



# Ink Spots



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

Nancy Guarnera Editor-in-Chief Vol. 125 November 2022 [inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org)

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



Visual Prompt

*Artwork by Jo Ann Frisch*

# November General Meeting

\* November 26<sup>th</sup> \* 2 to 4 PM \* Zooming \*

## Dana Dargos

### Discusses Her Debut Novel *Einstein in the Attic*

*Submitted by Knuti VanHoven*

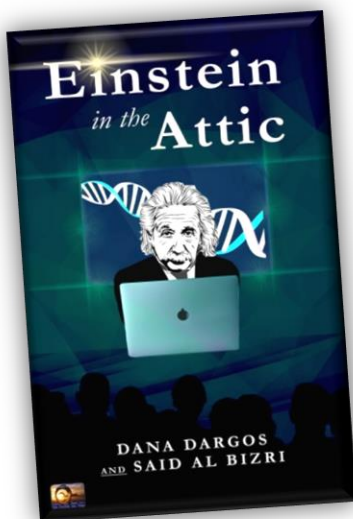
**D**ana Dargos is a hometown (Newark) girl who's making quite a splash with her debut novel, *Einstein in the Attic*, a humorous sci-fi tale about finding the answer to one of humanity's enduring questions. It's garnered several awards for her, including the Literary Titan Award, the Firebird Book Award, and THREE honorable mentions at the prestigious New York, Hollywood, and San Francisco Book Festivals. Add to that her social media presence on [www.danadargos.com](http://www.danadargos.com), Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (where you can learn more about Dana and her book), and her willingness to do the unending work required to promote her book and her own image as an author, and you have a contender for stardom. To find out what Einstein's doing in the attic, don't miss this meeting.

She'll be speaking about her work at Fremont Area Writers' monthly Zoom meeting at 2:00 p.m. on November 26<sup>th</sup>. To get your link to this event, send an email request to [scottfrombayside@yahoo.com](mailto:scottfrombayside@yahoo.com) with "FAW Zoom" on your subject line. You should receive the link the day before or the day of the meeting. Zoom participation is FREE to everyone, especially those who love books and writing.

Learn more about Fremont Area Writers at [cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org). FAW is one of 22 branches of the California Writers Club (CWC) [calwriters.org](http://calwriters.org).



**Author Dana Dargos**



### Meet Dana Dargos in person

You can hear her read and have a book signed at Fremont's new Banter Bookshop at 30768 Capitol Ave. on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Banter is a small venue, so to avoid overcrowding, they offer free tickets to their events on their website [banterbookshop.com/events](http://banterbookshop.com/events). Call the shop for more information at 510-565-1004.

Expect to see members of Fremont's American Association of University Women, at the reading, including their chapter President, FAW's own Kathy Garfinkle. While Dana was attending Ohlone College, AAUW granted her a scholarship and remains her staunch supporter, to this day.





**TERRY TOSH**  
**FAW President**

# President's Message

So unbelievable to realize that I'm penning this message (Ok, not literally penning, more like typing, but you catch my drift, right?) from a beautiful hilltop getaway, six days late for my official submission deadline...yes, me, Mr. Early Bird. No worm for me this month.

I stand, or rather sit, amazed that we are looking Thanksgiving in the face, with Christmas (yes, I said it) just around the bend. As you know, we have no meeting in December, so this will be my last President's Message before the New Year. Yep, 2023, here we come.

It's been a rollercoaster year of ups and downs, some of us are doing well, others are struggling, but for the most part, we are all surviving and growing in our various individual capacities.

Specifically, I want to take time here to thank poet, Rekha Ramani for her service to our branch as our Board Secretary. She stepped up, took on the task, and did a wonderful job for us. She sacrificed her family time even while being away, in order to help us get our minutes recorded as required for any non-profit organization. Rekha, your efforts were and are greatly appreciated. Everyone, if you have the opportunity, please express your gratitude for her service. It's always nice to receive a "thank you" for your hard work.

