



WRITERSTALK

Volume 24
Number 9
September 2016

Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Writers Club™

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER ELLEN KIRSCHMAN

The Right-Wrong Thing: Dispatches from a Police Psychologist

by Bill Baldwin

On Thursday, July 7, my wife, daughter, and I were waiting for our food in an Italian restaurant in Albany, Oregon. We'd spent the day returning south from Seattle, Washington. My wife had danced at a festival in Vancouver, BC; our daughter had come along to meet her in Portland and then tour the Northwest.

As we nibbled on appetizers, I watched the television screens across the dining room. I read the headlines: *Policemen shot in Dallas*. Through the course of dinner, I watched the fatalities mount: First two, then four, then five; nine wounded. *What is going on?* I wondered. *It's two hours later in Dallas; 10 or 11 p.m. Is this real or simply media exaggeration?* I hadn't heard anything on the radio news on the drive down from Seattle. Only later did I appreciate the significance of what I'd been viewing, absent-mindedly, while waiting for my pasta.



Ellen Kirschman

Police are in the news, now perhaps more than ever. On Facebook and at church, people argue over blue lives, black lives, all lives. What is happening to us?

Ellen Kirschman knows about the police. She has thirty-plus years of experience as a police and public safety psychologist. In 2014 she was honored with the California Psychological Association's award for distinguished contribution to psychology. She works with the West Coast Post Trauma Retreat for first responders.

Kirschman also knows about writing. Her nonfiction books, *I Love a Cop* (over 100,000 copies sold), *I Love a Firefighter* (written after September 11), and *Counseling Cops* (written with two retired policemen), do much to move us past the stereotypes we may have about those people who face danger daily on our behalf. Her first mystery, *Burying Ben*, introduced police psychologist Dr. Dot Meyerhoff and won first prize for the not-yet-

in-print novel from the Public Safety Writers Association. Her second mystery, *The Right-Wrong Thing*, is a finalist in the Fiction: Thriller/Adventure category of the USA Best Book Awards.

She has spoken and given workshops all over the world: Hong Kong, Singapore, the Czech Republic ... and now, South Bay Writers.

We are honored to welcome Ellen Kirschman to our September 12 meeting. Anyone who aspires to write on serious and sometimes controversial topics has much to learn from this writer who has helped police and first responders put their experiences into words: how to create a book from our own life experiences and those of our colleagues; how to edit, submit, publish, promote—succeed. Don't miss her!

Join us on September 12, 6 PM at Harry's Hofbrau, San Jose. —WT

RECAP AUGUST SPEAKER CAREY C. GIUDICI

Wen dew ewe knead an editor?

by Karen Sundback

As writers, we want to bring joy, fun, or force to our readers. At our August meeting, South Bay Writers members queried Carey C. Giudici on how good editing can bring greater clarity, precision, and persuasive power to the written page. Mr. Giudici is both an author and professional editor. He answered questions centered mainly on his role as a developmental editor and copy editor.

A developmental editor guides authors from the beginning. This editor helps the author turn undeveloped ideas into a readable and compelling novel. Mr. Giudici recommended Mind Mapping for bringing ideas together and successfully transitioning these ideas into subplots. A mind map is a visual representation of ideas and words arranged around a central concept. A mind map of Cinderella appears on Page 6.



Carey Giudici

In his role as a copy editor, Mr. Giudici promoted the Flesch Reading Ease Readability Formula. This formula measures the length of your sentences and syllables in your words to give you the reading level of your work. You can

Continued on page 6

President's Two Cents

Pamela Oliver-Lyons
President, South Bay Writers



Procrastination

It's called the writer's ailment. "French novelist Sidonie Gabrielle Collette used her bulldog Scouci to procrastinate writing; she would pick fleas from Scouci's back until the grooming ritual prepared her to move on. ... English playwright Graham Greene would search for a certain set of random numbers appearing on license plates as he sat by the roadside." There have been numerous examples of famous writers using unique ways of procrastinating in an effort to deal with the tension created by thoughts of failing due to a perceived lack of talent on their part. ("6 Famous Authors Who Were Masters at Procrastination" by Laura Gelman from *Odd Type Writers* by Celia Blue Johnson.) So common it even has a name: "Imposter Syndrome."

While many articles exist on procrastination, Megan McArdle's "Why Writers are the Worst Procrastinators," *The Atlantic*, Feb. 12, 2014, holds several interesting premises. One of these is the work of Stanford researcher Carol Derek, an expert on the psychology of failure. She presents alternative framings on how people react to "challenges" or in other words, doing activities where they feel success is not a given or even a possibility. Writing for many, even the most famous, falls in this category.

Basically, many people do not like challenges. "They think talent is fixed. You either have it or you don't." Derek calls this a "fixed mindset." These people are prone to self-defeating behavior such as "writers who don't produce copy or leave it so long they can't possibly produce something good, giving themselves the perfect excuse for not succeeding." At least the reason is not failing for lack of talent.

Derek's research found that "Other people relished doing things they weren't good at (challenges), for precisely the reason (that) when they were failing they were learning. They saw talent as something you can nourish by doing things you are not good at." Derek called this the "growth mindset." McArdle's article includes much more on the psychology behind procrastination, but space does not permit a closer review. For example, it makes the case for masterpieces being dependent upon earlier unsuccessful projects where learning was done.

Put to practical use, this "growth mindset" happened naturally when the SBW Board and Membership grappled with an unexpected series of challenges caused by the resignation of our President Linda Judd on July 26th. The Board learned together, and as a result, formed a solid team in service to South Bay Writers. As the year progresses, the SBW Board challenges members to join in SBW activities at all levels, both individually as writers and as members in the club itself. A "growth mindset" is for everyone as the club moves beyond our active membership procrastination. This is the year to reframe fears, embrace opportunities for learning, and grow! — WT

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SBW Mission

Educating writers of all levels of expertise in the craft of writing and in the marketing of their work.

Join Us

We have a membership category that fits you. Dues are \$45 per year plus a one-time \$20 initiation fee. Dual membership: \$25. Contact Membership Chair or sign up online at southbaywriters.com

WritersTalk

The monthly newsletter of South Bay Writers, the South Bay Branch of the California Writers Club

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Our Mission

Encourage writers at all levels of expertise to showcase their skills in the craft of writing and to submit their creative works for publication in *WritersTalk*

Deadline

Submissions are due by the 15th of the month.

Submissions

All electronic submissions should be sent to the above email address as text or an attached MS Word file. Please prepare your work as carefully as you would for an agent. Use Times New Roman 12-font; no tabs; no colors; no page breaks. Send graphics separately as jpg files.

Authors retain all rights to their works. *WritersTalk* gratefully acknowledges the authors' permission to publish their works here. Contact individual authors for permission to reprint.

All submissions will be copyedited. Managing Editor reserves the right to selection.

