

Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers 2011 Colorado Gold Conference

Lifting Off



SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11

Renaissance Hotel * I-70 and Quebec * Denver, Colorado

Get Ready to Soar



What does it take to lift a hot air balloon high into the sky? A few thousand yards of silk, a few tanks of liquid propane, a burner to heat the gas, and the skill to know how to control it all.

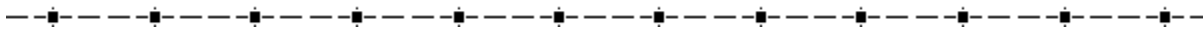
What does it take to be a writer? A few thousand hours of practice, a few story ideas, the fire inside you, and the skill to apply the writing craft.

We are hoping you leave this year's Colorado Gold Conference ready to soar. Some of this year's workshops will provide you the fabric to create your balloon and the fuel to inflate it. Some will fuel you and some will teach you how to navigate. Master Classes will help you hone in on special skills. Friends and fellow writers will help ignite that inner fire.

Think about the magic of balloon rallies, with balloon after balloon, each unique, each colorful, each driven to reach for the sky. How like writers! All those balloons, rising, soaring, together... how awesome! They fill the sky, lifting to different heights, taking different paths, but all flying—reaching for their dreams.

Come, soar with us!

—Pamela Nowak, Conference Chair



MEET THE SPEAKERS

Keynote Speaker: Bernard Cornwell



Bernard Cornwell was born in London in 1944, the product of a wartime romance between a Canadian Air Force officer and an Englishwoman. He was adopted by a couple belonging to a fundamentalist sect called The Peculiar People who, among many other things, disapproved of television, military service and novels. He has made his career in television and by writing novels of military history.

He was editor in chief of Thames Television News, and, before that, Head of Current Affairs Television for the BBC in Northern Ireland. Love brought him to the United States, but the American Government, not recognizing romance as a legitimate reason for immigration, denied Bernard a Green Card. He stayed anyway and, unable to work legitimately, airily decided to write a novel. That was in 1979. He and Judy married in 1980, he is now a US citizen, and there have been 49 novels. He is chiefly known for the Sharpe books, a series of (so far) 21 books that tell the story of a British rifleman fighting Napoleon's forces in Portugal, Spain and France. The books were made into a TV series starring Sean Bean. Bernard has also written series on the American Civil War, the Arthurian saga, and the Hundred Years War. His most recent novel, *The Fort*, is set in the American War of Independence, and he is currently engaged on a series about the emergence of England in the ninth and tenth centuries. He and Judy divide their time between

Charleston, South Carolina, and Cape Cod where he acts with the Monomoy Theatre, a summer-stock company.

Closing Speaker: Allison Brennan



Allison Brennan is the New York Times bestselling and award-winning author of sixteen romantic thrillers and several short stories. RT Book Reviews calls Brennan "A master of suspense" and her books "haunting," "mesmerizing," "pulse-pounding" and "emotionally complex." Lisa Gardner says, "Brennan knows how to deliver."

Allison is a member of several organizations, including International Thriller Writers and Romance Writers of America. Book three in the Lucy Kincaid series, *IF I SHOULD DIE*, will be available on November 22nd.

For fun Allison enjoys wine tasting, swimming, high school sports, playing video games, and-of course--reading. She lives near Sacramento, California with her husband and five children.

NOTE: Our Friday night speaker will be the 2011 RMFW Writer of the Year, announced in July.

GUEST AGENTS



Sandra Bond has had her own literary agency in Denver for 12 years, after working for the agency Jody Rein Books. She was the program administrator at the University of Denver's Publishing Institute, a 4-week, intensive, graduate-level certificate program in publishing, from 2005-2009, and she is now a guest lecturer at the Institute. She also

speaks about the role of the literary agent in a spin-off class that is offered each spring quarter for University of Denver undergraduate students, and she conducts an annual workshop about the publishing industry for aspiring writers in DU's University College course, How Books Get Published. Before deciding to pursue a career in publishing, Sandra was a film and television script analyst in Los Angeles, and the editor and production manager for a socioeconomic research foundation in Boulder, Colorado. Sandra works with both first-time and previously published authors, and her clients include writers of adult fiction in various genres, young adult fiction, and many categories of nonfiction. On the fiction side, she is most interested in representing adult commercial and literary fiction, and young adult and middle-grade fiction including fantasy. She does not represent adult fantasy, romance, science fiction or poetry. On the nonfiction side, she is looking for interesting science, history and narrative nonfiction written for the general public by credentialed writers who have a platform.



Marisa Corvisiero is an author and an attorney as well as a Literary Agent. She is the founder of The Corvisiero Law Practice, P.C., a boutique law firm in midtown New York City, where she practices Entertainment Law and Corporate Law among other areas. In the last few years Marisa has merged her passions in writing and in the law into her entertainment

law practice, and she is now representing several authors. Marisa has been featured by the National Association of Professional Women for her successes; Lori Perkins' and Writers Digest editor Chuck Sambuccino's blogs, and was interviewed by Michael Ventrella among several others in just the last few months. Marisa joined forces with the L Perkins Agency in February 2010 and continues to represent clients with the Agency. She represents authors, cartoonists and illustrators from all over the world and is building a successful client list. Marisa has a facebook page and a LinkedIn network. Her blog is called [Thoughts from a Literary Agent](#). The website for her law firm is [www.corvisierolaw.com](#), and she Tweets as @mcorvisiero. Marisa is seeking: Fiction- cross genre romance, science fiction, fantasy, urban fantasy, paranormal/horror, thriller/adventure, mystery, quality chick lit, Young Adult, Middle Grade and children's picture books. Non-fiction- guides and tales about the legal practice, parenting, self-help, spiritual, business and finance, decorating, party planning, and science (no text books please). Send your query with your first 10 pages and a synopsis (or full manuscript for children's books – illustrations are not necessary) to Marisa at marisa@lperkinsagency.com.

