

Vol 3 Issue 10

Oct. 1, 2023

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 Elk Grove Writers Guild's main goal is to help writers be their best.

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

Contribute, and see your work in print in the next issue. Past issues of the newsletter are also available on the Guild's website.

We encourage you to send in news of your group's events, book announcements, writing tips, recent successes or publications, and news from other writing groups.

See the back page for submission information.

Contact Information

Guild Name

Elk Grove Writers Guild, Inc

Street Address

7413 Netherbury Ct.

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 Elk Grove Writers Guild's 2023 Writers Conference on September 23 was a success. See more on this and other Guild events by reading the President's Column each month. See the flyer pages for new events.

“I think all writing is a disease. You can't stop it.”

William Carlos Williams

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 Road, in Elk Grove.

The next meetings are Oct. 6, 2023, and Nov. 3, 2023. Meetings are from 12:30 to 2:30.

Contact loyholder77@gmail.com for answers to any questions.

GROUPS & EVENTS

CWC's Regular monthly meeting is on the first Friday of the month. A speaker meeting is held later in the month. For information on current meetings, go to California Writers Cub, Sacramento branch.

NCPA monthly meetings are on the second Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. 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>

“There are significant moments in everyone’s day that can make literature. That’s what you ought to write about.”
Raymond Carver

Capitol Crimes

Meetings are on the third Saturday of the month from 1 – 3 p.m. For info, go to <https://capitolcrimes.org/events>

The Gold Country Writers

GCW has an active calendar. For information about their Writer's events or directions, contact Margie Yee Webb at mywebb@sbcglobal.net or <https://goldcounyrtwriters.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 EGWG Bulletin Board

SPEAKERS and TEACHERS

The Guild is planning events for 2024, and beyond. We’re searching for **fresh** content from speakers and instructors in all areas of writing.

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



Gold Country Writers

Our sibling writers group based in Auburn invites us to join them for a celebration of their first open-to-the-public Short Story Contest winners!

All writers are welcome on Oct. 7 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. at Auburn City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way in Auburn.

The award ceremony will take place in the City of Auburn Council Chambers, followed by a reception and refreshments for everyone downstairs in the Rose Room.

This is a great way to make some writer connections!

See their Flyer on the flyer pages.

Finish Your Book in 3 Drafts

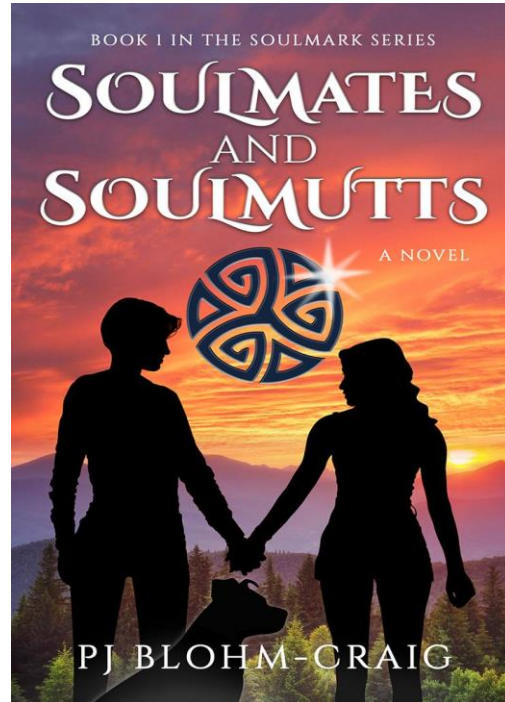
A special seminar from CWC

On October 8, 2023, from 9:30 to 3:30 at the Cattleman's Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd.

Registration is \$149.00

Contact: www.SacramentoWriters.com

Stuart Horwitz, the Book Architect, will present the daylong event introducing writers to a process of organization and revision. Attendees will leave with a new perspective on their book's core, structure, and where the work of revision lies.



Book Launch!

Come celebrate the release of PJ Blohm-Craig's debut novel, "Soulmates and Soulmutts". An open house party at PJ and Mary Ann's home will start at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13th. 8282 Sunny Creek Way, Sacramento 95823



September's EGWG Meeting

Loy gave an update on the conference. It's coming soon. If you're going and haven't bought your ticket yet, Buy now!

