



Ink Spots



The Newsletter of Fremont Area Writers
The "Centennial" Branch of the California Writers Club

Nancy Guarnera Editor-in-Chief

Vol. 116 January 2022

inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org

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

Happy New Year!



May
you
be
blessed
with
gratitude
for
all
your
many
blessings
in the
coming
year!

FAW

Visual Prompt

Photo by Terry & Anita Tosh

January General Meeting

*** January 22nd * 2 to 4 PM * Zooming ***

Joselin Linder & *The Family Gene:*

*A Mission to Turn My Deadly Inheritance
into a Hopeful Future*

by Knuti VanHoven

What would your life be like if you knew what the cause of your death would likely be...a disease that's so new it has no name and almost no one knows that it exists? You've watched the process in other family members, tested positive for it yourself, and have started seeing the signs in your own body. Would you be terrified? Would you write a book about it? Would you tell everyone who would listen? If you're **Joselin Linder**, you would.

At 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 22, Joselin Linder, the author of ***The Family Gene***, will share the extraordinary tale of how she and her family discovered a mysterious, deadly genetic disease that seems to have originated with her paternal great-grandmother, Mae.

Linder, her sister, Hilary, their cousin, and their deceased paternal grandmother all carry this gene. Known as an "orphan," it's a genetic mistake unique to their family. Armed with this knowledge, they are doing everything they can to defend themselves, and the rest of the world, against this unique type of ailment that the medical establishment only knew as a set of seemingly unrelated symptoms, until Linder and her relations found it lurking in their family tree.

She's not the only woman who's ever faced this situation. What makes her stand out is the way she uses her platform as a writer and internet personality to share information that could be life-changing, and even life-saving for her family members, as well as her audience. Her family's discovery may have far-reaching implications for the field of genetics, as well.

Linder, a regular contributor to the ***New York Post***, has been featured on **This American Life**, **Morning Edition** and **Life of the Law**.

For her excellent Ted Talk: <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Joselin+Linder&view=detail&mid=D8CE4132924C1B55B01ED8CE4132924C1B55B01E&FORM=VIRE>

A "Living and Dying in Peace" podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJ5AvSebL4Q>

For a ***New York Post*** article: <https://nypost.com/2017/03/05/what-its-like-to-live-with-a-mysterious-killer-gene-disorder/>

This FAW Zoom event is open and free to the public, so tell your friends and family. If you don't receive a link to the meeting in your email, request one from scottfrombayside@yahoo.com at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Don't miss this dynamic speaker on this unique topic. Her book is receiving excellent reviews.



Joselin Linder
Author of *The Family Gene*



TERRY TOSH
FAW President

President's Message

Welcome to 2022!

Can't say I'll miss much about 2021, but we did have some wonderful speakers and Zoom gatherings. The statewide communications skyrocketed and much more sharing on a statewide basis began.

There are a lot (dare I say "plethora?") of ideas and plans in motion, as well as traditional gatherings being reinstated and tweaked.

Everyone should think about making it a habit (resolution sounds like a good term for this time of year) to go to the NorCal and CWC links for a statewide calendar of general meetings (page 10) and at cwc-fremontareawriters.org. You'll find information on events and speakers statewide that may interest you in your endeavors to succeed in your writing adventures, whatever they may be.

See the reports and articles offered in this issue of *Ink Spots* for reviews and announcements on the events that took place in December and are coming in the New Year.

It isn't something that just happens magically... we all have our role to play in "writers helping writers." As we move further into the unknown trials, challenges and opportunities that are headed our way, let's remember that we are not alone. There are thousands of our fellow members lifting each other's faith and spirits, eager to help and celebrate every success—however minor, or significant, they may seem.

Big "shout-outs" to everyone who contributed to the success of our branch, as well as the CWC organization as a whole, in 2021...and here's to a wonderful year ahead, full of blessings and happiness.

TERRY

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A Word from Our Editor



Nancy Guarnera
Editor-in-Chief *Ink Spots*

Welcome to our January 2022 issue of *Ink Spots*. I hope this finds you, and those you love, safe, healthy and happy in this new year.

As I think about this New Year stretching out before me, waiting for me to fill each day, I remember that life, as we knew it before COVID, is over. We can't go back to what was. We never really do, because with each new moment, change is inevitable. We can't stop it, but we can adapt to it. That's how all species survive...and evolve, we adapt. Things getting back to normal is an illusion.

That's not to say we can't create what is to come...a new normal. I think that's why, with the turn of each new year, we have a fascination with New Year's resolutions, otherwise the 1st of January would be a day like any other.

Many of us make resolutions with great intentions, only to fall short as the days, weeks and months pass. This may be, in part, because we are trying to return to what was, rather than to move forward into the unknown—a realm that's scary for all but the most adventurous of us. The unknown is that space where we create something new and unexperienced. It's where a fresh perspective is vital.