I also am thrilled to announce that our wonderfully talented member, Pat Doyne has graciously stepped up and offered to take on this crucial role for the remaining term, and we hope will be willing to keep her hat in the ring during the next election cycle in June 2023. Please, if you have the opportunity, thank Pat for her willingness to serve.

We hope to have another gathering, at least virtually, for our annual Holiday Party. Perhaps this would be a good time to try out some hybrid options for future consideration in an in-person environment.

I'll work with Scott and share some simple options that were shared at our past meeting of the Presidents of CWC in mid-October. Any suggestions on time and potential venues, please contact me through the usual method. (You can go use our website to contact me at [cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://cwc-fremontareawriters.org) and select the president's link under **CONTACT US.**)

Please, everyone, give us your feedback on any topics or concerns you may have in any subject. Whether you have a complaint, suggestion or just a thought you'd like to share, we welcome challenges, helpful hints, ideas—you name it. We want this branch and all of you, our membership, to be successful and thrive.

Thanks again, for all of your love and participation throughout this past 1/2 of our FAW year. We look forward to more growth and creative energy in the coming months.

Love and Thankfulness to all of you from me,

Your dedicated President,

**Terry**

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# A Word from Our Editor



**Nancy Guarnera**  
Editor *Ink Spots*

**W**elcome to our November 2022 issue of *Ink Spots*. I hope this finds you and those you love safe, healthy and happy. I trust you are busy writing!

It's been a busy month for me, full of doctor appointments, labs, procedures, taxes, voting, and more. Oh, and of course, the newsletter. It had to spend some time on the back burner, consequently, it's later than usual. My apologies. Hope this has not inconvenienced anyone.

I'm dealing with some physical challenges that will likely lead to a hip replacement in the future, if I can reach a goal or two required to make it a safe procedure. I've already had more surgeries than I'd prefer, and there are others looming in my future.

I'm sharing this because I've decided to take the month of November off from newsletter duty. Several FAW folks have suggested that, since we don't have our regular membership meeting in December, I should take a break and get some rest. Initially, I resisted the idea, but have since reconsidered. Our first issue of 2023 will be out on January 1<sup>st</sup>. **Next Deadline: December 10<sup>th</sup> for the January issue.**

November is the month we set aside for gratitude. We give thanks and celebrate with family, friends and food. We have so much to be grateful for and often take for granted those things that are dearest to us...friends, family, health, freedom the planet...the list goes on. Here are some things for which I'm grateful: my husband, my home, my housemate, my FAW friends who encourage me to write, to submit, and to rest when I resist resting, clean air and water, modern medicine in all its forms, creativity, technology, all creatures great and small, clouds, trees, flowers, my many freedoms, music, art...

***Wishing you and your loved ones a safe, healthy, happy, peaceful holiday season! Nancy***

## ***Submission Guidelines***

### **SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

**10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the  
publication month (ex.- December 10<sup>th</sup>  
for the January issue)**

### **SEND TO:**

**inkspots@cw-cfremontareawriters.org**

### **EMAIL SUBJECT LINE:**

**FAW — Ink Spots / Kudos, Book Review, etc. —  
Your Name (ex. Jane Doe)**

***Please submit your work as doc, docx and jpg file  
attachments, not in the body of the email.***

**PLEASE: Don't forget to put your name on your work.**

***For additional info, please refer to the complete guide-  
lines (rev. 8/2022) recently emailed to all members.***

If you have not received a copy of the **Submission Guidelines**, please let me know and I will resend it. I have heard from one member that she found hers in her SPAM folder, so please look there, too. Please follow these Guidelines whenever you plan to submit something.

