

The Write News



A Monthly Newsletter

Elisabeth Tuck, editor

December 2020

VIRTUAL BRANCH MEETING

December 12, 2020

9:30 Breakout rooms – 9:45 Meeting – 10:00 Speaker – 11:15 Writer's Table

Register online at <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/current-cwc-mt-diablo-meeting/>

Once registered, you will receive a link to join the Zoom meeting.



Getting it Right

Top 9 Ways to Make your Book Successful



featuring
Penny C. Sansevier

Whether your book is out yet or not, in a world where there are 4,500 books published each day, it's easy to get lost in the flood of titles that hit Amazon. So what's an eager author to do? We'll look at 9 things that could be wrong and how to prevent or fix them before your book is released.

Attendees will learn:

- Cover – do you know if your cover is appealing enough?
- Genre – have you identified the right genre or subgenre?
- Marketing – are you doing enough of the right things?
- Reviews – do you have sufficient? How to get more reviews even if your book isn't out yet or is over a year old.



Penny C. Sansevier, Founder and CEO of Author Marketing Experts, Inc., is a bestselling author and internationally recognized book marketing and media relations expert. She is an adjunct professor teaching self-publishing for NYU. She was named one of the top influencers of 2019 by New York's *Metropolitan Magazine*. Her company is one of the leaders in the publishing industry and has developed some of the most innovative Amazon optimization programs as well as social media/internet book marketing campaigns. She is the author of 18 books, including *How to Sell Your Books by the Truckload on Amazon*, *Revise and Re-Release Your Book*, *5-Minute Book Marketing*, and *Red Hot Internet Publicity*, which has been called the "leading guide to everything Internet." To learn more visit www.amarketingexpert.com.

CWC Members' Meeting Cost \$5.00 – Guests \$10.00

***President's Message:* Linda Hartmann**



Write the Waves Accomplishments Amidst a Time of Turbulence



Dear CWC-Mt. Diablo Members,

As we tread our way through the holiday season, I hope you enjoyed a Happy Thanksgiving filled with much gratitude, joy, and optimism for the future! Yes, even during this turbulent time!

Here we are toward the end of another year, and what a year it has been! We have accomplished a lot. Three of you were published in the *CWC Literary Review*: Fran Cain, Marianne Lonsdale, and Bob Poirier. Three of us were published in the High Desert anthology, *Survival Tales of Pandemic*: David George, Deven Greene (Deborah Greenberg,) and Bob Poirier. And two of us had photos published in the *Literary Review*: Suzy Orpin and Jill Hedgecock x2.

In addition, many of you had book launches this year! I refer you to the new and improved website for the full listing. I wish a hearty CONGRATULATIONS to each and every one of you!! Writing a book is a challenge, and a wonderful thing to complete, as is any writing.

In addition, I encourage you when you have an accomplishment to share, please let us know! If it is a book launch, please do the following three things, and this will best help get the word out:

1) Go to our branch website at <http://www.cwcmtdiablo.org/> scroll down to Member Spotlight and click on "awards." A new page will come up with a box that says "Add Your Spotlight News." Click on that then when the form comes up, fill it in with your news. Next go back to the Home Page. There click on Add Your Book Covers to Our Carousel, fill in the form that will come up and send.

2) To get an article in the newsletter, go to <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/newsletter/> A form will come up where you can insert the article you write about your book. That will then be added to the upcoming newsletter.

3) Then email me at president@cwcmtdiablo.org with your news, and we will add it to a Newsflash to capture the eyes of club members and help you get the word out.

I like to think that leveraging technology during the time of pandemic and sheltering-in is an accomplishment and a way to continue our community. We've also had great speakers, and Writers Tables to learn from.

