

Western Tale Spinner

Fall 2007 Volume Two Number Two



A newsletter published by the Western Canadian Chapter of the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Information published in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by SCBWI and/or SCBWI-Western Canada.

Note from the Editor:

The weather has changed (Has it really, here on the West coast?) and we are into the fall season. Welcome to another edition of the Tale Spinner. Thanks to all who contribute, and please keep sending your articles to me at dragonfly3@telus.net

If you are a member of SCBWI and would like to submit an article, or have an idea of something you'd like to see in the newsletter, please let me know. We can never have too much to read! If you illustrate we'd also love to hear from you.

Happy writing! *Loretta Houben*

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GOOD NEWS

Compiled by Joan Winter

Hurrah! Cheers, bells and whistles sounding for **Lois Harris** of Anacortes, WA who sent us this announcement:

"I am delighted to announce the release of my first book, a picture book for ages 5 to 8, *Mary Cassatt: Impressionist Painter!* Illustrated with Cassatt's own colorful work and that of other influential Impressionists, as well as photographs of the artist, I hope children will enjoy learning about the inspiring life of one of the world's greatest Impressionist painters. Check out my website and learn

what inspired me to write about Mary, how to order copies, and the location of upcoming exhibits containing Cassatt's artwork."

Let's all give Lois a standing ovation for having a book accepted for publication in the highly competitive picture book genre. In the difficult marketplace of today, that's awesome news. Well done, Lois!

Ken Kilback has good news, too. He has another book review being published in the Canadian Children's Book News, the magazine of the Canadian Children's Book Centre, sometime this fall.

Congratulations, Ken. Another item to chalk up for your list of writing credits.

Loretta Houben, our Western Talespinner editor, has this good news. Since our last issue, she has had an article published in the Renfrew Collinwood Community News. Entitled, *A Nasty Neighbourhood Nemesis*, the article was about the destructive Chafer beetle. Way to go, Loretta!

I (**Joan**) have also enjoyed small successes of my own. I was most surprised and gratified when, early in April, my first attempt at writing a limerick won an Honourable Mention in The Institute of Children's Literature's poetry writing contest.

Also in April, an unexpected letter and cheque arrived from the *New Moon: The Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams*. It was for my share of the fee for a reprinting of my story "*The Trouble with Jo*", which was to be used in North Carolina's, Spring 2007 *Field Test Reading*.

Looking Back At SCBWI'S

Western Washington Spring Conference

By Lois V. Harris

Have you heard about Western Washington's Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators annual Spring Conference? Ever wonder what it's like to attend? Last January, on their website (www.scbwi-washington.org), I checked out the conference details, discovering they offered several tracks: Nuts and Bolts, Marketing Mania, Illustrator-Inclusive, Published Pros, and Learning and Honing. You could hop from one to the other. After registering online, I looked forward to spring and learning more about writing.

The 16th Annual Conference was held on Saturday, April 28, 2007 at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, nine miles east of Seattle.

Conference organizers had obtained good rates at two Bellevue hotels. One was the Days Inn Bellevue, located a distance away from the Meydenbauer Center. I learned their shuttle to downtown Bellevue doesn't run on weekends, and I would have to drive to the Meydenbauer Saturday and pay for parking.

The other hotel was the Courtyard Marriott across the street from the Meydenbauer. The Marriott would allow me to leave my car in their garage until the conference ended on Saturday at 6 PM.

On Fri. afternoon, I checked into the Marriott, took a swim in the pool, and joined with my friends for dinner at an Indian restaurant half a block from the hotel. Other restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel.

The next morning at 7:15 at the Meydenbauer, conference registration opened. After I picked up my packet, juice, coffee, fruit, and a muffin, I settled into a chair in the main room. I reviewed the faculty bios and schedule, marking my session choices.

At 8:15 AM, the conference began with discussions by a local success panel of writers and illustrators, followed by a panel of editors and agents. The rest of the morning, I attended breakout sessions led by a communications coach and a public relations expert.

At lunchtime, each table had a sign showing a topic of interest. I picked a table and met with nonfiction writers. Our nonstop networking came to an end when Caldecott Medalist, Paul O. Zelinsky took the mike.

