Sponsors

The 2002 Pikes Peak Writers Conference is sponsored by the Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration and the Wyndham Colorado Springs Hotel.

The Pikes Peak Writers would like to acknowledge the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District as our founding sponsor and for their strong support and sponsorship for the past nine years.

The Pikes Peak Writers appreciates the continued cooperation of the Pikes Peak Library District for supporting the year-round education of regional writers.

Special Thanks

Pikes Peak Writers would like to offer our sincerest thanks to Jim Flynn of the law firm of Flynn, McKenna, Wright & Karsh for his pro-bono support and sterling advice in the formation of our organization.

Hotel Accommodations

The 2002 Pikes Peak Writers Conference will return to the beautiful Wyndham Colorado Springs. Located at 5580 Tech Center Drive, just west of Exit 147 on Interstate 25, the Wyndham Colorado Springs offers panoramic views of Pikes Peak and the front range — a truly inspirational setting for our 10th Conference. The Wyndham is an enthusiastic host of our 2002 Conference. The Wyndham, which will sponsor the Light Buffet on Friday evening, has set attractive room rates for our 2002 Conference, at $75 single or double occupancy. These rates are guaranteed for reservations made by March 30, 2002 (and might still be available on a space-available basis for calls after that date).

The toll-free number direct to the Wyndham Colorado Springs is (800)962-6982.

Conference Book Store

The Conference Book Store Sale will again offer a wide variety of books by our speakers as well as many selections to enhance your writing skills. Authors are welcome to bring their books to sell at the bookstore. The deadline for inclusion is 9:00 a.m. Saturday of the Conference. Pick up your unsold books no earlier than 3:30 p.m. on Sunday of the Conference.

NOTE: We will accept VISA/Mastercard on purchases of at least $15. We also accept checks.
USEFUL TIPS ON WRITING COMMERCIAL FICTION

2002 Pikes Peak Writers Conference

May 3-5, 2002 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

PPWC has something for all kinds of writers . . .

Mystery
Suspense
Romance
Science Fiction
Children’s
Young Adult
Action Adventure
Western
Screenplays
Creative Nonfiction
Short Stories
Mainstream
Historical Fiction

Meet Editors & Agents!

CONFERENCE SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday Evening: OPENING CEREMONIES
5:30 p.m. Faculty Meeting
7:00 p.m. Light Buffet
8:15 p.m. Opening Ceremonies — Laura Hayden, Charlie Rush
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Robert Vaughan — Recreates Ernest Hemingway

Saturday Luncheon: SPECIAL PRESENTATION
12:15 p.m. Lunch
PANEL with T.A. Barron, Connie Willis, Ralph Wetterhahn, Jonis Agee and moderated by Jimmie Butler. Panel will discuss “How Every Person Can Make a Difference With Their Writing”

Saturday Evening: PPWC AWARDS DINNER
6:30 p.m. Mixer
7:30 p.m. Dinner
Recognition of winners of the Paul Gillette Memorial Writing Contest. Presentation of the 2nd annual Pikes Peak Writers Conference Award of Excellence
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: David Morrell
“The Slings and Arrows of Being a Professional Fiction Writer”

Sunday Luncheon: CLOSING CEREMONIES
11:45 a.m. Lunch
FEATURED SPEAKER: Sharon Sala, “Paths Less Taken”
2:00 p.m. First general membership meeting of the Pikes Peak Writers.
GUEST SPEAKER: Elizabeth Lyon, “Why Organize as Writers?”
3:00 p.m. Pikes Peak Area Screenwriters meeting

The Pikes Peak Writers Conference is a project of the Pikes Peak Writers. The Pikes Peak Writers are under the auspices of the Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration of Colorado Springs. This conference is underwritten by the Wyndham Hotel in Colorado Springs.

Pikes Peak Writers Conference
P.O. Box 6726
Colorado Springs, CO 80934
(719) 531-5723
web site: www.ppwc.net
e-mail: info@ppwc.net

FEBRUARY 2002
**Schedule of Events**

**Friday, May 3, 2002**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Conference Check-in Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-2:00</td>
<td>Optional Reading/Editor Critique Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Optional Reading/Established Author Critique Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Faculty and Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Light Buffet</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Saturday, May 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Full Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Conference Tips for Newcomers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Late Check-in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:40 - 9:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:50 - 10:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 - noon</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Mixer (cash bar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Awards Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recognition of Winners of the Paul Gillette Memorial Writing Contest</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Session 4</td>
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<td>10:15 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
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<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>Session 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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</table>

**Sunday, May 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pikes Peak Writers Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pikes Peak Area Screenwriters Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**SPECIAL PRESENTERS**

**ROBERT VAUGHAN**

Robert sold his first book when he was nineteen and has been selling regularly ever since then. He is a member of the Writers’ Hall of Fame, the recipient of the Spur Award, (Best Western Novel) and the Porgie (Best Original Paperback.) His book, *The Valkyrie Mandate*, received a Pulitzer nomination, and his story, *Andersonville*, made into a mini-series for TV, was nominated for an Emmy Award. He is a retired Army Chief Warrant Officer, who served three tours in Vietnam. He now lives on the beach in Gulf Shores, Alabama, where he conducts a yearly writers’ retreat.

**DAVID MORRELL**

David is the author of *First Blood*, the award-winning novel in which the character of “Rambo” was created. He holds a Ph.D. in American literature from the Pennsylvania State University and was a professor in the English department at the University of Iowa until he gave up his tenure to write full time. “The mild-mannered professor with the blood-minded visions,” as one reviewer called him, Morrell has written numerous best-selling thrillers that include *The Brotherhood of the Rose* (the basis for a highly rated NBC mini-series, starring Robert Mitchum), *The Fifth Profession*, and *Extreme Denial* (set in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he lives). His most recent books are a collection of award-winning suspense stories, *Black Evening*; the novels *Burnt Sienna* and *Long Lost*; and an instructional book, *Lessons from a Lifetime of Writing: A Novelist Looks at his Craft*. Twenty million copies of his books are in print. His fiction has been translated into 22 languages.

