

Ames Cart Writer's Group

Welcome to the Ames Cart Writer's Group! We are happy to have you join us and hope you will find our group a positive and useful place to explore and grow as a writer.

We are a *working* group of writers who support each other as we share

- our own work
- feedback on each others' work
- work we admire
- writing news and opportunities with each other
- skill building exercises

We meet once per month at the Ames Progressive, Wednesday evening 6:30pm – 9:00pm at a Date TBA (check <http://meetup.com/amescart> for upcoming dates).

After brief introductions (as needed) and some "business" time (announcements, projects people getting published, etc), we share any original work. A writer may share one short work (or excerpt) at a time and receive feedback from the group until we get around to all. After that, writers may share more as time allows.

To share one of your works: bring it along with copies for all (about 12) so we can follow along and offer better feedback. If you do not have an original work at a meeting, share a work you admire if you'd like or just "pass." Give feedback or enjoy the discussion.

When sharing an original work:

- 1) **One at a time** (two if really short). Often we will get back to whoever wants to share more than one.
- 2) Tell the group if you do NOT want feedback before you read your work. Otherwise you will get some. We are a working group.
- 3) It is understood that all feedback is simply that, and that the writer is the ultimate decision-maker on what, if anything, to change.
- 4) You may receive feedback in the meeting verbally, in writing by someone who makes notes on their copy and returns it to you or via email later by another member who would like to give you some feedback after taking more time with it. *Again, if you do not want feedback, please mention that.*
- 5) **Our mutual agreement is that we do not share anyone else's work outside our group.** These are drafts or finals of a writer's work and are the sole property of the writer. If you want to collect all your copies of any piece you share, you are welcome to do that.
- 6) If your piece is longer, sign up the meeting before or send an email to the coordinator. If you would like the group to read your work before the meeting, attach it as a word doc in your email to the coordinator and they will distribute to the group.

We also encourage sharing your artistic triumphs, however big or small, with the group. We like to encourage each other.

For questions between meetings: info@amescart.org