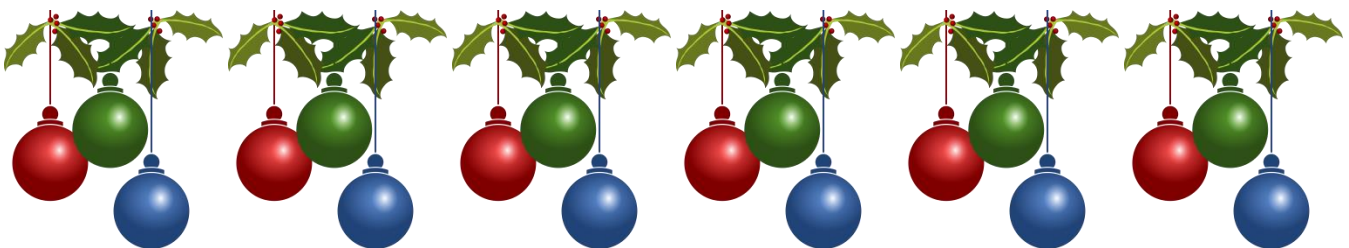
We have another huge accomplishment that benefits our membership this year - check out the website! What pops out at you? Literally! New and exciting things are happening! Marlene, our webmaster, has overhauled the entire website. So go have a look around.

For those of you who have logged in to one of the new OPEN MIC NITES, you have really been missing out! These are FREE events, held once monthly, and a wonderful way to get to know your writerly colleagues. Currently, the run-time is about 1.5 hours, and during that time there are approximately 7 readers, each reading for 5 minutes each, followed by 2 minutes of feedback of what the audience enjoyed about the reading (this in not a critique group.) In a very casual BYOB pub-like atmosphere, there is time for socializing as well. Please sign up to get on the reading list or to come as a listener!! Get to know your peers! The next opportunity will be on Wednesday, December 16th at 6:00 p.m. Casual. Relaxed. Snacks, etc., allowed.

Notice as you go through this Write News, that it, too, has added features! We are trying to bring more to you all the time!

Happy Holidays, all! Stay Safe, and Healthy, and Wish a Fond Farewell to 2020, despite all of the surreal stories it has given you to write about! May 2021 be kind to you and yours.

All my best,



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Attend a Board Meeting

This is YOUR branch. Extra minds and hands are always welcome.

There's always room at the board meetings for observers, the maybe-I'd-like-to-get-involved-ers, advisors, and the just plain curious. This is your branch too, and volunteer organizations can always use helping hands and new ideas. To join us go to <https://cwcmt Diablo.org/contact-us/> and select webmaster. Fill out the form and ask to receive an invitation to the meeting.



Next board meeting: Dec 5, 1-2:30 p.m. via Zoom.



Member Events, News, and Salutes




If you have a new publication, a book launch, an upcoming media interview, please write up a short announcement and let us put you in the newsletter. Gather up a picture of yourself or your publication and to submit, go to:

<https://cwcmt Diablo.org/newsletter/>

Upcoming Program for 2021

2021

<p>Jan 9</p> 	<p>Frederick Foote</p> <p><i>How to Write Diverse Characters</i></p>	<p>Frederick served in the United States Air Force for over three years; retired from the State of California in 2001, and taught at California Community colleges for over ten years and at a traditionally black college in South Carolina. His first short story was published in 2014 and since then he has had over 80 stories and poems published. In October 2015, Blue Nile Press published his book, <i>For the Sake of Soul</i>—a collection of short stories set in the South, Central California, and the 1960s Viet Nam and Civil Rights era.</p>
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If you've heard a great speaker on writing/publishing/editing, email Jill Hedgecock at hedgewriter@sbcglobal.net

Writers Table

After the main speaker 11:15 a.m. December 12, 2020

Promoting your book: Building a Successful Marketing Strategy

Presented by **Andrew Benzie**



Establishing a Powerful Brand for Your Books: With the availability of the Internet, print-on-demand technology, and electronic book formats, there has never been a better time for authors to publish their work. Andrew will discuss steps involved to effectively brand your work and how to build a successful marketing strategy. He will share his innovative ways to promote your book and maximize sales.

Topics covered will include:

- *How to establish a powerful brand for your book
- *How to increase visibility of your book
- *How to successfully promote your book
- *How to design and implement a winning marketing strategy
- *Discover marketing tips used by professional authors
- *learn new avenues to promote and sell your book



Andrew is a publisher, designer, author, and owner of Andrew Benzie Books, who publishes books in both traditional and e-book formats.

