



The Redwood Writer



January 2011 - www.redwoodwriters.org - Writers Helping Writers



President's Message:

Anxiety ahead for the New Year? Good!

By Linda Loveland Reid

Ah, the big holiday season is past and we are determined to get organized, to do all the things on our New Year's list, and begin again, renewed without the anxiety that builds up over twelve months of duty and delights. But stop!

Emotions are the fuel to our creativity. Eons ago we were chased by tigers and bears. Now, we no longer need acute hearing and sharp awareness to protect us from what could be our end.

Today's humans can work with anxieties and thrills in a different way.

Did you ever set a goal and get immediate butterflies? That's when you know the goal is real. Attainable. I didn't say *easy*. Try telling someone your goal out loud. That can produce some quick anxiety in you. Okay, here goes. "My new novel will be out by June." Yikes! I felt that one.

We can experience sharp anxiety from deadlines or from a particularly challenging project (like writing that novel by June). So how can we claw our way through our fears to whatever has been sitting on that lovely plate-of-desire and isn't done?

Anxiety is energy, so transform it to your use. First, take care of basics. Eat, sleep, and walk. If you are a procrastinator, do so in a way that is good for your mind, i.e., go to a museum, see great art, or go to the library and read great literature. Try free-writing into your anxiety; set the clock for five minutes and don't stop, or edit, or lift your pen from the pad. Or, write out your prayers or about all the good things you count when sheep jump over your midnight fence.

Carl Jung said something like: we all have complexes, which is not the question. The question is whether we have complexes or they have us. Hummm?

You sit before the screen, unshaven (either legs or chin depending on gender). When will you ever write again? Sigh. The spaghetti needs making, yard needs raking, and yet you sit fast to the place, determined to dredge up that old nemesis, creativity. Let's face it: this is the level writers live on most of the time, either *actually* or *mentally* (think 3 a.m. a week ago when you didn't sleep a wink!). What to do?

Be nervous; be alive. Accept and navigate the minor turbulence of life. Write. Do just one page and you will feel energized. Resistance is a force that stops us from starting. Don't always be "getting ready to get ready." You're ready—start.

Build a foundation of passion around your project. Recognize your doubt, smell the fragrance of it, measure the weight, look into that darkness. Then get going and write. Ride out that feeling. Believe that magic happens.

Now go to the Redwood Writers Blog on the website and tell us what you think. www.redwoodwriters.org



January 9th Redwood Writers Meeting

Patricia V. Davis, a member of Redwood Writers, will be the guest speaker at the January 9th meeting at the Flamingo Hotel in Santa Rosa. Sign-in and social time starts at 2:30 p.m. The meeting will be from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The address is 2777 Fourth St. A small fee of \$5 for members, \$8 for nonmembers, is asked to cover speaking fees and light refreshments. For more information see www.redwoodwriters.org.

Patricia V. Davis is the author of the award-winning, *Harlot's Sauce: A Memoir of Food, Family, Love, Loss, and Greece*, and the upcoming "The Diva Doctrine: From an Older Woman to a Younger One," which will be published by Cedar Fort Press in spring of 2011. She is editor-in-chief of *HS Radio* emagazine and podcast, and her essays, opinion articles and poems have appeared in various magazines and newspapers nationally and internationally. Patricia's book marketing expertise stems from marketing her own work, and from her work as Scholastic Inc.'s exclusive sales representative in Greece and Cyprus, (1996-2002) where she raised sales of their titles 1900% in her territories.

For more information about Patricia, visit her website at www.patriciavdavis.com and www.harlotssauce.com

Title of Talk: "So, How's Your Book Doing?"

Do you cringe when people ask you this at gatherings? Do you wish they'd just nibble on a canape and talk about the lousy weather we're having, instead? Then this workshop is for you! We will cover as many tips and mistakes in book marketing as our time together allows. This workshop is a condensed version of an eight hour seminar given by Patricia that covers everything from publication of your work, to getting reviews, to branding yourself, to blogging for sales, to getting your book into bookshops.

Redwood Writers' Odd Month Reading

SATURDAY, January 29, 2010

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Rincon Valley Library, 6959 Montecito Blvd., Santa Rosa, Ph: 537-0162

THEME FOR THE MONTH: Turning Over a new Leaf

Redwood Writer, Jeane Slone, will emcee this afternoon of literary delights from Sonoma County authors

Don't miss this opportunity to read your work in public!

Sign-up by emailing omr@redwoodwriters.org

www.redwoodwriters.org

2011 Vintage Voices Anthology

Are you polishing your submission for the 2011 Vintage Voices Anthology published by Redwood Writers? Authors *must* be members of Redwood Writers. Both poetry and prose submissions are eligible. The deadline for submissions is March 1st. The 2011 Editor of Vintage Voices is Cynthia Helen Beecher. Check the website for further information:

www.redwoodwriters.org

For the New Year, check out Redwood Writers' new Readings at SoCo Coffee -

January 2nd will be the premier of this new venue for Redwood Writers' readings.

Our first reading at SoCo Coffee will be from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on January 2nd. The location is the corner of 4th St. & Brookwood Dr. in Santa Rosa. There is plenty of off street parking.

The first hour will feature readers from the 2010 Vintage Voices Anthology. The second hour will feature open mic readings. All readings will be limited to a maximum of five minutes. We plan to continue these monthly readings at SoCo on the second Saturday of each month, starting in February. Please come read your work aloud, or come just to listen at our first SoCo reading. Come help make this a big success. **Arrive at 2:30 p.m. to sign up for the open mic sessions.** Check with Jeane Slone, to see if there are any spots available for readers from the 2010 Vintage Voices.

Her email is info@jeaneslone.com

SoCo Coffee is also offering a wonderful opportunity for the writers in Sonoma County to have a place that sells and displays books *exclusively* by local and self-published authors. The owner of SoCo is putting in shelves to resemble a bookstore. They are taking reservations **now** for shelf allocations in **January**. Any Redwood Writers or other local authors who are interested may fill out the Author Reservation Form and email it to: altadalethree@sonic.net Leslie Dale (707)217-8075. They will also work with local authors to schedule their own readings and book signings at SoCo. Contact Leslie Dale for those arrangements.



Photos on Flickr:

For the Redwood Writer Members:

Here are the instructions for uploading member photos to the Flickr site:

1. Go to the Redwood Writers website and click photos in upper right or use this link: <http://redwoodwriters.org/photo-gallery/>
2. Then Click on the Flickr link to get to the RW Flickr site, or link here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/redwoodwriters/>
3. Next, Click on "Upload photos" located at the top of the page.
4. Flickr will send you to a Yahoo log in.
5. If you have a Yahoo account, just log in. (If you don't have a Yahoo account, you will need to create one.)
6. This will open your own Flickr account.
7. Click on "Upload your photos and video" if you have new photos to add to "Your Flickr" account. Or just skip to # 8 if you have the photos loaded.
8. Finally, from your Flickr account you choose Groups (listed at the top of the page).
9. Click on Redwood Writers and you will see the "Group Pool"
10. Click on "add something", if you want to add your photos to the RW Group Pool.
11. Your images that you uploaded to your Flickr account will appear. Just click on the ones you want to share and click "add to group" when finished.
12. Your photos will be added to the group pool on the RW Flickr page which will be reviewed by the RW Flickr administrator and added into the correct sets.

That's the whole process!

Jonathan Hayden

—Redwood Writers Publicity Photo Editor



Redwood Writers 2011 Winter Workshops

January 22, January 29, and February 5, 2011.

Join us for these exciting workshops in Petaluma!

Location: Petaluma Senior Center, 211 Novak Drive

Short Plays, Big Impact - David Beckman, January 22, **10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Beyond the Plot - Ana Manwaring & Jeanne Miller, January 29, **10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Writing for Young Readers - Lewis Buzbee, February 5, **10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Short Plays, Big Impact, January 22 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Ten-minute plays are definitely hot, with more and more theaters holding short-play festivals and requesting submissions.

This workshop gives you the tools for writing a 10-minute play, with focus on a play's setting and characters, and the essential dramatic element — conflict. Bring (if you wish) two pages of a play you want to work on, and we'll discuss as many pieces as time allows.

David Beckman, playwright

David moved to Sonoma County from New York City in 2003. His play, *Becoming Walt Whitman*, ran for three weeks last October to full houses and excellent reviews at Santa Rosa's Sixth Street Playhouse.

As an actor he toured with the National Shakespeare Company. His short plays have appeared at the Beast Festival in New York and in Sonoma County at the '08 Guerneville Reader's Theater and at Pegasus Theater Company's '09 and '10 Tapas Short Play Festivals.

Beyond the Plot: Adding Depth with Imagery, January 29 10:00-12:30

In this workshop, you will explore ways to enliven your work with sensory detail and literary devices. Discover the thrill of purposeful revision.

**Bring a short piece (about a page) of in-progress writing in any genre.*

Ana Manwaring

Ana writes, edits, teaches, and connects writers with writers in Wine Country, California. She is a member of JAM, a manuscript consultation group. anamanwaring.com

Jeanne Miller

Jeanne Miller is the author of three novels, including *On the Brink of Nora*. She writes and teaches in Northern California. She is also a member of JAM. jcmillerwriter.com

Writing for Young Readers (and more!), February 5 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

If you've ever considered writing in the middle grade or YA genres, this workshop is for you. Even if you don't write for younger readers, come to learn how to start, structure, and finish your novel, and generally flex your fiction muscles with an accomplished USF professor of Creative Writing.

Lewis Buzbee

Redwood Writers is pleased to welcome the acclaimed author, Lewis Buzbee.

Lewis Buzbee is the author of *Fliegelman's Desire*, *After the Gold Rush*, and *The Yellow-Lighted Bookshop*. *Steinbeck's Ghost*, his first novel for younger readers, was selected as the California Library Association's John and Patricia Beatty Award, a Smithsonian Notable Book, a Northern California Book Award nominee, and the Northern California Independent Booksellers Children's Book of the Year. His second middle grade novel, *The Haunting of Charles Dickens*, has just been published. A former bookseller and publisher, he now teaches in the MFA program at the University of San Francisco.

LOCATION:

All workshops held at **Petaluma Senior Center** (707) 778-4399 211 Novak Drive, Petaluma, CA

COST: Single workshop: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members Series: \$60 for members, \$75 for non-members (After Jan. 1, 2011) **MEMBERS ONLY:** \$55 for the series (if you register by January 1, 2011)

REGISTER: BY MAIL: Send name, title of workshop(s) you will attend, and check to: Redwood Writers, PO Box 4687, Santa Rosa, 95402

Redwood Writers Poetry Contest -- In Honor of National Poetry Month - APRIL 2011

Bring out your best new poems for our next poetry contest. The flyer and application form, spelling out the submission rules, will be available at our January 9th meeting at the Flamingo Hotel, on our website, and at the end of this newsletter. Please note that the deadline for submissions is **February 15, 2011**.

We will be honored by the judging abilities of three eminent local poets: Gwynn O’Gara, Terry Ehret and Toni Wilkes. See their bios and photos below.

The judges will announce the winners at our April 10, 2011, Redwood Writers meeting when we hope to have all winners read their winning poems.

See Poetry Contest entry guidelines at the end of this newsletter.—**Arletta Dawdy**, Poetry Contest Coordinator

Judges for the 2011 Redwood Writers Poetry Contest:

Gwynn O’Gara, Sonoma County Poet Laureate for 2010-2011

Gwynn is the author of three poetry collections: *Snake Woman Poems* from Beatitude Press, *Fixer-Upper* from d-press, and *Winter at Green Haven*, published by WordTemple Press. She teaches creative writing through the Sitting Room and has been a poet-teacher with California Poets in the Schools for twenty years. Her poems have appeared in *CALYX*, *The Evansville Review*, *descant* and the *Beatitude Golden Anniversary Edition*.



Terry Ehret, Poet Laureate 2004-2006 and co-founder of **Sixteen Rivers Press**.