Rachelle Gardner is an agent with **WordServe Literary Group**, representing both fiction and nonfiction. She's looking for mainstream commercial projects for both the Christian and general markets. Her primary fiction interests are women's, romance, suspense/thriller and historical. Authors



must have a complete manuscript to be considered. She appreciates authors who have a good understanding of how to use social media.



Molly Jaffa has been with **Folio Literary Management** since 2008. As the agency's Subsidiary Rights Associate, she aggressively pursues the sale of Folio clients' audio and foreign rights, helping to grow their careers in as many formats as possible. Molly is actively building her own client list as part of the launch of Folio Jr., an initiative

within the agency devoted to children's and YA titles. She's particularly interested in voice-driven, high concept MG and YA fiction; projects with elements of magical realism or historical fantasy; characters who have strong passions, smarts, or skills; and books that open up a rich new world (real or imagined!) for the reader to discover. An "editorial agent," Molly works closely with clients to make their manuscripts as strong as possible.

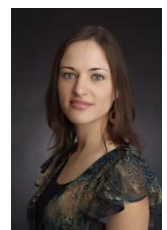
Sara Megibow has worked at the **Nelson Literary Agency** since 2006. As an Associate Literary Agent, Sara is actively acquiring new clients and enthusiastically celebrating sales for her first authors. The Nelson Literary Agency specializes in representing young adult and middle grade fiction, romance (all genres except category and inspirational), science fiction and fantasy, commercial and women's fiction (including chick lit) and high concept literary fiction. Nelson Literary Agency is a member of AAR, RWA, SFWA and SCBWI. Please visit our website [www.nelsonagency.com](#) for submission guidelines, and feel free to visit Sara's Publisher's Marketplace site ([www.publishersmarketplace.com/members/SaraMegibow](#)) to learn more about her personal tastes and recent sales.



After thirteen years as an acquisitions editor at MIRA Books -- where she helped launch and build Harlequin Enterprises' successful mainstream fiction program -- **Amy Moore Benson** turned her attention to the other side of publishing, opening her own literary agency, **AMB Literary Management**.

Though based in Toronto, Amy works primarily with US publishers, representing author of commercial suspense (like Rick Mofina, Grant McKenzie, Michael Lister, Laura Caldwell), romance (like Victoria Grondahl, Beth Ciotta, Kathy Love, Linda Conrad) and narrative non-fiction (like Jeffrey Koterba, Sean Aiken, Robyn Bennincasa). AMB Literary Management is a small boutique agency, focusing on a holistic and hands-on approach to literary management.

Anita Mumm is the Literary Assistant for **Nelson Literary Agency**. This means she is the first reader for all query letters and sample pages that come in through the slush pile. In just over a year, Anita has already picked three debut writers for the company (including Jennifer Shaw Wolf whose edgy young adult, *TIGERSEYE*, will be out in early 2012 from Walker Books). A compulsive book collector whose interests span the genres, she chose her current neighborhood based on the number of bookstores within walking distance. She received a B.A. in linguistics and French from the University of Kansas and an M.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language from the University of Illinois. She has taught English and creative writing to international



students in the U.S., France, and China. Anita is thrilled to bring her love of language, writing, and other cultures to her new position. She shares a cozy apartment near downtown Denver with a curvy kitty named Francine.



Rebecca Strauss is an agent in the Adult Department and Director of Subsidiary Rights at **McIntosh & Otis, Inc.** Rebecca has been at M&O since 2005 and represents writers in a variety of genres, including WALL STREET JOURNAL bestsellers and Indie Next Picks. She represents: non-fiction, literary and commercial fiction, women's fiction, urban

fantasy, romance, mystery, memoir, humor and pop culture. Before joining M&O, Rebecca was a foreign rights associate at Trident Media Group, a book scout and development assistant at Sony Pictures and an Account Associate at Ketchum PR. Rebecca earned her degree in English Literature from Duke University.



Jennifer Unter is a literary agent and founder of The Unter Agency, LLC. Before starting her own agency, Ms. Unter worked in many aspects of the publishing industry: in editorial at a Henry Holt & Co.; as a copyright lawyer at an entertainment law firm; and as VP at RLR Associates, a literary and broadcasting agency. The Unter Agency represents quality fiction and general nonfiction, with a particular interest in

memoir, food/cooking, nature/environment, biography, pop culture, travel/adventure, true crime, politics and health/fitness. The Unter Agency also represents all types of children's literature (picture books, middle grade, and young adult) and is actively looking for new clients.

