



The August 1, 2018 meeting will be at the Auburn City Hall, Rose Room, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn

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NEW OFFICERS SWORN IN

Susan Thompson (L) and Kate Luce (R), shown above, were sworn in as new officers at the annual July Business Meeting. Susan is taking over as Club Secretary replacing Michael O'Haver. Kate Luce is the new Treasurer, taking over for Joy Hemp. Michael O'Haver will continue on as the Newsletter Editor. Kathy Ward will continue serving as Assistant Secretary.

Pauline Nevins and Kathy Ward have volunteered to join Margie Yee Webb as part of the newsletter review team.



OFF-SITE PLANNING MEETING HELD

Twelve dedicated club leaders attended the annual Off-Site Meeting July 12. President Betsy Schwrtzentraub opened the meeting at 10 a. m. and led the group through discussions of the club's organizational chart, and the club's goals for the coming year.

After lunch, Joyce Rule guided the group through a community partnership brainstorming session, utilizing break-out groups. This was followed by a detailed look at the events calendar for the rest of this year and 2019. There are two Writer's Retreats planned for 2019. The group also discussed the new GCW Beta website and some changes in the annual Mentoring Program.

PROSE



FROM THE PRES.

Happy New Year for GCW! We began July with a creative blast. The July 11 Annual Meeting was a great celebration, with installation of officers and affirmation of our leaders. The *Hamilton* cake and patriotic theme brought out our red, white and blue. June Gillam even provided a U.S. history quiz with prizes. We ended with noise makers and socializing.

Thanks to a productive Off-Site Planning Day last month, we now have an exciting Calendar Action Plan for the year and a half ahead. Look for copies on the Welcome Table at the September 5 Business Meeting.

August 29 we'll hold our Mentorship Program Kick-Off! Think about what you can share one-on-one this fall with a GCW member, about some aspect of writing or the writing life. Susan Korn also has another neat aspect to introduce, too! That day we'll also have a fun book exchange.

Take advantage of this last month of summer to do whatever might fuel your imagination or motivation for writing: perhaps taking a lovely walk, finishing a special book, or placing your "seat on seat" to get that one bit of writing done. Know you're not alone – we support 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. Unless otherwise noted, our monthly schedule is:

First Wednesday: Business Meeting to discuss organizational business. All are welcome. This is followed by a closed meeting of the Lead Team. **This meeting will be at Auburn City Hall, Rose Room, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn**

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



Club Business & Executive Meeting

August 1, 2018, 10 a.m.-12, at Auburn City Hall, Rose Room at
1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn

GCW Special Guest Program

August 15, 2018, 10 a.m. – 12, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

Monthly Meeting for GCW Read & Review

August 15, 2018, 12 p.m. or after the Guest Speaker

Open Mic, August 25, 2018

Auburn Library, 1 p.m., Rebecca is the Coordinator

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.

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

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~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

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

Tears & Trombones

By Nanci Lee Woody

A Review by GCW Read & Review Club

Submitted by Chery Anderson

Tears and Trombones A Novel Based on a True Story, by Nanci Lee Woody, takes the reader on a whirlwind ride through the world of professional music. Woody says listening to her husband talk about stories of growing up gave her the idea to write the book. She took those stories, reworked them, and added characters and situations to make a fiction book.

The story follows a boy growing up in a family struggling through the Depression and World War II, who desperately wants to become a professional musician. The reader sees Joey doing farm chores, attaining a college degree, and working pick-up jobs to earn money to continue his music studies.

Joey pursues his music career despite his father's wishes for him to join the family construction business. His mother quietly supports his desire to be a professional musician. Over the years, (the story covers 1943 to 1984) we see Joey reaching for his goal as well as falling in love with two very different women.

Tears and Trombones was awarded the Independent Publishers fiction award for both the adult and young adult categories as well as readers favorite. This book will appeal to music lovers and readers who like a good story with a lesson to pursue your goal through the twists and turns of life.

R&R will meet after the speakers meeting on August 15 to discuss *So the River Flows* by Suzanne Blaney, the story of a young American woman in Paris during the Nazi occupation.

Ode to Gold Country Writers

By Susan M. Osborn

As a GCW out-of-town guest

To some truths I can surely attest:

Your meetings are fun.

Tips flow by the ton.

And your writers are the best in the West.

Famous Writer's Quote

It took me fifteen years to discover I had no talent for writing, but I couldn't give it up because by that time I was too famous.

– **Robert Benchley**

L. Ron Hubbard Writers of the Future Contest

The prizes for this regular contest are nothing to sneeze at. Every three months, winners earn \$1,000, \$750, and \$500, or an additional annual grand prize worth \$5,000.

