

CELEBRATING MOTHERS EVERYWHERE



# Ink Spots



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

Nancy Guarnera Editor-in-Chief

Vol. 120 May 2022

inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org

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

Visual Prompt



© Knuti Van Hoven

# *May General Meeting*

**\* May 28<sup>TH</sup> \* 2 to 4 PM \* Zooming \***

## **Knuti VanHoven**

*How Not to  
"Make a Sow's Ear"  
out of a Silk Purse*



**Knuti VanHoven**  
*Performance Coach*

*How do you convince people that something wonderful is boring and useless?  
And why would you want to?*

**T**hat sounds like a ridiculous task, but theater and presentation coach (and FAW VP) Knuti VanHoven has seen it done over and over again. "I've gone to book readings where the work was brilliant, and I knew that because I'd read the book and formed an opinion about it before I ever saw the author come on stage. When they did, even they seemed bored and/or apologetic, sometimes even insulting my taste by explaining why this book (which I had enjoyed) was no good!"

On Saturday, May 28th, Fremont Area Writers May Zoom meeting will host VanHoven to show her fellow authors how to make the most out of their performance opportunities.

Why? "Because when I watch a talented person, be they a writer, an artist or an engineer, present a terrific product in a way that completely deflates the audience's interest, it's painful. What's worse is that they usually blame the poor audience response on the product, rather than their presentation."

"I've directed over a hundred shows, teaching performers to walk out on stage with apparent confidence, and then play a character in a way that allows the audience to care about them. The same set of techniques works when teaching presentation skills. For most people, they're easy to pick up and understand. It's about researching what your audience is looking for, and then gaining their interest in your work, whether it's a book of haiku, a phone app, or a Big Band.

"Your creations should be presented to show their full worth. I want to help you figure out how to do that."

The Fremont Area Writers monthly meeting begins at 2:00 pm, on Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. It's free and open to the public. Anyone who enjoys writing is encouraged to join us. For your Zoom invitation, email Scott Davidson at [scottfrombayside@yahoo.com](mailto:scottfrombayside@yahoo.com) with "FAW Zoom" on your subject line. You should receive the link the day before the meeting.

For information on Fremont Area Writers, visit our website at [cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org).





**TERRY TOSH**  
FAW President

# President's Message

Happy May, everybody! And to all the mothers...Happy Mother's Day!

It is shaping up to be a glorious spring, at least as of this writing in early April! Enjoy your opportunities to get out into the yard, or wherever you can catch some rays, and soak up some inspiration while you're at it.

I would not normally do this, but because of the timing and upcoming events that happen every year at this season, I am going to include some of my comments from April's message again this month. Meanwhile, enjoy your benefits as a member, and take time to smell the coffee, roses, and bacon, or whatever brings happiness and fond memories into your life. Maybe use them as a catalyst, springboard, prompt to start, continue or complete that (those) project(s) you have lying dormant in that cranium, or on that notebook/laptop/computer that you plan to "someday" get started/moving on.

## *What follows is the re-run from April as promised above:*

Thank you all for being contributing members of our great organization that is California Writer's Club. Just by contributing your membership fees, as well as using your resources available to improve yourself and help others, you are practicing growth and mentorship. When you encourage others to check out our group, or to use their talents to help others to grow in their endeavors, you are contributing to the success of yourself and others.

I just want to, once again, reiterate the importance of using your talents and gifts to their fullest potential by stepping up and stretching yourself to support your fellow members by volunteering to work as a Chairperson on the board, or even better as an elected official. Consider what you can do to bring fresh energy and talent to this branch.

It is not an extremely time-consuming commitment, and the feeling you receive of accomplishment and giving are something money can't buy. And you don't have to do it alone, any member of our board will be more than willing to mentor and tutor you as you learn and move forward in your new position.

Thanks again for giving this some thought, and contacting me or anyone else on the board of your willingness to step up and put your hat in the ring. **We will be electing the 2023 Officers and assigning leadership to the committees this coming June meeting, so, if you're interested, don't delay.**

I also want to ask that everyone visit at our Facebook page [facebook.com/FremontAreaWriters](https://facebook.com/FremontAreaWriters) and website as often as possible, in order to get more traffic to the sites, and to encourage others to visit them. [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org) & [www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://www.cwc-fremontareawriters.org)

Keep the faith!

**TERRY**

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# A Word from Our Editor



**Nancy Guarnera**  
Editor-in-Chief *Ink Spots*

**W**elcome to our May 2022 issue of *Ink Spots*. I hope this finds you and those you love safe, healthy and happy. And Happy Mother's Day to all you moms.

