



# WRITERSTALK

Volume 26  
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June 2018

Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Writers Club™

JUNE SPEAKER: DONNA LEVIN

## Hooked On Page One, Committed by Page 20

by Jamal Khan

In an era of Netflix and social media, there is a limited window of opportunity to capture and hold a reader's attention. The first page alone may determine whether a reader chooses a book or puts it down, never to pick it up again. Even then, the reader will only finish the book if the story is intriguing, engrossing, and entertaining. The commitment to stick with a book usually locks in by the twentieth page. In our upcoming dinner meeting, Donna Levin will share her wisdom on successfully drawing the reader through these two critical junctures: hooked on page one, committed on page twenty.

Donna has taught fiction writing for two decades, most notably at the University of California Extension at Berkeley, where she led the Novel-Writing Workshop. Many of her students have gone on to publish. She is the author of *There's More Than One Way Home*, a best-selling "autism lit" novel that Booklist, in a starred review, called "a smart, wise and big-hearted book." Her first two novels, *Extraordinary Means* and *California Street*, have been optioned for film. Donna has published two books about writing, *Get that Novel Started* and *Get that Novel Written*, both with Writer's Digest Books. *Get that Novel Written* was translated into Italian and published by Dino Audino Editore.



Where: Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Ave,  
San Jose, CA 95132

When: Monday June 11th at 6pm; talk begins  
at 7:30pm

Admission: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-  
members. Includes \$10 credit for dinner.

MAY SPEAKER RECAP: MARY JO IGNOFFO

## Mary Jo Ignoffo Discusses Novel-Like Nonfiction

by Luanne Oleas

Mary Jo Ignoffo, the speaker at our May dinner meeting, discussed nonfiction writing that reads like a novel. She is currently working on her first novel after publishing six nonfiction books.

Ignoffo, born in the Midwest, is a historian in the process of retiring from her teaching position at De Anza College. While working on her novel, she is discovering the difference between nonfiction and fiction. Her nonfiction books require a year or more of research before writing page 1. She pursues details hidden in her neighbor's garage sale finds and in letters held by Stanford University. In her novel, she stills wants the facts correct, but often relies on her imagination instead of a trip to the library.

Her book, *CAPTIVE OF THE LABYRINTH: Sarah L. Winchester, Heiress to the Rifle Fortune*, published in 2010, is of local interest. A recent movie, *Winchester* with Helen Mirren, claims to have drawn information from Ignoffo's work, but Ignoffo feels the only fact where the works intersect is their agreement that Sarah Winchester lived.

SPOILER ALERT: Her book debunks some of the famous myths about the Winchester Mystery house:

- Her sister coming to California prompted Sarah's move here after her husband, father-in-law and sister died. She was not trying to escape the spirits of victims of Winchester rifles.

*Continued on Page 5*

# Between the Lines

**Edie Matthews**  
President, South Bay Writers



## Make Them Laugh, Make Them Cry

“—take them on an emotional rollercoaster,” declared my mother. At the time, she was writing a “bestseller” to make a million dollars and end our financial woes. Although her book was never published, I’ve never forgotten her advice.

Later, while studying creative writing, I began to analyze the juxtaposition of humor in tragedy. But “make them laugh, make them cry?” It seemed incongruous. However, with deeper reflection, it became clear.

Consider Eugene O’Neill’s tragedy, *Long Day’s Journey into Night*. His biographical play is a candid rendering of his dysfunctional family which includes a son with tuberculosis, an alcoholic brother, a miserly father, and a mother addicted to morphine.

I recall seeing the play at the San Jose Repertory Theatre (sadly now closed). Three-quarters through the performance, I, along with the rest of the audience, had endured an onslaught of misery. We were exhausted when O’Neill smoothly segued into comedy.

Jamie, the alcoholic brother, returns home furious. He’s visited a brothel and had sex with the fattest floozy. He explains to his younger brother that Fat Violet is in danger of being fired, and he felt sorry for her. His description of the deed with “the fat girl in the hick town hooker shop” is comical—and the audience welcomed the relief with rollicking laughter. The humor served to bolster the audience for the play’s melancholy conclusion.

It’s not uncommon for people to ease their pain with laughter. Have you ever cried so hard that you started to laugh? Even if you continue to cry afterwards, perhaps psychologically we need that break. Most likely it’s a reminder that you will laugh again despite the current situation.

William Shakespeare understood the value of humor and included it in ALL of his tragedies. For example, in *Hamlet* after the king dies, Claudius, his brother, swiftly marries the queen, Hamlet’s mother. Angered and appalled at his mother’s betrayal, the young prince unleashes a steady barrage of witty insults, puns, and satire.

Though it may be macabre, the play’s humor culminates in an incongruous setting—a graveyard. This jocular scene serves two purposes. One, it misleads the audience hinting all may be resolved peacefully. Two, it provides a respite before the fatal ending.

Comedy often serves another purpose. It reveals truth in the guise of humor. Consider the role of the court jester—especially in *King Lear*. Using wit and irreverence, the jester cuts through chaos and commotion and states the hard facts to the king. Whereas, the same frankness from someone else could result in banishment or worse, execution.

The jester, however, can speak freely because he’s considered a fool, and yet he is the voice of reason. Initially, the characters laugh, but quickly grasp the innuendo as though they figured out the truth for themselves.

Although we don’t have court jesters today, teasing can have the same impact. It can be cruel, but it can also convey the truth.

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California Writers Club  
South Bay Branch  
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Open Mic—Bill Baldwin  
[WABaldwin@aol.com](mailto:WABaldwin@aol.com)

### 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. Renewal dues are \$45 for membership through June 30, 2018. Dual membership, \$25; student membership, \$20. New member, \$65. Contact Membership Chair at a meeting or sign up online at [southbaywriters.com](http://southbaywriters.com) or send a check to CWC-South Bay Writers, P O Box 3254, Santa Clara, CA 95055.

## WritersTalk

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

email: newsletter@southbaywriters.com

### Managing Editor

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Marjorie Bicknell Johnson

Sayantika Mandal

Sally Milnor

Karen Sundback

### Deadline

Submissions are due by the 15th of the month.

### Submissions

SBW encourages writers at all levels of expertise to submit their creative works for publication in *WritersTalk*. All submissions should be sent to the above email address in the form of text or an attached MS Word file (sorry, no hard copy submissions can be accepted). 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, with separate instructions for placement in the submission if placement is important.

