

July, 2020

GCW Dispatch

Our mission is to support local writers

100 Word

Story



Hats-

ff



Contest Winners

This year's interrupted and postponed awards celebration for the 100 Word Story Hats-Off Contest finally came to fruition. Even though we had to contend with social distancing and wearing face masks because of the global-wide Corona Virus Pandemic we still managed to have a good time.

In First Place was *In Which Housing Tract Replace Woodland*, by Kathleen Ward. In second place was *Blank Page* by Chery Anderson. In third place was *Queen for a Day* by Susan Osborn. We also had an Honorable Mention for *Tomorrow* by Randy Whitwell

See the complete winning stories on Page 5

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Formatting Your Book With Word

It pays to format your book before you start to write it to insure it looks just the way you want it to. Waiting until afterword will be too frustrating. Here are some tips on how to do it:

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PROSE



On June 10, 2020, the GCW were able to physically meet, while at the same time performing a Zoom meeting with 19 participants. Thank you, Rebecca Inch-Partridge, GCW Critique Director, for organizing four Critique Meetings at one time. Wow, that speaks a lot to the total commitment of our GCW Members. Yes, we practiced social distancing and everyone wore a masks.

July is the month for the GCW voting process to begin regarding our Executive Officers who will be coming up for election. The position of GCW Secretary and GCW Treasurer are up for election. We have candidates for these positions. However, if you would also like your name to be placed on the GCW Voting Ballot or you would like to write-in a candidate's name, please contact Karen Clay, GCW VP.

Barbara Young, BSRN, is a candidate for GCW Secretary position. Barbara is an author and has published the book, *The Heart That Rocks Healthcare*. The book addresses: Nurses Answer Your Inner Call Light, Move from Stress to Success, Empowerment and Influence. Barbara is in the process of revising the book for a second edition.

Bill Baynes, is a writer, who is also a producer, director, and creative director. He has worked in many media formats, ranging from newspapers to feature films, from magazines to websites. He has previously written for the Miami Herald and The Associated Press, and won awards as a documentary filmmaker. Bill is a candidate for the position of GCW Treasurer.

Once the GCW Secretary and GCW Treasurer positions have been filled for 2020 they will be trained by our "Train the Trainers" Program, under the previous leadership of GCW Executive Officers Kathleen Ward, and Kate Luce.

I'm very excited about working with our new Executive Officers and Board of Directors.
Susan



cv-19 GCW Meeting Schedule

The Gold Country Writers are meeting by Zoom every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Just download the free Zoom App from the internet. To simplify things we have arranged for a permanent ID: 88585547204 and the permanent password is 974226, for all the Club Zoom meetings.

FIRST WED.

Combined Business & Board Meeting

SECOND & FOURTH WED.

Drop in Critique Meeting.

THIRD WED. - Guest Speaker

Special Events

Watch for changes and new news in Chery's E-Blasts

July 1: GCW Bus./Exec. Meeting via Zoon & at Schola Park, 10 A. M. call Susan, Also evening Spin Off Critique at Round Table Pizza, 5:45, call Rebecca

July 8: Drop In Critique via Zoom & at School Park 10 A. M. call Susan (Meeting ID & PW see above)

July 15: Talk by Betsy Schwarzentraub on "Writing to Inspire." for all Genres, via Zoom (Meeting ID & PW see above)

July 22: Drop in Critique 10 A.M. via Zoom, call Chery, (Meeting ID & PW see above)

July 25: The Open Mic via Zoom at 1 p.m. Call Rebecca

July 29: Writing Retreat at Terry Wicks' home. See add on page 3

Future Meeting—More details next month.

Aug. 5: Annual Meeting and party moved from June 3

Aug. 15: Off-Site Meeting of leadership, to plan through 2021

Aug. 19: Mentor Program roll-out.

Specialty Spin-off Critique Groups

Coordinator - Rebecca Inch-Partridge

Note: Contact group leaders to learn the current CV-19 schedule for your group.

Children's Lit: Contact Norma Lehr. They meet the 4th Thursday of each month, 2-4 p.m. Temporarily closed to new members.

Science Fiction/Fantasy: Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge. Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 5:45 p.m. Temporarily closed to new members. Currently meeting with social distancing.

Memoir: Contact Susan Thompson. They meet at Depoe Bay, 893 High St., Auburn, the 1st Thursday of each month at 2 p.m.

Evening Mixed Genre: Contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge. Meets 1st Wednesday each month at 5:45 p.m. at Round Table Pizza, in Elm & I-80 Center, Auburn, CA. Group One does five pages; Group Two does 15 pages, e-mailed first.

Flash Fiction: Contact Chery Anderson. Meets 4th Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m. at Jeanine's house in Rocklin. Five members share feedback on one- to two-page stories, around 500 words. Temporarily closed to new members.

