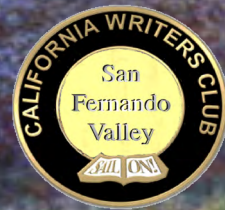




The Newsletter Of The San Fernando Valley Branch



The Valley Scribe

"Our Members' Voices"

Vol. 6

September, 2013

No. 1

Next Meeting September 7, 1:00!



September Speaker: Kendall Jones "Contracts 101 for Writers." (Staff)

Not so fast!

Writers shouldn't sign on that dotted line until they've heard a presentation given by entertainment and media attorney Kendall T. Jones entitled, "Contracts 101 for Writers."

Contracts can be a minefield and Jones' talk will help writers make decisions that are in their best interests.

The presentation will discuss the basic terms, and the do's and don'ts of licenses, publishing, marketing, distribution, representation contracts, and any other kinds of contract that comes across a writer's desk.

Jones warns, "It's critical for writers to understand basic legal terms and considerations in order to best protect themselves. I've seen so many writers and other artists lose revenue and rights by signing a contract without fully understanding its meaning and consequences."

Learning what to look for in a contract will save writers a lot of heartbreak and frustration.

"When writers become business savvy and learn to read between the lines, there's much less of a chance they'll get burned," she continues. "Don't give away the store! Know what you're doing!"

Signing contracts after only a brief, blurry glimpse — or no glimpse at all — will surely result in rain for any writer's parade.

"People put so much time and effort into researching and writing their works. It's just awful to get to the point where they should be celebrating, only to find out the agreement they've signed is not in their best interests," says Jones.

She should know. She has practiced entertainment law for most of her career and has made appearances on both TV and radio discussing various legal issues. Jones received recognition from Congress in 2006 as an exemplary business leader and positive female role model.

Kendall Jones is back at CWC-SFV by popular demand.

For additional information about Kendall Jones, please visit www.KendallJonesLaw.com or www.HollywoodAtty.com.

In This Issue

Feature

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(Click on title to jump to item)



It's time to renew your dues.

**If we don't get your payment BEFORE
October 1st, you will be charged an extra
\$20.**

THAT'S A 10th OF A TANK OF GAS!

**Mail your check to: Mary Freeman
9625 Fullbright Ave.**

Chatsworth, CA 91311

Better yet: bring it to the meeting!



Dan's Poynters

By Doug Douglas

"It's not who you know, it's who knows you."

Our June speaker Dan Poynter lives by this axiom, and as author of more than 130 books and over 800 magazine articles, the term 'expert' would not be hyperbole. While he is a role model for self-publishing, Dan's presentation focused on another essential facet—book promotion.

According to Mr. Poynter, living in the digital age is actually a boon for new authors, since there are so many avenues one can take. For example, blogging is ranked as the third most influential on-line method most likely to influence a purchase (after retail and brand sites). But don't sprint to your computer and start a blog. The most effective method is to begin as a guest blogger. Book bloggers are 'the new reviewers', according to Dan.

Other methods of self-promotion include social websites (joining groups in your area of expertise), signing up with media reporters who may be interested in quoting or interviewing you as an expert, producing a 'SizzleReel', doing Google searches for alerts related to your topic, attaching an informational 'signature' to all of your e-mails, and even getting your own Wikipedia listing (good luck on that one).

Dan was a veritable cornucopia of knowledge, and he included a helpful handout with a reference to his website ParaPublishing.com, another source of useful information, especially for authors of non-fiction.

The number of visitors who came to hear Mr. Poynter testifies to his notoriety, and few attendees left without having learned something new.

Check out Dan's website:

<http://www.parapublishing.com/sites/para/>

President's Message Nance Crawford



Although, in our part of the world, the weather seems to have declared the entire year to have been Summer, the traditional three months of "summer" are winding to an end.

The school year "Summer Vacation" in Los Angeles used to run from mid-June to mid-September and, accordingly, CWC-SFV vacationed in July and August. No more. School now returns in mid-August and our membership, ever on the cutting edge of the changing times, by holding an unprecedented "Meet & Greet" get-together on August 3rd, actually beat the Los Angeles Unified School District to the punch . . .

. . . And the homemade cookies, the gluten-free cupcakes, the finger-veggies, the spicy taquitos, with equally spicy dip — the counter top at the back of the Katzenburg Room was crammed to overflow with goodies, the great majority of which, oddly enough, seemed to have magically disappeared by 3 p.m.

