

## A WRITE IT OUT® NEWSLETTER

# SPUR

Write It Out  
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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



Restlessness is pervasive. We want IT to be over. To recapture the life we once knew before the Pandemic. Many of us have had our vaccine and booster shots. Masks are still at the ready to don when needed. Thoughts about traveling and being in crowds still prevent us from moving forward without forethought. Yet, through it all, the creative mind taps onward.

How fortunate we are as writers to feel and document in prose, poetry, and theater pieces all that we've experienced before and during this Pandemic. Our journals bulge with bits and pieces that date the occurrences be it a place to vent or discover through our own words just what and where we are in the moment. We use some of those authentic words as a base for stories. We are caught up in our reverie while the outside world spins onward. We are happy, feel fulfilled as our fingers wrap around a pen or hit the keys on our computer.

I recently saw an exhibit of Lee Miller's photography at the Dali Museum in St Petersburg, FL. It is presented as "The Woman Who Broke Boundaries" in the thirties and later. She was a professional who photographed writers and artists that

were friends including Picasso. “The trailblazing creativity of this surrealist woman from Poughkeepsie...broke boundaries of convention.” It’s the last phrase written in the advertising brochure for this exhibit that has spawned yet another essay entitled “Dichotomy” for me to personally explore a lifetime of conflict between an anti-establishment person and that of the convention of a Jewish woman, wife, and mother who pursued writing as one would a life preserver when drowning in mediocrity.

It is the exploration, the digging down sloughing off layers of silt to arrive at personal truths that magnetize me to this process of discovery spewed out in words.

I hope you too will find your space, your quiet time to do the same and unearth the essence of self, raise it to the surface and let it go like a balloon to wander in its own direction.

This year we will continue to meet on Thursdays for our Expressive Writing Workshop on Zoom that provides space “around the table” for anyone regardless of where they live. Stories develop and are shared in an atmosphere that bonds. Private clients live around the country and our work on Zoom is personal and connective. “Viva La Italia” the writing workshop in Tuscany is scheduled for Friday, August 19 to Saturday, August 27, 2022. I hope you will sign up and return with us to Villa Le Barone. Its Tuscan history, graciousness, and comfort provide the ripe setting to create, joggle the imagination and, jump-start new pieces or works-in-progress. Details follow along with other events and our workshop schedule. As I write this, I’m aware of the “new” variant of COVID 19 that was announced this late November 2021 that could impact our Italian plans. At this point, a show of interest without commitment would let me know you’re serious about joining us and are willing to wait and see what the situation will be.

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, Skype, FaceTime, and telephone. Take advantage of our special Five for Four Package. Contact Ronni at [RMillerWIO@gmail.com](mailto:RMillerWIO@gmail.com) or 941-359-3824 to discuss your needs and set up an appointment.

## CONNECT WITH OTHERS AROUND THE TABLE



RONNI'S WRITE IT OUT VIRTUAL EXPRESSIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS "around the table" 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 comfortable, safe, and supportive environment. We meet on 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 30th 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 thirty 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 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 show 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, was also spawned.

Write It Out continues to offer me creative outlets when I write and design my syllabi for workshops. I’m happy to share the philosophy of the Write It Out program in lectures and multi-media presentations.

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.

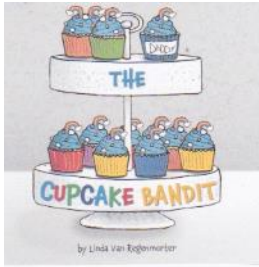
### **WRITING RETREAT & WORKSHOP IN TUSCANY**



**The date is set!** Friday, August 19 to Saturday, August 27, 2022 we’ll return to Villa Le Barone in Panzano, Italy for our Tuscany Writing Retreat and Workshop. We will again be able to immerse in the Italian culture at this special, 16th century, four-star hotel. Expressive writing, painting, and private sessions are part of the curriculum facilitated by Ronni. Cooking classes are optional as are visits to Florence, Siena, and San Gimignano and the nearby villages of Panzano and Greve. Take a virtual tour at [www.villalebarone.com](http://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. Writing Retreat and Workshop registration deadline is March 2, 2022. Rooms have been reserved at the Villa up to this time.