***There are two things missing from the new guide-  
lines. First, don't forget to put your name on your  
written submissions...sign your work! Second, if you  
have more than one thing you are submitting: say  
a Book Review, and a poem for the Writers Corner,  
please send these as two separate emails. If you have  
more than one submission for the Writers Corner, or  
more than one Book Review, send one email but in-  
dicate the number of submissions with the type of  
submission—Writers Corner (2) or Book Reviews (5)  
in your email's Subject line. Thank you!***

***Cheers!***

***Nancy Guarnera Editor***

# ***FAW – November Meetings***

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

**Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:00 PM**

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

*Speaker: Author Dana Dargos (see page 2)*

*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 November 22<sup>nd</sup> 3:30 – 5:00 PM**

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

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

# ***FAW – November Meetings***

## **Fremont Area Writers**

**“Second Saturday”**

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

**Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 3:30 PM**

*Get to know others through personal writing with prompts.  
Members receive 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 November 28<sup>th</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 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@cwc-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cwc-fremontareawriters.org), or submit it through the **Shout Out for Ink Spots** link at [cwc-fremontareawriters.org](http://cwc-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 Pat Doyne***, who won the **First Place Prize** at the **Fremont Cultural Arts Council's Flash Fiction Contest** held in October at Half Price Books. Her winning story, **"The Magic Word,"** a child's fairy tale, is printed in the **Writers Corner** of this issue on page 18. ***Congratulations, Pat!***

**KUDOS to Carol Lee Hall**, who has completed a **promotional movie trailer** for her historical drama, ***The Jeweled Bird***, inspired by true events. The logline is for the trailer is: *When a brothel madam tries to save her young daughter from a life of prostitution by stealing her away to a mission house, she joins its leader to liberate young girls and bring down the most powerful man in the 1900s Chinatown sex trade.* You can view the trailer here: **JeweledBird.com** **Congratulations, Carol!**

**KUDOS to Evelyn LaTorre**, who emailed and called Amy Holmes Davis, the owner of Fremont's newest bookstore, **Banter Bookshop**, introduced herself as a member of Fremont Area Writers and suggested that the store order her book, *Between Inca Walls*. Amy said she'd been approached by several other local authors requesting she stock their books, but the store's limited floor and shelf space prohibited holding events or stocking local authors' work.

Recently, Evelyn visited the store to order some books, and to her surprise, her book, ***Between Inca Walls***, was on prominent display! As Evelyn ordered two memoirs by fellow She Writes Press authors, Amy explained that she had stocked *Between Inca Walls* because, 1) her publisher's distributor is Ingram, one of Amy's suppliers, and 2) a local book club had chosen Evelyn's book as its November read. Amy took Evelyn's contact info to give to the book club leader and a few days later, she received a request to speak to the group at their November 9<sup>th</sup> book club meeting. ***Congratulations, Evelyn!***

**KUDOS to Lally Pia**, who took a long shot and submitted a writing sample, a one-minute pitch video, and her bio to a call for submissions for “**America’s Next Great Author.**” One hundred writers were chosen from 800 submissions from all over the country to go to Newark, NJ and compete for a cash prize and bragging rights. Twenty finalists were chosen to present their pitches...Lally was the first of those twenty to be called to pitch her book to three celebrity judges. To find out what happened next...turn to page 8 and read Lally’s own account of this incredible experience. **Congratulations, Lally!**



## Meet Pat Doyne

### FAW's New Board Secretary

Pat Doyne is active in many fields—writing, art, and music. Her poetry has been published in anthologies such as the *CWC Literary Review*, three issues of *Everything Has Its Place*, two publications by Kistrech International, and online magazines such as *Synchronized Chaos*, and *Ink Spots*. Last month, she won first prize in the Fremont Cultural Arts Council's Flash Fiction Contest held at Half Price Books.

She has recently exhibited paintings at Hayward's John O'Lague Galleria, Castro Valley's Adobe Art Center, San Ramon's Lindsay Dirx Brown Gallery, and Livermore's Bankhead Theater. Pat performs with Newark's taiko troupe "Wadaiko."

She is president of A.R.T., Inc., VP/Programs of Pen Women, and now interim secretary for FAW. She taught primary grades in Castro Valley for over 25 years, and is finding retirement very busy.



**Pat Doyne**  
**FAW Board Secretary**

# More Members' News

On page 19 of the September issue of *Ink Spots*, we shared a call for submissions for a pilot TV show called **"America's Next Great Author" (ANGA)**. The show is modeled after several popular reality shows, but this one is for writers/authors and their work. Here's what happened when, Lally Pia, a new FAW member, threw her pitch into the ring...

For more information about ANGA, check out [americasnextgreaauthor.com](http://americasnextgreaauthor.com).

## Lally Pia's Great Adventure at ANGA

Halloween weekend was unusual to say the least. As a semifinalist for ***America's Next Great Author***, I flew out at the crack of dawn to Newark, New Jersey, for a chance to pitch my memoir, ***Doctor of Doctors***.

Wait, let me back up. A couple months ago, I'd dared to dream big. In a moment of craziness, I submitted 10 pages of my memoir, a crummy 75-second video pitch (the first wobbly take), and a bio. I had zero illusions that this would lead anywhere. With over 800 submissions from all over the country, my odds were only a little higher than winning the lottery. In addition, of the 100 semifinalists selected, only 20 finalists would get the chance to pitch their manuscripts.



**FAW member Lally Pia (r) with NaNoWriMo Executive Director Grant Faulkner (l) in Newark, NJ at America's Next Great Author pilot production.**

Imagine my shock when I was seated with over 70 semifinalists in a Newark private library on Halloween morning, only to hear my name called first! I pitched to three "celebrity" judges, Jason Reynolds, Marga Gomez, and Victoria Christopher Murray, with a bunch of hoopla, including television cameras and shrieking writer colleagues. (Yes, we're quiet at our keyboards, but absolute hoooligans when we're taken out of our safe zone!) After the adrenaline stopped pumping, it was actually fun!

Plus, I was then whisked off for a private taped interview in another room with none other than NaNoWriMo's Executive Director, Grant Faulkner! He asked when I first became serious about writing. I told him it was in 2014 when my book club recommended NaNoWriMo to me. I took the challenge and felt the thrill of creating 50,000 words. He flashed a broad smile that lit up that dim room. Writers helping writers!

The whole ANGA gig is the brainchild of "Pitchapalooza" Book Doctors, David Henry Sterry and Arielle Eckstut, who teamed up with co-creator and host, NY Times best-selling author, Kwame

Alexander. Their production auditioned writers to generate a "sizzle reel" and a "B" roll for the TV pilot of ***"America's Next Great Author."***

Nope, I didn't win the cash prize. I did meet dozens of fascinating writers from over 30 states and we've already networked with Facebook and Google documents. The publicity has been a huge bonus to someone like me, who's happiest lurking in small, dark, quiet spaces with my laptop.

I've only been back home a few days, but already two writers have sent me their novels! And I have heard from several of the other contestants, including the first-place winner, who are interested in helping me with publishing and marketing my book.

What surprised me the most? I'd expected competitiveness and jostling, but instead was dunked into an amazing warm soup of collegiality, camaraderie and togetherness which helped fend off all the anxiety.

What lessons did I learn? (1) Writers rock! (2) Dare to be crazy and throw your hat in the ring. You never know what you'll unleash...



# ***SIP NOTES***

**NOTE #54 OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> JAN SALINAS**

## **TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS**

*by Jan Salinas*

Elvis had a slogan inscribed on a medal that he wore around his neck. It read, "Take Care of Business." Such a simple reminder can be applied anywhere, and to anything. Kinda' like Nike's 'Just Do It.'

