



# The Write News Mt Diablo

A Monthly Newsletter

Elisabeth Tuck, editor

October 2018

## WRITING WORKSHOP AND LUNCHEON

**Saturday, October 13, 10:30 am – 3:00 pm**

**Workshop Hours: Check In 10:30 – 11:00, Workshop 11:00 – 12:00**

**Luncheon 12:00 – 1:00, Workshop continues 1:00 – 3:00**

### *How to Hook Your Readers...and Reel Them In* with *Penny Warner*

“Once upon a time” may have been a great opening line once upon a time, but today’s readers want to be intrigued from the moment they open that book cover.



#### WORKSHOP INCLUDES:

- Examples of compelling openings
- Why they’re important
- What comes AFTER the hook
- How to come up with the best one for your work
- How the inciting incident gets the story moving and keeps it going throughout the story

We’ll be working on hooks in the workshop so bring pen and paper - and maybe your favorite opening hook!

**Penny Warner** has published over 70 books for both adults and children. Her middle-grade mystery series, *The Code Busters Club* has won three Agatha Awards for Best Children’s Mystery, and has over half a million in print worldwide.

In addition to middle-grade fiction, she has written award-nominated *The Official Nancy Drew Handbook* and is the author of three adult mystery series, including *Dead Body Language*, *How to Host a Killer Party*, and *Death of a Chocolate Cheater*. She wrote a column for the local newspaper on family life for over 30 years, creates fund-raising murder mystery events for libraries across the country, and taught child development at Diablo Valley College for 35 years. She can be reached at <http://www.pennywarner.com> or [pennywarnerink@yahoo.com](mailto:pennywarnerink@yahoo.com).

#### NOTE WORKSHOP TIMES:

**Sign-In from 10:30 – 11:00. Workshop begins at 11:00. Luncheon 12 – 1 PM. Workshop continues 1:00 – 3:00.** At Zio Fraedo’s Restaurant: 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. \$45 members, \$55 guests. **Reservation Deadline: Noon, Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.** To reserve a spot, go to the CWC Mt. Diablo web site at: <https://cwcmt Diablo.org/current-cwc-mt-diablo-meeting/>

CWC is an IRS 501-c3 non-profit charitable organization (ID 94-6082827). Donations are fully deductible to the extent of the law.

## *Memo from a Member:* Andrew Benzie

Hello, fellow Mount Diablo CWC members!

Many of you are already familiar with me through my work as a designer, publisher, website developer, and owner of Andrew Benzie Books, but you may not be aware I'm also one of the board members of the CWC Mount Diablo Branch. I have been asked to write a brief summary of the duties I perform as one of the Online Coordinators for your branch.

I attend CWC Mount Diablo Branch board meetings which occur before most regular branch meetings throughout the year. At these meetings I help shape the direction of the club by giving my input on topics that relate to our branch website. The members of the board are all very friendly people who kindly volunteer their time to make this club a successful place for authors to network and learn about current writing trends. I encourage all branch members to sit in on a board meeting and see how the group functions.

As an Online Communicator, I work with Marlene Dotterer, Lyn Roberts, and Cheryl Spanos to help design and update the Mount Diablo CWC website (<https://cwcmtdiablo.org>.) I use the WordPress platform to make any modifications to the site, and my main duties include: updating the upcoming speaker information (on the homepage and current meeting page), updating the PayPal information for each upcoming meeting, and archiving the latest newsletter (did you know the previous 10 years of newsletters are archived on our branch site?).

If you have any questions about my duties or the branch website, feel free to talk to me at a meeting or send me an email at [andrew@andrewbenzie.com](mailto:andrew@andrewbenzie.com).

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting—thanks for being a part of the CWC!



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### NEXT BOARD MEETING



**Nov** 10, 10-11:00 a.m. Zio Fraedo's

Come join us!



