

Vol 2 Issue 08

Aug. 1, 2022

Inside This Issue

Bulletin Board

Poetry Corner

Coming Events

Five Star review

President's Column

Writer's Corner

From the Bookshelf

Learning Opportunities

Backpage

Something New

And More



Elk Grove Writers Guild

Writers Helping Writers

Welcome!



The Elk Grove Writers Guild's main goal is to help writers be the best they can be.

To expand our efforts in reaching that goal, we created this once monthly newsletter. In it we pass on information of coming events, classes, and guild news. We offer little bits of writing wisdom, poetry, memories, writing tips, and whatever other writing news that comes our way.

We offer you, our readers, a chance to see your work in print. Past issues of the newsletter are also available on our website.

I encourage you to contribute short articles and poems, event announcements, writing tips, and recent successes or publication events. Events from other writing groups or any interesting writing things you learn.

Come. Be a part of our adventure.

Contact Information

Company Name

Elk Grove Writers Guild, Inc

Street Address

7413 Netherbury Ct.

City, ST, Zip Code

Elk Grove, CA 95757

Phone

916-747-6898

Email

egwg2020@egweg.org

Website

www.egweg.org

Newsletter & Submissions

Penny Clark - Editor

turlockpenny@yahoo.com

What's Happening?

The Guild's Summer Academy will finish with the August 27th class featuring Terry Wells-Brown will base a class on *'Book Release Strategies and Facebook Ads.'* See the President's column for information on how to join Terry's class.

“When you make music or write or create, it's really your job to have mind-blowing, irresponsible, condomless sex with whatever idea it is you're writing about at the time.”

Lady Gaga

The Guild meets on the first Friday of each month. We will continue to meet via Zoom due to Covid and it's variants.

We gather as a Writer's Circle to talk in the language of writers, sharing what and how we're doing. Topics vary as we ask questions about problems we might have with our works in progress or discuss the latest information in the writing and publishing world.

Guild members can post their WIP on Google Docs and share it with other members for critiques. The posted work *will* get a response. It's a wonderful way to receive input from other writer's valuable insight on the work presented.

If you're interested in joining the guild, go to the **Join** page on the website www.egweg.org Fill out the membership application and send in your dues.

If you'd prefer to see what we're about first, and want to join our next meeting, contact Loy at loyholder77@gmail.com and you'll receive the link.


The next meetings are Aug. 5, 2022, and Sept. 2, 2022. Meetings begin at 12:30 and last approximately one and a half hours.

WRITING EVENTS

CWC

First Friday meeting, begin at 10 a.m. The meeting via zoom is open for chat at 9:30., begins at 10:00-11:00am.

For a link to the meetings, go to the website <https://www.cwcsacramentowriters.org/2022/writers-network-march-4-writing-for-the-environment/>



NCPA

Their monthly meetings are on the second Sunday of the month from 1:00-3:00pm. The venue has changed. Check below for location.

The meetings usually feature a speaker on various writing subjects.

Check with them below for current information on in person or Zoom meetings.

<https://www.norcalpa.org>



California Writers Club (CWC) (San Joaquin Valley Writers Branch)

Free Monthly Speaker Meetings, 2nd Saturday of each month ~ 12 noon – 2:30 pm
Zoom meetings until return to in-person meetings at UOP in Stockton.

<https://www.sjvalleywriters.org>

Open to all genres and levels ~ get published in Great Valley Stories Anthology, Vol. 1.

Subscribe for zoom links & newsletter:
<https://sjvalleywriters.us10.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=899132e01f7a84cc55e31563e&id=7acdb2b23f>

Summer Classes

June Gillam, PhD, is offering Great Valley Writing Workshops this summer for writers preparing short pieces to submit to anthologies and magazines.

Days and Times: Tuesdays, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. PST, over Zoom.

“It’s none of their business that you have to learn to write. Let them think you were born that way.” —Hemingway

For details, see <https://www.junegillam.com/writing-workshops>



Stories on Stage

Electrifying prose and crackling theater, the best work of today’s best authors performed with theatrical flair each month.

At the auditorium at CLARA

1425 24th Street, Sacramento

Opens at 6:30, performance begins at 7:00

Contribute \$10.00 at the door

For 2022 Monthly Schedule

Stories on Stage Sacramento

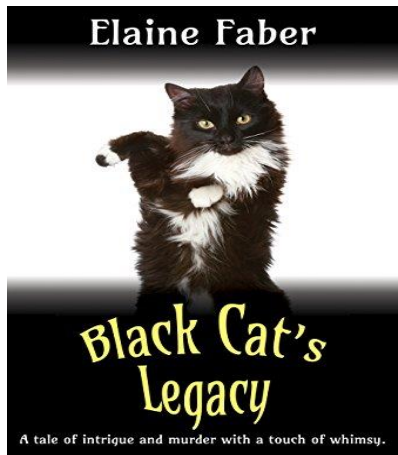


“Remember, almost no writers had it easy when starting out. If they did, everyone would be best-selling authors. The ones who make it are the stubborn, persistent people who develop a thick skin, defy the rejection, and keep the material out there, trolling.”

