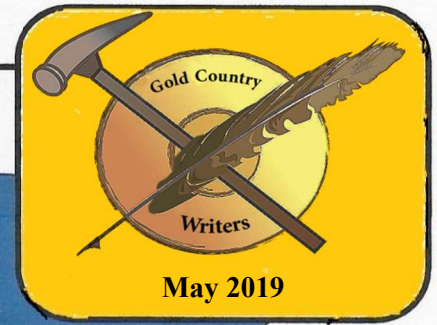


Gold Country Writers Dispatch

Our Mission is to Support Local Authors



Indigo Moor

Poet Laureate and Teacher Extraordinaire

April 17, 2019 GCW was treated to an extraordinary presentation by an extraordinary guest speaker, Indigo Moor, Poet Laureate of Sacramento. His topic, "Writing to History and Culture," was succinctly covered using mostly other authors' writings to illustrate the following Seven Valuable Elements, of not only historical but most of the other forms of writing as well. Mr. Moor's interactive teaching style led the audience through several exercises illustrating very important guidelines for writers:

- ❖ Don't worry about hurrying to write down a thought before you lose it.
- ❖ Put everything down, close your eyes, relax, free your mind, and the thought and perhaps something even better will come to you.

Continued on Page 5

Inside this issue:

Pg. 1- April Guest Speaker Indigo Moor, 100-Word Hats Off Contest

Pg. 2- Prose from the Pres, Meeting Schedule, Special Events,

Pg. 3- Club Leaders, Spin-off Critique Groups

Pg. 4- Literary Events & Conferences; Famous Writer's Quote

Pg. 5- Terry Wicks Writing Retreat, Member News, Brainstorming Session, Indigo Moor Continued

Pg. 6- John Lescroart, GCW Guest Speaker, *20 Years to Overnight Success*

100 word HATS OFF! Contest

The 100-Word Story Contest will wrap up this month. The stories were due to Skip May 1. The celebration will be on May 29 at the Sizzler, 13570 Lincoln Way, at 11 a.m. The cost for "seniors" (people age 60 and over) for the salad bar will be \$15, including the tip, the costs for people under age 60 will be \$17. With a \$2 tip, it comes to \$19. Wear a hat if you can. There will be a prize for the best hat, in addition to monetary prizes for first through third place winners.

May 8 Drop-in Critique
and **May 15** Guest Speaker
meeting will be held in
Auburn City Hall, Rose
Room, 1225 Lincoln Way.

PROSE



FROM THE PRES

Courage is essential for writing, not only at the project's beginning but all the way through!

To move through fear or anxiety, into enough confidence to write;

To overcome naysayers around us and inside ourselves, to persist with our tales;

To have energy to look for markets, knowing our readers are out there, just waiting to discover the story we've told; and

To keep on writing and marketing after that piece is out in the world, knowing it's not about us; it's about getting the message out.

A writers' group can have courage, too, by doing a new thing, as we did when we sponsored Sharon S. Darrow's self-publishing workshop on April 7. It was a great success, well-attended, and full of helpful information! Thanks to all who helped get the word out, hosted the event, and attended.

On another note, I'm thrilled to announce that my new book is out, *Growing Generous Souls*. I'll have a personal Book Party on May 8, after the GCW Drop-In Critique session.

Remember that we'll be in the Rose Room at the Auburn City Hall May 8 and May 15. That's at 1225 Lincoln Way. I look forward to seeing you there!

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.

Special Events

GCW Authors Brainstorming, Sat., May 11, 2 to 4:30 p.m. Session on Marketing, in the back room of Depoe Bay, 893 High St.

Guest Speaker John Lescroart, May 15, 10 a.m. at the Rose Room, Auburn City Hall, "20 Years to Overnight Success"

Terry Wicks Writer's Retreat, May 25, 10 a.m. in Penryn. RSVP to Terry for address. See Page 5

Open Mic. For the Spoken Word
May 25, 1 p.m., Auburn Library, Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge 530/889-1520

Hats Off! 100-Word Story Contest Celebration
May 29, 11 a.m., at Sizzler, 13570 Lincoln Way. See Page 1.

