



WRITERSTALK

Volume 32
Number 02
February 2024

Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Writers Club™

February

Speaker: Eleanor Vincent

Crafting a Powerful Memoir

Whether you're writing a memoir, considering it, or working on a book of fiction, don't miss our next meeting on "Crafting a Powerful Memoir." In February, award-winning author and memoirist, Eleanor Vincent will explain the key ingredient that will transform your work.

What? If I'm writing fiction, why should I care about my memoir?

Simply because we write what we know. Take for example Amy Tan's first book and monumental success, *The Joy Luck Club*. Yes, it's fiction, but no denying it was influenced by her mother's experiences during China's war years. Or *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, whose childhood was spent in Afghanistan during the collapse of the government.

Historically, personal experience is a critical element in fiction. Look at Charles Dickens (*Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield*) and Mark Twain (*Tom Sawyer*, *Huckleberry Finn*), who both turned their childhood experiences into books that became classics.

The fact is, until you sit down and begin writing your memoir, what meaningful experience will you recall or have overlooked? What characters have passed through your life who are ideal for the story you're crafting now? What details do you remember that will give your book authenticity? What have you forgotten that you could be writing about now?

Not only do memoirs become bestsellers, some are made into successful movies. Examples: *Eat Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert, *This Boy's Life* by Tobias Wolff, and *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt. The bonus is that films based on books increase the book sales.

Not every author writes a traditional memoir. David Sedaris divides his life into short stories and has successfully penned a number of books like *Naked* and *Me Talk Pretty One Day*.

Most importantly, what key ingredient will elevate your story? Theme. The presentation will consider how theme—the deeper underlying truth—can strengthen the plot. Whether in nonfiction or fiction, plot and narrative arc are vital. Understand how to avoid describing the situation or dilemma of the narrator/protagonist and miss the deep meaning and a lost opportunity.

Participants will leave with:

- A better understanding of the overall themes in their work.
- New ideas for how to strengthen their plot by better deploying their theme(s).
- Handouts that include "Resources for Writers and Tips for Strengthening your Writing Practice" and supporting yourself through hard times.

Eleanor Vincent is a masterful writer and storyteller. Her goal is to create stories that engage, move and uplift readers. She has an MFA in creative writing from Mills College and has taught there. She's also a member of the Author's Guild and the San Francisco Writers Grotto. —WT

**Map and directions to Maker Nexus, 1330 Orleans Drive, Sunnyvale:
See Page 12. Saturday, February 10, 2024 10:30AM**

Go to Page 4 to see more
on promoting your book
by Andrew Benzie

Crafting a Powerful Memoir

Saturday, February 10, 2024

10:30 AM

**Eleanor Vincent
Speaking at Maker Nexus,
Sunnyvale**

**Note new starting time.
Come early to allow time
for security check in to Maker
Nexus at the front desk**



February Speaker
Eleanor Vincent

Between the Lines

Edie Matthews
President, South Bay Writers



Keeping a Journal

I was in my twenties when I began keeping a journal. It began as an assignment in a drama class at West Valley College. However, I liked the process, so even when the semester ended, I continued writing in it.

I already had a book for the job. My mother had given me a tall green account ledger (approximately 7"x12") and encouraged me to write in it. I ignored the fine red lines that divided the pages into columns. I suppose I could keep track of my expenses at the same time if so inclined.

My mother filled several ledgers with memories. Why she chose such a cumbersome object, I'll never know. But it was fascinating to read my mother's memories, and I was sorry that she hadn't written more.

After faithfully making daily entries and filling my journal, I decided to replace it with a more convenient size. That way, I could carry it in my purse and have it handy. I've never stood in a long line or sat in a waiting room without pulling out my journal and writing in it.

Many entries are mundane. But on occasion, something dramatic or annoying would occur to me, and I'd write pages describing the incident and unburdening my feelings. It's very therapeutic.

Over the years, I've filled dozens of notebooks in a variety of sizes, shapes, and designs. When possible, I find them on sale. I never want to be without a notebook when I feel the urge to write.

Since I carry it in my purse, I prefer compact, light-weight journals. I particularly like the ones that have a strap that keep the pages together and protect them from getting bent or torn.

At each entry, I'd write the date, and if I'm traveling, I include the location. However, I didn't always record the year. As I accumulated an assortment, I realized adding the year was critical.

I haven't taken the time to read through them all. But on occasion, I've sorted through them to verify the time of an event.

Not only do I write down what I'm doing, I write down quotes. Even in the theater, if someone delivers a meaningful line, I pull out my journal and scribble it down, hoping I can decipher it later.

