

Melanie Bowden Newsletter  
November 2007

## MELANIE'S WRITING UPDATES – NOVEMBER 2007

"Be present in all things and thankful for all things." - Maya Angelou

I'm so blessed with the good fortune I'm having in building a career solely around writing work. I'm very happy with the amount of work I've obtained, and, of course, I love the writing itself. So many of you have helped along the way like my friend, Darcy, who provided the Maya Angelou quote above.

Here's the scoop on what I've been up to since last month:

1) My workbook *Get Your Articles Published! Over 100 Tips, Exercises, and Techniques to Sell Your Nonfiction Articles* was released on October 29th. I'm already receiving positive reviews on the workbook. Since I offer a free query letter evaluation with purchase, I'm looking forward to reading all the great article ideas in those letters.

2) To let more people know about the workbook, I'm holding the following contest:

### SPREAD THE WORD CONTEST

#### Win \$25 to the Book Store of your Choice!

Just in time for the holidays, a chance to add some cheer to your wallet. From now until December 15th, help me spread the word about *Get Your Articles Published!* Whoever gets the most people to buy the workbook (in either print or ebook format), receives a gift certificate of **\$25** to any book store (including online ones) of **his or her** choice. The workbook makes a great gift for anyone who wants to write for magazines.

If you've already purchased workbooks or purchase ones before December 15th, those purchases are included in your contest total. If you'd like my October 29th general announcement about *Get Your Articles Published!* sent to someone, drop me a line and I'll take care of that. Or forward this email to the people and groups in your life who you think would be interested.

**Good luck!** Will you be the contest winner?

3) Combine a coaching session with the workbook and save! For \$50, \$40 for two hours of coaching plus \$10 for the workbook, sign up for an in-person or phone coaching session. We'll cover the workbook material, and, for phone sessions, I take care of any phone charges. Since my regular coaching fee is \$40 per hour, you save on both the coaching and the workbook. (An additional \$4.60 for postage is added if the workbook is mailed to you.) Workbooks purchased at the discounted price also qualify for the [Spread the Word Contest](#).

*"My session with Melanie was invaluable. Between the workbook and the coaching, I feel like I am ready to start writing for magazines. I think Melanie saved me hours of time, and I so appreciate her organized style of teaching. The 1:1 coaching was perfect for me with my busy schedule." - Jo Hatcher*

General coaching for book and magazine writers, wherever you are in the writing process, is also available. You receive a reduced rate of \$30 per hour for the first session.

4) The [Growing Families Expo](#) on October 21st in Benicia was a fun and extremely well-organized event. I signed and sold copies of [Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me?](#), laughed a lot with Michelle Trippi (the editor of [Community Kids](#) who I shared a table with), and met so many nice people who work with young families. Welcome to those of you who signed up at the Expo to receive my writing updates. Thank you for joining the gang!

5) Thank you to Koren Motekaitis for inviting me to be a guest for the second time on her radio show [How She Really Does It](#). On October 26th we had a full hour to talk about breaking into magazine writing, negotiating for higher pay, valuing the work you do, and balancing work and family (I have a long way to go on the last one!).

6) Two holiday articles of mine appear in the November 15th issue of [Community Kids](#): [A Giving Spirit: Ideas for Raising Compassionate Kids](#) and [Taking Back the Holidays](#). Both of these articles have previously appeared in other publications.

7) I'm now writing articles for the [California Center for Cooperative Development](#) website. My first assignment was on a preschool parent cooperative in Knights Landing, California. The next cooperative I'll be profiling is [Mandela Foods Cooperative](#) in West Oakland, opening in February 2008. By December's newsletter, I hope to have the links to both articles available for you.

8) Are you, or do you know, a new or expectant parent? Would they appreciate [Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me?](#) as a holiday gift? At my blog, [Spit-Up](#)

[On My Shoulder](#), you can download a free chapter and find lots of information for young parents. I always appreciate when you refer someone to the book and/or blog. If you'd like an autographed copy of *Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me?*, contact me for order information.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. I'm very thankful for all of you and your never-ending support. What else could a writer ask for? 🙌

Melanie Bowden

Author of *Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me? True Stories of New Motherhood* and *Get Your Articles Published!*

<http://motherhood.booklocker.com>