

write on!



NEW!

www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

Celebrating 102 Years

February 2011

California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch

Welcomes all writers from aspiring to professional; to educate and encourage writing and marketing skills.



Kimberly Van Meter *Writing for Romance*

February's luncheon speaker, Kimberly Van Meter, is a romance author who started her publishing career in 2006. She writes for Harlequin Romantic Suspense and

Harlequin Superromance.

An avid reader since before she can remember, Kimberly started her writing career at the age of 16 when she finished her first novel, typing late nights and early mornings on her mother's typewriter.

She's come a long way since that first piece of work, breaking into print December 2006 with the release of her first published novel with Harlequin Superromance.

Her books include *To Catch a Killer*, *Trusting the Bodyguard*, *A Man Worth Loving*, *An Imperfect Match*, *Kids on the Doorstep* and *Father Material*.

Kimberly will speak about switching between two genres — romantic suspense and contemporary romance — and the tightrope she walks to keep the two separate. She will also talk about what makes the two lines different, how she managed to write five books for 2011, and how a self-described pantsier plots a book. Afterward, she will gladly answer questions from the audience.

Kimberly will offer copies of her latest book, *Guarding the Socialite* (Silhouette, December 2010) for purchase and signing. For updates, cool stuff, or to sign up for her newsletter, check out her website at www.kimberlyvanmeter.com.



Upcoming Speakers

March 19

Group Genre Workshop. Attendees will meet in groups according to genre or interest to exchange ideas and compare projects.

The luncheon meeting location may change after the March meeting. Please check our website, www.cwcsacramentowriters.org for updates. Information will also be provided via e-mail.

April 16

Frances Kakugawa, author of *Wordsworth Dances the Waltz* and *Wordsworth the Poet*, will speak about writing children's books. Learn more at www.francesk.org.

May 21

Lin Lacombe, a marketing and public relations consultant, will speak about marketing your book. Her presentation is titled, "From Passion to Publicity: Getting Your Book the Attention it Deserves." Learn more at www.frompassiontopublicity.net.

Saturday, February 19, 2011 - Luncheon Meeting 11:00 a.m.

Luau Garden Chinese Buffet, 1890 Arden Way, Sac., CA 95815 (see back)

Members \$12.00

Non-Members \$14.00

Writers Network Meeting News

by Jamie Ervin



The January 7 Writers Network speaker was Andrea K. Roth, pen name A.K. Buckroth, a 50-year diabetic survivor, and author of *My Diabetic Soul*. Roth has been a Type II diabetic since the age of two, and learned to give herself insulin injections at the age of six. In her book, which took seven years to write, she chronicles her battle with diabetes and includes tips to manage and deal with the disease. At the meeting, she described her method for controlling the disease, EIDS: exercise, insulin, diet, stress free.

“Once you know what to do to manage your diabetes,” noted Roth, “You are able to learn tricks to eat what you shouldn’t and doing the wrong things and getting away with it, so you can enjoy life more.”

Roth was 12 when she was informed by her doctor that she shouldn’t expect to live past 31. “The death sentence I received gave me the zeal to go on,” she said. “Diabetes has actually been a blessing for me. It has helped me keep my weight under control and kept me from alcohol and drugs, although I do enjoy an occasional beer.”

Roth became disabled and had to stop working at the age of 44 due to neuropathy, a complication of the disease. She has always been insulin dependent and has been on an insulin pump for the past 16 years. Her retired

husband helps promote her book and share diabetes awareness.

Roth is a gardener and grows most of her vegetables. She brought a stock pot to the meeting to share her “recipes” inside, which were information and advice. She stressed the need for a cure for diabetes, and informed attendees that the color for diabetes recognition is blue. The symbol is a blue flamingo, another recipe inside her stock pot. She also shared the Joslin Medal she received in January 2010, for being a 50-year survivor of the disease. Only 2,905 medals have been awarded since 1970, a small percentage of the population. Making people aware of the disease and how to manage it is vital to Roth, as she has spent most of her life trying to accomplish.

Roth included tips on marketing yourself. The tips she shared included:

Keep at least a dozen books in your car at all times. At a book signing, presentation is key. Pay attention to color and try to keep eye contact with a potential buyer. As the writer, you are the only one who can get your name out there, even if you have an agent or publisher. Take advantage of any and all opportunities, including blogs or talk radio. Networking, seminars, and workshops are vital to a writer’s success. You can learn how other people have been successful.

“People are your best resource,” advised Roth.

The Writers Network is seeking speakers for its monthly meetings, held the first Friday of every month, 9 a.m., at International House of Pancakes, 2216 Sunrise Blvd., in Rancho Cordova (north of Highway 50).

