



Scribbles

California Writers Club - Central Coast Writers Branch
www.centralcoastwriters.org
 October 2011

Get Set for Booktoberfest!



Our members take the spotlight at our October 18 meeting as we celebrate CCW's annual Booktoberfest. This is the one meeting out of the year where, instead of bringing in an outside speaker, we feature our members who have published books in recent years. They'll be reading from their work, or telling us about their book and their journey to publication, or a little bit of both. They'll also have copies of their books for sale.

"Variety" will definitely sum up the evening's entertainment and information, everything from doctoral dissertations to children's books, memoirs to mysteries.

As of press time, our presenters include: **Peter Hoss**, who will tell us about his brand-new book about growing up in Yosemite; **Patricia Hamilton**, author of the travel guide *California Healthy*; **Bob Roy**, author of the just-released mystery/suspense novel *The Torrance File*; **Patrick Flanigan**, reading his poetry; **Judy Zhu**, whose writing focuses on Chinese cultural encounters; **Jane Fleming**, writing about spiritual issues in *Birthingright*; **Susan Horcajo**, sharing her doctoral dissertation; **David Rasch**, author of the hilariously-titled writing guide *The Blocked Writer's Book of the Dead*; **Murlie Hanson**, who will take us into the world of *The Christmas Tooth Fairy*, and **Flo Snyder**, author of *Lady in the Locker Room*.

That's Tuesday, October 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bay Park Hotel. Optional dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; last dinner ticket sold at 6:10 p.m. Please come and support to your fellow CCW members.

Please remember that
 we are now meeting at the
Crazy Horse Restaurant
 (Bay Park Hotel,
 1425 Munras Avenue)

Dinner at 5:15
 Program at 6:30

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The Prez Sez by Joyce Krieg



"EATING TOGETHER FOR THE CAUSE"

We have a problem. One way or another, we must pay for the meeting room for our monthly meetings. We've always paid for the room by selling dinners at a hotel or restaurant rather than charging a flat admission fee. As long as we sold enough food and beverage to meet the owner's minimum, the meeting room was free. That tradition continues at our current home, the Bay Park Hotel.

But for it to work, we've got to have sufficient numbers of members eating dinner with us.

Now, we recognize that for some of you, this just doesn't work. You're on a special diet. You have family depending on you to fix dinner and eat with them. Your schedule doesn't permit you to arrive early enough to eat dinner with us. You cannot afford the \$15 price. Or you just cannot abide salad bars.

That's where the door prize drawing comes in. If you're coming to hear the speaker but not eating dinner, be a sport and help pay your way through the door prize drawing. A minimum \$5 donation sounds like a fair share to me, \$10 if you can afford it. Then we can use that money to pay for the room rental if not enough meals are sold.

Bottom line: if we all work together – or eat together – everyone wins.

P.S. The Bay Park is a new experience for most of us – quite a departure from our routine at Casa Munras – so we've included an FAQ on page three.

California Writers Club Members Score in Senior Poets Laureate Contest

Josephine "Jo" Carpignano, member of San Francisco/Peninsula branch of CWC, won a double-honor in the 19th annual Senior Poets Laureate Competition for American poets age 50 and older. Her poem "The Yellow Bus" won both the 2011 California Senior Poet Laureate Award and National Runner-Up Award (\$100).

Other CWC recipients were Juanita J. Martin, Redwood City branch, Honor Scroll for "Van Gogh's Summer", and Ray Malus, San Fernando Valley branch, Scribe's Scroll for "Trust."

All winners will appear in October in GOLDEN WORDS online anthology at www.amykitchnerfdn.org.

FOUND:

*Clarrissa Conn, friendly,
enthusiastic volunteer willing
to take charge of CCW's monthly
door prize drawing.*

Thank you so much, Clarissa!



*Nina Amir, Speaking at our September Meeting,
by Joyce Krieg*

(See Susan Horcajo's report, on page 5.)

MONTHLY MEETING FAQ's

If you haven't been to a CCW meeting since we left Casa Munras, much has changed. The following FAQ will bring you up to speed.

Where are we meeting?

The Bay Park Hotel, 1425 Munras Avenue, Monterey, located at the intersection of Highway 1 and Munras Avenue, near Del Monte Centre.

Where at the hotel are we meeting?

