



Gold Country Writers

Forging Better Writers

October 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

In honor of California Writers Week (the third week of October), we're inviting the public to two events:

October 14 – Drop-In Critique – Writers are invited to bring six copies of up to five pages of their writing (double-spaced, with line numbers if possible) for constructive feedback. Readers are invited to contribute their thoughts in a supportive, respectful manner.



October 21 – Speaker Program – “I Am the Story” with Lisa Frenkel Riddiough. You can watch her interview with Dan Araujo on the show *Works in Progress* on the Auburn Community Television channel on YouTube.

Keep Writing,
Nicolle Goldman

Calendar of Meetings October 2026

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

First Tuesday, October 6	
Memoir Critique	Atwood Business Park 11768 Atwood Road, Auburn Currently full
First Wednesday, October 7	
Business Meeting	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Evening Mixed Genre Critique	5:30 p.m. Round Table Restaurant, Auburn
Second Thursday, October 8	
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 Wednesday, October 14	
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 Friday, October 9	
Mystery and Thriller	4:00 p.m. In person and on Zoom Contact Rebecca Partridge: rebeccapartridge@att.net
Third Tuesday, October 20	
Memoir Critique	Atwood Business Park 11768 Atwood Road, Auburn Currently full
Third Wednesday, October 21	
Speaker Presentation: Teresa Jade LeYung	10:00 a.m. - noon
Fourth Wednesday, October 28	
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 And Young Adult: Contact Mary Boyle, Maryboyle212121@gmail.com. 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 Pizza Factory 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.

Poetry: Contact David Anderson: dcajla80@gmail.com, or Bill Baynes: bbaynes303@aol.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 Meets the 4th Wednesdays of each month at 2:30 p.m. Meet at Flames Restaurant and Tap Room.

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.

New Literary Critique Group in West Nevada County!

There are a enough Gold Country Writers living in West Nevada County to merit a literary critique group. Join us on the Second Thursday of the month at the Marilyn Helling Library in Nevada City.

Meets on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Meet us in the Library Gold Rush Study Room (to start)!

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.



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!

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/>

Wednesday, December 9, 2026

GCW Holiday Party — details to be announced.

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, 2027

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 October

by Margie Yee Webb

A Workshop for the Artist in You

by Margie Yee Webb

We are pleased to welcome Lisa Frenkel Riddiough for a workshop presentation to Gold Country Writers. On Wednesday, October 21, 2026, she will present “I Am the Story.”

Lisa says, “In this interactive presentation, we will dive into our own unique brands of creativity through introspective exercises designed to build confidence and bolster our understanding of ourselves as artists. Why do we write and create? What are we hoping to offer to the world?” She adds, “Key takeaways include concrete steps to lock in our creative habit, tips on managing Imposter Syndrome, strategies to create a robust portfolio of manuscripts, and a crafted personal artist’s statement.” Bring paper and writing implements for this workshop.

Lisa Frenkel Riddiough is the author of a middle grade novel — *Elvis and the World As It Stands* (Amulet Books 2021), which earned a Kirkus starred review. Plus several picture books — *Letters to Live By: An Alphabet Book with Intention* (Running Press Kids 2022), which earned a School Library Journal starred review; *Pie-Rats!* (Viking Children’s Books 2024); *Embarrassed Ferret* (Disney Hyperion 2025); and *Furious Turtle* (Disney Hyperion 2026). Her forthcoming books are *Heartfelt* (Workman Kids November 2026), and *Blabbermouse* (Penguin/Flamingo 2028).

Lisa earned her MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Hamline University in 2018, and is a writing mentor for Society of Young Inklings. She is a former sales executive, an avid squirrel watcher, and a frequent baker of chocolate pound cake. For more information, visit <https://lisariddiough.com/>.

Additionally, Lisa talks about the inspiration for her writing and the workshop for Gold Country Writers in her interview with Dan Araujo on “Work in Progress” on ACTV. Watch the program — <https://youtu.be/83hyQBigOG4>.

Old Haunts Bookshop will be on site to sell Lisa’s books. Much appreciation to owner Ryan Hoyt!

GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS

LISA FRENKEL RIDDIOUGH

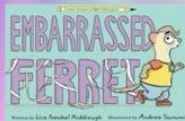
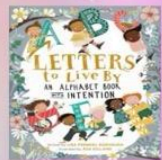
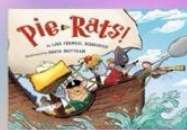
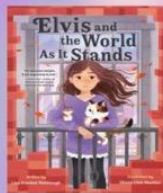


"I Am the Story"

OCTOBER 21, 2026

10 a.m. to Noon

In this interactive presentation, we will dive into our own unique brands of creativity through introspective exercises designed to build confidence and bolster our understanding of ourselves as artists. Why do we write and create? What are we hoping to offer to the world? Key takeaways include concrete steps to lock in our creative habit, tips on managing Imposter Syndrome, strategies to create a robust portfolio of manuscripts, and a crafted personal artist's statement. **WORKSHOP:** Bring paper and writing implements. **Lisa Frenkel Riddiough** is the author of a middle grade novel — *Elvis and the World As It Stands* (Amulet 2021); and several picture books — *Letters to Live By: An Alphabet Book with Intention* (Running Press Kids 2022), *Pie-Rats!* (Viking 2024), *Embarrassed Ferret* (Disney 2025), and *Furious Turtle* (Disney 2026). She earned her MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Hamline University in 2018, and is a writing mentor for Society of Young Inklings. For more info, visit <https://lisariddiough.com/>.



BOOKS BY
**LISA
FRENKEL
RIDDIOUGH**

AUBURN CITY HALL ROSE ROOM

1225 Lincoln Way

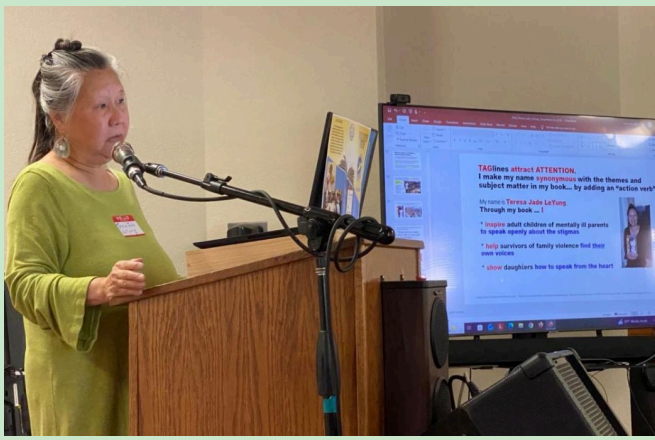
Auburn CA 95603

<https://goldcountrywriters.com>

Public Invited - Free

September Speaker: Teresa Jade LeYung

by Margie Yee Webb



On Wednesday, September 16, 2026, author Teresa Jade LeYung shared her entertaining and informative presentation, "Attract ATTENTION Before and After Publication with Ease."

Teresa's mantra is "Reach out, not stress out. Help your fans find you!"

Using that mantra as the theme of her presentation, Teresa provided concrete examples for authors who desire to build a marketing platform before and after publication.

Teresa began by explaining her interpretation of a TAG - a key word, phrase, label, or identifier that authors use to help prospective readers find them and their work. An author's goal is to make their name synonymous with the theme and the subject matter of their book.

Teresa used the example of shopping for linguini in the grocery store. She asked us what aisle we would check to find linguini - pasta, of course. The words "pasta" and "linguini" are TAGs for that particular food product. She then asked us to think about readers who don't yet know that a book exists. They don't know the book title or the author's name. How would readers find out about that book? Very likely through the book's **themes** and **subject matter**. **These become the book's TAGs.**

She then encouraged us to identify the theme and subject matter of our own books in a concise manner, using just a word or two. Those are the TAGs for our books.

Once we identified our TAGs, we moved on to create TAGlines. A TAGline utilizes an action verb to tell the reader how a book will benefit them.

