

The Write News

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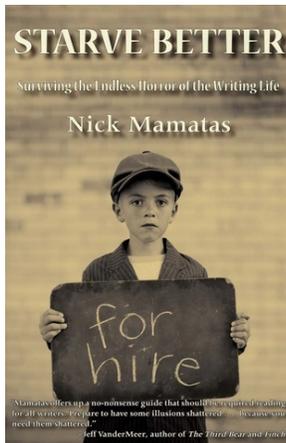
A Monthly Newsletter

January 2012

The California Writers Club-Mount Diablo Branch

WORKSHOP & FULL BREAKFAST
Saturday, January 14, 2012; 8:30am to 12:30pm

“Beginnings and Endings for Fiction and Non-Fiction”



- learn the difference between hooking a reader and tantalizing the reader
- what editors look for in the very first paragraph
- how to write a conclusion that stays with **a reader**
- always remember: never preach!
- bring paper and pen for exercises

Nick Mamatas is the author of four novels, more than eighty short stories, and hundreds of articles on writing and editing. When not writing or teaching writing, Nick is the editor of “Haikasoru” magazine.



Sign-in is 8:30 am – 9 am, breakfast 9 – 9:30, and workshop 9:30 – 12:30 at Zio Fraedo’s Restaurant, 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA. Member registration is \$35, or \$40 for non-CWC members;

Contact: Jean at jeaniepops@comcast.net
or leave a message at: (925) 934-5677

Meeting Details on Page 3

President's Message

By Elisabeth Tuck



So how did it happen that my picture is now under the President's Message? Isn't Lee our president? Well yes, he was, thank goodness. He stepped up after Bill Stong took a job offer he couldn't refuse. But Lee had only intended a short tenure, after which the plan was that I would take over. Breast cancer had other plans for me, so Lee graciously served longer than he had meant to. He's an excellent leader and did a good job. Given that being president wasn't on Lee's radar, he deserves a lot of credit for all he did for us.

It may be a bit confusing that there was no member vote with the change in leadership. Interim officers like me who begin to serve part way through a year are voted on by the board. The membership votes for a slate of officers presented by the board to begin the CWC year in September.

I have been serving as Vice President and Program Chair since Sept 2010. The time I had on the board to observe and learn has been invaluable. We have a knowledgeable, talented and hardworking team making ours a branch to be proud of. Feel free to attend a board meeting any time and see for yourself. Or if you have ideas for improvement, don't hesitate to speak to one of us.

It's not just the officers (Barbara Bently, Secretary; David George, Treasurer; Vice President, Bee Hylinski) who work to keep our branch humming along smoothly. Mt Diablo CWC also:

- ❖ conducts an outstanding Young Writers Contest (headed by Liz Koehler-Pentacoff aided by the Tri Valley branch and a team of talented volunteers)
- ❖ communicates to members through the newsletter (Lyn Roberts), Back Fence (Aline Soules) and tidbits (the president)
- ❖ communicates to the public on our website (Aline) and print media (Ann Damaschino)
- ❖ sports a great new membership brochure and welcome letter (Catherine Accardi)
- ❖ takes meeting reservations (Jeannie Georgakopoulos backed by Betty Iverson)
- ❖ holds workshops (Don Maker) and invites speakers (Elisabeth Tuck)
- ❖ arranges meals and meeting space (Danard Emanuealson)
- ❖ is represented at the Norcal CWC meetings (Judith Marshall)
- ❖ conducts a critique group (Ted Wells)
- ❖ greets visitors (Al Garrotto and Jody Dennison)
- ❖ presents outreach programs like the successful Clayton Library meeting "So You Want to Write a Book" (organized by Judith Marshall aided by Lee Paulson, Al Garroto, and Barbara Bentley)
- ❖ maintains branch history (Fran Wojnar)

There are many more small tasks that various people assume throughout the year. All of this by volunteers in the name of writing well. I look forward to a happy and constructive New Year as our branch thrives.