My mom "graduated" (her term for dying) in 2009 on December 1<sup>st</sup>. She was 85 years old and ready to go. It boggles my mind that she's been "gone" almost 13 years. It seems like just yesterday. I wish I could say that I think of her every day, but that would not be true. Especially during COVID. Though I have wondered, how my parents would have responded to the pandemic. It would have been hard for them, I think. I have no guilt about not thinking about her every day; because I know she's gotten her wish...to be a tiger in her new life. I doubt that she's thinking of me every day; she's too busy teaching her cubs survival techniques and evading stupid, greedy humans. But, that's a story for another time.

Here's the story for this time. If you feel guilty about not thinking of your deceased mom (and/or dad) as much as you think you should, watch for things that will make you think of them. When I'm driving my car, I will randomly notice her initials (GG or GM) on a license plate. I think of her immediately. It feels like she's thinking about me and we're connecting. A little wave of the hand just to say "Hi!" Some –

times it's just once in that moment; but sometimes, I see her initials over and over again on a single trip to the store. I consider these hugs and kisses. Occasionally, I will see our initials together (NGG or NGM), and I'm drawn into a much longer trip down memory lane. The order of the initials doesn't matter. I see my Dad's (d. 7/7/2007, he was 79) initials more often than my mom's. I suspect this might be because he died suddenly with no warning. One minute he was there, the next he was gone. I know we had unfinished business; Mom and I were good.

One more thing...4:44. It was their favorite number. No matter where they were, if they saw 4:44 on a digital clock, or in any other form, they shared the moment with each other, even if they were at opposite ends of the apartment. Now, when my husband or I see 4:44, we share it with each other and we think of our time with them. (FYI—1:11 and 11:11 are our favorite numbers.) Life is always reaching out to life, sharing a connection, no matter how transient or ephemeral. We only miss these moments when we're not paying attention. So, I do my best to pay attention. **Happy Mother's Day, Mom!**

**June** brings with it **Father's Day, Juneteenth, Flag Day, and World Refugee Day. Submit your poems and short pieces ...about these things, or those totally unrelated. Deadline is May 10<sup>th</sup>.** (A small piece of Father's Day trivia, your editor was born the day before Father's Day. Way to go Mom and Dad! What a gift! One time, when my birthday and Father's Day fell on the same day, and I was just old enough to notice, I got to celebrate my birthday with a Father's Day cake, decorated with slippers, pipe and a newspaper. I made a fuss...I was probably four, just old enough to know this cake was not about me.

**Stay Healthy and Happy!**

**Cheers! Nancy**

## Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Please send all submissions for *Ink Spots* to [inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org). Remember to put **FAW—Ink Spots Submission—Your Name** in the **Subject**; this makes it so much easier to find your email. Thanks for sharing your writing with us.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Submissions are due on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the publication month unless otherwise arranged: May 10<sup>th</sup> for the June 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, Recap, etc.): **400 to 500 words max.**

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

**Kudos:** **100 words max.** **Book/Movie Reviews** **350 & 500 max.**

**FORMAT:** Text – Word.doc/docx in 12 pt Arial or New Times Roman. **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, single space only, and don't indent. Thank you!

# ***FAW – May Meetings***

## **Fremont Area Writers “Fourth Saturday” Membership Mtg on Zoom**

**Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:00 PM**

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

*May's Speaker: FAW Member, Knuti VanHoven Performance Coach*

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

## **Fremont Area Writers “Tuesday before 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday” Board Meeting on Zoom**

**Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup> 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 – May Meetings***

### **Fremont Area Writers**

#### **“Second Saturday”**

### **Social Write-In on Zoom**

**Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:scottfrombayside@yahoo.com)*

### **Fremont Area Writers**

#### **“Fourth Monday”**

### **Writers’ Salon on Zoom**

**Monday May 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Angelica G Allen**, who will be signing her books at booth 109 on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Bay Area Book Festival and at the Barnes & Noble book store in Blossom Hill on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Congratulations, Angelica!**

**KUDOS to Scott Davidson**, whose article, "The Mathematics of Jigsaw Puzzles," on using math to analyze jigsaw puzzles, was used by the production people of the new series "Sister Boniface" (on BritBox) as the source of the Sister's analysis of the complexity of puzzles. See it on the episode "Love and Other Puzzles" season 1, episode 3. It appears in the book "There's more to jigsaw puzzles than pieces" and is also being reprinted in *Puzzle Hobby Magazine*. **Congratulations, Scott!**

**KUDOS to Evelyn LaTorre**, will have an essay in the She Writes Press anthology *Art in the Time of Unbearable Crisis*. There were close to 900 submissions; she considers being included a real honor. All royalty proceeds for the book will be going to World Central Kitchen, a nonprofit that is setting up meal distribution sites on the Polish/Ukrainian border. World Central Kitchen is one of Evelyn's favorite charities, and she loves being an author who can make a difference in the world, beyond sharing her talent as a writer!