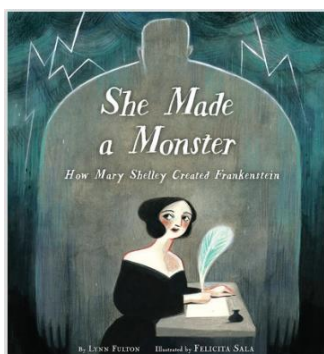
## Member Events, News and Salutes



This section of the newsletter is regularly open to members to submit information about milestones in your writing journey. Publish a book? Planning a reading at a bookstore or county fair? Speaking somewhere? Win an IPPY or other significant prize? Is your play being produced? The TV or movie version of your writing will be out soon? Let us know here. [elisabethtuck@yahoo.com](mailto:elisabethtuck@yahoo.com)

### Lynn Fulton

Lynn Fulton is the author of *She Made a Monster: How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein*, illustrated by Felicita Sala. This children's picture book, published by Alfred A. Knopf, is based on Mary Shelley's account of how idea for Frankenstein came to her in a "waking dream" one stormy night in 1816.



Lynn is a California native who grew up loving books and wanting to write them, but never actually finished anything until she learned to type. Her keyboard skills led to one PhD dissertation and three novels for adults. She has worked as a college instructor, insurance investigator, seventh-grade English teacher, and writing tutor.

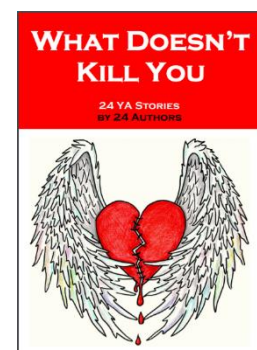
Lynn lives in Martinez with her husband and son, and enjoys painting and drawing as well as writing.

[lynnfultonwriter.com](http://lynnfultonwriter.com) [facebook.com/lynnfultonwriter](https://facebook.com/lynnfultonwriter)



### Jill Hedgecock

Jill's young adult short story, "One Year and a Day," has been published in the young adult anthology, *What Doesn't Kill You*. Her fictional story was inspired by the real-life waterslide collapse at Concord, CA's water park formerly known as Waterworld on June 2, 1997 where one person died and over 30 were seriously injured after a group of teens decided to "clog" the ride. Their combined weight ruptured a section of the tube 40 feet in the air and the teens tumbled to the ground. (Waterworld has recently been brought under the Six Flags umbrella and renamed Hurricane Harbor.)



## Member Events, News and Salutes (Cont'd)



### A Season of Authors at Oakley Library

1050 Neroly Rd Oakley, CA 94561

925-625-2400

With Mt. Diablo members

#### Jim Hasse

PTSD and the Written Word  
October 23rd, 6:30 p.m. at Oakley Library

In our complex and stressful society the acronym PTSD receives a great deal of press and attention. Serving in combat is one of the most frequent ways to develop PTSD. The Concord Vet Center, a Readjustment Counseling Service, operates under the direction of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). One of the many programs available to the disabled veteran is the Veterans Writers Group.

Jim Hasse has been in the Vet Center Writers Group for the past nine months. Not only has his writing improved, but his mental health has also improved. Classified as 70% disabled with PTSD, he has participated in group and individual therapy since December 2016. Vet Center therapist Felsia Gaffney, PhD, has guided him on this journey.

Five or six men gather weekly for an hour and a half to share their craft and stories in hopes of gaining a better understanding of how PTSD affects their lives, for some, more than 50 years after the causal events.

Jim and Dr. Gaffney will have an opportunity to share their collective experience on October 23 at 6:30 p.m. when the Oakley Library in East County, sponsors them during *A Season of Authors at Oakley Library*. Besides short story readings by Mr. Hasse, this is a great opportunity to highlight the benefits of writing and journaling in dealing with PTSD. There will be ample time for discussion and a Q and A period.

#### B. Lynn Goodwin

December 18th, 6:30 p.m.

Writing coach, author, memoirist, and more, speaks on her critically acclaimed memoir, *Never Too Late: From Wannabe to Wife at 62*.

#### Dennis Koller

January 15, 6:30 p.m.

Multiple-award winner, author of *The Custer Conspiracy* and the *Rob Kincaid* series, speaks on writing thrillers.



