

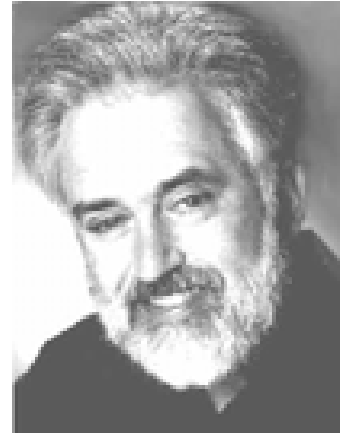
October 2014



Suburban Scribe

Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

On October 13th, our guest speaker is Lowell Streiker, Author/Producer



Inspirational humorist, Lowell D. Streiker is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and holds a Ph.D. in religion from Princeton University. He has co-produced and moderated the television series "Counterpoint" for CBS. He has appeared on numerous radio and television programs including "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "The Merv Griffin Show," and CBS Morning News.

Dr. Streiker is the author, co-author, editor of, and contributor to forty books. He is the author of several standard works dealing with sects, cults, and conversion phenomena including "The Cults Are Coming," "Cults: The Continuing Threat," "Mind-Bending: Brainwashing, Cults, and Deprogramming in the '80s," and "The Gospel Time Bomb: Ultrafundamentalism and the Future of America." He holds a Bachelor's Degree in philosophy from Temple University and both an MA and Ph.D. in religion from Princeton University.

Recent Publications:

- Surviving the Stained Glass Jungle: The State and Fate of the Christian Ministry. 2012
- Rev. Lowell's Laughter in the House of God, 2013.

I Wish I'd Said That: Rev. Lowell's Favorite Aphorisms, 2014

Our **SECOND SSWC ANTHOLOGY** is on the market!

You're invited to celebrate the book launch of our second anthology. Invite fiends and family! Authors will be present to sign their part of the book.

Location: La Placita Dos, 8036 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights

Date: Saturday, October 18 Time: 3 - 6 p.m. Please be there. Your presence will add to the festivities. If you are not a current member, you are more than welcome. Please come and see what we've been up to. **Mary Lou**

California Capital Book Festival

Last reminder for a BIG AUTHOR EVENT -- California Capital Book Festival! will be the weekend of October 25 & 26, 2014. Mary Lou announced this at the last meeting. We may have room for a few more member authors. (More on page 7).

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

MEETINGS: October 13th. Meetings are on the 2nd Monday of each month.

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

ODE TO A SOLDIER

by Joanie Ballantyne (2013)

While I was sleeping safe and sound,
you were sleeping on the ground

While I was eating sugared ham,
You were eating from a can

While I was showering in hot waters,
You were dodging deadly mortars

While I was wearing my clean clothes,
You ate and lived in dirt and holes

While I was warm and unafraid,
You were frightened, but very brave

Me, with mail and family near,
Never knew your constant fear

Knowing thanks is not enough;

I'll send you all my love

SSWC ANNIVERSARY COMING UP!

Hi ladies and gents,

Please keep the your creative material flowing through your pens and to the newsletter, info and artwork too. If there's any art you'd like with your article, let me know and I'll try to do it. I rather have your own though. Let everyone see *your* talent and ideas.

Just a heads-up that SSWC started in 1955 so next year is our 60th Anniversary!

If you have anything historical you know about the club, first time events for us or just cool events and stories, this is a good time to start sending them to me, your newsletter scribe Bert.

My email: dragonscribert@gmail.com and please put SSWC or something like that in the topic window. This includes pictures and whatever you can think of. Thanks, Bert



Warning! Working or partying too hard could leave you face down in the catnip with your costume barely on like my cat Mystic here.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN
Bert



Humor from Tony Marcolongo

A husband read an article to his wife about how many words women use a day—30,000 to a man's 15,000.

The wife replied, 'The reason has to be because we have to repeat everything to men.'

The husband then turned to his wife and asked, 'What?'

Being Published in the Newsletter: This is a membership perk, and the work must be original or granted permission by the originating author. It's a great way to let your fellow club members and the public see your work! You can offer virtually anything you've written: articles, short stories, poetry, art, a chapter out of your book. If you do, also please include your website or a link to anything you've published like a link to your book via Kindle or Amazon, and I will include it with your work. One to five pages condenses to a page less for the newsletter. To send you work, mail Roberta "Bert" your Newsletter Scribe at dragonscribert@gmail.com.

IF ALL COMMUNICATIONS ARE SUSPECT, ARE NOT MY OWN?