**SHARON SALA**

It was a job she hated that drove Sharon to put the first page of paper in an old typewriter, but it was the love of the craft that kept her writing. Her first efforts at writing came in 1980 when she began a book that wound up under her bed. Her second book suffered a similar fate. In 1989 she wrote *Sara’s Angel*, and the first publisher she sent it to bought it, and she hasn’t looked back.

As a farmer’s daughter and a farmer’s wife, Sharon escaped the drudgeries of life through the pages of books, and now as a writer, she finds herself living out her dreams. One faithful reader crowned her the “Reba of Romance” while others claim she’s a magician with words. Her stories are often dark, dealing with the realities of this world, and yet she’s able to weave hope and love within the words for the readers who clamor for her latest works.

Always an optimist in the face of bad times, many of the stories she writes come to her in dreams, but there’s nothing fanciful about her work. In November of 2001, her 40th book, *Snowfall*, written under her name was released, although she writes under the pen name, Dinah McCall as well. Her books repeatedly make *The New York Times Extended* list, *USA Today, Publisher’s Weekly* and *Waldenbooks Mass Market Fiction*. 
ALL PARTICIPANTS:
PLEASE SEND IN THIS FORM EVEN IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID IN FULL.
WE NEED AN ACCURATE COUNT OF ATTENDEES AND YOUR SELECTIONS OF WORKSHOPS, ETC.

2002 PPWC REGISTRATION FORM
PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name ______________________________________________________________

Street ______________________________________________________________

City ______________________________________ State ______ ZIP ___________

Phone (   ) _________________________________________________________

E-mail  _____________________________________________________________

(We encourage e-mail addresses for all registrants, especially those seeking appointments. PPW does not release or resell e-mail address lists.)

Are You Published In Novel-Length Fiction? If so, and if you’d like a couple of your
titles listed on your nametag, please list them below.

1. _________________________________________________________________
2. _________________________________________________________________

Special Needs:
If you have special needs, such as a disability, please contact us, and we will make every effort to accommodate your needs.

What’s Covered in the Registration Fees:
The registration fee covers all conference materials, the welcome party on Friday evening, all conference presentations and workshops, breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and the awards dinner on Saturday evening.

NOTE: Group registration discounts are given only to writing groups when those members submit their registration in blocks of five or more in the same envelope. Current members of the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District also qualify automatically for the group discount. (Please include a copy of your current Friends membership card with your registration form.)

Circle one:
If postmarked by Mar. 25: Individual registration fee $220
                     Group registration fee $198
If postmarked by Apr. 22: Individual registration fee $250
                     Group registration fee $225
If postmarked AFTER Apr. 22: Individual registration fee $325
                     Group registration fee $293

My registration fee based on rules above is: ________________________________

Extra dinner tickets # _______  @ $32 $ ______________
LoBrutto Critique    # _______  @ $50 $ ______________
Jerry Gross Critique #_______   @ $50  $ ______________
TOTAL ENCLOSED •  •  •  •  •  •  •  •    $ __________________

R I want to join the Pike Peak Writers. (Your $25 membership fee is offset by a $25 discount so there is no change in the total funds you are remitting.)

R I was a past Paul Gillette Memorial Writing Contest winner who can participate in WIN, PLACE AND SHOW (and include info)

Make check or money order payable to:
The Pikes Peak Writers Conference
Send this form with your payment to:
Pikes Peak Writers Conference, P. O. Box 6726
Colorado Springs, CO 80934

SIGN-UP 1: FRIDAY AFTERNOON READING SESSIONS
Please indicate a maximum of three editors for whom you’d like to read on Friday in order of preference. We will assign you one of your choices if possible.

1) ____________________________________________________________
2) ____________________________________________________________
3) ____________________________________________________________

SIGN-UP 2: ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS
(Please check www.ppwc.net for any faculty additions)
Please indicate a maximum of three editors and/or agents for whom you’d like to interview with during the conference in order of preference. We will assign you one of your choices if possible.

1) ____________________________________________________________
2) ____________________________________________________________
3) ____________________________________________________________

Manuscript genre or type __________________________________________________

SIGN-UP 3: ONE-ON-ONE CRITIQUE WITH EDITORS, PAT LOBRUTTO or JERRY GROSS
The 20 pages you want critiqued by Pat LoBrutto or Jerry Gross need not be from a completed manuscript and can be fiction or nonfiction. There is an additional fee of $50, and you must send your manuscript pages to arrive no later than April 12. See insert for details.

☑ YES, I’d like to participate in a one-on-one critique with Pat LoBrutto.
☑ YES, I’d like to participate in a one-on-one critique with Jerry Gross.

Special Dietary Requirements?
☑ Vegetarian

Which meals do you plan to attend:
☐ Saturday Lunch  ☐ Saturday Banquet  ☐ Sunday Lunch
WORKSHOPS AND PANELS

25. Spotlight on New Authors
Carol Berg, Robin D. Owens, Carol Umberger, Ralph Wetterhahn — What happens once you make that first sale? And what steps did you take to get them? This panel will offer insights into the mysterious world of publishing.

26. Survive to Write: How to Hang in There Until You’re Published
Robin D. Owens — Define yourself, support emotional techniques and people, determination and luck, explore your options, bottom-line questions.

27. Making Your Character Sizzle (Session 1)
Christine Pacheco — The workshop will include numerous examples of what to do and attendees will come away with solid advice on improving their own characterization. Authors are requested to watch the movie “Top Gun” before attending the workshop.

28. Making Your Character Sizzle (Session 2)
Christine Pacheco — same as above.

29. Story Development
Laura Resnick — Interactive workshop examines plot and structure through various exercises. Get out of talking head mode and come have fun.

30. Ultimate Villain
Sharon Sala — Making the bad guy as memorable as the hero and heroine.

31. Choices
Sharon Sala — Motivational talk about how to stay focused on being a writer.

32. Writing and Selling Short Stories
John Stith — Short stories might be fiction, but they’re different from full-length novels. This workshop will discuss how to fit a complete story into a shorter length and where to market it.

33. Writing and Selling Science Fiction
John Stith, J. Gregory Keyes — Science Fiction offers a wide variety of settings and characters, but how do you keep them from taking over? Stith and Keyes will explain the do’s and don’t of writing Science Fiction and where to sell it.

