

December, 2021

# Suburban Scribe

Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

[sactowriters.org](http://sactowriters.org)

**Speakers for Monday, December 13, 2021 are us! Come All Ye Writers & Would-Be Writers To Zoom and... SHARE your Writing or Your Favorite Writer's Work. Give us the Pleasure of Your Narrative Voice and Command our Attention!**

**Topics:** Personal Stories, the Weather, Current Endeavors, Plans for the Great American Novel, Non-Fiction Topics of Interest, All Determined by Crowd Attending.

**FEMA Warns of Internet Gaggle** as unruly thoughts pervade Zoom gathering online at **Sacramento Suburban Writers Club**. This gathering of multi-minded individuals is reported to seek overthrow of the status quo with plans to write almost anything, anywhere. **SSWC meeting attendees** experience mind-blowing ideas from far out thinkers of the speculative realm. Clashes between non-fiction thoughts and fictioners cause sparks in the air. Genre wars are expected, as few in SSWC fit into round holes of category fiction and non-fiction. A revolution in publishing is at hand. **Attend at your peril.**

## Milestones

The Christmas Rumberg has written Santa once again. Could he have employed a copy and line editor? No doubt. See, page 3.

Cle of Earth Curbo has smashed all records and uploaded a novella, a dark fantasy onto the Smashwords tome portal. Title: Enter Living —Harry and Seek— Book of the Dead. You, too, can upload short fiction.

### **Meeting Info — Briefly —**

Join us on Monday, December 13, at 7 p.m. for the next SSWC meeting time.

**On your computer.**

AT 6:55 pm CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE 7 pm ZOOM MEETING —

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2521715779?pwd=aXdYM1FLRStzVnZqYlZyYzZ3OUUpudz09>

See page 2 for complete Zoom details to join the meeting.

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Hello fellow writers and artists of all walks of life,

Ronald Smith, President SSWC

Just click on the link below, and you will be connected to the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2521715779?pwd=aXdYM1FLRStzVnZqYlZyYzZ3OUUpudz09>

2nd way to join the meeting, log into your Zoom account and enter:

Meeting ID: 252 171 5779

Passcode: 7JjTpg

Cell Phone use:

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,2521715779#,,,,\*816451# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 252 171 5779

Passcode: 816451

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbamTXnyKv>



## **AWA-style feedback: What was strong; what you liked; what stays with you.**

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AWA refers to Amherst Writers & Artists. They believe each writer has a unique voice, and that learning is best when the writer has a safe environment to work in. Here are some of their guidelines from their website for critiquing a fellow writer's work, especially in a group setting.

Be confidential: if you hear it in a group, it stays in the group.

Exercises to be done are simply suggestions. You don't have to do your homework. This simply means that you are the sanctioner of your writing. No one else is your boss. If the exercise incites an idea that you want to pursue, then do so, even if it is way off base from the stated basis for the exercise.

All writing is taken as fiction, even if you're writing memoirs, or especially if you are writing memoirs. This is a corollary to the rule that the written and spoken word stays in the group. So fellow writers can refer to your character or narrator, even if it's you telling a memory story.

Feedback should focus not on the mistakes, but on the strengths of the writing. Often the writing is done on the spot, so it's not going to be perfect. Seek to support your fellow authors, and yourself, by emphasizing strengths over weaknesses. Here are guidelines which are vital to that support system:

Say what was strong about the writing piece being examined.

Say what you liked about the writing piece.

Say what stayed with you about the piece.

These three points to remember, what is strong, what you liked, and what stayed with you, allow your fellow writer to attend to the good points of their writing, and aim for those strengths time after time.

[www.AmherstWriters.org](http://www.AmherstWriters.org)

### Draft Letter to Santa

~~Dear, Fatted, Bumbling Fool,~~ (No, too harsh)

~~Dear inconsiderate and unkind idiot in red PJs,~~ (Eh, he's not really stupid)

~~Dear insensitive and undeserving clown in red PJs,~~ (Yikes, he's not really a clown even though he dresses like one)

~~Dear uncaring trickster,~~ (Naw, he's not a trickster although he's on the edge of being one)

~~Dear chump,~~ (Sheesh, it may not be a good idea to call him a chump)

Dear Santa Claus, (I hate being civil to this ~~fatty~~ – er, large person)

I wish I was writing you this letter under different circumstances but I am very, very, very disappointed with you this year – again.

