

July, 2023

Suburban Scribe

Sacramento Suburban Writers' Club Newsletter

sactowriters.org

Join us on Monday, July 10, at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall at 5501 Dewey Drive, corner of Dewey and Madison.

Brittany Lord will be our speaker.

This month, come join us for an in-person, interactive presentation all about critique groups by our member, Brittany Lord.

Are you in a critique group? If not, you should be, but starting and keeping a critique group going can be tricky. Everyone has different personalities, schedules and responsibilities that can make getting together difficult. Then of course, you have to know how to critique, and not everyone does. Even people who really want to be good critiquers sometimes find themselves unsure how to approach critiquing someone else's work. While critique groups can offer a lot of benefits, it can seem daunting to get into one and keep it going.



Have no fear, help is here!

Brittany's presentation this month is all about how to critique and manage your critique group. It will be live and with in-person audience participation.

If you have ever had trouble in a critique group, this is the perfect meeting to come in and get your questions answered. If you are not in a critique group, this is also the perfect time to come and meet others. Maybe you could even start a new one (hint, hint).

Attend in Person

Our speaker, our very own Brittany Lord, has asked that everyone who possibly can to **join us in person.**

She plans to include members in the discussions of the information and scenarios presented.

So, please come.

Hello, fellow writers and artists of all walks of life, members, and guests — EVERYONE IS WELCOME, NO MATTER YOUR ... WELL, NO MATTER YOUR *ANYTHING!*

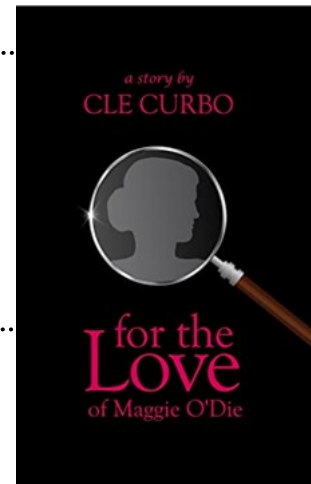
Please join us in person at 7 p.m. at 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks in the Fellowship Hall of the Crossroads Christian Fellowship Church behind the white fence at the edge of the parking lot. We meet on the second Monday of every month except May when we meet at a local restaurant.

For meeting in person, please arrive by 7:00 p.m. at 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks in the Fellowship Hall behind the white fence at the edge of the parking lot. The room has a super-large television for viewing the speaker while enjoying the camaraderie of other members.

If you MUST join on Zoom 7-9 p.m. from home, President Ron Smith will send members a link by email. Non-members and guests can contact mledsonanderson@yahoo.com either the day before, or the day of, the meeting.

Ronald Smith, President SSWC

Member Cle Curbo announces that he has just published "For the Love of Maggie O'Die" in hardcover and Kindle on Amazon. Please see www.clecurbo.com for the link to the book.



This space is reserved for your short story or poem next month.

Please email your submission to mledsonanderson@yahoo.com

Writing Tip from the Grammar Guardian

Include odors in your scenes – pleasant, rotten, romantic. Its source can be from a human (cologne, perfume, after shave), candles, pets, flowers, oceans, cooking ... anything. Bring your reader into the story and location with *good scents*.



Gold Country Writers Announces Short Story Contest

JUNE 14 TO JULY 26

SHORT STORY CONTEST 2023



Gold Country Writers (GCW) is hosting a writing competition open to writers residing in Placer, Yuba, El Dorado, Nevada, Sutter, and Sacramento counties. This is a great chance for writers to showcase their work and win cash prizes. The competition aims to provide recognition and help local writers build their credentials. The deadline for submissions runs from June 14 to July 26, 2023. The limit for submission is one entry per person.

Only original and unpublished fiction stories are accepted for the contest, with a maximum word count of 1500 words. Writers have the freedom to use any theme or genre. Put ink and imagination to work to write a winning story.

There is a submission fee to enter of \$15 and a discounted fee of \$10 for GCW members. Writers retain full ownership of their work. However, by entering writers agree to allow GCW to use their stories in their publications and to showcase winning entries. In addition, Gold Country Media will publish the winning stories online and in the local newspapers.

The GCW Short Story Contest is open to all writers and offers a great opportunity for new writers to be recognized. To participate in the contest, stories must be submitted in standard manuscript format. This includes double-spacing, using Times New Roman 12-point font, and submitting the story as a Word or Rich Text document. The stories will be judged anonymously based on specific criteria.

Winners of the GCW Short Story Contest will be revealed on Saturday, October 7, at a special celebration event at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room. The top three winners will receive cash prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50. For more information about the contest and to submit your entry, please visit the official GCW website at www.goldcountrywriters.com.

If you have any questions please contact Rebecca Partridge, the Contest Organizer, at rebeccapartridge@att.net (hold down the **control** key and click on the blue for the link)

Gold Country Writers (GCW) is a 501c (3) non-profit community organization that aims to foster and support writers in the Gold Country area of California.

This event is sponsored in part by the Arts Council of Placer County and Gold Country Media. www.goldcountrywriters.com. (hold down the **control** key and click on the blue for the link)

HELP !!! VOLUNTEERS

This is getting serious, folks ...

Calling all members — SSWC is in need of volunteers. You do have a few extra minutes once in a while, right?

Well, there is need for:

Newsletter Editor/Publisher
Snacks/Refreshments
Historian

Membership Committee
Publicity
Nominations

No individual job takes much time, and you learn a lot about the club, our members, and even more about writing by helping out.

Contact Ron Smith ... or any other Board member as listed on the last page of this newsletter.

The More I Learn, The More It Hurts

Hope for Improvements During My Life
Shot Down—Shot to Pieces

Anon. (per author's request)

Entitled?
Ignorant?
What they did
Was kept hidden
From those who cared
By those who didn't.

Insult.
Injury.
Torture.
Pain.
Those who claimed
To love
Didn't.
Couldn't.

Excuses?
None exist
Excuse it?
Explain it?
Forgive it?
No one should.

Tears fall from eyes
While the heart aches.
While the heart breaks.

There is no way to return
To the past and make remedies.
Only live and love
And share
And show
You care,
And pretend that will
Make a difference.

Writing Tip from the Grammar Guardian:

Make sure your characters **react** (not ignore or just simply *respond* casually ... or not) to comments or actions of others. Have them show an emotion, facial expression, and/or a gesture too.



California Authors at the California State Fair, July 14 - 30

Laura Kellen

The 2023 California State Fair is taking place later this month, and this year's lineup of California Authors has been selected! Every year several California authors are invited to set up at the California State Fair, where they can sell their books, promote their careers, and interact with book lovers from all over the Sacramento region — and beyond!

The California State Fair runs from July 14-30, and takes place at Cal Expo. Daily admission for adults is \$16, and parking is \$15. The Fair is open from 11am-10pm Monday - Thursday, and 10am-10pm Friday-Sunday. For more information about the Fair, visit: <https://calexpostatefair.com>

To see the full author lineup, visit here: <https://calexpostatefair.com/fair/california-authors-booth/>

Also of note, *New York Times* bestselling author Brenda Novak will have her Bookstream Bookmobile on display throughout the entire Fair, in Building A/B. For more information on Brenda Novak's Bookstream Bookmobile, visit: <https://brendanovak.com/events/>

Hope to see you there!



Future Speakers / Events

Here is our upcoming roster:

July - Brittany Lord (Tealya)

August - Crystel Patterson,
children's book author.

September - Tatiana Villa, Cover
artist (rebooked from last year)

October - Marshall Patrick Garvey,
Sports Writer

November - Lee Herrick,
California Poet Laureate

December - Annual Party

This page is intentionally repeated each month. .

Follow the SSWC podcasts at:

<https://anchor.fm/sactowriters>

Spotify (<https://open.spotify.com/show/0UHX19RTviPkRXMzkysg6V>)

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

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



Which Club Members Have Published?

Check out the SSWC website. You will find a list of members and their book on our club's website: <https://www.sactowriters.org/books-by-our-members/>

If you are a member and have published material, send the information to Wes Turner, including any links to your own website and/or to a site that sells your books (eg Amazon). His email is listed in our club roster. Wes will add your book(s) to the list.

R U Done Yet?

Have you finished another book? Had an article published recently?

Are you holding a Book Launch to let the world know what you have accomplished? Let the other members and readers know.

Send a brief announcement (including links and your contact information) to mledsonanderson@yahoo.com and have it included in the next newsletter. Please include a copy of the cover.

Members — Wanna be Published?

Submit your own short story, article, poem, excerpt of your own book to the newsletter for publication. (Please keep it to under 450 or so words ... or it will have to be serialized.)

It would give you bragging rights as being published if you are going to be in contact with an agent and/or publisher.

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Note that the article to the left is directed to "members."

So, if you do *wanna be published* in any future newsletters, make sure your dues are up to date.

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	
Treasurer	Mary Lou Anderson

Chairs:

Coffee/Treats	
Conferences	
Critique Groups	Brittany Lord
Historian	
Librarian	Ron Smith
Membership	Jeannie Turner
Newsletter	
Nominations	
Prgm/Speakers	Laura Kellen
Publicity	
Raffle	
Scholarship	Karen Sepahmansour & Bernard Wosney
Sunshine	Nan Roark
Website	Wes Turner
Workshops	

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



WRITING PROMPT

Wish a happy birthday to someone who means a lot to you. Tell her or him how much you enjoy their personality, their individuality, their quirks.



MEETING INFORMATION

7:00 - 9:00 PM

We meet the second Monday each month, year round. Same time. Same place:
5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks, CA
Just north of the Madison/Dewey intersection, across from the Safeway.
In the Friendship Hall through the white fence.

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