All submissions will be copyedited. Titles and headlines subject to change. Managing Editor reserves the right to selection.

### Suggested word limits (less is more):

**Member Achievement / News** (200 words)

**News Items** (400 words)

**In My Opinion** (300 words)

**Letters to the Editor** (300 words)

### Creative Works

Short Fiction/Memoir (1200-1800 words)

Poetry (200 words)

Essay/Nonfiction (1000 words)

### Reprints

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.

### 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. We cannot accept political advertising of any kind. *WritersTalk* does not accept unpaid advertising of events or services that benefit an individual. Advertise in CWC Bulletin or in the Literary Review. See Page 14.

**Change of Address:** Send changes of address to membership@southbaywriters.com

**Circulation:** 200

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## J. K. McDole Managing Editor



## Too Much

Writing as an iterative process teaches us the value of re-writing, revising, and editing our work. But what about iterative reading? Does the impact and value of an established work change over time? I think it does; I'd go so far as to say I know so.

The summer I turned seventeen, I got my first job at the local ice cream parlor, and – whenever I could snatch a free moment outside of work – I read Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* for the first time. The book came to me by the insistence of an older cousin, whose taste in literature always ran sleeker and more sophisticated than mine. I was fueled by a desire to seem like a teenager of substance; I wanted to feign superiority over my friends, whose reading preferences consisted of soft-bodied fantasy novels and the latest run of *X-Men: New Mutants*.

I won't deny that sex that got me interested in the book. The plot was illicitly provocative to naive, sixteen-year-old me: that Offred, a fertile young woman stripped of her rights and separated from her family, had to serve as a Handmaid in hopes of bearing children for a powerful family in the elaborate, dystopian theocracy of Gilead. But anyone who has read the book knows there's no titillation in Atwood's cautionary tale. Nor is there any escape from how fast her prose reels you in. Late at night, huddled in the air-conditioned cave of my bedroom with cramped wrists and aching eyes, I devoured that story and all its woe. I chased it from the dismal exposition to its grim, unsatisfying end.

"I heard it's like *Nineteen Eighty Four*," said my mother. "Except it's about a government taken over by extreme Christian fundamentalists. Right?"

"I don't even know what to compare it to," I said. "It's about a lot. It's about *too much*."

As a writer, one must learn how to summarize their plots. Readers do it, too. Over the years I've tried to craft a fitting summary of *The Handmaid's Tale* to use on uninitiated friends and family, but it's hard to sum up. Too often I come back to that same exhausted line: 'it's just too much.' Most scholars classify it as speculative fiction, even when Atwood has revealed that every element of the plot and setting was based off events and customs that occur or have occurred throughout history. It is fictive, but rooted in reality. It's a whirlwind of view and perspective; it pairs misogyny with piecemeal feminism; it joins suffering to triumph while mingling love with hate. The story structure itself is confusing; like its Chaucerian namesake, *The Handmaid's Tale* is told by unreliable narrators, and the reader has no confirmation that what they're being told is necessarily what happened.

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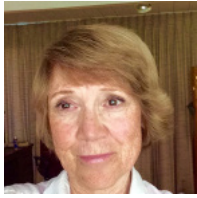
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## View from the Board

by Karen Sundback



Karen Sundback  
SBW Secretary

The May meeting was held at President Edie Matthews' home.

- Dave LaRoche volunteered to head the nominating committee.

While most of our present members are excited about continuing into the next cycle, a few are regrettably unable to continue. If you are interested in promoting good writing and enjoy the idea of learning the inner workings of the Club, please contact Dave at [policies@southbaywriters.com](mailto:policies@southbaywriters.com). A new board will be assembled by June 30, 2018.

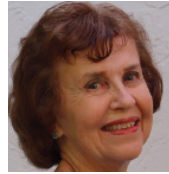
- *The Dollar Bill Anthology* is available on Kindle. Access it and the paperback version on Amazon. The anthology name is: *Series 1963 A: An Anthology of California Writers Kindle Edition*. Since Dave LaRoche brought it to fruition, he has been named the author. The hardback is still in the works, but the release date is imminent.
- A note to our readers: if ever you misplace your hard copy of *WritersTalk*, our web editor, Tatyana Grinenko, keeps our website (<http://southbaywriters.com/>) current with the most up-to-date information. Check it out!

The next meeting of the SBW Board will be Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 7 pm at the home of President Edie Matthews. — WT



## New Members

by Sally A. Milnor



Sally Milnor

I am pleased to introduce four of our newest members:

DeWayne Mason joined SBW at our April general meeting. DeWayne's primary area of interest is in writing non-fiction books.

Kelly Miller joined our Club online, and she writes fiction. On her membership questionnaire, she said her interest in writing "started after I began reading *Pride and Prejudice* fanfiction. Some of the stories were imaginative and really good, but there was almost always an aspect that I did not believe. So I decided to write one like I would want to read. I discovered that writing is fun. I have written three complete novels and have started a fourth. I am interested in publishing, by myself if necessary, but not sure how to go about it. I would prefer to use a publishing company, but my target group of potential buyers is probably too small to ever interest one." Kelly took an early retirement five years ago. She is married and has one eighteen year old daughter. She has several pets: 2 dogs; 1 rabbit; 1 cockatiel; and an aquarium of assorted fish. Kelly loves to sing, play the piano, work out, and watch good movies. Her email address is: [kellyrei007@hotmail.com](mailto:kellyrei007@hotmail.com).

Marty Sorensen joined our Club at our general meeting in April. Marty's novel, *Window on Pike Place*, is available on Amazon.

Lucinda Woerner joined us online, and she writes both fiction and nonfiction. On her membership questionnaire, she said her writing interest is fueled by "a multitude of amazing life events, including the homicide death of my husband, which motivated me to earn several graduate degrees in psychology. My losses and those of my clients have given me much to write about. My life is very full with family, work as a grief counselor, psychotherapist, and world traveler/explorer. My first career as a flight

attendant fueled my love of learning the world by seeing it for myself. The more places I see, the more I want to see. Travel is one of many passions I enjoy." Lucinda's email address is: [woerner@garlic.com](mailto:woerner@garlic.com).

