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April 2019 NTRWA Newsletter

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CONFERENCES
SWAG
WRITE IN
APRIL 20

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

April 2019

Volume 37, Issue 3

Meeting Dates:**March 16:** Kat Baldwin,**Getting Emotions Write****April 6, 2019:** Damon Suede**WORKSHOP: APRIL****Hello, NTers!**

Hope you're all having a great April so far. I sure am. If you know me, you know why. :0)

(Be loud. Wear green. GO STARS!)

Anyway, the regular meeting day is April 20th.

Programming starts at 10am with our super fun prez, C.A. Szarek, aka Chrissy, sharing her wisdom on attending conferences. As a follow on, our short, but sweet main program will be on SWAG. Love it or hate it, you have to have it.

After that, there will be writing! Because of everything going this month, our write for April will happen at La Hacienda the day of the meeting, so bring a laptop, a tablet, or good old fashioned pen/pencil and paper.

Our tentative schedule looks like this:

10:00-10:30 -- GetPublished! Speaker, Chrissy on conferences

10:30-11:00 -- SWAG Panel

11:00-11:15 -- potty break and lunch ordering

11:15-12:00 -- writing

12:00-1:00/1:30 -- eating and writing

2019 BOARD**President**

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Audra Lewandowski

**Membership
Director**

Randee Leigh

Program Director

Linda Bolton

Jen

(filling in for Linda this month)



Want to be a part of the NTRWA machine?! Contact Chrissy - president@ntrwa.org

**2019
Committee
Chairs****PAN Liaison**

Chrissy Szarek

PRO LiaisonRandee
Paraskevopoulos**Bylaws**

Angi Morgan

The Carolyn

Audra Lewandowski

**Great
Expectations**

Amanda Byrd

Hospitality

Amanda McMurrey

**Writing
Incentives**

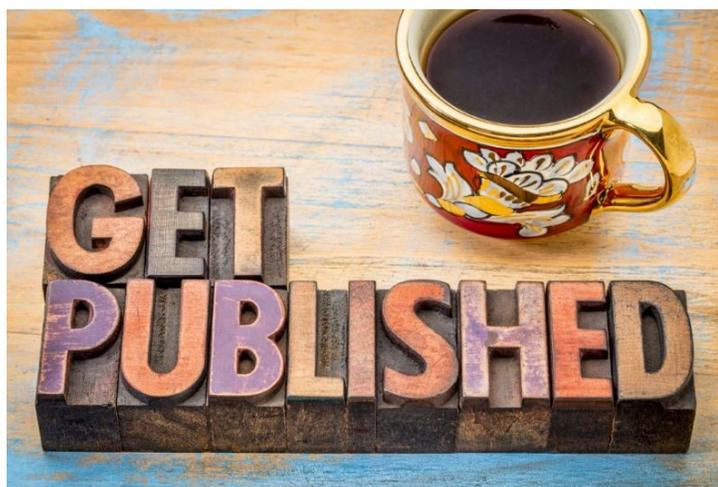
Kim Miller

Get Published

Jen FitzGerald

**Two Step 2019
Conference**

Linda Bolton

**#GETPUBLISHED - April****C.A. SZAREK**

Curious about conferences? Find out why YOU should become a conference veteran from the Queen of Conference, C.A. Szarek!

Join us @ 10am sharp for a brand new year of GET PUBLISHED! Please see the article below from Jen FitzGerald for more info. Our great club will help YOU finally grab that spanking new publishing contract or enable you to hit PUBLISH on that

e-book you've been dreaming about publishing!

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FROM THE PRESIDENT CHRISSY SZAREK



Happy April! I hope yours has been going well.

I wanted to thank everyone who joined us last Saturday for the Texas two-step! Partnering with DARA was so much fun and the day was a huge success!

For those of you who came I know you enjoyed the day!

Damon Suede was AWESOME! For those of you who missed out, I really hope you get a chance to see him speak, because it was seriously fantastic.

I learned soooo much! He'd told me back in July, at RWA, that he was going to show me characterization in a way no one ever had before and boy was that true!

I was most surprised that he said, we as authors already do 80% of what he taught and I thought back to my books, using an action transitive verb to represent each character, and I can name the verbs of most of my heroes and heroines. So it was pretty cool to have that pointed out; front and center. He said when we're more aware of these things we write better books, and I can only hope that's true LOL!

Of course, after sitting through this wonderful all-day workshop, it re-invigorated me and made me want to get back to the words, and I hope it did the same for you!

Easter will be here before we know it, so I hope you're continuing to make yourself and your words a priority, so you can type the elusive "the end".

That's the best feeling ever and I can't wait to get there again myself!

Happy writing and see you at our next meeting on April 20th!



