

CELEBRATING FATHERS EVERYWHERE



Ink Spots



The Newsletter of Fremont Area Writers

The "Centennial" Branch of the California Writers Club

Nancy Guarnera Editor-in-Chief

Vol. 121 June 2022

inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org

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



10 Wildflowers black sage, blue-eyed-grass, brodiaea, CA bluebells,
CA fuchsia, CA poppy, fiddleneck, johnny jump-up, lupine, monkeyflower

Visual Prompt

Artwork by Jo Ann Frisch

June General Meeting

* June 25TH * 2 to 4 PM * Zooming *

Dr. Evelyn LaTorre

How and When to Write Your Memoir



Author

Dr. Evelyn LaTorre

Evelyn LaTorre has written two memoirs and is now working on a third. It might surprise you how beneficial thinking and writing about your life can be. That simple creative act tends to lead to insights into how your experiences fit together and explain who you are today. Writing about a positive or negative personal or family memory also has the potential to improve your physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing.

Evelyn will share how memoir writing has benefited her and can be a pathway for you to recall your forgotten past. It can help you on your way to greater understanding of yourself and others who have played key roles in your life.

Evelyn's first published book, *Between Inca Walls*, about falling in love while serving in the Peace Corps, was awarded the 2021 Peace Corps Experience prize. It won a first place Hearten Award from Chanticleer International Book Awards and a five-star rating by Readers Favorite. Her second memoir, *Love in Any Language*, has garnered a Book Excellence International Award and has numerous 5-star reviews on Amazon.

Evelyn is often a featured podcast guest, lecturer, and presenter on topics such as how and why to write your memoir and the ingredients of a long-term marriage. She loves speaking to book clubs and professional groups. Her writing has appeared in the *California Writers Club Literary Review*, *World View Magazine*, *The Sanctuary Magazine*, *Women Writers*, *Women's Books*, *Dispatches*, *Conscious Connection*, and *Storeybook Reviews*, to name a few. Check out her website, <http://www.evelynlatorre.com>, to read her publications and hear her podcasts.

Evelyn holds a doctorate in Multicultural Education and in 2002 concluded 32 years as a school psychologist and special education administrator in public education. The years since have been filled with travels to over 100 foreign countries with her husband. She and her family visit Peru often and have spent a year in Italy. She is currently writing a book about her adventures abroad. At home, Evelyn keeps busy serving in local civic groups and walking around Lake Elizabeth.

Bring your questions about publishing and marketing your work, and she will share her experiences with us.

Fremont Area Writers' general meetings are held monthly and begin at 2:00 pm. This month's meeting is on Saturday, June 25th. It is free and open to the public. If you enjoy writing and/or reading, please join us. For your Zoom link, email Scott Davidson at scottfrombayside@yahoo.com with "FAW Zoom" in your subject line. You should receive the link the day before or the day of the meeting.

For more information on Fremont Area Writers, please visit our website at cwc-fremontareawriters.org.

Everyone is welcome!



TERRY TOSH
FAW President

President's Message

Another CWC year is coming to a close; I can hardly believe how quickly this year has advanced! All too soon, it is once again time for our Board elections and renewal of membership dues...sigh.

As of this writing, no one has stepped up and attempted to spread their wings to new heights of leadership, or even decided to return from the past and reclaim the reigns. We are fortunate that our current Board members are still willing to move forward and continue supporting those of us who are endeavoring to continue to write and mentor upcoming talents as we grow and strengthen in our individual and collective efforts.

I want to thank everyone for your continued partnership in this statewide organization, California Writers Club. CWC is working non-stop to

make available every tool and talent that we have the opportunity to glean from and use in our ever-expanding tool chest of information and resources. So many wonderful people and apps that are at our fingertips because of the amazing technology we have today. Dare I say, "Thanks, pandemic and fear for forcing the mother-of-invention Spirit to kick in and bring us Zoom and telecommuting options that we might not have attained otherwise?"

The world gave us lemons...

Never let a good crisis go to waste...

Drop back 10 and punt...

(Your tired and worn out cliché here...)

OK, back to the future.

We have no meeting for July scheduled at this time, but would love your input of any suggestions on gathering (online, or off) for some restful and congenial, relaxing and reflecting time together. Let us know your thoughts and ideas.

You should by now have received the renewal notifications and those of you who get your renewals processed by 6/30 will have a chance to win your membership fee back!

I look forward to working with all of you again this coming year, in whatever capacity you need me to undertake...

Thanks for your confidence and continuing support in "Writers Helping Writers."

Have a great June and summer, may you all richly grow in prosperity and skill.

Love to all,

TERRY

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A Word from Our Editor



Nancy Guarnera
Editor-in-Chief *Ink Spots*

Welcome to our June 2022 issue of *Ink Spots*. I hope this finds you and those you love safe, healthy and happy. **Happy Father's Day to all you dads!**

June is a significant month for me. It's the month I was born and the month I married my husband, Robert.

It's inconceivable to me that I've been on the planet for 71 years. I absolutely don't believe it...at least not until very recently. The gray hair, wrinkles and crepey skin that older folks get as they age have just begun to make themselves known. The gray hair doesn't bother me; I've never colored my hair, and I can't see the point of starting to now. The skin stuff is a little disconcerting though.

I'm getting crepey skin on my hands? Not the place I expected it. Of course it's showing up in other places as well, but my hands...? I've been blessed with really great skin and it's tough to see it begin to change. But, that's what aging is all about, isn't it? Change. And it happens no matter what age we are. There's not a whole lot we can do about it, except...accept it gracefully. At least that's what I'm choosing to do.

Instead of lying about my age and trying to resist the changes, or ignoring my birthday completely, I will once again celebrate my birthday all month long. I've been doing this for a while. My husband has joined me in this endeavor and spoils me wonderfully for thirty days. Of course, some days are more celebratory than others, but I enjoy the attention and I think he enjoys lavishing me with love and signs of affection, as well.

We've been married for 27 years and, as per the agreement, have gone through the good and the bad together. Robert spoiled me with flowers every day for about two weeks when we first started our courtship. There's always at least one orchid for our anniversary, often more. And, of course, my birthday orchids. We never miss an opportunity to share some of our favorite foods for our celebrations in June. We remember our dads in June, too. **Happy Father's Day, Dad!**

I'm mentioning this not because I'm fishing for birthday or anniversary wishes from you, but because I think it's important to remember to celebrate ourselves and each other, especially in times like these. It's so easy to take ourselves and each other...our loved ones...acquaintances...strangers...for granted. The thing is, you never know when life can very suddenly take away someone you love with little to no warning. So much of the past several years have been a collective nightmare, that it's difficult to believe we will ever know peace again, agree again, love again, be able to enjoy life again, without fear eating around the edges. That's why I'm celebrating myself, my husband, and our marriage every day, all month long. And it's why I'm going to do my best to take that celebratory consciousness into every relationship and encounter I have this June and into the future. Love, and acting from love, are really the only things that can get us out of this mess. There's no time like the present to stand up for the joyful life we all desire...and deserve.

Stay Healthy and Happy!

Cheers! Nancy

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Please send all submissions for *Ink Spots* to inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org. Remember to put **FAW—Ink Spots Submission—Your Name** in the **Subject field**; this makes it so much easier to find your email. If you don't do this, there's a good chance your submission will be missed. Thanks for sharing your writing with us.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Submissions are due on or before the 10th of the month prior to the publication month unless otherwise arranged (ex.: May 10th for the June issue). Please submit your written work and photos as attachments, rather than in the body of your email, if possible (please discuss w/ the editor).

WORD COUNT: Feature articles (President's Message, Speaker, 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 **DO NOT** double space between sentences, single space only, and **DO NOT** indent. Thank you!

FAW – June Meetings

Fremont Area Writers “Fourth Saturday” Membership Mtg on Zoom

Saturday June 25th 2:00 – 4:00 PM

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

June’s Speaker: Dr. Evelyn LaTorre, Memoirist

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

Fremont Area Writers “Tuesday before 4th Saturday” Board Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday June 21st 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 – June Meetings

Fremont Area Writers

“Second Saturday”

Social Write-In on Zoom

Saturday June 11th 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 June 27th 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, or submit it through the **Shout Out for Ink Spots** link at cw-fremontareawriters.org. Just scroll down the home page until you reach the red Shout Out link and click on it. Please keep it to 100 words or less. Put **FAW — KUDOS or Shout Out — Your Name** in the subject field of your email to us. If you don't, it may get lost in the mail. Thanks!

KUDOS to Robert Cabello, who has won the FREE pass to the Poetry Summit at this year's SF Writers Conference. **Congratulations, Robert!**

KUDOS to Tish Davidson, whose newest book, *Hormones: Your Questions Answered*, part of the Q&A Health Guides series, will be available in late June. **Congratulations, Tish!**

KUDOS to Pat Doyne, who has a solo art exhibit of botanicals at the new Hayward Public Library, and will present a demo on June 4, 2pm. * She also has paintings on exhibit at Kenneth Aitken Community Center in Castro Valley until July 5. * Two Uvalde, TX poems will be published in the June edition of the online magazine *Synchronized Chaos*. * "Wadaiko," my taiko drumming group, will be performing at the Mission San Jose festival on June 11, 11:30—12:15. **Congratulations, Pat!**

KUDOS to Jo Ann Frisch, whose grant proposal about frogs won the contest created by FAW March speaker, Margaret Thornberry. Jo Ann's grant proposal was to write and illustrate a children's book all about frogs. The contest prize – \$200. **Congratulations, Jo Ann!**

KUDOS to Carol Hall, who has won the FREE pass to the Screenwriting Summit at this year's SF Writers Conference. **Congratulations, Carol!**

KUDOS to Evelyn LaTorre, whose memoir, *Love in Any Language: A Memoir of Cross-Cultural Marriage*, has won a Book Excellence Award in the Multicultural Non-Fiction category. **Congratulations, Evelyn!**

KUDOS to Urmila Patel, who has recently traveled back to Uganda, her childhood home, after leaving her home 50 years ago at the time of the violent, forced expulsion of Asians from the country. While meeting with an East Indian businessperson there, she met director James Serunkuuma of the New Vision, Uganda television, radio, and newspaper. Serunkuuma was doing a documentary and interviewed Urmila. During her visit, he and his crew followed her to Entebbe, where they did a video shoot of her outside and inside the house in which she lived as a child. Urmila will be on Ugandan television! **Congratulations, Mila!**

KUDOS to Tony Pino, whose doctoral dissertation has been selected for reading at a global interfaith conference in February of 2023 at Tengaza University (Kenya). The last such meeting attracted 3,000 attendees representing 19 countries. Representatives of several Muslim universities were present. The title of the dissertation is "The Roots of Compassion in Islam: The Commitment to Displaced Humanity." **Congratulations, Tony!**



SIP NOTES

WEEK #50 MAY 27TH AMBER DeANN

COVID Isolation

I used to be part of the world.
Now I sit and look out the window
and reflect back on the good times,
the fun, laughter, sense of community,
peace in normal human togetherness.

I feel lost, abandoned, empty inside
— a shell of who I used to be.

Anger isn't even the word — my feelings go
much deeper — to shock, dismay, bewilderment,
disbelief,
to resentment, betrayal, and abandonment

I've lost my freedom,
my voice,
my dreams, my goals,
I've lost my spirit, my will, my rational mind.

Mental clarity,
positive, soul generated life direction—
where did it go?

What happened to my brain, my mind, my ability
to think, problem solve, identify right and wrong,
tell truth from a lie, to rely on my own God given
intuition to guide my life and attract my goals.

Now I'm isolating- It's not my fear I seek to appease,
but the fear of the authorities who run our lives
Who gave them control over my life?
Who gave them the right to restrict us like this?
to dominate us? to censor us, to imprison us like this?

I resent this, I scream in agony, I think, rationalize-
hoping to find a clue, a tip, a scapegoat

I seek answers. I want the names of the offenders,
the instigators of this nefarious plot against us
common humans

I seek for a Savior,
There is none.

I look in the mirror trying to find me again.
Then I hear the voice — "it's up to you."
It's up to you to find you again
It's also up to me to see the trickery here,
to see the deception, the deceit, the fraud
and correct it.

Amber DeAnn

COVID 2022 — thoughts & feelings
4/2022



PLEASE NOTE:

We do not publish a newsletter in July. Our editor needs a break.
We'll be back with an August issue of *Ink Spots* on the 1st of the month.

Deadline for the August issue is July 10th.

Check your email for time sensitive CWC/FAW info during this time.

NO FAW GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.

FAW & CWC Information

— PLEASE READ —

FAW Needs You Help Wanted FAW Needs You

**FAW Board Elections coming this month on 6/25.
Let us know if you'd like to share your talents with us
as a member of the FAW 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 26 & 27 for contact info.

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/>

***Congratulations to Robert Cabello (Poetry) and Carol Hall (Screenwriters)
Winners of the FREE All-Day Summit passes***

SF Writers Conference

July 21~24, 2022

Hyatt Regency Embarcadero, San Francisco

— VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED —

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

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

More FAW & CWC Information

— PLEASE READ —

2022 CWC NorCal Save the Dates

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:

- ❖ 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.

