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## More than a Writers Conference

ANS FEATURE ARTICLE

By Marlene Bagnull  
Special to ASSIST News Service

**LANGHORNE, PA** (ANS) -- Now in its 31st year of ministry, the July 30 – August 2 Greater Philly Christian Writers Conference (GPCWC) at Cairn University in Langhorne, PA, is more than a writers conference.

True, if you're a beginning writer, GPCWC will give you a solid foundation to build upon that will save you both time and disappointments in your journey to publication. If you're an advanced writer, there's always more to learn.



Conference logo

Whether you have never published or even submitted a manuscript to an editor or are publishing regularly, GPCWC is an opportunity to grow your writing and marketing skills. As one conferee said, "It's the equivalent of a semester course in writing." In addition to 60 workshops, you get to choose one of the following continuing sessions that provide six hours of in-depth instruction:

- \* The Power of Story – Cec Murphey
- \* Reaching Women through Writing & More – Linda Evans Shepherd
- \* You Can Write Articles – Lisa Crayton
- \* How to Get Published – Tim Shoemaker
- \* Authentic Faith in Fiction – Tracey Lewis Giggets
- \* Writing Nonfiction Books – Craig Bubeck
- \* Indie Publishing – Bart Palamaro
- \* Focus on Fiction – Jeanette Windle



**Cec Murphey**

GPCWC will also give you face-to-face opportunities to present your ideas or manuscripts to editors and agents or to authors who can provide needed encouragement and direction. Four free one-on-one 15-minute appointments are included for those who register for all three days. And this year there are 58 faculty members to choose from!

Need hands-on help with your manuscript? Apply by July 1 for the *Advanced Fiction Intensive* with Nancy Rue, best-selling author of over 122 books, or the *Nonfiction Book Proposal Clinic* with author and literary agent David Fessenden. Are you working to build your “platform”? Megan Breedlove’s clinic, *Get Them Coming to Your Blog/Website*, will provide practical hands-on help.

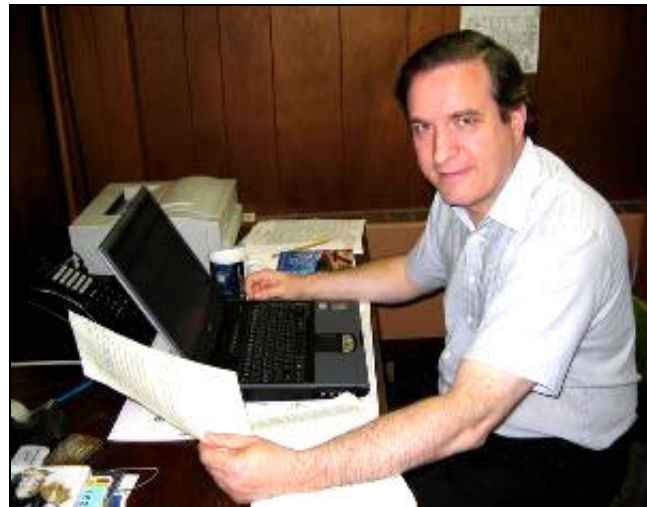
Do you long for deep friendships with others who share your passion for words and Jesus Christ? You’ll meet them at GPCWC.

Have rejection slips or writers’ block caused you to become discouraged? You’ll find answers and encouragement at GPCWC.

Do you need direction from the Lord and confirmation that you’re writing what He wants written? GPCWC is not just a writers’ conference; it’s also a retreat where those who are listening have heard from Him in ways that have changed their lives.

Are you running on empty spiritually? The worship and messages in our general sessions will fill you to overflowing.

And there’s still more, for in addition to being a high-quality professional conference, GPCWC seeks to be on the cutting edge of issues and world needs. From the opening session Wednesday evening when various faculty and conferees will focus on “Writing



**David Fessenden**

His Answer to the Issues that Concern You” and “Missions Moments” throughout the conference you’ll be challenged and encouraged to make a difference.

Are you concerned about the increasing hostility toward Christianity in our nation? In “Living in the 11th Hour” Mark Ammerman and Mike Rusten, authors of the end-times novel PUSH, will talk about the need to be ready. “Is the end near?” they ask. “We don’t know. But Jesus told us to watch, to work, to pray, to love to evangelize, to make disciples, and to discern the times. Persecution of the Church of Jesus Christ is at a historic high around the world, and the Church in America surely faces its biggest challenges in the days ahead.”

Do you need to rekindle your excitement for God’s Word? In “Mining for Gold,” Julie Coleman will offer hands-on instruction in digging deep into Scripture that will provide fresh content for your spiritual life, writing, and teaching. Julie’s book, *Unexpected Love: God’s Heart Revealed in Jesus’ Conversations with Women* (Thomas Nelson, 2013), was just awarded the Golden Scrolls Non-Fiction Book of the Year at ICRS.



**Rusty Wright**

Do you carry a heavy burden for those who do not know Jesus? Friday morning Rusty Wright of the Amy Foundation, and a regular correspondent for the ASSIST News Service, will speak on “Jesus: The Effective Witness.” And you won’t want to miss Rusty’s Thursday afternoon two-hour session, “Reaching Seekers and Skeptics.”

And are you concerned for what the future holds for our children? You need to attend “Save Our Children,” a special hour-long session on Friday led by Rick Marschall, also a regular contributor to ASSIST News. Rick says, “Christians are pilgrims and strangers in this world. Surely every believer senses that these times are darker, more dangerous than ever. Our culture has turned hateful toward Christians and children are the primary targets of the enemy. There are things we can and must do as Christians. Let us engage!” (This session is

open free of charge to the community.)

Yes, GPCWC by God’s plan and design is much more than just a writers’ conference. Past conferee, Esther Lovejoy, says, “GPCWC can have a great impact on your writing, but even more on your life.”

For more information visit [philadelphia.writehisanswer.com](http://philadelphia.writehisanswer.com).

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Marlene Bagnull is the founder and director of the Greater Philly Christian Writers Conference. She also directs the Colorado Christian Writers Conference and the author of five books including *Write His Answer – A Bible Study for Christian Writers* and the compiler/editor of four other books. Marlene helps Christians publish affordably and professionally through Ampelos Press. In 1999 she received an honorary Doctor of Letters for her work encouraging and equipping Christian writers. Her e-mail address is [mbagnull@aol.com](mailto:mbagnull@aol.com)



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