Terry Ehret is a teacher, writer, and co-founder of Sixteen Rivers Press, a regional poetry publishing collective. From 2004-2006, she served as poet laureate of Sonoma County where she lives and teaches. Her third collection of poems, *Lucky Break*, was released in 2008. Ehret’s poetry, essays, stories and reviews have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies, and her poems have won several literary awards including the National Poetry Series, California Commonwealth Club Book Award, Nimrod/Hardman Pablo Neruda Poetry Prize, and four Pushcart Prize nominations. See <http://terryehret.wordpress.com>.

Toni Wilkes, Poet and hostess of the Londonberry Salon

Toni Wilkes’s chapbook *Stepping Through Moons* (Finishing Line Press) was nominated for the California Book Award and the PEN USA Literary Award. Her forthcoming book, *Black Water Beneath a Lid of Ice* (Finishing Line Press) received honorable mention in the 2010 New Women’s Voices competition. Toni’s work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net. Her recent work appears in *Confrontation*, *Cream City*, *Hayden’s Ferry*, *In Posse Review*, *Southern Humanities Review* and other noted journals.

<http://tonilwilkes.wordpress.com/>



For details visit: www.redwoodwriters.org/contests/poetry/



Member Spotlight: Nancy Gallop

—Interview by Kathryn Miller, Ph.D.

After Nancy Gallop showed her musician husband her first published story in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, he said, “If you want to do something creative, why don’t you iron my tuxedo shirt?” She did do something creative. She divorced him.

Nancy, a new member of Redwood Writers, joined last September after meeting several writers at an event in The Sitting Room in Cotati. Learning about the 10-minute playwriting contest, she dashed off three plays and submitted them. “This was a new field for me. I have often been to the Shakespeare Festivals in Ashland, and I enjoy theater.” She also writes haiku for fun.

Nancy began writing in the 1950s. Her first sale was a poem to *Writers Digest*. “Getting a check in the mail was such a thrill that I was hooked.” She sold short stories to what was known then as women’s slick magazines—*Western Family*, for one, and articles to newspapers, such as the *New York Daily News*. She also wrote a household hints column in the *Los Angeles Times* for a while.

After her divorce, Nancy became a technical writer in Los Angeles to support her son and herself. Supposedly said out of Nancy’s hearing, an employment agent told her future employer, “I’ve got this woman, and she doesn’t know what she’s got. You can get her cheap.” She was hired during the infancy of the electronics business. “I was sent to crawl under equipment in the warehouse and then go back to the office and write about it. I loved the job.” Eventually her employer confessed that she was being paid less than stenographers at the time and steered her to a job as a real technical writer for a company that was eventually purchased by Xerox. At Xerox she became one of the first women to be named a manager. Having married at 17, Nancy missed going to college, but in her job as communications manager, she had secretaries with master’s degrees. Some company men weren’t impressed. She was booed when she walked into a managers’ association dinner—the sole woman in the room.

Nancy also has worked as a technical editor and public relations specialist. She moved to Santa Rosa after her retirement and, with her sister Dorothy Lockard Bristol, wrote and published a memoir, *Doodlebug Days*, about growing up in the San Joaquin Valley during the Great Depression. She has a son and a daughter who live in Mendocino County and four grown grandchildren.

Nancy finds writing a lonely process. She considers finding Redwood Writers a win. “I don’t know what took me so long! We can all use as much support as we can get.” She tells other writers: “Sit down and write—perspiration rather than inspiration wins the day.”

Library Panel Schedule:

The Writing Process :

1/10/11 Sebastopol Library
6-8 p.m.

1/22/11 Sonoma Library
2-4 p.m.



Styles of Writing:

2/7/11 Sebastopol Library 6-8 p.m.
2/19/11 Sonoma Library 2-4 p.m.

Getting Published:

3/7/11 Sebastopol Library 6-8 p.m.
3/19/11 Sonoma Library 2-4 p.m.

Plan to attend two or more of these FREE sessions that are co-sponsored by Redwood Writers and the Sonoma County Libraries.