Have a Book or a Service you'd like to Sell?

Check out the CWC Bulletin Ads!

4 Times a Year – Winter Spring Summer & Fall

Your Ad is seen by as many as 2,000 people statewide...maybe more

Deadlines are March 1, June 1, September 1, & December 1

Sizes and Prices Vary

For more info go to – <https://calwriters.org/bulletin/> & scroll down to Advertising

Or call Bob Isbill at **(760) 221-6367**

ATTENTION ALL CURRENT FAW MEMBERS

June is FAW Election Month

Please join us on Zoom for the General Meeting

June 25 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM

Vote for your FAW 2022-2023 Board of Directors

If you are interested in submitting your name for a position on the Board, please contact Terry Tosh, current FAW President, by June 19th.

Terry can be reached at toshmanii@yahoo.com

GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING CONTEST

— Anything About Frogs —

At the March General Meeting, our speaker, Margaret Thornberry, proposed a contest for the FAW membership: to write a grant proposal for anything having to do with FROGS. They should be submitted to her by May 5th (her birthday) and she would choose the winner. The winner would be announced at the General Meeting on May 28th. The prize—\$200. (*This was intended to be practice exercise; there was no requirement that the grant proposal had to be an actualized project. The winner could use the prize money any way they chose.*)

Five people submitted proposals. Margaret awarded Jo Ann Frisch the prize for best grant proposal. **Congratulations to Jo Ann on her win** and to all five contestants—Marie Blanchard, Cherilyn Chin, Jo Ann Frisch, Nancy Guarnera, and George Kwong for submitting grant proposals for the contest.

The following are the submissions arranged in alphabetical order by last name.

cFITT Research Proposal



Submitted by **Marie Blanchard**

May 5, 2022

The common human affliction, *chronic frog-in-the-throat (cFITT)* appears frequently after age 40, but has never been seriously investigated. I propose to research this condition with the following objectives:

- locating where this species of frog originated;
- identifying elements of the human throat environment attractive to the organism;
- determining whether reemergence of cFITT after initial episode is due to reinfection or to pathogen latency.

Benefits of proposed research

- possible treatment(s), thus eliminating a major factor in age discrimination;
- with effective treatment, enhanced self-esteem in the senior population leading to improvements in mental health;
- re-partnering opportunities for divorced senior males, the former mates of whom were forced to uncouple due to male partners' chronic expectorating behaviors.

Methods:

- attaching butterfly net over mouth and nose of cFITT patient, pummeling patient on back, implanting tracking device in expectorated frog, releasing and monitoring as specimen returns to point of origin;
- sampling and analyzing pharyngeal tissue of deceased cFITT patients, then comparing samples with pharyngeal tissue of control group (non-cFITT) corpses;
- time-lapse photography of open mouths in live cFITT-R (in remission) patients to rule out reinfection hypothesis.

Funds required for investigation: ~\$200

Approximate time required: several 50-minute hours.

Qualifications of Investigator: As a Doctor of Mental Health (DMH) and psychotherapist, I have examined the contents of open mouths for over 40 years.

GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING CONTEST

— Anything About Frogs —

(continued from previous page)

Title of grant proposal:

“Why Are All the Frogs Disappearing?”

Submitted by **Cherilyn Chin**



Summary: This grant proposal is for a children’s middle-grade informational fiction book titled, *Why Are All the Frogs Disappearing?* It will be written from the viewpoint of a frog who is in imminent danger of going extinct. He will describe all the threats, such a climate change and habitat destruction, that his species is facing. Forty percent of all amphibians are in danger of extinction, and 200 species of frogs have gone extinct since the 1970’s. This book will create awareness of the frog species’ plight today, and what would happen if more frog species went extinct.

Qualifications: Cherilyn Chin has a 12.5-year-old blog titled, “Ocean of Hope: Marine Animals Voice Their Wishes on Ocean Conservation Issues.” In it, she writes from an animal’s POV (like this book), and takes complex scientific concepts and makes them easy for a child to understand. She has also written many children’s books, including a middle grade mystery about coral bleaching. Her style of writing and voice is appropriate for kids 8-12 years old.

Timeline: The book will take 6-8 months to do research online, read scholarly journals, interview scientists, to write and self-publish.