**To Our New Members:** We wish 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 for helping to keep our club flourishing.  
— WT

## Member News

by Marjorie Johnson



Marjorie Johnson

Authors these days must keep their names out there — we can help. Send your news here for a little free publicity/promo. Send your short pieces to *WritersTalk*; if published here, you may win \$100 in the *WritersTalk* Challenge. That gives you two benefits of membership in South Bay Writers; a third benefit: your picture, short biography, and pictures of covers of your books can appear on our website. Don't miss this chance to renew your membership, online or at a meeting, your choice.

Kathleen Gonzalez presented "Casanova's Venice" at Our Neighbors Clubhouse, Union Avenue, San Jose, in which she shared highlights from her book, *Seductive Venice: In Casanova's Footsteps*. She illuminated history and led the audience to discover Venice through the life of Casanova.

Dr. Jac Fitz-enz has interrupted the third book in his Mike and Grace series to write a nonfiction book of his travels, *46 Countries and 4 Million Miles: Secrets, Lessons, Fun and Peril from 35 years of Traveling the World on Business*. This is no ordinary travelogue; travel isn't about places to see, it's about people. He says, "Long after your photos of buildings have faded, your memory of the special people

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## Mary Jo Ignoffo Discusses Novel-Like Fiction

*Continued from Page 1*

- The famous “staircase to nowhere” actually went somewhere before the upper stories of the building collapsed after a fire.
- Workers did not work 24/7 according to their pay stubs
- Sarah Winchester did not die in the San Jose landmark, but instead spent the last 15 years of her life in a normal house in Atherton.
- The assessed value of the neglected house when Winchester died was \$0, though the 160 acres of land, stretching from Moorpark Avenue to Santana Row, had value.

Nonfiction of local interest, such as *SUNNYVALE: From the City of Destiny to the Heart of the Silicon Valley*, *MILESTONES: A History of Mountain View, California*, and *Gold Rush Politics* are among her six published works. In 2014, Orbis Books published her book, *La Verdad: A Witness to the Salvadoran Martyrs*, a witness’s account of the killings of six Salvadoran Jesuits. See details at: <http://www.maryjoignoffo.com/>

The road to publication of the Winchester book began after she enrolled in a Stanford University summer program where she connected with literary agents, publishers, and other writers. The agents and publishers weren’t interested in her genre, but she received help from a critique group she started with a few fellow attendees. She eventually found her publisher, University of Missouri Press. In hindsight, they seemed more focused on helping authors climb the academic ladder than on marketing.

The publisher of *CAPTIVE OF THE LABYRINTH* held all the rights to develop the audiobook with Penguin Random House, released in 2017. They did ask Ignoffo’s opinion on which actress should narrate it, but that was her only involvement though she receives royalties.

Ignoffo’s writing process involves working for two to three hours in the early morning and late afternoon, five days a week, but never nights or weekends. She likes listening to instrumental music while she works, including classical, new age, or her favorite, Gregorian chants.

Her retelling of Sarah Winchester’s story was as engaging as any novel. Her descriptions of Winchester’s appearance — limbs that didn’t work, missing teeth, a paralyzed face covered with a dark veil — verified that her nonfiction reads like a novel. She should have no problem crossing over to fiction. — WT

## Member News

*Continued from Page 4*

you met will still be vivid. Here I take you with me on my 100+ trips to learn what people are like around the world. I share who and what I saw, and what I learned. We go from Adelaide to Zagreb, from the equator to the edge of the polar oceans.” Over 150 photos and maps add to the journey. Dr. Jac is looking for reviewers. For a review copy, contact him at [jac@drjac.com](mailto:jac@drjac.com).

The winners from the 2018 San Mateo County Fair, Literary Division, have been announced. (Winners list from the Fair was contributed by Bill Baldwin. If you were a winner and your name is not listed below, please let us know.) Congratulations to the following members of South Bay Writers:

- **William Baldwin**, HM, “Beauty Miscomprehended,” Free Form Poem, Senior.
- **William Baldwin**, HM, “The Enlightened Skeptic: A Haiku,” Structured Poem, Senior.
- **Penelope Anne Cole**, HM, “Turtle Liberation,” Personal Memoir, Senior Exhibitor.
- **Penelope Anne Cole**, HM, “Roamer’s World,” California Writers Club, Senior.
- **Carolyn Donnell**, Third Place, “Earth Song,” Heroes Arise/Heroic Deed.
- **Luanne Oleas**, First Place, “Between Corduroy and Tourmaline,” California Writers Club, Senior. Her same piece took second place in Short Story, General Fiction, Senior.
- **Luanne Oleas**, First Place, “Flying Blind,” Publisher’s Choice Novel. This includes not only \$100 but also a critique from an editor and consideration for publication.
- **Karen Sundback**, First Place, “Magic Everywhere,” First Person Narrative in Spirit of Novelmania.
- **Karen Sundback**, Second Place, “Flash of Blue,” California Writers Club, Senior.

If you have written a book, given an invited talk, and/or published an article, a short story, or a poem, please share your writing triumphs with us by sending a note to [member-news@southbaywriters.com](mailto:member-news@southbaywriters.com). — WT

## Make Them Laugh, Make Them Cry

*Continued from Page 2*

Of course, most humor isn’t presenting a serious message. It’s meant to lighten the story and entertain the audience/reader.

Everyone likes to laugh. It relieves stress and eases our lives. So, when you are creating your stories, novels, or penning your memoir, don’t overlook the value of humor and include it in your work.

Donald O’Connor summed it up in the classic film *Singing in the Rain*: “Don’t you know all the world wants to laugh? ... Go out and tell ‘em a joke. But give it plenty of hoke. Make ‘em laugh, ... make ‘em laugh, ... make ‘em laugh!” — WT



# South Bay Writers Election - 2018



## **EDIE MATTHEWS: CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT**

I have been an active member of South Bay Writers since 1999. For seven years, I was on the board holding two roles, Vice President and Publicity Chair. SBW grew to be the largest branch in California. I co-chaired four successful East of Eden Writers Conferences, booking New York agents and dynamic speakers like Jeffrey Deaver, Jean M. Auel, and Pulitzer Prize winner Jane Pauley. I took time off to complete an MFA in Creative Writing, but still attended meetings and hosted the summer BBQ. After semi-retiring from De Anza College's English Dept., I was elected President. During the past year, with the help of a talented and dedicated board, I've done my best to get our branch functioning smoothly. Together we've completed unfinished business, reorganized, and increased the membership by 38%. It is my goal to help make our events informative, enjoyable, and entertaining! — WT



## **MARJORIE JOHNSON: CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY**

I have been a member of SBW since 2002. I served as membership chairman for about 6 years and was Editor of WritersTalk for 6 ½ years. I have attended most SBW Board meetings for years and years and years.

