

Suburban Scribe

Sacramento Suburban Writers Club (SSWC)

sactowriters.org

Episode IV: A New Hope, or How SSWC Grows and Changes when Seeded with New Ideas and the Fun, Yes, Fun, of Critique.

For the January 9, 2023, Monday night meeting (pretty much 7:00—9:00 p.m.), please bring with you your own creation in the form of ONE PAGE. Your creation may be the intro to a fiction story, or non-fiction story, a tragedy, a comedy, a memoir, a fictional memoir, a page of lyrics either for a song or for a poem. It could be an article or start of an article for a magazine, newspaper, or journal. And, it could be less than one page, but no more than one page. Longer passages are for your individual critique groups.

The writer chooses the critique style. See, page 3 to know the AWA style is available.

The one page could be a trick to fool the critics, because we, you, us, the critics will offer humor, enlightenment, serious suggestions, full explanations, or fulsome explanations, and general comments either tearing your work to pieces or encouraging you to continue. Yet, be warned: this is an exercise in the fun of writing. That is, submit something which would, in your opinion, be fun to tear apart. It could be purposefully an example of poor writing, perhaps full of cliches, tropes and writing rule breakers.

OUR OBJECTIVE is to enhance our critical skills so that when we edit our own stories in preparation for a reading by others, that we are confident of our edits. To that end, here are the critic criteria for a fun critique session, which may be only for the brave and foolish among us. Or, maybe even the meekest of us may offer a bit of writing to be sacrificed on the altar of learning, derision, and good intentions gone awry.

TYPICAL CRITERIA FOR CRITIQUE: 1. Does the piece grab you in the first three sentences? 2. Is the writing clear? 3. Is it smooth? 4. Does the writing inform the reader as to who, what, when, where, and invoke care in the first three sentences? 5. Is the entire piece interesting, with beats, hopes, crashes of hope, cliffs of tension, or the hero's journey?

Meeting Info — Briefly —

Join us in person on Monday, January 9, at 7 p.m. for the next SSWC meeting at 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks in the Fellowship Hall behind the white picket fence.

For people wishing to attend by Zoom, Ron Smith or Brittany Lord (Tealya) will email members the Zoom link. See, also, Page 2.

Non-members may request the Zoom link from L Paul Turner at lpaulturner2050@gmail.com.

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Hello fellow writers and artists of all walks of life, members and guests,

January 9, 2023, will be a meet and greet and Zoom meeting. 7-9 p.m.

Pacific Time. Please arrive at or before 7:00 p.m. at 5501 Dewey Drive,

Fair Oaks in the Fellowship Hall behind the white picket fence at the edge of the parking lot.

The Zoom logo is a blue square with the word "zoom" in white lowercase letters.

(For meeting on Zoom, Ron Smith or Brittany Lord will send members a link by email. New guests must email: lpaulturner2050@gmail.com.)

The WORKSHOP

The January Workshop is here presented by Cle Curbo.

Enjoy Cle Curbo's short story, *Seven Witches*, listen to the beats and you'll see how the producer uses those beats to provide tension and release of tension in every paragraph.

Be delighted as Jim (the producer) adds appropriate pause points with well chosen dramatic musical snippets.

Visit www.AppaloosaRadio.Productions for the Most Recent Audio

Seven Witches.

Author Interviews Still Online at SSWC Podcasts

Visit to listen at any of the following websites:

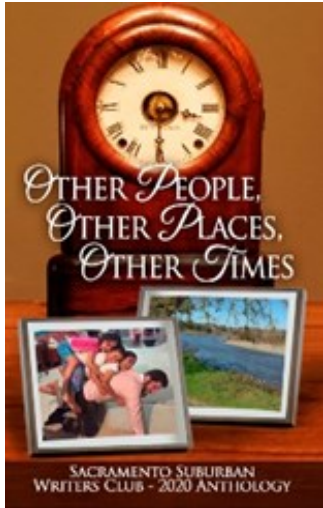
<https://anchor.fm/sactowriters>

Spotify <https://open.spotify.com/show/0UHX19RTviPkRXMzkyg6V>

RadioPublic <https://radiopublic.com/sactowriters-694Q1Z>

Pocket Casts <https://pca.st/z1e83qlq>

Books of Interest



Cover by SSWC's Esteemed and Future Guest Speaker, Tatiana Villa

Welcome to a beautiful and engaging collection of short stories and poetry created by twenty-three SSWC Sacramento area writers on *Other People, Other Places, and Other Times*. Enjoy this page-turning anthology that brings readers into the diverse and powerful worlds that Sacramento Suburban Writers have imagined.

Election of Officers & Filling Vacant Appointed Chairships

Elections were held via email and ballots counted. Results will be announced at the January meeting by Westley Stark, the noted sci-fi author of *Ex Terra Expeditions*. The Elective Openings were for officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Appointed Chairships are open to requests to be appointed. Please see page 5. In the lower left of page 5 are listed all the appointed posts. Please contact Ron Smith to apply for the posts.

Advanced Writers Techniques Prompt for January 9, 2023

Advanced Writers (anyone can join the Advanced Writers meeting) will meet (before the regular meeting) at 6:15 P.M. in the Fellowship Meeting Hall kitchen, and adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Please meet with us to go over the one page submissions for critique. We will establish the order of presentations, determine who will read to the attending and interactive audience all or some of the various writings, and the techniques available for applying critical thinking to the writings. The AWA critique system should be employed at the writer's request. Some writers will enjoy a scathing critique, while others may choose the gentler AWA system which allows for only positive comments such as: 1. What I liked about the writing. 2. What was strong. 3. What will stay with the reader.

Every month AWT meets independently of the regular meeting and discusses advanced writing techniques. ***These are interactive sessions. We share ideas on how to tell our non-fiction and fiction stories better with characters of interest, dialogue, descriptions, scenes, plot, and so on. Practice your innovative skills to create a book, essay, memoir, short story, poem, or collection that readers will love. AWT meets monthly 45 minutes before the regular meeting held at 7:00 p.m.***

SSWC Member Extra



A Service of the
Appaloosa Springs
Audio Theater
Collaborative

https://appaloosa_radio.buzzsprout.com/

Jim is not seeking to attract a fickle audience who surf in frantic search for mind-popping fluff. On the contrary, Jim's audience are listeners who seek relaxation, entertainment, and learning from a stable and professional source.

No short videos that blink into and out of existence like on TikTok, or YouTube Shorts, yet short stories are welcome!



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

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 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:

AdvWritrsTechniques	Mike Brandt
Coffee/Treats	Al Gilding
Conferences	Open
Critique Grps	Brittany Lord
Historian	Open
Librarian	Ron Smith
Membership	Open
Newsletter	Open
Nominations	Open
Prgm/Speakers	Open
Publicity	Open
Raffle	Open
Sunshine	Nan Roark
Website	Wes Turner
Workshops	Open
Podcasts	Open

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

WRITING INSPIRATION

SSWC podcast on the Internet at <https://anchor.fm/sactowriters> has inspiring topics.

Believe in yourself. Write something short and send it out to someone, or to the Internet. Send it to Appaloosa Radio. See, page 1 of this newsletter for a link. Keep at it. You will become a published author if you want to..

Got an idea? Spread the word.

Put pen or printer to paper.



MEETING INFORMATION

7:00 - 9:00 PM

After December, our Next meeting is:

Monday, Feb. 13, 2023

At 5501 Dewey Drive,

Fair Oaks

And, on Zoom

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