By 3:15, the sparse leftovers were gleefully swept away by the few hardy, remaining souls. All that was left of the punch were a dozen maraschino cherries and a half-a-dozen well-marinated navel orange slices. I've seldom seen such an efficient after-meeting cleanup.

By the attendance, you would have thought it was a regular meeting — except the speaker had gotten tied up indefinitely on the 405, so everyone was taking advantage of the wait by visiting, getting to really know fellow members, as well as the several residents of the Motion Picture Country House who stopped by to investigate the goings-on.

To top it off, at least one former member showed up and re-joined!

Thank you to all who contributed goodies and time! It was a great beginning to a new and exciting year!!!

Getting to Know You

Gary Wosk

Getting to know all about you. Well, not exactly.

Just some pertinent facts about your writing career.

Some of the best writers around belong to our branch. We've seen it time in time again with readings at our Open Microphone, stories and kudos published in The Valley Scribe e-mails announcements and book fairs.

We all know how good we are, but here's the rub: We don't have a record of who's done what and when. The proof is in the pudding or yogurt for those who are on a diet, and we don't have it.



As always, please check the websites for more information before submitting. When you see "ms" or "mss" this means manuscript and manuscripts respectively. Best wishes and good luck to all!

The Atlantic Monthly is a general magazine for an educated readership with broad cultural and public-affairs interests. "The Atlantic considers unsolicited manuscripts, either fiction or nonfiction. A general familiarity with what we have published in the past is the best guide to our needs and preferences. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double-spaced. Receipt of manuscripts will be acknowledged if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Manuscripts will not be returned. At this time, the print magazine does not read submissions sent via fax or e-mail. TheAtlantic.com no longer accepts unsolicited submissions. The Watergate, 600 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington DC 20037. Phone: (202) 266-6000. Website: www.theatlantic.com. **Contact:** James Bennet, editor, C. Michael Curtis, fiction editor, David Barber, poetry editor.

The Baltimore Review publishes poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction from Baltimore and beyond. Submission periods are August 1 through November 30 and February 1 through May 31. In 2012, The Baltimore Review began its new life as a quarterly, online literary. P.O. Box 36418, Towson MD 21286. E-mail: editor@baltimorereview.org. Website: www.baltimorereview.org. **Contact:** Barbara Westwood Diehl, senior editor, Kathleen Hellen, senior editor.

Cider Press Review, "...quarterly online, features 'the best new work from contemporary poets.' It was founded by Co-Publisher/Editors Caron Andregg and Robert Wynne. Since its inception, CPR has published thousands of poems by over 500 authors. Each year, Cider Press publishes an annual journal of poetry and the winning manuscript from the Cider Press Review Book Award. Our reading period is from Apr. 1-Aug. 31 each year, and full mss. (in conjunction with the CPR Annual Book Award) between Sept. 1-Nov. 30 each year." Submit up to 5 poems at a time. No previously published poems or simultaneous submissions. Cover letter is preferred. Include short bio (25 words maximum). SASE or valid e-mail address required for reply. Reads submissions September 1-June 30 only. Poems are circulated to an editorial board. Always sends prepublication galleys. Pays 1 contributor's copy.

Cider Press Review also published two winning mss from their book awards: The Cider Press Review Book Award and The Editor's Prize. Our reading period for the online journal is from September 1 to May 31 each year. We accept submissions of full mss between April 1 and June 20, and September 1 through November 20. Mss entries must be accompanied by a required entry fee. Prize is \$1,000 or \$1,500 and publication for a full length book of poetry and 25 copies. P.O. Box 33384, San Diego CA 92163, E-mail: editor@ciderpressreview.com. Website: <http://ciderpressreview.com>. **Contact:** Caron Andregg, editor-in-chief, Ruth Foley, managing editor.

Boston Review "The editors are committed to a society and culture that fosters human diversity and a democracy in which we seek common grounds of principle amidst our many differences. In the hope of advancing these ideals, the Review acts as a forum that seeks to enrich the language of public debate." Bimonthly magazine of cultural and political analysis, reviews, fiction, and poetry. PO Box 425786, Cambridge MA 02142. Phone: (617) 324-1360 Fax: (617) 452-3356. E-mail: review@bostonreview.net. Website: www.bostonreview.net. Reads submissions September 15-May 15.