34. Writing from the Heart
Carol Umberger — The closest thing to a “secret handshake” or magic formula to getting published is learning, sometimes the hard way to write from one’s heart. Personal reflections as well as practical advice on finding your way to the heart of your writing.

35. Navigating the Publishing Minefield
Robert Vaughan — Kick open the publisher’s door, grab him by the scruff of the neck and ram your manuscript down his scrawny throat!

36. Freelance Magazine Writing
Ralph Wetterhahn — Using practical, down-to-earth means, Wetterhahn leads you through the puzzling world of magazine publishing from the inception of an idea to the query letter to seeing your article in print.

37. Collaboration: Will We Finish Each Other Before We Finish the Book?
Connie Willis/Cynthia Felice — If you’ve ever considered co-writing a book, you’ll want to learn how to avoid the pitfalls that will prevent the project from ever getting started, let alone finished. Felice and Willis have been collaborating for 25 years.

38. I’d Love to Write if I Could Find the Time
Connie Willis — Finding the time to actually write that novel (or short story or haiku) is the hardest part of writing. Learn techniques writers have come up with through the ages.

39. Visualizing a Presentation of Your Story for Picture Books
Craig Brown — How to present your work to a publisher for a picture book.

40. Characterization
Robert Vaughan — Develop a character onion and your character will tell the story.

41. Secrets to Writing Nonfiction Book Proposals That Sell
Elizabeth Lyon — A good 80% of books published are not only nonfiction, but primarily written by first-time writers. Nonfiction books offer the best entry into publishing, but only if you know how to write a great query and a superb proposal.

42. The Good and Bad of Critique Groups
Jimmie Butler, Laura Hayden, Michael Waite — How can you tell the good from the bad when looking for a critique group? What to look for, what to do and what not to do are all discussed by this panel of authors who have spent years in critique groups.

43. From Lust to Love: Achieving Believable Romantic Resolution
Tami Cowden — How do writers show the accelerated progress of the relationship from lust to love in a believable way? This workshop outlines the development of a lasting love relationship, beginning with the initial meeting, traveling through mutual respect, then trust, and finally love.

44. Following The Artist’s Way
Robin D. Owens — Description of Julia Cameron’s 12-week course detailing morning pages, artist dates, tasks, useful ideas, and essential pages.

45. Tapping the Mythic Mind: Myth, Folklore
J. Gregory Keyes — Myths are not merely a form of storytelling, but a tool for fundamentally reorganizing consciousness. Explore some of the diverse sources of myth and discuss how to read, understand and transform it.

Attention: 2002 Paul Gillette Memorial Writing Contest Winners

This year we’re putting together a booklet of information about our winning entries. We will include a page on each 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner — for all winners who submit a file of the required information by Wednesday, April 17. We will provide a copy of the booklet to each editor and agent who attends the 2002 PPWC — and perhaps to a few others publishing professionals who have attended previous PPWCs.

If you are notified you have placed in this year’s contest, you will be asked to provide a file of one page that includes the following information:

1. Contact Information that tells how an editor or agent might reach you.
2. Title Information identifying your manuscript’s title and the category in which the manuscript placed.
3. A One-Sentence Tag Line describing the work.
4. The Dwight Swain Model: According to Dwight Swain, every solid commercial story includes five key elements: Character; Situation; Objective; Opponent; Disaster. Use Swain’s recommendation to cast these five elements in a particular order into two sentences.
5. Manuscript Summary: Use the rest of the page to summarize your story.

The instructions to the winners will provide more details and an example of how the page should be set up. See the PPWC Web site at www.ppwc.net for a preview look at those instructions and a sample of the type of page that would go into this booklet.

NOTE: Learning to describe your stories according to the Dwight Swain Model will help you whether you are one of this year’s contest winners or not.
ATTENTION EARLY REGISTRANTS
If you paid a $20 deposit for early registration to reserve your place in line for the editor readings and the Saturday/Sunday editor/agent interviews, you must mail the balance of your fee to be postmarked by March 25th, otherwise the deposit will be considered strictly a deposit toward regular registration. If you cannot attend and want your $20 refunded, we must receive a note or e-mail from you by March 25th or the money will be contributed to the Kami Butler Scholarship Fund.

EDITOR READINGS
Friday Afternoon
Priority will be given to contest placement and early registrants. Readings will then be based on the date your registration is received. Due to the number of editors attending, the space for editor readings is limited in 2002. If you are not reading, you’re welcome to sit in on the readings and hear first-hand the advice given to those who are presenting their manuscripts. If you provide an e-mail address on the enclosed registration form, you will be pre-notified personally of your interview time. Otherwise, the interview schedules will be listed on our web site and on the bulletin board on the Friday start date. See enclosed sheet for other details.

AGENT ROUNDTABLES
Friday Afternoon
As an option to Editor Readings, Friday afternoon two groups of literary agents will sit in informal discussions with those interested in learning what an agent can do for writers. These free-wheeling seminars are meant for the writers trying to learn about the writer-agent-publisher process. This is not an occasion to make a pitch for your manuscript.

AUTHOR READINGS
Friday Afternoon
Published authors will host open read and critique sessions under the same format and guidelines as the editor readings.

LITERARY AGENTS

ANDREA BROWN
The Andrea Brown Literary Agency, Inc. was formed in 1981. She was the first agent to represent both children’s authors and illustrators. Some of her best-selling titles include The Beanie Baby Handbook by Les and Sue Fox, the Beverly Hills 90210 series by Mel Gilden, the Sunset Island series by Cherie Bennett, Mama, Do You Love Me by Barbara Jossee and Barbara Lavalle, and Scholastic’s The Black Lagoon series by Mike Thaler and Jared Lee. Andrea also represents ABC and ESPN sports anchor, Robin Roberts, and award-winning author, Mel Glenn.