Cost: \$5,000 to write, self-publish and market the book. The costs include professional editing, professional illustrations, book cover designer, and book designer. It also includes reimbursement for the author’s time. Marketing would include getting reviews, networking with fellow authors, parents, teachers, and librarians, and buying Amazon ads.

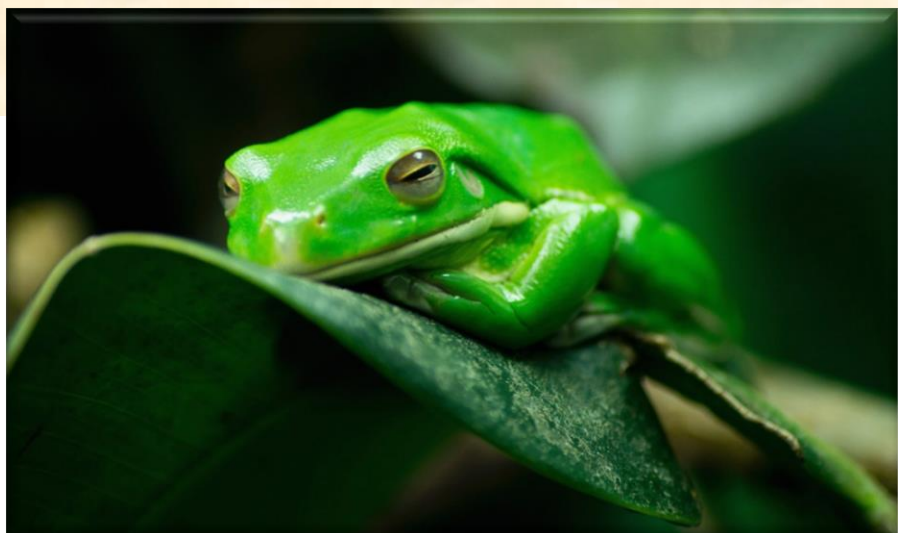
Contact Information:

Cherilyn Chin

*All photographs
on pages 11 to 15
are from Pexels
free use photos*

*Illustrations
on page 13 are
by Jo Ann Frisch*

*If you are inspired,
feel free to use
any of these as a
VISUAL PROMPT
for your writing*



GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING CONTEST

— Anything About Frogs —

The Winner
Grant Proposal
Contest

(continued from previous page)

Grant Proposal

Submitted by **Jo Ann Frisch**

May 5, 2022

Jo Ann Frisch is seeking a grant for
Illustrated Children's Book About Frogs.
Text and illustrations by Jo Ann Frisch.

Member of Fremont Area Writers

Educational level third through sixth grades science curriculum.

Including:

Lifecycle - eggs, polliwogs, adults.

Behavior - various species, including bullfrogs.

Voices - singing with crickets for "Three-part Harmony."

Environment - aquatic, creeks, rivers, ponds, swamps.

Endangered species - causes, remedies.

New Discovery: April 2022, six new species of frogs found in Valley of Mexico in leaf litter in the forest, *Craugastor candelariensis* measuring 13mm long. Source of food for lizards to predatory birds. All known as "direct-developing" rare breed, do not go through tadpole stage, but as fully-formed frogs.

Skills in writing and illustration:

Children's book, "My Wilderness Adventures" about rattlesnakes.

Native plants books, "Plant Uses by California Native Americans Rumsien & Mutsun Ohlone," "Plant Foods of the Ohlone Peoples Rumsien & Mutsun Ohlone," that include 50 watercolor plants for each and companion coloring books. Paintings; watercolor, pastel, pen and ink.

Six to nine months estimated time to complete research,
writing, and illustration.

\$500 estimated fee plus royalties.

All rights reserved.

joannfrisch@sbcglobal.net



Artwork by
Jo Ann Frisch

GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING CONTEST

— Anything About Frogs —

(continued from previous page)



Grant Proposal

Submitted by **Nancy Guarnera**

WHERE HAVE ALL THE PRINCES GONE?

Introduction

There is a global crisis brewing—there are not enough princes to satisfy demand. Young women the world over have been told, since early childhood, that their happily-ever-after depends on finding a charming prince. There was a time when you couldn't throw a stone without hitting a prince or two. Now there are so few royal families world-wide, we can't hope to fill the need for them. Most of the royal princes that do exist are betrothed to royal princesses. Most young girls are encouraged to believe that they are princesses, and many do. Each believes there is a prince out there with her name on him. How do we address this crisis? We must fulfill the Happily-Ever-After (HEA) expectation for women who still believe.