#### Fran Cain

Fran wrote a book review of Jill Hedgecock's new book *Rhino in the Room* which was picked up by *The Daily Brunch.com*, an (Asian) Indian social and corporate media outlet. Read Fran's review at: <http://thedailybrunch.com/2018/09/21/book-review-rhino-in-the-room/>





## Member Events, News and Salutes (Cont'd)



### Daisy Lopez

Daisy Lopez is a retired engineer and business owner. In between her careers she has been a mentor and a professor in college. As a person full of enthusiasm and love for life, she has inspired students and friends over the years. Her first book, *Glass Ceiling Swinging Doors*, written in 2015 is a peek at her inspiring way of living. Her second book, *2 Women: Loved*, shows another part of her life; a woman with determination to pursue goals in spite of life's hurdles. Pursuing goals with other people and helping them achieve their own is the best contribution she can give. She is a loyal friend and a devout Christian.



## Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Fundraiser Judges Needed

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, a national contest for students in **grades 7 – 12** is coming up. The Scholastic organization pays our branch \$2,000 for 15 judges to read the submissions they send us. We can use for contest prizes for members, the Young Writers Contest, or general branch expenses.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the largest, longest-running recognition program for creative teenagers. For nearly 100 years, the Awards have provided teachers with a unique opportunity to motivate and challenge students to become better writers. Students in grades 7-12 submit their works of visual art and creative writing to be reviewed by professionals to receive recognition, exhibition, publication and scholarships. Some of our nation's most celebrated writers were first discovered by the Scholastic Awards as teenagers, including Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, Joyce Carol Oates, and Stephen King.

### Writing Categories are:

- |                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Critical Essay                   | Dramatic Script |
| Flash Fiction                    | Humor           |
| Journalism                       | Novel Writing   |
| Personal Essay & Memoir          | Poetry          |
| Science Fiction & Fantasy        | Short Story     |
| Writing Portfolio (Seniors Only) |                 |

We'll be signing up judges soon. Please consider participating in this fun and interesting contest.



## ***CWC-Mt. Diablo Branch Critique Groups*** by Deborah Greenberg

Hello all new and returning branch members. Now is a good time to consider signing up for a critique group. Many writers find these groups to be quite helpful, and apparently a large number of submissions to the 2018 CWC *Literary Review* appeared to be rough drafts. If you think that describes your submission, you could probably benefit from a critique group. Branch members can request introduction to a critique group using our website form found at: <https://cwcmt Diablo.org/critique-groups>, or by contacting me directly. Grab me at a meeting or email me at [deborah.greenberg@comcast.net](mailto:deborah.greenberg@comcast.net). Enter "CWC Critique Group" in the subject line.

Over the past year, I placed seventeen members in groups which, to my knowledge, are still up and running. It is best to be on the ground floor with a group so there is no "catching up" when reading someone else's work, and you can participate in setting the rules. Signing up now affords members the best chance of being involved in a nascent group. While writers are matched throughout the year on a rolling basis, once groups are formed, they often do not have room for newcomers.

I try to match people according to genre and time availability. Due to the small number of members and the large number of genres and subgenres, this alone can be difficult. If possible, I try to match people according to geographic location, but it is unlikely a group will have members in close proximity.

Details each critique group must decide include: how often to meet, when to meet, how many members to allow, how many pages of each member's work to consider at each meeting, and whether or not to distribute material ahead of time or read it for the first time at meetings. I have a more comprehensive document that describes different possible formats and general rules to be considered, which I will forward to members once they are in a group.

Remember, once the first groups gel, openings may be infrequent. Members will then need to wait until there is an opening in an existing group, or there are enough people signed up to start a new group in the same genre, etc. Additionally it may be possible, depending on members' flexibility, to mix genres in a group. It's all about writing well whatever we write.



## ***Drawing for Mt. Diablo Members***

**Print, cut out and fill in the coupon below** to be in a drawing for \$25 off a future meeting.

After each drawing, the non-winning coupons will be destroyed. Look for a new coupon each month in the newsletter.

One coupon per member per meeting. A member may only win once per CWC year, i.e., Sept – June.