There was a long discussion on what people lost during the COVID-19 shutdown and limited socializing. Everyone agreed it did irreparable harm to society.

Karen's class on AI in August was valuable in understanding what AI is. When Loy asked what we thought of it, there was another talk about it and a few questions, but Karen wasn't there.

Many members at the meeting have published their books, are almost ready to publish, or are planning to launch or relaunch their work. It's wonderful to see fellow writers reach their goals.

The best hint of the month was if you have trouble converting a PDF to Word docs, the people at Staples can help. Who knew? Books about writing are available on the Guild's website, egweg.org/library. Check in with georgehahnjr@comcast.net to arrange for the delivery of any book(s).

The Guild's classes on writing are available at egweg.org/classes.

The classes cover from the beginning through writing the blurb, and they can be printed for later study.

“A professional writer is an amateur who didn't quit.”

Richard Bach



[Amazon.com: The Zion Sawyer Cozy Mystery Box Set: Volume One \(Audible Audio Edition\): M.L. Hamilton, Kelley Hazen, M.L. Hamilton: Audible Books & Originals](#)

Get the first five books in the Zion Sawyer series in one audiobook: *Cappuccino*, *Café Au Lait*, *Espresso*, *Caffè Macchiato*, and *Americano*. Listen to the narration and enjoy the mystery and intrigue in everyone's favorite tourist town, all in one volume.

Follow Zion, Tate, and the other quirky residents of Sequoia as they solve mysteries while getting their favorite brew at the Caffeinator.

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

With a wide range of quirky characters to draw from and fall in love with ML Hamilton, there is a world in Sequoia that I want to visit. I want to bake some cinnamon sticks like Dottie and drink chai tea with Zion.

The word pictures of all the characters are so vivid. I feel I know them and want to know more.

I like that the books are not cheesy but vibrant. I especially like Dee's solution to the money. She shows that the phrase “still water runs deep” is so true in all the people that we have gotten to know and makes us wonder about the others.



Elk Grove Writers Guild
Writers Helping Writers

EGWG President's Column

Hello dear writers.

The 9/23/23 bi-annual Elk Grove Writers Conference for 2023 is over.

"How'd We Do?"

We had a last-minute change in Keynote Speakers. Bernard Wozny, President of CWC, Sacramento, saved the day with his Keynote Address on "What's New in Writing and Publishing," which covered the global markets, Book Tok, Artificial Intelligence, and Audio Books.

The Elk Grove Writers Conference received a lot of positive feedback. The evaluations show the District 56 Venue, the EGWG conference program planning, and especially the Speakers and their material got high marks. Many said they would return to the next conference, and some suggested excellent new ideas and changes like, "Start later, shorter breaks." Others said "no changes." The Elk Grove Writers Guild will go through each evaluation, treasure the kind praise, and consider the recommended changes and new ideas as part of our future conference planning."

What's next for writers from the EGWG? Rest, Recuperation, and maybe an Impromptu Holiday Event.

Stay Tuned for more information.

Loy Holder, EGWG President



From the Bookshelf

The Barbary Coast Cheryl Stapp

San Francisco's infamous Barbary Coast began as Sydney-Town as early as mid-1849, so named for the glut of escaped or released men from the British penal settlements at Sydney, and other Australian frontier towns, who poured into California after hearing about the gold discovery.

These men gravitated toward the colony of Chilean prostitutes and thieves, clustered along the waterfront at Pacific and Broadway and on the slopes of Telegraph Hill. The newcomers, nearly all criminals, were popularly called Sydney Ducks, and the more ambitious of them opened dance halls, grogeries, and taverns. Their public houses had fanciful names, such as the Tam O'Shanter and the Noggin of Ale, but all were places where drunkenness, robbery, and lewdness were common.

Unsuccessful efforts by official law enforcement to curb an escalating series of robberies and murders—as well as respectable citizens' suspicions that the Ducks had set several of San Francisco's devastating 1850s fires—led to the formation, in 1851, of the first Vigilance Committee. This organization, composed of prominent men, took the law into its own hands and effectively "cleansed" Sydney-Town, but not for long. A second,

EGWG Newsletter – page 7

stronger Vigilance Committee rose in 1856 to deal once more with Sydney-Town's resurrected criminal element, and the ongoing corruption among city councilmen and politicians that aided and abetted it.