The Bear Deluxe Magazine "...is a national independent environmental arts magazine publishing significant works of reporting, creative nonfiction, literature, visual art and design. Based in the Pacific Northwest, it reaches across cultural and political divides to engage readers on vital issues affecting the environment. Published twice per year, The Bear Deluxe includes a wider array and a higher-percentage of visual artwork and design than many other publications. Artwork is included both as editorial support and as stand alone or independent art. It has included nationally recognized artists as well as emerging artists. As with any publication, artists are encouraged to review a sample copy for a clearer understanding of the magazine's approach. Unsolicited submissions and samples are accepted and encouraged." Covers fiction/essay/poetry/other. 750-4,500 words. Do not combine submissions, rather submit poetry, fiction and essay in separate packages. News essays, on occasion, are assigned out if they have a strong element of reporting. Artists contribute to The Bear Deluxe in various ways, including: editorial illustration, editorial photography, spot illustration, independent art, cover art, graphic design, and cartoons. Orlo, 810 SE Belmont, Studio 5 Portland OR 97214. Phone: (503) 242-1047 E-mail: bear@orlo.org. Website: www.orlo.org. **Contact:** Tom Webb, editor-in-chief, Kristin Rogers Brown, art director.



HAVE PEN WILL TRAVEL

EMAIL EDITOR
CWC-SFV@ROADRUNNER.COM

"WIRE PALADIN"

Even if we don't like to admit it, most of us are old enough to remember that classic T.V. show, 'Have Gun Will Travel.' In it, 'Paladin' was a 'gun for hire.' The twist was he was a hero! His services were in the interests of justice and good.

We need a few Paladins. There are several regular features we feel need to be in *The Scribe*, and we currently don't have enough people to provide them. (It says in our masthead, "Our Members' Voices.")

We know you're a good writer (I mean this is a *writer's club*), and these columns are not difficult.

We will be happy to guide you through anything unfamiliar.

C'mon! Be a hero! Read the descriptions and pick one. Then contact us. It'll be fun!

Speaker Review

This very important column reviews and summarizes the previous month's presentation.

The purposes are:

1. Provide information for members who could not attend.
2. Add information for our archives.
3. Provide Speaker with feedback and web citations for promotion.

Budget: Full Page (700 words).

"HELP! I need somebody..."
 — *The Beatles ('Help!')*

WHAT!? NO COFFEE!?

We really, really, really, really, **REALLY** need a

Hospitality Chair

Speak with Nance

"...please sir, may I have some more?"
 — *Oliver Twist ('Oliver Twist')*

Print & Mail

A small number of our Members do not have Internet access. We need someone to print (color preferred) and mail the Scribe to them each month.

KUDOS COLUMN

Columnist will serve as a focus for small 'Good News' announcements, compile them, and forward finished copy to the editor.

Budget: 1/4 page (200 words).

**HELP
WANTED**

(Equal Opportunity Employer)

Member Website Showcase

Columnist will explore a given Member Website, and submit a review.

Budget: Full page (600 words).

... and, if you have a website, send us your URL.

"... but I simply cannot do it alone..."
 — *Velma Kelly ('Chicago')*

August MEET & GREET! "Yeah. How's that goin' for ya?"



For our August meeting, we tried something radical: We got to know each other.

Well, at least, that was the plan.

Everybody agreed we had a wonderful time, but let's see how well we succeeded.

Above, is a group photo. Each member is lettered. (Two guests are not.) Let's see who can identify the most members. Simply match the member with the letter. Send me an email like this: "1-A, 2-C", etc. The person (Board members excepted — they're supposed to already know all of us...) with the most correct letter-number pairs, will get their choice of either of my two books.

(Sorry, some of the Board members are sulking and wouldn't give me a budget for a *real* prize.)

In the event of a tie one winner will be selected from the finalists by lot.==m==

Match the name with the letter!

Win a RARE First Edition!

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| 1 - Ester Benjamin Shifren | _____ | 12 - Normie Molesko | _____ |
| 2 - Betty Bross | _____ | 13 - Sylvia Molesko | _____ |
| 3 - Peter Brothers | _____ | 14 - Sheila Moss | _____ |
| 4 - Nance Crawford | _____ | 15 - Gabriella Owens | _____ |
| 5 - Doug Douglas | _____ | 16 - Andrea Polk | _____ |
| 6 - Yolanda Fintor | _____ | 17 - Lillian Rodich | _____ |
| 7 - Howard Goldstein | _____ | 18 - Bill Sorrells | _____ |
| 8 - Pirhiya Goldstein | _____ | 19 - Georgina Tagliere | _____ |
| 9 - Sherry Lynn Harris | _____ | 20 - David A Wetterberg | _____ |
| 10 - Leslie Kaplan | _____ | 21 - Gary Wosk | _____ |
| 11 - Marganit Lish | _____ | | |

("Getting to Know You" cont'd from page 2.)