On the last pages I record words I like. Not something that will send you to the dictionary. A word that people will know, but one I don't generally use. Examples: prism, fixated, essence, allure. Or if I think of a simile or metaphor. Examples: a chill enfolded her like a cloak; a pendulum of emotions swinging back and forth.

I do have a smaller notebook, too. It's mainly a to-do list. It includes tasks I don't want to forget, shopping lists, a new person's contact info, etc. Some responsibilities are memorable, but in today's busy world, it's easy to overlook things. Plus, I always feel gratified going back and crossing off the jobs I've completed.

So, my friends, if you don't already have a journal, I encourage you to begin one. And for a feeling of accomplishment, a to-do list is helpful too. — WT

California Writers Club
South Bay Branch
www.southbaywriters.com

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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. Note: California Writers Club uses a fiscal year that runs from July 1 through June 30 each year. Dual membership: \$25. Contact Membership Chair, Inga Silva, or sign up online at southbaywriters.com. Or, send a check to CWC-South Bay Writers, P O Box 3254, Santa Clara, CA 95055

WritersTalk

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

Managing Editor (Interim) Marjorie Johnson
newsletter@southbaywriters.com

Contributing Editors

Carolyn Donnell
Marjorie Johnson
Ken Roberge
Marty Sorensen

Submissions

Members of the South Bay Writers Club are encouraged to submit their creative works for publication in *WritersTalk*. Please prepare your work as carefully as you would for an agent. All submissions will be copyedited. The Managing Editor decides which submissions to publish.

Submission deadline is the 15th of the month.

Electronic submissions should be attached MS Word files sent to newsletter@southbaywriters.com. Use Times New Roman 12-font, no tabs, no colors, no page breaks. Send graphics separately as jpg files.

Creative Works

Short Fiction (1000 words)
Memoir (1000 words)
Poetry (300 words)
Essay (1000 words)

Creative Works

newsletter@southbaywriters.com

Member Achievement and News:

membernews@southbaywriters.com

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.

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

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

Our Mission

Encouraging writers at all levels of expertise to hone their skills in the craft of writing

Change of Address: Send changes of address to membership@southbaywriters.com or use MRMS.

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Words from the Editor

by Marjorie Bicknell Johnson
Managing Editor (Interim)



"Cogito ergo sum" Continues

Last month I left you with two questions: "Can computers think? Can computers create?"

No one took the bait, but SBW's January speaker, Andrew Benzie, used Chat GPT to write the outline for his talk, "Promoting Your Book." Moreover, he asked Chat GPT to give the twelve best ways to promote a book, written in the style of Shakespeare. What a hoot!

So, whether the computer thinks or not, AI can cleverly write new material. However, beware that it may need a fact check.

Google shows Chat GPT 4.0 now available for free: "Ask AI to write anything and get instant answers." (Note: Not really free. After a short trial, you pay every month.) Also available online, there is even a GPT Zero: The Trusted AI Detector.

As homework for myself, I obtained a copy of Ray Kurzweil's *The Singularity is Near*. I intended to read it and make a report to you, my gentle readers. No way! My aged eyes can't handle 652 pages of small print. That book, however, has a 50-page index, 114 pages of notes and references, and at least 100 charts or diagrams backing up his premise that the singularity, the moment when Artificial Intelligence will vastly surpass all of human intelligence, is coming by 2045.

Recently, Kurzweil has written two more books on the subject and has moved the singularity to 2030. Looks as though we have to get used to AI and learn how to harness it.

According to Larry Magid, *Mercury News*, Friday, January 19, Section C page 1, generative AI fears are reminiscent of past panics. He has many examples. The one I like best is that Socates (469 to 339 BC) faulted writing for weakening the necessity and power of memory and for allowing the pretense of understanding, rather than true understanding. Recall the blind poet Homer's epic poems, *The Odyssey* and *The Iliad*.

Breaking News: Tina Glasner, a former editor of *WritersTalk*, plans to take over the job again this spring, probably with the April issue. If you get a kick out of words and grammar, I recommend that you check out www.bigwords101.com by Arlene Miller, The Grammar Diva. She has written that blog for thirteen years, always interesting and entertaining. She asked for suggestions on what readers would like to see there. — WT

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How To Market Your Book: Insights from Andrew Benzie

Bill Baldwin

Andrew Benzie, who has previously spoken to us about book covers, returned January 13 to talk about how to market your books. Benzie, a fellow California Writers Club member (Mount Diablo Branch) has over thirty-years' experience in the design industry. His talk provided a wealth of information.

