

## Making History Memoir-Writing Workshops

How to remember, record, interpret and share the events of your life

Author Kim Pearson ([www.kimpearson.me](http://www.kimpearson.me)) teaches **Making History** workshop participants a comprehensive, easy to use, and fun method of exploring the times of their lives against a backdrop of historical events.

**She will lead them on a wild gallop through 50 years, from 1950 through 2000, exploring how they made a difference, what they contributed, what they witnessed, and how they can share their stories with others.** They learn how to access buried memories through interactive techniques, sharing exercises, and non-critical discussion. They hear great stories from others and recount their own.

In these enjoyable workshops participants receive many freebies. Kim hands out copies of timelines, sample topic questions, and notebooks. As well as big discounts on her book *Making History*, based on the workshops she has been teaching for nearly 20 years.

Participants and booksellers are effusive in their praise of Kim and her workshops.

*Tegan Tigani, Event Coordinator for Queen Anne Books in Seattle, says:  
“Thank you so much for holding your “Making History” workshop here.  
It was wonderful. Great attendance and compliments all around for your flexibility, amiability, and compelling teaching style.”*

Kim Pearson is an author, artist, and the owner of Primary Sources, a writing service that helps others become authors of polished, professional, and compelling books. She is the author of fifteen books, including award-winning *Making History: how to remember, record, interpret and share the events of your life*; and *Dog Park Diary* (ghostwritten for a dog!) She has worked as a ghostwriter, editor, or writing coach (for people) on more than 60 non-fiction books and memoirs, which tell the stories of a wide variety of people and cover a broad range of topics, from saxophones to finance, city histories to hypnotherapy, psychic horses to constipation, and many points in between. She teaches workshops and teleclasses on writing, history, and storytelling.

**[www.kimpearson.me](http://www.kimpearson.me)**

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## Workshop Descriptions

Making History workshops are based on Kim Pearson's book *Making History: how to remember, record, interpret and share the events of your life*, briefly described on the following page. Because all workshops feature sharing, a minimum of six attendees is required.

### Fifty Years Eight-Week Workshop (one 90-minute session per week)

This workshop covers five decades (1950s/1960s/1970s/1980s/1990s) and all eight categories from *Making History* (Economics & Politics, The Social Fabric, War & International, Technology & Science, Crime & Disaster, Arts & Entertainment, Lifestyle Activities, and The Weird & Trivial.) Participants learn and receive:

- Entertaining “gallop” through the eight categories in *Making History*
- Handouts of writing topic suggestions/questions for each category
- Historical timelines handouts for each category
- Detailed instruction in “Write to Remember Rules”
- Class discussion of interpretation and sharing methods
- Notebook for writing memory vignettes in class
- Time to write, share, and listen to stories
- 40% discount on the book *Making History* (purchase not necessary)

### Sixties & Seventies OR Eighties & Nineties Four-Week Workshops (one 90-minute session per week for 4 weeks)

This workshop covers the twenty years from 1960 through 1979 **OR** 1980 through 1999, and all eight categories from *Making History* (Economics & Politics, The Social Fabric, War & International, Technology & Science, Crime & Disaster, Arts & Entertainment, Lifestyle Activities, and The Weird & Trivial.) Participants learn and receive:

- Entertaining “gallop” through the eight categories in *Making History*
- Handouts of writing topic suggestions/questions for each category
- Historical timelines handouts for each category
- Detailed instruction in “Write to Remember Rules”
- Class discussion of interpretation and sharing methods
- Notebook for writing memory vignettes in class
- Time to write, share, and listen to stories
- 40% discount on the book *Making History* (purchase not necessary)

**\*\*The information presented for the years from 1990 through 1999 is new for these workshops and will be incorporated into the updated version of the book *Making History*, available in 2018.**

*“Kim has a gift for drawing out your “untold story” and teasing out the passion inside your heart. She creates a safe space in her classes to tap into your own gifts. I saw the delight and pride in her students’ eyes when they said, ‘I wrote that!’” -- Sylva LeDuc, M.Ed*



## Making History – The Book

*Making History* is a vital tool for anyone who wants to finally write his/her memoir, or the story of her grandmother, or for those who want to record their family's journey through time – basically, for anyone!

At present, the book *Making History* covers seventy years of recent history (1930 through 1989), arranged in eight categories for each decade, and includes detailed timelines, brief summaries of prominent events, and personal stories of the author and her students. The eight categories are:

- Economics and Politics
- The Social Fabric – such as race, gender, and morality
- War and the International Scene
- Technology and Science
- Crime and Disaster
- Arts and Entertainment
- Lifestyle Activities – including food, fashion, toys & games, sports, and others
- The Weird and Trivial – such as scandals, comics, slang, pets, the paranormal, and others

Read the following excerpts from *Making History* and see why this is such a valuable book to have on your shelf:

- **Learn How to Remember:** “Many of us think we will write our memoirs – someday. But few of us ever get around to it. The truth is if you don’t preserve your stories – what you did, what you thought, what you felt – your stories will die when you do.”
- **Learn How to Record:** “the ‘Write to Remember Rules’ make writing your memories fun, not work. There is no way you can get it wrong. Just begin. You do have stories to tell.”
- **Learn How to Interpret:** “Some stories include all four elements of connecting, teaching, inspiring, and healing. Every story has at least one. Identifying them will increase the richness of your story, and remind you why you are here.”
- **Learn How to Share:** “Sharing your stories with others leads to powerful insights. You will see that the actions, thoughts, and feelings of everyone matter.”

*“One of your students has told me all about your class, ‘Making History.’ I wish you could see the way he lights up when he tells me about the topics you give them, and the things he writes. What a joy your program brings. I truly believe that we can write our way into and out of everything. It is so centering and even the most ordinary story is, as you well know, quite extraordinary.”*  
– from a student’s doctor

\*\* *Making History* is currently being updated to include the years 1990 through 2000. In 2018 it will be available as a printed and ebook.



## Other Comments from Class Participants:

“This class awakened a creativity that had been buried under time.”

“I loved learning from a different generation how different – and how much the same – our lives were.”

“As soon as I looked through the materials, it made me want to cry. I was flooded with all kinds of memories. Wonderful!”

“Trust yourself” – “Your story is worth writing” – these gave me courage.”

“Since I am putting together my family’s genealogy, it reminded me that I need to write my own biography, not just those who came before me.”

“Great fun and inspirational. Particularly moved by the idea that our stories can be told so someone else can experience a healing.”

“My children have been urging me to write down the family history, and you have given me the approach and inspiration to get started.”

“My mother-in-law is eighty and we have talked about writing her story, now mine also – and this will give me a format to start.”

“Outstanding book and teaching format. Gives shape and direction to writing I’ve already done.”

“Thanks for verifying the importance of what I have been doing.”

“Great class. I loved the “gallops” and your writing tips are very helpful. I’m usually not much of a writer but with the tips I’m going to try.”

“I’m a 7<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher and I find your topic valuable, challenging, and exciting. I’m looking forward to reading your book and using some of your ideas in my classroom.”