



*Dear Friend of the Community of Writers,*

Now in the waning days of November, it may be hard to remember the summer week that is our gathering. But before we know it, writers and poets, along with the staff writers and publishing professionals, will be driving along the river on Highway 89 and turning right into the valley, some of them for the first time to see the meadow, the rocky cliffs and slopes of the valley, at last finding their way to their workshops. Writing and publishing can sometimes seem like knocking on an unopenable door, even for the most diligent among us. But we do keep trying, not just to publish, but to bring our work better into the light on our own workbenches. And with some regularity, each summer, a spark does catch. We'll soon be halfway round the cycle of the year toward that summer day of hopeful arrivals.

One of our principal goals, always, is to keep the workshops affordable to the participants. You may not know that the Community of Writers is an independent group, not a project of any college or university. We are a not-for-profit organization, run by a group of writers to help other writers, with no institution funding our operations, managing the budget, or providing the venue. In the early days, our workshops shared the Valley with few other visitors, but as the ski resort has prospered, the Valley has become an attractive year-round destination and the costs of housing and food have risen.

**So please help sustain this Community, and contribute something to our fund this year.**

Alumni: Were you in Workshop #10? The famous Workshop #7? The brilliant and hilarious workshop #6? The contentious workshop #2? We are hoping we can convince all twelve of you in those workshops to donate, trying for 100% participation. *\*(I made up these descriptions of workshops, of course. You will have your own depending on what year you attended).*

The Continuum: Many of you reading this now were recipients of some kind of financial aid. Some of you may still be strapped financially; nevertheless we hope you can send something. Or you may no longer be in school, or may have a better job, or you may have even seen your book published. And in that case, perhaps your time at Squaw helped you in some way. If this is true, I hope you will consider sending us a larger donation.

Scholarships are needed, but we also are in great need of unrestricted funds for our general operations. Please send what you can. Those who donate \$500 and more will be entered in a drawing, (over).

You may send a check made out to the Community of Writers and return it in the envelope supplied.

Or, if you prefer, you can donate online at ~

[www.squawvalleywriters.org/donations.html](http://www.squawvalleywriters.org/donations.html)

*With best wishes,*

**Brett Hall Jones**  
*Executive Director*