

Edition

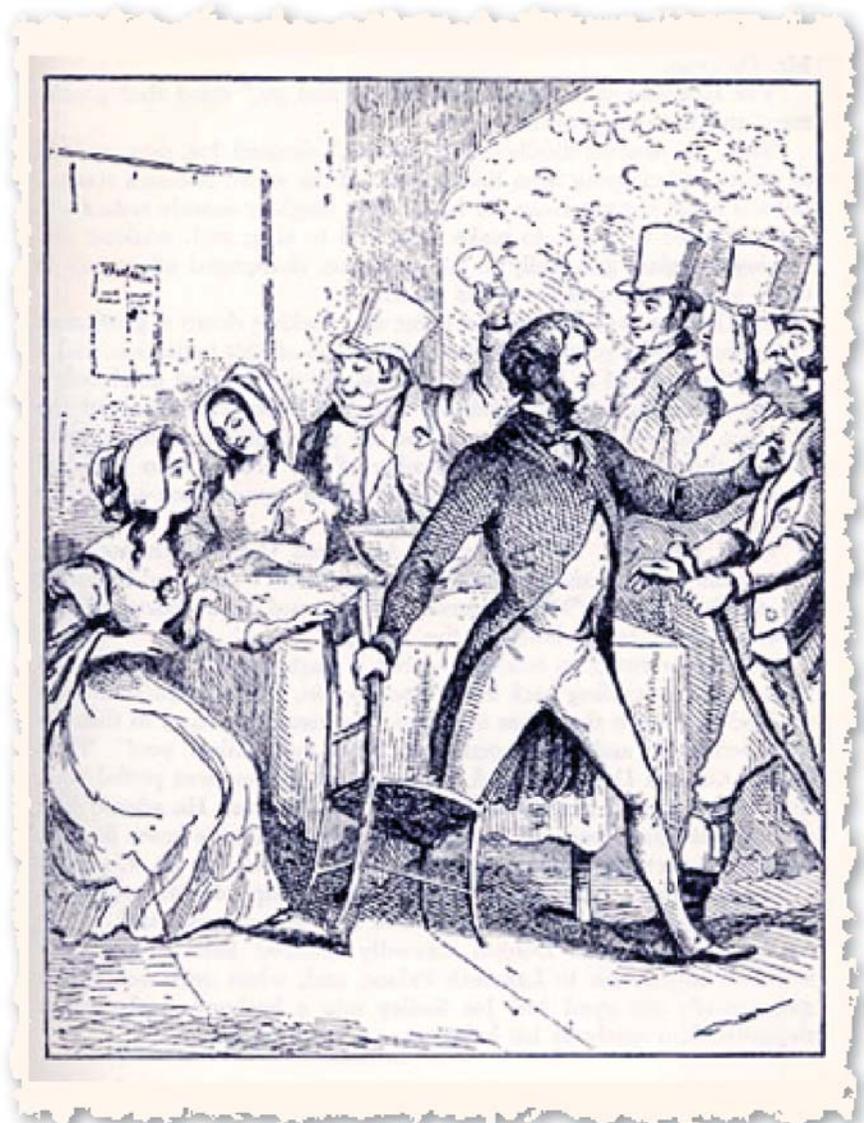
The journal of the Editors' Association of Canada, Toronto branch

FEBRUARY 2007

How to read a novel

A review of John Sutherland's book by the same name

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Edition

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Edition

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Learning about everything

I recently came across an interesting book titled *the intellectual devotional: revive your mind, complete your education, and roam confidently with the cultured class*. Just as many people spend five minutes a day reading daily devotionals for a regular dose of spiritual enlightenment, *the intellectual devotional* follows the same tradition by offering readers 365 days of daily readings from seven categories—history, philosophy, science, religion, literature, visual arts, and music—to brush up on knowledge they may have long forgotten.

When the book was published, the “Today” show asked New Yorkers on the street, “What is Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons*?” Their responses ranged from “A famous restaurant and hotel,” “Spring, summer, winter, fall,” to “It sounds like a hotel.” When asked, “What is the Taj Mahal?” they replied, “A really good band,” “A casino,” “A fancy palace in India,” and “A hotel.” Nonetheless, the respondents were interested in knowing what the correct answers were.

To write the book, the authors Noah Oppenheim and David Kidder interviewed scholars in each of the seven fields and asked them what they believed were the top 50 things we need to know in each field. Oppenheim said this book was created out of “an everyday desire to complete one’s education.”

I encourage you: never stop learning.

K. Ruddock
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On the cover: William Thackeray's drawn illustrations in *Vanity Fair*

Small office strategies

“You clutter up your room entirely too much with out-of-doors stuff, Anne. Bedrooms were made to sleep in.” Marilla, to Anne, who wanted to decorate her room with fall-coloured maple branches. (Anne of Green Gables, Chapter XVI, Lucy Maud Montgomery) **by Trudi Down**



Elizabeth Verwey,
founder of Home
Office Mentors

The above quotation might seem strange as an introduction to the report about the November meeting. But all will be made clear shortly! The evening’s topic was “Small Office Strategies” and our speaker was Toronto-based **ELIZABETH VERWEY**, who founded Home Office Mentors in 1997.

When we hear the phrase “small office,” most of us typically think of a spare bedroom, a corner of the living room, or a chilly-in-winter/stifling-in-summer attic space. However, if you were in attendance on November 27, you may have been as surprised as I to discover that more than one of our members has actually conducted an editing/proofreading business from the bedroom!

Whether we work on the kitchen table or the bed, most of us can use some tips on how to organize our time and space. Through her company, Small Office Mentors (www.officementors.com), Verwey assists home-based and small-office business owners in being more effective with space and time management, to save time and money in the on-going operations of their business, and to achieve balance in their lives.

