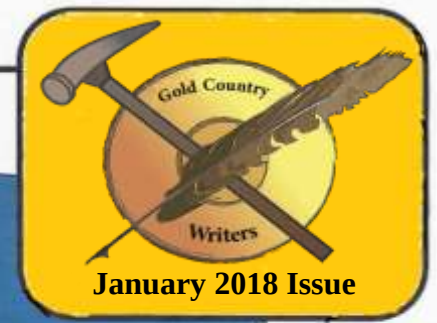


Gold Country Writers Digest

Our Mission is to Support Local Authors



**No GCW Meeting on
January 3, to
Celebrate New Year's,
5th Wed, Jan 31 –
Social at Awful Annies**

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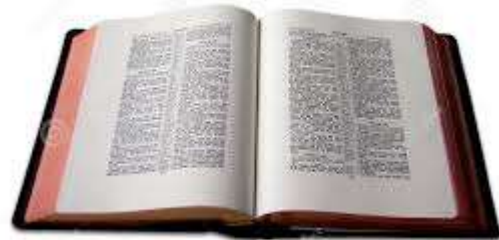
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GCW Book Group



2017 Holiday Celebration

December 13, 2017 was a day to review and renew. What stands out as perhaps the most important accomplishment for 2017 for our organization was attaining the 501(C)-3 nonprofit status. Thank you, Joy, for all the work you did on this project!

This was the start of our membership renewal period. Remember to get your dues to Joy ASAP.

Shown above are Kim Victoria and Linda Franklin, two of the “Jiggle Belles,” with their table’s winning *Frosty the Snowman*.

The Gold Country Writers Book Group will have its first meeting on January 10, 2018 at 11:30 AM, following a short GCW Business Meeting. Peter Stafford has drawn up a set of guidelines to get the new outreach of the GCW off to good start. This meeting will be to organize the pilot program which will start reading and reviewing GCW authors' works first. Eventually they may read and review books from nonclub members, as well. The method for picking the books, the timeline for book submission, and where and how often the reading/reviewing body will meet, are to be determined, as well.

If you are a GCW member and would like to serve on this reviewing body, contact Peter or one of the members of the Lead Team.

PROSE



FROM THE PRES

Happy New Year to you! May this be a year of fulfillment and joy, including in your writing life.

Being a writer is not just about what we write, but also how we see the world. In *The Art Spirit*, Robert Henri says there is the artist in every human being, whatever his or her activity.

"I think the real artists are too busy with just being and growing and acting (on canvass or however) like themselves to worry about the end," he says. "The object is intense living, fulfillment; the great happiness is creation." (p. 226)

For GCW meetings this month, we will not meet on Jan. 3.

Then on Jan. 10 we'll hold our Business Meeting, ending early so the new GCW Book Reading group can have an organizing meeting at 11:30. The Executive Session will also meet at 11:30 that day.

Jan. 17 will be our presenter, with the Writer's Platform Group at noon.

We'll have our Drop-In Critique on Jan. 24.

January 31 we will have a 5th Wednesday Social at Awful Annies. Have a terrific month!

Betsy

GCW Meeting Schedule

Join the **Gold Country Writers** each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St., Auburn 95603. Our regular monthly schedule is:

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

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

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

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

KUDOS

Michael O'Haver had a selling opportunity for his books and calendars. He is in a Christian Writing Critique Group with Janet Collins. Her church, the United Methodist Church in Grass Valley, had a Christmas Fair. He sold one book and one calendar.



Write On...

Special Events



GCW Business & Executive Board Meetings

January 10, 2018, 10 & 11 AM, at the Church

GCW Kick Off Meeting for GCW Book Club

January 10, 2018, 11:30 AM, at the Church

GCW Special Guest Program

January 17, 2018, at the church. 10 AM – James L'Etoile, From Prison to the Page, adding Realism to Fiction, How Much is too Much?

Open Mic for the Spoken Word

Canceled for January, due to the holidays. Will be a GCW Event

Auburn Winter Storytelling Festival

January 27, 2018, all day Event, at the General Gomez Arts & Events Center, 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn, there will be a Children's hour, Workshops, Open Telling, Liar's Contest, and the professional Teller's showcase, contact Chery Anderson **A GCW Sponsored Event**

Placer's Gold Toastmasters, meets each Tuesday

12 Noon – 1 PM at DeWitt Justice Center, Contact Michael O'Haver

5th Wednesday Social, January 31, 2018

meet at Awful Annies at 10 AM for food & fun

Specialty Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator - Pauline Nevins -530/637-9163

Books: Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub 530/333-0852. They meet the 2nd and 4th Wed., 12-3 p.m. at Depoe Bay.

