



WRITERS' LEAGUE OF TEXAS

March 15, 2016

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***Attn: WLT
Members***
**2016 Summer
Writing Retreat**

2016 Third Thursday

Writing About the Military



Thursday, March 17, 2016

7:00 PM

BookPeople

603 N. Lamar Blvd.



July 17-22, 2016

Sul Ross

State University

Alpine, TX

REGISTER NOW!

Members Only

Early Bird Rate: \$299

The 2016 Summer Writing Retreat is open for registration. Take advantage of the special early bird registration rate through March 21.

During this six-day retreat, in beautiful West Texas, five intensive writing workshops will be taught simultaneously by five experienced instructors, offering a unique opportunity for students to enjoy an intimate class setting during the day and a larger group dynamic outside of the classroom throughout the week.

**Stop By
Our Booth!**

Austin, TX

Free and Open to the Public!

***please take elevator at back of store to third floor**

From Homer's *The Odyssey* to Joseph Heller's *Catch 22* to Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried* to Ben Fountain's *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk*, war and military service have provided the settings for so much important literature. Authors draw on the courage, tension, tragedy, sacrifice, despair, and ridiculousness of war to expose human nature at its most basic - capturing characters at their most heroic, and their most evil.

But how can writers accurately capture the details and mindset of those in the military, as well as honestly portray events that might unfold. What should writers consider during the research and writing process? What should they be wary of?

Join us Thursday, March 17, to hear how four authors of fiction and nonfiction have expertly dealt with this subject matter. Our distinguished panelists will be...



Brandon Caro is the author of the debut novel, *Old Silk Road* (Post Hill Press, October 13, 2015). He was a Navy corpsman (combat medic) and advisor to the Afghan National Army in Afghanistan from 2006-2007. He holds a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Texas State

University, and is currently pursuing an MFA in Fiction Writing from The New School. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Daily Beast*, *Whitehot Magazine of Contemporary Art*, and elsewhere. He lives in Austin, Texas.

Leila Levinson has led writing workshops for veterans and their spouses in central Texas. She is a former member of Austin Veterans and Family Advisory Council which advises the Austin VA about its services. The daughter of a World War II veteran, she





April 2, 2016
Exhibitor Booth
#35
San Antonio
Central Library
San Antonio, TX

The Writers' League staff is looking forward to participating in this year's San Antonio Book Festival, and once again, we'll have our members signing copies of their latest books at our booth.

You can view the signing schedule [here](#).

Midland and
Odessa Writers!

BOOKS
IN THE
BASIN

April 9-10, 2016
Odessa College
Odessa, TX

The Writers' League will be participating in Books in the Basin this year. We'll be exhibiting on Saturday and Sunday (April 9-10) and hosting a panel on "[Being a Good Literary](#)

teaches writing and literature of the Holocaust at St. Edward's University in Austin. Her book, *Gated Grief*, was a finalist for the 2013 Writers' League of Texas Book Award in the nonfiction category and won the 2011 President's Award from the Military Writers Society. Her [website](#), is a resource and forum for adult children of veterans.



Jack Woodville London was honored as Author of the Year (2011-2012) by the Military Writers Society of America. His World War II-era novel *Virginia's War* was a Finalist for Best Novel of the South and the Dear Author 'Novel with a Romantic Element' contest. His 'parallel-quel' novel, *Engaged in War*,

won the silver medal at the London Book Festival for General Fiction and the Silver prize in the Stars and Flags Historical Fiction competition. It was also the Book of the Month by both Good Reads and the Military Writers Society of America. His third book, *A Novel Approach*, won the E-Lit Gold Medal for nonfiction in 2015.

Jonathan Wei is a writer, director, and producer. His work has appeared in *The Village Voice*, *The Iowa Review*, *The North American Review*, *Glimmer Train*, and other publications, and he is a past fellow of the Vermont Studio Center and the Atlantic Center for the Arts. Jonathan's



work has been staged at the Guthrie Theater, the Library of Congress, Maryland Center for the Performing Arts and others, and featured by *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Huffington Post*, MSNBC, NPR, and others. Jonathan founded [The Telling Project](#) in 2008, a national performing arts nonprofit that employs theater to deepen our understanding of the military and veterans' experience. Jonathan continues to serve as executive director.

