

Why don't you slow down and ...

TAKE5

*Houston Writers House Newsletter - First Edition
August 2016*

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[Not a Member. Join Today!](#)



Click here to
Visit HWH
Website

Quick Link

<http://www.scribophile.com/>

This is a great website for our out-of-town members who want to have feedback.

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the first edition of the Houston Writers House Newsletter.

We titled this Newsletter *Take 5* because we want to invite you to *Take 5* minutes out of your busy schedule today and read about what's going on in your writing community. And before you leave, be sure and check the calendar for upcoming events and holidays. Enjoy!

P.S. This newsletter is a work-in-progress and all suggestions and comments are greatly appreciated.

From Our House to Yours

by Denise and Rebecca

First of all, Rebecca and I want to thank everyone who has renewed their membership or signed up for the first time with Houston Writers House. We will be sending out membership packages later this month.



Rebecca -
Denise

<http://thewritepractice.com>

This site offers free writing tutorials.

<http://writershelpingwriters.net>
/

This site offers great tips on the craft of writing.

Your HWH 2016 Calendar

Sept 27 - HWH Social - 6:30

Oct 25 - HWH Social - 6:30

Nov 12 - HWH Workshop -
Guest Speaker - Nikki Loftin

Location & Topic to be
announced.

Nov 22 - HWH Social - 6:30

Dec 27 - HWH Holiday
Social- 6:30

All of the Social Events for
HWH will be located at:

Black Labrador
4100 Montrose
Houston, TX 77006

We are excited to get to work for you scheduling informative events and socials where you can meet other writers in your community.

Our first social is scheduled for September 27, 2016 - 6:30 pm - at the Black Labrador Pub located at 4100 Montrose Blvd, Houston, TX 77006.

Our first workshop will be conducted by Nikki Loftin on November 12. Please be on the lookout for more information on topic and location.

Check the calendar to the left for more HWH scheduled events.

Industry News

by Denise Satterfield

In the future this box titled **Industry News** will be filled with information that we think will be of interest for you. However, in this edition we will share with you how to navigate the page and the side bars to your left.

In This Issue is a quick guide to see the topics covered in this newsletter.

The **Quick Links** sidebar has links to sites that might be of interest to you.

Your 2016 Calendar will post HWH workshops/events/ conferences/socials.

Upcoming Events will offer quick links to other organizations upcoming workshops/events/conference.

We will use the **Member Spotlight** below to share with our community information about a different member in each newsletter. This member can share good news or personal information as an introduction.

We hope this format is one that you will enjoy. We are,

**Upcoming
Non-HWH Events**

**WriteSpace
Saturday August 20,
2016**

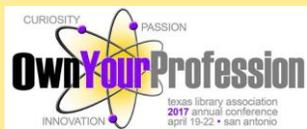


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**SCBWI Conference  
October 22, 2016**



Society of Children's Book  
Writers & Illustrators

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TLA 2017 Conference



Texas Library Association

as always, open for suggestions.

Membership Spotlight

by Denise Ditto Satterfield

Each quarter we will spotlight a different member. Since we are all writers, the Spotlighted Member will write his/own story. It can be a bio introducing yourself to our membership or it could be a promo for your book or business. Whatever you write, please keep in mind that this is what you want HWH readers to know about you.

The content should be 3 paragraphs and a photo. On special occasions we will spotlight a guest speaker or presenter. If you want a chance to be highlighted in our quarterly newsletter, be sure and attend one of our social events and put your business card in the drawing bowl. Rebecca has volunteered to be our first spotlighted member.

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**Membership Spotlight: Rebecca Nolen**



When I was very young I wanted to be a writer and to illustrate my words much like Dr. Suess. I knew no one who did this. I may have been in elementary school when I first began telling everyone about my dreams of being a writer. I wrote it down as my life goal in my

## **Chanticleer Writers Conference**

**March 31 - April 2, 2017**



Chanticleer Book Reviews  
Reviews, Writing Competitions, &  
Author Services



Click here to visit our  
website.