That slogan nagged at me as I filled my pandemic days with routine chores. Gotta' get sorting, clearing—decisions, decisions. Look at that garage. I don't know about you, but stored away are memories going back to the early 1900s that are some of my mom's treasures. I tell the kids, "If you touch it, it's yours." Not interested. They have their own stuff and sentimentality goes out the window.

Age does a funny thing. For me, with time to reminisce, I am aware of time winding down—the garage stuff needs to be addressed. But those dusty bins hold memories too precious to discard.

Okay, the blue recycling bin is full for this week. Out went school papers, poems, magazines, clippings, letters, and kids' art. That was easy. A dirty, dusty day spent letting go. It felt exhilarating. Maybe I *can* tackle this momentous project. I dig deeper and look around. Wait, why are there three bins filled with picture frames? Some of them have pictures of the kids and pets still in them. Aw.... Another hour passes. Sentimentality all over again as I sit in the cool and cluttered garage and reminisce.

And what craft project was I planning that would use sixteen pairs of nutcrackers? Aha! Such cute Star Wars toys, and a pretty new display case for a precious rock collection. Whose lovely brown saddle-trimmed, horse-carved, leather wallet was this? Inside...Woody and Buzz Lightyear cards remain carefully tucked away.

Sadly, the dolls cause me to pause and ponder. Would anyone love Raggedy Ann the way I did, or my soft and cuddly rag doll with a black face? Another bag full of bunnies fills me with memories. Some bunnies still have their very own handmade leashes or scarves lovingly tied around their necks.

I thought I got rid of the beanie babies a long time ago, but here's another bag filled with messages.

Beak's message reads, "Isn't this just the funniest bird? When we saw her, we said 'how absurd.' Looks aren't everything, this we know Her love for you, she's sure to show!"

Hero says, "We all pray, When day is done That freedom comes To everyone"

If it wasn't for the pandemic with more shut-in days, this project may never have been tackled. So, for me, looking for the positive, beats moaning about something out of my control. Today, as I reminisced, good memories filled my heart and my day became joyful. There's more stuff to be unraveled. I hummed my way through dinner chores.

# FAW & CWC Information

— PLEASE READ —

FAW Needs You **Help Wanted** FAW Needs You

This FAW Board position is now filled. Thank you to Pat Doyne for volunteering!

## FAW SECRETARY

- FILED**
- Duties include: \* Attend FAW board meetings—prepare & submit minutes  
\* Record & prepare results for all meetings where FAW members vote on an item  
\* Submit minutes to the FAW board for approval

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

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

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

*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 the last two pages in this issue for contact info.)*

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

As of January 1, 2022, all CWC branch meetings have been 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 meetings of interest to them. 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/>

*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**

As many as 2,000 people statewide...maybe more...can see your Ad

**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

# ***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: **360 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.)

## ***These Precious Days***

**by Ann Pachett**

This book of essays is as close to a memoir by this prize-winning author as we'll probably get.

In it, Ann reveals how she writes and the many authors she admires. Who knew that she prefers a simple home life to traveling the nation talking about her numerous, top-selling books? She is a consummate storyteller and in this book of essays the inveterate writer has a great many stories to tell in the intimate way only she can reveal a life.

The author discloses how deeply she cares about her profession and the choices she's made in order to honor it. Her many books are made more meaningful by this revelation of her values and how she came to them.

I have read all but one of Ann Pachett's books and this non-fiction one, ranks alongside the others as a great read.

*Review by Evelyn LaTorre*

## ***Swimming for My Life***

**by Kim Fairley**

Ever wonder what the life of an elite athlete might be like? Swim alongside the author year-by-year from age four to adulthood and you'll find out.

Kim spent some seventeen years in chlorine pools, with a few dips in the Pacific Ocean. Ironically, in terms of enjoyment, the latter body surfing adventures outweighed the thousands of structured practices, anxiety-producing competitions, and harsh directives—barked at her by demanding coaches and an abusive father.