Suggested word limits (less is more):

Member Achievement / News (200 words)

News Items (400 words)

Letters to the Editor (300 words)

Creative Works

Short Fiction/Memoir (1200 words)

Poetry (200 words)

Essay (900 words)

Announcements

An announcement is information of interest and value to writers that does not provide direct economic benefit to its originator and is published free of charge.

Advertisements

Advertising of workshops, conferences, and events is accepted from other Branches of California Writers Club. Because California Writers Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, *WritersTalk* is not accepting advertising of events or services that benefit an individual. Also, we cannot accept political advertising of any kind.

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Marjorie Bicknell Johnson
Managing Editor



Robert A. Heinlein's Five Rules for Authors

Robert A. Heinlein (1907 – 1988) was a California author, at least for the last 33 years of his life. In 1965 he moved to Santa Cruz and built a unique circular house in Bonny Doon. I met him in 1968 when his identical-twin nephews, Eric and Erin Heinlein, graduated from Wilcox High School in Santa Clara; the boys took trigonometry from me in 1967. I was addicted to science fiction at the time; in 1968 I accompanied the Wilcox Math Club to 2001: *A Space Odyssey* four times.

Heinlein began his writing career in 1939 by publishing stories in *Astounding Science Fiction*, a pulp magazine. In 1962, he received the Hugo Award for Best Novel for *Stranger in a Strange Land*, and in 2012, the Library of Congress named it one of 88 "Books that Shaped America." He was named as the first Science Fiction Grand Master in 1971. Heinlein's archives are housed at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

In his 1947 essay, "On the Writing of Speculative Fiction," Heinlein gave his five favorite rules of writing, rules he learned by writing 32 published novels and 59 short stories. His rules for authors reflect what he learned in the "golden age of science fiction," when lots of voracious readers had a big appetite for more – but magazines couldn't pay much per word because of the Great Depression. Those times of quick writing and publication forced authors to learn how to write well from the start and to produce on a regular basis. Heinlein's rules follow.

- Rule One: You must write.

It makes sense to take classes and study plotting and character development and join author focus groups, but sooner or later, you have to actually *write*. Every day. Don't complain about not having time to write – make the time.

- Rule Two: Finish what you start.

Every first draft is bad. The only way you'll create a good final book is to finish that bad first try and edit it until it's better.

- Rule Three: Refrain from rewriting, except to editorial order.

Heinlein didn't try to polish each sentence into a perfect string of words. Instead, he fixed the typos and plot problems and sent it off to the publisher to be edited.

- Rule Four: Put your story on the market.

Heinlein mailed off his work to land on someone's slush pile in New York; today, follow the same principle, but send your work to an agent or self publish it online.

- Rule Five: Keep it on the market until it is sold.

In the world of the slush pile, this meant if your work was rejected, then you must resubmit it to another magazine or publisher.

However, the publishing world has changed, and Heinlein's Rule Three doesn't apply. In the 2016 market, rewriting is how you can make your work stand out from the pack. Also, his Rule Five needs modifying: in addition to resubmitting, you must come up with another book marketing plan or rethink your business model.

We humbly add a sixth rule. Start working on something else. — WT

Love is the condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.

— Robert A. Heinlein in *Stranger in a Strange Land*

View from the Board

by Sheena Arora



Sheena Arora

On Tuesday, August 2, the South Bay Writers Board conducted its first meeting of 2016/17. The SBW Board is disheartened to inform membership of the stepping down of Linda Judd due to personal reasons. Linda was elected SBW President during the June 2016 dinner meeting. We thank Linda Judd for her help and wish her the best for her future endeavors. Even though the SBW Board has reorganized, we are here to serve the SBW club. Please welcome the newly elected and appointed SBW Board team.

2016/17 SBW Board Members, Representatives, and Committee Chairs:

President, Pam Oliver-Lyons; Vice President, Bill Baldwin; Treasurer, Carole Taub; Secretary, Sandi Taylor; Members-at-Large, Sheena Arora and Carolyn Donnell; Central Board Representative, Bill Baldwin; NorCal Representative, Pamela Oliver-Lyons; Hospitality, Carole Taub; Membership, Sally Milnor; MRMS System Administrator and Webmaster, Patrick McQueen; Newsletter *WritersTalk* Editor, Marjorie Johnson.

Volunteer for the SBW Club; tell us what you would like to do. Join us for fun or to learn the ropes. We need you! **The Board thanks SBW member ArLyne Diamond** for organizing a workshop to show tricks and techniques to the newly elected board. Thanks, ArLyne!

The SBW Board will next meet on Tuesday, September 6, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Holder's Country Inn, 998 South De Anza Blvd, San Jose, CA 95129. (Turn South from Stevens Creek onto South De Anza; Holder's is just south of Bollinger Road.) You can find us in the alcove to the right as you enter the restaurant. Board meetings are open to all SBW members. Remember to arrive **early** (6 p.m.) to dine. Come, join us, and participate.



South Bay Writers Board 2016/17

Left to right, standing: Vice President Bill Baldwin, President Pamela Oliver-Lyons, and Member-at-Large Carolyn Donnell

Left to right, sitting: Newsletter Editor Marjorie Johnson and Secretary Sandi Taylor
Camera shy: Member-at-Large Sheena Arora and Treasurer Carole Taub

— Photo by Dick Amyx

Save a tree! Now SBW members may opt for a digital copy of SBW's newsletter *WritersTalk*. Members can choose their option by informing Marjorie Johnson at newsletter@southbaywriters.com.

The Board has approved two contests for Halloween. Disguise yourself as your literary idol to participate in the Halloween Costume Contest on October 10. Are you the best storyteller in the South Bay? A prize for the weirdest story — see page 6.

South Bay Writers is back from the long summer break. We hope you got some writing done along with your summer fun. Send your summer stories to newsletter@southbaywriters.com.

This is my second term serving as a member-at-large on the SBW Board. Even today, I don't have a full count of all the volunteers who work selflessly behind the scenes to make the SBW dinner meeting run smoothly. A few days ago, SBW lost one of its valuable volunteers — Frank Johnson. Frank was one of the unseen heroes who along with Jim Matthews set up the electronics for every SBW dinner meeting. We will miss you, Frank. — WT



Frank Johnson

March 22, 1934 – July 30, 2016

Frank Johnson was a co-recipient of South Bay Writers' Matthews-Baldwin Award in May, 2016 for his years of service, helping to set up microphones and AV equipment. By that time, he was walking with a cane, but he staggered to the front without it and made a thank you speech; he prized that award, and that was his last public appearance.

