

Hamilton Mountain Writers' Guild *Newsletter*



December 2024



“Substitute ‘damn’ every time you’re inclined to write ‘very’; your editor will delete it and the writing will be just as it should be.”

- Mark Twain

Welcome to our December newsletter!

In this issue, you'll discover what to expect from the editors when submitting your story, and Anita Joldersma introduces her new series of articles exploring past anthologies.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have any comments or suggestions, please email Linda at lindalambert33@gmail.com

Happy writing! (and warm wishes for a very Merry Christmas and an amazing New Year!)

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Schedule
December 2024

**Submit
Your Story**
Linda
Lambert

**Guild
Anthologies:
Retrospective**
Anita
Joldersma

**Bi-Weekly
Recap**

Schedule: December 2024		
December 11	Liam O'Neill	Anthology Workshop
December 25	<i>No Meeting</i>	Christmas Day

Schedule Preview: January 2024		
January 8	AGM	Vote for Board Members and listen to the 2024 Summary

Getting Ready to Submit Your Story, by Linda Lambert

Many of you have been working with your writing groups to prepare your stories for the editing process. You've worked so hard and now it's almost time to hand your precious creation to the editors.

Stephen King famously said, "To write is human, to edit is divine." Similarly, Russell Lynes, managing editor of Harper's Magazine from 1947 to 1967 said, "No author dislikes to be edited as much as he dislikes not to be published."

An editor's role is to help make you become a better writer and help you produce a polished and refined piece of work. To that end, some of the things they will look at, besides punctuation and grammar, include:

- Point of View (POV)
- Structure
- Clunky or overly lengthy sentences
- Repetition
- Information dumps
- Cutting redundancies

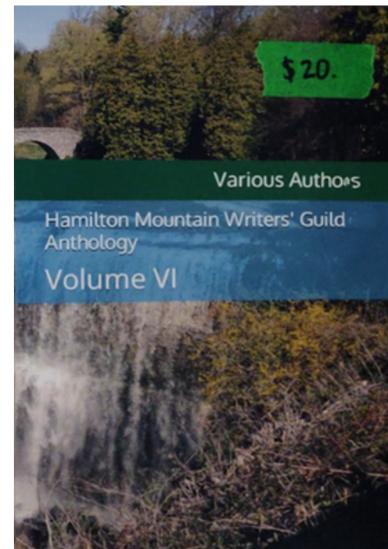
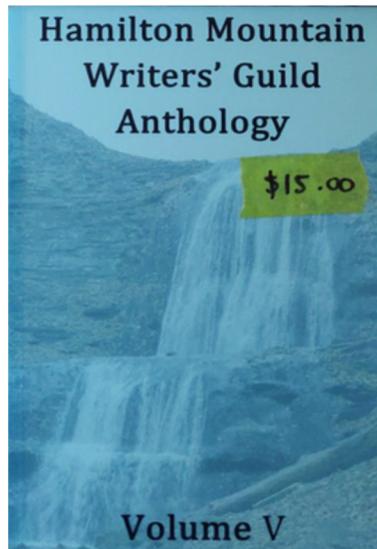
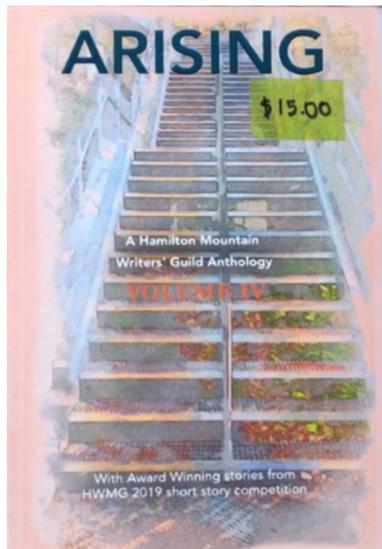
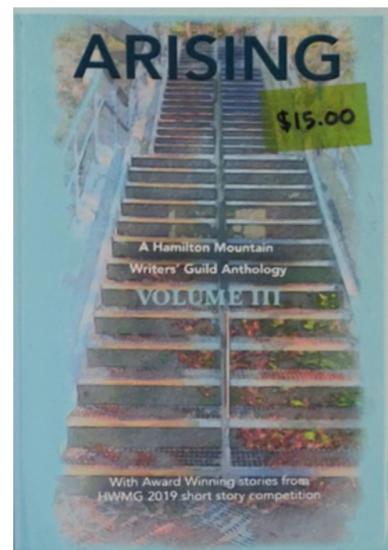
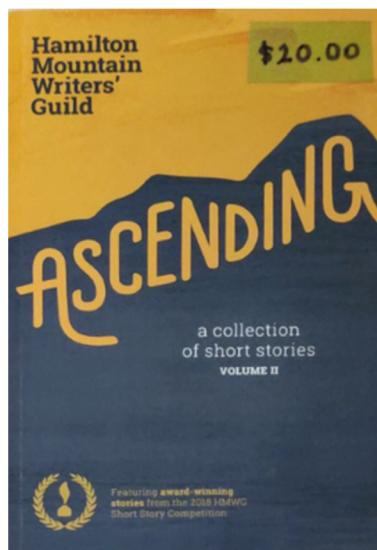
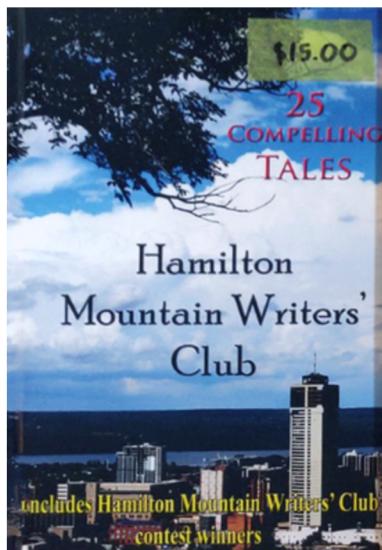
There are many short story writing resources available online and on YouTube. For example, Shaelin Bishop from Reedsy advises writers to remember that a short story is not a novel, so you should want to accomplish your goal in the fewest words possible.

The anthology editors are ready to help you! From January to the end of March, you can submit your stories and queries to: anthologyhmgw@gmail.com

Hamilton Mountain Writers' Guild Anthologies: A Retrospective, By Anita Joldersma

Will the seventh volume of the Hamilton Mountain Writers' Guild Anthology be the first to receive a submission from you? Have you had the opportunity to read any of our previous anthologies? As we gear up to publish Volume VII, our newsletters in 2025 will carry a bit of a retrospective. For the first six months, we will look at each of the volumes and discover some of the history and interesting facts and how you can borrow or purchase a copy for yourself.

Make sure you are subscribed to our newsletter so that you may read our first article in January 2025:
'In the Beginning: Volume One'



Bi-Weekly Recap: November 2024

Last month, we had two bi-weekly meetings.

On November 13, Bob Nothnagel, author of 'Tales of Adventure Murder & Mayhem' and 'Tales from the Dark Side' presented his second part of his 'How to Prepare a Word Document for Publishing to Amazon' series. This session focused on publication details like book covers, bleed margins, and trim size. It also featured a live form being filled out on Amazon. We were also once more reminded to always save your work!

On November 27, the Anthology Team hosted a session where we each talked about our stories so far. It was great hearing about all the help they were getting from their writing groups and fellow writers!



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