



# Ink Spots



## The Newsletter of the Fremont Area Writers

*"Centennial" Branch of the California Writers Club*

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

Webmaster – Chris Dews

**Vol. 81 December 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.

## 2019 is FAW's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Looking Forward to a Year of Exciting Opportunities  
to Write, to Publish, to Read, and to Grow**

## January 2019's Speaker

### The Art of Memoir

**Saturday January 26  
2:00 to 4:00 pm**

A memoir coach for two decades, and president and founder of the National Association of Memoir Writers, Dr. Linda Joy Myers helps people dive deep into writing their truths while crafting a publishable story.



**Linda Joy Myers**



**Terry Tosh**

# ***President's Message***

Things are happening! We have a ton of momentum and some very exciting activities to look forward to in this coming year. 2019 is FAW's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we will be celebrating in lots of ways throughout the year. You'll be reading about them in this issue and hearing more in the months to come.

Please remember we are "Writers Helping Writers;" think about ways you might assist each other and the organization.

For example, we urgently need someone **now** to volunteer to help with the secretarial duties at board meetings starting in January through June, when we elect new Board members. If you have good listening and typing skills, and a few of hours of time each month to share for a very worthy cause, PLEASE give this a try. Contact any of our board members and we'll be forever grateful.

We appreciate and celebrate Joyce Cortez for her service to FAW as our duly elected Secretary. She has served Fremont Area Writers for five and a half years in this position. While she will be leaving her post, she will be continuing as a member of the organization. We thank you, Joyce, from the bottom of our hearts; we truly value the time and commitment you have made in service to all of us and to FAW.

Thanks to Bob and Kathy Garfinkle for providing a wonderful holiday get-together again this year. You folks are wonderful, and well loved. Lots of good food, laughter, fun, and holiday joy! Check out the photos in this issue.

Enjoy your Holiday break from the monthly meeting. See you on Saturday, January 26th for our first meeting of the New Year. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

***Terry***

## ***FREMONT AREA WRITERS MONTHLY CALENDAR***

### **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

***Fourth Saturday***  
**2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**42 Silicon Valley**  
**6600 Dumbarton Circle,**  
**Fremont**

### **BOARD MEETING**

***Fourth Saturday***  
**12:30 pm - 1:45 pm**  
**42 Silicon Valley**  
**6600 Dumbarton Circle,**  
**Fremont**

### **OPEN MIC**

***Fourth Monday***  
**7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Suju's Coffee & Tea Mtg Rm**  
**3602 Thornton Ave,**  
**Fremont**

# ***FAW Board Members***



**TERRY TOSH**  
President



**KNUTI VANHOVEN**  
Vice President

**WE  
NEED  
A  
VOLUNTEER**

**Position Open**  
Secretary



**CHERILYN JOSE**  
Treasurer



**BOB GARFINKLE**  
Past President –  
Fremont Area Writers  
Past President –  
CA Writers Club

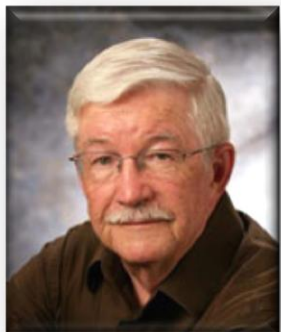
## **JACK LONDON AWARDEES**

### **FREMONT AREA WRITERS**

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



# ***FAW Chairpersons***



**ART CAREY**  
Signage  
Facility Liaison



**TISH DAVIDSON**  
CA Writers Club  
Representative



**CHRIS DEWS**  
Membership  
Webmaster



**BOB GARFINKLE**  
Historian  
Past President



**NANCY GUARNERA**  
Hospitality  
Co-Editor



**CAROL HALL**  
Facebook Page



**CHERILYN JOSE**  
CWC Advertising  
& Promotions



**EVELYN LATORRE**  
Nor-Cal  
Representative



**TONY PINO**  
Open Mic



**JAN SMALL**  
Book Signings



**ANITA TOSH**  
Authors' Table  
Book Exchange



**KNUTI VANHOVEN**  
Speakers Program  
Publicity

# ***2018 Holiday Party***

On the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December the Garfinkle's gave to us a wonderful holiday pot luck and many delicious yummy yum yum desserts!

We chose gifts, and stole gifts, and sang holiday songs, and talked, and laughed, and ate lots of wonderful holiday treats! A great way to start off the holiday season!