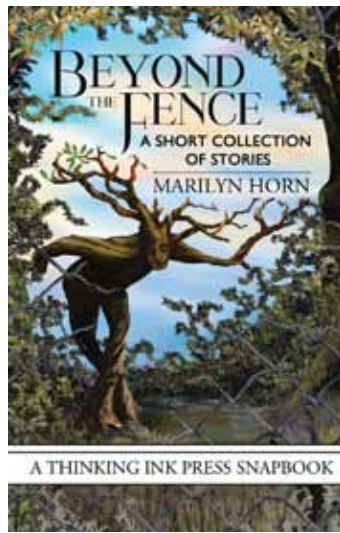
Frank lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on July 30. — WT

Beyond the Fence

by Marilyn Horn-Fahey

I recently had *Beyond the Fence: A Short Collection of Stories* published by Thinking Ink Press.

The worlds created in these eight stories are sometimes dark, sometimes surreal, and sometimes both – and yet not so unfamiliar. No matter how fantastic the world, loneliness is the enemy, connection the goal. Available on Amazon. – WT



Between Rooms

by Mary Curtis

Mary Pacifico Curtis is announcing that Turning Point Books, an imprint of Wordtech Communications, has published her new chapbook titled *Between Rooms*.

According to Turning Point, "The poems of Mary Pacifico Curtis' *Between Rooms* navigate the spaces in between, the gaps and emptiness that, when plumbed, resonate with startling flashes and sounds of insight and truth." Cover art inspired by her poems was created by local artist Bette Linderman.



The collection of twenty-eight poems is available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and at the publisher's web site at <http://www.turningpointbooks.com/curtis.html>. More information is available at www.marycurtis.com – WT

\$\$\$ Due\$ are Due \$\$\$

If you have overlooked this year's dues, the renewal fee is \$45 per member – you won't want to miss the State renewal deadline of September 30 because joining again will cost you the new member rate, \$65. You may pay online at southbaywriters.com or mail a check for \$45 to South Bay Writers, P O Box 3254, Santa Clara, CA 95055. – WT

New Members

by Sally A. Milnor



Sally Milnor

I am pleased to introduce our five newest members.

Kathy Boyd joined us at our August meeting. Kathy's primary interest is writing novels.

Catherine Cannon-Francis is interested in writing memoir. She says, "I've always loved to write, whether it's journaling, morning papers, or working towards completing a

memoir. I'm fueled by past experiences, other memoirs, and great writing groups/classes. For the past year, I've been working on a memoir. I've also been writing personal essays that tie to this project. I would love to fine tune and publish the personal essays in order to create a platform for the memoir. Ultimately, I'm eager to publish all of this writing."

Catherine has recently moved here from Boston. She teaches middle school English, and in her free time, she loves to travel, dance, and write. She says, "In 2011, my husband and I took a year off to travel the world; it was an incredible journey that included many wonderful adventures and stories. I'm excited to be part of this wonderful community of writers."

Jerreece Jackson writes nonfiction books. Jerreece was born in Arkansas, and she comes from a family rich with storytellers. On her membership questionnaire, she says, "Many things fuel my interest in writing, or as I like to say, many things inspire me. I get my ideas for books from places I've lived and tidbits of odd knowledge that I've picked up while reading throughout the day. But my greatest inspiration is the grandiose landscape of this magnificent State of California.

For example, for my book *The Grand Hotel*, my inspiration came

from walking past the regal old Sir Drake Hotel on Powell Street in San Francisco one night. The flickering lights coming from a welcoming door allowed me to have a "what if" moment. From there, the idea of *The Grand Hotel* was born."

After trying the New York publishing way and numerous agents (well over 300), she decided to try self-publishing. She says, "I sat down and wrote *A Geek*, *An Angel*, and *the Deceiver*. Self-publishing my first book was a wonderful success and made me feel confident with the self-publishing process. I have self-published my books through Amazon, Createspace, Barnes & Noble, NOOK, Lightning Source and Ingram."

Jerreece writes under her initials using the pseudonym J. A. Jackson. Her web page blog is <http://jerreeceannjackson.blogspot.com>; her email, jerreecejackson@yahoo.com; and her Amazon Author's page, <https://www.amazon.com/author/jajackson>.

Janet Patey joined us online, and her primary area of interest is in writing novels. On her membership questionnaire, Janet says, "I entered kindergarten at 5 years of age, reading at a 4th grade level. I was taught by my mother, who never finished high school." She enjoys travel and reading, and she currently has two books in process: *Hello, Dubrovnik* and *Lorenzo and Lily*. Her email address is janet.patey@gmail.com

Terrele Schumake also joined us online. Her primary area of interest is journalism.

To Our New Members: We wish each of you a warm welcome and hope your membership brings you inspiration and enjoyment. **To all of our South Bay Writers:** We appreciate and need your continuing presence and support. Thank you, again, for helping to keep our Club flourishing.

See you at Harry's Hofbrau, September 12. – WT

Dew ewe knead an editor?

Continued from Page 1

check a sample of your work at <http://www.readabilityformulas.com/free-readability-formula-tests.php>.

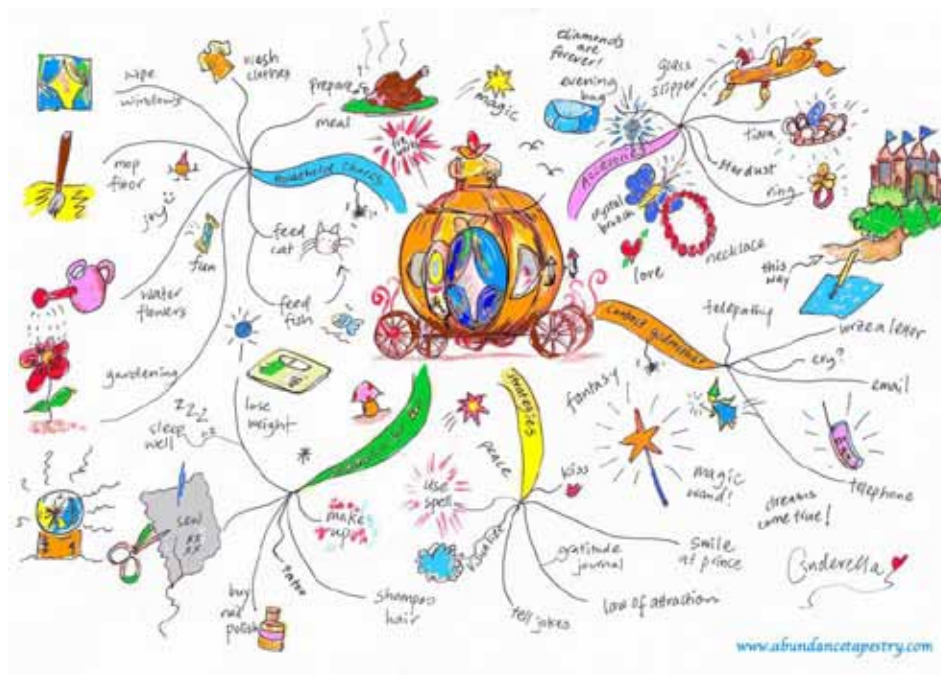
One theme of Mr. Giudici's talk was the benefits of an editor. Indeed, one author in the audience had great success with her book because of her editors.

