

INK SPOTS

The Newsletter of the Fremont Area Writers, A Part of the California Writer's Club
Jay Swartz, Editor (triloci@gmail.com)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FAW Elections	1
Book News	1
Walkin' with Joaquin	2
Club Picnic	2
Member Activities	3
Time Capsule 2035	3
<i>Inkspots</i> Submissions	3
Writing Prompt	4
FAW Board Candidates	4
Pleasant Hill Writer's Salon	4
Conferences & Events	5
Activity Calendar	6
Web Resources	6
<i>A Trip to the Hidden Country</i> Evelyn LaTorre	7
<i>One's All One</i> Darwin Mathison	8

2010 FAW Elections!

It's time to elect new board members! All positions – President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary are open. The election is scheduled for our next open meeting, on June 26, 2010.

Jay Swartz has taken over as the Nominating Committee chair. Anyone wishing to throw their hat in the ring can email Jay at triloci@gmail.com.

Nominations remain open until election day.

You may nominate

yourself or another, but you must have that person's express permission.

Here's the 2010 slate:

President: Rik Scott; Vice-President: Dawn Armstrong; Treasurer: Carol Hall; Secretary: Myrlla Raymundo

See Page “ “ for more information about each candidate.

June is renewal month! All CWC branches elect new officers and we are all asked to renew our

memberships.

Make sure you send in your dues on time, so as not to miss upcoming events. You can hand them to your treasurer at your next meeting!

Tell a friend about CWC. Invite them to attend a meeting or share this Bulletin and your branch newsletter with local writer friends. Be part of the magic.

Hope to meet you at a CWC event!

Once Bitten, Twice As Many Copies Sold

I guess I'm going to have to breakdown and read Stieg Larsson's *Girl* series. I see these books everywhere: homes, schools, offices, airplanes and of course, still heating up the bestseller list. Maybe I'll see the movie tonight. The only other thing people seem to care about right now is vampires. Vampire novels by Charlaine Harris and J.R. Ward make way

for *The Passage* by Justin Cronin, which places some actual bloodthirsty vamps in a post-apocalyptic setting, while Stephanie Meyer continues to dismantle and domesticate the vampire with the latest offering in her Twilight series.



Bestsellers

The Road to Serfdom
F.A. Hayek

Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest/Girl with the Dragon Tattoo
Stieg Larsson

The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner
Stephanie Meyer

The Passage
Justin Cronin

Also Published:

- *Sizzling Sixteen*
Janet Evanovich
- *Medium Raw*
Anthony Bourdain
- *The Lion*
Nelson DeMille
- *Pandora's Seed*
Spencer Wells

Walkin' with Joaquin

(Reprinted from the CWC Bulletin)

Our annual picnic will take place at Joaquin Miller Park on July 10, 2010. Anyone interested in helping out with the picnic can contact FAW President Bob Garfinkle at ragarf@earthlink.net

Birthplace of the CWC over 100 years ago, the California Writers Club (CWC) formed on lands in the Oakland Hills owned by Poet of the Sierras Joaquin Miller. On Sunday, April 25, 2010 over 100 people, including 14 CWC members and two spouses from five branches, gathered to help launch the Friends of Joaquin Miller Park, a newly-formed organization that will "...celebrate literary and historical heritage and to create a lasting natural legacy for future generations."

Like the people Joaquin Miller entertained at the turn-of-the-last century, today's park users represent diverse interests. Today, in addition to writers, bicyclists, hikers, historians, dog, horse, and nature lovers and city staff appreciate and celebrate Joaquin Miller's legacy of a commitment to nature and the now 500-acre urban forest.

Throughout the day, the vision of Joaquin Miller to create an artistic retreat on the lands he called "The Hights" (his spelling) and the vision of early CWC members to celebrate literary authors and the writing process, graced the air. At the business meeting of the Friends, CWC president Casey Wilson spoke about the importance of the Park to the CWC. Linda Brown (Berkeley Branch) and Central Board rep to the Friends, and Friends officer, shared some of the Club's current plans, specifically directional signs to the California Writers Memorial Grove, funding for printing and distribution of the draft Literary Landmarks Map, and an updated website that would allow anyone in Northern California to find a central calendar with one easy keystroke.

CWC-BB author, cartoonist, and graphic designer (the CWC-BB

Newsletter Write Angles) Kristen Caven revealed another skill when she ended the business meeting and launched the self-guided hikes with a song she wrote four years ago: *Joaquin Miller (Went Walkin')* (For music and teaching guide, visit www.kristencaven.com.) The Friends of Sausal Creek, another member of the Friends, asked immediately for use of Kristen's song in their educational programs in the Park!

