

Vol 2 Issue 09

Sept. 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.

You're encouraged 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. See back page for submission info.

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](mailto:egwg2020@egweg.org)

Website

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

Newsletter & Submissions

Penny Clark - Editor

[turlockpenny@yahoo.com](mailto:turlockpenny@yahoo.com)

## What's Happening?

The Guild is gearing up for the last event of 2022. In November, the Guild is presenting a half-day seminar with three speakers. It looks to be an exciting day. More information on that event is in the President's Corner.

---

**“I went for years not finishing anything. Because, of course, when you finish something, you can be judged.”**

**Erica Jong**

---

The Guild meets on the first Friday of each month. We will continue to meet via Zoom due to Covid and its 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 and 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](http://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](mailto:loyholder77@gmail.com) and you'll receive the link.

The next meetings are Sept. 2, 2022, and Oct. 7, 2022. Meetings begin at 12:30 and last approximately one and a half hours.

---

## WRITING EVENTS

### **CWC**

First Friday meetings, begin at 10 and goes until 11:00 a.m.

For a link to the meetings, go to the website

**Monthly Meeting Sept. 17 - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Arden-Dimick Library  
891 Watt Avenue  
Sacramento, CA

Featuring: Jacquelyn Smithson Howard, a freelance writer and poet.

To register for Zoom, use the link below,

[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



### **NCPA**

Their monthly meetings are the second Sunday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The venue has changed.

The meetings usually feature a speaker on various writing subjects.

Check the link for current information on the venue. <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 p.m.

Check the link below for venue information.

<https://www.sjvalleywriters.org>

### **And More CWC**

Open Readings with CWC's Sacramento Branch, from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. For information or to Sign up go to, [2johnpatterson@gmail.com](mailto:2johnpatterson@gmail.com)

Readings will be 6-8 minutes long and they have room for 5-7 readers, so hurry



### **Stories on Stage**

At the auditorium at CLARA  
1425 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento

Opens at 6:30 p.m. The performance begins at 7:00

Contribute \$10.00 at the door

### **For 2022 Monthly Schedule**

### **Stories on Stage Sacramento**



**Enroll Now!**

### **EGWA Fall Writing Course**

**Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m., on Zoom**

**Pay as you go, \$25.00 per week**

Join Gini Grossenbacher M.Ed. to study and apply current brain-based techniques to harness your stories power.

For more information contact Gini at,

[ginis.writers1@gmail.com](mailto:ginis.writers1@gmail.com)



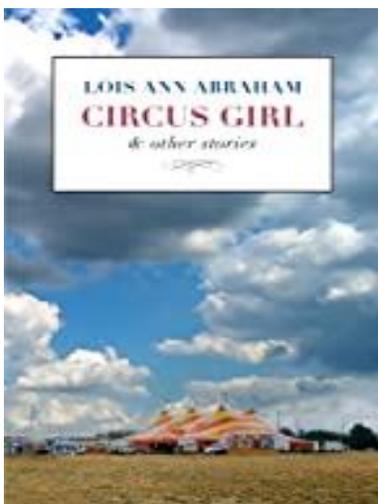
### **The Gold Rush Writers Conference**

Their 16<sup>th</sup> year of the event will be held on October 7, 8, and 9, 2022 at Hotel Leger on Main Street in Mokelumne Hill, CA.

For schedule and more information on this giant event use the link,

<https://manzapress.com>

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



[Amazon.com : Lois Ann Abraham](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000APR004)

A little girl discovers the power of the creative impulse. A woman remembers her first confusing sexual encounter. An aging flower child travels to Mexico to save her daughter. A baby is born with blue feet. A man ponders his ex-wife's last word. Those who live in the pages of *Circus Girl & Other Stories* are seeking—wisely or foolishly, successfully or vainly—to make sense of their lives and to become more completely themselves. For some, the self-examined life leads deeper into darkness; others find the crack in their universe that lets the light in.

\*\*\*\*\* THE REVIEW \*\*\*\*\*

Wonderful stories, each with a clear and distinct narrative voice. There is a great depth of humanity in the characters, in part because Abraham does a good job of writing against type, but what I love most in these stories is the humor. Abraham, like all the best writers, reminds us that the great tragedies and profundities of the human condition are often wed to absurdities of our situation and our own ridiculous and feckless behaviors. There is genuine heartache here, and I was laughing aloud through most of it. Definitely add this collection to your list.

## The August EGWG Meeting

The meeting began with a discussion about setting up a writing program for High School or College writers.

Loy introduced the schedule for the half day November 5<sup>th</sup> Holiday Seminar. The lineup is sure to interest everyone. *Do's and Don'ts of Writing for Beginning Writers – Writing Better Dialogue – Descriptive, Dynamic Settings.*

A coming event: The Gold Rush Writers Conference is presenting its 16<sup>th</sup> three-day conference October 7, 8, and 9 in Mokelumne Hill. Find more information at, <https://manzapress.com>

Time was spent talking about putting WIP on Google Docs for critiques and who to share with.

The meeting went into overtime, which means it was a fun time.



## 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](mailto:loyholder77@gmail.com)

### **WANTED!!**

**Still desperate for volunteers to help with event programming, graphics, promotion, and email communication.**

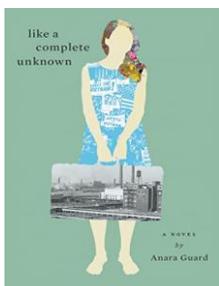
**Contact Loy Holder at**  
[loyholder77@gmail.com](mailto:loyholder77@gmail.com)

## 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 display, send me the info.

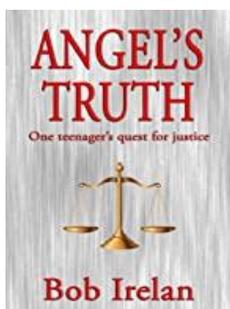
[turlockpenny@yahoo.com](mailto:turlockpenny@yahoo.com)

The selections this month are:

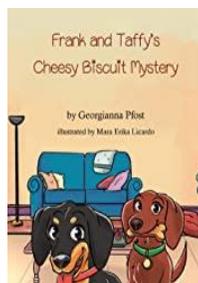


[Like a Complete Unknown: A novel - Kindle edition by Guard, Anara. Literature & Fiction Kindle eBooks @ Amazon.com.](#)

A coming-of-age story set in 1970 Chicago by Anara Guard, Available on Amazon



[Amazon.com: Angel's Truth: One teenager's quest for justice eBook : Irelan, Bob: Books](#) One teenager's quest for justice. By Robert Irelan. Get this from Amazon.



[Frank and Taffy's Cheesy Biscuit Mystery: Pfost, Georgianna: 9781737440680: Amazon.com: Books](#) No dog likes to lose a good treat. Taffy and Frank are on the hunt. By Georgianna Pfost, find it on Amazon.

## T-Shirt Truths.

1. I'm a writer, I dream while awake.
2. I'd rather be writing.
3. You know you're a writer when you have the best ideas.
4. My mood swings depend on what I'm writing.
5. I'm a writer, I have perfected the art of procrastination.



## “Poetry Corner

### **DANCING REDWOODS**

The tree boughs dance in the wind.

The straight trunks in the redwood grove resist the force.

The branches dip and vibrate in undulating long wave lengths like sound traveling through air.

A branch is violently torn away, first from one tree and then another.

They crack, snap, and skitter through other boughs, landing softly on the thick bed of nettles on the forest floor.

Laying down to rest among other amputated limbs.

Despite the loss of an appendage, the trees stand tall, proud, resistant.

Rebellion in the face of fierce nature attacking its own.

Today the wind will die, give way.

The trees will stand undaunted, soldiers to fight another day.

Some day the wind will lay them down in death one by one, as all those living will succumb.

Thomas N. Atkins



Elk Grove Writers Guild  
Writers Helping Writers

## EGWG President’s Column

### Summer Academy

#### **SIGN UP NOW!**

#### The Holiday Seminar

Coming on November 5, 2022

Time: 12:00 to 4:15 p.m.

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/](http://egweg.org/holiday/)

Register early as space will be limited due to room size. **Questions?** [EGWG2020@egweg.org](mailto: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](http://egweg.org/volunteer)

Can't wait to hear from you

Loy Holder, President

.....  
The October Newsletter will publish the Board Member election results. The major change will be a new treasurer and installing several new board members.

There are many plans being made behind the scenes, so stay tuned for more changes.

