

### IS THIS YOU?

"I need help finishing my manuscript." OR: "I've finished my manuscript. *NOW WHAT?*"

After the family history I was writing somehow morphed into my first historical novel, I found myself with a finished manuscript and NO IDEA what to do next. So I began researching the process and, wisely, joined a local writer group for information and encouragement.

I also signed up for a writer symposium. The first two traditional publishers I met there both wanted my book. SO EXCITING! After more research and reflection, however, I decided to self-publish instead. That meant learning all I could about the finer points of writing for publication, revising, editing, formatting, cover design, blurbs, copyrights, ISBNs, bar codes, platforms, trailers, pricing, promotion and all the rest. SO MUCH TO KNOW but...

...in the end, I learned how to do it all myself, because I liked knowing how to do it all myself.

### I CAN HELP YOU:

- ...finish and polish your manuscript.
- ...edit and proof your finished work.
- ...format and prepare your work for publication.
- ...design a creative cover.
- ...write an enticing back blurb.
- ...learn how to do it yourself.

## I AM:

- a multi-published, multi-awardwinning author, editor and writing professor with
- 30+ years of experience and
- expertise in creative (fiction and nonfiction), academic, research, technical, business and promotional writing.

## I CAN:

• encourage, support and guide you through the process.

# SOMETHING I'VE LEARNED THAT YOU MAY FIND HELPFUL

Writing and editing are two very different skill sets. Most people do one or the other. Few do both. Fewer still do both really *WELL*. And even those who are good at editing typically find it difficult to edit and proof their own work.

### DON'T RUIN ALL YOUR HARD WORK BY...

...settling for a masterpiece filled with errors! Typical options for getting your work publishready would be to:

- 1) find one or more able friends to assist you;
- 2) hire a professional to do the work for you; or
- 3) hire an expert as a guide to teach you how to do it yourself.



## MY ADVICE: KNOW WHO YOU ARE

If you're able and willing to do it all yourself, learn all you need to know to do it really well. If you're not that person, hire someone who is.