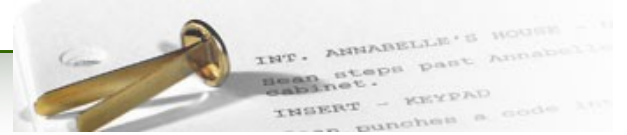


August 2011

Idaho Screenwriters Association

www.idahowriters.org



August Meeting

Tuesday, August 16th

6:30pm

Idaho Pizza

**Idaho Pizza at
7100 W. Fairview.
Near Cole Rd**



AGENDA:

Introductions

“What’s your favorite scary movie?”

Announcements

** Member’s Announcements*

GUEST SPEAKER

Andrew Ellis

*Come find out about
H48!!!*

CONTACT US:

- *Sherry A. E. Cann*
President / Founder
sherry.ae@hotmail.com
871-4501
- *Louise Luster*
CTP Films Executive Producer
ctpfilms@cableone.net /
www.ctpfilms.com
859-5123
- *Lance Thompson*
Script Doctor
scriptdoc88@gmail.com
898-1451
- *Pamela Thompson Career*
Coach/Recruiter
pamrecruit@q.com

Inside this issue:

Screenwriting Expo	1
Pocket Muse	2
Idea Prompters	2
Writing Tips	3
Pamela Thompson	4



Early Bird prices are \$269 for the Gold Pass, and only \$79 for the Basic Pass.

SEPTEMBER 15-18th, 2011 at the Westin Hotel at LAX. I have attended 4 or 5 of these, and can tell you they are VERY worthwhile! This is an amazing event where you will connect, network, pitch and LEARN so much. To find out more, go to www.screenwritingexpo.com.

No Table Readings in August

If you have 10 pages, bring it and we can help get it ready for the next table reading sessions

FROM THE POCKET MUSE

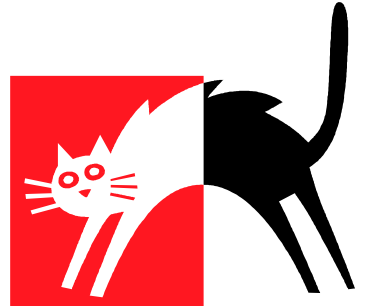
Writer's Block?

If you have a dog or cat, brush him. Take a lot of time. Relax. Compose your thoughts. Don't panic. If you don't have a pet, find a kit and braid her hair. In other words, take your mind off of the writing, so that the solution can come in. Worrying about what to write blocks inspiration.



Today's the day! No more fooling around. Set an egg timer for 45 minutes, and don't get out of the chair until the timer dings. Even if you sit staring at the page the entire time, you're ingraining a habit.

Chickens and fraidy-cats may begin with 5 minute segments.



IDEA PROMPTERS.....

You've had your idea prompters in the last newsletter, and handed out at the last meeting.

You were to write the opening scene, approximately 3 pages from one of those prompts.

Bring it to the August meeting and we'll go over them!

You can find the prompts in the

July newsletter, posted on our website. Or if you can't find them, just drop me an email and I'll send them to you.



Which prompt did you pick?

Sherry.ae@hotmail.com

I look forward to seeing what each of you have written!



"I'll be back."

~ **The Terminator, 1984**



IMP Luncheon



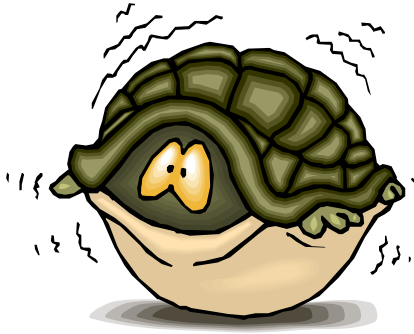
<http://idahomediapro.org>

Wednesday, Aug 17th
IMP Luncheon 11 am—1pm

Smokey Mountain Pizza

415 E. Parkcenter

Writing Tips from Sherry.... *Pretty Scary Stuff*



Horror movies always return from the grave to scare a new generation. The main elements of a good horror movie are:

⇒ **THE UNKNOWN**

On a basic level, horror movies are about fear of the unknown and the loss of free will. We fear what we can not see, what we do not understand. Creating a sense of dread.

The more you know, the less you fear. To keep it scary, we need to keep the story in the dark. The reason why so many horror movies take place on a dark and stormy night is because we never know what might be lurking in the shadows.



