



INK SPOTS



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

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Writer/Editor

E-mail raymundomyrla@gmail.com

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

Webmaster – Linda Lee

VOL 75 May 2018

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Robert Garfinkle

It is that time of the CWC year (July 1 to June 30) when each branch starts looking for officers for next year. The strength of our branch comes from the leadership.

We will hold nominations at the May general meeting and announce the candidates. The positions that need to be filled are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. We need everyone in the branch to consider running for a branch office or taking on a committee position either this year or next. Elections are held at the June general meeting with the new officers starting their term in July. I will be out of the country all of May, so you can send to me an email at: ragarf@earthlink.net, to let me know of your desire to keep your branch running smoothly. No experience needed, but only your enthusiasm to keep FAW running to help all of our local writers. By the way, I will not be running for another term as your president.

Knuti has given me a list of our future speakers and it is an impressive list.

EXCERPT FROM THE FAW BYLAWS:

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the Fremont Area Writers shall be elected by the members of FAW as specified in ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS of these bylaws.

1.1 There shall be four elected officers: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

1.2 The duties of the officers shall be as described in this article.

Section 2: 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

MEMBERS' NEWS.....

Knuti Van Hoven, FAW vice-president, and **Paul Davis** had pictures

on display in the 24th Annual Juried Photography Exhibit at the Fremont Main Library.



From: Penelope Cole

1) I'm privileged to be invited to the Lunch with the Authors Panel, a Brandeis Alumni event April 26, 10:30-3:00.

2) Three of my pieces have been accepted for inclusion in the 2018 Tri-Valley Writers Anthology!

3) I will also be at Barnes and Noble with the SF Peninsula Writers on June 3rd for a book sale.

That's it for now. Like many of us I'm waiting to hear from the judging for the San Mateo Fair Literary Stage.



Fremont Area Writers

The Centennial Branch
"Writers Helping Writers"



Happenstance as Muse

Note: New/Old Location—See below



How is it possible to convert whatever beauty, laughter or tragedy life sends you into inspiration? Martha Clark Scala will share her methods at our next meeting on Saturday, May 26th at 2:00 p.m.

When the other members of her original family died within just one decade, Martha Clark Scala turned to the arts as her refuge. "Creative projects" she says "saved me from despair. Today, I give voice to my grief—

and also my joys—by crafting collages and sharing poignant vignettes of family life in prose, poetry, photographs, and videos. These activities are the salve that helped bring joy back into my life."

She describes her blog, *Out on a Limb* (www.marthaclarkscala.com) as an exploration of ways to maximize joy in life. "It's not," she adds, "that I have joy all figured out. This blog is as much a meditation for myself in the pursuit of joy, as for you."

Writers and Poets Open Mic!

When: 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Monday, May 28th

Where:
Suju's Coffee and Tea
3602 Thornton Ave.
Fremont

Martha Clark Scala
Saturday, May 26th, 2-4 p.m.
42 Silicon Valley, Rm. 115
(formerly DeVry University)
6600 Dumbarton Circle
Fremont, CA 94555

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

Robert Garfinkle, President
510-489-4779
cwc-fremontareawriters.org

FEATURE OF THE MONTH



Carol Lee Hall :

Carol is the owner and CEO of CLH Productions. Her passion is to write and produce films that portray positive and important images of women, Asians, and faith-based persons. She is seeking markets for eight of her scripts. Four have won or placed in fourteen screenplay contests, most notably, the Write Room Grand Prize for *Donaldina: Based on True Events in the Life of Donaldina Cameron* (now renamed *The Angry Angels of Chinatown*) and Third Place in the Cinequest Film Festival Screenplay Contest for the same script.

Carol is also the author of *For Those Who Serve: A Devotional for Church Volunteers*, a non-fiction book traditionally published by Baker Publishing Group. She has written articles for print and electronic media, short stories and novels, grant letters and proposals, marketing brochures and newsletters. In addition, she owns an internet business and has spoken at various conferences and writers groups.

At Fremont Area Writers, Carol has served on the Board as President, Vice-President and Treasurer. She is presently in charge of FAW's Facebook and Meetup pages and creates the monthly meeting flyer available to libraries, other institutions, the Inkspots Newsletter and our club webpage. She is also the recipient of the California Writers Club Jack London Award.

April is National Poetry Month and Fremont Area Writers celebrated by hosting poet and puzzle master **Emmanuel Williams** at its April meeting. Williams is a self described “poet novelist, punster, pianist, lamp-maker and riddler..(and) indefatigable defender of the right brain.”