Let's not be an enigma anymore.

Again, don't get nervous, we don't intend to spy on you; we're not asking for confidential information that will be released to the public, flee to Moscow, live in the airport and request asylum.

It's a nobler mission. So, here's what we need and for what purpose.

Let us know what articles and books you've published (not including this publication) so we can build a database that we can refer to for publicizing the branch.

"This is a project that is long overdue and when it's completed will provide us with the ability to get the word out that our branch is the place to be for aspiring and established writers," says CWC-SFV President Nance Crawford.

And that's not all. You'll really know the person you're rubbing elbows with at the next event sponsored by the branch. It's a great way to break the ice, too.

Here's what we want to know:

Please include title, year published, name of publisher and/or publication, a 75-word or less synopsis of angle or plot, purpose of article or book, genre, the name of the publisher, whether it was self-published, whether it was a paperback, hard cover or an e-Book or all of the aforementioned. Or anything else relevant you can think of but please be as succinct as possible.

Also let us know if you've won any writing awards, especially the Pulitzer Prize, and again, when and by whom.

Please send the information to Gary Wosk at gr071252@verizon.net as soon as possible.

—GW



THE 'MEMBERSHIP' SECTION

(This monthly column will explore features of our branch's website: <http://cwc-sfv.org>. Always feel free to try these things. If you can break it, it was broken to begin with.)

Ah! Where to start! We really do have an extensive and luxurious website. Which feature should we discuss first?

Well, since this column is for our members, let's start with 'Membership.'

'Membership' is the eighth selection on the navigation menu. When you click on it and go to the 'Membership' page, you may be disappointed. After all, you really don't need to know if you're qualified, and you don't need an application: you're already a member!

But read on!

Always keep in mind that our website is designed to communicate with both our members and the outside world. The purpose of this first page is to quickly grab the attention of non-members and interest them in joining. *Your* goodies lie behind the button that says, "Member List and Photo Gallery." Clicking on this will take you to our member listing:

<http://cwc-sfv.org/Members/index.php>.

As you will see, this is simply a list of our members. Not terribly impressive, right?

Oh, but there's lot of magic on this page.

First, it's automatically updated each time a new member is enrolled. (That's a neat trick that saves me a lot of work.)

You may also notice that there are two different types of entries. Some are plain and turn black when you point to them. Others are underlined, and change to red. These are 'links.' As a member of our branch, you are allocated your own web page. This page can contain your picture, your biography, and a link to your personal Website or Blog. The 'link' entry points to the specific member's page.

(You may also notice that, as you point to a link entry, a small 'thumb-nail' picture of that member appears in the upper-left-hand-corner of the window.)

If you click on the link entry, you will be taken to that member's page.

There is also a button at the top of this listing page marked, "Photo Gallery." If you click on that, you

will be taken to a page consisting of thumb-nails of our members' photos. *(Note that only members who have submitted photos will appear here.)* As you point to a thumb-nail, the member's name will pop-up. Clicking on the photo will take you to the member's page.

All of this has one primary purpose: to help you find information about a member, either by name, or by picture.

Obviously, if you have not submitted a picture and bio, you will not have a web page. Periodically, I will nag you about submitting them.

But what should your picture and bio be like?

The purpose of your web page is to connect you with other members. Yes, it is true that the rest of the Internet has access to your page, but it's not really a tool for outside promotion. For that, you need to establish your own 'presence' on the World Wide Web.

Your picture and bio are there to identify you to your fellow members. The picture should not be, "that great picture from twenty years ago where I look like Robert Redford." (Well, unless, you *are* Robert Redford.) It should be a representation of the way you look at meetings.

Your bio (300 – 400 words) should not be a full memoir. It should simply be the answer to the question, "Who is that person?" — a kind of 'speed-dating' thing.

Hypothetically, the situation is this: You have read a piece at Open Mic, and another member thinks, "That was just excellent. Who IS that writer?" So they find your picture, and learn about you from your bio.

And don't worry if you're not happy with your bio. *You can now change it!*

Of course, this ability is restricted. Only *you* can change *your* bio. To do this, you'll need a User Account.

Really good news! As a member of California Writers Club, you already have one. It's part of our Member Record Management System (called 'MRMS').