The 2019 Carolyn Reader's Choice Award Finalists

Audra Lewandowski & Kaylene Greenig

Happy to announce the finalists for The Carolyn Reader's Choice Award 2019 -

Contemporary Romance:

Deep Blue, Kristy McCaffrey

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Will Grant, Center Field, Jean C. Joachim

Erotic Romance:

Waking to Black (Uninhibited #1), V.H. Luis

No Going Back, Christie Adams

Adrift, L.A. Witt

One Night of Love, Anna Lores

Historical Romance:

Gift of Honor, Alexa Aston

The Wicked Gypsy, Mary Lancaster

Mad, Plaid and Dangerous to Marry, Elizabeth Essex

Romantic Suspense:

The Sheriff's Secret, Julie Anne Lindsey

Federal Agent Under Fire, Julie Anne Lindsey

The Hitman's Mistake, Sally Brandle

LGBTQ:

Surreal Estate, Jesi Lea Ryan

The Husband Gambit, L.A. Witt

To My Future Number 1 Fan, L.A. Witt

Step Into Love, Lili Draguer

Specialized Romance:

Bewitching Breeze, K.M. Daughters

Bewitching The Beast, Tamara Hughes

Wylde, S. C. Mitchell

His Magic Touch, Debby Grahl

Wretched, Cara Crescent

* additional finalists in a category indicated a tied score(s).

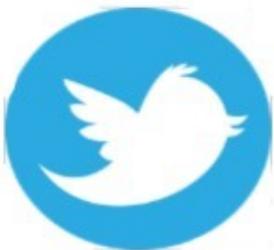


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We have exciting news to share this month!

NTRWA's Lisa Fenley is a finalist in the 2019 Golden Heart Awards for her Paranormal Romance story, *Warrior of Eden*.

Winners will be announced during the RWA National Conference in July and we have no doubt that award will be coming home to Texas! Congratulations, Lisa, and we cannot wait to read your story!



@NTRWA



Stock images are crucial to your online social media platform & AppSumo sent an email announcing a partnership coupon with STOCKUNLIMITED for only **\$49!**

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Like Attracts Like

by @MiaLondon - Audra Lewandowski
@NTRWA Social Media Goddess.

Remember that when you are posting. Do not try to serve/appeal to everyone. What interests you? Gardening, baking, biking? Then post about that. Be authentic. You might be an expert at something. Share.

You cannot always post about books. Why? Because people don't like to be sold to. (That's why we fast-forward thru the commercials when we can.) People don't wake up saying "I'm gonna buys some books today." But they remember the woman who has great tips on gardening, or has a joke every day at noon.

And lastly, I've mentioned it before, post what makes people look good. In other words, post on FB what others want, not just what you like!

Happy posting!

Handwritten signature of Audra Lewandowski in cursive script.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)**UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS****June 8, 2019**

Boas & Tiaras hosted by Fresh Fiction

<http://www.freshfiction.com>**August 9-10, 2019**

Book Bonanza

<https://bookbonanza19.com/>**October 27, 2019**

Buns n Roses Literacy Tea

<http://www.bunsandroses.org>**November 14-17, 2019**

Readers n Ritas hosted by Fresh Fiction

<http://www.freshfiction.com>

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

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES OF NTRWA March 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m.

Treasurer Regina Richards presented the treasurer's report.

Membership Chairperson Randee Paraskevopoulos announced she will soon purge the membership roll of the non-renewing members. At present, only about 30 have renewed.

Linda Bolton announced Tex Thompson will be the speaker in April. 65 have signed up for the Texas Two Step with Damon Suede. It will be from 9-4 at the Grapevine Golf Center and will include sessions on character and dialogue. The price is \$40 for NTRWA and DARA members and \$75 for others. Dinner with Damon for those registered will be Friday night at the hotel where he is staying. A question and answer session after the conference will be had at a place to be announced. La Hacienda Ranch was suggested.

Lizzie Bailey asked for articles for the newsletter and for members to submit cover photos if they have a new release.

Jen FitzGerald, Get Published Chairperson, asked for volunteers with expertise to volunteer as go-to persons for writers needing help with something. She announced helpful talks are scheduled before each meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Today's program was by Susan Sheehey, who told how to get writing done despite interruptions and trips with kids to doctors and sporting events.

Pro Liaison, Randee Paraskevopoulos, recommended unpublished writers sign up with Jen for the Get Published Program. The fee is \$10, and there is a form on the website, but there is no charge for the 10:00 speakers.

Lisa Fenley thanked Angi Morgan for all her help with the Great Expectations Contest since Amanda McMurray

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received notice for judging 10.

Carolyn Rae presented Susan Person Miller with a certificate for handling the contest website.

Lisa Fenley announced a Write-In scheduled from 3-6 on Saturday, March 23 at the Heritage Room at Tarrant County College and mentioned Word Fest, now titled World Field will be at the college all day also.

Gina Nelson announced the cruise, scheduled for November 2020, requires a \$25 deposit. The form to fill out should be live on the NTRWA website now. NTRWA will pay the first \$100 of the fees for the first 20 to sign up. At this time, it is scheduled to be a writing retreat with no speakers. Each registrant should choose at least one roommate to share a room.

President Chrissy Szarek asked members with new publications to e-mail her with the information. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04.

\Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Rae Williamson, Secretary.

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www.ntrwa.org

Our mailing address is:

North Texas Romance Writers of America
2100 W Northwest Hwy Ste 114-1081
Grapevine, TX 76051-7808

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