

November 2012

Happy T-Day

Suburban Scribe



Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

On November 12th, our topic is the club Anthology project presented by our SSW members: **Writer/Authors Tom Hessler and April Edsberg**



CLUB ANTHOLOGY

We hope that by now you have read the article describing our anthology project for SSWC. We intend to publish next year. Our purpose of this project is to encourage members to write and experience publishing, in case you have not been immersed in that process. There should be an “I Survived!” t-shirt at the end of it all!

So, please give this some thought. If you don't have a notion of something you wish to author, let us help you 'brainstorm' ideas, thus, 'writers helping writers.' That process is happening.

This is your chance to feel the exhilaration of seeing your work in print, in a bound book.

I have to tell this story. When I received the proof copy of my novel, I left it lying on the kitchen counter. My mother, who was visiting, saw it, picked it up, and said, “How did you get your name on that book?” I said, “Hard work, Mom, hard work.” Now she has a copy on her coffee table—‘my son the author.’ That said, we'll do much to encourage your participation. Expect us to nag you further as we go along.

CRITIQUE GROUPS from Tom Hessler (author of The Caucasus)

Support your local Critique Groups. They are there for you. We have openings in all of the Critique Groups, except one. Being a writer's club, we expect our critique groups to be brimful of authors with works to review. Why wait until your entire work is complete before reviewing it, when members can do so now?

Critique groups provide an excellent platform for review and to gain different perspectives. While the groups are not *all* professional editors, they give a diversity of useful input. We tend to find the involvement is invaluable. You will upgrade your skill at writing just by participating. Information about the genres, meeting times and dates are available on our website. If you don't find a group that precisely fits your needs, interest and availability—talk, bargain, negotiate. We are flexible.

If you need help, email Tom Hessler (critique group coordinator) via txhessler@comcast.net.

We're also at [Facebook.com/sactowriters](https://www.facebook.com/sactowriters). “Like Us!” on Facebook. Post links to your websites.

Updates: The new critique group led by Linda Lohman meets at 1pm (Horn Road, Rancho Cordova). Andrea Roth is leading a new **Children's Story Critique Group** with Tammy Andrews & Brittany Lord. The first meeting was held on Saturday, October 13, 2012.



If I don't write,
the voices will
never
let me sleep!

Our Club's T-SHIRTS – This is the official design!

Here is the layout of our club t-shirt, our club logo over the left chest along with the winning saying (from Brit), front and center. Want one? See Mary Lou for order forms and pricing. Options like long sleeves, XLg or XXLg and so on, cost extra. Our T-shirts can be ordered in just about any color, but please pre-pay. Cotton works best with the silk-screening, says our talented shirt designer, Brennan.

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

MEETINGS: November 12th, December 10th, etc. Meetings are on the 2nd Monday of Each Month.

LOCATION: Crossroads Christian Fellowship 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks. 7:00 - 9:00 PM



SSWC Anthology Project

Recently the SSWC Board agreed to create an anthology written by SSWC members. A primary purpose of the anthology is to provide an opportunity for those who have yet to publish their work in a bound volume. There is no intent to make loads of money for the individual or club. The works to be included are not restricted to those who have not yet published. All members are welcome to submit unpublished works as we want to showcase the best of the talent SSWC has to offer. Show the world “SSWC has talent.”

Our goal is to include short story fiction, non-fiction pieces of general interest, and poetry. We also consider chapters from unpublished works. Your chapter should be reasonably stand-alone and perhaps include a lead-in paragraph to provide perspective.

Your Anthology Committee will review the material, return same for additional work if required and select the pieces to be included. At this time we are thinking the bound book will be approximately 300 pages; included material, except poetry, would contain from 500 to 5000 words. Each of you may submit up to three written works may be submitted by one author and several from one author may be included in the volume with the understanding that the first priority will be to have as many authors included as possible.

The anthology will reflect SSWC members’ caliber of writing. Therefore, it is important that we adhere to principles of good writing. Following are criteria we would expect:

- The work will have been reviewed for spelling, grammar, and punctuation by a person competent to do so prior to submission. There are club members who will assist you for a fee if you like.
- The writing should have agreement: noun to pronoun, subject to verb, simile or metaphor to action or description.
- The work should contain at most, a minimum of clichés, ‘darlings’ or hackneyed phrases.
- Narrative should be on point, not aimless, unnecessarily wordy, or rambling. <— like this.
- Imprecise language should be avoided.
- Endings should resolve the story, make a point, and not leave an impression that the author just stopped writing.

The above points were problems encountered by the California Writers Club and other organizations, when reviewing work for their anthology. CWC had an 85% rejection rate for submissions from their members.

We can do much better than that, if we pull together and make this work!

Note that your story has a better chance of acceptance if reviewed by a critique group prior to submittal. The Anthology Committee will not make corrections. Our workshop at the November meeting will cover the process and give you chances to ask questions.

Submissions must be in electronic form. Please use Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. Please include a cover page with name, title, number of words. Do not put your name on subsequent pages. If we ask for corrections, you have until May 1, 2013 to return the material.

Below is a proposed schedule for the Anthology Project:

Submissions should be in the hands of the committee by the March SSWC meeting (March 11, 2013) at the latest. Material may be submitted earlier; it will be reviewed much earlier.

Duties of the Anthology Committee:

- Review the submittals by April 1, 2013. If more editing is required, submittals will be returned with comments indicating necessary corrections.
- Make final selections and organize the anthology by June 1, 2013.
- Deal with the publisher (POD) with the intent of having copies available by July 1, 2013.

You may also submit a cover design, the sooner the better, or by March 1st. We will draft criteria.

So, get writing. You may contact Tom Hessler by email at txhessler@comcast.net if you have questions. We will provide updates as time goes by.

SSWC Board News (by Bert):

The fall quarter Board Meeting discussed requirements for input to the newsletter, so I'm just passing the word for newer members and a refresher for us.

I'm not the only judge and hammer on the Suburban Scribe. We try to be very open about the newsletter, but the submissions do pass a partial group of the Board who help edit and give a final review. :) Our talented club members have used good judgment have for many years.

So our traditional policies for the Newsletter are:

- 1) **No themes heavy on religion and politics!**
- 2) **X on the XXX, i.e., porn (that's a no-brainer!)**
- 3) **Themes that are... too incriminating in real life.**
- 4) **Be a current member to publish in the newsletter.**
- 5) **Send your work to Bert at least 2 weeks before the next meeting. Or it will need to wait 'til the following month.**

This doesn't mean don't cuss, debate, walk on the grass, or ever have sex again. (Whew!) We do have romance writers, jokesters, action heroes, and after all, we are adults. I mean we uphold the tradition of not grinding personal axes, nor pushing highly sensitive themes. More than ever, your work represents you on the internet.

As for innuendos and a splattering of dicey or suggestive words, I love our versatility and fully stand for freedom of expression and brief research can rapidly show innuendos are often satirical, amusing, and well, commonplace.

So don't straightjacket your writing. We just try to promote stories that *won't* cause a big fight over holiday reunions. There are always places to publish. Such as, I'd be thrilled for MADD Magazine to publish my stuff!

My requests: Please keep your stories original, or seek permission, i.e., check that the copyright notes of the source say it's okay to use in nonprofit or educational activities. If using facts, try to reference your sources.

I'm not the all knowing Yoda of Copyright Law, so I offer this link: <http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html> from the US Copyright Office "Fair Use explained" article.

And please edit before sending, preferably through a critique group, reread it aloud and do spell-check, whatever else you can think of. We all need to do it.

My ever helpful fellow editors and I would be most grateful. Expect minor changes if we find "oopses" or I need to make it a line or two shorter to fit the space.

Examples of helpful articles (not limited to):

- Bits of your own work (poems, chapters, stories)
- News on writers events, classes, etc.
- Info to help us improve our craft.
- Attaboys or attagirls on what you've accomplished.

Promote yourself! Include your website or email.

