



INK SPOTS

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

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Editor

E-mail raymundomyrla@gmail.com

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

VOL 40, February 2015

MISSION STATEMENT: For the purpose of providing a forum for 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 are conducted for the

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello FAW. Your club needs you. Your club has 3 open volunteer positions.

1. CENTRAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE.

The FAW Representative acts as a liaison between the Central Board and FAW.

A. Duties:

1. Attend 2 meetings a year
2. Report information from 2 Central Board meetings to the FAW Board
3. Report email updates received from the Central Board to the FAW Board

B. Perks:

1. Free lunch and cookie breaks at the 2 meetings

2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORDINATOR

The FAW Community Outreach Coordinator acts as a liaison between FAW and the community.

- A. Duties:
 - 1. Initiate events within the community to promote reading
 - 2. Chair the Young Writers Contest sponsored by FAW

- B. Perks:
 - 1. Networking with your community

3. PHONE OUTREACH COORDINATOR

The Phone Outreach Coordinator monitors the phone call meeting reminder volunteers

- A. Duties:
 - 1. Keep the FAW member phone list current
 - 2. Confirm the call schedule with the phone call volunteers

- B. Perks:
 - 1. Happy FAW members not missing their meeting

If you have questions or an interest in one of these volunteer positions please contact me at shirleyrscott@yahoo.com or Nancy Curteman, our Volunteer Coordinator, at curtemannancy@gmail.com

Shirley Ferrante
FAW President

Christmas Present
By Art Carey

Andy Weir, FAW's October speaker, is on a roll. At Christmas, his sci-fi novel "The Martian" was No. 1 on the Bay Area paperback fiction best-seller list of the San Francisco Chronicle. The book was No. 4 on the national list.



Fremont Area Writers

Writers Helping Writers



An Introduction to Ebook Self-Publishing and Best Practice



For years, one of the frustrations of being an author was writing a book and not being able to find a publisher. No more. Today, many writers are publishing what they've written themselves.

One of the leaders in the self-publishing field is Mark Coker, who founded Smashwords in 2008. He has seen it become the

leading indie ebook distributor for more than 100,000 authors.

On Saturday, Feb. 28, Coker will speak to Fremont Area Writers about how to self-publish, distribute, and sell ebooks. His topic: "An Introduction to Ebook Self-Publishing and Best Practice."

He'll discuss how the ebook revolution has affected the publishing industry, explain market trends, and offer tips on ebook creation, pricing, and marketing. His two-part talk will include an introduction to ebook self-publishing and 16 secrets of best-selling ebook authors.

You can find out more about Coker at his blog, blog.smashwords.com. He also contributes to the Huffington Post's books section.

Writers and Poets Open Mic!

When: 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Monday, February 23

Where:

Suju's Coffee
Meeting Room
3602 Thornton Ave.
Fremont

Mark Coker
"Intro to Ebook Self-Publishing"
Saturday, Feb. 28, 2-4 p.m.
DeVry University, Room 120
6600 Dumbarton Circle
Fremont, CA

Fremont Area Writers is a branch of the
1,800-member California Writers Club.

Shirley Ferrante, President
510-791-8639
cwc-fremontareawriters.org

FAW's Regular Meeting



Shirley Ferranti opened the meeting.



Guest Speaker Bonnie Keast talked about "How to Write about Aging."



WRITERS AND POETS OPEN MIC



Tony Pino, the Open Mic Chairperson, leads the group. Open Mic is held monthly at Suju's Coffee Meeting Room, 3602 Thornton Ave., Fremont. Writers attend and read their articles and books to the audience.



Nancy Curteman—Hospitality



Art Carey-Public Relations

Maryanne Casas
Central Board Representative

BOOK EXCHANGE



Bruce Haase takes care of our Book Exchange. He urges everyone to bring books to our regular meetings.



Carol Hall – FAW Facebook Coordinator

Shirley Ferrante 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.



Agnes Chiqui Kirkhart
NorCal Representative

FROM THE EDITOR

InkSpots Newsletter



We are all writers and we can contribute to our Newsletter. Send your articles complete with photos via WORD attachment to this Editor Myrla Raymundo or to our Assistant Editor Joyce Hornblower.

I also announced a column “Member Spotlight” last two or three meetings. I haven’t received anything from the members.

We send our Newsletter to the different clubs and we want them to see how we are doing and what we are writing about.

Myrla Raymundo welcomes you to our February 2015 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.



Myrla busy on the computer.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Myrla Raymundo, MBA – Editor
Joyce Hornblower – Assistant Editor

**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
OFFICERS**



President– **Shirley Ferrante**



Vice President – **Erika Anderson-
Bolden**



Secretary – **Joyce Cortez**



Treasurer – **Cherilyn Jose**



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

**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
CHAIRPERSONS**

Carol Hall – FAW Facebook
Coordinator

Shirley-Ferrante - Authors Table

Nancy Curteman – Hospitality

Agnes Kirkhart – Nor-Cal
Representative

Maryanne Casas- Central Board
Representative

Tony Pino – Open MIC

Art Carey – Public Relations

Bruce Haase – Book Exchange

Myrla Raymundo - Editor

Joyce Hornblower – Assistant Editor

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

ON VALENTINE'S DAY

By Myrla Raymundo, MBA



There are many lucky people in our community who had been married for so many years. The children are grown and they are either going to college or working full-time and the big house seems all of a sudden empty. The hustle and bustle of daily living seems like it mellowed down a little bit. The tension of family life eased too.

