



The Write News

A Monthly Newsletter

Elisabeth Tuck, for Denis Hoyer, editor

Mt Diablo

CWC Mt. Diablo General Meeting

January 11, 2025



When Plots Collide, Create Suspenseful Page-Turners by Weaving Multiple Storylines

Featuring: **John Byrne Barry**

You've all seen colliding plots in action — it's a formula used extensively on crime shows. Think *Law and Order*. The book and the TV show start with unrelated stories, but they're going to intersect. More examples: *House of Cards*, *Breaking Bad*, *The Diplomat*. I'll map out the plotline of *Bonfire of the Vanities*, Tom Wolfe's brilliant 1987 novel about New York City.

You'll learn:

- To use the formula to amp up suspense, so your reader keeps turning the page
- To use colliding plots to make one story cause an action in another
- To show how one character can tighten the vice on another not even in the scene
- As characters chase *their* goals, they unintentionally create trouble for someone else



John Byrne Barry is a writer, designer, actor, director, and crossing guard. He is author of four novels, including his latest *Pirates of Sausalito: Houseboat Wars Murder Mystery*. Other talks he gives include: -Setting That Works — How Memorable Setting Can Advance Plot, Reveal Character, Echo Theme, and More, and -How to Write a Killer Book Blurb See more at: johnbyrnebarry.com.

REGISTER ONLINE AT

<https://cwcmt Diablo.org/meetings-and-workshops/>

LOCATION

Zio Fraedo's Restaurant
611 Gregory Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

COST

\$30 CWC Members and \$35 Non-Members. Includes buffet luncheon. Pay at the door or online with PayPal when registering. You do not need a PayPal account.

SCHEDULE

- 10:30 Registration Opens
- 11:15 Writers Table on AI with Barry Hampshire
- 12:00 Buffet Luncheon and Business Meeting
- 1:00 Featured Speaker



President: Barry Hampshire

Firstly, let me wish all club members a Happy New Year. I hope your holidays have been enjoyable and not stressful.

For myself, it has been a delightful time with family and a little nerve-wracking. While we relaxed, waiting for our Christmas Day dinner to cook, I had the undeniable urge to do something I now consider to have been a little rash. As several friends have told me, I'll never know if I don't put my work out there. Even a rejection letter is good information.



So, casting hesitation to the wind, I submitted my first fictional novel to an English publishing house. I persuaded myself that this was a good idea based on two facts. First, the story is about the Syrian conflict, which seems to have regained the headlines again. Second, I have now finished books 2 and 3 in this trilogy – potentially a good selling point, hopefully, with publishers. And, yes, Bashar al-Assad is no longer president by the end of my third book. The main deviation from the current reality is that I have him in a vegetative state in a medical facility in Tehran, not living in Moscow. I just have to remind myself mine is a fictional novel.

The publisher's website said responses may take 8 weeks to reach the author. So, I must live with this excitement/fear for another 7 weeks and 5 days. Yes, it feels weird, but this period of unknowing is rather energizing and focusing. I think the truth is that I have been stalling and needed to put a toe in the water to see if it was hot or cold. If it's cold, it's time to rethink, but if it's hot, we are off and running.

I wanted to share my recent experience with you so that you know at least one other club member feels uncomfortable with this publishing prospect. It's intimidating, and I need to look beyond my doubts. I believe what I have written will move some readers to think differently, some to enjoy a good adventure, and some to feel the pain of the main character's family.

I have stalled for so long because I didn't know which genre to use for these three novels. But then, I had someone read the first chapter, and they said quite simply, "Contemporary Fiction." It felt right to me, relieving a bottleneck to my moving forward. So here I am, waiting. I do not believe I am alone, stalling. Small obstacles can take on significance and weight they don't deserve.

May I wish you all a productive New Year. I look forward to listening to other's tales of navigating the turbulent waters that led them to send their works to editors, agents, and publishers. So keep writing. Have courage and believe in yourselves.

Barry

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Things to do are sprinkled throughout this time.

Editor's note: The deadline for submissions to this newsletter is the 20th of each month Aug through May.