Emmanuel Williams



FREMONT AREA WRITERS



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



Secretary – **Joyce Cortez**



Treasurer – **Cheryl Jose**



Knuti VanHoven
Vice President



Tony Pino, Open Mic.



Art Carey –Signage



Carol Hall
Facebook Page, Meetup,



Evelyn LaTorre
Central Board Representative



Bruce Haase
Authors Table Sound Equipment, Book
Exchange



Jan Small, Book Signing



Liz Breshears
Community Outreach



Chris Dews
Membership Chair

**JACK LONDON AWARDEES
FREMONT AREA WRITERS**

2009 Robert Garfinkle
2011 Myrla Raymundo
2013 Carol Hall
2015 Art Carey
2017 Shirley Ferrante

**FREMONT AREA WRITERS
CHAIRPERSONS**

Meet Up, Facebook Page - Carol Hall
Open Mic - Tony Pino, Bruce Haase
Historian - Bob Garfinkle
Membership – Chris Dews
Newsletter - Myrla Raymundo
Publicity, Website & Newsletter Liaison
Knuti VanHoven
Book Signings - Jan Small
Central Board Rep - Evelyn LaTorre
Community Outreach - Liz Breshears
Authors Table, Book Exchange, Sound
System - Bruce Haase
Signage - Art Carey
CWC Advertising and Promotions Chair
– Cherilyn Jose
Nor Cal Rep – Evelyn LaTorre
Hospitality, Welcome New Members –
Jan Small

CALENDAR

BOARD MEETING – Fourth Saturday
of the month 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm – 42
Silicon Valley, 6600 Dumbarton Circle,
Fremont.

OPEN MIC – Fourth Monday of the
month
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Suju's Coffee
Meeting Room, 3602 Thornton Ave,
Fremont

FREMONT AREA WRITERS
REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING
– Fourth Saturday of the month, 2:00 pm
-4:00 pm, – 42 Silicon Valley, 6600
Dumbarton Circle, Fremont.



Myrla Raymundo, MBA-
Writer/Editor

Ink Spots Newsletter

This Editor welcomes you to our
May 2018 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. It is also emailed to the
different clubs of the California Writers
Club.

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

FREMONT AREA WRITERS CORNER

One Special Day



By Teresa Connelly

Sherry watched woefully as her classmate Sabrina handed out bright yellow envelopes to the girls in the class. One by one eyes lit up and smiles creased faces as the envelopes were torn open. Squeals of delight filled the air.

Sherry crossed her fingers behind her back, hoping desperately that this time she would be included. As the pile slowly got smaller, she knew, due to years of experience, that once again she would be left out. It didn't mean she couldn't dream, however, that things had changed.

It brought tears to her eyes, watching all those happy faces, yearning to be among them as an equal. But she wasn't equal Far from it. Her old-fashioned clothes made her stand out amid all the rest. Who wore seersucker skirts and gingham dresses?

No one. That's who.

And her shoes. They didn't help either. Her doctor insisted on saddle oxfords to support her weak arches. Sherry hated them.

She wanted Nikes or Keds: black and gray or blue and white, with the distinguishing logo on the side so that she could be like the other kids.

Even her hair distinguished her from the pack. Her classmates all had brown or black or blonde hair. But not her. Bright red curls surrounded her head, forming a wild halo of color. No one else had red hair except for Billy, a rather odd-looking boy who often trailed after her, calling her names, pushing her from behind and pulling her hair while he cackled like a witch.

He was excluded from the boy groups just as she was from the girls.

Sherry had tried to convince her mom to cut her hair, to keep it close to her head so that she didn't look like a crazy person, but her mom would have none of it. Her mom's hair was just as red, just as curly, but she saw it as a source of pride, not embarrassment.

Sherry practically drooled as Sabrina neared her on the playground. Only one card left. Only one invitation to hand out. Only one girl not holding one.

As Sabrina walked up to Sherry, the girl's face broke into a huge smile. Sherry trembled with excitement. This was it! She was no longer an outcast!

Sabrina's hand slowly extended toward Sherry. Closer and closer the envelope came.
Was this going to be the time when she got invited?

Granted, when she was little she attended quite a few parties, but that was because of the rule that everyone got invited or no one did.

Those were the good days. Days when she didn't feel different.

But in elementary school things changed. There were no rules, so kids could pick and choose who to invite. As soon as the teasing began in first grade, no invitations ever came her way.

She was in fourth grade now and should have known better. But she got good grades, never got in trouble, never teased other students, never gossiped. Surely the other kids noticed.

