

July 2026

# Sacramento Suburban Writers' Club

suburban

# SCRIBE

**Join us on Monday evening, July 13 for a fascinating presentation by Catherine McGreevy, author and SSWC member.**

The meeting starts at 7 pm at the Friendship Hall of the Crossroads Church, 5502 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks, CA (near the corner of Dewey and Madison).

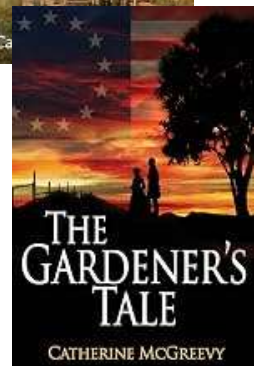
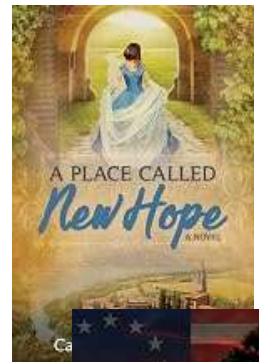


Cathy's topic will be "The Writer's Toolkit." She will cover "how to create a professional, polished manuscript using the "tools of the trade" Then, with a smile, she adds, "They'll have to come to learn what those are."

Make sure to attend to learn more about how this has helped Cathy become a proficient and productive writer.

Cathy McGreevy grew up a foreign-service brat, moving often and attending a total of 12 schools in 12 years, including international schools in Spain, France, and Morocco. After graduating from Brigham Young University in 1983, she started her writing career as a reporter and editor for a group of community newspapers in Los Angeles, covering politics, crime, and local events in Glendora, San Dimas, LaVerne, and Covina. Great job, colorful co-workers, virtually zero money. Priceless experience.

When she left to raise a family, she expected to finally have time to write the great American novel. Not surprisingly that didn't happen. By the time her three kids were grown, however, she had studied screenwriting at UCA, acquired a California Teacher's Credential in English / Language Arts, and finished a couple of screenplays, one of which was about the founder of Sacramento, Sam Brannan, and placed well in a national screenwriting competition. The other screenplay, called Lola Montez, was represented for several years by a professional agent.



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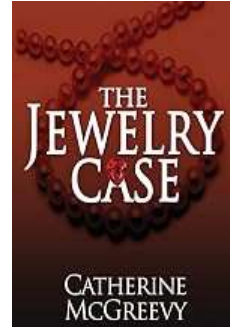
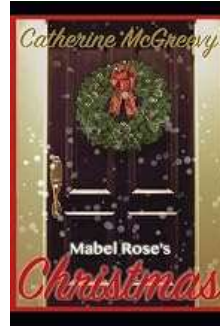
Cathy's short movie, *The Cask of Amontillado*, won Best Adaptation in Sacramento's 2013 Poe Project Competition.

But Cathy is first and foremost a novelist. So far, she has published several historical and suspense novels, including *Chance's Bluff* and *A Place Called New Hope*, which were traditionally published by Cedar Fort Publishing. Her other published books include *The Jewelry Case*, *The Gardener's Tale*, and *Mabel Rose's Christmas*.

Cathy has been active in several Writer's Clubs in the Sacramento Area, including The Sacramento Suburban Writer's Club, of which she has been a member since 2009.

<https://www.amazon.com/s?k=catherine+mcgreevy+author&crd=1KLRLQD971RUU&sprefix=catherin+mcgreevy+author%2Caps%2C173>

Use this QR Code to immediately access the site with her books.



### In Memory

Nan Roark

Another S.S.W.C. Member was celebrated for philanthropic contributions to the Sacramento Area.

Erasmia (Eras Cochran) Marianthy Cochran passed away on April 11th, 2026. More of her life info can be found online at The Sacramento Bee and on this site: <https://obits.mlive.com/us/obituaries/annarbor/name/eras-cochran-obituary?id=61401828>

Eras was blessed with longevity of life. Eras lived to be 101.



## Last Month's M I N G L E

In June, we discussed movies – about writing, about authors, about creating worlds with words.

Several members of SSWC came to the June Mingle at Denny's last month. A couple of members provided lists of movies dealing with authors ... some comedies, some bios. We had fun discussing them.

Of course, other aspects of writing and publishing books followed.

Join us if you want to keep up with news about writing (and maybe a bit of gossip???). If you miss a Mingle meeting, you miss a lot.