**October 2018 coupon**

**MT. DIABLO CWC MEMBERS ONLY**

**PRINT THIS PAGE. CUT OUT THIS COUPON. WRITE YOUR NAME BELOW.**

**DROP COUPON IN THE BASKET/HAT/PAPER BAG AT THE MEETING  
CORRESPONDING TO THE DATE ON THIS COUPON.**

**ONE COUPON WILL BE DRAWN EACH MONTH TO WIN \$25 CREDIT TOWARD  
A LATER MT DIABLO BRANCH MEETING.**

**Your name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Must be present to win.**



## YES, THERE IS AN INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE IN LAFAYETTE

It's called Bel and Bunna's Books. They're mostly a children's bookstore but they do carry a selection of books for YA and adults and can order anything in within @ 36 hours. They're super nice people. Let's patronize indie book stores so they won't all be swallowed up by the big, indifferent guys.

Read about the store and the owner: <http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1007/A-New-Chapter-in-Kids-Bookstores-Opens-its-Doors-in-Lafayette.html>

Find them at 3581-C Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, CA 94549, behind Lamorinda Optometry

Phone: (925) 283-8502



## DID YOU KNOW THERE IS AN ORDER FOR ADJECTIVES?

Why does "red, big balloon" sound strange? Because in English, there's an accepted order for adjectives! Size comes before color. Here's the generally accepted order:

1. Quantity or number
2. Quality or opinion
3. Size
4. Age
5. Shape
6. Color
7. Proper adjective (often nationality, other place of origin, or material)
8. Purpose or qualifier






SOME EXPAMPLES from: <https://www.gingersoftware.com/content/grammar-rules/adjectives/order-of-adjectives/>

1. I love that **really old big green antique** car that's always parked at the end of the street. [quality – age – size – color – proper adjective]
2. My sister has a **big, beautiful, tan and white**, bulldog. [size – quality – color – color]
3. A **wonderful old Italian** clock. [opinion – age – origin]



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS for 2018



<b>Oct. 13</b> 	<b>Penny Warner</b> <i>How to Hook your Readers...and Reel Them In -</i> <b>WORKSHOP</b>	Warner has published over 60 books, both fiction and non-fiction, for adults and children. She has appeared on television, including the national Dr. Spock PBS series, "Parent Sense," the "Later Today" show, "HGTV," "Channel 7 News," "People Are Talking," "Mornings on 2," and dozens of others. This ½-day WORKSHOP Includes Examples of compelling openings, hooks, what comes after the Hook, and inciting acts. Bring pen and paper for Exercises.
<b>Nov. 10</b> 	<b>David Corbett</b> <i>The Compass of Character</i>	After a career as a high-profile private investigator, Corbett turned to writing and was nominated for both the Anthony and Barry Awards for Best First Novel in 2002. He has since published 5 more novels. He will teach you how to identify your character's deepest longings, explore resistance to pursuing them, and reveal how that conflict generates behavior.
<b>Dec. 8</b> 	<b>Three of Our Own:</b> <i>Janet Finsilver</i> <i>Wendy Blakeley</i> <i>Jim Hasse</i>  <b>Writing from Reality:</b> <i>Pitfalls and Opportunities</i>	Our December meeting is a sit-down meal where three current branch members in a panel setting:  Janet Finsilver, is the USA TODAY best-selling author of the Kelly Jackson mystery series. The picturesque town of Mendocino, California and their festivals have informed the writing of her 3 Kelly Jackson mysteries.  Wendy Blakeley, memoirist and co-founder of the nonprofit, Africa Matters, will discuss sensitivities around writing about different cultures and races.  Jim Hasse writes about intriguing, poignant, and sometimes humorous experiences influenced by his time in Vietnam as a sergeant in Special Forces for two years and in his 28-year in law enforcement career. He was a criminal investigator, an undercover narcotics detective, and a U.S. Postal Inspector. Earning a master's degree in counseling, he became a drug and alcohol rehabilitation counselor.
<b>Jan 12</b>	<b>Kevin Fisher Paulson</b> <i>The Process of Creativity</i> 	
<b>Feb 9</b>	<b>TBA</b>	
<b>Mar. 9</b> 	<b>C.S. Lakin</b> <i>Layering your Novel</i> <b>WORKSHOP</b>	C. S. Lakin is a multi-published novelist and writing coach. She works full-time as a copyeditor and critiques about two hundred manuscripts a year. Layer your novel to success with this innovative, simple technique!
<b>Apr. 13</b>	<b>TBA</b>	
<b>May 11</b>	<b>TBA</b>	
<b>June 8</b>	<b>TBA</b>	