The dinner portion of the meeting takes place in the Crazy Horse restaurant. This is in the main, public room of the restaurant. We have a private meeting room – the White Horse – for the speaker portion of our meeting. The White Horse room is on the same floor as the restaurant, right around the corner.

What is the time frame?

Dinner: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. (The last dinner ticket is sold at 6:10 p.m.) At 6:30, we move into the White Horse room for the program. Please plan your schedule to finish your dinner by 6:30 p.m. The program concludes at approximately 8:00 p.m.

What should I do when I arrive?

Go to the second floor foyer, look for the CCW check-in table, pick up your badge and purchase a dinner ticket.

I can't climb stairs. How do I get to the second floor?

Park in back of the hotel, follow the outside corridors and go through the door with the leaded glass window. You'll find yourself right in the second floor foyer with the check-in table. Not one stair to climb!

How much are the dinner tickets?

\$15 covers the all-you-can-eat salad bar, dessert, tax, tip, and non-alcoholic beverage. Cash or check only – sorry, no debit or credit cards.

I don't care for the salad bar. Can I order off the menu instead?

Sorry, no. The CCW dinner tickets cover only the salad bar. Just a hint: there are several options on the salad bar for those who don't like "rabbit food": cold cuts, baked potatoes, soup.

The sign at restaurant says the salad bar is \$10.95. Why is CCW charging \$15?

\$10.95 does *not* cover tax, tip, and non-alcoholic beverage. When you factor in those three items, \$15 is a bargain.

Can I skip the dinner and just come for the speaker?

Technically, yes. You will be helping CCW immensely, however, by either purchasing a dinner or donating toward the door prize drawing. One way or another, the meeting room must be paid for. We appreciate your support!

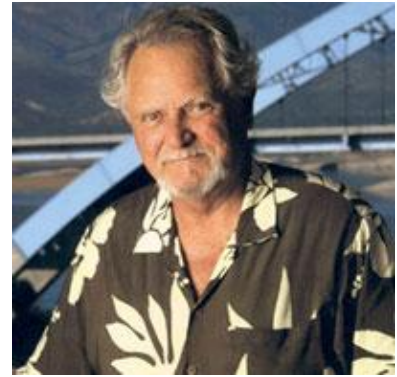
**WELCOME TO
NEW MEMBERS!**

Cynthia Nelson Holmsky, of Monterey, has not yet been published, is interested in poetry, prose and nonfiction, and is working on a book titled, "How to Keep Your Name off the Layoff List." Sounds very timely!!

Jack Skillicorn, of Carmel, has not yet been published, but is attending a writing class with the Carmel Foundation, which is how he heard about us.

Leslie Nickels Patino, of Monterey has published a children's book, *Tinita*, through the educational publishing company Amsco.

**Enjoy an Evening with
"The Grand Master of
Adventure,"
Author and Explorer
Clive Cussler!**



Clive Cussler, the #1 New York Times bestselling author who is referred to as "the best storyteller in the business" by *the New York Post*, will be sharing his stories live for a benefit dinner at the Lodge at Pebble Beach, California. This small, intimate event will allow Cussler's to get a rare, personal look into a man whose real life explorations, like his adventure novels, are bigger than life. In addition to the main dinner and auction, there is also an optional, private reception with Clive.

Cussler published his first novel featuring Dirk Pitt® in 1973, followed by over 20 more novels in the Dirk Pitt series, and his first non-fiction work *The Sea Hunters* in 1996. Today millions of fans still await news of Cussler's latest novel. *The Race*, an Isaac Bell adventure, was released on September 6, 2011. After delighting millions of adults with his multi-book series, in recent years Cussler has also crafted ocean adventure novels for kids.

Like his novels, Cussler's personal life is also rich with tales of adventure. He is an accomplished marine archeologist with an amazing record of discovering over 60 shipwrecks rich with artifacts that have generously been donated to museums around the world. An avid collector, Cussler also has an extensive collection of over 100 significant automobiles.

Proceeds will benefit Camp SEA Lab, a non-profit organization affiliated with CSUMB, offering marine Science, Education and Adventure programs for kids ages 8 – 18 years old.

To register, visit www.campsealab.org or call Chris Gibson at 831/582-3681.

