



Patricia Dove Miller, August Guest Speaker

We were treated to a wonderful presentation on Memoir writing by one of our latest members, Patricia Dove Miller. Patricia has written a Memoir entitled *Bamboo Secrets: One Woman's Quest through the Shadows of Japan*. It is about a time when she lived in Japan. Her husband was arrested for Marijuana Possession. She gave many great tips on how to handle family secrets in Memoirs.

Tip No. 1 – Don't worry about confidentiality in your first draft. Just get it all down on paper.

Tip No. 2 – Take your revisions to critique groups or writing clubs, not your family.

Tip No. 3 – Options for Secrets:
 a) wait until main characters are dead
 b) change the characters names,
 c) let characters read the book before publishing (you can offer to change anything sensitive or not)

Tip No. 4 – Hire a lawyer to guide you.

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Mentor Program 2018 Kick-Off and Book Sale – August 29th

This year the Mentor Program will be offering a three-prong mentor/training program for GCW.

- (1) GCW Mentor Program (three-month session)
- (2) The Mini Mentor Sessions (pilot series) One on one mentoring for GCW members for a limited time.
- (3) Train the Trainer Sessions (pilot series) a program on mentoring and/or training others to become new leaders within GCW.

After the Mentor Program Kick-Off there will be a used book sale. Bring those books that are cluttering up your bookshelves. They will be available for a small donation, with the proceeds going to the club.

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Gold Country Fair Booth

The authors of GCW will have a booth at the Gold Country Fair September 6-9. *California Nights & Carnival Lights* is this year's theme. We will be in the Auburn Host Lions Building, like last year, in the same spot at the end of the building. The Gold Country Fairgrounds are right next door to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we regularly meet.

The mission of the authors is to chat with fairgoers about GCW and their books, to sell, and to sign their books. June Gillam is the contact person.

Patricia Dove Miller - Continued From Page 1

Tip No. 5 – Some good books on Memoirs

a) *The Art of Memoirs* by Mary Karr

b) *Fearless Confessions* by Sue Silverman

Tip No. 6 – Use Reflective Voice to get emotions into your story.

Tip No. 7 – There are two types of Memoirs:

a) Those written by famous people

b) Those written by anyone (these are getting published traditionally more now).

Tip No. 8 – Another option is to self publish.

Tip No. 9 – If you self publish use a printing company like Ingram or I-Street Press to get your book on line. This helps libraries to accept it.

Tip No. 10 – Hire a Literary Agent.

Tip No. 11 – Do book readings to Book Clubs (just send flyers to anyone you think might be in a writing club).

The presentation ended with an exercise from *Fearless Confessions* –

1) Who is the person whose potential reaction to your story scares you? Write this person a letter. You will never send this letter. Tell them your fears, and why this story needs to come out.

2) Let another person read the letter and discuss how they feel about it.

Thank you Letter from Patricia Dove Miller

A huge thank you for the opportunity to speak to your group. As I said, you are a wonderful warm welcoming spirited group and I look forward to attending future meetings. I give lots of readings and workshops and I've never received such full support and been so well taken care of, both before, during, and after. And the many personal thank you notes I received were very lovely and very appreciated. What a nice touch you've added for your speakers! Margie, thank you also for the lunch; it was great to get to know you.

Secret Sharing Tips from Mary Karr's *The Art of Memoirs*:

- Never pretend to know what motivates others, you can speculate but say so.
- If someone's opinion is wholly opposite of yours, you can mention it in passing but without feeling obligated to represent it.
- Notify sensitive characters far in advance.
- Let characters choose their pseudonyms.
- Try considering your views may be wrong, correct as needed.
- Let the reader know how subjective your point of view is. This is a form of respect to your subjects, who might disagree.
- Offer to be with anyone while they read your material, if they want you to be.

Mentor Program Continued from Page 1

Joining the GCW Mentor Program allows writers to meet others interested in the same genre or to explore opportunities in other genres. The program encourages open communication among members, who can go to the GCW website and read Mentor Participant Profiles to identify a writer to work with. The Mentors will be available to meet on August 29, 2018 at the GCW 10:00 am 12:00 pm.

Mentor Program Qualifications & Terms

- Must be a GCW Member. GCW Brochures are available on how to sign up or see the website. No one under the age of 18 may participate.
- No Mentor will be paid any compensation or provided any valuable goods or services for rendering Mentor Guidance.
- Any expenses such as photocopying, supplies, and materials will be at the expense of the individual participants.
- Either party may withdraw from this program at any time with no penalty whatsoever. A written note confirming your withdrawal would be appreciated, to allow others to take an open space.

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Special Events



← Mentor Program Kick-Off and Book Sale →

Aug. 29, 2018, 10 a.m.-12, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

← Club Business & Executive Meeting →

Sept. 5, 2018, 10 a.m.-12, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

← GCW Booth at Gold Country Fair, →

Sept. 6-9, 2018 Gold Country Fairgrounds, 1273 High Street, Auburn

← GCW Guest Speaker Program →

Sept. 19, 2018, 10 a.m. – 12, Jennifer Basye Sander, Followed by GCW Read & Review, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

← Open Mic. for the Spoken Word, →

Sept. 22, 2018 at Auburn Library, 1 p.m., Contact- Rebecca Partridge

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.

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

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

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.

