



# The Redwood Writer



December 2010 - [www.redwoodwriters.org](http://www.redwoodwriters.org) - Writers Helping Writers



## President's Message:

### About eBooks and Other Crazy Things

By Linda Loveland Reid

So, is this rapid growth like that of a sunny sunflower or like the mold on soured food? What's going on in the book industry? Good or bad? Pick a side!

Next year, *The New York Times* will begin publishing an e-book bestsellers list, a mark that this arm of the book world is here to stay. Sony predicts that in five years, e-books will overtake print. Wal-Mart is planning to market their e-readers: Nook and Kobo. Traditional publishers, like the "six sisters" in New York, are seeing a reduction in print copies sold. Random House was down 289,729 publications from 2009.

Stephen King's novella *Ur* was written exclusively for Amazon's Kindle. King comments, "I think it (the e-book) changes the reading experience, that it's a little more ephemeral." Well, I guess if you download some words onto your iPad, and you don't own the printed material, and there is no evidence lying around that you have read the printed material...yes, that does seem smoke-like in a vague way.

Not to be left behind, Redwood Writers 2010 *Vintage Voices* is available as an e-book through Pubit!, Barnes and Noble's new platform. Just download their free Nook app and away you go; in seconds you're reading *Words Poured Out*. Give it a try, and then send feedback to [VVeBook@redwoodwriters.org](mailto:VVeBook@redwoodwriters.org). The price? \$2.99. Another reason this form of reading is catchy: you can find podcasts on-line for a dollar and even free.

All facets of promotion are on the move. Will Facebook replace websites? Drastic sounding, but look how easy it is to connect to people using FB, download all the pictures you like and share them easily. No worry about driving folks to your site.

Amazon is trying to be more author-friendly, encouraging authors to build a profile that includes a blog. All writing outlets now seem to offer the same. Gosh, how many profiles can an author stand?

Recently I heard, "Book publishing is becoming self-publishing." First, I think we should define the words: self-pub (your own publishing company's name on a book) and print on demand, or POD (the on-line publisher's name on book). These POD companies are now being referred to as Print Ready. Either way, gone are the days when nontraditional publications can be scoffed at or disregarded by booksellers.

As I see it, this puts a new responsibility on the nontraditional industry—how to regulate quality. When an author's work can go into print only upon his or her command, who is watching the store in regard to content and errors? Consequently, there is bad stuff out there. How does a bookstore know which self-pub or Ready Print books to invest in—is the book something it can recommend? I don't have an answer, but the issue needs a solution.

I have mentioned only the first stages of a soaring rocket. So, to avoid the mold and sour notes, look for the sunny side, and like a sunflower, be open to this new world. Rummage around in the seeds to find out what's there for you and how to use it.

**Let's hear your voice!** Go to Redwood Writers Blog at [www.redwoodwriters.org](http://www.redwoodwriters.org) and comment on these topics. Here's how to make comment on the Blog. It's fun!

- 1) Go to [www.redwoodwriters.org](http://www.redwoodwriters.org)
- 2) At top of Home page, click Blog
- 3) Read blog. At top of each blog topic there is Comment—Click it.
- 4) Window will open: type in your name, email, and your message. Click: Post
- 5) In addition, you can click a tiny box to have emails sent to you when someone responds.

## December 12<sup>th</sup> Redwood Writers Meeting

At the December 12<sup>th</sup> Redwood Writers meeting, **Becky Levine** will be the guest speaker. The meeting will be on Sunday from 2:30-5:00 p.m. at the Flamingo Hotel, 2777 Fourth St., Santa Rosa, 95405. 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](http://www.redwoodwriters.org)

In her talk, ***The Power of a Strong Critique: Digging Deep for Constructive, Respectful Feedback***, Ms. Levine will demonstrate the sandwich critique and show how to break down the “filling” of the sandwich into focused, concrete feedback that will help grow your critique partners’ writing and your own. Come prepared to work! Becky will have a sample scene for everyone to read and critique, followed by a discussion about the critique process.