The first step is to recognize your personal space needs and “zone” your space, she advised. Clear out what doesn’t belong, and create the type of work space that ... well, *works*, for you. You may require a corner for



thinking time, separate from your actual desk/work area. Or perhaps you need to energize your work zone by re-positioning your desk so it affords a view of the garden.

Once you have designed the work area, it's time to plan how you will function within that space. An accessible and well-organized filing system — paper or computerized — is a must if you hope to keep your work space free of clutter. Studies have shown we typically lose one hour a day looking for important pieces of paper. Verwey suggested that by tracking the route a printed communications piece takes across your work space — from the time it enters the office to its final destination (filing cabinet or garbage can) — you can determine if the space is functioning at its best.

Paper path tip: Try both the L-shaped and U-shaped desk arrangements, to determine which works better for you.

Computerized record systems, scanners for capturing information from business cards, a daily electronic or bound planner, a computerized backup system, good lighting and ergonomic chairs and keyboards, and a large garbage can (“big is best!”) are great tools for helping with efficiency and productivity.

As a segue to the topic of time management, Verwey reminded us that “saying No to something means saying Yes to something else that is more important”.

Time is a non-renewable resource and, for most of us, it is a constant struggle to find enough time to do all the things that need to be done. Verwey suggested focusing on what works well and problem-solve what doesn't. Identify the methods you employ to procrastinate, and correct or change those behaviours. Plan the most important items of your day and do them first.

Planner tip: Block off time for project, R&D, even family schedules, directly in the planner.

“The tone of your day is set in the first hour you spend at work,” she noted. Apply the WIN strategy — **W**hat's **I**mportant **N**ow. Do it, then get out and have fun! Reward yourself with a treat or time out of the office when a project or job has been completed.

Determine your high energy “power hour” and be certain to do important or difficult tasks at that time. Take breaks.

Time management tip: “You can't be everything to everyone.” Take a micro-vacation, a four to twenty-four hour time period for yourself. Remember to block this off in the daily planner. Then go see a movie, or visit an art gallery. Do one thing that you have wanted to do but felt you never had the time!

Verwey's idea of using a mentor to keep oneself focused and on track may be of help to many freelancers. As outlined in her book, **THE MENTORS CIRCLE: CLEARING YOUR PATH TO BUSINESS GROWTH** (www.mentorscircle.com), the pair who are mentoring each other establish individual hourly, daily or weekly goals; after the set period of time, they communicate by phone or e-mail to report on whether they have achieved their goals.

For those in attendance who found helpful ideas in her presentation and who vowed then and there to declutter their space and better organize their time, our knowledgeable speaker had one final tip:

“Be patient. It takes 21 times for a person to adopt a new habit.” 



A first for our chapter! Thanks to branch co-chair Ken Weinberg, the evening's talk was recorded and streamed live via computer Webcast to chapter members who had signed up to receive the broadcast remotely. Verwey made sure she addressed the on-line audience from time to time and repeated questions for their benefit.

Trudi has been a freelance writer for over 25 years. Her company, The Corporate Word (www.thecorporateword.com) creates communications pieces for both print and electronic media. gdown@interlynx.net

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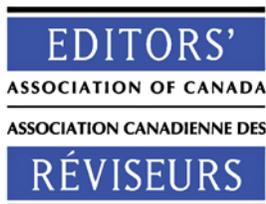
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■ For your diary pages

Executive meeting

Monday, February 12, 2007
 6:30 p.m.
 EAC office, 27 Carlton Street, Suite 502
 All members welcome
 RSVP: Ann Firth, 905 464-6373
toronto_br_secretary@editors.ca

General meeting

Monday, February 26, 2007
 6:45 p.m. New members Q&A
 7:30 p.m. Business meeting
 8:30 p.m. Program: **English is Stupid: Decoding Spoken English**
 23 Prince Arthur Avenue
 Members free/non-members \$5

■ Welcome! New members

As of January 2, 2007, the Toronto branch had 689 members (357 voting, 332 qualifying [formerly associate category]) including 15 student members. Two people joined in December, eleven allowed their membership to lapse, and three members identified themselves as francophone. The two new members are:

Shari Lapena

Monica Misra-Lui

Hotline Report

February 2007

Members registered

12

Clients registered

1

Project

+ Two program managers
(full time)

Hotline Registration

Clients call to be matched with branch members who have registered with the Hotline for work.

When you register, please note these guidelines:

- ✦ If you are listed in the EAC Directory of Editors (print or online), note any changes to your listing.
- ✦ If you are not listed in the Directory and have not previously registered with the Hotline, send your résumé in Directory or Hotline style. You can find guidelines to the Directory format at www.editors.ca/ode/index.html. Hotline style follows the Directory format. However, you may include as many interests as you wish and write your profile in point form.
- ✦ Please limit your résumé to one page.
- ✦ If you have registered before, send your résumé only if it has changed.
- ✦ **Hotline registration begins on the first of each month.** Please contact the branch every month to be listed again.

Telephone: 416 975-5528 Fax: 416 975-5596
Toronto@editors.ca (.rtf attachment; subject: Hotline)



Winter/Spring 2007 seminar season



February 2007

sun	mon	tu	wed	th	fri	sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	Indexing from A to Z — Heather Ebbs — 10 AM to 5 PM
11	12	13	14	15	16	Taking the Plunge as a Freelance Editor — Elizabeth d'Anjou — 9 AM to 5 PM
18	19	20	Harnessing the Business Writing Process — Paul Lima — 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

The winter/spring professional development season starts with a classic, [Copy Editing: A Hands-on Introduction](#) (formerly Copy Editing I). Instructor Kathryn Dean will present this seminar on two Saturdays (January 27 and February 3), at Victoria College. A second offering will be available on two weekdays in April.