For starters, he provided handouts with useful suggestions, plus two different bookmarks: one promoting Andrew Benzie Books, another promoting a long-time love of his: model fire engines. Remember that bookmarks can be used to promote your book!

If you have heard of ChatGPT, you may wonder how it could help your marketing. Benzie asked it how to market books – and got a dozen suggestions back. You should consider how you can use each of these in your marketing; to what extent can you use each one, and when to use them.

Keep this fact in mind: even if you sell your book to a nationally known and respected publisher, who will provide promotion for you, take responsibility yourself for your own marketing – don't leave it all to the publisher!

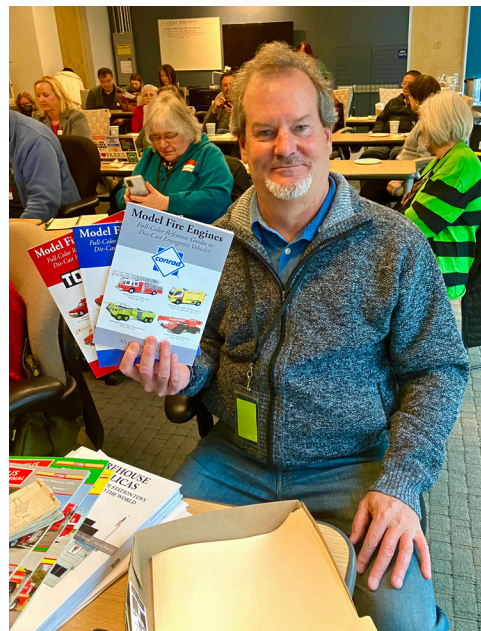
Benzie's approach in a nutshell: create a quality product and let people know about it (e.g., consider bookmarks!).

I've rearranged (slightly) the dozen suggestions into five groups (with my own names): Online involvement, presentation, promotion, social engagement, and advertising. Expanding on that...

- Build a strong online presence.
- Utilize social media.
- Create engaging content.
- Utilize email marketing.
- Optimize your book cover and description.
- Leverage book reviews.
- Run promotions and discounts.
- Participate in book events.
- Collaborate with other authors.
- Explore book clubs and reading groups.
- Invest in online advertising.
- Build a book launch party.

For laughs, Benzie also provided ChatGPT's "Shakespearian Language Version" of The Twelve.

Remember: you yourself are ultimately responsible for marketing your book! Benzie provided eighteen suggestions for your marketing plan. These included (among others): A weekly newsletter, a multiple-times-a-week blog, news-groups/forums, radio interviews, public speaking, postcards, social media, and more.



Finally, Benzie provided ten To-Do's and Not-To-Do's. Most important to do (I would guess): Clarify your goals, why you wrote the book, and your budget. Most important to not do? Don't wait to start marketing your book. Don't skimp on the cover design. And don't treat your business as a hobby.

A wealth of ideas – take them seriously! Don't leave your book promotion up to others – take charge, get out there, and promote. – WT

Promo by Lit Fire Marketing: Watch Out

Marjorie Johnson

In spring, 2017, I received a telephone call from LitFire Marketing. They told me their book scouts had found my *Last Jade of the Maya* among newly published books.

After they praised my book and flattered me, I let them help me promote my book for \$999. Their marketing package included a website, sending 500 ballpoint pens and 500 business cards, and displaying my book at Book Expo America New York as well as including it in a catalog. They said I'd have a chance to talk to people about my book, maybe meet screen writers or scouts looking for a story. They encouraged me to come to New York.

At Book Expo America, Lit Fire did have a booth which included my book. *Last Jade of the Maya* was on one of their shelves, but my daughter and I had to pay \$150 each to enter the show, where authors were told that they could not promote their books. My book was not included in the main catalog of books at the Expo, only in Lit Fire's free publication, *WayFairer*, given to people visiting their booth.

I got little bang for my buck. While it was thrilling to see my book displayed, one of some 5,000 new books, only authors who were rich or famous had a book signing or book talk at the show.

All was not lost. My daughter and I saw *Hamilton* and *Wicked* on Broadway and enjoyed our trip to New York. – WT

View from the Board

Chris Weilert

The South Bay Writers Board met as it always does, zooming at 7 p.m. on January 8th. SBW Board members are listed on page 2 of *WritersTalk* with their emails.

Edie Matthews: The prior meeting minutes were approved. The holiday party at Edie's home was an enjoyable experience for all those who attended. Marge Johnson will continue to handle the *WritersTalk* newsletter until the new editor begins. Several members of the Pen Woman want to join South Bay Writers. Andrew Benzie delivered a great presentation on book covers in the past and we look forward to his talk on marketing on Saturday.

