



# WRITERSTALK

Volume 18  
Special Edition  
Mid-May 2010

Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Writers Club

## To Members of the South Bay Branch of the California Writers Club

The proposed bylaws that follow are being distributed in accordance with the bylaws of the South Bay Branch of the California Writers Club for your review with the anticipation of an early vote at the June meeting. Should the revision be accepted (a simple majority vote of those in attendance), two new director seats, member-at-large, will open. Candidates may seek these seats with a nomination either from the floor at the June meeting or by contacting the nominating chair at any time. Meredy Amyx is that nominating chair and can be contacted at [meredy@amyx.org](mailto:meredy@amyx.org).

The attached bylaws have been revised to include:

- The addition of two elected members-at-large to our Board of Directors
- Committee chair appointments by the president to require the approval of the Executive Committee
- Membership qualifications to be in accordance with the Central Board's Policy and Procedures and no longer redefined here
- Clarification regarding the creation of a nominating committee and the date of assumption of office for officers elect
- A slight tightening of the requirements of quorum for the Board of Directors to better reflect the membership
- The use of email to distribute amendments to the bylaws document

The addition of two members-at-large reflects the growth of the club and the need to represent the members at board meetings as well as an opportunity for members considering an office to become familiar with the board's operation before assuming a specified responsibility.

Appointment approvals by the elected executive committee more assuredly passes the wishes of members to the board. (As it is, the entire board approves, thus committee chairs approve committee chairs)

A quorum for the board must now be three elected officials, including either the president or vice president and any other two board members for a total of five. (Previously, any four members constituted a quorum.)

The remainder of amendment is clarification and modernization without material effect.

Your Board of Directors has reviewed and concurs with the changes.

Please read through and be ready to vote early in the June meeting, facilitating election to the additional seats on that night,

and should you be interested in joining the board, contact Meredy.

Dave LaRoche, President  
South Bay Writers  
May 11, 2010

## PROPOSED BYLAWS of the South Bay Branch of the California Writers Club Revision 1, May 11, 2010

### ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1: The name of the organization is the South Bay Branch of the California Writers Club. It may also informally call itself South Bay Writers.

### ARTICLE II: MANAGEMENT

Section 1: The governing body of the South Bay Branch shall be a Board of Directors consisting of elective officers and appointed committee chairs. The elective officers will be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two members-at-large. All committee chairs will be appointed by the president and approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 2: The Executive Committee will consist of the elective officers.

Section 3: The president may, subject to approval by the board, appoint an officer pro tem to fill vacancies on the executive committee. Such pro tem appointments expire at the end of the term to which the original officer was elected.

### ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership in the South Bay Branch shall conform to the Policies and Procedures of the CWC Central Board. Questions of membership requirements shall be referred to the CWC Central Board.

Section 2: Each member shall pay dues according to the Policies and Procedures adopted by the CWC Central Board.

### ARTICLE IV: ELECTIONS

Section 1: In April of each year, the president, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a nominating committee chair, who may select committee members, to solicit and present nominations for election.

Section 2: The slate of known nominees (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two members at large) shall be presented at the May general meeting and published in the South Bay Branch newsletter preceding the June general meeting. Nominations by petition to the nominating committee or made from the floor during general meetings may be accepted at any time preceding the casting of ballots. Nominations must have the consent of the nominee.

Section 3: The election shall be held at the June general meeting and shall be by simple majority of the members present. If there is more than one nominee for an office, voting shall be by written ballot.

Section 4: The incoming officers shall assume their offices on July 1.

#### **ARTICLE V: REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CWC CENTRAL BOARD**

Section 1: The president shall, with the approval of the Executive Committee, appoint one Branch member to represent the South Bay Branch at the duly called meetings of the California Writers Club. The representative must be a member in good standing of the California Writers Club and the South Bay Branch.

#### **ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS**

Section 1: Except for special meetings, the South Bay Branch shall have regular meetings throughout the year at a place and time determined by the Board of Directors.

- (a) Regular board meetings shall be at the discretion of the president.
- (b) Additional special meetings of either the general membership or the board may be called by the president.

Section 2: In an emergency, the president may poll the board by telephone or email to handle urgent matters and act according to the majority received by such poll. The board shall affirm the actions of the president at their next meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VII: QUORUM**

Section 1: A quorum for a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be three of the executive committee, to include either the president or vice president, plus more than one of the remaining board. For all other meetings, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Unless otherwise stated in these bylaws, a simple majority of a quorum will determine the outcome of a vote.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: Amendment to these bylaws shall require that the proposed amendment:

- (a) be published in the branch newsletter and/or distributed to all members by way of an email to email addresses of record no less than two weeks prior to a regular scheduled meeting; and,
- (b) be submitted in writing as a motion, read at a regularly scheduled meeting, and be approved by a majority of the members present at the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE XII: PRECEDENCE**

Section 1: In the event of a conflict between this document and the bylaws of California Writers Club or the Policies and Procedures of the CWC Central Board, the state document will supercede this document.

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## **EXISTING BYLAWS**

### **of the South Bay Branch**

### **of the California Writers Club**

### **Approved August 2003**

#### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

Section 1: The name of the organization is the South Bay branch of California Writers Club. It may also informally call itself South Bay Writers.

#### **ARTICLE II: MANAGEMENT**

Section 1: The powers of the South Bay branch shall be vested in an executive committee consisting of the elected offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and a board of directors consisting of appointed committee chairs.