I would hazard a guess that weight loss is probably in the top three most resolved intentions at the New Year... though intending to "lose" is inherently counter to everything we Americans tend to stand for...we're winners, not losers. Perhaps working toward a healthier lifestyle would be more productive and ultimately more successful, than trying to lose enough weight to get into last year's bikini or Speedo. Perhaps resolving to develop a healthy body image would be a forward-looking intention that would bring peace, contentment and self-confidence, as well as leave room for other more creative pursuits, such as writing.

Ah, yes, writing... This is something we can resolve to do. Write more. Finish what we've started. Submit our work for publication. To Ink Spots, for instance. Or to the CWC Literary Review—deadline is fast approaching. It's so easy to put things off...I do it every day. So, I imagine, do you. Perhaps it's time to make a resolution to do the things we've been putting off, especially with regard to our writing and other creative pursuits. I'm imagining publishing my first of many books this year. Just typing that was exhilarating. I think it's true...when people get to the end of their lives and look back, they don't regret the things they did. They regret the things they didn't do. My bucket list is getting longer by the minute. Time to "just do it."

Remember, send your creative work for the **Writers' Corner**; your "shout outs" for **KUDOS**; and your book/movie reviews/recommendations, as well as art work and photos, etc. to this email address: inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org for publication.

Stay safe and healthy... Cheers! Nancy (I•S indicates an article written by the Ink Spots editor)

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Please send all submissions for *Ink Spots* to inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org. Remember to put **FAW—Ink Spots Submission—Your Name** in the **Subject field** of your email; this makes it so much easier to find your email. Thank you for sharing your writing with the rest of us!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Submissions are due on or before the 10th of the month prior to the publication month unless otherwise arranged. January 10th for the February issue. Please submit your written work and photos as attachments, rather than in the body of your email, if possible.

WORD COUNT: Feature articles (President's Message, etc.): **450 to 475 words max.**

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

Weekly SIP Notes: **400 to 475 words max.** **Kudos:** **100 words max.** **Book/Movie Reviews** **350 & 500 max.**

FORMAT: Text – Word.doc/docx in Arial 12 pt. **Photos & Artwork** – JPEG format and 300dpi

Please **DO NOT** use special formatting. Use the return key **ONLY** at the end of each paragraph.

Please don't double space between sentences and don't indent. Thank you!

FAW – January Meetings

Fremont Area Writers

“Fourth Saturday”

Membership Mtg on Zoom

Saturday January 22nd 2:00 – 4:00 PM

*Meeting is open to CWC/FAW members and the general public;
writers of all skill levels are welcome.*

Guest Speaker: Author Joselin Linder

*For details on Zooming, contact Scott Davidson at
scottfrombayside@yahoo.com*

Fremont Area Writers

“Tuesday before 4th Saturday”

Board Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday January 18th 3:30 – 5:00 PM

*Meeting is open to FAW members to observe their Board in action.
Comments and questions will be addressed at the end
of the meeting with prior notice.*

*For details on Zooming, contact Scott Davidson at
scottfrombayside@yahoo.com*

FAW – January Meetings

Fremont Area Writers

“Second Saturday”

Social Write-In on Zoom

Saturday January 8th 2:00 – 3:30 PM

*Get to know others through personal writing with prompts.
Members will be sent a Zoom invite. Non-members should
contact Scott Davidson (see below) for an invite.*

*For details on Zooming, contact Scott Davidson at
scottfrombayside@yahoo.com*

Fremont Area Writers

“Fourth Monday”

Writers’ Salon on Zoom

Monday January 24th 7:00 – 9:00 PM

*Open to FAW members and the public.
Share, listen and support writers as they read their work.
For a Zoom invitation link contact Tony Pino (see below).*

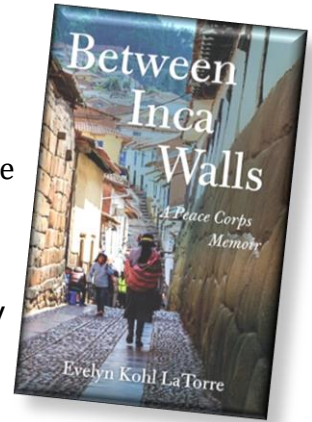
*For details on Zooming, contact Tony Pino
up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com or 510-745-0761*

KUDOS – Members' News

If you have an accomplishment related to your writing, or some other aspect of your life, and would like to share it with FAW members in this space, please send it to inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org. Please keep it to 100 words or less. Put **FAW—KUDOS—Your Name** in the subject field of your email to us. Thanks!



