PRO Liaison: Randee Paraskevopoulos reported: Not Present.

- 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:

- No Report.

Bylaws: Angi Morgan reported: Not Present.

Unfinished Business: None to report.

New Business:

· Cockygate – RWA and others are working on getting the cocky trademark overturned. Paperwork has been filed.

Next Business Meeting: 10:45 a.m. on June 16, 2018 at La Hacienda.

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Submitted electronically by Robin Nelson.

Date Approved: _____

Date Corrected: _____



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