The University of Akron Wayne College in Orrville is hosting its 13th annual Writers Workshop on Saturday, April 2, 2016.

This year’s workshop allows writers and aspiring writers to meet published authors and participate in sessions about creating novels, creating character and making a scene, writing for magazines, writing your life stories, writing memoirs and the language of poetry.

As a participant, you will enjoy a continental breakfast followed by our authors’ concurrent workshop sessions, a panel discussion with the presenting authors, and lunch, followed by special guest P.F. Kluge. Each workshop session runs 75 minutes (topics are detailed in this brochure). Please choose two of the seven sessions to attend. Your $40 fee, due by March 25, covers everything for the day. Registration after the deadline will be $45 (including walk-ins that day).

After the awards ceremony recognizing student and regional writers, our speakers will have books for sale. Plan to spend time talking with them during the concluding sell-and-sign opportunity.

For program information or to register contact: Susan Ackerman 330-684-8985 or 1-800-221-8308, ext. 8985

Schedule for Writers Workshop

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast, Welcome and introductions
9:00 – 10:10 a.m. Concurrent workshop sessions
10:20 – 11:30 a.m. Concurrent workshop sessions
11:30 – 11:40 a.m. Break
11:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Panel of all presenters – Q & A
12:45 – 1:15 p.m. Light lunch
1:15 – 2:30 p.m. Keynote speaker: P.F. Kluge – Presentation of awards to winners of the Wayne College writing competitions and Book signing/selling

A teacher of fiction writing, P.F. Kluge believes that his own dual life of teaching and writing often makes conflicting demands, but in the end “they need each other.” He says that “together they set about the business of making what matters to us matter to others.”

Biography: Born in New Jersey, P.F. Kluge attended Kenyon College and the University of Chicago, and served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Micronesia. He has worked as a reporter for the Wall Street Journal and as an editor for Life magazine. He has written for numerous publications, including Playboy, Rolling Stone, Smithsonian and is a contributing editor at National Geographic Traveler. As Writer-in-Residence at Kenyon, Dr. Kluge specializes in the reading and writing of American literature. He is a reporter, a writer, and a teacher. His novels include Eddie and the Cruisers, The Edge of Paradise, and Alma Mater among other well-known titles.
Sunny Morton - 1. WRITE FOR MAGAZINES: FROM QUERY TO GALLEY

2. WRITING YOUR LIFE STORIES

Session 1. Using techniques from improvisational acting, create compelling, story-ready characters from scratch.

Session 2. Explore the fundamental components of a dramatic scene creation from a playwriting perspective.

Biography: Sunny is a freelance writer who has found her niche writing for the genealogy industry. She is the former Curator of New Plays at LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, and a participant of the Dobama Theater, a founder of Brooklyn Playwrights Collective, Literary Director of Theater 167, (writing blogs and podcast scripts); Editor of Genealogy Gems, Family Tree Magazine; author of My Life and Times and the forthcoming My Life and Times: A Guided Journal for Collecting Your Stories, Ms. Morton teaches how to recall and write personal stories. The author of My Life and Times: A Guided Journal for Collecting Your Stories, Ms. Morton teaches how to recall and write personal stories. The author of My Life and Times: A Guided Journal for Collecting Your Stories, Ms. Morton teaches how to recall and write personal stories.

Joyce Dyer - THE SPACIOUS PLACE OF MEMOIR

This workshop will ask participants to consider ways they might depart from the conventional notion of memoir as chronological narrative, focusing on the rich hybridity of the form, its intense risks and benefits, and its distinctive methods for achieving authenticity, courage, and surprise.

Biography: Dr. Joyce Dyer is the author of three memoirs: In a Tangled Wood: An Alzheimer’s Journey; Gum-Dipped: A Daughter Remembers Rubber Town; and Gooseytown: Reconstructing an Akron Neighborhood. She edited Bloodroot: Reflections on Place by Appalachian Women Writers and From Curlers to Chainsaws: Women and Their Machines. Her essays have appeared in publications such as North American Review, Writer’s Chronicle, and the New York Times. Dyer received the 1999 Appalachian Book of the Year Award, the 2009 David B. Saunders Award in Creative Nonfiction, and two Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Awards. She lives in Hudson, Ohio where she is currently working on a book about abolitionist John Brown who grew up in that town.

Les Hunter - 1. CREATING CHARACTER THROUGH IMPROVISATION

2. MAKING A SCENE

Session 1. Using techniques from improvisational acting, create compelling, story-ready characters from scratch.

Session 2. Explore the fundamental components of a dramatic scene creation from a playwriting perspective.

Biography: Dr. Les Hunter is Assistant Professor of English at Baldwin Wallace University. His articles on theater have appeared in American Theater Magazine, Text and Presentation, Experimental O’Neill, and The Dramatist. As a playwright, he wrote for The Jackson Heights Trilogy. His other plays include: Cyranoo de Bergerac County, New Jersey; To the Orchard; and First Base Coach. He is a member of the Playwrights Gym at Dobama Theater, a founder of Brooklyn Playwrights Collective, Literary Director of Theater 167, the former Curator of New Plays at LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, and a participant of the Melton School of Theater and Performance Research at Harvard University.

John P. (Jack) Kristofco - THE ‘HOW TO’ OF “MAKE IT NEW”

Ezra Pound implored poets to “make it new,” and W.H. Auden told us he had the most hope for prospective poets who liked to “play around with language.” This session will link these two ideas as it helps poets to see things in new ways and to translate that new vision into their work.

Biography: Dr. John Kristofco is Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus of Wayne College, teaching courses in fiction writing and poetry writing for over two decades. His poetry has been published in over seven hundred journals and magazines, including: Folio, Cimarron Review, Rattle, Shenandoah Review, The MacGuffin, The Bryant Literary Review, Grasslimb, Iodine, Sierra Nevada Review, BlazeVOX, and Stilt. He has published two collections of poetry: A Box of Stones, and The Fire in Our Eyes, with a third, The Timekeeper’s Garden due out this spring. He has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize fifty times.

P. F. Kluge - HOW NOVELS ARE BORN

Dr. Kluge has observed that “anyone who knows me or my work is well aware that what I write is based on my experience of a place, its history, character, and story-telling possibilities.” The task of the writer, for Kluge, is to see if you can take that start and “make what matters to you matter to an audience of strangers.” This session will consider how one begins to travel down that path.

Dr. Jack Kristofco is Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus of Wayne College, teaching courses in fiction writing and poetry writing for over two decades. His poetry has been published in over seven hundred journals and magazines, including: Folio, Cimarron Review, Rattle, Shenandoah Review, The MacGuffin, The Bryant Literary Review, Grasslimb, Iodine, Sierra Nevada Review, BlazeVOX, and Stilt. He has published two collections of poetry: A Box of Stones, and The Fire in Our Eyes, with a third, The Timekeeper’s Garden due out this spring. He has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize fifty times.