A TAGline is a type of equation:

Who I am (as a writer) + What I write about = The benefit to my readers

Teresa shared a few of her own TAGlines:

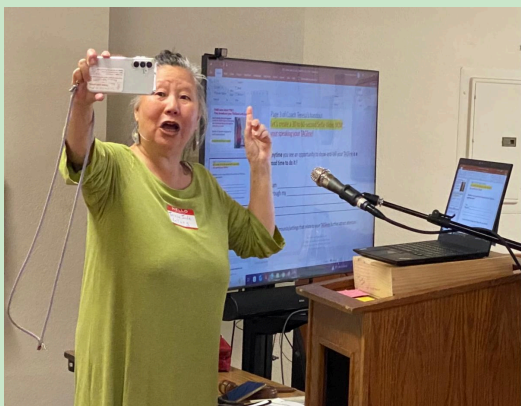
I am Teresa Jade LeYung. My novel "Love Made of Heart" **shows how** a daughter **learns to speak from the heart**.

Through my stories, I **help** survivors of family violence **find their own voices**.

Teresa then gave us time to think about and create our own taglines using a worksheet that she had created especially for this task.

Finally, Teresa encouraged us to film a short selfie video of ourselves speaking our TAGlines. She also gave us extensive and detailed information from her blog, her YouTube channel, and her Amazon Author Central site.

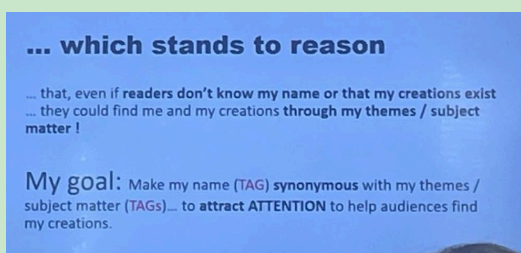
Visit her blog via <http://ourbeautifulbrains.com>, and her YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/@teresajadeleyung/videos>.



Coach Teresa shows how she creates selfie videos with ease
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)



Randy Landenberger demonstrates creating a selfie video, after guidance from Coach Teresa
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)



Coach Teresa's slide on creating TAGs
(photo by Marla Mion)



Teresa Jade LeYung greets new fans — Mary Mohs, Karen Rudolph, Kathryn Shields, Lisa Schliiff



Fun lunch at Old Town Grill after an informative and empowering presentation — “Attract ATTENTION Before and After Publication with Ease” — by Teresa Jade LeYung to Gold Country Writers!
From left: Susan M. Osborn, Nanci Lee Woody, Joy Hemp, Barbara Young, Margie Yee Webb, Teresa Jade LeYung, Terry Wicks
(photo by Nissreen, Old Town Grill)

Eureka! GCW Celebrates California Writers!

by Margie Yee Webb

Gold Country Writers invite the public to participate in two free events at the Auburn City Hall, Rose Room, **1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA.**

DROP-IN CRITIQUE —

Wednesday, October 14, 2026, 10 AM to noon

Drop-in Critique: Attendees read from their work* and receive feedback

from other attendees

*Writers who wish to receive feedback on their work should bring six copies of up to five pages of their work — formatted with double-spaced lines, Times New Roman font size 12, standard one-inch margins, and with line numbers if possible. For more info, visit: <https://goldcountrywriters.com/drop-in-critique-groups/>.

SPEAKER PRESENTATION —

Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 10 AM to NOON

Special guest speaker Lisa Frenkel Riddiough presents "I Am the Story" - an interactive presentation exploring creativity

Writers should bring paper and writing implements for this workshop. For more info, visit: <https://goldcountrywriters.com/october-speaker-lisa-frenkel-riddiough/>

EUREKA! GCW CELEBRATES CALIFORNIA WRITERS!

**Gold Country Writers invite
the public to participate
in two free events at the
Auburn City Hall
Rose Room
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn CA**



**October 14, 2026, 10 AM to NOON
Drop-in Critique: Attendees read from
their work* and receive feedback
from other attendees**



**October 21, 2026, 10 AM to NOON
Special guest speaker Lisa Frenkel
Riddiough presents "I Am the Story" -
an interactive presentation exploring
creativity and artistry**

***For details: goldcountrywriters.com**

Nuggets

by Randy Landenberger

Reader Magnets vs. Reader Supplements

This month's nugget is about two marketing tools: Reader Magnets and Reader Supplements.