Saturday morning prep for our meeting will require set up around 9:30 am. New time for speaker: 10:30, but come early to check into Maker Nexus.

Jamal Khan announced that in February 2024 we will have Eleanor Vincent and the topic is "Memoir." You don't want to miss this presentation.

Marjorie Johnson is always looking for member news. Marge will be the interim Editor of *WT* in January and February. Marge is also looking to improve the quality of the printing.

Alice Wu reported that there was a small decrease to funds in our treasury.

Bill Baldwin: Our popular Open Mics will continue on the first and third Fridays on Zoom. Please contact Bill to set up your opportunity to read your work. Bill also reported that there were no updates on the Central Board. From Nor Cal, Bill said *The Literary Review* is being discussed for its next incarnation.

Inga Silva: Inga reported as of December, we have 93 members, 2 lifetime members and 2 students.

Open Discussion: Bill talked about the South Bay Writers compiling an Anthology, and there was a short discussion about future elections.

The meeting ended at 7:40 PM. The next board meeting will be on February 5, 2024, on Zoom. SBW members are always welcome at board meetings. To attend a board meeting, send an email to Edie Matthews at pres@southbaywriters.com — WT

Off the Shelf

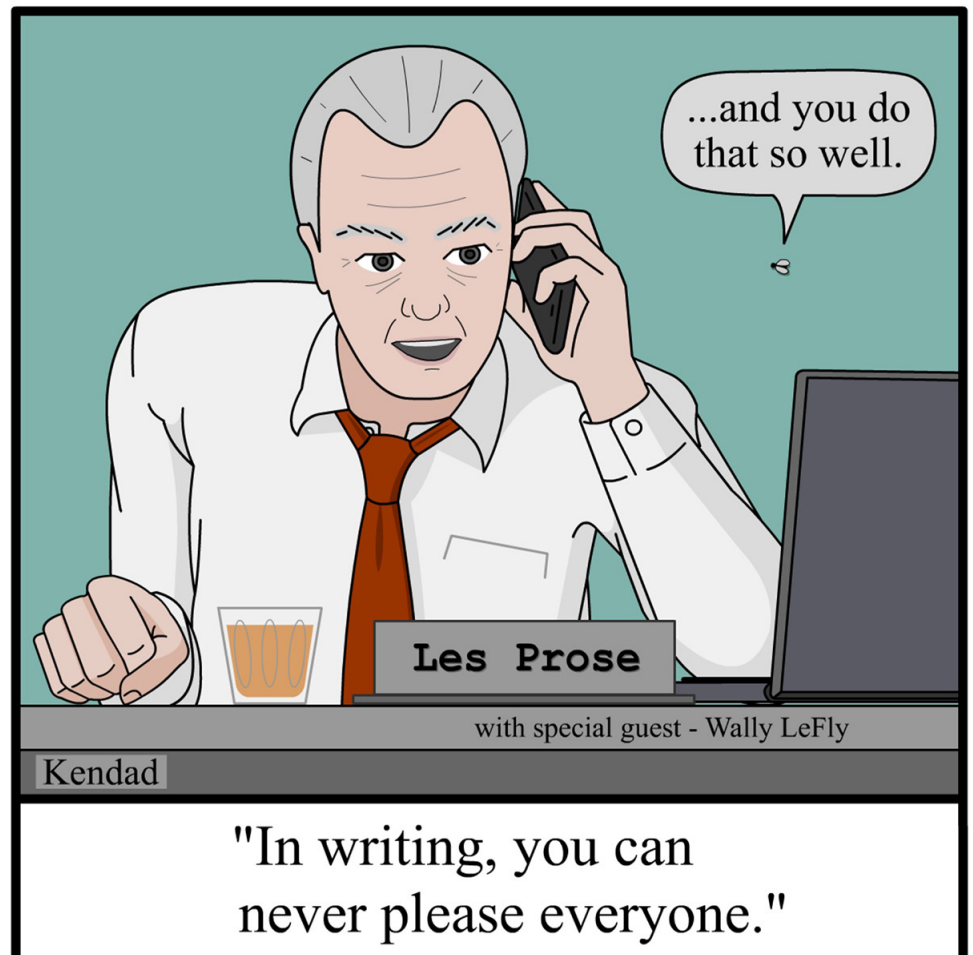
— Edie Matthews



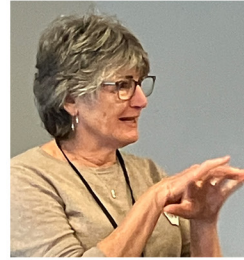
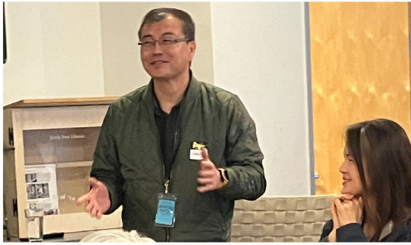
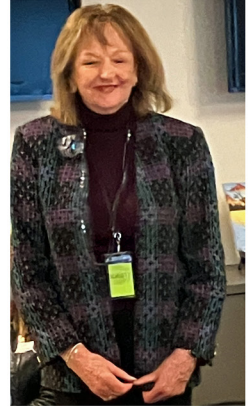
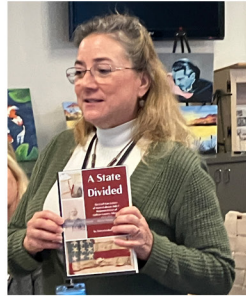
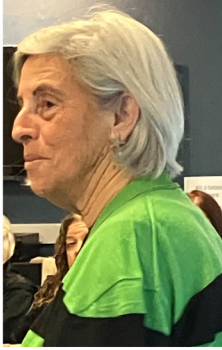
"Jack, now that your book, *On the Road* is a bestseller, will you get your driver's license?"

Les Prose

— Kendad



January 13, 2024 First time to a meeting



New Faces

The column to the right is a partial list of members new to South Bay Writers.

If you would like to introduce yourself to us, send a paragraph to

membernews@southbaywriters.com

