

# Jumble News

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

## And So It Begins!

November 2010  
Volume 1, Issue 3

Why does it seem that once Halloween hits the year is all but over?

Holiday items are already in the store, the church has announced the date of the Christmas Dance, and I've hit my annual panic. Will I have *Family Matters* to markets before the end of the year? It's on the third rewrite, this time in first person.

The thing about the writing panic is that it happens every year. If my novel were

published tomorrow, there would be something else to worry about.

The goals listed last January get fuzzy over twelve months, overtaken by more important items or sometimes by more *interesting* tasks.

It's no use berating myself for a lack of discipline. I do accomplished things. Just different things than I planned.

Too rigid and we miss opportunities. Too

slack and we don't get anywhere. I'm just going to enjoy the process.

*Jackie Vick*



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## This Month's Market

### *Echelon Press*

Echelon Press publishes three types of writing--novels, novellas, and short stories. Right now they are accepting submissions for

electronic publication in 2011.

They accept mysteries, romance, inspirational, thrillers, westerns, historical and women's fiction.

Submissions must include a full marketing strategy. The acquiring editor is Sean Hayden.

Look to their website for further details.

## An Author You Should Check Out!

Any time I want to laugh, one of the first authors on my list is Kate Carlisle.

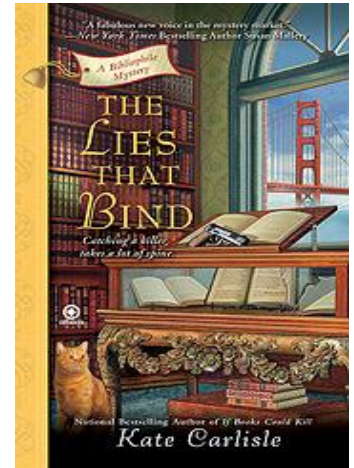
In her bibliophile mysteries, book restorer Brooklyn Wainwright is surrounded by quirky family members guaranteed to make you smile--whether it's a painful smile of recognition or a pleased smile that your own family rates higher on the sanity scale.

And did I mention hunky security officer, Derek Stone? No laughing there. Yum!

The situations Brooklyn finds herself in are hysterical (unless they are situations with Derek, and then they are just... Yum.)

Each story revolves around a book, such as a cursed copy of Foust, or a previously unknown tell-all about the British Monarchy.

Definitely check out the bio on Kate's website. You'll read all about her life, as reflected by her hair. Hilarious!



## Marketing Ideas

Authors may notice that editors are requiring that you submit a marketing plan with your manuscript. What do you include in a marketing plan?

1. Who is the Audience?
2. What are your Goals and Objectives?
3. What is your budget?

Know who is going to buy your book. Grandparents? Teachers? Rock Collectors? Are you going to plan signings at wine shops?

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

Author panels? A blog tour? Where will you pursue reviews, and do you have a press kit?

You may want to hire a publicity firm, but you may have the time and energy to handle it yourself. "The Frugal Book Promoter" has some great tips.

## October Events

### November 11<sup>th</sup>

That talented author, Marilyn Meredith, will be my guest on A Writer's Jumble.

### November 20<sup>th</sup>

Stop by Valencia Barnes & Noble where I'll be moderating a panel of Sassy Sleuths.

Dorothy Howell, Linda O. Johnston, and Daryl Wood Gerber (writing as Avery Aames) will be there, too! It's

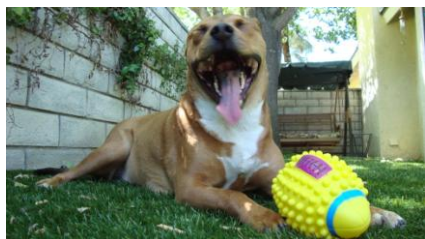
**Remember the balance is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration!**

my first event for B&N. Help make it a success!

### Currently

An interview of me is on Writers and Authors. <http://writersandauthors.blogspot.com/2010/11/interview-with-jackie-vick.html>

## Pet Corner - Doping Your Dog



Every holiday, we run into people who set off fireworks--despite the fire danger. Loud noises drive Buster batty, and we've tried several things to keep him calm.

