

Gold Country Writers

Our Mission is to Support Local Authors



Tell Me a Story



Our GCW Special Guest Speaker January 16th was our own Chery Anderson. She led us through the main points of creating a good story:

1. **Set-up**, the setting, the time frame, & intro. of characters
2. **Action**, problem, conflict, tension, & goal pursuit
3. **Resolution**, Message, moral, or solution, final test for hero(en)

Chery used the story of the rancher looking for a wife to illustrate these points. Then she explained the 7 elements of a good story:

1. **Tone of voice**
2. **Gestures**
3. **Posture**
4. **Facial expressions**
5. **Eye Contact**
6. **Pauses**
7. **Silence**

Then Sherry divided us up into small groups and giving us the well-known story of *Little Red Ridinghood*, encouraged each group

Continued on Page 5

Inside this issue:

Pg 1- January Guest Speaker, Chery Anderson, 4th Annual Auburn Winter Storytelling Fest.

Pg 2- Prose from the Pres, Meeting Schedule, Kudos

Pg 3- Special Events, Club Leaders, Spin-off Critique Groups

Pg 4- Famous Writers Quote, Literary Events & Conferences

Pg 5- Historians Wanted, Help Needed, Tell me a Story Continued, Auburn Winter Storytelling Fest Continued, Cartoon, Face In A Book

Pg 6- Guest Speaker Doug Fortier *Making Critique Groups Work*

Auburn Winter Storytelling Fest, GCW Booth



The 4th Annual Auburn Winter Storytelling Fest on January 26, 2019 was well attended by Gold Country Writers. Shown above are just some of those that attended. L-R – Hester Jones, Chery Anderson, Margie Yee Webb, Joy Hemp, Michael O'Haver & Shelly Buck.

Open telling saw stories by Hester Jones, Margie Yee Webb, Michael O'Haver, Rebecca Inch Partridge, and Kathryn Shields.

Chery Anderson did a wonderful job of coordinating everything, MCing the Open Telling and she entered the Liar's Contest.

Continued on Page 5

PROSE



FROM THE PRES

An editor suggested a while back that I develop a book website along with my book proposal. So I bought the domain matching my book title to draw potential readers into buying the book, and actual readers to engage with it more.

What might a book website contain? The book cover, endorsements and reviews, author bio, and a way to buy it would be essential. If the book is fiction, it might include a map where the story takes place, pictures of key objects from the time period, and related background that doesn't give away the plot. Since my book is Christian nonfiction, I'll include a small-group study guide, index of people and organizations the book names as good examples, sample sermon titles and topics, and sections of articles on the book's major themes. In addition, if we wanted to invite dialogue with readers (like Lynne Twist does at *soulofmoney.com*) we could also provide a place for back-and-forth comments.

Creating a book website could strengthen our platform, be a way to involve our readers, and provide another outlet for our creativity. Let me know if you've built a book website – I'd love to learn from you!

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. 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 church, or meet at a local restaurant for brunch. Join us for fun and socializing with members and guests.

KUDOS

Rebecca Partridge is officially listed as an employee of the periodical *Amazing Stories*, as of the winter issue.

L.J. finished his novel *To Walk a Crooked Mile*, he is now working on getting it published.

Pauline Nevins had an article published in the Auburn Journal.

Special Events

GCW Business & Executive Board

Feb. 6, 2019, Starts at 10AM, at the Church

Open Mic. For the Spoken Word

Feb. 9, 2019, Auburn Library, 1 PM, Rebecca is the coordinator

San Francisco Writers Conference

February 14-17, 2019, San Francisco, CA, see Pg. 4 for details

Guest Speaker Doug Fortier, 10 AM, at the church,

Feb 20, 2019, *How to Make a Critique Group Work For You*



GCW Officers, Lead Team & Committee Chairs

President: Betsy Schwarzentraub
530/333-0852 Genre ~ Christian
Nonfiction & Book Reviews

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

V P - External Affairs, Marketing & Events: **OPEN**

Treasurer: Kate Luce
530/263-6112 Genre ~ Memoir

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

Assistant Secretary:
Susan Thompson 530/941-3778
Genre ~ Memoir

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 Genre ~ Memoirs,
Personal Essay & Fiction

Newsletter Editor: Michael O'Haver
530/268-2490 Submit newsletter
material by the 15th of each month to
GodsScribeMike@aol.com

Specialty Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator - Pauline Nevins -530/637-9163

Books: Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub 530/333-0852. By E-Mail, 5-20 pages, when possible meet in person, closed for new members at this time.

