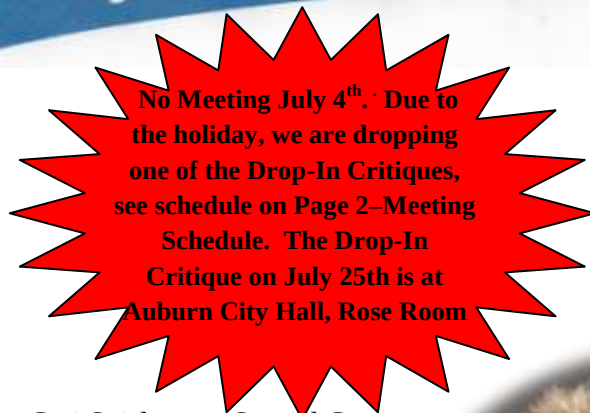




No Meeting July 4th: Due to the holiday, we are dropping one of the Drop-In Critiques, see schedule on Page 2–Meeting Schedule. The Drop-In Critique on July 25th is at Auburn City Hall, Rose Room

Inside this Issue:

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Geri Spieler

Geri Spieler, our Special Guest Speaker on June 20, 2018, provided GCW with a clear, concise outline of how she managed to go from a reluctant author to land a major movie deal. As an investigative journalist she managed this without the cooperation of Sara Jane Moore, who tried to assassinate President Ford in 1975. She accomplished this by being meticulous in the documentation of her research.

The name of her book is *Taking Aim at the President: The Remarkable Story of the Woman Who Shot at Gerald Ford*. The research concentrated on two areas: Moore's family history and the political & law enforcement aspects of the event. She cautioned us that she could not rely on the accuracy of the information readily available on the internet. Instead, she went to the primary sources, those who were actually involved in the event. She listed two questions that all interviewers should end any interview with: "Is there anything I didn't ask that I should have?" and "Who should I talk to next?"

She wanted her book, which was all she thought she was getting into, to be a documentary that read like a novel. But, first she had to learn how to write in that genre. She learned to write in a neutral tone.



She got many interviews with people who wouldn't talk to news reporters by first gaining their trust. She vetted all of her sources which came in handy when she tried to get a publisher.

Sara Jane Moore joined a radical group that chose and groomed her to assassinate President Ford because he was not elected. They wanted an anti government revolution. They chose her in particular because she did not fit the current FBI profile for an assassin.

There never was a trial because Moore pleaded guilty instead of entering an insanity plea. She was sentenced to life imprisonment but she was released in 2007 on parole.

Spier's movie deal is with the same award winning screenwriter and Executive Producer that did *Chappaquiddick*. *Taking Aim at the President* is tentatively scheduled to be released in the fall of 2020.

Spier has taken another job as an investigative journalist, which she enjoys very much.

PROSE



FROM THE PRES.

The third and final layer of editing books is copy editing. For example, most of us have heard “Show, don’t tell,” but Mount Hermon conference editors said that’s not always true.

Show creates something visual in readers’ heads, helping them feel, living an event in the here and now. Because readers can see the scene, they understand it with clarity. By experiencing the story, they care about what’s happening. This is true for nonfiction as well as for fiction writing.

Tell relates facts and keeps readers thinking about the topic. It can give a context for what’s about to happen, and condense events offstage. Telling gives enough distance for readers to process more emotionally difficult information. It may also be a good way to end a chapter that has had a lot of showing in it.

By using both show and tell in a story, we can keep readers involved and aware, moving forward with the plot, and participating in key scenes.

You can have Word circle dozens of linguistic situations for you in its Proofread Mode. This allows you to decide what is appropriate, one word at a time.

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 **July** monthly schedule is:

First Wednesday: Off for 4th of July

Second Wednesday: Business Meeting to discuss organizational business. All are welcome to come. This is followed by a closed meeting of the Lead Team. There will be an induction of new officers following the business meeting.

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.

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. **Meeting to be at Auburn City Hall, Rose Room, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, 10 a.m.-12 Noon.**

KUDOS

Pauline Nevins is publishing her second book
Bonkers for Conkers

June Gillam has published her second poetry book ***Woman Song: For Better and for Worse***



Write On!

Special Events



Business & Board Meetings

July 11, 2018, 10 a.m.-12, at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St., Auburn, there will be a new officer induction as well.

GCW Annual Off-Site Planning Meeting

July 12, 2018, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at Susan Korn's

GCW Special Guest Program

July 18, 2018, Diane Frank & Erik Ievins, *Poetry Cello: Words & Music*, at Bethlehem Church, 10 a.m. – 12,

Monthly Meeting for GCW Read & Review

July 18, 2018, 12 p.m. or after the Guest Speaker

July 25, 2018.

Drop-In Critique, at 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn 10 a.m. – 12.

No Open Mic for the Spoken Word in July

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 varies

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. **Due to the 4th of July holiday; this group will meet the third Wednesday, July 18th**

GCW Officers, Board Members & 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~Short Stories

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

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

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

“VOICES OF LINCOLN” POETRY CONTEST

Due Date: July 21, 2018, 5 Categories:

- 1) *If I could see the future,*
- 2) *If I could travel back in time,*
- 3) *If I had a robot that knew everything,*
- 4) *If I believed anything was possible,*
- 5) *If money grew on trees*

Enter up to 3 categories; one poem each, written in free verse, rhyme, Haiku or other accepted form, of any length up to 60 lines maximum. Young poets 18 & under have their own category. For more info. go to www.libraryatlincoln.org

The Writing District Monthly Contests

We run a **free** to enter short story writing contest.