February continues with a number of excellent seminars. [Indexing from A to Z](#), with Heather Ebbs (Saturday, February 10), provides an introduction to indexing. Attendees will learn about what it takes to be an indexer, terminology, types of indexes, and indexing using a computer, among other topics.

[Taking the Plunge as a Freelance Editor](#), with Elizabeth d'Anjou (Saturday, February 17), provides those thinking about embarking on a freelance career with helpful tips and ideas to consider.

Paul Lima's [Harnessing the Business Writing Process](#) (Wednesday, February 21) details his system for helping writers become more efficient and productive.

This season, EAC Toronto has collaborated with PWAC Guelph /Kitchener-Waterloo to present a seminar in Kitchener. Area editors can join instructor Mike Tanner on Saturday, April 14, for [Eight-Step Editing](#) — Jim Taylor's popular, systematic approach to editing.

Seminars run from late January to May. Complete details can be found on the EAC Toronto branch Web site and in our Winter/Spring 2007 brochure.

Grammar food for thought

An editor's observations on grammar and usage

Are there no copy editors at The Globe and Mail?

by Freya Godard

Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this article are those of the author only and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EAC Toronto branch or its executive members.

A number of the examples in my columns over the last few months have come from The Globe and Mail, but its shoddy or apparently non-existent copy editing makes the Globe eligible for a column of its own.

Though I am told on good authority that the [globe](#) has some very good copy editors, it obviously needs to hire more of them, give them enough time to do their work, or accept their corrections. The headlines in particular, which seem never to have been edited, are a frequent source of gaffes, awkward phrasing, and ambiguities.

A recent heading reads: [Laying seeds for good governance in Africa](#). (Seeds are sown, not laid.) Another says: [Aim at crime's cause](#), even though there was enough space for "Aim at cause of crime."

A meaningless headline that turns up regularly on stories about mistreated children is [Suffer the little children](#). It's hard to imagine what a headline writer thinks he (or she) is saying with that sentence, but it could only have been written by someone who has never read anything written before 1900.

The same could be said of headline writers who have no idea what *eth* means as a verb ending. [Gotta stop that Dinning, sayeth the rivals](#), proclaimed the headline of one of Jeffrey Simpson's columns this past November. (The reason for [gotta](#) in that head is just as baffling.) 

Whether Simpson writes his own headlines I don't know, but the number of mistakes that appear in all the columns suggests that columnists are exempt from being edited. Not long ago, for example, John Barber wrote: *So far, the government is laying low*. In his reply to my e-mail, he was obviously chagrined, saying of course he knew the difference between *lie* and *lay* but he has to write so fast he sometimes makes mistakes. That's understandable, but it's all the more reason for his columns (and everyone else's) to be edited.

Another column that appears not to have been edited, by Doug Saunders, included this sentence: *Like U.S. farms did in the 1980s, African and European farms are replacing machines with people*.

If editing is needed by anglophone columnists, it's even more necessary when the writer is a francophone, or anyone whose native language isn't English. Not long ago, Lysiane Gagnon wrote in her column: *It turns out that the new federal Liberal leader is rather well seen in his native province*. That sentence could not have been published if it had been read by an anglophone editor.

But even when Lysiane Gagnon's columns don't contain outright mistakes in grammar or idiom (and in fact her English is very fluent), there is always a slightly out-of-focus quality, which, I think, is caused by an excessive use of adjectives and adverbs.

Equally in need of editing are many of the **GLOBE'S** guest

columns by experts in various fields. Most of these writers are not used to writing for the general public, and their opinion pieces are often a showcase of academic and bureaucratic jargon and verbosity. A column by two such writers contains this gem: *Strategic chronic disease management techniques at Calgary's Capital Health Authority have produced faster access to care and better health outcomes for people with diabetes*.

Another guest column by nine (yes, nine) representatives of the best-known environmental associations contains many sentences like this: *The establishment and implementation of an effective regulatory system to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from industry sources is essential to Canada's ability to fulfill its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol*.

Among news stories, a never-ending cause of verbose writing is the failure of reporters to translate the language of their sources into plain English. As a result, stories about scientific, medical or, in this next case, financial subjects abound with phrases like *associated with*. Intended as an accurate way of describing a relationship between two phenomena without implying a causal relationship, this expression is too often used when a preposition of one syllable would do, or when there is indeed a cause-and-effect relationship.

This long-winded phrase appeared no fewer than three times in a recent story about the

operating expenses of the Ontario Power Authority. At least twice it could easily have been avoided:

The rise in costs associated with setting up an agency from scratch ("the rise in the cost of setting up an agency...") and *The budget for next year goes well beyond the costs associated with a startup operation* ("beyond the cost(s) of a startup operation").

It may seem unfair of me to single out one newspaper for criticism, but when I read a paper with the pretensions and influence of **THE GLOBE AND MAIL**, I don't consider it unreasonable to expect a professional standard of editing. ❧

Freya Godard has been a freelance editor and writer for more than 25 years. She also does indexing and translating and has taught many EAC seminars. In a previous career she taught high school French and German, adult ESL, and university-level writing. Freya lives on Toronto Island. godard@colcomm.ca 416 214-0183, ext. 13

Tips, tricks, and cool Web sites

Time travel with Windows XP's **system restore utility**. It allows you to restore your system files back to the point just before the software that brought your system down was installed. For this to work you must create Restore Points. To do this, click on the Start button (bottom left of your monitor). ☛ Click on Programs. This will open a fly-out menu. Then click on the Accessories from the fly-out menu, then click on System Tools. ☛ Next, click on System Restore (the last item on the fly-out menu) to open the System Restore window. ☛ Choose Create a Restore Point, then click Next. ☛ Windows requires you to describe your new Restore Point. Give it a name that will help you remember why you made the restore point. Click "Create"