Submissions must be short stories or novelettes (up to 17,000 words) in the genre of science fiction or fantasy, and new and amateur writers are welcome to apply.

Deadlines: Quarterly on January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1.

<https://www.writersofthefuture.com>



Event Summary by
Kathy Ward

Photo by MarieYee
Webb

Guest Speakers for July 18, 2018

Award winning poet and author Diane Frank, and cellist Erik Ievins delighted Gold Country Writers with their presentation *Poetry Cello*, a blending of poetry and music, on Wednesday, July 18, 2018.

Erik opened the program with a piece from Bach's *Unaccompanied Cello Suites*. Throughout the program, he played either Bach or his own compositions. "I don't claim to write music," he said. "But sometimes things flow into my head. The ones that last are the ones that float in from who knows where."

Diane followed Erik with two of her poems, which she describes as "old and new friends." The first poem, "In the Voices of Birds," was from her first collection, *The Winter Life of Shooting Stars*, and has inspired many of her other poems and her novel, *Blackberries in the Dream House*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. The second poem, "Dreams of the Ecliptic," came from her newest collection, *Canon for Bears and Ponderosa Pines*.

The program continued for well over an hour, alternating between Diane's poems with Erik's music which was all played from memory and planned to enhance the mood and tone of Diane's work.

Diane concluded the program with a reading from her new memoir, *Letters from a Sacred Mountain Place: A Journey Through the Nepal Himalayas*, which had been published by Nirala Press only a few days before. She described

the impact pictures of the Himalayas on her life, particularly after a devastating accident while dancing. The memoir includes many beautiful full-color photographs that Diane took. A computer expert as well as musician, Erik explained the challenges of maintaining the integrity of the photos' color while reproducing them for the book.

During a Q&A after the performance, Diane discussed her publishing company, Blue Light Press, which specializes in publishing poetry anthologies and chap books as well as some flash fiction. Blue Light Press also offers several writing contests throughout the year. Its website is at www.bluelightpress.com. Diane's personal website can be found at www.dianefrank.com. Erik has trained in cello "since he was old enough to hold a bow." He plays cello and bass with Stringfire, and brought two of the group's CDs of lively English and Scottish dances. His website is www.stringfire.org.

Besides writing poetry, Diane teaches poetry, fiction, flash fiction, memoir, and language of the soul at both San Francisco State University and Dominican University. She is a regular speaker at the San Francisco Writers Conference, where she met GCW's Margie Yee Webb and Nanci Lee Woody, who invited her and Erik to perform for us. Diane commented on how enjoyable it was to perform for writers and poets who really appreciate poetic expression. She and Erik especially want to thank Nanci and her husband, Gil, for hosting them in their home the night before the presentation. Without the Woody's hospitality, Diane said, it would have been impossible for them to travel from the Bay Area in time for the GCW morning guest speaker program.



Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting

Wednesday, August 15, 2018

10 a.m. to 12 noon

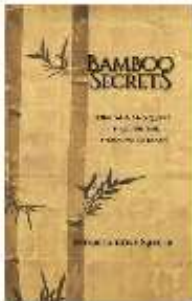
~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~

Patricia Dove Miller

Spilling Family Secrets



How can you write a deeply truthful memoir that contains sensitive issues without offending family members? Patricia Dove Miller will discuss the wide range of strategies other published authors use to tackle this problem. Learn how to write the full truth on early drafts. Then learn various methods to revise later drafts to make them more sensitive to your family's feelings, without losing the crucial parts of the story. We'll do a fun exercise to help you practice these techniques. For all levels of writers. Bring plenty of paper and several pens.



Patricia Dove Miller has been leading creative writing classes in Nevada County for the past fourteen years, including those at the Center for the Arts, Sierra Writers, Wild Mt. Yoga Center, Mt. Stream Meditation Center, and Shambhala Center. She has attended writing workshops with Natalie Goldberg in Taos and is an alumna of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers. She co-led the Women's Writing Salon in Grass Valley for seven years. Pat holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Vermont College.

Her memoir, *Bamboo Secrets: One Woman's Quest Through the Shadows of Japan*, was published in May 2016. In the spring of 2017, *Bamboo Secrets* was named one of the Top Five Finalists in the Next Generation Indie Book Awards.

It also received a Five-star Foreword Clarion Review, which reads in part: "*Bamboo Secrets* is a travel adventure, a story of personal transformation, and an account of a legal battle, but above all it is . . . a transcendent exploration of the fascinating people, culture, and landscape of Japan." For more about Pat and her work, visit www.PatriciaDoveMiller.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/>