Later this month, you will be receiving your CWC User ID and Password in your email. (The 'Sender' will be: 'Hypermart Form Processor.') Watch for it, and store it away safely.

In our next 'dot-org,' we will discuss some of the really useful things you can do when you use it to sign on to our website as a member. —mm—

LET'S SHOW OFF OUR CLUB'S TALENTS

By Yolanda Fintor

Last July, all SFV members should have received guidelines for submitting to the new South region of the California Writers Club website,

www.socalwritersshowcase.com. I hope you printed them out, or, saved them to refer to when you are ready to submit. I also hope you have gone to the website to see how it is organized and what kind of writing was published.

You might ask, "What is the purpose of the new website?" The answer includes several positives: (1) It provides a wider outlet for essays, memoir snippets, poetry, fiction and other short gems our writers have written, but have nowhere to send. (2) Members with work on the site have the option of including links to their websites. (3) Members can publish their own press releases on the site. (4) Branches can promote their events to other SoCal branches.

Where will all this lovely writing come from? From you, dear members. Quite a few of you have written and published wonderful memoirs. Pick out a choice section of 500 words and submit. If you have a longer piece that cannot be contained in 500 words, serialization will be considered. Many of you could easily produce a 500 word essay for The Writer's Life or The Craft of Writing section of the website.

Those of you that have been published in the Scribe have a ready-made document to send to the new website. Whether it is a poem, a story, or a column such as Dave Wetterberg's on grammar, consider submitting. Those pieces will already have been screened and proof-read by the editor's committee of proof readers.

When you do submit, be sure to follow the guidelines. All the paragraphs of the guidelines are important, but pay special attention to the fifth paragraph. There you will find the permission statement that must accompany your submission. Please note that you must send your work to submissions@socalwritersshowcase.com. If you need another copy of the guidelines, contact me at yfintor@sbcglobal.net

It will not appear in the Scribe or on our CWC-SFV website as they are only for the eyes of CWC members.

A point to remember: if your submission is not published immediately, do not despair. With the webmaster wanting to change content every 2-3 weeks, she will be needing a large backlog from which to choose.

To DO

X Read SCRIBE

Mail Dues Check (or bring to meeting!)

Acorn 100-wd. Fiction Contest (8/23)

<http://www.theacorn.com/fiction>

Submit to Lit Review (8/31)

<http://calwriters.org/336-2/>

Submit to SoCal Writers Showcase

www.socalwritersshowcase.com

Send Pic and Bio to webmaster

CWC-SFV@roadrunner.com

Volunteer for Scribe

CWC-SFV@roadrunner.com

Send Website URL

CWC-SFV@roadrunner.com

Feed Hostages (every day?)

X Pick up Dry Cleaning

Cat obedience training (tues & fri)

One Hundred Years Of History

California Writers Club Quarterly Bulletin

Vol. I.

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER, 1913

No. 3

"Well-Beloved California"

In the song contest recently held by the California Land Show, which had for its object the bringing out of a distinctive and patriotic California song, the prizes of \$50 each for words and music were won by C. W. Carruth and his son, Wm. W. Carruth, over a field of 250 entries, with the above entitled song. We give the words herewith:

I.

When the old Franciscan fathers founded missions on our Coast,
To save the heathen natives was their first and only boast;
But they sowed and tilled and planted, and the barley, wine and oil
Proved the mildness of our climate and the richness of our soil.

Cho.—Then here's to the Best land, our own Golden West land,
The Olive and the Vine land,
The Palm and the Pine land;
Of all the lands there's no land can vie with our Best land,
California, California, California!

II.

Of the Argonauts of 'Forty-nine full many tales are told;
From ev'ry land beneath the sun they came and dug for gold;
In San Francisco's harbor were the nations' flags unfurled,
And the red gold of our mintage filled the coffers of the world.

Cho.—Then here's to the Gold land, the Loved-from-of-old land,
The Oil and the Mine land,
The Orange and Wine land;
Of all lands there's no land can vie with our Gold land,
California, California, California!

III.

When the great canal is opened and the wedded oceans meet,
The mighty fleets will fill our ports for fruits and oil and wheat.
Development's the master word, Production the golden key
To ope the gate; know, ye who wait—here's Opportunity.

Cho.—Yes, here's to the Home land, the No-more-to- roam land,
The Sunshine and Balm land,
The Peaceful and Calm land;
Of all lands there's no land can vie with our Home land,
California, California, California!