Couldn't make it to Maui for the holidays? Let Google Earth take you there. Google Earth not only lets you **view exotic locations**, but also schools, parks, and restaurants. <http://earth.google.com>

Find the **100 most mispronounced words and phrases** at www.yourdictionary.com/library/mispron.html

Use TimeCave to **store your e-mail messages** to send them whenever you schedule them to be sent. www.timecave.com

Revisit the Age of Innocence when cigarette smoking was cool. **view cigarette ads from the 1940s and 1950s** and watch beautiful people, including Santa Claus, enjoy a relaxing smoke. www.chickenhead.com/truth

display your most-recently used favorites in Internet Explorer by going to Tools > Internet Options > Advanced. Place a checkmark beside Enable Personalized Favorites Menu, followed by Apply > OK. Access other sites by clicking the triangular arrows to the right of the Web site folders

FaxZero lets you **send a fax to any fax machine** in Canada and the US for free using Internet access and a valid e-mail address. Send .txt, .pdf, .doc, or .xls formats. www.faxzero.com

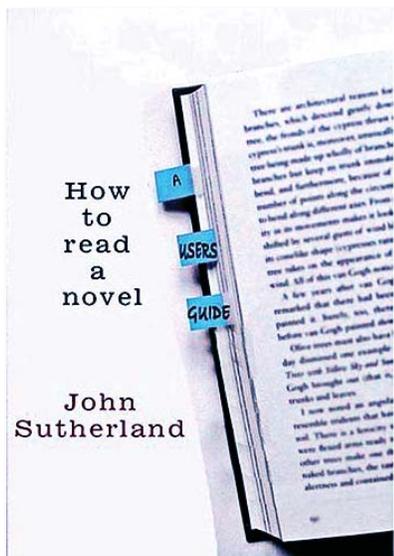
Say Yes and Go. En route to visiting your parents via Amsterdam? Why not **get married on the way over?** Schiphol Weddings is Schiphol Airport's latest "transumer" concoction — a wedding service complete with wedding planners that enables couples to "say yes and go." A registrar from the Municipality of Haarlemmermeer conducts the ceremonies. www.schipholweddings.nl/schiphol-wedding.html (site in Dutch)

Use FireLite's BounceBack Express Backup software to **schedule automatic backups** of your personal content. FireLite's portable external drives are palm-sized, durable, and stylish. Available in 40GB to 120GB capacities. www.smartdisk.com/eWeb/smartdiskus/www/staticpages/fireliteporthdd.asp

Books are a hard sell. One school librarian's efforts to get students to read. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/19/AR2007011901361.html?sub=AR>

Is writing an expression of self or just an escape from personality? And why are great novels so rare? Read Zadie Smith's take on what makes a good novel. <http://books.guardian.co.uk/departments/generalfiction/story/0,,1989004,00.html>

How to read a novel



How to Read a Novel

by John Sutherland
St. Martin's Press

Book Review by Noreen Shanahan

I spent the weekend in front of the television watching a 12-hour BBC production of William Makepeace Thackeray's *vanity fair*. Recovering from the holidays often finds my partner and me lost to all but the blissful sounds from the blasted box, nibbling our way through literature and leftover Christmas cookies.

In his intelligent diatribe on reading, John Sutherland asks: "Do we still know how to read a novel?" If I am any example, from the confession I just made, the answer would perhaps be a shame-faced "no." And indeed that is the disheartened answer Sutherland makes, hence his instructional guide. But, to be fair to myself, I did read all the way through *his* book and after enjoying Becky Sharp on screen I purchased an honest-to-goodness bound copy that now sits, delicately bookmarked, on my bedside table.

John Sutherland, chair of the 2005 Man Booker Prize committee, is not altogether negative about the state of the reading public. His book gently nudges readers back toward their bookshelves with an eagerness (and bibliography of recommended literary works) that leaves readers feeling like children in a candy store. "Novels can do many things," he wrote. "They can instruct, enlighten, confuse, mislead, soothe, excite, indoctrinate, misinform, educate, and waste time. Each novel has its own rewards, or frustrations. And, at their highest pitch of achievement, novels can indeed be the one bright book of life."

But, he warns, we live in a time where novels are too abundant; they beckon and tease us from the shelves, urging us toward them while subtly reminding us that our days are numbered. Sutherland says the national book supply has swollen from a trickle to a deluge, with the prospect of a veritable tsunami to come. "Every week now more novels are published than Samuel Johnson had to deal with in a decade." Sutherland estimates that given a reading career of fifty years, a 40-hour reading week, 

a 46-week working year and three hours per novel, you would need 163 lifetimes to read them all.

“The trick is finding which, among the millions now accessible, fits the bill. For you, that is. And that, as Virginia Woolf told us, “is something no one can tell you. Or, if they do, ignore them.”

Sutherland’s book is a pleasure to read, not only because he makes delicious suggestions. (In fact, he says *VANITY FAIR* would be one book he’d take with him if he were stranded on a desert island.) I enjoyed his instructional and non-pompous way of guiding us slowly, slowly into each text, reminding us of the commitment made to the author’s words and stories. He says reading a novel should be a whole-body experience. Reading can use legs (for fetching the book down from the bookshelf), arms (reaching up for it), hands (holding it), fingers and thumbs (flicking the pages), and mouth (licking the fingers). It can be done, he says, at the table, on the sofa, in the train, on the plane.

Entering more deeply into the book and the lives of characters as well as authors—and often finding parallels to our own universe—is a journey worth taking. “Those tiny black marks on an only slightly larger white surface are a portal—a kind of stargate into another world.” He maintains that it is almost as difficult to read a novel well as it is to write one well.