A **magnet** brings new readers in. A **supplement** gives existing readers more.



A **reader magnet** is primarily an *attraction* tool. It offers a new or prospective reader something free—in exchange for joining your email list. It introduces readers to the subject, style, and quality of your writing while helping you build one of your most important marketing assets: a direct connection with readers who may be interested in your next book.

A **reader supplement** is primarily a *relationship* tool. It provides extra material that enriches the experience of those who are already reading your work.

The most effective magnets and supplements match your published work in genre, tone, and reader promise. The goal isn't merely to collect freebie seekers. It is to attract readers who are likely to enjoy and eventually buy your books, and to get them on your email list. You do have an email list, don't you?

Examples for my Dream Messiah series:

My Reader Supplements

A chapter in the second book of my series described what happened to a beloved character. My editor advised me to remove it because it wasn't part of the main character's story. My readers, however, really wanted to know what happened to her. I resurrected those scenes as *The Missing Chapters*. Reaching the end of the second book, readers find a link where they can download the chapters as a free ebook. I printed a few copies to give away—such as at our recent book fair—for when someone purchased my complete paperback series.

I am also adding maps of Alaska, Indonesia, and Borneo, the locations where my story takes place. These color maps will be included in the ebook versions of the *Dream Messiah*. The paperback versions will have links to my website where readers can view them.

My Reader Magnets

Two of my main characters are emotionally wounded, and those wounds become painfully apparent when they discover they are going to have a baby.

I am now writing their backstories—something I should have done when I first published the novel (but NOT included in the book). Each character will have a separate prequel story exploring the childhood experiences that shaped them.

Written as prequels, these stories can serve as both reader magnets and reader supplements. New readers can enjoy them as introductions to my fictional world, while established readers can discover more about characters they already know and how/why they are damaged.

In the original edition, Jake's backstory was at the beginning of the novel. Rookie mistake! I have since removed that section from the book and am now incorporating it into one of the reader magnets. The revised novel mentions only that Jake resents his upbringing and holds a grudge against two people from his past. The prequel will reveal why.

How to Deliver Your Reader Magnet

For people who don't yet know your work, you can distribute a reader magnet through services such as **BookFunnel** or **StoryOrigin**. You can also email readers a PDF or another digital file yourself. Whichever method you choose, provide a link to a signup page where readers can join your email list and receive the promised material. BookFunnel and StoryOrigin deliver ebooks in the format each reader prefers, including Kindle, Apple Books, Kobo, and Nook. They also provide technical support if a reader has trouble downloading the file. Yes, these services cost money—but they save authors considerable time and frustration.

Promote a **reader magnet** through:

- Your website
- Your newsletter or email signature
- Business cards or postcards featuring a QR code
- Social media
- Advertisements and promotional events
- Anywhere else you are trying to attract new readers

Promote a **reader supplement** through those same channels, but especially in the back matter of the related book.

Possible reader supplements include:

- Deleted scenes or “missing chapters”
- Maps, timelines, or family trees
- Character profiles
- Research notes
- Workbooks or discussion questions
- A scene retold from another character's point of view
- Author's notes about how or why the book was written
- Invitations to join your beta-reading or advance reader copy team

In short, use a reader magnet to open the door and say, **“Come sample my world.”**

Use a reader supplement to invite readers farther inside: **“Since you're here, let me show you something more.”**

Before you rush off to create something new, rummage through your deleted scenes, research files, and abandoned ideas. You may discover that your next marketing tool has already been written—it is simply waiting for you to recognize its value and give it a proper home.

Now go add something brilliant to your author business!

-Randy L

P.S. One of my favorite movie dialogue lines, which sum-ups the perfect backstory in as few words is by Clint Eastwood, as Frank Morris, in *Escape from Alcatraz*, in answer to the question;

“What kind of childhood did you have?”

Frank Morris: “Short.”

There it is, one word, says everything!

Read and Review 2027 Book Lineup

by Kelly Lardner

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

Read and Review 2027

January is Female Sleuths month!

