

Jude Willhoff

Writing stories that touch the heart

Get Hooked!



2015 Newsletter #1

February 2015

Fan Update From The Foot of Pikes Peak

Happy Valentine's Day! May your day be filled with lots of love, flowers, and yummy chocolate treats. My wedding anniversary is on the 28th of February so this has always been a special month for me. Enjoy your holiday!

Let me catch you up to date with what's been happening with me. During the last weekend of January I was at a writer's retreat in Manitou Springs, Colorado, literally at the foot of Pikes Peak, not far

from my home. Through the light falling snow I could see the Cog Railway Depot from where I was sitting. This is the train that takes the tourists up to the top of Pikes Peak and back down. We were all inside staying warm, plotting and planning and working on our writing goals/schedules for the next year, but every now and then we would glance up to look out the large wall of windows to watch the snow or see the joggers returning from or getting ready to run up the Manitou Incline. Secretly, because we were getting so much work done we were all wishing for a blizzard so we would get snowed in and stay longer.



The writing retreat is something we do every year. For me, the retreat is a must. As a writer, I like to prepare for the upcoming year. I need a writing roadmap for each of my novels so I won't take a side road and get off on a tangent where I end up deleting several chapters to get back on track. Every author has their system and the retreat is part of mine.

As a group, each year we get together at a different

What's Happening in My Life



Good things are happening! The very best news of all is that on November 17, 2014, our first grandson, Gabriel RJ Willhoff was born in Vail, Colorado. I'm happy to report that Mom, Dad and baby boy are all doing wonderful. Holding him in my arms makes my heart leap with joy. I'm totally biased but he is just the cutest little fellow. I'm blessed to have 6 granddaughters and each of them is very special to me, but little Gabriel is the icing on the cake. We're a very close family and I can't imagine my life without any one of them. I am truly blessed. The past few weeks have been filled with getting through the holidays and baby visiting. Now it's time to get back to more scheduled writing.

And the other big news I have to share is that I have retired from real estate as of December 1, 2014 to write full time. Staying home and writing full time is a dream come true. Retirement takes some getting used to but now that I've had some time to get organized I feel as if I'm on the right path. I'm excited about the writing projects I can get accomplished this year.

And also, my



location for our retreat. However, this year we decided to stay close to home, except for Laura who flew in from Alabama. Once at our chosen site we always have a good time. We catch up with each other, prepare for our next year's writing, eat lots of good food and play games. This is our escape from the routine of day

jobs, family, chores and sometimes reality to brainstorm, plot and plan our new stories. As I've said many times, our books refuse to write themselves. At this time, we also discuss what's working or not working with social media, marketing and just about everything else under the sun. We've all known each other for many years and it's become quite the joke when we often finish each other's sentences. Sisters in writing, Pam McCutcheon, Laura Hayden, Jodi Anderson, Sharon Silva, Donnell Bell, Karen Fox, Angel Smits and myself do this every year. It is an occasion we always look forward to. Due to health issues, Sharon couldn't make it, and Donnell had to be out of town, but I'm sure they'll be back next year.

What's Happening with My Writing

I've just finished writing the first draft of a nonfiction book, working title, *A 12-Step Business Plan for Writers*. I did a workshop about it for the group at the writer's retreat and I'm happy to say they liked it and thought it was a good idea. Now, it's time for me to polish my first draft and get it out there. I do plan on doing workshops with this nonfiction book throughout next year.

My writing goals for 2015 are to:

1. Polish/Publish the non-fiction book: *A 12-Step Business Plan for Writers* and give workshops with it.
2. Write a novella introducing my readers to the characters in my Sweet Home Colorado Trilogy. It will be called *Sweet Home Colorado: The Early Days*.
3. Write another novella introducing my readers to the characters in my new Lilly Dale Trilogy. It will be called: *Before the Fall*.
4. Finish Writing Book One – *Lilly Dale Series – Freefalling*.
5. Finish Writing Book Two – *Lilly Dale Series – Circle of Deception*.
6. Write Book Three – *Lilly Dale Series - Quiet Desperation*

For Valentine's Day, the second book in my Sweet Home Colorado Trilogy, *Fly Away Home* will be on sale for \$0.99 for a week starting February 15, 2015. You may find it at my website, www.judewillhoff.com or on www.amazon.com.

I wish each and every one of you a Happy Valentine's Day. Make it your own special day.



other news is that I got a puppy. I had been toying with the idea of getting one for a long time but didn't think it would be fair with my work schedule to let one stay home alone. Ask and you shall receive. The

Universe has provided me with the cutest little baby Chihuahua. She's an early Valentine present. Now that I'm home writing full time I can use some company. My cat just sleeps and comes over and sniffs the puppy then goes back to sleep. The puppy was born on New Year's Day and at this time only weighs 10 ounces and is about 8 inches long. She's a tiny little sweetie that has stolen my heart.

The first time I held her in my hands I said, "She's so precious." Well, trying to come up with a name was hard so I decided to just call her Precious, as in "My Precious." When she runs, she gets to going too fast and does a wheelie sticking her little butt in the air. I'm going to have a lot of fun with her.

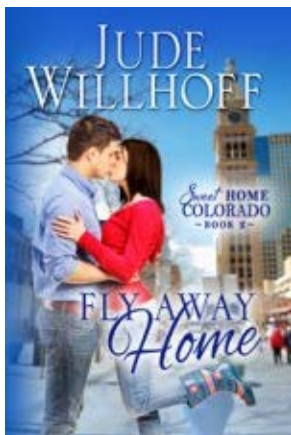
You may purchase a print edition or e-reader copy of Jude's books at www.judewillhoff.com or www.amazon.com

Or you may order or pick up an autographed print copy at:

Tattered Cover on Colfax Ave
2526 East Colfax Ave
Denver, CO 80206
303-322-7727

Tattered Cover Book Store in Historic LoDo
1628 16th Street
Denver, CO 80202
303-436-1070

Tattered Cover at Highlands Ranch
9315 Dorchester Street
Denver, CO 80202
303-436-1070



Eat lots of chocolate and enjoy your day! I am forever grateful for each of you, my special readers! Thank you!

This newsletter is property of Jude Willhoff. All Rights Reserved. ©2013-2015

Fill out your e-mail address
to unsubscribe from this list

E-mail address: