

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Skill Building Conference for Local Writers**

### **April 26, 2014**

#### **10:30 a.m. The Joy of Making Poetic Metaphor**

Presenter: Jennifer Burd

In this session, we will discuss the delight and power of metaphor and how writers use it to show us the world freshly. We'll talk about the basic structure of metaphor and the ways poets create a variety of metaphor and metaphor-like effects through strategies such as personification, synaesthesia, and even line breaks. We will look at a few different poems by published authors and talk about the metaphors they contain, and we'll also practice making some metaphors of our own.

#### **10:45 a.m. Writing Natural Dialogue**

Presenter: Mike Ball

Think about it - we have learned most of what we know about our friends and even our families through the conversations we have had with them. So it is little wonder that dialog is one of the most powerful tools we have as story tellers. We can reveal who our characters are, how they think, how they are likely to react to a particular situation, and even what they look like just by letting our readers eavesdrop as those characters talk to each other. This session will explore how to write natural-sounding dialog that can reveal your characters, embrace your readers, and move your story along.

#### **12 p.m. Research: The Story Behind the Story**

Presenter: Pamela Gossiaux

What if your fiction character needs a heart transplant? Or maybe you've just been asked to write a journalism article on the local Habitat for Humanity. Whether you write fiction or non-fiction, chances are, you will need to do some research. In this interactive class, learn how to develop a research strategy, conduct a successful interview, and yes, even job-shadow. Research doesn't have to be like it was in high school, with bibliography cards and boring searches. It can be active, enlightening and even fun!

#### **12:15 p.m. New Trends in Indie Publishing**

Presenter: Tom Saunders

1. Advance Technology Makes it easier; and harder to publish.
2. Publishing to all platforms--The new definition of Publishing
3. Keeping track of your markets
4. News in Distribution- Where you need to be
5. Writing is the "Ante" to get into the game. How to play the game in the real world.