

Happy Father's Day



# Ink Spots



The Newsletter of Fremont Area Writers

*The "Centennial" Branch of the California Writers Club*

Nancy Guarnera Editor-in-Chief

Vol. 2 No. 6 June 2023

inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.org

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



VISUAL PROMPT

*Photograph by Paul K Davis*

Happy Juneteenth

# June General Meeting

\* June 24<sup>th</sup> \* 2 to 4 PM \* Zooming \*

## “REVISING YOUR OWN WORK”

with

Jane K. Cleland



*Jane K. Cleland,  
Author & Teacher*

[www.janecleland.com](http://www.janecleland.com)

**Y**ou’ve finished your manuscript—now what? It’s time to polish the story, add complexity to the characters, and burnish the prose. In other words, it’s time to revise! Jane Cleland’s free presentation “Revising Your Own Work” will show you how to take your manuscript from draft to submission-ready! Don’t miss this opportunity to learn from one of the best.

Jane K. Cleland writes a variety of crime fiction, including thrillers, middle grade, espionage, and the long-running Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series. All her [novels](#) have been published by St. Martin’s Minotaur. All her short stories (and a novella) have been published by [Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine](#). Her books and stories have been Independent Mystery Booksellers Association-best-sellers, multiple award winners, and have received starred reviews from prestigious publications like *Library Journal*. The series has been reviewed as an “Antiques Roadshow” for mystery fans. *Library Journal* named *Consigned to Death* a “core title” for librarians looking to build a cozy collection, one of only 22 titles listed, along with books by Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayers.

Jane also chairs the Black Orchid Novella Award (BONA), one of the [Wolfe Pack’s](#) literary awards, granted in partnership with [Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine](#). A past chapter president of the [Mystery Writers of America/New York Chapter](#), she has served on the national board, as well.

In addition, Jane writes about the craft of writing, including articles for *Writer’s Digest Magazine*—where she is a contributing editor. Jane authored the bestselling and Agatha Award-winning how-to books, [Mastering Plot Twists](#) and [Mastering Suspense, Structure & Plot](#). She presents a [free monthly series of webinars](#) on the craft of writing that attracts writers from all over the country, as well as her small-group, virtual writing workshops—the [Mystery Mastermind series](#). Jane also has a new YouTube channel you can subscribe to ([see her website](#)).

Jane has both an MFA (in professional and creative writing) and an MBA (in marketing and management). She is a member of the fulltime faculty at Lehman College, part of the City University of New York, where she is also the director of the Program for Professional Communications. In addition, she mentors MFA students in Western Connecticut State University’s MFA in Creative & Professional Writing program.

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).

To get your link to this event, email a 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.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



# President's Message

Final message before new CWC calendar year starts on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

No meeting in July!  
(Picnic plans in progress at this writing.)

**TERRY TOSH**  
FAW President

Hello, brilliant FAW members,

As of this moment, there've been no brave souls stepping up their game and offering to take on leadership in any new capacities. What happens if any of the current leaders should have to vacate their positions for whatever reason? Do we just shut down the branch? We really need people to at least volunteer to assist as mentees and learn the ropes or that just might be our fate.

Anyway, thanks to those who have already renewed your membership, or will do so by June 30. Your names will be entered into a drawing for a free membership.

June is a month where we salute Dads and Grads, as well as many other interesting occasions. Oh, my goodness...just this one link shows the ridiculous amount of things people have come up with to acknowledge:

<https://nationaltoday.com/june-holidays/>

I'm sure our illustrious Editor-in-Chief will give you a summary in the various other pages of *Ink Spots*.

Here's to a year continuing to be filled with new challenges, educational opportunities, and hopefully some relaxation and fun during our summer break!

I'll see you on zoom and hopefully soon, in person, at our upcoming picnic.

Yours Truly,

**Terry Tosh**

King of Fremont Area Writers



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# A Word from Our Editor



**Nancy Guarnera**  
Editor *Ink Spots*

**W**elcome to our June 2023 issue of *Ink Spots*. I hope that you and your loved ones are well.

Another busy month of things to celebrate: 6/5 World Environment Day, 6/14 Flag Day, 6/18 Father's Day, 6/19 Juneteenth, 6/20 World Refugee Day, and 6/21 Summer Solstice. To all you dads out there, I wish you a Happy Father's Day. May you get to celebrate with those you love.

