



The Redwood Writer



“Writers Helping Writers”

September 2016

www.redwoodwriters.org

September 11, 2016

Redwood Writers presents

HOT TOPICS

with
Chairwoman
Sandy Baker
Roundtables

“speed date”
with 4 experts
about 4 topics:

- POV
- Indie Publishing
- Editing & Proofing
- Business for Writers

Sunday, September 11, 2016
2 to 4:30 p.m.
Flamingo Hotel
Empire Room



Hot Topics Roundtables

Learn more about the hot topics of writing and publishing when four Redwood Writers experts offer 18-minute “speed dates,” offering insider information to small groups of writers. You won’t want to miss this afternoon of valuable insight!

POV: Marlene Cullen
Indie Publishing: Charles Markee
Editing & Proofreading: Arlene Miller
Business for Writers: Helen Sedwick

Emceed by Sandy Baker

Want to be kept up to date on Redwood Writers events and happenings, contest deadlines and more? Check out our calendar at redwoodwriters.org/calendar.

Redwood Writers General Meeting

When: Sunday, Sept. 11
Time: 2:30-4:30 p.m. Come at 2 p.m. to register & mingle with other writers.
Where: Flamingo Resort, Santa Rosa Empire Room
Cost: \$5/members, \$10/nonmembers
Info: www.redwoodwriters.org

Every day is a new beginning. Take a deep breath & **START AGAIN.**

September Events

Sept. 11: General Meeting
Sept. 24: RW Open Mic
Sept. 25: Anthology Launch Party

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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BOARD BUZZ: Writing Lessons from a “Failure”

By Crissi Langwell

“I am a failure.”

These are the words I penned in the journal I write in every morning to collect my thoughts and gather my strength for each new day. These shame-filled words are what I chose to start my day and hold close to my chest. It was two days before the release of my latest book, and I was already projecting its demise before it was even released to the public—and I was placing the weight of that projection on my identity.

A week earlier, I had been singing a different tune. I was gearing up for letting this book baby of mine leave the nest. I had made all kinds of plans to pave the way for its future: how I would present my book to the world, the ways I would broaden its reach, who would meet it and love it, and how it would change the world. I scoured my book for quotes I could share. I enlisted the help of close friends and family to read the book and leave reviews. I set it up for presale and then spent money I didn't have on targeted advertising. Then I kicked up my heels, reveled in hopeful anticipation, and waited for the sales to roll in.

And I waited, and waited, and waited.

I can't help but smile at my naivety when I published my very first book in 2013. I knew I wasn't going to make a fortune on that first book, as no one really knew me. But if I kept writing, that would all change. I knew that I would be able to quit my job, pay off all my bills, fund my kids' college careers, and move into a much bigger house by the time I published my third book.

With that in mind, I kept writing. I churned out book after book. When the third book published and I hadn't made my millions yet, I figured it would be the next book that would do it for me. Then the fourth book published and the crickets were still chirping. By the time the fifth book published, I was starting to realize this wasn't a get-rich-quick scheme.

Two days before my eighth book was set to release, not one person had pre-ordered the book. My Facebook posts were losing traction. My ads were gaining clicks but failing to produce sales. The number of people reading my newsletters was getting less with each one I sent out.

I was ready to add “failure” to my resume, focusing on all the things that were going wrong and forgetting all the things that had gone right. Rather than seeing this as a learning experience, I let shame strip me of my hope.

But here's the thing: writing and publishing a book IS a learning experience. Over the past several years, I've learned new ways to spread the word about my books. My readers have expanded from just family and friends, and now include people I don't know in real life. Each book results in things I wish I'd done differently, but also shows me things I've done right and can improve on. Most important, my writing and storytelling skills have developed with each new novel.

I'm not a failure. Far from it. I'm just a student in the school of writing, earning my master's in the art of authorship. Each book is only furthering my education toward actually knowing what I'm doing. I'm not there yet, but I'm much further along than I was when I wrote my first book.

I write all of this because I know I'm not alone. Being a writer is hard, especially when you lose sight of why you are doing this. If you are doing this for fame and fortune, you're probably in the wrong business. But if you're a writer because you are passionate about the written word, hold fast to that. Never forget why you started writing in the first place. Be proud of your accomplishments, regardless of the magnitude. Finally, never give up, even when the results miss the mark of your misguided expectations. You are not a failure, and neither am I. We are artists, and each word we write is a contribution to the beauty of this world.



Crissi Langwell is the editor of The Redwood Writer, the newsletter for Redwood Writers. She has been a member of Redwood Writers for 3 years, and serves on the board. She is the author of eight books, including “Reclaim Your Creative Soul: The Secrets to Organizing Your Full-Time Life to Make Room for Your Craft,” and her latest novel, “Loving the Wind: The Story of Tiger Lily & Peter Pan.” Follow her at crissilangwell.com.

Member in the Spotlight: Scarlett West

By John Compisi

Scarlett West rejoined Redwood Writers in December 2015 after an extended gap in her membership. She is active, attending the monthly meetings and has been to two conferences. She says that both the latter events provided great networking, education on improving her writing, tips on how to build her platform as an author, and wonderful support for those days when she needs someone to cheer her on.

A native Californian, Scarlett was raised in Santa Rosa. She says she has always had a vivid imagination, stimulated by having her mother read to her and her siblings from a very early age. She translated this priceless trait into inventing and writing short stories, poems, essays, and a journal, both at home and at school.

Scarlett related, "I had a wild imagination and as soon as I could I put those ideas on paper, I did. Writing is a natural component of my life, similar to eating, sleeping, and other integral parts of my existence. It is a piece of the motor that keeps me going. It keeps me happy. I can't imagine my life without some kind of writing."

After graduating from Santa Rosa High School, Scarlett matriculated to nationally renowned Mills College in Oakland, graduating with a bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology. While at Mills, she was freshman class president. She also had the opportunity to study abroad, including stints in Bolivia and Argentina, a period of time she cherishes and draws upon in her writing. She is fluent in Spanish and has an elemental proficiency in Latvian, which she learned from living in Latvia and from her paternal grandmother.

Scarlett has traveled extensively and has studied various languages, including Spanish, Latvian, Russian, Italian, German, Lakota, Quechua, and Nahuatl.

For fun, she spends time with her husband, family, and friends. She also performs Aztec dance, writes, reads, cooks, studies herbs, and makes homemade herbal remedies.

Scarlett's earliest writing influences include authors Roald Dahl, Madeleine L'Engle, Mavis Jukes, and Shel Silverstein, as well as the book series of Encyclopedia Brown, Pippi Longstocking, and The Borrowers. She loved Grimm Brother's fairy tales, and anything with a magical, fantastical element appealed to her. As a teen and now as an adult, Scarlett enjoys Milan Kundera, Jeanette Winterson, Anne Rice, George Orwell, Ray Bradbury, and Aldous Huxley.

Scarlett likes to write paranormal vampire romance stories and is currently writing a series of vampire romance books that are set in Europe, the United States, and South America. She explains that each book is a standalone, but the overall plot arc continues with the series. In homage to her grandmother, a bit of Latvian folklore is woven into these stories. Scarlett is editing her manuscripts now and hopes to release her series sometime next year.

Scarlett's biggest tip for her fellow writers is to surround yourselves with writing mentors, positive people, and those who support you and your projects. She also recommends working on your projects on a daily basis to maintain the writing flow and connection with a work in progress.

You can find out more about Scarlett and her writing on her author website: scarlettwestwrites.com. There she also writes a blog that focuses on food/nutrition, writing/books, and bits of life inspiration. She asks that you visit her at www.facebook.com/scarlettwestwrites. She would appreciate if you could please "like" her author Facebook to support her.



POETRY PLACE

Black Holes

—Valerie Hansen Kelsay

Black holes are God's embrace
Hugging inanimate into animate
Pulling animate toward consciousness
Consciousness toward awareness
Awareness toward compassion

Tanka-When Hiking

—Roger Lubeck

When hiking was fun,
No need of an axe or stick
On swollen ankles,
I mastered mountains alone
Now pain is my companion

"You should write because you love the shape of stories and sentences and the creation of different worlds on a page. Writing comes from reading, and reading is the finest teacher of how to write." — Annie Proulx

Poetry Place is a regular feature in the newsletter. Each month, several poems will be selected to be printed in the newsletter. Poems will be chosen based on the space available. Send one poem per person. Use 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 issue. - **Juanita Martin**

Summer

—Nathaniel Robert Winters

Summer's so very sexy
long tan legs stretch naked
below thin fabric—scarlet red bikini
sun touches flesh, perspiration appears
skin glows uninhibited sensual
dark glasses hide—sky blue eyes
golden blonde locks shimmer
like sunflower petal display
boys buzz like honeybees

She leads latest toy to shade
under boardwalk she steals a kiss
smiles amused—then devours him
above hotdogs sizzle on grill
French fries dive into steaming oil
she encourages exploration of hills and valleys
like he's a sports car driving the coastal highway
sun slowly sinks until swimming
aglow in waves of cold water
Summer sashays away hips swaying
too cool to turn
throws hands up—waves goodbye



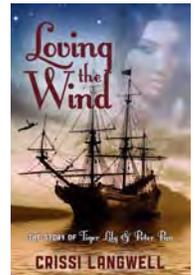
Breaking News!

I won third place in the Wilda Morris's Poetry Challenge. Wilda offers prompts once a month on her blog and she publishes the winning poems. June's prompt was about gardening. You can read my poem here: wildamorris.blogspot.com. — **Barbara Toboni**



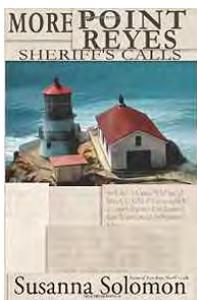
My Young Adult historical fiction, *Li Jin and the Nine Dragon Scroll*, was awarded 2nd place in the Writing for Young People contest at the Mendocino Coast Writers' Conference in July. — **Natasha Yim**

My latest novel, *Loving the Wind: The Story of Tiger Lily & Peter Pan*, published in August. The story serves as a prequel to J.M. Barrie's *Peter & Wendy*, giving a voice to Tiger Lily and sharing how she met Peter Pan before Wendy came to Neverland. Learn where you can buy it at crissilangwell.com/tigerlily. — **Crissi Langwell**



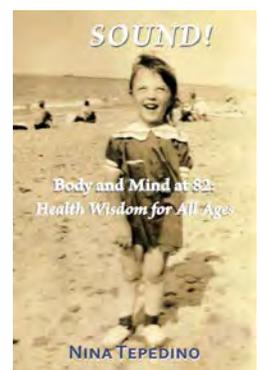
My 3,000-word essay has been selected into the National Association of Memoir Writers' Anthology, *The Magic of Memoir*, scheduled for publication in November 2016 with She Writes Press. It's ready for pre-order at Amazon. — **Jing Li**

You are invited to visit the debut website of Teresa Henry, poet and RW member for 3 years. Teresa hopes you enjoy your visit and may have a suggestion or two to share! www.teresahenrypoetry.com — **Teresa Henry**



My new collection of short stories, *More Point Reyes Sheriff's Calls*, was just published. Purchase it today at Amazon. — **Susanna Solomon**

Publishing soon, *Sound: Body and Mind at 82, Health Wisdom for All Ages*, by Nina Tepedino. In this memoir, Tepedino shares the secrets to living a long, rewarding life using ancient and indigenous healing methods, plus personal stories from her life. Find out more information on this book and its release at elderwrites.blogspot.com. — **Nina Tepedino**



Breaking News!

I will be reading in the “Petaluma Poetry Walk” on Sunday, Sept. 18 at Lala’s Creamery on the back porch. Several other noted poets will be reading at this event. Also, I have an article on cemeteries in the “Sonoma Discoveries” magazine. You can see it at sonomadiscoveries.com. It will be out on Sept. 1, 2016. Find out more at www.jmartinpoetwriter.com. — **Juanita Martin**

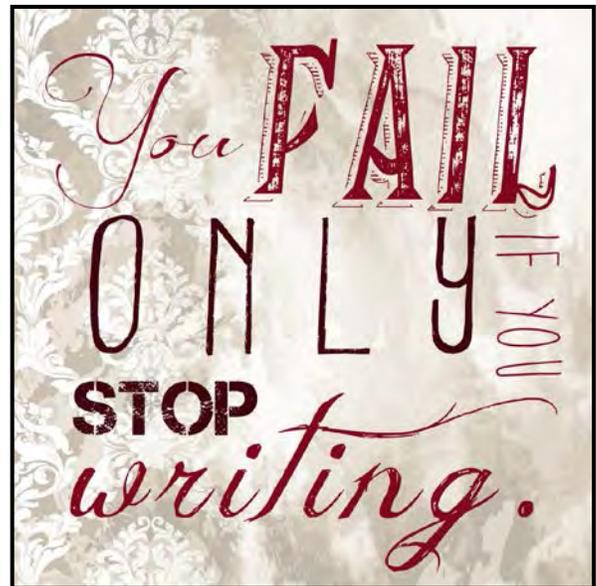


I proudly announce that Dahlynn McKowen, Ken McKowen, and I were each awarded a MUSE Medallion for *Not Your Mother’s Book . . . On Cats* (Publishing Syndicate) in June 2016 from the Cat Writers’ Association for their 2015 Communication Contest, catwriters.com/wp_meow/cwa-announces-contest-winners. Also, I am author and photographer of *Cat Mulan’s Mindful Musings*—an award-winning gift book, and a producer of *FEMME: Women Healing the World*—an inspiring documentary film. — **Margie Yee Webb**

The Registration Team Needs YOU!

Volunteer about 1-2 hours EVERY OTHER MONTH. Register members and guests when they attend a Redwood Writers monthly meeting. Help out at the Registration, Handouts, or Merchandise tables. Please contact coordinator Nancy Baum sparkyfrog@gmail.com.

It's fun, it's easy, and you help Redwood Writers in a BIG way! Many thanks in advance.



Bylaw Tip of the Month

By Sandy Baker

Did you know that our Bylaws allow from four to fifteen members on the Board of Directors? The six officers—president, three vice presidents, secretary, and treasurer—are elected each year in June. We currently have a full complement of officers and seven additional directors. The president, subject to approval by the Board, may appoint pro-tem directors or pro-tem officers to fill any vacancies. Our board meets 12:30-2 p.m. the day of our regular meetings on the second Sunday at the Flamingo, and anyone may attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redwood Writers joins with 6th Street Playhouse to honor Jack London. A play written by Cecelia Tichi will be presented at 6th Street Playhouse, and a special discount ticket of \$20 is offered to RW members for performances on Sept 16, 17, and 18. To get this reduced price, call the theater at 523-4185 and say "Wolf."

See flyer at the end of this newsletter, or go to 6thstreetplayhouse.com for information about the play and playwright, and to see all the performance dates.

Any questions, contact LindaLReid100@gmail.com. Enjoy!

Write That Story!!!

Want to write a book? A short story? A memoir? Come join this six-week writing course at the Sebastopol Art Center September 12 to October 17. Explore the mechanics of story: plot/structure, character/point of view, description, dialogue, setting, and theme. Through lecture and writing exercises, you will develop your story toward the goal of completing a first draft! Register today!

The course is taught by Bridget Burke, who holds a BA and MA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. She taught technical writing at San Francisco State University.

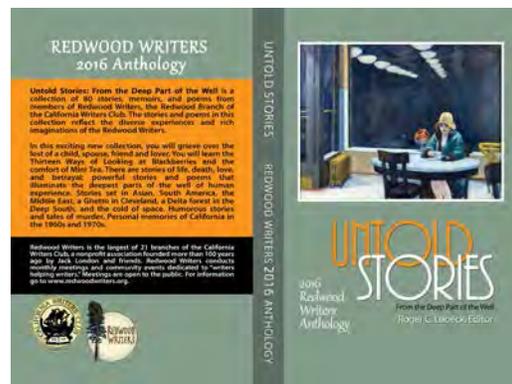
Register online: sebart.org/index.php/classes, or call (707) 829-4797

Workshop date: Sept. 12 - Oct. 17, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cost: \$200

Where: Fireside Room, Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 282 S. High Street, Sebastopol

You Are Invited to a Garden Party!



Come celebrate Redwood Writers' 11th anthology, *Untold Stories: From the Deep Part of the Well*

Congratulations to our anthology's editor, Roger Lubeck, and all the authors!

Date: Sept 25, Sunday

Time: 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Place: Linda and Harry Reid's garden

RSVP: LindaLReid100@gmail.com

Potluck: Bring your favorite dish to share (wine/beer/other drinks will be provided)

Directions will be emailed when you RSVP.

The advertisement for MACADVANTAGE is set against a white background. At the top, the company name 'MACADVANTAGE' is written in large, bold, grey letters. Below it, the text 'Fantastic! A Great Sonoma Company - Marcy Smothers, KSRO' is displayed. A list of services includes 'FREE Diagnosis', 'Data Recovery', 'Repairs', 'Upgrades', 'Networks', and 'Phone & Remote Support'. The phone number '664-0400' is prominently featured in large black digits, with a VISA logo to its left. At the bottom, it says 'We Support Redwood Writers' and includes a photo of a woman and a man working on a laptop. The man is identified as 'Tam Chief Tech'.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE



Writing in the Redwoods, Redwood Writers' first-ever writing retreat, will be held

April 28-30, 2017

at Westminster Woods (near Occidental)

www.westminsterwoods.org

Online registration will be
October 9 – November 30, 2016
Retreat spots will be filled by Lottery
December 1st

Prices and details will be available soon.

Stories You've Always Wanted to Write

Learn the fundamentals of storytelling and share your writing in free classes with Skye Blaine, author of the memoir, *Bound to Love*.

Fiction: Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m. starting Aug. 30th

Autobiographical Writing: Thursdays, 1-4 p.m. starting Sept. 1

Location: SRJC Southwest Center, SRC112, 950 S. Wright Road, Santa Rosa

Register in person or at older-adults.santarosa.edu. There is no age limit for the Older Adults Program courses, though they are tailored for seniors. Students may register at any time during the semester.

For more information, contact Older Adults Program at (707) 527-4533. For specific questions about the content and format of these two classes, contact Skye at skyebaine@comcast.net.

CALL FOR CRITIQUE GROUPS!



If you're in the market for a critique group, I act as a clearinghouse (volunteer) for those looking to form one, or add members. Just e-mail me with your genre. I send out a new list, and you can respond to all or select a few for discussion about approach, time, and location. People meet in homes or cafes, or come up with other public spaces such as library meeting rooms.

Side note: I have years of experience with writing groups and highly recommend them! They provide deadlines and hopefully give feedback on things like word repetition, grammar, public reading style, plot, and other nuances. It makes a vast difference to share our work along the way. I recommend reading aloud, too!

If interested, contact me, Marie Judson-Rosier, at mariejudson@gmail.com and I'll add you to the list. You can request to be removed at any time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Redwood Writers Open Mic Readings

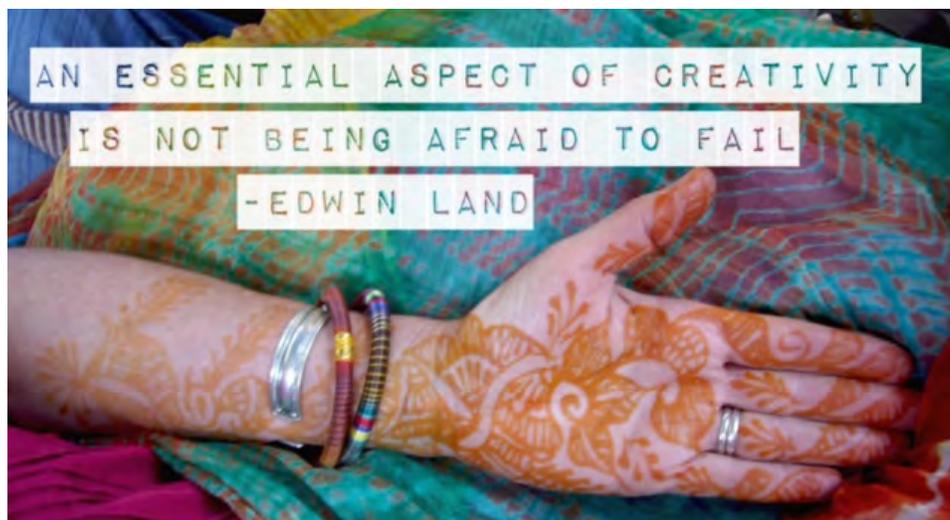
Featured Readers: Crissi Langwell and Meta Strauss
The MC will be Abby Bogomolny

Join us for camaraderie and a light meal or beverage. Please support Gaia's Garden with a purchase. Open Mic is limited to five minutes for each person to read, no exceptions. Please practice reading your piece prior to coming to the Open Mic. This event is organized by Redwood Writers Abby Bogomolny and Robin Moore.

Early sign up at 1:30. First come, first served.

Please contact Abby at ever3009@gmail.com or Robin at rockridge6532@comcast.net. For details visit our website: redwoodwriters.org/events/openmic.

Date: Saturday, Sept. 24
Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.,
Place: Gaia's Garden,
1899 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa



DINE WITH LOCAL AUTHORS

Five authors will read from their books,
followed by a Q & A.

Monday, Sept. 12 from 6-8 p.m.

Gaia's Garden
1899 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa

For reservations: info@jeanslone.com or 544-2491.
Minimum \$5.00 food purchase.



Author Support Group

Join us to chat about your writing life, listen to others, and share resources and ideas. We meet in the Empire Room at the Flamingo Hotel every month at 1:00 p.m. before the general meeting. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members, and includes admission into the general meeting. The goal of these meetings is to further our craft. Topics include:

- Process - more time, organization, methods, rejection
- Publishing - traditional, e-publishing, self-publishing
- Research - web, magazines, books, personal contacts
- Genre - memoir, non-fiction, mystery, romance, science fiction and whatever you can suggest
- Critique groups - this is the place to come if you are interested in forming or participating in new or existing groups.



Facilitator Chair: Deborah Taylor-French writes a monthly column for The Sonoma County Gazette. She has published in The North Bay Business Journal, Changing Hurt to Hope 2011, and video scripts for Sonoma County Regional Parks. Her memoirs appear in five Redwood Writers' Vintage Voices. Deborah blogs about animal welfare and advocates for dog adoption at www.dogleadermysteries.com. Deborah Taylor-French may be contacted at dtfwriter@gmail.com. For time-sensitive issues, Deborah prefers you contact her by Google Voice: (707) 536-1049.

The Redwood Writer now accepts ads for the newsletter. Business card size (2 by 3 ½) ads cost \$25 and double size (4 x 7) ads cost \$50. If you would like to place an ad, please submit both ad and payment via this online form: redwoodwriters.org/advertising-in-redwood-writer. You can read the complete ad guidelines at the same link.

Any ads not of interest to writers or writing-related will be rejected and your money returned. Ads are placed on a first come, first served basis only. Any ads submitted after the 15th of the month will be saved for the next newsletter.

eScrip is a fundraising program to earn money for Redwood Writers. Members register their credit/debit, or ATM cards, and Redwood Writers will receive 1% to 5% of everything purchased at merchants such as Oliver's, Sonoma Market, Glen Ellen Village Market, Petaluma Market, and selected restaurants.

There is no cost to you! Once you are signed up and you shop at one of the merchants listed in the eScrip program, the donation to Redwood Writers is automatic.

How to sign up? Read on...

Another fantastic feature of this program is the **ONLINE MALL**. Redwood Writers will earn 2-6% of your purchases at places like Amazon, Expedia, Target, Apple Store, Barnes & Noble, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Apple, Macy's, JC Penney, Sears, Petco, PetSmart, and **over 800** other merchants, including travel sites! With this feature you do not have to sign up or be a registered eScrip shopper.

