



## Alberta Chapter Celebrates 85 Years

by Shirley A. Serviss



### Membership History

The Canadian Authors Association was constituted in Montreal in March of 1921 as a national organization to protect the rights of writers, award and encourage Canadian writing and create markets for Canadian writing. That same year, two CAA Branches were established in Alberta.

The Edmonton Branch of the CAA was formed on April 26, 1921 at a dinner held in the Macdonald Hotel. The dinner was arranged by Nellie McClung and Judge Emily Murphy and hosted by the Edmonton Women’s Press Club with J.M. Gibbon, the national president, in attendance. According to reports, there were as many as 70 others present, including such notables as Alberta’s Premier Stewart, the Lieut. Gov. R.G. Brett, Edmonton’s Mayor Duggan, University of Alberta Principal Dr. Tory, Hon. A.C. Rutherford, and Frank Oliver (from the *Bulletin*).

Nellie McClung served as the first president. In addition to McClung, early members included serious writers like Emily Murphy, Georges Bugnet, Balmer Watt, and E. A. Corbett. Nevertheless, as Barbara Villy Cormack reported in *The Canadian Author & Bookman* (Summer 1967), “with the number of socialites in attendance at the meetings it [the CAA] was quite obviously the thing to belong to.”

Five delegates from Calgary attended the inaugural meeting. According to a history of the CAA, *Syllables of Recorded Time*, they supported the idea of one central branch for Alberta in Edmonton, but argued for a local branch with its own officers for Southern Alberta in view of the distance between the two cities. Accordingly, the national president visited Calgary where he was welcomed at a luncheon in the Tapestry Room of the Hudson’s Bay Company store. It was reported that Dr. Kerby (author and founder of Mount Royal College) wrote a poem for the occasion.

For many years, meetings of both the Edmonton and Calgary CAA were held in members’ homes. This is perhaps part of the reason the CAA gained the reputation as a bit of an exclusive social club. Apparently Professor Kemper Broadus (University of Alberta English Department) rewarded promising students by inviting them to branch meetings at his Saskatchewan Drive home to hear guests like poet Bliss Carmen.

Other recognizable supporters of the CAA Calgary and Edmonton chapters, over the years, include: poet Edna Kells; novelist Onoto Watanna; journalist Lotta Dempsey; Sergeant Ralph Kendall, who wrote *Benton of the Royal Mounted*; Dr. George Hardy, who served as national president of the CAA three times; playwright Gwen Pharis Ringwood; Ross Annett; J. G. Macgregor; John Patrick Gillese; John W. Chalmers; Elsie Park Gowen; Grant MacEwan; W. O. Mitchell; Iris Allan; Elizabeth Brewster; Frank Smith; Mervyn J. Huston; Dr. Henry Kreisel; Doug Roche; Tony Cashman; Alex Mair; June Bhatia; and Mary Dawe, who taught writing classes for the Branch for many years, edited *Canadian Author & Bookman* from 1969 to 1975 and served as national president in 1990.

It appears that members from both clubs visited each other from time to time. One report records 36 Edmonton members chartered a bus to attend a Calgary Branch meeting and another states Calgary members went on a “safari to Edmonton.”

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**85<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash and  
All You Can Ask Q&A Buffet  
Friday Sept 29, 2006, 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm  
Room 1-22, Education South Building, UofA  
Edmonton, AB**

See page 3 for more information.



### Our Last Speaker: Margaret Macpherson

by Janet Rolfson

Margaret Macpherson's passionate presentation was a treat to hear at the May meeting. She is a writer who has published non-fiction and was then labeled a "non-fiction writer" by others. Yet, as a writer, she is free to write in any genre. She insists that writing is not a four-cornered thing, not a box that writers can be sorted into. Her overriding message was that writers write.

If one writes romance or non-fiction or mysteries, it is important to believe one is a Writer and avoid accepting any genre labels. An event from her own experience illustrates this. Before the launch of her book of short stories *Perilous Departures*, while cleaning house to get ready for her post-launch guests, a song came into her mind about departures. That song is now set to music. She shared it with us to show what can happen if one stays open to possibility and allows creativity to flow.

