



INK SPOTS



*The Newsletter of the Fremont Area Writers, A part of the California
Writer's Club*

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Editor

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Visit us at <http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org>

VOL 27, December 2013

MISSION STATEMENT: For the purpose of providing a forum of educating both members and the public in the craft of writing and in marketing their works. This is served by the monthly public meetings, workshops, and seminars, which are open to all writers and the general public, and is conducted for the purpose of educating writers of all levels of expertise

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Carol Hall

As the holiday season is upon us, I am thankful for the friends I have in FAW. Although the club is an organization where writers "network," I really hope I can get to know others on more than a superficial basis.

I have heard speakers at more than one writers conference say that making true friendships in the business is more valuable for your writing career than handing out a lot of business cards and making "connections." After all, someone who knows you well would be more willing to do something for you than someone you just met.

Needless to say, I'm not against handing out cards or making Facebook friends. But I hope you find the club to be a welcoming place and that you will reach out in true friendship to others.

FROM THE EDITOR



Myrla Raymundo welcomes you to our December 2013 issue of the Ink Spots. It contains the latest FAW news and tidbits, poems, prose, essays and articles written by our members. Ink Spots is issued monthly and is distributed to FAW members at the club general meeting every month. It is also emailed to those with email addresses.

Ink Spots welcomes you to write articles and submit them to this Editor at raymundomyrla@gmail.com.

WRITERS AND POETS OPEN MIC



Tony Pino, the Open Mic Chairperson, leads the group.

Open Mic will be held monthly at BOOKSMART (near Andersen's Bakery) 1st floor, in NewPark Mall in Newark at 7:00 pm. Writers attend and read their articles and books to the audience.

Next meeting: January 27, 2013
Monday

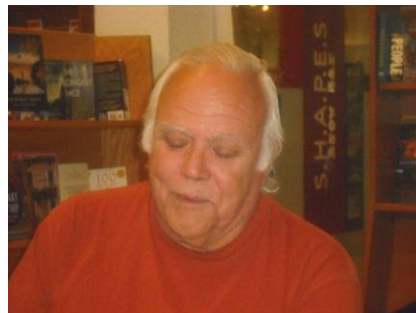
These were the writers who participated in the Open Mic October 28, 2013 at BOOKSMART.



Sally Ember



Janice Tarbox



Bruce Haase



Doris Nikolaidis



Elena Hall

More Open MIC Speakers



Carol Hall

AUTHORS' BOOK TABLE

Carol Hall is the Chairperson of the Authors Book Table. It is a free service of the Fremont Area Writers. Two long tables are set up at each regular meeting, enough space for eight separate titles.

BOOK EXCHANGE

Saroj Kar takes care of our Book Exchange. He urges everyone to bring books to our regular meetings.

November 23, 2013 General Membership Meeting



Scott Thomas Anderson – Talked about Penning Reality with a Pulse: Literary Journalism and Audacious Creative Non-Fiction to the members.

FAW Vice-President Geraldine Solon reports:



The following are the General Membership Meeting speakers for the following months:

February 23, 2013 – **Mary Pyefinch** – Topic to be determined

March 23, 2013 – **Nancy Curteman** - Topic to be determined

FAW BOOKSIGNING AND SALE BLACK FRIDAY

Hi Everyone,

What a weekend at the Booksigning and Sale! Around 18 different authors sold 98 books altogether over the three days. Kudos to Jan Small and Nancy Curteman for organizing this event. Although I myself only sold one book, I enjoyed meeting a lot of interesting authors. Lots of folks took bookmarks and several inquired about the club. The Tri-City Voice and Fremont Bulletin ran very nice articles on the event. Thanks to Art Carey and Elena Martina for providing publicity via press releases to newspapers and our FAW Facebook page.....**Carol Hall, President**





Date: Saturday, December 14th

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Bob and Kathy Garfinkle

32924 Monrovia Street

Union City, CA 94587

510-489-4779

FAW Annual Potluck Holiday Party

Bring your favorite dish to share.