Member Events, News, and Salutes



This section is regularly open members to writing and submitting a short announcement about milestones in their writing journey. Include a picture of yourself or your book. Publish something? Planning a reading at a bookstore or county fair? Speaking somewhere? Win an IPPY or other prize? Is your play being produced? The TV or movie version of your writing will be out soon? Let us know here.

<https://cwcmtdiablo.org/newsletter/>

AnneMarie Mazotti Gouveia



I am happy to announce the December 13, 2024 release of the paperback and eBook versions of BRAVE FALLS, the third in the Drifters Realm series.

To learn more about BRAVE FALLS and the other books in the series, please visit my website at: <https://annemariemazottigouveia.com/>.

BRAVE FALLS is currently available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble, and will soon be released to online independent bookstores.



Outside Voices: A Memoir of the Berkeley Revolution

Sunday, January 5, 2025, at 5:30pm, Bookshop Benicia, 636 First Street in downtown Benicia.



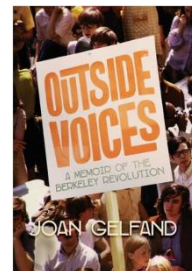
Don't miss the "**Cookies & Conversation**" talk featuring CWC Berkeley Branch author **Joan Gelfand** discussing her new book, *Outside Voices: A Memoir of the Berkeley Revolution*, with Benicia Literary Arts' President Emerita, Lois Requist! This chat will be a noteworthy reunion between the two women, a relationship that goes back more than a decade. Gelfand was the first writer published by Benicia Literary Arts. It was her poetry book *The Long Blue Room*.

Be sure to stay for Q&A and to purchase an autographed copy of Gelfand's new book, the 2024 winner of honors, including the International Book Award and the NYC Big Book Award.

This memoir, both tender and tumultuous, describes Gelfand's personal journey in the early 1970s, when she moved from New York City to Berkeley.

Outside Voices will lure you in and tug at your heartstrings. In Berkeley Gelfand discovered a lust for learning in the School of Life, where feminism blossomed with protests, music, poetry, and parties. Here on the "Left Coast," Gelfand found her way as a poet and writer.

Come and nibble a cookie or two and enjoy this very special event at the start of the new year "*Outside Voices* is published by Post Hill Press, posthillpress.com, and available on Amazon or by ordering from your favorite bookstore.



The Mt. Diablo board would like to acknowledge all members' publications. Above, AnneMarie shared information about her latest published book. Below Michael shares the names of his stories accepted for publication in 2024. We would like to have this information as soon as you know a work of yours has been published or accepted.

Go to <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/newsletter/> and let us know.

Member Events, News, and Salutes (cont'd)

Michael Barrington's short stories published in 2024 or accepted for 2025

Message from Eugenia (April 2025)

Labyrinth (Jan 2025)

Take a Priest Like You

Magic at Stonehenge

Passage to Murder

No Room for Heroes

The Baron of Bengal Street

The Ethiopian Affair

Becoming Anya

Let the Peacock Sing

The Bishop Wears No Drawers

Slow Slow Catch Monkey

A Web of Deceit

Feature Writer: *Diablo Gazette*

Feature Writer: *The New Issue*



<https://www.mbwriter.net/>

January 11 Writers Table

President **Barry Hampshire** will give a presentation on **Artificial Intelligence**.

What does it really mean?

Let's explore this subject and draw some similarities to what happened in the past. Hopefully we can understand where we writers may be heading in years to come.

Would you like to lead a Writers Table? Do you have some insight about writing or marketing your writing that you could share with the group? Members would love to hear from you.

Please reach out by emailing Andrew Benzie at andrew@andrewbenzie.com

Sit in on a Zoom Board Meeting. Learn a little about the branch and how we operate. You don't have to do more than listen, but if you have suggestions, we're listening. Barry will send you the chair reports in advance, and Marlene sends the Zoom link on the day. **Next meeting: January 10th, 3 pm**

If you would like to attend, contact our president, Barry Hampshire via president@cwcmtdiablo.org

Mt. Diablo Branch Mission

Educating writers of all levels of expertise in the craft of writing and in the marketing of their work.



