



The Guild's "no portfolio necessary" open door nevertheless produces the publication of thousands of books. Publication congratulations are extended to dozens of newly published authors in the bimonthly *Network* journal. Additionally, Guild authors' books are featured on the IWWG website, www.iwwg.org, and may be purchased.

CONFERENCES

The Guild's conferences and workshops are imbued with an irrepressible ebullience. Below is a sampling:

MARCH

"Early Spring in California"
(Santa Cruz, CA)

APRIL & OCTOBER

"Big Apple Writing Workshops:
Open House Meet the Authors/
Meet the Agents" (NYC)

MAY

"Michigan Open House" (Ann Arbor, MI)

"Illinois Conference/Retreat"
(Frankfort, IL)

JULY-AUGUST

"Remember the Magic"
IWWG's weeklong summer conference takes place at Brown University in Providence, RI, where some 450 women are treated to a choice of over 50 workshops each day.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION: Over 150 regional contacts situated in local areas of the U.S. and abroad host Zip Code Parties, Regional Clusters and Kitchen Tables.

REGIONAL CLUSTERS AND KITCHEN TABLES: Women who live near each other may wish to meet in each other's homes engendering support and encouragement where writing is read aloud and lovingly critiqued. These Clusters and Kitchen Tables are listed regularly in the IWWG's *Network* journal.

UNITED NATIONS LIAISON: IWWG is an official Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Call: (212) 737-7536.

THE PRISON PROJECT: Members may correspond with female inmates and/or teach writing workshops. Contact Carol Peck. Email: cfpeckprod@aol.com.

ARCHIVES: The Sophia Smith Collection Women's History Archive at Smith College is the Guild's archival home. It preserves IWWG's history, papers, correspondence, etc. into perpetuity.

AMAZON BOOKSTORE ON IWWG WEBSITE: Books authored by IWWG members available on www.amazon.com are listed for sale in the Products/Books section of IWWG's website, www.iwwg.org. The Guild's scholarship fund receives a 15% referral fee for each book sold through IWWG's website.

THE IWWG FACEBOOK PAGE
Become a fan of the IWWG on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-International-Womens-Writing-Guild-IWWG/157583374502>

Visitors to IWWG's website, www.iwwg.org, may join IWWG and/or register and pay attendance fees for any of the IWWG's conferences online.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Founded in 1976, The International Women's Writing Guild is a worldwide nonprofit organization open to all women, regardless of portfolio. It offers its members the following services and benefits:

Annual subscription (digital or print) to *Network*, the IWWG magazine, containing:

- ♦ Hundreds of contests, awards and publication opportunities for writers.
- ♦ Free announcements of members' newly published works.
- ♦ News of upcoming local readings, regional workshops and conferences.
- ♦ Free listings for members wishing to correspond with other members.
- ♦ Environmental/health-related news and state-of-the-art information of interest to women.
- ♦ Member news from around the world.

A list of **Literary Agents, Independent Small Presses and other Writing Services**. Some 4,000 books have been published by IWWG members as a result of contacts made at the bi-annual **Open House: Meet the Authors/Meet the Agents** event, held twice a year in New York City.

Health Insurance (New York City only) For information, call IWWG at (212) 737-7536.

Dental and Vision Insurance: For information, visit www.cssadmin.com and click on "View Insurance Plans." Phone: (888) 499-4669.

The Guild's website, www.iwwg.org, provides detailed information on Guild workshops and conferences along with registration forms and a comprehensive explanation of the IWWG's history, purpose and overall philosophy.



IWWG

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WRITING GUILD

A network for the personal and professional empowerment of women through writing.



WWW.IWWG.ORG

PHONE: 212.737.7536
FAX: 212.737.9469
EMAIL: iwwg@iwwg.org



WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED GUILD

Although the Guild had no problem in knowing its mission when it was founded in 1976, it had prolonged difficulties in defining itself on paper. After thirteen years of sponsoring events and member benefits, the Guild finally came out, in 1989, with this sentence: "IWWG is a network for the personal and professional empowerment of women through writing."

Then, seven more years later (1996), the Guild launched its first, "What is this Thing called Guild?" piece. And now in its 32nd year, I submit the following 2008 version of, "What Is This Thing Called Guild?" in the hope that it will serve us in our present deepened understanding and also in letting others know who we are.

When the Guild was formed in 1976, it grew out of three movements that had come into being at that time:

- ◆ The Human Potential Movement
- ◆ The New Age
- ◆ The Women's Movement

The Human Potential Movement is embodied in the Guild's inclusion of everyone regardless of portfolio, and in its celebration of writing as the whetting stone upon which to sharpen the "wits and writs" for telling stories which reveal truths as well as mysteries and the unknown. This emphasis on writing and revelation is particularly relevant to memoir writing — the recollection of experiences unarticulated and in need of conscious connection to the warp and woof of the individual as a whole.

Wholeness combined with craft is as important to the Guild as is the writing process and creativity in general — and when these come together they produce, over time, an individual and a writer who is both centered, strong and open.

The New Age has contributed to IWWG's alternative expressions and to the pursuit of answers about matters that are as yet inexplicable. IWWG is open to all forms of faith and their explanations of our ultimate purpose here on earth vis-a-vis the meaning of life. While the Guild, does not sponsor a dominant explanation, it does believe in strengthening the belief in inexplicables, in paradox, while holding faith in an ultimate order.



Being able to seek the whole and see its manifestations — leaving the final explanation up to both mystery and a belief in a sense of order whose mechanism we still don't understand — makes us perpetual seekers and tests our tolerance towards others and differing ideologies.

This attitude, never imposed but respectfully sensed, results in a deep feeling of respect and love for all that is around us — for our fellow humans, the environment, the earth and the universe.

