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www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

Celebrating 102 Years

April 2011

California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch

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

Frances Kakugawa Children's Literature



Frances Kakugawa, author of the children's books *Wordsworth Dances the Waltz* and *Wordsworth the Poet*, will speak at the monthly Sacramento Branch luncheon meeting April 16. Her topic is Children's Literature.

April is National Poetry Month so Frances will include poetry in her discussion. She will touch on the following, adding her own experiences as author of two award-winning children's books.

- Turning a children's story into children's literature.
- The story tells the story
- Beware of dumbing down
- The writing process for all genres and ages
- Poetry and children

Frances has published nine books in various genres. Her children's books won the 2004 Hawaii Publishers Award for Excellence in Children's Books, and she was recognized in *Living Legacy: Outstanding Japanese Women of the 20th Century*. She also earned an award for Best Illustrated Children's Book from the Northern California Publishers & Authors.

In Hawaii, Frances taught kindergarten through sixth grade, was a lecturer at the University of Hawaii, and was a curriculum writer and helped developed a K-12 literature program for the Hawaii State Department of Education.

She presently leads a poetry writing support group for caregivers in Sacramento through the Alzheimer's Association and has written a book to help and inspire all who struggle as caregivers for loved ones afflicted with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia.

Frances' book, *Breaking the Silence: A Caregiver's Voice* is an essential book for Alzheimer's caregivers. It's a thoughtful and honest look into what caregivers face each day, providing a real value for those who must cope with incredible pressure, anxiety, and difficult decisions. To order, visit: www.btsilence.com.

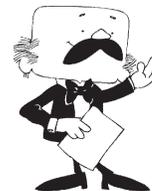
For more on Frances:

e-mail: fhk@francesk.org

website: www.francesk.org

blog: <http://franceskakugawa.wordpress.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FrancesKakugawa



Upcoming Speakers

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.

June 18

Matt Wagner, Fresh Books literary agent and founder, will speak about furthering your nonfiction writing career. Learn more at www.fresh-books.com. The winners of the 2011 Short, Short Story Contest will be announced and honored.

**There are no luncheon meetings
in July and August.**



Heed the Call
for Action!

Volunteer to
serve as a
2011-2012
Branch Officer.

See details in this issue

Saturday, April 16, 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 March Writers Network speaker, author and Fair Oaks resident **Bill Holden**, has been a Sacramento Branch member for 50 years, holding the office of Branch secretary for eight years.

Bill began writing while attending New York University in 1948, then moved on to the *Chelsea Clinton News*, one of the oldest, continuously published weekly community newspapers in Manhattan.

Bill moved to Sacramento to work as a re-write man for *The Sacramento Union* and has been employed as a newspaper reporter in many California cities, such as Redding, Eureka, San Francisco, Stockton, Lodi, Davis, Suisun and Sacramento. He has also written articles for magazines and his work has appeared in numerous publications; among them, *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Popular Science* and *Oceans*.

His best selling book to date is *Sacramento Excursions into Its History and Natural World*, now in its third printing. It's a guidebook that tells of Sacramento's historical and cultural attractions, complete with maps and photographs. It won a California Historical Society Award.

Bill's book *Dhow of the Monsoon*, won an Honorable Mention in *Writer's Digest's* self-published book contest. It tells of Holden's personal travel adventure as the lone passenger of seven Hindustani Moslems aboard an ancient sailing dhow, and his travels from Zanzibar, East Africa, to Oman on the Arabian Peninsula.

Between Heaven and Hell was based on Bill's experiences as an American soldier in Paris 1945, using the premise that Caribbean cannibals discovered Europe in 1500. As Bill so aptly stated, "He inhaled its atmosphere, never dreaming that one day he would exhale it into a novel."

His latest novel, *Give Me 10,000 Men*, an untold story of the 1898 Battle of San Juan Hill, Cuba, is slated to be released this spring.

Bill distributed several handouts. One was an article he wrote telling of how, in Valencia, Spain, four Americans claimed to have found the Holy Grail, which is purportedly the chalice from the Last Supper. He also brought a small replica of the chalice.

Bill encouraged attendees to publish their books via print on demand, so you don't pay for copies you don't sell. He also shared advice he was given when meeting Alex Haley, before *Roots* boosted him to fame. "You have to write something so damn good they can't reject it. They often will anyway, but that's the game plan."

Bill shared that his years writing for newspapers gave him the confidence to sell his articles to magazines, and then write his novels. "Many writers have a fear of rejection and need to build confidence in knowing people will want to read what they write," he said. "Any writer that lacks confidence in his writing should try writing for a newspaper first. When you write for newspapers, you know someone wants to hear from you."

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



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 April 8

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

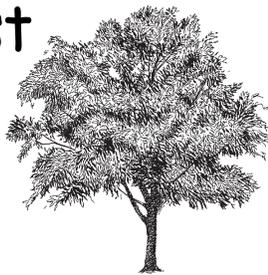
Readers and Listeners Welcome
Contact: **Julie Bauer**; joolieb@aol.com;
(916) 344-5778

Visit our Branch website:

www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

to see how it has been updated and upgraded. Read about upcoming club events and link to "Resources for Writers" to learn about conferences, organizations and other events and activities of interest to writers. CWC-Sacramento dues-paying members can customize their own member page. Post your bio, discuss your books, and link to your website, Facebook page or Twitter. To request a member account, contact **Amy Rogers** at rogers91@sbcglobal.net. The website also lists links to media coverage about club members. If you have appropriate press coverage you'd like added, send it to Amy.