Not only do I understand that you once again placed me on your Naughty List, but after all these years I've still not received my Maseratti. I also understand that the very, very, very beautiful Mrs. Claus doesn't know about some of your unskedualed stops last year and the expensive gifts you left behind. Now, because those stops were unskedualed and really, really, really unwarranted, and the very, very, very beautiful Mrs. Claus doesn't know about them, I can't imagine that you considered all the consequences before placing me on your Official Naughty List. I really, really, really don't want to be a rat and snitch on you. The only thing I want is my Maseratti. I really, really, really want it. After all these years, you should surely understand this. Color is not impotent. Any color is good.

Surely you wouldn't want the very, very, very beautiful Mrs. Claus to know of your taking part in questionable stops during your annual trip around the world. There's still time for us to arrive at a win-win situation.

There must be some room for flexibility. How could you be so unkind to me? I am a writer and only write to entertain. I am a really, really, really very good one.

Santa, I really, really, really don't want to let the very, very, very beautiful Mrs. Claus know of your "unauthorized" stops, but after hearing about some of the "things" you did during your trip last December (of which I admit, to say the least, I am a bit envious), I thought it prudent to send you this very, very, very nice letter as a friendly reminder. I understand that those "things" are illegal everywhere. You also have not even said if you have received your vaccination shots. I'm sure that the very, very, very beautiful Mrs. Claus has received hers because she is the epitome of good behavior.

So, let's make this a win-win presperashun. You give me the Maseratti and you and the very, very, very beautiful Mrs. Clause are free and clear.

Sincerely,

Unassumingly modest, award-winning, world-famous author

M.M. Rumberg

## Join the Club!

We are a vibrant club with active writers, have several critique groups (with room for more), and stay wonderfully supportive of each other.

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 April, dues are prorated by quarter (unless you are just really late in maintaining your membership!).

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual \$40 / year

\_\_\_\_\_ Couple \$55 / year

\_\_\_\_\_ Full-Time Student \$30 / year

\_\_\_\_\_ Platinum Senior (70+) \$30 / year

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Genres: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**MAIL YOUR DUES TO: Jeannie Turner. Her address is in the Directory. If you don't have a copy, email Jeannie at [turnerjeannie48@gmail.com](mailto:turnerjeannie48@gmail.com) and she will let you know where to send it.**

## OFFICERS

### Elected Officers:

President	Ron Smith
Vice President	Brittany Lord
Secretary	Linda Covelli
Treasurer	Julie Beyers

### Chairs:

Coffee/Treats	Al Gilding
Conferences	John Powell
Critique Grps	Brittany Lord
Historian	Pat Biasotti
Librarian	Ron Smith
Membership	Jeannie Turner
Newsletter	Paul Turner
<b>Nominations</b>	<b>YOU ????</b>
Prgm/Speakers	Laura Kellen
Publicity	Paul Turner
Raffle	<b>YOU ????</b>
Sunshine	Nan Roark
Website	Wes Turner
Workshops	Gloria Cooksey

**There's a spot in the list  
above for YOU!**

## WRITING INSPIRATION

It's all in the fingers. As you take up the pen, or put your fingers onto the keyboard to type, the words seem to flow from your fingers. It's not analytical, it is associative thinking or dreaming. Your critique partner must be shunted away to the quiet room of your mind. Only after you have a hundred pages will you need to put on your editor's cap. Until then, write with abandon. You are the master of the universe.

- Cle Curbo, Beginning Writer.



## MEETING INFORMATION

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Next meeting:**

**Monday, Dec. 13, 2021**

**via Zoom**

*All writers are encouraged to attend.  
Membership is not mandatory  
but brings privileges — like  
**publication in the newsletter!***