NINA AMIR'S SHOCKING REVELATION, by Susan Horcajo

According to Nina Amir, our September speaker, the only thing you don't need to become a published writer is talent!!

Nina began by telling us a little about her background. She dreamed of writing and illustrating books even as a youngster. But she put those dreams on hold because journalism seemed a more realistic profession. Finally, she was told by both a large New York agent and a smaller "niche" publisher in Vermont that she needed a "platform." She also learned that she needed a pitch. As a result she developed a list of *5 Things EVERY Aspiring Author Needs to Get Published*.

Her talk was guided by some fundamental questions that all writers should consider, beginning with: "What are you willing to do every day to sell this book?" Indeed, *don't be a lazy writer* was Nina's first piece of advice. Do your homework and ask: Who is your reader? Who are you writing for? You must have a great idea, one that appeals to a large market. Your proposal should include numbers and categories of readers that identify your unique perspective.

What is my book supposed to do? Will it solve a problem, provide resources or make the reader laugh? Identifying the "great idea" is the first step toward getting published.

Secondly, you need a pitch that will be your "elevator speech" or "hook" that provides the sense of your story and identifies the market for your book. Nina won the SF Writer's Conference Pitch Contest two years ago with the following: "*Turtle's Nest* is about a woman who accidentally poisons her son and learns she doesn't have to be a perfect parent to be a good mother."

While it may seem difficult to describe your book in 25 words or less, it helps you to hone the message of your book. Publishers also use your pitch to market your book.

Having a great platform is third on Nina's list. This "built-in readership," can best be developed by authors themselves. Blogging, social networks, friends, followers, radio interviews and public speaking are just a few ways to build your platform. Resist the temptation to ignore this key element.

While writers may consider themselves to be artists more than business people, the fourth requirement is to write a "business plan" or proposal. This will help you answer the question: Am I the best person to write this book?

You may decide after writing the proposal that it doesn't really match the pages you've been writing. At that point you can go with the new idea from the proposal, throw it out, or re-angle it. The proposal is the moment when the light bulb goes on and you know what you're writing.

Finally, you must have "that quality enshrined in a man who, having killed his mother and father, throws himself on the mercy of the court because he is an orphan:" chutzpah! Be bold, daring and confident because only you can sell your book.



CENTRAL COAST WRITERS PRESENTS:
 A Workshop Led by
Nina Amir



How to Write a Book *Fast!*

4 Ways to Create & Publish a Manuscript in Record Time

- Do you want a published product to sell while you build a speaker platform?
- Do you have tips you'd like to put into a full-length book but no time now to write it?
- Would you like to write your book quickly?
- Do you have blog content you'd like to recycle into money-making published products?

If you answered “yes” to even one of these questions, you’ll find the information you need at this workshop. Learn how to write and publish tip books, booklets (short books or condensed versions of full-length books), blogged books (manuscripts written while blogging), and booked blogs (books created from blog posts). Discover how to repurpose your written material while producing salable products. You’ll leave with outlines, written material, plans, how-to info, and tons of ideas (+promotion tips) for writing a variety of books fast.

Nina Amir, Your Inspiration-to-Creation Coach, inspires writers to create the results they desire—published products and careers as writers and authors. An author, journalist, freelance book editor, and writing, blogging and author coach, she has 5 blogs, including *Write Nonfiction NOW* and *How to Blog a Book*, and writes 2 on-line Examiner.com columns. She is the founder of Write Nonfiction in November, a blog and challenge. Find out more about her at www.NinaAmir.com. With Nina you...Achieve More Inspired Results!

November 12, 2011
 9:00 am - 2:30 pm
 Sunset Center – Chapman Room
 San Carlos Street bet. 8th and 10th
 Carmel-by-the-Sea

Doors open at 8:30 a.m.
 Continental breakfast and lunch included

Pre-registration (on or before Nov. 11):
 Members: \$35
 Non-members: \$45
At the door:
 Members: \$45
 Non-members: \$55

Note: While this workshop is designed primarily for nonfiction writers, fiction writers will pick up valuable tips on how to turn their book-length work into booklets and other promotional material for their novels.

www.centralcoastwriters.org

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zipcode _____
 Phone Number(s) Land line _____ Cell _____
 Email Address _____

Member \$35 Non-member \$45 Make check payable to “CCW Branch of CWC”

Mail to: Post Office Box 997, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

POETRY CORNER

This poem was written to honor my husband Donald L. Jacobs. However, it should also honor the many pilots who have flown, survived, lost their lives or became missing in action.