GUEST EDITORS

A lifetime love of reading and a master's in literature taught **Lindsey Faber** that she enjoys nothing more than reading great books—and then analyzing the heck out of them. Now she puts these skills to use as Managing Editor for **Samhain Publishing**, helping talented authors achieve their vision and make their books even better. She's thrilled to be a part of Samhain, where she's able to combine her love of great stories with her passion for technology. Lindsey resides in Cincinnati, but her laptop and a love of travel keep her on the go: to quiet corners of coffeehouses, industry conferences and—when she really needs to get away—Paris, France.

Brian Farrey is the acquiring editor for **Flux**, the young adult imprint of Llewellyn Worldwide, located in Woodbury, MN.

He's had the pleasure of working with New York Times Bestselling authors Maggie Stiefvater and Simone Elkeles, both of whom launched their writing careers with Flux. When not working with some of the very best YA writers of the day, Brian hones his own writing. He received his MFA in creative writing from Hamline University where he was awarded Best Fiction Thesis in 2008. His debut YA novel, CHASERS, was published by Simon Pulse in July 2011.



Moshe Feder began in his editorial career while still in college when he worked part time as Assistant Editor for the SF magazines *Amazing* and *Fantastic*. Later he was a reviewer for *Publishers Weekly*

and *SF Chronicle*, Assistant Editor of the SF Book Club, Editor in Chief of the Military Book Club, a reviewer for *Asimov's*, and an Associate Editor at Tor Books. He has been a judge for the World Fantasy Awards and a member of the Sidewise Awards jury. His first, and so far only, short story appeared in Damon Knight's *Orbit 16* in 1975. He has worked with such authors as Gene Wolfe, Isaac Asimov, Paul Park, Harlan Ellison, Hal Clement, F. Paul Wilson, Charles Stross, L.E. Modesitt, Jr., Robert J. Sawyer, and Eric Van Lustbader. He's currently a Consulting Editor for Tor Books where his list includes Dan Wells, Robert Silverberg, Gary K. Wolf, David Gerrold, Phillip Jennings, and Brandon Sanderson.

Executive editor of **Carina Press**, Harlequin's digital-first imprint, and veteran of the digital publishing industry, **Angela James** is a well-known advocate for digital publishing. James has enjoyed a long and varied career in digital publishing, including launching and serving as executive editor for Samhain Publishing. James frequently travels to regional, national and international writing conferences to meet with authors and readers, and present workshops on digital publishing for both authors and readers of all genres of fiction.



Latoya C. Smith started her editorial career as an administrative assistant to *New York Times* bestselling author, Teri Woods at Teri Woods Publishing, one of the nation's largest independent publishers. It was there that she discovered her passion for book publishing. Latoya worked at TWP seasonally while pursuing her Bachelor's Degree at Temple University. She graduated Cum Laude from Temple in August of 2005. She then got a full-time position at Kensington Publishing where she was an editorial assistant for Senior Editor Karen Thomas in March of 2006. In October 2006, Latoya moved over to **Grand Central Publishing**, formerly known as Warner Books, an imprint at Hachette Book Group. Latoya is now an assistant editor acquiring romance (mainly paranormal and romantic suspense), erotica, general fiction, as well as African American fiction and non-fiction.



NEW FRIDAY MORNING MASTER CLASSES

Friday Morning Master Classes are offered as an Add-on to the regular conference registration. These classes will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 9 and will end by noon. Attendees will receive their regular conference packets upon arrival at the Master Class room. Cost will be \$50 for RMFW members and \$60 for non-members. Participants must pre-register by August 15 to assure their spots. RMFW reserves the right to cancel any Master Class with less than ten registrants

Laura Baker and Robin Perini bring their standing room only workshop, **Discovering Story Magic**, to RMFW, teaching a three-step technique for developing characters and braiding conflict with plot to create a story that can't be refused. The dynamic presentation consists of a nitty-gritty explanation of this useful three-step technique (The Character Grid, Turning Points, and the Story Board) as well as hints for making it work for you during plotting and revision. Laura and Robin are

nationally-known presenters who have garnered wide acclaim for their Discovering Story Magic system. Laura's suspense and romantic suspense titles have been nominated for the National Reader's Choice Award and the RITA. Robin is a seven-time Golden Heart finalist and often presents to standing-room-only crowds at RWA conferences. Her 2011 Golden Heart Finalist novel, *In Her Sights*, is a launch title for Amazon's Montlake Romance. Her other 2011 Golden Heart Finalist novel, *Stolen Lullaby* (working title), will be a March, 2012 release from Harlequin Intrigue. See www.discoveringstorymagic.com.

RMFW's own **Sharon Mignerey** makes synopsis writing easier. Nobody likes to write a synopsis, but knowing how is an essential skill that every working writer needs to acquire. It's been said that a synopsis should read like a story being told around a campfire, but for most writers figuring out how to do this is more than a little daunting. **The I Hate to Write a Synopsis Workshop** shows how to deconstruct your story so you can see which elements to include and which elements to leave out. A workbook is included. Sharon is the author of eleven romantic suspense novels. Her titles have won the Golden Heart, the National Readers Choice Award, and the CRW Keeper Award. She possesses a MFA in Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University. Visit her website www.sharonmignerey.com.