And so she smiled back at Sabrina. As the card got close enough to touch, Sherry extended her hand, ready to receive it with the increasing joy she felt welling inside.

Just as Sherry's fingers neared the edge of the envelope, Sabrina moved past her. "Mrs. Allen?" Sabrina said. "Would you like to come to my party?"

Sherry turned around and looked at the smile on her teacher's face.

Once again, she stood out. She was the odd girl. The one no one wanted at their party.

A Scottish Maid and Her Computers



by Paul K Davis

Williamina was born in 1857, in Dundee, Scotland, to Mary and Robert Stevens. Her father was a carver and gilder. Williamina became a school teacher for a short period. In 1877 she married James Fleming, a widower accountant.

The newlywed couple immigrated to Boston, Massachusetts, where she was abandoned by her husband while she was pregnant. To support herself she took a job as a maid in the home of Edward and Lizzy Pickering, and when her child was born, named him Edward Pickering Fleming.

It so happened that Edward Pickering had more staff needs than just a maid. He was Director of Harvard Observatory, and his staff were falling behind in their work. The work load had recently increased. A wealthy doctor named Henry Draper, with an interest in astronomy, had figured out how to attach a camera to a telescope. He and his wife, Mary Ann, were engaged in an effort to photograph the entire sky, and make a catalog of stars, when he died. She wished to continue his work, but realized she could not do it alone. Besides her husband's earnings as a doctor, she had a sizeable inheritance from her real-estate-magnate father. She donated a portion of this to Harvard Observatory to continue his work.

Pickering had used the funds to hire staff, all-male as was the way of the day, called "computers", who were assigned the work of measuring the position of each star on the photographs and their brightness as indicated by the size of the image, convert these to standard coordinates and magnitudes, and record them for the star catalog. Frustrated by their slow progress, he is reputed to have loudly

complained to them, "My Scottish maid could do better!" He then hired Williamina onto the observatory staff.

Pickering had, in fact, already learned that women can be just as scientific and mathematical as men. Before taking the position at Harvard Observatory, he had been a physics professor at MIT. There he had given a young woman named Sarah Whiting permission to attend his lectures, and even observe experiments. She had gone on to become the first physics professor at newly founded Wellesley College. Pickering now also added to his staff one of Sarah's students, named Annie Cannon.

By our standards Pickering was enlightened in hiring women for technical and scientific work, but he was also opportunistic, paying them only half of what male staff were paid. He eventually had twenty women computers on his staff, with Williamina serving as "lead lady" in charge of them. She earned the title Curator of Astronomical Photographs.

Among Williamina's accomplishments, besides computation and staff management, were the establishment of an effective system for cataloging, storage, and retrieval of the photographs, and discovery of the Horsehead Nebula.

Among Pickering's own accomplishments were the placement of a prism into the telescope-camera combination, so that each star's image was not a dot, but a spectrum, showing the star's color and, through the absorption of certain colors, its chemical composition. The women went to work cataloging the spectra, in addition to the other information. To make this practical, Annie Cannon invented a set of spectral categories, which was shortly adopted by the astronomical society, and is still the standard system. For example, our sun is a "G-star". It was later recognized that her letters corresponded to temperature ranges, and the system gives each star's temperature.

Another member of the observatory's computer staff, Henrietta Leavitt, noticed that some of the southern stars she was cataloging, in the Large Magellanic Cloud, oscillated in brightness, and that there was a correspondence between the period of their oscillation and their average brightness. This enabled determination of the distance of other galaxies, by comparing a star's apparent brightness with the absolute brightness from her chart. Edwin Hubble used these results to deduce the expansion of the universe. He said Leavitt deserved the Nobel Prize, but, by the time she was nominated, she had died, and the prize is given only to living persons.

In 1910 Williamina was asked by Pickering to determine the spectral classes of various faint stars that his friend, astronomer Henry Russell, had been studying. All but one of them were class M, which had been expected, but Williamina reported one of them to be class A. This shocked Russell, but Pickering, confident of Williamina's work, said "exceptions lead to an advance in knowledge". This new category of stars is now called white dwarfs.

In 1906 Williamina became the first woman elected an honorary member of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. Unfortunately she died in 1911, at the age of only 54.

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics has recently begun the process of putting on-line the 2,500 and more volumes of work from Pickering and Williamina's crew of women computers, including dozens of volumes of her own work. The log book containing the Horsehead Nebula discovery is on display in the library.

So far as I know, Williamina Fleming is the only Scottish maid to have a lunar crater named after her.

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