Margaret believes that creativity comes from being in touch with our true inner selves where we each are unique with our own creative impulses. When she said, "Writing is a gift. When writers write from their true inner self, from the soul uncensored, from their incandescent being, then the reader will listen", her enthusiasm and commitment to the craft of writing was palpable. If we believe we are talented, original, and have something to say, and if we write from our hearts, write the way we feel it, then the readers will read on.

She was invited to Vancouver's *Word on the Street* to present *Nellie McClung: Voice for the Voiceless*. Sandwiched between two big names, Richardson of Richardson's Roundup and David Suzuki, she envisioned the audience heading out for a break during her presentation. But her creative energy came to her rescue; she wrote a snappy 26 verse poem which tells Nellie McClung's story. This grabbed the attention of the audience and they stayed to listen to her discuss her book. It also opened up the opportunity to present the poem on CBC Radio.

She also shared her thoughts on some of the blocks to writing. If we let others label what kind of genre writers we are, we may not be able to let our creativity shine through. Hence the title for the evening's presentation, "Cross-dressing your Genres." Also, our vanity can lead to a fear of failure which can stifle the creative urge as our internal critic asks "Who do you think you are? A writer?" This voice can be silenced by sitting down and writing. Another obstacle is the needs of others—usually our families. Housework can be let go. Families can work out details of a writer's undisturbed writing time. Children can benefit from learning to respect the needs of a parent—that respecting another's needs isn't a one-way street.

Margaret believes it is too easy to busy ourselves. We need some idleness so our creative thoughts can fill our minds as we see the world unfold in front of us. I took that as taking time to smell the roses. Margaret summed it up:

*write because you love it and need to do it;  
be in touch with your inner self and be in the moment;  
embrace idleness and protect the time that is yours;  
trust your own uniqueness and avoid accepting labels;  
let one thing flow into another and share with others.*

I am sure I am not the only one who wanted to race home to put pen to paper. Thank you Margaret, writer, for an energizing, thought-provoking, and enjoyable evening.

### Our Next Workshop:

Nikki Soarde



### *Erotic Romance: Market and Manifestation*

Erotic Romance has taken the publishing world by storm. The CAA, Alberta Branch is launching our 85<sup>th</sup> season with this first-ever erotica writing workshop

Soarde, author of seven 'romantica' titles, will share why New York publishers are scrambling to catch up in this booming market; what *defines* erotic romance; what the publishers are looking for; and how to write sex that is both erotic and compelling.

Amidst the chaos of raising three young boys Soarde has written and published seven erotic romance titles with the successful upstart publishing company, Ellora's Cave. She has also published three mainstream romantic suspense novels with Cerridwen Press, the mainstream imprint of Ellora's Cave. Her novels range from light and funny to dark and suspenseful, but always sexy and compelling. They have won rave reviews and have kindled a following of dedicated fans.

This is a real opportunity for writers of every ilk, poets, novelists, short fiction writers and even creative non-fiction writers to hone their skills in this one particular area. It's true that bad sex can ruin a good story.

*Soarde cont'd on page 3*

## Soarde—cont'd from page 2

Before you sign up for this frank and fun workshop, Soarde suggests you visit her website

[www.nikkisoarde.com](http://www.nikkisoarde.com) and read one of her short stories to get a brief introduction to what 'romantica' is.

**Warning:  
language will be explicit.**

Date: September 30, 2006

Place: Room 1-22 Education South,  
U of A campus

Time: 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Fees: CAA members \$30

Non-members \$60

Lunch is included with registrations received before September 27, 2006.

**To register:  
Contact Janet at 458-4662**

## Birthday Bash—cont'd from page 1

### **Panel of Authors Includes:**

#### **Nikki Soarde - *What women want!***

What *defines* erotic romance, what the publishers are looking for and how to write sex that is both erotic and compelling.