- Simply go to our website: www.redwoodwriters.org
- Scroll down a bit, and click the icon on the left that reads: "eScrip."

It's easy to earn for Redwood Writers!

Any questions or need help signing up? E-mail: pdfender@yahoo.com

Pamela Fender, eScrip Fundraising Coordinator

EDITOR'S CORNER

By Crissi Langwell

September is the month of new beginnings and transforming change. The kids are back in school, transitioning from a summer of fun to three seasons of learning. The weather shifts from sunny days and hot summer nights to changing leaves and mugs filled with cider. Even Redwood Writers shifts into high gear come September, starting its next year with new members, new contests, new events, and a brand new anthology.

This new year for Redwood Writers is going to be an exciting one. We have a brand new slate of officers, headed up by our fearless leader, President Sandy Baker. Joining Vice President Roger Lubeck are new vice presidents Belinda Riehl and David Ramirez. Our new secretary is Marian Lindner. Our new treasurer is Malena Eljumaily, with Cristina Goulart serving as assistant treasurer. Plus, our new contest coordinator is Natasha Yim.

[Speaking of contests](#), we have a few for you to look forward to this year. We just kicked off our Prompt Contest in August, and our 6th Annual Play Contest launches at the general meeting on Sept. 11—so start writing those screenplays!

What are YOU going to do this year to change things up and bring your writing and publishing to a whole new level? Allow me to offer a few suggestions:

Read your writing in public. Redwood Writers offers several opportunities to do this, including the [RW Open Mic](#) at Gaia's Garden, the [Take the Mic](#) event at the library, and the [RW Salon](#).

Contribute to the RW Anthology. While this year's anthology is wrapping up with [the launch party on Sept. 25](#), our next anthology will be announced in the coming months—and your writing would be a lovely addition to this cherished collection of stories.

Give back to your club. Redwood Writers runs on the time and energy put forth by volunteers. Be a part of this valuable organization through one of the many volunteer opportunities available. As of right now, we can use help at the registration table, copyediting the newsletter, and more. Contact President Sandy Baker for more ways to help.

Support other authors at Redwood Writers events. Even if you aren't the featured writer at an event, your fellow club members could greatly benefit by your attendance to their event. It always feels good to see familiar faces in the crowd.

What new things will you try this year? [Send me a note](#), and I may add it to next month's newsletter.

Chief Editor: Crissi Langwell
Acquisitions Editor: Juanita Martin
Spotlight Editor: Robert Digitale
Copyeditor: Marie Millard
Copyeditor: Jan Rowley

The Redwood Writer

P.O. Box 4687

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

The deadline for newsletter content is the **15th of each month**. Please email submissions to Crissi Langwell at editor@redwoodwriters.org.

The deadline for poetry is the 10th of each month. Please email poetry submissions to Juanita Martin at freelance@jmartinpoetwriter.com.

Submission Guidelines

Breaking News is for members to share writing-related accomplishments only. Please write your news in **first person in 75 words or less**. All pieces over this limit will be edited down. Please include a picture.

Article submissions should be around 500 words, but we are flexible. Please check your spelling and grammar prior to submission.

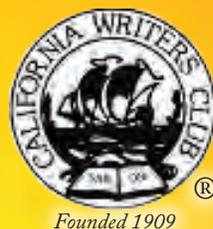
Announcements for the newsletter must be writing-related. Please note we no longer publish members' private fee-based events. We also do not have the room to publish announcements for members' parties. Please include your picture and details about your writing class or event.

Redwood Writers General Membership Meetings

General membership meetings are held the second Sunday of each month from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Flamingo Resort, 2777 4th Street, Santa Rosa, CA. Registration starts at 2 p.m.

Redwood Writers is a branch of the California Writers Club.

September 11th Monthly Meeting



Hot Topic Roundtables



Join the fun! Four Redwood Writers experts will “speed date” with you for 18 minutes each on topics such as three types of editors, three indie publishers, three legal documents for authors, and three types of third person POV. Get ready for a whirlwind of information that will leave you begging for more or send you to resource books and the Internet for followup details. When the cowbell rings, your speed daters **Arlene Miller**, **Charles Markee**, **Helen Sedwick**, and **Marlene Cullen** will regrettably leave you for the next table. Take plenty of notes and hang onto the handouts each will give you.

Redwood Writers General Meeting

WHEN:

Sunday, September 11th

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Arrive 2:00 to register & network

WHERE:

Flamingo Hotel - Empire Room

2777 Fourth St.

Santa Rosa, 95405

(707) 523-4745

FEE:

\$5 / members

\$10 / nonmembers

This is asked to cover room rental and refreshments.

DETAILS:

www.redwoodwriters.org

CHAIR : Sandy Baker

Bios on reverse side



R.W. Experts and Topics:

POV

Marlene Cullen



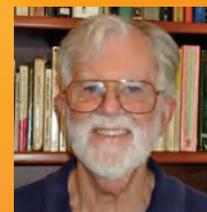
Editing & Proofreading

Arlene Miller



Indie-Publishing

Charles Markee



Business For Writers

Helen Sedwick



CHAIR : Sandy Baker



Sandy Baker is president of Redwood Writers and never tried out speed dating. She's written and published eight gardening books for children, a thriller, and a middle grade collection of short stories, none of which would she have done without the help and encouragement of Redwood Writers. For 16 years, she's been a Sonoma County Master Gardener, inspiration for her books and her own garden. www.sandybakerwriter.com

Marlene Cullen



Consider The Owl When Deciding Point Of View

Marlene Cullen is a writing workshop facilitator and founder of Writers Forum of Petaluma. She hosts The Write Spot Blog, a place for writers to share their writing, receive commentary and inspiration to keep writing. Her workshops and blog provide essential elements for successful writing. Fulfilling her passion for writing and sharing with others, she created Jumpstart, a writing environment where participants often experience transformational changes. www.TheWriteSpot.us