Andrew Benzie Creative Design: www.andrewbenzie.com

Andrew Benzie Books: www.andrewbenziebooks.com

Be Interviewed

These interviews help Mt. Diablo Branch members get to know you, your work, and your thoughts about writing and the writing process. If you would like to be interviewed, let us know through this link:

<https://cwcmt Diablo.org/newsletter/>

B Lynn Goodwin

Approximately how long have you been a CWC member and why did you join?

I've been a member for at least 25 years—I think. You were meeting in a restaurant in Concord, which changed hands and later was torn down. I originally joined because I wanted to know more about writing and get to know some authors.



CWC: How has your CWC membership helped you or your writing?

I was in a great critique group with several members. We used to meet at Marie Callender's. I've learned from the speakers, and gain perspective on the various reasons people write and the way they pick their topics.

Do you have published works?

Yes. That's the short answer. The second edition of *Talent* (Koehler Books) was released early in November 2020. My memoir, *Never Too Late: From Wannabe to Wife at 62* (Koehler Books) won a National Indie Excellence Award, a Human Relations Indie Book Award, and a Pinnacle Book Award as well an Honorable Mention in other contests. My flash fiction has been published in *Nebo*, *Cabinet of Heed*, *Murmur of Words*, *Flashquake*, and *100 Word Stories*. Other short works have appeared in *Hip Mama*, *The Sun*, *GoodHousekeeping.com*, *PurpleClover.com*, *Dramatics Magazine* and in assorted regional publications.

Be Interviewed Cont'd

B Lynn Goodwin

I did an earlier book called *You Want Me to Do WHAT? Journaling for Caregivers*. My e-zine, *Writer Advice*, has been around since 1997.

What are you currently working on?

I'm editing a sequel to *Talent*. The title is still a work in progress though it might be called *Uncharted Territory*. I'm also reading submissions for *Writer Advice's* Scintillating Starts Contest, www.writeradvice.com, and doing some editing for three different clients.

Who or what has influenced you the most as a writer?

It might be a writing program called Amherst Writers and Artists. By using positive affirmations in response to raw writing, they gave me a lot of criticism.

What part of the writing process is most difficult for you?

Sometimes it's hard to get started. Or stay organized, or find the perfect words or make them sing.

Are there any resources, tools, or events that you have found especially helpful for writing or publishing?

My two most useful tools are my brain and my laptop. And of course my fingers.

Do you have any advice for new writers?

Appreciate the journey. Give yourself permission to write daily and go wherever the writing takes you. Remember, there are no mistakes, other than typos. All the rest of your glitches just might be new material.

How will you find a publisher?

My current publisher is Koehler Books, <https://www.koehlerbooks.com>. When I submitted a memoir, *Never Too Late: From Wannabe to Wife at 62*, it went to an acquisitions editor who already knew my work. She'd been a finalist in one of *Writer Advice's* Flash Fiction Contests. She doesn't like memoir, but she had never read anything like mine and told the owner of the company they *had* to publish the book. Before that I had two publishers who went out of business. Rereading this, it sounds improbable, but you can't make this stuff up.

How have your background, previous work, and/or experience contributed to your writing?

I taught English and drama to high school and college students. They and my imagination gave me lots of material for *Talent*. *Never Too Late* is about a man I met on ... ahem ... Craigslist. He was a business owner, pastor, and the widowed father of seven adults who knew what he wanted. So did I, I thought. I'd never met anyone like him, and marriage at 62 can bring up a lot of issues. *You Want Me to Do WHAT? Journaling for Caregivers* gives prompts for caregivers or anyone who feels like he or she needs to journal. I was my mom's "assistant" for the last six years of her life. It's only available in flip-book format, though several companies have offered to republish—for a price—not that there's necessarily anything wrong with that.

What do you like about writing?

I love the moment when the writing flows and I'm making discoveries as I type.

