



Scribbles

California Writers Club—Central Coast Writers Branch

centralcoastwriters.org

October 2017

Tuesday, October 17 Book'toberfest!



Share your published work at the October CCW meeting!

Six-minute readings will be on a first-come, first-served basis. RSVP to be a reader starting October 1 at 9:00 a.m. by sending email to Laurie Sheehan at erudite@mac.com. Eight readers will be selected. See the guidelines on page 2.

Tuesday, November 21 Donia Bijan

Donia Bijan uses history as a backdrop for the people she's interested in writing about. Her memoir, *Maman's Homesick Pie*, was published in 2011, followed by her debut novel, *The Last Days of Café Leila*, in 2017. Her work chronicles families ripped apart by political upheaval; she explores both those forced to leave their countries and those who stayed behind.

Bijan will talk about the challenges of writing without what she calls "the expatriate's self-indulgent nostalgia and reliance on pickled memories of the homeland." She left her native Iran in 1978 during the Islamic Revolution. After graduating from UC Berkeley, she attended the Cordon Bleu in Paris, then ran her acclaimed restaurant L'Amie Donia, in Palo Alto, for ten years. She lives in the Bay Area with her husband and their son.

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CCW President's Letter By Laurie Sheehan

Boo!

October has always been one of my favorite months. I love the chill in the air, the shorter days, seeing the trees change color (yes, even here in California we have a few of those), but most of all I adore Halloween. It's one time during the year when it's acceptable, even encouraged, to pretend to be something we're not. I don a costume, step into a role—but it's more than an outfit, it's the whole persona. Maybe it's why I like to write fiction. As often as possible during the year I work to create entire personalities for the characters in my books—on October 31st I get to be one of my characters.

Maybe this is why October seems to be the month for writers!

The book launch for *Life in Pacific Grove* will be in Chautauqua Hall on October 7th and 8th during [Butterfly Days in Pacific Grove](#). I was happy to see so many CCW members among the featured contributors.

The Monterey Library is hosting an [Indie Author Day](#) on October 7th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be workshops and classes on publishing, marketing, researching and organizing memoirs, panels with young adult and mystery authors, and a crash course in thriller writing! Check out the [Monterey Public Library page](#) for more information.

And, by decree of the Governor and State Legislature, the third week of October is perennially designated as California Writers Week. As luck would have it, our very own Booktoberfest will be held that week on October 17th.

If you haven't attended a past CCW Booktoberfest you're in for a treat. The featured speakers at our October meeting will be some of our very own published authors. The spots for readers are limited, but I try to make it as fair as possible. However, let me apologize ahead of time, because there just isn't time for all our published authors to read. Everyone is invited to display and sell books, though. The Point Pinos Grill graciously allows us to use the back room, and we'll be starting early to accommodate lots of book browsing, buying, and conversation.

October is going to be a great month for writers! I'm so glad I'll get to spend part of the time with fellow CCW members!

***Until we meet again,
Happy Writing,
Laurie***

Guidelines for Participating in Booktoberfest

The October meeting includes both a book display and sale and eight readers:

- 1) Book display and sale in the back room of the Point Pinos Grill. Any member can contact Laurie and arrange to take part in the Book Display portion of the evening. You do not need to be a featured reader, nor do you need to be a published author!
- 2) Readings by eight members who have had a book published within the past 12 months.

Reader guidelines:

Readers for this event will be selected on a first come/first served basis.

RSVP begins at 9:00 a.m. on the 1st of October. RSVP by email to erudite@mac.com. We will use the date and time stamp to select readers in order of requests received.

To be a reader you must:

- Be a member of Central Coast Writers
- **Not** have been a reader in last year's Booktoberfest
- Read from a work of your own that has been published within the past 12 months



Embracing the Publishing Revolution

To **Laurie McLean** change is inevitable, something to be celebrated. McLean came up through the hi-tech industry—in marketing—then spent eight years as a traditional literary agent before co-founding her own hybrid agency, Fuse Literary, in 2013. Since then she’s co-founded two e-publishing companies, JoyrideBooks.com for romance and Ambush Books for teen and “tween” books.

She is excited about the publishing revolution that happened in 2008 when Amazon put resources into its book publishing unit and when Smashwords launched as an e-book distributor. The proliferation of social media played its part, creating a huge marketing opportunity for authors that simply did not exist in the old traditional publishing model.

