





TERRY TOSH
FAW President

President's Message

Great start to the year with a wonderful Second Saturday event at Half Price Books (Thank you, Marjorie!), as well as a well-attended 3rd Sunday Open Mic at Starbucks and the newly renamed 4th Monday Writer's Salon (with Tony).

You'll find the summaries and other details and photos in this issue of Ink Spots.

We had a tremendous General Meeting in January kicking off the year with great participation, and a very popular writing prompt on LOVE. Check out the Writers' Corner for a selection.

Thanks to **Lisa Rosenberg** for a stunning presentation at our January meeting of her book of poems, *A Different Physics*. Her passion for the intersection of poetry and physics involved such deep interpretations and thoughts; she took my breath away! Our own **Bob Garfinkle** will be our speaker for our February meeting on the 22nd. He's going to share his new three-volume book *Luna Cognita* and discuss the journey involved in getting it published

I want, once again, to thank our members for being such a great group. We are often complimented by our guests for being a fun and intelligent branch, and that it is a pleasure to present to us. It makes me so proud.

Let's continue to FOCUS this year (2020), and let's expand our talent pool with new faces, as well as new endeavors and fresh commitments to making 2020 a year of GROWTH and DEVELOPMENT for our personal lives, as well as our collective body as FAW members.

Please feel free to take on new challenges and also to ask for help from your fellow members. Someone is always willing to step up and help with advice to you move forward.

Keep up the great efforts, everyone. *Love to all,*

Terry

FREMONT AREA WRITERS MONTHLY CALENDAR

SECOND SATURDAY
Meet Your Local FAW Authors

Second Saturdays

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Half Price Books
39152 Fremont Hub
Fremont

THIRD SUNDAY
Literary OPEN MIC

Third Sundays

Sign-up 3:00

Reading 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Starbucks
39201 Cedar Blvd
Newark

FOURTH MONDAY
WRITERS' SALON

Fourth Mondays

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Suju's Coffee & Tea
Meeting Room
3602 Thornton Ave
Fremont

BOARD & GENERAL
MEETINGS

Fourth Saturdays

Board: 12:30 - 1:45 PM

General: 2:00 - 4:00 PM

42 Silicon Valley Rm 106
6600 Dumbarton Circle
Fremont

FAW Board Members



TERRY TOSH
President



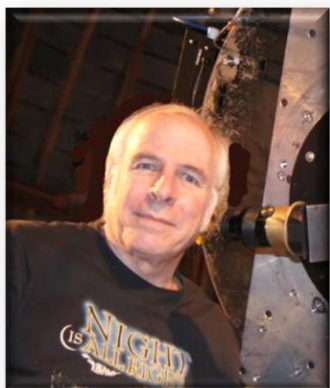
KNUTI VANHOVEN
Vice President



**CARMEN
VONTICKNER**
Secretary



CHERYLYN 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
- 2019 Jan Small

FAW Chairpersons



ART CAREY
Signage
Facility Liaison



SUE CURTZWILER
Volunteer Coordinator
Hospitality Co-Chair



SCOTT DAVIDSON
Webmaster



TISH DAVIDSON
CA Writers Club
Representative



AMBER DeANN
Facebook Page
Social Media



BOB GARFINKLE
Historian
Past President



NANCY GUARNERA
"Second Saturday" HPB &
"Third Sunday" Open Mic
Ink Spots Editor



CHERILYN JOSE
CWC Advertising
& Promotions



TONY PINO
Fourth Monday
Writers' salon



ANITA TOSH
Membership
Nor-Cal Representative
Authors' Table/Book Exchange



KNUTI VANHOVEN
Speakers Program
Publicity



CARMEN VONTICKNER
Hospitality Co-Chair

FAW MISSION STATEMENT

Fremont Area Writers educates writers and the public by providing:
Forums for educating members in the craft of writing and marketing their works *and*
Public meetings, workshops, and seminars open to all writers and the general public
to facilitate educating writers of all levels of expertise. (*Article II Section 1:1.1 and 1.2 FAW Bylaws*)

KUDOS – Members' News

Kudos to Art Carey who has a humor piece about a trash-talking cat in *Clever Magazine*, which describes itself as “the ezine for the neglected demographic!” *Congratulations, Art!*

Kudos to Tish Davidson who was the featured author for FAW's March Second Saturday event at Half Price Books. Tish shared two of her books, *African American Scientists and Inventors* and *African American in Business* to celebrate African American History Month. *Congratulations, Tish!*

Kudos to JoAnn Frisch who has a new children's book, *My Wilderness Adventure* along with my *Plant Uses* and *Plant Foods* books at the **Sun Gallery in Hayward** until March 14.