Strange lands, unpredictable situations or hidden danger are the elements of a good horror script. One of the common themes in horror scripts is our inability to predict the results of scientific creations. (Frankenstein)

⇒ **YOU DON'T WANNA KNOW!**

The more we know, the less we fear...so our horror script is going to keep thrusting us into the unknown. Other genres resolve conflicts and connect the dots in the big puzzle, but that would turn the unknown into the known and remove the horror.

The mysteries should have uncovered more mysteries...things that make even less sense.

⇒ **LOSS OF FREE WILL**

Not only have your protagonists been thrust into the unknown, but they also are unable to control their own lives. In a horror script, characters lose control of their lives to some sinister force.



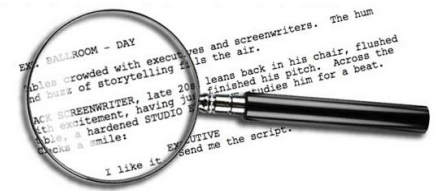
The protagonist in a horror script simply has no control over his life and himself. He is forced to deal with the unknown at a time when he doesn't even

know himself. Unseen sinister forces seem to control his life, and no matter where he runs or how well he hides, the events seem to all be a part of the evil master plan. Because some of the evil is inside of him, he is the monster (or potential monster). In a horror movie the protagonist must fight the creatures outside as he struggles with the creatures within...and there probably won't be an happy ending.



Sherry A. E. Cann, Founder
Idaho Screenwriters Association

Sherry.ae@hotmail.com
<http://sherryannelizabeth.wordpress.com>



It's summer in the northern hemisphere which means soaring temperatures. Here are some hot career tips that will keep your career cooking all year long.



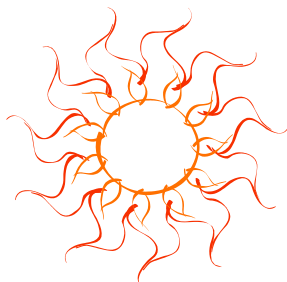
Maintain a sunny outlook. When you work on any project you will be on a team with others. Maintain a professional positive attitude. Success comes to those who love what they do. If there are problems at work or on the project, figure out ways to solve them rather than complain about the situation.

Don't burn your bridges. It's a small world. Make sure that you follow through on promises. Don't quit before your part in any project is complete. Deliver on time. Be early and be ready. Be reliable and professional. Don't argue and belabor a point or opinion with a supervisor if the decision has been made.

Avoid burn out. Reconnect with the reasons and the feelings you love screenwriting. Take a course, teach a class, mentor a newcomer or make your own film (it's easier than ever with video recorders and computers). Get in touch with those feelings and keep that love of writing alive. Writing demands patience, persistence, determination and time. There are many easier ways to make a living, but if writing is your passion then pursue it every day. Maybe it's time to learn a few new tricks. Improve your skills, take a workshop or attend a conference. The more versatile you are, the more employable you are. Keep up to date on the latest trends and new companies by reading the trades, taking classes and networking. Keep skills up to date. Bring your journal to the ball game or the beach. Write wherever you are, whether you go to the pool or the mall.

Generate heat. Make sure potential employers are aware of you. If you make a short film, enter it in festivals and competitions. Find opportunities for screenings and make sure potential employers get an invitation to view it.

Create sizzling marketing materials. Know what clients are looking for and customize your resume to what they want. Keep your portfolio of writing samples up



to date and ready to show at any time. Update your resume every six months and submit it to the employers you are interested in. If you are looking for work, be sure others know it.

Put top priorities on the front burner. Don't put off your dreams. If you really want to work as a screenwriter, do it. Make a short film. Now it's possible to post a film on the Internet and have a world wide audience. Work on your dream every day and make it a priority.

Keep contacts warm. Networking is more than making connections. Networking is helping others to make connections too. Go to industry related events like conferences and speak to the speakers and to fellow audience members. You never know who might be sitting next to you. Get out and explore other interests as well to expand your knowledge as well as your contacts.

Work like the blazes. While you work on your job, work on your career as well. When thinking about what job to take, consider what you can learn as well as what you might earn. Recognize that you never stop learning and try to find jobs where you can grow.

Stay fired up. Re-ignite your passion. Share your love of writing with others. Speak about writing at local libraries, summer camps and schools. Talk to children about how to write for the movies. Summer is a great time to go to the movies and hey, theatres have air conditioning! Treat a child to some good movies this summer and support the industry at the same time.

Use these red hot tips to keep the flame alive.



Pamela Kleibrink Thompson is a career coach and recruiter. She also speaks about careers at colleges, universities and national conferences. As a career coach, she helps clients enjoy, enhance and energize their careers. You can reach her at PamRecruit@q.com