These are her top 10 tips for thriving in the publishing revolution:

1. Set goals for yourself as an author. Write a good book and keep improving your craft.
2. Think of yourself as a brand. Drill down to figure out how you’re different.
3. Do a social media audit. Search your own name. If you find something you don’t like, either find a way to fix it or find a way to overpower it.
4. Use Twitter. Twitter is a cocktail party. Join the fun.
5. Use Facebook. Facebook is a family reunion. Build a family.
6. Blog. It’s a great way to lubricate your writer’s brain.
7. Build an online community. When your book debuts you’ll have a built-in team to amplify your message.
8. Join an organization to meet critique partners, share information, learn new things, and sell your work.
9. Network at events. After meeting someone, follow them on social media.
10. Create a free Amazon profile. Link all your social media, blogs, websites to this profile for auto-updating.

And her bonus tip: Look back at what you’ve already produced. And do it again and again in different formats.

Save the date—Saturday, November 4—for Laurie McLean’s CCW workshop to be held at Monterey Peninsula College!



Speaker Laurie McLean



5-minute reader Barbara Siebeneck



CCW Awards the Grice family
Adjunct Memberships

INSIDER SECRETS: Agent Pitches and Queries

Back by popular demand! **Laurie McLean**, co-founder of Fuse Literary and the speaker who wowed us at our September meeting, unveils the secrets of the perfect pitch and the quintessential query at a fast-paced, information-packed workshop just for Central Coast Writers members and guests. Many of us have tried for years to land an agent. Here's your chance to spend a morning with an industry insider who knows the secrets to cutting through the slush pile and getting your project the attention it deserves.

- Pitches and queries—what are they and how are they different?
- Elements of the perfect query, and what to do/what not to do.
- High concept pitching: word cloud creation, making a query memorable.



Includes the opportunity to pitch to Laurie and get instant feedback!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

9:00 A.M. – NOON (doors open at 8:30 a.m.)

MPC – SAM KARAS ROOM (plenty of free parking)

\$40 CENTRAL COAST WRITERS/CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB MEMBERS

\$60 NON-MEMBERS

This workshop is sure to sell out quickly.

Reserve your spot today!



Laurie McLean spent 20 years as the CEO of a multi-million dollar marketing agency and 8 years as an agent/senior agent at Larsen Pomada Literary Agents before co-founding Fuse Literary in 2013. At Fuse Lit Laurie specializes in adult genre fiction plus middle-grade and young adult children's books. Laurie is also the co-director of the San Francisco Writers Conference. Those of you who attended our September meeting know what a dynamic, informative and fun presenter Laurie is!



Register with PayPal at www.centralcoastwriters.org – or – fill out and mail the form below.

X-----
Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
I am a CCW Member _____ Non-member _____

Pay by check made out to: "CCW Branch of CWC"
Mail to: CCW Workshop, P.O. Box 997, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Visit our website at www.centralcoastwriters.org to register and pay online.

Announcements

Membership News

Welcome to our new CCW members:

Victoria Johnson: *The Doctor's Dilemma*, Avalon Romance and Montlake Romance. *Grant Writing 101*, McGraw-Hill. *Hot Hawaiian Christmas*

James Lake: *Integrative Mental Health Care: A Therapist's Handbook* and *The Integrative Mental Health Solution*, a series of 10 ebooks available on Amazon.

Harriet Lynn: Performance artist

Alice Bailey Nervig: *Fall Back Up, Surviving Traumatic Brain Injury*; and *Miller's Basement: The Thing about Grief*.



Help CCW Earn \$2000!

The 20 CCW members who served as judges last year for the Scholastic Art & Writing Contest had such positive experiences that we've signed up to help score again this year. Plus, the \$2000 honorarium paid to the club helps us bring in quality speakers for monthly meetings, put on workshops and more. Finally, judges get to read some terrific writing by young people from all over the country.

In November, we'll be asking for volunteers. Please consider participating in this very worthwhile activity. We need at least 15 judges and 5 back-ups. Back-up judges will most likely not be called on.

What's required:

- Some computer proficiency and internet access, since all scoring is done online.
- 8 to 10 hours of reading and scoring. You may partner with another CCW member if you'd like, cutting the time commitment in half.
- You may set your own hours for doing the reading and scoring, but you must be available to do it between December 29 and January 10. If you'll be traveling during this time frame, don't give up—you can still participate as long as you have Internet access.
- You must be willing to score the work using the Scholastic scoring guidelines, which will be provided.

