

BORDERLINES

SCBWI
Midsouth



ISSUE 84

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Inside this issue:

Revision Retreat	1
Letter from Kristin	2
Schmooze News	2
Conference Info	2
Illustrators Showcase	3
Good News	3

Retreat Revise Renew

What better way to start the New Year than to plan a writing break with some of your favorite Midsouth authors?

Imagine rushing down a zipline or gathering around the campfire to exchange stories and songs (and maybe s'mores?)

This year, the Midsouth is hosting its first ever Revision Retreat, April 5, 6 and 7 in Leitchfield Kentucky. The retreat is designed to help you get your manuscript in tip-top shape, whether you write Young Adult, Middle Grade or Picture Books. Participants will get a ten

page critique from an editor, four intensive breakout sessions and personal writing time.

Cost is \$170 per member (\$180 per non-member) for the entire weekend. This includes a shared room and all meals.

The first 24 participants will share hotel-style rooms in the lodge. All additional participants will stay in a bunkhouse nearby. The total is limited to 35.

Dates to Remember:

- January 21, 2013:



- Registration opens.
- February 28, 2013: Ten pages for critique are due. No critiques will be accepted after this date.
- March 18, 2013: Last day to register.

Use EZ Register [here](#)

Hope to see you there!

Welcome to the Brand New Borderlines!

You will notice a few changes to the format as we strive to make our newsletter a multimedia experience. Wherever possible, articles will link back to online source material including articles, press releases and video.

But in order to make these changes work, we need YOU, Midsouth authors! We need your good news, your questions, your accomplishments and your interests to make this newsletter meet your needs.

In between newsletters, we will post good news and information to the Midsouth Facebook page. If you haven't already joined, check it out at: www.facebook.com/pages/Scbwi-Midsouth/

Midsouth Region

Regional Advisor:

Kristin Tubb

ktubb@comcast.net

Assistant Regional Advisor:

Courtney C. Stevens

courtneycstevens@yahoo.com

Communications:

Shellie Braeuner

shellra29@gmail.com

scbwi
society of children's book writers & illustrators

The international profession organization for writers and illustrators of children's literature since 1971.

Letter From Our Leader



Happy 2013, Tribe!

It's an interesting word, isn't it - *tribe*? When I first heard it used in the writing-community context, my ears perked. Tribe? Is *that* what we are?

As wordsmiths, you are probably very attuned to certain words. I am, for instance, protective of words like "family." I *do* believe family can be non-related, of course. But I guard the use of that word for other uses. Like when others say, "Hi, Facebook family!" That just doesn't ring true to me. It's too important a word to be taken flippantly.

So when I first heard *tribe* used to describe SCBWI, I admit it: I was skepti-

cal. I started doing a little digging.

A *tribe* is an aggregate of people united by ties to a community of customs and traditions. (Dictionary.com)

A *tribe* is a group of persons having a common character, occupation, or interest. (Merriam-Webster)

A *tribe* is a social group in which everyone is a contributor to the greater whole. (Kristin Tubb)

In a tribe, your strengths are celebrated and your challenges are buoyed by your community.

In a tribe, each and every individual plays a role.

In a tribe, you are not alone.

This year, I encourage you think about

what *tribe* means to you, what SCBWI means to you, and of course, what writing for children and teens means to you. Share your thoughts with other SCBWI members. Type them up and tape them to your computer screen. Send them to me (ktubb@comcast.net) or Courtney C. Stevens (courtneycstevens@yahoo.com), and we'll cheer you on and hold you accountable! Why? Because you're part of the tribe.

Save the Date for the Conference

SAVE THE DATE!

What: The Spectacular 2013 Mid-south SCBWI Fall Conference!

When: Friday, September 20 - Sunday, September 22, 2013. (Intensives on Friday the 20, Conference on Saturday the 21 and Sunday the 22)

Who: An amazing line-up of editors, agents, and best-selling and award-winning authors!

Where: The Embassy Suites Hotel in Franklin, TN (15 minutes south of Nashville)

Why: Craft, creativity, and friends,

Schmooze it or Lose it!

Looking for a way to meet other authors, but not quite sure how to go about it? Try a local Schmooze.