We would like to know about your genre and/or work in progress and little about you: what you like to do, your profession, why you joined South Bay Writers, what the newsletter can do for you, and, of course, begin your paragraph with your name. If your name isn't on this partial list, please send your paragraph anyway.

Members of South Bay Writers are invited to send their creative work: poetry, short fiction, memoir, or essays, for publication in *WritersTalk*. See specifications on page 3.

Send to newsletter@southbaywriters.com

Greetings to New Members:

Lori Buckman
Johnny Cerrito
Patricia Erickson
Jessica Keaton
Monica Mehta
Nicole Meyers
Shana Moore
Sarah Nguyen
Sheri O'Sullivan
Tejashri Pradhan
Janet Podell
Hal Schoolcraft
Naveen Tivari
Yvette Van Doren

Member News

Marjorie Johnson

Carolyn Donnell writes that her poem “Nothing the Matter with Me” appears in the anthology, *The 2023 Northwind Treasury*, available on Amazon and on Lulu.com. The anthology contains winners of a contest sponsored by Raw Earth Ink.

Marjorie Bicknell Johnson reports that Research Gate wrote on January 3, 2024: “Well done, Marjorie! Your research items reached 3,500 reads.” Research Gate allows scientists and mathematicians to share their published work; they have 87 articles written by me or with co-authors. Recently, they reported 10 new reads of “Golden Triangles, Rectangles, and Cuboids” published in *The Fibonacci Quarterly*, February, 1969, pp 73–91. You will notice that I’m resting on my laurels. It’s still fun.

Tamara Bell writes an astrology column for email subscribers, “Astrology Headlines for Week Starting ...” If you would like to subscribe, contact Tamara at tamarabell85@yahoo.com

Tonya Graham McQuade announces that her book, *A State Divided*, will be coming out on Feb. 1 on Amazon. She also included the book description that will appear on Amazon. She will be sharing book excerpts in a 10-day countdown starting January 22 on her Facebook Author Page, “Tonya Graham McQuade – Author,” for anyone who is on Facebook and wants to follow her page and get some previews.

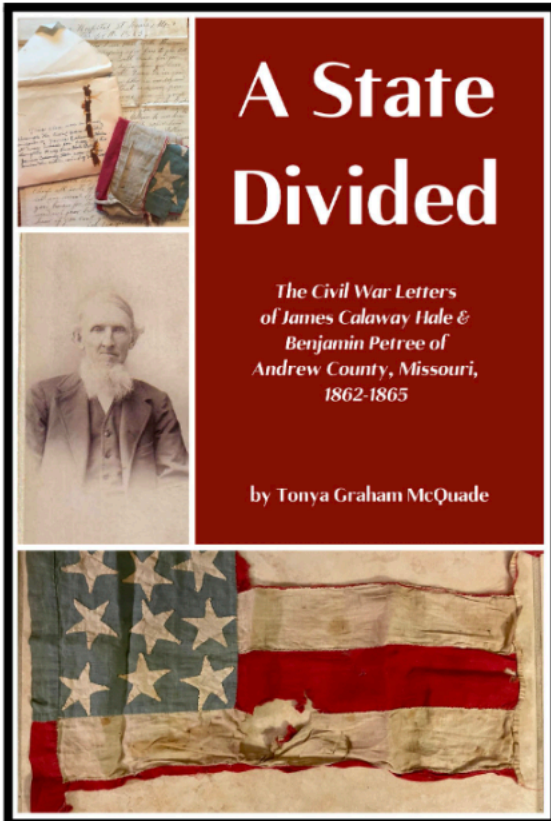
Congratulations, all!

