

March, 2019

Suburban Scribe

Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

sactowriters.org

MARCH 11 MEETING — WHERE TO FIND YOUR NEXT GREAT IDEA

Do you need help? Inspiration? Ideas? Peter Blueberry will be the speaker for our March 11 meeting and will present solutions. He also plans to read some humorous poetry. The meeting starts at 7 p.m., and Peter's presentation will begin at 8.

Peter Blueberry is an author, poet, illustrator, publisher, and motivational speaker. He has written and self-published 32 books, and has sold around 3,000, read to over 18,000 people, and survived cancer four times.

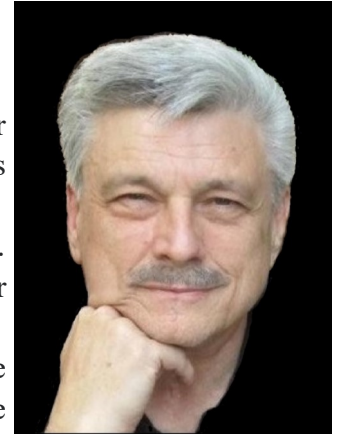
His books are available at the Crocker Art Museum, The Sacramento Central Library, Barnes & Nobel, and Amazon. He even has one poem that hangs in the Pentagon.

Peter's unique style of poetry will instill hope, make you laugh out loud and cause children of all ages to reflect on life's situations in special ways. It will make you look at things in nature differently. You will come away enchanted, and you won't be able to escape without a good chuckle or two ... or more. His unique view of the world is both differently funny and strangely beautiful. His poems cover a variety of themes from *Nature and Ecology* and *Believing in Yourself* to *Funny Life Experiences and Mishaps* and *Pet Monsters*.

After surviving two near-death bouts with cancer and nearly losing the ability to speak, he now devotes all his time to writing, illustrating, and performing his poetry to thousands of children and adults each year.

He is a retired architect and a Viet Nam era veteran. He currently lives in California with his wife and soul mate of 44 years. Much of his inspiration comes from the silliness surrounding his four young and wonderful grandchildren and noticing the small things in life that can go unnoticed.

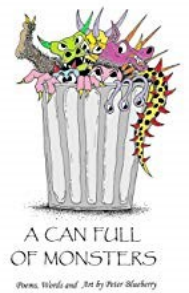
He is additionally an inventor, with several patents, writes music, and is a great lyricist.



THE RAINBOW MAKERS



Poems, Words and Art by Peter Blueberry



A CAN FULL OF MONSTERS
Poems, Words and Art by Peter Blueberry

ANTHOLOGY

It's not too late to submit some of your writing for publication in the club's forth anthology. Our title will be "Other People, Other Places, Other Times," so almost anything will work. *Almost*. The instructions are on the website, so check them out then write, edit, correct, re-write, and submit your submission. They are due fairly soon, so don't procrastinate too long.

15-Minute Workshop

"Problems Writers Contend With" (?? With Which They Must Contend??) and maybe some solutions to consider.

Mary Lou Anderson

Future meeting dates:

Monday, March 11

Monday, April 8

Monday, May 6

Meetings 7—9 p.m. 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks

sactowriters.org



Book Sales

Cathy McGreevy recently participated in a book sale and presentation at Face In A Book bookstore in El Dorado Hills.

Mike Brandt attended and said that Cathy is a natural-born speaker and has hand gestures that bring her message alive.

Cathy is the author of several books, including *Chance's Bluff*, *The Jewel Case*, *A Place Called New Hope*, and *The Gardener's Tale*.

Advanced Writing Technique Session (AWTS)

Mike Brandt

AWTS meets at 6:00 PM, one hour before our regular monthly meeting, at the Crossroads Christian Church. Learn how to be innovative while cultivating your skill set to create a book the readers will love.

Prompt for March: Dramatize a [crime scene investigation](#) in one paragraph.

Each participant will have an opportunity to read his or her work.

Prompt for April: Rewrite the March scene using three paragraphs, working in the detective's knowledge of similar crimes.

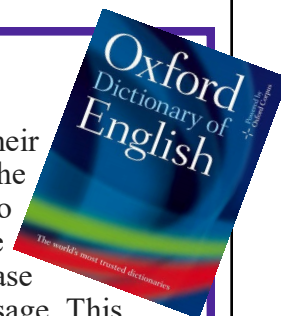
Dictionary Fascination

Jeannie Turner

As a historical dictionary, the *Oxford English Dictionary* explains words by showing their development rather than merely their present-day usages. Therefore, it shows definitions in the order that the sense of the word began being used, including word meanings which are no longer used. Each definition is shown with numerous short usage quotations; in each case, the first quotation shows the word's first recorded instance that the editors are aware of. In the case of words and senses no longer in current usage, the last quotation is the last known recorded usage. This allows the reader to get an approximate sense of the time period in which a particular word has been in use, and additional quotations help the reader to ascertain information about how the word is used in context, beyond any explanation that the dictionary editors can provide.

As a historical dictionary, the OED is very different from those of current English, in which the focus is on present-day meanings.

The more I read about it, the more fascinated I become.



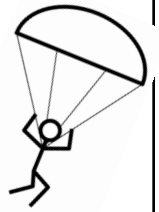
COPY AND DEADLINES

Submit original written material such as: poems, letters, book excerpts, articles, book reviews, humor, web sites to visit, general information, fun stuff to share — almost anything. Also, share info about other meetings, contests, books, book signings, classes, etc.

Please keep the submission relatively short, otherwise it will have to be serialized. Also, please submit electronically. There is no pay but byline credit is given — and that looks good to agents and publishers. This is a benefit of being a member of SSWC.