Historical Fiction: Contact Kathy Ward, 209/704-0719. This group has shrunk to only one member, so they are temporarily closed until further notice.

Children's Lit: Contact Norma Lehr 530/878-8421. They meet the 4th Thursday of each month, 2-4 p.m., Temporarily Closed to new members.

Science Fiction/Fantasy: Contact Rebecca Inch Partridge 530/889-1520, Meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month, 12:30 p.m., Mom's Kitchen, 359 Nevada St., in the Ace Hardware parking lot. *Due to Rebecca's surgery, this group will meet at her house until further notice. No meeting Feb. 13, Next meeting Feb. 27 at 5:45 PM.*

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 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 2 p.m.

Novel: Contact Ann Reh 530/823-1870. Starting up in Jan. there's room for 2 new members, e-mail Ann - allreh@yahoo.com for more information.

Evening Mixed Genre: Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge, 530/889-1520. Meet 1st Wed. each month 5:45 p.m., at Round Table Pizza, in Elm & I-80 Center, Auburn, CA 95603, group 1 does 5 pages; group 2 does 15 pages E-Mailed first. No Meeting in January.

Flash Fiction: Contact Nanci Lee Woody, 916/300-6886, meets 4th Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m. at Nanci's house in Rocklin, 5 members share feedback on 1-2 page stories, around 500 words. Temporarily closed to new members.

Poetry: Contact Kathy Ward 209/704-0719, meets 4th Wed. of each month, following Drop-In-Critique, at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St., Auburn, bring 7-8 copies of your poems.

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.

How to Write Stunning Sentences with Nina Schuyler

February 2, 2019

San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/how-write-stunning-sentences-nina-schuyler-feb-02-2019>

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

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

San Francisco Writers Conference

February 14-17, 2019

San Francisco CA

<https://sfwriters.org>

“Join us for the 16th San Francisco Writers Conference! A Celebration of Craft, Commerce and Community for Writers.” PLUS Optional Pre/Post Event Master Classes

Poetry Summit

February 16, 2019

San Francisco CA

<https://sfwriters.org/poetry-summit>

“The Poetry Summit at the San Francisco Writers Conference is a one-day comprehensive track. It’s included with your registration for the main conference but also available as a stand-alone single-day conference.”

2019 San Francisco Writers Foundation Master Classes

February 14, and February 18, 2019

San Francisco CA

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

“The Master Classes at the SFWC are . . . designed for writers who want an intensive class on a single subject.”

WNBA SF Chapter Pitch-O-Rama 2019

March 23, 2019

San Francisco CA

<http://wnba-sfchapter.org/pitch-o-rama-2019/>

“Women’s National Book Association—San Francisco Chapter presents Pitch-O-Rama: Meet the Agents and Editors”

Poetry Workshop

Application Deadline: March 28, 2019

June 22-29, 2019

Alpine Meadows CA

<https://communityofwriters.org/workshops/poetry-workshop/>

<https://communityofwriters.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Download-Brochure.pdf>

Presented by Community of Writers at Squaw Valley—“The Poetry Program at the Community of Writers is founded on the belief that when poets gather in a community to write new poems, each poet may well break through old habits and write something stronger and truer than before.”

The Writers Workshops in Fiction, Nonfiction and Memoir

Application Deadline: March 28, 2019

July 8-15, 2019

Squaw Valley CA

<https://communityofwriters.org/workshops/writers-workshops/>

<https://communityofwriters.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Download-Brochure.pdf>

Presented by Community of Writers at Squaw Valley—“These workshops assist serious writers by exploring the art and craft as well as the business of writing.”