Have a great Thanksgiving! gobble gobble

INVISIBLE WINGS

by Anthony Marcolongo

*This magnificent little bird,
With its invisible wings,
Fetching nectar,
Flitting about so haphazardly.*

*A marvel of Nature
Vibrant of color,
Hovering there
So still, so intense.*

*No blossom's treasure
Is safe from extraction,
Like some delicate
Love affair.*

*Caressing the flowers
So very deep,
Softly, swiftly,
Time after time.*

*It's back again
Flicking its saber,
Gently thieving from the willing,
Taking bait skillfully laid.*

*Yesterday she worked
The reds & the blues,
Today it's the golds,
And the wonder in my heart.*



Speaking of birds, even a Bald Eagle can have a bad hair day. HaHaStop.com & crazywebsite.com
Never forget red white and blue. Bert

OFFICERS

Elected Officers:

President	Mary Lou Anderson
Vice President	Brittany Lord
Secretary	Roberta Davis
Treasurer	April Edsberg

Chairs:

Achievement	Mary Lou Anderson
Chairs Chair	Westley Turner
Coffee/Treats	Rotates
Conference Coord.	John Powell
Critique Groups	Tom Hessler
Directory	John Powell
Historian	Roberta "Bert"
Librarian	Ron Smith
Membership	Jeannie Turner
Newsletter	Bert & Crit Team
Nominations	Westley Turner
Publicity	Andrea R & Shawn
Raffle	Mort Rumberg
Sunshine	Patricia Phillips
Facebook	Bert (and ? help!)
Web Masters	Brittany & Bert
Workshops	Eve Wise

**** Author Events ****

Thursday, Dec. 6th, "Artists Collaborative Gallery," from 6-9 pm, in Old Town Sacramento, 129 K Street, Sac., CA. Seven authors will be presenting and signing their books. (<http://www.artcollab.com/>)

Saturday, Dec. 15, "Sacramento Suburban Writers Event" 10am-3pm in the Roseville Public Library on 225 Taylor St. in Roseville, CA. Local authors will be there to speak/sign/sell their books. **These authors are from our SSWC Club!** (<http://sactowriters.com/>)

Saturday, Dec. 22, 2012, 2-4pm at the Market Place, 1325 Riley St., Folsom, CA: SSWC member author Sheri Cockrell. (marketplacefolsom.com)

More Announcements & Info:

From Jennifer Martin, is a Channel 10 broadcast on Donna, Jonathan, and The Forgotten Soldier Program: <http://goo.gl/5G4o8> This group does a lot (words don't do justice) for returned soldiers – gotta see it to feel it.

I attended the writing classes taught by Bud Gardner (Jennifer's hubby), at Sierra College. For half a day each, we received top notch inspiration & techniques easily used in creative writing and technical writing (yes my day job@!) For those of us unfamiliar with Bud, he taught 20 years of English and Writing at ARC, his students sold over 200 books & thousands of articles, "the most inspirational writing coach in America," by the American Society of Journalists and Authors. Bud plans to teach a few classes each semester and as leader of the Harmonicoots, teaches harmonica – learning an instrument lowers your chance fo Alzheimer's, and to have fun. *Bert*

Special Thanks
to John Powell, his topic:
*Writers' Platform; All
Writers Need a Platform.*
johnmarchelgambling.com

ADS: Andrea K. Roth, CA Notary Public, Member of the National Notary Association since 1996. Need a notarized affidavit to travel with your children or grandchildren? Buying Real Property? Transferring a Vehicle? Nine times out of ten, people need a document notarized and don't know where to go. When you learn that a form needs to be notarized, call. Call Andrea. (916) 396-3414 or (916) 489-1599 or mydiabeticsoul.com

Sacramento Suburban Writers Club
c/o Buckroth Enterprises
P.O. Box 601013
Sacramento, CA 95608

**MEETING
INFORMATION:**

November 12th
2nd Monday
Crossroads Christian Fellowship
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, call or message Jeannie Turner
At 916-635-5797
turnerjeannie@yahoo.com
Or see the Websites:
Sactowriters.com
Facebook.com/sactowriters



www.freewebs.com