However, for those of us who cannot afford \$50/hour for an editor, please make use of all the benefits of your SBW Club, including critique groups listed page 15 of this newsletter.

The graphic on the right is a mind map of Cinderella.

Contact Carey Giudici at www.careygiudici.com or email him at betterwords4you@gmail.com.

Happy writing to you! —WT



Mind Map of Cinderella

September Member News

WritersTalk Staff



Margie Yee Webb, MUSE Medallion Winner

Margie Yee Webb proudly purrs that she, Dahlynn McKowen and Ken McKowen were each awarded a MUSE Medallion for *Not Your Mother's Book... On Cats* (Publishing Syndicate) in June 2016 from the Cat Writers' Association 2015 Communication Contest, http://catwriters.com/wp_meow/cwa-announces-contest-winners/. She is also author and photographer of *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings*—an award-winning gift book, and a producer of *FEMME: Women Healing the World*—an inspiring documentary film.

Chris Hennessy appeared on San Francisco KGO 810 AM radio on August 7, talking about his memoir book, *Touched by Hannah*, on the Brian Copeland Show "Motivational Monday." About a man with cancer, his newborn one pound baby, and their fight for life. Website: touchedbyhannah.com.

Alfred Jan had a book signing on August 7 for *A Gelett Burgess Sampler: Ethics and Aesthetics* (and several pulp fiction detective and mystery anthologies) at Recycle Books in Campbell. He reports that the store allows authors to sell books outside the store on Sundays. The Recycle Book Club meets once a month to discuss the book of the month, and they invite the author to come to the store to answer questions and sign books. —WT

Weird Tales Storytelling Contest

At its October meeting, South Bay Writers traditionally hosts a literary Halloween costume—prizes for the scariest, the funniest, and the most literary costume. This year, we will add a storytelling contest to the festivities on October 10, with a prize and bragging rights for the top storyteller.

Weird Tales Storytelling Competition. Tell the stranger side of Santa Clara Valley: aliens, lost gold mines, apparitions, objects moving when they shouldn't, eerie tales. After all, we have the Winchester Mystery House, the Almaden Quicksilver Mine, and the Santa Cruz Mystery Spot nearby. Rules:

1. Story original and written by you.
2. Story in good taste (not rated R or X).
3. Story runs no longer than 6 minutes.
4. Story relates to a stranger side of Santa Clara Valley.

Truth is optional—but then, truth is stranger than fiction. Who is the best storyteller in the South Bay? —WT



South Bay Writers Club

August 2016



—Photos by Carolyn Donnell

The Short Snorter

by Frank Johnson

The wind blew papers and leaves, and anything else not nailed down, across the parking lot at Harry's Hofbrau. When I locked my car, a paper lodged against my shoe: a folded dollar bill. I tucked it into my pocket.

The check-in line for the writers club meeting already blocked the doorway. An old dude in a wheelchair was unfolding dollar bills, one at a time. Bill, the club treasurer, smoothed each one to make a more compact stack, all until number 15.

"Do you have another dollar?" Bill asked. "This one's counterfeit."

Wheelchair-man turned his pockets inside out: no dollar.

"Here, take this one," I said, taking out my parking lot dollar and making a trade, while cleverly moving to the front of the line. I put the counterfeit bill into my pocket and wondered why anyone would bother to print fake ones—twenties, maybe, or hundreds, but not ones.

I forgot about the fake dollar. After all, that's not even enough to buy coffee at Harry's. When I cleaned out my pockets so my wife could wash my trousers, I found it. "Hawaii," all in capital letters, printed across the back, along with "The United States of America" and "One Dollar," but not quite like the dollar I was used to. Where was "In God we trust"? Could I trust it, without the disclaimer? But then, God doesn't print money.

The note was signed in the left front margin: "short snorter — F. V. Mattson," and had other signatures across the body, too faint and smeared to make out the names. It said "Silver Certificate" and "This certifies that there is on deposit in the Treasury of the United States of America one dollar in silver payable to the bearer on demand" and "This certificate is legal tender for all debts, public and private." Part of Series 1935A, signed by W. A. Julian, Treasurer of the United States, and Henry Morgenthau Jr., Secretary of the Treasury.

I took this curious paper bill to my computer to ask Google, who knows all. A short snort, according to Wikipedia, is less than a full shot of liquor—so the barkeep makes more bucks. I read on.

A "short snorter" is a banknote inscribed by people traveling together on an aircraft, a tradition started by Alaskan Bush flyers in the 1920s. During World War II, short snorters were signed by flight crews and conveyed good luck to soldiers crossing the Atlantic. Friends would take the local currency and sign each other's bills, creating a "keepsake of your buddy's signatures." A short snorter signed by famous people becomes valuable on eBay, but 1935 \$1 silver certificates are so common that there's no market for them.

But then my curiosity led me to ponder: if there are \$1 silver certificates, are there \$100 gold certificates?

Yes. My good friend Google showed a \$100 gold certificate, printed with a black border on a light brown background and bearing a gold "Gold Certificate" seal and series number. Benjamin Franklin stares out from the center of the note. The back is printed in green, indeed a "green back." The front announced, "This certifies that there have been deposited in the Treasury of the United States of America one hundred dollars in gold coin, payable to the bearer on demand."

Not like the current \$100 bill, except for Franklin's portrait, not that I have one in my pocket. I read on.

In 1933, as an emergency response to the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 6102, which outlawed the private ownership of gold coins, gold bullion, and gold certificates by American citizens, forcing them to sell these to the Federal Reserve. As a result, the value of gold held by the Federal Reserve increased from \$4 billion to \$12 billion between 1933 and 1937. This left the federal government with a large gold reserve and no place to store it. In 1936, the Treasury Department built the United States Bullion Depository at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

All the gold in Fort Knox—how much is that? Wikipedia says Fort Knox contains roughly 2.3 percent of all the gold ever refined throughout human history.

So, my \$1 silver certificate is too common to be counterfeit. A counterfeit \$100 bill would be a different story. In 1990, new-age anti-counterfeiting measures included microscopic printing around Franklin's portrait, a metallic strip, and interwoven red and blue silk fibers, and in 1996, a watermark, optically variable ink,

and a plastic security thread which glows red under a black light. However, the new features didn't stop clever counterfeiters.

Since 2013, the design of the \$100 note includes a quill used to sign the Declaration of Independence with a disappearing bell in the inkwell, and images of Liberty Bells on a "3D security ribbon" shift into numerical designations of "100" as the note is tilted. In addition, on Franklin's left, the zeroes in small yellow 100s form the EURion constellation.

I take Wikipedia's word for it. What the heck is the EURion constellation?

No, not clusters of stars. Omron rings are a pattern of symbols incorporated into a number of banknote designs worldwide since 1996. The Omron rings help imaging software detect the presence of a banknote in a digital image. Such software can block the user from producing banknotes by using color photocopiers. Omron Corporation, a Japanese electronics company, designed the pattern and detection algorithms. Technical details regarding the EURion constellation are kept secret by its inventors and users.