Practicing attorney **Susan Spann** will examine **Contracts and Copyrights: How to Read and Understand a Publishing Deal**. During the first part of the workshop, Susan will walk you through a basic publishing contract, explaining the various terms and issues writers should consider before signing. Then, audience members can ask questions about copyright, contracts, and other legal issues. Her teaching style is active and she uses real-world examples to avoid dry terminology

OTHER WORKSHOP PANELISTS AND FACULTY

See bios in other sections for editors, agents, keynote speaks, and Friday Morning Master class presenters.

Mario Acevedo is the best-selling author of the Felix Gomez Vampire series, now available in graphic novel form from IDW.

Carol Berg is a former software engineer who can't quite believe her own story. Since her 2000 debut, her twelve epic fantasy novels have won national and international awards, including multiple Colorado Book Awards and the Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature. In a starred review *Kirkus* calls her latest novel, *The Soul Mirror*, "compelling and altogether admirable."

Kay Bergstrom, writing as Cassie Miles, is the author of over 60 novels of romance and suspense. Recently, she hit the USA Today Best-seller Extended List. And here comes the happy dance.

Linda Berry is the author of six Trudy Roundtree mysteries, cozies set in rural Georgia, as well as short fiction for children and adults, plays, poetry, preschool curriculum, and a newspaper entertainment column. She's a member of RMFW, the Denver Women's Press Club, and Colorado Dramatists. Check www.oqeechee.avigne.org.

Terri Bischoff is an acquiring editor at Midnight Ink where she leads all editorial directions and creates our seasonal lists. Terri has a wealth of experience and knowledge in both mysteries and in bookselling. She returns to RMFW as a presenter because she enjoyed us so much last year.

Judith Brile, DBA, MBA, is known as Colorado's Book Shepherd. She's the founder of AuthorU (niversity) and an award-winning author of 28 books with rights in 16 countries with over 1,000,000 sold. She's a past president of CAL and CIPA.

and explanations. Susan has over ten years' experience in publishing law and is legal counsel to the National Association of Independent Writers and Editors (NAIWE). She has also taught at both undergraduate and law school levels and at numerous conferences.

Linda Rohrbourgh is a nationally recognized consultant on marketing a manuscript. In her **interaction Learn to Talk About Your Work to an Editor or Agent** workshop, this award-winning author teaches a three-step formula for pitching any book – along with critical principles for success and the four most important things a writer must know about his/her manuscript. The workshop is interactive and attendees will leave with the tools they need to effectively pitch their books both in person and by mail. Linda has been writing since 1989 with over 5000 articles, seven books, and a number of national awards to her credit. Visit her website www.LindaRohrbourgh.com.

RMFW member **Margie Lawson** brings her **EDITS System: Adding Power to Every Page**. Participants will learn how to use the EDITS System to analyze patterns and tension and emotional power in their scenes, with special emphasis on chapter openings, endings, and turning points. Participants are requested to bring their first three to five chapters (printed, in a binder), a red pen, and five highlighters (pink, yellow, blue, green, and orange) for hands-on work. Writers who have taken Margie's on-line courses, or attended her master classes, credit her innovative deep editing approaches with taking their writing several levels higher—to publication, awards, and bestseller lists. In the last six years Margie presented over sixty full day Master Classes across the U.S., Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. For more information, please visit: www.MargieLawson.com.

Becky Clark is a popular blogger, entrepreneur, speaker, and author of wildly divergent books such as *An Uncivil War* (middle grade historical fiction); *Reading Maniac-Fun Ways to Encourage Reading Success* (parent guide for reluctant readers); *Lazy Low Cal Lifestyle Cookbook*. See www.LazyLowCalLifestyle.com and beckyland.wordpress.com.

Ronald Cree is the author of the Gus Gomez mystery series published by Simon & Schuster. He is represented by Caryn Wiseman of the Andrea Brown Literary Agency and writes primarily mysteries and thrillers for boy readers. He is an active member (and webmaster) of the Pikes Peak Writers Organization in Colorado Springs.

Laura DiSilverio served twenty years as an Air Force intelligence officer before retiring to write and parent full-time. She writes the Swift investigations private investigator series (Minotaur) as well as the Southern Beauty shop series (as Lila Dare) and the new Mall Cop series (Berkley). She taught writing at the Air Force Academy and was recently featured as *The Writer* magazine's Breakthrough author.

Betsy Dornbusch's short fiction has appeared in print and online venues. Whiskey Creek published two of her "inappropriate books" last year and will release the first book of her urban fantasy series, *Sentinel: Archive of Fire*, this year. She is an editor of the Ezine *Electric Spec* and you can find her on the web at www.betsydornbusch.com, where you can believe most of what she writes.

After taking early retirement from teaching, **Joyce Elson Moore** turned to writing full time. Along with numerous awards and contest wins, she took first place in the RPLA awards for best published romance. Her latest historical, *The Tapestry Shop*, won the Bronze Medallion for Popular Fiction in the prestigious Florida Book Awards.

Sarah Joy Freese is an MA (creative writing emphasis) and MLIS graduate. She currently teaches English and research at Colorado Christian University and interns for Greg Johnson and Rachelle Gardner

of WorldServe Literary Agency. She has several short stories and poems published in various literary journals.

Warren Hammond is the author of the gritty KOP series, a futuristic techno-thriller.

Ron Heimbecher is an award-winning technological innovator, with a diverse background in corporate management, public sector management, technology, music, television, and film. He is passionately enraptured with the possibilities still hidden in electronic publishing. He is the owner of ChaliceMedia LLC which is focused only on research and development.

