

March 2015

Suburban Scribe

Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

On March 9th our guest speaker is Susan Spann, Author and Copyright Lawyer

Susan Spann began reading precociously and voraciously from her preschool days in Santa Monica, California, and as a child read everything from National Geographic to Agatha Christie. Susan studied at Tufts University in Boston, earned a degree in Asian Studies, then diverted to law school.

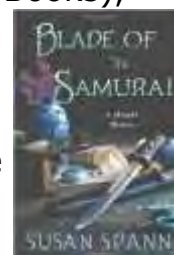
She returned to California to practice law, where her passion for writing fueled her to specialize in intellectual property, business and publishing contracts.



Susan's first novel, *Claws of the Cat: A Shinobi Mystery* (Minotaur Books, 2013) was named a Library Journal mystery debut of the month and was a finalist for the Silver Falchion Award for Best First Novel.



The second Shinobi Mystery, *Blade of the Samurai* (Minotaur Books), was released on July 15, 2014. The third novel, *Flask of the Drunken Master*, is scheduled for publication on July 14, 2015.



Susan is the President of the Northern California Chapter of Mystery Writers of America, and a member of Sisters in Crime (National and Sacramento chapters), Historical Novel Society, and the Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers' Association, and is represented by literary agent Sandra Bond of Bond Literary Agency. When not writing or representing clients, Susan enjoys traditional archery, martial arts, horseback riding, online gaming, and raising seahorses and rare corals in her highly distracting marine aquarium. Susan lives in Sacramento with her husband, son, two cats, one cockatiel, and a multitude of assorted aquatic creatures.

You can find Susan on Facebook and Twitter (@SusanSpann), where she founded the #PubLaw hashtag to provide legal and business information for writers.

For signings other information, see the [events page](#)!

Anthology Announcements from Tammy Where has the time gone? I hope everyone who wants to submit their story or poems for the SSWC 2015 Anthology has had them critiqued. The deadline to email them in is March 9, 2015. As Tom said last month, email them to him, Mary Lou, Wes or April.

WEBSITES: www.sactowriters.org/ and [Facebook.com/sactowriters](https://www.facebook.com/sactowriters)

MEETINGS: March 9th. Meetings are on the 2nd Monday of each month.

LOCATION: [Crossroads Christian Fellowship](#), 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks. 7:00 - 9:00 PM

FORGOTTEN THROUGH THE SEASON

Joanie Ballantyne
2014

In a circle of love
The joy is intense
With pleasures both yours and mine
There, in the beauty we find

A season of joy
Away from the strife
Where people are reminded
Of the purpose of life

To give to those that do not have
the warmth in one's heart
Makes this holiday season,
the right way to start

So just a thought,
Think not of yourself
But of others with all
Their belongings in a cart

Do the unthinkable,
Put yourself in their place
And Provide the wonder
Of a caring face

CLUB T-SHIRTS? Have some ideas from Mort Rumberg. Remember a few months ago, we were discussing club T-shirts and local ways to have them made on demand? A growing favorite is Café Press, where you can design your own shirt! No more wrong sizes or mystery vendors.

www.cafepress.com/make/design-your-own

Here's a few more suggestions to put on T-shirts and other items as dreamed up:

Good things come to those who rite rite, rhite (each will have a line drawn through the word) drink.

I didn't go to work today because the voices told me to stay home and write.

If you met my family you would understand why I write so much.

I'm silently correcting your grammar.

I like cooking my family and my pets. Use commas - don't be a psycho.

Chances are if it's tasteless and not appropriate, it will be in my next book.

3 out of 4 voices in my head want to sleep, the other wants to write.

REMINDER! Our website has changed!

Please "LIKE" us on Facebook to help build up the club's web presence as well as your own :)

Our new website is Sactowriters.org. Please update your link or notes and delete Sactorwitters.com.

Thank you, SSWC

SSWC says Special Thanks! To last month's guest speaker, *Allison Brennan, Author of Fiction/Romance/Suspense.*
www.allisonbrennan.com

Publishing in the SSWC Newsletter

You can email your work to Roberta "Bert" D at dragonscribert@gmail.com Please send your work BEFORE the end of the month or it will probably wait until the next month. That is a good thing in disguise, because I need a backlog.

Thanks, your Newsletter Scribe.

Microsoft Word Spell Check Bloopers from Eva Wise

Paranormal Romance, <http://evawise.com/>

My sentence

Is there anything else?

Graham laughed as his stomach grumbled.

Is that you, brother?

Suddenly finding out you're a witch, which shouldn't exist in the first place, was a lot to take in.

How can bare feet be so sensual?

Katy was due to arrive at six.

He took both her hands in his.

Are you there, Gavin?

Jim was a wiry built man, about five foot six as well, with red hair.

Is the jeep parked down by the docks?

When he got to the bottom of the hill, he saw what he thought was a flashlight on the beach near the park.

Before your wedding, if you'd like.

Carl let me drive one up to the castle last Saturday.

Are you all right, love?

Take short quick breaths, love.

His ancestors, along with Mindy's, were employed by her family in one capacity or another since before she was born almost 500 years ago.

He moved one of his hands down to the small of her back and drew her closer.

She grabbed a cup and poured some liquid out of the blue bottle.

What they want

Is they're anything else?

Graham laughed as his stomachs grumbled.

Are that you brother?

Suddenly finding out you is a witch, which shouldn't exist in the first place, was a lot to take in.

How can bare feet is so sensual?

Katy was due to arriving at six.

He took both them hands in his.

Are you their, Gavin?

Jim was a wiry built operate/(staff), about five foot six as well, with red hair.

Do the docks park the jeep down?

When he found the underlying cause of the hill, he saw what he thought was a flashlight on the beach near the park.

Before you're wedding, if you'd like.

Carl let me drives one up to the castle last Saturday.

Are you all right, loved?

Take short quick breathes, love.

Her family in one capacity or another since employed his ancestors, along with Mindy's, before she was born almost 500 years ago.

He moved one of his easily/(without trouble) to the small of her back and drew her closer.

She grabbed a cup and poured some liquid unexpected bottle.

Tammy's Corner

Hi Everyone, here's the latest news:

Banquet coming up! We'll be celebrating our 60th SSWC Club Anniversary:

I hope each and every one of you intends to come to our 60th Anniversary Celebration. We're still looking for an entertaining Master of Ceremonies and will let you know who that will be soon. We plan to have soft music playing during cocktail and networking time, with dramatic theatrical recitals of famous writers' works during dinner. Plus there will be gifts to every member who attends the banquet.

We're getting close to the planned Silent Auction:

How about those \$5 gifts I asked if you could bring in to donate? It could be a gift card or something used that looks new, which would entice someone to want to purchase it. My plan is to create a huge basketful of all the items to auction off live at our 60th Anniversary Banquet on May 16, 2015. The basket should appeal to us all and will be fun to bid on. I hope you will take the time to hunt something up and bring it to our March 9th club meeting.

NEW WEBSITE: We are now located at <http://www.sactowriters.org/>

Not only is it up and functional, it's pretty spectacular. You have got to go there and look around, especially at the SSWC Authors tab! You'll be pleasantly surprised to see that we now have the author's book displayed right beside his or her name. If you click on the book it swiftly takes you directly to Amazon.com so you can purchase the book on the spot. I'm so excited and proud of that feature. Not ONE other writing club in town has anything so sophisticated. A big thanks to Wes Turner for all his strenuous efforts setting up our new website so beautifully!

Reminders:

CANS, CANS: Round up those aluminum cans and put the bag in your car early, so you don't forget to bring them to donate to our building host. We need to show our appreciation for getting to use this fabulous building to have our meetings.

BOOKS: if you have any brand new, pristine books, New York Times Bestsellers, (not books by our members,) could you please donate a few for the banquet as well. Bring them to the SSWC meeting, but remind Mort they are not for the monthly raffle.

Let's all work together to make our club the best in town!

TAX WRITEOFFS: If you're unable to donate a larger item, perhaps you could let me know who else might donate an item of value. Contact me if you think of someone. It's a worthy cause and it's tax deductible.

THE WIND, THE WAVES, AND I

*Anthony Marcolongo
2014*

A light, warm wind wafted across the waves,
And kissed the gently breaking surf,
Before lightly brushing through my hair,
And rising to ruffle the top of the trees,
On its way to who knows where.

I softly called a greeting,
But the rushing wind ignored my words,
Indeed, blew them away.

Its brothers and sisters hurried after it,
Cooling my skin as they went,
Bringing delightful relief from the relentless sun,
While pushing the great sea towards the shore,
And me.

A small wave broke and raced mightily,
Against the steepness of the beach,
Surging upwards to reach my toes,
All the while enchantingly giggling,
From the titillations of the incessant,
Pulsing breeze.

The little wave hesitated at the top of its run,
Cresting long enough to show off a
myriad of bubbles,
Before racing back beneath the caress,
of the next swiftly approaching minor swell,

They seemed intent on teasing me,
And amusing themselves,
By touching my toes,
To administer a cool, nonchalant tickle

Then the saddest thought occurred to me,

Each little flutter breeze,
Off to the high halls of the neverland,
And each little fleeting wave,
Receding and sighing its way
Back to its mother,

Each was an individual,
Never to be seen again.

GRATEFUL SIGNIFICANCE

*Joanie Ballantyne
2014*

From the highest leaf, on the highest branch,
The valley becomes an affair of beauty

Overtaken by the sights and sounds of
all living things
Thoughts run round in my head

Dancing leaves flow in the wind forever,
And those branches grow higher and higher.

But what if they did not grow at all?
Where would everything be without
the beauty of trees?

The hills and valleys would be barren,
And streams would lose their luster

The colors of the world would turn dark
And dampen our feelings of beauty

Look, sense the trees,
And be guided



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	Westley Turner
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	Need Someone**
Sunshine	Group Effort
Speaker Coord.	Therese Crutcher-M
Facebook	Everyone be active.
Web Masters	Wes Turner
Workshops	Eve Wise

MEMBERSHIP may be paid quarterly, 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.



HUMOR CORNER from Tony Marcolongo

A hooded, armed, robber bursts into the Bank of Italy and forces the tellers to load a sack full of cash. On his way out the door with the loot, one brave customer grabs the robber's hood and pulls it off, revealing the robber's face.

The robber shoots the guy dead without hesitation.

He then looks around the bank to see if anyone else has seen him. He sees one of the tellers looking straight at him. The robber walks over and calmly shoots him dead.

Everyone by now is terrified and looking down at the floor.

"Dida anyone elsa seea my face?" calls the robber.

There follows a tense minute of silence, and then an elderly Italian woman, tentatively raises her hand and says, "I thinka my husband caught a glimpse."



SSWC 60th Anniversary Banquet & Scholarship Fundraiser

A celebration you won't want to miss!

Saturday, 5PM, May 16, 2015

Details on pg 4, "Tammy's Corner."



**Mary L. Anderson, c/o
Sacramento Suburban Writers Club
8020 Alma Mesa Way
Citrus Heights, CA 95610**

MEETING INFORMATION:

March 9th

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

www.sactowriters.org/

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

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