

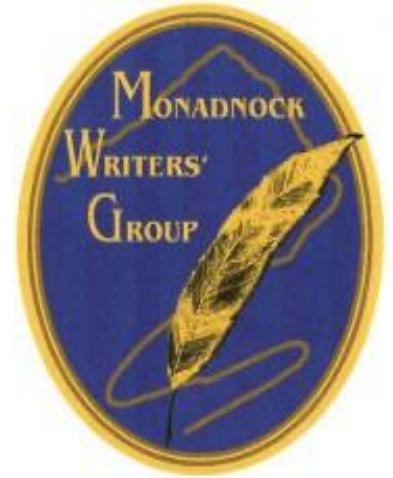
The Quill

The Monthly Newsletter of the Monadnock Writers' Group

October 2026

Contact us at: monadnockwriters@gmail.com or

P.O. Box 3071,
Peterborough, NH 03458



FORTHCOMING MEETINGS IN 2026

MWG meets monthly, usually on the third Saturday at 9:45 – 11:45, from September through June. Eight of these meetings feature an invited speaker who is prominent in the craft or business of writing. The meetings also include time for meeting other members, announcements on workshops and other events of interest to writers, and a ten-minute reading by an MWG member. Two meetings each year are entirely devoted to readings from members.

October 17 – Emerson Sistare: Emerson Sistare, co-owner of Toadstool Bookshops in Peterborough and Keene, will talk about the trends in publishing, how the process of getting books into bookstores works, and what is popular with readers now. He considers himself to be extraordinarily lucky in that he does for work what many do for pleasure - wander bookshelves. He intends to do it for the rest of his life.



TAKE NOTE! – The October 17 meeting will be held in the **Mariposa Museum** at our usual time of 9:45. The Museum is located at 26 Main Street in Peterborough, across the bridge from the library and one block up Main. It has easy access to the parking on Main and in Depot Square. This is also a wonderful chance to see the Museum.

November 21 – Milli S. Knudsen:



Milli was born and brought up in Maine, and became a teacher in the Londonderry (NH) School District. She became interested in writing about crime after doing research for the NH State Archives. The experience resulted in *Hard Time in Concord*, published in 2005. Several years later, she began volunteering with the NH Cold Case Unit which led to her being hired as their paralegal/data analyst in 2022.

Knudsen has published seven historical volumes with Heritage Books. Her newest book, *Murder and Mayhem*, is drawn from prison, court and newspaper archives. It tells the stories behind the headlines and gives a glimpse into true crime in New England leading up to World War I, documenting interesting cases of people who served time in the New Hampshire State Prison: what they did, how they were apprehended, and the people who put them there.

December 19 – Read-Around: At the Read-Around, everyone is invited to read up to ten minutes of their work. We do not have time to comment immediately on each reading but we provide refreshments afterwards for informal discussions. This event is held in the classroom on the lower floor of the Peterborough Town Library beginning at 9:45.

PLANS FOR 2027

January 16 – Eric Pinder, children's books, science

Followed by Board meeting

February 20 – Mel Allen, journalist

March 20 – Pat Spalding, storyteller

April 17 – Meg Kearney, poet

Followed by Board meeting

May 22 – Genevieve Aichele, playwright

June 19 – Member Read-Around & Annual Meeting

July – Board meeting (no date selected yet)

Congratulations to long-time MWG stalwart Rodger Martin on winning the Ewing Award for his contributions to the Literary Arts. He will receive the award on October 8 at 5:30 in Jaffrey's Park Theater.

PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Publishers with geographic limitations: Some publishers limit their books to a particular region, a policy that may serve you well if your work has a regional identity. Most of the presses on this list accept work from writers with a specific geographic region or nationality, some have very strict limitations, and others are more lenient. Most of the publishers on this list are currently open to unagented submissions. The list is available [here](#).

Shadow Falls Review: Now Seeking Submissions: Shadow Falls Review is a new print journal of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, produced and published by the graduate students at The University of St. Thomas. Named after a waterfall along the Mississippi River, Shadow Falls Review hopes to emulate the sense of quiet mystery found there: "We all have shadows, lived in and cast. Where water and light meet, mingle, and disappear. That's where you'll find us."

Shadow Falls Review is seeking submissions for their first annual issue, now through January 20, 2027. They welcome submissions from new, emerging, and established authors, and submitting authors can expect a response by April 1. Additional details are available [here](#).