All the hikes started at the Ranger Station where the CWC Centennial poster designed by Central Coast member Joyce Krieg hangs on the wall above the glass cases holding Joaquin Miller memorabilia and news clippings. A tour of the amphitheatre revealed yet another plaque dedicated to California writers and a painting of a Spanish galleon that looks much like the ship on the CWC logo.

The cement plaque is inside the theatre, on stage right, near the food bar. The Spanish galleon turned out to be a backdrop for the musical *Brigadoon*, performed last fall.

The 72-degree weather was perfect for a walk down the Cascades where children played in the water oblivious to the facts of the CWC's central role in creating the Park.

In 1913, upon Miller's death, the CWC led the campaign for the City to buy Joaquin Miller's lands, which it did in 1919. In 1930, CWC members came up with the idea of continuing to plant trees to honor California's literary legends. (From 1886 until his death, Miller planted over 70,000 trees on the denuded hills.)

The idea of planting trees just grew according to CWC member Harry Noyes Pratt, who wrote the poem

"Woodminster" and read it at Woodminster's 1941 dedication. The CWC formed and led the Woodminster Committee for 11 years. Today, in addition to the California Writers Memorial Grove, Woodminster includes the 2500-seat theatre (seating capacity reports vary), the Cascades that drop 1,000 gallons of water per minute through seven pools and over 100 feet, a stone staircase, fountains, and pools.

A short walk from the base of the Cascades to the Fire Circle (80 yards north-west), found more CWC members reading poetry and discussing Joaquin Miller's influence. CWC members held forth at this site from its early days until at least the mid-1980s. CWC-BB member Vernon Dolphin scheduled the poets. CWC-Mt. Diablo member Nina Egert shared her knowledge of Miller's influence on Japanese poet Ione Noguchi, who lived on the lands for three years. To Vernon, going back to the Park was "Coming Home." Indeed, the day so inspired City staff that the idea of holding similar "gatherings" and expanding them into a variety of artistic and literary events along with outdoor hikes is already in the works.

For more information on the CWC's role, go to www.calwriters.org, click on the Events tab and link to the history. Walkin' in Joaquin's Footsteps -by Linda Brown, Berkeley.

Member Activities

Carol Hall spoke at the Castro Valley Christian Writers Seminar and attended the Northern California Screenwriters Expo.

Nancy Curteman has launched a blog called Global Mystery to promote interest in her novels. It's at: www.nancycurteman.com.

Nancy's first novel, "Murder in a Teapot," placed second in the California Writers Club Jack

London Contest for a first novel. She received a cash prize.

Bob Garfinkle is still waiting to hear if Cambridge University Press is interested in publishing his new book. The working title is "Garfinkle's Lunar Cognitum: A Comprehensive Lunar Observers' Handbook of the Known Moon."

Evelyn LaTorre has finished a scene-writing class offered through

the National Association of Memoir Writers and has embarked upon another class.

Art Carey became a published poet when his confession of weak self-control was among the winners in the Contra Costa Times Super Bowl snacks haiku contest. He wrote:

Chips, dips, salty nuts
Seduce us from New Year's vows.
Who's for some veggies?

Time Capsule: The Future of Print Media

The 101-year-old California Writers Club has invited everyone to submit predictions on the future of print media, for inclusion in a time capsule to be opened in 2035 on the occasion of Mark Twain's bicentennial. We will receive essays through August 25, 2010, birthday of another of California's first great storytellers, Bret Harte.

What will we be reading in 2035? Will we still have conventional newspapers, magazines and books? Will we still have e-books, or will something have come along to replace them? What impact will state-of-the-art technology have on news reporting? On fiction and nonfiction? Short stories and poems? Reference works and other resources? Memoirs and love letters? What collateral effect will it have on the various as-

pects of daily life?

This is not a contest but rather, an effort to collect people's thoughts now and, in 2035, see how accurately they predicted what would actually happen. Anyone interested in participating should mail his or her essay to California Writers Club P.O. Box 484 Ridgecrest, CA 93556, and include the author's name, age, address, and permission to publish all or part of the essay when the capsule is opened. Anyone who does not want the submission read prior to 2035 should write "read in 2035" on the envelope.

Inkspots Submissions

Submit your poems, prose essays or articles to me for possible inclusion in Inkspots!

Send them in Word format (.doc). Please keep submissions to 10 double-spaced pages maximum.

All styles welcome!

Inkspots is released at the club general meeting every month. Submit your piece for inclusion no later than the previous Sunday.