KUDOS to Eveylyn LaTorre,
whose first memoir, ***Between Inca Walls: A Peace Corp Memoir*** has won the prestigious 2021 Moritz Thomsen Peace Corps Experience Award given by Peace Corps Worldwide. Here's a link to information about this award:
<https://peacecorpsworldwide.org/category/peace-corps-worldwide-awards/>
Congratulations, Evelyn!



Free Tickets * Free Tickets * Free Tickets * Free Tickets

For the second time in CWC's history, the San Francisco Writers Conference is offering two free passes to every CWC branch throughout the State for the all-day Poetry and Screenwriters Summits.

February 19, 2022

**San Francisco Writers Conference 2022
Hyatt Regency Embarcadero, San Francisco**

The free passes give you free entry to the all-day event and the privilege of mingling with top poets and screenwriters who will be teaching classes throughout that day.

If you are interested in winning a ticket contact Terry Tosh at toshmanii@yahoo.com no later than January 18, at 2:45 PM. Winners will be announced at the General Meeting on January 22.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You can also staff the CWC information booth and have FREE access to some of the workshops during the conference.

(Travel to and from, plus accommodations will be handled by those who choose to enter the give-away contest.)

The names for our branch's choices will be submitted on or before February 1, to Carole Bumpus, NorCal Chair.

HOLIDAY PARTY RECAP

For a second year in a row, FAW celebrated the holidays on Zoom together.

While we missed the wonderful times we have had at Bob and Kathy Garfinkle's, it was still a delight to see so many members on this occasion. We had fun playing some of the familiar prompt "games" that have become favorites at our monthly Social Write-in events, as well as engaging in a few new writing opportunities: Mad Libs, limericks, photo prompts, silly ad copy, and magic write. Below are the results of a few of these, as well as some of Jo Ann Frisch's art, to remind you that we are a multi-talented group of extraordinary people. Enjoy! **(I•S)**

Poet's Lament

There once was a poet named Sue
Who struggled when words away flew
She wept salty tears
Which washed away fears
Until she knew what to do

Terry Connelly



Inspired by a photo of a fruitcake.

ODE TO FRUIT CAKE

I know that fruitcake isn't everyone's cup of tea. This cake is the butt of endless jokes... "There's really only one of these cakes that gets re-gifted over and over again, and has traveled the world many times." But, in spite of the calorie count and the sugar content, it's one of my favorite holiday treats. The fruitcake I crave looks nothing like this picture, and I can't imagine ever re-gifting it. No, this cake is the perfect combination of candied fruit and nuts, held together with just the right amount of edible glue, but still easy to pry apart with a fork or one's fingers. I look forward to it all year long.

Someday I'll learn how to make this perfect fruitcake. Until then, I can find it in the Costco bakery section. Maybe this year I'll get two...

:o((Alas, no fruitcake at Costco this year! Guess it's time to learn how to make it myself.)

Nancy Guarnera ©12/2021



MEMORIES OF "BETTER-THAN-FRUITCAKE"

My grandmother was a wonder in the kitchen. She got her first job at age 13, cooking for "a rich family," a family so wealthy that they never noticed how many first attempts were flushed away into oblivion. But after a trial-and-error start, she became a skilled and inventive cook.

Her specialty was baking—cinnamon rolls, peanut brittle, gingerbread cookies with crinkled edges, even homemade noodles. She measured by throwing in handfuls of this and that into her batter, beating by hand (50 strokes, 100 strokes, 200 strokes) and feeling when the batter was wet enough, thick enough, and ready to bake.

Every holiday Grandma baked a real treat—gumdrop bread. It looked like fruitcake, but was sweet and spicy. We all loved it. I asked her for the recipe, and after some cajoling, she wrote it down. After she died, I tried to follow her recipe exactly, but what came out was a sludge of semi-melted gumdrops. Not much bread. Hard as a tar-and-gravel shingle.

I asked my mother what she thought had gone wrong. We read the recipe together. Mom laughed. "Two pounds of gumdrops?" she said. "Well, your Grandma didn't mention that she ate half of them while she was baking."

Patricia Doyne ©12/2021



HOLIDAY PARTY RECAP

(continued from previous page)

Inspired by a photo of an Emperor Penguin family

"AM I ADOPTED?"

"Mom, Dad, some of the other kids say that I might be adopted. They say sometimes when parents exchange eggs, the egg gets loose, and some eggless parent catches the egg and keeps it. Am I "REALLY" yours, or are you egg snatchers?"

Mom looks away unable to face her son.

"Son, umm...erm... It's true; we're egg snatchers. Well, at least I am. Your mom and I were eggless. While she was away with the other moms, and mind you, it was for a very, very long time...and... well, the boys were kicking around a couple of eggs and one got loose. I caught it and covered it, so it wouldn't freeze. That was you. But, it doesn't mean we love you any less."