## JULY M I N G L E

### **SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION —**

#### **Character development & picking a name for a fictional character**

Choosing a character's name for your novel, novella, or short story is like picking a name for a baby. It must suit the character's personality, make sense for the time period, and, most importantly, be memorable.

Join us at our Mingle and kick around names.

July 18, 2026, From 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Denny's Restaurant, 122 Sunrise Ave, Roseville (Sunrise and Douglas)

All writers are welcome. No charge & this is interactive. Bring ideas and suggestions.

## **THE DARKNESS CAME FOR ME THIS NIGHT**

*Anthony Marcolongo*

(2012)

The darkness came for me this night,  
I saw it slithering.  
It crept along, searching the hill for me,  
With its blackened-shadows of stealth.

Now alone, with thoughts of home,  
I turn to face the predator of the nocturne,  
It seemed to grab my throat and throttle me,  
A soldier's nighttime fright.

Then I see my love's face once more,  
There, in a moonlight beam  
I want to live, I want to go home,  
But I cannot leave my friends out here, alone.

A distant sound, a bullet slashed,  
And through pain, shock and fright,  
I look upon her face once more,  
But the darkness came for me this night.



### **SSW Trivia**

Submitted by Mike Brandt

What is significant about July 1<sup>st</sup>?

**IT'S CANADA DAY!**

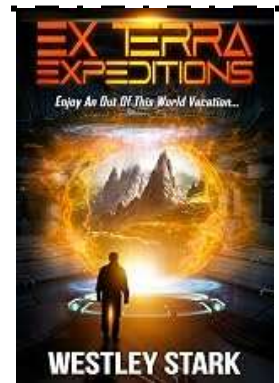
July 1<sup>st</sup> celebrates the anniversary of the establishment of the Dominion of Canada through the passage of the British North American Act by the British Parliament 159 years ago in 1867.

**Wes Turner**, aka Westley Stark, wrote ... and published ... *Ex Terra Expeditions*.

This is a fun read, full of adventure and exciting experiences of a group of young men who found a way to visit another planet. Will they survive the situations they find themselves in? Will they be able to return to their home planet?

To find ... AND BUY ... his book, go to <https://a.co/d/01JiWM9a>

Or aim your cell phone's camera at the QR code.



## SSWC Authors Yes, I'm shamelessly promoting members' books because they VOLUNTEER to help keep SSWC running smoothly.

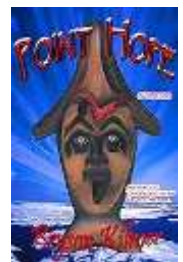
**M. L. Edson** (Mary Lou) has books available on Amazon/Kindle – suspense thrillers, writing assistance from the Grammar Guardian, poetry, and more. Just point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right to see her books ... and maybe order something.



**Brison Kilmer** (Ron Smith )

Besides the many books Ron, er Bryson still has to finish editing or add refining touches to (or are still bouncing around in his head) he has published *Point Hope*, which is available on Amazon/Kindle.

He has copies of his book, so contact him to purchase one. Or, you might be lucky and find one on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/0984604359/>



Then other published members of the Scholarship Committee who have books out, then Cathy McGreevy, then ... *you???*

**Want to be on this list? Become a member! Become an *active* member. Volunteer!**

**See the list of ALL members, past and present, on our club's website — [www.sactowriters.org](http://www.sactowriters.org) .**

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## OFFICERS

### HELP FILL THE VOIDS

#### Elected Officers:

President	Ron S
Vice President	Brittany L
Secretary	
Treasurer	Jake A

#### Chairs:

Coffee/Treats	Everyone / Anyone
Conferences	
Critique Groups	Brittany L
Historian	
Librarian	Brittany L
Membership	Cathy M
Mingle	
Newsletter	<b>YOU!!!</b>
Nominations	
Prgm/Speakers	
Publicity	
Raffle	Cathy M
Scholarship	Karen S
Sunshine	Nan R
Website	Wes T
Workshops	Mary Lou A

When everyone thinks "I don't need to do it ... someone else will," there's a good chance **no** one will do it and nothing will get done.

## MEETING INFORMATION

### Future Meetings

**Monday, July 13 – Someone great, for sure.**

**Saturday, July 18 – Mingle held at Denny's, corner of Douglas and Sunrise, Roseville 9-11 am**

**Club meeting held at the Crossroads Church  
Friendship Hall, 5501 Dewey Drive, Fair Oaks**

*All writers are encouraged to attend.*

Membership not mandatory but brings privileges ...

*like publication in the newsletter!*