Related experience: For 43 years, I served as Secretary of the Fibonacci Association, the publisher of The Fibonacci Quarterly, an academic journal devoted to number theory and properties of recursive sequences. — WT



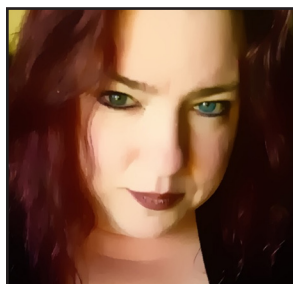
## **TATYANA GRINENKO: CANDIDATE FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE**

It has been a great year during which the website was updated, and I have gotten used to navigating the back-end interface of it. I have also had the pleasure of using Constant Contact to send email reminders about upcoming events and deadlines, alongside reminders on social media platforms. I am excited for the following year and building off of what I had set up this year, and extending marketing initiatives and promotion of our club and what our members have achieved in the coming year. As Member at Large, I look forward to working with all of you in making sure the most important aspects of the club are promoted. — WT



## **ALFRED JAN: CANDIDATE FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE**

After being in the club for almost three years, and serving as co-chair of Hospitality, I want to step up to Member-At-Large on the Board. As a writer, I feel invested in South Bay Writers, and want to contribute to its growth and success. As an optometrist, I encounter patients who write, so I mention the club both to establish rapport and promote CWC. I have attended all Board meetings (except when on vacation), and will strive to keep abreast of opinions and concerns of members and communicate them to the Board. Please vote for me for Board Member-at-Large. — WT



## **KYMBERLIE INGALLS: CANDIDATE FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE**

Kymberlie Ingalls is an essayist, blogger, teacher, editor and a writing coach. She is native to the Bay Area and has been blogging since 1997. Her varied background includes auto racing, comedy, and radio broadcasting. Works include memoir, prose and short fiction.

I am a member of 6 branches currently of the California Writers Club. I am President-past of our founding branch in Berkeley. I now serve on 3 branch boards in various positions as well as the CWC-NorCal group (co-chair) and CWC-Central Board. I am often asked why I am so active and my answer to that is "the greater good." We have the goal to create community and to educate ourselves and others - all on a volunteer basis. I believe wholeheartedly in the thesis of giving back to our writers and enabling our organization to bring together future generations. — WT





# ***South Bay Writers Club May 2018***



## Too Much

*Continued from Page 3*

The summer I graduated from college, I re-read *The Handmaid's Tale* for the first time. I worked for an oil company — another job first, though a lot less enjoyable than ice cream — and I lived with a less-than-stellar boyfriend who preferred not to pull his weight. After coming home from a grueling day in the petroleum labs, cleaning up after said boyfriend, cooking dinner and cleaning up some more, I'd retreat to our bedroom and push through each chapter.

"I heard that book is weird," my boyfriend piped up one night, lying next to me in bed playing video games. "It's the one where girls are slaves, right?"

"Sorta," I replied over the TV. "Women aren't allowed to read, and they can't own property or money. Society only lets them perform domestic jobs, like housework or cooking or childbearing."

He laughed. "Sounds like the life."

"What?"

"The life," he repeated, fisting a bag of chips from the bedside table. "It's like, 'get in the kitchen and make me a sandwich,' except it's the law."

I remember looking up at him and seeing — for what felt like the first time — the way he laughed at his own jokes. How his thumbs tap-tap-tapped on the game controller, how our neighbors could probably hear the TV through the walls. I saw the crumbs falling from his t-shirt to the sheets, both which I had washed last week — the only one in the apartment who did laundry.

"I'm better off without him," I told a friend after we broke up a month later. "I'm not gonna go into how I figured that out — I just *knew*."

But the biggest reader iteration — the moment when I truly understood that I had evolved to a new audience for the book — happened four years ago, when my daughter was born in early August. My husband and I were elated about our baby girl; we had spent weeks preparing a lavender nursery with gentle lions and soft pink lambs. In that nursery, on a comfy chair where

I could hold her in one arm and prop up a book in the other, I attempted my third re-read. It seemed like such a good idea: to leaf through a favorite old book and shut off my brain. To see if I felt differently about Offred now that I was a mother, like her.

I remember even now the part where I had to put it down. The scene in Chapter 12, as Offred endures a regularly supervised bath. In this passage, through the steam of the bathwater, she is gripped by the memory of bathtime with her long-lost daughter, when she was an infant: "I put my face against the soft hair at the back of her neck and breathe her in, baby powder and child's washed flesh and shampoo, with an undertone, the faint scent of urine."

Well, I lost it. I started to cry. A component of the narrative that I'd glossed over for years — Offred's biting determination to be reunited with her child — suddenly hit me like a bullet. It felt as if the soft, primal scent had floated off the page and into my reality, and I couldn't stomach the fantasy of being forcibly separated from it, as Offred was.

My husband heard me sniffing, and poked his head into the nursery to ask if I was okay. I told him I was fine, and after I passed our daughter off to him I got up and put *The Handmaid's Tale* back on the shelf.

I knew I wouldn't finish re-reading it; I couldn't get that passage out of my head, nor the smell it invoked.

The story was the same, but I had changed. The audience was different.

"I thought it was your favorite book," my husband remarked later as our daughter snoozed on his shoulder.

*He's right*, I thought. It is still my favorite book — its passages in my brain like the memories in which Offred describes her child: old ghosts.

Someday, I'll finish the re-read. Someday I might even attempt that kind of iterative writing on a manuscript. Perhaps your readers will, too, in rereading your works.

Until then, it's fine to know when a story is just a bit too much. — WT

## YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

**Voting for the South Bay Writers 2018-2019 officers will occur at the Monday, June 11 meeting.**

**Nominations remain open until the time of voting.**

**If you would like to run for an office in SBW, contact:**

**Edie Matthews**

*president@southbaywriters.com*

## MEMOIR

### The Argument

*by Marcela Dickerson*

I am in the tiny bathroom of the small cottage I managed to get for a long summer weekend when I hear the heated argument.

"No, I'm telling you I won't!"

"Pretty please, it's for only one time; I forgot mine."

"And, for the last time, I'm saying NO."

Being a widowed mom with three teenage daughters, arguments are not new to me. I come out and try to figure out the issue.