IV.

Then "Back to the Land," a motto grand, for health and lengthened life;
And wealth, it too shall come to you, and an end to needless strife.
Go, teach the grains and fruits to grow where none have grown before,
And who shall say but a fairer day is dawning on our shore.

Cho.—So here's to the Best land, our own Golden West land,
The Palm and the Pine land,
Where the sun loves to shine land;
Of all lands there's no land can vie with our Best land,
California, California, California!



Under Command

"I absolutely disapprove!" said the general, pounding the table with his fist. "This attachment to Van must be broken up! Aunt Myra, you shall take Dora with you to Spain. A slow steamer is the best, for the sea air will tone her up after the nagging Van's given her for a year."

"But," broke in Aunt Myra, "Spain is the land of air-castles and romance." Then she added, cautiously, "What is the real objection to Van, after all?" The general did not heed. He was accustomed to issuing commands.

A week later Dora hung over the railing of the deck, her arms full of American beauties, and fluttered last farewells to Van Antwerp, who stood flourishing his hat to her till space blotted him out. Then she went below, and appeared late to dinner with flushed cheeks and betraying eyes.

Aunt Myra's tacit sympathy expressed itself in many ways. She tried to while away the days by reading aloud and chatting entertainingly. But the girl was listless and absent-minded. She shunned the other passengers, and the voyage seemed interminable.

At last they had passed Trafalgar, and soon Gibraltar loomed before them. Aunt Myra was below, packing. Dora paced the deck and looked, without emotion, at the historic land.

A launch with government inspectors came steadily toward the steamer, and veered alongside. The officials, in dark capes, sprang to the ship's ladder. With them came the mail bags and latest newspapers. The passengers hung about eagerly. But the mail had no interest for Dora; Van was forbidden to write.

She sought out a deserted corner of the deck, and opened her guide book. Suddenly, two strong arms were about her, and she was enfolded in a great

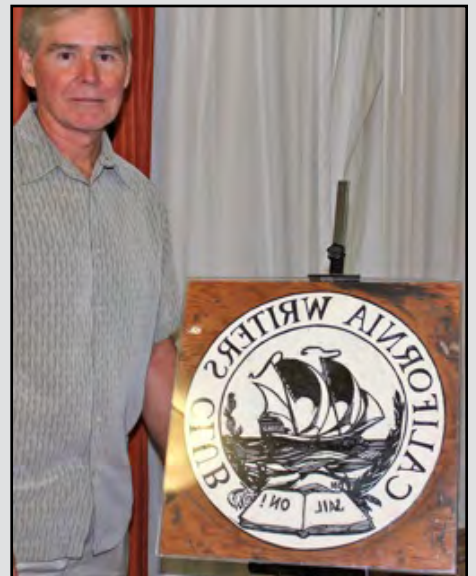
(Concluded on page 3, column 2)

A century ago, when California Writers Club was formed, the official publication of the club was the Quarterly Bulletin.

Retiring State President, Bob Garfinkle was kind enough to send us this front page from the Bulletin's third issue.

Sadly, the Bulletin is no more. (There are plans to resurrect it.) But the club's logo, and the woodcut that produced it, are very much in evidence. The original woodcut holds a place of honor at all of the biannual Central Board Meetings. and although it is no longer used, it is a prized symbol of our hundred-year heritage.

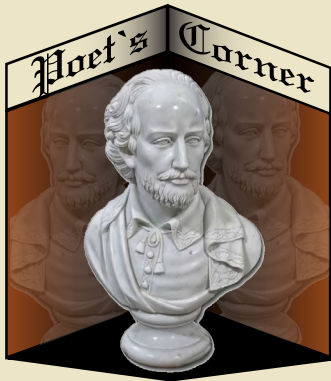
It is surprisingly large. (Note that it is a 'negative.') Below, it shares the stage with incoming State President David George.



SoCal Writers' Showcase – The 'Missing' Guidelines

California Writers Club South is actively soliciting material for our regional site. Because this is only open to So Cal Members, the moderator has asked that the guidelines NOT be published. (Instead, they were emailed to you. Andi Polk can give you a printed copy.)