Any number of circumstances spell danger to those who fly, from mechanical failure, to being hit, to being lost. So many gallant and brave men and women have been lost during the numerous wars of the 20th century. It seems that peace is elusive.

Don

In the blink of an eye
Earth becomes a dot
Fast approaching
Enemy territory

Quickly passing
A solitary lighthouse
Once a beacon for safe passage
Now a Landmark into enemy land

Trees seem to have metallic twigs
Fear creeps in
Time and distance compressed
Flak and fire all around

Payload dropped
More flak and fire
Plane shivers
Searing pain

Leg and cheek hit
Plane still flying
Pain throbs in tune with plane
Through flak and fire, plane flies

Vast ocean grey expanse appears
Leaving lighthouse behind
Like a giant whale
Aircraft carrier Kearsarge appears

Concentration kicks in
Safe landing a must
Forget pain
Quick descent

Tailhook grabs plane
Now on deck
Survived
Another mission

Swirling random thoughts
Political platitudes
Senseless wars
Death and destruction

No good first lines to stop war

Your Poetry Editor: Nancy Jacobs.

CONTESTS, MORE CONTESTS!

The Writer's Personal Essay/Memoir Contest

Here's your chance to tell us something about you! We're looking for your original, unpublished viewpoint about a particular topic or an experience you've had. Write an essay that catches our eye, touches our heart, or tickles our funny bone, and you could win one of these great prizes:

- **First prize:** \$1,000; a free 10-week creative writing workshop offered online by Gotham Writers' Workshop (\$420 value); publication in *The Writer* and on *WriterMag.com*; and a one-year subscription to *The Writer*.
- **Second prize:** \$300; free enrollment in a four-week *How to Get Published* seminar taught online by a literary agent and Gotham Writers' Workshop (\$150 value); publication on *WriterMag.com*; and a one-year subscription to *The Writer*.
- **Third prize:** \$200; free enrollment in a four-week *How to Get Published* seminar taught online by a literary agent and Gotham Writers' Workshop (\$150 value); publication on *WriterMag.com*; and a one-year subscription to *The Writer*.

Essays should be 1,000-1,200 words. **The deadline is Nov. 30, 2011.** For more details, check out the complete *rules and guidelines* here.

Writing Short Stories?

Will winning a contest spur you to greater effort and success?

Check out this list of 15 short story contests with deadlines in November:
<http://tinyurl.com/4yw964f>.

Once you've submitted to these contests, go to <http://tinyurl.com/3ltodlo> for lists of contests closing in other months.

Going Your Own Way?

In an effort to promote the work of California novelists, LuckyCinda Publishing is sponsoring a book contest for self-published and independently published fiction.

GRAND PRIZE for the 2012 BOOK OF THE YEAR: A FREE Kindle or Nook Reader. The **grand prize** winner will also receive a one-hour FREE consultation with book marketing expert Brian Jud.

All entrants of the First Annual California Fiction Writers Book Challenge will receive an autographed award-winning novel, free book marketing tips, and substantial discounts for consultations with big-name authors and expert book promoters.

Submission Deadline: October 31, 2011.

See <http://bookcontest.luckycinda.com/> for contest rules.



California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch
www.trivalleywriters.org

New York Times Best Selling Author

CATHERINE COULTER



An insider's look at the publishing industry and how to join the game in her talk, "Stranger in a Strange Land: Publishing today."

Saturday, October 15, 2011
Check-in: 1:30 p.m.
Meeting: 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Four Points by Sheraton
5115 Hopyard Road
Pleasanton, California 94588

CWC Members \$10
Nonmembers \$15

Reservations required: alanger2@comcast.net

For Express Check-in, mail payment by October 8, 2011
to:
CWC Tri-Valley Branch
P. O. Box 10993
Pleasanton, CA 94588

MEMBER PROFILE

Diana Paul



From semiconductors to Buddhism, Diana Paul's writing subjects reflect a diversity that is evident in her employment history.