"She wants my brush," my middle daughter is almost yelling while pointing at her older sister.

"STOP IT," I say and, as I open my arms wide in exasperation, I hit her with the little stone in my ring.

"Ouch," she says loudly, and then I notice the drop of blood on her lip.

"Sorry," I whisper in consternation. "But why wouldn't you lend the brush to your sister?"

"Mom, she didn't want my hair brush, she wanted my TOOTHbrush."

I am a Grandma now and my daughters still tease me about it, but when my granddaughter first heard the story she whispered in my ear:

"Grandma, I promise, I'll never make you angry." — WT



# Poetry Page

So Runs the Water  
by Tom Mach

So runs the water  
churning at times,  
forming white circles,  
foaming as if angry,  
pushing against craggy rocks,  
crushing them to sand –  
not all at once,  
but over eons of time,  
as it forms new land boundaries,  
new beaches,  
new beachheads,  
new streams,  
new rivers.

So runs the water,  
spinning whirls of molecules,  
slipping and sliding about,  
oxygen married to hydrogen pairs.  
In its simplicity it hides its terror,  
crushing buildings, smashing trees  
In its simplicity it hides its peace,  
baptizing sinners,  
washing hands,  
cooling bodies

So runs the water,  
forming rivulets,  
then streams,  
then rivers.  
then oceans.  
Waters that fondle canoes  
and support aircraft carriers.  
Large rivers that sweep under bridges  
and carry soldiers  
to battle  
and oceans that carry the dead  
from battle

So runs the water,  
stubborn in its decided direction,  
yet moving with peaceful grace  
while holding an arrogant white swan  
with the care of a loving mother.  
All is movement above the bridge.  
Nightingales fly from tangled tree limbs,  
an adagio of heaven floats in a dark sky.  
All is song as the river flows gently,  
unaware of the roaring falls ahead. – WT

The Palace of the Spirit  
by Marilyn Lauer

Preparation for an epic voyage  
Adventure extraordinaire  
For months supplies were laid up  
Arrangements were made  
Transportation secured  
Excitement held at bay.

Beginning deep in the cities  
Tall buildings emblazoned with glass  
Copper statues, brightly colored artwork  
Libraries, museums, universities  
Possessions, obsessions, predilections.

Next off to the national monuments  
The buildings that honor the dead.  
The forests, the streams, the beaches, the valleys  
The purple mountains majesty,  
Alas, what is sought is not here.

Prepare to travel further  
Distant continents, strange cultures.  
Indigenous peoples, tribal peoples.  
Look in the grasses that make up their thatched roofs  
Look in the caverns that house their food

Seek both underground and in the sky above  
The quest is all consuming; do not despair.  
  
Rough marble, lying in veins deep in the earth.  
Tall redwoods with thick, gnarled bark.  
Lichen of multicolored hues, and moss making slippery the  
slope.  
Fools gold and real gold teasing the eye.  
Shales and iron ore, sandstone and clay  
Look where you will and see what you may.  
  
The journey you want is the one in your mind  
Release all your fears; all the ties that bind  
Give yourself permission to look deep inside  
And arrive at the Palace of the Spirit  
Where there is no need to hide.

The Palace of the Spirit  
It exists in our souls  
It enlivens and refreshes and makes all parts whole  
The Palace of the Spirit  
Pressure point in the ear  
Delicate and indestructible; release all you hold dear. – WT

## Wacky Family

by Betty Auchard

Growing up in an eccentric family doesn't mean the children will be warped by the experience. I honestly believe that my off-center upbringing caused me to be a creative person. I have no proof, of course, but I assume it's possible that if ours had been the model parents we saw in the movies, my sister, brother, or I might have become a mayor or at least president of the PTA. But those activities were not even in the realm of our imaginations.

Why?

Because Mom and Dad were humble people who kept to themselves. They would have been out of their element at any community activity. As a result, they rarely entered my world at school. It was all mine. I shared space with them only at home.

And then my parents surprised me.

They decided to take my brother and sister with them to watch me perform in the junior class play. I should have been thrilled, but their presence caused me to forget my lines. I imagined all four of them thinking, "Who the heck does she think she is up there on the stage, sashaying around like she owns the place? Shirley Temple?"

On the way home, I received no comments about my performance. It didn't hurt my feelings. Instead, I felt angry. But later that night, Mom pulled me aside and said, "Dad thought you did a good job." I asked how she could tell, and she replied, "During your funniest scene, he nudged me and said, 'That's my kid up there.'"

Our family wasn't accustomed to giving compliments, hugging each other, or saying, "I love you." Even so, our parents cared about us and never gave up trying to be a normal family.

They had married and divorced each other three times, all futile attempts to create a working relationship. Friends have said, "Oh, you poor kids. I don't know how you managed, living like that." But we did manage.

We didn't yearn to be like other families, because our way was the only one we knew. It resulted in moving a



*Neither Muriel nor spellchecker could spot her mistake.*

lot and seeing our folks fight, divorce, drink, fight some more, kiss and make up, and marry each other all over again. In spite of their problems, our parents persevered, certain they could change and keep all of us happy. Sometimes it worked.

I give them credit for such determination. —WT

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Due to the quirks of the California Writers Club fiscal year, your membership in South Bay Writers expires on June 30, 2018. ALL current members of South Bay Writers need to renew for 2018-2019, even if they purchased a half-year membership due to joining in January, February, March or April.

### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Save on dinner at meetings
- Save on Conferences and Seminars
- Networking and fellowship with other writers
- Creative work published in WritersTalk
- Publicity: your picture, bio, book cover, awards and achievements on SBW website.

### Three Ways to Renew Your Membership:

- **Credit card:** renew online at South Bay Writers.com
- **Pay in person:** cash or check at the next meeting
- **Mail:** send your basic information with a check for \$45 to:

CWC South Bay Writers Club

P.O. Box 3254

Santa Clara, CA 95055



## Book Clubs and Scones

by Susie Pineda

I've been a member of the Literary Ladies Book Club for 5 months and only been to one meeting. My neighbor, Melanie, was nice enough to extend the invitation last July. I joined them for the first meeting. They weren't discussing a book, rather making signs to march with in the neighborhood Fourth of July Parade.

When I walked into Melanie's house, women were gathered in the yard, sipping fresh lemonade and making signs to commemorate the 19th amendment, women's right to vote. They planned to dress up like suffragettes and march in the parade. I have to admit, when they told me what they were up to, I had no idea what a suffragette was, in fact, with a deep sense of embarrassment, I must admit, I thought they were saying suffer jet.

