

Gregory A. Kompes, Editor

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Upcoming Events

January 28

Writer's Pen & Grill

www.PenandGrill.com

April 16-18

Las Vegas Writer's Conference

Gregory will present
Internet ACE: Online Self
Promotion

April 29

**Meet the Authors (Clark
County Library, NV)**

Gregory and members
of Laudably Tar-
nished: A Poetry
Workshop host a Q&A
panel on poetry.



This Week

Most weeks there's some news, but this week's news is huge! The speaker catalog I co-founded, *Presenters & Programs*, was mailed out this week to 30,000 meeting and event planners. It's so exciting to know that something I helped create will be seen by so many people in short order. Even better, knowing that I'll be feeling this same sense of excitement in another year when the 2010 version of

the catalog goes out. If you'd like to see our handy work, check out the high resolution PDF version at:

<http://tinyurl.com/PAP2009>.

Thanks to those who wrote in with organization tips. I'm compiling them to share so if you have a tip let me know via email:

Gregory@Kompes.com.

One of the keys to writers succeeding during difficult economic times (most times in fact) is hav-

ing multiple income streams. This week, I offer my review of Café Press, a photo product site that allows you to create cards, postcards, journals, mouse pads, books, CDs, and so much more.

Keep Moving Forward!

~Gregory

Fabulist Flash Recommends

FFP Online Self Promotion: 52-Week Training Course

Online self promotion is the only way to survive these days. It's expected by readers, clients, and publishers. Lucky for us writers, it's also rather cheap (virtually free,

in fact!)

The hard part is learning how to take advantage of the myriad of online tools and options available to us.

That's why I've developed the 52-week training course: **FFP**

Online Self Promotion. Designed in a weekly format, FFP is frequent, allowing for many small steps toward building your online self-promotion platform. And, it's cheap! Get more details at:

FFPOnlinePromotion.com

Create Photo Products with Café Press

by Gregory A. Kompes

There are some things I love about Cafepress. And, the positives surpass the negatives (or I'd use a different company.)

I looked at a lot of different companies when I decided to start up a card line. I liked Cafepress because there's virtually no overhead (beyond the small annual fee mentioned below). It's print on demand (POD) technology. You don't have to create a huge stock of products and then deal with filling your own orders if you were doing it all yourself. You also aren't required to order anything from your own shop and there are ways to have no fees at all. But, if you decide to order something you get a good personal discount.

At the top of the positives is product quality. It really is excellent. I've ordered lots of my own products to check the quality, for use as back of room sales, and for personal use. The quality of the cards, post cards, and journals are espe-

cially fine.

Another positive is that the set-up process is easy, although, you'll need to be able to manipulate your photos/jpgs to create the desired sizes to fit on the different products.

The costs are also very low. I think the annual fee is \$59.95 for a storefront that sells multiple types of the same items. If you only want to sell one of something, one card, one T-shirt, one postcard, there aren't any fees.

Café Press also has mailing list/newsletter options. The newsletter templates look good, but you have no access to your mailing list. So, if this is something you're interested in there are better companies such as GetResponse and Constant Contact.

I haven't used their book or CD POD technology, so I don't know how the quality of those products stacks up.

Using Cafepress has been a positive experience for me. I've sold some stock, made a little money, been able to create an extensive line of products with almost no overhead costs, and the quality of the products is quite good.

Check out my shop at:

www.cafepress.com/gregorykompes

On a personal note, I debated telling you this because I don't want what I wrote above to be construed as a sales pitch. It really is my honest opinion of the company. That said, if you do decide to sign-up for a Café Press account, I'd love if you listed me as your reference because I'll get a referral bonus. My shop name is "gregorykompes"

Books by and with Gregory A. Kompes



All Titles Available at www.Kompes.com

LAMOO Books author Spotlight: Marshal Taylor

Marshal Taylor lives in Las Vegas with his school-teacher wife Patsy Taylor. He graduated from the University of Nevada Las Vegas when it was still a small facility, but still returns there now and again. He has worked as an art director, commercial photographer and a Parks Planner. He started writing novels when he retired from the City of

North Las Vegas Parks and Recreation Department. Prior to retirement, his efforts were chiefly directed toward writing grants. When Marshal is not sitting and staring at his computer, he volunteers time with an adult literacy program, dabbles in gardening and is a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism, where he studies period ra-

pier fighting. *Blossoms of Sin* is his first book in print.

Are you a published author? Offer your own book on LAMOO Books

www.LamooBooks.com

Call for Submissions

Patchwork Path: Friendship Star, Choice Publishing Group is seeking stories and essays about friends and friendship.

Submission Deadline:
March 31, 2009.

Submission Guidelines:
<http://patchworkpath.com>

Patchwork Path: Wedding Bouquet, Choice Publishing Group is seeking stories and essays about weddings.

Submission Deadline:
August 31, 2009.

