

Vol 4 Issue 06

June 2024

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Elk Grove Writers Guild

Writers Helping Writers

WELCOME!



The Elk Grove Writers Guild is committed to helping writers grow and improve their craft. This newsletter is just one way we achieve that goal.

Here, you'll find a wealth of information on upcoming events, classes, and Guild news. We also offer items of writing wisdom, poetry, memories, writing tips, and updates on the latest happenings in the writing world.

We're always looking for new contributions to the newsletter and welcome your submissions. Whether you have news of your group's events, book launch announcements, writing tips, recent successes or publications, or reports of events you've attended, we want to hear from you.

See the back page for submission information.

EGWG Contact Information

Guild Name

Elk Grove Writers Guild, Inc

Street Address

7413 Netherbury Ct.

Elk Grove, CA 95757

Phone

916-747-6898

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egwg2020@egweg.org

Website

<https://www.egweg.org>

Newsletter & Submissions

Penny Clark - Editor

elkgrovepenny@gmail.com

What's Happening?

What's next for the Elk Grove Writers Guild? The event team is working hard on a fall event.

Check for flyers at the back of the newsletter, and in the president's Column for the coming events in our area as plans are completed.

“The art of writing is the art of discovering what you believe.”

Gustav Flaubert

Elk Grove Writing Guild Meetings are on the first Friday of each month from 12:30 to 2:30.

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 as 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 an excellent way to receive input and other writers' valuable insight into the work presented.

If you're interested in joining the Guild, go to www.egweg.org, click Join, fill out the membership application, and send in your dues.

If you'd prefer to visit first, come to the next meeting at Round Table Pizza, 10054 Bruceville Road, in Elk Grove, from 12:30 to 2:30.

The following meetings are on June 7 and July 5, 2024.

Contact loyholder77@gmail.com for answers to meeting or guild questions.

GROUPS & EVENTS

CWC's Meetings are on the first Friday, 9-11 am, at CH Café, 6215 Sunrise Blvd, and on the third Saturday, 1-3 pm, at the Arcade Library. For information on current meetings or events, go to [California Writers Club, Sacramento branch](http://CaliforniaWritersClub.com).

NCPA monthly meetings are on the second Sunday from 4 pm to 6:30 pm. The meeting usually features a speaker on various writing subjects. Their new location is Flaming Grill Café, 2380 Watt Ave., inside Country Club Plaza. The link for current information: <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

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 writers' events or directions, contact Margie Yee Webb at mywebb@sbcglobal.net or <https://goldcountrywriters.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 organizing events for 2024 and beyond. We are seeking innovative and engaging content from speakers and instructors across various writing disciplines. If you have a passion for sharing your expertise and would like to be a featured speaker at any upcoming Guild event, please get in touch with Loy Holder at loyholder77@gmail.com

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The May EGWG Meeting

Although the day was gorgeous, the meeting had a low turnout, but it was still a great meeting with some funny stories.

Loy had health problems and missed the meeting, but George took over and spoke about the April event. It sounded like a success. The event team said the fall event was in the works, so we have that to look forward to.

When the WIP time came, the major subjects were publishers, scams, and people's experiences with Draft to Digital, Ingram Sparks, and Amazon KDP. It was interesting.

One of the members spoke about the rooster next door, which was causing her problems while she was working on her audible books. Everyone was laughing and giving advice on how to get rid of the rooster, but none of them would work because the rooster was a little girl's pet.

Do you need to network? A member suggested going on writing retreats.

From George: The Guild offers many benefits to authors beyond the comradery of the monthly meetings and events and the opportunity to get feedback on our writing.

On our website, www.egweg.org, under the Resources menu item, you will

find links to courses on many aspects of writing, an archive of our monthly newsletter, and a calendar of writing events in northern California. The website also lists our extensive library of books on writing and contains instructions on borrowing them. Make the most of your membership and check it out!

Rare or Seldom Used Words

Talionic. Retaliatory in exact amounts as in - an eye for an eye.

