

Jumble News

Writer's Markets, New Authors, Pet Tips, Recipes and More!

Winding up the year!

December 2010
Volume 1, Issue 4

December is the time of year I love and dread the most.

In the love column, Christmas reigns. From lights to iced cookies to the start of the Church year, there is a lot to celebrate in December.

In the dread column, the year is almost over, and I can see that I will not make all of my goals.

Rather than panic this year, I thought I would try something more constructive.

I'm going to believe that I accomplished all that I was supposed to accomplish. I'm going to make sure that each current goal is important, clear, and includes deadlines.

And then I'm going to remember that time goes on regardless of what the calendar says. January 1st is only different in my mind. I'll readjust my trajectory and keep moving forward.

This year, I'm going to close my mouth and open my ears. I'm

going to listen to God (you can listen to your inner voice or the universe) and see if the goals I've chosen are the right ones.

Jackie Vick



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This Month's Market

Flashlight Press

This market is for children's picture books. The target age is 4-8 years old and should include a universal theme that deals with family or

social situations.

Send a **query email** describing your story (plot, word count, target audience, what makes this story unique) to

Shari Dash Greenspan
submissions@FlashlightPress.com .

Look to their website for further details.

An Author You Should Check Out!

Mark Schweizer makes me laugh out loud. His protagonist, Hayden Konig, is police chief of St. Germaine, choir director of St. Barnabas Episcopal church, and an aspiring mystery writer. He purchased Raymond Chandler's typewriter and proceeds to turn out laughable fiction. (The title of his latest work is the title of each novel.)

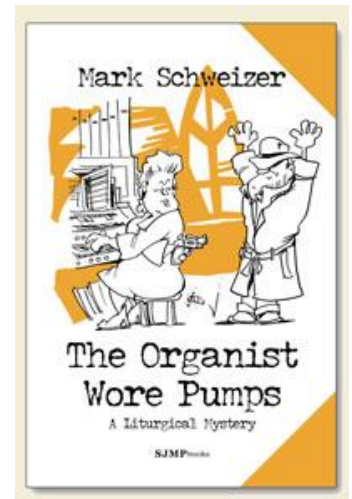
Schweizer is lovingly irreverent about organized religion, poking

fun at everything from the Virgin Mary's appearance on a sweet role to a misguided and disastrous Edible Last Supper.

The mysteries are solved almost as an afterthought. It's as if you brought a question to a family gathering and, after much laughter, your uncle turned and said, "By the way, the answer is...."

A lot of fun! There are currently

eight books in the series, and I've loved each one! You don't have to read them in order, but why not enjoy the whole series?



Marketing Ideas

In order to market to your audience, they have to know you. When's the last time you purchased something from an unknown source?

1. Start a Face Book fan page and include snippets of useful information that relate to

your books.

2. Join the chat rooms at Kindle and Amazon
3. Follow popular blogs in

"It's easier to figure out who your target market is *before* you write the book."

the subject you write in and post useful comments. People might reciprocate.

Bottom line, you can't live in a vacuum and then expect sales.

December Events

December 18th 10-4

I'm going to visit the Holiday Spiritual Boutique at the Marriot Courtyard in Valencia for research on my Pet Psychic novel!

Currently

An interview of me is on

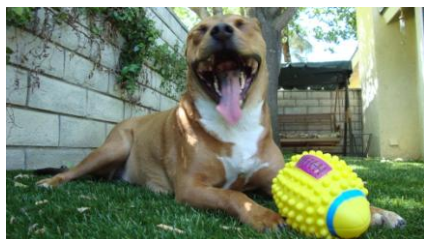
Writers and Authors.

<http://writersandauthors.blogspot.com/2010/11/interview-with-jackie-vick.html>

Remember the balance is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Pet Corner - Consistency & Reinforcement



Buster is an extremely quick learner. I have to remind myself that he's not human, and that he won't remember what he learned today unless I reinforce it tomorrow.