Send submissions to: triloci@gmail.com

- JS

FREMONT AREA WRITERS

Fremont, CA

(510) 489-4779

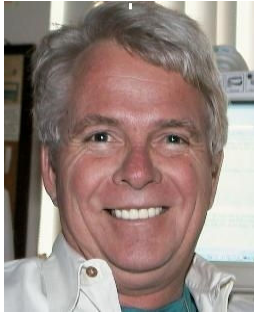
president@cwc-fremontareawriters.org

<http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org>

FAW Officer Candidates

(* = incumbent)

President – Rik Scott
info@richard-scott.org



The Fremont Area Writers Club is more than a collection of writers. It is a group of minds, talent, dreams and ambitions. It is the potential birthplace for publication of new writers as well as a springboard for the advancement of those already published. As president I will work to meet the needs of the club toward that end.

Vice President – Dawn Armstrong



Statement not yet submitted.

Treasurer – Carol Hall*
cahall@rocketmail.com



Carol has been a free-lance writer for eleven years. She writes novels, screenplays and a blog. As an eBay Trading Assistant, she also helps others sell on eBay.

Secretary – Myrla Raymundo*
ligfinio.raymundo@sbcglobal.net



Myrla founded the Union City Historical Museum. She writes and edits numerous newsletters in addition to her column in the Tri-City Voice. She just published her latest book, *Union City Oral History*.

Every month brings a new prompt to get you writing! Email your results to me at triloci@hotmail.com and I'll publish some in next month's Inkspots!

Writing Prompt

Take your writing book to a restaurant – perhaps your favorite, perhaps one you don't often go to, perhaps one you've been meaning to check out – and observe the patrons, concentrating specifically on writing about a loner, a couple and a waitress.

Pleasant Hill Writer's Salon

Borders in Pleasant Hill is presenting a writers' salon beginning Thursday, June 10th, and running weekly for at least the summer from 7 pm to 9 pm and free.

The spec screenplay market isn't so hot right now. While you're waiting for it to change, how about adapting your screenplay into a publishable novel?

Let's discuss what "publishable"

means and how to write that novel. And talk with people with extensive frontline experience in both industries--film and publishing.

Join Publisher and Story Editor, Charlotte Cook, and Award-Winning Screenwriter and Novelist, Jon James Miller, in an interactive salon about the transition from screenplay to publishable novel.

Receive personalized attention regarding your work and your concerns. Meet with others in the writing community to swap ideas.

Though the primary audience for these meetings is screenwriters, the secondary audience would be novelists ready to explore the world of "publishable." So, I'm sending this out to you in the hopes that you will spread the word among your writers' community.

“There is nothing with which every man is so afraid as getting to know how enormously much his capable of doing and becoming ”

Sören

Kierkegaard

Upcoming Conferences and Events

Wendy Tokunaga is offering two exciting workshops this summer in Half Moon Bay.

Your Novel: The Road to Publication

1-Day Workshop at the beautiful Seal Cove Inn
Saturday, August 7, 10am - 4pm.

Click [here](#) for details

6-Week Novel & Memoir Writer's Workshop

At Wendy's house in Half Moon Bay

July 14 - August 18, Wednesday evenings 6:30 - 9:30.

Click [here](#) for more details

<http://www.WendyTokunaga.com>



Unpublished Fiction Authors Competition

This is a genuine, no fee competition that stretches over 12 months. Each month a different genre; each month a winner. Winners are offered a contract, paid royalties, and receive full promotion and marketing strategies.

This is not a competition with prizes. There is no entry fee. Only novels of genuine merit will be chosen. Your book could be a winner.

Full details of rules, genres and how to submit, on our website, www.kinglakepublishing.co.uk



The Hero's Journey and You

On July 17th, FAW Member **Jay Swartz** will conduct a Hero's Journey-themed writing workshop on July 17th, at South Bay Branch member Betty Auchaud's home in Los Gatos.

The discussion is expected to lively and entertaining! Bring your thinking caps and your appetite, as Jay will be serving his internationally famous three-bean chili!

2010 East of Eden Writers Conference

Steinbeck Country - Salinas, California

Registration Deadline Extended to June 30!

Only \$325 for Full Conference Registration includes:

- All 3 days - September 24, 25, and 26, 2010 - all meals and events!
- 48 workshops!
- Pitch Sessions - multiple opportunities to pitch your work to literary agents at no additional charge!
- Saturday evening gala dinner and Writing Contest awards ceremony (grand prize is \$1000)

That's \$110 off the regular price and a \$50 savings compared to the public early registration fee!

Saturday Only (7:30 am to 5 pm) option available for only \$179!

For more info, conference details, and to register, visit southbaywriters.com.

Offer ends June 30, 2010 - Sign Up Today!

Top 3 Best Ways to Meet an Agent

Attend a conference and meet one in person!

Go to a CWC meeting and talk to another writer, if they aren't published, someday they will be! Future intros!