Click [here](#) to join our Facebook Event!

2016 Conference

"Citizen" on Saturday, at 11:00 am.

Panelists include authors Claire Banschbach, Jeramey Kraatz and Lone Star Literary Life's Michelle Newby Lancaster. Read more [here](#).

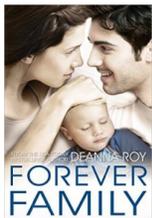
Stop by our booth and come to our panel! Visit the Books in the Basin [website](#) for a full schedule of the weekend's programming.

Members Only



"Members Review"

Interested in reviewing books? Contact us at member@writersleague.org with "Members Review" in the subject line and we will respond with more details.



Family by Deanna Roy.

Click [HERE](#) to read WLT member Kirsche Romo's review of *Forever*

"Meet the Members"

Want to be profiled on our blog? We are

looking for willing subjects for our weekly Q&A posts with current members. If interested, write us at



2016 Agents & Editors

Conference:

Meet the Faculty

Every year, the Writers' League of Texas brings a faculty of close to thirty agents, editors, and other industry professionals to Austin for its Agents & Editors Conference. As we look ahead to the 23rd Annual A&E Conference in June, we're happy to share Q&As with some of our faculty on [Scribe](#) (subscribe if you're not already receiving our latest blog posts!). Visit our [Featured Agents](#) and [Featured Editors](#) page for the most up to date list of attending faculty. Read interviews with Agents Ammi-Joan Paquette and Jessica Papin by clicking on the links below.

Click [here](#) for more information on registering for the conference. The registration price jumps on March 29.



Ammi-Joan Paquette is a senior agent with Erin Murphy Literary Agency, representing all types of children's and YA literature. She is also the author of the *Princess Juniper* series, for which book #2, *Princess Juniper of the Anju* is newly out this year. Her other

published works include the novels *Paradox*, *Nowhere Girl*, and *Rules for Ghosting*, and the picture books *Ghost in the House*, *Petey & Pru & the Hullabaloo*, and *The Tiptoe Guide to Tracking Fairies/Mermaids*. In her agent acquisitions, Joan is particularly drawn to richly voiced, unforgettable characters and settings, as well as tightly-paced, well-plotted stories with twists and turns that keep you guessing right until the end. Visit her on the web [here](#). Read Ammi-Joan's Q&A [here](#).

Community Member News

Texas Association of Authors Inc., (Austin) is a nonprofit that supports and markets Texas authors. Did you know you are competing against 1.5 million published authors? TxAuthors has a proven record of success in building sales for Texas Authors around the world. Learn more [here](#).

Member News

Jess Archer's (Austin) book *Finding Home with the Beatles, Bob Dylan and Billy Graham* is a short book, only 224 pages, and full of first-hand encounters with celebrities like Billy Graham and Bono! Yep, that's right. How do I know these people? Gotta read the book! You can purchase the book [here](#).

Crockett Grabbe's (Austin) radio interview focusing on his recent book *How the WTC was REALLY Demolished on 9/11* will be broadcast on [No Lies Radio](#) on Wednesday, March 16th from 10:00 am to 11:00 am CST. The interview will be archived [here](#).

Are you a current WLT member interested in submitting to Member News? Email your 50-word blurb (with links!) at member@writersleague.org. For a full list of guidelines, click [here](#).

Jessica Papin is an agent at Dystel and Goderich in New York. Prior to that, she was the Director of International Rights at the American University in Cairo Press, in Egypt, and an editor at Warner Books (now Grand Central Publishing) in New York. With a background on both sides of the desk, Papin loves working collaboratively with clients to shape and refine their work. She is interested in literary and smart



commercial fiction, narrative nonfiction, history, medicine, science, economics and women's issues. In every case, she looks for passion, erudition, and storytelling skill. A wry sense of humor does not hurt. Read Jessica's Q&A [here](#).



Building a Novel Out of Scenes

with **Brian Yanksy**

Saturday, March 26, 2016

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

ACC Highland Campus

Room 2105

Austin, TX

**Registration closes end of day, Thursday, March
24.**

Our Next

Open Office Hours

April 14, 2016

Registration closes

April 13 at 12 pm

Members: Meet one-on-one with a WLT staffer (in person or call in).