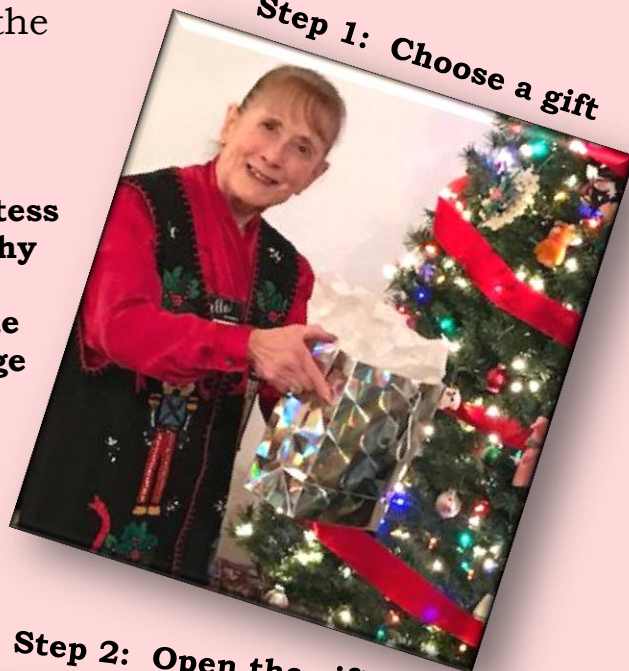
So, thank you Kathy and Bob for opening  
your home to the members of FAW  
at this most wonderful  
time of the  
year!

**Step 3: Model the gift**



**Host and Hostess  
Bob and Kathy  
Garfinkle  
demonstrate  
gift exchange  
protocol  
and  
party  
etiquette!**

**Step 1: Choose a gift**



**Step 2: Open the gift**





# 2018 Holiday Party

**Step 4: Have fun  
with your gift!  
Contemplate it!  
Show it off!**

Brenda Sands



Knuti VanHoven



Bob & Kathy  
Garfinkle



**Step 5: Pose with  
the tree and cozy up  
with a friend!**



Jan Small (L) &  
Myrla Raymundo (R)





# 2018 Holiday Party

Brenda, Bob, Connel Acolatse, Dave, Dena



**Step 6: Eat,  
drink and be  
merry, and have  
a wonderful time  
with friends and  
family during  
the holidays!**

Anita Tosh, Dena  
Acolatse, Terry Tosh



Gab & Shirley Ferrante  
Cherilyn Jose



Loren & Claire Wright



Dave Strom

Evelyn LaTorre & Kathy



Val Dews, Kathy, Chris Dews, Nancy Curteman & Shirley



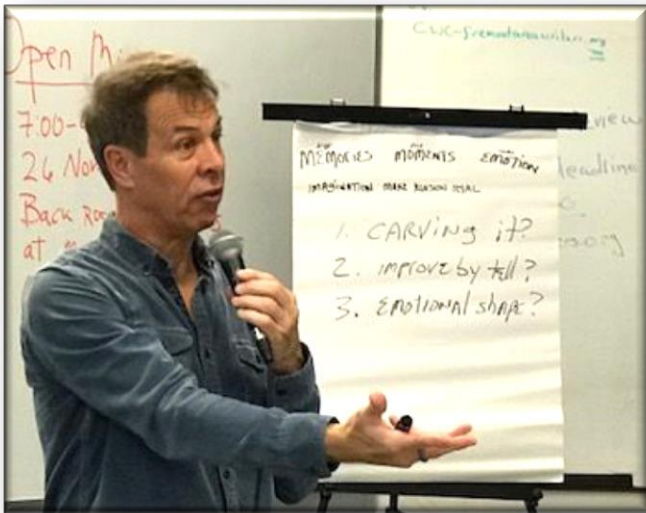


# November Meeting Recap

## Jeff Hanson

On Saturday, November 24, at the FAW monthly meeting, **Jeff Hanson**, one of the Bay Area's top story tellers, shared his personal techniques for creating exciting, relatable readings. *"We'll talk about how to adapt a written story into a tell-able story,"* Jeff promised.

A four-time winner at The Moth Story Slam, one of the area's premier storytelling venues, Jeff now has nine major slam wins to his name.