CHRIS EMERSON
LA-based Jump Rope Productions is a literary management/production company whose goal is to discover that really talented writer before everyone else. They rep a list of emerging writers that includes Standing on the Moon, Masonberg & Minton, Eric Coble, Isolated Incidents, Water Music, Steve Binder, Sci-Fi’s Invisible Man TV series, Vampotic & Sorrentino, Kissing Santa Claus, Paul Davidson, ABC’s Rivals, and Sam Schreiber, Faith. JRP is also producing Daddy Boot Camp at Revolution Studios, Sticks & Stones with ChickFlicks and Isolated Incidents at Radar Pictures.

JESSICA FAUST
Jessica is co-founder of BookEnds, LLC with partner Jacky Sach. They are a full-fledged literary agency focusing on fiction and nonfiction for adult audiences. As senior editor at Macmillan, she handled more than 100 Complete Idiot’s Guide titles. Her clients include Jenny Lykins, Barbara Einstein, Kate Douglas, and William Kemsley, founder of Backpacker magazine. She works with Penguin Putnam Inc., Warner Books, Hyperion Publishing, Adams Media and Alpha Books. Her Agency is especially interested in romance, mystery, suspense and women’s fiction and nonfiction books about spirituality, self-help, health, relationships, business, parenting, and books geared to women.

MICHELLE GRAJKOWSKI
From the time Michelle opened the door to the 3 Seas Literary Agency, she has been living her dream. Michelle graduated with a degree in Journalism, and as much as she enjoyed reading and writing, she found herself enthralled with business. Her agency has successfully sold into major publishing houses, including Harlequin, Dorchester and Avalon Books. Their main focus is romance and women’s fiction. They also represent mainstream fiction, mysteries, children’s stories and nonfiction titles.

EMILY KIM
Emily works at Writers House Literary Agency with senior agent, Robin Rue. Emily helps represent approximately 35 clients, primarily fiction, nonfiction and young adult authors. Because they have a full client list, they are very selective concerning new acquisitions. She also has a small list of her own. She’s looking for women’s fiction, mysteries, young adults and nonfiction.

LINDA KRUGER
Now president of The Fogelman Agency with offices in Dallas and Manhattan, Linda has been with the agency since its inception. She earned a degree in media theory and criticism at the University of Texas. She is a member of the Association of Authors’ Representatives, Inc. and the RWA. She is interested in all areas of romance. Linda is also looking for select nonfiction works that target a female audience, commercial nonfiction, popular culture, and some self-help. For more information, please check out their web site at www.fogelman.com.

KIM LEAK
Kim is the newest agent to join the Fogelman Literary Agency. A Dallas native, she attended the University of North Texas. She has an extensive background in marketing and publishing design. She is currently interested in mystery and suspense, as well as nonfiction with an emphasis on memoirs, biographies and true crime.

NAT SOBEL
Nat founded the literary agency, Sobel Weber Associates. He is a former bookseller, publisher’s sales rep, marketing director, and subsidiary rights agent. His agency represents a wide variety of adult fiction and nonfiction authors. In addition to a well-established list of clients, among them best-selling and prize-winning authors, they pride themselves on discovering and developing new talent. He holds a B.A. in English from the City College of New York.
He's not interested in SF, fantasy, male-oriented thrillers, espionage, and general fiction. Jerry wants in popular history, nonfiction, SF, and espionage. See insert. Pat is interested in contest placement and early registrants.

Jerry Gross
Jerry has been critiquing and line editing fiction and nonfiction for many years. Although not now an acquiring editor, he was Vice President and Editorial Director of Warner Books and Vice President and Associate Editor-in-Chief of New American Library. Since 1987 he has been a top freelance editor and book doctor, working with agented and unagented authors. He is the editor of the classic work on trade book editing Editors on Editing: What Writers Need to Know About What Editors Do.

Rachel Kahan
Rachel is a graduate of the College of William and Mary in Virginia and of the 1996 Radcliffe Publishing Course. She is currently an associate editor at Crown Publishers, a division of Random House. She specializes in historical narrative nonfiction, historical fiction, and contemporary African-American fiction. She also acquires trade paper originals for Crown's paperback imprint, Three Rivers Press. Recent best-sellers she's edited include The Sweet Potato Queens' Book of Lore and the sequel God Save the Sweet Potato Queens by Jill Conner Browne, Tulipomania by Mike Dash, and Nappily Ever After by Trisha Thomas and Guenevere, Queen of the Summer Country by Rosalind Miles. She doesn't edit business books, self-help, sci-fi, health or parenting books. Crown editors generally don't read unsolicited manuscripts, but she would make an exception for people attending the conference.

Megan Leder
Megan is an editor for Writer's Digest Books and Story Press. She has worked at Xavier Magazine and The Journal of Pediatrics, and has written for Personal Journaling Magazine and Cincinnati Magazine. Megan received her M.A. in English from the Ohio State University, where she taught writing for two years. WD Books is interested in non-fiction books on writing for writers and particularly books with an emphasis on novel/fiction writing and general business. Their books focus on craft, art, genres, marketing, etc.

Stephanie Lane
Stephanie grew up in the Boston area and graduated from Wellesley College with a B.A. in English and Psychology. She began working at TorForge Books as an associate editor, editing titles in the romance, women’s fiction, and mystery genres. Stephanie is now an editor for 17th Street Productions, a producer of bestselling fiction for pre-teens, teens and twenty-somethings. She edits the teen witch series Sweep as well as the Wonder Girls series, published by Scholastic. She’s looking for young adult mystery, fantasy, humor, romance and mainstream, twenty-something romance, mystery and mainstream.

Pat LoBrutto
Pat was studying Urban Planning in graduate school when he discovered people would pay him to read books. He’s been an editor at Ace Books, Zebra, Doubleday, Bantam, and currently with Stealth Press — which is bringing back a number of classic out-of-print titles by authors like Peter Straub, Richard Matheson, William W. Johnstone and John Skip and Craig Spector and sold on their web site. In 1988 he won the World Fantasy Award for his editing work.

2002 Pikes Peak Writers Conference Award for Writing Excellence

In 2001 we initiated the Pikes Peak Writers Conference Award for Writing Excellence and awarded it to Robert Crais. Each year’s recipient is selected based primarily on two criteria:

1. An admirable career in commercial fiction, which can serve as an inspiration to those who attend the Pikes Peak Writers Conference.
2. A demonstrated willingness to help other writers in their quests to improve their craft and story-telling abilities.