She was also recently interviewed by the President of the National Association of Memoir Writers, Linda Joy Myers about her latest memoir, *Love in Any Language*. Here is the link if you want to take a listen.

<https://vimeo.com/686958918> **Congratulations, Evelyn!**

**KUDOS to Dave Strom**, whose story, "The God Glove," is in an award-winning book. From Laurel Ann Hill's press release: "(Orinda, CA) — The INDEPENDENT PRESS AWARD (IPA) has recognized Fault Zone: Reverse as the winner in the Anthology Category of their annual Indies competition. Laurel Anne Hill, the Editor-in-Chief, was delighted to inform CWC anthology contributors that they all are now nationally recognized "award-winning" authors and poets." (Thanks to "evil editor" Laurel for whipping the 35 stories into award-winning shape.) **Congratulations, Dave!**



From left, First row : Charlotte Severin, Julie Cohn, Elizabeth Hack, Pat Doyne, Ann Maloney-Mason  
Second Row: Pam Holloway, Usha Shukla, Ruey Syrop, Winifred Thompson, Jo Ann Frisch

**NATIONAL LEAGUE OF  
AMERICAN PEN WOMEN**  
NLAPW Diablo-Alameda Branch  
Member Show  
**VISIONS OF SPRING**  
A Collaboration of Artists,  
Musicians & Writers  
Exhibition Dates:  
March 29 – May 31, 2022  
Livermore Valley Performing Arts  
Theater Bankhead Theater  
2400 First St, Livermore, CA 94551

**The National League of American Pen Women was founded in 1897.  
It has 81 branches where 1600+ artists, writers and composers meet for support and inspiration.**



# April Speaker Recap



Natica Angilly, and her husband, Richard, shared their 30-year story of traveling the world sharing their particular form of arts fusion—dance and poetry.

Their life together is an amazing collection of “being in the right place at the right time”-stories, that have allowed them to perform for heads of state and royal families, at international conferences, and venues where healing is a goal. As they explained, they let the winds of the Universe carry them forward and stayed open to the endless opportunities that supported them through three decades of sharing their message for global peace and understanding the world over.

## Natica & Richard Angilly Dancing Poetry



Photos above are of the 2021 Dancing Poetry's performance of “Beauty Road”

The Angillys came prepared to show us several videos of their performances, but we ran out of time, so we're making the recording of the meeting available to anyone who would like to see it. Please email Scott Davidson at [scottfrombayside@yahoo.com](mailto:scottfrombayside@yahoo.com) for the file and instructions for downloading it to your computer. The file will be available for a limited time. Whether you were able to attend the meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> or not, don't miss the opportunity to watch the recording and see the videos that the Angilly's wanted to show us. If you go to the FAW website home page, above the flyer for the April meeting, you'll find instructions to locate the videos, on the recording. You can also watch their performances on their website [www.dancingpoetry.com](http://www.dancingpoetry.com).

**SPECIAL NOTE:** We will be making the meeting recordings available to all members going forward, and will be discontinuing the meeting recaps in the newsletter, unless someone decides to write this article for future issues. If you have enjoyed a particular speaker and want to recap that one meeting, submit your written piece (400 to 500 words) no later than four days before the end of that month. Contact the editor at [inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org) if you are interested in writing this monthly feature.



Dancing  
Poetry's  
2019  
performance  
of “Lost Gloves”





# FAW & CWC Information

— PLEASE READ —

*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**.*

**FREE  
PASSES**

## SF Writers Conference

**FREE  
PASSES**

Hyatt Regency Embarcadero, San Francisco

**July 21-24, 2022**

The passes give you free entry to an all-day event and the privilege of mingling with top poets and screenwriters who will be teaching classes throughout that day. Interested in winning a ticket? Contact Terry Tosh at [toshmanii@yahoo.com](mailto:toshmanii@yahoo.com) for details.