What are your future writing goals?

Keep writing, keep doing all kinds of editing, keep adding to my journals, and see how the new normal alters the writing and publishing universe.



Be Interviewed

Denise P Kalm



How has your CWC membership helped you or your writing? Each meeting, (when we can be there in person) I meet people whose writing experience and subject matter expertise give me great insights. Of course the speakers are great too, but I can count on my tablemates to always leave me better informed.

Do you have published works? I have 5 books out - 4 self-help (3 on careers and 1 on retirement) and a novel about the Firestorm in 1991. I also have a variety of magazine credits - technical journals, national slicks, etc. Recently, I placed in a short story contest and had an edgy story published in a book. And though it's never attributed, some of the material you might read on software websites was authored by me.

What are you currently working on? I was writing another Savvy series book about savvy traveling. Covid-19 put that on hold. I'm also venturing into mystery with a book set at Rossmoor.

Who or what has influenced you the most as a writer? Since I could write, I have written with support by my mother (and a genetic gift from my Dad,) as well some of my high school English teachers were very supportive and provided me critical reviews. But one key factor - In English 1A at Cal, the professor had us write just one paper, but we could keep submitting it and being critiqued. Mostly, you don't learn to edit and that was powerful for me.

What part of the writing process is most difficult for you? Not the writing - the marketing. Even as I have done marketing as one of my professions, the kind you have to do for books isn't my forte. I find the changing algorithms on Amazon challenging to deal with, and most techniques I've tried haven't worked all that well. Most advice seems to be more targeted toward fiction. It's just a challenge to get visibility for your work.

Are there any resources, tools, or events that you have found especially helpful for writing or publishing? I used to love the CWC annual conferences. These conferences (and others) are an intense dive into your writing with powerful learning as well as a chance to engage with agents and other writers. A very good investment of time.

Do you have advice for new writers? Use every single writing opportunity as a chance to grow your skills. The 10,000 hour thing is real. As a marketing professional in the software industry, I had to write a ton of material. I used every assignment as a writing exercise and had colleagues critique my work, so I could improve. Don't forget emails - everything you write can make you a better writer. I write all the time and practice means progress.

How will you find a publisher? I have had two agents - amazingly weird stories about that. But as I started writing self-help, I wanted to get the books to my friends and colleagues faster, so I published them on my own. Saves a ton of time.

How have your background, previous work, and/or experience contributed to your writing? I've always written, but having to write at work gives you such a great opportunity to keep getting better. I also find that my extensive speaking experience helps me. By really knowing how to communicate with audiences, you can do a better job with dialogue.



Be Interviewed Cont'd

Denise P Kalm

What do you like about writing? Creating something new. Even though it is said that there are no new stories, there's always a new slant and viewpoint you can apply. For short work, a lot of writing is done in my head before I sit down, and when I print it out and read it, it just feels like success. Once in a while, I have a chance to hear from a reader that what I wrote really made a difference in their lives. That's success to me.

What are your future writing goals? I would like to be able to reach more people (the marketing challenge.) Especially with my non-fiction, I know that what I've written can make a difference to people. As a coach, I've helped a lot of people find a job they love, but one-on-one, I can't reach as many. With my books, people can self-coach their way to success.



Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Fundraiser for Our Branch -Marlene Dotterer



It's also time to help judge the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, a national contest for students in grades 7 – 12. This is our fifth year participating. Reading/judging takes place December 18, 2020 through January 11, 2021. This year we need 18-20 jurors from CWC-Mt. Diablo to judge submissions.

President Linda Hartmann is the coordinator but would love **someone to volunteer to work with her this year in training to lead the effort next year**. Several of us can attest that it's really hard to be president AND take on other tasks. This is a time-limited task and a great way to get to know some fellow members. Go to <https://cwcmt Diablo.org/contact-us/> and let Linda know you'll read or learn to lead or both!

This opportunity earns funds for our branch. The Scholastic organization pays Mt. Diablo \$2,500 for our participation. The branch uses these funds for our local Young Writers Contest for middle school students.