Sutherland also introduces the reader to a great deal of history about the life of the novel. He takes us back to the medieval book trade and how it received its greatest boost not from hot-lead type but from the manufacture of rag and grass-based paper. Paper is a Chinese invention, he says, which has also been around for centuries before European printers discovered it. “Moveable type and paper converged with the massed literacy and penmanship generated by the monasteries to produce print culture, and the efficient storage, ordering, transmission and circulation of information which has made the modern world possible.”

But, he says, the future of fiction is in our hands—and the future arrives faster nowadays. “Technology keeps chipping away at the book, rather like the bird which, by removing a grain of sand every thousand

years, will eventually flatten the mountain.” He warns us that with i-Podded audio fiction, for instance, publishers can supply directly to the consumer without the intervention of the middleman—the bookseller. Hence the end of that tactile book-reading experience described so beautifully above.

Sutherland also reminds us to experience the novel as a social experiment. Stories told speak epics about the times lived in by the author. There is also a potency in evocatively written novels that cannot be underestimated, both in terms of the individual effect on the reader and in terms of fictional information that can incite a willful society. He identifies certain hot-button issues discussed through fiction, issues such as Islamic fundamentalism (*THE SATANIC VERSES*); euthanasia (*SONS AND LOVERS*); and paedophilia (*LOLITA*).

“Never”, said Benjamin Franklin, “pick a fight with a man carrying a barrel of ink.” Back to *VANITY FAIR* for a moment. Thackeray’s working title for his novel was “Pen and Pencil Sketches of English Society.”

And to end on a more promising note about book-writing, book-selling, and my own edification as reader: mid-way through Sutherland’s treatise, I rose from the sofa, went upstairs to my computer, and subscribed to the *LONDON REVIEW OF BOOKS*. And so each month, through my front door, will fly a ticket into a world of reading, and I will remain a faithful consumer of words. And a discriminating one. 📖

Noreen Shanahan is Public Relations Chair,
EAC Toronto branch. toronto_br_pr_chair@editors.ca

compiled by Anne Koenig

All events are in Toronto unless otherwise noted.

ART BAR POETRY SERIES

www.artbar.org

Poetry Readings

When: Tuesday, February 6, 13, 20, and 27, 8 p.m.

Where: The Victory Café, 581 Markham Street (one block west of Bathurst Street, one block south of Bloor Street)

Cost: Free; however, they pass a hat around for voluntary donations

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO

www.ago.net

Book Talk and Signing: Author Ross King discusses his book, *The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade That Gave the World Impressionism*

When: Friday, February 2, 7 p.m.

Where: the Ontario College of Art (OCAD) Auditorium, 100 McCaul Street

Cost: \$12 for both members and non-members, \$10 for full-time students

Contact: 416 979-6608 for tickets or register for the program in person or by fax

ATKINSON COLLEGE, YORK UNIVERSITY

www.atkinson.yorku.ca

Canadian Writers in Person Series

Author Reading: Marilyn Dumont reads from her work, *Green girl dreams Mountains*

When: Thursday, February 8, 7 p.m.

Where: Accolade West Building, Room 206, 4700 Keele Street (at Steeles Avenue)

Cost: Free

Contact: Professor Gail Vanstone at gailv@yorku.ca or 416 736-2100, ext. 33957

THE BOOK LOUNGE

www.rabble.ca/lounge

Author Reading & Book Signing: Ann Brashares reads from her book, *Forever in Blue: The Fourth Summer of the Sisterhood*

When: Sunday, February 11, 3 p.m.

Where: Indigo Books, Toronto Eaton Centre, 220 Yonge Street

Cost: Free

Contact: Indigo Books at the Eaton Centre, 416 591-3622

CANADIAN AUTHORS' ASSOCIATION—TORONTO BRANCH

www.canauthorstoronto.org

Eve Silver speaks on Avoiding Agent Angst: The Dos and Don'ts of Getting—and Keeping—an Agent

When: Thursday, February 15, 7-9 p.m.

Where: Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Boulevard (one block north of Eglinton Avenue, west of Yonge Street), Room 200

Cost: Free for members, \$5 for guests

Contact: Ben Antao, president, at ben.anta@rogers.com or phone 416 250-8885

CANADIAN BOOKBINDERS AND BOOK ARTISTS GUILD (CBBAG)

www.cbbag.ca

Clam Shell Box Workshop

When: Saturday, February 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Where: CBBAG Bindery, 60 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 112 (near King and Dufferin Streets)

Cost: \$95 and a \$25 materials fee that is payable to the instructor

Contact: workshop@cbbag.ca or phone 416 581-1071. Register online or download application form and 

send to address on Web site. Phone registrations are not accepted.

Bookbinding II Intensive Workshop

When: Monday, February 19 to Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Where: CBBAG Bindery, 60 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 112 (near King and Dufferin Streets)

Cost: \$480 for members, \$540 for non-members which includes a one-year membership payable on the first workshop only

Contact: workshop@cbbag.ca or phone 416 581-1071. Register online or download application form and send to address on Web site. Phone registrations are not accepted.

CANADIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTRE

www.bookcentre.ca

Toronto Children's Literature Roundtable (discussion): **How a Picture Book Comes Together**, with editor Tara Walker and senior designer Karen Powers

When: Monday, February 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Where: Canadian Children's Book Centre, 40 Orchard View Boulevard, Suite 101

Cost: \$7 per session or \$25 for all four sessions. For students or seniors, it is \$4 per session or \$15 for all four sessions.

Contact: Dian Borek at 416 394-1040 or dborek@torontopubliclibrary.ca

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF POETS (CFP)

www.federationofpoets.com

Workshop and Critiquing Group—Oakville Chapter

When: Tuesday, February 6, 7-9 p.m.