Kirt Hickman is the author of award-winning science fiction thrillers and the practical self-editing guide *Revising Fiction: Making Sense of the Madness*. He teaches classes through Southwest Writers and the University of New Mexico. His first fantasy novel, *Fabler's Legend*, is scheduled for release in 2011.

David Hughes' fiction has appeared in Fusion Fragment, *Flash Me Magazine*, and *Quantum Muse*, among other. He is co-founder and editor of *Electric Spec*, an on-line speculative fiction magazine.

Martha Husain is a Doctor of Pharmacy who has worked at the Cleveland Medical Center and the St. Louis University Medical Center. She is currently writing science fiction and romance and editing her fantasy novel, *Water's Mark*, which won the Colorado Gold Contest in speculative fiction in 2007.

Thea Hutcheson is an award winning author of nearly two dozen hetero and lesbian erotic short stories under multiple pseudonyms, including four stories in the award-winning Best Lesbian Erotic series.

j.a.kazimer is a writer from Denver, Colorado with two published short story collections, *The Junkie Tales* and *Stolen Kidneys, Dead Hookers, and Other Nursery Crimes*. Her forthcoming print novels include *F%#ked Fairytale* (Kensington Publishing) and *The Body Dwellers* (Solstice Publishing). For more info, visit www.juliekazimer.com.

Terry Kroenung is an Advanced Actor/Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors as well as a published playwright and novelist. He has choreographed dozens of productions in the U.S. and Europe. His swordfight-filled fantasy novels *Brimstone and Lily* and *Jasper's Foul Tongue* are available from Rare Moon Press. Contact him at www.legacystone.net.

Morgen Leigh's fiction and creative non-fiction stories have appeared in Twilight Times, Apollo's Lyre, The S'Peaker, The Lorelei Signal, and Mystic Signals. She is a copywriter, adjunct instructor at the University of Colorado and Pikes Peak Community College, and yoga teacher as well as a workshop presenter and active member of Pikes Peak Writers.

Benjamin LeRoy is the Publisher of Tyrus Books, an independent press known for its crime and dark literary fiction and previously started and built Bleak House Books. He's been profiled by *Publishers Weekly*, *In Business*, and *Madison Magazine* among others and returns to RMFW this year as a presenter.

Karen Albright Lin is a writing coach and freelance editor for multi-published and soon-to-be published authors. She's a ghost writer, produced screenwriter, and multi-award winning author of novels, screenplays, short stories, literary cookbooks, magazines, and newspapers. See www.karenalbrightlin.com.

Susan Mackay Smith, a.k.a. Mackay Wood, has sold two epic fantasies, *Wolf's Cub* and *Gryphon King*. Susan writes the monthly column *Conan the Grammarian* for the RMFW newsletter and also co-chaired RMFW's Colorado Gold Contest for five years; she is currently RMFW's president. See her profile at www.mackaywood.com.

Laura Manuel worked as a police officer for 21 years. She started in Williamsburg, VA as the second woman ever hired to patrol there and later worked for the Greeley Police in patrol, administration, and in investigations as a person's crimes investigator (sexual assaults, homicide). She currently teaches Criminal Justice and Psychology at FRCC.

Becky Martinez is a published romance and romantic suspense author. She co-authored the winning *10 Steps to Creating Memorable Characters* and regularly teaches on-line writing classes.

Susan Mitchell has a degree in English and her work has appeared in literary magazines. She writes and produces local TV commercials, promotions, and programs and has also written and produced projects for TLC, regional ABC, NBC, and CBS affiliates. She is currently completing a darkly humorous horror fiction series.

Cindi Myers is the author of more than 40 novels, many inspired by real-life events. Her most recent release, *Work of Heart*, is a reality based romance about a couple in Denver.

Kristin Nelson established the Nelson Literary Agency in 2002. In such a short time, she has sold over a 100 books to all the major publishers and has landed several film deals. She specializes in representing commercial fiction and literary fiction with a commercial bent. She is a frequent speaker at RMFW.

Chantelle Aimee Osman is a multi-published mystery author, founder of the Sirens of Suspense blog (www.sirensofsuspense.com), and reviewed for the syndicated Poison Fiction Review. She owns a screenplay editing and consulting company (www.twistofkarma.com) and speaks to writing conferences nationwide.

RITA® Award Winning novelist **Robin D. Owens** credits the telepathic cat with attitude in selling her first futuristic/fantasy romance, *HeartMate*, published in December 2001. Since then she has written 9 books in the series, and has published 5 with Luna books.

Cynthia Richards has been a Certified Project Professional (PMP) since 2004. She manages large software and medical projects. Her day job duties include coaching and mentoring junior project managers and IT managers in project management methodologies.

Eric Sidle has designed cutting-edge technology for 15 years. He has freelanced in web design and marketing, having done so for personal, small businesses, and now six published authors. He also consults technical, marketing, and business advice for start-up companies. As an avid international traveler and hunter of ancient ruins, Eric enjoys writing epic fantasy.

Lesley Smith is a founder and editor of the speculative fiction Ezine *Electric Spec*. Her speculative short story fiction has appeared in a variety of venues including *Analog Science Fiction and Fact*. She's currently trying to place her second science fiction novel with a publisher and is a member of RMFW and SFWA.