The title of Paul's talk was "Changing Times: Technique, Technology, and Make the Book." Through digital imagery, the illustrator showed the way he worked as an illustrator from 1978 when he began, until now---a clever, fascinating presentation.

An inspiring poet jump-started my afternoon sessions, followed by one with a writing coach who talked about dialog. Next, refreshed by coffee and chocolate-coated strawberries, I heard Bruce Colville, award-winning author, talk

about "Characters at the Crossroads." He said, "Take a risk every time you write."

Five o'clock brought the Wine and Cheese Reception, and the Published Attendees' Celebration, where I talked to writers about their books. Then I drifted over to the juried art display of 45 original, creative portfolios---the perfect ending to a long but inspiring day!

Over 400 writers and illustrators attended this year's conference. Forty-six percent were first timers. Next year's Spring Conference dates are 4/26-27/08. Will you be there?



BITS AND PIECES

By Gladys Swedak

Do you need a bit of a boost in starting your writing engine after the summer holidays? Gladys Swedak enjoys writing from prompts and thought you might like a few.

You wake up in a field. You may or may not be naked, that is up to you. How did you get there and what do you do to get home?

You have to be at a meeting in a large city near you at a certain time. You left in plenty of time to get there, with time for a coffee. You may or may not have a cell phone to let the person know you cannot make it. This is up to you. What along the way keeps you from making it to the meeting?

For parents of teens: Your 16 year old daughter asks to be allowed to spend the weekend with friends in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. They leave Thursday night and come back Monday, no adults. What do you say to her and why?

Your 16 year old son asks the same question. Is your response the same or different, and why? These are responsible teens, you trust them at home alone but do you trust them away for a week, with no supervision?

Your spouse tells you s/he wants to spend your birthday apart this year. You can go anywhere you want, s/he will pay the whole shot. How do you respond?

Start a poem with this line: "FIRE! FIRE!"

Write a 1,500 – 2,500 word story containing this sentence: "There is no way I can let you do that."

Begin a 2,500 – 5,000 word story with: "I am willing to do what ever you want today." Who you say it to and what you do is entirely up to you.

You are in a slow moving line at a supermarket and you notice the person in front of you is your favourite movie star, sports person, or Member of Parliament. Who is the person and how do you start a conversation with them to get them to have coffee, a meal or drink with you? You of course are paying.

Begin a complete short story with this line: I will be pleased to help with the care ofan animal you wouldn't under normal circumstances get near.

Write a first chapter of a novel about an animal you see being mistreated. What animal is it and what do you do? How do you change the person involved in the mistreatment?

Either in a dream or meditation you have an opportunity to ask God anything you want. What is the question you ask Him and what does He answer?

You find a leprechaun and his pot of gold. He tells you, you can have the gold if you do something. In a 500 to 1,000 word children's story, what do you have to do to get the pot of gold from him?

A dear friend tells you s/he did something wrong. What did s/he do and what do you tell him/her to do to rectify it?

An Illustrator's Point of View

By Rocky Huang

When I registered for Serendipity two weeks ago, I simply signed up because my Children's Book Illustration teacher encouraged everyone in the class to do so. When the first speaker, Bill Slavin, came on and showed a PowerPoint presentation of his book, it dawned on me that this was the illustrator of one of my favorite children's books, "Stanley's Wild Ride". When he started talking about how he honed his craft by studying Asterix, I realized that's why I love his illustration style so much. I study Asterix too!

Bill Slavin talked about his fascination with pen and ink since the beginning of his career. Asterix taught him not only how to draw, but also how to create a back story for the minor characters to make the illustrations more interesting. He also talked about his love of using forced perspective in his illustrations which brings the reader into an impossible world, usually from a bird's point of view.

The next illustrator that spoke to us was Ian Wallace. My Children's Book Illustration teacher, Katherine Shoemaker, constantly compared Ian Wallace to Anthony Browne in our class so it was interesting to hear Ian Wallace talk about his work in person. He talked about the most important thing anyone's ever said to him about his craft. When he was in a university art class drawing still life, his teacher asked him, "What are you thinking?" He realized he needed to really think about his subject when he was drawing. It was not just about skill. Ian Wallace also talked about the importance of choosing a different medium for each book he illustrates, depending on the culture or nature of the story.

Serendipity made me really excited about illustrating children's books, all in the first two hours of the conference!!