#### **Janice MacDonald – *Killing them Gently: Writing the Canadian Mystery Novel:***

What elements of your mystery or detective novel have to be honed to our home and native land? Is there such thing as a typical Canadian mystery? How do publishers like localized mysteries?

#### **Colleen Heffernan - *Writing for the Future: the Challenge and Joy of Writing for Young People:***

Writing for young people is an intense adventure and a significant responsibility that must be accomplished with joy and an eye for what Monica Hughes called the serendipitous moment.

**Tim Bowling** - shares ideas about literary fiction, poetry, non-fiction and his new position as our new writer-in-residence.

**You don't want to miss this!**



## New Website Launched

CAA - Alberta Branch now has a totally re-designed website planned to be up and running by September 15. Working with Mediashaker, who provided the technical skills needed for the project, Board members have worked over the summer to design and create a user-friendly place for members to hang out and for surfers to explore. Visit the new website at:

[www.CanauthorsAlberta.ca](http://www.CanauthorsAlberta.ca)

Pleasing layout and ease of navigation have been the main focus in making the new website state-of-the-art. Of course content is important, and all the facts that any surfer is seeking are still there. The new design makes finding them quicker and easier. Which makes the search a lot more fun.

The new website contains a brand new feature available to members: their own do-it-yourself personal websites. Each Alberta Branch member has the option of setting up a personal website which they can create and maintain themselves, within the Branch website. Templates are available for those who prefer to just fill in the blanks. Thanks to Mediashaker technology the skills involved in setting up a website for oneself are no greater than the know-how needed to operate simple publisher programs on a computer. Assistance is available from the Web Manager, when needed.

Members' personal websites will be available starting in October, as the new website is phased into full operation. Members wishing to participate are invited to contact the Web Master at

[keithdixon@incentre.net](mailto:keithdixon@incentre.net)



## The Branch Line 3



## CANADIAN AUTHORS ASSOCIATION

### National Office:

Alec McEachern,  
National Director  
320 South Shores Road  
PO Box 419  
Campbellford ON K0L 1L0

phone 705-653-0323  
fax 705-653-0593  
toll-free 866-216-6222

e-mail: [admin@CanAuthors.org](mailto:admin@CanAuthors.org)

web site: [www.CanAuthors.org](http://www.CanAuthors.org)

### Alberta Branch Office:

P.O. Box 52007  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2T5

website:

[www.CanauthorsAlberta.ca](http://www.CanauthorsAlberta.ca)

e-mail:

[info@caa-alberta.org](mailto:info@caa-alberta.org)

Webmaster:

[keithdixon@incentre.net](mailto:keithdixon@incentre.net)

The Branch Line editor:

[branchline@caa-alberta.org](mailto:branchline@caa-alberta.org)

### CAA Memberships

Regular - \$159.00 per year

Student - \$50.00 per year

(GST incl.)

Membership can be paid in full or by installments.

Applications are available from the Membership chair or from National Office.



## The Branch Line 4

### NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



September slips away, harvest is over, fields lie fallow, trees light up in a last brave pre-winter show. While our landscape settles down for the long winter's sleep, across Canada organizations gear up for another season's activity. In the face of a new season, it is well to spend a few moments in reflection.

For example, do we say thank you often enough? Probably not.

On this cusp of seasonal change, let me say thank you to all of you who are involved in the work of bettering the lives of all writers through your membership in CAA. Thank you to: the National and Branch executive members; to all the volunteers who help organize local events; to the newsletter editors and the P.R. and communications people who publicize our existence; to all of you who talk about the organization to your friends; to all of you who work hard to create the very best piece of writing you can produce, then work, equally hard, to be paid fairly for it. You all provide a valuable service for all of us. A successful season to all of you. Happy writing.