*Jeff started by asking for questions and wove the answers into his talk. The audience responded and Jeff shared a dynamic and informative program designed to transform "story telling" into a relatable reading.*

The stories Jeff tells are drawn from his personal experience. He chooses an event from his life and creates a storyboard, breaking the memory into moments that connect to emotions he wants his audience to experience with him as he tells them the story.



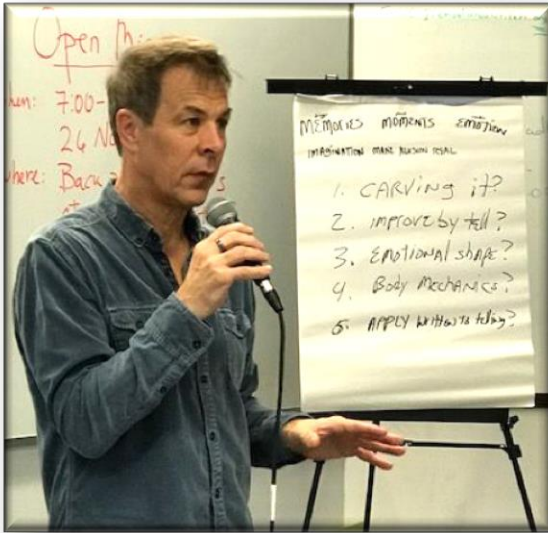
He uses a unique mnemonic device to remember his story which helps him "get off the page" as soon as possible. This device he calls "hanging the story on the body."



*(continued next page)*



# November Meeting Recap



*"Our speaker today, Jeff... was the best meeting I've been to so far." S.C.*



## The Heart

He associates each individual moment or part of the story to a part of his body. Some examples of this are the stomach—the mid-point in the story, the moment of queasiness; the chest (heart) is the twist in the story, when he tugs on the audience's, and his own, heart—the moment of passion—a journey of fortitude; and the head—epiphany, revelation, an 'Ah-ha!' moment. Of course, the neck, and hands, and elbows, and shoulders, and feet, all play a part as well. Even the lap and the butt have their roles.

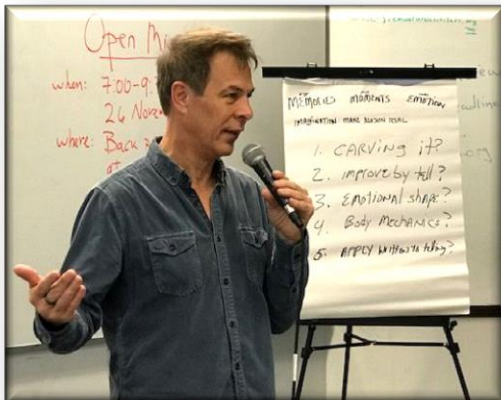
*"I have been trying forever to get on the Moth radio hour, putting several 2-minute pitches on their pitchline. Jeff's talk hit right on the spot about what works for him."*

*B.S.*



## The Lap

After sharing his process, Jeff demonstrated how the process works by explaining it as he told one of his stories. A fascinating technique and a wonderful slice of life told with great skill.



# *Notes from the World*

## ALL THINGS NORCAL

*by Evelyn LaTorre, FAW NorCal Representative*



**EVELYN LATORRE**  
*FAW NorCal Rep*

### ***What is the NorCal Group?***

The NorCal Group is an association of Northern California's branches of the California Writers Club (CWC). Due to proximity and common interests, the fourteen branches have joined in the pursuit of ideas, opportunities, and events that speak directly to the craft of writing and the means of getting published. The intent is to share branch awareness—successes and misses—as well as to scour broader landscapes, singling out and creating opportunities of value that will provide a benefit to branch members.

NorCal representatives meet three times per year on the first Saturday of February, May, and October. All members of the California Writers Club are welcome.

***An additional NorCal meeting was called on December 8 by Chairperson, Carole Bumpus, in order to assess the September 29th Building Better Branches (BBB) Conference, to which Fremont sent five representatives. Several topics were discussed.***

### ***Building Better Branches Conference***

Many branches have instituted the "welcome bag" idea presented by FAW's Nancy Guarnera at the conference. Enthusiasm continues for other innovations like a writing fair (such as the one SF Peninsula conducts at the San Mateo County Fair), new member orientations, attracting young members, developing job descriptions, and chapters writing 3 to 5 year plans.