Robert Cabello ©12/2021

Please Note: If you attended the holiday party and have a piece of writing you'd like to share with all of us, please submit it and we'll run it in the next issue of Ink Spots. Thank you!

A Sham

There was a writer named Pam
Whose writing was really a sham
She held her head high
And reached for the sky
But her work always went to spam

Nancy Guarnera

A Hook

The editor opened a book
Intently anticipating a hook
She found none
"This one's done!"
For another she began to look

Robert Cabello



Visual Prompt

Sunrise at Lake Elizabeth by Sue Curtzwiler

FAW & CWC Information:

— PLEASE READ —

WHO, WHAT, WHEN & WHERE...

As of January 1, 2022, all CWC branch speaker meetings will be added to the Event page on CWC's website at

<https://calwriters.org/events/>

A Very Important Reminder

Any CWC member can attend meetings of any other CWC branch for the same fee that the branch charges its own members. This applies only to meetings, not to conferences or special events. If you are interested in attending a monthly meeting at another branch, check the events calendar for branches in Northern California. It can be found at **<http://cwcnorcalwriters.org/events/>**

General Meeting on Zoom — Sat. Jan. 22nd

You don't need a Zoom account to attend, but you do need to have Zoom on your smart phone, tablet, laptop, or computer—something with a camera and sound. Here's a link for a tutorial to help you set this up: **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>**.

You will receive an email invitation with a link to use for the meeting.

Need help with Zoom? Contact Scott Davidson **scottfrombayside@yahoo.com** by the Wednesday, before the meeting. Put **FAW Zoom Help** in the subject line. Log in to the meeting by 1:50 PM. Thank you.

FAW Needs You *Help Wanted* FAW Needs You

The following non-elected Board positions need to be filled:

Volunteer Coordinator – finds & assigns volunteers to assist FAW committee heads

Hospitality Chair – welcomes, introduces, contacts, & encourages newcomers to join FAW

NorCal Rep – attends & represents FAW at CWC NorCal meetings, writes reports for newsletters

Please speak to a Board member if you are interested in one of these positions or being of service to FAW in some other capacity.

SIP NOTES

WEEK #47 OCT 20TH GEORGE KWONG

Degrees

A month in the school year,
A degree of discontent
Has begun to settle
Into a holding flight pattern.

Differences of degrees but not in kind,
Struggling to find footing
On the slippery slope
Of unearned expectations.

There's a sense of malaise
Permeating and propagating
Unseen but its presence is felt
Masked or not - it doesn't matter.

Maybe my expectations were unrealistic
Yet reassurances seem inadequate
Please, let it be temporary
A moment of discrepancy.

Octobers are such rough months
An annual reminder of aging
An annual reflection of self-being
An annual sense of inadequacy.

Ongoing conflicts between sides
Being logical and thoughtful
Or eruptions of controlled emotions
I am not at balance presently.

My pattern of decadal midlife crises
Showed its head mid-decade at 55
Its tendrils are reaching out already
A couple of years early.

This time, I won't fight it,
Will let it follow its course
Still a low grade, constant static
I just wish I knew where it's headed.

George Kwong

WEEK #48 NOV 15TH JOYCE CORTEZ

I Used to Wish I Were

I used to wish I were more outgoing, more carefree, less introverted, less shy, less calculated. My friends have often been the opposite of me. They said I balanced their natural instincts. Most of the time they included me in their free-loving folly. They stopped at things they knew I would not do, could not do. On rare occasion, I asked to be included, shocking them—like that time with the jug of wine Katie found in the hills near her house. A story for another day.

I envied their ease of making friends, easy laughter, living life on their terms. I have lived by rules and convention, measured pros and cons, the facts, the risks. My nature, my terms.

As I grew older, experienced more life... hardships...pleasures...challenges, I developed in myself a few of the qualities I admired in them. I challenged myself to reach for new experiences, latch onto opportunities, and surprised myself in stretching my comfort zone.

Then along came COVID. At first, I missed the meetings and gatherings of acquaintances. Zoom helped. As the new reality became the norm, I wandered back to find my inner self—the person who liked my solitude, who enjoyed reading, and watching Hallmark movies endlessly, squandering time, curled up under a blanket on the couch. My friends and family suffered, staying home, social distancing, feeling denied their outings and natural inclinations. They don't understand how I can be so calm and satisfied right now. Perhaps they wish to be a little more like me?

Joyce Cortez

Book & Movie Reviews

Here's your opportunity to share your favorite books and movies. They can be just for fun, ones that changed your life, books on writing craft, etc. If you decide to submit: **250 max. word count**. Please email to the **Ink Spots** email address and put **FAW—Book Review Submission—Your Name** in the subject field. (The opinions stated here are strictly those of the individual, and do not represent either CWC or FAW.)