Just like last year, we'll be hosting another Judging Party, probably on Saturday, December 30, where you can ask questions, become familiar with the technology and the guidelines. This event is optional, but is very helpful for first-time judges and for all of us a good excuse to get out of the house and meet our fellow judges.

The Literary Review is Looking for Our Best Work

The submission window is now open for the 2018 edition of the CWC Literary Review. You are encouraged to submit your best work. A good story, poem or essay doesn't have to be "serious" to be taken seriously. Light, humorous and upbeat pieces are welcome, and there's nothing wrong with a happy ending! For complete submission guidelines, see the news roll on the right-hand column of the Home page on calwriters.org. Deadline is November 30.

Whatever Happened to the Duchess Of Windsor?

A Staged Reading by **Carol Marquart**

Auditions for "Whatever Happened to the Duchess of Windsor" are in November. Must be available for February afternoon performances in Carmel and Pacific Grove. Three women's parts: Ages 20-89, previous theatre experience preferred. Contact Carol Marquart for further information at 831-375-2235.

Writing Workshop Offered by New Member Victoria M. Johnson

What: How to Write a How-To Book

When: Mondays from October 30 to November 20, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (4 weeks)

Where: Capitola Community Center, [4400 Jade Street, Capitola, CA 95010](http://4400JadeStreet.com)

Do you want to write a book that will help others? Come learn how simple and fun it is to write a How-to book.

Fee: \$79; Discount for 62 or more years old.

For more information or to register by phone, call Victoria: (831) 475-6115

Website for all details: cityofcapitola.org/recreation



“Room With a Boring View”

Mary Feliz

Decades ago, Mary Feliz wrote corporate communications and public relations materials for a Fortune 500 company. Later, she volunteered part-time for non-profit organizations while raising her family, all the while yearning to tell stories no one else was writing.

“My schoolwork and reading as a child and young adult provided the impression that American history began when white people arrived on the North American continent,” says Mary, who earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Smith College. “We have such a rich history that predates that time.”

In the past, Mary wrote Young Adult histories in which she was “driven to tell the stories of people of color.” Since 2014, she’s focused on cozy mysteries that feature a happily married mother of two teens who solves mysteries with the help of a golden retriever. “I wanted to address the classic struggle between good and evil by focusing on everyday people,” she says. “Smart older women enmeshed in the fabric of their communities have skills, resources, and perspective that can uncover the truth and bring justice to bear when violence upends the social order.”

Mary writes in her home office where she enjoys “a boring view and a closed door that I’ve trained my husband to respect.” The more pressing her deadline, the greater the discipline she employs in her morning routine, with afternoons reserved for marketing efforts and much-needed exercise. Also key to Mary’s success is her membership in Sisters in Crime. Along with similar organizations, Sisters in Crime advises and encourages writers through all phases of the writing process, including an understanding of professional industry standards, Mary says. She’s also taken online classes and found tremendous value in hiring a developmental editor. “It was like taking a master class focused on my book and my needs.”

Mary’s original goal was to be a decent enough writer to secure a traditional publishing contract. *Address to Die For*, *Scheduled to Death*, and *Dead Storage*, three novels in her Maggie McDonald Mystery series, were released by Kensington Publication Corporation’s Lyrical Press, with three additional mysteries contracted for future release. “I’m still pinching myself over having made that dream come true,” she says. “Everything that happens now is a bonus.”

As for future aspirations, Mary, who joined CCW in 2016 after moving to Watsonville, plans to “keep writing, keep improving, and give back. I’ve promised myself I’ll stop when I stop enjoying it.” She also looks forward to becoming a regular attendee at our meetings. Her website can be found at maryfeliz.com.

Michelle Smith’s articles have been published in a variety of magazines. Her website is theebonyquill.com.



Edgar Allan Poe



The name Edgar Allen Poe has come to suggest mystery, horror, and the macabre. Not surprisingly this gave birth to detective stories. Poe considered himself to be America's first neurotic genius and this claim remains, as Poe did not have a particularly happy life. But he had a profound impact on American literature as editor, poet and critic. He became well known for his short stories and poems. His stories include "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Fall of the House of Usher." His poems are beyond memorable. They include "The Raven," "Annabel Lee," "The Bells," "Lenore," and "Eldorado." His style included dark romanticism.