Anthony Marcolongo 2014

As individuals, we know rather little about one another, even though we eat and work together, live under the same roof, and even lie next to each other. When evaluating ourselves, as well as others, our mind's eye is diverted, indeed blurred, by the private wishes and personal fantasies that make us the individual personalities we are. Thus, there remains a distinct difference between how others perceive us and the way we experience ourselves.

Apparently, everything that provides for us illusions of perpetuity, familiarity, knowledge, and intimate insightfulness of ourselves are deceptions designed to reassure us, perceptions with which we try to ward off intellectual assaults on our emotionally vulnerable psyches. Actually, we should be grateful for the protection those deceptions afford us, and the application thereof, that guards us from the strangeness of each other.

Is anyone an authority on themselves? The stories others tell about you and the stories you tell about yourself—which come closer to the truth? In such stories, is there really a difference between true and false when we try to understand someone on the inside? Are the secret vaults of our minds places of facts, or only storehouses of the deceptive shadows and pretenses of our stories?

When we talk about ourselves, or about others, we subtly reveal ourselves in our words.

Attempting to show what we think and feel, we inadvertently allow others a glimpse into our psyche, though few seem to consciously recognize the fact. For not only do we reveal ourselves with our words, but at the same time we also betray ourselves by constantly reveal much more than what we wanted to. Furthermore, other people too often interpret our words as indications of something we ourselves may not even be aware of.

I think it is quite true that when we meet people we actually experience, real-time, both the positive and negative echoes and pretenses borne of our imaginations. Given the foregoing, it seems to me, that people who would really like to know themselves would have to guard themselves against inner negative truths amongst which are self-disappointments. For instance, self-disappointments may abound about a lack of courage, the sheer amount of dishonesty you employ when hiding from the prying minds of others, or the incredible narrowness of people's feelings, acts, and words. All these things lead back to the same question—what was it we really expected, and hoped for, from ourselves? Why do we know so little about our own fantasies? What do we know of someone else's fantasies? What could we know, if we know nothing of the images passed to him/her by their imagination?

Everything we experience is instantly the past, and accessible only as small disarrayed remnants of memories that tend to surge forward, then die out again. These recalled fragments are what we use to think about ourselves. It is an inherent, natural way of thinking. So, when others stand before us, how should their stories be thought of if not in the form of interpretations from our personal internal episodes of memory, our own exclusive reality. Man's chronicling of facts and events, along with his inherent ego urge to embellish them, have coexisted as long as man's language has been in existence. Anyone attempting to be objectively accurate has to intellectually, and consciously, fight his own inherent instincts to put a spin on whatever is his commentary.

It is an inalienable facet of human nature.

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY

By Bill Ainley

Many Americans look forward to the arrival of October's "Columbus Day," a national holiday and a three day weekend, and Oktoberfest, celebrated on various week-ends in October. For many years Oktoberfest has been a tradition in Germany, brought over to America by Servicemen/women returning from military duty in that nation. Unlike "Columbus Day" Oktoberfest is not an official holiday, celebrated in the spirit of fine German beer, wines, food, dancing and music.

What most Americans do not know is October 6th, coinciding with Oktoberfest, is the official "German-American Day" signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1983.

October 6th recognizes the arrival to Philadelphia in 1683 of 33 Mennonite and Quaker men, women, and children from the Lower Rhineland of Germany, known in history books as the "Thirteen Families of Krefeld" This group, related in one form or the other, established the village of Germantown in German Township; later came the villages of Krefeld, Summerhausen, and Krisheim.

The arrival of these religiously persecuted Germans were the precursor to thousands upon thousands of German immigrants flooding into Philadelphia and German Township from the Palatines of Germany, so much so that after several years, Benjamin Franklin wrote "I fear Pennsylvania could become a German speaking colony!" However, the majority of Palatine immigrants did not stay in Philadelphia. Thousands traveled west and south, settling throughout Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas, where through great personal and physical sacrifice, countless founded productive farms and businesses.

In this day and age many Americans are not aware of at least one German ancestor. According to statistics upward of 75% of America's families has at least one. I too was one of these Americans, never realizing German ancestors until investigating my ancestors. Chances are, you have a famous or not so famous German ancestor, but until you know for sure, join with those that do, kick-off Oktoberfest by celebrating German-American Day on October 6th!

"The Pennsylvania Dutch"

By Bill Ainley

Historians do agree, it was in New Amsterdam, the year Sixteen Thirty-Three.

A Captain named Corssen and his little Dutch band, sailed up the Delaware River with most capable hands.

Corssen suddenly shouted with glee, "Look close and you can see, beyond the reeds, a Schuylkill it seems to be!"