The Women's Movement, when it came to be in the middle of the 20th Century, gave women the opportunity to reinvent themselves beyond the prevalent stereotypes of homemaker and mother. When the Guild was formed, it provided a powerful new tool — exploration through the process of writing — to women wishing to take advantage of the opportunity for rebirth, creativity and personal growth.

IWWG strongly supports all movements for human rights, for equity and valor mixed with love — but does not organizationally participate in political activity.

These principles have guided the Guild for more than three decades and are transmitted without guru or doctrine to thousands of women all over the world who have come in contact with IWWG at its conferences and workshops. Some 4,000 books have been published by IWWG members and workshop participants.

The Guild's influence based on its principles and practice is and has been immeasurable.

Hannelore Hahn
IWWG Founder and Director

REGIONAL IWWG CONTACTS

(partial list)

The Guild disseminates its support and spirit year round by encouraging the creation of regional clusters and neighborly networking. The following are only some of the over 150 local Guild contacts (visit www.iwwg.org or call IWWG to be connected in your locale):

- Alabama: Winnie L. Smith.....amethyst777@bellsouth.net
- Alaska: Donna Blaser-Bernhard.....wntrcabn@aptalaska.net
- Arizona: Ethel Lee-Miller.....etheleemiller@me.com
- Arkansas: Pat Carr.....patcarr313@windstream.net
- California: (Northern): Rachel de Baere.....itsmerach@comcast.net (Southern): Mary Melkonian.....martytish@mac.com
- Canada: (Quebec): Donna Yates-Adelman.....yatesadelman@aol.com (Ontario): Avil Beckford.....avil.beckford@ambeck.com
- Connecticut: Gizelle Alexander.....galex1966@netscape.net
- Delaware: Jacqueline B. Harris.....pine4youtx@cs.com
- Florida: (Boynton Beach) Barbara Bixon.....bbcarter2@aol.com (Seminole) Alison Strickland.....ACIAlison@aol.com
- Georgia: Kalynn Vernick.....kvern@bellsouth.net
- Hawaii: Shauna Jones.....celticlady@hawaii.rr.com
- Idaho: Sharon J. Cousins.....writersguildgal@moscow.com
- Illinois: Sheila George.....sgeorge110@aol.com
- Kansas: Patricia (Patty) Dysart.....p.dysart@sbcglobal.net
- Kentucky: Jennie Brown.....jennie.brown@wku.edu
- Maine: Nancy Grace Rosen.....pureenergy51@yahoo.com
- Maryland: Carol Peck.....cfpeckprod@aol.com
- Massachusetts: Glenda Baker.....GBMBaker@aol.com
- Michigan: Elizabeth Kane Buzzelli.....ebuzzelli@aol.com
- Mississippi: Teresa Lynn.....lynnboat@bellsouth.net
- New Hampshire: Phyllis Ring.....ring9@comcast.net
- New Jersey: (Allendale) Lorraine Ash.....lvash@optonline.net (Bordentown) Roberta "Bobbie" Taylor.....eou1@aol.com
- New Mexico: Paula Lozar.....lozarpaula@cs.com
- New York City: Hannelore Hahn.....dirhahn@aol.com
- New York State: (Duaneburg) Judith Prest.....JEPrest@aol.com (Hudson Valley): Paula Weil.....nofrillsfarm@aol.com (Long Island): Ann Fallon Burnell.....AFBurnell@optonline.net
- North Carolina: Arlene Bice.....asbice@aol.com
- Ohio: (Columbus): Jeanne Marlowe.....jamarlowe@juno.com (Kent): Marsha McGregor.....marshamcgregor@netscape.net
- Oklahoma: Maria Ruiz Scaperlanda.....mscaperlanda@cox.net
- Oregon: Diane Benscoter.....d.benscoter@comcast.net
- Pennsylvania: (York) Susan Baugh.....susanbaugh@atkinshouse.org (Philadelphia): Marion Mitchell.....marionmitchell2@comcast.net
- Rhode Island: Judy Adourian.....jadourian@aol.com
- South Carolina: Kay Raheja.....kayraheja@prtcnet.com
- South Dakota: Suzanne Sunshower.....sun_editing@yohoo.com
- Tennessee: Pat Ballard.....patballard@bellsouth.net
- Texas: Susan Dryer.....mygracenotes@earthlink.net
- Virginia: Nancy Ruth Davis.....i_medit8@zapp.org
- Washington: Cheryl Cromer.....ccromer@earthlink.com
- Wisconsin: Judith Zukerman.....jzukerman7@earthlink.net

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

- New Membership (\$55) \$ _____
(digital copy of Network included)
 - Renewal Membership (\$55) \$ _____
 - Two-yr. Membership (\$110) \$ _____
 - Youth Membership - ages 10-18 (\$30) \$ _____
 - Gift Membership (\$55) \$ _____
Gift Recipient Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____
 - Adopt-a-Member (\$55) \$ _____
(tax-deductible)
 - Scholarship Fund Donation \$ _____
(tax-deductible)
 - Add \$10 to receive a printed copy of Network in the mail. \$ _____
- TOTAL \$ _____

YOUR INFORMATION:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Day# _____
Evening# _____
Email _____

Make checks payable to:
International Women's Writing Guild
Mail to: IWWG, Box 810, Gracie Station,
New York, NY 10028

The International Women's Writing Guild is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization 501(c)3. All contributions to the Guild are tax deductible.

If you wish to pay online, go to www.iwwg.org and click on "Join"

- The International Women's Writing Guild, a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, supports itself through:
- Annual membership dues
 - Tax-deductible individual gifts and donations
 - Registration fees for workshops and conferences