

A Day in the Life of a Writer Moonlight and Magnolias PRO Sponsored Collage Workshop

By Tami Brothers

The 2007 Moonlight and Magnolias Conference was a blast. For those of you who missed it, I'm truly sorry. There was some wonderful information passed along and some fabulous friendships made.

One of the big highlights for me was the PRO Sponsored Collage Workshop presented by Jeanette Cogdell, Susan May and myself. This was a terrific opportunity presented to us by the M&M Committee. The goal was to give a few GRW PRO members some first hand experience at teaching a workshop and some name recognition.

I have to say that it was an awesome experience. We had approximately thirty attendees that sprinkled in throughout the night. Some participants had never heard of collaging and were pleasantly surprised when they realized how much they learned about their own characters as the evening progressed. Of course, there were those people who are still riding the fence on whether or not it was worth their time. But I'm hopeful they had a great time connecting with other writers, even if they didn't get much out of the workshop.

We were lucky to have several published authors attend. Dianna Love Snell, who gave us this terrific idea, spent the evening working on a collage for one of the books she's currently writing. Susan Goggins, aka Raven Hart, graced us with her presence. She won one of the gift bags we were giving away and created a beautiful collage. Trish Milburn, our newest addition to the published author ranks, came out to lend support and

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also did a fabulous collage. And last, but certainly not least, Sherrilyn Kenyon made a surprise appearance. The other attendees were a mixture of GRW members and other writers from out of town. We had a very energetic group that made for a fun experience and I send them my most heartfelt thanks for their support.

We're hopeful this workshop will be the beginning of a whole slew of opportunities for our GRW PRO members. As much fun as our trio had working on this project, the goal is to present as many PRO members as possible with this same type of experience. Give other up-and-coming authors a chance to plan, prepare and implement an idea that will be beneficial to others.

If you haven't figured it out yet, **YES**, this is one of those perks to being a PRO member. Look for another PRO Sponsored Workshop again next year and do whatever you can to support our GRW members, published and un-published. Because as many of us learned this past weekend, they are more than happy to support you.

A big thank you to Berta Platas and Dianna Love Snell for lending us their collage boards to display at the workshop. If you want to learn more about collaging, visit the favorite links page of my website www.tamibrothers.com and check out some fabulous articles by Jenny Crusie and Colleen Gleason.

Happy writing everyone!