We are pleased to announce that our second recipient of the 2002 Pikes Peak Writers Conference Award for Writing Excellence is:

David Morrell
1. Spotlight on Publishing Houses
Christopher Evans, Laura Anne Gilman, Meg Lede and Stephanie Lane will discuss current needs, offer tips, share success stories and answer questions.

2. Spotlight on Literary Agencies
Agents Andrea Brown, Jessica Faust, Kim Leak, Nat Sobel, Emily Kim will discuss their role in your writing careers, their requirements, and tips for writer-agent relationships.

3. Spotlight on Literary Agencies
Agents Chris Emerson, Michelle Grajkowski, Linda Kruger will discuss their role in your writing careers, their requirements, and tips for writer-agent relationships.

4. Common Problems of Beginning Writers
Jimmie Butler — Almost all new writers make the same dozen or so mistakes in writing and formatting their manuscripts. Even if you don’t consider yourself a beginner, this program will remind you of techniques you may have forgotten.

5. Scene and Sequel
Pam McCutcheon — As sentences are the building blocks of paragraphs, scenes are the building blocks of your story. Once you master scene structure, including their follow-on sequels, you’ll have a basic grasp of storytelling.

6. Synopsis
Cynthia Felice — Encapsulating your book in a synopsis is one of the most difficult things all writers have to do. Cynthia will explain how to take a full-length novel and condense it down into a few pages while keeping the tone, character, and plot intact.

7. POV
Charlie Rush — Understanding point-of-view is vital for the beginning author to understand. This workshop explains all the various points-of-view and how to make them work for you.

8. Screenwriting - Story Structure
Larry Riggins — Every good movie, play or story begins with structure. Learn how to weave a well-told story with this workshop.

9. Screenwriting Situation and Character Paradigm
Larry Riggins — Getting characters into and out of conflict is part of what makes a good story work. Learn how you can do it.

10. First Five Pages
Jonis Agee — In this workshop, we will examine how the first five pages of a novel can excite or destroy interest in an agent, editor, and reader through its urgency, tension, significance and the unexpected. Bring the beginning of your novel. This workshop is for all writing levels.

11. Dark Matter: On Revision in the Novel
Jonis Agee — In this workshop we will focus on techniques and issues for revision, considering structural factors such as the dramatic arc, missing and unnecessary scenes, characterization, “heat,” flashbacks, the monologist, voice, place and setting and pacing. Bring a scene that is giving you trouble, plus a list of the problems or issues you are facing in completing the novel.

12. From Here to There: An Alternative to Outlining and Pre-plotting
Carol Berg — If you’re overwhelmed with the idea that you must know every detail before touching your keyboard, here is a different way to get from blank screen to fully developed story: start at the beginning and write through to the end. Hear the advantages and pitfalls of real-time plot and character development, and how to combine it with other techniques to create a dynamic story.

13. Writing and Illustrating Children’s Books
Craig Brown — If you’re interested in writing or illustrating children’s books, this is the workshop for you. Multi-published author Craig Brown will discuss the steps involved in producing a book for younger readers.

14. Keep It Short: Short Stories and Personal Essays
Teresa Funke — Learn how to write and sell short stories and personal essays. Find out which sells better, which markets pay the most, and how to decipher hidden meanings in those annoying rejection slips.

15. Understanding the Editorial Mind
Jerry Gross — Discuss the important differences between the way an editor and an author look at a manuscript, and how understanding and using these differences creatively can avoid an adversarial author/editor relationship and create a collegial relationship that enhance the writer’s writing skills and career.

16. Rejecting Rejection
Jerry Gross, Elmer Kelton — A panel with an editor, agent and writer that offer inspiration, wisdom and practical advice to writers on how to keep their egos intact, their spirits high, and their creative juices flowing despite repeated turndowns.

17. Writing about the West
Elmer Kelton — The western novel is an icon and who better than Elmer Kelton, an icon himself, to share his years of wisdom on writing the western.

18. Firing Up That First Novel
Elizabeth Lyon — The job of mapping out and writing a first novel need not be overwhelming once you learn how the pros do it. You’ll learn how to discover your story promise, map out your lot, and keep your novel character-driven.

19. Strategic Planning
Elizabeth Lyon — You may have wandered into the writing profession, but isn’t it time to plan your success? Editor and literary consultant Elizabeth Lyon will lead you through a strategic planning process, no matter what you are writing and no matter what level of success you seek.

20. Selling Your Book
Bob Mayer — The query/submission will be discussed in detail along with the role of agents and editors and how to find the right one. Also, how to watch out for various schools, scams and other aspects that confront the new writer trying to get published.

21. Writing the Political Thriller

22. Publishing Business from the Writer’s Perspective
Bob Mayer — E-books, print-on-demand, shrinking mid-lists, corporate mergers: where does all this leave the writer who often feels on the outside? You hear agents and editors talk about the business, but it’s important to understand a writer’s point of view. It’s also important to know what not to do.

23. What Not To Do In Dialogue
David Morrell — No matter how much time you put into creating characters, they still need to speak. The way they speak and what they say offer insights as well. David shares his wisdom on what to avoid and how to make dialogue flow through the entire book.

24. Plotting a Mystery
Leslie O’Kane — A mystery is required to have clues leading up to the final solution, but plotting them into the story isn’t always that easy. Mystery author Leslie O’Kane will go into detail on how to plot and write that mystery novel.
KAMI BUTLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

We were pleased to again award over 20 scholarships to aspiring writers for the 2001 Pikes Peak Writers Conference. The PPWC scholarship program exists because of generous contributions of many, many people, including Kami’s Aunt Jacquie Sae, who through her estate contributed $1,000 again in 2002. A PPWC scholarship pays the recipient’s full registration fee for the Conference. Our primary purpose in offering these scholarships is to reach promising writers who would not otherwise be able to afford to attend the conference. If that fits your circumstances, consider applying. Application letters for the 2002 PPWC should address your circumstances including things you have done for yourself to help your writing and a bit about why you wouldn’t be able to attend otherwise. If you know other writers who should be considered, encourage them to apply as well. Applications (or donations) should be sent to: Jimmie H. Butler, 6660 Delmonico Dr, D-215, Colorado Springs, CO 80919. Selections will be made shortly after the close-out of the early registration deadline. Scholarship winners will be notified shortly after that.