There are only the two of you to look after each other. Because it's been so many years that you had been together, you kind of treat each other for granted. Once in a while you say in passing, "I'm just like an old furniture around here." No more of the "Blow me a kiss from across the room" or "Whisper sweet nothings to my ear." You're there and that's all that matters. It is companionship.

But where did all the love go? Where is the feeling of "electricity" when he touches you? Where is the love in his eyes? Where is the sweetness in your voice?

On this Valentine's Day, pause for a minute. Get a dozen long-stemmed red roses for her and a card full of love. Get him a bottle of his favorite wine with a note saying, "How do I love thee? I love thee with all my heart."

Happy Valentine's Day to All.....



From Ray and Myrla Raymundo

*“On Motley & The Browns”
a memory of long ago
by Bruce Haase
February 2015*

~~~~~



In the early ‘50s The Cleveland Browns would stay at the Carter Hotel on Saturday nights before home games. Some times on Sunday morning I would join the ten kids or so that would be waiting outside, in the parking lot, for them to come out for the busses that would take them to the Stadium. A little group of boys, both black and white, waiting, not for autographs...

We just wanted to see them, in their suits and ties and topcoats, each with a gym bag and a briefcase. We would wish them luck. Most would smile; a few would wave in a friendlier manner. Only Marion Motley would cross the lot, squat down to ask us how we doing in school and give us encouragement. White or black he paid attention to us equally. We loved Marion Motley; he had been number 76 in the AAFC days. Now they were the best team in the NFL and his number 36 was a favorite number for us kids.

We’d stay there until the last bus left and then run and walk the mile or so to Municipal Stadium, we’d be so early that there were hardly any cars in the huge lots yet. We’d hang around hoping for something lucky to happen, if not, we’d go our separate ways. Home, to listen to the game on the radio. In those days there was one game on TV and rarely would it be the Browns, generally a New York or Los Angeles game. Almost never a Cleveland Home Game, not back then.

My father was a Police Lieutenant and my ‘sort of’ Uncle Frank was a sports editor for the Cleveland News. This was very good for me as a couple of times a year I would get, For Free, a few standing room tickets. I would choose a kid or two or three from the “Carter Hotel Parking Lot Gang,” and we’d wait for hours to get in to the, “Biggest Stadium in the NFL” for the game. Those were really lucky, wonderful days. I’d split the tickets between black and white kids equally. We all understood that this was a sport, and above all, fairness was the most important thing.

Many of the black kids had never been to a big time game in the huge stadium before; I had been there for baseball or football dozens of times. I think of us kids back then, 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 years old, some real little. The freedom that we had, taking city busses, all over town, going downtown to the

movie Palaces, the great department stores, boat or auto shows, and more. We never got in trouble on those adventures, the threat of loosing that freedom kept us in check. I've told young people about those times, of traveling miles on a bus for a nickel. The long summer days, being out on our own, from early morning to dusk. The young of today think that I'm lying.

Maybe in early December '53, I had six free tickets. It was cold and wet that morning, and when Mr. Motley walked over to say hello, he thanked us for coming out to wish them luck. There were six kids that day that had never been to a game. I gave them all of the tickets and took the bus home to listen on the radio in the basement. I was planning on telling Mr. Motley that I gave all of the tickets away, even mine. I felt really good about that.

That was my last trip to the parking lot that year, and in the '54 season Marion Motley was gone, football had damaged his giant, mighty body and he was out of the game. I would still show up in the hotel parking lot a couple of times a year. I didn't get the free tickets as often anymore. Some of the players were friendly and called out to us. None of them crossed the lot to squat down and ask us about our lives.

In '57 Jimmy Brown arrived in Cleveland, there was an anticipation in the air. Something big was coming, that was the hope. I only went to the hotel a time or two more. There were maybe twenty or more people there now, even some adults. People calling out for autographs, players distracted by the fans. Jimmy Brown standing off to the side, looking angry and nasty, not acknowledging anyone, black or white. I thought that he didn't like the distraction of the crowd, it turned out he didn't like almost everything in those days.

Motley tried one more season as a linebacker for the Steelers in '55, it wasn't successful for him. Jim Brown retired after the '65 season. I left Cleveland in the summer of '59 for California.

When I was about 58 or so, at the NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, I stood in front of Marion Motley's bronze bust, and teared up a little. He was a very decent man; he wasn't putting on an act with us back then. He was pleased that we would stand out there, waiting to wish our team the best. He was letting us know that we were appreciated, and we were all in this competition together. As I moved on in the HOF, in that long line of bronze likenesses I saw Jim Brown's bust, without pausing I walked by his. Jim Brown may have been the "Greatest Runner Ever," but he was not a Marion Motley. There was only one Marion Motley. I don't know if he ever thought back of us boys in that parking lot. I'm sure that we have all thought of him though, remembering a kind giant of a man, a man that took a little interest in some kids on a few Sunday mornings.

Marion Motley died in 1999, he was 79 years old. It hadn't taken much effort for him to make a few kids, strangers to him, feel special.

There is a debate on whether athletes are role models for kids. I would have to say, "Some are."



Myrla Raymundo, MBA  
Editor  
3107 San Ramon Ct.  
Union City, CA 94587