Check out the Showcase at: <http://socalwritersshowcase.com>



Fall Leaves
Lillian Rodich

leaves strewn across my path
red and gold
brown and green
reminders
like whispers from my past
faded crumbling
some blazes of color
some hidden
glistening emerald

like paper birds
they float down
from ancient trees
blown with abandon
here and there
watered by tears of rain
within my thoughts

voices barely audible
I listen for love songs
and lonely clarinets
children chanting nursery rhymes
amidst the falling leaves

I listen for his chuckle
I listen for laughter
laughter brushing the sidewalk
laughter so illusive
I strive to recognize it
among the rustling leaves

I Fear Time

Keyle Birnberg-Goldstein

*I fear time more than death
Because time is not stopping
It just keeps ticking
My life away...*

*I fear time
Going quickly by
Drowning my verses
In oceans of words
Like lonely waves lightly scattering
My wilting thoughts away...*

*I fear time
I want to squeeze its ticking
But keeps on licking
My tired heels and toes
Leaving my anguished steps
Blistering, begging for another day...*

WHELMED

By Sylvia Molesko

I'm not overwhelmed
just whelmed
you'd think
I shouldn't be tired
just retired

Kept too too busy
almost at a dizzy pace
Lots of stuff
more than enough
not distressed,
just stressed

Enough already
I'd feel great
if all I had to do
was *not enough*
at least for a while

But I'm whelmed
not overwhelmed
just whelmed
oh well
it could be worse

I WAS THERE IN SAN FRAN

Norman Molesko

I was there among those OFF-BEAT BEAT-NIKS, with their BEAT-CHICKS, many years ago in San Fran.

I chatted with Herb Caen, near the corner of Columbus and Grant, where one could hear some of the BEAT-NIK belligerent rant.

I observed the BEAT-NIKS with an open mind, when Herb Caen came up with their popular catchy names, during that down-in-the-dumps BEAT-NIK time.

I heard much of what was going on, heavy drug usage and poetry that was gloomy. I didn't have it in my mind to lose my mind and become mentally gone.

I realize now I had been close to an awful lot, with those BEAT-NIKS in San Fran. That's why I am so glad for what I have got as a man.

So at this time I do my best to behave in UP-BEAT ways, not like I saw in those OFF-BEAT BEAT-NIK days, long ago during that BEAT-NIK era in San Fran.

OVERSTANDING

By Sylvia Molesko

I much more than understand.
 You tell me more than you know
 I understand more than you tell me
 I *overstand*

You try to explain
 I think you complain
 give me reasons that are not
 excuses that are just that

There could be a reason
 We'll know in due season
 perhaps an explanation
 for this rationalization

I doubt it can do without it
 I won't succumb I'm not that dumb
 At any rate I must withstand
 because I know you . . . understand

Let's have an understanding,
 I overstand what you're planning
 If they put me on a witness stand
 I just might make *them* understand



Regret
 Ray Malus

Within the furtive corners of the night,
 The phosphorescence of what might have been
 Illuminates the past with icy light,
 Delineating what was once unseen.

My soul is scathed by promise once un-guessed,
 And opportunities serenely shunned.
 I wrest from restless hours, restive rest,
 With woe for lovers wooed, but never one'd.

I cringe in shame for shameful things I've said,
 And crimson blush for countless past mistakes,
 I grieve the hungers that I might have fed,
 And lie in mourning 'till the morning breaks.

Then rise to light, the shroud of sorrow shorn,
 With hope that, like the new day, is new born.

Butterflies

Keyle Birnberg-Goldstein

During their short sleep
 Folding summer yellow tired wings
 Butterflies forget they have aged
 Enclosing within their folds
 Secrets of the season...

Their faded colors
 Of yellow-white, ochre, orange
 Are scratching in black
 Dividing in blue squares
 Mourning sunny days
 They owned just once...

Another season
 Is blowing their wings away
 Like delicate fans
 Caressing the edge of green leaves
 Taking a rest between flowers
 Before rain showers
 Washes them all away

The Bulletin Board

GUEST DONATIONS

Non-members attending meetings are asked to pay a \$5 (tax deductible) donation. New membership is immediate upon application at door. For more information, contact Andrea Polk, VP-Membership, at the meeting entrance or e-mail andipolk4@gmail.com.

MEETINGS

ARE HELD AT 1:00 P.M.
ON THE 1st SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Katzenberg Pavilion, Motion Picture & Television Fund
23388 Mulholland Drive, Woodland Hills, CA 91364
(Directions & Map on last page)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 7th, 1 p.m. — Contracts 101 for Writers.
October 5th, 1 p.m. — Solving the Mystery.

