

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 Tarnished: A Poetry Workshop host a Q&A panel on poetry.



This Week

This was a social week. I was invited to a swanky book release party. The book was the annual Las Vegas Business Press' Book of Lists. The party was held at one of the new \$1M+ home developments in the valley. The house was, to say the very least, incredible. I've added it to my wish list! The party, with great food and beverages, was great fun. It was nice to hob-knob with the Vegas literary and business elite. It also provides

an idea for future book release events, why not take advantage of local properties willing to donate a fun, different, or interesting space.

Another social event was our monthly writer's poker night. A small group of writer friends decided we wanted a social evening on a regular basis. So, we each month we rotate to a different home and play poker for a few hours. This is a BYOB and a snack to share evening. Plus,

there's always the possibility that I'll win enough for a toner cartridge.

I'm still working away on the new novel and I've created another new poem. As my list of poetry mounts I'm starting to consider putting together a chap book. If this is something you've done, I'd love to hear about your experience.

Keep Moving Forward!

~Gregory

Fabulist Flash Recommends

"The Truth About Making Money With Teleseminars"

Other than e-mail, one of the quickest ways to get your product or service in front of your targeted audience and to build a long standing relationship with them is through teleseminars. Teleseminars are with

out doubt one of the most effective means of communication that allows you to keep in contact with present customers and future prospects.

If you are marketer, speaker, author, consultant, entrepreneur, or service professional with a client base then you really owe it to

yourself to attend this teleseminar. The conference call is FREE, but the information provided could prove priceless.

For more information and to register for the call, please go to

<http://www.reinventyourselfnow.com/kg-teleseminar.htm>

FaceBook Profile Pictures by Gregory A. Kompes

My mother used that old cliché all the time: "If all your friends jumped off a bridge would you follow them?" It always seemed stupid, that phrase. Yet, it's what we do all the time.

Here's a FaceBook example. There's a trend on the social networking sites, most people use their headshot as their profile picture. Now, there's nothing wrong with that. I've been known to do it myself. But, it shows how we're following the herd. Our mom's just wouldn't approve. I mean, just because everyone else is using their headshots as a profile picture doesn't mean you have to, right?

My suggestion is to get creative. Do you have a new book coming out or just released? Use the book cover as your profile picture. Are you speaking at an event? Use that group's logo for your profile shot.

You might be thinking: "Yeah, but only my friends see my FaceBook page." That is one of the good things about FaceBook. You only see and can see the profile pages of folks you're friends with.

Time for a little therapy moment: My parents aren't the best when it comes to verbal support of all my activities. They still think I'd be better off with a "real job," like being an accountant or something. They use most opportunities they can to let me know they don't think this writing gig of mine is worth my time. But, when they're talking to friends and neighbors, my folks are the first to boast about my accomplishments. And, my mother lives in a large, active senior community and my father and his wife take several cruises a year, so that's a huge audience of book buyers to be boasted to!

One of my true, book-selling discoveries is that our friends and family make the best core book buyers for us and, even more important, they're the ones who ramp up our word-of-mouth sales efforts. So, it's essential that you let them know what you're up to, what events you've got going on.

Nuts and Bolts

If you don't already have a FaceBook page, get one. They're free. Visit www.facebook.com and fill

out the "Sign Up" information.

To change your profile picture, click on your name on the tool bar at the top of the page. From that page, select the "Edit My Profile" link below the picture box on the top left. Next, select the "Profile Photos" link in the Album section. Here you'll want to click "Change Profile Picture" and upload a new photo.

The nice thing is that each photo you upload for your profile remains in the profile photo collection until you delete it. So, you can quickly change from one profile pic to another.

Additionally, you might want to create a photo album with images of your books and products. That way, anyone exploring your profile might stumble upon your achievements.

Once you're signed up, do a search and add me ("Gregory A. Kompes") to your friend list.

Books by and with Gregory A. Kompes



All Titles Available at www.Kompes.com

LAMOO Books author Spotlight: Jack Miller

John "Jack" Miller applied his first career in Law Enforcement and Criminal Investigations to his second career of Casino Games and their protection. Jack was a Special Agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI) conducting investigations of felony crimes. These investigations also included counter-intelligence and counter-

espionage investigations. After retiring from the military, he joined the Clark County District Attorneys office as a Special Investigator of "white collar" and conspiratorial crimes. He worked with undercover teams from the local Police and the FBI conducting burglary stings. He then joined the Nevada State Gaming Control Board (GCB) as an

Enforcement Agent. He was certified by Nevada State and Federal Courts as an Expert witness during trials of gambling cheats.