Also bring your own liquid refreshment.

Last Name begins with:

A-G: Salad or Appetizer

H-O: Main Course or Side Dish

P-Z: Dessert

\$10 Gift Exchange



Tony Pino is in the news. Read all about it.....

Alameda Journal

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400 An edition of the San Jose Mercury News

GD TODAY'S DAILY DEAL
gordailydeals.com/eb
Travelzoo (Bodega Harbor Inn)
\$85 for Charming Bodega Bay Escape
Incl. Wine Tastings
54% off

PAGE A7
ISLAND STUDENTS PART
OF YOUTH ORCHESTRA



PAGE A4
VON STADE TO PERFORM
BENEFIT FOR SCHOOL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2013

Briefs

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Alameda Island Poets to host book signing

Alameda Island Poets will host a book signing for a new journal entitled, "North Coast Literary Review," from 7 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 6 at Books Inc., 1344 Park St.

This new journal is published by noted poet, writer and artist Vince Storti, who has been publishing literary journals since 1995, beginning with *Awaa-te*. A writer and artist, Storti has had artwork and writing published in numerous literary journals including "Inkblot," "Beatitude Golden Anniversary Anthology," "Haight Ashbury Literary Journal," and "Dad's Desk." Several authors from the journal will also read their poetry.

Author Tony Pino will also read from his book, "A Hidden River," a collection of poems and short stories. Pino has been published in "river-babble," "Tattoo Highway," "Poets Against the War," "A Day Without Art," "Oasis Journal" 2005 and 2011. Pino teaches English at San Jose City College and Ohlone College, where he received a "distinctive teacher" award.

The evening will also include a remembrance memorial for noted poet, writer and artist Tony Gali from the Pit River Nation in Burney.

Meals on Wheels benefit Thursday

The Gold Coast Bistro & Bar will donate 50 percent of the proceeds from food sales Thursday to Alameda Meals on Wheels. Volunteers with Al-

ameda Meals on Wheels deliver hot meals each day to more than 140 of the city's residents, including seniors, people who are home-bound due to recent surgery, and those who simply cannot cook their own meals. The kitchen staff at Bayview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center prepare the meals.

Subscribers pay a sliding fee based upon their ability. The Gold Coast is located at 1900 Park St. Hours are from 5 to 10 p.m. For information, call the restaurant at 510-522-5388.

Interview workshops available at Mastick

Job seekers age 50 and over can get interview tips during free "Interview Drill" workshops beginning Saturday at Mastick Senior Center, 1155 Santa Clara Ave.

A job seeker will take part in a mock interview in a formal, business-like atmosphere. Job seekers can choose to be interviewed by a single interviewer or a panel. Others will observe the interview and offer feedback. The goal is to help a job-seeker's polish their interview skills and boost their confidence.

Participants should dress professionally and bring three copies of their resume, as well as a description of the position they are seeking.

The interviews are scheduled in advance and will take place 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9, 16, and 23. Those interested in participating should register before 3 p.m. on the Friday before each drill.

To learn more about the workshops and to register go to www.theinterviewdrill.org and complete the online sign-up, or e-mail theinterviewdrill@

NEXT SPEAKER - JANUARY 25, 2014



Cynthia Sue Larson

Facebook...Twitter...What's a writer to do in a rapidly changing world?

Cynthia Sue Larson, author and life coach, will offer some direction at the new year's first meeting of Fremont Area Writers on Saturday, Jan. 25. Her topic: "Social Media Tips for Authors."

Her most recent book is *Quantum Jumps: An Extraordinary Science of Happiness and Prosperity*.

She has been featured in TV and radio shows on the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, and the BBC.

She writes the popular RealityShifters newsletter.

You can find out more about her at <http://www.realityshifters.com>.

The writers group meets on the fourth Saturday of the month, except in July and December, from 2-4 p.m. in Room 223 at DeVry University, 6600 Dumbarton Circle, in Fremont. Meetings are open to the public.

