

write on!



Founded 1909

NEW!

www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

Celebrating 102 Years

January 2011

California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch

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



Denny Grayson *Writing a Screenplay*



Upcoming Speakers

January's speaker, Dennis (Denny) Grayson, has 40 years experience as a television writer/producer/director. He has worked at local Sacramento television stations KCRA-TV, KRBK-TV and KQCA-TV and markets in Dayton, Cincinnati and Los Angeles.

Denny has written more than 20 screenplays. Four were sold and three were produced, distributed, and made a profit for the producers. He has served as Unit Production Manager on four films, and Second Unit Director on three.

He currently teaches a screenwriting class at Sierra College. To keep active in his retirement years and gather exciting experiences for his writing, Denny volunteers for the Rocklin Police Department. He helps officers with patrol duty and assists with code enforcement.

"I get to wear a uniform and a badge, but they won't let me carry a weapon—not even a penknife," he said. "If we see trouble coming, we are to run and/or hide. It's a liability thing."

Denny is in the middle of writing his third novel. He hasn't sold a book yet, but did come close with a humorous fantasy he wrote two years ago. "I talked to the publisher several times, and they were ready to go. Then the economy went crazy and my chances of having the book published evaporated."

Denny's topic will be, "What's so Hard About Writing a Screenplay?" He will address making your story or novel into a screenplay, or where to start when you have an idea for a screenplay, as well as the screenplay format and marketing a screenplay.

February 19

Kimberly Van Meter is a published romance writer with Silhouette & Harlequin. She has a new romantic suspense novel out called *To Catch a Killer*. For more information, visit www.kimberlyvanmeter.com.

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.

Saturday, January 15, 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

President's Message

by Margie Yee Webb



Happy New Year! 2010—our 85th year—was a great success.

Our membership year was off to a great start when we participated in the Northern California Storybook & Literature Festival at the Maidu Library and Community Center in Roseville on July 31.

Other notable events in 2010 included “An Evening with Writers” at Luna’s Café in Sacramento on September 21; and the “Authors Among Us” event from November 27 through December 5, at The Market Place in Rancho Cordova.

On November 28, we had a write-up in *The Sacramento Bee*. Allen Pierleoni featured our club in his “Between the Lines” column in the Books & Media section of the newspaper. He mentioned our club’s 85-year anniversary and included the October 31, 1925, photograph of founding members gathering at the former Senator Hotel in Sacramento, and Holiday Social. Read the story at: www.sacbee.com/2010/11/29/3217237/between-the-lines.html.

At our Holiday Social on December 12 at Romano’s Macaroni Grill in Folsom, we had a festive gathering that filled the room with many visitors who attended after reading the feature in *The Sacramento Bee*.

A special thanks to Public Relations Director Steve Liddick for his fine work publicizing our club.

With plans for several events, 2011 promises to continue our success.

First, we have a February 5 workshop with literary agents Michael Larsen and Elizabeth Pomada of Larsen-Pomada Literary Agents, Northern California’s oldest literary agency located in San Francisco. The workshop titled “Making Yourself Irresistible to Agents and Editors” is for writers at all levels and stages. It will be held at Luau Garden, 1890 Arden Way, Sacramento. For details, contact Kimberly Edwards at kimberlyedwards00@comcast.net or 916-524-7992.

Michael Larsen and Elizabeth Pomada are directors of the San Francisco Writers Conference and the San Francisco Writing For Change Conference. The 2011 San Francisco Writers Conference is February 18-20 at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. For more info, see <http://www.sfwriters.org>.

Our Open Mic for Writers, which made its debut in June 2009 lead by Susan M. Osborn, will be lead by Julie Bauer starting January 14. The monthly event, held the second Friday of every month, 7 p.m. at Barnes and Noble on Sunrise Blvd., has been popular with both readers and listeners. Join me in giving thanks to Susan for a job well done and to Julie for taking over.

A “Reading and Writing Rocks!” event to showcase parenting and kids to teens authors is planned for January 22 and 23, at The Market Place in Rancho Cordova. Apply by January 15 to participate. For info, contact Jennifer Walker at Jennifer@authorjennwalker.com or 916-671-9637.