Anhedonia. The inability to enjoy things.

Luxate. To dislocate.

Periap. An amulet or charm worn for protection.

Fulsome. Loathsome, insincere, offensively flattering.

From the Editor

I've been asked how many words are allowed for stories in the Bookshelf.

The limit is 1,000 words, but if the piece is over a hundred, plus or minus, I'm flexible (This newspaper contains 2990 words.) The work will be published as is, but if spellcheck corrects minor grammar errors, I will make the corrections unless the errors are meaningful to the story.

I look forward to submissions from anyone who receives this newsletter. Penny Clark at

turlockpenny@yahoo.com



Elk Grove Writers Guild
Writers Helping Writers

EGWG President's Column

Dear Elk Grove Writers Guild Members,

It's that time again—membership renewal time! The renewal fee remains \$35.00 for individuals, \$60 for a family of two, and \$20.00 for students with valid student ID.

To renew your membership, visit <https://egweg.org>, click on **"Join Us,"** and then select **"Membership."** Please note that dues must be paid by 6/1/2024, and the deadline for renewal is June 15th.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at loyholder77@gmail.com.

For more details, please refer to the official renewal letter in the Flyer Section.

Thank you for your continued support.
Sincerely,

Loy Holder, EGWG President

PS: If you've thought about joining the Guild but have put it off, this is the perfect time to do so. Editor.

"Writer's live twice."

Natalie Goldberg



From the Bookshelf

The Escapee

By Cheryl Stapp

The first Saturday in May, the Saturday an out-of-season, wind-driven rainstorm blew in, I was standing on my covered back porch about eight in the morning, realizing I wouldn't get any gardening done that day. However, at least *some* creatures were relishing the downpour: two gray doves were perched on the wooden fence that separates our yard from the family next door, obviously bathing themselves in the rain.

Suddenly, a small duck flew out from behind the canvas-roofed gazebo at the end of the porch—scaring off the doves—and landed clumsily on our lawn. It had a dark green head, so I figured it must be a young Mallard that had become separated from its flock. Telling myself I needn't worry because everyone knows that wildfowl have homing instincts, I went inside to busy myself with other chores.

Around dinnertime, the rain stopped. My husband, who has health issues, had slept late that morning and hadn't seen the birds, so I launched into my little tale about the doves' impromptu bath and the lost Mallard.

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“A Mallard?” he said. “Not very likely. It probably belongs to the people next door.”

A light came on in my head. Of course! Our neighbors had turned their backyard into an extensive vegetable garden, and we knew they raised ducks for their table too, because whenever we were outside, we could hear a bunch of them cackling in their pen. This one must have escaped.

“So,” my husband asked, “is that duck still in our backyard?” I stepped outside to look. Yes, indeed it was, pacing along the ground at the fence line, trying to figure out how to get back to its friends. “I’ll go next door and get Mr. Chen,” my husband said.

In minutes, Chen came through our house and out into the backyard, though his several attempts to capture it only further traumatized his feathered quarry. Deftly evading grasping human fingers and picking up speed, the bird dived under a large, leafy bush, only to be quickly flushed out with the long stick Chen had brought with him. Meanwhile, standing inside the house looking out the sliding glass door, our twenty-five-pound spaniel had been watching all these activities with growing interest.

Now, the dog shot out of his doggy door and sped across the lawn to face off with the duck, which, having been ousted from its hiding place, was making a beeline toward our porch . . . until it saw the monster coming. The horrified bird abruptly reversed direction and fled, miraculously angling straight into Mr. Chen’s outstretched hands—and this time, he managed to get a firm grip.

Clutching the creature in both hands, he turned to the fence, which was slightly taller than he was. Raising his arms, he pulled his elbows back and thrust them forward, intending to let the bird clear the fence and flutter down into his own yard.

But just as he released it a strong breeze came up, enough to give lift to half-clipped wings; and the liberated, panicked duck rode it, wildly flapping clear across Chen’s property and into the next yard over.

