

Cavendish Inn Hosts Annual Writers Weekend

The First Annual Writers Weekend will take place at the historic Cavendish Inn/Glimmerstone Mansion in Cavendish on Saturday, July 23 and Sunday, July 24.

The program, which begins at 10 a.m. each day, will include presentations by five authors and publishers.

Lunch is included on Saturday at an overall cost of \$25 for the weekend event. Lodgers at the inn will attend at no charge. A gift of \$10 per participant will be donated to the Cavendish Historical Museum.

The kick-off speaker on Saturday at 10 a.m. will be Betsy Lampe, executive director of the Florida Publishers Association, president of the 25-year-old small and independent press, Rainbow Books, Inc., and member of the National Association of Independent Publishers.

Known for her dynamic presentation style, Lampe will speak on What You Need to Know About Marketing Your Book and will answer questions from participants about marketing and publishing.

Speaking at 11 a.m. will be Betty Wright, prolific author of newspaper articles and stories for *Readers Digest*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *Good Housekeeping* and others, and a novels, one of which was optioned to Universal Studios.

Wright is founder of Rainbow Books, Inc., a member of the Association of American Publishers, founding member of the Florida Publishers Association, and a member of the Publishers Association of the South, which awarded her the Year 2000 Robin Mays Award for her contribution to publishing.

Wright will draw on her many years as a writer, author and publisher in presenting her topic, How to Work with Small and



Marjory Lyons, left, co-ordinator of the Writers Weekend at the Cavendish Inn, and Betsy Lampe, executive director of the Florida Publishers Association.

Independent Presses.

A break for lunch will be from noon to 1 p.m.

The afternoon speakers are Stuart McIver, Joan McIver and Marjory Lyons.

Stuart McIver will speak at 1 p.m. on the subject of *Dreamers, Schemers and Scalawags* which is the title of one of his 15 books on historical non-fiction featuring true stories of Florida men and women of mystery and questionable renown.

Among those stories to be included in his presentation is that of Ernest Hemingway and his life style while living in Key West, Florida.

Former president of the Mystery Writers of America, and author of 400 magazine articles, Stuart will also discuss his latest book, *Death in the Everglades* published by the University Press of Florida, which tells of the murder of a governmental agent sent in the early 1900s to prevent poachers from slaughtering egrets for their leathers.

Travel columnist for the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* Sunday Travel Section, Joan McIver will speak on *Passport to Travel Writing* at 2 p.m.

Popular speaker, teacher, and workshop leader, Joan will draw on her own travel experiences with husband Stuart – in presenting her

unique methods of observing details and including personality in travel articles.

Winner of the 2004 Short Story Contest sponsored by the Writers Network of South Florida, Joan also writes regularly for *Florida Design* magazine describing homes and estates of the rich and famous.

From 3 to 5 p.m. Marjory Diane Lyons, Ph.D., will present *Tips on Writing Your Life Story*, intended for writers of all ages who are interested in writing and publishing memoirs or biographies.

Immediate past president of The Writers Network of South Florida, board-member-at-large of The Florida Publishers Association, and board member of the National League of American Pen Women, Fort Lauderdale Branch, Lyons is owner of *Telling Your Story, Inc.*, a memoir-producing business devoted to writing, editing and publishing books of life stories for private distribution.

The *Tips on Writing Your Life Story* workshop, a popular program in Florida and in Sedona, AZ, will conclude with a hands-on writing session.

The Writers Workshop will continue on Sunday from 10 a.m. with a writing and critique session until noon.

With the intention of establishing a series of summer-long events of interest to writers, Tim and Peter Jefferson, owners of the inn, indicated the inn and barn could become a gathering place for writers and artists. A new literary group, the Glimmerstone Literary Society, open to the community, will be sponsoring the Writers Weekend.

For details about lodging packages and the schedule of the activities at the Cavendish Inn, contact Marjory Lyons or Tim Jefferson at www.cavendishinnvt.com or 226-7080.