



Gold Country Writers

Forging Better Writers

September 2026 Dispatch Newsletter

About Us

Gold Country Writers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization of writers that meets every Wednesday at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Email gcmembership@gmail.com to join or find out more.

Website: goldcountrywriters.com

Facebook: Gold Country Writers

Mailing address: P.O. Box 5991, Auburn, CA 95604.



President's Message

September brings a major community event--the Gold Country Fair. From September 10 to 13, please stop by the Lions Building (it's air-conditioned) and support our authors.

Our speaker program is returns to its regular schedule (3rd Wednesdays) on September 16. We also have a fun fifth Wednesday coming on September 30... it's been a while since we gathered at Awful Annie's to relax and catch up with each other.

Unable to attend the recent fun and informative session on our Mentor Program and Specialty Spin-Off Groups? Contact Mary Jones and Rebecca Inch-Partridge for details.

Hope to see you again soon.

Keep Writing,
Nicolle Goldman



Calendar of Meetings September 2026

**All meetings take place at the Rose Room, Auburn City Hall, 1226 Lincoln Way, Auburn,*

unless otherwise indicated.

First Tuesday, September 1	
Memoir Critique	Atwood Business Park 11768 Atwood Road, Auburn Currently full
First Wednesday, September 2	
Business Meeting	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Evening Mixed Genre Critique	5:30 p.m. Round Table Restaurant, Auburn
Second Wednesday, September 9	
Drop-in Critique	10:00 a.m. - noon
Poetry Group	noon - 2:00 p.m.
Children's Lit/Young Adult	noon - 2:00 p.m.
Second Thursday, September 10	
NEW! Nevada City Literary critique group (See description in Specialty Spinoff Groups)	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Marilyn Helling library, Gold Rush Study Room in Nevada City Contact Catharine Bramkamp: Cbramkamp@gmail.com
Second Friday, September 11	
Mystery and Thriller	4:00 p.m. In person and on Zoom Contact Rebecca Partridge: rebeccapartridge@att.net
Third Tuesday, September 15	
Memoir Critique	Atwood Business Park 11768 Atwood Road, Auburn Currently full
Third Wednesday, September 16	
Speaker Presentation: Teresa Jade LeYung	10:00 a.m. - noon
Fourth Wednesday, September 23	
Drop-in Critique	10:00 a.m. - noon
Poetry Group	noon - 2:00 p.m.

Children's Lit/Young Adult	noon - 2:00 p.m.
Science Fiction and Fantasy	2:30 p.m. Black Bear Diner, Auburn
Fifth Wednesday, September 30	
Brunch and Book Discussion	10:00 a.m. - noon Awful Annie's Restaurant 13460 Lincoln Way, Auburn

Specialty Spin-Off Groups

Children's Lit & Young Adult: Contact Mary Boyle. Meets at noon at the Rose Room, Auburn City Hall, on the 2nd Wednesday. New members welcome.

Evening Mixed Genre Critique: Contact Rebecca Partridge. Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 5:30 at Round Table Restaurant. Open to new members.

Memoir Critique (Words without Borders): Contact Philip Jacques, philipjacques@gmail.com. The group meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month in Atwood Business Park, 11768 Atwood Rd. Auburn. Currently full.

Memoir Share: Contact Terry Wicks, terryshenhouse@gmail.com. Meets 4th Wednesday each month at noon at the Rose Room, Auburn City Hall. Emphasizes sharing & caring, not in-depth critiquing. Open to new members.

Mystery and Thriller: contact Rebecca Partridge: rebeccapartridge@att.net. Meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. Meetings are hybrid: both in person and zoom.

Poetry: Contact David Anderson: dcajla80@gmail.com. Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday from noon to 2:00 p.m. Sharing poems after the Drop-In Critique. Open to new members.

Science Fiction & Fantasy: Contact Bill Baynes, bbaynes303@aol.com or Frank Nissen, f.j.nissen@icloud.com. Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 2:30 p.m. Meet at Black Bear Diner.

New Memoir Critique Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. The meeting is at a private home. Contact Gina Calderone gmcalderone@gmail.com for more information.