Poetry: Contact Randy Whitwell. Sharing poems online to members. Meeting with Zoom.

Spiritual/Religious/Inspirational: Contact Betsy Schwarzentraub. Meets by e-mail until further notice.

For group leader contact information, consult your membership roster.

Terry Wick's Writing Retreat



On Wednesday July 29, 2020 Terry Wicks is hosting a GCW retreat at her home from 10 a. m. – whenever. Tour the historic gold rush town of Stewart's Flat. Bring your computer or writing tablets and your lunch and Terry will provide drinks. The address is 8035 Rock Springs Rd., Penryn, CA 95663.



GCW Officers, Board Members & Committee Chairs

President: Susan Korn

Genre ~ Self-Help & Corporate Culture

V P - Internal Affairs: Karen Clay

Genre ~ Nonfiction & Memoir

V P - External Affairs, Marketing & Events:

Frank Nissen

Genre ~ Historical Fiction

Treasurer: Kate Luce

Genre ~ Memoir

Secretary: Kathleen Ward

Genre ~ Short Stories

Assistant Secretary and Author Opportunities:

Betsy Schwarzentraub

Genres ~ Christian nonfiction, devotions, book reviews

Guest Speakers: Margie Yee Webb

Genres ~ Gift Books & Flash Fiction

Membership: Jody Brady

Genres ~ Short Stories & Self-Help

Public Relations & Read & Review:

Chery Anderson

Genre ~ Short Stories

Web Master, Graphics & Cyber Security:

Skip Michael

Genre ~ Science Fiction

Spin-off Critique Groups Coordinator:

Rebecca Inch-Partridge

Genre ~ Science Fiction

Newsletter Editor: Michael O'Haver

Genres ~ Christian Children's, Memoir, Non Fiction, Historical Fiction & Science Fiction

Submit newsletter material by the 15th of each month to GodsScribeMike@gmail.com

For Contact Info. see GCW Roster

California State Library Launches California COVID Diaries

"Californians can share the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on their lives through a new community-based archive sponsored by the California State Library and public libraries across the state. The aim of California COVID Diaries is to collect, preserve and make available to the public an archive of materials created by Californians, documenting their personal experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic."

"All Californians are welcome to submit typed or hand-written journals, letters, e-mail narratives and blog posts; photographs, videos and audio recordings; written or recorded interviews with family or friends; artwork and drawings; and other storytelling methods."

For more information, see:

<https://covididiaries.library.ca.gov/>

and

<https://www.library.ca.gov/Content/pdf/pressreleases/2020-06-11-CACovidDiaries.pdf>

Skip Michael - Formatting, Continued from Page 1

- * If you have set up a particular style you like and saved it, go to "Home" click on the "Style" of choice on top ribbon.
- * If this is your first time, go to the lower right corner of the "Style" section on "Home", at the bottom of top ribbon at the right click on 
- * You will have to format the body of the text and the headings separately.
- * Left click on the bottom drop down arrow.
- * Right click on "Modify" and type in a unique name for your style, one you can remember.
 - * Style for full paragraph—Normal ✓
 - * No spacing ✓
 - * Add to style guide ✓
 - * Only on this document ✓
 - * Auto update ✓
- * Click on formatting paragraph body ✓
 - * Choose (Font size) 11.5 recommend ✓
 - * Choose left or full justify ✓
 - * Choose line spacing—1.5 recommend ✓
- * Go to Line on page break, click first box—Widows & Orphans ✓
- * Repeat above procedures for Headings
- * On the Indents & Spacing tab –Indentation, Special click on first line and type 0.5 (5 Spaces in) ✓
 - * Click on Set as Default ✓
- * On Line Spacing, choose 1.5 Recommend ✓
- * After you are all done, click OK twice

Additional Helpful Hints:

Do not use the Enter key at the end of each line.

Put a page break at the end of each chapter.

To start page numbers on the 1st page of 1st chapter (skipping Table of Contents and/or ISBN pages), use Section Breaks which is found under "Layout"—"Breaks"

Take advantage of the Word Editor

For added measure, there is a free version of an editor named "Ginger".

Skip is willing to do one-on-one instruction on Skype.

Member News

Rebecca Inch-Partridge's *Write that Book in 9 Weeks* class is offered again through Auburn Recreation District. The free informational class will be held on Tuesday, July 14th. The class will be on Tuesdays from 6-9 p.m., July 21—Sept 15 (no class on 8/11). Cost is \$100, \$90—Resident + \$5 to the instructor, Current plans are for a virtual class online. Register at www.auburnrec.com.

John Vesper submitted a story to *Amazing Magazine*. He can't tell you what the story is about, since you might be reading it and they are very serious about anonymity. But wish him well. Plus *Analog Magazine* has accepted two short stories of his and two non-fiction pieces. So far he reports he only knows that one of the short stories, "Where There's Life," will appear in the Sept./Oct. issue.



