



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

VOL 57, September 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.

FREMONT AREA WRITERS BOOK SIGNING AND SALE



Jan Small, Book Signing Chairperson

Fremont Area Writers' August book signing and sale was held from 1-4 PM on Saturday, August. 6, 2016 in the Fukaya Room of Fremont Main Library. Fourteen authors participated, reading from works in a variety of genres, including children's literature, nature, mysteries, history, super heroes, parody, folk tales and religion.

Jan Small's idea of encouraging authors to bring table cloths and make inviting displays for their work paid off. The room looked both professional and inviting.

Participating authors are Jan Small, book sale coordinator; Nancy Curteman, JoAnn Frisch, Lita Harrison, Penelope Cole, David Strom, Laila El-Sissi, Chris Dews, Judy Taylor, Michael O'Donnell, Valerie Estelle Frankel, JoAnn Ainsworth and Paul K Davis







Fremont Area Writers

The Centennial Branch
"Writers Helping Writers"



Beginnings: Shifting the Burden



You have the ideas. You have the story, but how do you come up with the opening statement that grabs the prospective buyer's interest and holds it all the way to the cash register?

Lori Ostlund has solved that problem for her own work. Her novel, *After the Parade*, was a Barnes & Noble Discover Pick. Her first book, *The Bigness of the World*, won the 2008 Flannery O'Connor Award for first fiction and a California Book Award.

She'll be sharing her insights on the creation of those crucial opening lines and first paragraphs. Drawing on her own experience, Ms. Ostlund will answer questions including: what do first lines and paragraphs need to accomplish? How much can they demand of the reader? How can you avoid causing unwelcome confusion?

Lori will show you examples, along with techniques to assure that none of your stories will ever begin on "a dark and stormy night."

You can learn more about Lori at loriostlund.com.

Lori Ostlund
"Beginnings: Shifting the Burden"
Saturday, Sept. 24th 2-4 p.m.
DeVry University
6600 Dumbarton Circle
Fremont, CA

Writers and Poets Open Mic!

When: 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Monday, September 26th

Where:

Suju's Coffee and Tea
3602 Thornton Ave.
Fremont

Fremont Area Writers is a branch of the
2,000-member California Writers Club.

Carol Lee Hall, President
510-565-0619
cwc-fremontareawriters.org

CWC Reminder: Literary Review submissions open Sept 1 through Nov 30, 2016

CWC Presidents, VP's, CB Reps, Editors & Publicity Chairs:

This is a reminder that the Literary Review 2017 edition will be accepting submissions beginning Thursday, September 1, 2016 through November 30, 2016.

Please remind your membership so that they will be aware of these important deadlines for submissions.

For guidelines, visit www.calwriters.org under the "Publications" banner.

<http://calwriters.org/literary-review/#submissions>

Close adherence to these guidelines is requested.

Advertising in the next Lit Review may also be obtained now. However, advertising deadline is on a later schedule to be announced in early 2017.

Thanks,

Bob Isbill
CWC Advertising & Promotions

All CWC Presidents, VP's, Editors, Publicity and Adv & Promo Chairs:

The August edition of the CWC Bulletin comprising news from most of the 21 CWC branches was sent out for distribution on August 18th.

Thanks for your cooperation in getting it to the membership!

I'm attaching a pdf file of that great issue, and want all members to know that the current "flip-page" issue may also be accessed online by visiting:

<http://calwriters.org/bulletin/current-issue/>

A motion was made and passed at the July CB meeting to make the Bulletin available to the general public at the same time it is issued to the CWC membership.

Please make your members aware of their ability to get the Bulletin online now!

Thanks again,

Bob Isbill
CWC Advertising & Promotions

Ray Malus of SFV Branch receives Ina Coolbrith Award

July 24, 2016



CWC President David George presented the Ina Coolbrith Award to San Fernando Branch member Ray Malus at the July 24 Central Board meeting in Oakland, CA, at the Holiday Inn Airport Express. The organization's highest honor, it recognizes exemplary service at the state level.

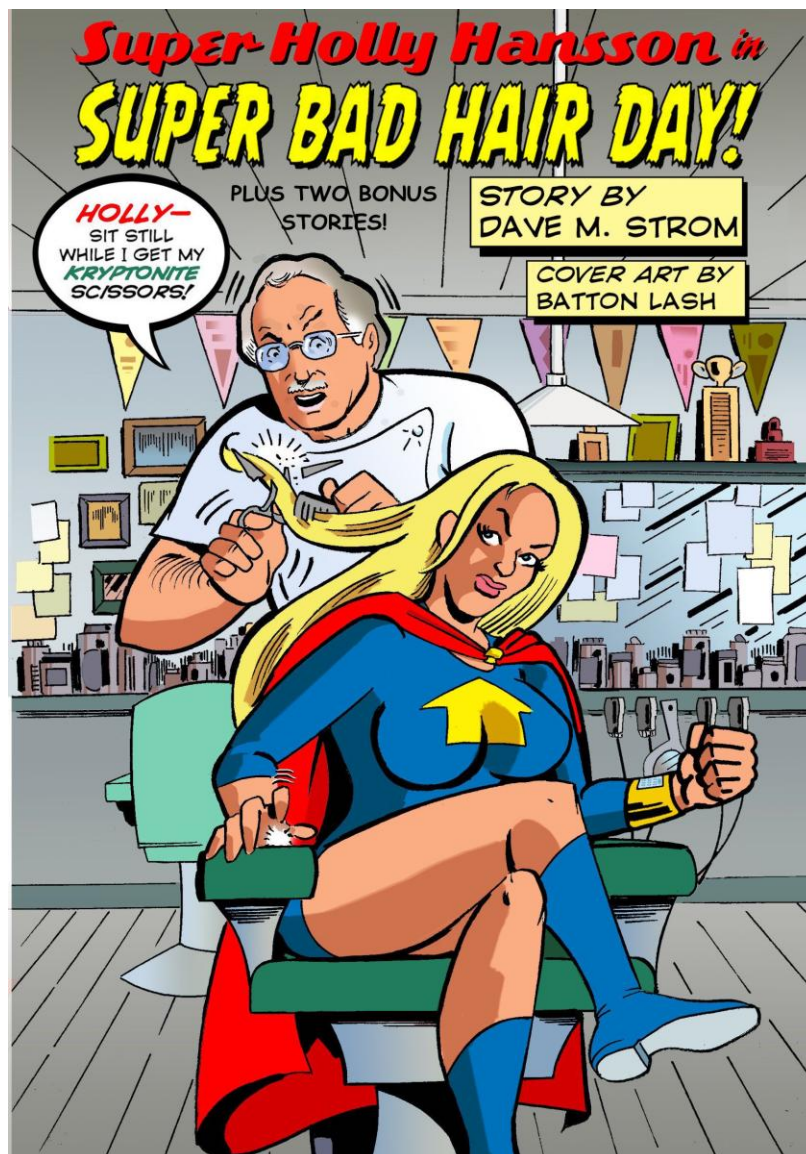
In 2011, Ray received the CWC's Jack London Award for service at the branch level. In his own branch, he designed the San Fernando Valley website, serves as its webmaster, was longtime editor of the branch newsletter "The Valley Scribe," and represented the SFV branch on the CWC Central Board. Last year he retired from the position of Member-at-Large on the CWC Executive Board.

Also on the state level, he created and developed the Member Record Management System (MRMS) for recording membership data and simplifying data entry. Since then he has provided user support, responding to suggestions and requests for filing needs, and adding enhancements. Bob Isbill of the High Desert Branch, who nominated Ray for the award, assisted David George during the ceremony. Bob was in turn assisted by his grandson, High Desert Branch member Kevin Morse.

NEWS FROM MEMBER DAVE M. STROM



Super Holly Hansson in Super Bad Hair Day, written by Fremont member Dave M. Strom, consists of not one, but TWO short stories: Super Bad Hair Day, and The Poet and The Supersplainer! Twice the literary laughs! Twice the superheroic slugging! Twice the alliterative adverbs! Twice the sugar, or is it corn syrup? (It also contains a preview of his upcoming novel, Holly's origin story: The Comic Book Code!)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Carol Hall

FAW President (August, September, October)

I am encouraged to see many returning FAW members and several new faces among our ranks. To me, it shows that our club is doing a good job at meeting writers' needs. As a freelance writer, I personally find the camaraderie of fellow writers refreshing and needful in a mostly solitary vocation. Helping writers improve their craft is a way of giving back to the community. Forming real relationships with people not only improves one's social life, but can also lead to "being in the right place at the right time." However, Fremont Area Writers and the California Writers Club are more than just entities in which to network. My hope is that you find the speakers informative and encouraging, and the friendship of other writers stimulating to your writing life.

Presidents: (A shared position this year)

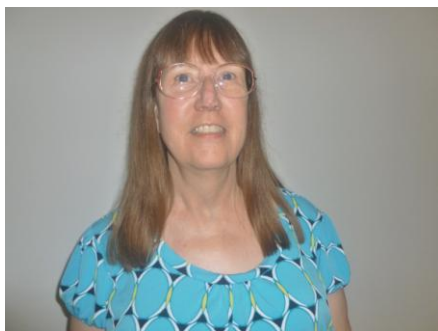
Carol Hall -August, September, October

Shirley Ferrante - November, December,
January, May, June

Robert Garfinkle – February, March, April



Vice President – **Erika Anderson-Bolden**



Secretary – **Joyce Cortez**



Treasurer – **Cherilyn Jose**

FREMONT AREA WRITERS OFFICERS



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



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



Andrew Halligan
Membership Chairperson



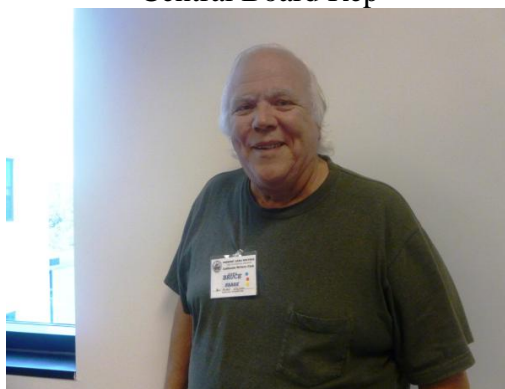
Art Carey –
Signage



Evelyn LaTorre
Central Board Rep



Nancy Curteman
Hospitality/Cookies, Welcome New Members,
Volunteer Coordinator



Bruce Haase
Sound Equipment
Book Exchange



Carol Hall
Facebook Coord/Admin, Meetup, Flyers



Liz Breshears
Community Outreach Coordinator



Pat Van den Heuvel
Telephone Outreach Coordinator



Jan Small, Book Signing Chairperson



Chris Dews

NorCal Representative

**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
CHAIRPERSONS**

Book Exchange	Bruce Hasse
Publicity	Knuti Van Hoven
Website Liaison	Knuti Van Hoven
Newsletter Liaison	Knuti Van Hoven
Signage	Art Carey
Membership	Andrew Halligan
Historian	Bob Garfinkle
Flyers	Carol Hall
Book Signings	Jan Small
Newsletter	Myrla Raymundo
Hospitality/Cookies	Nancy Curteman
Volunteer Coordinator	Nancy Curteman
Central Board Rep	Evelyn LaTorre
Open Mic	Tony Pino
Sound Equipment	Bruce Haase
Community Outreach	Liz Breshear
Facebook Coord/Admin	Carol Hall
Meetup	Carol Hall
Telephone Outreac	Pat Van den
Heuvel	
Currently Need Volunteer:	
Community Outreach ½ yr.	

**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 September 2016 issue of the Ink Spots. It contains the latest FAW news and tidbits, poems, prose, essays and articles written by our members. It also contains news from other clubs in the California Writers Club.

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

Childhood Joys

By Teresa Connelly



well-loved children with sparkling eyes
rosy cheeks, and happy smiles
glittering with unbounded joy
freely bestowing generous hugs and
warm kisses that leave cheeks glistening
with reminders of their passing

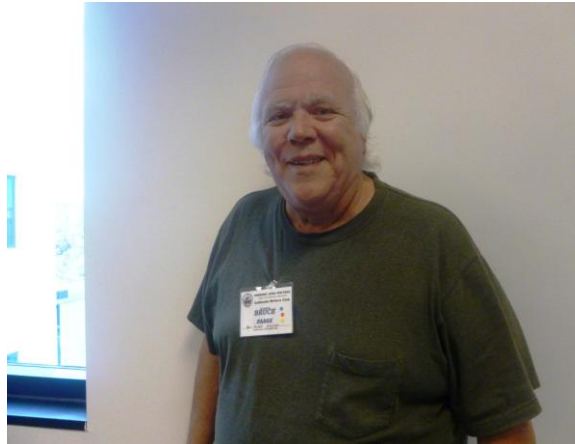
laughter peels from hallway rooms
giggles rising to the gloriously blue sky
caressing souls, nourishing hearts
better than steak and potatoes
or a well-read book
warm arms, tickling fingers
and conversations uninhibited by age

playground games fairly played
indoors under the watchful eyes
of guardian parents checking safety

guarding friendships from the
ills of sibling rivalry
growing up together in love

meals broken and shared
prayers offered with heartfelt sincerity
special times protecting doors
to teenage rebellion that tears
families apart, breaking hearts
and shattering good times remembered

for now, though, life is good
quiet times of reflection broken only
by stories told and songs sung
well-love children with sparkling eyes
rosy cheeks, and happy smiles
glittering with unbounded joy



“There was a Truthful Man”

an allegorical tale
by **Bruce Haase**

Once in a while, on quiet late evenings, he would be spoken about. Always in hushed tones, never in crowds, for the speaker didn't want to be perceived as a liar...

No one seemed to know his name, or where and when he had lived. He was only referred to as “The Honest Man” or “The Truthful Man”, and he would be spoken of in tones of reverence and awe.

It seems that he was a very decent man, honest and pure. He only did his best for everyone that he came into contact with. The truthful man never tried to take advantage of others. He never lied to others, he spoke only truth, he was good and trustworthy. He was a very rare type of man, kind, unselfish, and generous.

He even treated those that were different than him decently, he didn't notice that they were of a separate clan or group. All people were the same to him, equal you might say. He never looked down on the others, he even saw the animals as his brethren.

Yes, he was a good man, good and truthful and honest. A man that one could aspire to be like.

Maybe we know so little of him, is because, we choose not to be as pure as he was, for our greed and self-centeredness has overwhelmed our decency...

Or maybe we don't want to know much about him, for he causes our shame...

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



The Sword in the Ceiling

By Joyce Cortez

Imagine my surprise when I returned home after a hard day at work only to find my front door is wide open, all my lights are on, and there's a sword in my ceiling. Immediately I'm on my guard. I try to remember the self-defense tactics I learn in my 20's. I panic as nothing comes to mind but to run. I grab the nearest table lamp, thinking I can throw it at the intruder. I make my way through the house, happily finding no one there. When I reach the back yard, I find several holes dug there.

"What the heck is going on?" I put down the lamp and sit on the rear porch step. Two seconds later, a light streaks down from the sky and blasts another hole in the yard. I shriek, jump up, and grab that lamp, placing it in front of me as if that could protect me. I quickly back up toward the house. I back right into an alien space pirate, who has retrieved his sword from my ceiling.

"Quig long! Ick spin oct ulib," he says into a black device held in his spindly limb. It translated into English:

Hands up! Give me your treasure." His green lips snarl at me.

I offer him the lamp.

"Sig lit?" "What's this?"

"Let me plug it in." I click the lamp on and it illuminates the room.

"Ahhh." (needed no translation) "Kowta va." "Thank you." He smiled, pulled the plug from the wall, and stuffed it into a bag. He pressed a button on the device and poof he was gone. I heard the spaceship take off.

Now how to explain the holes in the ceiling and yard...no one will believe the truth.



The Sword In The Ceiling

By Marjorie Johnson

The door was wide open, the lights on.

I wandered if my out-of-town visitors had come a day early, until I saw the sword in the ceiling.

The sword's blade reflected the lights from the Christmas tree-green, red, blue—

Matching the emeralds, rubies, and sapphires embedded in its handle.

An art treasure-surely worth more than whatever might be missing.

I walked past the Christmas tree into the kitchen, then into the bedroom. No one there, nothing disturbed.

I opened the door to the back porch. Someone had broken a window to gain entry and had left blood samples on the glass. Good-DNA evidence when the police come.

The closet door slammed open to reveal a figure dressed in armor like one of Kingy Arthur's knights.

The apparition stepped forward. He held out a large shopping bag “: Trick or Treat!”

.....

The Sword in the Ceiling



By Jan Salinas

She told me I was hallucinating just last week. I laughed. I thought she was joking. Is it happening again? As I looked around, the ceiling seemed to be closing in on me. I had to get out of here for some fresh air.

I stepped out toward the backyard and saw holes in the ground. Am I seeing things? Holy cats, it's true. I am seeing things. I sat down and lit a cigarette. Then I remembered.

That's how she killed the blasted critter. It was a bat. But she told me it kept dodging her with each swing of the sword. When she thought it was dead for sure, she tried to bury it but it kept coming back to life. It finally succumbed in the last hole. That's where she must have collapsed with fright...both dead. And all this time, I thought she was out shopping.