We're always looking for great speakers. If you've heard a great speaker on writing/publishing/editing topics, email Programs Chair Jill Hedgecock at [hedgewriter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hedgewriter@sbcglobal.net)





## *You in the Newsletter: Members' 100-word stories*

**Keep them coming.** They're so good and proof that we can write succinctly! [elisabethtuck@yahoo.com](mailto:elisabethtuck@yahoo.com)

### **Linda Force President John Quincy Adams**

It's customary that official visitors to the White House bring a token gift. On one occasion, President John Quincy Adams had a visit from the Marquis de Lafayette. The gift presented was an alligator. Where to put it? Of course! In the bathtub of a bathroom in the White House. After that, whenever the President had a visitor he didn't like and they had to use a bathroom, he sent them to the one with the alligator and sat back and laughed as they came screaming down the hall. What a character! After hearing this story I couldn't stop laughing.

### **Jim Hasse**

God, I hate deadline pressure. Here it is in mid-June and I have an August 20, 2018 deadline to write a 100 word story for the California Writers Club, Mt. Diablo Chapter Newsletter. I want it to be something really tight. I don't want to ramble on and waste anyone's time, yet I don't want to fail to cover a subject that is of value to the many talented writers who look to the newsletter for inspiration. I'm sure I can cover the subject adequately in 2,500 words, but I don't have that luxury here. Be inspired, write daily.

### **The Stash by Bob Poirier**

Malone was on the BART ride home when he realized he had not locked the cupboard.

The stash was in a blue bowl on the top shelf.

His roommate loved to snoop. If he ingested the entire stash it could mean an emergency room visit. Malone pictured him writhing in pain.

When Malone arrived home, with no roommate in sight, he cautiously looked inside the bowl.

The tiny, black, beady, carnauba eyes stared back at him.

He popped three of the unnaturally yellow, pure sugar, Peeps candies into his mouth.

"Boy howdy," he sighed. "Life is good."

### **Ant-ticipation Cecilia Pugh**

With head down, following scented ground she carried her load back and forth from food source to ant hill, keeping pace with the wave of constant movement.

On top of a blind hill their eyes met. Mesmerized, she dropped her load. His wings fluttered with desire—his antennae lingered, stroking hers.

"Move along buddy. No time for antics," someone shouted.

Giving her antennae a gentle touch, he obeyed, flying off with other drones going south.

Strong mandibles grasped the sugar and wobbling legs trudged forward.

Her heart pounded. For the first time, she would await tomorrow with renewed hope.

## *You in the Newsletter: Members' 100-word stories (cont'd)*

### **Awkward Widow Cecilia Pugh**

He says, "Coffee?"  
Shocked but delighted, her eyes query.  
He thinks...*you've blown it.*  
She says, "Ah...sure." Her stomach churns. *That was dumb.*  
He says, "I'll drive."  
She says, "Just so you know, I like being single. I don't commit to long term relationships."  
He says, "Me too. Do you want a ride or shall we meet at the coffee shop?"  
Her palms sweat. Breathless, she continues, "I have friends who dated, got re-married and now are caregivers."  
His smile is irresistible. He says, "It's just coffee."  
She swallows, returns his smile and melts like butter on hot toast.

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### **Bad Dream Cecilia Pugh**

I'm half asleep and small menacing animals with gnashing teeth and hardened, coal-dark eyes are coming at my face. I awaken and stare into the dark coffin-shaped room. Breaths quicken and something within my chest is pounding, trying to break through stretched skin.

Seconds later buried deep within my pillow, people push and move me along a busy street—then I am sitting alone in the back seat of a car. Two men open the doors from either side pinning me to the seat. They're hurting me but I can't move or defend myself.

I hear someone scream—it's me.

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### **Black Box Cecilia Pugh**

Three cots and a talking black box completed the room. Time warped like floating shadows and her childhood rode away on words from the box. The narrators proclaimed stories of make-believe worlds, unsolved mysteries and alien kingdoms.

Waiting through winter's freeze for time to pass, she stayed by its side. When summer beckoned she deserted the box to dive into cool water, walk barefoot in silky sand, and camp outdoors under the stars.



## Things to Do

### Submit to the 2019 CWC *Literary Review*

The *Literary Review* is Yet Again under New Management. Dave LaRoche established the CWC *Literary Review* seven years ago. He retired after the 2017 edition. Elisabeth Tuck was managing editor for 2018. For 2019 there is a completely new team of 3-4 who have changed many things. Read the FAQs and submission guidelines carefully and **follow them carefully**. <https://calwriters.org/publications/#submit>

There is an additional form to fill out completely and submit as a separate document in the same email as your submission. As I understand it (but read for yourself): For \$10 members may submit 2 poems not exceeding 30 lines each. Prose pieces are limited to 3 per person at \$10 each with the maximum word limit of 2500. Each is to be sent in separate emails with its own completed form and payment. The team does not intend to return submissions for corrections or word limit violations, nor will your payment be refunded. As in many outside contests, follow the rules or be tossed out.

One of the requirements this year is that you have someone read your piece prior to submission. The idea is to get feedback and hopefully help with expression, grammar and punctuation. In other words—don't submit anything that resembles a draft. Submissions will be accepted Sept 1 – Nov 30!

There will be no reader feedback.



### Next Bay Area Book Festival: May 04-05, 2019

The 9 a.m.–6 p.m. festival features authors who appear in keynotes, interviews or panels. Exhibitors fill downtown Berkeley streets. The nonprofit festival also features a large kids' stage and other family activities. To sign up to be an exhibitor see <https://www.baybookfest.org/2018-exhibitor-registration/> There is a fee to have a table. (ed. Note: I couldn't see the cost!) They expect around 120 exhibitors and 10,000 visitors over the weekend.



### SONOMA COUNTY WRITERS CAMP

Next session: OCTOBER 10-14, 2018

Scene Making: Capture the Essence of Storytelling

Scene is what hooks us: What happened? Who did that?

Scene makes the reader lean into the story, refuse to put down the book, dream the tale we put on the page. We know this and yet opening the images and ideas of our stories into wonderful, fleshed-out, vivid scenes challenges all of us. This camp will explore what “show, don't tell” really means in the books we love—and in our own writing. Create unforgettable scenes that pull your reader into the story and don't let go.

Small generative writing workshops led by Ellen Sussman and Elizabeth Stark, both acclaimed authors and popular teachers. Panel discussions with agents, authors and editors. Intimate group of twenty-four in a gorgeous wine-country setting.

For more information go to: [www.sonomacountywriterscamp.com](http://www.sonomacountywriterscamp.com)

## Things to Do (Cont'd)

### Attend a Mt. Diablo Writers Table Gathering Prior to a Regular Meeting.

#### Upcoming Writers Tables

**October 13** – No Writers Table due to workshop

**November 10**

*“Making a Book Trailer, Part 2”*

Led by Jill Hedgecock

Amazon now offers a space for video trailers related to books? This is what to look for:

Related Video Shorts (0) [Upload your video](#)



Be the first video

Your name here

**December 8** – No Writers Table due to our festive seasonal meeting

**January 12** – Panel on Social Media

*“Got platform?”* 3 Panelists TBD

**February 9** – Panel on Mt. Diablo Member Benefits

*“Got your back.”* 3 Panelists TBD

**March 9** – No Writers Table due to workshop

**April 13** – Panel on Editing

*Third Eye...* 3 Panelists TBD

**May 11** – TBD

**June 8** – Writing Craft (format TBD)

*“Polish It & It Might Shine.”*



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*THINGS TO DO* are informational only and do not imply endorsement of product or services.





## CREATE SPACE AND KINDLE DIRECT PUBLISHING MERGE

(Ed note: this article is from Amazon which owns CSP and KDP. Below is a link to **Kirkus Media's** explanation of what the merger means to independently published authors, and below that, input from Mt Diablo member, Andrew Benzie.)

Create Space (CSP) and Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) will become one service. KDP offers Expanded Distribution to sell your paperbacks to physical bookstores in the US, as well as the ability to sell your paperback books on [Amazon.ca](#) and [Amazon.com.au](#) ([Amazon.mx](#) coming soon). With these features, KDP's paperback distribution will be on par with Create Space's distribution. KDP also offers the ability to purchase ads to promote paperbacks on [Amazon.com](#) and locally printed author copies in Europe.