JoAnn also has a painting celebrating the Women's Suffrage Centennial at the **John O'League Galleria in Hayward City Hall** until March 6. *Congratulations, JoAnn!*

Kudos to Evelyn LaTorre whose first memoir, *Between Inca Walls—A Peace Corps Memoir* is now available on Amazon.com for pre-orders. Her publisher, She Writes Press, will be publishing Evelyn's sequel in Fall 2021. *Congratulations, Evelyn!*

Kudos to FAW members Scott Davidson, Tish Davidson, Rekha Ramani, and Dave Strom for braving the mic at FAW's “*Third Sunday*” **Literary OPEN MIC at Starbucks** on Cedar Blvd. in Newark. In addition, the following members of the general public also read: **Vanessa Dueck, Jeff Hanson, Tony Juarez, Arjun Mathur, Lorin Moyer, and Elena Viment.** *Congratulations all!*

Fremont Area Writers & Starbucks



Writers Reading Their Original Work

Every Third Sunday of the month

Sign-up: 3:00 PM Reading: 3:30 to 5:30 PM

Readings should be no more than 10 minutes long. Starbucks is a “family-friendly” venue—please read family-appropriate material. PLEASE: No hate speech, No pornography, No gratuitous obscenities or vulgarity; No political or religious rants or proselytizing. No book sales at this venue. Thank you!

**Starbucks in Newark
39201 Cedar Blvd**

**Free & Open to the Public
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

A Word from Our Editor



Nancy Guarnera
Editor-in-Chief Ink Spots

Welcome to our February 2020 issue of *Ink Spots*, it contains the latest FAW news, poetry, prose, essays, and articles written by our members. It also contains information from other branches of the California Writers Club and from the world beyond.

If you are an avid reader of *Ink Spots*, you've probably noticed that we have "departments." Some examples: Notes From the World, Kudos, A Little FAW History, FAW Featured Member, FAW Writers' Corner. Some of these appear every month, some are more transitory.

This is your newsletter and I would truly appreciate your participation. If you've had a success, submit it as a **Kudo**; finished a poem or a short story, submit it for the **Writers' Corner**; have some tips, tricks, contests, websites, or events that would appeal to writers,

submit them for **Notes from the World**; have some FAW history you'd like to share—you get the idea! This is your organization and your newsletter; please consider contributing to both. If you'd like to submit a continuing series, or have an idea for a new department, let's talk. Send me an email or talk to me at a 4th Saturday meeting.

Send submissions to inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org. Please put **FAW Ink Spots Submission** and **your name** and in the **Subject** line of your email. See below for Guidelines. Thank you!

Ink Spots is emailed to members on or around the 15th of each month (*excluding July*) and is available on the FAW website cwcfremontareawriters.org. If you have not received a copy of the newsletter by the 25th of the month, and you've checked your SPAM/JUNK folder and it's not there, contact me at inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org and I'll resend it to you. Please put **FAW—NO NEWS-LETTER** in the **Subject** line. We email Ink Spots to all the different branches of the California Writers Club, as well.

Thank you to Erika Walker and Janet Salinas for volunteering to help with the newsletter and various other tasks.

Enjoy this month's issue! Nancy

Submission Guidelines

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

On or before the **First Day of the Publication Month** (May 1st for the May issue, etc.)

Please submit as attachments, rather than in the body of your email.