Father's Day is significant for me. I was my parents' first born. I "backed out" of my mother on Saturday, June 16, 1951; the day before Father's Day. As a newborn, I was unaware of the significance that this had for my parents...especially my dad. He got to celebrate being a father for the first time, the day after I was born. What a great Father's Day gift...your first born. From the look of joy on his face in the photos taken at the time, I would guess it had great meaning to him.

My birthdays could be a little strange; we often celebrated Father's Day and my birthday together. I remember having a Fathers' Day cake instead of a birthday cake one year. My mom tried to explain, but I was too young and didn't get it. My dad was the kind of father who, when I called to say hello, would ask how work was and then hand the phone to my mom. I think he never quite knew what to say to me. Communication was easy with my mom, not so much with my dad. I think that he felt my mom and I had more in common than he and I did. Once I asked him for advice about starting a business painting murals in swimming pools, and he suggested I get a job in a bank. Last thing in the world, I'd want to do. But, I loved to watch college football with him. In fact, almost any sport; that was our father-daughter bonding time. He taught me how to shoot a .22 rifle and to hit a target with a bow and arrow. He played touch football with my brother and me when we were kids. Dad was always the quarterback; John and I alternated receiving and tackling. Dad told me once that if he hadn't married my mom and started a family, he would have gone to college and studied chemistry. He liked to gamble, and he won a lot. He passed away on July 7, 2007...777 a very lucky number, and very easy to remember. I figured that Dad and I would have time to get to know each other better after Mom passed. Mom and Dad, and all of us kids, were sure that Mom would "graduate" first—health issues. But, women generally outlive men. This was the case with my mom and dad; they fulfilled the statistical probability. He went first, and suddenly. It was a shock. So my plan to get to know him better didn't work out the way I'd hope.

## ***Submission Guidelines***

### **SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

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

### **SEND TO:**

**inkspots@cw-cfremontareawriters.org**

### **YOUR 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: Put your name on your work.**

***Please refer to the complete guidelines  
(rev. 3/21/2023) recently emailed to all members.***

We scattered his ashes in the ocean off the coast near Fort Bragg, where my parents had lived for a while. A long-time friend of mine from Pennsylvania, who had adopted my parents because hers had abandoned her, came to the scattering. She and Dad used to go "winning" and she'd always take a case of wine home with her on the plane. It was their "father-daughter" bonding time. After the scattering, I drove her to the airport. On the way there, she told me that the last time she'd visited my parents, my dad had taken her to the airport for her flight home. On the drive there, he told her how proud he was of me and the things I was accomplishing. He had realized that I had chosen to live a life doing the things I wanted to do, not what the world or he expected of me. He came to understand that money was not as important to me as it was to others; I had other priorities. He cried at my wedding, I was 41. When I asked him why, he just said, "Be happy!" I think he had finally recognized that following my own path was the thing that made me happy! I have very few regrets in life, but I do wish we'd had more time together.

***Cheers! Nancy***



# ***FAW – June Meetings***

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

**Saturday June 24<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: Award-winning Author, Jane K. Cleland (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 June 20<sup>th</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 – June Meetings***

### **Fremont Area Writers**

#### **“Second Saturday”**

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

**Saturday June 10<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](mailto:scottfrombayside@yahoo.com)*

### **Fremont Area Writers**

#### **“Fourth Monday”**

### **Writers’ Salon on Zoom**

**Monday June 26<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](mailto:up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com) or 510-745-0761*

# KUDOS – *Members' News*

If you have an accomplishment related to your writing, or some other aspect of your life, and would like to share it with FAW members in this space, please send it to [inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org), or submit it through the **Shout Out for Ink Spots** link at [cwcfremontareawriters.org](http://cwcfremontareawriters.org). Just scroll down the home page until you reach the red **Shout Out** link and click on it. Please do your best to 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, your email may get lost in the mail. Thanks!

**KUDOS to Tish Davison**, whose 16th book, *Medical Firsts: Innovations and Milestones That Changed the World*, will be released June 15. It is published by ABC-CLIO, an imprint of the international publisher Bloomsbury as part of their Bloomsbury Academic collection targeting schools, universities, libraries, and museums.