Evaluations from the 65 attending were 95% positive with many desiring a conference annually. Due to the amount of volunteer time needed for such a conference, however, the group could only commit to a conference every two years. The same format for the morning and afternoon sessions was deemed effective in generating a myriad of suggestions for our branches.

Carole will ask the branch officers who attended to list which ideas their branches are implementing and whether they require more information to carry out future plans.

### ***San Francisco Writer's Conference***

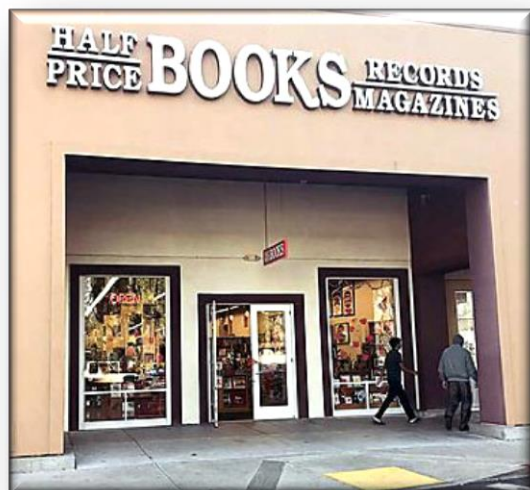
NorCal Representatives voted to continue our participation with this major event to be held from February 14 to 17, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency, Embarcadero in San Francisco. ***CWC members who volunteer for a three-hour shift can attend one or two sessions free.*** If interested, contact Evelyn LaTorre for more information. Member books can be displayed at our table, but sold at the conference bookstore by contacting Neal at West Portal Books.

*(continued on page 14)*



# Calling All FAW Published Authors

## FAW is Partnering with Half Price Books in Fremont

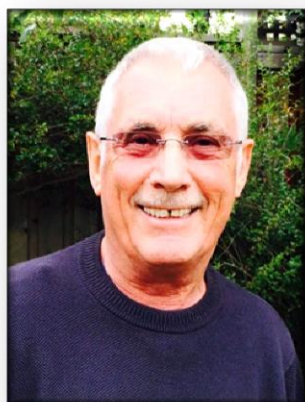


HPB at the Fremont Hub

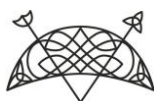
Great news! **Fremont Area Writers** is now partnering with **Half Price Books in Fremont** to present ***"Meet Your Local FAW Authors"*** monthly readings by FAW published authors on the second Saturday of each month. Readings will be scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00 pm unless arranged otherwise at time of scheduling. A different author will be featured each month.

This opportunity is available to FAW members who are published authors with books to sell. Keep an eye on your email for more information or contact Nancy Guarnera at [faw-hpb@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:faw-hpb@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org).

### **"Meet Your Local FAW Author" for January 2019**

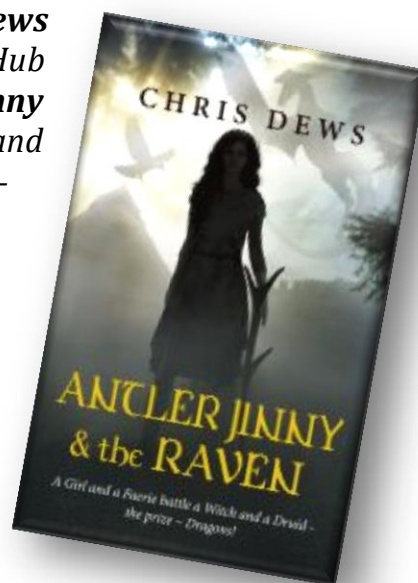


**CHRIS DEWS**



Join FAW published author **Chris Dews** at Half Price Books in the Fremont Hub as he shares his new book ***Antler Jinny and the Raven***. Set in 65CE, a girl and a faerie battle a witch and a druid—the prize—dragons!

**Saturday  
January 12th  
2:00 to 4:00 pm  
Half Price Books  
Fremont Hub**



## ***And Now, A Word from Our Editor***

Welcome to our December 2018 issue of Ink Spots. It contains the latest FAW news, tidbits, poems, prose, essays, and articles written by our members. It also contains information from other branches of the California Writers Club.

Ink Spots is emailed monthly to members on or around the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month (*excluding July*). It is available in print to FAW members at the general meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month.

We email a copy of Ink Spots to all the different branches of the California Writers Club, as well.