You in the Newsletter: Short Works

Members, submit some of your writing fact or fiction for the newsletter. Share a report on a book you enjoyed (or disliked) and why. Share a memoir piece. Share a writing tip. Share an upcoming event. Send your short works (around 750 words) to: <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/newsletter/>

He Said, She Said

by

Robert Poirier



Mary Lynn hurried to her car. She could make the 5:30 PM service at St. Catherine's if she got a move on. It had been a rough day. Disciplining employees was a part of her job she disliked, and this employee was a real piece of work. Warned twice about harassing female employees, Frank Miller crossed the line when he propositioned his new boss, a much younger new hire. Mary Lynn had written a report before she left the office recommending he be terminated immediately. She unlocked the Tesla passenger door with the key fob. Light flooded the interior. Standing there she phoned Joan to let her know she was running late, but the call went to voice mail.

Mary Lynn sensed someone behind her as she bent over to put her purse on the passenger side floorboard.

"Always be aware of your surroundings," her father had told her.

"Damn," she thought.

The pain from the kidney punch knocked the breath out of her, and she fell forward onto the seat, dropping her iPhone.

"Not so great when it's your turn in the barrel, is it?"

Mary Lynn, face down on the seat, recognized Frank Miller's voice as she struggled to get up.

He reached down and pulled her out of the car by her hair.

"We're going someplace where we can have a fun time," he said. "Someplace where they will never find you. If I'm caught, I'll tell them you like it rough. It will be your word against mine. And I'll take this as a souvenir."

He grabbed her necklace, ripped it off, and put it in his pocket.

"It's only a thing," her father had told her. "Let it go. Stay focused on getting out of the danger."

Miller fumbled with the key fob until he opened the trunk, then dragged her to the back of the car.

"Go limp," her father had said. "Wait for an opportunity to strike back. Then, be vicious. Don't stop attacking until he can't move."

When Miller bent down to grab her by her waist, Mary Lynn gathered her strength and stood up quickly, striking the point of his chin with the top of her head, breaking his jaw, and neatly severing the tip of his tongue.

"You bith," he lisped screaming and spraying blood and broken teeth over the front of her blouse. He threw her to the ground.

He was standing over her, legs spread, when she kicked up and connected between his legs. He screamed again and bent over to clutch his damaged organ. She took this opportunity to open-finger strike him in his eyes. He let go of his crotch to grab his eyes. She kicked him on the side of his knee and heard a bone crack as he fell onto the pavement, in a fetal position, and lay there moaning loudly.

Mary Lynn held on to the trunk rim as she struggled to get up.

"I'll kill you for thith," Miller moaned grabbing at her ankle.

"Not today, Frank." She struggled for breath as she dropped knee-first onto the left side of his chest. She heard his ribs crack. Frank Miller grunted once and was silent. His watery, bloodshot eyes followed her. She stood, rearranged her clothes, and called 911.

You in the Newsletter: Short Works (Cont'd)

“I’m from New York, asshole,” she said, still struggling for air after disconnecting from 911. “My father was an NYPD detective who taught us how to take care of ourselves. I’ve dealt with punks and scumbags like you since I was twelve.”

The police arrived a couple of minutes later.

“Do you need an ambulance?” The patrolman asked Mary Lynn.

“I think I’m okay,” she said. “Frank Miller here wanted to rape and kill me.”

“No, no,” Miller said, struggling to enunciate with the missing piece of his tongue. “The rough sex was her idea. I went along with it because she promised me a good time.”

“I’m gonna call my sergeant,” the patrolman said. “She’s nearby and should be here in a couple of minutes. I’m sorry, but I think she will rule it a ‘he said, she said’ situation.”

Mary Lynn’s phone rang as the sergeant exited her police car.

“My God, Mary Lynn, are you alright?” Joan asked. “I have the entire struggle clear as day on the voicemail you left me.”

Mary Lynn smiled.

“There’s someone here I’d like you to speak with,” Mary Lynn said as she handed the phone to the sergeant.