Open Mic: 1 p.m. (Sign-ups at 12:30)
Website CWC-SFV.ORG

ATTENTION! CWC LITERARY REVIEW

is now accepting submissions.
Submission window is from
JULY 1 through AUGUST 30.
Prose: 2500 words or fewer.
Poetry: 40 lines or fewer.
For details, see www.calwriters.org?s=lit+review

Do YOU have a website?
Be the

'Member Website of the Month'!
Send your URL to:
cwc-sfv@roadrunner.com

SUBMISSIONS

Members are encouraged to submit writing contributions to *The Valley Scribe*. This is your newsletter, and you should be part of it.

Submit your prose and poetry to
cwc-sfv@roadrunner.com

Please type "SUBMISSION" in the subject line.
If submitting a hard copy, please bring it to the meeting and hand it to the Editor, Ray Malus, or to the President, Nance Crawford.

- 500 words or fewer
- 800 words or fewer
- Limited to 40 lines

Submission deadline is the FIFTEENTH of the previous month. ("Beware the Ides....")

The Editor (or President) has license to accept or reject any work submitted based on available space or editing problems.
All submissions must include an e-mail address or a phone number.
Writings will not be returned and may be included in future issues.

BIRTHDAYS! September

Dr. Gagik Melikyan
Leslie Kaplan
Sheila Moss
Colin T. Gallagher

3
17
21
27

The Fine Print

San Fernando Valley Branch of California Writers Club meets at:

Motion Picture Television Fund
Katzenberg Pavillion
23388 Mulholland Drive
Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Directions:

From the 101 Freeway exit on Mulholland Drive South. Proceed to Steven Spielberg Drive and turn right into the campus.

(If questioned at the gate, tell the official that you are attending a CWC meeting.) At the 'T', turn left and follow the road to the large parking lot on the left for Villa Katzenberg.

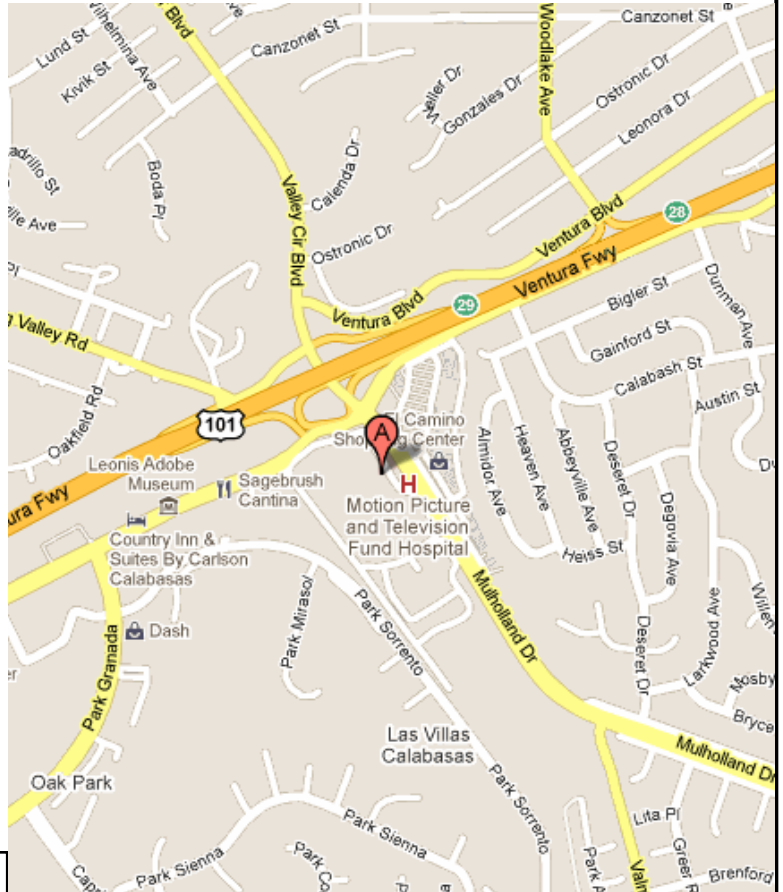
Parking is free in any of the lots.

(Please do NOT park on any of the streets.

You will be ticketed!)

Interactive maps at:

<http://cwc-sfv.org/Meetings/Location.php>



The Valley Scribe

The Newsletter of the
San Fernando Valley Branch
of
California Writers Club

is published monthly.

We solicit submissions from members.
(See Bulletin Board: "SUBMISSIONS")

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[Ray Malus](#)

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California Writers Club San Fernando Valley Branch

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LOTS of great information at our

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