On tap for review are two recently published fiction books currently available in our GCW library:

Fallen Kings: Unholy Secrets - a Hillary Broome Crime Novel by Joan Gillam

Double Talk - a Simone Donovan Mystery by Kelly Lardner (writing as Ké Ridolfi)

Watch for more info in the November Dispatch!

GCW at Gold Country Fair 9/13/2026

Many thanks to Rebecca Inch-Partridge for spearheading and organizing our participation in this year's fair. Her dedication to promoting GCW in our community is greatly appreciated. She spent an impressive amount of time and energy to ensure the event was a success. Thank You, Rebecca!



Rebecca Inch-Partridge, Kim Brown,
Mary Jones (9/11/2026)
(photo courtesy of Kim Brown)



Rosanne McHenry, Terry Wicks, Karen
McCoy, Rebecca Inch-Partridge
(9/12/2026)
(photo by Kim Brown)



Michael O'Haver, Randy Landenberger
(9/11/2026)



Randy Landenberger signs book for new
fans (9/13/2026)
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)

(photo by Kim Brown)



Randy Landenberger, Linda Thompson, Karen Rudolph, Chery Anderson, Margie Yee Webb (9/13/2026)
(photo by Ruth)



Kim Brown greets visitors for craft activity while Michael O'Haver, Karen Rudolph, and Randy Landenberger greet visitors about books (9/13/2026)
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)



View looking from Entrance —

Michael O'Haver, Kim Brown, and Joli Roberts (towards back, wearing light green shirt) chatting with visitors

(9/13/2026)
(photo by Margie Yee Webb)



Lisa Schliff opens the booth on the first night of the Fair as she poses with her books

Kudos to Our Members!

Kudos to Susan Osborne for displaying her books at the "California Authors Booth" at the California State Fair in July 2026. Other Gold Country Writers members who participated at this booth were June Gillam, Rebecca Inch-Partridge, and Michael D. O'Haver.

Kudos to Nicole Goldman for signing a contract with a publisher for "That Camino Book" (September 2027 release).



Kudos to New Members:

Lori Burkart Frank - She found us through friends and joined in person.

Christine Wilson - She found us through Rosanne McHenry and joined in person.

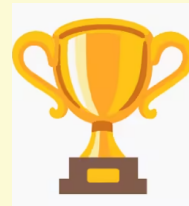
Rosie Stephenson-Goodknight - She found us through the website and joined in person.

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 Lisa Schliff:

Her latest book "The Rain in Spain" received the bronze award for Memoir by the Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA).



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 Jeaninne Escallier Kato:

Jeanninne just released her new book "Brown Soul White Skin" on Amazon.



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>

William O'Daly, "Imagination and Community: Translating Our Lives Into Poetry" February 18, 2026

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiWYzIsV7Vw>

Out of Town Literary Events

by Margie Yee Webb

Poets and Writers Workshop — Tuesday, October 6, and Thursday, October 15, 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

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

Great Valley Bookfest — Saturday, October 10, 2026 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The book festival includes author presentations, workshops, cooking demonstrations, and performances; and also features vendors selling books, crafts, food, and beverages. For details: <https://gvbookfest.org/>

The Promenade Shops at Orchard Valley (aka Bass Pro Center), Highway 120 at Union Rd exit. 280 Lifestyle Road, Manteca, CA 95337

Writers Coffeehouse — Saturday, November 28, 2026 - 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

NEW location and NEW day/time for the November 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!" [NOTE: Starting September, meetings will be at the El Dorado Hills Library (instead of Raley's ONE Market). No meeting in October.]

Questions? Contact James L'Etoile: jamesletoilebooks(at)gmail(dot)com.

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

Also of Interest

by Lisa Schliff

The Sacramento Book Festival will accept applications for book vendors starting on October 9th at 8:00 a.m. The festival itself will be held on June 5, 2027, at Sacramento State University. To sign up and for more information, visit sacramentobookfestival.com.

Auburn - The Golden Thread, stories that shine at General Gomez Arts: A storytelling festival on Saturday, October 10, 2026, at 3:30 PM hosted by Placer Community Theater, featuring workshops, a Liar's Contest, and featured storytellers.

Become a Member of Gold Country Writers!



It's easy to join!

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