Accommodation arrangements are made directly with the Villa ([www.villalebarone.com](http://www.villalebarone.com)). Be sure to mention you are part of the *Write It Out* writing program. Room rates include breakfast. It is suggested that you also make arrangements for dinner when you make your room reservations. More details about the Writing Retreat Workshop can be found on our website, [www.writeitout.com](http://www.writeitout.com).

### HOT OFF THE PRESS



Linda Van Regenmorter has just published her first children's book, *The Cupcake Bandit* with WOW press. It was my pleasure to be a part of the process as Linda was both a client and a student. Now the book is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and in bookstores. Its story will please any child from four to ten and additionally adults who have had experience with young children.

**Coming soon!** *LOVE IN THE BLUEBERRY PATCH* will be my ninth book and is just about ready for publication. It documents my life's journey as a writer through essays and poems from childhood to adulthood. Walking through 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.

(Our new workshops schedule for 2022 starts on the next page.)

# 2022 WRITING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Contact Ronni at [RMillerWIO@gmail.com](mailto:RMillerWIO@gmail.com) or 941-359-3824  
for more information.

## SUGGESTED READING FOR WORKSHOPS:

- *Dance With The Elephants: Free Your Creativity And Write* by Ronni Miller
- *Cocoon To Butterfly: A Metamorphosis of Personal Growth Through Expressive Writing* by Ronni Miller
- *Domestic Shorts* by Ronni Miller
- *Between Lovers* by Ronni Miller

**ALL WORKSHOPS ARE ON ZOOM**

## RONNI'S EXPRESSIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

*A writing workshop to use expressive writing techniques for personal growth and wellness while writing fiction, nonfiction and poems.*

### Terms:

- Wednesdays, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM EST, January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2022
- Wednesdays, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM EST, February 2, 9, 16, 24, 2022
- March and following to be announced.
- Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 PM EST, January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022
- Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 PM EST, February 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022
- Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 PM EST, March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2022
- Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 PM EST, April, 7, 14, 21, 28, 2022
- May & following are to be announced.

**Tuition: \$100** for each term.

**Facilitator:** Ronni Miller

**Registration:** 941-359-3824 or [RMillerWIO@gmail.com](mailto:RMillerWIO@gmail.com)

**Payment:** either by check payable to Write It Out and mailed to 7316 Eleanor Circle, Sarasota, FL 34243 - OR - via ZELLE make payable from your bank to mine in the name of [rmillerwio@gmail.com](mailto:rmillerwio@gmail.com)

## EXPRESS YOURSELF IN WRITING

*A workshop that stimulates autobiographical material as a means to express and reveal your story in fact and fiction.*

**The Education Center at Temple Beth Israel LBK (Workshops are on Zoom)**

**Terms:**

- Tuesdays: 1:00-3:00 PM, January 4 through February 22, 2022 (eight sessions).  
Tuition: members - \$145, non-members \$155.
- Tuesdays: 1:00-3:00 PM, March 1 through March 22, 2022 (4 sessions)  
Tuition: pro- rated number of classes.

**Facilitator:** Ronni Miller

**Registration:** 941-383-8222

**MEMOIR PLUS**

*A workshop to write memoir and any other genre based on personal life experiences*

**OLLI Lifelong Learning Program at Ringling College**

- **Winter term:** Mondays, 1:00-2:20 PM, January 10 – February 28, 2022 (7 sessions)  
(no class on 1/17/22)

Tuition: members: \$81, nonmembers: \$90

Facilitator: Ronni Miller

Registration: 941-309-5111

**Viva L'Italia Writing Retreat, Tuscany Italy**

Friday, August 19 to Saturday, August 27, 2022

Villa Le Barone, Panzano, Italy

**Tuition:** \$1450 includes workshop, private sessions and salons.

**Facilitator:** Ronni Miller

**Register** for the retreat by May 15, 2022 (Contact 941-359 3824 or RMillerWIO@gmail.com)

Accommodations, food, transportation and sightseeing are not included in tuition.

Book accommodations with the Villa Le Barone: [www.villalebarone.com](http://www.villalebarone.com) to include half board (breakfast and dinner) and mention you are part of the Write It Out group.