



# Valley Byliners Newsletter

Harlingen, TX

November 7, 2009



## The Book

'Collected Tales From The Rio Grande' will be the title of the Byliners new book. Twenty-one members voted. The split was 12 to 9 in favor of 'Collected...'

## *More about the book.....*

Bids for publishing our book are in. Three POD publishers were contacted and their quotes are as follows:

Specifications were the same for all three: 400 pages, 6x9 paperback, soft cover, perfect bound, black ink on white paper, 250 copies. All include an ISBN number and distribution via Amazon.com, Barnes&Noble.com, Ingram and Baker, etc. We are to provide the cover graphic.

iUniverse: using the Select (set-up) publishing package:

250 books @ \$12.97 = \$3242.50

Plus shipping

Outskirts Press: (set up fee in their Ruby package)

250 books @ \$10.77 = \$2692

plus Ruby pkg = \$ 699

Total cost = \$3391 (\$13.564 per copy)

Shipping extra

Lulu: 250 books @ \$9.50 = \$2375

Plus cost of cover ??

Plus shipping

While it is tempting to go with the lowest bidder, one must also consider past performance. Tales Told at Midnight... was published by iUniverse. Prepare to discuss these bids during the Nov. 14 meeting.

## November Meeting



At the November meeting, Stan Raines of Brownsville will conduct a program on the experience of running a blog (web log) and opening it up as a community resource. Stan is a retired schoolteacher and a member of the Narciso Martinez Cultural Arts Center Writers Forum, also called the San Benito Writer's Forum for short. Stan has a small band, Long Time Coming, and does gigs on weekends at various Valley night spots. Stan's wife, Kathy, has submitted a short story for our upcoming book. At our meeting on November 14 Stan will show some slides from his blog, nunnayerbizness.com, and give step-by-step instructions for those who want to start their own blog. Those who have laptops are encouraged to bring them to the meeting, and Stan will show you how to get started on [blogspot.com](http://blogspot.com) or [wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com). Those who don't have laptops can take notes and do it later at home on their desktops if they desire to do so.



## Time to Renew



Jeff Harris has sent each of us an email notice for renewing our dues. At the bottom of the email is the form that shows the information Jeff has for each one of us.

December is dues month - If you have not already done so, please bring your dues and the previously emailed form (make corrections as necessary) to the November or December meeting to stay current.

Not planning on attending a meeting anytime soon? You can mail the form along with a check for the amount shown to: Valley Byliners, c/o Jeff Harris, 15859 Perkins Rd, Harlingen, TX 78552

**\$20 per year**

## From The Houston Writers Guild

Don, thanks for forwarding our newsletter to your members. We will do the same with yours. Our newsletter reaches 600 writers around the country. We will always be glad to print notice when any of your writers gets published, or comes to town to do book signings.

We will be looking forward to receiving contest entries from the Valley in our novel contest. Since the prize is \$1000, that's 100 a page for the winner!.

As you note, we are hoping to finalize arrangements for a New York editor to attend out spring conference on April 10. If you have members who would like to attend the conference, we will be happy to extend special rates to them.

Feel free to reprint any of the articles in our newsletter in yours.

Roger Paulding

Houston Writers Guild

[www.houstonwritersguild.org](http://www.houstonwritersguild.org)



## Jack says.....

Don Clifford's piece was voted the winner of our monthly writing contest at the October meeting. Due to lack of submissions, there was no vote in September, so the prize awarded at the October meeting was \$20. There were no new submissions again at the October meeting, so there will be no vote at the meeting this month, and the prize will increase from \$10 to \$20 again in December, and if no entries are submitted this month, the prize will increase to \$30 in January.

C'mon guys, this is a writers group. Write something! This is an ongoing monthly contest and practice makes you a better writer. Your entry can be a short story, poem, reminiscence, essay or whatever, as long as it's not more than 1500 words. Bring 20 copies to the November meeting so that everyone present gets one and do not put your name on them. We'll vote at the December Christmas party after everyone has read the entries and a new winner will be announced following the vote. See you November 14.



## From your Editor

Not a lot of news this month. I waited until we got a winner in the title vote to put it together so I'm sorry if it's a bit late.

There will be no newsletter in December. I will be out of the country.

If anyone has something they need to share with the membership, please email our president and ask that it be sent out on the email list.

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving.