



# 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>**

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**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

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2014  
DE VRY UNIVERSITY**



**Guest Speaker Lori Ancini**



**Robert Garfinkle presenting the FAW  
gift to past president Carol Hall.**

**The attendees**



## Chapter Endings

By Nancy Curteman

Every chapter and scene in a novel should end in a way that makes the reader want to continue reading.

The last sentence in a scene or chapter is one way to hold reader attention.

Here is a list of sentences meant to keep a reader turning the pages. FAW members at the September Meeting generated this list. Choose one that works for your story.

- As the wind blew around her, she gazed into the distance, her heart bending me every way imaginable, and she let her instincts guide her.
- The concrete rose to meet my face, then everything went black.
- The boom crashed through the walls much like a clamor of thunder would shake the midnight sky and her legs gave way to her fear.
- She was waiting for Gil to call. She answered the phone. She nearly fainted as the voice from her past said, "Well hello beautiful."
- I thought I didn't want to dance with anyone but Walter until I met Julio.
- He slammed on the brakes but it was too late.
- That made her happy, very happy.
- Her eyes continued to Sean as she mingled with people and scattered luggage.
- "No," she begged. "please don't \_\_\_\_"
- To his horror, he suddenly realized why he was there.
- What is going to happen now?
- How could this happen?
- Where do we go from here?
- When will he uphold his promise?
- Who did this? Who is the guilty party?
- He thought he had made his point—but then he read the last sentence again.
- Without a moment's notice, the dark fuzzy mass with a twitching white nose torpedoed herself underneath our bed.
- Tom thought "I'm just too easy. Why didn't I just tell cousin Red to pick this surprise package himself?"

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**General Membership Meetings  
Schedule**

October 25, 2014 – Andy Weir –  
How I backed into a Publishing Deal

November 22, 2014 – Bonnie Keast –  
How to Write about Aging

**A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT  
GARFINKLE**



I want to thank all of my fellow writers who expressed their best wishes for my speedy recovery from my stroke. Much appreciated.

I also want to thank the branch for the lovely flowers. They brightened my dark days during the time I was unable to move my left hand.

Slowly, I am regaining the use of my writing hand. I am home now after spending 3 weeks in Kaiser hospitals in Fremont and Vallejo.

While in the hospitals, I discovered the greatest diet – hospital food. I lost 14 pounds in those 3 weeks. I also do not recommend being incapacitated on a bed on wheels during a 6.0 earthquake. Take care. ----Bob Garfinkle.

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**BOOK SIGNINGS**



**by Jan Small, Book Signing  
Chairperson**

Hi authors:

Fremont Area Writers Group will be holding a Book Signing at NewPark Mall Cultural Center (downstairs by Sears) on Thanksgiving Holiday Friday and Saturday (November 28 and 29, 2014) from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

The authors will be having Open Mic each day from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

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## Outreach

Community Involvement is a great way to improve the community and help out our fellow citizens. There are myriad of activities for this kind of volunteer work. The idea is to devote resources to seed ideas, to foster development initiative and support and play our part to ensure the long-term vitality of our community.

As part of our Community Involvement:

Fremont Area Writers Club visits Local Board and Care Homes, Assisted Living Facilities; Disabled groups and we read our writings to them.

We hold OPEN MICS.

We visit hospitals and read our writings to the patients.

We visit colleges and we tell them about our work as writers to entice them to be future writers.

We hold Children and Teens Writing Contest.

Please be a part of this very important community involvement.

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NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

**Tish Davidson's** short story "Legacy" has been published in the California Writers Club Literary Review. She has also finished two books for OTTN Press, Discover Southern New England and Discover the Atlantic Coast to be published in early 2015.

**Nancy Curteman's** novel, "Murder Casts a Spell" won first place in the 2013 Preditors and Editors Readers Poll in the category of Mystery.

Here's from **Maria Agnes Kirkhart**

### An Insomniac's Lament

I feel somnolent  
But cannot sleep

No dreams from  
Slumber deep

To say the words  
I've longed to say  
But deep inside I keep

If only  
If only

I could see you  
In my sleep

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# Fremont Area Writers

Writers Helping Writers



## How I Backed into a Publishing Deal



Andy Weir, author of the hit science-fiction novel “The Martian,” will speak at a meeting of Fremont Area Writers on Saturday, Oct. 25. Weir will discuss “How I Backed Into a Publishing Deal.”

Introduced as an e-book, “The Martian” went on to be printed in both soft- and hard-bound editions. A film version directed by Ridley Scott and starring Matt Damon is planned for release in 2015.

Weir self-published the novel, his first, at Amazon.com in 2012. The book is about an inventive astronaut who winds up stranded on Mars and facing death without anyone knowing he’s alive. The book was an immediate success and was purchased by Random House.

Weir is a Bay Area writer and software engineer. He describes himself as a life-long “space fan boy.” His book required extensive research in the fields of radiation, botany, and fuel systems.

You can find out more about him at [www.andyweirauthor.com](http://www.andyweirauthor.com).

**Saturday, Oct. 25, 2-4 p.m.**  
**DeVry University, Room 120**  
**6600 Dumbarton Circle**  
**Fremont, CA**

### Writers and Poets Open Mic!

**When: 7:00-9:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, October 27**

#### Where:

**Suju’s Coffee**  
**Meeting Room**  
**3602 Thornton Ave.**  
**Fremont**

Fremont Area Writers is a branch of the 1,700-member California Writers Club.

**Shirley Scott-Ferrante, President**  
510-791-8639  
[cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



### **Shirley Scott-Ferrante**

Yes FAW there really is a Shirley. It seems the planets lined up to send me on two trips planned very far in advance of my election.

I hope everyone is enjoying the new agenda introduced at the August meeting by your Vice-President Erika Anderson-Bolden. The new agenda called for the formation of permanent genre groups. These groups re a place for you to read your work and obtain supportive feedback.

Tips and Tricks is another new agenda segment. At the August meeting, Ericka Anderson-Bolden coached members on how to sign up for Meet up.

At the September meeting Nancy Curteman presented Chapter and Scene Sentence Endings to Entice Readers to Turn the Page.

FAW meetings provide a place to network with fellow writers, hone ones writing skills and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow writers.

All this and great guest speakers at every meeting.

I encourage you to join us and invite a guest.

## 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.

Next meeting: October 27, 2014  
Monday 7 pm – 9pm.

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**Nancy Curteman** – Central Board Representative, Hospitality & Telephone Outreach



**Art Carey**-Public Relations

## BOOK EXCHANGE



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



## 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.



## FROM THE EDITOR



**Myrla Raymundo** welcomes you to our October 2014 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](mailto:raymundomyrla@gmail.com).

### **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 Associate Editor Joyce Hornblower.

I also announced a column "Member Spotlight" last two or three meetings. I haven't received anything from the members. And so, I contributed mine.

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

Joyce and I are waiting.....

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**FREMONT AREA WRITERS  
OFFICERS**



President– **Shirley Scott-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** - Donation Drawing and  
Authors Table

**Nancy Curteman** – Central  
Board Representative, Hospitality &  
Telephone Outreach

**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

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### Myrla Raymundo



*"Health is the capacity to be able to do whatever you want to do."*

**Myrla Raymundo** is a committed and energetic leader for the Filipino community and beyond. After retiring as an Alameda County Commissioner, she shifted her efforts into volunteering for the county in a variety of capacities. First, she took on a leadership role in the Fremont's Community Ambassador Program for Seniors (CAPS) where she represented both the Filipino community and the St. Anne Catholic Parish. As a Senior Ambassador with CAPS, she recruits and helps train new volunteers to refer older adults in Union City to culturally-appropriate resources. She currently oversees 15 Community Ambassadors.

Ms. Raymundo's leadership covers a wide range of areas that represent her broad commitment to her community. She is the Founder and President of the Filipino American Association of Alameda County, President of Friends of the Union City Library, Founder of the Union City Historical Museum, and the Lay Director of her parish's senior organization. In addition to these roles, Ms. Raymundo also applies her well-developed writing talents in her volunteer work. She serves as the Board Secretary and Newsletter Editor of the Fremont Branch of the California Writers' Club. For the CAPS program, she also assists with finances and grants.

Through the information and referral services at CAPS, Ms. Raymundo strives to truly empower her fellow community members. She and the Community Ambassadors are trained to connect people with resources they need but – rather than completing every step of the process – they support and encourage each individual to take the necessary actions. They assist with a broad range of issues from applying for Social Security benefits and accessing transportation assistance to navigating the citizenship process. This exemplifies Ms. Raymundo's strong desire to help others, which also involves helping others make change for themselves. However, she does not limit herself to these formal processes, but rather seeks to help people however she can and whenever she can. "You have to be open to people. Even if I see people in the street, I smile at them and ask them if they need help."

## ***FAW WRITERS CORNER***

**I AM SORRY – by Laila El-Sissi**

I am sorry for everything  
For my suspicion and trust  
For lightning and rain  
For the sea billowing  
For the whispers of lovers  
For fulfillment and parting  
For my life with you  
And from you  
And for your death in me  
For the lunar eclipse  
For the withered orchid  
And the willow that can't shade  
For compassion and indifference  
I am sorry for everything  
Even for myself

In my heart  
I will bury my question  
Not my sorrow  
For what happened  
I say it clear  
I am not innocent  
Of shy gaze  
Or daring stare  
Of lies you believed  
And my silences

I am sorry for the dew  
On the unopened bud  
For the quiver  
And the virgin's longing  
For the choke in my throat  
For my helplessness  
For craving the abyss  
For the bright dawn

I am sorry  
For the fallen next  
For failure  
For the tide that pulled me in  
For the unwelcome embrace  
For the tear that doesn't mend  
The morning that never comes  
For every vow I feared to keep  
And the goodness we kept from each other

## *Pyramid Publications*

Dear Mr. Moses:

Thank you for your submission, "The Ten Commandments." Regrettably, it does not meet our needs at this time. Nonetheless, let me offer a few thoughts in case you attempt to market this elsewhere.

You indicated you "received" the material. Is copyright an issue? If so, be clear as to your publication rights.

While being concise is advisable, your submission is *too* brief. I suggest expanding it to three or even four stone tablets. Twenty commandments? Thirty? Perhaps you could target specific groups: high priests, royalty, tradesmen, and tomb construction workers.

The title may strike readers as too authoritarian. You might consider changing it to something like "Ten Ways to Guarantee a More Harmonious Afterlife."

Title aside, I am troubled by the negativity and harsh moralistic tone in the piece. Continual use of the phrase "thou shalt not" fails to convey the encouragement and optimism readers in the self-help audience seek.

Finally, technology in publishing (use of papyrus and water, gum Arabic and soot) is advancing. Thus, the admonition against creating graven images, if followed, might limit marketing opportunities.

Oh, in the future please send all submissions with a pre-paid, return stone tablet, or mark them "recycle." Thanks for your interest.

Akhenaton, chief scribe



Art Carey

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