Becky Levine is the author of *The Writing & Critique Group Survival Guide: How to Give and Receive Feedback, Self-Edit, and Make Revisions* (Writer’s Digest, 2010). A member of the South Bay branch of the CWC, Becky is a writer of fiction and nonfiction and a freelance manuscript editor. She has participated in her own critique groups for fifteen years and is a popular speaker at writing clubs and conferences, where she talks about the power of a strong critique group and how to strengthen your writing through critique feedback. Becky lives in the Santa Cruz mountains with her husband and son—the one who managed to get a Barnes & Noble book-signing before his mother.



Becky Levine

**Holidays Celebration:** The December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will also mark the Redwood Writers Holidays Celebration, with cake, poetry readings by some of our members, and we will do a book donation. We will sing some songs. It will be a fun time for all.

For more information or to help with the holiday committee, contact Juanita J. Martin, Holiday Party Committee Chair at [freelance@jmartinpoetwritr.com](mailto:freelance@jmartinpoetwritr.com) —Juanita J. Martin

**Redwood Salon on December 16<sup>th</sup>** The next Redwood Salon, *Visions of Sugarplums*, will be held on Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, in Santa Rosa, starting at 6:30 p.m. RSVP’s are mandatory to attend this fun holiday salon where you may read some of your work aloud for up to five-minutes. You’re invited to bring food to share for the evening’s menu.

If you wish to read aloud, or just come to listen, please contact Sandy Baker at [sandybaker131@gmail.com](mailto:sandybaker131@gmail.com) by Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Guests are welcome if invited by a Redwood Writers member. When you respond, Sandy will give you the address of the Salon. Please let her know if you will bring food.

## Conference Poetry Contest Winners

The poetry contest winners were announced on Friday night, October 29<sup>th</sup>, as part of the special evening of poetry at the Redwood Writers Conference at the Flamingo Hotel in Santa Rosa.

The poetry judges were Gwynn O’Gara, current Sonoma County Poet Laureates, and Penelope La Montagne, poet laureate emerita of Healdsburg, CA. (2004-2006)

Janis Barlow won 1<sup>st</sup> place for her poem *Save*. Donna Emerson was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place for her poem *Following Hay*. Barlow also placed 3<sup>rd</sup> for her poem *Harvest*.

The complete winning poems may be read on the Redwood Writers website at <http://redwoodwriters.org/contests/conference-contests/>.



(L-R.) Gwynn O’Gara, Janis Barlow, Donna Emerson, Penelope La Montagne.

[contests/](http://redwoodwriters.org/contests/conference-contests/) .



(L-R.): Kathy Rueve, Dmitri Rusov-Morningstar, Patsy Ann Taylor, and Jeanne Miller

## Conference Prose Contest Winners

Winners of the Redwood Writers Conference Prose Contest were announced and presented with their awards at the conference on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Flamingo Hotel.

Patsy Ann Taylor was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place for her short story *Click*. Second place was presented to Julaina Kleist for her piece, *A Cup of Change*. The third place winner was Jean Wong for her story *Secret Revealed*.

Honorable Mention certificates were presented to Dmitri Rusov-Morningstar for *Facing Reality* and to Camille Thompson for *Good Daughter*.

The conference prose contest judges included Rebecca Lawton, Kathy Rueve and Jeanne Miller. Please see the website [www.redwoodwriters.org](http://www.redwoodwriters.org) to read Judge Rebecca Lawton's

comments on the winning prose pieces.

The complete winning poems and prose selections may be read on the Redwood Writers website at <http://redwoodwriters.org/contests/conference-contests/>

## Thanks for another great Redwood Writers Conference

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Redwood Writers Conference in late October of 2010. You helped make the conference a huge success by attending and by helping.

