

Gold Country Writers' Digest

Our Mission is to Support Local Authors



Jennifer Basye Sanders, September Guest Speaker

September 19, 2018 GCW Guest Speaker, Jennifer Basye Sanders, shown above spoke on *We'll always have Paris and Hemingway*.

Jennifer's talk at the Hemingway Conference was entitled—*Young Composers in 1920s Paris*. She began by posing the question: Could Hemingway Get Published Today?

Jennifer answered this question by discussing American composers Aaron Copland, Darius Milhaud, and Virgil Thomson. Their connection to Ernest Hemingway was that they all studied under Nadia Boulanger, at Fountainsbleau, many of them during the same time period as Hemingway was writing in France.

Nadia Boulanger, a French woman without formal training in composition, taught harmony, counterpoint, analysis, composition, and other

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Gold Country Fair 2018 GCW Booth

The authors of GCW at the Friday September 7 manning the booth at the Gold Country Fair, shown above – Back Row Left to Right Michael O'Haver, June Gillam, Skip Michael, Front Row, Left to Right, Kate Luce, Joy Hemp & Robin Rice. Also selling books at the fair were Rebecca Inch-Partridge, Sheri McGuinn, Margie Yee Webb, Jan Collins, Betsy Schwarzentraub, Wendy Coles-Littlepage, Mary Gordon, Phylis Kalbach, Kathy Shields & Nanci Lee Woody. Total Sales by all authors - \$345. There were 25 different books and one calendar sold.

Oct. 31 - 5th Wednesday GCW puts

the "Boo" in Books

- ❖ Scary Storytelling
- ❖ Costume Contest
- ❖ Spooky Food Potluck



PROSE



FROM THE PRES.

The **Elk Grove Writers Conference** is coming up on **Oct. 27th**! This exciting program will provide speakers on marketing, publishing, writing, and an opportunity to network and pitch to an agent. It goes from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., costs \$50, and includes a continental breakfast and box lunch.

The conference offers 50-minute workshops, offered twice so we can catch them all. They're led by several multiple-book authors including some folks we may know, such as Michelle Drier, ML Hamilton, and Cindy Sample. The keynote speaker will be Catriona McPherson.

Here are the workshop titles:

- "Market your book from pre-launch to best seller, including use of social media, how to do a web page, and book trailer"
- "Publishing: How to write a query letter and pitch to an agent"
- "Writing: What sells, self-editing tips about what editors look for, and more"
- "Research for all you write"
- "Pros and cons of self- vs. traditional publishing"
- "Do a page-turner memoir and nonfiction proposal."

I plan to go, and we could carpool if we want. It's at the Holiday Inn in Elk Grove, 9175 W. Stockton Blvd.

Keep on writing and learning!

Betsy

Jennifer Basye Sanders, Continued from Page 1

musical disciplines to her many American students, which included not only Copland, Milhaud, and Thomson, but Burt Bacharach and Quincy Jones, as well. She therefore had a hand in shaping what we now think of as fundamentally American sounding music.

The question was asked Jennifer – What were your and Cathy MacHold's most memorable moments during the convention?

Cathy replied – The walking tours both spontaneous and official. They included Luxembourg Gardens, Gertrude Stein's home, and a boat tour on the River Seine.

Jennifer replied – Being in Paris, to be in Paris. She has been there many times but always passing through to somewhere else.

To answer the question could Hemingway get published today, Jennifer answered – ***"Yes! There is no doubt that he was talented and deserved to be published, but he took his fate into his own hands and curried favor with older, well-connected writers who in turn promoted Hemingway to their publishers. Does that still work today? Oh yeah."***

2018 GCW Mentor Program



2018 Volunteer Mentors from left, Back row-Skip Michael, Joyce Rule, Betsy Schwarzentraub, Robin Rice, Front row from left Frank Nissen & Mentor Program Coordinator Susan Korn. Not shown is Rebecca Inch-Partridge. We also made \$94.39 on the used book sale.