Elizabeth B. Fielding (Betty)

Feb. 17, 1918 - Dec. 8, 2011

Until recently Betty was a member of the Mt. Diablo branch of CWC. She believed that aging can be both productive and rewarding, and spent her professional life and retired years working with seniors and experts in the field to improve public recognition of the issues.

She is the author of *The Memory Manual: Ten Simple Things You Can Do To Improve Your Memory After 50*, reprinted in several languages. At the time of her death, she was working on a suspense novel set in post-war Germany.

Member, Ted Wells, remembers Betty as "a friendly, easily accessible writing-101-and-MFA conduit of knowledge for which I will be forever indebted. She patiently answered every one of my many questions about the complete publishing process from A to Z using her book as a case study. She made me feel at home at CWC. I knew her only a short time, but what she gave me will last a lifetime. Thank you so much, dear Betty."

Predeceased by her husband Frederick, Betty is survived by son and daughter Frederick, Jr. and Elizabeth, two grandchildren, three great-grandsons, and her closest friends Muriel and Miriam, whom she cherished.

Workshop Details

January 14 - Workshop Details - Sign-in is 8:30 am – 9 am, breakfast 9 – 9:30, and workshop 9:30 – 12:30

Menu: Full Breakfast Served by Zio Fraedo's

Reservations: Reservations are required and must be received no later than noon on **Wednesday, January 11, 2012.**

Cost: \$35 for CWC members; \$40 for guests

To make a reservation, contact Jean Georgakopoulos, via e-mail at jeaniegpopps@comcast.net, or by phone at (925) 934-5677. Expect confirmation only when you e-mail your reservation.

Please Note: In accordance with our contractual agreement with Zio Fraedo's Restaurant, the club is charged for every reservation confirmed on the day before the meeting. If you are not able to attend this meeting, or if you do not cancel your reservation prior to noon on the Friday before the meeting, you will be asked to remit a \$20 "no-show" payment.

Highlighting One of Our Members

By Catherine Accardi
Branch Membership Chair

Member Profile: *Sean Hazlett*



Sean Hazlett was born the son of two teachers in Wilmington, Delaware, where he spent his formative years. At eighteen, he left family and friends, and flew to California to attend college. At Stanford, he earned two undergraduate degrees in Electrical Engineering and History, self-financing his tuition with the help of an Army ROTC scholarship. After five years in the Mojave Desert training U.S. military forces, Sean earned an MBA from the Harvard Business School and a Master in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, focusing on International Security Policy.

Sean is currently a technology analyst, and has published over 150 equity research reports on clean energy and semiconductor companies. *The Economist* has cited his report on the smart grid industry on at least two occasions. His Master's thesis on Iran's nuclear weapons program won Harvard University's 2006 Policy Analysis Award for a highly distinguished performance. As a graduate student, he worked at the Harvard-Stanford Preventive Defense Project for Dr. Ashton Carter, the recently appointed Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Timing has never been Sean's forte. He has been involved in nearly every American crisis or boom in the last twelve years, having managed to avoid both extreme fortune and woe. He was an engineering undergraduate when Google was invented at Stanford. He was a graduate student during the same period Mark Zuckerberg founded Facebook at Harvard. He joined the Army in 1999, after which the military fought three consecutive wars in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. He also worked for a Wall Street firm in the midst of the 2008 financial crisis.

Sean is currently building a platform for a book he is writing called *Countering Cataclysm: The Conservative Case for Clean Energy*, and he is represented by the Larsen Pomada Agency.

He is married with three children. Sean has been writing since he was ten years old, and now blogs regularly at Reflections of a Rational Republican (<http://www.reflectionsofarationalrepublican.com>).