Joan Eyolfson Cadham

President

Canadian Authors Association

### Important News From National:

**Officially effective Oct. 1, 2006, CAA is passing the GST reduction along to members (\$160.50 reduced to \$159 including the GST).**

## Meet Our New Writer-in-Residence:

### Tim Bowling

by Margaret Macpherson



The CAA's new Writer-in-residence Tim Bowling has written and published widely in both fiction and poetry. He has currently published eight books of poetry and two novels. His first non-fiction book, a memoir/social and natural history of the West Coast, will be released this spring. The following are questions he had other writers use as interview questions in the book he edited *Where The Words come From: Canadian Poets in Conversation* (Nightwood Editions, 2002). Former Writer-in-Residence and CAA Alberta Branch VP, Margaret Macpherson, decided to turn the questions back to Tim to find out a little bit more about his passion for words.

MM: In his poem "The Dead Poet," Al Purdy, speculating on the origins of his poetry, asks "how else explain myself to myself/where does the song come from?" Do you have any explanation of where your voice came from, of why you became a writer and a poet?

TB: *It's such a big question, isn't it? And so difficult to answer. I guess I could cite Anais Nin when she spoke of "tasting life twice." It's the notion that you appreciate life so much you want more, a second opportunity to experience it. Writing calls for that kind of attentiveness. It's not exactly being "in the moment" for, in fact, I spend a lot of my time in the past. I think it was Wordsworth who said poetry is "emotion recollected in tranquility." My early experiences as a fisherman's kid on the West Coast have a lot to do with how I conceive and write about the world now. Those early experiences of the natural world are certainly part of my expression as a poet.*

MM: You've received the CAA Prize for Poetry, the Alberta Book Award for the Novel and for Poetry, and you've been nominated for the Governor General's Award in Poetry on two occasions. How important have reviews, awards and other honours been to your feelings about your work? Is competition healthy or unhealthy for a writer?

TB: *To be honest, I have to say that publications and awards are important to me as one way to measure how I'm doing. They are not the **only** way, but they are **one** way. Poetry, in particular, does not have a wide readership so it can be quite difficult to find out if you're progressing in your work. Ultimately, winning a prize or having a poem picked up by a literary magazine is recognition of your progress. It doesn't help you write, or make you a better writer, but the validation helps keep you going. As far as competition goes, I don't think it's a healthy motivator because it can't make you a better writer. In that sense, there can be no competition in the arts.*

*Tim Bowling cont'd page 5*

## Welcome New Members:

Tim Bowling, Edmonton

Catherine Holub, Edmonton

Barbara Lynne Osborne, Edmonton

Robyne Wilock, Edson

Lainna El Jabi, Edmonton

Michael de Medeiros, Calgary

Marianne Stamm, Westlock

Constadina Dina Zarokosta, Calgary



MM: How have your feelings about poetry, the reading and writing of it, changed since you were in your twenties?

TB: *The reading and writing of poetry is more important now than it has ever been, although as soon as I say that I have to wonder if it's true. As a younger man, in my twenties, it was very important, a lifeline really. But now, twenty years later, poetry, and writing in general, has become my connection to a sense of majesty and wonder, that thing that some people name as God. I have a deeper appreciation of life now having bumped around more. I am a better reader. I don't know if poetry is more important now than it was but I do know that it's important in a different way. The reading and writing of poetry is such a rich experience now, more meaningful to me now than ever before.*



**CAA Writer-in-residence:**

Office hours: Monday 10am-4pm and Tuesday & Friday 1pm-4pm

Location: Lower floor of the U of A Students Union Bookstore

**Submissions can be dropped off at the administration desk on the main floor of the bookstore.**

**The Reader's Nook:**

**Title:** *Robert's Rules of Writing: 101 Unconventional Lessons Every Writer Needs to Know*

**Author:** Robert Masello

**Publisher:** Writer's Digest Books, Cincinnati, OH, 2005

**Cost:** \$19.99

**Available:** Bookstores and Edmonton Public Library

**ISBN:** 1-58297-326-1

**Reviewer:** Lori Hahnel



Robert Masello is the author of fifteen previous books, as well as being a journalist and television writer. His new book, *Robert's Rules of Writing*, is the kind of writing book I really like – the kind you can pick up and read for a few minutes at a time (if you must) or for an hour or more (if you may). This book's aim is neither to unravel the rules of grammar nor to drown you in "a bubbly tide of inspirational gobbledygook" ("If you can talk, you can write!"). Masello sets out to help writers deal with the routine difficulties we all face. Each rule covers two pages, so even the very busy can read it in little bits.