As a result of these enhancements to KDP and our ongoing efforts to provide a more seamless experience for managing your paperback and digital books, CSP and KDP will become one service. On KDP, your paperbacks will be printed in the same facilities by the same people as they were on Create Space.

In the coming weeks, we'll start automatically moving your Create Space books to KDP. Your books will remain available for sale throughout the move and you'll continue to earn royalties. Once we begin this process you'll be unable to edit existing titles or create new titles on CSP. To learn more about the move and review the latest, visit [here](#).

If you have a release planned soon or you would like to start the move yourself, you can move your entire CSP catalog to KDP in just a few steps. To get started on your move to KDP, [log in to your CreateSpace Member Dashboard](#). During this transition, you can [contact KDP customer support](#) by email and access phone support in English.

There are a few payment and printing fee differences associated with the move. Royalties earned while your books are on Create Space will be paid according to the CSP's payment schedule, 30 days after the end of the month in which they were earned. After you move your books to KDP, new royalties earned will be paid on KDP's payment schedule 60 days after the end of the month in which they were earned. As a result, you'll be paid in Oct for royalties earned in September on CSP and be paid in Nov for royalties earned on KDP. In addition, some low-page-count books will see an increase in printing fees when they are printed in the UK and EU. We've already sent an email to the small number of accounts affected by this change. Learn more about KDP's printing costs [here](#).

We'll be in touch with more updates in the coming weeks. It is still Day 1 for independent publishing. As Amazon's recent shareholder letter noted, there are more than a 1,000 authors who earn more than a \$100,000 a year from their work with us. We could not be more optimistic about the future of independent publishing and this change will allow us to innovate faster for you.

**READ Kirkus'** breakdown of what the merge means to indie authors.  
<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/author-resources/createspace-KDP-merge/>



Andrew Benzie's comments:

Yes, Create Space is merging with KDP (both are owned by Amazon).

For authors, it will be easier to have only one account for both paperbacks and e-books with KDP. Your CSP books will be moved over automatically, or (as I'm doing for many of my clients) you can move the books over yourself. There are a few steps involved but it's a pretty straightforward process. You can now choose two book categories for your paperbacks (just like you could for your e-book).

The only disadvantage I see for authors (so far) is the KDP wait of 60 days after the end of a month to pay author royalties. CSP waited 30 days, so there will be an additional 30 day delay on payment via KDP. I imagine the interest on millions of book royalties for an additional 30 days will make Amazon quite a profit.

Questions about the process? Feel free to contact: [andrew@andrewbenzie.com](mailto:andrew@andrewbenzie.com)

## Young Writers Contest Fundraising

Sponsored by

**The California Writers Club, Mount Diablo Branch**



Please consider joining one of the following donor clubs to benefit our programs in support of young writers. Your tax-deductible gift will appear in the contest program in May, and in the Mount Diablo CWC newsletter every month in the year you donate. Or remain anonymous if you prefer!

DONATIONS A/O Aug 2018

The Jack London Founder's Circle (\$500+)

The John Steinbeck Society (\$250 - \$499)

The John Muir Member Club (\$150 - \$249)

The Ina Coolbrith Laureate Club (\$100 - \$149)

**Judith Ingram**

**Elizabeth Koehler-Pentacoff**

The Mary Austin Writers Club (\$50 - \$99)

The Helen Hunt Jackson Group (\$25 - \$49)

**Chloe Laube**

The Gertrude Atherton Guild (\$10 - \$24)

**Robin Gigoux**



Contra Costa County middle school students who enter eligible for cash prizes in short story, poetry, humor. Contest submissions are free. Check our branch website for details:

<https://cwcmtdiablo.org/young-writers/>

The Mt. Diablo Branch hosts an awards luncheon in May of each year.

All program expenses are supported by individual donations and grants. Thank you for considering membership in one of the above donor clubs.

\*\*\*\*\*

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Or via PayPal click "buy now" on the Mt. Diablo website: <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/young-writers/>

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CWC Mt. Diablo Branch, P.O. Box 606, Alamo, CA 94507. Attention: Young Writers Contest



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT THIS ANNUAL CONTEST**