...And winner of the fifth place prize in the Fremont Cultural Arts Council and Half Price Books Flash Fiction Contest with her piece "Fan Mail." Read Tish's story in the Writers Corner in this issue.

**Congratulations, Tish!**

**KUDOS to Pat Doyne**, who won the fourth place prize in the Fremont Cultural Arts Council and Half Price Books Flash Fiction Contest with her piece "Dear President Lincoln." Read Pat's story in the Writers Corner in this issue. **Congratulations, Pat!**

**KUDOS to Jo Ann Frisch and Diane Morninglight**, who are collaborating on a self-published book of Jo Ann's artwork and Diane's (a former member and current "friend" of FAW) poetry. The book, *Natural Light*, will be available before the end of June. **Congratulations, Jo Ann and Diane!**

**KUDOS to Evelyn LaTorre**, who for the past year, has been writing a weekly column in the *Tri-City Voice* with Jane Mueller, founder of Mission Peak Village Cohousing, about the growing Cohousing movement in Fremont and throughout the nation.

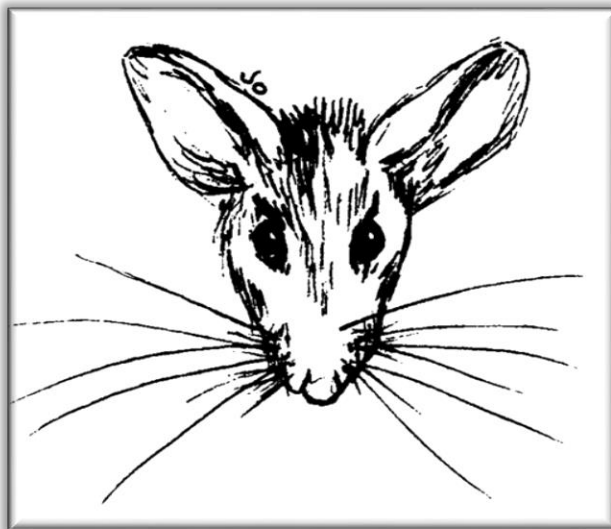
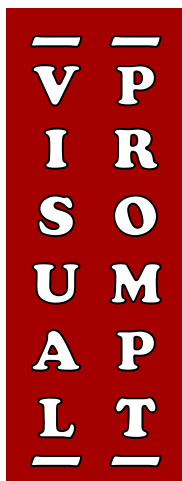
Tennessee members of **DKG International**, a women educator's society, were the recipients of 200 free copies of Evelyn's second memoir, *Love in Any Language*. Two members of the group picked up the paperback publications from two Ingram warehouses, one in Jackson and the other in LaVergne. The books will be featured and distributed in workshops at the teacher organization's annual meeting in June.

**Congratulations, Evelyn!**

**KUDOS to Sam Rodriguez**, who recently submitted a short story to the Latina/o journal, *Huizache*; this is his first time submitting his work for publication.

Sam was also short by two votes of winning a prize in the Fremont Cultural Arts Council Flash Fiction Contest. He got fifteen votes. It was his first time entering a writing contest or competition.

**Congratulations, Sam!**



**Deer Mouse**

*Artwork by Jo Ann Frisch*



# ***FAW & CWC Information***

**– PLEASE READ –**

## **Elections for FAW Board Officers June 24<sup>th</sup> General Meeting**

**We need you!**

**Consider running for office**

**President ● Vice President  
Secretary ● Treasurer**

**Contact President Terry Tosh  
toshmanii@yahoo.com  
if you'd like to run for office**

**We will train and support you  
in this endeavor!**

# **FAW & CWC Information**

**— PLEASE READ —**

**FAW Needs You**

## **Help Wanted**

**FAW Needs You**

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

### **Hospitality Chair**

welcomes, introduces, contacts, & encourages newcomers to join FAW

### **Volunteer Coordinator**

finds & assigns volunteers to assist FAW committee heads

### **Membership Chair**

collects new member info & updates CWC data base, coordinates w/ FAW Treasurer

*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...**

All CWC branch meetings have been added to the Events Calendar at 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**

# Mark Your Calendar

## Author Jane Cleland is Zooming to Town

### FREMONT AREA WRITERS

will be hosting  
Jane Cleland  
on **Saturday,  
June 24<sup>th</sup>**  
at its monthly  
meeting from  
**2 to 4 pm PT.**

Please email  
**scottfrombayside  
@yahoo.com**  
to register  
and receive a link  
to the meeting.