WILLIAM SAROYAN INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR WRITING

Two prizes of \$5,000 each are given biennially for works of fiction and nonfiction. The awards, cosponsored by the Stanford University Libraries and the William Saroyan Foundation, are intended to "encourage new or emerging writers and honor the Saroyan legacy of originality, vitality, and stylistic innovation." Submit five copies of a novel, short story collection, or work of creative nonfiction published between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2011, with a \$50 entry fee by January 31. Call, e-mail, or visit the Web site for the required application and complete guidelines. Stanford University Libraries, William Saroyan International Prize for Writing, Green Library, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-6004. Sonia Lee, Saroyan Prize Administrator: soniale@stanford.edu, (650) 736-9538. saroyanprize.stanford.edu



Member Events, News and Salutes



Aline Soules' *Meditation on Woman* is a thematic exploration of the universal woman through a collection of prose poetry and flash fiction. Published in late December, 2011, this book is available through Amazon and other major online retailers.

"Fifty-six meditations filtered through the lens of a woman—a dazzling feast from an original mind." Carol Smallwood

The link to Aline's website is:

<http://anaphoraliterary.wordpress.com/catalogue/aline-soules/>



The Lafayette Library & CWC Are Co-sponsoring **"Turn Your Expertise into a Successful Book"**

Sunday, January 22 2 – 4 p.m. FREE

At the Lafayette Library and Learning Center

3941 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette CA 94549 - 925/385-3380 - www.AWritersPlace.com

Three successful non-fiction authors will tell you how they turned their specialized knowledge into successful books. Catherine Accardi, Nannette Carroll, and Patricia Evens will discuss:

How to develop a strong non-fiction book proposal
Tips on the best ways to share your knowledge
Go beyond the book by building your speaking and online platform

Catherine Accardi is the author of three books in Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series, *Walnut Creek*, *San Francisco's North Beach and Telegraph Hill*, and *San Francisco Landmarks*. Catherine turned her knowledge of local history into award winning books. Arcadia Publishing was presented with the prestigious William C. Ralston Award by the San Francisco Historical Society.

Nannette Rundle Carroll is the author of *The Communication Problem Solver*. She's been featured in Investors Business Daily's "10 Secrets to Success" leadership column and has appeared on radio shows and podcasts as a communication expert, and trains professionals in communication and management. Visit: www.communicate2go.com.

Patricia Evans is the author of five books on dealing with verbal abuse and overly-controlling people. As a specialist in interpersonal communication, she has spoken about managing verbal abuse on more than two hundred radio shows, and 20 national television programs, including the Oprah show. She is also a consultant, speaker and trainer. Visit: <http://www.verbalabuse.com>.



Jack Russ' novel, *In Dangerous Waters* has been in paperback form for a year now. Sales and feedback have been encouraging and improving. So what's new? The novel is also now available as an e-book in Kindle format from Amazon.com. Hope you or your friends and connections take the opportunity to explore. Easy access to Amazon is through Jack's website jackruss.com. Click on the purchase button, which takes you to the Amazon page. Enjoy!

Make 'em Laugh!



Write Funny:

Led by CWC children's authors **Sarah Wilson and Elizabeth Koehler-Pentacoff**, kids in grades 6 – 8 can learn comedy techniques from two published authors.
Cost: Free!

Two professional children's authors who love writing share their best secrets on writing! You'll get a chance to ask questions about the publishing world, write, play some games, meet other writers, and "talk books."

Where: Walnut Creek Public Library, 1644 N. Broadway, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 - 977-3340

What makes readers laugh? How can YOU create humor in your writing? Develop quirky, funny characters through games, writing tips, techniques and exercises so you'll produce a humorous plot, action and dialogue in a terrific page-turning story.

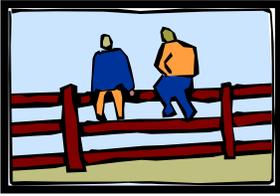
Visit them at www.sarahwilsonbooks.com and www.lizbooks.com

Bring pen and paper and get ready to WRITE!

Register for the Walnut Creek Jan. 21 workshop here: <http://tinyurl.com/7humdhm>



Four authors from our CWC Mt. Diablo branch will participate in a panel discussion called "*So You Want to Write a Book*" at the Moraga Library on Saturday, January 7 at 2:00 pm. Barbara Bentley, Jon Cory, Al Garrotto and Judith Marshall will discuss their writing journeys and offer tips for aspiring writers.



Make the Most of The Back Fence

Our branch's *listserv*, **The Back Fence**, offers you an opportunity to engage in lively online discussions. Members can sign on via Yahoo

Groups or email me (Aline Soules, soulesa@yahoo.com) to ask to be "invited" to join. A simply reply to the invitation will give you access. Participants include current members of the CWC Mt. Diablo, Tri-Valley, and Berkeley branches, although the predominant membership is from the Mt. Diablo branch. Discussions span the spectrum of writing—from idea germination to final publishing, from traditional to e-formats, and any other topic of inquiry or sharing.

Members engage in online exchanges throughout the year and it's a good way to continue conversations between our monthly meetings and during the summer. In order to participate in the Back Fence most effectively, there are a couple of simple steps you can take:

1. Be sure to choose a meaningful subject line and please include "CWC" as part of it. That way, everyone will know that the email is legitimate and related to our club.
2. Make sure your post relates to the entire group, not just a few individuals. If it is, email the group; if your message is designed for specific individuals, however, please contact them separately.
3. Please add your name at the end of your message. Some email names are so unique to the individual that it's unclear who is emailing.
4. When appropriate, ask people to respond to you off-list. Sometimes, emails string on and on with no new information or with information that would be better summarized before sharing. If enough people express interest in a topic, you can always ask people to respond off list and offer to provide summary of responses in a few days.
5. While it's polite to say thank you, a long string of "thank you" emails isn't particularly helpful. It's okay to let it go unless there's something particularly outstanding. A long tail of messages tends to fill up people's email boxes and makes listserv members wonder whether they want to continue to be participants in the list...

... and we want you on the list! Our group needs *you* in order to be successful. We want you to benefit from the listserv, both as contributors and readers. To make the most of our listserv, the key points are to identify CWC in the subject line, keep it short and to the point, and identify your name at the end. That way, we can all learn, network, and grow.

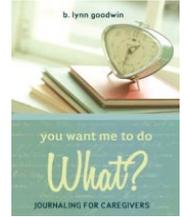
The Back Fence

If you haven't yet joined the Back Fence, go to the link below and follow the simple sign-up process:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CWCBackFence/>. At The Fence you will find topics of interest to writers. You can also sign-up for Back Fence e-mails.

Writer's Markets Column

The Year of Submitting Wisely By B. Lynn Goodwin



What is your plan for submissions for 2012? Do you want to submit once a week or once a month? Have you prepared cover letters and tracking sheets?

If you're not sure where to start, pick one day a month to submit. Maybe the 10th. Maybe the 15th. Before that date, draft, revise, share, revise, and finalize your cover letter. With time it will get easier and easier to make them concise and snappy. Get into a routine, keep track of your submissions and let the world hear from you.

Already submitting regularly? I'd love to hear your routine. In fact I'd like to share it here and possibly on Writer Advice, if you're interested.

Want to earn money as a writer? Visit <http://www.fundsforwriters.com/>. This excellent site has been honed for years. It's an ongoing resource and that is updated regularly.

Another strong set of resources can be found at <http://www.pw.org/classifieds>. Here are a few samples of items available:

5TH ANNUAL JAMES NICHOLSON Political Poetry Prize. Deadline: Monday, February 20. Open to Westchester County, NY residents. No fee. \$500 prize. Winning poem published in Pelham Weekly, with reading/reception at Pelham Public Library. Please see guidelines and download entry form at www.pelhamlibrary.org. Submit 1 unpublished poem along with entry form to: Nicholson Political Poetry Prize, c/o Town of Pelham Public Library, 530 Colonial Ave., Pelham, NY 10803.