With a B.A. in psychology, an M.A. in philosophy and a Ph.D. in world religion (Buddhism), it's no surprise that Diana would write three academic books on Buddhism—books she wrote while a professor at Stanford University (1974 to 1985). Likewise, when she was CEO of OCL Technology Center, "a think-tank US-Japan trading corporation backed by Japanese banks and high-tech companies," Diana also wrote guest columns for the *San Jose Mercury News*, the *San Jose Business Journal* and the *Christian Science Monitor* "during the 'semiconductor wars' era in Silicon Valley (1988-1994) when trade relations were tense," Diana says.

Though her foray into fiction writing spans only the past three years or so, Diana, also an artist and printmaker, has big plans for her writing future. She hopes to find an agent by the end of 2011, publish *Unhealed Wound*, a tale about three siblings growing up in the Midwest during the 1960s, in 2012, and have her novel optioned for a movie.

"The worldview of Buddhism has subtly permeated my novel with underlying themes of karma and recovery from injury," Diana says. "The narrator/main character is a

married woman who wishes her mother would die, while reflecting on her family, their past and their wounds. All have injured and scarred each other. The parenting effects they endured are now moving on to their own children's lives."

Excerpts from *Unhealed Wound* have already been published as two short stories, testimony to Diana's ambition and dedication to her writing pursuits. As one who practices what she preaches, Diana says it's important to "read and write every day and as much as possible. I also think movies are a great way to refine one's storytelling skills. . . . And don't be a harsh critic of your own work. Leave that to others. Just get the story down on paper and polish it afterwards."

Though she declares herself a night owl, Diana says her best writing time is in the afternoon. "Since I get up around 10:30 a.m., that means I eat my first meal of the day around 11:00 and don't start writing until around 1:00."

An avid blogger known for her storytelling ability and movie plot revisions, Diana was inspired by the abundance of talent in CCW's membership and enrolled in last year's blog workshop, which changed her life, she says. Posts to her website (<http://www.unhealedwound.com>) include movie reviews as well as commentaries on food, wine and art, "all the discoveries that make life worth living!"



Michelle Smith's articles have been published in a variety of magazines. Her web site is <http://theebonyquill.com>.

\$1000 total cash awards

Central Coast Writers 2012 Spring Writing Contest

Entries must be postmarked by January 31, 2012

Wanda Sue Parrott, 2012 Contest Administrator,
invites all poets and writers to compete for
\$250 in each of four categories:

POETRY: rhymed and unrhymed
(50 lines maximum per category)

PROSE: fiction and non-fiction
(2,500 words maximum per category)

This is an annual event sponsored by the Central Coast Writers
branch of the California Writers Club.

For a hard copy of the rules,
send a #10 SASE and request to:

CCW Contest
P. O. Box 997
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

The Rules also appear on the Central Coast Writers website at:
www.centralcoastwriters.org.

Or you may print out your own copy of the Rules by clicking [HERE](#).

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

The ultimate writers' "tip"? Some variation of "Sit your b-- down and do it, everyday." So . . .

"What 30-minute activity could you eliminate from your day, in order to write?"

Submit your answer, short or long, to ccwscribbles@sbcglobal.net.

LINKS TO ONLINE WRITERS' FORUMS – Just click!

Absolute Write

Christian Creative Writers

Critique Circle

Make Literature

My Writers Circle

The Next Big Writer

Writing Forums

Young Writers Online

BRAGGING RIGHTS

My poems "Sonnet to a Hobbled Horse" and "Great Spirit Answers Boy's Prayers" have been accepted for publication in the 2011 Anthology of Voices Israel. They are part of my collection of Native-American poems under one of my 18 pen names, Prairie Flower.

-- Wanda Sue Parrott



IF THE SHOE FITS . . .

"BREAK THE ICE"

Aarghhh! Another book that broke off at the end like *The Piano Tuner*.

It's as if the publisher wanted the book right now.

"But it's not finished."

"No matter. We need to get it in bookstores on the first of the month. Time is of the essence."

"Okay, but I need to wrap up all the loose ends and sub-plots."

"Just kill the protagonist and send it in."

"Okay."

A writer who has attended a seminar with Martha Alderson would know, far in advance, what the outcome would be for the main action and for each of the sub-plots. One would not think of sending off a work unfinished like a broken pair of scissors with only one and a half blades. In her book, *BLOCKBUSTER PLOTS Pure and Simple*, Martha clearly explains how to put together a complete book with no loose ends.