SESSION PREFERENCES

PPWC ’02 will offer 45 programs in eight sessions. Please indicate your top eight choices on the registration form to assist us in determining session-room assignments. Your choices will NOT bind you in any way at conference time. They are merely a planning tool for us.

PPWC CONTACTS

Check our web page at http://www.ppwc.net. To contact us or be added to our mailing list, please e-mail info@ppwc.net, or write to:

Pikes Peak Writers Conference
P.O. Box 6726
Colorado Springs, CO 80934

LAURA RESNICK
Laura is the Campbell Award-winning author of 40 science fiction/fantasy short stories, the epic fantasy novel In Legend Born, and its upcoming sequel In Fire Forged (coming in 2002). Writing under the pseudonym Laura Leone, she is also the award-winning author of more than a dozen romance novels, most of which are now being reissued by Wildside Press. She crossed Africa overland and wrote a nonfiction book about the experience, A Blonde in Africa. Resnick also writes two regular columns, “The Comely Carmudgeon” for Nink and “The Filthy Pro” for the SFWA Bulletin. You can find her on the Web at www.sff.net/people/laresnick.

LAWRENCE RIGGINS
Lawrence holds a MFA with a specialization in motion pictures and television and a BA in Theatre Arts. Mr. Riggins has produced three feature films and co-produced several television movies. He has written a number of award-winning screenplays and stageplays, has over 10 years of motion picture and television industry experience, and teaches film at the university level. Mr. Riggins has extensive associations with producer representatives and distribution outlets and has facilitated the world-wide sale of three feature films prior to forming Branded Films in association with White Tiger Entertainment LLC. His most recent film was Repli-ant in which he served as the writer.

CHARLES RUSH
In 1997, Charlie decided “to write a novel in six months.” Many Jimmie Butler critiques and three years later, he finished his first Civil War novel. He has completed his second and is working on his third novel. Charlie has also published two short stories and several magazine articles. He was a volunteer for the PPWC for four years and is this year’s Deputy Director, and Vice President of the newly-formed Pikes Peak Writers.

JOHN STITH
John has sold eight novels, optioned several feature-film screenplays, and has sold to television (Star Trek). Redshift Rendezvous was a Nebula Award nominee. Manhattan Transfer earned a Hugo Award Honorable Mention. Several of his works have been bought by the Science Fiction Book Club and optioned for film. Complete information may be found at www.neverend.com. Most of his work is in ebook form at www.peanutpress.com. His works are being republished in trade paperback by The Wildside Press.

LAURA RESNICK
Laura is the Campbell Award-winning author of 40 science fiction/fantasy short stories, the epic fantasy novel In Legend Born, and its upcoming sequel In Fire Forged (coming in 2002). Writing under the pseudonym Laura Leone, she is also the award-winning author of more than a dozen romance novels, most of which are now being reissued by Wildside Press. She crossed Africa overland and wrote a nonfiction book about the experience, A Blonde in Africa. Resnick also writes two regular columns, “The Comely Carmudgeon” for Nink and “The Filthy Pro” for the SFWA Bulletin. You can find her on the Web at www.sff.net/people/laresnick.

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PIKES PEAK WRITERS
The newsletter insert has a good deal of information about our new organization, Pikes Peak Writers. One of the very first benefits you can get by joining Pikes Peak Writers is a discount on your conference fee. PPW membership dues for 2002 are $25 and that entitles you this year to a $25 discount to the conference. If you haven’t already joined PPW, please remember to check the block on the registration form. Your conference discount will be offset by your membership fee so there will be no change in your conference fee remittance. (i.e. by paying your conference fee and checking the box, you become a PPW member.) See our web Site: www.pikespeakwriters.org

DISCLAIMER
Pikes Peak Writers, organizers of the Pikes Peak Writers Conference, is incorporated in the state of Colorado and is a 501(c)(3) — pending non-profit organization. We are not now nor ever have been associated with any other for-profit business entities using our name (or variations of our name) such as those trade businesses owned by or connected with James Ciletti. Our continual public use of the Pikes Peak Writers (Conference) name dates back to its organizational inception and the first conference in 1993.

PPW KICKOFF
The kickoff meeting for Pikes Peak Writers is Sunday at 2 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Elizabeth Lyon addressing “Why Organize as Writers?” Author and teacher Elizabeth Lyon has attended dozens of writers conferences and interfaced with many writers organizations. She shares her views on the benefits of being members of these organizations.

AUTHORS AND SPECIALISTS

JONIS AGEE
Jonis is the author of nine books, including four novels: Sweet Eyes, Strange Angels, South of Resurrection, and The Weight of Dreams; four collections of short fiction: Pretend We’ve Never Met, Bend This Heart, A .38 Special and a Broken Heart, and Taking the Wall; and a book of poetry, Houses. A Nebraska native, she is Professor of English and Creative Writing at The University of Nebraska. Among her many awards are an NEA grant in fiction, a Loft-McNight Award, and a Loft-McNight Award of Distinction. Her books — Strange Angels, Bend This Heart, and Sweet Eyes — were named Notable Books of the Year by The New York Times. Her newest books are a collection of short stories called Taking the Wall (Coffeehouse) and the novel The Weight of Dreams, which won the Nebraska Book Award for 2000. She owns twenty pairs of cowboy boots, some of them works of art, and she loves the open road.

T.A. BARRON
Tom grew up in Colorado ranch country, traveled widely as a Rhodes Scholar, managed a successful venture capital business, and then changed careers to become a full-time writer. He is the award-winning author of many highly-acclaimed novels including The Lost Years of Merlin and The Ancient One, the picture book Where Is Grandpa?, and nature books about Colorado wilderness—all brimming with his passion for the great outdoors, family, and the power of every person to make a difference. Tom also devotes significant time to serving on boards, supporting education and conservation causes, and expanding the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. His favorite pastime is hiking on mountain trails with his wife, Currie, and their five children. Visit his web site at www.tabarron.com.