BLUE MOUNTAIN PRESS, the book division of Blue Mountain Arts, welcomes manuscripts from new and established writers. We publish gift books with a positive message in the areas of personal growth, motivation, family, relationships, and pursuing dreams, as well as books for teens/tweens. Mail manuscripts to P.O. Box 4219, Boulder, CO, 80306. E-mail queries to BMPbooks@sps.com.

FOLDED WORD seeks novel writers interested in exploring new ways for narrative and e-readers to interact. Familiarity with e-books preferred. A cover letter and 10 sample pages from a novel in progress should be submitted electronically through Submishmash. Full details at www.foldedword.com/submit.html. Questions? E-mail J.S. Graustein at editors@foldedword.com.

CHANGES IN LIFE monthly online newsletter is seeking personal essays from women of all ages. New writers are encouraged to submit their work. For details and submission guidelines, see www.changesinlife.com.

MARCO POLO, an online literary/arts magazine, seeks original fiction, nonfiction, and more from stateside and international writers and artists. In addition to a traditional literary format, we explore the visual arts. We publish every week and read all year. For information, visit our About and Submissions pages at www.marcopoloartsmag.com.

In addition, there's a whole new list of submissions opportunities on the "Contests and Markets" page of Writer Advice, www.writeradvice.com.

I'd like to meet your needs, but first I need to know what they are. If you have specific questions you'd like me to research for a future column, please ask at Lgood67334@comcast.net. Thanks.

Editor's Note:

B. Lynn Goodwin is the author of *You Want Me To Do What? – Journaling for Caregivers* (Tate Publishing). Her stories and articles have been published many places including *Voices of Caregivers*; *Hip Mama*; the *Oakland Tribune*; the *Contra Costa Times*; the *Danville Weekly*; *Staying Sane When You're Dieting*; *Small Press Review*; *Dramatics Magazine*; *Career*; *We Care*; and *The Sun*.

A former teacher, she has conducted workshops and written reviews for Story Circle Network, www.storycircle.org. She also writes for StudySync, www.studysync.net and Caregiver Village, www.caregivervillage.com. She facilitates writing workshops and publishes *Writer Advice*, www.writeradvice.com.

Editor's Note – Member Benefits – Next Three Pages

By popular request, the following three extra pages provide our members with highlights and advice from the speakers who participated in the 'Three of our Own' meeting in December. Jeryl, Judith and Nannette were enthusiastically received. For those unable to attend the meeting, or those who wish they had taken better notes, our speakers offer their wisdom, experience and encouragement.



On Rejection, Advice from a Writer to Writers The Publishing Component

By Jeryl Abelman

Quickly The Magic Spatula is the 2011 "Children's Book Winner" of the Hollywood Book Festival, the Gold Medal Winner of the Moonbeam Children's Book Award... this award was presented for inspired writing, illustrating and publishing. Co authors: Jeryl Abelman & Miriam Kronish also won "Best Children's Picture Book" by the Bay Area Independent Publishers Association.

The book is a tribute to my mother ... it is her story... Quickly is her Spatula! It took four years to publish. Winning "The Gold" is a wonderful reinforcement for our work. We never dreamed we'd get this far.

I'd like to talk about **REJECTIONS** and How to overcome them. We all have to face some kind of rejection in the world of writing. In order to be able to take Rejection you have to have a Strong Belief in yourself and Your Work. You know you are going to get rejection

Some Advice for you as a Writer:

Focus on a topic that you are passionate about.

People say: Where did you get the idea for your book?

What is the catalyst for your story?