Knight of the Roundtable

By Ken Kilback

The first time I saw Queen Elizabeth in person was at a Vancouver Canucks pre-season game in 2002. The second time I saw Her Royal Majesty, the Queen, was at Serendipity 2007¹ when Ronald Jobe was knighted at his retirement banquet. However, I'd never heard of Ron until five years ago and never met him until two years after that; our first real conversation didn't even occur until just over one year ago. And yet, I should have known more about this man since he has played a significant role not only in the generalized promotion of all children's literature, but also in the specific promotion of Canadian children's literature both within Canada and abroad.

As with all good stories, Ron's began in the midst of action. He was born in Edmonton during the middle of a blizzard. His mother often recounted to Ron how the milkman trudged through horrible wintry conditions in order to deliver milk to the newborn Ron, a milk bottle under each armpit inside his coat to keep the contents from freezing in the frigid weather. Ron loves such stories. And his love for children's literature started with the books his mother read to him when he was a child, a love that he carried with him into adulthood.

Joining the Edmonton Public School Board, Ron taught Grade 4 until he completed his MA and PhD in Children's Literature at the University of Minnesota in the late 1960s. After that, he became a teacher/librarian, infusing his love and enthusiasm for children's literature with his particular penchant for dramatic flair. Even to this day, no one was surprised when Ron donned the robes of a wizard for the latest Harry Potter release, or dressed up in red clothing and wig in celebration of the character, Stella, when Marie-Louise Gay attended the VCLR's Illustrator's Breakfast.

In the late 1970s, Ron came to the attention of the University of British Columbia, which wanted him to join its faculty. Ron wasn't interested in the proposal, though, but agreed to be interviewed for the "fun of it." Regarding the process with less seriousness than what others might and knowing that he'd never agree to a position at UBC, he suggested a salary that he believed the university representatives would certainly turn down. They didn't. In fact, they countered with an even more generous offer. Ron accepted a two-year contract with the university. He stayed for 29 years.

Ron joined UBC's Department of Language and Literacy Education in 1978. Until the mid-1980s, he taught language arts to people enrolled in the teacher education program. At that time, while serving on the executive committee of the International Board on Books for Young People² (IBBY), Ron decided to focus on children's literature. He then became a teaching member of the Master of Arts in Children's Literature Program at UBC, a multidisciplinary offering of the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies, and the Departments of Creative Writing, English, and Language and Literacy Education.

Over the years, Ron published articles and books on a variety of issues that interested him, including multiculturalism in children's literature, translating international children's literature for young people, using children's literature in the classroom, and challenging reluctant readers with books that would engender in them an enthusiasm about reading. However, Ron is perhaps best known for what he has done nationally and internationally in behalf of children's literature in general and Canadian children's literature in particular.

In 1977, before Ron left Edmonton for Vancouver, he and Annabelle Bourgoin, consultants with the Edmonton School Board, and Dianne Woodman, a local bookseller, co-founded the first Children's Literature Roundtable. After arriving in Vancouver in 1978, Ron soon co-founded the Vancouver Children's Literature Roundtable with UBC colleagues, Wendy Sutton, Marion Ralston, and Roy Bentley. They were supported in their vision by the school boards of Vancouver, Richmond, and North Vancouver, and also by Janice Douglas of the Vancouver Public Library. Since that time, other roundtables have been set up in various cities across Canada. The word 'roundtable' was intentionally chosen for its connection to the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table because of "its sense of fellowship and also because [as Ron says] 'we are all, equally, readers.'"³ Through the local roundtables, university students, teachers, public and school librarians, writers, illustrators, booksellers, editors, and publishers all come together in an effort to celebrate and promote children's literature.

Ron soon became recognized as an authority in children's literature. Over the years, he was asked to serve on a number of juries that award prizes for excellence in children's literature, including various Canadian children's book awards, the Newbery Award, the Caldecott Award, the Batchelder Award⁴, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, and the Hans Christian Andersen Award. Ron served on the Board of the Canadian Children's Book Centre and also—as mentioned previously—on the Executive Committee of IBBY. In fact, from 1990 to 1994, Ron was the first person outside Europe to serve as President of the IBBY organization. Ron also traveled around the world, attending as well as speaking at many international conferences, promoting Canadian children's literature wherever he went; and, in turn, bringing international authors and illustrators back to Canada to share their works, journeys, and visions with people here.