Special Events

GCW Business & Board Meeting

Oct. 3, 2018, 10 a.m.-12, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

GCW Guest Speaker Program

Oct. 17, 2018, 10 a.m. – 12, Erika Mailman, Followed by GCW Read & Review, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

Open Mic. for the Spoken Word,

Oct. 27, 2018 at Auburn Library, 1 p.m., Contact- Rebecca Partridge

Elk Grove Writers Conference

Oct. 27, 2018 (See Betsy's Column, Page 2 for Details) NOT A GCW Event

Fifth Wednesday SPECIAL EVENT

Oct. 31, 2018 "Put the Boo in Books" Potluck. wear costumes, read aloud scary stories (3 minutes maximum), prizes



GCW Officers, Lead Team & Committee Chairs

President: Betsy Schwarzentraub

530/333-0852 Genres~Christian Nonfiction, Book Reviews

V P-Internal Affairs & Mentor

Coordinator: Susan Korn

530/888-9971 Genres~Self-Help & Corporate Culture

V P-External Affairs, Marketing

& Events: Joyce Rule 916/521-5177 Genre~Short Stories

Treasurer: Kate Luce

530/263-6112 Genre~Memoirs

Secretary: Susan Thompson

530/941-3778 Genre~ Memoirs

Assistant Secretary:

Kathleen Ward 209/704-0719

Genre~Historical Fiction

Author Opportunities:

Open

Membership & Guest Speakers:

Margie Yee Webb 916/213-0798
Genre~Gift Books, Flash Fiction

Public Relations/Read & Review:

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 Genres ~ Memoirs,
Personal Essays & Fiction

Newsletter Editor: Michael

O'Haver 530/268-2490

Genres~Christian Fiction, Non Fiction, Poetry, Children's Stories

Specialty Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator - Pauline Nevins -530/637-9163

Call Pauline if you want to start another group

Books: Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub 530/333-0852. By e-mail the 2nd and 4th Wed., 5-20 Pages. E-mail 1st; when possible, place, date, & time vary.

Historical Fiction: Contact Kathy Ward, 209/704-0719. Meet the 4th Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. at Chevys, located on Highway 49 & Old Airport Road. E-mail 1 chapter 2 weeks before meeting.

Children's Lit: Contact Norma Lehr, 530/878-8421. They meet on the 4th Thurs., 2-4 p.m. 5 Pages (Temporarily closed to new members).

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 Combie Road between Auburn and Grass Valley, the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 2 p.m.

Novel & Book Length Projects: Contact Ann Reh 530/823-1870. (Temporarily closed to new members).

Evening Mixed Genre: Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge, 530 /889-1520, They meet the 1st Wednesday of each month, at 5:45 p.m. at Round Table Pizza in Elm & I-80 Center, Auburn, CA 95603, 1 group-5 Pages, 1 group-15 Pages, e-mailed first.

Flash Fiction: Contact – Chery Anderson, 530/613-1153. This group meets once a month on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. at Nanci Woody's home in Rocklin. Five members are sharing feedback one to two page stories of about 500 words. (Temporarily closed to new members).

Gold Country Writers is a nonpartisan, nonprofit group whose mission is to support local writers. As such it does not endorse or support the policies or philosophy espoused by any other organization or entity. Contests or events sponsored by other organizations are listed for information only, and rely on individual discretion.

Writing Contests

13th Annual Writer's Digest Poetry

Awards

Deadline: October 1, 2018

Any poem – 32 lines or less. See website for Prizes and How to Enter.

<http://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/poetry-awards>

Sixfold: Short Story and Poetry Awards

Deadline: October 24, 2018

Prizes for a group of poems and a short story. Visit website for complete guidelines.

https://www.pw.org/writing_contests/short_story_and_poetry_awards

Anton Chekhov Prize for Very Short Fiction

Deadline: November 1, 2018

Entries should be approximately 1,000 words or less. See website for details.

<http://newflashfiction.com/anton-chekhov-prize-for-very-short-fiction/>

19th Annual Writer's Digest Short Story Competition

Deadline: November 15, 2018

Short fiction story – 1,500 words or less. See website for Prizes and How to Enter.

<http://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/short-short-story-competition>

Diane Frank on Facebook

BLUE LIGHT PRESS is accepting full-length manuscripts for the 2019 BLUE LIGHT BOOK AWARD. For guidelines, Email:

bluelightpress@aol.com. We publish poetry that is imagistic, inventive, emotionally honest, and pushes the language to a deeper level of insight. To see the books we have published and our winner's list: www.bluelightpress.com.