Peace and propriety prevailed for a while, but by 1862 old Sydney-Town was once more a region of dives, dance halls and depravity, now referred to as the Barbary Coast. Legend has it that the name was first conferred by sailors, who were acquainted with the very dangerous Barbary Coast of northern Africa, where vicious thugs controlled the slave traffic on a stretch of waterfront and no man's life was safe.

In San Francisco, Pacific Street, stretching westward from the boat landing on the Bay, was a mass of dance halls, cheap groggeries, concert saloons (which offered both dancing and entertainment), and melodeons, so called because each was originally equipped with a musical instrument of that name; but eventually known as facilities that offered entertainment for men only. Other streets in the area were just as disreputable. It was a place where murders and robberies were every night occurrences, where saloon waitresses—all called “pretty waiter girls” without regard to their youth or lack thereof—spiked customer's drinks with opiates, so the customers could be clubbed and fleeced in the alleys later. It was a place where prostitution flourished in back-room dance hall cubicles, a place controlled by the underworld, a place the police never ventured into alone.

In later times, San Francisco's Barbary Coast meant only the single, dangerous block on Pacific Street between Kearny and Montgomery, and its limits varied over the years, but originally, the term applied to an entire area of vice and debauchery that flourished in the section commencing on Pacific Street near Montgomery, through to

Stockton with various channels leading to Kearny Street, DuPont Avenue (now Grant Avenue) and other thoroughfares.

Despite its shifting boundaries over time, the Barbary Coast maintained a continuous existence until the earthquake and fire of May 1906 destroyed the district. To the surprise of many, though, certain purveyors of sin who had become rich from owning dives and bordellos opened their purses—and the Barbary Coast rose again from its ashes. By the beginning of 1907, it was once more in full operation, beginning with the opening of the first important post-holocaust resort, the Seattle Saloon and Dance Hall on Pacific Street, in late 1906.

Genuine vice and debauchery reined once more in out-of-sight places. But now hype and bright lights deliberately attracted society's previously unwelcome upper strata, with an imitation iniquity calculated to startle and impress tourists, who paid exorbitant charges for admission and liquor, in the belief they were seeing the “real underworld” in action at various venues.

In its last ten years of existence, the Barbary Coast was a popular place. Meantime, however, the downfall of a corrupt political machine, tighter control by a new Police Commission, anti-vice newspaper campaigns, and the legislature's Red-light Abatement Act all contributed to its demise. The Barbary Coast finally closed in 1917.

Cheryl Stapp

“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.”

Louis L'Amour

T-Shirt Truths

1. I'm the psychotic writer they warned you about.
2. I just want to write and avoid all my adult problems.
3. Keep calm and let the writer do it.
4. Being a good writer is 3% talent and 97% not being distracted by the internet.
5. I'm a writer, I do not tolerate reality.
6. Warning: May start talking about poetry.

Websites for Indie Authors (part 2)

Kindlepreneur: Dave Chesson has a lot of informational videos and blog posts. You should sign up for his newsletter, as he stays on top of what's happening.

Design for Writers: Quality Book Covers.

Cover Design Directory: Vetta list of cover artists sorted by genre.

Bowker: This is the only place the US Govt. authorized to sell ISBNs. Amazon will give you one free, but it's only useful on their site.

StoryOrigin: Newsletter swaps, beta readers, ARCs, landing pages, etc.

Scribcount: Aggregates your sales data.

Netgalley Co-op: This is where traditional publishers get a lot of reviews. This co-op allows you to get listed without paying an arm and a leg.

BookSirens: Another good book review option.

Writing Diversely:

Writing with Color

Writing the Other

Hire a Sensitivity Reader.

Thanks again, Val.

Poetry Corner

WHERE ARE ALL THE VOICES?