Mendocino Coast Writers Conference July 28-30, 2011



Located where summers are temperate and the seascape spectacular, this intimate conference at College of the Redwoods in Fort Bragg emphasizes craft and community.

The faculty is comprised of writers who are also teachers, meeting for three mornings with workshop participants in various genres.

John Dufresne will lead a juried master class on the novel. Other workshop leaders are Stephanie Elizondo Griest for nonfiction, Michael David Lukas for short fiction, Camille Dungy for poetry and Kathleen Alcalá for fiction and memoir.

The afternoon program includes faculty readings; panels and workshops with editors, publishers and agents; and craft lectures by morning faculty and screenwriter Toney Merritt.

The fee is \$495 until June 15; \$545 thereafter, and includes continental breakfast, lunch, and two evening meals. Fee does not include Friday dinner, accommodations or individual consultations. Scholarships and limited financial aid are available.

Download a brochure and registration form at www.mcwc.org. For more information, e-mail info@mcwc.org, write to Barbara Lee, Registrar, at PO Box 2087, Fort Bragg, CA 95437, or phone (707) 937-9983.

CWC NorCal Writers

The Northern California branches of the CWC have joined forces in the pursuit of ideas, opportunities, and events that speak directly to the craft of writing and the means to getting published.

CWC NorCal Writers meets the first Saturday of even months at no cost. Any member of CWC is welcome. Visit www.cwcnorcalwriters.org

President's Message

by Margie Yee Webb



I am proud to announce that the California Writers Club Sacramento Branch was mentioned in the cover story of the March 2011 issue of *Sacramento Magazine*! The featured article was "9 Perfect Saturdays." One of the perfect Saturdays was "book it" with our club as the focus for "Write Your Own Darn Book." Pick up the issue or visit: www.sacmag.com/Sacramento-Magazine/March-2011/9-Perfect-Saturdays.

The new CWC Literary Review (working title) offers an exciting opportunity for CWC members to be published. The first issue is due out late Spring and submissions must be received by April 15. Details and submission requirements are in this newsletter and on our website: www.cwcsacramentowriters.org/2011/03/10/new-cwc-literary-review.

The CWC NorCal Group, comprised of the Northern California branches (www.cwcnorcalwriters.org), formed a Publishing Pathways Committee and seeks members from each branch to serve as a volunteer mentor to other branch members. Training for mentors and on publishing options will be provided. If you want more information on qualifications and duties, and are interested in serving as branch mentor, please contact me.

The election of new officers for our next membership year, July to June, will be soon and election details are in this newsletter. Look for the ballot in the May newsletter. If you are interested in serving or have any questions, please contact me. Other volunteer opportunities are also available.

On April 9, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., the Folsom Public Library's second annual Local Author Fair will kick off National Library Week, an annual celebration of the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians.

The fair will feature keynote speaker Naida West, story time with Patricia Newman, book sales and signings with local authors, area writing groups, networking, expert advice on writing and publishing, prize drawings and refreshments. We participated as one of the writing groups last year and are invited to participate again.

I encourage you to attend this community event and support the Folsom Public Library and Friends of the Folsom Library as well as local authors, including some of our members. Invite your friends and family too. Hope to see many of you there!





Where to Send Member News

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 for CWC.**

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

Please proofread. We are not responsible for errors, misspellings or inaccuracies.

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

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

How do you want your newsletter?

If you wish to change how you receive your newsletters (e-mailed PDF document or snail mail), contact Julie Bauer, joolieb@aol.com; (916) 344-5778.



April Luncheon

Luau Garden
Arden Way

The Club's next luncheon meeting will be Saturday, April 16, 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 News



Bill Holden won an honorable mention in Writer's Digest's self-published book contest, nonfiction category, for *Dhow of the Monsoon*.

Grace Ertel published "Celebrating the Year of the Rabbit Sacramento Style" in the January 25 issue of *Senior Spectrum*, and "The Frog that put Angel's Camp on the Map" in the April edition of *Sierra Heritage*, collector's edition.

Ken Umbach has published his booklet "The Pursuit of Publishing: An Unvarnished Guide for the Perplexed" in a Kindle edition, priced at 99 cents. He has also published a new collection of his *Senior Spectrum* columns (second volume in that series), "More Life in Ken's Corner with a Cat Named Boo," as a Kindle download (\$3.99) and also as a paperback book (\$12.99) available from <http://stores.lulu.com/kenumbach>.

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

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(916) 344-5778; e-mail: joolieb@aol.com
E-mail correspondence should include CWC in the subject line.

The next deadline for submissions is **April 10 for the May issue.**

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Subscription rate is \$15 a year.