CAROL BERG
Carol has been a teacher of mathematics, a teacher of childbirth and parenting education, and most recently a software engineer. Thanks to a friend who challenged her to write a series of e-mail letters in character, a lifelong love of reading turned into a passion for writing that quickly got out of hand. Along with degrees in mathematics from Rice University and computer science from University of Colorado, Carol came away with concentrations in English literature and history of art. Carol’s first novel, the epic fantasy Transformation, was a finalist for the 2001 Compton Crook Award for the best first fantasy/science fiction/horror novel of 2000 and the 2001 Barnes and Noble Maiden Voyage Award. The sequel, Revelation, was published in 2001. Restoration is forthcoming in summer 2002, and Song of the Beast in 2003. Carol is a former Paul Gillette Writing Contest winner (1999 first place in Fantasy/Science Fiction and 1999 second place in Young Adult) and met both her editor and agent at PPWC.

CRAIG BROWN
Craig, known as Farmer Brown at schools, is easily recognized by his books. Students know his books by the technique he uses, which is called stipling. Craig draws with a crow quill and rapidograph pen varying the space between black dots to create values of gray. Dots closer together create dark values, while dots placed further apart create lighter values. After the ink dries color is added with pastels, gouache and colored pencils. Craig has lived in Colorado for 21 years writing and illustrating books and teaching and visiting schools throughout the United States and overseas to promote reading, writing and creativity.

JIMMIE H. BUTLER
Jimmie earned an advanced degree in the Master of Professional Writing Program at the University of Southern California and studied several years in Paul Gillette’s writers workshop. He helped establish the PPWC and the Front Range Fiction Writers. He used his military background in the space program and as a combat pilot to produce two award-winning techno-thrillers, The Iskra Incident and Red Lightning-Black Thunder. He self-published A Certain Brotherhood about flying small spotter planes over the Ho Chi Minh Trail in the Vietnam War.

TAMI COWDEN
Tami always wanted to be a writer but did a lot of other things instead. After practicing law for 10 years, she finally started writing fiction. That was in 1997, and she’s come a long way since then, publishing a nonfiction book on Hero and Heroine Archetypes as well as fiction short stories. In 2000 she stopped practicing law to teach legal writing full-time at the University of Denver College of Law. She also teaches fiction workshops around the country, and in her “spare” time, she actually gets some writing done.
If you were a winner in the Paul Gillette Memorial Writing Contest over the last 10 years and have gone on to sell your work, please check the box on the registration form and include a note with the title of your book, the year and category in which you won, and any war stories you might have to tell. We want to recognize you at this year’s conference. We’ll also have a display board showing the contest winners’ successes.

Operation Paperback

Operation Paperback is a program started on the Internet to send paperbacks to our troops overseas. Since they are often stationed in remote areas with little entertainment, the contribution of reading material will give them something to do and look forward to at the end of the day. In support of this effort, the Pikes Peak Writers Conference will collect your gently used paperbacks at the conference, package them up, and mail them to Operation Paperback which will send them to our military service men and women serving overseas. So, please remember to bring your paperbacks and donate them to the cause!

For more information about this great cause, check out their web site at: http://oppaperback.virtualave.net/

PPWC 2001 Audio Tapes

We have noticed that a few audio tapes from last year’s conference were not up to our normal high quality. If you purchased one of these tapes, bring it to this year’s conference and trade for a new one. Summit AV has guaranteed satisfaction for its customers.

Cynthia Felice

At five feet ten and with an inch or two, Cynthia is hard to miss. She is best known for her complex, carefully plotted novels and was nominated for the John W. Campbell Award after the publication of her first novel, Godsfire. She received the Award for Outstanding Paper from the Society for Technical Communication for her paper, The Future is Now for Automating Document Control, a Case History for the User. Her peculiar insistence on eating regularly and sleeping in a warm bed inspired her to prevail as a member of the workforce for more than 25 years. Her inquiring intellect and engineering bent led her to become a sales engineer for capital equipment in the electronics field, a motel owner, and a manager of configuration control departments for major corporations.

Teresa Funke

Teresa’s recently published novel, Remember Wake, won first place in the 1998 Paul Gillette Memorial Writing Contest. She is currently at work on a nonfiction book titled We Can Do It: American Women’s Stories from World War II and a second novel. Teresa’s short stories and essays have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies. She has also placed more than 80 articles in regional and national publications.

Laura Hayden

Laura attended PPWC’s inaugural year as a volunteer and contest winner. Since then, she’s sold nine books to four publishers under two names, moved five times across the country, and is now back in Colorado as PPWC’s director and PPW’s president. Laura’s upcoming books include Double Exposure, the first in the new “First Daughter” mystery series co-authored with real First Daughter, Susan Ford and The Official Nora Roberts Companion, coming in October 2002.

J. Gregory Keyes

When J. Gregory Keyes was a small boy, his father’s job took his family to live on an Arizona Navajo reservation; he quickly became bilingual. At four years old he didn’t find it difficult to learn another language, and Navajo became as much a part of him as English. Keyes’s early experience in the Navajo culture was the beginning of a lifelong fascination with linguistics, rituals, myths, and legends. It wasn’t only the Navajo reservation that had an impact on his imagination; equally important were the long evenings his extended family (some of Choctaw ancestry) spent spinning stories. Keyes burst upon the fantasy scene two years ago, astonishing his readers with his gift for creating fantastical worlds with wholly original belief systems, and wonderful people to inhabit them. After two epic fantasy novels, The Waterborn and The Blackgod, Keyes is taking off in a new direction. Newton’s Cannon is an Umberto Eco-like tale of fantasy and history, magic and science, peopled with characters out of his imagination as well as from history — Louis XIV, Benjamin Franklin, Blackbeard, Voltaire, and the enigmatic Sir Isaac Newton.