Poe was born January 19, 1809, in Boston with a tragic beginning. His mother was a teenage widow when she married David Poe, an alcoholic actor who deserted the family one year after Edgar was born. The next year, his mother died. Poe was sent to live with John Allen who gave him a good home and education. He completed one year at the University of Virginia, but did not return; instead he published *Tamerlane and Other Poems*.

Poe's foster father died, leaving Edgar not one cent. He gave up writing poems for a time as there was no money in it. There was, however, money in writing stories. He published five stories in the *Philadelphia Sunday Courier* in 1832. In 1835 he became co-editor at the *Southern Literary Messenger* in Richmond, where the editor recognized Poe's talent and published his stories. Poe also became a critic. Around this time Poe married his cousin Virginia, who was half his age at 13. The family of three (his wife, his aunt and himself) lived in poverty in both New York and Baltimore. May of 1839 brought better times. Poe was hired as co-editor of *Burton's Gentleman's Magazine*. That year his best works were published, including "The Fall of the House of Usher" and "William Wilson." 1842 was a dreadful year for Poe: he was fired because of his drinking and his wife became ill. They moved back to New York where his luck changed back to good. James Russell Lowe praised Poe's work and talent, and the poem "The Raven" was published.

The Poetry Corner

By Nancy Jacobs



There is confusion as to what Poe died of. For many years it was believed that he died from alcoholism. However, later results by cardiologist R. Michael Benitez say that he died from rabies on October 7, 1849, at Washington College Hospital in Baltimore. He was only 40 years old.

"The Raven" is almost perfection, composed in trochaic octameter with eight trochaic metrical feet per line. Each foot has one stressed syllable followed by an unstressed syllable, and also the use of internal rhyme. Each line and word adds to the larger meaning of the poem.

The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door—
Only this, and nothing more."

Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December,
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.
Eagerly I wished the morrow;— vainly I had sought to borrow
From my books surcease of sorrow— sorrow for the lost Lenore—
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore—
Nameless here for evermore.

And the silken, sad, uncertain rustling of each purple curtain
Thrilled me— filled me with fantastic terrors never felt before;
So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating,
"Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door—
Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door;—
This it is, and nothing more."

[Finish reading the poem...](#)



How I Turned 46

Celebrating an anniversary of my life was a daunting prospect when a month prior my doctor had put me at death's door. Many handed me the gift-wrapped rhetoric of "you've survived!" and "this year will be better!" I have learned to smile politely and say the things that people are looking to hear.

There are some things I have learned since blowing out the candles of my last birthday cake. I've learned how to die with both fear and grace. I have found my old sense of humor that had seemingly gone astray. I have realized the best thing I can do at times is to not say anything at all.

And I have at last found my worth.

People always ask "why do you write?" and I never have a fully formed answer. I've often felt inferior in the face of other writers who have glorious imaginations or intense passions for the written word. For me, it's always been about having a conversation with myself. More recently, I've been working on a series of short fiction stories that tie in with my music obsession. But you see, I'm a writer of little imagination. Too often I am grounded in reality and despite the dark clouds that hover over me, I rather like it that way. Telling the very real tales that are universal yet uniquely different – it leaves me feeling that I have a place in what is a very large world.

Of course, it's easy to delude myself into thinking that what I'm doing, I'm doing very well. I believe people when they tell me as much, but I almost wish that just once someone would tell me I'm terrible at what I do and that I should drop my pen before I truly poison someone with it. Perhaps then I'd feel as though I've arrived.

It came about that this year on my 46th birthday, I would be spending it in the company of two women, one whom I admired very much and the other who was more well known in the literary world than I'll ever be. I was to be presenting them at a lecture later in the evening. Being an extremely shy person by nature, I spent weeks wondering what would I talk to these two authors about. Being a bestseller? Writing award-winning work? Having my words acted out before thousands? That's all about them, not about me. I wanted to ask advice, to walk away with more knowledge and instead, I walked away with an experience that held a magic I hadn't expected.

I've met many celebrities in my time. Some pretty impressive names. This evening, however, on the 9th day of August, I did not have dinner with two well known authors. I shared a meal with two best friends who welcomed me into their world for an evening. They laughed and displayed a familiarity with each other that I envied. I've lost many friends as of late and being on the fringes of such a relationship made me miss having that in my own life.

