

December, 2023

Suburban Scribe

Sacramento Suburban Writers' Club Newsletter

sactowriters.org

Party Time! Excellent!

What's better than a SSWC meeting? ... Trick question. There isn't - especially when there's FREE FOOD!

Potluck Holiday Dinner with Free Pizza on December 11th.

Come join your fellow writers for our annual holiday potluck! SSWC will be providing free pizza as well as plates, napkins, forks, etc., We encourage you to bring a food item to share.

Feel free to bring a friend, family, significant other, or other guest! First-timers are welcome.

The potluck will be held in our regular space at the Fellowship Hall.

For entertainment, bring a piece of writing to read aloud, or a holiday favorite to read to the group (*Twas the Night Before Christmas*, anyone?)

Please RSVP to Ron Smith to let him know how much pizza to get.

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.

We **HIGHLY** encourage meeting in person. The room has a super-large television for viewing the speaker if they are not in-person, plus there are usually goodies you can snack on. Feel free to show up early for the chance to talk to some of the hippest dudes and dudettes in the Golden Bear state.

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. Make sure you close all your browser tabs and eliminate potential distractions.

Hello Friends,

I'm sad to hear about another one of our gifted writers passing away. Penny Howard. She helped organize the writer's club in many ways. One way she kept our members' readings within five minutes during the December potluck. She threatened, in fun, to pull a lever and have the floor open up if the reader went passed his or her time. She had never pulled the lever, mostly because she let us go past our time. You will be missed, Penny.

Ronald Smith President SSWC

*If you would like to attend the memorial service it is being held at
St Michael's Episcopal Church
2140 Mission Avenue Carmichael, CA 95608
A reception to follow in the church parish hall.*

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

It can't be as stomach-churning as eating an entire Turducken,
of that I'm sure.

Please email your submission to

kevycastle32@gmail.com

(If you're nice to him he won't demand a payment of Mashed Potatoes which are his favorite.)

\$1000 Writing Scholarship!

Awarded by Sacramento Suburban Writers' Club
The 2024 Scholarship for High School Seniors is now open for submissions



Read all the details at:

<https://www.sactowriters.org/2024-scholarship>



And submit your work early to:

scholarship@sactowriters.org

Final Deadline: March 29, 2024

Appaloosa Radio

Jim Miller

I have introduced a new feature to my Appaloosa Radio webcast site called **91-Second Stories**. These are complete fiction stories that run about 91 seconds to listen to. Typically, this runs 250 to 350 words. It is an exciting genre to write in. Concise and pithy stories that carry an impact.

I am inviting the Club's members to submit their own 91-Second Stories which I'll convert into audio.



I have been webcasting the stories on both my podcast (Appaloosa Radio Podcast) and on my main site (Appaloosa Radio Productions). Of course, the podcast is always available on services such as Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music, Overcast, etc.

Appaloosa Radio—James Joel Miller Jim.mount.miller@gmail.com
online audio theater where original stories come alive!

You can also check out the newly formed Appaloosa Radio YouTube Channel featuring some of our very own members! <https://www.youtube.com/@Appaloosastories>

Appaloosa Radio is a production of the Appaloosa Springs Audio Theater, a volunteer collaborative whose purpose is to create, produce, and share original story content through webcast radio experiences.

We offer a **permanent archive** of our original audio stories at Appaloosa Radio Productions --- <https://appaloosaradio productions>

We also offer a **podcast** service that adds new episodes each week. The podcast host is at --- <https://appaloosa radio.buzzsprout.com>

Principal contact: jim-j@appaloosaradio productions

Behind every door is an untold story . . .

~ Jim Mounts-Miller ~

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

It can't be as terrible as the Grinch's heart as he stole the presents of Whoville, of that

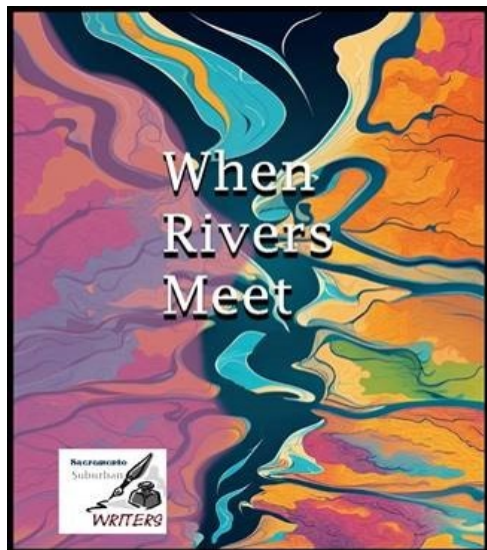
I'm sure.

Please email your submission to

kevycastle32@gmail.com

(If you're nice to him he won't demand a live recitation of a Christmas carol, although you should still do it anyway.)

When Rivers Meet



The Sacramento Suburban Writers Club is going beyond print to sharing our stories by audio and video. We will host a story-sharing platform that will webcast our audio stories to services such as Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Stitcher, iHeartRadio, TuneIn, Alexa, Overcast, PocketCasts, Castro, Castbox, Podchaser, etc. That means that anyone can listen to them on their smartphone or in their car wherever they may be in the world!

We are also posting the same stories to a YouTube channel that will also feature other stories written by the Club's members. That option opens even more opportunities for sharing our tales. The Board has decided to begin by webcasting stories previously published in one of our anthologies.

Thus...

If you have written a story that has been included in any of our published anthologies, please contact Jim Mounts-Miller at jim-j@appaloosaradio productions or Brittany Lord (a.k.a. tealya) at tealya@hotmail.com to confirm that you wish to have your story (or stories) webcast on these new platforms.

We are calling this an audio-anthology and we have tentatively named it, "***When Rivers Meet***" and the subtitle is "Fiction from the Sacramento Suburban Writers' Club."

There is no charge for webcasting your stories on any of these platforms.

Future SSWC Speakers / Events

December - Annual Party!!!!

January - Frank Nissen, Historical Fiction

February - Elena Smith, Law Librarian

March - It's a Delicious Mystery

April - Krysta Tawlks, YA Fantasy Author

May - Annual Banquet

June - Kimberly Watkins, K-12 Educator and Writing Instructor

This page is intentionally repeated each month.

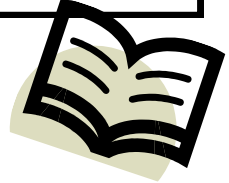
Follow the SSWC podcasts at:

<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 any kind of material published recently? Finished a BIG Milestone on your current project?

Are you holding a Book Launch or Public Reading to let the world know what you have accomplished? Let the other members and readers know so we can support you!

Send a brief announcement (including links and your contact information) to kevincastle32@gmail.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, or 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.

Send all Submissions to Kevin The Newsletter Goblin: kevincastle32@gmail.com

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

So, if you do *want to 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 Kevin Castle (Goblin)
 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

(450 Words or Less)

Since it's December, tell a story using Santa as the main character. Does he get sick and can't deliver presents? Does he turn evil and violent due to the ungratefulness of this world? Does he get kidnapped and has to escape an overly complicated villainous plot? You Decide!

Make sure to Submit it for next month's Newsletter! (Yes, even you.)



MEETING INFORMATION

7:00 - 9:00 PM

We meet the second Monday each month, year round. Be there or be square.
 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.

(Yes, that means you!)

Membership not mandatory but brings privileges
such as publication in the newsletter!

