### A WRITE IT OUT® NEWSLETTER



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Volume XXII Issue 1 Winter-Spring 2023 (Rev. 1) Editor: Ronni Miller, Sarasota, FL

WRITE IT OUT® (WIO) is a motivational and expressive writing program for individuals of all ages since 1992

#### **EDITORS'S MESSAGE**



"Out with the old and in with the new" a phrase shared by one of my students when reading her recent piece in our workshop. We are entering a new year, the thirty-first for Write It Out®. This promises to be a good year to move forward with more personal insights and discoveries through our writing.

The irony is that the "old" is just as important in our lives as the new yet to be experienced. The old represents feelings, memories and experiences that feed our

opus as much as the new does. Our lives are not a blank slate and happenings are both joyful, sad, upsetting and even traumatic. Yet they are the roots that contribute to our humanness, and so they are authentic and worthy of documentation to better understand ourselves as well as to educate and entertain others in many creative ways that include memoir, fiction, poetry and plays. "Tending to our inner lives is tending the roots underground that sustain our visible lives and that makes life worth living." said Rabbi Jonathan Kligler, recently retired Rabbi of the Woodstock Jewish Congregation of New York.

This past August we were able once again to return to Villa Le Barone for our retreat/expressive writing workshop while immersed in Tuscan culture and foods. Students enjoyed the four-star Villa as a backdrop for their writing that has been in the Aloisi de Larderel family for many generations. Italy has been a source of material for my opus for the last six decades and is now the setting for my first novel *Awakened In Rufina* available on Amazon in January. It's my tenth book to be published. We will again have the pleasure of spending time at Villa Le Barone in August.

Love In The Blueberry Patch-One Author's Journey Through Essays and Poems was published in June 2022 and joins my other adult nonfiction, collection of short stories and children's books.

Write It Out continues to evolve through private Book Midwife services as well as expressive writing workshops through Zoom. Private clients have one- on- one intimacy through virtual techniques that are fast becoming the accepted norm.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS and a CREATIVE NEW YEAR!

Ronni

#### ENJOY ONE-TO-ONE ATTENTION WITH A BOOK MIDWIFE

Don't wait. Your book has been seething inside yearning to be born. Working with Ronni, the Book Midwife will make those dreams a reality. Private sessions by appointment are arranged at your convenience. We work virtually on Zoom and telephone. Take advantage of our special Five for Four Package. Contact Ronni at <a href="mailto:RMillerWIO@gmail.com">RMillerWIO@gmail.com</a> or 941-359-3824 to discuss your needs and set up an appointment.

# **CONNECT WITH OTHERS "AROUND THE TABLE" VIRTUALLY**



RONNI'S WRITE IT OUT EXPRESSIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS "around the table" virtually emanate from my home studio. It's a small workshop to express life stories in memoirs, fiction, poetry, and plays. Zoom has made it possible to participate from wherever you live to share your material in a supportive environment. We meet on Wednesday mornings from 11AM-1 PM EST and Thursday afternoons from 2-4 PM EST on Zoom.

People attend from all over the country. The workshops are suited for beginners as well as advanced writers who desire a small group of people who are serious and dedicated to their work. These Write It Out workshops now entering our 31<sup>st</sup> year of providing skills for both fiction, nonfiction, and plays, use the concepts of the Write It Out philosophy of utilizing feelings, memories, and experiences as the foundation for all genres of writing. Motivational exercises trigger and stimulate written work. It only takes desire, and dedication to enjoy the connection to creativity. Registration is required. See the Workshop Schedule for specific times and costs.

### **HISTORY OF WRITE IT OUT**





An epiphany started it all. In an instant, the thought came to me, and the program Write It Out was born in a pine cabin. I had agonized over my future path as I gazed out on mountains and undulating fields of wheat over thirty one years ago as a new resident to the fabled art and rural community of Woodstock, New York.

Writing had always been the plumb line that kept me centered. I turned to it to understand and document my life in all genres, including journal writing. My journey to that point had provided experiences as a teacher, freelance article writer, editor, copywriter, editor, and playwright while publishing fiction and poetry. Yet I struggled to find something else, something that would help others find their center as I had through writing.

I registered the name Write It Out immediately after its birth and it remains official these thirty-one years later. How this gem of an idea segued into a recognized writing program that has guided and helped thousands of people still amazes me. I feel privileged to have heard and been a part of thousands of stories based on life experiences. I chose a path less traveled, to borrow from the famous words, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." These words are from Robert Frost's poem "The Road Not Taken".