Jeanne Stein is the national-bestselling author of the Anna Strong Vampire Chronicles. Her anthologies and novels have been published in three foreign countries besides the U.S. and U.K.

Sue Vidars is the author of more than 20 books on writing and marketing. She co-authored the winning *10 Steps to Creating Memorable Characters* and regularly teaches on-line writing classes.

Peggy Waide has been a member of RMFW since 1996. She sold her first book as a result of the Colorado Gold Conference and has published four Regency Historicals for Leisure Books. She is currently writing a Denver-based amateur sleuth series.

C.M. Wendelboe is a former Marine Scout-Sniper (Vietnam period) and served as a law enforcement officer for 38 years before retiring to write full time. He taught officers and civilians the proper use of firearms. He accurately depicts firearms and their use in *his Death Along the Spirit Road* and subsequent "Spirit Road" novels.

NEW: Paperless Handout Booklet

Please note that the workshop handout booklet will be in paperless format this year. All attendees will receive a loaded jump drive in their packets. The booklet will also be available for download from the website in August. Plan ahead if you wish to download certain workshops or bring your laptops!

EDITOR/AGENT PITCH APPOINTMENT REGISTRATION

For a Free, one on one, 10 minute pitch session on Saturday

These free appointments are a wonderful opportunity for authors who have a completed manuscript to pitch to an acquiring agent or editor. To make the most of the appointment for both you and the agent/editor, review the bios and select an editor or agent who represents the genre you write. Appointments will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

You will receive notice of your scheduled appointment in your conference registration packet, not before conference.

Please number your 3 selections, with 1 being your preferred choice. You will be assigned ONLY ONE APPOINTMENT.

___ Sara Megibow, Nelson Literary Agency

___ Jennifer Unter, The Unter Agency

___ Molly Jaffa, Folio Agency

___ Marissa Corvisiero, Perkins Agency

___ Rebecca Strauss, McIntosh & Otis

___ Moshe Feder, TOR Books

___ Anita Mumm, Nelson Literary Agency

___ Angela James, Carina Press

___ Sandra Bond, Sandra Bond Agency

___ LaToya Smith, Grand Central

___ Amy Moore Benson, AMB Literary Agency

___ Brian Farrey, Flux

___ Rachelle Gardner, WordServe

___ Lindsey Faber, Samhain

Visiting Editor Presenters also willing to take pitches:

___ Ben LeRoy, Tyrus Books

___ Terri Bischoff, Midnight Ink

(This form MUST be completed in full – *send with your conference registration*)

PLEASE print clearly. If we can't read your writing, we might spell your name wrong.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Is Your Manuscript Complete? _____

Approximate Word Count: _____ Genre: _____

Working Title: _____

How important are pitch appointments?

Many aspiring authors place a lot of emphasis on pitch appointments. However, you should keep in mind that pitching is only one aspect of the conference. Workshop sessions and building personal connections are just as important, if not more so. Editors and agents often feel overwhelmed by the sheer number of pitches they hear. If you do decide to pitch: do your research first, prepare ahead of time or attend the Friday educational session "Perfecting the Pitch", and remember courtesy and professionalism are key.

How do I decide which editor or agent is the right pitch or workshop choice for me?

Do your research. A short bio is included in the conference brochure and most include information on acquisition interests and sometimes offer glimpses into personalities. Visit websites. If website addresses are not included in bios, Google the agent/editor name, agency, or publishing house and investigate.

Workshops at a Glance

	Ballroom A	Ballroom B	Big Thompson	Platte	Telluride <i>Note new room</i>
FRIDAY					
12:00 – 12:50	You Have to Start Somewhere	Matching Firearms to the Period You're Writing	Writing Dynamic Flash Fiction	Taking out the Mystery of a Mystery	The Nitty Gritty of Book Promotion
1:00-1:50	Editor & Agent & Short Story Critique workshops located on third floor	Puttin' On the Moves! A Writers' Guide to Body Language & Styles	Good Things in Small Packages: Small Literary Presses	Show AND Tell	Let Your Characters Take the Wheel
2:00-2:50			Bang! Zoom! Pow! Those First 30 Pages and Why They are so Important and How to Make Them POP	Building You Brand & Using Your Website to Support Your Brand	
3:00-3:50		Oh Boy! Writing for Reluctant Readers	Are They Worth It? The Joys and Stings of Critique Groups		
4:00-4:50		Perfecting the Pitch – Life isn't Just an Elevator Ride		What Do Editors Do All Day?	Press Release Boot Camp
5:00-5:50	Novel Idea Follies in Big Thompson				
6:00 – 7:30	Italian Buffet and Cash Bar (RMFW PAL members host editor and agent networking tables) Speaker: RMFW Writer of the Year				
7:30	BOOK SALE LITERATURE AND LIQUOR (in the bar)				
SATURDAY					
8:00 – 8:50	The Devil's Cup: Poisons	Agent Panel One	Here Be Monsters: Writers Beware	Writing Paranormal Worlds	The Fearless Writer
9:00 – 9:50	Layering Complexity, Texture and Theme Using Subplots, Secondary Characters, and Villains	The Solitary Vice, a conversation about the writer's life	Police Procedure for Crime Writers: Writing Scenes that will Work	I've Been There Before: Writing Effective flashbacks	
10:00 – 10:50				Fiction Genres: Where Does Your Book Fit?	
11:00 – 11:50	Turn Your Research into Revenue			Writing Fiction from Real Life	Erotica is More than Plumbing
12:00 – 1:30	LUNCH — Sign up available if you have no lunch partner and what to get to know fellow conference attendees				
1:30 – 2:20	From Proposal to Publication (and Everything in Between)	Editor Panel	Writing Historicals & Memoirs	The Art and Craft of Voice	Conflict: the Engine that Drives Your Story
2:30 – 3:20		No Plotters Allowed -- Allison Brennan	How do You Know When You've Arrived if You Don't Know Where You're Going?		Creating Character Flaws
3:30 – 4:20				MA/MFA: What's Next?	First Sale Panel
4:30 – 5:20	The Faster I Go, the Behinder I Get—Time Management for Busy Writers	How to Write Realistic Dialogue	Belabour Him as You See Fit: Steampunk Self-Defense	PAL meeting	Takin' It in the Shorts
6:00 —	AWARDS BANQUET Speaker: Bernard Cornwell				