Of course, being in the company of smart, progressive women, I couldn't admit my ignorance. You know how your teachers always tell you that there's no such thing as a dumb question and that if you don't know the answer there are probably at least a few others in the room who don't either, so go ahead and ask? Well, like it or not, there comes a day when you're better off being quietly confused than embracing your ignorance and broadcasting it to the world. What kind of woman was I that I didn't remember learning about the suffrage movement?

Over the course of the night, while I helped them make the signs, I picked up on the clues and figured it out for myself. I re-learned the history behind the suffragettes, the brave women that paved the way for us to vote, and this time, I'll never forget.

After that meeting, one month slid into another and then the kids started school and it seemed every month, I found a reason not to attend the monthly meetings, until October. The meeting had been scheduled for October 18th, seven in the evening, and I had no reason to skip. I had plenty of time to read the chosen book, Daphne DuMaurier's *Re-*



*becca*, my husband didn't have a night meeting, the kids had done their homework, and we had all eaten dinner. I had even cleaned the kitchen.

The clock had just chimed six thirty, plenty of time to freshen up and make it to the meeting on time, but I had one problem, an incessant thought running through my head. I don't want to go.

But, that didn't make sense. I was a writer. I should like book clubs. I should welcome the company of intelligent women. I'd learn something new, about writing, about reading, about the market. Plus, they had fun together, sharing home made cookies or brownies, sometimes even sipping Chardonnay, but still, I couldn't get myself to leave, and that was when I had to come clean.

I'm not a night or even an evening person. I'd rather put on my pajamas and surf the Internet, fool around on my guitar, or sit in bed nibbling on cookies all night. There, I said it. Now what?

My husband loves scones. Every time we go to Starbucks and he gets a sweet treat, he orders a scone, and every time he brings it to the table, I ask if I can try it. Every time I try it, I come to the realization, once again, that I don't like them. I don't like scones. I've never liked scones, and I probably never will. The problem is, I can't accept that. I

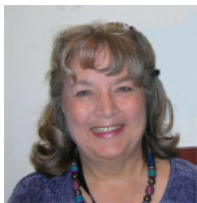
can't understand how some people find them mouth watering, while I find them dry and bitter, so I keep trying them, in hopes that one day I will understand what they see in them.

I feel the same about the book club. The members of the Literary Ladies look forward to leaving their homes at 7pm to sit in the company of friends and talk about their lives and books and neighborhood happenings. It sounds charming-- a group of neighborhood women coming together to create a community. It's like a modern day village, and what's wrong with me that I don't want to be a part of that? Would I really rather sit in my own little hut, watching the rest of my tribe dance and socialize over the camp fire, while I sat home? I guess, the answer is, yes. Yes, I would.

In that moment, I realized it was finally time to accept the fact that I didn't like scones and I didn't want to be a part of the neighborhood book club. Even if I forced myself to go, the result would be the same. I would never look forward to going. At best, I would force myself. It doesn't mean I don't love books, that I don't enjoy the company of intelligent women. I just don't want to leave the comfort of my home in the evening, even if it is only once a month, and that's okay. If they met over coffee at five a.m., I'd be all over it. I'd even bring the scones. —WT

# Contests and Markets

by Carolyn Donnell



The following listings are for information only. No vetting has been done by South Bay Writers Club. Some contests have been around for a long time and the reputation is known, but some are newer.

Please read all guidelines carefully before submitting. And, please share any experience you have with them, good or bad!

## Local publications seeking submissions:

- Literary Nest: Submissions for summer issue run from April 16 – June 30, 2018

<https://theliterarynest.com>

- The Red Wheelbarrow (De Anza/Poetry Center San Jose) Deadline Aug. 15.

<https://redwheelbarrow.submittable.com/submit>

- Caesura 2018: Call closes: July 1, 2018 for General Public. July 15, 2018 for PCSJ Members.

<http://www.pcsj.org/caesuracall.html>

- Sand Hill Review: Stories, non-fiction articles, and poems.

<https://sandhillreview.org/>

- North State Writers Halloween contest

<http://www.northstatewriters.com/contests.html>

- Redwood Writers 2018 Memoir Contest

<http://redwoodwriters.org/2018-memoir-contest/>

## Websites That List Contests:

- Writer's Digest

<http://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions>

- The Writer Magazine

<https://www.writermag.com/writing-resources/contests/>

- The Write Life

<https://thewritelife.com/writing-contests/>

- Winning Writers - Submit Apr 15-Sept 30.

<https://winningwriters.com/our-contests>

- Poets & Writers

<https://www.pw.org/grants>

- National Association of Memoir Writers

<http://namw.org/>

- Freedom With Writing

<https://www.freedomwithwriting.com/freedom/>

- Authors Publish

<https://www.authorspublish.com/>

- WOW! Women On Writing

<http://www.wow-womenonwriting.com/>

- Women's Fiction Writers Association

<http://womensfictionwriters.org/Contests>

- Funds For Writers

<http://fundsforwriters.com/contests/>

- Reedsy Writing Competitions in 2018

<https://blog.reedsy.com/writing-contests/>

- Funds for Writers

<http://fundsforwriters.com/contests/>

- Writer's Write

<https://www.writerswrite.com/contests/>

- Writer Unboxed –

<http://writerunboxed.com/2017/04/09/fiction-writing-contests-worth-your-time-april-may-june-edition/>

## Websites with writing advice:

- Finding reviews

<http://www.selfpublishingreview.com/2018/04/how-to-get-book-reviews-in-2018-without-going-crazy/>

- Finding reviews

<http://www.clkmg.com/ddrum/brthome>

- Amazon ads

<https://writeforkids.org/blog/2018/01/amazon-marketing-services-offers-cheap-ads-self-publishers/>

- Kindle keywords

<https://kindlepreneur.com/how-to-choose-kindle-keywords/>

- Sell internationally

<https://kindlepreneur.com/selling-kindle-books-internationally/>

- Writing groups

<http://www.authorspublish.com/the-surprising-ways-writing-groups-open-doors/>

- Book readings

<https://www.writermag.com/2018/04/25/tips-for-boosting-attendance-book-reading/>

- Self-publishing courses

<http://www.ingramspark.com/self-publishing-courses>

- Google marketing

<https://offers.hubspot.com/digital-marketing-with-google>

*Continued on Page 13*



### Some Facebook pages and groups for writers:

- Writers Post Call for Submissions
- A Path To Publishing
- SCBWI CA North/Central
- Historical Novel Society - Northern California
- Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
- #IndieBooksBeSeen
- Indie-Visible Community Lounge
- National Association of Memoir Writers
- Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market
- The Writer Magazine

— WT

## THE WRITERSTALK CHALLENGE

### MEMBERS of SOUTH BAY WRITERS:

Don't forget! Once a year in January, awards will be given to contributors to WritersTalk. You need take no special steps to enter this competition; if your piece in one of the designated genres is published in WritersTalk, you are a contestant!