### **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 win the give-away contest.)*

For more information about the conference go to  
<https://www.facebook.com/SanFranciscoWritersConference>

## WHO, WHAT, WHEN & WHERE...

As of January 1, 2022, all CWC branch speaker meetings will be added to the Events Calendar on CWC's website below. All members are encouraged to consult the calendar for speakers of interest and attend the listed meetings. CWC members attending other branches' monthly meetings should expect to pay the same attendance fee as that branch's members.

**<https://calwriters.org/events-month/>**

**FAW Needs You**

**Help Wanted**

**FAW Needs You**

**FAW Board Elections coming in June. Let us know if you'd like to share your talents with us as a member of the Board.**

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

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

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

*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. Check pages 23 & 24 for contact info.*

# ***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.)

## ***Ten Windows: How Great Poems Transform the World***

**by Jane Hirshfield (2017)**

Hirshfield's "windows" are distinctive ways of looking at the world through poetry.

She starts out by saying that poetry "is not simply the recording of inner or outer perceptions; it makes, by words and music, new possibilities of perceiving." and illustrates these new ways of perceiving with rhythmic and tightly crafted poems by Gerard Manley Hopkins.

Another of the ten windows is concealment. "Most good poems," she says, "hold some part of their thoughts in invisible ink."

Hirshfield presents many poems to exemplify the "window moment" when poems "change their direction of gaze in a way that suddenly opens a broadened landscape of meaning and feelings."

She devotes a whole chapter to the innovations of Basho, whose haiku "find in the face of the long familiar, something not yet said."

Hirshfield spends another chapter analyzing what makes American poetry distinctively American. The author credits two major voices—Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson—and throws in beat poets, the New York School, and the "deep image" movement.

She brings her extensive knowledge of poetry from many cultures to *Ten Windows*. Her writing is clear, and she offers many examples of poems that leave us changed. Hirshfield's book is worth reading and rereading.

Review submitted by  
**Pat Doyne**

## ***Madam Speaker: Nancy Pelosi and the Lessons of Power***

**by Susan Page (2021)**

This biography of Nancy Pelosi covers her life through the 2020 election and her indelible impact on American politics. We learn that Pelosi's story begins with her big-city mayor father and her mother—"the powerhouse of Albemarle Street." Pelosi learned politics through osmosis, but never saw herself joining politics. Page's book includes behind-the-scenes details and revelations on trying times of our recent history, i.e., the financial crisis of 2007-2008 subprime mortgage failures and Lehman Brothers bankruptcy, September 11, 2001, the Affordable Care Act, and Covid-19. Whether you agree with her politics or don't, she is a woman who has shown what a woman with tenacity can achieve. Move over Virginia Wolf. A woman can have not only a room of her own; she can have the whole House.

Review submitted by  
**Joyce Cortez**

**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, email your name and your answers to [inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org) and we'll publish your name. **Deadline** is the 25th of the month before the publication month (ex. May 25<sup>th</sup> for the June 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 with 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 June issue of Ink Spots.)

*Who are they?*

Karen F. Brerth \* Bart Prebeti \* W. Kelcie Rala

Dasie Lupetra \* Grase Huvy \* Patite Xerbot

**Hints \* Authors \* Hints**

3 authors, 3 characters, 3 males, 3 females, 1 Brit, 2 Americans, 1 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cen., 1 20<sup>th</sup> cen., 1 20<sup>th</sup>-21st cen. conservationist, winner of Pulitzer Prize fiction, illustrator, serialized sci-fi, winner National Book Award for fiction, 6-book series, some works were first told in illustrated letters, two were amateur mycologists, considered a classic in the sci-fi genre, breeder of prize-winning sheep, wrote and published collections of poems, essays, and short stories as well as novels, influenced by fairy tales and fantasies, parents were sharecroppers, popularized “ecology,” social activist, authored 30 books, winner of Nebula and Hugo Awards, editor at MS magazine

**Please note:** These names do not necessarily conform to the number of words in a poet'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 poets from the April 2022 issue of Ink Spots.**