### TOPIC:

#### “Revising Your Own Work”

You’ve finished  
your manuscript.

Are you ready  
to submit

to a publisher?

Nope...not yet!

It’s time to revise!

Who does these  
revisions?

You do!

Need some help?

Jane Cleland is ready,  
willing and able to  
give you some helpful  
tips and tricks!

**This meeting is FREE & Everyone is welcome to attend ~  
FAW members, CWC members, and the public...**

Jane K. Cleland is an award-winning author who writes both fiction and nonfiction. Her fiction includes the long-running *Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series*, published by St. Martin’s Minotaur and *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*. Her nonfiction includes the Agatha Award-winning bestsellers, *Mastering Suspense*, *Structure & Plot* and *Mastering Plot Twists*. She’s a Contributing Editor at *Writer’s Digest Magazine* and the chair of the Black Orchid Novella Award (BONA). Cleland teaches writing at the university level, and offers free monthly webinars on the craft and business of writing. More details are available at [www.janecleland.com](http://www.janecleland.com).



# Mark Your Calendar

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays: “Writers Helping Writers” Sessions

**When:** Thursday, June 8, 2023, 6:30 PM

**Where:** San Mateo Main Library, 55 W 3rd Ave, San Mateo, CA

**Session Title:** *“Self-Publishing vs. Traditional Publishing vs. Hybrid Publishing: What’s the best choice for you? And how does one tell the good guys from the scammers?”*

**Presented by:** Laurel Anne Hill

**Sponsoring Organization:** SF Peninsula Branch of the California Writers Club

Your manuscript is almost ready; it’s time to find a publisher. But, what kind of publisher? If you’re trying to decide between traditional, hybrid and self-publishing, this presentation should give you some insight into which may be best for you and your book. This is an in-person session.

**Laurel Anne Hill**—author and former underground storage tank operator—classifies her third award-winning novel, *PLAGUE OF FLIES: REVOLT OF THE SPIRITS, 1846*, as historical fantasy/magical realism. So far, *PLAGUE OF FLIES* has received 16 awards and some terrific professional reviews. Her second novel, *THE ENGINE WOMAN’S LIGHT* has won a total of 13 honors and awards. Over 30 of Laurel’s short stories and many of her short, nonfiction pieces have been published. She has served as *Fault Zone*: Editor-in-Chief for three of its nine anthologies. Laurel has been a member of CWC for over 20 years. For more information about Hill, go to <https://laurelannahill.com>.



Pointed ears. Pointed teeth. Eyes that glow with magic or electricity. Aliens, robots, magicians, eldritch beings disguised as trees; what else might you find in a world different from ours? You are invited to explore the possibilities in this year’s prose anthology, which has a theme of fantasy and science fiction.

**Submissions will be open from May 1 to June 30. OPEN TO ALL CWC MEMBERS.** Excitement is in the air. Give us a glimpse of what’s happening one universe to the left!

**For information:** [redwoodwriters.org/2023-one-universe-to-the-left-anthology](https://redwoodwriters.org/2023-one-universe-to-the-left-anthology)

**For questions:** Email editor Mara Johnstone at [2023anthology@redwoodwriters.org](mailto:2023anthology@redwoodwriters.org)

# *Mark Your Calendar*

## CWC HIGH DESERT BRANCH

presents

### LUCIENNE DIVER, LITERARY AGENT

Tuesday • June 27<sup>th</sup> • 6:00 pm PT

Act 2 • Zoom Meeting

Free to all CWC Members



*What are agents looking for? How can an agent help writers?  
What is required to become an agent? If a writer doesn't have  
an agent, what things can they do to get representation?  
Best general advice an agent would give to writers today.  
These questions, & more, will be answered by our guest speaker.*

Lucienne Diver joined The Knight Agency in 2008, after spending fifteen years at New York City's prestigious Spectrum Literary Agency. With her sharp eye and gift for spotting original new voices, Lucienne is one of the most well-respected agents in the industry. A lifelong book addict, she graduated summa cum laude from the State University of New York at Potsdam with dual majors in English/writing and anthropology. She thus came well equipped for her work as an agent.