WORD COUNT:

Feature articles (Presidents Message, Featured Member, etc.): **300 words max.**

Creative Submissions: **1,000 words max.** (unless you are willing to have longer pieces serialized)

Kudos: **75-80 words max.**

FORMAT: **Text** – Word.doc/docx **Photos** – JPEG

January's Speaker Recap

THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN PHYSICS & POETRY

January's speaker, **Lisa Rosenberg**, a young woman who became a physicist, who became an engineer, who became a private pilot, who became a marketing consultant, and all the while a poet, almost dances her poems when she shares them. Perhaps you noticed?

Committing them to memory, she performs her poems and pulls you into the emotional content embedded in an unlikely object, a slide rule, which connects her forever to her father. She compels you to listen to her musings on the human biological clock as she contemplates the fecundity of moon jellies and the fluidity of life.



Lisa Rosenberg
lisarosenberg.com



*Put yourself
through "stylistic
boot camp."*

*"Poetry is sheet music,
it needs to be heard."*



*"Shakespeare
wrote
source code."*

*"It's hard
to be
a writer
in a place where
language
is controlled."*



*"A writer creates a portal for
someone to enter into a new
experience."*

Rosenberg touched on the craft of writing and urged us to pay attention to our technical skills and the personal application of these in our work. Have they become "habits" that are limiting our expression? She offered some suggestions: read your work aloud and really listen to it, what are the "emergent properties?" Then leave it for a while. Revisit and hone the work: its tone, POV, chronology, gender, word count. She recommended rewriting something in different ways: The Three Bears as by Hemingway, James Joyce, Dr. Seuss. Stretch beyond the boundaries one has accepted by exploring different ways to approach something. And she reminded us that "art can be slow," so we must find ways of "staying in the wonder." She encouraged us to memorize poems we love; it gives one a greater appreciation for the poem and for our enjoyment of it. She shared poetry from her book *A Different Physics*.



Sue Curtzwiler
Volunteer
Coordinator

Benefits of Volunteering

It is said, that busy people simply get more done. Why? Perhaps it's because they have a purpose, they set goals, and they look forward to helping with their talents.

When you retired from your career, you may have planned to do all the things you'd been waiting to do with all that extra time. But what happened? Did you suddenly find you were busy all the time, and there was no extra time to do the things you planned to do? Or is it the opposite, you're bored, you feel tired—nothing inspiring to do anymore. No pressing deadlines, nothing seems important. If you're experiencing either scenario, think about volunteering. Research shows that volunteering lifts your mood, gives you purpose, and enhances your well-being.

Do you ever wonder, "What can I do with my spare time?" even when it seems like you're busy? Ask people around you if they need help. Consider checking with groups that share your interests, such as Fremont Area Writers.

We need your help with things like set up and clean up, a proofreader for the newsletter, posting promotional materials, hosting an Open Mic at Starbucks occasionally, helping with Half Price Books events. Or, join a critique group and help someone with their writing.

FAW elections are coming up in June. If you have experience serving on an organizational board, now would be a good time to start thinking about whether you'd like to join the FAW Board.

What do you like to do? As an FAW member, we know you have an interest in writing; as a person, you have many skills unknown to the group and it might be YOU that has something special that would benefit our Fremont branch. For example, are you a retired teacher? Perhaps you miss teaching and you could bring those skills to FAW in some way.

If you have been waiting to try something new, out of the ordinary, unrelated to your previous work, this could be your chance. Volunteering often requires that we learn new things. Growth is good!

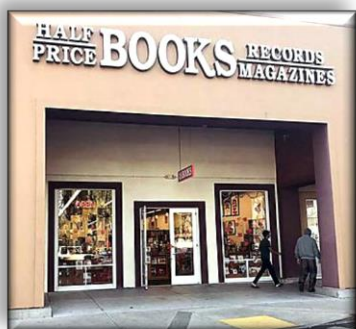
Please ask us at the meetings—what needs to be done. You can check with me, your Volunteer Coordinator, or any of the other board members. We would enjoy talking to you to learn more about your unique gifts. Everyone has a purpose, an opportunity, and the potential to tap your own unknown transferable skills.

Happy Volunteering.