Charles Markee



The Inside Scoop on Indie Publishing

Writing has been in Charles' life since he wrote and published his first family newspaper at age 12. His parents bought him a Royal portable typewriter, a gift that helped him through high school and college. After graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, he enjoyed a career as a technical manager in Silicon Valley. He later spent eight years in writing classes, workshops and conferences. His poetry, flash fiction, film reviews and short stories evolved into his current project, writing and publishing pre-teen novels. Charles is an active member of Redwood Writers and is coordinator emeritus for the local North Bay Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. www.charlesmarkee.com

Arlene Miller



Editing and Proofreading

Arlene Miller, The Grammar Diva, is the bestselling Amazon author of six grammar books and a novel. She is also a copyeditor, speaker, blogger, and former English teacher. Arlene has been a featured speaker at the Sonoma County Book Festival, Bay Area Independent Publishers Association (BAIPA), Sonoma County Library, Romance Writers of America, College of Marin, Copperfield's bookstore, KGO radio, and many community groups. She holds degrees in Print Media, English, Humanities, and California teaching and school administration credentials. Find her at www.bigwords101.com.

Helen Sedwick



Business Set Up for Writers

Writer and lawyer Helen Sedwick uses 30 years of legal experience to show writers how to stay out of court and at their desks. Her historical novel, **Coyote Winds**, has earned five star reviews from ForeWord Reviews and Compulsion Reads. ForeWord Reviews gave her SelfPublisher's Legal Handbook Five Stars, calling it "one of the most valuable resources a selfpublisher can own...well-written and authoritative yet unhampered by legalese." Her blog coaches writers on everything from protecting copyrights to hiring freelancers to spotting scams. For more information about Helen and her work, check out her website at helensedwick.com

Redwood Writers Workshop

- * Sign up at redwoodwriters.org
- * Workshop limited to 30 attendees!



All Things



With David Kudler

The world's largest online retailer offers a plethora of opportunities for the author and indie publisher. Are you taking advantage of the ones that are right for you? From Kindle Direct Publishing to Amazon Advantage to Goodreads, we'll touch on a wide variety of the different programs you should be availing yourself of.

Sunday, September 18th

\$25 / members

Flamingo Hotel

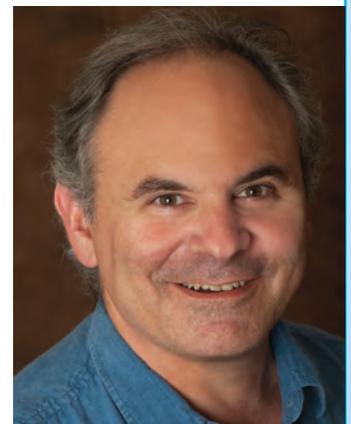
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

\$35 / non-members

Alexander Room

About David Kudler

David Kudler is an author, an expert provider of publishing services, and a consultant to independent and self-publishers. He serves as publisher for Stillpoint Digital Press. Since 1999, he has overseen the publications program of the Joseph Campbell Foundation, for which he has edited three posthumous volumes of Campbell's previously unpublished work (*Pathways to Bliss*, *Myths of Light*, and *Sake & Satori*) and managed the publication of over fifty print, ebook, print, audio, and video titles, including the third edition of the seminal *Hero with a Thousand Faces*. He is honored to serve as the vice-president for the Bay Area Independent Publisher's Association (BAIPA). He just released *Risuko*, a young-adult historical adventure novel set in sixteenth century Japan.



Redwood Writers Open Mic Readings

RedwoodWriters.org

Gaia's Garden

1899 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa
(near Santa Rosa Junior College)

Saturday

September 24

2-4 p.m.

Crissi Langwell



Crissi Langwell is the author of eight published books, including *Reclaim Your Creative Soul*, a non-fiction guide to making room for one's craft, and the recently published novel, *Loving the Wind*, a Peter Pan fan fiction. She is also the newsletter editor for Redwood Writers. Find her at crissilangwell.com.

MC: Abby Bogomolny

Join us for camaraderie and good literature.

Support Gaia's Garden with a purchase of healthy delicious food (\$5 per person minimum).

Open mic sign-up starts at 1:30. First come, first served. Open mic limited to five minutes per person.

Free parking in rear of venue.

Questions:

Robin Moore at rockridge6532@comcast.net

Meta Strauss

Meta Strauss, a native Texan, began writing after moving to Sonoma, California in 2005. Her piece, *A Cinderella Tale* was included in *Cry of the Nightbird*, an anthology published by the California YWCA in support of victims of domestic abuse. Strauss's writing is featured on the Sonoma Writer's Alliance web site and has appeared in the Sonoma Sun Newspaper.



Next Open Mic

October 22

with

Christina Molcillo

Patty Somlo

Anthology Garden Party!

Let's celebrate the Redwood Writers 11th Anthology!



Untold Stories: From the Deep Part of the Well

Congratulations to Editor, Roger Lubeck and all the authors!

Join fellow members for an afternoon of readings...



Harry and Linda Reid's lovely garden.

September 25, Sunday – 2:30 to 5:30 pm

Potluck....Bring your favorite dish to share.
Wine, beer and tea provided.

RSVP now....

LindaLReid100@gmail.com

This is a free event. Book will be available for \$12 donation.

Directions will be emailed upon your RSVP.