Let's all offer special thanks to:

Rob Koslowsky - Program and Publicity

Osha Hayden - Publicity, Moderator and Door Prize Helper

Brenda Bellinger - Registrar

Carylon Alexander - Treasurer

Elizabeth Beechwood - Exhibitor Coordinator

Jeanne Jusaitis - Volunteer Coordinator

Thonie Hevron, Kate Farrell and Lynn Millar - Website

Karen Batchelor - Prose Contest and Editor Coordinator

Barb Moerhing - Nametags

Jean Wong - Signs

Debbie Koehler - Session reminders

Linda Loveland Reid - Flamingo Liaison and many jobs too numerous to list

Sandy Baker - Greeter

Juanita Martin - History Display

Julie Winrich, Mona Mechling, Dave Mechling, Kathryn Miller and Elaine Lannert - Set-up and check-in

Lynn Millar, Mary McElroy, Tom Lombardo, Jeanne Miller, Ana Manwaring, Deborah Taylor-French, Jo Lauer, Robin Moore, Barbara Toboni, Mary Mitchell, Charles Markee, Nicole Zimmerman, Patsy Ann Taylor, Jane Person - Session Room Monitors and Note Takers

Dan Coshnear, Terry Ehret, Chris Walker, Marlene Cullen, Katherine Cowles, Patricia Volonakis-Davis, Pam Pizzimenti, Patricia Fry - Door Prize Donors



**Marlene Cullen, Redwood Writers Conference Coordinator**

If you helped, and you aren't listed . . please. . . let me know! —**Marlene Cullen, Conference Coordinator**

## 10-Minute Play Contest deadline December 15th

Have you ever wanted to see *your play* performed on stage? Now's your chance, if you're one of the winners of the **Redwood Writers 10-Minute Play Contest**. The winning plays will be performed at a play festival fundraiser in April of 2011. Redwood Writers will be sponsoring the play festival. All play contest entries must be submitted by the **December 15<sup>th</sup>** deadline. See complete entry guidelines at the end of this newsletter.



Lois Pearlman

### Bios of the 10-Minute Play Contest Judges:

- **Lois Pearlman – actor, singer and director**

Lois Pearlman is actor, writer, singer and board member of Pegasus Theater Company. She is also the creator and co-producer of Tapas: New Short Play Festival, now in its fifth year at Pegasus. She is a member of Theater Bay Area and a past vice president for North Bay Theater Group. Lois has performed with Pegasus, the Raven Players, Sonoma County Repertory Theater and others. Most recently she played Daisy in *Driving Miss Daisy*, Mrs. Webb in *Our Town* and the Reptile Woman in the *Sugar Bean Sisters*. Lois is former writer for *Argus Courier* and the *Russian River Monthly* with articles also featured in the *Bohemian* and the *Bay Area Reporter*.

- **Shirley Nilsen Hall – actor, singer and director**

Shirley Nilsen Hall has been a Bay Area actor for more 30 years. She has received two Dean Goodman Awards for her roles in *Jerry's Girls* and as Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress*. She's performed at 6<sup>th</sup> Street Playhouse as Aunt Eller in *Oaklahoma!* Some of her favorite roles are Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*, Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias*, Velma Kelly in *Chicago*, and Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Ernest*. Shirley has also directed. She lives in Rohnert Park with husband and fellow actor Norman A. Hall.

**Mary Gannon Graham – actor, singer, teacher**

Performing over 36 years in Sonoma County, New York and Los Angeles, Mary has also appeared in film, T.V. and radio. She has worked with *Cinnabar Theatre* of Petaluma, *Sonoma County Repertory Theatre* (The Rep) of Sebastopol, and in Santa Rosa with the *SRJC Summer Repertory Theatre*, and 6<sup>th</sup> Street Playhouse. Mary performed the lead in the recent smash hit, *Always, Patsy Cline*. Other favorite roles include *Shirley Valentine* (which she will reprise in Spring 2011 in Sebastopol), Dorine in *Tartuffe*, Elizabeth Sandry in *The Grapes of Wrath*, Lucille in *Psychopathia Sexualis*, Hedda in *Hedda Gabler*, Hermione in *The Winter's Tale*, Titania in *Midsummer Nights Dream* and Gertrude in *Hamlet*. Mary teaches theater arts for The Rep's Young Actor's Conservatory, Alchemia, and Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts, and additionally at Cinnabar Theater. Mary lives with her Husband, Thomas Graham, manager of Copperfield's Bookstore in Santa Rosa.

## Redwood Writers Poetry Contest

### In Honor of National Poetry Month - APRIL 2011

Soon you will want to get out your quills, ink pots, and lyrical wordsmith skills for our next poetry contest. The flyer and application form, spelling out the submission rules, will be available at our December 12th meeting at the Flamingo Hotel, and on our website. 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, the 2010-2011 Sonoma County Poet Laureate; Terry Ehret, Poet Laureate 2004-2006 and co-founder of Sixteen Rivers Press; and Toni L. Wilkes, poet and hostess of Londonberry Salon.

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

# Member in the Spotlight: Kathryn Miller

Interview by Osha Belle Hayden

The curiosity in those brilliant blue eyes might be intimidating were it not for the almost tangible sense of kindness you sense in Kathryn Miller's presence. You are not surprised when you learn that she has a Ph.D. in psychology.

Kathryn is a published author, journalist, psychologist, expert on women's aging, and gay rights activist. Her love of writing began early, and by the time she went to college, she was working as a newspaper reporter. The *Baltimore Sun* bought a couple of her feature stories.

When asked what inspires her, she responds: *"I am inspired by life. My own life has been challenging and has provided much material for my writing. I seem to be able to extrapolate universal feelings and concerns by analyzing what has happened to me first."*

Here's a hint about what she means by challenging. Kathryn Miller was born in a 100-year-old house on a bed tied together with ropes in rural Maryland during the Depression. Marriage to a naval pilot provided an escape from that life but had its own challenges.

When her husband went on six-month cruises, she was alone to fend for herself as both mother and father to her children. Those years, she admits, were difficult: *"I got caught up in drinking and spent some years, let's say, doing research for my future writings. I have an unpublished novel in the closet that tells the story of illness and recovery."* She has been sober for 37 years.

One of the keys to Kathryn's power as a writer is her insight into human nature. Using herself as a research subject, she is able to mine the depths of her own experience and transform it by applying her skills as a journalist and psychologist. Through her writing, Kathryn transmutes the lead of her own experience into gold that can be shared with others to help them navigate through similar crises.

Kathryn's first book, *Talking It Over: Understanding Sexual Diversity*, evolved from her experience with her son; *"When my son Steve came out to me as gay in 1984, I experienced a real change in my life. I began to see how people who are different are treated in our society."*

In 1990 she began writing a column for *Island Lifestyle Magazine* in Hawaii called, "Talking It Over." It addressed gay issues in the community. Her columns were picked up by periodicals across the country.

Kathryn became a dedicated activist advocating for civil and human rights for gay, lesbian, transgender, and otherwise diverse people. Published in 2001, her book is *"... the story of my journey to understanding homophobia and its effect on all of us. I combined the personal with the global.... The book represents a history, of sorts, of the struggle gay people have gone through and are still experiencing in seeking full acceptance as citizens of the world."*

After losing her husband several years ago, Kathryn, at age 73, had to negotiate her way through the grief and rediscover her own identity. Finding herself suddenly alone and aging caused her to re-think her life. Who was she without him?

During this period of grief and soul searching, her second book was born, *Living with the Stranger in Me: A Tale of Aging, Grief, and Healing*. It is both personal story and guidebook on the journey of aging and loss. Now Kathryn can smile when she says, "For women, especially, the message society gives is that life is for the young. The message I give is that a woman's life is increasingly interesting and worthwhile as she ages."



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## Redwood Reading List:

Right now I'm reading Linda Reid's *Touch of Magenta*. It's so cool reading books by fellow writers we know and love. I'll be standing in the autograph line at the next meeting.—**Pat Tyler**

I just finished reading *Searching For Tina Turner* by Jacqueline Luckett. She's a new author, and this is her first book. Well written with a few scenes of Paris. The character, Lena, is trying to cope with a failed marriage. Tina Turner is a mystery character, her mentor, who guides her while she redefines herself. —**Barbara Toboni**

# Robin's Round-Up

—Robin Moore, Editor, *The Redwood Writer*



## Here's what's new:

**Theo Saarinen** has provided us with our first article by one of the youth writers in the Redwood Writers' **Saplings Young Writers** group. Thank you, Theo! See his article in this issue. Let's all thank **Pam Pizzimenti** for advising this enthusiastic group.

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**SoCo Coffee** on the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Brookwood Drive in Santa Rosa offers a literary hot spot for readers and writers while they enjoy coffee or tea. Starting in January, SoCo will be selling books by local authors. Any local author may set up a reading and book signing by contacting SoCo production director, **Leslie Dale** at: (707) 217-8075 or email [altadalethree@sonic.net](mailto:altadalethree@sonic.net). Talk to Leslie if you're interested in selling your books at SoCo.

**Redwood Writers** will offer readings at SoCo Coffee the first Sunday of every month, with featured authors and open mic sessions. The first Redwood Writers reading at SoCo will be on **January 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** Come early to sign up for the open mic slots. Please come help make this opening RW reading at SoCo be a huge success.

I stopped by SoCo Coffee after enjoying our last **Library Panel** in November, and found the coffee house to be a friendly place to work on my novel.

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The successful **Library Panels** hosted by the Sonoma County Libraries and Redwood Writers will start up again in January. Published authors will offer their insights at each of the sessions. Themes of the sessions will include *The Writing Process*, *Styles of Writing* and *Getting Published*. Each session will be different than the others, with varied authors offering their expertise. Published authors will participate in each panel by answering pre-set questions from the Moderator, as well as questions from the audience. Plan to stop by one or more of the *free* Library Panels.

Here's the **new** schedule for the winter 2011 Library Panels:

## 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.



## Redwood Reading List

I just finished Patricia V. Davis's *Harlot's Sauce* and loved it. It was entertaining and it showed me a picture of what it was like growing up as the daughter of immigrants in New York that was very different from my own experience as a fourteenth generation American growing up in Southern California. A story about strength. —**Mary Ames Mitchell**

I'm currently reading *The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexander Dumas, and *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*, by Dave Eggers.—**Ana Manwaring**

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For a **2010 Vintage Voices Words Poured Out** order form, see the end of this newsletter.

I hope you all enjoy the holidays, and keep writing through this busy time.—**Robin Moore**

## Member News



Congratulations to **Juanita J. Martin**. In December she will be honored in a ceremony as the first official **Poet Laureate** for the City of Fairfield. She was the Sonoma County Libraries Poetry Slam Champion in 2005 & 2006. Currently, Juanita also serves as the Historian for Redwood Writers, and is the Acquisitions Editor of this newsletter. She also edits the Poetry Place page in our newsletter.

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- **Patricia V. Davis** was selected as a "Top-Idea Maven" in *The Woman's Advantage 2011 Calendar*. Her quote, "The only thing you should be faking is confidence" was selected from over 5000 submissions. It's from her upcoming book, *The Diva Doctrine* being published by Cedar Fort in Spring 2011
- *The Woman's Advantage Calendar* provides daily advice to women—**Patricia V. Davis**, editor-in-chief, *Harlot's Sauce Radio*



Congratulations to **Carolyn Jewel**. I was relaxing and reading the latest issue of *The Writer Magazine* and there was Carol Jewel's name on page 26 under **Making Time to Write**. It was nice to see one of our members in this great magazine.—**Jeane Slone**, VP of Redwood Writers

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**Persia Woolley** has begun presenting "An Evening with King Arthur" at local book stores, schools and book clubs following the re-release of *Child of the Northern Spring*, the first of her Guinevere trilogy. She gives a short reading, and then answers questions about the Arthurian world. Were Arthur and Guinevere real? When/how would they have lived? How/why did the legend grow? And anything else you want to know about the characters of the Round Table or her 11 years of research and writing.

Jeane Slone did a really nice blog interview with her early in November. Jeane included more diverse questions than most bloggers do, which gives a more personal portrait. This interview can be found among Jeane's archived blogs at <http://author-interviews.jeaneslone.com>



Davis Publishing is continuing to evolve since I started it the fall of 2008. I publish chapbooks on self-help and insightful fiction—32 page, small-format booklets. To date I have published eleven of my own, and one by Hank Mattimore, *Legacy of the Heart*, and one by Louise J. Belle, *To Sue or Not to Sue*.