Barbara A. Barrett

Where are all the voices,
Singing: "How many years can some
people exist
Before they're allowed to be free?" and
Asked, "How many times can a man
turn his head
And pretend that he just doesn't see?"
Where are "The Chimes of Freedom"
Whose "flashing bells of lightning
bolts"
Toll for the rebel, the luckless, the
abandoned and forsaken,
And for "the outcast, burnin'
constantly at stake?"
Let those bells of lightning and thunder
also
Strike for the gentle, for the kind, for
the
"Guardians and protectors of the mind,
and for
The poet and the painter far behind his
rightful time."
Calling out for ethics, honor

Barbara Barrett

"The historian will tell you what
happened. The novelist will tell
you what it felt like."

E.L. Doctorow

Something to consider.

“Remember: Plot is no more than footprints left in the snow after your characters have run by on their way to incredible destinations.”

Ray Bradbury



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

POETRY

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

COMING EVENTS

CONTESTS

SHORT STORIES

FLYERS (Not in PDF)

WRITING OPPORTUNITIES.

Send submission by the **15th of the month** for the next issue. Contact editor for anything later.

Take advantage of the free advertising!

Send **Submissions** to:

turlockpenny@yahoo.com

Use Garamond-14 for submissions.

Send in **word doc NOT PDF.**

Thanks.

October 2023

- Oct. 1- World Vegetarian Day
- Oct. 4- National Taco Day
- Oct. 9- Indigenous Peoples Day
- Oct. 23- Autumnal Equinox
- Oct. 31- Samhain/Halloween

More Writing Prompts

- a. How did a job or career move change your life?
- b. Your character dreams of someone they've never met, and wakes convinced they were their true love.
- c. Your character is granted one day to retrieve their deceased partner only to discover their loved one had faked their death to get out of the marriage.
- d. What would it be if you could do one thing to change humanity?

Trick or Treat.



See you next month!

What’s Happening in Our Area?

October 2023

Calendarpedia
Your source for calendars

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			GCW 10-12: Business mtg. Auburn City Hall Rose Room		12:30 PM First Friday EGWG Meeting SactoCWC 9-11 Writers Network @ café grill, 6215 Sunrise Blvd., Sac'to	GCW Short Story Contest Celebration 1-3:30 at Auburn City Hall All welcome!
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
NCPA 4-5:30: Mtg @ Flaming Grill Café Sacto CWC: 9:30-3:30 Stuart Horwitz, "Finish Your Book in 3 Drafts" @ Cattlemens, 2409 Folsom Blvd.	Columbus Day SSWC (SacSuburban): 6:15 PM Advanced Writing Techniques; 7-9 PM: Patrick Garvey, "Sports Writing" @ 5501 Dewey		GCW 10-12: Drop-In Critique			GREAT VALLEY BOOKFEST, 8-5, Bass Pro Shop, 280 Lifestyle Rd., Manteca SJWV + others going
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			GCW 10-12: Speaker, "Food and Fables in Fiction Writing"			Black Women Write 10-12: 3rd Sat. mtg. SactoCWC 1-3 3rd Sat. Monthly Mtg. @ library, 891 Watt Ave. Cap.Crimes 3rd Sat 1-3
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			GCW 10-12: Drop-In Critique	1:30 PM Last Thurs. EGWG Board Meeting Cap Crimes, Writers Retreat @ Mercy Ctr. Auburn with Yasmin Angoe. Starts at 4 p.m.	Capitol Crimes Writers Retreat continues	Capitol Crimes Writers Retreat continues
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Capitol Crimes Writers Retreat ends @ 1 p.m.						

© Calendarpedia® www.calendarpedia.com

Data provided 'as is' without warranty

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

Make sure it's NOT in PDF. I can't work with PDF.



GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS

SHORT STORY CONTEST 2023



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
LAUREL ANNE HILL
"A Short Story Is Not
A Very Short Novel"

AWARDS CELEBRATION

Saturday

October 7

1:00 - 3:30

Auburn City Hall Rose Room
& City Council Chambers
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603

PUBLIC INVITED

FREE

Come join the fun as the finalists of the GCW 1500-word story contest will be honored. The event will give the writers public recognition and celebrate the written word. Don't miss the chance to be part of this literary celebration.



Gold
Country
Media



Poets & Writers

goldcountrywriters.com