

Jumble News

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

Welcome to my first newsletter!

September 2010
Volume 1, Issue 1

Greetings All!

Welcome to my first newsletter! I hope to bring you current information on my writing along with markets, tips, new authors to check out, and some fun pet news to tie in with my new *Frankie Chandler, Pet Psychic* series.

Summer was extremely busy on the writing front. I finished a new Pet Psychic mystery and it's out to the editor, Kristen Weber. *Family Matters*, my

Wilder Women Mystery is in rewrites with recommendations by the same editor.

My novella, *The Groom's Cake*, was released as an eBook through Wicked Ink Press.

I've got my blog up-- A Writer's Jumble. Stop by!

The Membership Drive is in the Every Day Fiction Two Anthology, available at bookstores and online. I share that honor with some of

my favorite authors, including Michael Mallory of the *Second Mrs. Watson* books and Gay Degani, a master of short fiction.

Enjoy,

Jackie Vick



Available at
Wicked Ink
Press.

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This Month's Market

Keith Publications

This brand new eBook publisher is looking for everything from short stories to long novels. They have two lines to cover

just about any genre you may want to submit.

Wicked Ink Press publishes the romances, from cute (like mine) to steamy!

D'Ink Well publishes fantasy, urban fantasy, sci-fi, westerns, poetry mystery/thriller, and a whole lot more!

And they are nice, too!
Keithpublications.com

An Author You Should Check Out!

The Crispin Guest Medieval Noir Mysteries by **Jeri Westerson** are this month's Jumble Find.

The stories are fast paced mysteries filled with interesting characters, historical facts, and a deliciously gloomy atmosphere.

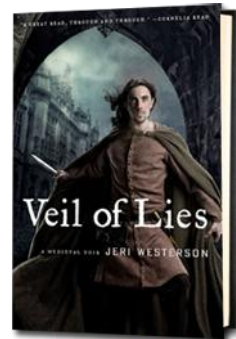
Described as Philip Marlow in the 14th Century, Jeri's protagonist is a dishonored knight who makes a living as

The Tracker--finder of lost things, and those lost things are usually murder suspects!

Each mystery revolves around a religious relic, which adds to the intrigue.

I couldn't put down the first book, *Veil of Lies*, and I immediately ordered the second, *Serpent in the Thorns*, on my Kindle because I had to find out what happened next.

This October, *The Devil's Parchment* comes out, and I can't wait!



Buy This Book

Marketing Ideas

Did you know that libraries are always looking for workshops to present to their clientele? Some pay a stipend, and many will let you sell your books at events!

What does your book have to offer? Is it a children's book? Why not hold a class on putting together a teacher's guide, or a

read-aloud for children with a funny vocabulary quiz? Don't forget to bring bookmarks or postcards listing your web site.

"Many successful authors do at least one marketing step per day."

Then take the program to your local Senior Center! Many seniors would love to know how to write books--either juvenile fiction for their grandchildren or memoirs for the family and friends.

Finally, community colleges often offer workshops.

September Events

Saturday, September 11th

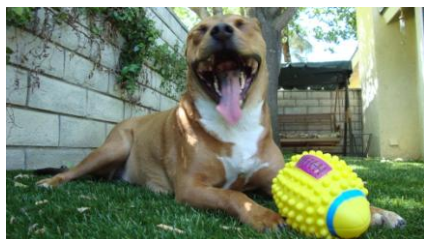
Join me and Sisters in Crime at the Buena Vista Burbank Library for an exciting discussion -- *The Pros and Cons of Self-Publishing*. 2-4 pm. 300 N. Buena Vista St., Burbank. I'll be moderating authors **Sue Ann Jaffarian**, **Pamela Samuels-Young**, and **Gay Degani** for what should prove to be

a lively discussion! If you can't be there, don't worry! I plan to blog about the event at A Writer's Jumble. Will we wind

Do you have a positive or negative experience with self-publishing? Email me! I'd like to hear about it.

up with a definitive answer? I doubt it, but I know that these top notch authors have the background to grab this topic by the *cajones* and come up with some helpful points to ponder!