Hank, Louise, and I are all members of the Redwood Writers branch of CWC, and I would love to publish other member's advice on various topics of general interest—almost everyone knows something about something that would be helpful to others. [www.davis-publishing.biz](http://www.davis-publishing.biz).

—**Diane Davis**

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I want to welcome the following new members to Redwood Writers:

Nora M. Bruemmer	Rebecca Rosenberg
Robert Digitale	Maeve O'Reilly—Student
Sha'an'an Levy	Elaine Webster
Wray Cotterill	Jan Ogren
Cindy A. Pavlinac	Frank Baumgardner

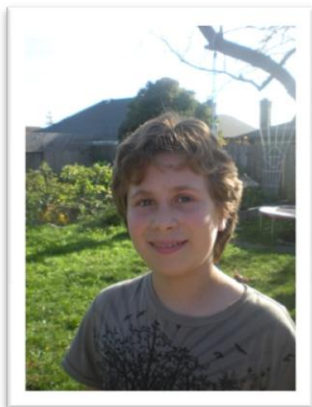
Welcome to our writing family.

—**Julie A. Winrich**, RW Membership and Registration Chair



# Redwood Writers Youth Group Invitation

An invitation for youth writers ages 8-18



Theo Saarinen

I'd like to invite you to join Saplings— Redwood Writers youth group, where you will get to meet authors, play writing games, get your writing reviewed, and get inspiring help. Last month a witch even came and gave us candy.

Saplings Young Writers meetings take place once a month, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month.

Pamela Pizzimenti leads. She is a member of Redwood Writers and is the author of

*The River Whispers*, a Next Generation Indie Book Awards Finalist. I like Pam

because she comes up with lots of fun and creative ways to write, for instance, a game where you try to draw a sentence that someone gives you. Then you give the picture to the next person and they try to find out what the original sentence was.



Witchy came to visit at a Redwood Writers Saplings Young Writers' meeting.

The monthly meetings are usually attended by nine to fourteen youth writers (ages 8-15 years old).

You should come to the meetings, so that you can become a better writer by playing fun writing games, doing peer reviews, and helping set a group goal. We might have an anthology or we might go into screen writing.

Saplings Youth Writers meetings take place once a month, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month. You can find us at 1734 E. Cotati Ave. Penngrove, CA 94951.

—**Theo Saarinen**, Petaluma Homeschooler & Student member of RW, age 11

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## Utilizing the Redwood Branch Yahoo Groups Page

**Are you getting too many emails in our Redwood Writers Yahoo Members list serve?**

Rather than unsubscribing, there are ways to change this.

1. When you want to reply to an email sent on the Redwood Writers Yahoo Group pages, **scroll down** and hit **"Reply to Sender."** It's in **blue** toward the **bottom of the email**. This will direct your response to only the sender and not the group. This would eliminate a lot of chatter. I know, you want the entire group to know that you thanked someone, etc., but maybe we should cut down on the emails like that so we don't lose our base.

Yahoo list serve should be for keeping us informed about events, helping us find a site, or learn something about writing. The thanks and discussions sometimes are helpful, but all of us don't need to know that you appreciate what we all do. We all appreciate everyone in Redwood Writers, so it's understood. Let's send that type of correspondence via "Reply to Sender", and see if we can't cut down some of the e-mails.

If someone asks a question that is not pertinent to a writing site, or event, or learning about writing on Yahoo-- again let's use "Reply to Sender" at the bottom of the page.

2. If there are still too many emails, like I've said before, contact me, your Membership Chair, and I can change your setting to Daily Digest, which will summarize the emails for the day and you can pick and choose which ones you want to look at. However, by going Daily Digest, you will not receive any attachments.

Before you go Daily Digest, let's give the above #1 a try and see if this helps. Thank you, and I really appreciate all of your emails and spirit! Go Redwood Writers, and keep writing!