The solution may be in a fairy tale. Most of us know the story of the frog prince. A handsome young prince is unkind to an elderly woman. To punish him for his cruelty, she turns him into a frog. He complains, and the "witch" relents, but only if he promises to be a better, kinder person. He agrees. But there's a catch: he has to be kissed by a Princess within a certain time period. Only then, will he revert to his former human self. He finds and finally convinces a princess to kiss him. She does, he transforms, they fall in love, marry, and live happily-ever-after..., or so the story goes. If he never encounters a princess, he will spend the rest of his life as a frog.

We know that there is a kernel of truth in every myth, legend or fairy tale. We can test this one.

The strategy is simple: Women kiss as many frogs as possible to see if any of them turn into human males...princes. Success equals the turning of a frog into a human prince.

Stage 1

This initial \$200 will be used to fund feasibility research to develop a detailed project with specific requirements, logistics and budget necessary to fund the project for a year.

Stage 2

Secure funding for a year-long project to include:

1. Collecting frogs from every state in the US: 50 from each state, verified non-poisonous and non-hallucinogenic (2,500 frogs total)
2. Developing a pool of female subjects who will kiss the frogs: advertise in women's print magazines and on the internet. The ads will ask a simple question: "Looking for Prince Charming?" and continue, "We may be able to help. Females 18 years and older only. Must like frogs and enjoy kissing." with contact information (25 female subjects minimum)
3. A comfortable space in which to conduct the study with trained research professionals.

If the study is successful, and some frogs do become princes when kissed, it is likely that women the world over will actually pay to kiss frogs until they have found their prince. With proper advertising, this should make the project self-sustaining. Once women know that a little smooching may lead them to their HEA...they will likely pay almost any price to kiss a frog.

At last, the question will finally be answered: How many frogs do I have to kiss before I find a prince?

GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING CONTEST

– Anything About Frogs –

(continued from previous page)



Grant Proposal

Submitted by **George Kwong**

A Tank of Tadpoles



Rationale:

Many frog species have become endangered in the United States. Humans have encroached on and destroyed the natural habitats that support frogs and other amphibians. This grant request for \$200 is to educate students about the importance of frogs in our natural environment and how best to protect them.

Grant Purpose:

The \$200 will be used to purchase frog eggs from reputable breeders/dealers and then raise them in the classroom. We will secure used aquariums and other supplies that best support tadpole growth.

Lessons Plans:

1. Raising frogs from eggs allows students to witness and study the life stages of a frog. This supports 5th grade Life Science standards.
2. The role of frogs in the natural food chain/food web and its importance as an indicator of the health of a watershed and stream.
3. The length of frog development is between 6 and 12 weeks which allows students in a short time to observe the metamorphosis of the eggs to tadpoles to froglets.
4. Included with the lessons will be reading books regarding frogs, from non-fiction to fiction books.
5. Writing - essay about frogs, narrative about frogs, persuasive writing about the need to protect frogs, poetry about frogs, and presentations about frogs using Google Slides.
6. Art - drawings and sketching of frogs as they develop from eggs.
7. Independent projects as determined and designed by students.



Submission:

Grant request submitted by:
George Kwong
Schafer Park Elementary
Hayward, CA

Resources:

Keeping tadpoles in the classroom
From Egg to Frog video

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.)

JFK and RFK Made Me Do It 1960–1968

by Sweet William

This book, by a fellow Peace Corps volunteer from my Cornell-trained community development contingent, contains an impressive amount of research. Numerous speeches given by John and Robert Kennedy are quoted verbatim.

The author's activism and access to others close to Robert Kennedy's campaign gave him a front-row seat to the critical events of those exciting, though painful years. The author's journalistic writing style makes the events come alive, even when we know the assassination is coming.

The events William didn't witness, he relates from interviews with those who were present. Most interesting are the sections that reveal his blue-collar background and pithy statements like: "Even our citizenry was heavily armed for violent war should peace break out."

This is a book worth reading on many levels.

Review submitted by
Evelyn LaTorre

The Keystone: Finding Home

by Serene Goode (2021)

This is a fast-paced YA adventure novel with a Sci-Fi twist and a touch of romance. Grace Thompson has lost her mother to an accident, and she and her father are always on the move until they reach San Francisco, where he is abducted. She's alone until she meets two boys whose parents were abducted along with her father. Through them, she meets twin siblings with a similar background, and learns how much she doesn't know about her family.

