

September, 2021

GCW Dispatch



Forging Better Writers



August 17, 2021 was Mentor Kick-Off for GCW. Shown above are Susan Korn, GCW Mentor Coordinator (L). Lorna Holmas (R) gave an interesting presentation on the history of the word “Mentor” from Greek Mythology.

Definition of Mentor: Trusted advisor

Definition of Mentee: Anyone who needs help on any stage of writing or publishing.

Mentoring is the art of making the most of a difficult situation.

It’s not what you say as much as how you say it.

Your mentor does not write your book.

Don’t let your strength become your weakness. Contact Susan if you need a mentor or to serve as a mentor.



Gold Country Writers will not have a booth at this year’s Gold Country Fair. The reason sited is HEALTH.

Please accept our apologies to all those who have put in extensive work preparing for the fair.

Inside Sept. 2021 Issue

- Pg 1-Mentor Kick-Off, Gold Country Fair, Rose Room Closed
- Pg 2-Writer’s Almanac, GCW Meeting Schedule, Member News
- Pg 3-Spin-Off Critique Groups, Officers & Committee Chairs
- Pg 4-Upcoming Events, GCW On The Move, Famous Quote, Cartoon
- 5-Book Review – Old Man & the Sea
- 6-Guest Speaker – George Beckman

Rose Room Closed

We have received notice that there will not be any more public meetings at Auburn City Hall, until further notice. This includes the Rose Room. The Board decided we will be going back to Zoom for our business & guest speaker meetings on the 1st & 3rd Wed. and moving to Gold Country Church for the critiques on the 2nd & 4th Wed. See page 4 for details.

The Writer's Almanac for Friday, August 27, 2021

Posted on August 27, 2021 - [Writer's Almanac](#)

It's the birthday of the man Stephen King once called "the Swiss watchmaker of suspense novels," Ira Levin (1929). His novels include "The Stepford Wives" and "Rosemary's Baby."

Thursday, August 26, 2021

Posted on August 26, 2021 - [Writer's Almanac](#)

It's the birthday of the NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson (1918) who ran the calculations for the moon missions by hand.

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Posted on August 25, 2021 - [Writer's Almanac](#)

Today is the 100th birthday of the Irish novelist Brian Moore, not well known, he was respected by authors such as Graham Greene. He also wrote screenplays for people like Alfred Hitchcock.

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Posted on August 24, 2021 - [Writer's Almanac](#)

"Gather ye rosebuds while ye may, /
Old Time is still a-flying, /
And this same flower that smiles to-day /
To-

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.

Member News

Michael O'Haver took First Place for his latest Picture Book titled – *The Mystery Why Blossom Never Played Possum* in the Children's Story category of the Nevada County Fair.

Kudos to Robin Deley, for all the work she put into the reorienting the club website, and the outstanding code work of her son, Nicholas. Chery has made certificates for Robin, and for her husband, Steve for all his work on the new logo.

- To the Media Committee for the website and logo and the amazing results
- To Chery, who has done a superb job on the new brochure.
- To Susan Korn for her generous gifts to people last month.
- To Bill Baynes, who is filling all three roles of Treasurer, Media Committee, and Membership Director.

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 3,) at Round Table Pizza 3-5 PM at Save mart Center, Elm St. & Highway 80, Contact Joan Griffin, bring 5 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 PM, see Pg 5

Flash Fiction: Contact Chery Anderson, meets by e-mail

Poetry: 2nd & 4th Wed. 12:00 p.m. Contact Randy Whitwell. Sharing poems via Zoom

Inspirational: Contact Michael O'Haver, 2nd Wed. 12 noon at the Gold Country Church, see page 4 for directions.

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.

Critique Group Planned Changes:

Rebecca is looking to start a new critique group just for those desiring to pursue traditional publishing. The Poetry & Inspirational groups are contemplating merging, more to come.



GCW Officers, Board Members & Committee Chairs

President: Frank Nissen

Genre ~ Historical Fiction

VP - Internal Affairs: Barbara Young

Genre ~ Photography, Nonfiction

VP - External Affairs, Marketing & Events:

Vacant

Treasurer & Membership : 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

Public Relations & Read & Review:

Chery Anderson

Genre ~ Short Stories

Web Master: Mary Helen Fein

Genre ~ Novel

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

Upcoming Important Events

Sept. 9-12: Gold Country Fair, Auburn - no GCW booth this year.

Sept. 23: Open Mic suspended for the rest of 2021.

Sept. 29: GCW Leadership Planning Day, at a place to be determined, possibly Sizzlers

Oct. 9: Great Valley Bookfest in Manteca

Oct. 23: The Grass Valley Artisan Faire, will be held indoors. Chery Anderson will invite individual authors and members to participate as they wish.