One of the best things about good writing advice books, I think, is that they can help you see how you're doing. Whether or not you get a lot of new ideas from them, it's good to feel that, yes, I do that, too. Or you can read them to confirm things you always thought, like *Rule 66: Doubt Everyone*. "If you're going to listen to other people's opinions – whether it's by joining a writing group, consulting with an agent, or pitching to an editor – proceed with caution," Masello warns. "Remember at all times that there is only one opinion that matters in the end, and that's yours." Maybe you want some justification for a bad habit – here it is in *Rule 61: Pass the Scuttlebutt*, which encourages writers to gossip. "Gossip fills in all the gaps, explains all the motivations, charts all the currents. It's the common coin of human experience, and no writer can ever have enough of it."

If you're looking for a how to write book, this one isn't for you. If you've already read enough books on how to write and now you're looking for commiseration, *Robert's Rules of Writing* will bring a smile to your face and make you feel that it's not just you. And that's a pretty good way to feel.

**From our Exporting Alberta 2005 Award Recipient:**

To win the Exporting Alberta 2005 Award from the Canadian Authors Association, Alberta Branch, is a great honour. Receiving this award at this point in my writing career is an incredible boost, not just for the travel allowance but also for morale. Book promotion is uncharted water for new authors, especially those with smaller publishing houses. As one friend advised me, the award puts fresh wind in my sails—and that may well translate to fresh wind in my sales.

Receiving recognition like this from my peers is hugely gratifying. I plan to make good use of the travel stipend that accompanies the award by travelling to the West coast in the fall. I will be sure to send not only a financial but also a narrative account of my Exporting Alberta experiences there.

Thank you sincerely,  
Jeananne Kathol Kirwin  
[www.jeanannekatholkirwin.ca](http://www.jeanannekatholkirwin.ca)



## Member News



### CAA Member Inspires Students

CAA Member Lanny Boutin is shown participating in the *Young Alberta Book Society's* (YABS) launch of the *Chrysalis Festival 2006* at the Stanley A. Milner library on June 7, 2006. At the launch four YABS members presented what they will be doing in classrooms across the province during the festival in October 2006. The festival involves literary artists going into schools and libraries, by invitation, to share their work and inspire students to explore the literary arts. More information about YABS is available at [www.yabs.ab.ca](http://www.yabs.ab.ca).

Lanny will be presenting *Building a Writing Blueprint: Business Plans for Writers* on Friday October 27, 2006 at the CAA Alberta Branch monthly meeting and *Periodical Writing: Knowing the Rules* on Saturday October 28, 2006 at the CAA Alberta Branch monthly workshop. To register, contact Janet: (780) 458-4662 (phone) or 459-0824(fax).

photographer: Keith Dixon

**Shirley A. Serviss** was actively involved in Edmonton's first Poetry Festival including doing a reading at Four Rooms Restaurant and Lounge as part of *The Roar Crawl* (a literary pub crawl). She will be one of the readers at a *Pasta and Poetry* event at Pasta Mangiamos on Tuesday, October 17. She will also be teaching a number of courses this fall. *Poetic Medicine*, for the Faculty of Extension, runs eight Monday evenings starting Oct. 2. To find out more and to register call 492-3093 or 492-9448 / [www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies](http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies). She will also be teaching the weekend workshop *Inventing the Truth* at MacEwan College (city centre campus) through Writing Works, Nov. 18 & 19. Call 497-5346 or check [www.MacEwan.ca/writingworks](http://www.MacEwan.ca/writingworks).