Jen C.J. Jones

Passion, patience, persistence and perseverance is Jan’s personal credo for writing success. Jan’s award-winning scripts have been considered by Paramount, Disney, World Wide Pictures, DreamWorks SKG, Walden Media and Jim Henson Productions. She wrote the 1998 KCIC theatrical-turned-video, The Rhythm-Maker and the Storyteller which garnered a national broadcasting award. Jan has produced numerous video shorts and promos along with a feature-length video. (See www.governmentguineapig.com). She co-produces an area television program, Tri-Lakes Today, is a writer/researcher for the Center for Creative Leadership, is a member the Pikes Peak Area Screenwriters, the Pikes Peaks Arts Council, The Art Institute of Colorado’s Digital Media Advisory Board and Senior VP, Director of Author Acquisitions for KiwE Publishing.

Elmer Kelton

Elmer is the author of 38 novels and his latest, Badger Boy, came out in January 2001. Three of his novels have appeared in Reader’s Digest Condensed Books. Four have won the Western Heritage Award from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City. Six have won the Spur award from Western Writers of America. In 1987 he received the Barbara McCombs/Lon Tinkle Award for “continuing excellence in Western letters” from the Texas Institute of Letters. In 1990 he received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Western Literature Association. The Texas Legislature proclaimed Elmer Kelton Day in April 1997. In 1998 he received the first Lone Star award for Lifetime Achievement from the Larry McMurtry Center for Arts and Humanities at Midwestern State University in Texas. He also received honorary doctorates from Hardin-Simmons University and Texas Tech University. He was given a lifetime achievement award by the National Cowboy Symposium in Lubbock.

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CANCELLATION POLICY
Cancellations due to emergencies are handled on an individual basis. If an emergency arises, please contact us immediately to discuss your situation. Our phone number is (719)531-5723 and our e-mail is info@ppwc.net.

STAY WITH US AT THE WYNDHAM
Is this your first writers conference? Even if it’s not, consider getting a roommate or two and stay at the Wyndham. The attractive rates offered by the Wyndham make this a great option even if you live close enough to commute. Most of our out-of-town presenters will be staying at the Wyndham.

Participants at our earlier PPWCs discovered that some of the best off-the-cuff advice occurs in after-hours sessions as speakers unwind from the day. The Wyndham generously supports our opening night reception, and the more rooms we fill at the conference rate, the happier the Wyndham people are to have us consider them the home of the Pikes Peak Writers Conference. The room rates for our 2002 conference are $75 single or double occupancy. These rates are guaranteed for reservations made by March 30, 2002 (and might still be available on a space-available basis for calls after that date.) Contact the Wyndham Colorado Springs at (800)962-6982.

AUTHORS AND SPECIALISTS

ELIZABETH LYON
As an independent book editor and consultant to writers throughout the U.S. and Canada, and as far away as Moscow and Buenos Aires, Elizabeth has helped scores of writers break into print and secure movie options. She is the staff teacher of masters’ classes for the prestigious Writer’s Retreat Workshop for novelists begun by the late Gary Provost. Elizabeth has been a contributing writer to Writer’s Digest Magazine and writes a column for Willamette Writers and articles for other organizations. Her first book for writers, Nonfiction Book Proposals Anybody Can Write, is considered the standard reference on preparing proposals. Literary agent Jean Naggar described Elizabeth’s second book, The Sell-Your-Novel Toolkit, as an indispensable guide that belongs on every writer’s bookshelf. Her web site, elizabethlyon.com, posts helpful tips for writers. She is currently at work on a 12-book series of books for writers. She also has a movie treatment, represented and being shopped by a Hollywood director, that is based on her experiences in 1967 as the only white student at a southern black college.

Francine Mathews
Francine is the author of 12 works of mystery and suspense. Her women’s spy novel, The Cutout, was based upon her experience of over four years as an intelligence analyst for the CIA. Her second political thriller, The Secret Agent, is forthcoming from Bantam in June 2002. As Stephanie Barron, Francine writes a mystery series featuring Jane Austen, the Geogian novelist, as a detective. Jane and the Stillroom Maid, the sixth book in the series, was published in November 2001.

Bob Mayer
Bob has 21 novels published under pen names including Robert Doherty, Greg Donegan, and Joe Dalton. His Area 51 series has been a USA Today bestseller for the last four years and has been optioned for feature film development with the screenplay written by the co-creator of Alien and Total Recall. He has over two million books in print and has been published in 10 foreign countries. Eight of his other novels have been optioned for film. He has taught novel writing for numerous colleges, workshops and conferences. Before writing full time, Bob graduated from West Point and served in the military as a Special Forces A-Team leader. For information: www.nettrends.com/mayer.

Pam McCutcheon
Pam is a former engineer turned romance writer who uses her left-brain skills to analyze and explain the often right-brained world of writing. The result is two nonfiction books from Gryphon Books for Writers: Writing the Fiction Synopsis and The Writer’s Brainstorming Kit (with Michael Waite). Her seventh romance novel, The Hope Chest Series: Enchantment, came out in 2001 from Kensington Ballad.

Leslie O’Kane
Leslie is the author of two humorous mystery series for Ballantine. Her first novel was published in 1996, and her 10th mystery, Death of a PTA Goddess, will be published next spring. That book is the seventh to feature Molly Masters — full-time mother of two, part-time creator of faxable greeting cards, and an occasional reluctant sleuth. Give the Dog a Bone, schedule for release in spring 2002, is the third in Leslie’s second series, featuring a dog psychologist in Boulder, Colorado, where the author makes her home.

Robin D. Owens
Robin has been seriously writing longer than she cares to recall. Her book HeartMate was released in 2001, the first futuristic/fantasy romance purchased for Jove’s Magical Love line. She has been the librarian, contest co-chair and President of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers. She is currently working on a spin-off book, Heart Thief, that again takes place in her world of Celta. Her web site, www.robindownens.com is updated monthly and she is particularly proud of her “Free the Artist” page that includes an affirmation, creativity exercise, and motivational quote, as well as the Story Machine to help unblock artists.

Christine Pacheco
Waldenbooks bestselling author Christy Lockhart (the pseudonym for Christine Pacheco) is the author of nine books, seven Silhouette Desires and, with a partner, two Silhouette Intimate Moments. She also had a historical romance produced in audio format. It took nearly 10 years to sell her first book, and she considers herself the poster child for perseverance. Christine lives her life by Eleanor Roosevelt’s saying: “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”