



INK SPOTS



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

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

Webmaster – Linda Lee Chernoff

VOL 54, May 2016

MISSION STATEMENT: Fremont Area Writers educates writers and the public by providing: a. Forums for educating members in the craft of writing and marketing their works and, b. Public meetings, workshops, and seminars open to all writers and the general public to facilitate educating writers of all levels of expertise.

Message from Nancy Curteman

Leadership Opportunities Open in FAW



Dear Fellow FAW Members:

The annual election of officers for Fremont Area Writers will take place at the June general meeting. This year, that's on Saturday, June 25, 2016. Names of candidates will be announced at the May general meeting. The four elective officers of the club are president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

You can nominate any FAW member, including yourself. The nominee must consent to run. Nominees must be members in good standing of FAW and have renewed their membership for the coming year. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the June meeting. Nominations close just prior to voting, which takes place in person at the meeting. Members will cast written ballots for any contested offices. Unopposed candidates will be declared elected.

To place your name or that of another consenting member in nomination for office, send the candidate's name, position for which nominated, statement of consent to nomination, and candidate's contact information to Nancy Curteman by e-mail at curtemannancy@gmail.com.

Duties of Office

President. The president shall preside over meetings of the Board of Directors and general membership.

2.1 The president shall, subject to the advice and consent of the directors, direct the affairs of FAW in accordance with these bylaws.

2.2 Except for the nominating committee, the president shall appoint such committees and chairpersons as necessary to conduct affairs of FAW. Such appointments end when the business of the committee is finished or at the end of the term of the president who made the appointments.

Candidate: _____

Section 3: Vice President. The vice president shall assume the duties of president in the absence of that officer at any duly called meeting. The vice president shall also serve as the chairperson of the Programs Committee.

Candidate: _____

Section 4: Secretary. The secretary shall prepare agendas and keep minutes for all meetings, handle incoming and outgoing correspondence, and maintain the administrative files for the Fremont Area Writers.

Candidate: _____

Section 5: Treasurer. The treasurer shall keep proper books of account showing receipts and disbursements for Fremont Area Writers and report the financial status of the Branch at each duly called meeting of the Board of Directors.

5.1 The treasurer shall receive and keep all funds of Fremont Area Writers and pay them out only as authorized by the Board of Directors. Any funds received for the organization shall be promptly deposited in an account at a financial institution set up for that purpose.

5.2 The treasurer’s signature shall be required on all checks \$350 or less. A second cosigner’s signature shall be required on checks of more than \$350 The second cosigner shall be either of two persons so authorized by the Board of Directors.

Candidate: _____

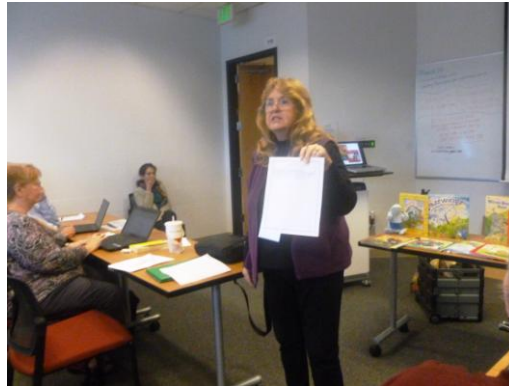
Section 6: No officer shall be elected to more than two consecutive terms of office. No director shall be elected to more than four consecutive terms on the board.

Section 7: In the absence of both president and vice president at a duly called meeting the remaining members of the Board of Directors shall appoint one of its remaining members to preside, and such member will be vested with the duties and powers of the president for that meeting.

Congratulations Tish.....

Tish Davidson won second place in the San Mateo County Fair Genre Novel First Chapter for the first chapter of her second book, *Dogonne Hot: A Nan Heitman Mystery*. The prize includes publication in the anthology *Carry the Light* and coaching worth \$150 with Beth Barany, developmental editor. Tish Davidson is currently represented by agent Steve Hutson of WordWise Media.

FAW Book Signing



Jan Small, Book Signing Chairperson, coordinated the Fremont Area Writers Group Book Signing last May 7, 2016 at the Round Table Pizza, 37480 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. It was a very successful event. Thanks Jan.

CWC Membership Renewal Time

Dear FAW Members:

Your membership expires on June 30, 2016. Dues for the upcoming 2016-2017 year are \$45.00. The dual member fee is \$25.00 (if you are already registered with another branch, please specify which one). Student member fee is \$10.00.

Please send your payment to Bob Garfinkle.



Fremont Area Writers

The Centennial Branch
"Writers Helping Writers"



Genre Fiction



For some writers, the term "genre fiction" is a pejorative, says novelist Nick Taylor. Others, he thinks, consider it a badge of honor. Both opinions are correct, Taylor suggests, but should be understood by those who hold differing viewpoints.