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

# Poetry Place

## Four Months

—Susanna Solomon

July 16, 1973

It is morning

The lady, asleep, dreams on

Her fragile fingers wrapped in fists beside her head

Move slowly, gracefully.

Her dreams are made of such stuff

As angels, wispy and mysterious

Or made of clouds,

Or the smell of snow on a wintry evening.

She cannot see me,

Though I wait, peacefully, watching her.

Listen. Do you see that mouth

Turning down?

Is that heavy head slowly turning?

And she cries, mournfully, sadly

The world's sadness contained in that one sound.



## Beyond October

—Tom J. Mariani

What was it about October

That assured us

Spring will be coming back

The weather hinted of changes

Leaves brave enough

To let go one by one

Or be pushed in bunches by the wind

Took momentary flight and

Abandoned their accustomed tree

They made room for new buds

Provided cover for the soil and

Food for those below

Lots of work to get ready

For Spring next year and to

Just get through Fall and Winter



**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](mailto:freelance@jmartinpoetwriter.com)

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

## Announcements:

I have begun a Community Outreach Program, and now offer surprisingly affordable **Rhyme Time** classes for parent/child teams or anyone. Please see the schedule at [www.davis-publishing.biz](http://www.davis-publishing.biz). —Diane Davis

### Quick Start Writing Workshops

Share the high-level energy of writers writing together in a fun, safe place.

Thursday mornings – 9:30 to 11:30 – Dec 2, 9, 16

**Rohnert Park Community Center** – Corner of Rohnert Park Expressway & Snyder Ln.

For questions call **Pat Tyler** 707– 696-9640

[www.writetoday.net](http://www.writetoday.net)

[pat.tyler@att.net](mailto:pat.tyler@att.net)

(707) 696-9640

### **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](http://www.napavalley.edu)

**Creative Writing Workshop** (3 sections) starting on **January 27<sup>th</sup>**, \$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. to read and critique for revision. The focus is on excellence of craft as writers prepare their manuscripts for submission. All genres included.

**Writing Craft and Critique** Jan 24-Feb 28 5 class meetings \$90

Do you want to understand more about the craft of writing and learn the art of literary critique?

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 as it applies to the specifics of (but not limited to) memoir, biography, personal narrative, and essay. Bloggers and columnists are invited. We will read and critique our work in class.

All classes include a syllabus with prompts, assignments and selected readings.

For detailed descriptions of these classes and information on registering: [www.anamanwaring.com](http://www.anamanwaring.com)

or email: [ana@anamanwaring.com](mailto:ana@anamanwaring.com) Phone; 415-827-1468

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**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](http://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](mailto:cpywrtcom@aol.com).



## The SF/Peninsula Branch of California Writers Club

cordially invites you to a

**Holiday Open House**

Honoring

**Bay Area Literary Agents and Publishers**

And Launching

**Fault Zone: Words from the Edge**

**Our new anthology of short stories**

**Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

**5:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

**The Peninsula Regent**

**One Baldwin (at El Camino Real)**

**San Mateo, CA 94401**

\$20 CWC Members \$25 non-members

Hors d'oeuvres No host bar

**Reservations: [www.cwc-peninsula.org](http://www.cwc-peninsula.org)**

**Click on Holiday Party or call 650-615-8331**

**Come schmooze and mingle with friends old and new.**

Let's also toast our partners in the literary game!

**Bay Area agents:**

**Where would we be without them?**

(Partial list of agents)



**Verna Dreisbach** represents both fiction and non-fiction. She likes mystery, thriller, true crime and books that facilitate change.



**Gordon Warnock** represents nonfiction and fiction. Fiction areas of interest: Commercial Narrative, Character-Driven Literary, Monster and Disaster, Pets, and Humor.