Click [here](#) for guidelines and to sign up. Current members only.

2016 marks the Writers' League of Texas' 35th Anniversary.



To celebrate this milestone, we're asking members to consider

WRITERS'
LEAGUE
OF TEXAS

renewing their membership in 2016 at the

special Anniversary Level or one of the Premium Levels.

Details on the various membership levels and associated benefits can be found [HERE](#).

Share Your Writers' League of Texas Story!

We're collecting stories, memorabilia, and photos from our members past

REGISTER NOW!

\$49 members / \$109 nonmembers

Scenes - not chapters - are the basic building blocks of a novel. Scenes are shorter, more unified, and easier to fit in a sequence that tells a story. In fact, one can look at a novel as a series of scenes that build on each other - complete with narrative and character arcs.

This class will define what a scene is, and students will work on some strategies for organizing and developing scenes. Students will also look at how to link scenes to give their story a sense of progression.



Brian Yansky is the author of five published YA novels and over a dozen short stories for adults. His last three novels were published by Candlewick Press (Utopia, Iowa, 2015; Homicidal Aliens and Other Disappointments, 2013; Alien Invasion and Other Inconveniences, 2010.) His stories have been published in Literal Latte, The Crescent Review and other literary magazines. He teaches writing at Austin

Community College.

2016 Spring Classes

Research to Write



Effective Research Methods for Fiction:

and present to celebrate our 35th Anniversary.

We've created a form to make it easy to share stories or photos from our history. Click [here](#) to submit your contribution.

For more information on our 35th Anniversary plans, click [here](#).

Online Classes Are Here!



The Writers' League is pleased to announce a new partnership with The Loft Literary Center that will allow our members to sign up for The Loft's online classes at a 25% discount.

Click [HERE](#) to see The Loft's current list of classes. Choose your class and then contact the Writers' League via phone at (512) 499-8914 or email us at member (at) writersleauge (dot) org. Once your WLT membership is confirmed, we'll send you the code to

How Much is Enough?

with John Pipkin

Saturday, April 2, 2016

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

St. Edward's University

Trustee Hall, Room 303

Austin, TX

Registration closes end of day, Thursday, March 31.

REGISTER NOW!

\$49 members / \$109 nonmembers

Whether you are writing historical fiction, science fiction, a murder mystery, a procedural medical thriller, or a simple story about a boy and his dog, chances are that you will have to research your material in order to make sure that your fictional narrative is accurate, authentic, and believable.

Even a contemporary short story set in a familiar location might still require some research to get everything just right. But where do you find the answers you need? How much research is enough? How much is too much? And how do you know when to stop researching and start writing? This class will cover the basics of conducting research for novels and short stories in any genre. Students will look at strategies for effective researching, how to locate useful source materials, and most importantly, discuss techniques for incorporating facts and details seamlessly into their fiction, so that their stories doesn't sound like an encyclopedia entry. Attendees will learn about different approaches as character-based research, plot-based research, and subject-based research.

use at checkout. Details can also be found on our [website](#).

Support the Writers' League at Your Local Randalls!



You can support the Writers' League of

Texas when you shop at your local Randalls through the [Randalls Good Neighbor Program](#). Since 1996, The Good Neighbor Program has offered their customers an easy way to donate to their favorite nonprofit organization.

Read more about the program [here](#) and follow the link to the form. Be sure to include the Writers' League's Charity Number: 277.

Follow Us



John Pipkin's first novel, *Woodsburner*, was published to national acclaim by Nan A. Talese/Doubleday in April 2009. Woodsburner won the New York Center for Fiction First Novel Prize, the Massachusetts Center for the Book Novel Prize, and the Texas Institute of Letters Stephen Turner Prize for First Novel. John was the Dobie Paisano Fellow at UT-Austin for the spring of 2011. His new novel, *The Blind Astronomer's Daughter*, will be published by Bloomsbury this coming October. He received his Ph.D. in British Literature from Rice University in 1997. Currently, he is the Writer-in-Residence at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, and he teaches in the Low-residency MFA Program at Spalding University, in Louisville, Kentucky.



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wl@writersleague.org
Economic Development Department.