That will be the topic of his talk to Fremont Area Writers on

Saturday, May 28.

He is the author of the novels *The Disagreement* and *Father Junipero's Confessor*. Under the pen name T.T. Monday, he also writes thrillers about a relief pitcher turned detective, Johnny Adcock. The latest book in the series, *Double Switch*, is out this spring.

Taylor has received a Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship and the Michael Shaara Prize for Civil War Literature. You can follow him on Twitter @ttmonday.

Nick Taylor
Genre Fiction
Saturday, May 28th, 2-4 p.m.
DeVry University
6600 Dumbarton Circle
Fremont, CA

Fremont Area Writers is a branch of the 1,900-member California Writers Club.

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

Writers and Poets Open Mic!

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

Where:

Suju's Coffee and Tea
3602 Thornton Ave.
Fremont

. EXCITING CWC MEMBER BENEFIT AT THE BAY AREA BOOK FESTIVAL

By Joyce Krieg, Central Coast branch, CWC Vice-President

The California Writers Club-NorCal Group takes great pleasure in announcing an exciting opportunity *just* for you, our members. This year, CWC-NorCal Group has reserved a booth at the second annual Bay Area Book Festival, and is offering the opportunity for CWC members to sell their books at the booth—at no cost!

The Bay Area Book Festival takes place Saturday and Sunday, June 4 and 5, in downtown Berkeley in and around Civic Center Park. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. both days. Last year, this free event drew some 50,000 people, 300 author/speakers and 160 vendors. This year, CWC will be one of the exhibitors.

Details are still being worked out, but here is what we can tell you:

- CWC members are invited to sell their books and/or promote their writing-related business at our booth at no cost to the member.
- You must have a current seller's permit from the State Board of Equalization if you plan to actually sell anything.
- You must be present in the booth and handle all details of making the sale. No dropping off books and expecting others to sell them for you!
- Shifts will be set up on two-hour intervals. You must remove yourself, your books, and all other promotional materials at the end of your two-hour shift.
- Shift assignments will be made either on a first-come, first-served basis *or* by lottery, depending on demand. You may not sign up for more than one shift unless and until all other interested CWC members are accommodated.
- You may use your shift to promote a writing-related business (editing, book design, PR, etc.) in lieu of selling books.
- This opportunity is available *only* to current members of CWC.

If this sounds like something you'd like to do, add your name to the master list by sending an email to Joyce Krieg of the Central Coast branch, pacificgrovejoyce@gmail.com. Even if you have already signed up or indicated interest to someone at your home branch, please add your name to Joyce's master list. Put "Bay Area Book Festival" in the Subject field and indicate your home branch in the body of the email.

We'll be sending detailed information as to how to reserve a spot on or around May 10.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shirley Ferrante, FAW President

We passed through Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and now on to Memorial Day. Come visit Ardenwood Historic Farm on May 30th and I will be happy to greet you in the Guest Parlor of the Patterson House constructed in 1857 and located at 34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont. The grounds are a perfect setting for a mystery, romance or gothic novel. You may get some ideas.

Congratulations to our Treasurer Cherylyn Jose who won a writing award at the San Mateo County Fair Best Blog contest. Her entry "My Manta Ray Encounter" took second place. You can read her blog, Ocean of Hope: Marine Animals Voice their Wishes, at <http://www.protecttheoceans.org/wordpress>.

The FAW Book Signing, "Books and Bites", chaired by Jan Small, was held Saturday, May 7 at Round Table Pizza in Fremont. Pizza was enjoyed and books were sold.

2016-2017 FAW elections and board appointments are creeping up. June is election month. Offices to be filled are president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. I shall be stepping down after two enjoyable years as president. As you have heard me say or rather beg, this is a great opportunity to actively support your fellow writing branch members.

There will be a writing prompt exercise at this month's meeting on Saturday, May 28, at DeVry University. For our meeting in June, bring a writing piece if you'd like to share it or obtain feedback. We will break out into our respective genre groups at the June 25 meeting.

FREMONT AREA WRITERS OFFICERS



President– **Shirley Ferrante**



Treasurer – **Cherilyn Jose**

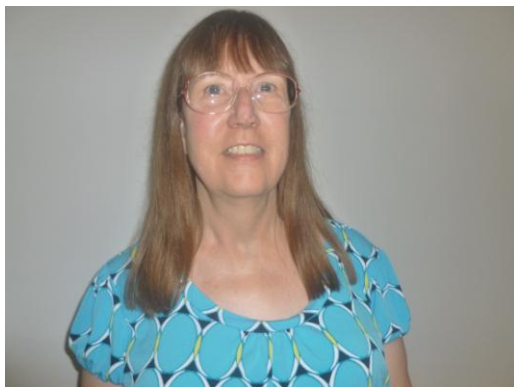


Vice President – **Erika Anderson-Bolden**



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

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**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
CHAIRPERSONS**