Sue Curtzwiler

Calling All FAW Published Authors

FAW-HPB "Second Saturday" Meet Your Local FAW Authors



**Half Price Books
at
39152
Fremont Hub,
in Fremont**

Fremont Area Writers is partnering with Half Price Books in Fremont to present "Second Saturday" — Meet Your Local FAW Authors monthly readings. These readings are scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00 PM; a different author will be featured each month.

This opportunity to read and sell your books is available to FAW members who are published authors.

If you're interested in scheduling a month in 2020, please contact **Nancy Guarnera**:
faw-hpb@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org.

To be fair, authors who did not read in 2019 will be considered before those who read last year. 2019 authors who have new books to share are welcome to schedule for 2020.

2020 FAW Authors

March 14
Luanne Oleas

April 11
TBD

May 9
Alfred Jan

June
TBD

"Meet Your Local FAW Author" for March 2020

Saturday, March 14th 2 – 4 P.M. Half Price Books in the Fremont Hub



**Luanne
Oleas**

Join FAW author Luanne Oleas as she shares her book *Flying Blind—A cropduster's story* about Tony Damascus, a cropduster who flees Texas, encouraged by his boss, a jealous husband with a shotgun. Returning to California, he takes a temporary job as a flight instructor where he meets Father Roberto. Tony's attitudes and Father Roberto's beliefs are not a congenial mix. A near-death experience after a crash leads the pilot on a life-threatening quest for answers, back to the truth the priest promised him existed.

Flying Blind has won the Publisher's Choice Award at the 2018 San Mateo County Fair Literary Stage, the novel-writing contest at the East of Eden Writers Conference, and was a semi-finalist in the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award Contest.

Her husband's years in crop dusting provided great background material for Luanne's book.



**EVERYONE
IS
WELCOME!**

FAW—HPB “Second Saturday”

February’s “Meet Your Local FAW Authors”

Tish Davidson Celebrating African American Contributions

Tish Davidson has authored more than a dozen, traditionally published, nonfiction books. Many of them are targeted to children of various age groups and can be found in school and public libraries.

On February 8, at Half Price Books, Tish shared two of her books to celebrate African American History Month: *African Americans in Business* and *African American Scientists and Inventors*.

Both of her books cover the emancipation to the civil rights movement and highlight individuals who have made substantial contributions in science, innovation and business, though are mostly unmentioned in our history books. Their contributions have significantly impacted the lives of all Americans, and in some cases, people the world over. Here are a few she shared with her audience.

Fredrick Jones invented a portable refrigerator to keep perishables fresh while being transported in trucks and trains. His company, known today as ThermoKing, does business around the world.

A self-taught draftsman, who worked with inventors in need of drawings for their patent applications, **Lewis Latimer** did the drawings for Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone. He eventually invented a better filament for Thomas Edison’s light bulb; one that lasted longer and cost less, so ordinary people could afford them.



Charles Drew found a way to separate red blood cells from plasma and dry the plasma so that it could be reconstituted as needed. He was the first director of the Red Cross.

Maggie Lena Walker was the first woman of any race to found a bank. She established the St. Luke’s Penny Savings Bank in the 1920s in Richmond, VA. Today it is still part of the Continental Bank and Trust Company.

“Famous” **Amos Walker** did not find success in the music business, but became wealthy making chocolate chip cookies. By 1979, he was selling 7,000 pounds of cookies a day.

Allen Allensworth, was the first African American chaplain in the U.S. Army. After he retired, he founded the all-black town of Allensworth, 30 miles north of Bakersfield, CA. The town no longer exists, but in 1976, the site became a state park, open to visitors.

Notes from the World

CONTESTS

Writers Weekly. Free newsletter. 24-hour short story contest once each quarter. Topic and word length revealed after signing up. Limited to 500 entrants. \$5 entry fee. Also lists some paying markets for fiction and nonfiction.

writersweekly.com

Winning Writers. Free newsletter. Lists free contests (many age or location restricted) as well as pay-to-enter contests. Lots of poetry contests. **winningwriters.com**

The Write Life. Website. Lists free contests (with a few exceptions.) Includes book, short fiction, essay, and poetry contests. Many contests are very specific, e.g. book by first generation immigrant, book of military fiction.

thewritelife.com/writing-contests

Poets & Writers. Website. Searchable contest database with filters for cost, genre and deadline. **pw.org/grants**

Submishmash Weekly. Free newsletter. A curated arts newsletter with select publishing opportunities including contests, publications seeking submissions, and artist residencies. Run by the submission platform **Submittable**.