**Congrats to Pat Doyme, who got 11 and Steve Gibson who got all 12 poets.**

N.S. Milok Yindec  
Emily Dickinson

H.S. Gluten Gashon  
Langston Hughes

Hally Elwis Theip  
Phillis Wheatley

Dr. Whimril St. Wolowa  
William Wordsworth

Ferrot Borts  
Robert Frost

Larch I. Bonoti  
Ina Coolbrith

Megs Numcie  
e e cummings

Lewis Melash Kaipera  
William Shakespeare

Ranna Dogmama  
Amanda Gorman

Ivy St. Alpha  
Sylvia Plath

Reg Tao  
Tagore

Ash Pop  
Sappho

Naty Ramos  
May Sarton

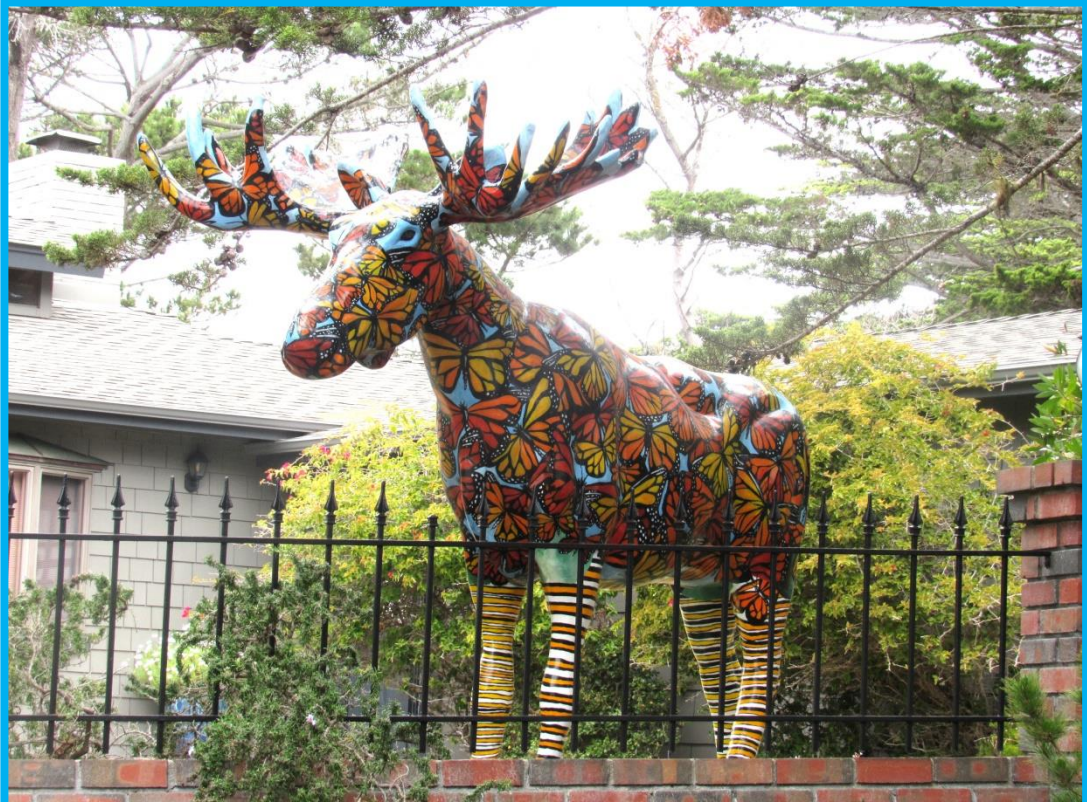
# Notes from the World

## 2022 CWC NorCal Save the Dates (Updated)

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

- ❖ The **NorCal Group** will host a booth at the **Bay Area Book Festival (BABF)** on **May 7-8, 2022** in Berkeley. **Alice Walker, author of *The Color Purple*, and Kim Stanley Robinson, author of the *Sci-Fi Mars* series**, are just two of the guest speakers at the festival this year. Volunteers who help staff the CWC booth, will also have the opportunity to sell their books while staffing. Volunteers may still be needed. **For information about volunteering, contact Keith Gaboury from the Berkeley CWC branch at: [Keith.gaboury@gmail.com](mailto:Keith.gaboury@gmail.com).**
- ❖ After missing our biennial **NorCal Leadership Conference** in 2020, the NorCal Group will once again be hosting the Leadership Conference on **October 1, 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 regardless of presentation, it will be essential for all CWC branch leaders to 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 assists all.

