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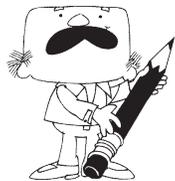
www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

Celebrating 102 Years

March 2011

California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch

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



Group Genre Workshop Tips and Techniques

Every March, the Sacramento Branch presents the popular Group Genre Workshop, with something for everyone. Work with panelists to learn how to garner publishing credits and build that important platform. Attendees will break into groups based on genre or interest. Handouts will be available.

The theme of the fiction workgroup is “Cashing in With Successful Short Stories.” Writing short stories can pay off, build publication credits and be the key to getting your novel noticed.

Panel members have written award-winning short stories and will discuss tips and techniques for writing them, sharing their expertise and successes. Attendees will learn about short story markets in magazines and contests—stressing word count, genre specific outlets, fee-based contests, and literary versus popular fiction.

Marsha Porter co-authored an annual movie guide for over twenty years. She has published numerous articles and won many short story contests. She credits the 500-word essay, punishment du jour, at her Catholic grade school, for developing her writing skills.

Robert Schladale is a woodworker and writer who lives in Sacramento. In 2009, his story *Turtles in Paradise* won first place in the Southwest Writers’ Short Fiction Contest. Several of his other short stories have been contest finalists. More recently, his work has appeared in *The Smoking Poet*, *Everyday Fiction* and *Word Riot*.

The theme of the nonfiction workgroup is “Publish Articles to Build, Bolster and Burnish Your Writing Identity.” The publishing landscape has changed, but doors are still open to writers with a slate of article credits. Published articles will establish your credibility, round out your signature and bio lines, promote your book and fortify your platform.

The nonfiction panelists represent a total of 70-plus years of experience. They will speak from personal knowledge and relate examples of how they approach an editor, develop an appropriate slant and succeed in getting their work in print.

Kimberly A. Edwards has sold articles to New York markets as well as trade magazines and newspapers. Currently she is building cross-cultural, travel, meeting and event planning credits.

For four decades, **Steve Liddick** has been a print and broadcast journalist in California and Pennsylvania. His credits include business journals, the *Los Angeles Times* and various trade publications.

Marsha Robinson has written company brochures. As she prepares to enter the writing world as a prepared practitioner, her first article gained entry into a national sports magazine.



Upcoming Speakers

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.

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.

There are no luncheon meetings in July and August.



CWC Sacramento 2011
Short, Short Story Contest
Deadline is March 31

See details inside

Saturday, March 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



Joanna Philips, author of *How To Shop For The Perfect Relationship*, was the February speaker for the CWC Writers Network meeting. Philips worked as a columnist and feature writer for the *Reno Gazette-Journal* for 10 years, and has hosted and produced television and radio shows for several Nevada stations. In addition, she is a certified life coach, behavioral therapist and hypnotherapist. Philips spoke on the importance of communication, specifically, the art of listening.

“If you’re going to be a good writer, being a good listener is imperative,” she said. “In order to get a good interview, you have to give a good interview. If you can’t ask at least three questions, then you are not listening.”

She warned about asking too many *why* questions, which can be perceived as blame. Instead ask *how*, or *I wonder*. How questions elicit more information because it asks for experience. Asking ‘I wonder’ puts the subject at ease and leads the way to sharing information. During an interview, it is vital that you gain trust.

“The optimal interview will feel more like a conversation, and not like being grilled by the FBI,” noted Philips. “Listening is the biggest gift you can give someone, because it makes them feel validated and important. The

human mind can only process seven bits of information before tuning out.” Pay attention to body language to gauge how comfortable your subject feels, because, according to Philips, “Ninety-three percent of all communication is non-verbal.”

The interviewer should be prepared with questions. Cover who, what, why, where and when. Equally important is to accurately record what was said. Avoid unforgivable mistakes such as misspelling a name or misquoting. Do your homework to ask pertinent questions, but at the same time make the person feel you are genuinely interested in what they have to say by being a good listener.

Philips ended her talk with a group exercise. Everyone was asked to speak to a partner for one minute, then write down what was said for one minute. The consensus was that it was more difficult to listen, and the importance of being a good listener was strongly felt by the group. “In order to tell a good story, you have to hear a good story” Philips explained.

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).

If you know 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.



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.

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 March 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

CWC Sacramento 2011 Short, Short Story Contest



Deadline is March 31!

-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



This month's luncheon meeting, Group Genre Workshop is not to be missed. The popular event will feature fiction and nonfiction with panels presenting techniques and strategies for writing and publishing short stories and articles. Additionally, this is a good opportunity to connect with other writers in your area of interest.

Our own CWC members will be on the panels, with **Marsha Porter** and **Robert Schladale** on fiction; and **Kimberly A. Edwards**, **Steve Liddick** and **Marsha Robinson** on nonfiction. Thank you in advance to them for sharing their expertise and experiences.

The Folsom Public Library is having their 2nd Annual Local Author Fair on Saturday, April 9, 2011, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The free event will feature Sacramento area novelist and publisher Naida West as the keynote speaker, area writing groups, book sales and signings by local authors, networking opportunities, prize drawings and refreshments. CWC-Sacramento Branch will have a table and representatives at the fair.

Authors interested may apply to participate. Space is limited. Applications are due by 5:00 p.m., March 4, 2011, and are available on the CWC-Sacramento website: <http://www.cwcsacramentowriters.org/wp-content/uploads/FolsomAuthorFair2011.pdf>.

If you are on Facebook, you can find me at www.facebook.com/MargieYeeWebb. I recently joined the social network as a way to market my gift book, *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life*. I have connected with many CWC members on Facebook and it is truly an amazing way to connect with people, organizations and more.

Privacy may be a concern for many Facebook users. I recommend a helpful article, "The 10 Facebook Privacy Settings You Need To Know" - www.allfacebook.com/facebook-privacy-settings-2011-02.

My "Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings Book Launch & Pet Awareness Event" is on March 12. For details, see Member News on the back page of this issue and my Facebook page. Through this event, I want to encourage people to help make a difference in the lives of cats and other companion animals. Hope to see 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

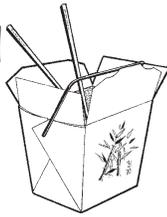
Please proofread. We are not responsible for errors, misspellings or inaccuracies.

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.



March Luncheon

Luau Garden
Arden Way

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



Margie Yee Webb is releasing her book, *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life*, in March. Her book launch & Pet Awareness event is March 12, 2011, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, at The Market Place, 11395 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. Visit with People for Animal Welfare in El Dorado County (PAWED), Animal Rescue League, FieldHaven Feline Rescue and Sacramento SPCA. Cats will be available for adoption and raffle prizes will be offered.

In Memoriam - Ethel Bangert

We are sad to report the passing of longtime former member Ethel Bangert, who left us February 2, 2011, at the age of 98. Ethel authored 42 novels and over 500 articles and short stories and a weekly column on antiques, and she was a founding member of the Suburban Writers Club. You may sign and view her *Sacramento Bee* Guestbook at www.legacy.com/guestbook/sacbee/guestbook.aspx?n=ethel-bangert&pid=148363273&cid=full.

**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 **March 10 for the April 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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