Specialty Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator - Pauline Nevins -530/637-9163

Books: Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub 530/333-0852. By email, 5-30 pages, when possible meet in person. Closed for new members at this time.

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, 5:45 p.m. Call Rebecca for location. Temporarily closed to new members.

Memoir (Drop-in): 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.

Memoir (monthly) Contact Theresa Cote 530-368-2115. Meets 4th Thursday of each month from 1-3pm, at 600 Auburn Ravine Road--Library of apartment building on the frontage road parallel to Auburn Ravine. Members share longer works. Email, Dropbox, and other internet-sharing platforms being considered. Skype may also be an option. Note: Not a drop-in group.

Novel: Contact Ann Reh 530/823-1870. Closed to 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 emailed first.

Flash Fiction: Contact Chery Anderson, 530/613-1153. Meets 4th Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m. at Jeaninne's house in Rocklin. Five 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.

If any member is interested in beginning a Nonfiction Spin-Off Critique Group, please contact Pauline Nevins, 530/637-9163

If any are interested in forming a Suspense/Thriller Spin-Off Critique Group? Please contact Robin Deley at 530/762-7002.



GCW Officers, Lead Team & Committee Chairs

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

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

VP - External Affairs, Marketing & Events: Frank Nissen 530/885-8873
Genre ~ Historical Fiction

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

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

Assistant Secretary: *OPEN*

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

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.

Literary Events and Conferences

Compiled by Margie Yee Webb

Gold Rush Writers Conference

May 3-5, 2019, Mokelumne Hill CA

<http://www.goldrushwriters.com>

14th Annual Gold Rush Writers Conference

Spring Spirit 2019

May 4, 2019, Citrus Heights CA

<https://canorthcentral.scbwi.org/events/spring-spirit-2019/>

Presented by Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators -- California: North/Central region

Bay Area Book Festival

May 4-5, 2019, Berkeley CA

<https://www.baybookfest.org>

5th Annual Bay Area Book Festival -- "Tens of thousands of book lovers meet hundreds of acclaimed authors over an exciting weekend in downtown Berkeley, California."

Nonfiction Writers Conference

May 8-10, 2019, Online

<http://nonfictionwritersconference.com>

The 9th Annual Nonfiction Writers Conference presented by the Nonfiction Authors Association.

Cat Writers' Association 25th Anniversary Conference & Awards Banquet

May 16-18, 2019, St. Louis MO

http://catwriters.com/wp_meow/

Creative Writing Conference at UOP

May 17-19, 2019, Stockton CA

<https://www.writersconferenceatpacific.com>

Annual Conference on Creative Writing at the University of Pacific.

Writing for Children - "It's a Bunny Eat Bunny World" with Penny Warner

May 18, 2019, San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/writing-children-its-bunny-eat-bunny-world-may-18-2019>

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

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

Sacramento Black Book Fair 2019

May 31 - June 1, 2019, Sacramento CA

<https://www.sacramentoblackbookfair.com/>

Blue Nile Press presents the 6th Annual Sacramento Black Book Fair.

Santa Barbara Writers Conference

June 16-21, 2019, Santa Barbara CA

<https://www.sbwriters.com>

47th Anniversary Santa Barbara Writers Conference

Famous Writer's Quote

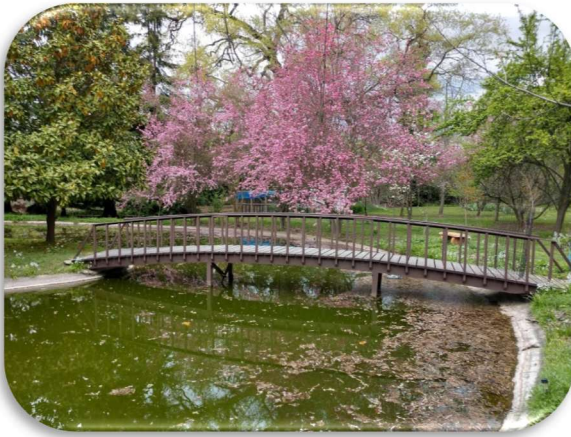
Exercise the writing muscle every day, even if it is only a letter, notes, a title list, a character sketch, a journal entry. Writers are like dancers, like athletes. Without that exercise, the muscles seize up.