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## The Redwood Writer

P.O. Box 4687

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

[www.redwoodwriters.org](http://www.redwoodwriters.org)

**Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month**

Why I Write submissions are limited to 60 words

Redwood Reading List submissions are limited to 60 words

Editor/Layout: **Robin Moore**

Acquisitions Editor: **Juanita J. Martin**

Copy Editor: **Arlene Miller**

Copy Editor: **Farrell Winter**

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

## Again, here's the new Library Panel Schedule:

**Come to these FREE panels!**

### 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.



# 10-Minute Play Contest



**Join in Redwood Writers first Playwriting Contest!**

**Prizes!** Winning plays will be performed at the first ever Redwood Writers Play Festival Fundraiser in April!

- Open to members of CWC and general public in Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Mendocino, and Lake Counties
- Deadline December 15
- Awards will be presented at Feb 13 General Meeting

**Submission rules:**

- Play must be 10-minutes in length
- Play cannot have more than 4 characters
- \$5 per play for CWC members; \$8 non-members
- Maximum of 3 plays per person
- Play cannot have been performed before
- Format: 12 point font, Times Roman, single spaced
- On play: name of play (do not print author name)
- On cover letter: name of play, author name, email, home address, phone, and 60 word bio
- Submit as email or snail mail.
- There is no formal submission form, only these instructions.

Email Submits must be received by midnight Dec 15.

Snail Mail Submits must be post marked Dec 15.

Mail fee via snail mail to:

Linda Loveland Reid  
1734 E Cotati Ave, Penngrove, CA 94951

For more info or go to website: [www.redwoodwriters.org](http://www.redwoodwriters.org)

Or send email to: [lindareid100@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lindareid100@sbcglobal.net)

Judges

**Lois Pearlman:** Co-producer of Tapas, actress, Board Member of Pegasus Theater

**Shirley Nilsen Hall:** Actress and Director

**Mary Gannon:** Actress and Singer. Mary portrayed *Patsy Cline*.



## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.redwoodwriters.org)

# *Vintage Voices:*

## *Words Poured Out*

### Redwood Writers 2010 Anthology

Editor: Karen Batchelor

Paperback: 216 pages

Publishers: Redwood Writers and Unlimited Publishing, LLC

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

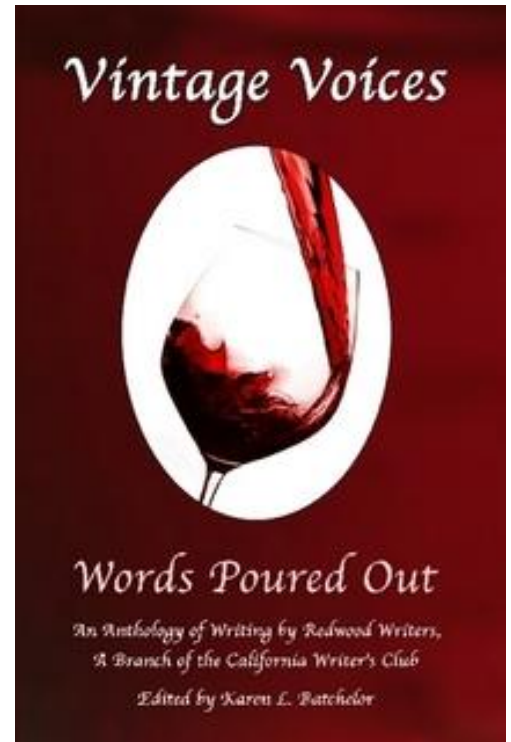
Release Date: August, 2010

Product Dimensions: 9 x 6 inches

Suggested Donation: \$12.00 US

***Vintage Voices: Words Poured Out*** is a full-bodied celebration of the written word. It's an aromatic collection of short stories, poems, essays and memoirs. Each piece has a distinctive flavor although, like wine, the pieces fall into loose categories. They are bold, strong, light, bitter or sweet. The stories are whimsical, thought-provoking, alarming, touching and sincere. The words on these pages will intoxicate your senses, tickle your taste buds, and have you wanting another sample.

**Redwood Writers** is one of eighteen branches of the California Writers Club, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to educating members and the public in the craft of writing and in marketing their work, through public meetings, workshops and conferences. CWC was founded in 1909. ORDER HERE TO RESERVE COPIES OF ***VINTAGE VOICES***. PICK UP BOOKS AT OUR ANTHOLOGY BOOK LAUNCH OR AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SAVE ON COSTS.



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