I believe that we must craft the work in a way that reaches into the readers' essential being to touch some feelings and concerns of theirs that we have no knowledge of. We present situations that they might not have experienced and resolve the problems in a manner that the readers might find satisfactory, or not. It is then up to the individual reader to agree or to consider alternate solutions that might make more sense in light of his/her personal experiences and values.

Franz Kafka said, "If the literature we are reading does not wake us, why then do we read it? A literary work must be an ice axe to break the sea frozen inside us." We have no control over where the readers will take our ideas, but we do have the responsibility to present them with ideas worth considering that might reach deeply into their personal space.

I tried to do this in a poem that is felt differently and understood differently by everyone who has read it:

When the Student is Ready

"Are we acquainted? I don't think so.
Just now you smiled and said 'Hello.'
I see the friendship in your eyes
of someone I would like to know.

"I don't believe we've ever met."
You looked away from me, but yet
I thought you carried deep inside
a message I was meant to get.

It seemed you had something to say
but for some reason turned away.
It seemed that we were meant to meet.
Why else would I have come this way?

Oh, I have plenty deep inside
that I have struggled hard to hide
from others. Even from myself.
I have a pain that won't subside.

I had a wife and little boy
and every day was filled with joy.
It was my fault. Is there a thing
that stubbornness can not destroy?"

"Yes. Stubbornness can not kill pride.
Repentance can win back your bride.
Just talk to her. Your pain will end.
And walk with me. I'll be your friend."

The little girl reached up and took his hand.
They walked together for a little while.
"I'm going home now," said the girl, and stopped.
"And so am I." And he began to smile.

I have no idea what readers will think or feel reading this, or anything I write. It's just my job to reach out with something that might break a little ice for someone, somewhere.

**Be well,
and do good work,
C. Jonathan Shoemaker**

SOUTH BAY WRITERS™ PRESENTS:

A Workshop Led by

Mark Coker



HOW TO GET IN ON THE EBOOK REVOLUTION:

Produce, Distribute & Sell Your EBook

Sales of ebooks have surpassed printed books. Previously unknown authors have become millionaires selling ebooks without publishers only to later land huge traditional publishing deals. Other best-selling traditionally published authors have struck out on their own as indie ebook authors. And aspiring authors who couldn't land a traditional publishing deal have found success in the world of digital publishing.

You, too, can become an ebook author. During this 4-hour workshop you will:

- Receive an ebook publishing primer—an introduction to the ebook market, the big trends shaping the future of publishing, and a close look at the Indie Ebook Revolution
- Learn how to produce, format and distribute an ebook
- Discover the seven secrets of ebook publishing success—the proven best practices of most successful authors
- Find out what *really* makes an ebook sell—how readers discover books, what categories or lengths sell best, pricing data, how retailer sales rank is computed and measured and how it impacts sales

About the presenter: Mark Coker is the founder of Smashwords, the leading ebook publishing and distribution platform serving indie authors and small publishers. Mark is also the co-author with his wife of *Boob Tube*, a novel that explores the dark side of Hollywood celebrity and the author of the *Smashwords Book Marketing Guide* and *Smashwords Style Guide*.

October 29, 8:30-2:00

Lookout Restaurant

605 Macara Ave.

Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Registration @ 8:00; WORKSHOP begins promptly at 8:30; continental breakfast and lunch included.

Early Bird (through midnight Oct. 14, 2010)

CWC members: \$45

Non-members: \$55

Students w/ID (up to age 25), anytime \$25

After October 14 and at the door

CWC members: \$55

Non-members: \$65

Cancellation Policy: \$5 fee through midnight 10/14; \$15 fee 10/15 through midnight 10/21; no refunds after midnight 10/21.

South Bay Writers is a non-profit 501c3

Register and pay by credit card (Paypal) at www.southbaywriters.com

Mail in this portion to: SBW Workshops, PO Box 3254, Santa Clara, CA 95055.

Check Payable to: South Bay Writers

Name: _____ CWC branch (if applicable) _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

_____ Early Bird (postmarked by 10/14) _____ Regular Registration (postmarked after 10/14) _____ Student Registration

EDITOR'S CORNER

"Untitled"



Just little bits of this and that this month . . .