We welcome your submissions; please send them to the Editor at the following email addresses: [myrlaraymundoback@gmail.com](mailto:myrlaraymundoback@gmail.com) or [raymundomyrla@gmail.com](mailto:raymundomyrla@gmail.com)

**FORMAT:** Text in word.doc or PDF & Photos in JPEG



**MYRLA RAYMUNDO, MBA**  
*Editor/Writer Ink Spots*

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** On or before the First Day of the publication month (May 1st for the May issue). **WORD COUNT:** Feature articles: 300 words max. New Member bios: 150 max.

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## **Thank You for 5 ½ Years of Service**



**JOYCE CORTEZ**  
*Out-Going Board Secretary*

That's right . . . **Joyce Cortez** has served as the Secretary for the Fremont Area Writers Board of Directors for five and half years. She has decided to relinquish her position on the Board once her responsibilities for the November Board meeting are concluded. She will be available to orient the new Secretary once that person makes themselves known (a.k.a. volunteers).

Joyce will continue as a member of FAW and is looking forward to getting back to her writing and spending more time with her family. Please join the Board in thanking Joyce for her service the next time you have the opportunity.



# ***FAW Featured Member***



**Anita Tosh:**

## ***Young Adult Christian Fiction***

Anita Tosh is a California native, born-again Holy Roller, grandmother of five exceedingly brilliant people, mother of two awesome ladies, and wife of the admirable Terry Tosh.

She was not much of a reader or writer while growing up and never thought she would write a book. (She's not even a good speller.) It all started when her husband began to read to her. Anita found out how enjoyable reading can be. They read books by D.E Stevenson; mostly the author's personal journals. This inspired Anita to keep a journal of her own.

After years of journal writing, she was blessed with grandchildren who wanted someone to tell them a story. She found she had a knack for this and often made up a new story for them whenever they were together.

As they grew to middle school and high school, Anita was appalled at some of the disgusting reading they were given by their school. "I can do better than this," she thought. And she did.

It took her ten years of starts and stops, but she finally self-published a ninety-

seven-page Young Adult book called *"The Armory."*

Anita went the traditional route with her second book, *"The Zella Chronicles."* It took a year to write, and then another year of rewrites with an agent and publisher.

Next she revised her first book, called it *"God's Armory,"* found an editor on Reedsy.com and a nearby printer (Sir Speedy). They helped with the cover and printed the book. Now she is working on formatting it to put an eBook on Smashwords.

Anita has two other projects in progress; *"Jeremy and the Man Behind the Curtain,"* or Jeremy and something, she is still working on the title. The other is called *"The Night,"* a companion book to *"God's Armory."*

Anita also loves to garden, bake, and sew. She is also learning Hebrew and wants to build a cob and straw bale house.

*For more see: [booksbyanita.com](http://booksbyanita.com) or [booksbyanita.com/blog](http://booksbyanita.com/blog)*

# KUDOS – Members' News

**Tish Davidson's** 14th book, *The Vaccine Debate*, was published in November by ABC-CLIO. The book examines the science of vaccines and examines why vaccines are so controversial by contrasting the anti-vaccinationist point of view and the medical establishment point of view for six specific vaccine controversies. (See an excerpt from *The Vaccine Debate* on page 16.)

**Bob Garfinkle**, FAW co-founder, past president, and former CWC President, has recently submitted his major lunar observers' handbook, *Luna Cognita*, to his publisher. Bob started this book around 1990. The manuscript is 1,881 typeset pages and approximately 1,120,000 words. *Apollo 17* moonwalker Harrison H. Schmitt has written the Introduction. The book can now be pre-publication ordered on Amazon.

In May 2018, Bob was informed that the Minor Planet 2000 EY70 has been officially renamed 31862 Garfinkle in Bob's honor. He has also received a certificate from the Royal Astronomical Society of London for his 20 years of service as a Fellow of the society.