Victoria and Anne have only known each other for just a few years but sometimes instant connections quickly make up for a lifetime. They mothered over me as I picked at my macaroni and cheese, but I was more interested in the conversation swirling around me. They talked of how they'd met, chuckled over shopping excursions, told of how they collaborated and didn't hold back on each other's bad habits. There was no pretense, no politeness, only an authentic affection for each other and even for me too. Victoria has enchanted me from the time we first met with her talent and energy. As I spoke to them both, I related my own stories of edits and creations and inspiration. Then we talked of personal issues such as family and childhoods the state of the nation today. I was privy to not only what made these two women successful, but what made them human. While our experiences were different from each other's, there was a universal bond and I thought, I belong here.

And I felt my worth.

It was at the end when the birthday brownie arrived at the table, complete with a candle to make a wish on, that I truly sensed a kinship. They could have simply said "Happy birthday" upon learning of the day, but Anne and Victoria took the extra step to make it special. Such a simple act left this old girl still believing that good does exist in this war-torn world.

These are the gifts that need no pretty paper or bright bows. These are the gifts that cannot be bought because time can't be found in any store. It's not what others can do for me, it's learning what I have to offer of myself.

© Kimberlie Ingalls / September 14, 2017



CONTESTS

The Fabula Press "Aestas" Short Story Contest 2017

Deadline: Midnight October 14, 2017 (US Central Time)

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per entry

Website: fabulapress.com/short-story-contest-2017

Awards: 1st Prize: \$250.00, 2nd Prize: \$150.00, 3rd Prize: \$100.00, Top 15 finalists will be published in an anthology, all non-prize-winning finalists will receive \$50.00.

Submission Requirements: See website for guidelines. Stories must be a minimum of 1500 words and not more than 7,000 words. Most genres and themes accepted; see guidelines for details. No limit to number of entries. No pseudonyms accepted with entries.

"Here Comes The Bride" Scribejar Writing Contest

Deadline: October 15, 2017

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per entry,

Website: scribejar.com/contests

Awards: Two Prize Winners: \$125.00 for The Best Wedding Story, \$125.00 for The Worst Wedding Story

Submission requirements: See website for complete details. Send your Flash story, You've probably attended your fair share of weddings. Tell us the story of THE WORST or THE BEST wedding you've ever attended! It might have been disastrous or it might have been as sweet as pie, yours or someone else's. Tell about it in 100 words or less and you could win.

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Writer's Digest Novel Writing Conference

Location: Westin Pasadena, 190 Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA. Special room rates available until October 4.

Date: Thursday - Sunday, October 26- 29, 2017

Fee: From now to October 26, fee is \$399.00; \$449.00 at door. This conference is focused on writing the novel. It will be the only 2017 West Coast Writer's Digest conference.

Deadline: Registration open.

Website: novel.writersdigestconference.com

Algonquin Conference New Worlds, New Voices Science Fiction Fantasy Workshop

Location: Harbor House Inn, Morro Bay, CA

Date: November 8-12, 2017. No host hotel for this event, lodging is choice of participants, range is \$60.00 to \$270.00 per night depending on hotel.

Fee: \$795.00 for five days, two days optional.

Deadline: Registration open, register at website. Agents searching for new SFF writers will attend.

Website: newworldsnewvoices.space/Registration.htm



Sail On!

If the Shoe Fits...
By C. Jonathan Shoemaker

In 2000, my wife and I started doing puzzles in the newspaper. I did the Cryptoquote and Sudoku. It was Sandra's idea to stay mentally strong, like athletes exercise to stay physically strong. In 2002, I started writing my column in *Scribbles*.

Doing puzzles was difficult at first, taking more than a half hour per puzzle and jotting notes in the puzzle to remember what probably goes where. Eventually I was able to remember which numbers or letters made sense without writing notes. Over the years, they became easier and took less time. Eight months ago, I could do any Sudoku in less than ten minutes, and I had mastered over 300 Cryptoquotes in a row without any notes whatsoever.

Somehow I gradually lost that ability to the point that I found all puzzles impossible. I was concurrently increasingly losing my physical ability. And I was gradually having trouble coming up with ideas and writing my column. I feared I was getting Alzheimer's or dementia. I was at the point of giving up! Why even try?

Then, when I was sent to the ER due to increasing headaches, Dr. Dimitrov performed cranial surgery to relieve the hematoma that was crushing my brain. I had daily therapy by the talented and caring staff at CHOMP. With daily physical and emotional support from my family for a month, I am now back to my prior mental and physical abilities.