I want to see that EURion configuration. I'll have to pick up a \$100 bill at the bank. Until then my "short snorter" is so much more interesting than the dollar bill from Harry's parking lot that I have filed it away in my silver stamp box. —WT

Shelf Life —Maddie McEwen



Patrick's plotline tangled his thoughts.

Jamie's Words

by Valerie Lee

The moment I entered the hospital room I knew I was too late. I stood at Dad's bedside and looked down helplessly at his still form. His breathing was shallow and he was in a coma. The doctor had told me it was just a matter of time.

Tears ran down my cheeks as visions of my happy childhood with Dad flashed into my mind. Whenever I was in trouble or upset, this sweet wonderful man, unconscious in the bed, was there to comfort me. After I lost my firstborn, I fell apart and never thought I would recover but Dad scolded me with gentle loving words and somehow made my world right again. Now who do I go to for the strength and support he gave me all his life? Somehow I thought he was invincible and would be around forever. With that assurance, I figured the world was a safer place to live in because of him. Now everything might crumble.

I had to face reality and remember that he once said, "There's a time to be born and a time to die. You come into this world alone and you die alone. That's what life is all about, so don't be frightened."

I didn't want his life to end. I wasn't ready to say goodbye. I wanted to have a choice! How can I say a final farewell to my father, the person I love, idolize, respect and need?

I touched his face, the same one which reddened and raged in anger when I was young. The sweet face that warmed with love and concern when I had a problem. The same face that lit up and laughed when I did something funny. I took his left hand and ran my fingers on his green jade ring, the ring I gave him years ago. His big eyes had lit up in appreciation. He had hugged me tightly. "Since it's from you I'll treasure it always and consider it to be lucky."

Now I whispered, "Dad, this is Sally. Can you hear me? I'm here. I love you." I squeezed his hand, bent over, and kissed his cheek. This time his hand tightened on mine.

I sat motionless and tried to implant in my mind the way he spoke and his words of wisdom. There had been endless hours spent explaining life, human emotions, courage, loyalty — very special times with Dad and already I was missing it.

I remember when I had mischievously rewrapped an old gift and given it to him one Christmas. Dad was young at heart. After he realized what I had done, his eyes twinkled and he laughed heartily. It was fun to play tricks on him because he was such a good sport.

Now with every breath he took, my insides churned and my heart ached. Soon God will take him from me. It was something I had to face but I didn't want to let go. I tried to hold on tightly. Death was so final and the thought of never seeing him smile or talk with me again was more than I could bear.

My brother Mark touched me on the shoulder and whispered, "Sal, take Jamie and get something to eat. I'll stay until you come back."

I nodded and went into the lounge where my nine-year-old Jamie, with a worried frown on his face, was waiting for me. He hugged me. "Mom, how's Grandpa?"

Off the Shelf

— Edie Matthews



I thought you liked Hemingway?

I wiped my tears with a Kleenex. "He isn't going to make it!"

"Why can't I see him?"

"Perhaps later, we'll see."

"Mom, I'm hungry. Can we go eat?"

Food didn't appeal to me but I knew Jamie was hungry because he had not eaten much on our flight from California. "Okay, let's go and get something to eat." He placed his hand in mine, and we headed down the long corridor towards the cafeteria. I was glad he was there to distract me from my despair and grateful that I had someone to take care of.

After Jamie had a hot dog, I tried to eat a ham sandwich but it was tasteless and dry. The strong smell of medicine in my father's room was still in my nostrils and nothing was appetizing.

Half an hour later, Mark, his head hung low, came into the cafeteria and sat down beside me. I knew from his expression that the inevitable had happened. "Five minutes after you left, Dad passed on. Mom's there now. Don't rush upstairs. Let her spend time with him alone."

We embraced each other and cried. Mark said, "You know, I was holding his hand when he drew his last breath. Oh, Sal, I'm going to miss him. Why did he have to die?"

I touched Mark's handsome face and wiped his tears away with my Kleenex. "It was his time. He'll always be a part of us. Didn't he tell us once we'll all die someday?"

"I know, but that still doesn't make it easy. Why does it have to hurt so much?"

"Because he's our father and we loved him, that's why. He was a good one too. We have to be brave for Mom's sake and take care of her from now on."

He stood up and wiped his eyes. "You're right! It has to be worse for her. I better go upstairs and see how she is."

When he left and was out of sight, I completely broke down. Nothing mattered as I gave in to my grief.

Continued on Page 12



Dark

Sunbeams hang eerily
over the entrance
like a curtain
The seats inside are empty
There's no food or drink
at the concession stand
The doors are locked and
only reflections can
be seen in the glass
The lights are out at
Century22
The theater that once was
so new and different
has gone dark
No one is around now
only the shadows of
the theater name
on the ground
No cars no people
no more movies
The screen is blank and
the music has died

Just like that old song -
and something touched me
deep inside that day -

It's closed forever
the refuge it provided
the escape from life
for awhile

Not even a bit of litter
on the ground
Not a person or sound
around

The theater is closed
Soon no doubt it
will disappear
But some who grew up
going there
will forever remember
Century 22

– Karen Hartley



Septempering Remembering

I cannot remember where's what I lost ...
Is it in my purse? Am I under a curse?
Might be a manuscript valued past cost?
Worse, losing a mind ...
"Burns" and "Turns" –
My backbone into excessive frost!
I am old, I grow cold,
I lost the point of this verse ...
Wait! Stop my grovel:
Write ANOTHER novel,
Surely cannot do any worse!

– Pat Bustamante

An Embodiment is

Embodiment is representing peak, in explication
Embodiment is representing peak, incorporation
Embodiment is representing peak, manifestation
Embodiment is representing peak, personification

An embodiment will say quality to substantiation
An embodiment will say quality to any culmination
An embodiment will say quality to a quintessence
An embodiment will say quality to any of essence

Embodiment is, or an apex of a thing, the pinnacle
Zenith, embodiment or the acme of a top-classical
Zenith, embodiment a high, summit same pattern
Crown embodiment the highest of same exemplar

Embodiment is the epitome, incarnation for it
Embodiment is the epitome incorporation a hit

Poem Number 2, 643

– Clarence L. Hammonds

San Jose Poetry Festival 2016: Breaking Borders

by Leslie E. Hoffman

Poetry Center San Jose presents the Second Annual San Jose Poetry Festival at History Park San Jose on Sunday, September 18 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., featuring readings and presentations, writing workshops, a small press fair, and a keynote address and performance by Alejandro Murguía, San Francisco Poet Laureate. Arlene Biala and Sally Ashton, current and emeritus Santa Clara County Poets Laureate, will also perform.