Visual Prompt



© Paul K Davis



# More Notes from the World

**BIG  
\$\$\$\$\$  
CONTEST**

## **North Street Book Prize For Self-Published Books**

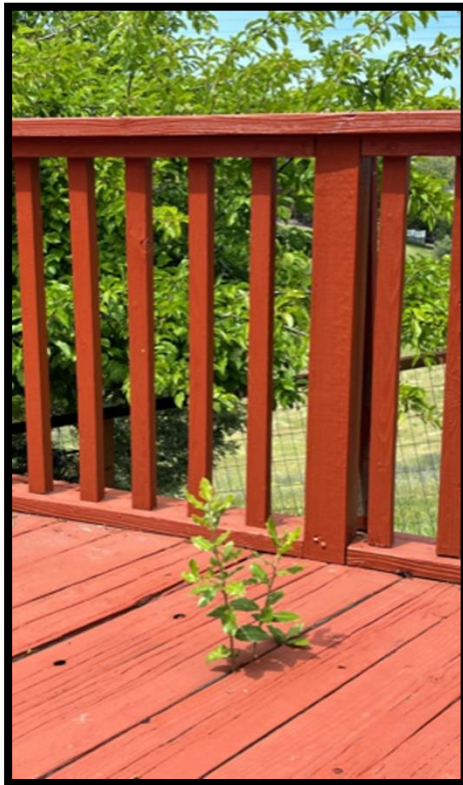
*Presented by  
**Winning  
Writers***

**Grand Prize: \$8,000    Deadline: June 30, 2022**

**Choose from seven categories:**

**Mainstream/Literary \* Genre Fiction \* Creative Nonfiction & Memoir \* Poetry  
Children's Picture Book \* Graphic Novel & Memoir \* Art Book**

**For details, go to: [www.winningwriters.com/our-contests/north-street-book-prize](http://www.winningwriters.com/our-contests/north-street-book-prize)**



*Visual Prompts*  
*use together or separately*

Photos by  
Rekha Ramani



# 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](http://www.nerowolfe.org) for official rules and procedures to submit your novella. With questions, contact Jane K. Cleland: [jane@janecleland.com](mailto: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.

## Are you an author?

Would you like  
**FREE ADVERTISING  
& FREE PUBLICITY**  
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Please visit us at:

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& Click the **CONTACT US** tab  
to leave a message.

Ian Johnson  
Advertising Manager / Co-Owner  
Chat And Spin Radio **UK**

FACEBOOK- [www.facebook.com/chatandspin](http://www.facebook.com/chatandspin)

## **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!

Register for these webinars in advance at:

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

**Saturday, May 14, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT**

**"Write for Your Readers:**

**Give 'em What They Want"**

*Meeting your readers' expectations...*

**Saturday, June 18, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT**

**"Writing Short Fiction That Sells"**

*Have you ever considered writing short fiction?*

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 14<sup>th</sup> book in the Josie Prescott series, *Jane Austen's Lost Letters*, made its debut last 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**

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

**DEADLINE: June 15<sup>th</sup>**

To submit: [www.narrativemagazine.com/great-stories/narrative-prize](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/great-stories/narrative-prize)

x x x

### **Six-Word Stories**

**DEADLINE: Continuous**

To submit: [www.narrativemagazine.com/sixwords](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/sixwords)

x x x

**For general submissions to the magazine:**

[www.narrativemagazine.com/submit-your-work](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://thewritelife.com/writing-contests)

**Poets & Writers. Website.** Searchable contest database with filters for cost, genre and deadline. [pw.org/grants](http://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](http://Submittable.com).

**The Writer. Website and free newsletter.** Listing of mostly pay-to-enter contests. [writermag.com/contests](http://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](http://fanstory.com)

## Gotham Writers Workshop — FREE —

The **Gotham Writers Workshop** in New York City has put together the **Inside Writing** series of free talks about writing. Now in its fifth season, the workshops cover a variety of tools necessary to writers in today's world. The format varies from season to season. Best of all, you get to listen and learn from other writers!

**Seasons 1 - 5 are archived at:**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIOByuSHCqP7V9mSsoqU5FojJys2LsvYi>

**Inside Writing: A recent Special Episode** discussed the importance of using "sensitivity readers" as part of your editing process.

Check out these **free** talks on writing!

## Call for *Romance* Submissions

**Belonging Books**, an 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](http://belongingbooksonline.wordpress.com)

## FREE Online Workshops

*scriptwriters check out*  
[roadmapwriters.com](http://roadmapwriters.com)



# More Notes from the World

**<https://calwriters.org/events-month/>**

Would you like to hear speaker presentations at CWC branch meetings statewide? Well, in the land of Zoom, you can. Use the link above to check out the calendar where branch events and meetings are listed. Roll your cursor over the meeting of interest to you, read the extended info, and follow the instructions to attend. This is also a way to get to know folks from other branches.

PLEASE NOTE: The CWC-NorCal calendar has been replaced by this statewide version.