By this time, I was laughing so hard I could barely stand up, but I suppose it eventually all ended well, with Mr. Chen re-capturing his errant poultry. After all, the neighbors on the other side of the Chen family wouldn’t want a duck loose in their yard, either.

T-Shirt Truths

1. Ask me about my book—
Published author.
2. Keep talking. I’m taking notes for my next book.
3. The write stuff.
4. When talk fails, writing speaks.
5. Coffee and writing + more coffee.
6. Will give writing advice for chocolate.

“I know nothing in the world that has as much power as a word. Sometimes I write one and look at it until it shines.”

Emily Dickenson

Aphorism: A short, pointed sentence that expresses a wise or clever observation of a truth.

1. A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.
2. Scratch a dog or cat, and you'll have a permanent job.
3. I've reached the age where "happy hour" is a nap.
4. The problem with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.

More Paraprosdokians

1. People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day. *A.A. Milne*
2. People say I'm indecisive, but I don't know about that. *George H.W. Bush*
3. Half of all marriages end in divorce—and then there are the really unhappy ones. *Joan Rivers*
4. He's a writer for the ages, the ages of four to eight. *Dorothy Parker*

ATTENTION PLEASE

Do you have a blog or a website?

If so, send your link and a few words about your content to promote your site to elkgrovepenny@gmail.com

3 responses were received as of 6/01/24. Send me your info and see your web or blogsite here.

<http://Johnrosskopf.Com> John's website shows the five books of his Jake Powers Mystery Series, with a synopsis of each. Two have been completed, and a third will be available later this year or early next year. His books are available at *Amazon.com*. John Rosskopf.



"California's Olden Golden Days"

<http://bit.ly/31NajTb> Cheryl Stapp offers an interesting and informative read on intriguing California history on her website. She posts a new post every week, always about an interesting aspect of California history. Cheryl Anne Stapp is the author of six books about California's exciting yesteryears...



pitcairn@tauceti2.com George Hahn extends a welcome to the library ship universe! Here, you will find tales of exploration, adventure, and political intrigue, all against the background of three starships built to connect Earth's distant colonies to the mother planet but becoming much more than a connection.

The journey begins with "Tau Ceti: A Ship from Earth" and continues the story in his following novels as humanity faces new challenges and opportunities.

Poetry Corner

GOING HOME

Barbara A Barrett

When I come home, I always feel
So scared and incomplete.
The 'me' I felt when I arrive
Is left out on the street.

Just the child from long ago
Can enter bodily.
She faces all those ghosts of yore
Who pose as family.

No others hear as she's put down;
Attacked at ev'ry turn.
Outside, I hear the cries of pain
Their ears do not discern.

"I hear you" I cry back, but
Her sobbing doesn't quit.
The door is locked and bolted, my
Adult key will not fit.

So, through the door I raise my voice
"Leave her alone. Be gone!
Stop scaring her and go away.
She's just a little one."

"She only wants to have your love,
But you just huff and puff.
Stop raising up the past and see
She's here and that's enough."

The yelling and the crying stop.
The door will now open.
The 'me' I felt when I arrived,
Can enter and go in.

PSWA Conference 2024

Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
(rooms discounted)

July 11 through July 14, 2024

Cost: \$275 (hotel not included)

For information and registration, go
to the website below.

Policewriter.com/2024-pswa-conference

The Public Safety Writers Association exists to support people involved in writing about public safety:

1. People with public safety careers who write stories, poetry, or non-fiction about their incredible experiences.

2. Mystery, thriller, and other writers who write about public safety characters and situations.

3. Publishers, editors, and other professionals.
There will be four speakers with 12 panels.

Authors can sell their books, meet publishers, and enter a writing contest. For \$45 extra, there is a pre-conference workshop.

For complete information and the registration forms, go to the website:

Policewriter.com/2024-pswa-conference

“To produce a mighty book, you must choose a mighty theme.”

Herman Melville

EGWG Newsletter –Back Page

Something to consider.

“I have fallen in love with the imagination. And if you fall in love with the imagination, you understand that it is a free spirit. It will go anywhere, and it can do anything.”

Alice Wilder



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

POETRY

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

COMING EVENTS

SHORT STORIES

FLYERS (Not in PDF)

WRITING OPPORTUNITIES.

Submissions for the next issue should be sent by the 15th of the month, or contact Penny Clark, the editor, for later submissions.

Take advantage of the free advertising! submit your work or upcoming events.

Send your **Submissions** to turlockpenny@yahoo.com

Please use Garamond-14 for submissions. Send in **Word.Doc**, **NOT PDF or JPEG**. Thanks.

June 2024

- June 2- Natl. Cancer Survivor’s Day
- June 6- D-Day
- June 16- Father’s Day
- June 19- Juneteenth
- June 20- Summer Solstice

More Writing Prompts

- a. What is the most romantic season of the year? Why?
- b. Your shopping bag, purse, or pocket rips open. What do the content say about you?
- c. What is the next big event you’re looking forward to? Why?
- d. Write the opening chapter to a story that begins: “I stared at my beautiful, evil wife and realized the horror had just begun.”

Keep cool!



See you next month!

Continue reading for Calendar and Flyers

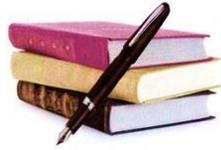
EGWG – Calendar and Flyers

June							2024
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
10-2 Sac CWC booth @ McKinley Park, Sac'to			10-12 GCW Business & Elections @ Rose Room Auburn		12:30-2:30 EGWG	12-2 SJVW Zoom: Marketing for Reviews, Matt Abraham:	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
4-6:30 PM NCPA @ Flaming Grill, Watt Ave.			10-12 GCW Drop-In Critique @ Rose Room			9-11 Sac. Sub. @CHCaféSunrise 1-3 Sac. CWC @ Arcade Library	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
			10-12 GCW speaker: Advanced Internet Research @ Rose Room			12-2 SJVW Craft Chat @ Papavilos , 501 Lincoln Ctr, Stockton	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
NCPA Book Awards Banquet – See norcalpa.org			10-12 GCW Drop-In Critique @ Rose Room				
30							

If you have flyers for your events that you'd like to see on the flyer page, send them **directly** to Penny Clark at turlockpenny@yahoo.com. **If they're in PDF or JPEG I will try to copy them,** but I may email you if there's a problem.

Flyers Below:

1. Elk Grove Writers Guild Membership letter.



Elk Grove Writers Guild

Writers Helping Writers

Hello, Elk Grove Writers Guild Members!

May 15, 2024

EGWG annual dues are due on June 1, 2024

Annual dues are:

Individual ----- \$35.00

Family of 2 ----- \$60.00

Students ----- \$20.00 (Please provide proof of student status.)

Your payment of \$35.00 made to Elk Grove Writers Guild, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will be used to support the Elk Grove Writers Guild's Mission of writers helping writers be the best they can be.

The Elk Grove Writers Guild is committed to community service for the literary arts. We strive to encourage authors and students of writing in Elk Grove and surrounding areas. Our vision is to enhance, educate, and support all writers and provide networking opportunities through semi-annual writers' conferences and other events.

Members are entitled to 45 days' notice. The deadline for late payment is June 15th. After that date, your membership will be considered void, and your information will be removed from the Guild's records.

If you choose not to renew, please let me know at loyholder77@gmail.com.

To renew your dues, go to the Elk Grove Writers Guild website at <https://egweg.org>, choose Join Us, then click on Membership. You can pay by PayPal or Credit Card. If writing a check, make it payable to Elk Grove Writers Guild and mail it to:

EGWG Membership
c/o Shelby Johnston, Treasurer
5911 Elk Spring Way
Elk Grove, Ca 95758

If you have any questions, please email loyholder77@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued membership in the Elk Grove Writers Guild.

Loy Holder, President
Elk Grove Writers Guild

Editor: Not a member? You could be if you follow the above instructions.