PROMPT CONTEST

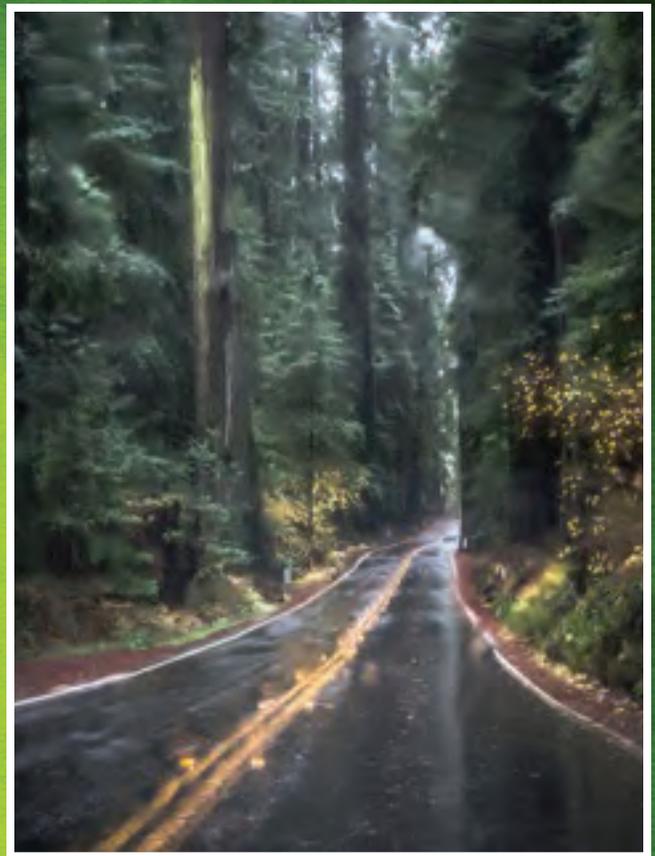
PHOTO: *HIGHWAY THROUGH THE REDWOODS*
by photographer Tim May

DIRECTIONS:



GENRE: FICTION

Write a brilliant fictional story that is inspired by this photo. The connection between the story and the photo must be apparent to the judges. The words “redwood” and “highway” must be somewhere in the story.



SUBMISSIONS:

- **DEADLINE:** Submissions due no later than **November 15th, 9PM**
- All submissions via website at www.redwoodwriters.org
- Contest is open to any Redwood Writer member, regardless of where they reside, and to non-member residents of Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, Marin, Lake, Humboldt and Solano counties.
- Font must be Times Roman, size 12, double spaced
- Word count must be 1,000 words or less
- Page numbers on the bottom right
- Put “Prompt Contest” in subject line, don’t put name on entry

FEES:

- \$8 for RWW members and \$12 for non-members
- Website will allow folks to pay by check or PayPal

AWARDS:

- 1st PLACE: \$100 and a certificate
Plus a signed photo by Tim May
- 2nd PLACE: \$50 and a certificate
- 3rd PLACE: \$25 and a certificate

CHAIRS

PROMPT CONTEST CHAIR:
Jeanne Jusaitis

GENERAL CONTEST CHAIR:
Natasha Yim

JUDGES

Marlene Cullen
Lakin Khan
Jo-Anne Rosen

BIOS ON BACK OF PAGE

PROMPT CONTEST CHAIR

Jeanne Jusaitis



Jeanne Jusaitis, MA, is the author of *Journey to Anderswelt*, and the award winning *Lilah Dill and the Magic Kit*. Jeanne draws from her memories of growing up in Northern California, and her many years of teaching and traveling. Her poems and short stories can be found in the Vintage Voice Anthologies. A memoir, *Liebstraum: a daughter's reflection*, is published in *Wisdom Has a Voice: Every Daughter's Memories of Mother*.

JUDGES

Marlene Cullen



Marlene Cullen is the founder of Writers Forum of Petaluma and the creator of Jumpstart Writing Workshops. She hosts The Write Spot Blog, a place for writers to share, and receive commentary and inspiration to keep writing. Both her workshops and blog provide essential elements for successful writing. Her short stories and essays have won numerous awards and have been published in literary journals, anthologies, and newspapers. www.TheWriteSpot.us

Lakin Khan



Lakin Khan is an English instructor at Napa Valley College and the Fiction Director for the Napa Valley Writers' Conference. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University Los Angeles and is currently completing a Master's in English at Sonoma State University. Her poems, stories and essays have been published in journals such as *zaum*, *The Dickens*, *Tiny Lights*, *Six Sentences*, *Significant Objects* and the anthology, *Zebulon Nights*.

Jo-Anne Rosen



Jo-Anne Rosen's fiction has appeared in *The Florida Review*, *Summerset Review* and several other journals. A book designer in Petaluma, she also publishes an online literary journal at echapbook.com and is co-editor of the Sonoma County Literary Update (socolitupdate.com). Her stories have been performed by the New Short Fiction Series in Hollywood, California, and Off the Page Readers Theater. *What They Don't Know* is her first fiction collection. See: www.joannerosen.us.



Redwood Writer Contests 2016-2017

Prompt Contest

- Launches Aug. 14, 2016
- Deadline to submit October 16, 2016
- Awards at Membership Meeting: December 11, 2016
- Chair: Jeanne Jusaitis



Fan Fiction Contest

- Launches Jan. 8, 2017
- Deadline to submit Feb. 22, 2017
- Awards at Membership Meeting April 9, 2017
- Chair: TBA

Screenwriting Contest

- Launches May 21, 2017
- Deadline to submit July 2, 2017
- Awards at Membership Meeting Aug. 13, 2017
- Chair: Teresa LeYung-Ryan

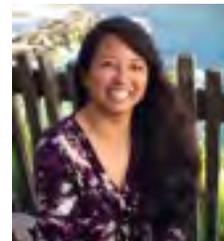


Historical Fiction Contest

- Launches Sept. 10, 2017
- Deadline to submit Nov. 1, 2017
- Awards at Membership Meeting Dec. 10, 2017
- Chair: Dmitri Morningstar



Go to website for details and dates: www.redwoodwriters.org
Contests Coordinator – Natasha Yim



The House That Jack Built

A World Premiere

By Cecelia Tichi - The Jack London Festival

September 9-25, Studio Theatre at 6th Street Playhouse

Special reduced price for Redwood Writer members!

\$20 per ticket

For productions on Sept. 16 and 17 at 8 pm and
Sept 18 at 2 pm

To get this reduced ticket price, call the 6th Street
Playhouse box office at (707) 523-4185 ext 1 and
say "WOLF"



Tickets: www.6thstreetplayhouse.com or
call the box office at (707) 523-4185 ext 1

About the play:

Nearing his fortieth birthday, Jack London, the handsome author of *The Call of the Wild* vows to be "a spark...in a brilliant blaze," fighting to win public opinion for the progressive new reforms of the 20th century. This World Premier play charts a course through London's baggage of grudges, expenses that vastly outrun his income, and his once-robust body fatally weakened by injury and the thirst for John Barleycorn. The play climaxes with the fire that destroyed Wolf House and with London's recognition that the house he's built is not of rock and wood but an enduring legacy in support of social justice for the far future.