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## **Notes from the World** (continued)

### **ALL THINGS NORCAL** by Evelyn LaTorre

#### **Assistance for NorCal members affected by the fires**

Carole has been in communication with officers from our branches whose homes were damaged in the recent Northern California fires. Their monthly meetings, though affected, are continuing. The deadline for their CWC Literary Review submissions was extended. Where to donate money and/or books will be listed later after consultation with those affected. The following description was received from Cathy Chase of the North State Branch

*"It's so incredible, it looks like a Blitzkrieg. Everything is gone, just ashes and goes on for miles and as far as the eye can see where there were lush forests and houses scattered about there is nothing. Then, there are the 85 deaths. It is almost more than a person can handle. I try not to think of the horror they went through and then again it is hard not to as you are reminded every day. Chico has so many evacuees, approximately 30,000 more people have come into town. The good thing is that everyone is trying to help even in a small way."* (Chaseca310@gmail.com)

Carole suggests — Keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and if this stirs you to encourage your branch to reach out to them, please do! Beta readers? There is a need up north! Personal libraries replenished with books on writing or just plain books, send them. Or, go directly to Cathy (see email above), and offer help.



# **FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER**

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## **Tech-No-Family**

*by Anita Tosh*

Charlie woke up early. His pet Schnauzer, Jeeves was licking his face. The dog needed a walk. Charlie threw on some clothes and let Jeeves out into the backyard. He grabbed the leash hanging by the door as he followed him out.

"Jeeves," he called. The pup's silky, black hair glinted in the winter sun as he ran to his master. Charlie clipped on the lead and they began their morning ramble.

The sky was clear; now was the perfect time to get outside. The birds were singing and squirrels were racing around the trees.

Charlie took a deep breath, tasting the sweet early morning air. "This is the life," he thought and thanked the Lord as he walked. There was so much to be thankful for: his mom and dad were the best, and he loved his little brother. Larry was several years younger, but they still had fun playing games together. Later today he'd teach Larry more about chess.

As the two arrived home after their walk, Charlie went past the family's new 2001 minivan and the Christmas decorations in the yard. He was excited; it was almost Christmas and he was sure his dad would get him that new Xbox everyone was talking about. They were one of the lucky families who had a home computer, but he didn't get to use it much; just the word processor for a school report. His mother seemed to be on it all the time.

Charlie was right, he did get an Xbox, and it became his new best friend. He stayed up playing games all night. Jeeves licked his face in the morning to go outside, but Charlie just pushed him away and rolled over. Jeeves scratched at the door; he really had to go. Finally, he barked, but to no avail. Charlie was in a foul mood. He yelled at Jeeves to shut up and let him sleep. But his dog had waited as long as he could. He howled, and Charlie threw a coaster at him. Jeeves could hold it no longer and peed on the floor. The dog was punished for it and made to stay outside longer than usual with no walk. "No matter if it was cold, it would serve him right," thought Charlie.

Once Charlie dragged himself to the kitchen, Larry, happy to see his big brother, asked when they could play chess.

"Chess? Oh, I don't know, maybe later. I've got more games on my Xbox I want to play."

Sadly, Larry walked over to his new chess board and wondered when his big brother would have time for him.

Then the boys heard their parents arguing in their bedroom. That was odd. The next thing they knew, their mom was walking out of the house with a suitcase. The front door slammed. Their dad walked out of their bedroom looking stunned. Shaking his head, he said, "She's leaving us. She found someone on the internet and she's leaving us."

The room seemed to grow dark, but the Xbox beckoned.



**Anita Tosh**

## ***FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER*** (Continued)

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### ***Spinning Us to Death***

Children laugh. Their play is spin. They spin and spin, delight in dizziness until they fall upon the ground and laugh again at the distortion of perception spinning makes. They rest, get up again, begin the game again, until their world stands still. Little dervishes enjoy. They can reach beyond the ordinary – beginning once again. Adults who watch, their kin, laugh as well, remembering the will with which they played that game themselves. They span an endless seam of joy repeated, winning with experience the right to see beyond the surface to reality.

There's another kind of spin. It leaves us dizzy. It distorts perception. Repeated lies become believable. "We must protect ourselves! The enemy might soon attack!" "Room to live! If it bereaves another of his home, so what?" "Unseated tyrant brings democracy and just good laws to those we bomb and torture." This tune repeated endlessly impels, retrieves subconscious fear and greed. The lies are bleated by the media we want to trust until belief becomes the tyrant's boon. Then people see just what they want to see and cannot act from truth's reality.