The Redwood Writer

P.O. Box 4687

Deadline is the 15th of each month

Why I Write & Redwood Reading list submissions are limited to 60 words each.

Editor/Layout: **Robin Moore**

Acquisitions Editor: **Juanita J. Martin**

Copy Editor: **Arlene Miller**

Copy Editor: **Farrell Winter**

& special thanks to **Rob Koslowsky** for advice



Member News

Congratulations to **Redwood Writers** member **Abby Bogomolny**. Her story "You're Going to Learn So Much" received an Honorable Mention in the 2010 Write On! Story Contest. The contest was sponsored by the Berkeley chapter of the California Writers Club.



Hello, fellow Redwood Writers. *The Father's Child*, my debut suspense novel, is now published and available on Kindle via Amazon! And it's priced at an introductory rate of only \$2.99!

John Truman, a bright, introverted, college student belongs to the New Dawn...he just doesn't know it yet. The 300-year-old, Oxford-based, secret society designed him, created him, and built their organization to interface with him. They cannot survive without him; he cannot survive without them. All he wants is a simple life: hanging with his friends, succeeding in business, and living happily ever after with Susan. All they want...is to rule the world.



If you enjoy the book, please add a review and rating on Amazon's site, tell a friend, and/or post on Facebook, Twitter, etc. No better marketing than word of mouth. And, of course, I would love to hear your feedback, so please let me know what you think.—**Mark Adair**

Cecelia Yarnell, who is **Rob Koslowsky's** editor at the Sonoma County Astronomical Society (SCAS), was awarded third place for the Astronomical League's **2010 Mabel Sterns Newsletter Awards**. Rob is excited about his writing work in the area of astronomy in 2010, culminating in the delivery of a talk at the SCAS December meeting. He shared his recent experiences atop the summit of Mauna Kea on the Big Island, shadowed by thirteen of the world's best telescopes. <http://worldperspective.bravehost.com/ATA.html>



Please welcome the following to the Redwood Writers as new members:

Hanne Heltai
Lynda Hopkins
Monique Lessan
Dary Monins
Julie Ann Schrader
Michelle Wing



We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

It's that time again!

Starting January 1st, Redwood Writers' offers a Half-Year Membership that runs **only** from January 1st to June 30th. Dues are \$42.50 = \$22.50 membership and the one time only \$20.00 join fee. So now is the time to join Redwood Writers. And then in June, the renewal for the entire year from July 1 to June 30th is only \$45.00. By becoming a member now, you'll save on monthly meeting fees and Redwood Writers' events. It's easy to join. Go to www.redwoodwriters.org for more information or contact me at membership@redwoodwriters.org. Come join us in "writers helping writers."

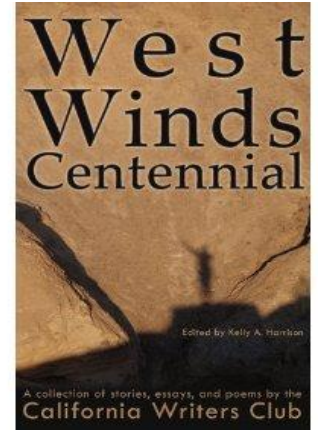
—**Julie A. Winrich**, Redwood Writers Membership Chair

Congratulations to **Linda McCabe, Linda Loveland Reid, Mark Pavlicheck, Susanna Solomon, Karen Batchelor**, all members of **Redwood Writers**. Their short stories have all been included in the California Writers Club **West Winds Centennial**.

This is the fifth anthology of members' work since the CWC's incorporation in 1913. Under the guidance of Editor Kelly A. Harrison, South Bay Branch member, California Writers Club has published *West Winds Centennial*.