Over the course of her dynamic career, she has sold well over 700 titles to every major publisher, and has built a client list of more than 40 authors spanning the commercial fiction genres, primarily in the areas of fantasy, science fiction, horror, women's fiction, romance, mystery/suspense, and young adult. Her authors have been honored with the Hugo, Nebula, Colorado Book, and National Readers' Choice Awards, and have appeared on the New York Times and USA Today bestseller lists. A publishing veteran, Diver has superb industry knowledge, and keen understanding of the foreign rights market.

***Registration is not required for this event, however, seating is limited for what we feel will be a popular event. You'll find the link for the meeting on the sidebar "Special Zoom Meetings" at <http://hdcwc.com>.***

# ***Mark Your Calendar***

## **FREMONT AREA WRITERS ANNUAL PICNIC**

*(No Monthly Meeting in July)*

**SATURDAY • JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**11:00 am ~ till they send us home**

**East Bay Regional Park • Quarry Lakes**

**Osprey Picnic Area** *(covered for shade)*

**Lunch starts at Noon**

*FAW provides the protein –*

*hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, veggie burgers*

*(there are BBQ grills to use)*

*Members bring side dishes and desserts*

*(Let Terry know what you'd like to bring when you RSVP)*

*Terry and Anita will bring an ice chest, water and paper goods*

*BYOD = Bring your own drinks & ice*

**PLEASE ~ NO ALCOHOL**

**\*\* RSVP to Terry Tosh by July 8<sup>th</sup> \*\***

**at [toshmanii@yahoo.com](mailto:toshmanii@yahoo.com)**

**Keep an eye on your inbox & spam *(just in case)* for further details**



# ***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/Movie Review—Your Name** in the subject field.  
(The opinions stated here are strictly those of the individual, and do not represent either CWC or FAW.)

## ***Filling Her Shoes***

*by Betsy Graziani Fasbinder*

This book is a heartfelt story about loving a child to whom one didn't give birth. The author's astute observations define who she considers her family, after surviving deep emotional wounds in her childhood. In descriptions that delight, such as "my feet looked like over-risen bread dough," and "the water of San Francisco Bay wore sequins," the author, a therapist, paints her story of raising two sons—one who grew with her after she married his father, and the other who grew inside her. Fasbinder describes two of her close family members as "on a word budget and never overspend." Fortunate for the reader, this does not describe the author's writing.

*Review by Evelyn LaTorre*



## ***Relentless*** ***Mystery Lake Series, Book 3***

*by Tamsen Schultz © 2022*

Is it a romance wrapped in suspense or a suspense that leads to romance?

Sakara Kenyon, a doctor who worked for an international aid organization, is back in the U.S.—maybe for good. She and her sister witnessed their mother's murder and choose their own ways of hiding from the murderer. Kara took to hiding in foreign countries for limited stints, before moving on. Within the past year, she and her sister finally brought the man responsible to justice.

On the drive to Mystery Lake in California, she grabs her bag to help in a multi-car accident blocking her way. She discovers a cousin of her sister's new husband, injured. She resigns herself to sharing her temporary home with Ethan, while caring for his injuries.

One, then another, of her former aid workmates die in accidents. Then a third, less believable accidental death, occurs. Kara goes into hiding again while her sister and brother-in-law's private security organization investigates. Ethan has fallen for her and it's his turn to keep her safe, although Kara is no shrinking violet.

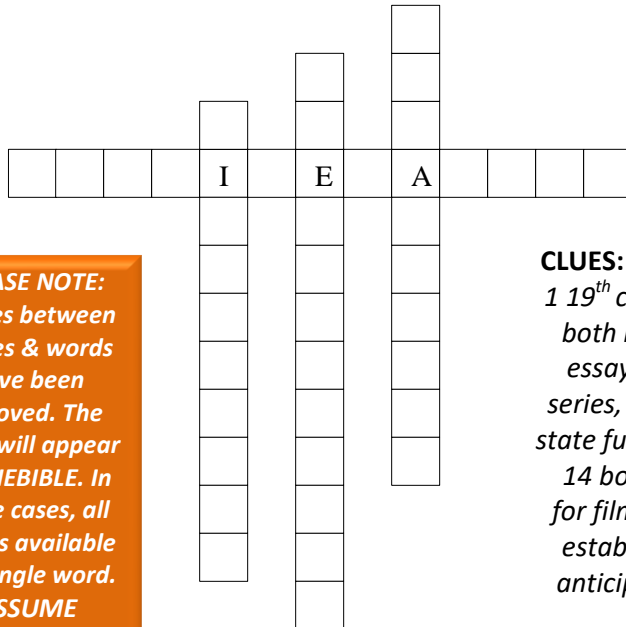
Schultz provides a wonderful ride between romance and suspense. This is a clean romance (closed door-no sex on page). I enjoyed it very much.