Deadline: Last day of every month

Prize: \$50

We accept short stories up to 3,000 words. Open theme.

- This contest is open to all aged 18 or over, regardless of nationality or country of residence.
- Limit of one entry per month.
- This is an ongoing monthly contest. The closing date is the last date of every month.
- Entries should be submitted to competition@thewritingdistrict.com.

Ó Bhéal 5-Word Competition

Competition Overview

Every Tuesday around noon, from the 17th of April 2018 until the 29th of January 2019, five words will be posted on this competition page. Entrants have **one week** to compose and submit one or more poems which include all five words given for that week.

\$5.80 Entry Fee

The Grand Prize is \$580, an additional \$100 travel & lodging prize for the trip in April 15, 2019, to Cork County, Ireland, to read your poem and accept your custom-crafted trophy.

Website: <http://www.obheal.ie/blog/five-words-poetry-competition/>

5-7-5 Poetry Contest

Write a 3-Line poem, the 1st line with 5 syllables, the 2nd line with 7 syllables, and the 3rd line with 5 syllables.

Prize: \$100, Cost of Entry: Free

Deadline: 11:59 p.m., July 15, 2018

<https://www.fanstory.com/contestdetails.jsp?id=104981>

Famous Writer's Quote

I am irritated by my own writing. I am like a violinist whose ear is true, but whose fingers refuse to reproduce precisely the sound he hears within.

– Gustave Flaubert

Local Writers'

Conferences

The Napa Valley Writers' Conference

Join Us July 29 – August 3, 2018

* 1088 College Ave. * St. Helena, CA 95474

* (707) 967-2900 ext. 4

Since 1981, the Napa Valley Writers' Conference has provided an opportunity for fellowship and serious work with a focus on craft amidst the hills and vineyards that have made the region famous. The conference is a project of Napa Valley College.

Eighteenth Annual **NORTH COAST REDWOODS WRITERS' CONFERENCE**

Crescent City, CA

September 21 & 22, 2018

**College of the Redwoods, Del Norte
Community & Contract Education**

883 W. Washington Blvd.

Crescent City, CA 95531

(707) 465-2300

<http://www.ncrwc.org/>

Betsy's Review – *Woman Song:* *for Better and for Worse*

By June Gillam

Poetry for a life well lived

I highly recommend this poetry collection! *Woman Song* shares rich, drawn-from-life imagery and tongue-tickling words that prompt personal reflection. The poems ask questions of life, as in “Earthmothers Rising” and “For Selective Ears.” Scenes remind us of our own life lived, or of the dreams we have had along the way. As the subtitle suggests, it comments on marriage and singleness, but also taps into universal experiences, ranging from “cracked glass slippers” and cracked glass ceilings to gas-station relationships and beginning again. Whether heart-warming moments or hard lessons learned, it views our days from the angle of a lifetime.

The book explores relationships, not only with people but also with fellow creatures, including a turkey lovingly bathed and dressed for Thanksgiving, and a spider that comes to watch her cooking. Love poems are prominent, particularly “The Coming Dust,” “Shameless Hussy Looks Back,” and “Woman Song,” which the poet also turned into a song you can sing and listen to on YouTube. “Sunset Woman Song” reveals the beauty of each day in the light of mortality. Altogether, the poems in *Woman Song* touch the mysteries of a life well lived.



Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

10 a.m. to 12 noon

~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~



Diane Frank
Erik Ievins

*Poetry Cello:
Words and Music*



Award-winning poet Diane Frank and cellist Erik Ievins collaborate for Poetry Cello—a Words and Music performance. They weave poetry and music to express the emotions of the poem, with the Bach Unaccompanied Cello Suites and Erik's original compositions.



Diane Frank is author of two novels and seven books of poems. Her new book of poems, *Canon for Bears and Ponderosa Pines*, was published by Glass Lyre Press in January (2018). Her memoir, *Letters from a Sacred Mountain Place: A Journey through the Nepal Himalayas*, was just published by Nirala Press (2018) – with stories, poems, and 53 color photographs. *Blackberries in the Dream House*, her first novel, won the Chelson Award for Fiction and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. She is editor of the bestselling anthology, *River of Earth and Sky: Poems for the 21st Century*, and Chief Editor of Blue Light Press. <http://bluelightpress.com>

Diane teaches Poetry, Fiction, Flash Fiction, Memoir and Language of the Soul at San Francisco State University and Dominican University; and is a regular featured speaker at the San Francisco Writers Conference. <http://www.dianefrank.com/>

Erik Ievins, classically trained on cello since he was old enough to hold a bow, joined professional symphony orchestras while still in high school. He plays cello and bass with StringFire – for contra, English, and Scottish dances. When collaborating with poets, Erik expresses the emotions of the poems through music. Diane and Erik play cello in the Golden Gate Symphony; and have performed up and down the California coast and at various venues across the U.S.A. <http://www.stringfire.org/>

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/>