About the playwright:

Cecelia Tichi is the William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English and Professor of American studies at Vanderbilt University. Tichi is the author of seven scholarly books, and her articles on a variety of topics and authors have appeared in journals such as *American Literature*, *American Literary History*, and *The Boston Review*. She is also the author of various novels: *Jealous Heart* (1997), *Cryin' Time* (1998), *Fall to Pieces* (2000), *Now You See Her* (2005), *All in One Piece* (2006), as well as, most recently, *Jack London: A Writer's Fight for a Better America* (2015).

Cecelia Tichi

(Photo by Daniel Dubois/Vanderbilt)

REDWOOD WRITERS

NEW MEMBER MEETINGS



Shy? Confused? Intimidated?

Curious?

This meeting is to orient new members. BUT, any member who might have questions about how to best use the many services that Redwood Writers offers is welcome.

Our agenda will be to have fun, enjoy wine and food while we discuss how to submit to the Redwood Anthologies and Contests, how to participate in the Open Mic events and Salon, and how to manage communication with other members on Yahoo listserv email system.

The New Member meetings will be held 5pm to 7pm in a private home on the Wednesdays listed below:

January 18, 2017

March 15, 2017

May 24, 2017

August 16, 2017

November 15, 2017

How to sign up?

A month before the date an email invitation will be sent to remind you of the date. At that time, please RSVP by replying to the email, and you are on the list. The host's address will be emailed to you when you reply.

Hope to see you there!

Linda L Reid

Sandy Baker

Carmen Appell membership@redwoodwriters.org

Password Retrieval and Security Question Abstract

There has been a large increase in member usage of MRMS. With the possible adoption of enhancements such as Document Vault, E-Check Request, and E-Ballot, we expect this trend to continue and even escalate.

Distributing forgotten passwords to members, could become a large chore for local system Administrators. To ameliorate this situation, we have added a Forgotten Password retrieval feature to MRMS.

It is up to the Member to activate this.

Activation: Security Question and Answer

There are two new fields in the Member's record: *Security Question* and *Answer*.

The Member chooses a question from the drop-down list, and supplies the answer. He then 'Saves' his record.

This will activate the Password Retrieval feature.



NOTE: These two fields are only visible to the individual Member and the branch System Administrator.

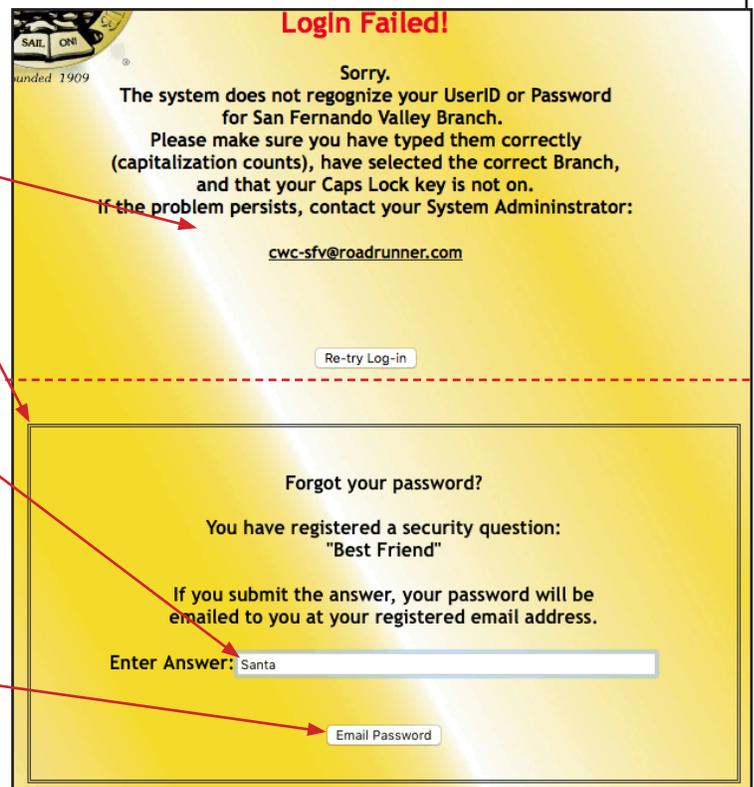
Retrieving Your Password

Here is a screen shot of the 'Login Failed' page. The portion above the red dotted line is what the Member currently sees.

Once the Member has entered his Security Question, the page will also contain the box below the red dotted line.

Here, the Member has entered the answer ('Santa').

He now clicks on the 'Email Password' Button.



If the answer is incorrect, the Member is notified, and may try again.

A yellow rectangular box with a thin black border. At the top, it says "Sorry. Answers do not match!!" in red. Below that, "Forgot your password?" in black. Then "You have registered a security question: 'Best Friend'" in black. Next, "If you submit the answer, your password will be emailed to you at your registered email address." in black. Below that is a text input field with "Enter Answer:" to its left. At the bottom center is a button labeled "Email Password".

If the answer is correct, the Member is notified, and an email is sent to him containing his UserID and Password.

A yellow rectangular box with a thin black border. It contains green text: "Your password has been sent to you at: rmalus@roadrunner.com from Hypermart Form Processor. It may take several minutes to arrive. Please watch for it. If you don't find it, please check your 'Spam' or 'Junk' mailbox."

Here is a sample email, which has been sent. (*Values have been 'ex'ed out for this document.*)

Here are the results of your form
Submitted on Sun Jul 31 19:23:41 2016 (GMT).

1. Message = As you requested, here are your current UserID and Password. Please store these in a safe place.

When you log on, please take the time to verify the accuracy of your member information. (Click on "Edit My Record.")
Here is your current information:

2. Website URL = http://MRMSys.org
3. User ID = xxxxxxxx
4. Password = xxxxxxxx

Settings:

5. my_email = rmalus@roadrunner.com
6. order = Message, Website URL, User ID, Password
7. subject = Your Password from MRMS