#### Genres:

**Fiction:** 500 – 1800 words

**Memoir:** 500 – 1800 words

**Essay/Nonfiction:** 500 – 1000

**Poetry:** 20 – 200 words

**Judging Periods:** Work published in WritersTalk in the preceding year. 2018 only: Work published in October, 2017 through December, 2018.

**Prizes:** Two winners will be selected from each genre; first prize, \$100; second, \$50. Judging by WritersTalk contributing editors and other members of CWC.

**The first requirement to enter this contest is that you have something published in WritersTalk.**

*Let's see your creative work!*

## Conferences and Events, June 2018

*by Margie Yee Webb*

### Sacramento Black Book Fair

June 1-2, 2018, Sacramento CA

<https://www.sacramentoblackbookfair.com/>

"Fifth Annual Sacramento Black Book Fair"

### CWA Writers Conference

June 7-9, 2018, Houston TX

[http://catwriters.com/wp\\_meow/](http://catwriters.com/wp_meow/)

### Aboutness: A Workshop for Novelists and Narrative Memoirists with Sandra Scofield

June 9, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/aboutness-workshop-novelists-and-narrative-memoirists-jun-09-2018>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute and San Francisco Writers Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.

### The Literary Stage at San Mateo Country Fair

June 9-17, 2018, San Mateo CA

<http://cwc-peninsula.org/the-literary-stage/>

Partnership between San Francisco Peninsula Writers and San Mateo Country Fair

### Santa Barbara Writers Conference

June 17-22, 2018, Santa Barbara CA

<http://www.sbwriters.com/>

46th Anniversary – "Inspiring, Connecting, and Believing in Writers since 1972"

### Annual Greater Los Angeles Writers Conference

June 22-24, 2018, Los Angeles CA

<http://www.wcwriters.com/aglawc/>

"20th Conference For Writers"

### Become an AUTHORpreneur: Turn Your Book into a Paying Business with Sam Horn

June 30, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/become-authorpreneur-turn-your-book-paying-business-jun-30-2018>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute and San Francisco Writers Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.

### Napa Valley Writers' Conference

July 29 – August 3, 2018, St. Helena CA

<http://www.napawritersconference.org/>

38th Napa Valley Writers' Conference – A Project of Napa Valley College

### Mendocino Coast Writers Conference 2018

August 2-4, 2018, Mendocino CA

<http://mcwc.org/>

*Continued on page 14*

# News from the California Writers Club

## Ads in CWC Bulletin

by Bob Isbill (760) 221-6367

Want to increase your visibility? Sell your service? Promote your book? Increase speaker engagements? Pump up your web traffic? Or just send a greeting?

Each issue of *The CWC Bulletin*, published three times a year, reaches 2,000 published and aspiring writers in 21 CWC branches throughout the state and is published on [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org).

Now we are accepting writing-related advertising from businesses, CWC members, and individuals who wish to reach our target market at reasonable prices. See [calwriters.org](http://calwriters.org) for details and how to format your ad. —WT

## You may advertise in the CWC Literary Review or The CWC Bulletin

Go to [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org) for details

## 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](http://cwc-berkeley.org)

**Central Coast:** 5:30 third Tuesdays, Point Pinos Grill, 77 Asilomar Boulevard, Pacific Grove. [centralcoastwriters.org](http://centralcoastwriters.org)

**Fremont Area:** 2:00 fourth Saturdays at DeVry University [cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org)

**Marin:** 2:00 fourth Sundays, Book Passage in Corte Madera. [cwcmarin.com](http://cwcmarin.com)

**Mendocino Coast:** 6:00 third Thursdays, Mendocino Hotel. [writersmendocinocoast.org](http://writersmendocinocoast.org)

**Mount Diablo:** 11:00 second Saturdays, Zio Fraedo's Restaurant, 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. [cwcmtdiablowlriters.wordpress.com](http://cwcmtdiablowlriters.wordpress.com)

**Napa Valley:** 7:00 second Wednesdays, venue is changing. [napavalleywriters.net](http://napavalleywriters.net)

**North State:** 6:00 third Mondays, Butte County Library-Chico Branch. [northstatewriters.com](http://northstatewriters.com)

**Redwood:** 2:30 first Sundays, Flamingo Conference Resort & Spa, 2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa. [redwoodwriters.org](http://redwoodwriters.org)

**Sacramento:** 11:00 third Saturdays, Cattlemen's Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. [cwcsacramentowriters.org](http://cwcsacramentowriters.org)

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

**San Joaquin Valley Writers:** 12:30 second Saturdays, University of Pacific community room

**Tri-Valley:** 2:00 third Saturdays, Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard, Pleasanton. [trivalleywriters.org](http://trivalleywriters.org)

## Wanted: Information on Conferences

Send information on conferences and other events of interest to writers to [newsletter@southbaywriters.com](mailto:newsletter@southbaywriters.com) for consideration for inclusion on this page.

## Conferences and Events

*Continued from Page 13*

Publishing Bootcamp with Jane Friedman

August 5, 2018, Mendocino CA

<http://mcwc.org/oneday-bootcamp/>

"Publishing Bootcamp with Jane Friedman, ex-publisher of *Writer's Digest* and the established authority on new paths for authors in the digital age"

Worldcon 76

August 16-20, 2018, San Jose CA

<http://www.worldcon76.org/>

Worldcon 76 San Jose 2018 – "Worldcon (the World Science Fiction Convention) is the annual gathering of science fiction and fantasy fans, writers, artists, musicians and other creators, first held in New York City in 1939."

The 2018 Writing Workshop of San Francisco

August 25, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://writingworkshopsanfrancisco.com/>

"A full-day 'How to Get Published' writing event."