I am thrilled to announce that my book, *Cat Mulan’s Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life*, is due for release in February. I plan to have the book launch in March at The Market Place in Rancho Cordova. Animal welfare organizations and shelters will be invited to participate, and a portion of the sale of every book will be donated to them. Details will be announced when finalized.

Thank you everyone for your continued support and best wishes in the New Year!



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 January 14

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

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@quicknet.com.

www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

Writers Network Meeting News

by Jamie Ervin



The speaker for the December 3 Writers Network Meeting was Judith Horstman, an award winning journalist who writes about health and medicine. Although she is not a doctor, and does not have a medical or science background, she writes about complicated medical subjects so the average person can understand them.

Horstman began her journalistic career as a photographer. Her career took off nearly 40 years ago. When mailing her pictures to magazines, she would include an article about the topic. She began writing for the *Ithaca Journal*, where she learned and honed her writing skills, covering every beat on the newspaper. She has been a Washington correspondent, a professor of journalism, and written and edited in most mediums. She began freelance writing in 1995.

According to Horstman, the key word for writers is *networking*. "The more people you know, the more likely you will get jobs and get published," she said. Meeting people in workshops and clubs, such as CWC and the Writers Network, is vital for any writer. She is a huge believer in workshops, not just for the networking aspect, but there is always knowledge to be gained through them.

To be a successful writer it helps to have a specialty because it brands you and helps give you recognition, she noted. She feels it is easier to read and understand a subject to write about, as opposed to being a doctor or other professional, and try to be a journalist and write about it. She recommends writing about a subject you have expertise in, or one that you like and can research and write about. It has been her experience that writing books is not as lucrative as writing articles. Her best paying jobs have been writing for foundations.

At the beginning of your writing career, it may help you to write and not get paid, because it helps to get your name out and aid you in getting a following. Once you get name association with a particular subject, it is easier to get jobs. She also recommends writing every day.

Horstman writes intensely about four hours per day, but spends another 2 to 4 hours doing research. She normally does her own research, but with her current project she is getting some assistance. She noted that the most important thing an editor wants is for you to be able to meet the deadline.

For more, visit her website at www.judithhorstman.com.

January 7 Writers Network Meeting

Andrea Roth, (pen name A.K. Buckroth), author of *My Diabetic Soul – An Autobiography*, will speak January 7 on the subject, "Promoting Your Book."

The CWC Writers Network meets 9 a.m. the first Friday of the month at the International House of Pancakes, 2216 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova (north of Highway 50). Join us for breakfast. For more information, contact Bob Quinlan at bobquinlan1@comcast.net or phone (916) 712-4573.



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.

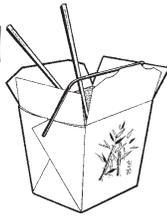


Send all Address Changes, e-mail or mail to:

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.



January Luncheon

Luau Garden
Arden Way

The Club's next luncheon meeting will be Saturday, January 15, 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



Susan M. Osborn's article, "A 90-Year-Old's Gift of Soul-Restoring Beauty," was the cover story for the October 26 issue of *Senior Spectrum*. It is the story of Mava Pearce's gift of a Japanese garden to the residents of Albert Einstein Residence Center.

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. For details, go to www.cwcnorcalwriters.org.

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

Officers

Margie Yee Webb, President
(916) 213-0798
mywebb@sbcglobal.net
Cheryl Stapp, VP & Programs
chermail1@yahoo.com
Nancy Ware, Secretary
Robert E. Cooper, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Denise Branco
Kimberly Edwards
Susan M. Osborn
Bob Quinlan
Steve Liddick
Marsha Robinson
Ken Umbach

Julie Bauer, Newsletter Editor
7173 Stanford Oak Drive, Sacramento, CA 95842-2241
(916) 344-5778; FAX: (916) 344-6271; e-mail: joolieb@aol.com
E-mail correspondence should include CWC in the subject line.

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

Copyright (c) 2011 by the California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch. All rights reserved. write on! is published by the California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch, on behalf of its members. The California Writers Club assumes no legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any information, process, product, method or policy described in this newsletter.

Subscription rate is \$15 a year.

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



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