Metaphors such as "we were like two halves

## ***In Search of Pink Flamingos***

**by Susan E. Greisen**

As memoirs by Peace Corps members go, this is one of the most introspective and informative about the day-to-day experiences of an Anglo volunteer's work in an African country.

Susan takes the health education and farm smarts she learned in rural Nebraska and, overcoming her own skepticism about her abilities and that of her African counterparts, puts it to use in a clinic she helped establish in Gowe, Liberia.

Her life is forever changed by her many adventures getting to know Africa and the Africans she works with. When she falls in love with an African-American Peace Corps volunteer, she is disowned by her parents. The odyssey of this spunky young woman has much to teach the reader about prejudice, love, and purpose.

*Review by Evelyn LaTorre*

**READ MORE BOOKS**

of a broken vase glued together in a somewhat fragile way," delighted this reader. I felt Kim's tension and angst through each new challenge. The author's insights, into the dysfunctions of both her family and those in the competitive swimming community, are eye opening.

When, like me, readers drown themselves in this book for a day, I suspect that they'll rarely want to surface for air.

*Review by Evelyn LaTorre*



# 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](mailto:inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org) and we'll publish your name. **Deadline** is the 25th of the month before the publication month (ex. - September 25<sup>th</sup> for the October 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 January 2023 issue of Ink Spots.)

*Who are they?*

Stan J. Dorwhon \* Carido Whigone \* Minney O'Shlikel

Frane Stugo \* Nancy Dora Lethour \* Teru X. Tos

**Hints \* Authors \* Hints**

3 authors, 3 characters, 4 males, 2 females, 2 American, 1 British, 1 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> cen., 2 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cen., multi-award winner, wrote screenplays to support writing career, wrote novels & short stories, Freemason, active in the early ACLU, interested in the mystical & paranormal, paternal encouragement, Mystery Writers' Grand Master Award recipient, radio celebrity, physician, conceived story while fantasizing about committing suicide, detective novel series, nominated Best Mystery Writer of the Century, wrote detective fiction, sci-fi, fantasy, romance, historical nonfiction, & poetry, lobbied to reform domestic & international copyright laws, nominated Best Mystery Series of the Century

**Please note:** These names do not necessarily conform to the number of words in an author'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 October 2022 issue of Ink Spots.**

**Congrats to Scott Davidson, Pat Doyme, Steve Gibson, and Terry Tosh who each got them 100% correct.**

**BRAK SPLUCE**

**Pearl S. Buck**

**G.W. GUNNAL**

**Wang Lung**

**The Good Earth**

**DREANA X SALMUDE**

**Alexandre Dumas**

**NAN D GRATA**

**D'Artagnan**

**The Three Musketeers**

**WIREN DAY**

**Andy Weir**

**KAYAN TWERM**

**Mark Watney**

**The Martian**

# Notes from the World

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](http://www.facebook.com/chatandspin)

## AUTHORS PUBLISH

<https://authorspublish.com>  
Check here for lists of publishing  
opportunities *(Please vet before submitting):*

[https://authorspublish.com/  
32-flash-fiction-markets/](https://authorspublish.com/32-flash-fiction-markets/)

[https://authorspublish.com/  
12-places-that-publish-writing-about-  
writing-and-publishing/](https://authorspublish.com/12-places-that-publish-writing-about-writing-and-publishing/)

[https://authorspublish.com/  
25-magazines-accepting-creative-  
nonfiction/](https://authorspublish.com/25-magazines-accepting-creative-nonfiction/)

[https://authorspublish.com/  
40-specialized-manuscript-  
publishers-that-accept-direct-  
submissions/](https://authorspublish.com/40-specialized-manuscript-publishers-that-accept-direct-submissions/)

... and many more ... a newsletter  
and free webinars on craft....

