

August, 2021

GCW Dispatch



Forging Better Writers



Our special guest speaker for July 21, 2021 was our own **Susan M. Osborn**. Her topic was—**Kick Start Your Writing with Story Cards**. This was an interactive workshop with some members tuning in on Zoom.

Two types of cards were discussed:

- 1) Collage Cards—works of art with photos and/or clip art glued to a solid backing to make an attractive greeting card.
- 2) Story Cards—made similarly to a Collage Card to either illustrate a story or stimulate the writing of a new story.

Those who attended the session in person selected pictures provided along with blank paper, scissors and glue to work with.

Those Zooming in had the option of using either magazines or going on Google for their illustration material.

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Story Cards, Continued

The Hybrid Zoom part worked only because Rebecca kept those members informed and on track with the in-person members. They did not have the added option of developing a new story inspired by the story board. But they were illustrating existing stories, so it all worked out.

After everyone participating finished their Collage/Story Cards they had an opportunity for show & tell.

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The new GCW logo (see above) was a long time in the making, but I think it looks amazing. This logo was not as effortless to create as it might look. Many hours went into fleshing out small details that helped make the design pop.

Frank deserves lots of applause. Thanks should also go to my husband (for Photoshop magic) and to the PR Committee (Bill and Chery) for giving feedback on earlier versions. I hope everyone likes the final product as much as I do.

Robin Deley

PROSE FROM THE PRES



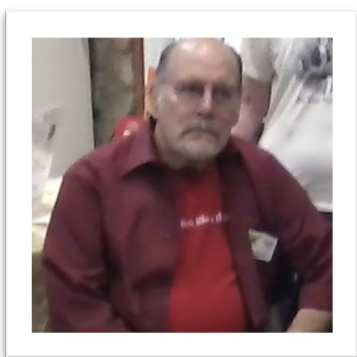
July 27, 2021

Michael has offered me this space so that I may continue the tradition of the President's message. Firstly, thank you all for your encouragement and support. An old philosopher once said, *the best kind of leadership is when the people think they are governing themselves*. A subtle aspiration, to be sure. I am going to rely on the advice and counsel of the people who have guided and loved GCW down through the years. I have only one goal, and I am going to pursue it relentlessly: To help and encourage everyone who wants to write, and who wants to improve their writing. I hope we can make every decision and every activity of the organization with that uppermost in mind.

I have said to several of our members that this is going to be a no-frills presidency. Let's keep the paperwork to a minimum and the writing and critiquing to a maximum.

If, at any point, at press time, I don't have anything to say, there will be no President's message. No doubt, Michael will be able to put the space to good use.

Write. Frank



GCW Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, our regular monthly schedule is:

First Wednesday: Business Meeting to discuss organizational business. All are welcome to attend. This is followed by a closed meeting of the Lead Team.

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

Third Wednesday: Special educational programs of general interest to all, open to the public. Topics change each month. See Page 6 for the Speaker of the Month.

Fifth Wednesday: On the rare occasion that there is one, we have a special program at the City Hall, or meet at a local restaurant for brunch. Join us for fun and socializing with members and guests.



GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS

Successful people never reach their goals alone

Mentor - Mentee
Program Kick-off
August 18, 2021



COME SHARE YOUR
WRITING-PUBLISHING-
MARKETING EXPERIENCE

WHAT IS A MENTEE?

A person trained, advised or
counseled by a mentor - a
coach, a tutor, a friend.

In the Rose Room
Auburn City Hall
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn CA 95603

10 AM to Noon

VISITORS WELCOME



Specialty Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator - Rebecca Inch-Partridge

Note: Contact group leaders to learn the current schedule for your group.

Children's Lit: Contact Sarah Pressler. Meets 3rd Thurs., at 1 p.m. in Sarah's yard through the summer.

Science Fiction/Fantasy: Contact John Vester. Meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at the Leaf and Bean (across from the Court House)

Memoir: NEW GROUP Meets the 1st Tues of each month (1st meeting Aug 3rd) at Round Table Pizza, 3-5 p.m. at Save Mart Center, Elm St. & Highway 80. Contact Joan Griffin. bring five double-spaced 12-point font pages. Also, have a short explanation of where these pages fall within the book and what specifically you would like feedback on from those giving critiques.

Novel: Contact Mary Helen Fein, meets via Zoom on 2nd & 4th Fridays from 2—4 p.m. Closed to new members.

Evening Mixed Genre: Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge. Drop in at Round Table Pizza, 1st Wed. of the month. 5:30 p.m.

Flash Fiction: Contact Chery Anderson. Meets by e-mail

Poetry: 4th Wed. 12:00 p.m. Contact Randy Whitwell. Meeting in the Rose Room at Auburn City Hall.

Inspirational: Contact Michael O'Haver. 2nd Wed. 12 noon in the Rose Room, Auburn City Hall

Mystery: Contact Robin DeLey. Meets 3rd Wed. at 1:00 p.m. Hybrid Zoom and at School Reserve Park in Auburn.

For group leader contact information, consult your membership roster.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Aug 4: Monthly Business and Executive Meeting in the Rose Room of Auburn City Hall: 10 a.m. to Noon.

Aug 18: Mentor Kick-Off during regular GCW Meeting, Rose Room, Auburn City Hall, 10 a.m. to Noon.

Aug 28: Open Mic for the Spoken Word, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Auburn Library Park, 350 Nevada St. Contact Chery at Taleteller2@gmail.com

GCW Has A New Memoir Critique Group!

Joan Griffin has agreed to get a memoir group going and lead the first two meetings. This memoir critique group will meet on the first Tuesday of the month from 3 to 5 p.m. (That's August 3rd and September 7th). If bringing pages to get critiqued, please have a short explanation of where these pages fall within the book and what specifically you would like feedback on from those giving critiques. For more details contact Joan Griffin.



GCW Officers, Board Members & Committee Chairs

President: Frank Nissen

Genre ~ Historical Fiction

V P - Internal Affairs: Barbara Young

Genre ~ Photography, Nonfiction

V P - External Affairs, Marketing & Events:
Vacant

Treasurer: Bill Baynes

Genre ~ Science Fiction, Children's Books

Secretary: Betsy Schwarzentraub

Genres ~ Christian Nonfiction, Devotions,
& Book reviews

Guest Speakers: Margie Yee Webb

Genres ~ Gift Books & Flash Fiction

Membership: Bill Baynes

Genre ~ Science Fiction, Children's Books

Genres ~ **Public Relations & Read & Review:**

Chery Anderson

Genre ~ Short Stories

Web Master, Graphics & Cyber Security:
Currently Open

Spin-off Critique Groups Coordinator:

Rebecca Inch-Partridge

Genre ~ Science Fiction

Newsletter Editor: Michael O'Haver

Genres ~ Christian Children's, Memoir, Non Fiction, Historical Fiction, Science Fiction, & Poetry

Submit newsletter material by the 15th of each month to GodsScribeMike@gmail.com
For Contact Info. see latest GCW Roster

Susan M. Osborn—Story Cards, Continued

Don't let your story inhibit your creativity. Cards should illustrate emotions and feelings and be inspirational.

Benefits of Creating Collage Cards

Immersion in the process of making art can be relaxing and fun.

The results can be personally and professionally rewarding.

Creating a collage card for a special occasion can bring joy to others.

A collage card may become a story card.

Benefits of Creating Story Cards

They can provide illustrations of existing stories and/or books.

They can serve as prompts for developing new stories and/or books.

A Story Card can express a **Stream of Consciousness**. (What's the story behind the people or objects?)

If writing a new story, use the following prompts to guide you:

Once upon a time

Everyday

But one day

Because of that

Because of that

Because of that

Until finally

Ever since then

And that's why

And the moral of this story is

Member Profile—Barbara Young



Barbara Young, our current VP of Internal Affairs, enjoys travel, usually on a road less traveled. She hopes her writing inspires open-heartedness, stirs wanderlust, encourages wonderment, and builds bridges. Her diverse work as a nurse and holistic consultant and educator inspired her first non-fiction book, *The Heart that Rocks Health Care*, an empowerment book for nurses. She also creates poetry, flash fiction, short fiction, and children's stories along with gift and coffee table books featuring her photography.

Learn more at www.byoungbooks.com

Member of IBPA, NFAA, NCPA, GCW, SSWC, SCBWI

Nonfiction:

The Heart that Rocks Health Care: Nurses, Move from Stress to Success, Empowerment and Influence

Short Stories:

"In the Middle" in NCPA 2019 Anthology, *Birds of a Feather*

"On the Porch with Miss Lizzy" in NCPA 2019 Anthology, *More Birds of a Feather*. Received 2019, Recognition Award 2020

"The European Tourama 1987" in NCPA 2020 Anthology, *Destination: The World*

"Star-Spangled Carnival 1991" in NCPA 2021 Anthology, *All Holidays*

"Against a Wall" in NCPA 2021 Anthology, *Destination: The World II*

Poetry:

What Do You See

GCW Happenings & Events

Club Website Bios:

Maximum raised to 200 Words

Those of you who submitted 100-Word bios to the GCW website now can augment them to a maximum of 200 Words. Be sure and include a good head shot separate from the writing. Please e-mail them to the club address:

goldcountrywriters1849@gmail.com

Famous Writer's Quote

"As you read a book word by word and page by page, you participate in its creation, just as a cellist playing a Bach suite participates, note by note, in the creation, the coming-to-be, the existence, of the music. And, as you read and re-read, the book of course participates in the creation of you, your thoughts and feelings, the size and temper of your soul."

Ursula K. LeGuin



Sharpen your pencils for the 2021 **San Francisco Writing Contest!**

The San Francisco Writers Conference is pleased to announce the **2021 San Francisco Writing Contest**. The contest is open to all writers everywhere.

Your entry must fit into one of the following categories:

- * Adult Fiction
- * Adult Nonfiction (including memoir)
- * Children's/YA Books
- * Poetry

Entries may have been self-published or not-yet published, but not traditionally published.

The entry fee includes a copy of the 2021 SFWC Writing Contest Anthology. The grand prize is registration to the 2022 San Francisco Writers Conference, and there will be a first prize in each category.

All fees and entries must be received by midnight Pacific Time on September 18th, 2021.



THE WISE OLD OWL SAYS:

It is an undeniable truth: a reader's emotions are at the mercy of the author.

And a **cliffhanger** is a pretty infallible way to pull strong emotional reactions from readers.

A cliffhanger is an abrupt ending or a thrilling plot twist during a moment of elevated drama, often at a chapter's end introduced to maintain suspense.

GCW VISION

The specific purpose of the Gold Country Writers is to offer education, support, and resources to writers and to the community as a whole. The organization educates and encourages writers of all levels and disciplines in skill development and networking. GCW benefits the entire community with author connections, new books, and events for the public.

GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS



Forging Better Writers

Gold Country Writers
Post Office Box 5991
Auburn CA 95604
goldcountrywriters.com
goldcountrywriters1849@gmail.com
7/30/20



The GCW Public Relations committee designed a new GCW brochure to hand to visitors at meetings. Chery Anderson and Bill Baynes worked on the wording and Frank added his artistic eye to the layout. The front has the GCW logo and the open book from the brochure.

The Difference Between Line & Development Editors

by Rebecca Inch-Partridge

When I tell potential clients that I mainly do developmental editing as opposed to line editing, they often ask what that means. Here are the different types of editors and what they do:

Developmental editors are concerned with big picture stuff. They work on the plot, characters, and setting of fiction or topic and subtopics in non-fiction. They help develop the manuscript into a more focused and organize story or textbook. They also look closely at point of view and the narrative style. It is sometimes referred to as “content editing” or “substantive editing.”

Line editors are concerned with the work at the sentence and paragraph level. While similar to a proofreader, they not only mark spelling and grammatical errors, they address issues with the use of language. They go beyond “correcting” the piece as an English teacher might, and work on making the language more dynamic and ensuring it flows.

These are the two most common types of freelance editors that authors might consider hiring to prepare their manuscript for submitting to traditional publishing houses or self-publishing. You should always make sure what service it is you are paying for before hiring any freelancers. This is just as true when dealing with editors as it is with any other private contractor you might hire.

Why Join GCW?

GCW supports genre specific small critique groups that meet in homes, coffee shops, and restaurants.

- Children's Lit
- Science Fiction/Fantasy
- Memoir
- Novel
- Flash Fiction
- Poetry
- Inspirational
- Mystery
- Evening Mixed Genre

MENTOR PROGRAM: Enroll in the program for one-on-one help to improve writing skills.
READ & REVIEW BOOK CLUB: Our authors' books are read and reviews posted online.

BOOK SALES & CONTESTS: GCW sponsors 100 Word Story and Poetry Contests every year.
WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER: Each member has a page devoted to their bio on the website. Monthly newsletters keep members informed.

Meetings Every Wednesday 10 AM to Noon

1st Wednesday Everyone participates
Business in the decision making

2nd Wednesday Members get feedback
Drop-In Critique on work in progress

3rd Wednesday Speakers on topics
Guest Speaker of interest to writers

4th Wednesday Members get feedback
Drop-In Critique on work in progress

5th Wednesday In months with five
Social Event Wednesdays, special events are scheduled

-- VISITORS WELCOME --

In the Rose Room
Auburn City Hall
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603

GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS
IS A 501(c)(3) NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION

goldcountrywriters1849@gmail.com
www.goldcountrywriters.com

