



# Our Mission ~ Support Local Writers

Newsletter for Gold Country Writers, P.O. Box 5991 Auburn, CA 95604

May, 2016 Issue

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**MAY THE FOURTH  
COME DRESSED AS A  
STAR WARS  
CHARACTER  
MAY THE FOR(SE)TH  
BE WITH YOU**



## Sue Clark The Book Doctor

On April 20, 2016 Sue Clark, *Writer, Editor, Agent, Poet, Ghostwriter, Memoirist, Tutor, Writing Instructor, Consultant & Book Doctor* spoke at the Gold Country Writers Special Program. Sue Clark has had a long and illustrious career in the writing profession, as is evident by the many titles on her business card.

**Writer:** Sue talked at length about noted writer Earnest Hemingway and how he was influenced by the artist Paul Cezanne. They both mastered the art of reducing their work to the basics.

**Editor/Agent:** Sue tried being both a Literary Agent and an Editor until she learned the unwritten rule in the publishing industry against this.

**Poet:** Poetry comes in many forms. Poetry is all about feelings, not facts.

**Ghostwriter:** A ghostwriter is paid to research and write a book for someone else. This is Sue's favorite job and she has ghostwritten many books.

**Memoirist:** A memoirist writes about just one part of your life story. It can take many forms ranging from diaries or journals to even story telling. Memoirs are the most popular type of writing for publishers.

**Tutor:** Sue tutors many writers in various aspects of their trade.

**Writing Instructor:** Sue teaches classes at Sierra College with the OLI Program on poetry, editing, as well as memoir writing. OLI is a free literary program that is offered in 8-week courses at all Sierra College Extension campuses including Roseville, Grass Valley and Lincoln.

Visit us at our web site:

[www.GoldCountryWriters.com](http://www.GoldCountryWriters.com)

**May 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>  
AP Testing at  
the Church.  
Meet upstairs**

Go on line to enroll.

**Consultant:** Sue is available as a consultant on any aspect of the publishing/writing business.

**Book Doctor:** If you are having trouble with any aspect of writing a book, go to Sue, she is the Book Doctor. Contact Nos.: 916/434-9226 or

[sueclark@att.net](mailto:sueclark@att.net)

## Misc. notes from her talk:

- ✚ Literary agents and editors don't communicate with each other.
- ✚ IRS has a special deduction for writers (or any artist). You don't have to make any profits to take it.
- ✚ Traditional publishers won't talk to unpublished writers without agents.

## Cathy MacHold teaches Writing with Hemingway Workshop



Photo of Cathy by Chery Anderson, Story by Betsy Schwarzentraub

GCW member Cathy MacHold led a spirited workshop on Sat., April 16, sponsored by Gold Country Writers. The crowd of participants filled the room at the Auburn public library, half of them new from the community.

Cathy's interactive presentation alternated between sharing events in Hemingway's life and giving writing prompts for the participants to quickly write their personal versions of each turning point. Energy in the room rose as the workshop progressed, the attendees giving voice to a variety of approaches to each of the scenes.

"Writing prompts are good exercises," Cathy said. "Prompts can help you think differently and write from different directions." Using them helps you get motivated and overcome writer's block.

A publishing house currently is considering Cathy's book, *Writing with Hemingway*, for publication. This fall Paul Chollet, another of our GCW members, will teach a Placer Adult Class using Cathy's book as a text. Thank you, Cathy, and way to go, Paul!

### Writer's Quote

Emily Dickinson



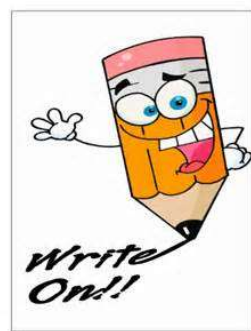
"Fame is a bee.

It has a song—

It has a sting—

Ah, too, it has a wing."

(from the poem, *Fame is a Bee*)



Join the **Gold Country Writers** each Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 1279 High St., Auburn 95604. Our regular monthly schedule is:

**First Wednesday:** Business meeting to discuss administrative issues for the club (all members are welcome to come and contribute). This is followed by a short meeting of the club's Board of Directors.

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

**Third Wednesday:** Special Program of general interest to the club members. This changes each month. In Dec. it is our club Holiday Special. See Page 4 for the Speaker of the Month.

**Fifth Wednesday:** On the rare occasion that there is one, we meet at Mel's Diner (at corner of Hwy. 49 & Luther Rd.) for breakfast/lunch and socializing with other club members.