Workshops are first-come first-served, limited seating. Starting at 9 a.m., Tresha Haefner-Rubinstein will offer a workshop on the theme of surreal poetry, 20 seats available. Starting at 2 p.m., Dean Rader will offer a workshop on the theme of balance and proportion in revising a poem, 15 seats available.

Tickets are \$20 for the general public, \$15 for PCSJ members, and \$5 for students with ID. For more information, including many other presentations and workshops, please see www.pcsj.org/festival. Sunday, September 18, 2016, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, at History Park San José, 1650 Senter Road, San José, CA 95112 – WT

Volunteers needed: Poetry Festival

Poetry Center San Jose needs your help to put on the 2016 San Jose Poetry Festival! People are needed to set up, tear down, work the ticket and concession booths, assist session leaders, and coordinate volunteers. Please contact Dennis Noren at dennisdnoren@gmail.com or call (408) 368-0353 if you can help. – WT

Live Canon International Poetry Competition

First prize: £1000. Guidelines and online submittal at <http://www.livecanon.co.uk/poetry-competition>. Deadline: September 12. – WT



Fibonacci Sunflowers: Frank Johnson counted 34 clockwise spirals of seeds, 55 ccw, in a sunflower once. It took four tries. When he tested an idea, he never gave up.

In Memory of Frank Johnson *by Stephen C. Wetlesen*

Late Monday Afternoon

Hummingbird hovers
near my head one long moment.
I read artist quotes.

Dark gray dragonfly —
Nowhere near any water.
Library orchard.

Siberian Haiku

He's part of our pack —
even though he says meow.
Huskie point of view.

The Dog Days

No haiku today.
There is nothing I can say.
Creative desert.

Haiku for Our Old Cabin

Dark hues butterfly
Sits forever on my shoulder
Fresh from its cocoon.

Mountain View San Francisco Bay Access Trail

Four mallards in marsh
sighted through tall light green reeds
frenetic wind dance.

Dark red dragonfly
darts past with split second speed.
Large for its species.

Estuary stench.
Tiny gold Van Gogh petals.
Words juxtapose these.

— *Stephen C. Wetlesen*

The Grave of Mrs. Baty

This palm is leaning Southwards,
growing on Mrs. Baty's grave,
where in eighteen-ninety-two
her seventy-three came to lay.
And the years since have sunken in
like the sinking of her marble bed,
cracked and broken
but still are strangely living dead.
Because the roots have traveled deeper
while the fronds have risen further,
far more than her loved ones ever knew,
when they planted her in this breathing tomb.

The Southern breeze is flowing
through the withered fronds
rustling parchment overhead,
whispering in an old tongue I once knew
but cannot understand,
save I hear the faint voice of Mrs. Baty,
closer speaking
than eye or hand.

— *Daniel Jarvis*



The Well-Tempered Clavier

Bach's music tells
A Bible tale
From long ago.

Sweet C Major plays
As darkness and light
Separate in slow motion.

The harpsichord shudders
The melody rages
As humans emerge.

The snake undulates
Slowly, deliberately
Whispering its challenge.

God warns them again
A loud crescendo
Announces the fatal bite.

Adam and Eve
Finally comprehend
What was unfathomable.

Chaos of the presto
Tonality stretched to its limit
Fugue quiets as they exit.

— *Judith Shernock*

Promises

Bound in the sweet song of love
Wrapped in the glow
Music plays in our hearts
Life dances before us
Memories will fill our treasure chest
Kisses yearn of overwhelming want
Love infinitely shines in promises
to one another

— *Karen Franzenburg*

Fibonacci's Statue



Statue of Leonardo Pisano aka Fibonacci
— Sculpture by Giovanni Paganucci, 1863
— Photo by Frank Johnson, 1978, Pisa, Italy

Fibonacci's statue, larger-than-life, stands on a pedestal, its head at least fifteen feet above the ground. Workmen were walling in statues with scaffolding to prepare for an arts festival. Frank Johnson couldn't get a good shot; he paced back and forth, sizing up the situation. The workmen had gone to lunch.

"Here, hold my hat," Frank said, climbing the rickety framework, swaying back and forth. At the top, he steadied the camera and took this portrait of Fibonacci's statue which appears in many places on the Internet.

Fibonacci was the famous mathematician who introduced Arabic numerals and the concept of zero as a placeholder to Europe. If you don't think that was special, try to divide using Roman numerals. Of course, you have heard of the Fibonacci numbers 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ... — Marjorie

The Wheel of Emotional States



Wheel of Emotions

by WritersTalk Staff

The practical chart above depicting emotional states appears on the Internet in dozens of places. When posted on November 18, 2013 by dsgamer121 on *Imgur*, the chart had 515, 865 views.

The wheel gives name to a variety of emotions, but you must show, not tell.

For help describing your character's emotions, try *The Emotion Thesaurus* by Angela Ackerman and Becca Puglisi. —WT

Jamie's Words

Continued from Page 9

Jamie, concerned, placed his arms around my neck. "Mom, please don't cry."

"Oh, he's gone. Grandpa's gone."

"Please don't cry. Grandpa's with God. Maybe HE needs him to help in Heaven?"

"What?" Puzzled by what he said, I looked at Jamie's tearful face. So young and innocent, yet he understood what I was going through. He had developed compassion, depth and knowledge. I was

so proud.

"Remember you said Grandpa helped people he loved. Well, he can still do that. He can continue his work in Heaven. He can help God."

I squeezed Jamie tightly to my chest and wiped my eyes. My son had taken Dad's place. He knew how to comfort me by saying exactly what my Dad would have said if he were alive. I prayed silently, "Thank you, God, for sending Dad's words back to me through my son." —WT

Contests and Markets

by Carolyn Donnell



Carolyn Donnell
Contributing Editor

Tom Howard/Margaret Reid Poetry Contest. Deadline: 9/30/16. Fee: \$10 per poem. Tom Howard Prize, \$1,500 for a poem in any style or genre; Margaret Reid Prize, \$1,500 for a poem that rhymes or has a traditional style. Ten Honorable Mentions, \$100 each. Length limit: 250 lines per poem. <https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/tom-howard-margaret-reid-poetry-contest>

The Missouri Review: 26th Annual Jeffrey E. Smith Editors' Prize. \$5,000 Fiction; \$5,000 Nonfiction; \$5,000 Poetry. Deadline: 10/1/16. Fee: \$22. Submit one piece of fiction or nonfiction up

to 8,500 words or any number of poems up to 10 pages. Entries must be previously unpublished. Submit online or by mail. Questions? Ask contest_question@moreview.com See guidelines at <http://www.missourireview.com/tmrsubmissions/editors-prize-contest/>

Writers Digest: All deadlines are 11:59 PM EST. (Mailed in payments must deliver within 5 days of the posted entry deadline listed on the website at the time of your submission.) Enter earlier for any special early-bird rates.