I'm back! I'm eager to continue writing the column! I had been ready to give up trying!

I've done all 58 consecutive Cryptoquotes in a row perfectly *without notes* since I left the hospital! I now feel I can meet any challenge in life and not give up!

My parents taught me that, when I encounter defeat or make mistakes, I should learn from the situation: Where did I go wrong? What could/should I have done?

We all have an opportunity to learn, improve, succeed; physically, intellectually, morally and socially. We don't quit, and sulk, and stop trying, and blame others for our misfortunes.

Well, why did I put all this in a column? It's not "poor me" or to share my joy. We read others' words to learn from each other and improve our own writing. We share.

But it's not *my words* in this column that matter.. What matters is *what the reader is thinking* while reading the printed word. What counts is what the reader learns through self-reflection. I recently had such moments of reflection while reading the words of the following quotes:

"Do you really want to look back on your life and see how wonderful it could have been had you not been afraid to live it?" (Caroline Myss)

"Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration. The rest of us just get up and go to work." (Stephen King)

"Passion is energy. Feel the power that comes from focusing on what excites you." (Oprah Winfrey)

Never give up!

**Be well,
and do good work,
Jonathan**

CCW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Last Word

By Lana Bryan

M.F.K. Fisher



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centralcoastwriters.org

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Not yet a member of CCW?

You can join at a monthly meeting or online at:

centralcoastwriters.org

Who among you has read the works of M.F.K. Fisher? My sister introduced me to her writing many years ago. Much of her work is focused around food (mostly French). Some books are cookbooks and some feature recipes scattered throughout the narrative.

When asked why she always writes about food and eating and drinking, and not about love or the struggle for power, she proposed that “our three basic needs, for food and security and love, are so mixed and mingled and entwined...I am really writing about love and the hunger for it, and warmth and the love of it and the hunger for it...and then the warmth and richness and fine reality of hunger satisfied...and it is all one.”

On my cookbook shelf next to Julia Child and the Stern’s *Roadfood* reside several of Fisher’s books: *The Gastronomical Me*; *Long Ago in France*; *As They Were*; *The Art of Eating*; and *The Measure of her Powers*, an M.F.K. Fisher Reader.

Her palate expanded after moving to France as a newlywed in the 1920’s. (Combining food writing and experiences in France are click-bait for me.) During the war years, she wrote *How to Cook a Wolf*, offering “advice on how to achieve a balanced diet, stretch ingredients, eat during blackouts, deal with sleeplessness and sorrow, and care for pets during wartime.”

Finding a portrait painted on leather in a Zurich junk shop, Fisher took it with her all over the world. The picture of the obscure Ursula von Ott inspired Fisher to write notes on aging, until she had boxes of them. The paint on the leather was eventually eaten by insects, except for the paint around Ursula’s head. I am re-reading *Sister Act*, the resulting book of stories about “aging and ending and living and whatever else the process of being human is about.”

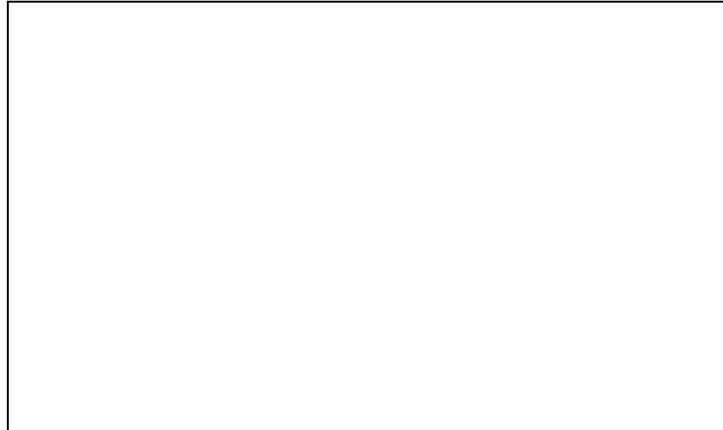
In a Bill Moyers interview, Fisher said that she doesn’t write, she talks. She thinks about what happened and then she talks about it. And we get to read it. What a treat.

Fisher lived for 83 years, passing away in 1992.

Until next time,
-Lana



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



October 17

Booktoberfest!

5:30 p.m.—CHECK-IN and DINNER

6:30 p.m.—MEETING

Point Pinos Grill

79 Asilomar Boulevard

Pacific Grove