The march to war without an opposition strong enough to stop the juggernaut begins. The giant wheels begin to spin. Propaganda spinning us to death has won. The bombs begin. Who will shun destruction now? The lies we're told were fraught with purpose. Somewhere children play. They spin, they spin as we invade their spinning breath. Delighting in their dizziness, the fun they feel could be contagious, joy caught and shared. The bombs explode! The children spin as fragments, bits of finite flesh and death, blood droplets in the dust for all to see that spinning death makes this reality.

***Diane Morninglight***

### ***The Nest***

The wasp,  
fine-line legs  
drawn up for flight,  
whisks away, returns.  
She packs,  
in tight compartments,  
little bits of clay.  
Resolutely, cell on cell,  
she builds a nest.

So I,  
tradition's woman,  
built a nest  
of lies that I believed.  
Today,  
my truth retrieved,  
my life at last makes sense.  
I shatter bits of clay against  
tradition's fence.

***Diane Morninglight***

### ***Dancing Light***

Light dances on crashing waves  
Darkness lies beneath  
I Am the Light that dances

***Nancy Guarnera***

**Please!  
PLEASE!!  
PLEASE!!!  
Send us your  
submissions!**



## **FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER** (continued)

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### *Excerpt from **The Vaccine Debate** (ABC-CLIO, 2018)*

*by Tish Davidson*



In 1809, Boston became the first American city to pass a mandatory vaccination law. The law was an attempt to stop an outbreak of smallpox. Other cities in the state soon followed. In 1852, Massachusetts became the first state to provide free public education to all children and to make school attendance compulsory. Children from all walks of life crammed into classrooms, making schools the perfect setting for the spread of contagious diseases.

Public health officials recognized the danger. A single case of smallpox in the classroom could spread throughout an entire town. Consequently, in 1855 Massachusetts began requiring proof of smallpox vaccination for public school attendance. Parents opposed to vaccination could still send their children to private school, and there were provisions for medical exemptions from the law. The Massachusetts approach to protecting public health by making sure school children were vaccinated became a model for other states.

In 1902, a smallpox epidemic developed in Cambridge, a small town outside of Boston, and local officials called for the vaccination of all residents. Most people cooperated in the interest of stopping the epidemic, but a few resisted. One of those was Pastor Henning Jacobson. When Cambridge officials ordered him to be vaccinated, he refused, and was fined. Instead of paying the fine, he went to court. Although he was a pastor, his objection to vaccination was not based on religious beliefs. Instead, he argued that mandatory vaccination infringed on his liberty guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The case of *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* reached the United States Supreme Court in 1905. By that time, eleven states had enacted mandatory vaccination laws, so the case was of national interest. Jacobson lost his appeal by a 7-2 vote. *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* became a foundation case for other legal challenges to mandatory vaccination. It established both the right of the state to require vaccination and the right to a personal health exemption, both of which continue to exist today.

## **FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER** (continued)

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### **SUPER HOLLY HANSSON IN: THE LITTLE GREEN MAN!**

*by David M. Strom*

O'PATTY'S BAR. SAINT PATRICKS DAY. 8:54 P.M.

"Holly," her caped and cowed boyfriend grimly said, "you look a little green."

Super Holly felt a little queasy. She sighed across the table. "Cal, don't worry about me, does Batman fret over Superman? It's just that your experimental kryptonite antidote isn't **(BURP!)** sitting too well." She took a swig of her strawberry cider, but the hours-old taste of diluted green lutefisk lingered. Aw, Cal's eyes shifted from intensely dark to puppy-dog sad! She patted his black-Kevlar-gloved hand. "I'll just **(URP!)** visit the restroom."

"Holly!" called bartenders, waitresses, and beer-guzzlers as she hoofed past. Everyone knew her name, or her **(FRRP!)** red cape. Her **(BLURP!)** bulletproof tummy burbled. If her telekinesis got into the act, she might **(HURRK!)** blow out a wall! She squeezed past a hefty guy on a barstool, **"(BLORF!)"** Excuse me, Norm," flew to the door labeled "Women," yanked, and **BLURH-(HICCUP!)-URRRRRPED!!!!!!**

**GREEN LIGHT FLASHED!** Holly blinked. *What the frack?* She was in a forest, holding open a door labeled "Kings" on a giant hollow tree. Inside, on a golden toilet, sat a tiny red-haired man in a green coat and hat, green pants around his ankles. He glared at Holly over a book labeled *Emerald Enchantment*. "This room be occupied, missy!"

*What dimension have I burped myself into?*  
"Sorry, I'll back up...hey, my eyes are up here!"