Contact Mary Lou Anderson (916) 459-0888 mledsonanderson@yahoo.com
 Deadline is about two (2) weeks prior to the meeting date.

Motivation Writing Prompt: I landed and the pilot tried really hard to be there in time, but...



The ShriII of the Thrill

M.H. Brandt

It was Father's Day, 2017, Key West, so in keeping with my "Living on the brink philosophy," I went skydiving. I arrived early at the Key West Skydiving Center. Our plane arrived shortly thereafter; the pilot was ready. We boarded the Cessna 172.

Logan, my tandem partner, asked me as the plane was taxiing down the earthen runway, "Are you okay?"

A simple "Yes" was the answer.

The plane climbed to 10,000 feet. At the opened door I was harnessed to Logan and sitting with my feet outside. Logan asked me a second time if I was okay.

I responded, "My Depends can't get any wetter, if that's the question."

The pilot asked, "Are you nervous?"

I yelled back, "No, not really."

He continued, "I was talking to Logan."

It was quiet.

We leaned forward slightly and then Logan yelled "JUMP!"



The winds were rushing about me, and soon we reached terminal velocity, 120 MPH with contorted facial expressions of g-force. The jump was an adrenalin rush, intense, beyond belief that you'll only get in free-falling as you plummet downward. I was in my *Zen* zone.

At five-thousand feet, we deployed the chute and slowly drifted earthward. I marveled at the beauty of Key West beneath me. The views were nothing short of spectacular while I was gliding through the air in slow motion, looking down and seeing nature's beauty.

It would be a few minutes more before reaching the DZ pit. It was in sight, and we were on target for a perfect landing. The pilot flying above would not meet us on the ground due to increasing air currents which prevented him from landing slightly before us.

C'mon, Give It A Try

Want to enter a writing contest, but you're afraid you don't write well enough?

Well, the Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest honors bad writing.

Remember the famous opening "It was a dark and stormy night..."? This contest works off that opening by Edward George Bulwer-Lytton .

From what I can tell, it doesn't cost anything to enter, and you can enter as many times as you'd like. So, get writing. Give it a try. You might even win a couple of dollars ... and some notoriety.

NAVIGATING THE PUBLISHING MAZE

Gold Country Writers of Auburn is offering a seminar in April. Sharon Darrow will present "Self-Publishing 101" on Sunday, April 7 from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

It will be held at the General Gomez Arts Center, 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn.

The cost is only \$20 to the public and \$15 for Gold Country Writers members. Advance tickets are not necessary — just come!

Sharon has a comprehensive workbook, and speaks to writers/authors from beginning to multiply published. Other local writers who attended this seminar in Sacramento have said it was outstanding!



GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS WRITERS WORKSHOP

SHARON S. DARROW

NAVIGATING THE PUBLISHING MAZE: SELF-PUBLISHING 101

APRIL 7, 2019
1pm to 5:30pm

\$20 includes workbook
\$15 GCW Members



Traditional publishers vs Indie Publishers
vs Hybrid Publishers vs Self Publishers?

"Are you confused about what's the best choice for your manuscript? I can guarantee lots of fresh information, an opportunity to share your thoughts and questions in an interactive setting, and an entertaining environment where we can all laugh at our mistakes (I've made them all -- and will bring proof!) and share in our triumphs."



General Gomez Art & Event Center
808 Lincoln Way
Auburn, California 95603

Need a Name for Your Story?

Okay, you've been writing for a while. You're tired. Wiped out. But you need a name for a new character.

Mort Rumberg suggested this site:

<https://www.name-generator.org.uk/>

Once there, you will be asked some questions, then a name will be suggested.

If you use it, let us know how well it worked.

SEMANTICS

Important?

M. L. Anderson

News report – 2/4/19 KCRA Noon news:

"Cardio vascular disease kills one in three women every year."

I figure that in 3 years, there could be no women left.

Room for your article, story or poem here!
More room can easily be made available ... just write it and it will be printed!

Join the Club!

SSWC supports local writers and encourages everyone to write and publish. Attending meetings is free, but membership brings benefits, such as publication in the newsletter and anthology, use of our club's library, qualification for grants to attend conferences (limits apply), and ability to join our first-class critique groups.

MEMBERSHIP is paid on a yearly basis. If joining after March, dues are prorated by quarter (unless you are just really late in maintaining your membership!).

_____ Individual \$40.00/year _____ Couple \$55.00/year
 _____ Full-Time Student \$30/year _____ Platinum Senior (70+) \$30.00/year

More information is on our website: sactowriters.org

Name: _____ Genres: _____

Published? Y / N (yes, includes self-published) Email: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

Website/other info/address (optional): _____

OFFICERS

Elected Officers:

President	Ron Smith
Vice President	Brittany Lord
Secretary	Sheri Cockrell
Treasurer	David Stein

Chairs:

Coffee/Treats	Al Gilding
Critique Grps	Brittany Lord
Historian	Pat Biasotti
Librarian	Ron Smith
Membership	Jeannie Turner
Newsletter	Mary Lou Anderson
Nominations	You???
Prgm/Speakers	David Stein
Publicity	You???
Raffle	You???
Sunshine	Nan Roark
Website	Wes Turner
Workshops	Paul Turner

Motivation Prompt

Your class reunion is announced for this coming summer — only four months to prepare — and you decide to go.

What do you want to do to get ready?



MEETING INFORMATION

2nd Monday of every month

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Next meeting:

Monday, March 11

All writers are encouraged to attend. Membership is not mandatory but brings privileges.

**5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks
 Crossroads Christian Church
 Fellowship meeting room
 Just north of the Madison and Dewey intersection.**

Lots of free parking!