Secretary – **Joyce Cortez**

- Tony Pino** – Open MIC
Jay Swartz – Nor-Cal Representative
Andrew Halligan - Membership Chair
Art Carey – Public Relations
Nancy Curteman – Hospitality
Carol Hall – Facebook Coordinator
Bruce Haase – Book Exchange
Pat Van den Heuvel – Telephone Outreach
Coordinator
Liz Breshears – Community Outreach
Coordinator
Jan Small – Book Signing Coordinator
-



Tony Pino, the Open Mic Chairperson, leads the group. Open Mic is held monthly at Suju’s Coffee Meeting Room, 3602 Thornton Ave., Fremont.



Nancy Curteman–Hospitality



Jay Swartz
NorCal Representative



Carol Hall – FAW Facebook Coordinator



Andrew Halligan
Membership Chairperson

Bruce Haase –
Book Exchange & Authors Book Table



Bruce Haase urges everyone to bring books to our regular meetings. The Authors Book Table 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.



Art Carey – Public Relations



Pat Van den Heuvel
Telephone Outreach Coordinator



Liz Breshears
Community Outreach Coordinator



Jan Small, Book Signing Chairperson

**JACK LONDON AWARDEES
FREMONT AREA WRITERS**

- 2009 Robert Garfinkle**
- 2011 Myrla Raymundo**
- 2013 Carol Hall**
- 2015 Art Carey**

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



Myrla Raymundo, MBA-Writer/Editor

Ink Spots Newsletter



This Editor welcomes you to our May 2016 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.

FAWS WRITERS CORNER

SUPER BOWL CITY 50

By Jan Salinas



Rena's son told us we had a choice to forego this weekend's Super Bowl City 50 visit and catch the next one in about 10 years. Of course, there was a chance the Super Bowl might not come to San Francisco again. My friend, Rena and I gave each other a quick glance and laughed.

"We *are* going to Super Bowl City in San Francisco." We knew we wouldn't look cool in another 10 years. By then, we would be in our 80's. On the inside we felt young so it was important for us to seize the moment.

Early Saturday morning, we boarded the already crowded BART train at Bayfair Station with other football enthusiasts. Rena looked fresh and Yuppie in her jeans and jacket. Even though I was a mere seven months older, Rena always appeared younger than I. I wore my beige lacy blouse, dark green dress pants, matching Downton Abbey hat, and athletic shoes.

At Embarcadero Station Exit, we headed west toward the Ferry Building. Eleven a.m. and already hoards of people were corralled into four rows adjacent to Super Bowl City with no easy entryway. Long lines skirted around the Hyatt Regency Hotel. We skipped around lines, hopped onto the curb, and advanced through what seemed to be the fastest line. Four blocks later at Clay, the line meandered to the right. Music blasted and the jovial crowd wore team shirts. Closer to the entrance, people waited patiently in rows that barely moved. Most showed no concern for which line moved fastest.

High above, the Superbowl 50 sign illuminated an array of light bulbs against a high rise building. I got a shot of the sign with my iPhone but not without someone's elbow or back of his head in the foreground.

We dodged our way up front close to the security entrance. It was time to strip. Into a bucket went watch, bracelet, belt, hat, iPhone, handbag, carryon, and anything else that could decently be removed. It was a relief to realize that shoe removal was not required. Some people were scanned with a wand after they passed through the scanner. The security attendants seemed irritated at such a fun-loving crowd. As volunteers, their job was a security issue that was meant to be taken seriously.

With lunch in mind, we began our search for food booths. The first sign we saw read: Hamburger \$18.

“Let’s keep walking,” we said in unison.

Around the first corner, we stood in a short Budweiser beer line. The price was right, only \$8 per glass. That would satisfy our hunger for now. As gracefully as possible, we hopped up onto a concrete ledge to relax and take in the sights while savoring our beer.

On the stage behind us, cheerleaders in bright blue costumes danced to music so loud, our eardrums felt they would burst. We conversed by lip reading.

The crowd was happy and loose. Lines for food and beer, and for a photo shot in front of the big 50 sign blocked the walkways. An approach from the right was line-free, where we were able to take each other’s picture.

In one area, a long wait for ziplining circled the take-off structure. The ride was sold out for the whole day.

“Well, isn’t that just our luck.” We laughed as we faked disappointment.

It was time for a serious effort to score lunch.

The Super Bowl City exit toward the Ferry Building was crowded and the sidewalks were almost impassible. Inside the Ferry Building, people gathered around stalls for chocolates, nuts, bread, and dried flowers. We decided to hold out for lunch rather than snack. The outside entrance to our favorite café was closed off. People, three-deep, were huddled around the Puppy Run for a glimpse of puppies available for adoption, and made our view impossible. An hour-and-a-half wait for food was the norm. We checked restaurant after restaurant making our way along the Pier sidewalk. Disappointed and determined to find food at any price, we trudged toward the next pier and the next. Each restaurant was full with no possibility of being served for hours.