Continued on next page

Workshops at a Glance, continued

	Ballroom A	Ballroom B	Big Thompson	Platte	Telluride <i>Note new room</i>
SUNDAY					
8:00-8:50	Map, Trap, and Zap	Agent Panel Two	E-Publishing: A Quick & Dirty Workshop on Formatting for e-Publication	Secret Ingredients— We all know the recipe. What makes one cozy rise and another fall flat?	Show Me About Book Publishing
9:00 – 9:50	Pow! Bang! Charge! Writing Physical Action	Mastering Character Viewpoint	Mythic Structure and Storytelling	What Was The Question? How to Keep Your Story on Track	Fantasy Fundamentals
10:00– 10:50		The Dos and Don'ts of Technology and Publishing		Nice Guys Finish Last	
11:00 – 11:50	How to Write that Script			Liposuction for Your Overweight Manuscript	
12:00 – 1:30	FAREWELL LUNCHEON Speaker: Allison Brennan				

I've never attended a writing conference before. How do I know if I should?

If you're truly interested in writing fiction, attending a conference is a wonderful way to learn more about what is involved and how to get started. It can also help you decide if writing is something you want to pursue and will provide you the chance to meet others with the same interest.

I've heard that good writers can break the rules. If that's true, why is there so much focus on educational workshops?

The truth is, very few writers have natural skills. We need to hone our talents. Part of that is learning the craft of writing. In order to break the rules successfully, we have to understand why the rules exist. If we choose to break a rule, we have to accomplish the intended result of that rule in some other way. Besides, workshops are more than just the "rules of writing." They offer ideas and techniques for achieving results.

Should I choose an editor/agent workshop or attend educational sessions?

It depends on several factors. If you want serious feedback on your writing, an editor/agent workshop might be the way to go. You will get critiques from other participants and from a professional. You also get the first few pages of your manuscript read by an editor or agent. If you don't feel ready for that, you might want to select educational sessions instead.

How will I know what educational sessions to choose?

Your registration materials will include a schedule with descriptions of each session. The schedule will also indicate if the session is geared for beginning writers, writers of all levels, is of general appeal, or is of interest

to writers of particular genres. You will also want to consider whether you like short 50-minute sessions or prefer in-depth 2-3 hour sessions.

Can I join an in-depth session half-way through?

We encourage participants to attend the whole session. If you're interested in other sessions being offered at the same time, consider purchasing a tape or CD from JOYCO. Their table will be set up in the conference lobby area and an order form will be included with your registration materials. They offer discounts for whole conference packages.

Money is tight. Is the Colorado Gold conference worth the expense?

No one can answer that for you because each budget situation is different so I will answer based on my experience. I have found each and every one of the Colorado Gold conferences I've attended to be worth it. Nothing can replace the incredible learning opportunities that RMFW packs into those three days. RMFW guests and member presenters include well-known, best-selling authors who have a wealth of knowledge to share. The chance to network with editors, agents, and fellow writers can't be beat and the friendships developed here last a lifetime. Each year, I find my energy renewed and get a new boost to my writing. Weighing in the low registration cost (which includes several meals), I consider the conference an excellent value.

Hints for saving money: split hotel costs by sharing a room or ask if any Denver area members are open to house guests and carpool with others from your area to cut travel expenses. A quick post to the RMFW loop can offer many ideas on how to help. Don't be shy, just ask. Or email conference@rmfw.org if you're not a member and we'll ask for you!

EDITOR/AGENT CRITIQUE WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

(Deadline to register is **JULY 15**)

Editor/Agent Workshops are a wonderful opportunity to have pages of your novel critiqued by an editor or agent. Cost for this unique experience is only \$30. Auditors pay \$15. To make the most of the appointment for both you and the agents/editors, review the bios and select an editor or agent who represents the genre you write. This year, a short-short intensive workshop is also offered.

- Space is limited to **8 readers and 5 non-participating auditors** for each group.
- Workshops are held Friday, either 8:00-11:50 a.m. or 1:00 – 3:50 p.m. **You may register for a morning session AND an afternoon session.**
- Deadline to register is **July 15**.
- Everyone will be assigned on a first come basis.
- Confirmation will be emailed approximately 2 weeks later along with directions for manuscript submission.
- Deadline for manuscript submissions will be **August 4**.

