

SLWG Member Spotlight: *We're pleased to present...*

Brad Cook



**SLWG Member Since 2007
Historian, SLWG Board of Directors 2008-**

Brad Cook who is currently serving as Historian of the SLWG has been a member since 2007, when he walked into Barnes & Noble one Saturday morning for a workshop and was promptly greeted and warmly welcomed. He was impressed by what he found and has been ever since.

Brad, who writes under the name B. R. Cook has recently finished his first novel and is currently attempting to find an agent and publisher. Entitled *The Beast of the Moon*, it is the first of three trilogies he intends to write. It's a story he first wrote while traveling through the Navajo Nation with his wife, Amber. It was completed with the help of his two rescued feline writing partners, Blackjack and Samhain, while a tennis match was on in the background – his favorite way to write.

He was born in Indiana but grew up here in the micro-downtown of Clayton. In his youth, Brad was a fencer who once tried out for the Jr. Olympics. He started as a playwright and one of his works was even performed on stage. However he found the world of the theater even harder to crack open than the literary world, so he turned his attention to novels. Brad is an avid writer of fantasy, sci-fi, historical fiction, haiku, and he even has a few plays still tucked away. For the last year he has been a moderator of a SLWG critique group and has found the help of his fellow members invaluable.

As the Historian of the guild, he recently found the manuscript for *Stella for Star* by Tennessee Williams in a collection at the University of Texas at Austin. This is the story that was entered into the SLWG short story contest in 1935, and won. With the help of Robin Theiss and interns

he is currently working to track down the guild's founding members and search out other lost contest winning entries for the archives. His love of history and a lifetime studying the past means he is well suited for this endeavor.

Favorite Books: *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho, *Le Morte D'Arthur* by Sir Thomas Malory, and the *Return of the King* by J.R.R. Tolkien.

Other authors who influenced him: Clive Cussler- Dirk Pitt is a great name, Frank Herbert- "Fear is the mind killer I must not fear," and Shel Silverstein- who gave him his warped sense of humor.

Guilty Pleasure: The *Dragonlance Chronicles* by Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman.