

December 2014

Suburban Scribe

Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club



On December 8th,
Join us for the 2014 SSWC
Holiday POT LUCK!
THIS MONDAY!

It's coming up fast.

We have a bunch of great cooks in this club, so bring something to share, and your appetite. Several of our members will be reading their works, **we'll have the raffle with a door prize as usual, and festive company.** Hot or cold goodies, drinks, baked goodies, be creative and thanks!

Dues are Due!

This is a busy time of the year, but it is also time to renew your membership in SSWC.

- Dues are low: \$40 for individuals, \$30 for full-time students, \$55 for a couple (a \$25 savings!), and \$30 for those who are over 70.
- If a new member joins after the 1st quarter, the dues are prorated.
- Paying by the January meeting ensures that your information will be in the 2015 SSWC Directory – a vital tidbit for better and more effective networking.



**Merry
Christmas!**

WEBSITES: Sactowriters.com & [Facebook.com/sactowriters](https://www.facebook.com/sactowriters)

MEETINGS: December 8th. Meetings are on the 2nd Monday of each month.

LOCATION: [Crossroads Christian Fellowship](#), 5501 Dewey Dr. Fair Oaks 7 - 9 PM

CRAFT FAIRE and SALES EVENT

On Sunday, December 14, the last SSWC Member Authors Event of 2014 will be held. Presentation [of the Blessed Mary Catholic] School is hosting this 20th Annual St. Nick’s event. Authors Andrea Roth, Aleta Kazadi and Roberta Davis will be part taking in this overall “Craft Faire.”

The address is 3100 Norris Avenue in Carmichael, CA, 95608. Faire hours are 8am ‘til 2pm.

Andrea Roth will feature first editions of *My Diabetic Soul – An Autobiography, Me & My Money...a child’s story of diabetes*, along with *Me & My Money Too...a child’s story with diabetes, Book Two* (www.mydiabeticsoul.com).

Aleta Kazadi will feature *The First Adventure of Mr. Roulage* and *The Second Adventure – A Walk to Health* (www.songsofdiscovery.com).

Roberta “Bert” Davis is featuring *The Moving Finger Writes* [2013] Anthology of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club and *Thinking Through Our Fingers* Sacramento Suburban Writers Club 2014 Anthology (www.sactowriters.com). Amazon is ‘the other’ place to find these reading achievements. However, keep in mind that this Faire offers autographs with purchases!

Andrea Roth
(aka: *A. K. Buckroth*)
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Awareness Advocate

Raffle Table

Doing fall or winter cleaning? Finding some hidden treasures that you’ve tired of but others might enjoy? Bring them in for the raffle table. We have had many books donated for the raffle table, and that’s great. However, we need some catchy items, perhaps some kitchen or yard items, a white elephant, something you’ve made, tools, decorations, forgotten hobby supplies – something unique, different, something members might want so they will stay through the end of the meeting, listen for their winning numbers, and claim a great prize off the table.

So, look around, dust it off, and donate that item someone else will cherish.
Mary Lou Anderson

SSWC BOARD MEETINGS

Please feel welcome and **needed** if you are curious or have any interest at all towards influencing the events of the club. It’s our club. We’ve had the same hard-core people in the Board forever and while we have a couple relatively new faces, the same team of pack mules is expected rather intensely to be there and make all the decisions, many years in a row. While we’re pleased to contribute, to coin a seasonal phrase, “the more, the merrier!”

Mary Lou announces the Board Meetings which are usually quarterly, or before any notable events. They meet at the Round Table Pizza place right across the street from the church where we have our monthly meetings. The Board meetings are usually on a Monday around 6:30 p.m.

Please drop in on one of these meetings and you just might like the opportunity to voice your opinions. If you want stuff to happen, this is a great way to help; make it happen! If you stay quiet, we don’t know.

To be added to the email list o for Board meetings, please contact Mary Lou Anderson, or just ask her when the next one is. Ask any of us and someone will get the information back asap.

Thanks very much,

Your Newsletter Scribe, Roberta D.

From your
Newsletter
Scribe,
Bert

In November I requested stories or anything from the past, what was going on when each of us joined the club, something reflective of where we've been.

This is our 60th year as SSWC starting January 2015. SOoo you still have the chance to send me something for the newsletter! OH, Joy of Joys!

Here we have a bit of space dust from a few years ago, when John Vester was the newsletter composer/editor. John loaned me a pile of blasts from the past and here is a few pages from November to Mid December, 1999.

Thank
you,
John!

THE SUB-SPACE CADETS



ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT
OUR MENTOR AND FRIEND,
MAYA KAATHRYN BONHOFF,
AS FEATURED SPEAKER AT THE DECEMBER MEETING
of THE SUBURBAN WRITERS CLUB.

The following biography is reproduced as it appeared
in "Analog" magazine, Mid-December, 1990

Jay Kay Klein's biolog

● If you're just plain Mary Elaine in Nebraska and can't throw a stone without hitting another Mary E—somebody, Maya Kaathryn is a swell collection of letters for a rock singer and *Analog* author. Bohnhoff was taken from the band's flutist during a marriage ceremony.

As an army brat, Maya just happened at birth to be in Davis, CA. Her dad was a tech sergeant in the air force who had taken time out to study agronomy at a local college in preference to going to OCS. This trained farmer was then transferred to a desert base in Rabot, Morocco until Maya was five. She still sees the place whenever she reads *Dune*. Stateside posts included Offut Strategic Air Command near Omaha, NE. There, her older sister took off to try a career as a concert pianist. Mom had been a forties' torch singer in Hollywood.

After Nam, dad chose SAC headquarters duty over the Pentagon. Maya became a full-fledged horse-crazy, football-cheerin', choir-singin' daughter of the corn belt. At fifteen she went back to California, got deep into music, discovered the Bahai faith, and dropped out of college to join a Bahai-oriented folk-rock band as a singer. A free wheeling California life-style lasted as long as the gigs did, and then a full-time job on the assembly line at an electronics plant, with small-time weekend gigs. A voracious reader, she had also been doodling word sketches since she was a child. She treated school writing assignments like a self-determined honors course.

Analog authors always have early reading and writing backgrounds, and nearly always a life-long love for SF. Along the way, there is always lots of practice writing. Writers are born; authors are made. Maya turned out a giant

novel that didn't sell, then thought about writing until everything came together—plots meshed with techniques joined with characterization. Hard science for an *Analog* story was harder, but she had help from some good astronomy texts. She is most interested in exploring the "self" of her characters, fitting them into their created worlds. As a Bahai adept, she feels the future is there, ready for people to grasp and shape.

For Maya, writing is not an artisan's blacksmithing trade, but more of a mystical experience in visualizing and creating new existences. From someplace inside, her fingers take dictation to put words on paper. The fingers may be blacksmithing, but it is elemental fire that does the shaping. She follows Ray Bradbury's advice to get the feelings down on paper and then goes back for the final word selection. First draft is longhand, followed by word-processing for a final edit onto a laser printer.

Writing is now full-time, with notebooks and writing pads always at hand, notwithstanding a 9-5 job designing software-training for computers. Stories are mostly SF, with some fantasy and probably a mystery or two coming up. A first *Analog* appearance was in "Brass Tacks," just like Lester Del Rey and some other authors. Then came "Hand-Me-Down Town" in Mid-Dec., 1989. Maya agrees with the assessment that non-SF, tagged "mainstream fiction," really is a self-limited subset of the greater universe of SF. As a science fiction writer, she can explore areas closed to more parochial writers. ■



Maya Kaathryn
Bohnhoff

Captain! We are being hailed

on all frequencies by...

SUB-SPACE



CADETS

Volume 1, Number 1 November 9, 1991

On screen, Lieutenant.

Greetings, people of Htrae

Something new in the firmament! Sub-Space Cadets is just a fun newsletter I created on Page Maker and Corel Draw. If there's enough interest, I'll try to put one out for each meeting. Since we are a sub group of the Sub Urban Writer's Club, I thought "Sub-Space Cadets" would be appropriate.

Maya Bohnhoff continues her stellar performance as group mentor. So far she has looked at the work of 3 of us Sub-Space Cadets, and is currently examining a story of Bart's. We are certainly benefitting, though not always delighted, by the help Maya is giving us. Her enthusiasm and energy are a wonderful asset to us, and undoubtedly indicates why she is successful in her own career.

Market Watch

Lots of changes at Omni magazine. They are letting lots of people go, moving to Greenboro N.C. and merging forces with (though maintaining separate identity from) Compute! magazine, a recent acquisition. Orson Scott Card figures prominently in all this. (See November Locus for details.)

Robinson at Cobblestone

Kim Stanley Robinson will sign his new book "Remaking History" at Cobblestone on November 23. For those who have not read his stuff, he is hard to pigeon hole. History is his passion, but great prose style is his gift. Strange as it may be to include him in our genre, Asimov's publishes his stories faithfully. I have a book with three of his best stories in it. I'd be happy to lend it to anyone who thinks he/she might want to meet him at the signing. (See Nov. "Locus" for a review of "Remaking History".)

A word or two about Cobblestone ... It is a great book store for us to support. Too bad its so far away. But the owner is trying to provide a complete selection, not only of titles, but also of formats, relating to Fantasy and SF. And he seems to be mking a go of it. He and his staff also have marvelous insights about the publishing field and other authors. They have these book signings on a regular basis. I think you would do well to support this store. Why should Raley's and Albertson's get the money we spend on books?

Schedule of Club Events

Future Sub-Space Cadets meeting dates and proposed locations:

Nov. 23..... Jenifer's house

Dec. 7.....Heinlein Spome, Fourth LaGrange point Mercury orbit.

Dec. 21.....Asimov Spome, Alpha Centuri

As dates approach and locations are confirmed please notify the editor.

Next meeting of the full Sub Urban Writers Club will be Dec. 11, 1991. We all should plan to attend as Maya Bohnhoff will be the guest speaker. Let's all show our support by being there. Her speech, from advanced reports, will be wonderful.

See the back of this page for a "Biolog" of Maya.

The Case of the Mysterious Post Box

The mystery of Orson Scott Card and the non responding P.O Box continues. Jenifer, Louise and John continue the nail biting ordeal. It's the biggest gamble of their young writing careers. A happy outcome to this will result in, at worst, a bit of feedback and encouragement from a true giant in the field, at the height of his power. At best it will result in publication in as high profile a project as one could wish for; an anthology with Card's name on it. Stay tuned.

The Continuing Mission

Jenifer and John and a friend of John's, Phil, went to the Star Trek convention in Santa Rosa Saturday, Nov. 2. It was a treat to see Brent Spiner being himself. There were interesting presentations and, as usual, lots to look at and buy.

For those of you who would like to attend one of these, there will be one Dec. 6 at the Sacramento Convention Center. Featured celebrities will be William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. As any Trekker will tell you, "Be there or be a Rigelian slime devil." If not to honor the men of the original Enterprise, then to see if anyone brings his pet Horta.

So long for now.
John Vester: Editor

ALONE

*Joanie Ballantyne
2014*

*The emptiness inside overtakes me,
As a vast ocean of deep, empty emotions,
And countless hours of despair,
Dwell within.*

*Looking only for a reason to draw
another breath,
I sit alone, with people all around,
Many with smiles,
Others with empty faces.*

*It seems happiness is rare,
And loneliness a constant,
So where do I go to get,
Peace within my heart?*

*With no one to turn to,
I go inside, where no one can see,
Deep inside where I cannot feel the pain,
And where I can live in perfect harmony,
Void of emotions, love or fear.*

You're invited to the Pre-Release Book Signing Party! Sanctuary of Fire Book 3 in The Deceiver Saga! Saturday, December 6th at 2 PM at a private residence in Manteca, CA.

Also, I am being interviewed by Cody Stark on [Good Day Sacramento](#) this Sunday at 8 AM to promote the new book, [Sanctuary of Fire](#). If you're unable to watch it live, don't worry, I'll be posting the interview on my [YouTube Channel](#) and [author website](#) the following week. You can also watch previous interviews and book trailers there too! Message me for the address!

Blessings, Rebekah

R. J. Machado De Quevedo

(Author of *The Deceiver Saga*, Speaker, Blogger, Dreamer)

www.RJMachadoDeQuevedo.TateAuthor.com

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[Facebook Page!](#) Hire R. J. To speak at your next event!

See her [EPK](#) here.



**Kids' Answers to those important questions.
Offering from Anthony Marcolongo**

HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming.
Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they Grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with.
Kirsten, age 10

WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then.
Camille, age 10

HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids.
Derrick, age 8

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both of them don't want any more kids.
Lori, age 8

WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough.
Lynnette, age 8

WHAT WOULD YOU DO ON A FIRST DATE THAT WAS TURNING SOUR?

I'd run home and play dead. The next day I would call all the newspapers and make sure they wrote about me in all the dead columns.
Craig, age 9

Tammy's Corner and NOTES from the Board Minutes:

- Elections are coming up so here are some heads up on clearly open vacancies in the club:
- Andrea is no longer managing events. Also, Mort is looking for someone to take over the raffle. If anyone can take a turn of handling either of these two tasks, please consider it! The duty does not have to be forever.
- Wes has agreed to take over management of critique groups for SSWC.
- Banners – We now have three different sizes, and two sidewalk-boards for our use, which may be laminated in the future.
- New SSWC Contest – for best 30 second elevator pitch, calmly communicated in 30 seconds. Contest information will be explained at a forthcoming SSWC meeting. Winners may be announced at the May banquet, details still pending.
- The new membership directories be made with photos of the members.
- More details will be announced as details solidify.

NON-FICTION CRITIQUE GROUPS CALLING YOU

By Pat Biasotti

For a writer, seeing that first check or one's words in publication for the first time produces a glorious boost in self-esteem. He/she has arrived, a *real* writer, a professional! This goal is perhaps why you joined the Sacramento Suburban Writer's Club, so take advantage of all the help SSWC offers, such as speakers, great library books on how to write and the critique groups—especially critique groups.

What do you write? Fiction is fun, but have you thought about trying non-fiction as well? It is much easier to sell, often takes less time to research and write—especially articles, but still employs fiction techniques and vibrant language. No matter what your interest, professional background or hobby, there are corresponding markets.

Write what you know. Consumer markets cover animals, aviation, art, child care, home and garden, health, military, photography, self-improvement, religious, retirement, sports, travel and dozens of others. Trade journals feature everything from advertising to zoos. Newspapers and Sunday Supplements offer opportunity and greeting card publishers beckon to the poets among us.

Come on—give it a try. SSWC offers two non-fiction critique groups: First Saturday of the month at 10 AM, contact Jeannie Turner, (916) 635-5797, turnerjeannie@yahoo.com; or Third Mondays at 1:30 PM, contact Pat Biasotti, (916) 988-7754, ptbiasotti@gmail.com

Volunteer Positions

By Mary Lou Anderson


Critique Group Coordinator

Tom Hessler has done a great job coordinating Critique Groups for several years. However, he has **decided to give someone else the opportunity**. **It's not a tough position** – just encourage participation, inspire new groups to start, keep track of the active groups and their meeting times and places and the contact person. If you would like the opportunity to help the club, please let any board member know. **It would be greatly appreciated. (And then, there's always the free pizza at board meetings!)**

Events Coordinator

Andrea Roth has organized many sales events for club members at various locations in the area. Members have been able to take advantage of her organizing skills to promote and sell their books. However, she has decided to devote more time to writing her third book.

If you are interested in helping promote your own and other members' books and maybe even learning some new tricks of the trade, let any board member know.



Schedules? Who Needs Schedules?

How about three cheers for the Bert, Therese & Jennifer team? Bert is editor and publisher of the *Suburban Scribe*, Therese schedules our speakers, and Jennifer stepped up to fill the void. Last month there was a medical emergency with the *second* speaker who had agreed to present in November – after the first cancelled. Between Bert and Therese, Chaos raised it ugly head. Without these two stepping up and getting the speaker arranged and the newsletter updated at the last minute, we would have been pretty badly messed up. Jennifer Martin came through for us and agreed to give her January presentation a bit early. Thanks also to her for her superb talk.

It was also a long newsletter – 8 pages. Since we do not have postage and printing costs (thank you, Bert), we are not limited to the length of the *Scribe*. Bert did an excellent job last month of including a lot of interesting information and articles. She puts a lot of effort into doing our newsletter.

So thank you, Bert and Therese and Jennifer, for helping keep our meetings informative and exciting.

Mary Lou

MARY MARCOLONGO'S BREAD CAKE

1 loaf of plain crust Italian bread (not ciabatta or other styles)
Chop bread into small, diced pieces
Soak in water until completely soft
Squeeze out water
Place bread in bowl
Add 1/2 cup sugar
Add dash of salt
Add 1 raw egg
Mix well
Add 2 tbs. of Hershey's dark cocoa, diluted
Mix well, Taste & adjust
Butter a 5" x 10" baking pan
Flatten mixture in pan until smooth
Bake for 1/2 - 3/4 hrs @ 300 degrees
Remove from pan, allow to cool, slice & serve



OFFICERS

Elected Officers:

President Mary Lou Anderson
 Vice President Brittany Lord
 Secretary Tammy Andrews
 Treasurer Tom Hessler

Chairs:

Achievements Mary Lou Anderson
 Anthology CC Tom Hessler
 Chairs Chair Westley Turner
 Coffee/Treats Rotates
 Conferences John Powell
 Critique Groups Wes?
 Directory Westley Turner
 Historian Roberta "Bert" D
 Librarian Ron Smith
 Membership Jeannie Turner
 Newsletter Bert & crit team
 Nominations Westley Turner
 Program/Event ? ?
 Publicity Therese Crutcher-M
 Raffle ??
 Sunshine *Group Effort*
 Speaker Coord. Therese Crutcher-M
 Facebook Everyone be active.
 Web Masters Wes, Bert, & Brit
 Workshops Eve Wise

MEMBERSHIP may be **prorated if you join/rejoin after the 1st quarter.**

Individual \$40.00/yr Couple \$55.00/yr
 Full-Time Student \$30.00/yr Platinum Senior (70+) \$30.00/yr

Membership is not required for attending meetings *but is* needed for: 1) publication in newsletter, 2) club author events, 3) participation in critique groups, 4) grants for conferences, & other perks. More info @ sactowriters.com.

Name: _____ Genres: _____ Published? Y/N

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Website/other info/address (optional): _____

Your name & email is needed to receive the digital newsletter.

Humor from Tony Marcolongo

ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

Chocolate Rational

Chocolate comes from cocoa,
 Which is a tree,
 That makes it a plant,
 Chocolate is salad

NEWS! Exxon-Mobil just laid off 25 Congressmen.



AD: Need a notarized affidavit to travel with your kids, buy property, or transfer a vehicle? How do you do this stuff?

You can email mydiabeticsoul.com or call Andrea at (916) 396-3414 or (916) 489-1599. Ask for Andrea Roth, CA Notary Public, Member of the National Notary Association 1996.

Special Thanks! To our Oct/ guest speaker, **Jennifer Martin**, for her talk on "genre hopping," Author/Producer/Teacher Hunawarrior.com

Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

M.L. Anderson
8020 Alma Mesa Way
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

MEETING INFORMATION:

December 8th
 2nd Monday

[Crossroads Christian Fellowship](http://CrossroadsChristianFellowship)

5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Writers, musicians, artists, & guests are welcome to attend.

You do not have to be published. Membership is not mandatory but brings privileges.

For membership info, email Jeannie Turner at turnerjeannie@yahoo.com
 Or see the Websites:

Sactowriters.com
Facebook.com/sactowriters

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