## **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, Nov 12, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT**  
**"The Mechanics of Effective Writing"**  
*Punctuation, formatting and organizing*

**Saturday, Dec 10, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT**  
**"Structure at the Chapter Level"**  
*The secret to hooking readers and keeping  
them hooked*

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

# *Notes from the World*

## **Narrative Magazine**

**So many submission options . . .**

**FALL STORY CONTEST (October 28<sup>th</sup> Deadline)**

[www.narrativemagazine.com/fall-2022-story-contest](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/fall-2022-story-contest)

**Six-Word Stories**

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

**Story of the Week**

[www.narrativemagazine.com/story-week-guidelines](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/story-week-guidelines)

**Poem of the Week**

[www.narrativemagazine.com/poem-week-guidelines](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/poem-week-guidelines)

**Photography**

[www.narrativemagazine.com/photography](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/photography)

**DEADLINES: Continuous...check your category**

**For general submissions to the magazine:**

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

## **TCK Publishing.com**

### **TCK Publishing Mission Statement**

*"To build a sustainable book publishing company that helps  
as many authors as possible fulfill their dreams."*

**Our mission is to help all of our clients earn a full-time income from book royalties.**

**They have various contests throughout the year and accept submissions  
of both fiction — all genres and markets — and non-fiction.**

**They have FREE classes and webinars.**

**<https://www.tckpublishing.com>**



# 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)

# 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**  
[scbwi.org](http://scbwi.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 LaTorre, 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

\*\*\*\*\*

First  
Place  
Winner

## The Magic Word

FCAC  
Flash Fiction  
Contest at  
Half Price  
Books

by Pat Doyne

Once there was a silver cow that gave sweet milk. But not just milk. If you said, "please," she'd give chocolate milk, root beer, herbal tea, even caramel latte.

Silver lived with an old woman named Mehitabel. The cow slept on a mattress in the family room. When Mehitabel cooked, she fixed two plates. "Silver's my best friend," said Mehitabel.

A neighbor named Snap was outraged. "My cows sleep in barns, if they're lucky," he said. "They eat grass. When they get old, I butcher them for stews and steaks."

Snap spied through Mehitabel's window. In the morning he heard her say, "Please, Silver, some *café au lait* this morning." At noon, she said, "Please, Silver, some spiced chai for my lunch." And after dinner, she said, "Please, Silver, some ice cream for dessert." Each time she milked the cow, and took away a mug of something wonderful.

The next day, Snap rushed up to Mehitabel's door. "A forest fire is headed this way," he shouted. "We need all hands to dig a trench to stop it."

Mehitabel rushed out with gloves and a shovel. Snap ran inside and led the silver cow down the road to his ramshackle barn.

"Okay, stupid cow," cried Snap, "Give me strong ale." Silver just looked at him. "Right now!" demanded Snap. He tried milking the cow. Nothing. "Give me strong ale or you're hamburger!" Snap snarled. He ran to get an axe.

"I'll give you one more chance," said Snap. He grabbed the cow—but his hand turned to vanilla ice cream, his tongue turned to yogurt, and his axe turned to cheddar cheese. Snap blinked three times, then dissolved into a puddle of melted butter.

"You forgot the magic word," said Silver. She sauntered slowly back to Mehitabel's house.

## Knock! Knock!

Trick or treat knocks at my door  
Princesses, spidermen, ninjas galore  
I give them sweets, but they beg for more  
I acquiesce, we all know the score  
**TREAT or TRICKS** knocks at the door!

Nancy Guarnera

Visual Prompt



Photograph by Paul K Davis

\*\*\*\*\*

# SECRET

*by Paul K Davis*

"Grandpa, can you keep a secret?"

"Yes, if it should be kept secret."

"It should, for sure! Don't even tell Nana."

"What is it?"

"You have to see. Come pick me up. I'll be in front of the house."

"OK. Twenty minutes."

"Mom and Dad are at work. I'm texting them I'm with you. Hurry!"

Manya hopped into my car, "We're going to the park that's on my way home from school, with the lake and the woods."

At the park she jumped out, "Follow me. Quick!"