If you would like to see your name here with your writing accomplishment, send an email to

membernews@southbaywriters.com

Please send your message as a Word document, Times New Roman, 12 font. Please send graphics separately as 300 dpi jpgs. This graphic was imbedded in Word. It looks pretty good, legible but a little blurry. Tonya’s name is hard to read.

It’s more difficult to edit and arrange an imbedded graphic. So, we all learned something today.



Available February 1!

On February 1, 2022, I received a message on Ancestry.com asking if I wanted a box of old family letters. That box included 50 letters from the Civil War and others from the Oregon Trail and California in the 1850’s, as well as a flag sewn by my great-great grandmother, carried by her father throughout the war.

That message launched me on a two year journey that has involved researching my family history and the Civil War in Missouri, making two visits to Missouri and one to Virginia to visit family heritage and Civil War sites, blogging about my research and ancestry, becoming a contributing writer to the Emerging Civil War website, being interviewed for a podcast, and finally, writing and publishing a book.

A State Divided: The Civil War Letters of James Calaway Hale and Benjamin Petree of Andrew County, Missouri, will be available Feb. 1 on Amazon.com. I hope you will check it out and discover more about this important time in our nation’s history!

Here we are, at Maker Nexus, January 13.

Read more about Maker Nexus on page 11.

Photo by Carolyn Donnell



Facebook Pages and Groups for South Bay Writers

Carolyn Donnell

SBW Facebook Administrator

South Bay Writers has a Facebook page and a Facebook group. The page is a public outward facing page, named **California Writers Club-South Bay Branch**.

The group is **South Bay Writers Club**. This is a private group for members only. If you are on Facebook, check them out.

On January 13, Facebook was one place that Andrew Benzie suggested for promoting your books.

Many other writing-related pages or groups are on Facebook. Some are listed in the column to the right.

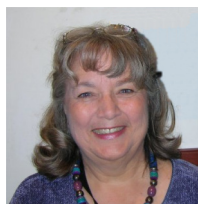
Check out on Facebook:

- Anthologies Seeking Submissions
- Writing Competitions and Contests
- Open Submission Calls Short Story Writers
- Writing Competitions and Contests: Weekly Updates
- Playwriting Submissions & Competitions
- Poetry Center San Jose: PCSJ
- Poetry Exchange
- Poetry Lounge
- Willow Glen Poetry Project
- Cupertino Poet Laureate
- Santa Clara County Poet Laureate
- Los Gatos Poet Laureate
- National Poetry Month-write-a-poem-a-day-challenge
- California Poets
- The Poetry Salon Online
- No Fee Calls for Poems

Direct any questions to newsletter@southbaywriters.com — WT

Contests, Markets, and Resources

by Carolyn Donnell



Carolyn Donnell
Contributing Editor

Let us know if you have any success with any of the contests listed in *WritersTalk*. Or any other contest, for that matter. Send your writing victories to member-news@southbaywriters.com. You can also check other branches for their current contests and submissions. See a list of other CWC branches at www.calwriters.org/cwcbranches/

Members of our Facebook group – **South Bay Writers Club** – see contest postings there.

Listings are for information only. NO VETTING has been done by South Bay Writers Club. Read all guidelines carefully before submitting. And please share any experience you have, good or bad.

WRITERS BEWARE site: Check out this website for warnings about contests or submissions: <https://www.sfw.org/other-resources/for-authors/writer-beware/>
LOCAL (PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS) AND OTHER CWC BRANCH RESOURCES: See branches at <https://calwriters.org/cwcbranches/>

NEW

California Writers Club announces a new CWC member-only book project for 2024. *Vision and Verse, a fusion of Art and Photography*. An ekphrastic book pairing artwork with poetry and short prose.