- **Poetry Awards.** Deadline: 11/01/2016. Poems of all styles: rhyming, free verse, haiku, and more. writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/poetry-awards
- **Popular Fiction Awards.** Deadline: 10/14/16; 4,000 words or fewer. Categories: Romance, Thriller, Crime, Horror, Science Fiction, and Young Adult. writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/popular-fiction-awards
- **Short Short Story Competition.** Deadline: 12/15/16; 1,500 words or fewer. writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/short-short-story-competition

Poets & Writers: Three upcoming opportunities. www.pw.org/writing_contests

- **Red Hen Press** Graphic Novel Award. Deadline: 10/31/16. Fee: \$25. \$1,000 prize and publication by Red Hen Press given annually for a graphic novel. Submit manuscript of 75 to 200 pages. <http://www.redhen.org>
- **A Room of Her Own Foundation: Gift of Freedom Award.** Deadline: 11/2/16. Fee: \$45. \$50,000 prize given biennially to a female poet, fiction writer, or creative nonfiction writer to complete a project for publication over a two-year period. Also two finalist awards, \$5,000. Submit up to 10 pages of poetry or prose, an essay on financial status, an essay on the meaning of writing, an artist's statement, a project plan, and a community benefit proposal. See complete guidelines at <http://www.aroho.org>
- **Red Mountain Press: Poetry Prize.** Deadline: 9/15/16. Fee: \$30. \$1,000 prize and publication by Red Mountain Press given annually for a poetry collection. Submit a manuscript, 48 – 72 pages. All entries are considered for publication. Visit the website for complete guidelines. <http://www.redmountainpress.us>

Chicken Soup for the Soul: You will be paid \$200 (\$100 for devotionals) and receive ten free copies of the book your story or poem appears in. The following books have approaching deadlines:

- *Stories about Cats* / October 31, 2016
- *Stories About Dogs* / October 31, 2016
- *Best Mom Ever!* / September 30, 2016

Visit www.chickensoup.com/story-submissions/submit-your-story.

Twentieth Annual Zoetrope All-Story Short Fiction Contest. Deadline: 10/1/16; fee: \$20. First prize, \$1,000; Second, \$500; Third, \$250. See more at zoetrope.com/contests/stories-2016/

Nimrod, a biannual literary journal from The University of Tulsa, seeks poetry, short stories, and creative nonfiction for its Spring/Summer 2017 thematic issue, "Leaving Home, Finding Home." Works must be previously unpublished; stories and nonfiction up to 7500 words, poetry up to eight pages. Online submissions \$3, nimrodjournal.submittable.com/submit. Deadline 11/5/16; publication April 2017. — WT

Call to submit: WTA Press

Peg Alford Pursell, Founding Editor

WTA Press, a nonprofit independent publisher of literary books will publish two full-length books of prose in 2017, our inaugural year. We will select the best fiction, essays, memoir, that we can find. Building on the tradition of our award-winning Bay Area reading series, *Why There Are Words*, we will publish voices that need to be heard. We want to publish books that show us more things on heaven and earth than we have dreamt of, and we will do all we can to bring our books to the attention of the readers they deserve. Authors will receive standard book contracts, hands-on editorial development and publicity, and more. Guidelines <http://www.wtawpress.org/submissions>. Deadline: 09/15/16. — WT

Creative Writing at DeAnza

Lita Kurth is teaching a multi-genre creative writing class at De Anza, TTh 10:30-12:20, 00933EWRT030.01 Intro Creative Writing. Class begins Sept 27. She would love to have mature students in the mix.

Sacramento Writing Workshop: How to get Published

The 2016 Sacramento Writing Workshop, Friday September 9, is a full-day "How to Get Published" writers conference. The workshop is an opportunity to pitch literary agents who seek new writers. You'll learn about your publishing options today; how to write queries and pitches; how to market yourself and your books; what makes an agent/editor stop reading your manuscript. No matter what you're writing — fiction or nonfiction — the day's classes will point you in the right direction. Writers of all genres are welcome.

This year's faculty includes Chuck Sambuchino of Writer's Digest Books and editor of *Guide to Literary Agents*, and literary agents Elizabeth Kracht from Kimberley Cameron Literary Agency; Jennifer March Soloway from Andrea Brown; Carlie Webber from CK Webber Associates; Patricia Nelson from Marsal Lyon; Jen Hunt from Booker Albert; and Jennifer Chen Tran from Fuse Literary.

The workshop will be 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Friday, September 9, at Courtyard Sacramento Midtown, 4422 Y Street, Sacramento, CA 95817. Visit www.sacramentowritingworkshop.com to register today. — WT

News from California Writers Club

Fundraising

By Donna McCrohan Rosenthal
pr@calwriters.org

CWC's High Desert Branch joins forces with Barnes & Noble Book Fair, Sept. 17 to 22. If you purchase anything in-store at any Barnes & Noble Bookseller or online at www.BN.com using Voucher #11903309, High Desert gets a percentage of the sale. High Desert has done this before with good results and urges other CWC branches to set up their own dates with Barnes & Noble; CWC will post your dates and voucher numbers on the CWC website. Contact the Customer Relations Manager at the Barnes & Noble near your branch location. You can get more information at www.BN.com/bookfairs.

For those who choose to participate in the Barnes & Noble Book Fair programs, reciprocation is the key to success. Have you ever wondered what could happen if we harnessed all our CWC branches and all our members to unify in one promotional effort? —WT

Ray Malus receives Ina Coolbrith Award

by Donna McCrohan Rosenthal
pr@calwriters.org

California Writers Club President David George presented the Ina Coolbrith Award to San Fernando Branch member Ray Malus at the July 24 Central Board meeting in Oakland. The organization's highest honor, it recognizes exemplary service at the state level.

In 2011, Ray received CWC's Jack London Award for service at the branch level. In his own branch, he designed the San Fernando Valley website and serves as their webmaster. Ray was longtime editor of the branch newsletter *The Valley Scribe* and represented the SFV branch on the CWC Central Board. Last year he retired from the position of Member-at-Large on the CWC Executive Board. Also on the state level, Ray created and developed the Member Record Management System (MRMS) for recording membership data and simplifying data entry. —WT

CWC Around the Bay

Published meeting locations and times for other CWC branches in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. If you want to attend one of their meetings, first check their websites for details.