*Review by Joyce Cortez*

# Puzzles & Brainteasers

## “Who Am I & What Did I Write?”

### An Almost Clueless Crossword Puzzle!

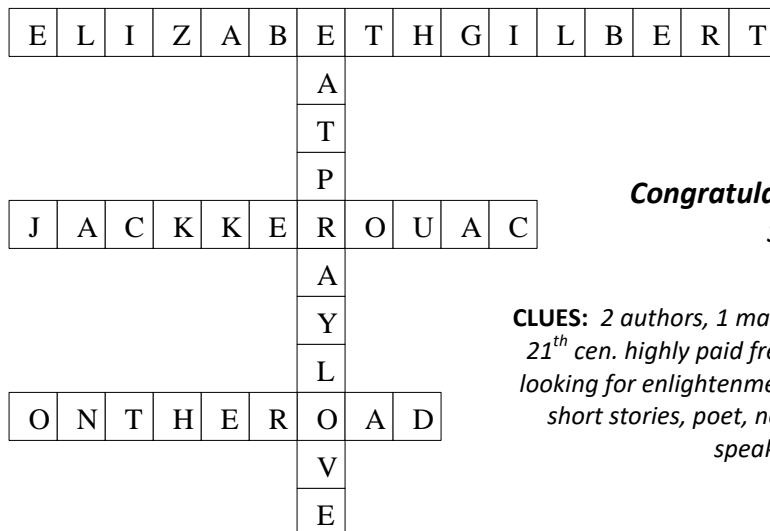


**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Spaces between  
names & words  
have been  
removed. The  
Bible will appear  
as THEBIBLE. In  
some cases, all  
that is available  
is a single word.  
ASSUME  
NOTHING!

**JUNE PUZZLE**  
**DEADLINE: June 20**

**CLUES:** 2 authors, both male, 1 French, 1 American, 1 19<sup>th</sup> cen., 1 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> cen., had many pen names both male and female, poet, novelist, dramatist, essayist, politician, 1 of more than 14 books in a series, literary career spanned more than 60 years, state funeral, novelist, wrote 41 other novels besides 14 book series, his work inspired music, adapted for film, part of Romanticism movement, lit status established him as a national hero, literary work anticipated future technology and cultural trends

**Send answers to:** [inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org](mailto:inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org)  
Please put **FAW — Crossword Answers — Your Name** on the Subject Line



**MAY'S ANSWERS  
& THE CORRECT  
GUESSERS**

**Congratulations to:** Scott Davidson, Pat Doyne,  
Steve Gibson, & Terry Tosh

**CLUES:** 2 authors, 1 male, 1 female, 2 Americans, 1 20<sup>th</sup> cen., 1 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>th</sup> cen. highly paid freelance writer, memoirist, traveled the world looking for enlightenment, sold 12 million copies, novelist, journalist, short stories, poet, novelist, Beat Generation, raised in a French speaking home, adapted for film

# Notes from the World

## North Street Book Prize

*In its 9th year.*

*Your self-published or hybrid-published book can win up to \$10,000 plus expert marketing services.*

**Deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>**

For guidelines, rules and additional information, go to:

<https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/north-street-book-prize>



***"If you don't have time to read, you don't have the time (or the tools) to write. Simple as that." — Stephen King***

### FundsforWriters.com

*Chosen 101 Best Writing Websites by Writer's Digest for the last 20 years in a row.*

One of the web's best experts on **grants/fellowships/scholarships/awards/contests** for writers.

**The subscription is FREE.**

Do like 27,000 others and simply go to **FundsforWriters.com** and sign up. We'll keep your contact information private.

We look forward to you joining us!

