

**18<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Texas Mountain Trail Writers Spring Retreat**

**Writing Round-Up**

**Paisano Baptist Encampment**

**Alpine, Texas**

**April 24, 25, 26, 2009**

**Did you ever want to learn how to write a romance novel, how to research for a story on Billy the Kid, or write an insightful article about adoption? Have you wondered if the Internet is the best marketing option of the future for you and, if so, how to dabble your toes in the water?**

**All of this and much more will be offered at the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Retreat of the Texas Mountain Trail Writers “Writing Round-Up” held at Paisano Baptist Encampment in the mountains west of Alpine April 24, 25, 26.**

**Enjoy the western atmosphere, pleasantly warm days and cool mountain nights, while listening to presentations from professional, published authors.**

**Dr. Barney Nelson---Author, Photographer, SR Writing Professor  
Mike Cox—Author, Journalist, Texas Rangers’ Researcher  
Linda LaRoque—Romance Novelist, Internet Marketing**

**You’ll enjoy western cooking, hiking on a cross-country trail, birding, exploring, photographing, or sitting and thinking! Creative ideas and opportunities for sharing and networking will abound.**

**Schedule:**

**Friday Night Writers Reception: April 24, 7:00 pm**

Your first opportunity to meet our presenters and fellow writers will be at the Front Street Books Reading Room, 201 E. Holland Avenue, in Alpine. Join us for an evening of informal chatting, relaxation and fun. Enjoy wine or soft drinks and a fabulous hors d’oeuvres spread. Maps will be furnished for the Saturday location. This event is free and open to the public.

**Saturday Conference Session: April 25, 8:00 am – 9:00 pm**

All sessions will be at Paisano Encampment beginning with a continental breakfast and picking up registration packets and schedule. Lunch, dinner and snacks will also be at this location. Dress is country casual, and audience participation is welcomed during presentations. After the dinner and speaker, stories will be read around the fireside.

### **Sunday Q & A Wrap-Up Session: April 26, 8:00 am to 12 noon**

A hearty brunch and a final chance to glean ideas from the speakers are on the agenda. Retreat participants exchange cards and fond farewells after a weekend of fun and sharing of ideas in the fresh mountain setting.

**Download the [2009 TMTW Conference Registration Form](#) – in Adobe PDF format.**

### **Lodging:**

Rustic housing is available at the Encampment if you are adventurous. There are three choices:

Five small, nicely renovated cabins which sleep up to 4 (bunkbeds) and have their own bathroom plus microwave and refrigerator for \$50 a night flat rate.

Ten cabins unrenovated, very rustic, and without kitchen amenities which sleep up to 4 (bunkbeds) with own bathrooms for a flat \$25 per night.

Bunkhouse: Beds for \$10 per night, with shared bathroom/shower facilities, dorm style (men and women separate).

In each choice you are responsible for your own linens: sheets, pillows, blankets, towels. Maybe you'll bring your cowboy bedroll! All cabins and the bunkhouse have air conditioning and heat (the mountains get very cool at night, even at the end of April.)

Lodging will be assigned as reservations come in on a first come, first served basis, and the cabins only will have a cut-off registration deadline of April 15 so that the required number may be cleaned.

The camp also has RV hookups for \$25.00 per night, which include 50 amp electricity and water, no sewer, plus a nice restroom/shower facility.

**To make reservations at the Encampment or for more information, contact Jackie Siglin – 432-364-2399 or email [bakedalaska1@bigbend.net](mailto:bakedalaska1@bigbend.net) .**

Lodging is also available in Alpine, Marfa, and Fort Davis. Information on hotels, motels, and RV parks is available on the Chamber of Commerce web sites: [www.alpinetexas.com](http://www.alpinetexas.com) (Visitor Guide) or [www.fortdavis.com](http://www.fortdavis.com) (Accommodations) or [www.marfacc.com](http://www.marfacc.com) (Lodging) Please make your reservations early.

### **Meals**

The following meals are included in your registration fee:

Friday – Evening wine/punch & hors d'oeuvres Reception

Saturday – Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Round-Up Supper

Sunday – Festive Brunch

## Activities

Door prizes will be given during the weekend. Free time is allowed for exploring or resting. There are 1,000 acres in the encampment and a cross-country trail around the camp that is used by many schools in West Texas for meets. There are many rocks to climb and a dry creek, except when it rains, with pedestrian bridges. Photography opportunities surround you.

## Writing Assignment

Homework for a Retreat??? Yes, your assignment will be to write an imaginative story or poem using one of two titles. There will be time to read our poems and stories around the fireplace. This is fun and optional! All poems and stories will be published in next year's *Chaos West of the Pecos*, unless otherwise requested.

The rules are simple:

1. Title your poem or story: “**Stranded**” or “**Nightmare at Camp.**”
2. The poem must be **250 words** or less; the story must be **500 words** or less.
3. Bring your work to read, or if you are a member and can't attend, send it to the chairperson who will select someone to read it for you.
4. Strong flashlights will be furnished for reading if needed!

## Additional Information:

Authors with books to sell may do so at no cost if they are members of the Texas Mountain Trail Writers and attend the retreat. Dues are \$15 per year and payment may be made with the retreat fee. Please request a half or whole sellers' table on your registration form. Additional copies of *Chaos West of the Pecos* will be available for sale.

## For More Information:

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