

## A Day in the Life of a Writer - Goals By Tami Brothers

The year 2007 is rapidly coming to an end. As you look back on the past twelve months, can you honestly say you did everything you set out to do with your writing this year?

Some people can and will be proud of their accomplishments. Whether it was finishing a manuscript or submitting their work to a contest. Check. Check. Goal complete.

There are those who are groaning in despair. Asking where the months went? They thought they had more time! If only they'd pushed themselves to write just one extra page/paragraph/sentence, they would be so much farther along.

Then, there are the people who didn't set out to accomplish anything. They figured they had plenty on their plates without adding this extra stress to their lives. Some of them are jumping for joy because they actually did more than they thought they would. Others are saying, "Oh, well. Maybe next year. Or even the next. No biggie."

What group can you relate to? It shouldn't matter to me which one you fall into, because this is your life and your writing career. But I have to say, it does matter. Not only am I jumping for joy each time someone submits their manuscript to an agent or editor, but I'm also disappointed right along side those of you who haven't written a word in more than a year. Why do I feeling this way? Because, I'm here to represent you. Good or bad. Writing or not writing. I'm here for you. I am YOUR PRO-Liaison. And if I'm not doing my job, then I need to know what I can do to make things better.

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The Georgia Romance Writing Organization has had a very busy year with three writing challenges, the Virginia Ellis Memorial Critique Workshop, the Maggie Contest, the Moonlight and Magnolias Conference, and the Finish the Book Contest. There were even a couple of PRO opportunities with the PRO Finish the Book Contest and the PRO Sponsored Collage workshop at the Moonlight and Magnolias Conference. Along with that were several PAN programs. Not only did our published authors help out with the wonderful critiques at the Virginia Ellis Workshop, they judged the Maggies, presented mini workshops at our July meeting, and participated in the Decatur Book Festival.

This doesn't even begin to include all the awesome workshops, the Q&A sessions with published authors, and the many free critiques raffled off at each and every monthly meeting. If you had no idea some of these things were happening, take the time to explore the Georgia Romance Writers webpage. Len Johnson has done a fabulous job of keeping us informed on what's happening throughout the year.

As we look forward to 2008, I don't see any of these opportunities being reduced in any way, shape or form. So, if we've missed anything that you feel would make your Georgia Romance Writers experience better, please don't hesitate to let us know.

With that said, you also need to become an active member with your writing. All these wonderful opportunities are worthless if YOU don't participate. Start out the 2008 year right. Set a goal and write it down. Tape it next to you computer or even on the refrigerator.

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It doesn't matter what the goal is. Heck, pledge to attend five meetings this next year. Maybe even finishing that manuscript you've been struggling with. How about submitting your work to a contest, agent, or editor?

Whatever you decide to do, write it down. Make yourself accountable for it. And if you fail, at least you tried. If you succeed, YIPPEE!!! You will have accomplished something. Either way, I'll be right there beside you. What have you got to lose?

Happy writing everyone!

For more information on setting and keeping goals, check out my blog December 2007 at [www.tamibrothers.com](http://www.tamibrothers.com) for more in-depth information on this subject.