He also won't take me seriously unless I'm consistent with my commands.

If I let him pull on the leash one day, he'll balk when I tell him to heel on the next walk.

Every time I leave the house, I make him sit at the door. It may seem like a pointless exercise, but if the door flies open and he knows to wait, it could keep him from running into trouble.

It's also important to make the treats appropriate to the situation. High value treats are used when I want him to do something difficult.

He barks and lunges on the leash when he sees other dogs. A mildly interesting crunchy isn't going to get his attention. Cheese will.

Maybe by practicing with Buster, I'll learn to be consistent in my own life!

Inspiration

This month, I'm going to revisit my Thanksgiving blog and tell you about my parents.

They inspire me through their example, and some of the rules they have taught me are:

NO Whining: It's pointless and annoying

Just Do It: They approach

every problem as a challenge, and they deal with it and move on to the good stuff.

Be generous. Whether with

Does someone inspire you? Let me know so I can spread the word!
jvickwriter@gmail.com .

family, friends, employees, or strangers, my parents have always taken care of others.

Thanks Mom and Dad!

Recipe Corner

Tasty Snacks for Christmas

Every Christmas Eve after Midnight Mass, my family would heat up some treats and open our presents. These are two favorites.

Little Sandwiches

2 2 oz packages Buddig Beef
 2 cups cheddar cheese
 3 green onions

Party Rye (or Rye slices cut into squares)
 Mayonnaise

Grate cheese, chop meat, and slice onions. (Food processor or scissors both work well.) Mix and add enough Mayo to moisten. Spread on bread. Bake at 350 degrees until melted.

Cocktail Weenies

1 package cocktail franks
 1 jar mustard
 1 jar boysenberry or other jam

Mix mustard and jam in pot over stove. When combined, add weenies and heat through.

Note: You want jam because chunks of fruit in this are just gross!

Jacqueline Vick

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www.jacquelinevickauthor.blogspot.com

Links from this Newsletter:

Flashlight Press; www.flashlightpress.com

Mark Schweizer; www.simpbooks.com

K.J. Larsen <http://kjlarsenauthor.com/>

Please share this with your friends!

Email me to unsubscribe.

*Making you laugh, one
page at a time.*

Just a
Thought

Mini Book Review

Liar, Liar by K.J. Larsen

In a world of chick lit detectives, Cat DeLuca stands out. She's treated like a precious pearl by her many male relatives who skate on both sides of the law, though most of them are Chicago cops. It's nice to see a woman surrounded by strong men, even when they are driving her crazy.

Her sister is vindictive as only a sibling can be, and her mother has Father Timothy on speed dial.

In this first novel, Cat is after a cheating spouse, not unusual since she runs the Pants on Fire Detective Agency by applying the knowledge she picked up from her own cheating ex. The odd thing about her latest case is that Chance Savino says he's not married.

After Chance is allegedly killed in an explosion, Cat keeps running into him. Her mother pushes her to go to confession. Everyone else thinks she's nuts.

The ensuing mystery is hysterical. I highly recommend it!

Take the Time To Listen

Too often, I run around with the buzz of to-do items in my head and swat at them as if they were flies to be struck down and flipped into the waste basket.

I rarely stop to listen--to God, my inner voice, common sense--to see if I *should* be chasing these particular goals.

The answer to this question lies deep within but can only be heard if I stop the noise and actively listen.

One way to listen is through journaling. Write the question *What should I focus on?* Think about it for a few minutes, and then pick up your pen and see what your subconscious shares with you.

Meditate. It's not as complicated as it sounds. Ask a question. Then focus on your breathing and push away thoughts that try to occupy your mind. Do this for ten minutes and then see how you're inspired. Prayer is a kind of meditation, too.

And finally, just listen to your gut. If what you're doing feels right, go with it. If it makes you anxious, set it aside and try to figure out why.

I hope these ideas help!