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

How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell



Because of a bet, Billy is in the uncomfortable position of having to eat fifteen worms in fifteen days. The worms are supplied by his opponent, whose motto is "The bigger and juicier, the better!" At first Billy's problem is whether or not he

can swallow the worm placed before him, even with a choice of condiments from peanut butter to horseradish. But later it looks as if Billy will win, and the challenge becomes getting to the worm to eat it. Billy's family, after

checking with the doctor, takes everything in stride. They even help Billy through his gastro-nomic ordeal, which twists and turns with each new day, leaving the outcome of the bet continually in doubt.

K.M. Weiland Takes the 18Q



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

One of my earliest memories is a story I came up with when I was three or four. I don't remember much of it, except that I was the hero, who lived in a tree house, and that I saved my entire extended family (we were at a family reunion) from some unknown evil. So you could definitely say that storytelling chose me. I've always been dreaming stories; writing them down was just the next step in a natural progression.

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

I write part-time (at least two hours a day) and work part-time as a pastor's secretary and editor.

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

When I was twelve I created a newsletter called Horse Tails, which featured both short stories and informational content, the vast majority of which I wrote myself. From the moment my first words appeared on paper, I knew this is what I was supposed to do for the rest of my life. I've never looked back.

4. How would you describe your style of writing?

The deeper I can get "into" a character, the better I write. I like to absolutely immerse myself in the character's voice. I want what the world I write about to be entirely colored by character's viewpoint. Character is everything to me.

5. What is your writing process?

I'm very regimented. Spontaneity rarely works for me. Unless I'm fortunate enough to have a larger break in my work schedule, I write every weekday from four to six in the afternoon. I usually begin each session by dashing off my thoughts in my "writing journal." I reflect on the work I've done so far and write down new ideas. This helps me focus and weed out some of the bad ideas before I actually start writing. Then I'll go back and read an entry that was written during my previous novel; it helps me keep my current struggles in perspective.

I review character sketches and read an informational piece on writing (today I'll read "Does Your Plot Thicken?" by Simon Wood from an old issue of *Writer's Digest*). Finally, I'll proofread what I wrote the day before, select a soundtrack, say a prayer, and dive in!

6. What was your path to publication?

Publishing is something I've never felt the need to do in order to find fulfillment. My writing is an end in itself. But so many people encouraged me to publish *A Man Called Outlaw* that I finally decided to go for it.

7. What is your favorite self-marketing idea?

I'm a writer, not a marketer. That is something struggle with every day. But I'm learning! A good, clean, solid website is definitely a must. The more people you can get to link you, the better.

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

Every day is a surprise. I never know what I'm going to discover when I set my fingers to the keyboard and start typing. Writing is a journey and an adventure.

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

Music. Personalities. Emotion. Beauty.

K.M. Weiland Takes the 18Q

10. What is your proudest writer moment?

The completion of a novel is always a huge sigh of relief. I think I'm most proud of my yet-to-be published Crusade novel, Behold the Dawn. It's a piece that I'm not sure I'll ever be able to surpass. That is both a wonderful feeling—and a horrible one.

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

Rules were made to broken. If something works for you, throw convention out the window and go for it!

12. What is your most embarrassing writer moment?

The factual mistakes and stupid typos are always embarrassing. But nothing particular stands out to memory.

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

Selling my books. I'm probably the worst salesperson in the world!

14. What is your writer life philosophy?

So many stories; so little time. I will not live long enough to write all the stories I want to. So I have to make the best use of the time I have, and try to write the best stories I can.

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

If I'm not writing, it probably isn't fun! No, seriously, I enjoy horseback riding, reading anything I can get my hands on, watching movies, taking walks in the summertime, and playing volleyball.

16. Who do you like to read?

I love old books. The Scottish Chiefs by Jane Porter will probably be my favorite for all time. I love Mary Johnston, especially The Long Roll and To Have and to Hold. As far as more recent authors go, I enjoy Dee Henderson, Kristen Heitzmann, and Kathy Tyers.

17. What's your advice for new writers?

Emerson once said, "There is no strong performance without a little fanaticism in the performer."

18. What are you currently working on?

A fantasy novel entitled Dreamers Come, about a man who discovers that his dreams are really memories of a faraway land called Lael.

Bibliography

[A Man Called Outlaw](#)



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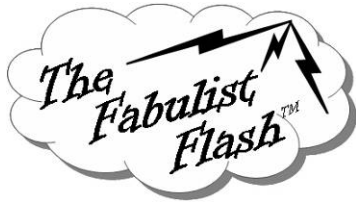
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Gregory A. Kompes provides information and inspiration in The Fabulist Flash, a weekly newsletter for writers. <http://www.FabulistFlash.com>.

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.