Nov. 27-28: Placer County Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair (This is the weekend after Thanksgiving) at Gold Country Fairgrounds, stay tuned for details.

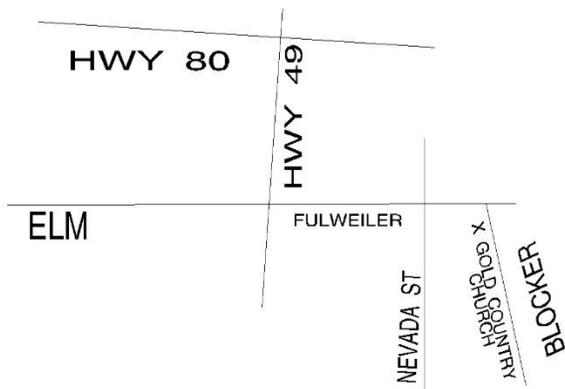
GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS ON THE MOVE AGAIN



**MEETING 2nd & 4th WEDS
10 am to noon**

Gold Country Church youth room 11641 Blocker Dr, Auburn.

Take Hwy 49 off Hwy 80 going toward Grass Valley. Turn left at second traffic light (old cemetery on the left) and go straight at first light across train tracks (look both ways). Make right into the Creekside Business complex and look for sign.



Famous Writer's Quote

Anecdotes don't make good stories. Generally I dig down underneath them so far that the story that finally comes out is not what people thought their anecdotes were about.

- Alice Munro

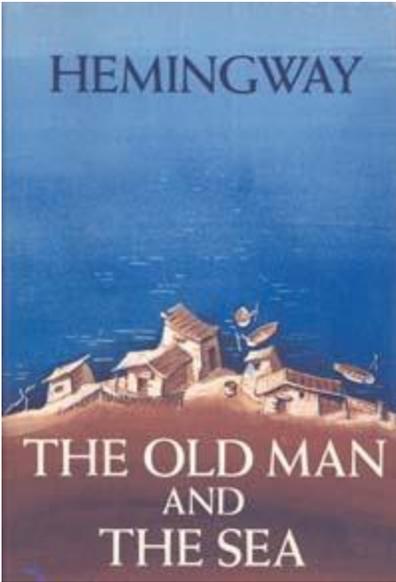


ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY RUSSO



The cure for writer's block.

Book Review by Jody Brady



Hemingway wrote *THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA*, when he was living in Cuba. He received the Pulitzer Prize for this work in 1953. The Nobel Prize was awarded to Hemingway in 1954, specifically mentioning this novella of one old man's struggle with the hardships of life and death. It was first published in 1952 in an issue of *LIFE Magazine*. Within 48 hours, 5,318,650 copies had been sold. The book edition sold 50,000 copies in advance and the British edition had sold 20,000.

The story is set in a small fishing village, near Havana Cuba. It is the story of one old man, Santiago, and his three-day struggle with a huge Marlin. For three days he refuses to accept defeat, and finally almost passing out from exhaustion, gathers enough strength to harpoon the

fish and reel it in to the side of the boat.

Alone and far out to sea without food, Santiago struggled in a battle of will. But his battle had only begun. As he attempts to return to land with his catch - his first in over 87 days - sharks follow the trail of blood and destroy his "hard fought" prize. But the old man refuses to accept defeat and against all odds battles the forces out to destroy his victory. The story is narrated by an anonymous narrator, but also frequently provides details about Santiago's inner thoughts and dreams. The story is fraught with symbolism about life and death and the struggles one must endure. The theme is that there is honor in struggle, defeat and death, and that pride is the source of greatness and determination.



Ernest Hemingway and Henry Mike Strater with the remaining 500 lbs of an estimated 1000 lb marlin that was half-eaten by sharks before it could be landed in the Bahamas in 1935.

GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS present

George Beckman



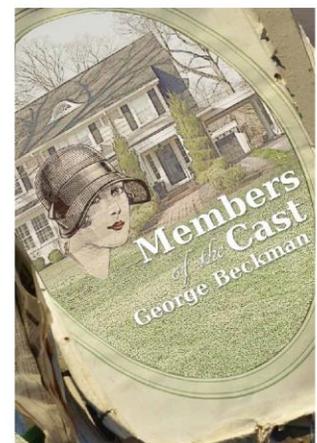
"Make Amazon Work for You"

September 15, 2021 10AM to Noon

The author will detail and reference techniques in publishing with Amazon's KDP.

Amazon self-publishing is free, and Amazon has 75%+ of the US market.

He will help writers figure out where and how to get started.



Online at Zoom.us
email for link:
goldcountrywriters1849@gmail.com