Where: Timothy's World Coffee, 321 Lakeshore Road East, Oakville (one block east of Trafalgar Road)

Cost: Free for CFP members

Contact: george_arnold@federationofpoets.com

Oakville Open Mic Event

When: Thursday, February 15, 7-9 p.m.

Where: Timothy's World Coffee, 321 Lakeshore Road East, Oakville (one block east of Trafalgar Road)

Cost: Free

Contact: george_arnold@federationofpoets.com or visit www.federationofpoets.com/oakville.htm

The Oakville Arts Council's Poetry Café

When: Sunday, February 18, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Moonshine Café, 137 Kerr Street, Oakville

Cost: \$5

Contact: Elka Ruth Enola at ere@sympatico.ca or phone 905 257-7075 for further information

Ottawa Federation Poetry Café

When: Sunday, February 18, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Royal Oak II downstairs, 161 Laurier Avenue East, between Cumberland and King Edward Streets, Ottawa

Cost: Free

Contact: Richard Vallance at 613 744-1048 or visit www.federationofpoets.com/ottawa.htm

Spoken Word

When: Friday, February 23, 8-9:30 p.m.

Where: The Lawrence House Centre for the Arts, The Walter Peteryschuk Turret Room, 127 Christina Street South, Sarnia

Cost: Free

Contact: Inantais@rivernet.net or The Lawrence House at 519 337-0507 for further information

CANADIAN INFORMATION PROCESSING SOCIETY (CIPS)

www.cipstoronto.ca

Dinner Meeting: Speaker To Be Announced

When: Thursday, February 8, 5:30 p.m.

Where: The Ontario Club, 5th Floor, Commerce Court South, 30 Wellington Street West (northeast corner of Wellington and Bay Streets)

Cost: \$39 for members 2 days before or more, \$44 for members at the door, \$55 for guests

Contact: Register online only. For enquiries, e-mail jeffk@cips.ca.



BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT (BCM) MEETING**When:** Thursday, February 15, 6-7:30 p.m.**Where:** The Ontario Club, 5th Floor, Commerce Court South, 30 Wellington Street West (northeast corner of Wellington and Bay Streets)**Cost:** Free for members, \$10 for non-members**Contact:** Jim Finch at finch@cips.ca or 416 971-9171. Register online.**CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S AUTHORS, ILLUSTRATORS AND PERFORMERS (CANSCAIP)**www.canscaip.org**Monthly Meeting****When:** Wednesday, February 14, 7:30 p.m.**Where:** St. Bonaventure's Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie Street, next to the Toronto Botanical Garden at the corner of Leslie Street and Lawrence Avenue East**Cost:** Free**Contact:** 416 515-1559 or office@canscaip.org**THE CENTRE FOR REFORMATION & RENAISSANCE STUDIES (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO) (CRRS)**www.crrs.ca

"Renaissance Gothic: The Distinctive Architecture of Northern Europe ca. 1500" lecture

When: Thursday, February 8, 4:15 p.m.
(tea at 4 p.m.)**Where:** Burwash Hall, Senior Common Room, 89 Charles Street West**Cost:** Free**Contact:** Dr. Kim Yates at crrs.vic@utoronto.ca for further information**"Digesting the Third in King Lear" Workshop****When:** Friday, February 9, 3:30-5 p.m.**Where:** Northrop Frye Hall, Room 205, 73 Queen's Park Crescent**Cost:** Free**Contact:** 416 585-4468**"Evidence of Early Book Ownership" Workshop****When:** Friday, February 16, 3:30-5 p.m.**Where:** Northrop Frye Hall, Room 205, 73 Queen's Park Crescent**Cost:** Free**Contact:** 416 585-4468**"The Renaissance in Rouen" Workshop****When:** Friday, February 23, 3:30-5 p.m.**Where:** Northrop Frye Hall, Room 205, 73 Queen's Park Crescent**Cost:** Free**Contact:** 416 585-4468**COACH HOUSE BOOKS**www.chbooks.com**Montreal Launch of *The Prix de Rome in Architecture: A Retrospective*****When:** Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m.**Where:** Monopoli Gallery, 372 Ste-Catherine Ave. West, #516, Montreal**Cost:** Free**Contact:** the above Web site**Author Reading:** Angela Rawlings reads from her work, *Wide Slumber for Lepidopterists***When:** Monday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.**Where:** The Gladstone Art Bar, 1214 Queen Street West (slightly east of Dufferin Street)**Cost:** Free**Contact:** the above Web site**EAST END WRITERS' GROUP**www.samcraw.com**Monthly Writing Critiques (with guest speakers periodically)****When:** Wednesday, February 28, 7-10 p.m.**Where:** 1 Gardens Crescent**Cost:** Free**Contact:** Sharon Crawford at samcraw@interlog.com and/or see Web site

EDITORS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

www.editors.ca

"Indexing from A to Z" Seminar

When: Saturday, February 10, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

Where: Northrop Frye Hall, Room 119, 73 Queen's Park Crescent

Cost: \$125 for members, \$165 for non-members

Contact: 416 975-5528 or toronto@editors.ca for more information or to register by phone—VISA and Mastercard accepted. If you wish to register by mail or fax, please download registration form at above Web site.

"Taking the Plunge as a Freelance Editor" Seminar

When: Saturday, February 17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

Where: Northrop Frye Hall, Room 119, 73 Queen's Park Crescent

Cost: \$130 for members, \$170 for non-members

Contact: 416 975-5528 or toronto@editors.ca for more information. See above for registration.

"Harnessing the Business Writing Process" Seminar

When: Wednesday, February 21, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

Where: Lillian H. Smith Library, Room BC, 239 College Street (one block east of Spadina Avenue)

Cost: \$125 for members, \$165 for non-members

Contact: 416 975-5528 or toronto@editors.ca for more information. See above for registration.