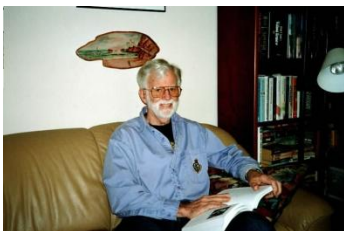
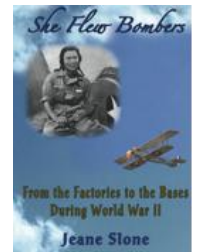
For the first anthology, published in 1914, Jack London donated his short story "The Son of the Wolf" in exchange for being named an honorary founding member of the CWC. Founding member Herman Whitaker edited the book. The second volume of *West Winds*, published in 1925, was a book of verse representing 85 poets, including Ina Coolbrith, Oakland's first librarian as well as California's first poet laureate, who also wrote the foreword. The next two books were published in 1931 and 1989 respectively.

(Photos, L. to R.): **Karen Batchelor, Linda Reid, Susana Solomon, and Linda McCabe**



Being new to the world of writing, I find it exciting to read books from authors I meet. The first author I ever met was **Jean Hegland**, SRJC professor and author of *Into the Forest* and *Windfalls*. I like to picture the authors writing while I'm reading their work! I find it fun to "trade" books with other authors also. —**Jeane Slone**, author, *She Flew Bombers* and *She Built Ships During WWII*.

Visit my blog where I interviews authors at: <http://author-interviews.jeaneslone.com>



Otherworld Tales: Irish the Demon Slayer received a rave review from The Midwest Book Review. The review will be made available to librarians throughout Wisconsin's public school and community libraries. The text of the review follows:

* Waking up to one's duty often comes in having to learn it quick. *Otherworld Tales: Irish the Demon Slayer* tells the story of Pete Kehoe, a boy tasked with defending the Otherworld against the King of

Demons. Shunning his duty, he finds it's a bad decision when his sister Kathy is kidnapped, and it's on inexperienced Pete and his two best friends to battle against the demons and monsters of Celtic mythology to save her. "Otherworld Tales" is a riveting read that young readers will relish for hours.*

Otherworld Tales: Irish the Demon Slayer is now available in paperback and Kindle versions from Amazon, from iTunes AppStore (iPad or iPhone), and at Copperfields Bookstores in Santa Rosa's Montgomery Village, Healdsburg, or Petaluma. Links are on my website www.charlesmarkee.com —**Charles Markee**



Zara Raab: I have new work online at *Critical Flame* (my review of Dean Young's *Recklessness*) and *Valparaiso Poetry Review* (my review of Marilyn Hacker's *The Names*), and new poems on *The Meadowland Review*, *Cafe Review*, *Bay Area Poets Seasonal Review* and forthcoming in *Common Grounds Review* and *Borderlands Press*.

Poetry Place

Calling Dostoevky

—Jean Wong

North,
my neighbor's house
casts a square unto the triangle of Sugarloaf Mountain.
Her lawn mirrors my own
though mine is not as green.
West, south, east,
blocked by a redwood fence.

Should I check to make sure
the children are not poking
fingers in the rabbit cage
nor climbing trees?
Drop by the free talk on early retirement?
Visit my friend
or simpler to email?

Dostoevsky! Scorch me with vodka
so I can scheme and lust and covet what is not mine.
Create in me a dazzling allure,
Fling me into the field of passion and agony.
Bind me to a brotherhood of sinners
and a life sentence of repentance.
Let me look God in the eye
and go blind.
Restore the earth for my feet to trample
Surge blood into my waterless soul
Tear open my heart and let it pound.



Editor's Note: Poetry Place is now a regular feature in the newsletter. Each month, a poem or two will be selected to be printed in the newsletter. Poems will be chosen based on the space available. Send one poem per person. Use a 12 point Times New Roman font. Shorter poems work best.
Send poems as a Word document and email to: **Juanita J. Martin**, Acquisitions Editor, freelance@jmartinpoetwriter.com

** Note: Poems need to be sent by the 10th of the month to be included in the following month's edition.

QUANTUM SHIFT —Jennie Frost Butler

(a more fashionable definition)

**A loose dress or gown
that wouldn't be
out of place
at any time
in any universe.**

Atomic Energy

—Elaine Webster

Anger can be good . . .
letting go of it even better.
Anger is hot,
it wells up and explodes.
Let it blow up your hurt,
like an atom bomb
obliterating the negative.
Then let the winds of war
clear the air
and you move on,
stronger, faster . . .
free.