Famous Writer's Quote

The only thing I was fit for was to be a writer, and this notion rested solely on my suspicion that I would never be fit for real work, and that writing didn't require any.

– Russell Baker

HELP STILL NEEDED

A member of GCW will be having surgery on her cervical spine in mid-February. She will have a 3 month recovery time. She is looking for a personal assistant/ secretary/ girl or guy Friday for four hours a week to assist with her freelance editing business. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge at rebeccapartridge@att.net or call (530) 906-2005.

Tell me a Story Continued

come up with a variation of the story, choose a storyteller and present our story to the group.

Shery then told the story of her Uncle Ned's Trumpet to illustrate how to relate an action sequence.

The last story Shery told was the one about the Cotton Gin and the Horney Toad race. She used this story to illustrate tone of voice and gestures.

Most of us had heard all these stories at one time or another but the beauty of oral storytelling is that the teller can change and embellish the story with each telling.

We all enjoyed the audience participation opportunity and each group came up with some very creative variation on *Little Red Ridinghood*.

Shery's handout also covered:

- Keys for Introductions
- Podium Protocol
- Emcee Introductions
- Tips for Radio & TV Interviews.

Those interested in these last aspects of storytelling can contact Shery and she will be happy to forward you here handout and answer any questions you have.

Gold Country Writers at Face In A Book 2019

Face In A Book, an indie bookstore in El Dorado Hills Town Center, will once again host Gold Country Writers for an authors event. Save the date for Sunday, June 9, 2019 -- whether you will be applying to participate or attending to support GCW and cheer on participating authors. Applications open February 6, and are due by March 20. Look for details on application form, which will be available at GCW meetings and on request.

Margie Yee Webb

GCW at Face In A Book 2019 Coordinator

Auburn Winter Storytelling Fest Cont. from Page 1

The day started with family stories and a storytelling basics workshop. In the evening the pros took over telling stories for 20 minutes each.

"The storyteller was allowed one request before the King beheaded him - to die of old age." So goes the story from storyteller Christine Hohmann at the Auburn Winter Storytelling Festival on January 26, 2019. Hohmann was one of 25 local storytellers including six gold Country Writers who shared family stories, personal experiences or just downright lies.

Many of the stories told during the day are posted on You Tube, Facebook and the website. All listed under auburnwintersstorytellingfestival The entire event was free to the public and staffed by volunteers from the Foothill Storytelling Guild. The next AWSF is January 25, 2020. Get ready.

Rebecca spinning a tale about the Intergalactic Council's concern about earth's nuclear proliferation.





Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting

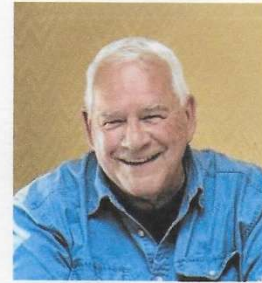
Wednesday, February 20, 2019

10 a.m. to 12 noon

~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~

Doug Fortier

How To Make A Critique Group Work For You



How do you make a critique group work for you? Doug Fortier will personalize the discussion of critique groups by talking about how you can best prepare for one, the various options in organizing a group, how things can go wrong, and how it will make you a better writer.

Doug Fortier has been writing and part of critique groups for twelve years. He has won awards for short fiction in the Mendocino Coast Writers Conference, and is published in multiple writing club anthologies. Doug helped form the Mendocino Coast branch of the California Writers Club in 2009, served as president for four years, and continues to serve as webmaster and newsletter editor. Read his work at <https://www.DougFortier.com/>.

Pauline Nevins, Spin-off Critique Groups Coordinator, said, "I met Doug Fortier at one of our Gold Country Writers' critique sessions and was impressed by his critiquing skills. I encourage all members to attend this presentation. Currently, our group hosts drop-in critique opportunities two meetings a month at the regular times and location; and sponsors eight spin-off critique groups at various times and locations. A skillfully presented critique not only enhances the writing of the author, but that of those giving and listening to the critiques. Hope to see you at the presentation!"

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/>