San Francisco Writing for Change Conference

September 8, 2018, San Francisco CA

<http://sfwritingforchange.org/>

"Writing to Make a Difference" – "At the 10th San Francisco Writing for Change Conference you will discover how what you write can change the world...and how to get your writing published." —WT

## EDITORS NEEDED

*WritersTalk* contributing editors review and revise a portion of each monthly newsletter issue and uphold the CWC standard for polished, engaging writing.

*WritersTalk* seeks to add new contributing editors for its upcoming issues. It's a great way to get recurring editing and proofreading practice!

Want to brush up your proofreading-skills?

Contact us today:

[newsletter@southbaywriters.com](mailto:newsletter@southbaywriters.com)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>June 2018</b>					<b>1</b> 7:30P Open mic Barnes&Noble Almaden, San Jose	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 2P Valley Writers	<b>5</b> 7P Well-RED at Works 7P Board Meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 10A Our Voices	<b>11</b> 2P Valley Writers <b>6:00P SBW Dinner Harry's Hofbrau</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7:30P Open mic Wil- low Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave <b>DEADLINE: Writer- sTalk Submission</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 1P Poets@Play, Markham House	<b>18</b> 2P Valley Writers	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7P Third Thursday, Po- etry Center	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10A Our Voices	<b>25</b> 2P Valley Writers	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

#### Future Events:

SBW Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 5 at Edie Matthews' home

May Meeting: June 11 at Harry's Hofbrau

**SBW/CWC Events  
appear on this calendar page.**

## Ongoing Events

### Critique Groups

**Our Voices:** Meets at Bel Bacio Coffee in San Jose every other Sunday 10 AM. Genres: Fiction, memoir, nontechnical nonfiction. Contact: Dave LaRoche at [dalaroche@comcast.net](mailto:dalaroche@comcast.net)

**Valley Writers:** Meets at Valley Village Retirement Community, Winchester at Dolores, Santa Clara, Mondays 2 PM. Marjorie Johnson, [marjoriej358@comcast.net](mailto:marjoriej358@comcast.net)

**Your Critique Group:** Send info to [newsletter@southbaywriters.com](mailto:newsletter@southbaywriters.com)

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

### SBW Board Meetings

Board meets on Tuesday, 7 PM, in the week preceding the dinner meeting. Contact Edie Matthews for more information on how you can attend at [pres@southbaywriters.com](mailto:pres@southbaywriters.com).

### Open Mics

**South Bay Writers Open Mic:** Read from your own work, from your favorite authors, or just come to listen. First Friday evenings, B&N Almaden. Third Friday evenings, Willow Glen Library or Rosegarden Library. See calendar for schedule. Contact Bill Baldwin (408) 730-9622 or email [WABaldwin@aol.com](mailto:WABaldwin@aol.com)

**CWC SF Peninsula Open Mic:** Third Wednesday of every month, 7:30 PM at Reach and Teach, 144 West 25th Ave., San Mateo

### Ongoing discussion groups

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

**Add your discussion group  
here!**

**You may advertise in the  
CWC Literary Review or  
The CWC Bulletin**

Go to [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org) for details

### Poetry Readings

**Poets@Play:** Meets at Markham House History Park, 1650 Senter Rd., San Jose, Second Sundays most months, 1 – 4 PM. [www.poetrycentersanjose.org](http://www.poetrycentersanjose.org)

**Poetry Center San Jose:** Meets Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave., San Jose, 7 PM Third Thursday, 408-808-3045 [www.poetrycentersanjose.org](http://www.poetrycentersanjose.org)

**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.poetrycentersanjose.org](http://www.poetrycentersanjose.org)

### SBW Recommends ...

If you know of a regularly occurring event for writers, send an email to [newsletter@southbaywriters.com](mailto:newsletter@southbaywriters.com).



**California Writers Club**

South Bay Branch  
P.O. Box 3254  
Santa Clara, CA 95055

[www.southbaywriters.com](http://www.southbaywriters.com)

**MAIL TO**

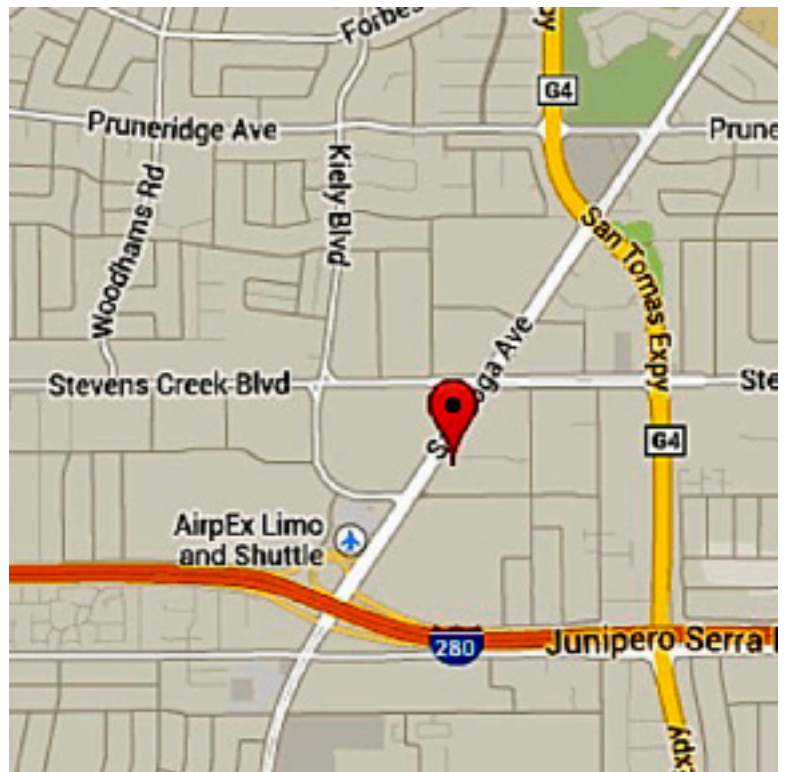
Address Correction Requested

**South Bay Writers  
Regular Dinner Meeting  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Monday June 11, 2018  
Harry's Hofbrau  
390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose**

**Hooked On Page One, Committed  
by Page 20  
with  
Donna Levin  
June 2018 Speaker**

Please send contributions and submissions for *WritersTalk* by or on the 15th of the month!

Regular dinner meetings are second Mondays 6 – 9 PM of every month except July, December, and workshop months



**Harry's Hofbrau**

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