

# **Writing in the Rainforest**

## **Lesson Four**

### **Receive Feedback on Your Story**

#### **1. How to prepare to give/receive feedback**

- prepare a version of your story to share with the group
- keep it to four or five double-spaced pages, 1,000 to 1,250 words, max
- if your story is longer, share only a portion of it
- if possible, have your story printed or copied at the front desk, so you can give a copy to each person in the group, including me
- if you do, you'll probably get better feedback
- each person's story will have our undivided attention for twenty (20) minutes

#### **2. How the feedback process works**

- will follow a process I've used for decades in teaching writing
- simple but effective process
- will use four questions to review each story
  - what was the story about
  - what did the author do well
  - how could the author improve the piece
  - do you or the author have any other questions/comments
- each person will then read his/her story
  - will go through and discuss those questions
  - then will go on to the next person

#### **3. Author's job in discussing his/her work**

- listen
- don't explain or defend
- take notes on your copy while the discussion is going on
- take parts of the discussion that are useful and leave the rest