Announcements:

Books have been donated on behalf of **Redwood Writers** to the Sonoma County Free Book Mobile, the Sonoma County Jail, and The Living Room, a day shelter for women and their children.



Many members loved this act of giving. So we're going to do this again at our meeting on Sunday, Jan. 9th.

We sorted and boxed 214 books and gave another dozen to Mona Davis Mechling for our troops. Please bring fiction, humor or any book you think someone far from home would love to read. Mothers of soldiers will ship your donations to overseas troops in February.



Thanks all, for your generous sharing of books.

Happy New Year— **Deborah Taylor-French**

Writing classes with Ana Manwaring will be offered this winter at the Napa Valley College Upper Valley Campus

1088 College, St. Helena, CA. www.napavalley.edu

Creative Writing Workshop (3 sections) starting on **January 27th**, \$80 for each section.

Seasoned Writers work on creative projects outside of class and join Thursdays between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Writing Craft and Critique **Jan 24-Feb 28** 5 class meetings \$90. We will write, read and gently critique our work in class as we build our understanding of how literature is crafted. All genres welcome.

Mostly Memoir Workshop (2 sections) starting **Mar. 7** \$80 each session

Beginning and experienced writers of creative non-fiction benefit from a group where they exchange ideas and craft.

All classes include a syllabus with prompts, assignments and selected readings. For detailed descriptions of these classes and information on registering: www.anamanwaring.com or email: ana@anamanwaring.com Phone; 415-827-1468

The Writers Forum presents a variety of speakers sharing information about the craft and business of writing.

These literary workshops take place on the third Thursday of each month, February through November.

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. \$15 at the door

Location: Petaluma Community Center at Lucchesi Park, 320 No. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, California

The featured speaker on February 17, 2011, will be Zoe FitzGerald Carter

Zoe FitzGerald Carter is a graduate of Columbia Journalism School and has written for numerous publications including *The New York Observer*, *Premiere*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Salon*, and various national magazines. **Imperfect Endings** is her first memoir.

Imperfect Endings won first place in the 2008 Pacific Northwest Writer's Association's literary contest and was a finalist at The San Francisco Writer's Conference. It was excerpted in *O* magazine and is a Barnes & Noble "Discover Great New Writers" pick for 2010. Paula Span of *The New York Times* wrote: "I could quote from this book all day. . . but instead I'll just recommend that those intrigued by the subject spend a little time with the ailing but ferocious Margaret and her daughters. A decision to die can sound romantic or it can sound repugnant. Carter shows us what it was like in reality."

You can read more about the book on her website: <http://www.zoefitzgeraldcarter.com/index.html>

"Writers Forum promotes intelligent, focused discussions about writing." Jody Gehrman, www.jodygehrman.com

For more information: www.thewritespot.us mcullen@comcast.net —Submitted by **Marlene Cullen**

WRITING CONTEST

Poetry and Short Story Winners Published and \$500!

Contest Rules:

Eligibility: Open to all work not previously published. *Simultaneous submissions allowed, but you must notify us immediately if your work is accepted elsewhere.* Our contest is open to all writers—you do not need to be a member of CCW to enter.

Entry Fee: Short stories: \$15 per story. Poetry: \$5 per poem.

Multiple Entries: Enter as many times as you wish, with separate fee for each entry.

Maximum Length: Short story: 4,000 words. Poetry: No restriction.

Submission Period: Entries are due by **January 15, 2011** (by postmark).

FORMAT GUIDELINES are available from the email below.

HOW TO ENTER

Make check payable to: Central Coast Writers

Send with submission to: CCW Writing Contest

P.O. Box 997

Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Keep copies of your submissions, as no submissions will be returned. Winners will be notified by March 31, 2011 and announced in *Scribbles*, the Central Coast Writers' newsletter.