Not only was Ron involved in giving out awards, but he received them as well, including the Service Award from the Canadian Children's Book Centre. In 1996, he was awarded the biennial Claude Aubry Award from IBBY-Canada. Named for a former Director of the Ottawa Public Library, Ron received the award in recognition of his significant contributions to Canadian children's literature. In 1998, he became the only person outside the United States to receive the International Reading Association's Arbuthnot Award, which is given to honour a college or university instructor for excellence in teaching young adult's and children's literature.

Ron was always concerned about the massive inflow of children's book titles from outside Canada. While he would always promote a quality title

regardless of where it had been published, he also didn't want Canadian titles to become eclipsed by non-Canadian ones. Nor did he want Canadian publishers to neglect our own cultural markers in the books they printed due to a fear that other countries would refuse to buy Canadian titles because of the inclusion of such markers. "The challenge for Canadians," he wrote, "is to retain their cultural identity in a sea of American and British imports, while at the same time endeavouring to export their cultural heritage and value."⁵ As Maggie de Vries of Orca Books pointed out at the Gala Celebration, Ron became "a champion of Canadian content and challenged publishers to" include Canadian place names, historical events, and cultural icons in the books they create. Although Canadian publishers have indeed stepped up to this call, Ron Jobe and Marilynne Black concluded that there is still a significant challenge for "those involved in Canadian children's literature to identify, promote and celebrate the inclusion of Canadian cultural markers in the books being read by students."⁶ However, not only did Ron become "a tireless champion of Canadian writers, illustrators, editors, and publishers,"⁷ but he also "brought our books to the world"⁸ so that many children and lovers of children's literature around the globe are now reading books by Canadian authors.

In recognition of Ron's enthusiasm for and dedication to children's literature, he has been variously referred to such names as "The Amazing Ron" and "Sir Ron." So when he announced his impending retirement from the UBC faculty, something special was of course bound to happen. At the Gala Celebration marking the close of Serendipity 2007, writers, illustrators, teachers, librarians, booksellers, editors, publishers, and many others from different parts of B.C., Canada, and the world all came out to pay homage to Sir Ron. Paulette Bourgeois, author of the Franklin the turtle books, flew out from Toronto that same day and arrived in Vancouver just in time for the marvelous dinner. In a video presentation, authors, illustrators, editors, and publishers from around the world commented on the remarkable career of Ronald Jobe and the extent of his influence in children's publishing.

After such celebration of the man's life, what more could you possibly do to honour him? Well, you knight him of course. On the evening of May 5, 2007, Queen Elizabeth 1, complete with royal entourage, stepped out of the pages of history and commanded Ron to kneel before Her Majesty, whereupon the Queen touched her sword to Ron and proclaimed him Sir Ronald A. Jobe, Knight of the Roundtable.

What will Ron do next now that he's retired from the UBC faculty? His plans are not very clear at this point, despite Her Royal Majesty's list of demands for Sir Ron to carry out in recognition of his new title. In fact, Her Highness' expectations of Sir Ron in his retirement didn't seem to differ in any way from anything he had been doing from before he announced his retirement. Not surprisingly, Sir Ron stumbled over some of the promises the Queen expected him to keep and he purposely re-worded others to keep his promises somewhat ambiguous. He also didn't flinch when Queen Elizabeth 1 gave him her Imperial Stare. Nevertheless, while we wait to see what Sir Ron intends to do in the years ahead, we can certainly be thankful to him for all that he has already done for

children's literature both for Canada and the world. And we can also carry on with what he has already started, becoming Knights ourselves of the Children's Literature Roundtable both here and abroad.

¹ Serendipity is an annual event sponsored by the Vancouver Children's Literature Roundtable. In 2007, it was a special two-day event, May 4th and 5th. On the evening of May 5th a Gala Celebration was held in honour of Ronald Jobe.

² The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is an organization made up of many countries around the world that promotes international understanding and peace among nations through children's literature. It also believes in giving children everywhere access to books with high literary and artistic standards, and it encourages the publication and distribution of high quality children's books.

³ Quoted from "Crazy About Kids' Books: Ronald Jobe made others care as much as he does," by Rebecca Wigod, in *The Vancouver Sun*, Saturday May 12, 2007, p. C9.