- Write your story
- Show it to others
- Open yourself to suggestions
- Try it out
- See where it takes you
- Be willing to open yourself up
- Take a writing course at your local college
- Find a mentor ... someone you trust
- Have people you respect read your work

Get away from your computer... that's easier said than done:

Attend Writers Conventions, Attend CWC Meetings, Network, Network, Network
These are new horizons, Have fun on the journey

What did I learn? Determination – Tenacity - Never give up - Believe in yourself

The Publishing Component

It depends on what your goals are. Be clear about your goals

As I mentioned before ... you have to have time and energy for Rejections

When looking for a Publisher:

Look carefully - Research before you "jump in" - Go in with your eyes wide open

Don't sign anything without someone you trust reading it - Know what's important to you.

Know what your goals are

Once again: Be passionate about your story: And Remember: Each memory can be a book in itself!



Fan Into Flame Your Writing Gift **by Judith Ingram**

If you consider yourself to be a writer, then you are likely gifted in two ways: You see visions and you feel motivated to share those visions with others.

The 16th-century artist Michelangelo once wrote: "I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free." Whether you write fiction or non-fiction, your gift as a writer is to see the angel in the marble and then to search for just the right words to help others to see what you see.

By "fanning your gift into flame," I mean to recognize and value your specialness as a writer and to diligently pursue the course that your gift lays out for you. I suggest four principles to help you do this:

1. Know Who You Are. Before you sit down to write, work up a character profile on yourself. Force yourself to think about the difficult issues:

- What do you really believe? What doubts do you have?
- What are you angry about? What are you afraid of?
- If you were in charge of the universe, what are the first three things you would change?
- What sort of people do you dislike and why?
- What is your favorite kind of book to read when no one is looking? Would you like to write a book like that?
- What questions do you long to have answered? Chances are your readers are looking for answers to those same questions.

2. Use Your Own Voice. Now that you know who you are, write out of who you are. Ask yourself, what especially qualifies you to write about this? Consider your personal history—traumas, problems you've overcome or felt defeated by, external forces that have shaped you, perhaps a teacher, an abusive parent, or a loving neighbor. What makes your perspective fresh and different? This quality is important not only for marketing but because it gives your voice authenticity and authority. When others see what you see, they will take it seriously. They will believe you.

3. Find Joy In Your Writing. Like the Eric Liddell character in the movie *Chariots of Fire*, write for the sheer pleasure of doing something that you feel you were created to do. Enjoy your giftedness! If writing is not a joyful experience for you, perhaps you are not yet writing out of your own truth, or perhaps the genre you've chosen is not a good fit for you right now. Explore and experiment until you find that "sweet spot" of writing for sheer pleasure. Authentic joy in your work gives you emotional confidence. It also infuses your writing with energy that will resonate with your readers.



Be a Communication Problem Solver

By: Nannette Rundle Carroll

Author of The Communication Problem Solver

HOW TO RESOLVE COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS (Example: I balanced gender of good and poor communicators. Copy Editor did global search and changed all gender references to “He or She” which interrupted flow and distracted from content.)

1. Frame your position in context
2. Describe your specific need or expectation
3. Identify what you observe in specific factual (not judgmental) terms
4. Move forward collaboratively to the next step
5. Ask their POV

Example for a Critique Group Issue—YES (Say this)

1. “I want us to work well together. I’d like to talk to you about your comments on my recent work.”
2. “My expectation was that we would give each other constructive comments related to the craft of writing.”
3. “Your comments that ‘page one sucks’ and that ‘this story will never sell’ do not help me revise my work. What I need is specific comments.”
4. “I would like you to make comments that inform me how I can better improve point of narration or the arc of the character or plot.”
5. “How do you see it?”

Example for a Critique Group Issue--NO (Don’t Say this)

1. “You surprised me with your comments.”
2. “You violated our critique group agreements.”
3. “You are a mean-spirited person.”
4. “Who the heck do you think you are?”
5. “From now on, if you can’t say something nice, don’t say anything at all!”

