



**Historical fiction** attempts to capture a historical person or event with minor fictionalizing to flesh out the storyline. Writers attempt to accurately capture the language, ideals, and customs of the time. Both the storyline and historical detail are of near equal importance. Historical fiction is usually set 50 – 100+ years prior to the author’s life.

Requirement			
Intriguing and Relevant Title w/ by-line			
Intriguing lead/hook and clincher.			
Quality. Accuracy. Depth.			
One to two main characters followed throughout.			
Appropriate sensory detail of the Irish Hills setting and time period			
Intriguing plot with exposition, conflict, climax, and resolution.			
Dialogue should move the plot, help to reveal character personality, and problem. Authentic language should be used.			
Minimum of 2 sources for facts used (interview, book, newspaper, etc.) and documented with a works cited or works referenced page.			
Interesting Voice. Third person narration (limited, omniscient, or objective are preferable.)			
Audience-appropriate. Targeted for teen through mature adult audiences.			
1 inch margins all around * Times New Roman font * Size 12 *			
Correct spelling, grammar, & mechanics			
Quality & relevant photo (or sketch) with caption appreciated but not required.			

Lenawee History on-line <http://www.lenaweehistory.com/lenawee-ch9.html>  
 Paddy by Dan Doyle <http://www.amazon.com/Paddy-Dan-Doyle/dp/1420843508>



**Historical Non-fiction** articles focus on spotlighting something in a time-period. They may compare and contrast then to the now, present a chronological development, or a cause and effect relationship.

Sample topics to explore:

- Industry & Business development
- Family history & genealogy
- Religion/ church history & architecture
- Cemetery developments
- School developments (one room & consolidations)
- Farming & crop business (tile drainage, tools, etc)
- Transportation development (RR, roads, airfield)
- Entertainment & Tourism
- Military involvement; Soldiers / Veterans
- Reform (underground RR, prohibition, etc.)
- Lake developments
- Centennial homes/farms
- Barn construction & use
- House architecture & history
- Service organizations
- Arts development
- Ethnic migration & diversity
- Enlightened elders (biographies)
- Politics
- Local mysteries

### History Feature Article Checklist

<b>Requirement</b>			
Intriguing and Relevant Title w/ by-line			
Focus on subject			
Intriguing attention-getter and clincher.			
Quality. Accuracy. Depth.			
1 inch margins all around * Times New Roman font * Size 12 *			
Correct spelling, grammar, & mechanics			
Minimum of 2 sources for facts used (interview, book, newspaper, etc.) All non-widely known facts documented.			
Interested, Entertaining Voice. No “you,” limited to no use of “I” or other 1 <sup>st</sup> person pronouns			
Audience-appropriate. Casual voice, no profanity or slang. Set for older audiences. Not all natives of Irish Hills area.			
Works Cited Page or Bibliography			
MLA or Chicago style of Citing Sources In Text (Author + Year); No Plagiarism			
Quality & relevant photo (or sketch) with caption appreciated but not required.			

The historical novel society <http://www.historicalnovelsociety.org>  
 The historical fiction network <http://www.histfiction.net>