⁴ The Batchelder Award is awarded to a publisher in the United States that has translated and published an outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language.

⁵ Quoted from "Australian Books in the World: The Canadian Experience," by Ronald A. Jobe at www.cbc.org.au/downloads/RONALD_JOBE.pdf.

⁶ Quoted from "Are Our Picture Books Telling Our Story?" by Marilynne V. Black and Dr. Ronald Jobe, in *Canadian Children's Book News*, Spring 2006, Vol. 29 No. 2, p. 16.

⁷ Quoted from Jo-Anne Naslund, President of the Canadian Children's Book Centre, at Serendipity 2007's Gala Celebration.

⁸ Quoted from Margriet Ruurs, author and Board Member of IBBY-Canada, at Serendipity 2007's Gala Celebration.



A trip to the library

I've traveled the world twice over,
Met the famous; saints and sinners,
Poets and artists, kings and queens,
Old stars and hopeful beginners,
I've been where no-one's been before,
Learned secrets from writers and cooks
All with one library ticket
To the wonderful world of books.
~ Unknown

EVENT HORIZON

By Ken Kilback

Back in May 2007, the Vancouver Children's Literature Roundtable (VCLR) held their annual Serendipity Conference, but this time it was a two-day event with a special Gala Celebration at the end of it to honour the contribution made to children's literature by UBC faculty member, Ron Jobe. This year Cornelia Funke, author of *Dragon Rider*, *The Thief Lord*, and the *Inkheart* series, spoke about her own journey as a writer. She said that "having patience is the difference between being a good writer and being something bigger, between hitting the wall and climbing over the wall. . . The story is there somewhere, you just have to get it out. . . You should be ambitious in order to improve upon whatever you write." Anthea Bell, the translator of all Cornelia's books, was also there and gave us insight into what she does and how she works. "When translating," she said, "it is not a matter of literally translating a piece of work, but we must also catch the nuances and flavour and music of the original language . . . I want to be as invisible as possible; the translator must keep a low profile." Julie Lawson, author of the picture book *Bear On A Train*, admitted that "I keep feeling like I'm just a beginner and need to get better; I keep feeling [the writing will] get easier, but it never does." And Sheryl McFarlane, author of such picture books as *A Pod of Orcas* and *Jessie's Island*, believes much the same thing about writing; "The journey," she said, "is figuring out how I do what I do." Such confessions, I find, seem to be highly encouraging on the one hand to the rest of us, yet also a little bleak. We always seem to hope that things will become easier and find it hard to understand why we have to struggle so much.

This year, the VCLR's Illustrator's Breakfast is featuring Molly Bang, the author/illustrator of several picture books, including *When Sophie Gets Angry—Really, Really Angry*. . . , *Old Mother Bear*, *Our Common Ground: The Water*,

Earth and Air We Share, *The Grey Lady and the Strawberry Snatcher*, and *The Paper Crane*. The event is taking place on Saturday October 13, 2007 at the UBC University Golf Club. In addition to speaking at the Breakfast Event itself, Molly Bang is holding an afternoon workshop that same day for teachers, writers, and illustrators in order to provide them with wonderful ideas for their classrooms and their own creative work. Costs for the event range from \$20 to \$60, depending on whether or not you're a VCLR member and whether you are attending only the breakfast or workshop or both. A registration form for the event can be found at www.library.ubc.ca/edlib/table. If you plan to join VCLR, \$15 must be added to the amount of your fees for whatever combination of the event you sign up for.

Just to let you know, VCLR's AuthorFest will be on Wednesday February 5 2008, and Serendipity 2008 will be on Saturday February 23. No further details are available at this time, except Serendipity 2008 will be a celebration of First Nations writers and illustrators of children's books.

TD Canadian Children's Book Week is happening November 17 through 24 this year, its theme "The Magic of Books." The Hycroft Event is on the evening of Wednesday November 14 at the Hycroft Mansion in Vancouver (1489 Macrae, just east of Granville at 16th). The event highlights the latest publications of local authors and illustrators. Nan Gregory, author of *Amber Waiting*, *How Smudge Came*, *Wild Girl and Gran*, and the newly published, *Pink*, will be the special guest speaker that evening.