### fanstory.com

*Contests with cash prizes that you can enter this week!*

**Take a look at this site. Lots of interesting contests. Many are very short...not necessarily easy, but as short as a one line poem, or a 50 word flash fiction story. Some may have deadlines fast approaching, others you'll have time to contemplate.**

**Fee 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.



# Notes from the World

**HEAR YE!  
HEAR YE!**

**Check out the  
Poetry Foundation at**

**[https://www.poetryfoundation.org/  
poems/poem-of-the-day](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/poem-of-the-day)**

**Register to receive  
a free poem each day  
& all sorts of other  
cool poetry stuff**

## **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: [janecleland.com/events](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 17 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT**  
**"The Author-Agent Connection with  
Special Guest Adam Chromy"**

**Saturday, July 15, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PT**  
**"The Art of Revealing Backstory"**

Jane Cleland is an award-winning author who writes both fiction and nonfiction. Her fiction includes the long-running Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series, published by St. Martin's Minotaur and *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*. Her non-fiction includes the Agatha-Award winning best-sellers, *Mastering Suspense*, *Structure & Plot* and *Mastering Plot Twists*. She's a Contributing Editor at *Writer's Digest Magazine* and the chair of the Black Orchid Novella Award (BONA). Cleland teaches writing at the university level, and offers free monthly webinars on the craft and business of writing. **<https://janecleland.com/events/>**

**[winningwriters.com](https://winningwriters.com)  
contests with big \$\$\$ prizes**

# *Notes from the World*

## **SAINTS + SINNERS** LGBTQ LITERARY FESTIVAL • NEW ORLEANS TENNESSEE WILLIAMS FESTIVAL WRITING CONTEST

**The 2024 Fiction Contest is Open**

**Submission Deadline: October 1, 2023**

**Cash Prizes & Publication**

• **AND** •

**The 2024 Poetry Contest is Open**

**Submission Deadline: October 15, 2023**

**Cash Prizes & Publication**

**For Submission Details For All Contests Go To:**

**<https://tennesseewilliamsfestival.submittable.com/submit>**

## ***“Great sex!”***

Join co-hosts Golden State Romance Writers (GSRW)  
& Mystery Writers of America (MWA) - Norcal for —

## ***How to Write a Sex Scene:***

***Learn to go beyond the mechanics!***

**August 12, 2023 • 10:30 am - 12:30 pm**

For more information and to register, go to the link below — after June 6:

**<https://www.goldenstateromancewriters.org/>**

# *Notes from the World*

## **Narrative Magazine**

**So many submission options . . .**

**\$5000 Narrative Prize • JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> DEADLINE**

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

### **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.**

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

**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 curser 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 Association**  
[sfwa.org](http://sfwa.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Attention Poets & Poetry Lovers

**Check out the Poetry Center of San José**

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

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

# ***FAW Members on Social Media***

## ● Angelica G. Allen

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

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

## ● Cherilyn Chin

Cherilyn is a professional aquarist and marine biologist. For the past 12 years, she's maintained her award-winning blog, "**Ocean of Hope: Marine Animals Voice Their Wishes on Ocean Conservation Issues**," and has 8,500 followers on Twitter. She also writes children's fiction and non-fiction books about the ocean. She's a web-site 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>**

## ● 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**

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## **FCAC & Half Price Book Flash Fiction Contest Winners**

Two FAW members and one FAW "friend" and regular guest at our Social Write-In were 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place winners in the Fremont Cultural Arts Council Special Flash Fiction Contest. The following three pieces are their winning entries.

Presented in the order in which they were announced at the event.



### *Fan Mail*

*by Tish Davidson*

E. B. White came down from his writing studio to eat lunch. His wife had set his fan mail at his place on the table. White loved hearing how much his readers liked his books. He opened the first letter. It was from a fourth grade teacher who wrote, "I have been reading Charlotte's Web to my class. My students got so involved in the story that they threatened to go on a homework strike unless I read two chapters each day instead of one. The girls love the gentle spider Charlotte. The boys like Wilbur the pig because he is messy, and the troublesome boys all want to be Templeton the rat."

"A homework strike," White chuckled. "They must really love my book."

The next letter was from a mother. She wrote, "I read Charlotte's Web to my children. It took me back to my happy childhood on a farm in Iowa."