— Jane Yolen



When in doubt get the 1st draft out. It can always be edited later.

Terry Wicks Writer's Retreat



On Saturday May 25, Terry Wicks is hosting a GCW retreat at her home in Penryn, from 10 a. m. to whenever. Tour the historic gold rush town of Stewart's Flat, hear a presentation by Monica Gillman Gavia, author of the book *Adeline*, and write some if you bring your computer or writing tablet. Bring your lunch, and Terry will provide drinks. RSVP to 916-663-4178 for the address.



GCW Brainstorming Session on Marketing

GCW members are invited to meet from 2-4:30 p.m. at Depot Bay's back room for a brainstorming session on marketing. Mary West, Betsy Schwarzentraub, and Pauline Nevins will be there if she can, as resource folks. The plan is to explore our own natural niche markets. Bring some paper to write down your great ideas!

Indigo Moor (continued)

- ❖ Don't hurry to get to the ending. Take your time to anchor the reader in the moment first.
- ❖ Emotional truth may be best described with fiction.
- ❖ Your writing will be more powerful when you can write from the other person's point of view as well as your own.
- ❖ When writing about history, do your research so you can anchor your reader in the time period.
- ❖ Writer's block can often be solved by going back and developing a detailed character profile. This will show you how that character will react in any situation, and the plot will naturally flow.
- ❖ Get to the point of your writing in your first sentence or two.
- ❖ It is a writer's duty to tell a story, so it is not lost for posterity.

Mr. Moor is an engineer by profession, but his true love is to teach, and he does it quite well.

Member News:

1. Hester Jones had an article entitled "My Rebellious Inner Child" published in *The Connection*, a weight-control publication.
2. Bob Jenkins had his 2nd book in the Leatherfoot series published.
3. Rebecca is running her Teen Science Fiction & Fantasy Contest again. Entrants must be age 13-19. Entries should be PG-13 rated, and are due July 31. Prizes are 1st-\$60, 2nd-\$50, 3rd-\$30 and being displayed on her website for one year.
4. Betsy Schwarzentraub's new book came out: *Growing Generous Souls*. See Page 2.



Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

10 a.m. to 12 noon

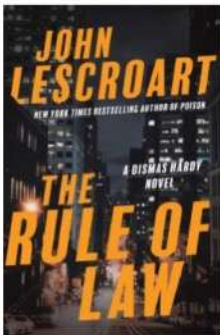
~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~

John Lescroart

20 Years to Overnight Success



Meet **John Lescroart**! – New York Times Bestselling Author with 29 novels, including his new legal thriller, *The Rule of Law* – his 18th Dismas Hardy novel. Nineteen of his novels have been NY Times Bestsellers. Libraries Unlimited named John among the “100 Most Popular Thriller and Suspense Authors” in its publication. With sales of over 12 million copies, his books have been translated into 22 languages in more than 75 countries, and his short stories appear in many anthologies. One of his short stories – “*Dunkirk*” – appeared in the award-winning anthology, *In the Company of Sherlock Holmes: Stories Inspired by the Holmes Canon*. The anthology received the 2015 Anthony Award and the 2015 Silver Falchion Award.



John Lescroart is co-president (with Heather Graham) of the International Thriller Writers (ITW). In 2016, the ITW presented John with the Silver Bullet Award to recognize outstanding and meritorious achievement in the pursuit of literacy and the love of reading. In that vein, among many other charitable contributions, John has endowed the perennial \$5,000 Maurice Prize for excellence in long-form fiction at the University of California at Davis.

Also in 2016, the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society presented John with its Award of Merit to recognize the “intimate knowledge of San Francisco” portrayed in his novels; and the California State Senate and California State Assembly presented John with their Award of Merit and Certificate of Recognition, respectively.

John’s formal archives are part of the Howard Gottlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University. As a singer, songwriter, and musician, John founded Crow Art Records and produced several CDs, including two CDs of his original music, *As The Crow Flies* and *Whiskey and Roses*. <https://johnlescroart.com/>

Join us! Meetings are free and open to the public. Note May 15 meeting location.*

***Auburn City Hall, Rose Room, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn CA 95603**

(park and enter in back – Rose Room is downstairs)

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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/>