California Writers Club
Sacramento Branch
P.O. Box 1157
Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1157

CWC Sacramento Branch 2011-2012 Election

Heed the call for action! Support your Sacramento Branch of the California Writers Club by volunteering to serve as an officer for a one year term July 2011 to June 2012. You will have time to work as an apprentice with the officer who currently holds the position and you will ALWAYS have the support of past officers. The time commitment is approximately 6-8 hours per month including the monthly luncheon meeting, for nine months (no membership luncheon meetings in July, August, and December - unless we have a party). Our group is growing and it is your turn to help. No one is too young, too old, too new, or too inexperienced. The current officers will train you, and it is not difficult.

The Branch pays annual membership dues for officers, and seeks volunteers for the following positions.

President - Sets a professional and friendly tone for the club. Prepares meeting agendas and keeps meetings on time and running smoothly. Remains alert to ways to increase the value of CWC membership and bring ideas to the other officers and Executive Board. With the advice and consent of the Executive Board, appoints committees and chairpersons and conducts the affairs of the club in accordance with the bylaws. Qualities needed: organization, positive attitude, open mind, accountability. Members of the Board of Directors are appointed by the president.

Vice President/Program Chair - Responsible for arranging guest speakers for each meeting and providing information to the newsletter editor about the speakers. Identifies and contacts potential luncheon speakers and ensures that they know the date, time, and location of the meeting. Arranges to get the speaker's bio, topic, and other information to the branch editor. Acts as the speaker host and introduces the speaker at meetings. Qualities needed: friendly, reliable, organized.

Treasurer - Keeps proper financial books for the account, reports the financial status of the branch at meetings, keeps, receives and distributes funds as authorized. Submits club financial reports in a timely manner and serves as the liaison between the club's officers, bookkeeper, and the treasurer of the CWC Central Board. Writes checks for luncheon, speakers' honorariums, newsletter costs, and other approved club expenses. Qualities needed: honesty, comfortable with money. (You do not need to be a mathematician. We have a bookkeeper.)

Secretary - Composes and maintains the minutes for all officer meetings, handles incoming and outgoing correspondence and maintains records of CWC business. Qualities needed: ability to listen, write and organize.

Membership - Invites guests at meetings to become active members, receives, validates and processes membership applications, maintains membership roster, and prepares membership reports in a timely manner. Serves as the "go to person" for member and potential-member questions about the CWC Sacramento Branch. Qualities needed: enthusiasm, good record-keeping, accountability, attention to detail, desire to help others.

Newsletter Editor - Research and write articles as needed for eight newsletter issues a year (Jan., Feb., March, April, May, June, September, October and November). Layout and design each issue, maintain address databases, and prepare newsletters for printing, labeling, mailing and PDF e-mail.

You may volunteer to serve, or nominate someone else. If so, make sure he/she accepts the nomination first. Volunteer or submit your nominations by April 15: P.O. Box 1157 Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1157; or contact Julie Bauer, (916) 344-5778; joolieb@aol.com. Please include nominees' contact information (phone, e-mail address).

California Writers Club

Literary Review

Announcement and Invitation to Apply

Submission for first issue must be received by April 15, 2011

A New Publishing Opportunity Knocks

The California Writers Club will launch the publication of a literary review late this spring and thereafter three issues a year—spring, fall, and winter. Our magazine-style publication—think *New Yorker* but yet to be named—will host writing from members through a blind selection process, and include fiction, nonfiction and poetry. Unique graphics and photography may also sneak in on a limited basis. Your co-editors, Joyce Krieg of Central Coast Branch and former *CWC Bulletin* editor, and Dave LaRoche of South Bay Branch, solicit your work for inclusion—published or fresh from your vivid imaginations, and of course sent with this single-use rights.

The *CWC Lit-Review* (working title) will be mailed out to all members in hard copy and, in time, made available for non-member subscription. We intend a prestigious publication, both shining light on the included authors and bringing cachet to the club. You will want to be included.

Submission requirements and deadline dates will be repeated in each issue and apply to the next. For our first issue the following applies:

- Submissions in e-mail attachment, MSWord, doc or rtf format, space and one-half with one inch margins, New Times Roman 12pt—no tabs or special formatting.
- Maximum length is 2,500 words fiction; 1,500 words nonfiction and 700 words poetry. These may be adjusted in future issues
- All work must be error free and “camera ready;” and must include a separate cover sheet with author’s name, e-mail address, branch affiliation (Sacramento), number of words and title. The remaining pages to be free of all ID except title: upper right, and page number: lower center.
- Submissions for the first issue must be e-mailed not later than April 15, 2011.
- Include in your transmittal e-mail the statement, “I own and convey the right to publish this work (name it) one time in the CWC Lit-Review.”

Our first issue will include the rules for a Name-the-Lit-Review Contest and identify a prize for the member whose name is chosen.

We are excited about this venture, another value in club membership, and have aspirations that will see the review on shelves in bookstores and in e-distribution. Of course you are a big part of it, so join in and have fun. Send your work, limit two on a given submission, to Dave LaRoche, dalaroche@comcast.net, by April 15, 2011, then sit back and watch our *CWC Lit-Review* grow.

Joyce and Dave, co-editors