

Vol 3 Issue 04

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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

Flyer page

And More



Elk Grove Writers Guild

Writers Helping Writers

Welcome!



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

We created this monthly newsletter to expand the Guild's efforts to reach that goal. The newsletter includes information on coming events, classes, and Guild news. We offer bits of writing wisdom, poetry, memories, writing tips, and whatever news in the writing world that comes our way.

In each issue you, our readers, have 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, recent successes or publications, and events from other writing groups.

See back page for submission info.

Come along and be a part of our adventure.

Contact Information

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Newsletter & Submissions

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What's Happening?

The Elk Grove Writers Guild's 2023 Writers Conference will be September 23. The topics and speakers have been selected and the excitement is growing. Plans for other events during the year are in the works, as well. Track the Guild's plans for the future by checking the President's Column each month. See the schedule of the conference on the Flyer Page.

“Losers live in the past. Winners learn from the past and enjoy working in the present toward the future.”

Denis Waitley

Guild meetings are on the first Friday of each month. We gather as a Writer's Circle to talk in the language of writers, sharing what and how we're doing. Topics vary as questions and problems are discussed or the latest information in the writing and publishing world is brought up.

Guild members can post their WIP on Google Docs and share it with other members for critiques. 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 Fill out the membership application and send in your dues.

If you'd prefer to visit first, and want to come to the next meeting it's at Round Table Pizza 10054 Bruceville Rd. **Contact** loyholder77@gmail.com with any questions.

The next meetings are Mar 3, 2023, and Apr. 7, 2023. Meetings begin at 12:30 and last approximately one and a half to two hours.

GROUPS & EVENTS

CWC Regular monthly meeting is the first Friday of the month. A speaker meeting is later in the month. For information on current meetings go to, [california writers club sacramento branch](http://california-writers-club-sacramento-branch.org)



NCPA monthly meetings are on the second Sunday from 1 to 3pm. 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)

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>



Capitol Crimes

Meet on the second Tuesday of the month from 7 – 8:30pm.

<https://capitolcrimes.org/events>

The Gold Country Writers

GCW has an active calendar. For information about their Writers events or directions contact Margie Yee Webb at mywebb@sbcglobal.net or <https://goldcounyrtwriters.com>



The EGWG Bulletin Board

SPEAKERS and TEACHERS

The Guild is planning events for 2023, and beyond. We're searching for fresh content from speakers and instructors in all areas of writing.

If you are interested in being featured in a Guild event, contact Loy @ loyholder77@gmail.com



Black Women Write

Black Women Write meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10 until noon. For information contact. BlackWomenWrite2020@gmail.com



The 2nd annual Festival of the arts 2023 is scheduled for April 29, 10 to 5pm.

To apply for a space, go to <http://elkgrovesfineartscenter.org/festival/>

The Mar. EGWG Meeting

Mark P. began the meeting with a question about how to make time to write and be productive...And the discussion began. Some wrote when their muse was active, some were more regimented, some said everyday...The results were as varied as there were people at the meeting. This type of discussion is a great example of the Guild meetings in action.

The new meeting place was brought up again and it is still on hold until a conference room at one of the area's libraries becomes available for our time and dates. The pizza place isn't the best, but that's where we'll meet for now.

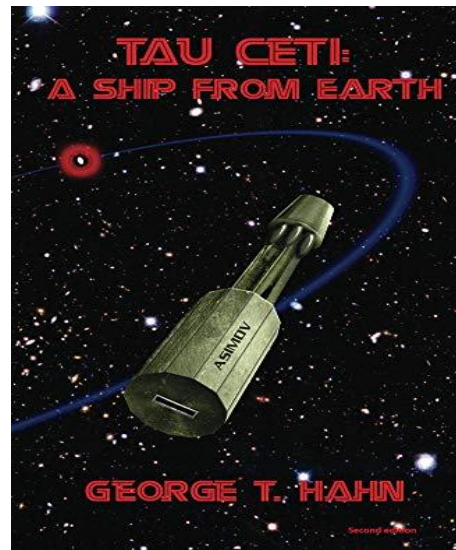
If anyone knows a good place that's quiet, let Loy know.

The Guild's authors who have books in the works are progressing toward, or in the process of being published.

The Arts Festival was brought up. Loy made an offer of free space. The information has gone out and was quickly filled.

It's always a pleasure to gather with other writers. We talk the same language and have the same problems in writing. I want to remind all Guild members that we have writing classes on the Guild's website, featuring information on all aspects of writing. Check it out.

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



[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

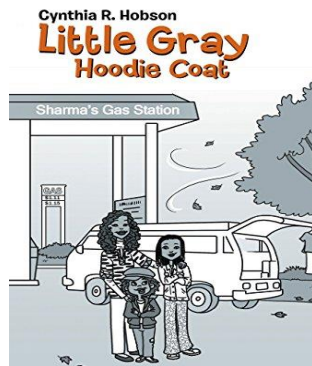
The first of the Tau Ceti Science Fiction series by George T. Hahn

*****The Review*****

Tau Ceti: A Ship from Earth tells the story of the Terran colony Pitcairn in the Tau Ceti star system. The plot is essentially a tale of people struggling to make a home in a new world. Pitcairn has no faster-than-light travel, and sending and receiving messages and goods takes almost twenty-five years. Then Earth sends robots to help with their daily activities. The robots have instructions from Earth to build a new communication device that would allow for faster transmission of information between the two planets. This event sparks suspicion among the colonists. It was an enjoyable read as it had a unique style of writing. The book explores the complexities of human nature, the importance of communication, and the impact of isolation on the psyche. The book captivates the reader with its words and characters.

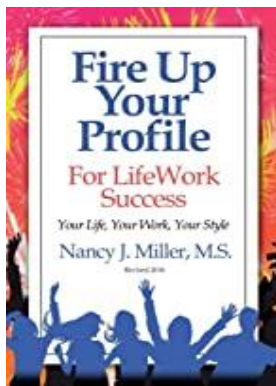
Something Good

This column shares the books of our authors. If you have a book you want to share, send info to turlockpenny@yahoo.com



[Amazon.com: Little Gray Hoodie Coat eBook](#)
: [Hobson, Cynthia R.: Books](#)

Through the eyes of children, the reader learns that not all children are well off and secure, by Cynthia Hobson.



[Fire Up Your Profile For Lifework Success](#)
Revised 2016: Miller, Nancy J.:
[9780985053444: Amazon.com: Books](#)

Brush up your profile with help from Nancy Miller



[Cappuccino \(A Zion Sawyer Cozy Mystery Book 1\) - Kindle edition by Hamilton, M.L..](#)
[Mystery, Thriller & Suspense Kindle eBooks](#)
[@ Amazon.com.](#)

Cozy mystery fan? This is the first book in the Zion Sawyer series by ML Hamilton.



T-Shirt Truths

1. You just can't beat a person who never gives up.
2. That's what I do. I write stuff and know things.
3. Go away, I'm writing.
4. Writing: I thought it would be easy.
5. Being a good writer is 3% talent and 97% not being distracted by the internet.
6. In my dream world books are free, chocolate is healthy, and reading makes you thin.
7. Drink tea. Read books. Be happy.



“The future depends on what you do today.”

Mahatma Gandhi



Elk Grove Writers Guild
Writers Helping Writers

EGWG President's Column

Hello dear writers.

- The Elk Grove Writers Guild is participating in the community-wide Non-Profit Big day of Giving, on May 4, 2023. Please put that date on your calendar, and when May 4th gets here, go to <https://www.bigdayofgiving.org/organization/Elk-Grove-Writers-Guild>, click the Donate button, and give what you can. In the meantime, go to our website at egweg.org and check us out.
- The Elk Grove Writers Conference is on September 23, 2023. Registration starts on 5/1/2023. Save the date and go to egweg.org/2023conf/ to register. Admission is \$75 and includes a Continental Breakfast, and Lunch. For questions, email egwg2020@egweg.org.
- NOTE: The conference schedule can be found in the FLYER Section. .