Historical Fiction: Contact Kathy Ward, 209/704-0719. They are back to meeting on the 4th Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 11 a.m. **The New location is Chevys, located on Highway 49 & Old Airport Road.**

Children's Lit: Contact Norma Lehr 530/878-8421. They meet at the restaurant at the Ridge Golf Course on Bell Rd. on the 4th Thurs., 2-4 p.m.

Science Fiction/Fantasy: Contact Rebecca Inch Partridge 530/889-1520.

Memoirs: Contact Susan Thompson 530/941-3778. They meet at Northridge Restaurant, 21515 Higgins Rd, off of Combie Road between Auburn and Grass Valley, the 3rd Thursday of each month at 2 p.m.

Novel: Contact Ann Reh 530/823-1870. They meet every other Monday, 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. at a member's office. Call for directions.

Evening Mixed Genre: Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge, 6 PM, site TBD.

GCW Officers, Board Members & Committee Chairs

President: Betsy Schwarzentraub
530/333-0852 Genre ~ Christian Nonfiction.

V P - Internal Affairs: Susan Korn 530/888-9971 Genre ~ Self-Help & Corporate Culture

V P – External Affairs: Joyce Rule 916/521-5177
Genre ~ Short Stories

Treasurer: Joy Hemp
650/799-5828 Genre ~ Self-Help & Inspirational

Secretary: Michael O'Haver
530/268-2490 Genre ~ Christian Children's Books & Poetry

Assistant Secretary:
Kathleen Ward 209/704-0719
Genre ~ Short Stories

Mentor Coordinator: Susan Korn
530/888-9971

Marketing GCW & Events: Joyce Rule 916/521-5177

Author Opportunities: June Gillam 530/820-3020
Genre ~ Suspense Thrillers & Poetry

Membership & Guest Speakers:
Margie Yee Webb 916/213-0798
Genre ~ Gift Books

Public Relations: Chery Anderson 530/613-1153
Genre ~ Short Stories

Web Master, Graphics & Cyber Security: Skip Michael: 916/601-1044 Genre ~ Science Fiction

Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator: Pauline Nevins:
530/637-9163 Genre ~ Memoirs

Newsletter Editor: Michael O'Haver 530/268-2490

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



GCW Face in a Book Event

Gold Country Writers will be featured at Face in a Book on March 25, 2018. Margie Yee Webb is coordinating this event to spotlight GCW authors.

Authors interested in being featured must submit books and applications (available at meetings) to Margie by January 17, 2018. She will transmit the books to Face in a Book for the final selection. They want a variety of genres and types of books.

Face in a Book is located in the heart of Town Center in El Dorado Hills, California. The hours for the event will be 1-4 PM, and will feature book signing, book sales, and more.



The 3rd Annual Auburn inter Storytelling Festival will be held on January 27, 2018. Gold Country Writers is a sponsor of the event. This will be an all-day affair, which will be held at the General Gomez Arts & Event Center, located at 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn. The schedule includes:

- ❖ Children's Hour
- ❖ Storytelling Workshops
- ❖ Open Storytelling
- ❖ Liars Contest (with a trophy for 1st Place)
- ❖ Storytellers' Showcase (with professional storytellers)

Best of All – all of it is free to the public!

Contact Chery Anderson at 530/613-1153, or go to www.foothillstorytellingguild.com for more information.

Famous Writer's Quote

Any man who keeps working is not a failure. He may not be a great writer, but if he applies the old-fashioned virtues of hard, constant labor, he'll eventually make some kind of career for himself as writer.

– Ray Bradbury

Looking for an Evening Critique Group?

Do you know someone who is?

Rebecca to the rescue!

We are starting another Gold Country Writers' Spin-Off Critique Group. It will meet the first Wednesday of each month starting at 6:00 PM.

This group is not genre specific, and will start off offering on-the-spot critiques of five double-spaced typed manuscript pages in the same way as the daytime Drop In Critique meetings of GCW on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday.

Once established, an option for longer, pre-read critiques will be offered.