## **California Writers Club**

### **South Bay Branch**

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#### **Executive Committee**

President—Dave LaRoche  
pres@southbaywriters.com  
408 729-3941

Vice President—Bill Baldwin  
vp@southbaywriters.com

Secretary—Loureen Giordano  
secretary@southbaywriters.com

Treasurer—Richard Burns  
treasurer@southbaywriters.com

#### **Central Board Rep**

Dave LaRoche (acting rep)

#### **Directors**

Programs—Bill Baldwin  
vp@southbaywriters.com

Publicity and Public Relations—Edie Matthews  
publicity@southbaywriters.com  
408 985-0819

Membership—Marjorie Johnson  
membership@southbaywriters.com

Hospitality—Cathy Bauer  
cathy@bauerstar.com

Networking—Cathy Bauer  
networking@southbaywriters.com

East of Eden Conference—Dave LaRoche  
eastofeden@southbaywriters.com

Open Mic—Bill Baldwin  
408 730-9622

Webmaster—Ro Davis  
webmaster@southbaywriters.com

Workshops—Bill Belew  
workshops@southbaywriters.com

#### **Join With Us**

We have a membership category that fits you. Dues are \$45 per year plus a one-time \$20 initiation fee. Contact the Membership Chair, Marjorie Johnson.



## WRITERSTALK

is the monthly newsletter of the South Bay Branch of the California Writers Club.

### Managing Editor

Richard Amyx  
newsletter@southbaywriters.com  
408 297-4438

### Contributing Editors

Nina Amir  
Bill Belew  
Carolyn Donnell  
Lisa Eckstein  
Andrea Galvacs  
Victoria M. Johnson  
Jackie Mutz

### Submissions

Members of the South Bay Writers Club are encouraged to submit their creative works for publication in *WritersTalk*. Suggested word limits are not absolute; query the editor. Electronic submissions should be text or attached MS Word file sent to newsletter@southbaywriters.com; or mail double-spaced, typewritten copy to

Richard Amyx  
994 No. 2nd Street  
San Jose, CA 95112

### Guest Columns

*Almost Anything Goes* (400 words)

### News Items (400 words)

### Letters to the Editor (300 words)

to Andrea Galvacs  
newsletter@southbaywriters.com

### Creative Works

Short Fiction (1800 words)  
Memoir (1200 words)  
Poetry (300 words)  
Essay (900 words)

### Accolades

accolades@southbaywriters.com

### Announcements and Advertisements

newsletter@southbaywriters.com

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

Advertising is accepted on the basis of its interest and value to writers. Advertising rates for Club members, \$7 per column inch; non-members, \$10. We will assist or insist with layout.

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**Change of Address:** Send changes of address to the Membership Chair at membership@southbaywriters.com

**Subscriptions:** Nonmember subscriptions are \$20/year; send a check payable to South Bay Writers Club to the Membership Chair.

**Circulation:** 200

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Section 2: The president may, subject to approval by the board, appoint an officer pro-temp to fill vacancies on the executive committee. Such pro-tem appointments expire at the end of the term to which the original officer was elected.

### ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership in the South Bay branch shall conform to ARTICLE I, Section 1 of the bylaws of the California Writers Club, and the Policies and Procedures of the CWC Central Board. Questions of membership requirements shall be referred to the CWC Central Board.

Section 2: The branch may admit, as "social" members, people who do not yet qualify as members of the California Writers Club. These members will be admitted on the basis of potential future membership in the CWC. "Social members" are members of the South Bay branch but not of the state CWC.

Section 3: Each member shall pay dues according to the Policies and Procedures adopted by the CWC Central Board.

### ARTICLE IV: ELECTIONS

Section 1: In April of each year, the branch board shall appoint a committee to present nominations for election.

Section 2: The slate of officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) shall be presented at the May general meeting and published in the South Bay branch newsletter preceding the June general meeting. Nominations must have the consent of the nominee.

Section 3: The election shall be held at the June general meeting. Nominations from the floor may be accepted with the prior consent of the nominee. The election shall be by simple majority of the members present. If there is more than one nominee for an office, voting shall be by written ballot.

Section 4: The incoming officers shall assume their offices at the July general meeting.

### ARTICLE V: REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CWC CENTRAL BOARD

Section 1: The president shall, with the approval of the branch board, appoint one branch member to represent the South Bay branch at the quarterly meetings of the California Writers Club. The representative must be a member in good standing of the California Writers Club and the South Bay branch.

### ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

Section 1: Except for special meetings, the South Bay branch shall have regular meetings throughout the year at a place and time determined by the branch board.

- (a) Regular board meetings shall be at the discretion of the president.
  - (b) Additional special meetings of either the general membership or the board may be called by the president.
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Section 1: A quorum for a meeting of the branch board shall be four of the members. For all other meetings, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

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**California Writers Club**  
South Bay Branch  
P.O. Box 3254  
Santa Clara, CA 95055  
[www.southbaywriters.com](http://www.southbaywriters.com)

## MAIL TO

Address Correction Requested

This is a special  
**BYLAWS EDITION**  
of  
*WritersTalk*

Please read the proposed changes to  
the Bylaws of South Bay Writers inside  
and be prepared to vote at the

**Next Monthly Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 8, 6:00 p.m.**  
Lookout Inn  
605 Macara Avenue, Sunnyvale  
At the Sunnyvale Golf Course

