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Instructor: Mary Beth Lundgren

Writing for Publication

Mary Beth Lundgren was born and grew up in Ohio. She moved with her husband and cats (from Cleveland) to Cape Coral, FL, in 12/1999 to assist her elderly in-laws.



Mary has written almost every day for more than twenty years, and is the author of: two picture books for children:

award-winning SEVEN SCARY MONSTERS, Clarion Books, 2003); and

WE SING THE CITY (Clarion Books, 1997);

teen novel, LOVE, SARA (Henry Holt & Co, 2001), a Junior Library Guild selection; and a controlled-language book about computers for adult new readers (Project: LEARN, 1995).

Her stories, articles, and poems have been published in magazines, newsletters, anthologies, and newspapers for children and adults.

Mary Beth and her husband, Ted, a computer consultant, joined the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) when they moved here--to a lot almost vacant of plants. Now, after years of work, their property is certified a "Backyard Wildlife Habitat," and a "Florida Friendly Yard." It's filled with Florida native plants (not a blade of grass; mower's in the shed) which attract birds, butterflies, and other marvelous critters. She wrote and edited the

local FNPS chapter's newsletter for a year; and, that year, also produced a brochure for the statewide conference.

Mary Beth meets with her critique group at least once a month and credits them with her writing success. Each year, she attends at least one writer's conference or seminar. For the past fifteen years, she's been both mentoree and mentor.

A long-time member of the Society of Children's Writers and Illustrator's (SCBWI), she joined the Gulf Coast Writers Association (is a past GCWA board member) when she moved to Florida. She's currently a judge for the annual GCWA fiction contest (her second time at this post), and a winner in the poetry contest. She's also a nominee for the Alliance for the Arts award, Literary Angel of the Arts.

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