Writing Contests

14th Annual Writer's Digest Popular Fiction Award

Deadline: September 14, 2018

Short fiction in six categories – 4,000 words or less. See website for Prizes and How to Enter.

<http://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/popular-fiction-awards>

13th Annual Writer's Digest Poetry Awards

Deadline: October 1, 2018

Any poem – 32 lines or less. See website for Prizes and How to Enter.

<http://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/poetry-awards>

Anton Chekhov Prize for Very Short Fiction

Deadline: November 1, 2018

Entries should be approximately 1,000 words or less. See website for details.

<http://newflashfiction.com/anton-chekhov-prize-for-very-short-fiction/>

19th Annual Writer's Digest Short Story Competition

Deadline: November 15, 2018

Short fiction story – 1,500 words or less. See website for Prizes and How to Enter.

<http://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/short-short-story-competition>

Writing Conferences

Central Coast Writers Conference

September 27-29, 2018, San Luis Obispo CA

www.centralcoastwritersconference.com

34th Annual Cuesta College Central Coast Writers Conference

San Francisco Writing for Change Conference

September 8, 2018, San Francisco CA

<http://sfwritingforchange.org/>

"Writing to Make a Difference"—"At the 10th San Francisco Writing for Change Conference you will discover how what you write can change the world...and how to get your writing published."

North Coast Redwoods Writers' Conference

September 21-22, 2018, Crescent City CA

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

18th Annual North Coast Redwoods Writers' Conference

Book Passage Mystery Writers Conference

September 27-30, 2018, Corte Madera CA

<https://www.bookpassage.com/mystery>

"Discover All the Clues for a Successful Career as a Mystery or Suspense Writer!"

GCW Mentor Program Kick-Off

Welcome to the GCW Mentor Program!

The Gold Country Writers mission is to offer education, support, resources, promotion and networking opportunities to local authors and writers, empowering them to reach their writing and publishing goals. To that end, we are offering our GCW Mentor Program. It is free for all members because we consider it an honor to serve our literary community.

The program will facilitate sharing of various aspects of writing, including publishing experiences, motivational methods, marketing strategies and many other techniques and knowledge to empower writers.

PROSE



FROM THE PRES.

This Fall season is a natural time to start a new project or put new energy into completing an unfinished dream.

It is never too late to start writing. In *For Writers Only*, Sophie Burnham says, "Sophocles wrote *Oedipus at Colonnus*, one of the masterpieces of literature and theater, when in his eighties. . . . There's time, I tell myself . . . if I hurry . . . if I don't waste time now. . . ."

GCW offers plenty of opportunities to make the most of our time. We can:

- Write our Member's Bio to introduce ourselves and our passion for writing on the GCW website. Send it to Skip Michael.
- Join a Spin-Off Critique Group or help start a new one. Contact Pauline Nevins.
- Choose a mentor or allow ourselves to be chosen by a mentee, for three months of free weekly one-on-one sessions in any aspect of the writing life. Talk to Susan Korn about who's available and this year's three-pronged approach.
- Attend Read & Review on third Wednesdays at noon, to read one another's books, write an individual review, and benefit from our creative colleagues.

Keep on writing!

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.

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

Michael O'Haver entered two of his children's stories into the Nevada County Fair.

Adventures in Lometland won 3rd Place and

The Paperboy won 1st Place.

Margie Yee Webb, author of *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings*, is one of a dozen writers featured at the "Celebrate Local Authors" evening on Wednesday, September 19th, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Face In A Book, 4359 Town Center Blvd., El Dorado Hills Town Center.



Gold Country Writers

Third Wednesday Meeting
Wednesday, September 19, 2018
10 a.m. to 12 noon

~ Gold Country Writers proudly presents ~

Jennifer Basye Sander

*We'll Always Have Paris
and Hemingway!*



Join us for a moveable feast of sorts, when author and literary historian Jennifer Basye Sander shares tales of the International Hemingway Conference in Paris. Although most other speakers at the academic event chose to cover aspects of Ernest Hemingway's life, Jennifer chose to follow a parallel track and instead researched the lives of young composers who were living and working in Paris at the same time. Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomson, Darius Milhaud, all were a part of the thriving cultural swirl in post WWI Paris that so influenced Hemingway early in his career. An Independent Hemingway Scholar, Jennifer will discuss how the music world and the writing world overlapped in many ways in 1920s Paris, and share stories of what it was like to spend a week in Paris with a crowd of Hemingway scholars.



Jennifer was invited to present at the XVIII International Hemingway Conference in Paris, "Paris est une fête" ... Hemingway's Moveable Feast—July 22-28, 2018. She also presented at the XVII Biennial International Ernest Hemingway Conference in Oak Park, Illinois—during July 2016.

In 1980, a group of Hemingway scholars assembled for a conference formed The Hemingway Society. The Ernest Hemingway Foundation was established in 1965 by Mary Hemingway, Ernest's widow. In 1986, Ernest's sons Patrick and John Hemingway invited the Society to assume the resources, duties, and functions of the Foundation after Mary's death. For more information on the Society, visit:

<https://www.hemingwaysociety.org>.

Former Random House Senior Editor, author of more than fifty published books (including *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Getting Published*), and literary historian, Jennifer Basye Sander organizes literary travel and tours. Visit her website at <http://mitfordmaugham.com/> or email her at basyesander@yahoo.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/>