

Write On!



Celebrating 103 Years

Newsletter of the
California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch

www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

October 2012

Welcoming all writers, from the aspiring to the professional—to educate and encourage writing and marketing skills.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON SPEAKERS TO ADDRESS STORY STRUCTURE

October's California Writers Club, Sacramento Branch's Saturday, **October 20, 2012**, luncheon speakers are **Robin Martin**, founder of Two Songbirds Press, and freelance editor **Susan Herman**. Robin is also a staff reviewer for the San Francisco Book Review and the Sacramento Book Review.

If you are having trouble structuring your story or if your writing group loves your words, but can't help you with the big picture . . . or, if you lack the confidence to let go of your manuscript for publishing, Martin and Herman say maybe it's time to hire an editor.

"The writer should get peer group feedback and even feedback from a professional reader. Then, of course, the writer has to put the manuscript to the side and write a powerful query letter to the agent."

CWC members attending the luncheon will get some insights into how to identify the elements of a powerful and effective story and how to articulate the strengths and weaknesses of a piece.

<http://www.twosongbirdspress.com/about/>



Robin Martin



A biography by **Suzanne Blaney** won an Honorable Mention at the 2012 San Francisco Book Festival. "*Adventure in Color – the Impressionism of Anita Wolff*" contains 40 color plates of Wolff's work.

"*Crab Louie*," a military action-adventure novel by **Robert Pacholik**, was scheduled for a limited-edition release September 3, 2012. The book is being printed by the Sacramento Library's I Street Press.

Frances Kakugawa has been touring nationwide to promote her book, "*Kapoho: Memoir of a Modern Pompeii*." Frances has enjoyed many positive reviews of her story of the destruction of her Hawaiian village in 1960 when an erupting volcano covered it with lava.

Gary Briley's Mystery/Suspense novel, "*Stalemate*," is now available in paperback at Lulu.com and Amazon and as an eBook at Lulu.com, iBookstore and Barnes & Noble's NOOK.

David Tunno is a longtime trial consultant. His book, "*Fixing the Engine of Justice: Diagnosis and Repair of our Jury System*" (iUniverse). It is an interesting compilation of stories based on his research of key trials. The author shows a jury system beset with issues and public misconceptions. We are proud to welcome David to the California Writers Club.

Nanci Woody recently won first place in The Voices of Lincoln Poetry Contest. There is a reception at the Twelve Bridges Library in Lincoln on October 14 where winners will read their poems.

(Continued on Page 2)



Jeri Chase Ferris will be the featured speaker at the **Friday, October 5** Writers Network breakfast meeting. Ferris is the author of twelve biographies for children and young adults, including an historical fiction for young adults set during the WWII siege of Leningrad.

Jeri will discuss how to deal with editors and illustrators and she will provide some insights into the all-important business of promotion.

The Writers Network is held the first Friday of the month, 9 a.m., at the **International House of Pancakes (IHOP), 2216 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova**. The meeting is free. Attendees pay for their own breakfast. **C.J. Larson** facilitates Writers Network.

Saturday, October 20, 2012 – Luncheon Meeting – 11 a.m.

Tokyo Buffet, 7217 Greenback Lane in Citrus Heights

The public is invited to attend – **lunch is included in the meeting fee**

Members \$12.00

Non-Members \$14.00

CWC Sacramento's 2012-2013 membership year started off with boundless enthusiasm and energy, thanks to many volunteers. **Kim Edwards, Margie Yee Webb, Robert Cooper, John Clewett, and Anthony Folcarelli** spent many hours organizing the first seminar of the year.



Though I'm writing this before I have the opportunity to attend the **Mark Coker** seminar September 29, I can with confidence expound on what I know I'll get from it. I have attended several of Mark's seminars and have never been dissatisfied. He is an authority when it comes to eBook publishing. The information he shares will inspire and encourage me to finish polishing my novel and format it for ebook publication.

The opportunity to read your writing at Open Mic continues with **Julie Bauer** at Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Citrus Heights on the second Friday of every month. For ten minutes you have the undivided attention of a small gathering of fellow writers. The

experience of public speaking skill, perfecting the cadence of your narrative, and watching for the reaction of the listeners is rewarding.

Writers Network is thriving at the IHOP in Rancho Cordova, With facilitator **C.J. Larson** on the first Friday of every month a large group of writers gathers for an informal meeting to learn more about the marketing and promotion of their literary efforts. Various speakers are scheduled throughout the year to talk about the ins-and-outs of social media and emerging markets. It's a great place to meet and connect with other CWC members.

This year's CWC Sacramento writing contest will be organized by **Liz Allenby**. Some of you may know her from last year's contest. Though the date to submit has not been announced, think late fall and start polishing your 750-word short story now. If you're a prolific writer, you just might want to enter several stories.

Our club's membership chairs, **John Clewett** and **Liz Allenby**, worked on membership renewals using a state-wide database program this summer. At last report, the Sacramento Branch is gifted with 117 members.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the next luncheon meeting.

Looking for a Publisher??

The Sacramento Public Library's Espresso Bookmaking Machine (EBM) may be of interest to some CWC members. Especially those who want just a few copies at a time— as needed—rather than having a garage full of books.

This can also be a great tool for those whose books are currently available only as digital downloads (eBooks) and who are often asked when they will be available in paperback. To print an ebook, the material must first be formatted correctly and then is easily uploaded to the EBM database.