New literary critique group in West Nevada County! Contact Catharine Bramkamp at Cbramkamp@gmail.com. Meets on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Marilyn Helling library, Gold Rush Study Room in Nevada City. Members welcome and guests are encouraged. Bring no more than three pages of your fiction, poetry or non fiction to share and receive feedback. We will be offering only positive, helpful comments during our critique sessions.

Specialty Spin-off Group information can also be accessed on the GCW website:
<https://goldcountrywriters.com/genre-specific-critique-groups/>

Specialty Spin-off Groups Coordinator: Rebecca Inch-Partridge

Snap Your Critique Group

Critique group leaders and participants: Please send photos of your critique groups in action to our newsletter editor Marla Mion at: marlamion2100@gmail.com. Also, you can visit the GCW Facebook page, like the posts, and generate more traffic and interest in Gold Country Writers.

Brunch and Book Discussion Wednesday, September 30



On the fifth Wednesday in September, Gold Country Writers will meet at Awful Annie's Restaurant in Auburn to enjoy a tasty brunch and discuss the impressive books we're reading currently or have read recently. This is in lieu of the Book Sale, which has been cancelled. Please RSVP to Lisa Schliff: onthbeamalisa@gmail.com, or simply let her know when you see her if you can attend. We will assemble in Awful Annie's back room. Members are welcome to bring a book that they'd like to talk about, but it's not required. This is also an opportunity to bring a guest. This is a no-host event.

**Awful Annie's Restaurant
Wednesday, September 30, 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

Who Needs a Spare GCW Name Badge? You Do!

Starting October 1st, the price of a Gold Country Writers name badge will go from \$11.00 dollars to \$15.00.

Get your orders in now,
while you can, for the lower rate!

Please contact Sarah Pressler for more
information. sarahpressler2@gmail.com



Upcoming Events: Save The Dates!

by Margie Yee Webb

The Speaker Programs, scheduled on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except in August and December), are free and open to the public. Writers, readers, and guests are invited! Join in these engaging events!

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Story-theme Consultant and Platform-building Coach **Teresa Jade LeYung**

"Attract ATTENTION Before and After Publication with Ease"

<https://goldcountrywriters.com/upcoming-events/>

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

GCW 5th Wednesday Social — Brunch and Discussion at Awful Annie's —

see article; contact Vice President Lisa Schliff at onthbeamalisa@gmail.com

Friday, October 9, 2026

Read and Review — *The Rain in Spain: Life, Love, and Heartbreak in a Military Dictatorship* by **Lisa Schliff**; and *Discovery: Book One of the Tav-Yah Chronicles* by **Kathleen Ward** (writing as Kaydee Landry)

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Depoe Bay Coffee Roasters, 893 High Street, Auburn

<https://goldcountrywriters.com/event/read-review-7/>

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Author and Writing Mentor **Lisa Frenkel Riddiough**

"I Am the Story" (Workshop)

<https://goldcountrywriters.com/upcoming-events/>

Wednesday, November 18, 2026

Author **Dan Hanel**

"History, Mystery and Murder – In the Shadow of Diablo Series"

<https://goldcountrywriters.com/upcoming-events/>

2027 Upcoming Events: Save The Dates!

by Catharine Bramkamp

It's never too early to plan ahead! There are two amazing events coming up in 2027 that we think you'll be excited to attend. As an added bonus, Gold Country Writers are invited to show off our club benefits as well as individually sell our current books. Mark your calendars now and tell your friends!

Sierra WordFest - (Sierra Writers Conference)

Saturday February 27, 2027

Sierra College Nevada County Campus

Speakers include: Josh Weil, Grant Faulkner, Kim Culbertson, Shirley Dickard, and GCW's own Catharine Bramkamp

GCW Members are invited to come and manage a table in the Book Fair (we are emphasizing book reading as well as book writing!) and display both your books as well as the Club's information. Volunteers are free to take part in workshops and lectures.

Sierra Poetry Festival

April 24, 2026

Center for the Arts in Grass Valley.

GCW Members are invited to come and manage a table in the vendor fair (called Poetry Place) and display both your books as well as the Club's information.

Volunteers are free to take part in workshops and lectures.

*We will post more information about both events as it comes in! To volunteer or for questions: Catharine Bramkamp- **Cbramkamp@gmail.com***

GCW Speaker for September by Margie Yee Webb

Learn About Creating Videos and Using Tags and Key Phrases on the Internet

by Margie Yee Webb

We are pleased to welcome Teresa Jade LeYung for a presentation to Gold Country Writers. On Wednesday, September 16, 2026, she will present "Attract ATTENTION Before and After Publication with Ease."

Story-theme Consultant and Platform-building Coach Teresa Jade LeYung will show you how to attract attention before and after publication in today's dynamic book publishing world where understanding consumers' behavior and the power of the Internet is vital in your efforts to identify readers and more readers. Combine three of your biggest assets — your communications style, product knowledge, and fan base — to create promo videos by filming yourself with a smartphone; set up your YouTube channel; and "tag" your name and other key phrases on the Internet. Knowing how to "tag" yourself transforms whichever promoting platforms you choose.

Teresa Jade LeYung (formerly Teresa LeYung-Ryan) is the author of "Love Made of Heart", a mother-daughter novel published by Kensington Publishing Corp NY in 2002 and 2003. The novel was a nominee in the Asian American Literary Awards; recommended by the California School Library Association and the California Reading Association; used in Women in Psychology, First-Year Composition college course, Advanced Composition English-as-a-Second-Language classes; and is archived at the San Francisco History Center. In 2011, she published a workbook — "Build Your Writer's Platform & Fanbase In 22 Days: Attract Agents, Editors, Publishers, Readers, and Media Attention NOW." In 2012, she was among the nine winners in the Redwood Writers Playwriting Contest with her monologue, "Answer Me Now" — the first in her "Talking to My Dead Mom Monologues." The winning 10-minute plays were all staged at the 6th Street Playhouse in Santa Rosa. Additionally, she has given presentations at writers conferences, writers club meetings, festivals, schools, and libraries.

Currently, she is working on a memoir about unplanned adventures in the city that makes her heart dance. Teresa's mantra is "Reach out, not stress out. Help your fans find you!"

Visit her blog via <http://ourbeautifulbrains.com>, and her YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/@teresajadeleyung/videos>.



GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS

Teresa Jade LeYung

"Attract ATTENTION Before & After Publication with Ease"

September 16, 2026
10 a.m. to Noon



Story-theme Consultant and Platform-building Coach Teresa Jade LeYung will show you how to attract attention before and after publication in today's dynamic book publishing world, where understanding consumers' behavior and the power of the Internet is vital in your efforts to identify readers and more readers. Combine three of your biggest assets — your communications style, product knowledge, and fan base — to create promo videos by filming yourself with a smartphone; set up your YouTube channel; and "tag" your name and other key phrases on the Internet. Knowing how to "tag" yourself transforms whichever promoting platforms you choose. Teresa's mantra is "Reach out, not stress out. Help your fans find you!" Visit her blog via <http://ourbeautifulbrains.com>, and her YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/@teresajadeleyung/videos>.

AUBURN CITY HALL - ROSE ROOM
1225 LINCOLN WAY, AUBURN, CA 95603
goldcountrywriters.com Public Invited - Free

GCW at Gold Country Fair!

by Rebecca Inch-Partridge

This year, Gold Country Writers will be hosting their own booth at the Gold Country Fair in September! We have over 15 of our GCW authors participating! The booth will be located inside the brand-new Auburn Host Lions Building.

GCW members will be able to sell their books at no charge! In exchange, GCW provides an interactive space where fairgoers can get to know some of their local authors.

The only requirements are:

- CA seller's permit
- Authors volunteer at least four hours at the booth

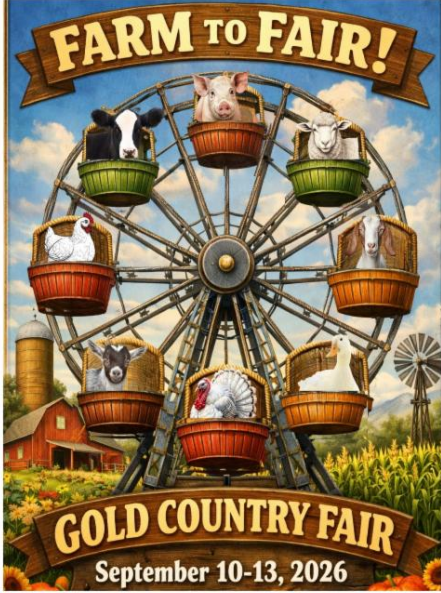
For more information contact Rebecca Inch-Partridge at rebeccapartridge@att.net.