The Strong Box

by Judith Ruskay Rabinor

The title of this moving memoir is perfect. Her mother's strongbox is a treasure chest of documents that, over the span of 30 years, Terry deciphers to reveal the mystery of her origins. The documents reveal her rejecting biological father, her alcoholic mother, and herself. She successfully deciphers the ambiguities surrounding her mother, but that knowledge does not satisfy her. So, she pushes on, insisting on recognition from her biological father.

Through her revelations, I could feel the plight of mothers abandoned by their children's fathers and the audacity of fathers who too easily procreate, then reject their biological offspring. I join her to condemn a system that allows these harms to innocent children. Though the story is upsetting, the way Terry Sue triumphs throughout it is inspiring.

Review submitted by
Evelyn LaTorre

The Soul of America:

The Battle for Our Better Angels (2018)

by Jon Meacham

This book is a great read for those interested in our American story. It's meant to be a reassuring look at our own history of difficult and controversial periods and how we survived those times. He explains that our country has the ability, due of the nature of our democracy, to swing the pendulum back when it swings too far one way or the other. Meacham's book includes examples of periods when strong leadership drove this nation forward, as well. The book is well written, but at times, he assumes the reader has an understanding of history equal to his own. Regardless of this assumption, his point is well made.

Review submitted by
Joyce Cortez

Twice a Daughter

by Julie Ryan McGue

Few things delight me more than being immersed in a previously unnoticed world. Through *Twice a Daughter* by Julie Ryan McGue, I learned about the world of closed adoptions. From the first page to the last, the book absorbed me in the highs and lows of an adoptee's search for her biological mother and father. With her twin sister's support, Julie perseveres in her hunt for nearly a decade.

The author's vivid descriptions of her intense emotions during her quest made me aware of the painful consequences of keeping adoption information secret. Julie describes her feelings so precisely, such as, "willing tears back in," or "more jittery than a third cup of coffee," that I felt her sorrow and tensions. The depictions of her Collie companions, her garden, and Chicago, make them characters that add authenticity.

Twice a Daughter reads like a good mystery and a heartfelt memoir—with a surprise ending. I highly recommend it.

Review submitted by
Evelyn LaTorre

READ MORE BOOKS
WRITE MORE REVIEWS

Puzzles & Brainteasers

Anagram Alley

Do you like word games? How about anagrams? Welcome to “**Anagram Alley**.”

Word play is a great way to keep your brain sharp and your mind focused while learning and having fun.

If you decide to play, please exercise your brain, you can look things up online, but please, DON'T use the solution algorithms available there. When you've solved some or all of them, send your name and your answers to inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org and we'll publish your name. **Deadline** is the 25th of the month before the publication month (ex. *January 25th for the February issue*).

Below you'll see some names; some are famous authors and the others are famous characters in books written by those authors. Match the authors and their characters as you solve each anagram, and include the book title for each as well. We've given you a few hints below...to help.

Can you figure out who these famous literary folks are?

(Look for answers in the February issue of Ink Spots.)

Who are they?

**Gana Glineff * Tedly Tharclay * Clorisa Lalayward
Ward Chenel * Rowan Ivo Filig * Henryn Enid Agotdo**

Hints * Hints * Hints

3 authors, 3 characters, 1 male, 5 females, 1 American, 2 Brits, 2 19th-20th century & 1 20th century, on Time's list of the 100 best English novels, early 1990's Academy Award nominee for best screenplay adaptation, BBQ, censored and obscenity trial, bees, founded Hogarth Press, eloped with the wife of a professor, pioneered the use of stream of consciousness as narrative device, teacher turned author, actress/comedian/author, mistaken as a British spy while living in Germany, illicit but literary sex

Please note: These names do not necessarily conform to the number of words in an author's or character's name — there may be two where there are three and three where there are two. Initials may be buried in the anagram, or included where there are none in the actual name. **Assume nothing!**

Here are the answers from the December 2021 issue of Ink Spots.

Congrats to Terry Tosh, Scott Davidson & Steve Gibson (one of our proofreaders)
who sent in their correct answers.

SHANIA JORSONY
John Yossarian

H. JELO SHLEPER
Joseph Heller

Catch-22

HUNTER U. GORY
Ruth Younger

SIR NARNY BREE HARLO
Lorraine Hansberry

A Raisin in the Sun

OPAL ONEN
Napoleon

ROGER LEE GLOW
George Orwell

Animal Farm

Notes from the World

End-of-the-Year News from The CWC NorCal Group Board

The **NorCal Group** is comprised of representatives from all fourteen CWC branches in the northern part of California. Together, we work through CWC issues, problems, and seek solutions for our branches, as well as, work to bring more opportunities for our branch members:

- ❖ In the coming year, we will once again be hosting a CWC booth at the **San Francisco Writers Conference** in February 2022.