Phase Two: winning art will be published and used as the inspiration in a call for poetry and short prose submissions. Details and submission form at <https://calwriters.org/vision-and-verse/>

NAME	DEAD LINE	URL	COMMENTS
Vision and Verse		https://calwriters.org/vision-and-verse/	Art first, poetry submissions later
SF/Peninsula Branch.		https://www.cwc-sfpeninsula.org/writers-resources/writing-contests	Lists other resources
Fremont Area Writers		https://cwc-fremontareawriters.org/resources-writers/	See Writers Resources tab
North State Writers		https://www.northstatewriters.com/nsw-anthologies.html	Planning a new anthology soon
The Literary Nest		https://www.theliterarynest.org	Send visual art to theliterarynest@gmail.com
Catamaran Literary Reader		https://www.catamaranliteraryreader.com/	West Coast quarterly literary/visual arts journal

Raw Earth Ink	Mar 31	https://raw-earth-ink.com/2023/11/15/what-is-a-woman-anthology-submissions-open/	Women's stories previously published OK
Edinburgh Short Story Award	Feb.29	https://www.scottishartstrust.org/enter-writing	11:59 pm UK time
The Masters Review		https://mastersreview.com/winter-short-story-award-for-new-writers/	Short story by new writer
Chicken Soup For The Soul		https://www.chickensoup.com/story-submissions/submit-your-story/	Ongoing topics
Writer's Digest		https://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions	Contests year round. Also classes/webinars
Romance Writers of America		https://www.rwa.org/chaptrevents	Lists by month
Red Penguin Books		https://redpenguinbooks.com/open-submissions/	Various ongoing submissions
Falling Star Magazine		https://falling-star-magazine.com/	Short stories. Some poetry
Water Dragon Publishing		https://waterdragonpublishing.com/2023/07/call-for-submissions-dragon-gems-winter-2024/	Check website for opening date
The Write Life		https://thewritelife.com/writing-contests/	Lists contests
Winning Writers		https://winningwriters.com/	their contests and others listed

Contests and Markets:

Continued from page 9

Authors Publish		www.authorspublish.com	Lists many contests, submissions, etc.
Funds for Writers		https://fundsforwriters.com/contests/	Subscribe to <i>hope@chope-clark.com</i>
Trish Hopkinson		https://trishhopkinson.com/	blog
Newpages		https://www.newpages.com/guide-submission-opportunities/big-list-of-writing-contests/	List of writing contests
The Writers College		https://www.thewriterscollege.com/short-story-writing-competitions/	
Freedom With Writing		https://www.freedomwithwriting.com	Lists many resources

POETRY CONTESTS, RESOURCES

NAME	DEAD LINE	URL	COMMENTS
Academy of American Poets	n/a	https://poets.org/academy-american-poets/american-poets-prizes	Lists contests/submissions
Writing Matters		http://www.randalssanctuary.wordpress.com/2020/08/11/publishers-of-poetry-books-chapbooks/	30 Publishers of Poetry Books & Chapbooks
Up the Staircase Quarterly		https://www.upthestaircase.org/	
The Rialto Nature and Place Poetry Competition 2024	Apr 1	https://www.therialto.co.uk/pages/nature-poetry-competition/	British contest
Poets & Writers		https://www.pw.org/content/upcoming_contest_deadlines_87	Lists upcoming deadlines
Poetry Society of America		https://poetrysociety.org/awards	Awards/prizes
The Thimble Magazine		http://www.thimblelitmag.com/submissions/	quarterly online
Poetry Foundation		www.poetryfoundation.org	
Poetry Pacific		www.poetrypacific.blogspot.com/	Published and unpublished.
Everywriter		www.everywritersresource.com/best-poetry-prizes/	
Reedsy		https://blog.reedsy.com/guide/chapbook/how-to-make/	chapbook contests
Gyroscope		https://www.gyroskopereview.com/welcome/guidelines	4 issues a year
Poetry Soup		https://www.poetrysoup.com/poetry/contests/	

Breaking News: Current Contests

Almond Press: <https://dystopianstories.com/writing-competitions-contests/> Lists many contests.

Winning Writers latest contests include Tom Howard/John H. Reid Fiction & Essay Contest, <https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/tom-howard-john-h-reid-fiction-essay-contest> Deadline May 1.

Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest: <https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/wergle-flomp-humor-poetry-contest-free> Deadline April 1.

The Missouri Review 2024 Perkoff Prize: \$1000 and publication. Best story, set of poems, and essay that engage in evocative ways with health and medicine as judged by the editors. <https://missourireview.com/contests/perkoff-prize/> Deadline March 15.

Ever wonder what Maker Nexus is or does? Here you go!

Our Mission

We believe that the tools used to shape our modern world should be available to anyone who wants to use them. Our mission is to provide people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities with the skills and equipment needed for technological and artistic exploration.