This path of guidance has included working with cancer survivors who have embraced writing as a means of healing through creative channels as they wrote poems and prose that illustrated their lives. For years our Slice of Life shows presented at different venues showcased students' material as they read and sometimes performed their poems, prose, and theater pieces for the public. Engagement with students branched into my becoming a Book Midwife, a developmental editor to guide and birth books for those who desire to write memoirs, collections of poems, short stories and novels.

Robi Jode Press, the publishing arm of Write It Out continues to produce books. They are available on Amazon and the Write It Out website.

I'm available to lecture and share the philosophy of the Write It Out program.

Time is mercurial, for it doesn't seem that long ago that I sat in my eclectic, pine cabin of floor-to-ceiling windows and created a Program in a moment that has nurtured my life.

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### **2023 TUSCANY WRITING RETREAT AND WORKSHOP**

Tuesday August 1 to Wednesday August 9, 2023

## "Viva L'Italia"

Gather memories for a lifetime. Spend ten days at the historic Ville Le Barone, a four-star hotel in the Chianti region of Italy a short distance from Florence. Relax, write, create and be pampered by gourmet dining and gracious service. Enjoy exercises from the Write It Out program designed to free creativity and enhance personal growth through expressive writing and art. Begun in 1987 the Write It Out Writing Workshops and Retreats are facilitated by Ronni Miller, founder of Write It Out, Book Midwife/book developmental editor and award winning author. Take a virtual tour at www.villalebarone.com to experience the setting. As you know I've spent many years in Italy and love sharing it with you. It's been the reason I've arranged writing workshops in Tuscany since 1997.

Registration: Visit www.writeitout for details. Contact: RMillerWIO@gmail.com or 941-359-3824

### **TUSCAN HAPPENING 2022**







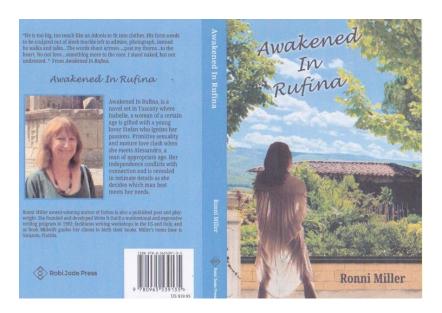


Our nest was tranquil. We were sequestered away on the idyllic grounds of Villa Le Barone, Panzano, Italy from Friday, August 19 to Saturday, August 27, 2022. Memories drifted at will captured by pen on paper or fingers on keyboard outdoors in class with

stone underfoot and under the shade of wooden beams. Green hills and silvery leaves of olive trees were close visuals and the 10<sup>th</sup> century church on the road beyond tolled the hour, reminders of the endurance of life. The outside world receded though as memoires of life experiences mingled with the present and the mind was free to pour forth creativity with pen or paint. The infinity pool awaited to swim before breakfast, or in the afternoon a welcomed respite to exercise the body as much as the mind. Private locations on an outdoor terrace or indoor living room were held in the afternoons. A glass of Prosecco often accompanied the sharing of written stories in salons in the early evenings. Sweet, salty, sour natural flavors tempted the palette from appetizers, entrees and desserts while candlelight flickered, and the moon shone through the vines on the outside terrace as we dined in the evening. Languages spoken in Italian, French, German, English and American accompanied by laughter drifted to us from other tables as we shared our experiences perhaps in a day trip to Florence, Siena or just at the market in the village of Panzano, just a few miles below the Villa. Memories captured forever.

### NEW BOOKS UNDER THE ROBI JODE PRESS IMPRINT

## AWAKENED IN RUFINA - novel



This first novel set in Tuscany has a few scenes that are located at the Villa Le Barone where I've taught and currently hold writing workshops. It's a story of a woman of a certain age who is surprised to discover love with complications in many facets. It will be available on Amazon mid-January 2023 and also on <a href="https://www.writeitout.com">www.writeitout.com</a> my website.

# ROADS TO RUN-novel

This second novel will be published late February 2023. It's set in Woodstock, NY and Boston, MA before and after WWII. It's the coming of age of an orphaned girl who seeks romance and adventure in the wrong places and evolves into womanhood on the wings of passion.

# LOVE IN THE BLUEBERRY PATCH



This book documents my life's journey as a writer through essays and poems from childhood to adulthood. Walking though fire is the metaphor of becoming self- actuated presented in potpourri fashion. For those of you who have read my fiction you'll glean some of the truthful kernels here that promoted those stories.

Love In The Blueberry Patch was published in June 2022 and is available on Amazon or <a href="https://www.writeitout.com">www.writeitout.com</a>.

### WRITE IT OUT WORKSHOPS

See our current <u>schedule</u> of Write It Out workshops on the <u>Write It Out website</u> here: <u>https://writeitout.com/WIO\_Workshop\_Schedule.pdf</u>.