Please tell your friends and family to stop by! Can't wait to see you at the fair!



GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS



Meet the local authors
Chat about the writing process
Buy your favorite book
Get your new book signed

LOOK FOR OUR
BOOTH IN THE
HOST LIONS BUILDING

www.goldcountrywriters.com

Nuggets

by Randy Landenberger

Navigating AI Without Losing Your Voice or Your Mind

My question isn't whether writers should use AI. The question is whether, after using it, the words still sound like us. This is *the* hot topic, and will be for a while yet. If you're an avid listener in the writing/publishing podcast landscape, or reader to the same blog-scape, you know. You can't escape. Everyone's got an opinion: You're either fer it, or agin it!



It's like when automobiles came into Americans' lives. There weren't enough good roads. No such thing as traffic lights. Gas stations? The people who loved horses, took care of horses, grew food for horses—they were quite upset. It wasn't fair. No one needed to move that fast. The horse champions forgot about walkers, the folks that got from place to place on their own feet before there were horses in this land. It wasn't fair that someone on a horse moved faster. And a lot of people said we should never have come down from the

trees. Of course, they were shouted down by those who thought we never should have left the ocean. (A nod to Douglas Adams).

As for me.... Watching Dick Tracy, the Jetsons, Star Trek, or any space-age show (or book), those folks living in the future had all kinds of machines working or thinking, calculating for them. I couldn't wait!

The air is rife with strong opinions on both sides. Like it, or hate it, that genie isn't going back in the bottle.

Here's my quick take: The biggest shake-up may be happening in traditional publishing. Authors are being stripped of their prizes or publication deals because of 'some' AI use—not because AI wrote their book. The problem is that 'AI use' can mean so many different things. These authors being punished used it for research or editing, as many of us have been doing for years. Google search, anyone?

Predictive text is another example: Most of us are happy when typing a text message or email that the next word(s), or even entire sentences, are already there for us. We accept saving time. We apologize when it puts in words we didn't mean. We don't say a thing, and nobody questions if we wrote it, when the predicted words are correct.

Whether you use something like ProWritingAid, Grammarly, or any of the spell/grammar checkers that have lived in your word processor for years, you've been using AI. AI has moved well beyond "Can ChatGPT write my book?" The more interesting question for writers is: **Where does useful assistance end and authorship begin?**

Where is the line?

This year eight Pulitzer awardees disclosed they'd used some form of AI in their submissions: <https://www.niemanlab.org/2026/08/a-record-breaking-eight-pulitzer-awardees-disclosed-ai-use-this-year/>

Imagine you've just landed a book deal with a major publisher. Happy, happy! But then, because you used a grammar checker or online thesaurus—you've violated the publisher's hazy policy. No more book deal! Doesn't matter that you may have dyslexia; you're judged as lazy, immoral, and undeserving of being published. Indie authors don't have the problem—right now. There are no laws, no rules about what you have to disclose—unless you're entering a contest.

Where do you draw the line with:

- Brainstorming and idea development
- Research and fact-checking
- Editing and proofreading
- Generating marketing copy, e.g. blurbs, synopses, tags, or log lines
- Using AI-generated text, no matter how short, in a manuscript to replace what you had written for books, magazines, newspapers, or for emails, newsletters, or the text on presentation slides.

The Authors Guild updated its AI [guidance](#) in May 2026 and has published specific model contract clauses addressing AI, including manuscript use, audiobook narration, translation, artwork, and AI training. Ditto from Alli, the Alliance of Independent Authors.

<https://authorsguild.org/resource/ai-best-practices-for-authors/>

<https://www.allianceindependentauthors.org/ai-policy/>

Much of their guidance concerns the ethical and legal use, honesty, and disclosure around copyright declarations, which may be fraud if you don't understand exactly what

they mean. Know the rules before you sign the contract.