**Joseph Simons** has upgraded his membership status to Professional Member. He will receive a certificate signed by the Membership Chair to recognize his achievement.

Cora Taylor launched *Angel in the Snow*, the fourth book in her *Angelique* series, at Audrey's Books on June 1, 2006.

Cora read from her book and signed copies for guests.



photographer: Keith Dixon

**Cora Taylor** is back from China after researching *Terra Cotta Warriors* in Xi'an for her next book in *Spy* series (working title *Catastrophe in China!*). Upcoming book launches include *Newmarket* and *Owen Sound*, Ontario in early October. Cora returns to Edmonton for launch of *Spy 2: Murder in Mexico* (Coteau Books) on October 21 at Audrey's Books and hopes to see some CAA friends there. Also, *Ghost Voyages III: Endeavour & Resolution* is up for a Red Cedar Award in B.C. next spring and her two books for Pearson Educational publishing, *Alberta: Many Places* and *Alberta: Many People*, are out this month.

### Membership History—cont'd from page 1

Members of one Branch were often guest speakers at the sister Branch or attended each other's awards ceremonies. Awards ceremonies were important affairs. In Calgary, they were presented at an annual dinner at the Palliser Hotel. In Edmonton, they were held at the Macdonald Hotel or Molson's Edmonton House with over 100 in attendance, often including the Lieutenant Governor or the provincial cabinet minister responsible for culture.

*Alberta Chapter Celebrates 85 Years* continues in the October issue; watch for Shirley Serviss' article: *Publication History*

**Thomas Trofimuk's *Doubting Yourself to the Bone*** (New from Cormorant Books):

"Ronin James Bruce looks at his wife, who ardently believes in the activity of raking leaves. A woman who loves to tell stories. A woman who is barely holding onto a secret."

Price: \$22.95 / 260 pages Trade paperback

Publication Date: September 30th, 2006

For information contact Debby De Groot:

(416) 519-4806 or [degroot.debby@gmail.com](mailto:degroot.debby@gmail.com)

### Branch Members:

Please share information about your professional literary events and achievements with The Branch Line editor by October 15, 2006 for the next issue.

### DISCLAIMER:

The views of writers and contributors to *The Branch Line* are their own, and are not necessarily those of the editor or of the CAA Alberta Branch. *The Branch Line* allows free expression within the confines of professionalism and factual accuracy.

## POET'S INK

Writing evenings: Starting September 24 Sundays from 7–9 pm  
(excluding long weekends, holiday dates & summer months)  
Castle Rock Pub, 570 St. Albert Road

Reading at the ROAR: September 21, 8:30-9:30 pm  
Red Star Pub, 10534 Jasper Avenue  
Poets: Darlene Henderson, Joanne Paulson, Glen Kirkland;  
Andy Michaelson & Tim Cusack introduce their new book *Words are Ashes*

Poetry and Pasta III: October 17, 6–9:30 pm  
Mangiamao's, 10124 – 124<sup>th</sup> Street  
A fine dinner with 8 great poets;  
call ahead for reservations

Contact: Andy Michaelson: [andymichaelson@telus.net](mailto:andymichaelson@telus.net)

## **The 5th Annual CanWrite! Conference Story Contest**

The CAA is pleased to announce its Fifth Annual CanWrite! Conference Story Contest. The top ten selections will be published in an anthology that will be launched at our 86th CAA Annual Conference in Ottawa on July 5-8, 2007. The top three winners will also receive \$500, \$200 and \$100 respectively plus a free conference registration with no cash value. (Winners must attend the conference to receive this free registration.)

This short story contest is open to all ages and all Canadian and U.S. residents. Short stories must be fiction, unpublished, and no longer than 1,500 words in length. Entries should be typed and double spaced with the story's title appearing on each numbered page. Please include a separate sheet with your name, address, phone number, email address, word count and title - as well as an SASE for the contest results. The entrant's name must not appear on the manuscript. Judging will be completed through a blind process with final selections made by our contest judge\*. The entrant's fee is \$15 Canadian per story. Please make all cheques or money orders out to "Canadian Authors Association" and mail your entry to "CanWrite! Conference Story Contest" c/o Evan Kenney, 32 Green Meadow Crescent, Welland, ON L3C 6X3. Manuscripts will not be returned. Results and story evaluations will both be released in July. The final deadline for entries is February 28, 2007.