To register:

- Select three choices and label in order 1,2 and 3.**
- If you indicate ONLY 1 choice and that workshop is full, you will not be assigned to another group and your registration fee will be refunded.
- Indicate if you are auditing or reading.
- There will be no refunds after the manuscript submission deadline.

Mail this form with your conference registration.

Friday Morning Sessions (8:00)

- Sara Megibow, Nelson Literary Agency
- Angela James, Carina Press
- Jennifer Unter, The Unter Agency
- LaToya Smith, Grand Central
- Amy Moore Benson, AMB Literary Mgmt

Friday Afternoon Sessions (1:00)

- Molly Jaffa, Folio
- Moshe Feder, TOR Books

Friday Afternoon Sessions (1:00)

- Sandra Bond, Sandra Bond Agency
- Rebecca Strauss, McIntosh & Otis
- Marisa Corvisiero, Perkins Agency
- Rachelle Gardner, WordServe
- Lindsey Faber, Samhain
- Brian Farrey, Flux
- Short Story Intensive (4000 word limit)

w/ Electric Spec editors David Hughes, Betsy Dornbusch, Lesley Smith

(This form must be completed IN FULL. Please PRINT clearly. If we can't read your contact info, you may not receive important instructions.)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

COLORADO GOLD REGISTRATION

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO FIRST 400 PEOPLE. Registration includes all conference workshops and presentations, an informal Italian Buffet at the Friday evening Book Sale, Saturday and Sunday morning Continental Breakfast Buffet, Saturday evening Awards Banquet, and Sunday Luncheon Buffet. Please indicate your dining choices by checking the boxes beside the menu items below. If you are downloading and completing by hand, please **print clearly** (if we can't read your handwriting, we may make a mistake on your name tag.)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please select from the following options:

	RMFW Member	Non-Member	Total
Before 8/16/11: _____	Early Registration @ \$270	_____ Early Registration @ \$300	\$ _____
8/16/11-9/01/11: _____	Late Registration @ \$290	_____ Late Registration @ \$320	\$ _____
9/02/11-9/08/11: _____	Last Minute Reg. @ \$315	_____ Last Minute Reg. @ \$345	\$ _____

Add-Ons:

Friday Morning Master Class Participant _____ Member \$50 _____ Non-Member \$65 \$ _____

DEADLINE 8/15/11: select one—classes with less than 10 registrants maybe cancelled & refunded by RMFW

_____	Discovering Story Magic		
_____	The "I Hate to Write a Synopsis Workshop"		
_____	Learn to Talk About Your Work to an Editor or Agent		
_____	Contracts and Copyrights: How to Read & Understand a Publishing Deal		
_____	The EDITS System: Adding Power to Every Page		
_____	Friday Editor/Agent Critique Workshop Participant @ \$30 each <i>DEADLINE 7/15/11</i>		\$ _____
_____	____ Morning ____ Afternoon <i>(complete & enclose form on page 10)</i>		
_____	Friday Editor/Agent Critique Workshop Auditor @ \$15 each <i>DEADLINE 7/15/11</i>		\$ _____
_____	____ Morning ____ Afternoon <i>(complete & enclose form on page 10)</i>		
_____	Saturday Editor/Agent Pitch Appointment @ Free		\$ Free
_____	<i>(complete & enclose form on page 7)</i>		
_____	Extra Friday Evening Italian Buffet Tickets for your guests	\$35 x _____ =	\$ _____
_____	Extra Saturday Banquet Tickets for your guests.	\$55 x _____ =	\$ _____
_____	Extra Sunday Luncheon Tickets for your guests.	\$35 x _____ =	\$ _____

Subtotal Due \$ _____

Volunteer Deductions Adjustments (must be verified by Committee Chair list of volunteers)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Contest Judging | \$5 x _____ = | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Solo Presenter Discount | \$270 x 1 = | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Panel Presenter Discount | \$135 x 1 = | \$ _____ |

Subtotal Deductions \$ _____

Total Due \$ _____

Credit Card Payments:

Cardholder Name _____ Card Type: _____

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature _____

Check Payments: Please make it payable to **RMFW**. Include all additional forms. *Mail payment to: Conference Registrar, Shannon Baker, 3620 Shoshone Street, Flagstaff, AZ 86001*

Dining Preferences: Friday Italian Buffet: I will attend (#____) I will NOT attend

Saturday Banquet (if you are bringing a guest, please indicate their choices as well.)

I will not be attending the banquet. I will have Chicken Marsala (#____)

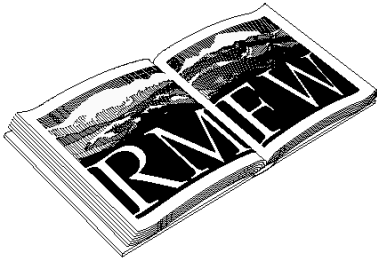
I will have the Pecan Crusted Salmon (#____) I will have the Portabella Stack (vegetarian) (#____)

Sunday Luncheon: I will attend (#____) I will NOT attend

If you have a food allergy, please contact conference@rmfw.org or call 303-331-2608.

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*Get Ready to Soar
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at the
2011 Colorado Gold
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