Write On!

100 Word Story



Hats — Off Contest

1st Place

In Which Housing Tracts Replace Woodlands, by Kathleen Ward

A bit of the universe died today. No dazzling supernova marked it, no brilliant volcano, not the tiniest seismic jolt. Its grave was dug deep and cold with backhoes and screaming chainsaws, the tombstone set by infernally churning cement mixer. None of us noticed the loss. After all, there was work, school, and a jumbo sale at the mall. We rushed by in oblivion, not even tossing a wreath from the car as we passed. But somewhere in the soot-dusted snows of Siberia, a mother tiger nuzzled her cub and cried, and at sea, a humpback breached in silent salute.

2nd Place

Blank Page by Chery Anderson

The writer stared at the blank page. The blank page stared at him. He tapped the space bar 175 spaces from the left margin to the right. He hit enter 30 times to the bottom of the page. The writer stared at the blank page. The blank page stared at him. He center aligned and hit caps lock for the title. He dropped down one line and typed “by” and his name. He changed the font and text size. The writer stared at the blank page. The blank page stared at him. Finally, he slowly typed the title “BLANK PAGE.”

3rd Place

Queen for a Day by Susan Osborn

I was the tallest kid in first grade and had the biggest feet. Feeling fat, I hated changing clothes for gym in front of the other girls.

Anguish about my appearance was rekindled when I enrolled at the University of Colorado. Popular girls were wealthy and beautiful like Marilyn Van Derbur who became Miss America. The closest I came to being royalty was to share the same last name as a homecoming queen.

Years later, at a class reunion, several male classmates saw my name tag and greeted me enthusiastically. (They mistook me for her. I didn't correct their mistake.)

Honorable Mention

Tomorrow by Randy Whitwell

Shedding any pretense I may have formerly exhibited, I promptly removed the embroidered linen banyan mother had so lovingly fashioned for me before her untimely passing. I then donned the finely tailored tweed trousers and coarse woolen shirt that father always said more befitted a man of “substance and character.” I can never be that man, never in his eyes. Weakness is the only cloak I shall ever wear.

Yet mother loved me. She once said, “No man need stand in the shadows for light will follow those who choose the sun.” That light eludes me still. But perhaps tomorrow...



The award for the best hat went to Barbara Young

Critiquing Your Own Poem

By David Anderson

Read it out loud to yourself. Does hearing of the poem suggest changes to you?

What is the theme of the poem? Its goal? Or, what is at stake?

Title. Does it work? Why or why not? Best not to take a phrase from a short poem.

Form. If in a given poetic form, does it take advantage of the strengths of that form? Free verse is the rule these days—it too should take advantage of all those devices and none should call attention to themselves.

Content. Do the content and form match?

Narrator and audience. Who tells the story? First person, third person? Who is the audience?

Lines. Does each line contribute to the poem? Have you considered each line individually, and each word in that line? Are the line breaks appropriate?

Stanza breaks. Are they appropriate? Do they make the poem attractive on the page?

Ending. Does it close the poem or lead you out of it? Does tell the moral? In which case, kill it.

Submitting Work to Journal Editors or Contest Judges.

Submit your best work. Review, revise and revise as needed. Revision is writing. You want the editor to read the poem twice.

Journal editors are looking for poems for their audience. Be as familiar as you can with their journal, check out the website, order a sample copy and read it. Do your poems match or fit in with them?

Follow the submission guidelines. Cover sheet or not, font type, font size, margins, placement of your contact information, length of poem, etc. If they require 32 lines or less, including title and spaces between the stanzas. If one thing is off, the poem will be rejected. If font type and size are not specified, use Times Roman or Book Antiqua twelve point, both of which are readable. Do not

center a poem on the page unless the form requires it.

Categories or themes. Interpret the theme broadly, especially if there are only four to seven or so. A good poem may win the editor's eye even it is theme-slant.

Keep in mind the editor might not feel right and just can't be pleased. In other words, rejection just because.



2020

VOICES OF LINCOLN POETRY CONTEST

1st,

2nd & 3rd prizes awarded in each contest category; choose your categories, up to three, one poem for each:

Categories:

<>What do I see when I look in the mirror?

<>I see you in my dreams

<>You should have seen what I saw today

<>I see a world with many opportunities

<>See if I can make you laugh

<>Poems can be rhyme, free verse, haiku, or other accepted poetry form, maximum of 60 lines.

<>Poets, 18 and under have their own category.

<>Contest Deadline: **July 18, 2020,**

<>Questions: Alan Lowe at slolowe@icloud.com

For entry forms & rules go to: <https://friendsofthelincolnlibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/Voices-of-Lincoln>