The Dutch paddled into the reeds without hesitation, slowly steering the boat through thick vegetation. Captain Corssen then hollered in jubilation, "Schuylkill is the river's name!" Dutch to mean "River Barely Seen."

On its banks, a site was soon selected, and a stout fort the Dutch erected, from it not only did they survive, but many of them certainly thrived.

It was not long after the English arrived, and to their great delight, observed this notable site, lo! The English were greatly impressed, how these Netherland settlers had greatly progressed!

When by the English, the settlers were addressed, the settlers seemed peculiarly stressed!

“The Pennsylvania Dutch” By Bill Ainley (continued).

When first referred to as “Hollander”, the settlers were much offended!

“Hollander?”... Nin!

“Netherlander?”... Nin!

It is the Dutch, thank you very much, we proudly claim! From that day forward for the English “Dutchman” was their name!

Some Fifty years later, in the year, Sixteen Eighty-Three, a sturdy ship “Concord” sailed up the Delaware to Penn’s new colony.

Down the passageway came German emigre, later known as “Krefeld’s Thirteen Families” their total numbering Thirty-Three.

From Old Rotterdam they had sailed, but, it’s from the Palatine of Cleves, they hailed, a quaint little village of Krefeld, on the German Rhine.

Nestled oh so close to this beautiful blue serpentine, and as such, only a few kilometers across from the Dutch.

Oh yes, Low German they spoke, but to the English, no joke! Sounded so similar to Dutch, all Englishmen agreed, those arriving from the Palatines of Germany.

Dutchman, they too would be!



Events and Fundraisers



Hi everyone, Tammy here.

Cans, Cans

I’d like to thank Al and Dolly for bringing in cans for our donations last month to show our host a tiny bit of extra appreciation for the wonderful meeting place we get to use for our SSWC meetings. I hope that every member will begin to collect a small bag of aluminum cans to bring along to the meetings each month. It’s simple and our hosts are grateful for the donation. So bring your cans, if you can.

Nanowrimo

At our October SSWC meeting I’m going to *attempt* to do a workshop on Nanowrimo, National Novel Writing Month, which begins November 1st and ends November 30th. I hope some of you will be inspired enough to join in this challenge to write a complete novel from beginning to end in thirty days. It’s easier than it sounds, and you will learn amazing things about your writing just from participating. Last year 300,000 people completed 50,000 word manuscripts. When revised and edited, there were nine on the best seller’s list.

Scholarship Fundraiser

About our 2015 Writing Scholarship Fundraiser, the silent auction will be held next spring. I would like you all to look around your homes to see if there is something that you could donate for the silent auction, as close to a \$50.00 value as possible, but we could combine two things of lesser value to make the prize a more attractive one, if we have to. I hope you will also ask your friends and extended family for any donation they might be willing to part with. The donated items are tax deductible. A receipt will be given with the tax number on it. This is a worthy cause and we should be proud to be helping some young aspiring writer with this college fund. The sooner we start collecting the donations, the better our chances are to

DOG Humor from Tony Marcolongo

Two women were out for a Saturday stroll. One had a Doberman and the other, a Chihuahua. As they walked down the street, the one with the Doberman said to her friend, "Let's go over to that bar for a drink."

The lady with the Chihuahua said, "We can't go in there. We've got dogs with us."

The one with the Doberman said, "Just watch, and do as I do."

They walked over to the bar and the one with the Doberman put on a pair of dark glasses and started to walk in when the bouncer at the door said, "Sorry, lady, no pets allowed."

The woman with the Doberman said, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer asked, "A Doberman?"

The woman said, "Yes, they're using them now. They're very good."

The bouncer said, "OK, come on in."

The lady with the Chihuahua thought that convincing him that a Chihuahua was a seeing-eye dog may be a bit more difficult, but thought, "What the heck," so she put on her dark glasses and started to walk in.

Once again the bouncer said, "Sorry, lady, no pets allowed."

The woman said, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer said, "A Chihuahua?"

The woman with the Chihuahua exclaimed ... "A Chihuahua? They gave me a damn Chihuahua?!"

Tips from Book Sellers

A handful of us shared a booth at the Rio Linda County faire, and a few of our clubbies had their own booths. The weather was crazy-hot and this was a fairly new festival for Rio Linda.

There were a lot of cool things for sale, including our fantastic books! Alas, among all the vendors, not many people were selling very much, but a few did, and I believe Aleta outsold the rest of us, so I asked what the trick was.

The answer matched what other authors have said from various places.

YOU NEED TO SELL STUFF along with your books! Yeah, STUFF, things somewhat related to your topic to "suck 'em in" and then lure the people toward your book. I've seen it at work in more places than just Rio Linda. LOL even I bought a couple soaps from Aleta and a super cute little giraffe that could be a bookmark or a bread-stabber. You get the drift.

Oh, did I mention to have giveaway items too? People also like FREE STUFF. Heard this before? Well, it's true. Who doesn't like a handout? I suggested shots of rum.

Just think of any event where the booths are the busiest. People are either snagging pens, info pamphlets, candy, goodies, or just STUFF. It's the old, "Come and taste the sample of food" in Trader Joe's and yeah I almost always get a little free coffee in there. What kind of stuff? Make it fit you, your personality, and ask yourself what you like. Chances are other people might want the same treats or gimmes.

Stuff. REALLY?! GROOAAAN — like I have nooothing better to do! Well, it's better than a poke in the eye. Don't poke them in the eye, especially when they are bigger than you. Besides, if they're bigger, the eyes will be hard to reach. Try the belly button instead.

Have fun stuff-shopping, Bert

BIG BOOK AND AUTHOR EVENT!

A reminder -- The California Capital Book Fair is October 25 and 26, and all members are invited to participate. The cost will depend on how many of us sign up -- we're hoping for 10 members so the cost will be only \$35 each for two days of sales.

The organizer says she expects 50,000 people to attend. That's A LOT!!! And what great exposure for your books.

You would not need to be there all day every day -- we can work out a schedule to share the time later. This is worth showing up to even if you're not selling books. The selection will be huge.

And, yes, you can certainly place more than one book title out for sale.

This is their site if you want to check it out: [California Capital Book Festival](#)

Mary Lou

Author and Glass Artist

"The Six Rivers Killer" now available through [Amazon.com](#)

Those that know, do. Those that understand, teach. Aristotle



From Mort Rumberg

Here's a bit of info from the Writers of the Future newsletter, good advice for any genre. Mort

This information is from an interview with Dave Wolverton, the Writers of the Future Contest Coordinating Judge and Editor for the annual anthology. Past articles cover topics on what our judges are looking for in submissions.

These are answers to the question, "What are some of the most common errors that he finds in submissions?"

The following are summaries of Dave's answers:

"Originality is the key element to a story being selected as a finalist in this Contest. It always has been and always will be. You need to come up with fresh ideas to be a successful writer, so we are looking for those who have their own imagination."

90% of story flaws: Your story must also "resonate" with the reader. Main problems are that either the setting or character description are lacking. The reader does not gather enough information to know where you are, the circumstances, or the character is barely described.

Other flaws: "The idea is not new, or the "OEworld" that the story is situated in needs to be more thought out."

[Mmrumberg.com](#)

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	Tom Hessler
Directory	Westley Turner
Historian	Robert "Bert" D
Librarian	Ron Smith
Membership	Jeannie Turner
Newsletter	Bert & crit team
Nominations	Westley Turner
Program/Event	Andrea Roth
Publicity	Therese Crutcher-M
Raffle	Mort Rumberg
Sunshine	Group Effort
Speaker Coord.	Therese Crutcher-M
Facebook	Everyone be active.
Web Masters	Wes, Bert, & Brit
Workshops	Eve Wise

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.

MEMBERSHIP may be prorated if you join/rejoin after Jan 1st

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.

AWARDS:

Andrea Roth is receiving the Quinsigamond Community College "Wyvern Award." this October. Congrats! Mydiabeticsoul.com

MORE BOOK RESEASES:

New Children's book "I'm Not Icky!" by Chopper, avail Sept 2014:
Synopsis: Chopper's an expert at getting icky (whether he knows it or not). Chopper gets a bath, a teeth cleaning and a haircut - all while surviving the scary scissor monster and discovering that practicing good hygiene feels almost as good as getting dirty.

Amanda Steedley ivebeenlicked.com : choppersmc.com or @choppersmc

"The Luck of the Irish" will be in *Not Your Mother's Book...On Working for a Living*, Nov. 2014. Jennifer Martin <http://hunawarrior.com/>

"The Long, Slow War" in Bastion Science Fiction Magazine Issue 6 (Sept 2014), and "First Strike" that will be in Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine #60, estimated Oct 2014. from Stephanie Herman.

Special Thanks! To our September guest speaker, Bud Gardner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbpNae0voSA>

Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

M.L. Anderson

8020 Alma Mesa Way

Citrus Heights, CA 95610

MEETING INFORMATION:

October 13th

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, email

Jeannie Turner at

turnerjeannie@yahoo.com

Or see the Websites:

Sactowriters.com

Facebook.com/sactowriters

Articles by SSWC writers.

Art by Roberta "Bert" D,

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