3rd place in its category in the 2018 Voices of Lincoln Poetry Contest.

If Money Grew on
Trees/Econ. 101

Green leaves flutter
on teasing boughs
fives, tens, twenties
a hundred here and there
just beyond our reach.
Basking in the sun
we play and dance
and dream, and wait
for fall winds to drop them
to our eager hands.

A daring few
climb and scamper
in the branches
grabbing fistfuls of green
dropping few to us.
Chattering apes they
grin and prance
waving their wealth
swinging limb to limb
losing most to the wind.

Golden giraffes
stroll among us
towering high
they don't even see us
on the cold ground below.
Heads in the trees
leaves brush their cheeks
caress their necks.
Surrounded by riches
they gobble them all.

--Kathleen Ward



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Review of Suzanne Blaney's

So The River Flows

Romance, Nazi resistance, satisfying read ★★★★★

I loved this historical fiction book set in the tumultuous time of the Nazi takeover of France. The book drew me in, first with artistic descriptions of Paris, followed by intrigue over a mysterious man and growing romantic relationship, and then the mounting tension of Hitler's plans and fleeing refugees in their headlong flight from death.

But the story doesn't stop there. It took me on to New York, Los Angeles and Rome, all with the fresh eyes of someone seeing them for the first time. The plot also captures a key time of transition in American culture. Author Suzanne Blaney has created believable characters I quickly came to care about. Jennifer, the main character, experiences life like a continually flowing river, choosing not to let anything bog her down.

This is a great book for WWII enthusiasts, French history buffs, and lovers of romance fiction, as well as all who just love a good yarn. It was a dramatic and satisfying read, with a few surprises thrown in.

Betsy Schwarzentraub

Writing Conferences & Lit. Events

Writer's Digest Novel Writing Conference

October 26-28, 2018, Pasadena CA

<http://novel.writersdigestconference.com/>

"3 days of learning. 3 days of inspiration. 3 days of focus."

Litquake

October 11-20, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://www.litquake.org/>

San Francisco's Literary Festival – "Words matter. Litquake sparks critical conversations, and inspires writers and readers to celebrate the written word with diverse literary programming, interactive workshops, and a ten-day festival."

Plus: Lit Crawl San Francisco October 20, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://www.litquake.org/lit-crawl-sf.html>

"Where literature hits the streets" in The Mission. **With First Annual Lit Crawl Book Fair**

"Join local presses, businesses, and literary magazines for a book fair like no other...at The Chapel in the heart of the Mission District on the afternoon of Lit Crawl San Francisco."

Great Valley Bookfest October 13, 2018, Manteca CA

<https://greatvalleybookfest.org/>

"Benefiting Literacy Organizations in the California Central Valley"

The Journey from Poet to Author: A Workshop with Diane Frank

October 13, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/journey-poet-author-oct-13-2018>

Finding and Working with a Literary Agent with Andy Ross

October 20, 2018, San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/finding-and-working-literary-agent-oct-20-2018>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute and San Francisco Writers Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.



Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

10 a.m. to 12 noon

~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~

Erika Mailman

*The Rewards and Challenges of
Historical Fiction*



Erika Mailman will talk about the challenges and rewards of writing historical fiction. Research can be a very delicious sinkhole! Historical accuracy is key, but the story itself is far more important. She will share tips and travails from writing her four historical novels (and three young adult novels with a strong historical feel despite being contemporary), focusing on her most recent novel—*The Murderer's Maid: A Lizzie Borden Novel*—as well as talk about her path to publication.



Erika Mailman received an IPPY Gold Medal for Historical Fiction in the 2018 Independent Publisher Book Awards for *The Murderer's Maid*.

She is also the author of three other historical novels: *The Witch's Trinity*, a San Francisco Chronicle Notable Book which Khaled Hosseini called "gripping"; *Woman of Ill Fame*, which is about a Gold Rush prostitute; and *House of Bellaver*, which is a literary ghost story set in Oakland. Under the pen name Lynn Carthage, she writes Y.A. fiction. Visit her websites at: <http://erikamailman.com/> and <http://lynncarthage.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/>