Past the little lake into the wooded area, she ducked under branches. I had to push them aside or go around. A grunting sound! I called, "Be careful. Don't get so far ahead."

"Here she is. Don't scare her."

Manya was petting a unicorn. "Don't worry. Grandpa's here to help."

Astounding! It had the body of a horse, or rather a pony by size. One horn, but not quite like unicorn horns in artwork. This was spiral, and caught in a vine. She was grunting and pulling, but the horn would not come loose.

"Ah, I already see the problem."

"See, I told you Grandpa could help."

"But we'll have to work together. See how whenever she pulls, that vine gets tighter around her horn? We have to get her to relax and move forward so it will loosen. Then I can pull it off."

"There, there, girl. Calm down. Do you like my petting? Just relax. Step forward, just a little bit. Yay! You're free now. Thanks, Grandpa. Now keep this secret."

"Why? This is fantastic."

"You must keep it secret. People think they are extinct. If they hear about her, they will trample her environment, chase her, and probably kill her. Secret! Secret!"

"You're absolutely right."

*Secret was submitted to the Fremont Cultural Arts Council's Annual Flash Fiction Contest held at Half Price Books in October.*

**We are writers helping writers! Take the challenge...submit your work!**

## A Halloween Memory

*by Terry Connelly*

The only part of Halloween that I ever liked was the endless pursuit of free candy. From the time my brother and I were in middle school, we roamed miles from home. We walked on streets whose names I never knew, knocking on the doors of anyone with lights still on. It took hours, and at times our pillow case sacks were so heavy that we had no option, but to go home, empty them out, then head out again.

I hated wearing costumes. Perhaps because I wore glasses, masks blocked my sight. I detested makeup and most of all, despised trying to come up with something to wear that could become a costume. My fallback was that of a hobo as all I had to do to play the part was put on my well-worn overalls.

When I was thirteen my middle school decided that for Halloween, all students had to dress in costume. I immediately panicked. It was bad enough to traverse my neighborhood under cover of darkness, but now I would have to parade about campus under the horrific glare of fluorescent lights.

I stewed over this for days.

I was a painfully shy, the girl who never raised her hand to ask or answer questions in class. I slithered down in my desk seat, my nose skimming the top of my desk, believing that if I couldn't see the teacher, she couldn't see me.

Dressing up at school had the potential to sink me even lower on the social scale, especially if I appeared in an unpopular or outmoded costume.

When the day arrived, the only thing I could come up with was my mother's WAC (Women's Army Corp) uniform from World War II. It fit a bit snug, but I figured I could tolerate anything for the length of the festivities.

In the morning, I squeezed into the uniform, then trudged off to the bus stop. I was used to belittling looks, so the shrugs and smirks had little impact. However, what seemed like a good idea in the morning quickly became a terrifying experience at school.

My teacher, thrilled to see the old uniform, made me stand in front of the class and share my mother's story. Unfortunately, I knew little about her service.

I pronounced that she enlisted because her family was poor, a fact. That she chose the WACs because her older brother was in the Army, also true. I did know, only because of the few black-and-white photos she shared, that she was stationed in Florida where she learned to work on trucks.

I figured that when my time was done, I could slink back into my desk. Not so. To make matters worse, my teacher sent me up and down the hall, into every single classroom, upstairs and down.

I was so terrified that I squeaked out only a few words, and wouldn't have even got them out if it were not for the prompting of every teacher.

As the day progressed, the uniform seemed to get tighter and the heavy wool brought out as much sweat as a humid summer day. Perspiration pooled under my arms and down my face. It soaked the collar and the waistband of the skirt.

When lunch came, I was allowed to change clothes.

It was such a horrible experience that I didn't go trick-or-treating that night and for several years after.



# ***FAW Board Members***



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**BOB GARFINKLE**  
Past President

## **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

# ***FAW Chairpersons***



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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*)