Go to www.writersmarket.com and contact an agent or a publisher.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 7PM Writing Group Mission Coffee Washington Blvd @ Mission Blvd	10 7PM Board Meeting DeVry University 6600 Dumbarton Circle	11	12
13	14	15	16 7PM Writing Group Mission Coffee Washington Blvd @ Mission Blvd	17 7PM Open Mic Barnes & Noble 3900 Mowry Avenue	18	19 2PM General Meeting DeVry University Guest Speaker: Literary Agent Verna Dreisbach
20 Submissions due for Critique Group	21	22	23 7PM Critique Group Mission Coffee Washington Blvd @ Mission Blvd	24	25	26 2PM General Meeting DeVry University Guest Speaker: Writer Becky Levine
27	28	29	30 7PM Writing Group Mission Coffee Washington Blvd @ Mission Blvd	1	2	3

Web Resources

Chicago Manual of Style Online: <http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>

Contests: <http://www.fundsforwriters.com>, <http://www.fanstory.com>

The Word Detective: <http://www.word-detective.com/>

Online Thesaurus: <http://thesaurus.reference.com/>

Writer's Digest: <http://www.writersdigest.com>

OWL, the Purdue Online Writing Lab: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

Grammar Errors: <http://www.grammarerrors.com/siteindex.html>
<http://www.writersrelief.com/blog/post/Dos - and - Donts - of - Dialogue.aspx>

Strunk and White online: <http://www.bartelby.net/141/>

A Trip to the Hidden Country
Evelyn LaTorre

China's cities are huge in area and population and rich in historic sites. Beijing has a population of 13 million people on 170,000 square kilometers. Five million are in the city proper; six million more are in the immediate suburbs. It has 70 universities, 3000 elementary schools and 900 adult schools. Three hundred new cars are added to the roads daily! Chongqing has a population of 30 million—and we never saw the sun there due to the very polluted air. The country has 70,000 Muslims; 7% of the population is over 55. There are 56 different nationalities with the Hans being the majority (93%). Only minorities and farmers are allowed to have more than one child. China was a hidden country from 960 to 1840 A.D. Then the British came and started the Opium Wars.

Everything is highly developed with all the people (even the elderly) having a place in the work force. In Beijing we visited a Senior Center where the women provided a fashion show of their gowns from past weddings and special occasions. We were treated to a delicious meal of 15 or so courses made on a couple of primus-type burners by seniors who get paid to provide meals for home visiting tourists. As we exited the home where we had eaten, other seniors showed off how they use the outdoor exercise equipment to stay in shape. In the parks we saw hundreds of the older citizens doing Tai Chi, walking backwards or manipulating two-inch heavy metal balls with white gloved hands.

The only two men I saw sleeping under statues I figured were between two jobs or had worked several shifts. On their bicycles they carry tremendous loads: big bundles of who knows what or braided bread loaves. They all seem very industrious, happy and full of hope for the future. The areas we saw, even in small towns, were free of the debris we have come to expect in other third-world countries. On the negative side, internet connections were hard to find. If I put "Tibet" in the subject area, the e-mail didn't get sent.

The Chinese people were friendly and often curious about us. In Tiananmen Square they often asked tourists to pose in their photos. We were treated to some wonderful theatrical performances including Chinese Opera in Beijing and Xian and the amazing shadow puppets and "changing faces" in Xian and on board the Yangtze River Cruise. In more than one dance, the women suddenly unrolled these color coordinated 10 foot long sleeves and waved them around in unison and in time to the music.

The food, our guides, the sites (especially the Terra Cotta warriors and the Great Wall) and the scenery left us with a desire to return.

One's All One!
Darwin Mathison

Thanks GoOD GOD for being me
Unique I, one of a kind for all to see.
ME

Made like the others, of diverse human kind.
Black, Brown, Yellow, White, choices I find.
Like Me

All the same inside, hopes, dreams, fears.
Ugly Beautiful some young, others beset with years.
Like Me

Rich and poor stupid intelligent and sure.
Both Females and Males kinds endure.
Like We

Perfect in stature, or ailments full ration.
Meld in this country, from each foreign nation.
Make We

They Love, they hate, care, or unconcerned.
Taking, giving, spending, some saving that earned.
Like We

All making repairing, some tearing down.
This oneness uniqueness we wear for a crown.
Like Me

With total individuality, we think who's best.
Pro and Con we reason, were like all the rest.
One We

None the same, all differing, I except as a blessing.
Very uninteresting twood be, with same window dressing.
All We

So I hope and I pray, for that single day.
We take each other "only", for what they do and say.
We All

Instead of fearing hating, set that oneness free.
If you chance to realize, there is a singularity to be.
WE

A blessing from GoOD GOD, in our diversity
No same pattern just individuality.
Like Me

Live and let Live.
We are all We!