At this time, most of the 'AI detectors' have serious limitations. They've flagged *Pride and Prejudice* as 100% AI-written, as are many novels that were written before long AI was creating usable text. The technology will continue to evolve. Now the major AI companies are watermarking their text in response to European laws. It is invisible. Copying and pasting doesn't destroy it. Eventually, someone will figure out a way to fool it.

The Truth: Some authors are great storytellers and poor writers. Others with beautiful prose need help with structure, pacing, or plot. Without help, whether it be a human editor or a bit of software imbued with Artificial Intelligence, many authors would never make it as a commercial success. We can all agree that neither the human editor, nor the software should be considered the author.

For me, that's the line. I'm happy to have my thinking challenged and to find the mistakes I can't see. I also question the tools—they make mistakes. I am the storyteller, not AI software. I don't believe that readers are looking for the most sophisticated words on the page. They are looking for my voice.

It will be interesting to watch where this all goes, the public opinion, and if your own opinion will change along the way. Stay tuned.

-Randy L

Read and Review 2026 Book Lineup

by Kelly Lardner

Upcoming Books for October 9 Read And Review

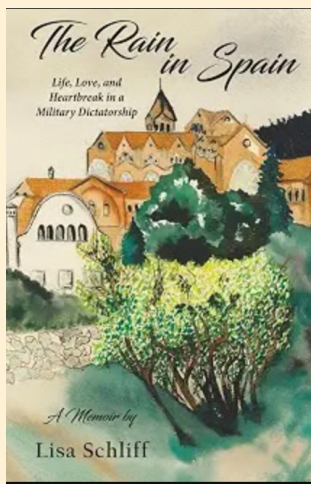
Did you know Read and Review is our very own Book Club? It's an open forum for all members where books written by our very own authors are discussed. Most books are available on Amazon, and all can be checked-out from our own GCW library. Come even if you haven't read the book and join in on our lively discussions.

From Spain to Sci-Fi...

Our last Read and Review for 2026 will meet **Friday, October 9**

10:00 am - 12:00 p.m. Depoe Bay Coffee Roasters, 893 High Street, Auburn

Both books are available for checkout in our GCW library and on Amazon. For more information, please contact Kelly Lardner, Coordinator - lrldnr@yahoo.com



We will be discussing Lisa Schliff's memoir, **"The Rain in Spain: Life, Love, and Heartbreak in a Military Dictatorship."** In 1973, twenty-year-old Lisa left her California college sweetheart and everything familiar to spend her senior year at the University of Barcelona. Armed with textbook Spanish and naive optimism, Lisa plunges into a world that challenges everything she believes about love, freedom, and herself.



Also, up for discussion is **"Discovery: Book One of the Tay-Yah Chronicles"** by **Kathleen Ward (writing as Kaydee Landry)**. Enjoy this alien adventure science fiction story about Xana Lambros who has broken free from the confines of the elite Academy in San Francisco to discover an outside world far darker and more dangerous than anything she could have imagined.

July GCW Writer's Retreat

Much appreciation to Terry Wicks for hosting a Writers Retreat at "The Ranch" — her historic ranch in Penryn on Wednesday, July 29.

(all photos by Margie Yee Webb)



Karen McCoy, Jojo Cook, Terry Wicks, Sachi Neumann



Kim Brown, Sandy Medearus-Tkac, Drew Tkac



Phyllis Kalbach, Susan Korn, Jody Brady, Susan Osborn,
and Nicolle Goldman (in the background)



Frank Nissen; front row - Susan Osborn, Michael O'Haver, Terry Wicks,
Phyllis Kalbach, Linda Thompson, Jojo Cook, Jody Brady, Kim Brown;
back row - Mac Daly, Nicolle Goldman, Sandy Medearus-Tkac, Drew Tkac,
Sachi Neumann, Karen McCoy, Susan Korn
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)

Special Shout-Out to Ryan Hoyt at Old Haunts Bookshop!



Much appreciation to Ryan Hoyt, the owner of Old Haunts Bookshop, for posting the Gold Country Writers brochure and event flyers on their bulletin board!

The bookstore, which opened in November 2025, is located at **8789 Auburn Folsom Road** (near Douglas Boulevard) in Granite Bay and hosts various events.

<https://oldhauntsbookshop.com/>
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)

Kudos to Our Members!