<https://www.sfwriters.org/2022-conference/> With this booth comes opportunities for our branch members to join us at the Conference through volunteering their time, participating on panels, and also in receiving free tickets for one-day events in the Books to Screen Summit and the Poetry Summit. If you are interested in attending these one-day events, contact your branch president. If you are interested in participating or volunteering in the SFWC, please contact me: carolebumpus@gmail.com

- ❖ The **NorCal Group** will also host a booth for the **Bay Area Book Fest (BABF)** in May 2022 in Berkeley. For those who would like to volunteer to help at our booth, you will also be given the opportunity to sell your books at the booth. Stay tuned for more details.

- ❖ After missing our biennial **NorCal Leadership Conference** in 2020 (due to COVID), the NorCal Group will once again be hosting the Leadership Conference this coming September 2022. Training will be offered for all leaders in executive board positions, as well as other important roles within the branches. This may be a hybrid conference, but however it is presented, it will be essential for all CWC branch leaders take advantage of this pertinent CWC training. Put this on your calendars. Our goal is to offer all branch leaders the best tools available to help them meet the growing needs of their branches. Working together and sharing best practices strengthens all.

Respectfully submitted: Carole Bumpus, CWC NorCal Chair – 2015-2022

More Notes from the World

BREW A FEW PINTS OF CLASSIC CRIME

THE
Wolfe Pack + Alfred Hitchcock's
MYSTERY MAGAZINE



Proudly Announce THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL Black Orchid Novella Award Contest

Each entry must be an original, unpublished work
of fiction in the traditional deductive style
exemplified by the Nero Wolfe series that:

- Does not include characters from the original series
- Emphasizes the deductive skills of the sleuth
- Contains no overt sex or violence

★ **First prize:** \$1,000 and publication in Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*

Entries must be 15,000 to 20,000 words in length, and must be postmarked by May 31, 2022. The winner will be announced at the Wolfe Pack's Annual Black Orchid Banquet on December 3, 2022. Please visit www.nerowolfe.org for official rules and procedures to submit your novella. With questions, contact Jane K. Cleland: jane@janecleland.com. *If no acceptable candidates are received, AHMM and The Wolfe Pack reserve the right to declare no winner in any given year.

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FREE Online Workshops w/ **JANE CLELAND**

Award-winning author Jane Cleland is offering **FREE** Zoom workshops on the craft of writing for writers of every skill-level. If you're working on a novel or wanting to write one, Jane will take you behind the curtain and share her years of experience with writing craft and its many intricacies, as well as the world of traditional publishing, with its agents, editors and publishers...Oh my!

Sign up in advance at

<https://janecleland.com/events> to register for these webinars. You'll receive a link to the workshop shortly before, and on the day of the event. Don't miss these...register early.

Saturday, Jan. 22, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT

"The Inside Scoop w/ Paula Munier"

Agents, editors and publishers...Oh my!

Saturday, Feb. 12, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT

**"Raise the Stakes for Your Protagonist
—and Yourself"**

Specific tips and tactics for success...

Jane Cleland is an award-winning author who writes books on writing craft, crime fiction, middle grade, espionage, and the long-running Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series, all published by St. Martin's Minotaur. Her 14th book in the Josie Prescott series, ***Jane Austen's Lost Letters***, will be available this December. Cleland teaches writing at the university level, and contributes craft articles to ***Writers Digest***. She knows her stuff!

<https://janecleland.com/events/>

Check out

winningwriters.com

for contests with big money prizes

More Notes from the World

Narrative Magazine

Contest Deadlines in 2022

Winter 2022 Story Contest (fiction & non-fiction)

DEADLINE: March 31st

To submit: www.narrativemagazine.com/winter-2022-story-contest

x x x

\$4,000 Narrative Prize (writers and poets) —

DEADLINE: June 15th

To submit: www.narrativemagazine.com/great-stories/narrative-prize

x x x

For general submissions to the magazine:

<https://www.narrativemagazine.com/submit-your-work>

TCK Publishing.com

2022 * 2022 * 2022

Flash Fiction Contest

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2022

Submission Length: 500 words or less

Use this link for more details on this contest and others, and to submit your work

<https://www.tckpublishing.com/2022-flash-fiction-contest/>

Entry Fee: \$10/submission

Prize: \$1,000 & publication on the TCK publishing website

More Notes from the World

★ CONTESTS ★ ★ NEWSLETTERS ★ ★ ETC. ★

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.com.

The Writer. Website and free newsletter. Listing of mostly pay-to-enter contests. writermag.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

Terrific Resource for Writers in the Age of COVID — **FREE**

The **Gotham Writers Workshop** in New York City has put together the **Inside Writing** series of free talks about writing. Each talk features a writer in a particular genre and an agent who deals with that genre. The first season covered everything from historical fiction to graphic novels to writing query letters.