Penny Clark, Editor of EGWG Newsletter



## From the Book Shelf

### **Trip To Berastagi, Sumatra, Indonesia Circa 1978**

By Penny Clark

When my husband, Bob came home from the field, at the end of his work period, the first thing he did, besides kissing me hello, was take a shower. He was eager to wash off the sweat and heat of the Banda Aceh jungle where he worked for Mobil Oil. He had nine days at home in Medan.

Our favorite restaurant was a Chinese place that had the absolute best sweet-and-sour ribs. Later, a co-worker with Bob told us the ribs were from dogs. We didn’t believe him—at first.

On one break field we and another couple, Carol and Mike, went to Berastagi in the Karo Highlands, north of Medan. Our destination was a rest house that was once the summer home of a Dutch official when Sumatra was a colony. Mobil used it as a vacation rental, but employees were welcome to visit the grounds.

On the way there, we passed through Berastagi, which means Rice House. We climbed higher after going through the small city and I was gifted with the sight of seven or eight volcanic cones that dotted the huge plain below. I wanted to stop and stare, but no one else was interested.

The house was set in the foothills of Sinabung, an active volcano. The volcano was issuing white steam from the long crack in the side of the mountain that day. Watching the steam from a live volcano was better than staring at dead cones.

The Highlands were not as hot and humid as Medan. We'd brought a picnic and spent the afternoon in lawn chairs, enjoying the drier and cooler weather.

When we drove back through Berastagi, our driver mentioned—oh so casually—that Berastagi was where the dog markets were.

“Oh,” Carol said. “You mean a pet market? We could stop and buy a puppy?”

“You could,” he said. “But no, these older dogs, they for food.”

Carol made a disgusted sound, and Bob and I grinned at each other. We were thinking of our favorite Chinese restaurant and the delicious ribs.

So, did we stop going to the restaurant? No. Our friends stopped eating the ribs, but Bob and I still ordered them. They may have been, and probably were dog, but they were too delicious to give up.

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 **Ling Ma**, finalist for the 2019 PEN/Hemingway Award for the novel **Severance**. All prizewinners, and 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](mailto:contests@all-story.com)**

## **CONGRATULATIONS!!**

### **Congrats to Kathy Lynne Marshall**

Her books have been named WINNERS in the 2022 International AAHGS Book Awards® (IABA) Program.

All of the International AAHGS Book Awards® Team are excited for her to be recognized at their virtual awards ceremony on the evening of Thursday, October 13th!

Non-Fiction: Genealogy

*The Marshall Legacy*

*In Black and White*

And

Non-Fiction: Reference

*Finding Marshalls*

*A Genealogy Trip with a Black and White Twist*

Both by author, Kathy Lynne Marshall

Both published by Kanika Art and Book Publishing



“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



“Beginning a novel is always hard. It feels like going nowhere. I always have to write at least a hundred pages that go in the trashcan before it finally begins to work. It's discouraging, but necessary to write those pages. I try to consider them pages – 100 to zero of the novel.”

Barbara Kingsolver

## Something to consider

“The best time to plan a book is when you’re doing the dishes.”

Agatha Christie



**Autumn leaves will be coming soon.**

### SUBMISSIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

I’m looking for **poetry**, **special memories**, **favorite author’s quotes**, **flash fiction**, **a response to a writing prompt**, **a book or story coming out?** Send them to me. Please!

When chosen, it will be in one of the next issues and 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 **20<sup>th</sup> of the month** for the next issue.

**Take advantage of the free advertising!**

When **submitting** use:

[turlockpenny@yahoo.com](mailto:turlockpenny@yahoo.com)

That will assure I get the information in time.

Please, use **Garamond – 12** for submissions.

Send in **word doc** **not** PDF. Thanks.

## September 2022

- Sept. 5- Labor Day
- Sept. 6- Fight Procrastination Day
- Sept. 7- Buy a book day
- Sept. 20- Voter Registration Day
- Sept. 22- Fall Equinox
- Sept. 25- Rosh Hashanah begins

### A Few More Writing Prompts

- a. Write about nature using the words: Hard drive, phone, car, and billboard.
- b. What is the most exciting thing that happened to you in 2022?
- c. He/she woke to birdsong.
- d. Describe the feeling of silk against your skin.
- e. “Darn, now I’ll have to hitch a ride home.

Hint: You can use a writing prompt to fight writer’s block.



The Fall Equinox means summer is finished—Halloween is coming!



**See ya next month!**