Kudos to Phyllis Kalbach for facilitating our GCW Meeting and Mixer on August 19.

Kudos to Mary Jones for giving excellent presentations of Spin off Groups and the Mentor Program.

Kudos to those who pitched in and helped: Nicolle Goldman, Lisa Schliff, Phyllis Kalbach, Rosanne McHenry, Mac Daly, Chery Anderson, Terry Wicks, Frank Nissen, Marla Mion, Bill Baynes and Dan Araujo. Thank you to everyone who helped and brought food.

Kudos to Kathleen Ward for being an amazingly detailed and patient proofreader for the Dispatch Newsletter.

Kudos to Nicole Goldman for efficiently and expertly running the Business Meetings each month.

Kudos to Rebecca Inch-Partridge for her presentation on Spin-off Groups AND organizing all the details for the GCW booth at the Gold Country Fair.

Kudos to Lisa Schliff for all her past work in organizing contests
AND Kudos to JoJo Cook for stepping up to head the new "Contest Committee".

Kudos to Marla Mion for leading the *Shut Up & Write!* group in Loomis, which she started in August 2025. A free global writing community, Shut Up & Write! is about "getting your writing done and meeting other writers in your area." The Loomis group meets every Monday, at 10 a.m., at Flower Farm Cafe, **9280 Horseshoe Bar Road** (at Auburn Folsom Road), and writers of all experience levels are welcome.

Kudos to New Members:

Karen McCoy - She found us through her author network and joined via email. She has published one book titled "The Etiquette of Voles"

Share Your Milestones!

Please send news of your writing milestones and accomplishments to Dispatch Editor Marla Mion at marlamion2100@gmail.com. Your news will be posted in the Kudos column. We want to read about you!

Kudos to 2026 Award Winners!

If you have earned awards for your recent published work, please let us know. We want to celebrate you!

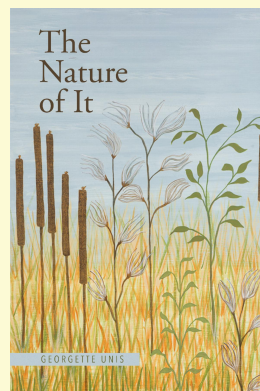


Kudos to 2026 Book Launches!

Hours of hard work. Gallons of caffeine. Sleepless nights. Too many rounds of edits to count. Finally publishing a book is no small feat. Our members deserve a special corner of our Kudos section for the awesome accomplishment of publishing a new book!



Kudos to Kelly Lardner:
Her new book "Double Talk"
will be available in October.



Kudos to Georgette Unis:
Her latest book of poems
"The Nature of It"
is now available for presale at a discount.

If you have already launched a book in 2026 or you have an upcoming launch to announce, please let us know. We want to celebrate you!

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

Please submit all kudos, articles, images, and news to Marla Mion at marlamion2100@gmail.com.

All submissions are due by midnight on the 26th of the month. Late submissions may not be included until the following month. Thank you!

Newsletter Errors (Yikes!)

Mistakes - we all make them! Sometimes in the rush to meet deadlines, your humble newsletter editor goofs up and needs your help. If you find an error, please help me out and let me know how to remedy any scheduling snafus for members. Need an email sent out with the correction? I'm on it! Just communicate with me what you need me to say and when you need it.

Your patience, kindness, and assistance is greatly appreciated!



Speaker Programs on ACTV

Click on the blue link to view the Guest Speaker's presentation on youtube.com. Auburn Community Television (ACTV) Studio Manager **Phil Jacques**, a member of Gold Country Writers, has been filming the Speaker Programs since March 2022 when his schedule permits. Much appreciation to Phil!

To view past Guest Speaker videos, visit the GCW website:

<https://goldcountrywriters.com/gcw-videos/>

Rebecca Inch-Partridge, "The Trilogy Survival Guide: Do's and Don'ts for Writers," July 15, 2026

<https://youtu.be/B2cGDS0f4RM>

James L'Etoile, "The Author's Toolkit: Building a Successful Book," June 17, 2026

<https://youtu.be/29v4nZxEkvo>

Karen A. Phillips, "Using Tropes to Strengthen Your Story," April 15, 2026

<https://youtu.be/G3kAmvJIE38>

Out of Town Literary Events

by Margie Yee Webb

Poets and Writers Workshop — Tuesday, September 1, and Thursday, September 17, 2026 - 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Workshop led by El Dorado County Poet Laureate Emeritus Lara Gulate and author Beverly Parayno — held on the first Tuesday and third Thursday of every month. "We offer an encouraging space for writers and poets to gather in community. Bring one or two poems or six pages of prose, double-spaced. Read, discuss, critique."