Questions may be e-mailed to: ccw-contests@comcast.net

Sponsor National Annual Senior Poets Laureate (SPL) Poetry Competition

Editor "GOLDEN WORDS" anthology of winning SPL poems www.amykitchenerfdn.org

Pitchapalooza – January 19th

The Book Doctors, **Arielle Eckstut** and her ex-client/current husband **David Henry Sterry**, authors of the Workman book *The Essential Guide to Getting Your Book Published*, will making a house call in Corte Madera, and they want YOU to PITCH your BOOK at their Pitchapalooza. Book Passage, Corte Madera, Jan. 19th, 2011, 7:00 PM.

It's like American Idol for books, only without the Simon. Writers get one minute to pitch their book ideas to a once-in-a-lifetime All-Star cast of publishing experts, including Joel Friedlander, designer/shepherd/doctor, and self-publishing expert. Winner gets an introduction to an agent appropriate to their book. Anyone who buys a book gets a free consultation worth \$100!

Here's a link to a blog about their Pitchapalooza <http://bit.ly/bcHFaz> at Barnes & Noble 86th St., with publishing titans Larry Kirschbaum and Bob Simon. Here's a link to an article about the Art of the Pitch and their Pitchapalooza on Publishers Perspective. <http://bit.ly/aysNfG>. And finally here's a write-up of a wild Pitchapalooza at the great book store Book Revue. <http://bit.ly/dVzatz>

Thank you for reading and looking forward to see you there!

- The Book Doctors

<http://www.thebookdoctors.com/>

South Bay Writers is proud to present

THE NEW "BOOK" MODEL: How to Write, Publish & Promote Your Book

with DAN POYNTER

Followed by a Self-Publishing Fair

On January 15, 2011 - 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m

The Lookout Restaurant, 605 Macara Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Registration at 8:15; workshop begins promptly at 9; continental breakfast and lunch included.

Early Bird (before Dec. 30, 2010): CWC members: \$45; Non-members: \$55

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

After Dec. 30 and at the door: CWC members: \$55; Non-members: \$65

Cancellation Policy: \$5 fee through midnight 12/25; \$15 fee 12/15 through midnight 1/8; no refunds after midnight 1/8.

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

SELF-PUBLISHING FAIR:

During the last hour and a half of this event, you'll have the chance to meet: SBW self-published authors, and local print-on-demand and e-book publishers

Ask your questions about how to self-publish your book, which self-publishing options have worked for other authors, what self-publishing costs, and more! Plus, purchase books from SBW authors.

Contact Information: Nina Amir, CWC-SBW workshop chair, 408-353-1943 or at cpywrtcom@aol.com.





Redwood Writers Poetry Contest

April is National Poetry Month



In honor of National Poetry Month in April of 2011, the Redwood Writers branch of the CWC is presenting a contest with three exceptional judges:

GWYNN O'GARA, TERRY EHRET AND TONI L.WILKES.

Winners will read their winning poems at the April meeting and will win cash prizes of:
\$100 for 1st Place, \$50 for second and \$30 for third.

Submission rules:

Submission deadline is **FEBRUARY 15, 2011**; no exceptions.

Email submits: deadline midnight Feb 15.

Snail Mail submits: postmarked by Feb 15.

Poets must live in:

Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Lake, Solano, or Mendocino Counties.

Entry fee: \$5 per poem for members of Redwood Writers or other CWC branches
\$8 per poem for non-members.

Mail checks made out to Redwood Writers to: Arletta Dawdy,
987 San Clemente Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Requirements

- Submit up to three (3) poems of no more than 32 lines each.
- Poetry must be original, not previously published.
- Winners agree to publication in a RW special edition newsletter and website
- All rights are retained by poet.
- No entries will be returned.

Format:

- 12 point font, Times New Roman, single spaced
- On Poem: title to be on page, no author name, no other info
- On Cover Letter: poet's name, poem title, address, phone and email address.

Entries submitted via email:

Send as attachment to: arletta_dawdy@yahoo.com.

(note underline between first and last names.)

In subject line: **RW Poetry Contest**

Entries submitted via snail mail:

Mail to: Arletta Dawdy, 987 San Clemente Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

For more information on contest and judges, go to website: www.redwoodwriters.org