Goode's story takes her characters, and her readers, through twists and turns, as they follow clues left for them by their parents to unravel the mystery of their families. Chased by the government and the Helios—another entity hunting their parents...and now them—the new band of friends are determined to find answers and their parents. This page-turner has twists at every turn and turns at every twist with the added tension of a high-speed chase on powered sport bikes. The author adds a bit of romance as the two main characters experience the first blush of love.

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@cwcfremontareawriters.org and we'll publish your name. **Deadline** is the 25th of the month before the publication month (ex. May 25th 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 August issue of Ink Spots.)

Who are they?

Earl Heper * Diana Gramlan * Tom Rian Warbe

Lolm Tobly * Mia Adisen Taprum * Cathi Stucfin

Hints * Authors * Hints

3 authors, 3 characters, 2 males, 4 females, 3 Americans, 3 20th-21st cen., lesbian feminist activist, 1st book in a series of 9, Lavender Menace Zap, Pulitzer Prize winner, originally serialized in San Francisco newspapers, wrote for RAT NYC's women's liberation newspaper, studied law, radio, TV, and musical adaptations, was homeless, voted best novel of the century, novelist, poet, screenwriter, and journalist, classic of modern literature, one character's name is an anagram, 40 million copies in print, fictionalized autobiography, included the AIDS epidemic as a realistic theme, best seller, also writes cozy mysteries, used a pen name, themes included race and class

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 Anagram Alley answers for the May 2022 issue of Ink Spots.

Congrats to Scott Davidson, Pat Doynne, Steve Gibson, and Terry Tosh who got them all correct.

KAREN F. BRERTH

Frank Herbert

DASIE LUPETRA

Paul Atreides

Dune

PATITE XERBOT (missing an R)

Beatrix Potter

BART PREBETI

Peter Rabbit

The Adventures of Peter Rabbit

W. KELCIE RALA

Alice Walker

GRASE HUVY

Shug Avery

The Color Purple

Notes from the World

**BIG
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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



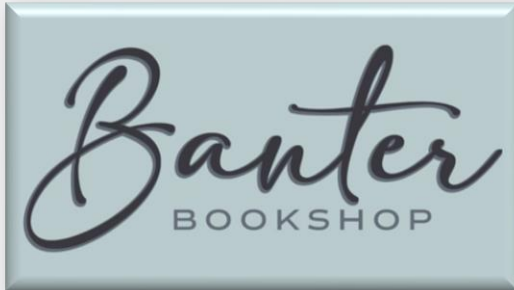
Visual Prompts

Photographs by Rekha Ramani



More Notes from the World

*There's a new bookstore
coming to Fremont!*



**Save the date for
Banter Bookshop's
Ribbon Cutting
4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 21, 2022
3768 F Capitol Ave.
Fremont, CA**

Are you an author?
Would you like
**FREE ADVERTISING
& FREE PUBLICITY**
on Chat And Spin Radio?

Please visit us at:
www.chatandspinradio.com
& 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

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

"Writing Short Fiction That Sells"

Have you ever considered writing short fiction?

Saturday, July 16, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT

**"Three Surefire Techniques for
Writing Next-Level Prose"**

Learn the secret to writing killer prose?

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***, 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 15th

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

x x x

Six-Word Stories

DEADLINE: Continuous

To submit: www.narrativemagazine.com/sixwords

x x x

For general submissions to the magazine:

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

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

FREE Online Workshops

scriptwriters check out
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

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 *(also open to men)*

Mystery Writers of America mysterywriters.org

Romance Writers of America rwa.org

Golden State Romance Writers
goldenstateromancewriters.org
(open to all genre fiction writers)

Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America
sfwa.org

Inspire Christian Writers inspirewriters.com

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
scbwi.org

Women's National Book Association wnba-books.org
(also open to men)

Academy of American Poets poets.org

Poetry Society of America poetrysociety.org

National Association of Memoir Writers namw.org

American Society of Journalists and Authors asja.org
(nonfiction writers)

CineStory cinestory.org *(screenwriters)*

Scriptwriters Network scriptwritersnetwork.com

Historical Novel Association historicalnovelsociety.org

Horror Writers Association 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:

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** 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

UVALDE: THE LUCKY ONES

Shots explode from somewhere.
Is this real?
Teacher hustles kids inside.
Locks the classroom door.
Lights off.
Kids have practiced lockdown.
But this is not a drill.
Hit the floor.
Get under a desk, if you can.
Shh!
No shoving, no poking, no whispering.
Hold still. Keep quiet.
Pretend this is an empty classroom

The shooter breaks glass.
Sprays bullets through the window.
Teacher is hit in the leg.
Makes no sound.
Kids see her bleed.
Freeze,
too scared to whimper.
A child also bleeds,
grazed by a bullet.
Clenches her teeth.
The shooter hears no response.
Moves on.