Scholastic Awards have discovered some of our nation's most celebrated writers when they were teens including: Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King, and others.

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)	

Self-editing tip: Find the best verbs. "The sound got louder." Is "got" the best verb you can find? Try "The sound grew," or "The sound overwhelmed (whatever else might have been heard.)" Or find an even better verb.

Members' Short Works

Members, See your writing in print

Send your **short** works (up to 750 words, preferably less) to be included in the Mt Diablo branch newsletter to: <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/newsletter/>

"The Cat"

Robert Poirier



The cat crept through the tall grass until she could see the small child in the back yard. Something in her memory was of a small baby who smelled sweet, smiled, and cooed at her. An owner felt it was the right thing to do to drop the cat off on a rural road in the Lafayette hills. A hard, violent two years later, and now ten pounds of fury and known as "Cranky cat" or just "Crank," she was feared by the residents of the little cul-de-sac close to the Briones Regional Park.

The child played in the yard while the grandmother, a tall, lithe, pretty woman, sipped coffee, wrote on a yellow pad, and occasionally called to the child.

"Andrew, not so near the tall grass, please."

The child would come a little closer to the woman, and then edge back to the field.

Neither the woman nor the child saw the coyote, thirty feet away in the grass, slowly creeping toward and focused intently on the child. The coyote, a frequent visitor to the neighborhood was three feet long and weighed about thirty pounds. Covered in mange and known as "Scar" because of the three long scars down his flank, he was responsible for the disappearance of a dozen small pets in the last few months. Now, with a tumor growing in his belly, he just wanted to kill.

The wind shifted and the English setter, asleep on a rug at the woman's feet, stirred as the scent of the coyote carried. Instantly alert, the dog growled softly as she scanned the area looking for the source of the danger. At the same time Crank, about thirty feet from the coyote, recognized the scent and crept slowly to put herself between the child and Scar.

Suddenly, Scar broke cover and raced for the child. He had the child's pant leg in his mouth and was dragging him towards the tall grass, when Crank landed on the coyote's back. She dug her claws deep into the coyote's flesh, and sunk her teeth into Scar's neck. Scar immediately dropped the screaming child and snapped at Crank. The dog saw this and in an instant was in the mix. The three were rolling on the ground and howling when the woman, who had scooped up the terrified child, joined the fray. With the practiced skills of a college soccer player, she kicked Scar hard in the chest, breaking a rib and sending him, blood foaming at his muzzle from a punctured lung, loping off into the field.

The dog immediately went to the prostrate cat, nuzzled her and licked the blood off her face. The woman bent down to check on the cat who carefully put one paw on the woman's hand and made four tiny dents. A drop of blood formed on each dent. The cat shakily stood and limped off into the tall grass.

The woman put out a dish of cat food and a saucer of water every day. On the fourth day, Cranky cat arrived at the food and, meowing softly, ate everything.

"Welcome home," the woman said, as she gently stroked the cat's fur.



Members' Short Works cont'd

In an arms merchant's house; Sakai, Japan

By Bill Stong

Such were the orders given to Watanabe Mariko. As much as she and her brother had prayed against it, Mariko was pregnant. She gave birth at sunrise on May 17, 1577. A boy child. By mid-morning, a nanny from a Nagasaki family arrived to help with the transport of the infant. Mariko was glad to be rid of it, even if only for periodic respites.

She pressed her neck on the hard, barley-seed pillow. The husks crunched against each other. *The gods tease me. That sound is like my mind and soul right now.* She detested the birth. She felt she had been raped twice. First by the Spanish and then when her lord had forbidden her *seppuku*, the ritual suicide which would have restored her honor. Her situation had been made worse by her lord forcing her to finish the pregnancy. At the same time, she was honored to be able to serve the empire--as strange and misbegotten, in her mind at least, that service was.

She told herself she did not care, so it caused consternation that she found herself--in some deep, ill-disciplined cranny of her heart--pleased. *That's not the right word.* She plumbed her feelings. *Perhaps content...but why?* Under an oath of secrecy, Lord Oda had told her which family was to raise the boy. It was one of the strongest *daimyo* lords on the island of Kyūshū. That alone had surprised her since the lords in that part of Japan were not friendly to Oda and his dream of unifying Japan.