The Writer. Website and free newsletter. Listing of mostly pay-to-enter contests. **writersmag.com/contests**

Fan Story. Paid site. Seven-day free trial. \$9.95/month or \$69/year. Feedback on writing you post and almost daily contests that can be entered at no additional fee. **fanstory.com**

Let's Make a Zine

Submitted by Cindy DePorte Nicosia

Here's a neat idea for promoting your book—create a Zine. What's a zine? It's a small version of your book with front and back cover and a bit of text inside to promote yourself and your book. Kind of like a "magazine" of your book.

Check out **www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Zine** for step-by-step instructions.



Another CONTEST

(for ages 65 and up)

Ageless Authors is accepting submissions to its new writing contest exclusively for writers and poets age 65 and older.

The categories are short fiction, short nonfiction, and short poetry. Stories must be 1,000 words or less, and poetry must be 12 lines or less.

Deadline is February 29, 2020. (UPDATED)

Complete submission details are available at **agelessauthors.com/current-contests**.

There is a \$10 submission fee and cash prizes.

This is a good contest to enter. It's in its fourth year and the competition and number of submissions is not overwhelming.

Tish Davidson won second prize and \$75 in the nonfiction category last year.

Remember: Don't waste your submission fee—follow the entry directions exactly.

Submitted by Tish Davidson

DEADLINE EXTENDED

2020 CWC Literary Review Open Submissions

Submission Deadline is now March 31, 2020!

All submissions must be received no later than this date, and any payments in the form of a check must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2020.

Submission is open only to members of the California Writer Club.

All work will be reviewed and selected for possible publication by a panel of acquisition editors through a blind judging process.

Members will be notified by email if their work has been selected for inclusion in the 2020 Literary Review shortly before publication in autumn of 2020.

For Submission Guidelines go to :

<https://calwriters.org/publications/#submit>

All Things Nor-Cal

*submitted by Anita Tosh
FAW's Nor-Cal Representative*

There were eight branch representatives present at the recent Nor-Cal meeting. We picked up a question from the previous meeting about the tax-deductible status of individual CWC branches. NorCal is the place to take this type of question. Carole Bumpus, who is on the CWC board (also Nor-Cal rep, past president of SF peninsula, etc.), had the answer for us. In this case, we found out that our branches have a tax status of 501C6 which cannot give a tax-deductible receipt, though CWC can.

Next, we turned to the Lit review. Submissions are currently open, and the deadline has been extended to March 31. The Review will be published by October 15. More judges are needed for the review process; to volunteer contact David George, Editor. Check the CWC website (www.calwriters.org) for submission guidelines.

The new communications/database software for CWC is currently being tested and should be up and running by April this year, replacing the outdated MRMS. I look forward to the new "Wild Apricot" and hope it will be more user friendly. I am still figuring out MRMS.

Then the moment I was waiting for; planning for the leadership conference (held every other year). I had heard such good things about the last one, and now I am part of the planning group for the one we've tentatively scheduled for October 3, 2020.

NorCal pays for a CWC booth at the Bay Area Book Festival in Berkley in April. Volunteer spots are still available. Check with me if you're interested in knowing more.

The meeting wrapped up with each member reporting on the cool things their branch is doing and any notable speakers they have had. It was a productive meeting, and I look forward to sharing several fun and exciting ideas with the FAW membership.

Notes from the World (Continued)

FAW member JoAnn Frisch has a piece of her artwork in this show (see KUDOS on page 5)



Celebrate Women!