Seasons 1 & 2 are archived at:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIOByuSHCqP7V9mSsoqU5Fojjys2LsvYi>

Season 2 (recent presentations)

Inside Writing: Satire and Parody

Inside Writing: Comics and Cartoons

Check out these **free** talks on your genre!

Call for *Romance* Submissions

Belonging Books, a new, inclusive, feminist publishing house, began accepting submissions in June 2020. Submissions can be of all lengths from and about minorities—people of color, people with disabilities, religious minorities, LGBTQ+ people, etc.—and non-traditional romance.

Mission: diversify and modernize the genre.
belongingbooksonline.wordpress.com

FREE Online Workshops

scriptwriters check out
roadmapwriters.com

More Notes from the World

2022 CWC LITERARY REVIEW

Now Open for Submissions Deadline: January 31st

For submission details, go to <https://calwriters.org/publications/#submit>

Reedsy Learning

FREE

*Writing Classes,
Webinars and a Blog*

https://blog.reedsy.com/learning/courses/writing/show-dont-tell/?utm_source=mailparrot&utm_campaign=learning_show_don_t_tell

Reedsy has lots of free classes and webinars for writers, as well as many archived blog topics.

Check it out!

Genre-specific Websites

Sisters in Crime <http://www.sistersincrime.org>
(open to men as well as women)

Mystery Writers of America <http://www.mysterywriters.org>

Romance Writers of America <http://www.rwa.org>

Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America
<http://www.sfwaweb.org>

Inspire Christian Writers <http://inspirewriters.com>

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
<http://www.scbwi.org>

Women's National Book Association <http://www.wnba-books.org> (open to men, as well as women)

Academy of American Poets <http://www.poets.org>

Poetry Society of America <http://www.poetrysociety.org>

National Association of Memoir Writers
<http://www.namw.org>

American Society of Journalists and Authors
<http://www.asja.org> (nonfiction writers)

CineStory (screenwriters) <http://www.cinestory.org>

Scriptwriters Network <http://scriptwritersnetwork.com>

Historical Novel Association <https://historicalnovelsociety.org/>

Horror Writers Association <http://www.horror.org>

Attention Poets & Poetry Lovers

Check out the Poetry Center of San José

open mics * speakers * poetry slams * anthologies * etc.

www.poetrycentersanjose.org

FAW Members on Social Media

● Angelica G. Allen

Angelica is a Seventh-Day Adventist Christian author of **Millennial Fiction and Poetry** books, genres targeted to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to millennials. These SDA Christian genres were created by the Fremont, Bay Area native, and are defined as having Seventh-Day Adventist symbolism, coded languages, lyrical writing, illustrations, and emotional storytelling in her U.S. Copyright. You can learn more about these books on her Website:

AngelicaGAllen.com Like her author Facebook page **@AngelicaG.Allen** and follow her on Instagram: **@AngelicaGAllen** where she posts a new poem in her Reels section every Wednesday!

● Cherilyn Chin

Cherilyn is a professional aquarist and marine biologist. For the past 12 years, she's maintained her award-winning blog, "**Ocean of Hope: Marine Animals Voice Their Wishes on Ocean Conservation Issues**," and has 8,500 followers on Twitter. She also writes children's fiction and non-fiction books about the ocean. She's a website developer, strategic content copywriter, and digital marketer at **Wordsmith for Wealth**.

<https://protecttheoceans.org/wordpress> Twitter: **@protectoceans**

<https://wordsmithforwealth.com>

● Terry Connelly

Twice a week Terry posts her own writing ranging from essays, personal stories, poetry and short fiction. On her second blog she posts prompts twice a week, to help get you started.

tconnellyswritingposts.com connellyswritingprompts.com

● Evelyn LaTorré, EdD

Evelyn loves to travel and write about her experiences. Besides travel adventures, the blogs on her website share the first chapter of her prize-winning book, *Between Inca Walls*, her adventures in other countries, and her cousin's drowning on the Costa Concordia cruise ship. You can also find recent recordings of her interviews. Website:

<https://www.evelynlatorre.com>; Facebook: **Evelyn Kohl LaTorre, Author**; and Instagram: **evelynkohllatorre**.