Based in Nagasaki, that *daimyo* controlled much wealth. Although she had not seen it, his family's villa was rumored to be huge with constant building as his family grew. Apparently he was also a lusty one and, in addition to his wife, already had three mistresses, each with her own suite of rooms and gardens in the sprawling villa. *Each one dropping babies as if it was a horse race. Well, I made a contribution.* Maybe her unsettling feeling of contentment was hidden in the fact that she had contributed. *Literally, part of me.* Something that her body had nurtured.

The *daimyo* was powerful, received a large stream of income, and had three mistresses. Which meant--for the sake of Lord Oda and the empire--that the baby would be well cared for. *As long as Oda has power. Fear goes a long way.* Everyone in Japan knew how capable Oda was at savage retaliation. *The slaughtering of the monks is the best--or should that be the worst--example.* She had no doubt that there would be hordes of help to ensure the baby was well-raised. Not that she cared.

Even her brother, Nobuhide, had weighed in with friendly and quite insightful advice. During her labor, he had said, "If Lord Oda honors it, at least do not dishonor it." She had almost forgotten his words because she had so concentrated on ensuring that not a single scream of pain would escape her lips. She was immensely satisfied that no whimper had. *Not even when its head shoved its way out.*



Members' Short Works cont'd

We Do What We Do Kymberlie Ingalls

It was a crisp, California morning in November of 1995. I was with a community radio station and felt that we weren't doing enough *community*, so I organized a food drive at a city event, and we rallied the young staff together to do some good. There we were in the downtown square, taking in canned and boxed goods and having a jolly-old-feel-good time as we broadcast live, interviewing people, hearing their holiday plans, playing their requests and giving away prizes.

While I was mid-broadcast, a scruffy looking gentleman approached us with a solid frozen turkey under each arm and a couple more swinging by the handles of their mesh covers. He shoved one at me and dropped the others into our barrel. "Happy Thanksgiving. Good thing you're doing," and off he trotted. I stood, dumbstruck with a microphone in one hand and a swinging turkey in the other. The number one rule in radio is to never ever have dead air, but I was at a Les-Nessman-kind of loss. I couldn't have been more surprised if the turkeys had dropped from the sky.

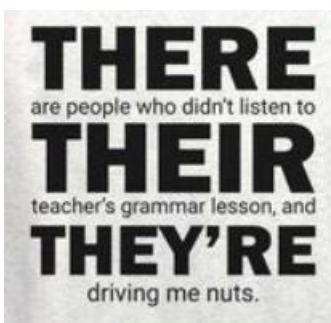
The event was such a success that I organized a toy drive the following month. The goodwill and groovy vibes was infectious, and I've been doing toy drives every year in the 25 since. The most valuable way that we can contribute is to give our time. Over the years, people have contributed by way of donations from their wallets, their hearts, their goods, their time, and their space.

Some charities are endangered because they lack funds. It requires money to keep the wheels turning. Charitable giving propels me through my own holiday season, thinking about those who benefit from each and every person who participates in whatever way.

If you can afford to, think about charities that matter you or to our common cause, writing. There are many charities related to writing, including our own Young Writers Contest, as well those promoting literacy and reading. The following link suggests a few:

<https://www.bustle.com/articles/126582-12-amazing-book-and-literacy-charities-that-are-changing-the-world>

Reminder: The Mt. Diablo branch board voted to announce member events in our #NewsFlash emails, **one near the middle of each month, and one near the end of the month**. If you have a new book, are holding a book- or writing-related event or have writing-related news to share with the membership, email it to President@cwcmtdiablo.org or go to and submit your information <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/contact-us/>



Things to Do

MFA in Creative Writing - Online Info Session at Dominican University December 8th, 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Whether you are a poet looking to hone your craft, an aspiring novelist who wants to write that book, or a memoirist with an urgent story to tell, our MFA program will help you achieve your writing goals.