## 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](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 WEBSITES

**Sisters in Crime** [sistersincrime.org](http://sistersincrime.org) *(also open to men)*

**Mystery Writers of America** [mysterywriters.org](http://mysterywriters.org)

**Romance Writers of America** [rwa.org](http://rwa.org)

**Golden State Romance Writers**  
[goldenstateromancewriters.org](http://goldenstateromancewriters.org)  
*(open to all genre fiction writers)*

**Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America**  
[sfwa.org](http://sfwa.org)

**Inspire Christian Writers** [inspirewriters.com](http://inspirewriters.com)

**Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators**  
[schwi.org](http://schwi.org)

**Women's National Book Association** [wnba-books.org](http://wnba-books.org)  
*(also open to men)*

**Academy of American Poets** [poets.org](http://poets.org)

**Poetry Society of America** [poetrysociety.org](http://poetrysociety.org)

**National Association of Memoir Writers** [namw.org](http://namw.org)

**American Society of Journalists and Authors** [asja.org](http://asja.org)  
*(nonfiction writers)*

**CineStory** [cinestory.org](http://cinestory.org) *(screenwriters)*

**Scriptwriters Network** [scriptwritersnetwork.com](http://scriptwritersnetwork.com)

**Historical Novel Association** [historicalnovelsociety.org](http://historicalnovelsociety.org)

**Horror Writers Association** [horror.org](http://horror.org)

## Attention Poets & Poetry Lovers

*Check out the Poetry Center of San José*

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

**[www.poetrycentersanjose.org](http://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:

**listoutallyourproblems.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](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](http://booksbyanita.com)**

Facebook Group: **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/111394698919>**

YouTube Channel: **<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn2Eh1NyNnca6V0pAZNUSRA>**

# FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER

\*\*\*\*\*

## Dear Scam Likely

Your devotion is heart-warming.  
My kids phone every Mother's Day  
(or shortly thereafter)  
but you ring my cell phone several times a day  
to check on my welfare.

My car, for example.  
I, too, have concerns about my '99 VW Bug.  
The upholstery is separating from both doors,  
and duct tape no longer holds it in place.  
My headlights are dim, so I flash brights at night.  
Last week I scraped the front end on a parking block  
and a fog light fell off.  
But you say my warranty's about to expire?  
You do know this is a '99 model, right?  
And you still care? Bless your heart!

You're also concerned about my student loan,  
now in arrears and facing foreclosure.  
You're right, I'd hate to be hounded by creditors.  
Did you forget that several years ago, I retired  
after four decades in the classroom?

In my college days, there were no student loans,  
just scholarships, two or three part time jobs,  
and a lot of macaroni.  
Nonetheless, it's kind of you to watch my back.

Kind, also, to offer assistance with my credit card.  
So scary that I face being hauled off to jail  
If I give you my card numbers and security code,  
you will make threats and menace go away--  
rescue me, and guarantee peace of mind.  
Thank goodness you are so vigilant!  
My monthly statements are clueless!

So, thank you for your unfailing solicitude.  
If there's ever anything I can do for you,  
just let me know.  
If I had your real name,  
your address (including country and continent),  
and **your** cell phone number,  
I'd return the favor.

**Patricia Doyne** ©3/2022

## Broken Bones

*(from an FAW Social Write -In prompt)*

More often than not when I write poetry,  
it feels like I have "broken bones" in my  
words, body, and mind. After all isn't  
poetry about "broken bones?" Many  
people, friends and relatives alike, and  
folks from FAW have lauded my poetry,  
but I've never felt that uplifting moment  
to actually have a sense of accomplish-  
ment from the poems I write. Facebook,  
time and again comes up with a caption  
"your Memories," and I watch my poems  
drifting through from years ago. All I see

are broken bones, and I hurriedly sift  
through them.

But when I start writing about my "broken  
bones" in a poem, I get lost in it, the imagery  
just pops up, and whether good or bad, I  
spill my guts onto paper. My mind becomes  
a creative journal, and I release my pain  
through my Muse, and at that moment, and  
for only that moment, my Muse is able to  
heal my broken bones.

**Rekha Ramani** © 2022



## The Man in the Sky

by Nancy Guarnera

"Mama?" The little girl pulled on her mother's hand to get her attention, her voice tinged with apprehension. They were walking through a large fallow field, and were quite alone in the early spring countryside.

"Yes, Doodle? What is it?" The mother stopped and looked down at her four-year old.

"Why is there a man in the sky?"

"Oh...Sweetheart, there's no one in the sky." She smiled reassuringly at her daughter, and walked on. She did not look up.

"Yes there is," Doodle replied straining at her mother's hand, trying to stop her.