Location: To be Determined

If interested, contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge at (530) 889-1520 or email rebeccapartridge@att.net

For more information visit her website at:
www.rebeccapartridge.com

Rebecca's Contests

Teen Sci Fi & Fantasy Writers, Ages 13-19, Prizes \$50, \$35, \$20, Due date 2-28-18

Teen Cover Graphic Art, Ages 13-19, Prizes \$50, \$35, \$20, Due date 2-28-18, Artwork must relate to the short story "Do No Harm," which can be found on Rebecca's website below.

Any Age, Speech Writer Contest – the scenario is: the world has been destroyed by an apocalypse, and the US President is making a speech to what is left of his people.

- \$50, go to rebeccainchpartridge@gmail.com for info.

\$5,000 ATOM BOMB PRIZE

ATOM BOMB™ writing contest is Fiction War Magazine's annual review of one-hundred-word stories (100 words or fewer) from around the world, awarding a \$5,000 grand prize to a single work. Shortlisted works will be announced periodically and offered publication in *Atom Bomb*. One story from the combined shortlists will win the cash award. 2018 *Atom Bomb* theme: When I Lived.

**ONE GRAND PRIZE AWARDED
COMPLETE SHORTLIST PUBLISHED
IN FICTION WAR MAGAZINE'S ATOM BOMB
RULES and AGREEMENT**

- Fiction War™ Magazine's *Atom Bomb*™ writing contest is open to anyone 18 years or older.
- Entries must be original, previously unpublished work, created expressly for *Atom Bomb*.
- Entries must be 100 words or fewer, not including title.

- Entries must be submitted via Submittable link as provided.
- Entrant's name/contact info should not appear anywhere within the body of the work.
- Each entry requires its own nonrefundable entry fee via Submittable.
- Blind judging - entries identified only by number until judging is completed.
- Multiple entries are allowed.

\$10 SUBMISSION DEADLINE

23 May 2018 AOE

GRAND PRIZE ANNOUNCED

25 June 2018

Get details at : <https://www.fictionwar.com/2018ab>

Virginia Commonwealth University Cabell First Novelist Award

Deadline:

January 14, 2018

Cash Prize:

\$5,000

E-mail address:

firstnovelist@gmail.com

Website:

<http://www.firstnovelist.vcu.edu>

A prize of \$5,000 is given annually for a first novel published during the previous year. The winner and the winner's agent will also receive lodging and travel expenses to attend First Novelist Award Night at Virginia Commonwealth University in Fall 2018. A committee of novelists and critics will judge. Submit three copies of a book published in 2017 by January 14, 2018. There is no entry fee. Visit the website for complete guidelines.



Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

10 a.m. to 12 noon

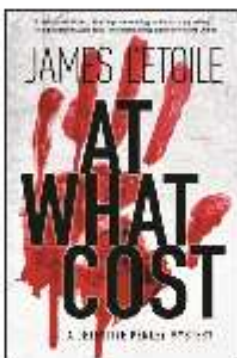
~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~

James L'Etoile

*From Prison to the Page:
Adding Realism to Fiction—
How Much Is Too Much?*



James L'Etoile will reveal how working in prison helped inform his crime fiction, and added realism in his newest release, *Bury The Past*.



The author of *At What Cost* and *Bury the Past*, James L'Etoile worked in the correctional system for twenty-one years before turning to crime fiction. He is an experienced correctional administrator, facility captain, associate warden, chief of institution operation, hostage negotiator, and director of state parole. He consults in prisons and jails across the country and when he isn't writing, he and his wife Ann-Marie take their therapy Corgi dogs to senior centers and reading programs for children.



The second book in the Detective Penley series published by Crooked Lane Books, *Bury the Past* reminds us that we may be done with the past, but the past isn't done with us. <https://jamesletoile.com/>

Join us! Meetings are free and open to the public.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High Street, Auburn CA 95603
(enter and park in back)

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Gold Country Writers: "Writers Working Together To Promote and Improve Their Work"  
~ A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization ~

Meetings are held every Wednesday of the month. Third Wednesdays: guest speaker presentation. First Wednesdays: business meeting. Second and Fourth Wednesdays: "Drop-In Critique" for members to get feedback on their work. For months with Fifth Wednesdays: social event. See website for details.

<http://GoldCountryWriters.com/>