Submission Guidelines:
<http://patchworkpath.com>

Presenters & Programs 2010, Advertise to 30,000 meeting and event planners in this full-color, glossy catalog from Fabulist Flash Publishing and Turning Point International.

Deadline: October 31, 2009

Details:

PresentersandPrograms.com

House of Spirits by Isabel Allende



the magnificent saga of proud and passionate men and women and the turbulent times through which they suffer and triumph. They are the Truebas. And theirs is a world you will not want to leave, and one you will not forget.

Esteban—The patriarch, a vola-

tile and proud man whose lust for land is legendary and who is haunted by his tyrannical passion for the wife he can never completely possess.

Clara—The matriarch, elusive and mysterious, who foretells family tragedy and shapes the

fortunes of the house of the Truebas.

Blanca—Their daughter, soft-spoken yet rebellious, whose shocking love for the son of her father's foreman fuels Esteban's everlasting contempt... even as it produces the grandchild he adores.

Jackie Yoxen Takes the 18Q



1. Did you choose the writing profession or did it choose you?

It chose me.

2. What is your background? (education, work, etc.)

Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations. Worked for Science Application's International Corp for five years creating presentations for the Dept of Energy. Married, had a child and woke up in the middle of the night to write, Hannah's Sunday Hats, a Christian children's book.

3. When did you 'know' you were a writer?

I'm still not sure! :)

4. How would you describe your style of writing?

Descriptive.

5. What is your writing process?

Write, rewrite, rewrite, rewrite. Give to several people to review including my Mom

(best editor in the business!) then rewrite, rewrite, re-write.

6. What was your path to publication?

Many months of submitting to publishers with no positive outcome (first-time author) so decided to self-publish.

7. What is your favorite self-marketing idea?

Talk to EVERYONE-- newspapers, libraries, bookshops, bookclubs, etc.

8. What are the biggest surprises you've encountered as a writer?

The number of my friends who read the literary column in the newspaper!

9. How do you inspire yourself? What are your sources of creativity?

Reading GOOD books (the Bible is a favorite). Children.

10. What is your proudest writer moment?

When my friend's say Hannah's Sunday Hats made them cry.

11. What's the best advice you were given about writing?

Don't give up. Look at J.K. Rowling--was rejected NUMEROUS times before she was published.

12. What is your most embarrassing writer moment?

Haven't really had one just yet.

13. What business challenges have you faced as a writer?

Trying to get published as a first-time writer. Finding a good and affordable illustrator.

Are you a published author?

Take the award winning

Eighteen Questions!

www.EighteenQuestions.com

Jackie Yoxen Takes the I8Q



14. What is your writer life philosophy?

Pray about it. If it's part of God's plan for your life, it WILL happen.

15. When you're not writing what do you do for fun?

Hiking, biking, reading, singing.

16. Who do you like to read?

Jan Karon, Max Lucado, Jane Austen, Louisa May Alcott, Charlotte Bronte--all the classics.

17. What's your advice for new writers?

Avoid procrastination!

18. What are you currently working on?

Nothing at the moment. Looks like I'd better take my own advice...

Bibliography

[Hannah's Sunday Hats](#)

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Take the award winning

Eighteen Questions!

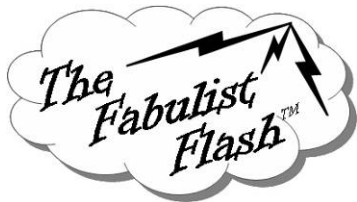
www.EighteenQuestions.com

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Fabulist Flash articles and reviews by Gregory A. Kompes may be reprinted with the following resource box:

Gregory A. Kompes provides information and inspiration in The Fabulist Flash, a weekly newsletter for writers. <http://www.FabulistFlash.com>.

About the Editor



Gregory A. Kompes is the author of the bestselling *50 Fabulous Gay-Friendly Places to Live*, and the *Writer's Series* that includes *Endorsement Quest*, *So, You Wanna be a Writer*, *Should You Write an Ebook*, and *Creating Your Online Media Kit*. He is also a

contributing author to *Chopped Liver for the Gentle Spirit*, *Chopped Liver for the Kindred Spirit*, *The Complete Writer's Journal*, and *Writer's Bloc*. Gregory is editor of *The Fabulist Flash*, an informative newsletter for writers, the *Patchwork Path* series, and *Eighteen Questions*, a Q&A series that collects and shares the experiences of published authors, chosen a *Writer's Digest* "101 Best Website for Writers" in 2007 and 2008. The author speaks frequently at conferences and teaches online

courses on Internet Marketing and co-host's the monthly *Writer's Pen & Grill* in Las Vegas, NV.

Gregory holds a *Bachelor of Arts* in English Literature from Columbia University, New York, a certificate in Online Teaching and Learning, and a *Masters of Science in Education* from California State University, East Bay.