~Contests~

**HWH Short Story  
Contest is now open for  
Submissions.**

### **Submission Guidelines:**

**Story should be no more than  
5,000 words long and must  
include something unique to  
Texas.**

**Author's may submit up to 3  
stories for publication**

High school yearbook. My father encouraged me with my art as had most of my teachers. My mother told me I could never make any money with writing or art. She said I needed to be a secretary, or a teacher, or a nurse to support myself. Artist and writers couldn't support themselves, don't be silly.

My father encouraged me to write down my terrible experience at school after my tenth grade year. It had been traumatic and getting it on paper seemed to help. I think that's where my true love of writing began. That was 1972.

Still, I knew no one who had ever written a book. I had a roommate after college whose father was an artist for the Chronicle. He also did the line drawing with the hidden pictures for the Houston Yellow Pages. No one know what that is anymore. The Houston Yellow Pages and the phone book were massive tomes thrown on the front porch every year and we couldn't wait to pour over the cover of the Yellow Pages to find all the hidden pictures. So he was one example, though not one I ever wanted to meet. He beat his wife and my roommate when she lived at their home. One day she came home and all of her things had been tossed onto the front lawn. So no, I didn't want to be like him.

I've come to appreciate those around me who have mentored me and encouraged me over the last twenty years as I've seen two of my manuscripts become award-winning and best-selling novels. So you can understand how important it is for me to have this opportunity to head up an organization of people whose goal it is to educate and encourage everyone to pursue their heart's desire of writing. I hope you will join me in this congregation of like-minded people as we seek to know more about writing, marketing, and being successful with our life goals.

### **Submission Guidelines for Nonfiction "Cave Art Press"**

by Denise Ditto Satterfield

Cave Art Press, a publishing company in Washington State, is now open to receiving nonfiction book-proposal submissions in the following categories: first-account military history, memoir, adventure travel, nature and nautical, and general nonfiction.

consideration.

**Submission fee is \$15.00 per story for members and \$25.00 per story for non-members.**

### **~Prize Money~**

**First Place Winner - \$100**

**Second Place Winner - \$75**

**Third Place Winner - \$50**

**Authors of stories selected for the anthology will be notified of final publication after all revisions have been made and accepted.**

**Authors selected will also:**

**1. Be provided a free copy of the volume.**

**2. Retain all rights to their story for any future or concurrent use.**

**3. No exclusivity is required or requested.**

**[~Register Here~](#)**

Please send a proposal that includes the following:

1. Title Page with contact information.
2. Overview: Describe your book in two or three paragraphs. (200 words or less) Think of this as the back-cover blurb, a publisher's catalog annotation, or a brief review.
3. Target Audience: Who are the likely purchasers of this book? What are the best ways to reach them? (500 words or less)
4. Competitive Titles: List and summarize at least five competitive titles and explain why yours is different from each. State the author, publisher, and date of publication. In this section, you should explain why readers would find your book compelling and why there is an interest in your subject.
5. Current Appeal: Why is your subject important today? Why should this book be written? (500 words or less)
6. Sample Chapters: Include the first three chapters. We realize that as you write the book, changes will be made; but providing these chapters will give us a feel for the tone of your book and a sense of your writing style.
7. Chapter Summaries: Provide a chapter summary for each chapter. (One or two paragraphs per chapter.) While these may change, a list of chapters and their summaries shows that your ideas are organized.
8. Synopsis: Write a synopsis that tells the complete story, including the ending. (500 words or less)
9. About the Author: Include your bio (200 words or less) and your credentials and experience. You may also include your resume. Tell us why you are the best person to write this book. What do you wish to gain by having this book published?
10. Marketing and Promotion: How will you actively promote the book? Where should publicity be focused? List periodicals that would provide book reviews. Name two or three people who would be willing to endorse the book. Other than bookstores, what other types of venues would be interested in having you speak or give a presentation? Do you have a website, blog, Facebook page, Twitter Page, Amazon Author Page, etc? Do you maintain a mailing list?

Submit your proposal as an attachment to: [info@caveartpress.com](mailto:info@caveartpress.com) or [kkaska@caveartpress.com](mailto:kkaska@caveartpress.com).