Rescue Remedy is available in health food stores. Valerian or Melatonin can also do the trick. Ask your vet about dosage amount, and note that Valerian, like most herbs, will have to build up in the animal's system.

Sometimes you can combine things, such as Rescue Remedy and Valerian, but always check with your vet.

We tried giving him tryptophan--the drug in turkey. No luck.

We got a prescription for acepromazine, also known as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July drug. It didn't work. Buster still ran around and barked his throat raw, so it didn't seem worth it to drug him for nothing. The next step is Valium.

When your pet is upset, keep bones and possible choking items away.

Finally, try closing windows and doors and playing soothing music. It may keep *you* calm.

## Inspiration

Every time I think I have too much on my plate, I think of Jackie...that's Jackie Houchin. (I rarely talk about myself in third person.)

Besides taking care of horses, husband, parents, and being involved with children, grandchildren and her church,

Jackie finds time to fully read and review several books per month. She freelances for

Does someone inspire you? Let me know so I can spread the word!  
[jvickwriter@gmail.com](mailto:jvickwriter@gmail.com) .

newspapers, websites and professional newsletters, and she attends and reviews more plays in one month than I've attended these past three years!

Check out her reviews and articles on Jackie Houchin's News & Reviews.

## Recipe Corner

Cheese Fondue is a hearty meal that's fun to eat.

### *Cheese Fondue*

2 Cans Cheddar Cheese Soup  
 2 cups Swiss Cheese or Swiss and Sharp Cheddar mixed  
 1/3 cup of dry wine - red or white will work (or low sodium chicken broth)  
 Shot of Worcester Sauce

Pinch of garlic powder  
 A few apples, sliced  
 Kielbasa or other rope sausage, cooked and sliced  
 French Bread cut into chunks

Mix the first two ingredients together over low heat until the cheese is melted. Add wine until you have the consistency you like. You want the fondue to

stick to your dipping items.

Add remaining ingredients to taste.

Serve with the apples, sausage and bread, or try cooked potatoes and anything else you like with cheese. (And what doesn't go with cheese???)

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**Links from this Newsletter:**

Echelon Press; <http://echelonpress.com>

Kate Carlisle; [www.katecarlisle.com](http://www.katecarlisle.com)

Jackie Houchin's News & Reviews:

[www.jackiehouchin.com](http://www.jackiehouchin.com)

Frugal Book Promoter:

[www.howtodoitfrugally.com](http://www.howtodoitfrugally.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

*Death by Sheer Torture* by Robert Barnard

This is still one of my favorite books, and it's not hard to see why.

DI Perry Trethowen discovers through the morning paper that his estranged father, a failed composer, has died while pleasuring himself on a Strappadol torture device--while wearing spangle tights. His boss insists he go down and infiltrate the suspects, er, family.

The Trethowen's revel in not being *ordinary*. Aunt Syb is vinegar itself, and Cousin Pete has married a gutter Italian and reproduced a group of uncontrollable children known as the Squealies. Confused Aunt Kate's a kind woman, though she's still pining for Hitler and thinks things would be better "if we had won the war".

A riot from start to finish, this book is Barnard at his best.

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## Doing the Ordinary Extraordinarily

November 1<sup>st</sup> marks All Saints Day, *a day for celebrating those who lived ordinary lives, extraordinarily.*

When I write, I can't help but hope to someday show up on the best seller list. A brilliant photographer will have figured out how to take a good picture of me by then, and I'll peek out from the book flap and smile at my reader.

In the meanwhile (before I

can afford to hire Alice from the Brady Bunch), I'll still need to make dinner and walk the dog and do laundry. And these are honorable things.

I can hear it now. An honorable load of laundry? Pa-leeeeease.

We're so caught up in multi-tasking (something that doesn't work, not even for women) that we've forgotten how to pay attention.

So smell the clean scent of

the laundry while you're folding it. Note if anything needs mending. Actually pull down the iron! Take the time to do an extraordinary job, and find pleasure in the mundane.

