

Who's Who at Women Writing for (a) Change

Spotlight on: Annette Wick

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For me, writing began in ninth grade, when I penned superhero story about Netti Spaghetti and the Meatball Kid. While I gave myself what would become a standard nickname, I also set myself on the path of the written word. Later in college, I would pen an essay about my grandfather, prolific enough for my English teacher (I was a computer science major) to ask me to read aloud.

Something shifted inside of me that day, and shifted again after becoming a mother and losing a husband. I came to WWf(a)C to grieve and stayed to write. I have been here almost 15 years.

I joined Monday nights, under the tutelage of Kathy Wade and then Sally Schneider, each facilitator offering something a unique to consider about my own writing. Later, I participated as a board member for the Foundation. As part of the Radio Circle, I took on a leadership role that eventually blossomed into the lovely years of *WWf(a)C – The Podcast Edition*. I was blessed to work with such talented women as Phebe Beiser, Carol Stewart, Antonia Glosby, Jenny Stanton and Tony Lackner.

In the midst of the chaos that was my life, I found a peaceful oasis in pursuing certification through the Feminist Leadership Academy. I have since used my training in work with individuals with Alzheimer's and Starfire's *Write Me I'm Yours*, a program that continues two years later. I support many other facilitators as a substitute, and have been a co-creator for *Meaningful Mondays*, *Women Poets in the Courtyard*.

My husband and I recently moved to Over-the-Rhine, after fifteen years of living in the suburbs. We renovated an Italianate-style home built in 1875, which we hope to show off through a WWf(a)C fundraiser at some point. The city has changed in many ways, and it has also changed me. I have become angry and enlightened, bold and emboldened. And my writing has begun to reflect this change, such that I started a separate blog, "[Getting' My City On](#)." Through my website, annettejanuzziwick.com, I maintain postings for my other blogs, poetry and other projects which feed me.

My biggest lesson as participant, facilitator, creator and cheerleader for Women Writing for (a) Change is that sometimes the circle needs us. But more often than not, it is we who need the circle. The circle, how it is created and held, has been present for every sadness and joy in my life. It has been unchanging, unwavering. It is my only fixed point in a world that is not.

I have been ever grateful for the existence of WWf(a)C, and plan to work tirelessly so it is available to all for many years to come.