The man's ogling outdid the Mighty Male Man-Up Squad's leering when Water Main had soaked Holly's supersuit last week. "You be a fine, tall, healthy lass! Care to join the royal family of Shamus? Be me fifth wife?"

Holly steamroller-ground her teeth at that rassin' frassin' frickin' frackin' sicko! "I have a boyfriend, shorty!"

The man frowned. He set the book on his lap. "Shamus may be small, but his magic be a giant oak! Blarney Ka-Dancey! Alakazam!"

*Great, another jerk referring to himself in third person—Uh oh!* Holly looked down. Her blue boots had turned shamrock green, her feet tap-danced like a super-speed Fred Astaire, and she couldn't stop! "I HATE MAGIC!"

That leprechaun's leer showed perfect green teeth. "Ha ha! The mightiest super of all be no match for me lucky charms! Blarney Ka-Kissy! Alakazam!"

*Argh*, Holly's lips joined the dance! **"MMM-WAH, SHMAK, SMEK, SHMOOK, MMM-WAH!!"** Cut it out!"

Shamus hopped off his throne, pulled up his pants, and *ICK*, didn't wash his hands. "A feisty mouth!" He sniffed. "Smells strawberry sweet. Shamus wants a taste." He licked his green lecherous lips. "Blarney Ka-PASSION! Alakazam!"

*No, oh no...oh YES!* Holly's heart swelled. She reached to cuddle that cutie. "C'mere, you nummy apple cider sweetie... NO! I LOVE CAL, YA JERK!" She pantomime-boxed—*right hook, jab, cross, left hook, ultra-uppercut*—which telekinetically blasted big blue transparent fists into Shamus's sexist smirk: **BIFF BOF BAM BOP BAP SHUSH-PLATZ-SKUHHHH!!!**

**GREEN LIGHT FLASHED!** Shamus was gone. The women's restroom was back. Cal hugged Holly in a toe-to-toe clinch! "Holly! Stop slugging! Round's over!"

Holly lowered her fists and *yum*, kissed her dark knight. "I'm okay. I was just seeing things."

A lady's Irish accent: "I could go another round!" *Uh-oh*. Behind Cal, a red-haired amazon embedded in the wall spat out a tooth and smiled at Holly. "A fine warm-up, but the traditional brawl starts in an hour."

Holly pulled Crimson Crusher free. "Sorry. Must have been something I drank. Buy you a sour apple beer?" Holly sighed. *With the mightiest superpowers, there come the silliest weaknesses: kryptonite and magic. Being Superman sucks.*

*Dave M. Strom started this story from a writer's prompt at a Fremont Area Writers monthly meeting.*



# Calling all FAW Members

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### 1. Board Secretary Needed

Have you ever served as a Secretary for an organization? Do love to take notes? Do you take good notes – clear, concise notes? Can you spare a few hours a month? If you answered **YES** to these questions, **WE NEED YOU!** And even if you didn't answer yes to these questions, **FAW NEEDS YOU!**

Joyce Cortez has relinquished her post as Secretary and needs to be replaced. The term runs from January through June, when we will have elections for new officers. Joyce has indicated she will be available to orient the new Secretary, so assistance will be offered if you need it.

Contact FAW President, Terry Tosh [tsfam@comcast.net](mailto:tsfam@comcast.net) or [toshmanii@yahoo.com](mailto:toshmanii@yahoo.com), if you'd like to volunteer for this position. Thanks for considering this opportunity to help FAW.

### 2. Contest Judges Needed

The League of Women Voters has asked us to sponsor (run) a Junior High or High School writing competition. We need Judges who'll volunteer to read and kindly rate the entries. Having judge credits on your resume, by the way, can be a good thing. Interested? Send your email to [webmaster@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:webmaster@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org).

### 3. 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

There will be lots of volunteering opportunities connected to FAW's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for opportunities to help, and don't be afraid to step in and volunteer.

### *Who Wants to Play **FAW Fun Facts?***

*Who were our founding members? How many of them are still members? How many different places has FAW held meetings and what were they? Who is our oldest member?*

So many fun facts! And what a great way to learn FAW history!

If you have some fun facts you want to share or some things you'd like to know about FAW, start submitting them to [inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org) and we'll include them in coming issues of the newsletter. **FAW Fun Facts** is a game everyone can play! **Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