The Surrey International Writers' Conference is fast approaching once again. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel in Surrey October 19 through 21. This is a cross-genre conference with all kinds of local and international speakers in attendance, including authors, editors, publishers, and agents. Of special note to readers here will be the appearance of Bob Tyrrell, founder of Orca Book Publishers, and Jesse Finklestein, Associate Publisher at Raincoast Books. Editors in attendance include Editor-at-Large Maggie de Vries of Orca Books (also author of *Tale of a Great White Fish: A Sturgeon Story* and *Chance and the Butterfly*); Barry Jowett, Editor at Dundurn Press, who's looking for YA fiction; Tonya Martin, who worked as a trade children's book editor for 15 years in New York but recently moved to Vancouver; and Kaylan Adair, Associate Editor at Candlewick Press, who's looking for everything from picture book to YA manuscripts. Agents who will be at the conference include Kristin Nelson, Nephele Tempest, Jenoyne Adams, Michael Bourret, and Rachel Vater; they are all looking for YA material, although Michael is looking for everything from middle grade to YA material. Several children's authors will also be attending the conference: Lee Edward Fodi (*Kendra Kandlestar and the Box of Whispers*), Jacquelyn Mitchard (*Rosalie, My Rosalie and Ready, Set, School*), Diane Duane (the Young Wizards series), Eric Walters (*Run and Stand Your Ground*), Dennis Food (the Longlight Legacy trilogy), Bruce Hale (the Chet Gecko mystery series), and kc dyer (the Eagle Glen trilogy). There will be many workshops offered, including Bruce Hale's "How to Turn Your Rejection Letters into Fan Letters." The cost of a full conference package is \$479 before October 1 and \$529 after that. However, bear in mind that the conference

often sells out, so if you want to attend it's best to register early. Also remember that you can sign up for manuscript consultations with professional writers, and you can sign up for meetings with editors and agents in order to pitch your stories. For more information and registration forms, go to www.siwc.ca.

At roughly the same time as the Surrey conference is the Vancouver International Writers & Readers Festival, from October 16th through 21st. Among the many wonderful guest speakers at the festival that may interest you are such writers for children as Dennis Lee (*Alligator Pie*), Margriet Ruurs (*A Mountain Alphabet*), Linda Bailey (the Stevie Diamond Mystery series), and Kit Pearson (*Awake and Dreaming* and also the forthcoming *A Perfect Gentle Knight*). However, other authors of children's writing who are attending include Évelyne Daigle, Sylvain Meunier, Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Nichel Noël, David Jones, Carrie Mac, Edeet Ravel, John Burns, Brian Doyle, Faïza Guène, and others.

The Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators, and Performers (CANSCAIP) is holding its annual Packaging Your Imagination conference at Victoria College, University of Toronto in downtown Toronto. This event will be from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday November 3, and will cost \$135. Maggie de Vries will also be attending this conference and speaking about what's involved in writing and editing a picture book. Barbara Reid, renowned illustrator and author, will be speaking about the art of balancing words and pictures in children's stories. O. R. Melling, author of *The Chronicles of Faerie*, is the keynote speaker. For more information, go to the website at www.canscaip.org.

Western Washington University will be holding its annual Children's Literature Conference on Saturday March 1, 2008. More details are yet to come, but at this point Christ Crutcher, author of *Whale Talk*, and Christopher Paul Curtis, author of *Bud, Not Buddy*, have signed on to speak at the event. If you're interested, stay tuned to further details at www.wwucl.com.

Just a reminder that Vancouver's Word on the Street is being held on Sunday September 30th. It's always a very popular event, with something for everyone. Be sure to check it out!

Finally, if you have event information in your area that you would like advertised in this newsletter, you can send it to me at kenkilback@shaw.ca for inclusion in this column, or you can send it to the editor as a separate article.

Keep writing! And illustrating!

Our local critique group for SCBWI members and non-members in the Vancouver BC area meets monthly. Please contact Diane Jones at angelslodge@yahoo.com for more info. Our next meeting is on Sat. October 13th, 1:00 – 3:00 in Diane's home.

Are you interested in becoming a member of SCBWI, the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators? Please visit the SCBWI website at www.scbwi.org for further information. Join the fun!

Please visit our own website at: <http://scbwicanda.org/west/> to learn more about our Canadian West group.