Books printed on the EBM are more expensive than a normal press. However, there are advantages to using **I Street Press**. Among them:

- I Street offers advice in formatting your work for print publication;
- For a fee they can provide you with an ISBN, if required;
- With the ISBN your book will be listed in Books in Print, making it available for order in bookstores nationwide.
- Books are Printed On Demand (POD), as you need them;
- I Street Press becomes your publisher of record;

Check out the I Street Press website:

<http://www.saclibrary.org/?pageId=1599>

For more information, email your questions to:

istreet@saclibrary.org

You may also call (916) 264-2777 and leave a message and make an appointment to join a pre-publication information session to learn more about the system and how to use it.

*If the muse is late for work,
start without her.*



Member News

(Continued from Page 1)

It's been a good year for **Chuck McIntyre**: four articles published in professional journals, a short story in Sacramento Literary/Arts micro-magazine and essays in the Sacramento News & Review and Sacramento Press.

Stacie Spielman's latest ebook is, "*When Doctors Don't Know*." While giving credence to doctors and legitimate medical concerns she explains how demonic spirits are involved with disease, and how they can negatively affect our health. Now available through Smashwords for virtually all reader devices and on her website at: <http://www.staciespielman.com>

Kate Traci took part in a book signing in El Dorado Hills recently, her first published story. She had written a short story for Jennifer Basye Sander's book, "*The Dog With the Old Soul: True Stories of Love, Hope and Joy Animals Bring to our Lives*."

Tom Kando's 16-page review of David Deutsch's book, "*The Beginning of Infinity: Explanations that Transform the World*" appears in an upcoming issue of the scientific publication, the International Journal on World Peace.

Nancy Ware and co-authors Amelia and Eleanor (her cats) have introduced their newly-published cookbook, "*Kathryn's Kitchen*." Kathryn is the name Nancy was given at birth.

SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RETIREES (especially retirees who are writers)

California State University Sacramento (CSUS) has a program for retirees that may be of interest to some of our CWC members. **The Renaissance Society** is an organization within the university that holds seminars for retired persons, including writing and writing-related classes. The program offers many other kinds of activities, as well: beginning Spanish, digital photography, ballroom and line dancing, Tai Chi, music, . . . the list goes on and on and on and on . . . and on.

Then there are activities such as excursions and social events.

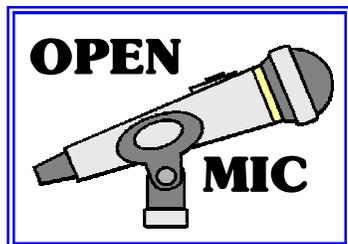
There is a \$60 annual membership fee plus, if needed, a \$20 parking permit fee.

In addition to the educational benefits, it sounds like a great opportunity for networking and for making new friends.

For more information, check out the Renaissance Society website:

<http://www.csus.edu/org/rensoc/index.html>

On the second Friday of every month, writers have an opportunity to read their writings to others. The public is invited to either read or listen to ten-minute presentations.



The next Open Mic is **Friday, October 12, 2012** at the Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 6111 Sunrise Blvd., Citrus Heights (in the

Birdcage Center).

Sign-in is at 6:45 p.m. Readings start at 7 p.m. Free to the public.

For details, contact **Julie Bauer** at joolieb@aol.com; Phone: 916-344-5778. You may also get details at the CWC website: www.CWCSacramentoWriters.org

CWC members: Don't be shy about blowing your own horn. "Self-Promotion" is not a dirty phrase. As they say, "when you wink in the dark, you know what you're doing, but no one else does." Talk it up!

Send for consideration in "Write On!" a brief description of your current successes: awards, newly-published works (books, articles, writing-related activities of interest to CWC members, etc.).

stevelliddick@gmail.com



HOLIDAY SOCIAL

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 9, 2012, the second Sunday in December. That is the date of the **5th Annual CWC Holiday Social**. Plans were approved at the September board meeting. The gathering will again be held at Romano's Macaroni Grill, 2739 East Bidwell Street in Folsom. Donations of canned goods will also be accepted again to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul food locker.

CAT STORIES WANTED

CWC, Sacramento Branch past President **Margie Yee Webb's** gift book, *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life*, has led to her next project: *Not Your Mother's Book . . . On Cats* for which she is seeking true, funny, entertaining cat stories. *Not Your Mother's Book (NYMB)* is a new anthology for a new century from Publishing Syndicate; *On Cats*, *On Travel*, and *On Writing* are a few of the almost 40 *NYMB* titles accepting hip, fun, modern and very-much-today type stories. For submission guidelines and story deadlines, visit:

http://publishingsyndicate.com/publishing_syndicate/submissions/nymb_submit_guidelines.html

Many authors, including CWC members, will be signing their books at the Delta Wine & Art Faire.

California Delta Chambers

Presents



The Delta

Wine & Art

FAIRE

Sunday, October 7, 2012

12:pm to 4:pm - \$20 per person

AT OLD SUGAR MILL

35265 Willow Avenue, Clarksburg, CA

Presented by

California Delta Chambers & Visitor's Bureau
event info: www.californiadelta.org - (916) 777-4041

<http://www.carvalhofamilywinery.com/ourEvents/winery.shtml>

UPCOMING CWC LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

November 17: Karl Palachuk, (author & speaker), topic: "Publishing Your Own Book: What's New, What's Important, and What's Essential." His website: www.SMBBooks.com

January 19, 2013: Ted Witt, (publisher, and current president of NCPA). Will discuss marketing—specifically, point of sale displays (banners, placards, etc.). His website: <http://www.prettyroadpress.com/>



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