



Our Mission ~ Support Local Writers

Newsletter for Gold Country Writers, P.O. Box 5991 Auburn, CA 95604

Sept, 2016 Issue

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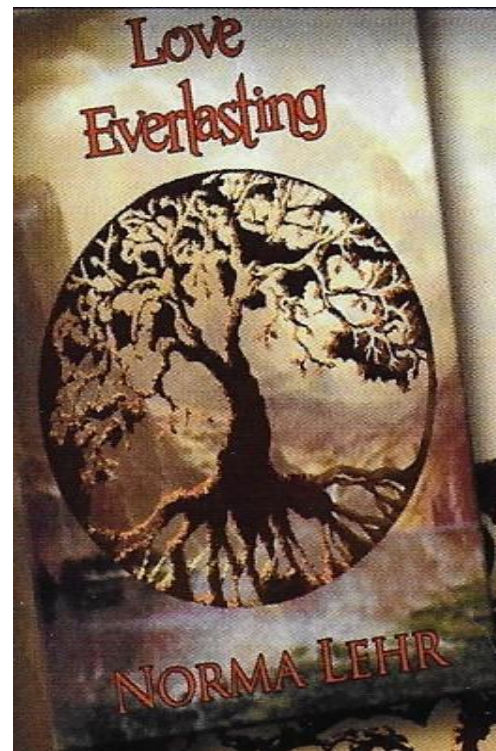
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Visit us at our web site:

www.GoldCountryWriters.com

Book Review



Name the Newsletter Contest



The Gold Country Writers Newsletter needs a name. So we are holding a Name the Newsletter Contest. Entries should be submitted to Newsletter Editor Michael O'Haver by September 30, 2016. The winner will be voted on at the October 5th Business Meeting. Enter as many suggestions as you like. Any accompanying logos should be submitted with the text. The prize for the winner will be a trophy and bragging rights.

Norma Lehr has published her 8th book ~ *Love Everlasting*. The publisher is Black Opal Books. Following is a review by Regan Murphy:

“A poignant and intriguing story of loss, love, and the lessons we need to learn as humans. The characters are charming, the plot interesting and it has enough twists and turns to keep you hooked from the beginning.”

Doug Greene: From Conception to Completion Editing Lessons Learned from My First Book

To minimize editing writers should ask themselves the following questions before they start:

- Why are you writing?
- What do you want to say?
- Who are you writing for?
- What age group are you writing for?

Other key points:

- Create a customer **Avatar**
- Ask - Why would anyone want to read your work?
- Ask - What is your competition?
- Ask - What type of book are you writing?
- Outline your book using sticky notes or index cards, so you can easily rearrange them if needed
- Write your back cover synopsis first and refer to it often
- Some good writing software programs are: Mindmapping, Scrivener and Word
- The purpose of the first draft is not to get it right, but to get it done
- After finishing the first draft take a break before trying to rewrite
- Each chapter should move you toward your goal
- Naming your chapters focuses your writing
- Write to the promise in each chapter
- You have to learn to let go
- An editor is worth the expense
- We all need to grow in our journey
- Pay attention to the details
- What sells is how people feel
- God is in the details
- Get another set of eyes to read your writing
- Publish on Kindle first and have readers give you feedback. It is easy to edit your work and get it back online fast
- Study the Enneagram to understand personality types
- 2 good writing texts are: *The Elements of Style* and *On Writing Well*.



Join the **Gold Country Writers** each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St., Auburn 95604. Our regular monthly schedule is:

First Wednesday: Business Meeting to discuss administrative issues for the club (all members are welcome to come and contribute). This is followed by a closed meeting of the club's Board of Directors.

Second & Fourth Wednesday: Drop-In Critique. This is the time when members present samples (a maximum of five pages, double-spaced) of their writing to the group and everyone gets to offer his or her critique.

Third Wednesday: Special program of general interest to the club members. Topics change each month. In December it is our club Holiday Party. See Page 4 for the Speaker of the Month.

Fifth Wednesday: On the rare occasion that there is one, we meet at Mel's Diner (at corner of Hwy. 49 & Luther Rd.) for breakfast/lunch and socializing with other club members.

Poetry and How to Appreciate it

- Poetry might be defined as a kind of language that says more and says it more intensely than ordinary language.
- Poetry takes all life as its province. Its concern is not just with beauty, philosophical truth, or persuasion, but with experience.
- The act of communication involved in reading poetry is like the act involved in communication in receiving a message by radio. Two devices are involved: a sending station and a receiving station.
- Completion of the communication depends on both the power and clarity of the transmitter and the sensitivity and tuning of the receiver.
- Poetry is a kind of multidimensional language. It uses all of the following to accomplish its tasks: all your senses, emotions, imagination, connotation, imagery, metaphor, symbol, paradox, irony, illusion, sound repetition, rhythm, pattern, and most of all the reader's intelligence.
- Suggestions for learning to appreciate poetry:
 - Read a poem more than once.
 - Keep a dictionary by you and use it.
 - Read so as to hear the sounds of the words in your mind. Poetry is written to be heard.
 - Always pay close attention to what the poem is saying.
 - Practice reading each poem aloud:
 - Read it affectionately, not affectedly.
 - It's not necessary to put emotion into reading a poem. The emotion is already there.
 - Of the two extremes, reading too fast offers greater danger than reading too slow.
 - Read the poem so that the rhythmic pattern is felt but not exaggerated.
 - The line is a rhythmic unit, and its end should be observed (with a slight pause), whether it has punctuation there or not.
- To aid in the understanding of a poem, we may ask ourselves a number of questions about it:
 - Who is the speaker?
 - What is the occasion?
 - What is the central purpose of the poem?
- The reader of poetry has one advantage over the tennis player. Poets are not trying to win matches. They may expect the reader to stretch for their shots, but they want the reader to return them.

**From *Literature Structure, Sound and Sense* by Perrine & Arp
Summarized by Michael O'Haver**

Prose



From the Pres

September, or at least late September, is the beginning of fall and cooler weather. September is also the Placer Co. Fair in Auburn, and once again we will have a booth where many of our authors will have their books for sale. It's also a great time to advertise our club. For those who have signed up to be at the booths, we will have our club brochures available to hand out.

Our speaker in August was Doug Greene. He was very inspiring and gave our members many good tips on getting started and staying interested in writing. The attendance was great with more than 31 attendees. Many of the guests who attended expressed interest in joining our association.

The speaker in September will be one of our own, Joanne Butterfield. She will be presenting a creative writing seminar. I remember the last time she gave this talk. The club was meeting in the Placer Arts Building upstairs meeting room. It was well attended, a lot of fun and educational.

We can use two volunteers: one to help Joyce Rule in the area of events, event planning and marketing, and one to assist Margie Webb with membership. Anyone with those skills, please contact them.

Skip Michael

Special Events

September 8-11, 2016 Placer County Fair

Thursday & Friday 4 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Contact June Gillam for more info. 820-3020

September 21, 2016

Special Program 10-Noon at the church

Joanne Butterfield – Writer’s Workshop: “Sharpen Your Writing Skills.” Come prepared to write

Open Mike for the Spoken Word

3rd Sat. of each Month– 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at

Placer County Auburn Library, Beecher Room, Contact: Chery Anderson, Taleteller2@gmail.com (Not a GCW Event)

Placer’s Gold Toastmasters

Meets each Tuesday from Noon to 1 at 2929 Richardson Dr. at the Placer County Justice Center, Community Meeting Room.

Visitors are always welcome, Contact Michael O’Haver
(Not a GCW Event)

Specialty Critique Groups

Book: Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub 530/333-0852. They meet at Depoe Bay, on 2nd & 4th Wed, 12-3:00 p.m.

Science Fiction/Fantasy: Contact Hester Jones 805/905-9034

Memoirs: Contact Linda Franklin 530/878-2138. They meet at Depoe Bay on 3rd Wednesdays 12-3 p.m.

Novel: Contact Ann Reh 530/823-1870. They meet every other Monday, 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Writer's Quote



Margaret Atwood

"We still think of a powerful man as a born leader and a powerful woman as an anomaly."

Officers, Board Members & Committee Chairs of Gold Country Writers

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Skip Michael

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Submit newsletter material by the 15th of each month to GodsScribeMike@aol.com