National League of American Pen Women
Diablo-Alameda Branch

January 17 - March 6, 2020
Reception: January 24, 5:30 - 7:30pm



JOHN O'LAGUE
GALLERIA

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN - NLAPW
Diablo-Alameda Branch

Hayward Arts Council
PO Box 126
Hayward, CA 94543
510.538.2787
www.haywardartscouncil.org
hac@haywardartscouncil.org

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HAYWARD, CA
PERMIT No. 3205

Return Service Requested

Celebrate Women!

A collaboration of Artists, Musicians & Writers

Guest of honor: Nancy O'Malley
Alameda County District Attorney

January 17 - March 6, 2020
Reception: January 24th, 5:30 - 7:30pm
Refreshments Free event

John O'Lague Galleria
777 B St, Hayward City Hall
Gallery hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Art: Natica Angilly, Usha Shukla, Ann Maloney-Mason,
Winifred Thompson, Charlotte Severin, Kazumi Cranney,
Elizabeth Hack, Ruey Syrop

NLAPW, founded in 1897, has 81 branches where 1600+
artists, writers, and composers meet for support and
inspiration.



The Hayward Arts Council is a 501c3 non-profit
organization sponsored in part by City of Hayward,
Alameda County Arts Commission and its
members.



FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER

The pieces on this page are submissions inspired by a writing prompt from the January 2020 meeting. The prompt: Love...just Love.

ABOUT LOVE

Infinitely chameleon: so many forms and faces. It can build, destroy, nourish, heal, inspire, incite; give hope, sustain, thrill, overcome despair: a miracle worker for all, everywhere.

Love is what moves not just the world, but our spirit: it is the most powerful, joyous emotion we can ever experience because it connects us to our Maker, to ourselves and to those around us.

As long as I feel Love, I am alive.

Shirley Marin

Guest

January General Meeting



Love—The letters change your life

L—Leave. Leave your critical senses behind. Be overcome by passion.

O—Other. You are no longer the only person in life. There's an other now.

V—Vanity. Set it aside. Another person serves as a mirror for your actions—sometimes critically.

E—Everything—That's the extent to which your life has changed.

Art Carey



LOVE

My love was foreign
Broad shoulders
Skinny butt
Blue eyes
Baritone
Maker of tools
And dies
German

Jo Ann Frisch

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Love striving to grow from me must grow in me.

Love must push through the tall mountains of regret, anguish and resentments produced over the decades of me unable to live with me.

Love must act like a seed and split me open to see the sunlight and sway in the winds of adventure in a new day.

Love must have courage to confront the self ridicule, self criticism and self bashing that swirls through me like a raging fire.

Love must be a flame eater.

Love must be willing to expose itself even when not fully developed and will itself into existence.

Love must strive to nourish me and calm me with the strength of Atlas and the warmth of Mother Mary.

Love must be patient and kind to get my attention but eternal to refresh my spirit when I float in despair.

Love is my objective, my heart's desire and my master.

Love though I hardly acknowledge thee stay with me and bring me peace.

Amber DeAnn

FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER (Continued)

DREAMS

Dreams wander wild
Over moor, bare and cold
Lost in shadows

Long lonely road
Shattered, bruised soul
Stare bewildered

Vast stretches of bluebells
Dancing with gentle breeze
Whisper her name

Manjula Bhadraswamy

One spoonful

Neither riches nor jewels
No name or fame
Some poems and a bunch of tulips
Cool breeze, walk down the beach
White sand, a few gulls
Love songs sweet whispers
Warm kiss what bliss!
A bosom to hold, not a soul around
Just you and me and one spoonful honey

Manjula Bhadraswamy

WHAT TWINKLES

(verse by Jane Taylor, 1806)

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.

(verse by Paul K Davis, 2016)

Hydrogen and helium,
Trace amounts of oxygen,
Carbon, Nitrogen also,
just a bit to help it glow.
All bound up, within a sphere
With a hot core, that will sear.

Paul K Davis
2016 Nov 24

*One more from the January 2020
general meeting "love" prompt.*

What's Love?

"I love you" you say.
True love is unconditioned,
So, no strings attached?

Nancy Guarnera

Thought

Thought is creative
Everything starts as a thought
Where does thought come from?

Nancy Guarnera