HOW TO PERSUADE

1. State your understanding of their POV. (Your publisher wants to delay your book’s publication.)
2. Tell your need or POV briefly. Relate it to your common goal (for example creating a marketable book).
3. WIIFT? State reasons why doing what you propose would benefit them.
4. Back it up with examples if you can.
5. Listen carefully and ask clarifying questions to identify their *real* issue. (Example, they say your book will have to compete against a best-selling author’s book that they are publishing. By your questions you learn that their real issue is they need to cut 50% of their scheduled books from their catalog due to budget/ economy.)
6. Stay friendly, collaborative, and use a neutral tone.
7. Answer their objections while moving them toward your position (return to steps 3-6 as needed).
8. Summarize agreement of next steps.

2012 Annual Young Writers Contest

Sponsored by The California Writers Club, Mount Diablo Branch

The Mount Diablo Branch of the California Writers Club invites you to support the young writers of today by honoring the great California writers of the past. Please consider joining one of the following donor clubs **for this fiscal year**. Your gift will be acknowledged in the Young Writers Contest program and in the Mount Diablo CWC newsletter. In addition, all donations are tax-deductible. The Young Writers Contest Committee and the Mt. Diablo Board of Directors wish to thank the following donors to the Young Writers Contest from July 1, 2011, to the present:

Foundation Donors

The Leroe Family Foundation

The Jack London Founder's Circle

Christine Sunderland

The John Muir Member Club

The Mary Austin Writers Club

David George in memory of Joan Brennan

The John Steinbeck Society

Barbara Bentley

The Ina Coolbrith Laureate Club

Elizabeth Koehler-Pentacoff in memory of Joan Brennan

Joanne Brown

Lee Paulson

Kathy Urban

The Vinapa Foundation for Cross-Cultural Studies

The Helen Hunt Jackson Group

This annual Young Writers Contest for middle school students of Contra Costa County awards cash prizes for excellence in short story, poetry, and essay/personal narrative categories. Winners are notified in May and presented with their awards at an awards luncheon, at a local restaurant. All expenses of the program are supported by individual donations and grants. Please join us in this unique program for encouraging our youth toward creative writing.

~ The Jack London Founder's Circle - \$500

~ The John Steinbeck Society - \$250-\$499

~ The John Muir Member Club - \$150-\$249

~ The Ina Coolbrith Laureate Club - \$100-\$149

~ The Mary Austin Writers Club - \$50-\$99

~ The Gertrude Atherton Guild - \$10-\$24

~ The Helen Hunt Jackson Group - \$25-\$49

Please list my membership in the following donor club: _____

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ (checks or cash only, please)

Acknowledge my gift in honor of/in memory of _____

Make your check payable to: *CWC-Mt. Diablo Branch* Mail check to:

CWC Mt. Diablo Branch, Attention: Young Writers Contest, P.O. Box 606, Alamo, CA 94507

Please consider joining a Donor Club in support of our Annual Young Writers Contest. Your gift furthers our mission to provide support and encouragement not only to our adult writers, but also to identify and reward excellence among Contra Costa County middle school students. Your gift enables our club to continue and to expand our outreach to young writers. You can designate a gift in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one. Your gift is fully tax deductible. Thank you to all our members who generously donated to the 2011 Young Writers Contest. It was the best ever! Please consider joining one of our Donor

Clubs again this year to support the next generation of California writers who look forward to entering the 2012 contest. They are depending on you!



California Writers Club~Mount Diablo Branch
Post Office Box 606
Alamo, CA 94507

California Writers Club ~ Mount Diablo Branch

~ The California Writers Club is a designated 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation. ~

Join Us!

**Our next CWC-Mt. Diablo Branch Workshop
is on January 14, 2012 at 9:00 am, in Pleasant Hill.**

For detailed workshop information, go to

<http://cwcmtdiablowriters.wordpress.com>

The California Writer's Club (CWC) shall foster professionalism in writing, promote networking of writers with the writing community, mentor new writers, and provide the literary support for writers and the writing community as is appropriate through education and leadership. All items in this newsletter are the

opinions of the author(s) and do not in any way represent the views or official position of CWC.