



# Suburban Scribe

**Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers' Club**

## Medieval Weaponry and Customs



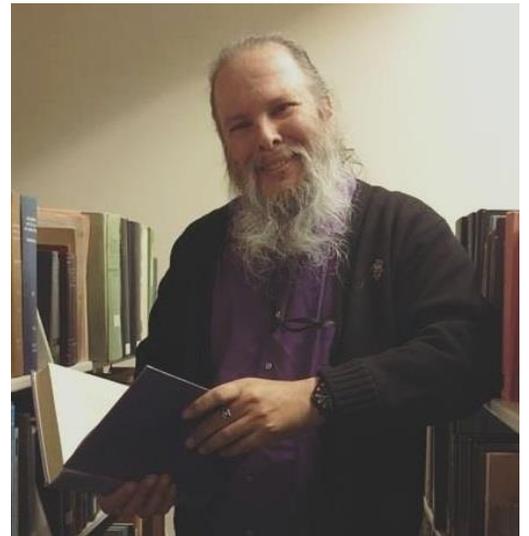
Doug Coronado's knowledge of swordplay, medieval weaponry, and noble manners, customs, and dress is outstanding. He is an excellent resource for writers of historical fiction and anything dealing with history (from medieval to 1800s) in terms of weaponry, knighthood, titles, kingdoms, everyday life, customs, manners, dress, nobility, courtship, etc. This will be an amazing presentation for any writers of historical fiction, fantasy, or high fantasy.

A fencer for 43 years, Doug currently teaches at the My Fencing Center in Chico, CA. Prior to that, he was the fencing instructor with the UC Davis Experimental College for 22 years. Although he is a master in classical fencing with its intricate footwork and blade work, his specialty is teaching the basics of fencing to beginners, helping them to build a strong foundation.

Doug has been a member of the SCA (Society for Creative Anachronism) for 30 years. In the SCA he prefers to go by "Coronado" but his full title is:  
*His Excellency Maestro Don*

*Jose Ramirez de Coronado, Baron to the Court of the Kingdom of the West.* His titles include: Ancient Guildmaster of Fence, Court Baron, Landed Baron, Western White Scarf, Peer of the Realm, Master of Defense. He is a two-time Western Kingdom Rapier Champion. When Doug is fencing in the SCA, his style is different than modern fencing. He fences two-handed, executing defense with a dagger and offense with a rapier.

Over the course of his career, Doug has taught fencing to several thousand students, some of whom have gone on to be fencing masters in their own right.



### MEETING INFORMATION

2nd Monday of every month 7:00 - 9:00 PM

**Next meeting: Monday, July 8 Crossroads Christian Fellowship Hall**

5501 Dewey Drive Just north of the Dewey and Madison intersection

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

# A WALK ON THE RIVER

Mark Heckey

The American River begins as a trickle from the crest of the Sierra Nevada range. It travels down the mountains through three major forks, pulling rock and mudslides in the spring, forming the alluvial streambeds that held so many gold deposits causing men to travel from all the world to find their fortunes. The river flows from the Sierra snowpack and makes its way 120 miles to Sacramento where its crystal blue water intertwines with the broad green waters of the Sacramento River.

Today we hiked the American River Parkway Trail. My wife and I started early, hoping to beat the summer heat. We chose a trail that meandered away from the crowded, paved bike trail of colorful spandexed bike riders and the super moms pushing strollers built for twins.

The trail began as a small opening in the brush, under now-brown trees, continuing down to the golden bluffs overlooking the river below. A gentle quiet covered the area as we came to an opening on the edge of a cliff, where we could see far into the distance both east and west.

Moving below us, the river appeared as a deep blue in the distance, but clear and glistening white at the foot of the cliff. One side was filled with rapids, the other pooled around white rocks and flowed over boulders, forming a swirling eddy in the constantly changing waterscape.

The water was both clear and blue, frothy and smooth. It was all these things at once. The quiet of the morning contrasted with the slap of the rapids cresting the rocks. A gentle wind brushed across us as we gazed at the palette of light and moving water with floating geese bobbing in the shallows near the white sand beach.

The river flowed gently but with power as we stood there—silent, reverent, transfixed.

## DON'T MISS

the July Workshop

L Paul Turner

will present

*how to express your work in more than print.*

Ever Written a Haiku? Try it. You might like it! Mark Heckey did.

## Road Trip

On the road again,

Filled with anticipation,

Wind blows through my hair.

## A PLEA FOR HELP

Pat Biasotti, our Historian, would like photos of SSWC activities, especially the Banquet ones (as featured in the July newsletter). Please do not e-mail them to her because she does not have a color printer. She would prefer to receive photographs at meetings or by mail; her address is 6650 Crosswoods Cir., #100, Citrus Heights, CA 95621.

She offers  
“Many thanks in advance!”

# LET YOURSELF SHINE

Karen Sepahmansour

Give me the boldness to pursue

The challenges that are so new

Help me to command my route

With no perfect steps to suit.

Surmount each mountain with zest

Give me the steps to climb my best

Keep my heart and mind beating and growing

There is a beauty in searching and knowing.

Renew my spirit with a bundle of joy

So I can feel like a kid with a new toy

Help me to stand up to the blunt

Any hurdle will not stunt

Hold tight when I steer the reins

There will be bumps and rocks I know the pains

I will bounce back from the hills

And succeed with many new thrills.

## WELCOME

TO OUR

NEWEST MEMBERS

With the addition of ***Shirley Taylor***, ***Laura Kellen***, and ***Emma Clasberry***, there are now 57 of us — paid or honorary! Active members of this vibrant club enthusiastically support one another.

SSWC champions local writers and encourages *everyone* to write and publish.

Attending meetings is free, but membership does bring benefits, such as publication in the newsletter and anthology, access to our club's library, qualification for grants to attend conferences (limits apply), and the privilege of joining our first-rate critique groups.

**OFFICERS**

**Elected Officers:**

President Ron Smith  
 Vice President Brittany Lord  
 Secretary **Y O U ? Please.**  
 Treasurer Julia Beyers

**Chairs:**

**Achievements Y O U ????**  
 Coffee/Treats Al Gilding  
 Conferences John Powell  
 Critique Grps Brittany Lord  
 Historian Pat Biasotti  
 Librarian Ron Smith  
 Membership Jeannie Turner  
 Newsletter Mary Lou Anderson  
**Nominations Y O U ????**  
 Prgm/Speakers Cathy McGreevy  
 Publicity Paul Turner  
**Raffle Y O U ????**  
 Sunshine Nan Roark  
 Website Wes Turner  
 Workshops Paul Turner

Advertise your writing related services in the  
***Suburban Scribe!***  
 \$3 a month (3-month minimum) for members  
 \$5 a month (3-month minimum) for non-members  
 Send your request to [newsletter@sactowriters.org](mailto:newsletter@sactowriters.org)

**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, maybe up to a couple hundred words, otherwise it will have to be serialized. Something short makes great filler. 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  
 about two (2) weeks prior to the meeting date.

MEMBERSHIP is paid on a yearly basis. If joining after March, dues are prorated by quarter.

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

Membership is not required for attending meetings but it does provide benefits including

- 1) Publication in newsletter
- 2) Participation in club author events
- 3) Participation in critique groups
- 4) Grants for conferences ... & more

More information is on our website: [sactowriters.org](http://sactowriters.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Genres: \_\_\_\_\_ Published? Y/N

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Website/other info/address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Your name and email are needed to receive the digital newsletter.