Time stretches.
Every minute is endless.
Darkness fills with breathing.
Keep quiet.
Hope he won't come back.
Hope to get out of here alive.
Hope friends are okay.
Can't text—can't risk a light.
Hope.

Close by, sudden gunfire.
Shouts. Screams.
More shots.
What is going on?
Who got shot?
A brother? A sister? A friend?
In the dark,
a child begins sobbing.
But no one moves.
He's out there somewhere.
He might come back.

Time drags on.
Why doesn't someone do something?
Call the cops?
Get that bad guy?
Let us out of here?
More shots.
When will this end?
Why is he shooting at us?
Can't someone help us?
Anyone?
Anyone at all?

Pat Doyne
©6/2022

My Journey Back to Uganda

by Urmila Patel

Since my book, *Out of Uganda in 90 Days*, was released in 2014, I have yearned to go back to Uganda. It was the soil that taught me how to live; my sister, her friends, and I used to cross the farm to go to Lake Victoria; the mango tree we sat under that brought communication with my siblings; the house that gave us a roof so we could have stability; and the air that gave me courage. I wanted to feel all of it again. I needed to find my missing piece.

On April 30th, I landed in Entebbe. I didn't plan the details of my trip, it just happened. My driver, Patrick, drove me to the places my heart had yearned for these many years. As he pulled his van out of the hotel parking lot and made a left turn into a stretch of dirt road, I told him to stop so I could walk to see which my childhood house was. To my surprise, I stood in front of it. I was welcomed by the new owners, a young couple and their four-year-old son, with open hearts. After 50 years, the house had kept its original floor, doors, and windows, even the kitchen nook where mother used to wash the dishes and the bathroom papa used to sing in whenever he washed. The house looked very tiny, or I was grown. Either way, when I sat on the floor, I felt as if I'd never left. My mother's vegetable and flower garden had been replaced by banana plants, grass, and weeds. It looked a bit crowded, but all of it made me feel emotional.

Then I visited two of my schools. Most important was the school where my father was the headmaster and at one point, I was his student. We lived in one of the school buildings for six months before moving to our next house in the Manyago Road community. The house was still there; I could see images of my sister, Bina, and me scrubbing the floor. The school building seemed to be placed to the back. I couldn't figure it out and will have this question lingering in my mind.

We continued on to the temple. I thought there was no connection between the temple and me. The only time we went to the temple was during the Navaratri Festivals (dancing days) and some other events, but as I stepped in, my eyes filled with tears.

The next day, I was accompanied by three women visiting Uganda after 50 years the same as me. One was from South Africa and two others were from London. They were sisters. We visited Kampala, their childhood places and mine. In 1972, my family moved to Kampala as there were no secondary schools in Entebbe. A new huge building now replaces the house we lived in, but the back path (Gali) was still there in its original form. I didn't mention to my driver about the city high school I went to for three months before getting admission into Kololo school. It was as if the universe had other plans for me. I was surprised when the driver stopped the van at the entrance gate of this school. The building had not changed at all. We visited Kololo secondary school where the three of us attended in different years. Each of us went to our classrooms and met with the new school Director.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the expulsion of all Asians out of Uganda. At one of our meetings with an East Indian businessperson we met the Director, James Serunkuuma of the New Vision, Uganda television, radio, and newspaper. He's doing a documentary and interviewed me. They needed more, so he and his crew followed me to Entebbe, where they did a video shoot of me outside and inside the house I lived in as a child. I will be on Uganda television.

Some of my observations during my visit: There are more young people than older. The younger generation is educated and speaks English well. There is a new wave of East Asians from India and they are in business. The Asian refugees who came back to reclaim their properties have progressed and are giving back work to the local people. One of them has built a school and hospital for his employees and their families. He encourages his employees' children to study, learn golf, and compete abroad. Everyone was generous and opened their hearts to strangers like us.

I found the missing pieces of my childhood and have completed that part of my life. If I ever go back to Uganda again, it will be for a different reason.

FAW Board Members



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FREMONT AREA WRITERS

- 2009 Bob Garfinkle
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- 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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KNUTI VANHOVEN
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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*)