HUMBER SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

www.creativeandperformingarts.humber.ca

Humber Writers' Circle Presents: A special session with authors Andrew Pyper and Baker Mason, and with assessor Jack David, publisher of ECW Press

When: Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Humber College, Lakeshore Campus East, 3199 Lake Shore Boulevard West, Building "J" (south of the Gardiner Expressway, just east of Colonel Samuel

Smith Park Drive)

Cost: \$30 cash, payable at the door

Contact: Hilary Higgins at 416 675-6622, ext. 3449, or hilary.higgins@humber.ca for further information

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS COMMUNICATORS—TORONTO CHAPTER (IABC)

toronto.iabc.com

A Decadent Night of Chocolate Making and Tasting

When: Monday, February 5, 5:45-7:45 p.m.

Where: JS Bonbon Chocolate School, 329 St. George Street, Second Floor, Unit 5

Cost: \$42 for members, \$55 for non-members

Contact: Register online. There are only 24 spots available.

INTERNATIONAL READINGS AT HARBOURFRONT CENTRE

www.readings.org

Calvin Trillin is interviewed by *The Globe and Mail's* Ian Brown

When: Monday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West

Cost: \$8 or free for members and students with valid ID

Contact: 416 973-4000 for further information.

Tickets may be purchased by phone, in person, online or by fax; please see above Web site for details.

Author Readings: Vikram Chandra reads from *Sacred Games*; Neil Smith reads from *Bang Crunch*, and Colm Tóibín reads from *Mothers and Sons*

When: Wednesday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West

Cost: \$8 or free for members and students with valid ID

Contact: 416 973-4000 for further information.

Tickets may be purchased by phone, in person, online or by fax; please see above Web site for details. ■■■▶

Author Readings: Scott Gardiner, Shaena Lambert, and Heather O'Neill read from their new works

When: Wednesday, February 21, 7 p.m.

Where: Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West

Cost: \$8 or free for members and students with valid ID

Contact: 416 973-4000 for further information. Tickets may be purchased by phone, in person, online or by fax; please see above Web site for details.

Author Readings: Jon Clinch reads from *Finn* and Jane Smiley reads from *Ten Days in the Hills*

When: Wednesday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West

Cost: \$8 or free for members and students with valid ID

Contact: 416 973-4000 for further information. Tickets may be purchased by phone, in person, online or by fax; please see above Web site for details.

MAGAZINESCANADA.CA

www.cmpa.ca

"Magazine Advertising: Developing Successful Sales Strategies" Seminar

When: Thursday, February 22, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (lunch will be provided)

Where: Delta St. John's Hotel, 120 New Gower Street, St. John's, NL

Cost: \$110 for members, \$190 for non-members

Contact: Edra Sefton at 416 504-0274, ext. 224 or courses@magazinescanada.ca for further information. Register online.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CENTRE, FACULTY OF INFORMATION STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

www.plc.fis.utoronto.ca

"Basic Library Cataloguing for the Non-Cataloguer" Course

When: Monday, February 12 to Tuesday, February 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, 140 St. George Street (north of Spadina Avenue)

Cost: \$360

Contact: Register online

"Copyright in Images" Course

When: Friday, February 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: The Business Inn, 180 MacLaren Street (at Elgin), Ottawa

Cost: \$260

Contact: Register online

PROFESSIONAL WRITERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA —TORONTO CHAPTER

www.pwactoronto.org

PWAC TO Debut Literary Night

When: Thursday, February 8, 7-9 p.m.

Where: Toronto Writers' Centre, 101 Yorkville Avenue, Suite 200 (two blocks north of Bloor Street, between Avenue Road and Bay Street)

Cost: Free; although light refreshments will be sold

Contact: PWAC Toronto president, Nate Hendley, at nhendley@interlog.com

Professional Interviewing Techniques (Evening Seminar)

When: Thursday, February 22, 7-8:30 p.m.

Where: Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Boulevard (one block north of Eglinton Avenue, west of Yonge Street)

Cost: Free for PWAC members, pay what you can for guests (\$10 suggested)

Contact: Nate Hendley, at nhendley@interlog.com

READING FOR THE LOVE OF IT (CANADA'S LARGEST ANNUAL READING CONFERENCE)

www.readingfortheloveofit.com

When: Thursday, February 15 to Friday, February 16

Where: Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, One Harbour Square

Cost: \$100 per day; meals and



breakfast/luncheon speakers are extra

Contact: 416 444-7473 or eyes@readingfortheunloved.com for further information. Register online at the above Web site or download registration form and mail to address found on the Web site.

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM (ROM)

www.rom.on.ca

Food for the Mood: A Look at Aphrodisiacs from Around the World

When: Friday, February 9, 7-9 p.m.

Where: Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park Crescent

Cost: \$14 for members, \$18 for non-members

Contact: 416 586-5797 or e-mail programs@rom.on.ca; can register online

Author, Producer, and Director Event: Author Charlotte Gray will be present to discuss her book, *Sisters in the Wilderness*, after a showing of the same-named film, along with the producer and director of this CBC documentary.

When: Tuesday, February 20, 7-9 p.m.

Cost: \$15 for members, \$18 for non-members

Contact: 416 586-5797 or e-mail programs@rom.on.ca; can register online

SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION (STC)

www.stctoronto.org

Monthly Meeting: Web Site Design Contest—Presentation

When: Tuesday, February 13, 7-9:30 p.m.

Where: Gold Room, North York Memorial Community Hall, Toronto Public Library, 5110 Yonge Street

Cost: Free for members, \$5 for non-members (first time free)

Contact: Rob Hanna at president@stctoronto.org or 416 221-4113

TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE BOOK (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)

www.library.utoronto.ca/tcb

"Herodotus of the Cherokees": Historiography, Textural Sovereignty, and Emmet Starr's *History of the Cherokee Indians*

When: Thursday, February 8, 4:15 p.m.