● Luanne Oleas

Luanne writes literary and women's fiction, when she's not creating social media links. Her most recent foray is into promotional videos on Youtube, but her blog (Pondering Life in Silicon Valley) and other links are also updated periodically. Follow Luanne at: Website: <https://luanneoleas.com> BLOG: <http://blog.luanneoleas.com/> Amazon Author's Page: <https://www.amazon.com/-/e/B07PBNM6NB> and **Social Media** — Facebook: (personal) <https://www.facebook.com/luanne.oleas> (author): <https://www.facebook.com/Luanne-Oleas-Author-114940863384719/> Twitter: https://twitter.com/bike_writer Youtube Promo Videos: *A PRIMROSE IN NOVEMBER*: <https://youtu.be/Gtnk5FHpEeE> *FLYING BLIND*: <https://youtu.be/X0HFzceXdoU>

● Rekha Ramani

Rekha has a **Facebook** page devoted to sharing her poetry called, "**Poetry: Sweet and Bittersweet**," with a standing invitation to FAW members, as well as non-member poets, to post their poetry.

● Dave M. Strom

Check out Dave's creative and tech writing blogs and his videos at: <http://davemstrom.wordpress.com/> <http://davemstrom.weebly.com/> <http://www.youtube.com/user/davstrom>

● Anita Tosh

Anita writes YA Christian fiction often with a focus on the "end times." She's recently published her third book, **The Book of Jeremy**. It's now available for sale. Website & Blog: **booksbyanita.com** Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/111394698919> YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn2Eh1NyNnca6V0pAZNUSRA>

FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER

BANG!

It's all built out of stardust,
this leap from nothing to light, law, and time,
from spark to soul.

Our star-fathers marched, not straight—but wildly zig-zag,
skewing orbits,
swapping genes,
reaching into seawater and pulling out heartbeats...
Listen! The pulse you hear is nature's backbeat:
all things ticking in uneasy rhythm...
Every proton,
every tentacle,
every lifted wing
sings in this folk-epic
of adventurers gambling with their own bones.

Our torch-bearers are not the noblest,
nor the finest,
but the shape-shifters:
changing habits and habitats,
seizing the main chance,
slicing shortcuts through history...

Look! Furry fingers grasp a stone,
strike a wedge-shaped flake with a wicked edge...

And off goes life at another wacky angle,
a universe writing its own comic strip
in stardust.

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in stardust.

Patricia Doyne © 3/2017

Un-Merry-Go-Round

Here we go again!
COVID, Delta, Omicron, and friends...
How many of us must die
before this ends?

Nancy Guarnera

Is There Enough Love

Love is the most powerful force in the universe
It sees beyond the surface to the Truth
It is the very essence of what we are
Time to wake up and be the power of Love

Nancy Guarnera

The Great Rock



The deep ocean and the huge Rock like an Island settled in the depths of the Sea
The raging current... as if it is limited from covering the Rock's existence.

The roaring waves... The great Rock surrounded by the force of the powerful ocean.
The strong current firmly stopped, by the powerful steady Rock

The unmovable Rock... Creates a sense of Peace-in the middle of a great turbulence...
A very special place in Nature.

Leticia Escalera

Who would enter here so splendid
Must needs consider
What liveth beyond that open span.
Appearance so inviting
Appeal so all embracing
Yet, doth caution its tiny voice command.
Shall you enter or forbear?
Shall you question motivation?
Will the urge to continue win the fight?
Are the odds in favor of triumph or failure?
Or, is this just a waste of energy and time?
Such, I think, is life each day.
Our lives begin anew
as we face each morn, with a choice to make, which door to pass through or shun.

Terry Tosh

The Garden Door



Solvang, CA photo by Jeremy Stevenson,
grandson of Terry Tosh

(Inspired by a visual prompt by his grandson Jeremy Stevenson)

FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER (Continued)

MRS. SEFAN

You should see her now
Pregnant Warrior
Mama Bear
Protector

You should see her then
Facing fear in transition
Towering above violence
Rage
On the road to Greatness

You should see her present
Prayers cover her
The Heavenly hosting
Legions of His Angels as her haloed hedge
She is protected
The will of God had won
This woman child named Breakthrough birthed
Freedom

Angelica G. Allen



Art Work by Jo Ann Frisch

Visual Prompt

Visual Prompt



Photo by Paul K. Davis

FAW Board Members



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toshmanii@yahoo.com



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Secretary



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FREMONT AREA WRITERS

- 2009 Bob Garfinkle
- 2011 Myrla Raymundo
- 2013 Carol Hall
- 2015 Art Carey
- 2017 Shirley Ferrante
- 2019 Jan Small
- 2021 Nancy J Guarnera

BOARD MEETINGS
3:30 to 5:00 PM
Tuesday before the Fourth Saturday
General Membership Meeting
on ZOOM

FAW Chairpersons



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NANCY GUARNERA
Ink Spots Editor
Special Projects
inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org



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CWC Advertising
& Promotions



TONY PINO
"Fourth Monday"
Writers' Salon
up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com



ANITA TOSH
Membership
Nor-Cal Representative
nanatosh56@gmail.com



TERRY TOSH
CWC Representative
toshmanii@yahoo.com



KNUTI VANHOVEN
Speakers Program
Publicity

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*)