We believe that a person's innovative spark is developed through exposure and practice. Our vision is one of a world without Lost Einsteins - people with talents that were never given the time and resources they needed to grow.



Through our STEAM education programs for youth and adults, partnerships with local schools, and partner programs with other educational nonprofits, we provide a space for curious minds to explore, develop, and thrive.



MAKER NEXUS

1330 Orleans Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94089
(408) 685-2500

Open 7 Days a Week
10:00 am - 10:00 pm



www.makernexus.org



Upward and Onward



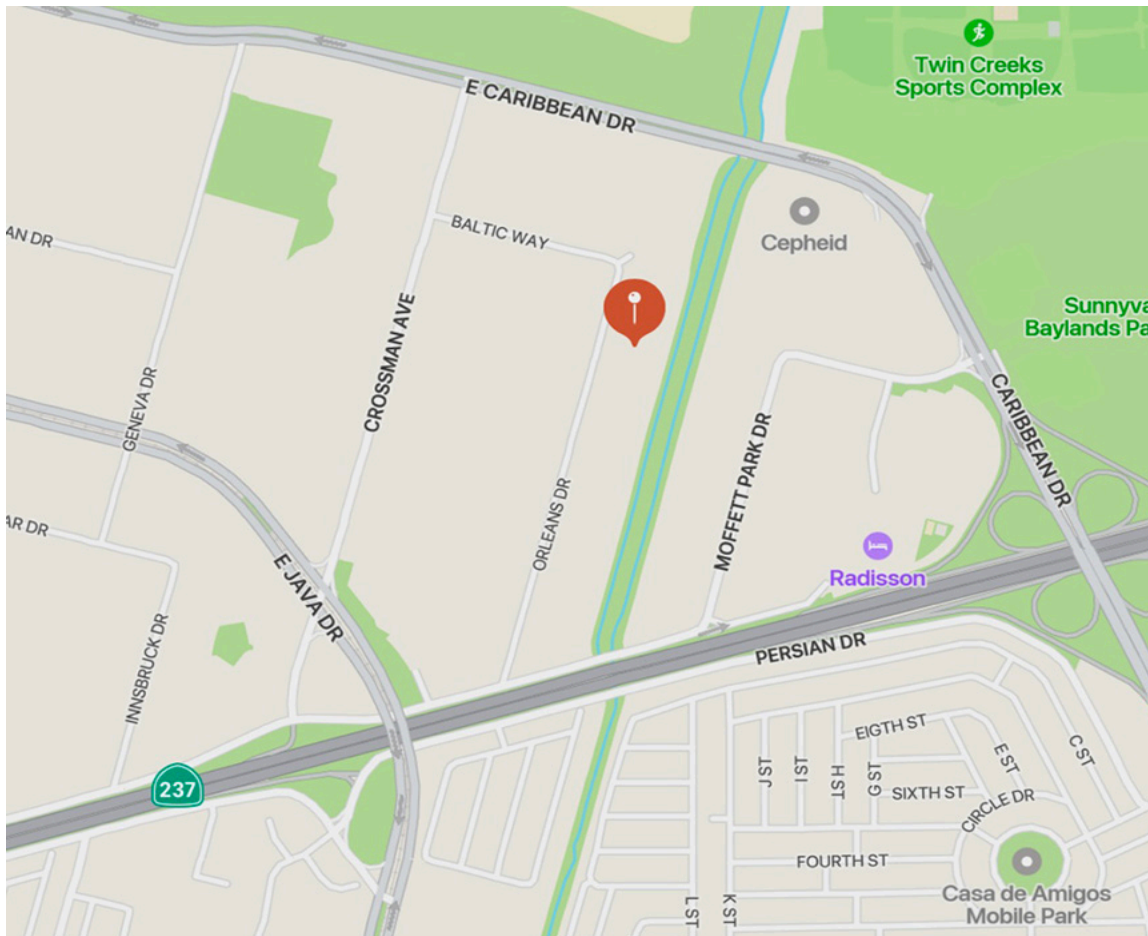


California Writers Club

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

www.southbaywriters.com

Address Correction Requested



Directions from Santa Clara:

Maker Nexus

1330 Orleans Drive
Sunnyvale

North on Lawrence
Expressway,
Cross Hwy 101,
Name changes to Caribbean
Drive,
Cross Hwy 237.
Left at Crossman Ave,
Left at Baltic Way,
Right at Orleans Dr. to 1330.

**Saturday, February 10,
10:30 at Maker Nexus**

**Come EARLY to
allow for security check
in at door**

**Eleanor Vincent
Crafting Your Memoir**