Members return month after month for the purpose of acquiring new skills and information; seeking the knowledge, expertise and experience of individuals who have successfully moved forward in their career ambitions.

If you know of someone who would make a good speaker or presenter for these meetings, or have ideas for topics, please contact Laurie Hoirup at (916) 469-7695, lauries.legacy@yahoo.com; Margie Yee Webb (916) 213-0798, mywebb@sbcglobal.net or Bob Quinlan (916) 712-4573, bobquinlan1@comcast.net.



Open Mic for Writers

Sponsored by the CWC, Sac. Branch
Second Friday of each month, 7 p.m.
(Sign-ups begin at 6:45 p.m.)

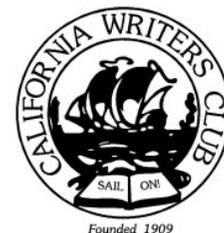
Next Open Mic is February 11

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Birdcage Center, 6111 Sunrise Blvd.
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Readers and Listeners Welcome
Contact: **Julie Bauer; joolieb@aol.com;**
(916) 344-5778

California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch
Box 293263, Sacramento, CA 95829
www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

Serving the Greater
Sacramento Region



Proudly Announces Our Second Annual Seminar Series

Make Yourself Irresistible to Agents and Editors!

Ready to take your writing to the next level by learning from and networking with experts? Want to get your dream book published? In their breakout Sacramento appearance, legendary West Coast literary agents **Michael Larsen** and **Elizabeth Pomada** (www.larsenpomada.com), who are members of the Association of Authors' Representatives, Inc., will spend a humor-filled day with writers, aspiring writers, entrepreneurs, and others wanting to tell their story. It is never too soon to prepare yourself for launching your project. You will gain first-hand insight into how agents, editors, and publishers work; developing and refining your work; making a commitment to achieving your goals, and why now is the best time ever to be a writer.

Since 1972, the renowned Larsen-Pomada Literary Agents has sold adult fiction and nonfiction to more than 100 publishers. Working in a beautiful Edwardian Painted Lady atop San Francisco's historic Nob Hill, the husband-and-wife team is eager to find new writers. Mike handles non-fiction; Elizabeth represents memoirs, and commercial, literary, genre, and women's fiction including romance, mysteries, thrillers, and suspense. (Their colleague Laurie McLean handles romance, fantasy, science fiction, horror, westerns, mysteries, thrillers, suspense, children's middle-grade and young-adult books.)

Michael is author of *How to Get a Literary Agent*, now in its third edition, and *How to Write a Book Proposal* (fourth edition, Writers Digest, April 2011). He co-authored *Guerrilla Marketing for Writers: 100 Weapons for Selling Your Work*. Mike and Elizabeth are co-directors of the Eighth San Francisco Writers Conference, which will take place February 18-20, 2011, www.sfwriters.org, Michael's blog, sfwriters.info/blog.

WHAT: Seminar on how to write your book, get it published, and make it successful. The last hour will be devoted to 3-minute, one-on-one sessions in which you can pitch your book, get feedback on the first page of your proposal, and ask questions.
Free follow-up phone consultations.

WHO: **Michael Larsen** and **Elizabeth Pomada**, nationally known agents and conference directors

WHEN: **Saturday, February 5, 2011** – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Registration at 8:30 a.m.

WHERE: Luau Garden, 1890 Arden Way, Sacramento (across from Arden Fair Mall). Free Parking

COST: \$99 (\$85 for CWC members); includes coffee, bagels, lunch buffet, 20 pages of valuable handouts.

✂ —————
Sign me up for Make Yourself Irresistible to Agents and Editors!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ \$99 non-member _____ \$85 CWC Member Branch: _____

Fee is refunded if you become an ML-EP client; two scholarships available. E-mail Mike Larsen at larsenpoma@aol.com.

Clip and submit with payment to:
California Writers Club, c/o Steve Liddick, Box 293263, Sacramento, CA 95829. You will receive an e-mail confirmation.

Questions can be directed to: Kimberly A. Edwards, kimberlyedwards00@comcast.net, (916) 524-7992.

CWC Sacramento 2011 Short, Short Story Contest



-Open to All Writers-
California Writers Club
Membership is not required

Prizes: \$100, \$50, and \$25 prizes (for first, second, and third place)

Word Count: 750 words maximum

Cover Page: Type your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, title and word count. Include one cover page, paper clipped to each entry.

Entry Format: Submit four copies. All entries must be typed, double-spaced in black, 12 point Times New Roman font, on one side of 8 ½ x 11" white paper. For additional pages, put title on upper left corner and page number on upper right corner. Do not include your name on the entry.

Entries must be unpublished. Entries will not be returned and authors retain all rights.

Entry Fee: \$10 for each submission. Enclose a check made payable to CWC, Sacramento Branch.