Barnaby Conrad

Editors Note: I promised an item on characters lying. I’m in the revision and self-edit stage of my latest novel, and time got away from me. Maybe later.

***** 5 Star Review *****



[Black Cat's Legacy \(Black Cat Mysteries Book 1\) - Kindle edition by Faber, Elaine. Religion & Spirituality Kindle eBooks @ Amazon.com.](#)

By Elaine Farber

Thumper, the resident Fern Lake black cat, knows where the bodies are buried and it's up to Kimberlee

To decode the clues and solve her father's cold case murder.

As the investigation ensues, Kimberlee learns more than she wants to know about her father. The murder suspects multiply, some dead and some still very much alive, but someone at the lodge will stop at nothing to hide the Fern Lake mysteries.

The Five Star Review * * * * *

Black Cat's Legacy is well written, easy to read and paints a picture of the story. I felt like I was a silent character in the background.

From the time Kimberlee and Amanda set foot beside Fern Lake, the strangeness happened. The Black Cat in this series of mysteries is named Thumper. Thumper is very clever and aids Kimberlee and Amanda whenever possible. Thumper has the memories and recollections of his ancestors that frolicked around the lake many years before him. He uses these memories to help tell the story

If, you want to sit down, relax, and have a good chuckle and yet be terrified for the characters, you must read Black Cat's Legacy.

The July EGWG Meeting

I was on a roll writing my current WIP and lost track of time. Missed the meeting. The meeting was on Zoom not face-to-face.

The following links were provided by Karen. Check them out.

Links to videos regarding Kathy Marshall's presence at the Beverly Heritage Center's grand opening of their African Americans in Randolph County, WV" exhibit. TV interview with

Kathy: <https://www.wboy.com/news/randolph/african-american-history-exhibit-opens->, Kathy's 12-minute recap video: <https://youtu.be/5JwTaDpcS8M>

Helpful Facebook Groups:

Cops and Writers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2400434990179439>

Trauma Fiction (medical questions)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/272486096283310>

Legal Fiction

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LegalFiction>



The EGWG Bulletin Board

ARE YOU A SPEAKER OR A TEACHER?

The Guild is planning now for events in 2023, and for the **2023 Conference**. We're searching for speakers and teachers on all areas of writing.

If you are interested in joining the guild's speaker roster, contact Loy Holder at loyholder77@gmail.com

WANTED!!

Desperate for volunteers to help with event programming, graphics, promotion, and email communication.

Contact Loy Holder at

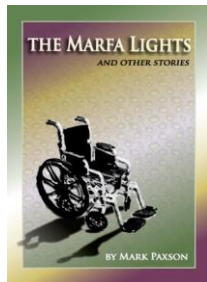
loyholder77@gmail.com

Something Good

This column is about supporting other writers. We'll be sharing the books of our authors here. If you have a book you want to showcase, send me the info.

turlockpenny@yahoo.com

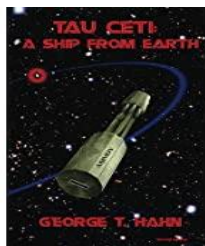
The selections this month are:



[The Marfa Lights and Other Stories - Kindle edition by Paxson, Mark. Literature & Fiction Kindle eBooks @ Amazon.com.](#) Sixteen short stories by Mark Paxson Available on Amazon



[Amazon.com: The Ancestors Are Smiling! eBook : Marshall, Kathy Lynne: Books](#) The first in an amazing journey into the past. By Kathy Lynn Marshall. Get this on Amazon



[Amazon.com: Tau Ceti: A Ship From Earth \(Library Ship Saga\) eBook : Hahn, George T.: Kindle Store](#) The beginning of the Tau Ceti saga. By George T. Hahn, available on Amazon

T-Shirt Truths.

1. I'm a writer, therefore I am not sane.
2. It's a good day to write.
3. To write is to love.
4. It's a writer thing.
5. Some of my favorite people are fictitious.
6. I might look like I'm listening to you, but in my head, I'm writing my best seller.

“Poetry Corner

FUZZY BRAIN

It's a fuzzy brain muddled day
My mind is made of goo.
The cobwebs they won't sweep away
They stick to me like glue.

My arms and legs feel alien.
They move reluctantly.
As if they travel once again
Separately from me.

The day is neither grey nor blue
It's just a sort of blah.
A time when nothing's ever new
No feeling of hurrah.

Although I've got a lot to do
It's gonna have to wait
Until the cobwebs say adieu
And I again think straight.

But it's a tempest in a cup.
Those webs will be undone
And when I really do wake up
I'll be a lot of fun.

Barbara Barrett

“Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing.”

Benjamin Franklin



Elk Grove Writers Guild
Writers Helping Writers

EGWG President's Column

Summer Academy

SIGN UP NOW!

Third Summer Academy - August 27th

Terry Wells-Brown will knock your socks off with her presentation on *'Book Release Strategies and Facebook Ads.'*

The session will run from 1:30 to 3:30pm.

Go to <https://egweg.org/Terry/> to register.

Register for \$20.00 and get ready to join us for a great time.

The Holiday Seminar

Coming on November 5, 2022

Time: 12:00 to 4:15pm.

Place: 8320 Civic Center – Suite 140, Elk Grove
Presenters: Elaine Farber, Judith Starkson, and Gini Grossenbacher

Get three great classes for \$45.00

Register Now at egweg.org/holiday/

Register early as space will be limited due to room size. **Questions?** EGWG2020@egweg.org



Why volunteer with the Elk Grove Writers Guild?

Keep your bookkeeping, project management, or web design skills sharp.

Shine with your fundraising skills. Or learn new skills.

Enjoy our spirit of teamwork in helping Writers Be the Best they can be. If you're interested, go

to egweg.org/volunteer

Can't wait to hear from you



From the Book Shelf

Flash – Boom – Bang!

By Penny Clark

Mark Twain once said, “Thunder is good, thunder is impressive, but it is lightning that does the work.”

To me, as a little kid, the bright flash of light is nowhere near as troubling as the deep rumble of thunder traveling across the sky.

I'm sure I heard thunder before I was five years old, but I don't remember asking anyone about it. That's not surprising because from eighteen months to seven years of age I lived with many different people in many houses in several towns.

When I was five, I was staying with Aunt Lucille and Uncle Baggy Rand. Their house was on a hillside overlooking Lake Washington in Seattle. The windows were large enough to easily watch storms move across the lake.

One day, the sky exploded with a blinding light so white it seemed pink. Thunder crashed right above the house. It wasn't a rumble but a burst of fury and sound that shook the very foundations. My ears popped, and I closed my eyes, grabbed my head, and dropped to the floor in a heap.

My two cousins ran into the living room shouting for their mom. My Uncle Baggy came for me. He picked me up and sat in his favorite rocker holding me in his lap.

That was the first time I asked anyone what thunder and lightning was.

He told me that lightning was God's flashlight, and meant He was looking for something. "You must stay out of the way though. That light is so bright it can hurt you."

"And thunder?" I asked.

"Oh, well, you see there are giants in heaven that take care of the gardens. Thunder is when those giants are rolling their wheelbarrows from one garden to the other."

Did I believe him? Of course, I did. He was my uncle, my current, at that time, father figure.

I never thought about the whys of it again, but when a storm came, I'd smile and think about those giants and their wheelbarrows.

Years later, in middle school, maybe, I learned about clouds banging together and creating electricity and all the other *facts*.

I know better, but when thunder rolls across the sky, I still smile and think of giants.

I don't believe that will ever change. After all, my uncle Baggy said it was giants, and he'd never lie.

Penny Clark

ATTENTION

The annual **Zoetrope: All-Story Short Fiction Competition** and **American Zoetrope Screenplay Competition** is open for entries!

The [Short Fiction Competition](#) will be judged by the brilliant [Ling Ma](#), finalist for the 2019PE N/Hemingway Award for the novel

[Severance](#) and an All-Story contributor. All prizewinners, along with seven honorable mentions, will be considered for representation by leading literary agencies: and the winning story will be published as a special supplement to the Spring 2023 edition of Zoetrope: All-Story.

[Enter now!](#)

Francis Ford Coppola will judge the [Screenplay Competition](#), with a cash prize to the winner and the top ten scripts receiving consideration for representation and development by the best talent agencies and production studios. Original television pilots are also eligible.

[So ready that long simmering idea and submit!](#)

For more info and rules go to contests@all-story.com

CONGRATULATIONS

From Jim Guigli,
I'm pleased to announce my Flash Fiction Story, *Listen to the Gunsmith*, was published July 18 on Guilty Crime Magazine Flash Fiction. You may read the story and comment here:

<https://www.guiltycrimemag.com/flash/listen-to-the-gunsmith-by-jim-guigli>

Editor's Note: I read this and recommend it to all of you. It's a good short story that leaves you with a chuckle.

"Words do not express thoughts very well. They always become a little different immediately after they are expressed, distorted, and a little foolish." Herman Hesse

Something to consider

“How vain is it to sit down to write when you have not stood up to live. “

Henry David Thoreau



California is drying out – be careful with fire.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

I'm looking for **poetry**, **special memories**, **favorite author's quotes**, **flash fiction**, a **response to a writing prompt**, or a **book or story coming out in 2022?** Send it to me.

When chosen, I will print it in one of the next issues and it will be available on the EGWG website's Newsletter's page.

Do you or your group have an event coming up? Send me info, by the 20th of the month for the next issue.

Take advantage of the free advertising!

When **submitting** use: turlockpenny@yahoo.com

Please, use **Garamond – 12** for submissions. Send in word doc **not** PDF. Thanks.

Do you know anyone who would enjoy this newsletter? Send their email address to, loyholder77@gmail.com

August 2022

- August 7-Purple Heart Day
- August 9-Book Lovers Day
- August 10-National Lazy Day
- August 26-Women's Equality Day
- August 24-National Waffle Day

A Few More Writing Prompts

- a. He hadn't seen her since the day they left High School.
- b. Stars blazed in the sky – at noon.
- c. What is something you do well?
- d. What is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for you?
- e. What do you think is the nicest thing you've ever done for someone else?



Summer is here—Stay Cool!



See ya next month!