If entrants submit their story by November 30, 2006, they will also receive a one-page evaluation with comments from a professional member of the Canadian Authors Association. (Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope - evaluations will not be returned otherwise.) For more contest info: [www.canauthors.org/cwcontest.html](http://www.canauthors.org/cwcontest.html).

\*This year's guest contest judge is Sandra Bell-Lundy: acclaimed writer, creator and illustrator of *Between Friends* - a humorous comic strip based loosely on a group of her friends. Through King Features Syndicate, her strip appears in over 100 major newspapers worldwide. Lundy, also the author of two best-selling book collections (*Hello, Daughter* and *Coffee, Tea and Reality*) lives in Welland, ON.

Visit her website at: [www.betweenfriendscartoons.com](http://www.betweenfriendscartoons.com).

## **The Branch Line 7**



### Alberta Branch Programs

**The Exporting Alberta Award** promotes Alberta authors. Applications for this traveling opportunity must be received by March 1 each year.

See: <http://caa-alberta.org/exporting.htm>.

**Writer-in-Residence** offers members and other writers evaluation of their work by a professional writer. Details at <http://caa-alberta.org/wirp.htm> and on page 5.

**Writers in Schools** takes published members into classrooms in Alberta to introduce students to the writing craft.

Visit: <http://caa-alberta.org/writerinschool.htm>.

**The Writers' Circle** meets 7 pm before regular CAA meetings and members' short written pieces are evaluated by their peers.

**The Poetry Pocket** invites Branch members to share and critique one another's poetry at monthly meetings in cafés. For details watch *Mark Your Calendar* on page 8.

**The Writing Roster** invites CAA members to join the roster and cover events for *The Branch Line*. A fee is paid for work published. Contact the editor: [branchline@caa-alberta.org](mailto:branchline@caa-alberta.org).

### Course Info: Yoga, Reflection and Writing

Yoga teacher **Terri Taylor** (certified at Yasodhara Ashram in B.C. based on the teachings of Swami Sivananda Radha) and **Shirley A. Serviss** (Edmonton poet and creative writing instructor) co-facilitate this innovative approach to being receptive to your inner wisdom and muse. This unique class combines the symbols, secrets and metaphor of hatha yoga with creative writing. You will be guided to reflect on how hatha poses relate to your mind, body and spirit – and your life. Your reflections will then be the seeds of inspiration that blossom in a creative writing exercise. *Wear comfortable clothing; bring yoga mat, journal and pen.* Suitable for anyone, beginner or experienced with yoga and/or writing.

**10 Thursdays, Sept. 28 - Nov. 30, 7-9 pm**

**Westwood Unitarian Congregation**

**11135 – 65 Avenue**

**\$150+\$9 GST=\$159 ~ To register contact:**

**780-432-3363 or [radhayoga@shaw.ca](mailto:radhayoga@shaw.ca)**

**Portion of proceeds support youth programs of Yasodhara Ashram.**



## The Branch Line 8

### Mark Your Calendars:

2006 ~ 2007

Sept. 29, 7-9:30 pm: CAA Alberta Branch 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash and Author Q&A Buffet

Sept. 30, 9:30 am-4 pm: **Nikki Soarde** Workshop  
*Erotic Romance: Market & Manifestation*

Oct. 5, 9:30 am: *The Poetry Pocket* meets in Albert's Family Restaurant (Bonnie Doon Mall); members bring several poems for peer evaluation. For information, contact Keith 438-2262.