Deadline: Must be postmarked by March 31, 2011.

Winners: Winners will be announced in the June 2011 branch newsletter and honored at the June Sacramento Branch meeting. Winners need not be present to receive their prizes. Winning entries will be published in the branch newsletter, *write on!* Winners should be able to provide a digital copy.

Submit to: Contest Chair
CWC, Sacramento Branch Writing Contest
P.O. Box 1157, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1157
For more information, contact Marsha Robinson at marshar@quiknet.com.

Please note that Marsha's e-mail address has been corrected from previous versions of the newsletter.

President's Message

by Margie Yee Webb



We are pleased to have San Francisco agents Michael Larsen and Elizabeth Pomada (www.larsenpomada.com) in Sacramento on February 5 to present "Making Yourself Irresistible to Agents and Editors." The session will be held at Luau Garden, and will provide firsthand insight into how agents, editors and publishers work; developing and refining your work; and making a commitment to achieve your goals.

At the most recent Writers Network meeting, I was happy to hear how attendees are so appreciative of our club and the opportunity to learn while connecting with other writers. Similar sentiments were expressed at the most recent Open Mic event where writers, some reading for the first time, appreciated the opportunity to present their work, hone their presentation skills and make connections. I encourage you to share the details of these meetings and events with your fellow writers.

Big thanks to Amy Rogers, our webmaster. She recently updated our site with valuable information, including a page called "In the News" summarizing media attention received by our club and members; and "Resources for Writers," a page that includes links to the San Francisco Writers Conference this month and Left Coast Crime, an annual mystery convention, to be held in Sacramento in 2012. Some of the pages are still being updated, including a "Members" page in which members can post their profiles.

Everyone is invited to my Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings Book Launch and Pet Awareness Event on March 12, 2011, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at The Market Place in Rancho Cordova (www.marketplacerrancho.com). In addition to launching my book *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life* and raising awareness for adopting shelter pets, this event will be a fundraiser for participating animal welfare organizations, including Animal Rescue League (www.arcalif.org) and People for Animal Welfare in El Dorado County (www.pawedpets.org). There will be a drawing for raffle prizes and opportunity to donate to these organizations. Please save the date and let others know, especially cat lovers!



Where to Send Sales Reports

Send news of your sales, awards, contest wins, etc.

directly to the newsletter editor. **Please indicate that you are a CWC member. If you use e-mail, please note in the subject that it is a CWC sales report.**

Julie Bauer
7173 Stanford Oak Dr.,
Sacramento, CA 95842
joolieb@aol.com

We are not responsible for misspellings, errors or inaccuracies received.

Send all Address Changes, e-mail or mail to:

Ken Umbach, CWC
P.O. Box 1157
Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1157
ken@umbachconsulting.com

Want Your Newsletter via E-mail?

If you wish to receive your newsletters via e-mail (as an attached PDF document) send an e-mail to Julie Bauer, joolieb@aol.com.



February Luncheon

Luau Garden
Arden Way

The Club's next luncheon meeting will be Saturday, February 19, 11:00 a.m. at Luau Garden Chinese Buffet, 1890 Arden Way, Sacramento, 95815. It is located between Kohl's and Petco, across from Arden Fair.

Non-members are welcome. To make reservations, call or contact Julie Bauer at (916) 344-5778; joolieb@aol.com prior to the meeting. Or just drop in. There's always room for more!

Cost to attend: **Members \$12.00; Non-members \$14.00.**

Pay in the meeting room or you may pay ahead. Make checks payable to: California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch and mail to CWC, Sacramento, P.O. Box 1157, Citrus Heights, CA 95611. Money over the restaurant's meal price is used to cover Club expenses and speakers' fees. Mail checks to the post office box address at least a week prior.

Member Sales Reports



Steve Liddick is a regular correspondent for *Rosemont Patch News*, an online newsletter serving the 25,000 residents of the unincorporated Sacramento County community of Rosemont; www.rosemont.patch.com. In the past month, Steve has sold ten stories to Patch, including one on CWC member and author Kiyu Sato and her experiences in a Japanese-American internment camp in WWII. He has approval to write several more stories. Visit www.patch.com to explore other Patch sites. Patch.com is an online news service owned by America Online.

Marsha Robinson wrote an article for the magazine *Golf Teaching Pro*, Winter 2011, titled "Golf From a Beginner's Perspective." www.usgtf.com/articles/winter11/page23.html.

**California Writers Club
Sacramento Branch
www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org**

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E-mail correspondence should include CWC in the subject line.

The next deadline for submissions is **February 10 for the March issue.**

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Subscription rate is \$15 a year.

For membership information, call **Marilyn Smith-Murphy** at (916) 726-7868 or e-mail normar@surewest.net



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