

Minutes from West Hartford Screenwriting Group 9/22/04 Meeting

**Attendees:**

Don Hope  
Steve Olechna  
Cindy Drozd  
Marc Miller  
Peter Considine  
Denning Powell  
Jed Backus  
Joe Cadieux  
Tom Murphy  
June Neal  
Tessa O'Sullivan

**Guests:**

Jacquelin C. Devlin  
Fred Spaeth  
Robert Bell

**Absent:**

Liz Cipollina  
John Horan  
James Denton  
Francis Cooley  
Michael Citron  
Swantina Gant  
Eric Henry

**Moderator:** Marc Miller

**Snack Provider:** Tom Murphy

**Scribe:** Steve Olechna

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**7:00 - 7:15 – Announcements and Intros / personal log lines if there's a new member or guest**

We had a couple new faces, so we went quickly around the room with introductions.

Jed and Steve talked about the New Haven Film Fest ([www.filmfest.org](http://www.filmfest.org)) and announced that Liz's short, "Right Foot, Left Foot" took first place in the Jury award. Congrats Liz!!! Next month's drinks are on you!!!

**7:15 – 7:30 - Open Discussion on movies recently seen, trends...**

Thumbs down for “Mr. 3000” – Don

**7:30 – 8:45 – Reviews!**

**Jed Backus, “Smitty”**

**June Neal, “Man to Man”**

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8:45 – 9:00 – Wrap Up

**Next meeting:**

10/27/04 in Webster Hall West Hartford Library.

**Moderator:** June Neal

**Snack Provider:** June Neal

**Tentative Agenda:**

Group photo by Joe.

**Review Order (as of 9/29)**

Don Hope, “Santone”

Please forward new submissions to the group, and I’ll update the list.

And be sure to come in your favorite Halloween costume! We already have some takers. Tom is breaking out his Playboy Bunny outfit and Don his Little Bo Peep costume. Way to step up guys!!! Looking forward to it! Ha! Ha!

**Additional tips, notes:**

Inktip.com – post scripts

**After hours:**

- Many of us made it to Cosi's after the meeting! Fun, fun time!

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### **Suggested viewing / reading:**

Denning Powell's [www.monkeytrap.us](http://www.monkeytrap.us)

Archive:

Read, "Rebel without a Crew".

Fog of War – won Oscar for best documentary

Sundance Channel – Anatomy of a scene

HBO – Project Greenlight

Famous short – Sombrero Fall?

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Any changes, corrections, additions, please let me know.

Having a blast, hope you are too!

Steve

### **Guidelines for the group and meetings**

Members submit (email) scripts to the group for review in either "pdf", Word or text format. Originally we were focusing on short submissions (3-10 pages) which can be a movie short, a scene or two from a full length script, or a treatment (summary or outline), but we'll now accept expanded submissions of several interconnected scenes or acts.

**Important: Because this requires a greater time commitment from the group, make sure this is your best effort!** The scripts are then reviewed by the group in earliest received order. When reviewing scripts, first focus on the positive and then offer the constructive. So the writer can compile the results, hand him or her your notes at the end of the meeting.

The moderator asks the writer five questions:

1. What's the story – a sentence – log line (if you don't know this, then you don't know your story)
2. Why did you choose to write the story (shows your passion, used to make pitch)
3. What's the theme – a topic like responsibility, happiness, the futility of hope
4. What's the commercial genre – the market? Western, comedy
5. What do you hope do get out of the review?

Moderator polls the audience for clarification questions and then we go around room, so each reviewer can give their comments, again the positive before the constructive.

Member List as of 9/29/2004 – If I'm missing anyone or if you wish to be removed from the list, please let me know.

First	Last	Phone	Email	
Scott	Anderson			Advisor
Jed	Backus			
Robert	Bell			
Joe	Cadieux			
Liz	Cipollina			
Michael	Citron			
Peter	Considine			
Francis	Cooley			
James	Denton			
Jacquelin	Devlin			
Cindy	Drozd			
Swantina	Gant			
Eric	Henry			
Don	Hope			
John	Horan			
Marc	Miller			
Tom	Murphy			
June	Neal			
Tessa	O'Sullivan			
Steve	Olechna			
Denning	Powell			
Fred	Spaeth			