Schmoozes are low stress ways for published and pre-published authors to meet together, enjoy a meal and share the joys and trials of this crazy publishing business.

Usually held in a public place, such as a restaurant, Schmoozes are open to everyone.

Each Schmooze has its own style and features.

The Nashville Schmooze: Generally meets in the Brentwood area. This part of town is convenient to the interstate and easily accessible. At the Nashville Schmooze, we meet, visit with friends old and new, and eat dinner. Many people bring business cards to keep in touch between Schmoozes. Interested people should contact David Arnold at: iamdavidarnold@gmail.com

The Louisville Schmooze: The Louisville Schmooze meets the first Monday of every month in the café of Barnes and Noble on South Hurstbourne Parkway. This group offers voluntary three-minute critique. Interested? Contact Charles Suddeth at: csuddeth@iglou.com

And GREAT news! Starting soon...The **Cookeville Schmoozers!** The wonderful Shannon Auberson is planning upcoming schmoozes for the Cookeville area. Shannon is a librarian, writer, and all-around great person. Please contact her if you're interested in attending a schmooze in Cookeville! aubersons@k12tn.net

Are you interested in having a schmooze in your area? We'd love to have volunteers head up these informal get-togethers in any other area! Please contact Kristin Tubb (ktubb@comcast.net) if you're interested!

Need Cash?

The Work-In-Progress Grants open March 1! Visit <http://www.scbwi.org/Pages.aspx/CurentNews?Work-In-Progress-Grant-Open-March-1> for more information.

Illustrators on Display!

For the Month of May, you can see some of our PAL illustrators on display. The Downtown Nashville Library will play host to our Illustrators.

Stop on by to see illustrations from concept, through early sketches and the finished product.



There will be three cases on the first floor dedicated to the display. Each will showcase two illustrators. There will also be information about SCBWI available.

Be sure to share our talented Midsouth illustrators with teachers and artists alike.



Crystal Kite voting is now open! The first round of voting ends February 28, so please visit the SCBWI site and get your votes in quickly. To vote: Go to the [SCBWI website](#) and go to our [Midsouth](#) page. Click the "Crystal Kite" tab at the top right. A list of titles will appear below text, and a "vote for this title" button will be next to each title. There are a number of Midsouth authors who are eligible! Please vote!



[Kristin O'Donnell Tubb](#) read from her latest novel *The Thirteenth Sign* at its launch party at Barnes and Noble in Cool Springs. This was the second launch for the book. Parnassus Books hosted the first.

In addition, Kristin's book was featured in the paper. Read all about [Here](#).

Midsouth Author, Alex Brown was recently named one the [On-The-Verge Emerging Voice Award](#) winners. This is the first year for this award which is designed to help culturally diverse writers. She wins all-expense paid trip to the SCBWI Winter Conference, a free years



membership and an SCBWI mentor.

Speaking of newspaper and magazine coverage, [Sharon Cameron](#) was recently featured locally in the Tennessean. The article explores her journey from music teacher to published author. Check out the article

[here](#).

Sharon also contributed to the USA Today article discussing the state of romance in women's literature. Check out the four part article: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#), [Part 4](#). Congrats Sharon!

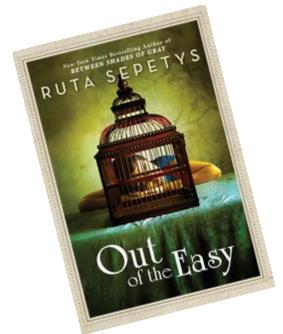
Rita Monette was recently featured in

[The Darth Writer](#). Her book *The Legend of Ghost Dog Island*, was given rave reviews. Congrats Rita!



Good News!

From Rita to Ruta. In the run up to the launch of her next book, Ruta Sepetys was honored by the Lithuanian Government. She was awarded the Global Lithuania award in the area of arts and Culture. Way to go Ruta!



In addition, Ruta had a great Q & A with [Publisher's Weekly](#). In the article, she discussed the international themes of *Between Shades of Gray* as well as her forthcoming book *Out of Easy* (due out February 12th.)

Keep up the good work Midsouth!