

Contact: Nicole Kennedy, RWA Public Relations Manager  
p: (832) 717-5200 ext. 128  
e: nkennedy@rwanational.org  
w: www.rwanational.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Ohio Author Up for Prestigious Writing Award**

(Houston, TX) – Romance Writers of America® (RWA®) is a professional trade association for aspiring and published romance fiction authors, with over 9,500 members nationwide, who are major contributors to the publishing industry with book sales totaling over \$1.2 billion dollars a year. Adding to this prominent industry is Scioto County, Ohio resident, Kay Stockham, a finalist for this years most prestigious and recognized RITA® Award.

The RITA Award is sponsored and presented by Romance Writers of America – and is the highest award of excellence in the romance novel industry. The award itself is a golden statuette, but the industry-wide prestige and promotional opportunities that come with winning a RITA are the real prizes. The RITA Award Ceremony is the final event of RWA’s 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference, which will be held in Dallas, TX the week of July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Stockham, a former office manager, has been writing for seven years with four published novels. She hopes her Harlequin Superromance published novel, *Man With A Past*, will bring her ultimate validation in winning a RITA because this award is judged by her writing peers. She credits much of her success as a writer to hard work, determination and the love of happy endings which brings to light the good things in life like commitment, enduring love, faith and so much more.

*Man With A Past* is set in a small southern Ohio town like the one where she lives, and Stockham believes her mix of small town setting, everyday characters and true-to-life circumstances create a kinship with her readers because they identify with them. “The characters in my stories are the people you meet every day, that’s why I think *Man With A Past* and my other books find a home with my readers.”

For more information on Stockham and her books, go to [www.kaystockham.com](http://www.kaystockham.com).

Note to editor: Photos of author and book available