## Prose



### From the Pres

Well folks summer is almost here, so warmer days and vacations will soon be with us. This summer there will be several events, some are ours and some are other organizations. I encourage all of you to attend both ours and other organizations events. Be sure to wear your Gold Country name tag to show we are involved in community outreach and events. Also, take notes when you go to other events. We can use ideas that work, find out what worked and what didn't.

We need two positions to be filled. 1) We need a Secretary to take notes of our meeting and be a voting member of the Board. 2) We need an assistant secretary. Someone to help the Secretary with notes and history keeping of our group. The assistant secretary will not be on the board and would not have a vote. Both of these positions do not require a lot of time. Please give it some thought how you can help our group. Please see me or any member of the Board (Betsy Schwarzentraub, Joy Hemp or me) if you are interested.

Membership. We are looking for approximately 7 more members to meet our planned budget. Bring a guest whom you think might want to join our group. Once we meet our membership goal to sustain our budget it will make things easier to plan for future events.

Thank you, Skip



### Small Specialty Critique Groups

4 small specialty critique groups meet in the following areas:

**Book:** Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub 530/333-0852; they meet at Depoe Bay, on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed, 12-3:00 PM

**Science Fiction/Fantasy:** Contact- Hester Jones 805/905-9034

**Memoirs:** Contact-Linda Franklin 530/878-2138; they meet at Depoe Bay on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 12-3 PM

**Novel:** Contact Ann Reh 530/823-1870; they meet every other Monday, 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Shown above GCW member Pauline Nevins attended the **Meet Your Local Authors from 5 Counties** event on Sunday April 10, 2016. It was the second annual event and was held at the Sacramento Tsakopoulos Library on I street.

The keynote speaker was Kim Stanley Robinson, a resident of Davis. He is the 2016 winner of the Robert A. Heinlein Award. The award is bestowed for outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings that inspire the human exploration of space. Mr. Robinson spoke about his book *Green Earth*, where he explores sustainability and alternatives to capitalism.

Pauline sold 5 of her books.

# Special Events

**May 4, 2016** GCW Meeting, It is STAR WARS DAY as in "May the 4th be with you." We should all come as aliens, or Star Wars Characters. (Definitely a GCW Event!!)

**GCW Special Program May 18, 2016**

Jerry Elmer talking on Freebies from the Internet  
Plus Chery Anderson talking on our club website  
10 -12 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St., Auburn

**Writer's Digest 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Writing Competition**

**Grand Prize: \$5,000 Early-Bird Deadline May 6, 2016**

Early-Bird Entry Fees-Poetry \$15-1<sup>st</sup> entry, \$10 each additional entry,  
All others-\$25-1<sup>st</sup> entry, \$20 each additional Entry

**Entry Categories: for the Spoken Word**

- Memoir/Personal Essay
- Genre Short Story
- Magazine Feature Article
- Stage Play
- Mainstream/Literary Short Story
- Television Movie Script
- Children's Young Adult Fiction
- Inspirational Writing

Go to Web Site for complete rules: [writersdigest.com](http://writersdigest.com)

## Open Mike for the Spoken Word

**May 28, 2016 – 1:00 – 3:00 PM at Placer County  
Auburn Library, Beecher Room CONTACT:  
Chery Anderson [Taleteller2@gmail.com](mailto:Taleteller2@gmail.com)**

(Not a GCW Event)

**Placer's Gold Toastmasters**

**Meets each Tuesday from Noon – 1, at 2929 Richardson Dr. at  
the Placer County Justice Center, Community Meeting Room,  
Visitors are always welcome (Not a GCW Event)**

## Current Officers & Board Members of Gold Country Writers

← **President:** →

Skip Michael  
916/601-1044

Genre ~ Science Fiction

**Vice President:**

Betsy Schwarzentraub  
530/333-0852

Genre ~ Christian nonfiction

**Secretary:**

Currently Open; Call Skip if  
you are interested

**Treasurer:**

Joy Hemp  
650/799-5828

Genre ~ Self Help &  
Inspirational

**Publicity Coordinator:**

Chery Anderson  
530/613-1153

Genre ~Storytelling

**Mentor Coordinator:**

Susan Korn  
530/888-9971

Genre ~ Self-Help &  
Corporate Culture

**Events & Fundraising  
Coordinator:**

Joyce Rule  
916/521-5177

Genre ~ Short Stories

**Marketing Coordinator:**

June Gillam  
530/820-3020

Genre ~ Suspense Thrillers  
& Poetry

**Newsletter Editor:**

Michael O'Haver  
530/268-2490

Genre ~ Christian Children's  
Books & Poetry