

Melanie Bowden Newsletter
July 2007

Hi Everybody,

I'm so happy that I decided to take a break from math teaching and focus more on writing endeavors. It's going very well! Here is the latest news:

1) **Mothering Magazine Chat Rescheduled** - My Mothering Magazine online chat has been rescheduled to Wednesday, August 15th. The time will be the same: 10 a.m. Pacific, 11 a.m. Mountain, 12 p.m. Central, and 1 p.m. Eastern. We will be chatting about motherhood and, in particular, the postpartum year. Go to this [link](#) to find out more.

2) In late June I found out that I sold more books in the month of February than in any previous month (there is a 4 month delay before authors know about the number of books sold through certain distributors.) Thank you to everyone who is buying *Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me?* and also to all of you who are telling others about the book.

3) Would you like an autographed copy of *Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me?* Email me to make arrangements.

4) I'm thinking about attending Sacramento State's Summer Writers' Conference. I need to decide soon because conference rates go up after 7/21. The conference will be held August 10 - 12 and a conference brochure can be found [here](#).

Are there any other writers out there going? If so, please contact me. I'd love to meet up with you at the conference or carpool there.

5) Would you like to learn more about getting your work published? I can consult with you on researching writing markets, writing and polishing up query letters and manuscripts to ready them for submission, managing the writer/editor relationship (including negotiating for higher fees), and many other areas of magazine and book publishing. I've been doing more and more consulting work, and I love it! It's so fulfilling to help a writer get closer to publication.

Special rate for the first consultation: \$30 an hour or \$40 for 90 minutes. After the first meeting, my consulting fee is \$40 an hour for individuals, or \$25 an hour per person if you and another writer would like to meet with me together. Consultations can be done in person or by phone.

6) Can't believe it - as I was writing this, I received an article assignment from an

editor! Look for my article on the inventors of the Itzbeen Baby Care Timer in the September issue of **Community Kids**. CK is a free publication distributed in Solano, Yolo, and Napa counties. There will also be an excerpt from my book in the same issue.

7) **Book Club Tour** - Have you ever wanted to pick an author's brain after you read their book? Now's your chance! I'm currently arranging dates for my book club tour.

If your club chooses *Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me?*, I will participate in your group's discussion either in person, by phone (I'll cover the phone charges), or by email. No matter where you are, I can be your guest author for a meeting. If you're not in a book club, any group that would like to discuss the book is fine. Parent groups, play groups, and professionals who work with new moms are especially encouraged to sign up.

Respond to this email if you're interested. If you know someone in a book club, please let them know about my tour.

8) My next **Magazine Writing for Beginners** class is quickly approaching (see the attached flyer.) The class will be held Saturday, July 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Davis Senior Center, 646 A Street.

Call (530) 757-5626 or go [here](#) to register. The fee for is \$33 for Davis residents, and \$45 for nonresidents. The next class will be October 13th.

Here is a comment from a previous participant: **"It was inspiring to hear about how you learned the writing business and the secrets to getting published. And, in some ways, it seemed extraordinary that you so freely shared it all with us, with handouts no less. Bottom line, it was an awesome class and I would recommend it to anyone."** - Kathy B., Rocklin, CA

9) Can't make the Saturday class? Then meet with me one-on-one either in person or by phone (I'll mail you the class materials in advance) and we'll cover everything from the class. These meetings are shorter (90-120 minutes) and the fee is \$40 **total** for up to 2 hours of instruction. The 1-on-1 meetings allow time to focus on your individual writing dreams and goals.

If you have questions about any of the above, please don't hesitate to contact me. Also, thank you for the many messages I've received from both men and women who have found my book helpful. Those messages mean the world to me.

Thank you for all your support,

Melanie Bowden

Author of *Why Didn't Anyone Tell Me? True Stories of New Motherhood*

<http://motherhood.booklocker.com>

P.S. If you would like to be removed from receiving my updates, reply to this message with Unsubscribe Me in the subject line.