Send any questions or comments to loyholder77@gmail.com. And, as always, stay tuned.



From the Bookshelf

A Shepherd's Pleasure

By P.L. Clark

I trudged through the twilight. The graying of the day slowed my steps as the colors and definitions of the path washed away. I'd found the lost lamb and smiled at its warm softness in my arms.

The path ahead disappeared over a slight rise, but reappeared farther on, and I could see the roof of my house in the distance. My feet and back ached from the day's work, and I looked forward to hearth and home. My wife would have a hearty dinner waiting for me. That thought pushed me forward.

The pain in my elbow grew, and I shifted the lamb. I wasn't a young man anymore, able to carry lost animals for miles.

Only a short distance to go now. Pride filled my soul. I was still able to do

what needed to be done. I was still able to herd my sheep.

The day had been windy, and dust hung in the air, I could taste the grit of it on my tongue. The dusty smell mingled with the smell of the lamb and the odors of sweat captured by my old army jacket. Those smells were the perfume of my life and brought me comfort.

The lamb bleated and struggled to get down, wanting to run and jump and play. I clucked my tongue. If the animal got down, it would leave me standing, staring after it as it ran off and then I'd have to hunt it down again. I crooned nonsense words to calm the lamb and continued my journey.

At last, my home was a few steps away. I put the lamb in the pasture where it shook itself and ran to find its mother. I smiled at the reunion, satisfied. It was a happy ending.

With a deep end of the day sigh, I took off my dusty boots and hung my coat on its peg before entering the house to greet my wife.

A shepherd's life wasn't easy, but small pleasures, such as a lost lamb brought home, happened each day.

P. L. Clark

The Poetry Corner

THE HUNGRY EAT UGLY

Dale E. Manolakas

My thighs tremble in the crouched,
fatigued tightness of fear.

My eyes dart through the dark . .
. . cowering . . . stalking.

My ears lust to hear the terror of
ripping flesh—

To lie in its warm softness.

I wait to cause pain—

To share my darkness

With the first to come near.

But no matter how still I am,
The smell of me . . . the scent of
loneliness

Repels even those most alone.

The hungry eat ugly

Because you've taught them to.

D.E. Manolakas



The Winds of Fate

Ella Wheeler Wilcox, from *World
Voices* (1916)

One ship sails East,
And another West,
By the self-same winds that blow,
'Tis the set of the sails
And not the gales,
That tells them the way to go.

Like the winds of the sea are the winds of fate
As we voyage along through life;
'Tis the set of the soul
That decides its goal
And not the calm or the strife.

Writing Tidbits

10 Signs of Underdeveloped Characters

1. **Flat dialogue.** Dialogue won't sound real unless the reader can relate to the character.
2. **Melodrama.** Exaggerated gestures, speech and emotions is a good sign the writer doesn't know how his character would act or react.
3. **Lack of emotion.** Everyone and every character feels emotions. A character who feels nothing needs to be more developed. Even the coldest of killers feels emotion.
4. **Passive Voice. (Especially in first person POV.)** Passive voice comes across as flat and reflects the character's personality as flat.
5. **Long Interior Monologues.** Monologues that go on for more than a paragraph usually ramble and become flat.
6. **Feeling of Omniscience.** Have you pushed your readers away from the character? Are they watching instead of being engaged in what's happening? Develop your character.
7. **Repetitive and Redundancy.** This can happen in passive sentences. If you resay things in different words, that points to a less than three-dimensional character.
8. **Lack of Relatable Characteristics.** Your character must act like a human for a reader to be able to relate and care about them.

9. **Staccato Scene Changes.** Abrupt scene changes, especially involving a character, breaks up the natural flow of the story and makes the reader stop reading. It's an indication your character is a pawn rather than a real player in the scene.

10. **Lack of Desire or Fear.** This is related to number 3. People's desires and fears motivate them to take some sort of action. That action might be a bit of dialogue to lead the story toward the goal.