Cameron Park Library, 2500 Country Club Drive, Cameron Park, CA 95682

Writers Coffeehouse — Sunday, September 20, 2026 - 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

NEW location and NEW day for September's Writers Coffeehouse — "a group open to writers of all levels and interests! Meet like-minded people and share writing tips, industry info, and a bit of what you're working on. There are no fees, no registration, and no publishing requirements. All writers are welcome!" Questions? Contact James L'Etoile: jamesletoilebooks(at)gmail(dot)com.

Raley's ONE Market - Community Meeting Room, 3935 Park Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Author Showcase @ El Dorado Hills Library — Tuesday, September 29, 2026 - 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

"Join our panel of authors for a discussion about character creation, writing process, agents and publishers, and more!" Featuring award-winning authors Jennifer Laam, James L'Etoile, and Mark Wiederanders, and moderated by Claire Purtich. Light refreshments provided.

El Dorado Hills Library, 7455 Silva Valley Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Tahoe Literary Festival — Friday-Sunday, October 9-11, 2026

"The Tahoe Literary Festival is an interactive, vibrant event for aspiring and established writers of all genres. Learn from small, intimate workshops, panels, readings and in-conversation discussions hosted by award-winning authors, poets and acclaimed publishers and publicists."

For details and tickets: <https://www.tahoelitfest.com/>

Various Venues, Tahoe City, CA

Also of Interest

Great Valley Bookfest - Saturday October 10th - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Great Valley Bookfest attracts people from across California. It is free to attend, an excellent opportunity to network with fellow authors, and learn about the latest publication opportunities. Seating assignments to promote your books are on a first-come, first-served basis, so signing up early is paramount. GCW will **not** have a booth at the event, but members can sign up on their own.

For more information: <https://gvbookfest.org/>

Become a Member of Gold Country Writers!



It's easy to join!

Email your name, address, and telephone number to:

GCWmembership@gmail.com.

Please put 'GCW Membership' in the subject line. We will mail you a more comprehensive membership questionnaire.

Gold Country Writers is here to support and encourage writers of all levels and all genres — whether Novels, Poetry, Science Fiction, Fiction, Memoirs, or your own creative genre. Whether you are a beginner or an established writer — WELCOME.

Membership gives you: Critique groups, monthly speakers, networking, mentor program, Read and Review quarterly book club, monthly newsletter, website with your bio, social events, and much more!

Printable PDF of This Newsletter!

[Printable PDF File](#)

Gold Country Writers Leadership Team

Executive Committee

President (2025-2027).....Nicolle Goldman
Vice President (2025-2027).....Lisa Schliff
Second Vice President (2026-2028).....Phyllis Kalbach
Secretary (2025-2027).....Annie Hendrix
Treasurer (2024-2026).....Sarah Pressler

Directors

Director of Membership.....Joan Griffin
Director of Communications.....Dan Araujo
Director of Speaker Programs.....Margie Yee Webb
Director of Spin-off Critique Groups.....Rebecca Inch-Partridge

Other Leaders & Coordinators

Promotional Materials Manager.....Chery Anderson
Mentor Program Manager.....Mary Jones
Newsletter Editor.....Marla Mion
Website Manager.....Karen Clay
Read & Review Coordinator.....Kelly Lardner

Librarian.....Kathryn Shields
Social Media Coordinator.....Michael O'Haver
Audio-Visual Tech.....Randy Landenberger/Phil Jacques
Drop-In Critique Coordinator.....Frank Nissen
Historian.....Barbara Young
Security Manager.....Terry Wicks
Greeters.....Kathryn Shields/Terry Wicks

www.goldcountrywriters.com

Gold Country Writers | P.O. Box 5991 | Auburn, CA 95604 US

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