Fremont Area Writers is a branch of the 1,700-member California Writers Club. To find out more, log on to <http://www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org/> or contact Carol Hall at cahall@rocketmail.com.

**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
OFFICERS**



President– **Carol Hall**



Vice President – **Geraldine Solon**



Secretary – **Joyce Cortez**



Treasurer – **Myrla Raymundo**



Robert (Bob) Garfinkle –
Past President, California Writers Club

**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
CHAIRPERSONS**

Carol Hall - Donation Drawing and
Authors Table

Nancy Curteman – Central
Board Representative, Hospitality &
Telephone Outreach

Tony Pino – Open MIC

Art Carey – Public Relations

Saroj Kar – Book Exchange

CALENDAR

BOARD MEETING – Fourth Saturday of the
month 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm – DeVry University,
Fremont.

OPEN MIC – Fourth Monday of the month
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

FREMONT AREA WRITERS REGULAR
MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Fourth Saturday
of the month, 2:00 pm -4:00 pm, DeVry
University, Fremont

FAW WRITERS CORNER:

We invite FAW writers to submit their writings to our Newsletter.

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Dear Writer's Block,

It's not you; it's me.

We have been friends for a long time. I don't remember how we first met, but I do recall the early days in which we were getting acquainted. At first, I was a bit miffed at your constant interference with my work. After a while, I finally began to get used to you. We became very close friends as I soon was spending more time with you than I was with my actual writing. In fact, sometimes I would go for several days exclusively in close fellowship with you.

However, I finally got to the point where I decided that enough is enough. I was going to write an article about our relationship, but...well, you know what happened. As I have thought it through in the process of many attempts at journaling on the subject which you kept interrupting, it finally occurred to me that we must end our relationship. I am sure that you have had no evil intentions. I don't think that you dislike me. In fact, I am sure that you care for me a lot since you choose to spend so much time with me. But, I am afraid that our relationship must come to a final end.

I will probably day dream about you on occasion, but that will be all.

Good bye, writer's block.

Walter Huckaby

*****'

'Twas The Night Before Christmas, Rebooted

By Joyce Cortez and Jeanne Ledbetter

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house,
Not an iPad was shopping, nor one wireless mouse;
The wish lists were posted on Facebook in bold,
In hopes that their family all would be told.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of gigabytes danced in their heads;
Mom and Dad tossed and turned in their beds,
Foresaw holding tin cups on street corners ahead.

All piggy banks broken, all lottos re-checked,
Not one more cent found, by golly, by heck.
Begging from their relatives, this they had found:
“The Rolls needs repair; Aunt Lynn’s facelift fell down.”
Little Fluffy’s caviar is low in the larder.
As you see, for us, life can’t get any harder.”

Counting debts, not sheep, fitful sleep came at long last.
A twist on a Christmas tale told on Christmas Eves past
Became the nightmare at their house, starring Santa himself.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf.
He flew his eight reindeer right into their dream
And nothing from then on was quite what it seemed.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Misled them to think they had nothing to dread.

Then Santa’s round belly shrunk flatter and leaner.
His smiles became sneers, his gaze grew much meaner.
As his body deflated, his laugh was thin, too.
The reindeer gaped at him and started to moo!

In through the window, a great wind swirled in,
Drawing Santa, reindeer, and all into the spin,
As he whirled up the funnel and squeaked out good night,
His huge bag split open. All the toys took flight!

Around flew Cabbage Patch dolls that stores could not sell.
There were baby dolls swearing what, we should not tell.
There were lopsided kites with no tails and no strings,
And crooked, soggy rockets were fizzling.
A Jack-in-the -box that refused to pop out,
Shouted “Shopping is not what Christmas is about!”

They awoke with a start, and a sense of relief.
No misfit toys in sight, what was left was belief.
One present per child, light a candle, and pray.
“Happy Birthday, dear Jesus, for Christmas is your day.
