

Write Time

By Donna A. Jones



Jim Laughter, author and fellow NightWriter, will speak on the topic of "Time Management" at our August meeting. Laughter considers time management to be an important component of a successful writing career.

He will present ideas to help writers develop their own individual schedules based on personal likes and dislikes. Thank goodness he will not recommend we follow his plan (he edits at 5:30 in the morning). It may be a surprise to some authors, but Laughter thinks there are times when it is best not to write—find out why at the meeting. During the interview, "exercising self-discipline" was mentioned, which sounds like high expectations, but maybe I will give it a try.

In 1991 Laughter retired from the U.S. Air Force after twenty years of service. During that time he wrote technical materials. Newspaper articles and essay writing continued his career. Eventually, his writing talent was directed toward writing books. He was co-creator of the Galactic Axia young adult series of science fiction books. He wrote the powerful story of Steven Stayner, and his new book *The Apostle Murders* was launched in July. You may visit Jim at his home page at www.jimlaughter.com.

Jim's books may be purchased after his presentation.

TULSA NIGHTWRITERS ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 16 AT 7:00 PM
AT THE **MARTIN REGIONAL LIBRARY, 26TH AND GARNETT IN TULSA**

The Prez Sez by Bob Avey

Just the Facts



Morris Blackmon knew that the Audi which had pulled in behind him was getting closer. He glanced in the rearview then downshifted the MGB, hoping that the old, revvy inline four cylinder would cough out enough horsepower to buy him a few seconds.

Wait a minute. What's wrong with this scenario? The B-Series engine was not directly related to the older XPAG, MPJG or A-Series engine. Who cares? Readers of your book or article, that's who. Some readers might overlook the error presented in the text above, but not all of them. Many readers find erroneous details quite annoying.

Am I an expert on foreign cars? Actually, I know very little about them. A fifteen-minute internet search produced the information.

Where am I going with this? Good question. At a past writers conference, the keynote speaker—whose name I can't remember—related an amusing but informative story. She'd written a mystery and in it had a character comment on the windshield of an MG. Well, she'd gotten it wrong, and she received numerous phone calls and letters about it. It had gotten so bad that, while at another conference where other writers were bringing up the error, she slung open her hotel door in response to a knock and yelled, "I don't give a #*& about that *&% windshield."

I can sympathize. Readers of my books have pointed out errors that I've made and it's quite humiliating. However, as writers, it's our responsibility to do the research and try to get the facts straight, which brings up another point. Always try to find more than one source to support your details. Most of us know that we can't trust what we hear, but in today's internet-saturated environment, what we read is subject to doubt as well.

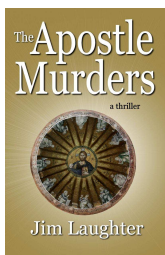
Our members have brags



Join **Sara Sue Hoklotubbe** on August 31, 2011, 12:15 p.m., at the Helmerich Library, 5131 East 91st Street, Tulsa, where she will be speaking and signing copies of *The American Cafe*, her latest release in the Sadie Walela Mystery Series. Steve's Sundry will provide books for purchase. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Helmerich Library. For other August event dates in Oklahoma City, Edmond, Grove, and Tahlequah, go to www.hoklotubbe.com.



The third and final book in **Michael Vance's** *Weird Horror Tales* trilogy has been released. The latest suspense thriller, *Weird Horror Tales – Light's End*, is set in a small, quant little town on the rugged coast of Maine and is the culmination to this terror-filled series.



Jim Laughter's new suspense novel, *The Apostle Murders*, was released July 15th in paperback, Kindle, and Nook formats. To the Christian world, Reverend Samuel (Preach) Preston is a dedicated man of God. But to FBI agents Duncan Morris, Lynn Keller, and George Benjamin, he is a serial killer they must stop before he can kill again. See *The Apostle Murders* at www.jimlaughter.com/.



Carolyn Steele won 2nd place in the 2011 Oklahoma Genealogical Society contest for her creative non-fiction story, "Springtime Perils in the Civil War." It is about her great-grandfather who outran a Confederate bullet after being captured by bushwhackers.

New Social Network for Authors

Eyvonna Rains, organizer of the Northern Oklahoma Literary Arts Book Festival in Ponca City, wanted TNW members to know about a new social networking site for authors, which was created by New Forums Press of Stillwater. New Forms Press is also seeking fiction submissions from authors in Oklahoma and surrounding states. Visit www.newforumhosting.biz/newforums/ for details.

TNW is on Facebook

Did you know you can join other TNW members—Bob Avey, Brad Smith, Jim Laughter, Gloria Teague, Carla Stewart, Bill and Pam Wetterman, and many more—on Facebook? You can find out what other members are up to and let them know about your events, classes, book-signings, blog posts! Be part of the conversation! It's easy! It's free! It's fun! Login to Facebook and search "Nightwriters" or click here: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=65584661400&ref=ts>

August's Featured Blog

All About Private Investigators – Real & Fictitious: TNW member **Dale Whisman** is a retired Private Investigator and author of three novels. He writes mysteries and detective novels and is available "...to answer your questions about the world of the Private Investigator – both the real thing, and the fictional characters we read about, or perhaps the ones YOU WANT TO WRITE ABOUT. Yes, I want to help you with your own PI novels – to make them believable, and entertaining at the same time." Be sure to visit him at www.dalewhisman.com/blog/.

Writers Conference

Writing in the Ozarks Writers Conference at Ye Olde English Inn, Historic Hollister, MO, August 18-19-20, 2011 (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday). Presenters include Dusty Richard, Fred Pfister, and TNW member Radine Trees Nehring. For program details go to www.ozarkadventures.org. To register, call Ozark Adventures, 417-239-0203. Registration fee is \$60 (\$70 at site) and includes provides automatic membership in OWL for the rest of 2011.

RWI Contest (Deadline Extended)

TNW member **Linda Trout** wanted to let everyone know that the deadline for the Romance Writers Ink's contest (Where the Magic Begins) has been extended to August 15th. Visit RWI's website for contest details, www.rwimagiccontests.wordpress.com/. Hurry! Entry deadline is August 15, 2011.

More Contests

Good Housekeeping's Short Story Contest. Enter your story for a chance to win \$3,000 and be published in the May 2012 issue! Submit a short story, 3,500-word limit,

to fictioncontest@goodhousekeeping.com. Your story should reflect an aspect of women's lives today. Submission must be an original work of fiction, not previously published or a finalist for any other prize or award. All entries must be received by Sept. 1, 2011. Winners will be notified by Feb. 15, 2012. For details go to: www.goodhousekeeping.com/win/fiction-contest.

Literal Latté--Ames Essay Award. A prize of \$1,000 and publication in *Literal Latté* is given annually for a personal essay. Submit an essay of up to 8,000 words with a \$10 entry fee (\$5 for an additional essay) by September 15. E-mail or visit the website for complete guidelines. Website: www.literal-latte.com. E-mail address: litlatte@aol.com

2011 TNW Officers

President **Bob Avey** (bob@bobavey.com)
 VP **Valerie Gawthrop**
 (VicePresident@nightwriters.org)
 Treasurer **Brad Smith**
 (Treas@nightwriters.org)
 Greeter **Joyce Ross**
 Co-Editors **Carol Johnson** and **Jane Green**

The deadline to send your brags and/or announcements to be placed in *NightScripts* is the first Sunday of each month. Please limit your brags to 25-30 words. Send **time-sensitive** announcements to nightwritersed2@gmail.com.