The paper inside the third envelope was covered in cobwebs. White read, "We are angry orphans. You killed our mother before we could meet her. Thanks to you, we grew up without parents. How could you do such a thing?" The letter was signed Wilbur "Some Pig" Zuckerman, typed for Charlotte's 518 offspring.

White wondered if he were hallucinating. He glanced around the room. Everything seemed normal, then his eye caught sight of a spider web high in the corner of the dining room. He got up for a closer look. Slowly the words the spider was spinning emerged. "Bad Man."

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4<sup>th</sup>

## Dear President Lincoln

by Pat Doyne

Dear President Lincoln,

I've been reading that speech you gave at the Soldiers' National Cemetery, the "**Gettysburg Address.**" The one about "*all men are created equal*," and "*these dead shall not have died in vain.*" All those soldiers who gave their lives so the Union might live must be feeling pretty disappointed right now.

We've got this Congresswoman giving interviews and speeches to encourage a "National Divorce." She wants Red and Blue States to make their own laws: choose who votes, who's permitted inside secure borders, whose rights will be protected. If a Blue migrates to a Red State—well, that's ok, but he can't vote.

Looks like our union is once again coming apart at the seams. So, Mr. President, do you have any healing words for us today?

Of course, "*government of the people, by the people, and for the people*" has a built-in problem: *people*. Some think that anyone who doesn't agree with them is the enemy—so they grab a gun and start shooting. I guess you know all about that attitude, since John Wilkes Booth shot and killed you.

Anyway, our nation is a war-zone again. We know you're honest, Mr. Lincoln. Do you think the United States will ever pull together? Or will we "*perish from the earth?*" Just asking.

Yours truly,  
Concerned California Citizen

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***"You have to write the book that wants to be written. And if the book will be too difficult for grown-ups, then you write it for children."***

***— Madeleine L'Engle***

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## *Michelangelo*

Dust, I live in dust,  
Marble blocks from the quarry,  
Towering heavy white rock,  
Hiding what is miraculous,  
Envision what's inside.

I pick up a hammer,  
Chip away at the stately rock,  
Looking for the hidden prize,  
Located inside this hulk,  
A priceless treasure.

A face appears,  
Eyes searching for love,  
Arms reaching out to me,  
Slowly coming to life,  
Freedom is near.

Dust, I live in dust,  
My hand holds the hammer,  
Man, woman or child,  
Prisoned in the marble,  
Immortalized forever.

***Elaine Rodgers***



\*\*\*\*\*

# GRAY

*by Marie Blanchard*

*(from an FAW Social Write-In visual prompt of a building with an external wall  
patched with colorful sheets of corrugated metal)*

She closed herself away from view, afraid of the leering glances, sickened by the memory of how these glances developed into events over which she had no control.

Gray, gray gray, that is my color, she thought. No one will notice gray. And so, it was that gray she became. Never speaking unless she had to, and then when she would become conspicuous by not responding, she made her speech gray, betraying no color, no texture, nothing that might encourage anyone to pry further.

She worked in order to eat, and to satisfy the rent collector when he came by each month. Even then, she kept an invisible barrier between her and whoever appeared at the door.

But, leaks of light occasionally would remind her that things age with time and experience, for she would find cracks that needed patching. So she prowled at night when all was dark, when all colors appeared gray. She never realized that in the light, the corrugated orange, blue, green, and gold sections, which she used for patching, would advertise the history she wished to keep hidden.



*Visual Prompt*

*Weasel*

*Artwork by Jo Ann Frisch*

# ***FAW Board Members***



**TERRY TOSH**  
President  
toshmanii@yahoo.com



**KNUTI VANHOVEN**  
Vice President



**PAT DOYNE**  
Secretary



**CHERYLYN CHIN**  
Treasurer



**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***



**ART CAREY**  
Signage  
Facility Liaison



**CHERILYN CHIN**  
CWC Advertising  
& Promotions



**SCOTT DAVIDSON**  
Webmaster  
Zoom Manager



**TISH DAVIDSON**  
Social Write-In Host



**BOB GARFINKLE**  
Historian



**NANCY GUARNERA**  
*Ink Spots* Editor  
Special Projects  
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**KNUTI VANHOVEN**  
Speakers Program  
Publicity

## **FAW MISSION STATEMENT**

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