"He has a long pointy nose, a long chin with a scruffy beard, a big angry eye, a deep scar on his cheek, and he's wearing a hat." She poked her finger at the man above them and again pulled on her mother's hand to get her to look at him.

"Oh, I'll bet it's just a cloud..." But her daughter interrupted her.

"And his hands are up like he's going to grab something...and he's getting bigger."

Finally, her mother looked up, but she did not see the man in the sky. Having lost her ability sometime in her mid-twenties to see the goings on skyward, all she saw was wisps of cloud. Alas, dwindling imagination, a sad side effect of adulthood from which many older humans suffer.

"It's alright, Doodle, it's just clouds. It's okay for you to see the man, but honey, it's really just clouds."

"But, Mama...he's getting closer." Her hand tightened on her mother's: apprehension had given way to fear.

"Don't worry, he can't hurt you, he's just a cloud."

Her daughter was sniffing and tears were making their way down her cheeks, but her mother didn't notice. They were going to miss their train home if



Visual prompt from the front cover of the April 2022 issue of *Ink Spots* inspired this story

Photo by  
Nancy Guarnera

they didn't hurry. They still had a long walk ahead of them. She made haste, dragging her daughter behind her.

"Mama," she was crying now.

"C'mon now, Doodle, we have to hurry or we'll miss the train." She pulled at the crying child behind her. But she wouldn't budge. How was she losing a tug of war with a four year old?

"Mama," Doodle screamed, "the bad man has me!"

As her mother turned, full of anger at her misbehaving child, the girl's hand wrenched from hers. The woman stood there, mouth open but empty of sound, as she watched her shrieking baby girl, her little Doodle, float up into the sky. She looked like she was cradled in someone's arms, though there was no one there. The child flailed and kicked and screamed, "Mama, don't let the man take me."

"Doodle!" She called out to her child.

"Mama!" Wailed over and over again, the word, full of tears and anguish, was fading on the wind as the child reached for her mother one last time. Very soon the little girl was nothing more than a speck in the sky. And then...even the speck was gone.

Breathing was impossible. The mother looked around in disbelief. There was no one there. She was alone...in an empty field in a lonely countryside. No one else had seen her child snatched from her hand. She could not fathom what had just happened. How could she tell someone that her daughter was taken by clouds that looked like a man with a pointy nose and an angry eye?

Trembling, she looked up. The clouds were gone. All she could see above her was endless blue sky.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Once Was But No More*

As another comes to a conclusion - my vacation  
A wave overwhelms filled with consternation  
Back to work is no longer just contemplation  
but an actualization.

Why then such a feeling of consternation  
when it should be more of relaxation  
maybe the bar is too low in expectation  
let's prepare some affirmations

Yes, there are the lessons in mental preparation  
buzzing in my mind's narration  
to be shown the light - such emancipation  
learning in its actualization.

Alas there is a sense of resignation  
combined with notes of frustration  
that regardless of my dedication  
I'm no longer respected or held in adulation.

Everywhere it reads that teachers are an abomination  
we need more professionalization  
we need more skills remediation  
we just don't have what it takes as an occupation.

It's not an exaggeration  
so many with their suggestions for our salvation  
yet what qualification  
those without an education foundation

Riverbank Academy - again my back to school visitation  
Those 5th graders were my inspiration  
bright faces in anticipation  
minds stirred in imagination

Though I was there just for a short duration  
There was a transformation  
the impetus was the teacher's navigation  
and a mind's cultivation.





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

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Once Was But No More* (continued)

Being a teacher is not for ovation  
certainly not for wealthy financial valuation  
but rather society's continuation  
and its intellectualization

so when the day is a bad situation  
when I wish students had more maturation  
when I give verbal exhortation  
and question my ideation

I'll seek my Pepsi medication  
I'll seek some mental separation  
I'll seek a peer's commiseration  
at the least some meditation

I will be back at it with determination and perspiration  
Believe, Achieve, Succeed - my invocation  
There's no room for negotiation  
definitely not to dwell in rumination

End of the year then celebration  
such is a teacher's predication.

**by George Kwong**  
© 2015

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## **JACK LONDON AWARDEES**

### **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**



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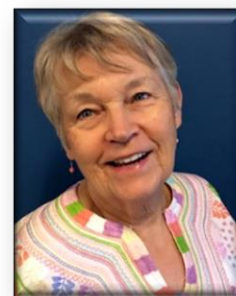
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## **FAW MISSION STATEMENT**

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*)