Where: Victoria College, Alumni Hall, 91 Charles Street West

Cost: Free

Contact: See above Web site

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

www.torontopubliclibrary.ca

"Investing in Socially Responsible Stock and Funds" Seminar

When: Wednesday, February 7, 6:30-8 p.m.

Where: Toronto Reference Library, Elizabeth Beeton Auditorium, 789 Yonge Street (on the east side of Yonge Street, one block north of Bloor Street)

Cost: Free; no registration required

Contact: See above Web site

Research Workshop: Magazine and Journal Databases as Research Tools

When: Thursday, February 15, 2-4 p.m. Classes with fewer than four participants may be cancelled.

Where: Toronto Reference Library Learning Centre, 789 Yonge Street (on the east side of Yonge Street, one block north of Bloor Street)

Cost: Free; however, you must register

Contact: 416 393-7209 to register

The Book Lover's Ball

When: Thursday, February 15, 6 p.m.-1 a.m.

Where: The Liberty Grand at Exhibition Place, 25 British Columbia Road, which is south of the Gardiner Expressway East and west of Dufferin Street
Dress: Black tie or book title/literary character costume

Cost: \$100 which includes cocktails and fashion show from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; \$350 for individual tickets; \$5,000 corporate partner rate which is for a corporate table of eight people plus a celebrity 

author and guest

Contact: Karen Fleming at 416 397-5977 or kfleming@torontopubliclibrary.ca to purchase tickets or tables

Book Club: Susan Vreeland's book, *The Forest Lover*, will be discussed

When: Tuesday, February 20, 2-3:30 p.m.

Where: North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street, Room 2 (on the west side of Yonge Street, north of Sheppard Avenue)

Cost: Free; however, you must register

Contact: 416 395-5672 to register

Research Workshop: Passenger Lists and Immigration Records: Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestors

When: Friday, February 23, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Classes with fewer than four participants may be cancelled.

Where: Toronto Reference Library Learning Centre, 789 Yonge Street (on the east side of Yonge Street, one block north of Bloor Street)

Cost: Free; however, you must register

Contact: 416 393-7209 to register

TORONTO ROMANCE WRITERS

www.torontoromancewriters.com

Speaker: Molly O'Keefe speaks about "Great Beginnings"

When: Saturday, February 10, 1-4 p.m.

Where: North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street (on the west side of Yonge Street, just north of Sheppard Avenue)

Cost: Free

Contact: torontoromancewriters@yahoo.com for further information

TORONTO WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE (TWB)

www.womensbookstore.com

Women in Action Program—Performance Art Strategies for Interdisciplinary Practice

When: Monday, February 5, 12, 19, and 26, 6-9:30 p.m. all dates

Where: Centre for Women's Studies in Education, OISE, University of Toronto, 252 Bloor Street West, Room 2-227 (one block west of St. George Street)

Cost: \$125; please register in advance

Contact: Pam Patterson at 416 923-6641, ext. 2204 or ppatterson@oise.utoronto.ca to register

THE WRITERS & EDITORS NETWORK (WEN)

www.wenetwork.org

Breakfast Meeting: How I Beat the Odds and Became a Published Writer—Kim Mortisugu

When: Saturday, February 17, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Where: Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza, 5230 Dundas Street West, Mississauga

Cost: \$13 for WEN members, \$16 for non-members

Contact: Register online

TORONTO WRITERS' CENTRE

www.writerscentre.ca

"Writing Round the Bend: Tackling Writers' Issues Creatively" Workshop

When: Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m.-noon

Where: Toronto Writers' Centre, 101 Yorkville Avenue, Suite 200 (two blocks north of Bloor Street West, between Avenue Road and Bay Street)

Cost: \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members

Contact: 416 975-5172 or md@writerscentre.ca for tickets

THE WRITERS' CIRCLE OF DURHAM REGION (WCDR)

www.wcdr.org

Breakfast Meeting: Mystery, Romance, and the Other-Worldly, by novelist Susanna Kearsley

When: Saturday, February 10, 8:30-11 a.m.

Where: Sports Garden Café, Iroquois Park Sports Centre, at Victoria and Henry Streets, Whitby

Cost: \$13 for members, \$16 for guests

Contact: Janet Boccone, breakfast coordinator, at breakfast2006@wcdr.org or 905 686-0211 to pre-register by noon of the preceding Wednesday



THE WRITERS' TRUST OF CANADA

www.writerstrust.com

Politics and the Pen

When: Wednesday, February 28, time unannounced

Where: The Fairmont Château Laurier Hotel, 1 Rideau Street, Ottawa, ON

Cost: To be determined

Contact: 416 504-8222 or info@writerstrust.com for further information

THE WRITERS' UNION OF CANADA (TWUC)

www.writersunion.ca

"Writing as a Profession: How to Get Published and Survive as an Author" Professional Development Workshop

When: St. John's, NL: February 12; Halifax, NS: February 13; Montreal, QC: February 15; Ottawa, ON: February 16; Toronto, ON: February 27, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. all days (lunch will be provided)

Where: St. John's, NL: Masonic Temple, 6 Cathedral Street; Halifax, NS: Dalhousie Student Union, 6136 University Avenue, Room 303; Montreal, QC: St. James United Church, 463 Ste-Catherine Street West; Ottawa, ON: Carleton University, Leeds House, Room 124; Toronto, ON: Textile Museum of Canada, 55 Centre Avenue

Cost: \$45

Contact: Valerie Laws at 416 703-8982, ext. 224 or info@writersunion.ca to register or for further information. You can also register online. 

The lighter side of life



Attributed to Eve Corbel, Geist, www.geist.com/truefunnies/

“Uttering a word is like striking a note on the keyboard of the imagination.” —Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889–1951), Philosopher