You know how I'm always asking for you to submit some of your writing to *Scribbles*? What about sending us one of your blog posts? I can usually fit another 225-250 words in, sometimes even 475 words. It really depends upon whether the "mandatory" contents fills an even or odd number of pages. You can even send a "teaser," just the beginning, or the beginning and end of a post, with the URL so that we can read the rest. Even if you don't want to send a post for publication, just send us the URL of your blog if you'd like more readers, and I'll publish a list.

Wondering what to do with your old typewriter? I *Freecycled* mine recently. Check out *this article*, with great pix, of human sculptures made from our old friends!

For those of you who remember my mention of Natalie Goldberg's *Long Quiet Highway* last month, a follow-up. I did hit the portion on Zen, which is quite lengthy. If you would rather focus on writing, you may prefer her book *Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within*, which is outstanding.

Finally, a little plug for communicating with the editor and your CCW friends. We have several people who are participating in Booktoberfest, or could be. If you have a book to read, you certainly have "Bragging Rights." Let us know, so we can celebrate with you!

Cheri

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Joyce Krieg

Vice President: Cheri Love

Secretary: Wanda Sue Parrott

Treasurer: Open

Programs: Open

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Public Relations: Cheri Love

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Central Board Representative: Joyce Krieg

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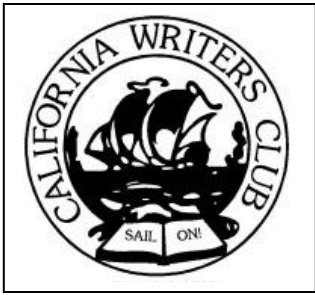
Nancy Jacobs: "Poet's Corner"

C. Jonathan Shoemaker: "If the Shoe Fits"

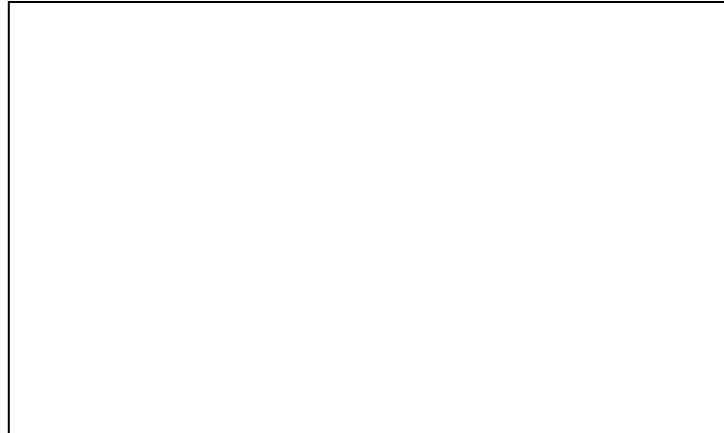
Joyce Krieg, "The Prez Sez"

Michelle Smith: "Member Profiles"

Photographer: Ken Jones



California Writers Club
Central Coast Writers Branch
Post Office Box 997
Pacific Grove, CA 93950



MORE LOCAL EVENTS

Historian and author **Elizabeth Barrett**, author of Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* book on Carmel Valley, will speak to the Carmel Valley Women's Club on **October 5**.

The meeting will be at Carmel Valley Ranch, 1 Old Ranch Road, at 11:30 a.m.

For reservations, call 659-0934, by October 1.

(Yes, this isn't much advance notice, but maybe you can sneak in a late reservation!)

WRITERS' OPEN MIKE

5:30-7:30, **Thursday, October 20**
Alternative Café, 1230 Fremont Street, Seaside

Come early & sign up for a 5-7 minute reading from any genre, following 15-20 minutes from the featured guest.

Thursday October 20th will open with a 15-minute monologue by writer and actress Carol Marquart entitled "Bette Davis Will Now Take Your Questions."

Thursday November 17th will feature members of CSUMB's OLLI Writers Circles.

Thursday, December 15th writers of all genres are invited to share their funniest, saddest, silliest or even scariest Holiday Season story.

Thursday, January 19th in honor of Chinese New Year will feature CCW member **Judy Zhu**, a professor of Chinese language and culture at (DLI) who has won many literature awards in China with over 300 poems, prose and stories published in eight books, as well as various national newspapers and magazines.

Want to be featured? E-mail phanson@csumb.edu with a short bio, or call 601-9195.