Oct. 27, 8 pm: **Lanny Boutin** *Building a Blueprint: Business Plans for Writers*

Oct. 28, 9:30 am-4 pm: **Lanny Boutin** Workshop  
*Periodical Writing: Know the Rules*

Nov. 24, 8 pm: **Patrick Lane** *How Poetry Remembers Us*

Nov. 25 & 26, 9:30-4 pm: **Patrick Lane** Workshop  
*Writing Our Memory: The Fiction of Non-Fiction*

Jan. 26, 8 pm: **Patrick Twomey** *The Lifestyle of Travel*

Jan. 27, 9:30 am-4 pm: **Patrick Twomey** Workshop  
*Capturing the Essence of a Trip*

Feb. 23, 8 pm: **Mieko Ouchi** *Truth and Fiction: Writing Plays about Real People*

Feb. 24, 9:30 am-4 pm: **Meiko Ouchi** Workshop  
*Living History*

Mar. 23, 8 pm: **Florence Mckie** *Writer: Reader - A Spinning Coin*

Mar. 24, 9:30 am-4 pm: **Florence Mckie** Workshop  
*The Analytical Eye (I): Learning from the Written Page*

Apr. 27, 8 pm: **Chris Banks** *This Ink Painting of Wind Who Hears It? Poetry and Finding One's Audience*

Apr. 28, 9:30 am-4 pm: **Chris Banks** Workshop  
*Something is down there and you want it told; Poetry and Voice*

May 25, 8 pm: **Joe Simons** *Quiet Listening and Creative Practice*



**Clip and post this schedule by your calendar.**

**See other side for program and course info.**

## CAA ALBERTA BRANCH BOARD MEMBERS

2006 ~2007

### ELECTED MEMBERS



*Past President*  
**HELEN LAVENDER**  
780-467-2924  
[hlavender@telusplanet.net](mailto:hlavender@telusplanet.net)



*President*  
**SUZANNE HARRIS**  
780-481-1863  
[altaviz@telus.net](mailto:altaviz@telus.net)



*Vice President*  
**MARGARET  
MACPHERSON**  
780-439-8847  
[mam7@telus.net](mailto:mam7@telus.net)



*Secretary*  
**SHIRLEY SERVISS**  
433-7561  
[sserviss@telus.net](mailto:sserviss@telus.net)



*Treasurer*  
**JANET ROLFSON**  
780-458-4662,  
fax 780-459-0824

### **NEEDED:**

**Membership Board Member**  
*Please contact a member of the board if you are interested.*

**The Writers' Circle meets Fridays at 7pm before the monthly CAA meetings. Bring 2 double spaced typed papers or a 3 minute reading.**

Unless otherwise designated, meetings are held in room 1-22, Education South Bldg. UofA

(87<sup>th</sup> Ave & 112 Str.)

Edmonton, AB

### APPOINTED MEMBERS



*Publicity/Promotion*  
**MARION BROOKER**  
780-433-7704  
fax 780-432-7394  
[brookerm@telus.net](mailto:brookerm@telus.net)



*Webmaster*  
**KEITH DIXON**  
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*Newsletter Editor*  
**LEANNE MYGGLAND-CARTER**  
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[cmleanne@shaw.ca](mailto:cmleanne@shaw.ca)



*Space Arrangements*  
**JANIS BLAKEY**  
780-435-6244



*The Writer's Circle*  
**MARGARET  
MACPHERSON**  
780-439-8847  
[mam7@telus.net](mailto:mam7@telus.net)



*Writers in Schools*  
**SUE PAULSON**  
[writerinschool@caa-alberta.org](mailto:writerinschool@caa-alberta.org)  
780-463-3679



*Program*  
**DONNA HUNTER**  
[d.k.hunter@telus.net](mailto:d.k.hunter@telus.net)

### **CAA Regular Meeting Fees:**

Members: FREE  
First-time Guests: FREE  
Returning Guests: \$10

### **CAA Workshop Fees:**

Members: \$30 (1 day) / \$60 (2 day)  
Non-Members: \$60 (1 day) / \$120 (2 day)