Pier 7 was our final stop before we headed toward the financial district to a deserted street just one block away from Super Bowl City. We found no restaurant except Starbucks. Walking toward the heart of downtown, we happened upon a bar called The Royal Exchange. We bravely slid behind the seedy bouncers and entered, excited at the possibility of finding food. Wall-to-wall noise and beer drinking men whooping it up sent us quickly back out. Next door was another bar called Harringtons. Inside, the crowd was thick with Super Bowl-crazed fans. An encouraging chalkboard sign on the wall read “cheeseburgers and fries.” A chatty

couple invited us to sit with them. The guy wore a Metallica shirt ready for a Metallica concert at AT&T Park. They left and we waited half-an-hour for the waitress to take our order. Impatiently, Rena went on a search for her. The waitress eventually approached us with two souvenir Bud Light Limited Edition 50 Super Bowl beers. She left without taking our order and I caught sight of her out of the corner of my eye as she walked toward the chalkboard and erased the menu.

“I’m sorry,” the waitress apologized coming back to our table. “We are out of food. I brought you two complimentary bags of potato chips.”

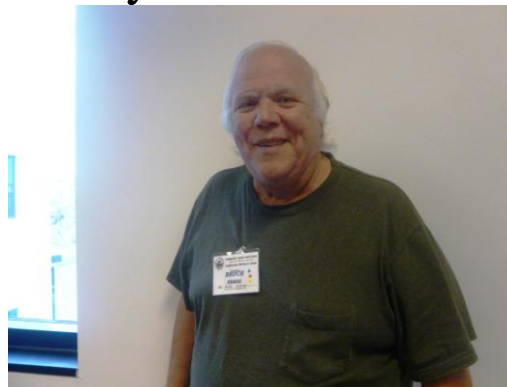
It was 5 o’clock in the afternoon, and we wanted to get home before dark. It had been a long day. We boarded the BART train station and claimed a sliver of standing space. I could relate to Cheryl Strayed, the girl who hiked the Pacific Crest Trail. When a gentleman offered his seat, I gladly accepted. Rena balanced back and forth with the help of the leather strap that hung from the ceiling, our Bud Light Limited Edition Super Bowl 50 souvenir bottles safely tucked in her bag.

Back in San Lorenzo, a hamburger at In-N-Out Burger tasted divine.

“I Caught A Hobbit” by anonymous apr. 2016

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By Bruce Hasse



Hearsay is not allowed in a court of law. The following is hearsay and anonymous cannot vouch for the veracity of the story. Plus anonymous does not want to be thought of as a nosy person, nor a voyeur, an eavesdropper, or a gossip, certainly not one who would make light of a person who is Autistic, or a dwarf, (now known as a little person). Anonymous is just relating what he overheard, not that he had planned to do that...

While he was having a solitary brunch one weekday in an unnamed town, his back was to the adjoining booth. Two women occupied that booth, it seems that one was a lawyer and the other related the following story. She was a single mom with a twenty-something autistic son at home. She was at work, where her son always called from home each day at 11:25 am, just to check in.

One day he called at around 10:30 and said, "I caught a hobbit" and hung up. This confused her, but she kept working. Around 20 minutes later he called again, "I caught a hobbit" and hung up. This whole thing was very unusual behavior for him.

In a state of anxiety, she left work and drove home. Her son was large, strong, and not quite high-functioning enough to leave the house on his own. Fortunately, he spent most of his time in his room watching fantasy films on Netflix. He was afraid of the stove and had never caused a fire. She worked only ten minutes from home, and was there shortly.

She called out her son's name, no answer. The front room looked normal except there was an iPad that she didn't recognize on the floor. She found her son in his room; he was under his quilt and agitated. His dresser was moved in front of his closet door and there were human sounds coming from behind the door. She moved the dresser and opened the door. A man, a little person, about 40 or so stormed out in a state of fury.

It turned out that he was a US Census Canvasser and had knocked on their door. The door opened and he was scooped up by her son and carried, kicking and yelling, through the house and locked in a closet. He was so mad; he wouldn't let her get a word in. Throwing down a business card he shouted, "You two haven't seen the last of me!" He stormed out and went to his car a couple of houses down.

Her bringing his iPad to him before he could drive away did nothing to calm his fury.

That incident was eleven days ago and the mom and her lawyer had an appointment at the District Attorney's office shortly. Anonymous wished that they were going to a Courtroom instead, as he would have loved to sit in on this case. If asked, he would say that would be just normal curiosity, after all, he was not a nosy sort of person..... (end)

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