The Most Respected Literary Journals: The literary journals and magazines on this list reject the vast majority of what is submitted to them. Sometimes established authors' works are rejected for years, decades even, before they receive an acceptance.

But these literary journals are respected and trusted. Most have a large readership and good distribution in libraries and bookstores. Many of these are the journals and magazines that the editors of publications like The Best American Short Stories read through to select work from, these are also the journals that nominate work that actually wins the Pushcart. Acceptances at one of these journals and magazines can make a huge difference in your career as a writer. Most of these journals also pay upon acceptance. For more detail, go [here](#).

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING WRITERS

Authors Publish Magazine: Authors Publish is a free on-line magazine offering many free services and some workshops with a fee. Your free subscription comes with a free e-book on the publication process. Subscribe at the link [here](#).

The Poetry Place: Brian Evans-Jones (the MWG speaker last April) provides free online articles on form, technique, creativity, and the drafting process, that give you the benefit of his experience in ways that you can understand and really use in your



poetry, including

- Poetic Form and Technique,
- Creativity for Poetry,
- Mastering Your Drafting, and
- Publishing Your Poems.

Start with his free guide *8 Steps to Better Poems*, available with other free poetry learning resources at [The Poetry Place](#).

New Hampshire Writers Project: The NH Writers' Project welcomes writers, nurtures their passion, and builds community. This statewide nonprofit supports writers of all genres and experience levels through workshops, conferences, community meetups, competitions, literary events, and professional development



programs. NHWP helps writers strengthen their craft, navigate publishing, build visibility, and connect with a vibrant literary community across New Hampshire.

Many of their offerings are free and some are for members. Annual memberships cost \$20 for students, \$25 for anyone over 65, or \$55 for others. To see their offerings or to join use this [link](#).

In the beginning, it is neither technique nor the market that should concern the writer. It is that he has walked the hill of truth and knows what he must say.

- Peggy Simpson Curry

About Monadnock Writers' Group

Since 1984, the MWG has provided community, inspiration, and support to the writers of the Monadnock region. All are welcome! Our membership includes writers of every variety: from poets to journalists, from mystery writers to playwrights, and from career writers to those just getting started. We meet on the third Saturday morning of each month, September through June, at the Peterborough Town Library, unless otherwise noted. Monthly meetings start at 9:45 a.m. and go to about 11:30 a.m., but closing times can vary. Meetings include a 15-minute meet-and-greet, announcements, a ten-minute reading from a member, and a main speaker sharing professional writing experience and answering questions. Coffee and light refreshments are provided. Our Speaker Series is open to the public and free of charge. Our speakers are instructive and inspirational for writers of all literary forms, genres, and levels of experience.

Website: www.monadnockwriters.org

Email: monadnockwriters@gmail.com

Submit your bio as a member of MWG. Are you a member? If you would like your bio added to the [About Our Members](#) page on the MWG website, please send it to Mary Marchese at mwgwebmaster@gmail.com. Bio: Maximum 200 words, 3rd person, feel free to include links to your website, most recent publication, or listing on Amazon, and social media.

Volunteer! If you would be interested in joining the MWG Board, being our ten-minute reader or have ideas for speakers or events, please let us know at monadnockwriters@gmail.com.

Send your writing news or announcements to The Quill. If you would like to submit to our monthly newsletter, please contact mwg.quill@gmail.com at least a week before the end of the month. Individual members are encouraged to announce their own projects such as workshops, social gatherings, group support sessions, or whatever the writing-related endeavor. Feel free to take the floor at the monthly meeting, or contact the newsletter editor at mwg.quill@gmail.com to send an announcement to the membership in the monthly newsletter.

Annual membership fees

Regular - \$30

Student/Senior - \$25

Patron - \$50

Benefactor - \$100

Corporate Sponsor - \$250

You may pay at any MWG meeting. If you pay by check, please click [here](#) for a membership form you can print. Write your check to Monadnock Writers' Group and mail it to:

Monadnock Writers' Group

P.O. Box 3071, Peterborough, NH 03458

The MWG 2026-2027 Board of Directors - President: Jesseca Timmons, Vice President: Carl Mabbs-Zeno, Secretary: Susan Gebo, Treasurer: David Bartsch. Members at Large: Maura MacNeil, Mary Marchese, Sebastian Lockwood, Betsy Small, and Donna Vuilleumier.