Link to register: <https://admissions.dominican.edu/register/DEC820>

Program website: <https://www.dominican.edu/academics/graduate-programs/creative-writing-mfa>

Dominican University of California is a small, private university in San Rafael. Dominican offers programs across a broad spectrum of disciplines, and is known for its integrative approach towards education. Students both at the undergraduate and graduate levels work with personal mentors, gain experience in their respective field, and engage with the larger community. For more information on Dominican University, visit our website: <https://www.dominican.edu/>

The CWC Redwood Branch presents

Inviting Oscar to Dinner: Poets and Authors Transitioning to Screen

with Indigo Moor

Saturday, December 19

1 - 2:30 p.m.

via ZOOM*

Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

Poet Laureate Emeritus of Sacramento, Indigo Moor's fourth book of poetry, *Everybody's Jonesin' for Something*, took second place in the University of Nebraska Press' Backwater Prize. *Jonesin'*—a multi-genre work consisting of poetry, short fiction, memoir pieces, and stage plays—will be published in spring 2021. His second book, *Through the Stonecutter's Window*, won the Northwestern University Press Cave Canem prize. His first and third books, *Tap-Root* and *In the Room of Thirsts & Hungers*, were both parts of Main Street Rag's Editor's Select Poetry Series. Indigo is an adjunct professor at Dominican University and visiting faculty for Dominican's MFA program, teaching poetry, short fiction, and introduction to stage and screenwriting.

Check out these independent book stores:

Reasonable Books <https://reasonable.online/>

3645 Mt Diablo Blvd Suite C, Lafayette, CA 94549

(925) 385-3026

Flashlight Books <https://www.flashlightbooks.com/>

1537 N Main St, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

(925) 278-1797

Bel and Bunna's Books <https://belandbunnasbooks.com/>

3581-C, Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, CA 94549

(925) 298-5512

All the best for the season to all

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 Jan-Nov 2020

JACK LONDON FOUNDER'S CIRCLE (\$500+)

Susan Berman

David George In honor and support of the **R. Lee Paulson** Humor Award

THE JOHN STEINBECK SOCIETY (\$250 - \$499)

David George

JOHN MUIR MEMBER CLUB (\$150 - \$249)

Danard Emanuelson

Several Parents of Submitters

Linda Hartmann

INA COOLBRITH LAUREATE CLUB (\$100 - \$149)

Judith Ingram

Patrick Hancock

Elizabeth Pentacoff in honor of **Susie Wilson**

Aline Soules in honor of **Ina Coolbrith**

MARY AUSTIN WRITERS CLUB (\$50 - \$99)

Marianne Lonsdale

Susan Lawson

Chloe Laub

Ryan Thai

Kristen Martin

Patty Northlich

HELEN HUNT JACKSON GROUP (\$25 - \$49)

Robert Boyle

Dorothy Kerwin

Daniel Cheung

Nannette Cooper-McGuines

Felix Royfeld

Marlene Dotterer

THE GERTRUDE ATHERTON GUILD (\$10 - \$24)

Maya Das

Bill Yarborough

Lyn Roberts

Ann Luengo Palomino

Laura Blackwell

Al Garrotto

Susan Lawson

Joanna Pace

Chris Stafford

Robin Abbott, YWC parent

Pavan Kumar Katragadda

Linda Todd



Contra Costa County middle school students who enter the Young Writers Contest are eligible for cash prizes in short story, poetry, essay/personal narrative, and humor. Contest submission is free. Check our branch website for details:

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

In May the Mt. Diablo Branch hosts an awards ceremony to honor the students--if there's no pandemic!

All program expenses are supported by individual donations and grants.

Please list my membership in the following donor club: _____

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ My donation is in honor/memory of: _____

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

Make a check payable to: *CWC Mt. Diablo Branch*. And mail to: CWC Mt. Diablo Branch

P.O. Box 606, Alamo, CA 94507

Attention: Young Writers Contest

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT THIS ANNUAL CONTEST