

KeyNotes

August 2008

Brought to you by The Silloway Press, The Concierge of Publishing (SM)

Hello Authors and Publishers!

I'm not one to use a lot of exclamation points, but sometimes I just can't control my enthusiasm. This is one of those times.

[The Silloway Press](#) Website is LIVE! (Sound of champagne corks popping and trumpets blaring.) There is still plenty to do, lots of content to add, and I'm sure to be tweaking pages for months to come, but for now I'm celebrating. My vision of a publishing company that focuses on helping authors find what they need - not what some marketing guy thinks they can be hornswaggled into buying - that vision is becoming a reality.

Each month, your *KeyNotes* will include some news, a bit of trivia, a useful article, sometimes a joke or cartoon. It will be long enough to be interesting, and short enough that you can read it in a few minutes. And yes, I'd love to hear any suggestions you have to make it better. So let's get on with it.

Can I Quote You on That?

I like quotes. I never get tired of reading the ingenious ways that other people string words together to encapsulate a thought. Mr. Thoreau was particularly adept:

"Books are the carriers of civilization. Without books, history is silent, literature dumb, science crippled, thought and speculation at a standstill."

- Henry David Thoreau

My Word!

If you are a word lover, you can imagine the fun of receiving a new word every day in your email. I've subscribed to A.Word.A.Day from Wordsmith.org for years, and look forward to those weekday vocabulary boosters.

Some words are familiar, some are words I've heard but was never sure about the definition. And then there are words that fall into the category of "who knew there was a word for that?"

Like this: omphaloskepsis (om-fuh-lo-SKEP-sis) a noun meaning the contemplation of one's navel. Anyone care to try working that into conversation at your next party or networking event?

August Author Birthdays

August 1 - Herman Melville
August 3 - P.D. James, Leon Uris
August 9 - Jonathan Kellerman
August 11 - Alex Haley
August 12 - Mary Roberts Rinehart
August 15 - Sir Walter Scott, Edna Ferber
August 17 - V.S. Naipaul
August 19 - Ogden Nash
August 20 - Edgar Guest, Jacqueline Susann
August 22 - Ray Bradbury, Dorothy Parker
August 27 - Confucius, Ira Levin
August 28 - Leo Tolstoy
August 29 - Oliver Wendell Holmes
August 30 - Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley
August 31 - William Saroyan

Featured Article - Do You Haiku?

Most months you'll find an article about writing or publishing here. But for this issue, something different.

Have you ever tried writing haiku? You probably know that it is a form of Japanese poetry consisting (usually) of 17 or fewer syllables, and often in three lines with the syllables in the order 5 - 7 - 5. A haiku usually focuses on what a person witnesses in daily life, often having to do with nature. One day I decided to play around with the form, and focus on the realities of the home office entrepreneur.

Kira

Hum click purr fluff ouch
Computer on, mouse pointing
Cat on lap with claws

Dress Code

Knee socks and slippers
Simple sartorial style
"Suits" would deny me

Pay Day

No billing today
Red fox trots by the window
My compensation

All right, think you can do better? Good - send them in, and we'll add a haiku section to *KeyNotes*.

The Keeper of the Keys

That's me, Peg Silloway. Lover of words, collector of books, slower at reading that I'd like, but that also means I savor all the nuances and lovely images that the author shows me. Publishing is a natural outgrowth of my life-long love of writing. I've never had a job where I didn't write, even if it was not part of my job description. And now I'm pouring that love of wordcraft into creating books that have something to say, that can make a difference, and that help authors' publishing aspirations become reality. Mix that passion for the written word with a background steeped in business reality - accounting, project management, and small business management - and you have **The Silloway Press**.

Isn't it high time you published your book? Call 301-335-9368 or [email me](#). Together we can make it happen.

Write On!

Peg Silloway, Publisher