Berkeley: 2:00 third Sundays, Oakland Public Library Main Branch. cwc-berkeley.org

Central Coast: 5:30 third Tuesdays, Point Pinos Grill, 77 Asilomar Boulevard, Pacific Grove. centralcoastwriters.org

Fremont Area: 2:00 fourth Saturdays at DeVry University, 6600 Dumbarton Circle, Room 120, Fremont. cwc-fremontareawriters.org

Marin: 2:00 fourth Sundays, Book Passage in Corte Madera. cwcmarin.com

Mendocino Coast: 6:00 third Wednesdays, Mendocino Hotel. writersmendocinocoast.org

Mount Diablo: 11:00 second Saturdays, Zio Fraedo's Restaurant, 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. cwcmtdiablowriters.wordpress.com

Napa Valley: 7:00 second Wednesdays, venue is changing. napavalleywriters.net

North State: 6:00 third Mondays, Butte County Library-Chico Branch. northstatewriters.com

Redwood: 2:30 first Sundays, Flamingo Conference Resort & Spa, 2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa. redwoodwriters.org

Sacramento: 11:00 third Saturdays, Cattlemen's Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. cwcsacramentowriters.org

San Francisco/Peninsula: 10:00 third Saturdays, Redwood Yacht Harbor: check website <http://cwc-peninsula.org/>

Tri-Valley: 2:00 third Saturdays, Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard, Pleasanton. trivalleywriters.org

Central Coast Writers Conference 2016

September 29 – October 1

Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo

A three-day conference with over 60 workshops and a book and author fair. Something for everyone – check it out on the conference website:

www.centralcoastwritersconference.com

The Central Coast Writers Conference features many different educational and genre tracks, each focused on a specific set of topics depending on where you are at this point in your writing career. The nine tracks are Beginning Writing, TV and Movies, Platform and Promotion, The Business of Being an Author, Nonfiction, Genre Studies, Novel Writing, Poetry, and Business Writing.

If you've just started writing, you may want to follow our Craft track: Creating Dynamic Characters; Your First Book; Give Yourself the Best Chance for a Bestseller; Finding Your Voice in Memoir; or How to Catch an Agent's Attention.

If your manuscript is complete or you're building your author platform, check out How to Get Publicity for Your Book; 10 Essential Self Editing Tips; Getting More Out of Social Media; The Query Letter to Knock the Socks Off Any Agent. —WT

Leadership Conference

by Carole Bumpus,
Chair CWC NorCal Group

By now, you've probably heard the exciting news from the California Writers Club NorCal Group! We're bringing back the popular Leadership Conference, re-branded this year as the "Building Better Branches" conference, on October 1 at DeVry University in Fremont.

Those of you who attended the 2014 conference know how inspiring and valuable it was, and we hope you'll to pass along that word to your officers and committee chairs. If you're new to this conference, be prepared for a fast-paced, high-energy day dedicated to the sharing of ideas with your peers at other CWC branches.

I encourage each branch to assemble a team and attend as a group to make the most of this special event. Who should attend? Officers, committee chairs, new members who've expressed an interest in becoming more heavily involved – pretty much anyone who raises their hand and says, "Count me in." I'm also urging the branches to pick up the tab when it comes to paying for conference registration. This is a terrific way to reward volunteers and to demonstrate to them the importance that the branch places on their involvement. Looking forward to seeing you in Fremont on October 1! —WT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 2016				1	2 7:30P Open mic Barnes & Noble Almaden, San Jose	3
4 10 AM Our Voices	5 2PM Valley Writers	6 6:30 dinner, 7- 8:30PM meeting SBW Board, Holder's, see Page 4	7	8	9	10
11	12 2PM Valley Writers 6PM SBW meeting Harry's Hofbrau	13 7 PM Poetry readings Well-Red Poetry, Works San Jose	14	15 7 PM Poetry readings Poetry Center Deadline <i>WritersTalk</i>	16 7:30P Open mic Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave	17
18 9 AM – 6 PM San Jose Poetry Festival (p. 10) 10 AM Our Voices	19 2PM Valley Writers	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 2PM Valley Writers	27 7 PM TalkShop	28	29	30	
Future Flashes						
October 1 Leadership Confer- ence, De Vry Univer- sity, Fremont	October 4 SBW Board Meeting 6:30PM Mariani's, Santa Clara	October 10 6PM SBW meeting Harry's Hofbrau	October 10 Literary Costume Contest Harry's Hofbrau	October 10 Weird Tales Storytelling Contest Harry's Hofbrau	You send it We calendar it	

Ongoing Events

Critique Groups

Our Voices: Meets at Bel Bacio in San Jose and various places every other Sunday 10 AM. Genres: Fiction, memoir, nontechnical nonfiction. Contact: Dave LaRoche at dalaroche@comcast.net

Valley Writers: Meets at Valley Village Retirement Center, Winchester Blvd, Santa Clara, Mondays 2 PM. Marjorie Johnson, marjoriej358@comcast.net

Your Critique Group: Send info to newsletter@southbaywriters.com

Do you belong to a critique group? Please send details to *WritersTalk*.

SBW Board Meetings

Board meets in the week preceding the dinner meeting. Contact Pam Oliver-Lyons at pres@southbaywriters.com.

Details Oct. 4 : 6:30 PM dinner; Board meeting 7 - 9 PM, Mariani's, 2500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara.

Writer's Conferences: Reserve the dates

Word by Word: Central Coast Writer's Conference Sept 29 - Oct 1 2016
www.centralcoastwritersconference.com See Page 14.

How to Get Published: Writing Workshop. CWC Sacramento, Friday, Sept 9.
www.sacramentowritingworkshop.com See Page 13.

Open Mics

South Bay Writers Open Mic: Read from your own work, from your favorite authors, or just come to listen, first and third Friday evenings. See calendar for schedule. Contact Bill Baldwin (408) 730-9622 or email WABaldwin@aol.com

Ongoing discussion groups

TalkShop: Discuss topics of interest to writers – challenges, problems, and tips. Meets last Tuesdays, 7 pm. Contact Carole Taub at 777777ps@gmail.com

SBW TalkBooks: discussion group focusing on books written by SBW members.
Note: TalkBooks needs a leader.

Facebook Group: Members of South Bay Writers can join our Facebook group – South Bay Writers Club.

Poetry Readings

Poets@Play: Meets at Markham House History Park, 1650 Senter Rd., San Jose, Second Sundays most months, 1 - 4 PM.
poetrycentersanjose.org

Poetry Center San Jose: Meets at Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave., San Jose, Third Thursdays, 7 PM.
poetrycentersanjose.org 408-808-3045

Well-Red Poetry Reading Series: Second Tuesdays, 7 - 9 pm, at Works San Jose, 365 South Market Street. Featured reader followed by an open mic, if time allows. www.pcsj.org

SBW Recommends ...

If you know of a regularly occurring event for writers, send an email to newsletter@southbaywriters.com.



California Writers Club
South Bay Branch
P.O. Box 3254
Santa Clara, CA 95055
www.southbaywriters.com

MAIL TO

Address Correction Requested

South Bay Writers
September Regular Meeting
6 PM, Monday, September 12

Harry's Hofbrau
390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose

The Right-Wrong Thing: From a Police Psychologist **Ellen Kirschman** **September Speaker**

WritersTalk deadline is always
the 15th of the month.

Regular dinner meetings are
second Mondays 6 – 9 PM
except July and December.



Harry's Hofbrau

From Highway 280, take Saratoga Avenue North.
Harry's is on your right near Stevens Creek Blvd.