If one of your characters is weak or isn't doing what he/she should, find a character sheet online and fill it out.

Learn who they are and how they'll react under duress, what would make them angry, happy, lustful, or any other emotion featured in your story.



CWC Open Readings

Thursday, April 13 at 7:00pm. To sign up, contact

2johnpatterson@gmail.com



CMS Tricky Words

AFFECT and EFFECT

Affect is usually a verb meaning “to influence,” as a noun it is a specialized term in psychology used to mean the “mood” of a patient.

Effect means “result” as a noun, as a verb it means “to make happen.”

Something to consider

“We turn to stories and pictures and music because they show us who and what and why we are, and what our relationship is to life and death, what is essential, and what, despite the arbitrariness of falling beams, will not burn.” –Madeline L’Engle



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

POETRY

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

COMING EVENTS

CONTESTS

SHORT STORIES

WRITING OPPORTUNITIES.

Send submission by the **15th of the month** for the next issue.

Take advantage of the free advertising!

Send Submissions to:

turlockpenny@yahoo.com

Use Garamond-14 for submissions.

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

April 2023

- Apr. 1- April Fool’s Day
- Apr. 5- Passover Begins
- Apr. 9- Easter
- Apr. 18- Pay Taxes Day
- Apr. 26- National Pretzel Day

More Writing Prompts

- a. She was ten and had never been to a funeral before.
- b. Nancy ate the last cream puff and wiped off her face. She’d begin her diet tomorrow.
- c. How do you feel about rain?
- d. If you could invent something, what would it be?
- e. What is your first memory of food? Did you like it?



It’s spring!



See you next month!

What’s Happening in Our Area?

April 2023

Calendarpedia
Your source for calendars

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			GCW 10-12: Bus. Mtg. Auburn Airport?		12:30 PM First Friday EGWG Mtg, Round Table 10054 Bruceville, EG SactoCWC 9-11 Writers Network @ 90990331	SJVW 12-2 2nd Sat. on Zoom Chelle Honiker, "IAM & Write for Magazines" us02web.zoom.us/j/83590990331
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
NCPA 1-3: Monthly mtg.	SSWC (SacSuburban): 6:15 PM Advanced Writing Techniques; 7-9 PM monthly mtg, 5501 Dewey Dr., Fair Oaks		GCW 10-12: Drop-In Critique			BWW 10-12: 3rd Sat. mtg. SactoCWC 1-3 3rd Sat. Monthly Mtg. @ library, 891 Watt Ave.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			GCW 10-12: Speaker Susan Osborn, "Creating Flash Fiction"			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			GCW 10-12: Drop-In Critique	1:30 PM Last Thurs. EGWG Board Meeting		
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

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Data provided "as is" without warranty

For other month’s calendars go to egweg.org click on Resources and then Calendars.

If you or your group have flyers for your events that you’d like to see on the flyer page, send them **directly** to Penny Clark turlockpenny@yahoo.com

See the next page for the 2023 Conference Schedule

Time	Laguna Room	Franklin/Sheldon Room
6:30	In the Building	
7:00:00 AM - Check-In - Hallway	Continental Breakfast & Book Store f/Speakers	
8:00 AM		Gregory Randall - What's New in the Writing and Publishing World in 2023.
8:45 AM		Close Partition bet. Franklin and Laguna
9:00 AM		Kakwasi Somadhi - Let Your Scenes Move the Story.
10:00 AM		Break
10:15 AM		Chris Hennesy - How to Build Your Media Platform.
11:15 AM		Break
11:30 AM		Kristen Tate - What You Need to Know About Getting Your Book Edited.
12:30 PM		Lunch
1:30 PM		Joey Garcia - How to Write a Blurb. It's Easier Than You Think.
2:30 PM		Break
2:45 PM		Judith Starkston - How to Show Emotion in the Details.
3:45 PM		Break
4:00 PM		Karen Phillips - What About the Cover Design of Your Book.
5:00 PM		Close and Clean Up
6:00 PM		Leave the Building