Pet Corner - Canine Good Citizenship Class



I recently enrolled Buster in the CGCC. After completing the course, he'll be able to test for his certification. Why is this designation important?

Besides having a well-behaved

dog in public, you as the owner will commit to being a good pet owner. (Oh, that this was a required class!)

As a bonus, this course is the basis to train as a Therapy Dog Team!

There are ten items you'll both be tested on including the ability to accept a friendly stranger, to sit politely for petting, and to greet other dogs without

reacting.

This course is offered by the American Kennel Club. Find out more about this and other programs on their website.

Wish Buster and me luck, especially with the last one!

Inspiration

Last month, I had the honor of interviewing Mr. Hugo Cipriani. Mr. Cipriani wrote his first book at 94 years old. That's what I said. 94!

For those who think it's too late to follow your dream, you can't start a new career much later than 94.

According to his niece, Mary, Uncle Hugo would tell stories to his family about his travels

Email me with any thoughts or opinions!

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during the Great Depression. Some smart cookie insisted he write them down, and they became *VA, FA, SA, a Young Man's Memoir*.

Mr. Cipriani isn't sitting back. At 97, he recently signed his memoir at the LA Times Festival of Books!

Recipe Corner

I personally love finding new recipes, whether in magazines, newsletters, on websites, or in the back of my mysteries!

This month, I give you a good Midwestern meal.

Macaroni and Cheese

2 cups cheese - try mixing several types
2 cups of dry macaroni, cooked

½ tsp of garlic powder
½ tsp pepper
1 TBL butter
1 TBL flour
1 cup milk
1 cup of veggies (optional)

Make a roux: Melt butter. Add flour. Cook 1 minute.

Add milk. Stir until thickened. Add garlic and pepper.

Spread ½ macaroni in 8X8 pan

Sprinkle with ½ the cheese.

Sprinkle with veggies that aren't rock hard or frozen.

Top with remaining macaroni.

Pour roux over all.

Top with remaining cheese.

Bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees

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Links from this Newsletter:

<http://www.alanorloff.blogspot.com/>

www.keithpublications.com

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

www.kristenweber.com

<http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/>

Please share this with your friends!

Email me to unsubscribe.

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

Just a
Thought

Mini Book Review

The Green Plaid Pants by Margaret Scherf

After 28 months, marriage is starting to pall for Emily Bryce. Her husband's broken collar bone, the studio fire, the lawsuit--all trivial. If only something *exciting* would happen.

Emily's about to get her wish granted. When she and her husband, Henry, travel to England to restore furniture, they return to America with an odd English family in tow along with a pair of Bonnie Prince Charles' plaid pants--a gift from a client.

First, the irritating English son-in-law perishes by sword, and then the pants are stolen from the Bryce's studio. Is practical Aunt Ada behind the mayhem, or the murdered man's mouse of a wife, Olivia?

The Bryce's banter reads like Nick and Nora Charles, and Emily reminded me of the hilarious Gracie Allen.

Definitely a series worth looking into.

Too Many Things to Do

I recently read about a great idea from author Alan S. Orloff. He suggested organizing tasks into projects.

As a master list maker, I often have overwhelming to-do lists. This time, I looked at each item as its own project.

Instead of thinking, *I've got to throw in the laundry*, I made it "Project Laundry" (said with superhero, echoing tones).

It sounds really lame, but this mere act made me more aware of what I was doing. I focused on getting the colors separated and I listened for the dryer timer instead of letting everything wrinkle for thirty minutes.

It's all in our approach. Searching for short story markets can be a pain in the butt or an exciting challenge.

I think there's some trendy saying about "Being in the Now". I have heard both

Buddhists and Catholic Priests talk about enjoying the task at hand.

Focusing on one thing is more satisfying and a great way to get rid of the multi-tasking blues.