More Upcoming Events

OPEN MIC on Zoom, January 22nd, from 7 pm to 9 pm. Register for the link:
<https://cwcmtdiablo.org/event/open-mic-night-on-zoom-3/>

Writers Connection, Chicken Pie Shop, January 29th, Noon to 1:30 Register:
<https://cwcmtdiablo.org/event/writers-connection-5/>

Mt. Diablo Branch’s Writers Helping Writers Fundraising

Please consider donating to this worthy cause in support of practical help to writers. California Writers Club is an IRS 501-3c designated non-profit educational organization. The Mt. Diablo Branch EIN Number is: 94-3068331. **Please consult your tax advisor for the deductibility of your donation.**

To donate or seek assistance to attend meetings: <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/writers-helping-writers/>

Thank You to All Who Support This Important Writers Fund



Mt. Diablo Branch Board of Directors and Their Roles

- President—Barry Hampshire president@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Vice President, Programs & Writers Connection—Michael Barrington vp@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Secretary—Dita Basu secretary@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Treasurer—Margie Witt treasurer@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Webmaster, Reservations, NorCal Rep & Open Mic—Marlene Dotterer cmdotterer@gmail.com
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- Free Editing—Elisabeth Tuck helpfuleditor@cwcmtdiablo.org (send 1-10 pp, attend next mtg. to collect)
- Open Mic & Hospitality—Lyn Roberts openmic@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Ekphrasis & Art Embraces Words—Linda Hartmann ekphrasis@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Young Writers Contest & Scholastic—Quynh-Uyen Trinh youngwriters@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Outreach—Suzy Orpin outreachchair@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Writers Tables—Andrew Benzie writerstable@cwcmtdiablo.org
- Central Board Representative & Young Writers Contest—AnneMarie Gouveia



From Caitlin Jans, Editor, co-founder of The Poetry Marathon and founder of Authors Publish
PO Box 50228 Toronto RPO Sunnybrook, ON, M4G 0B5, Canada

The Poetry Marathon is an annual event with a goal of writing one poem every hour for 24 hours. Held in September in 2024. <https://www.facebook.com/thepoetrymarathon/>. I see no information for 2025

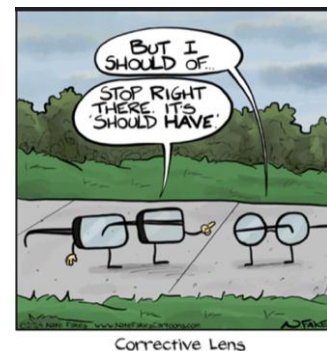
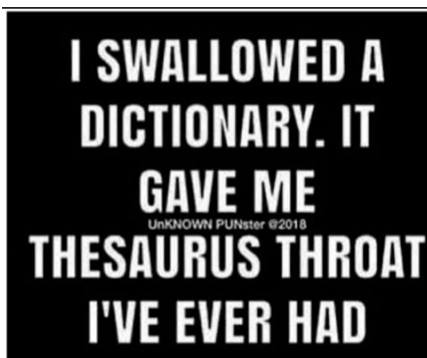
Authors Publish- check this out to place poetry or prose, or to listen to talks with authors & publishers

<https://authorspublish.com/eleven-wonderful-canadian-literary-journals/>

Our subscribers are based all over the world, with a majority in the United States. Many of the journals and publishers we cover are still in the United States. (Note: Some of the international journals receive government subsidies and therefore only allow publication by nationals.)

This site also offers the opportunity to hear talks with authors and publishers:

<https://authorspublish.com/lecture-series/>



Corrective Lens

- **Military Experience & the Arts**

A Guide to Self-Publishing

Introduction:

- Modern technology has created a unique landscape for authors. In a very real way, you can take the “do it yourself” approach to the entire book publishing process, from rough draft to finished e-book or printed copy.

<https://militaryexperience.org/self-publishing-guide/>

In this burgeoning literary marketplace, there are some things you should know before you wade into the process.

Getting Started:

- First and foremost, writing is the most important aspect of self-publishing. Everyone has access to the marketplace, but your work will still need to stand out. To do that, it'll have to be high quality, good writing, and interesting. You should ask yourself the same questions a potential publisher would ask.
- Is the premise unique and engaging?
- Is the subject matter interesting?
- Is it well-written?
- Does the author have a unique voice?
- Does the story flow well and keep a reader's attention?
- Is there a market for this type of book? (Will it sell?)
- Spend as much time as you need writing your manuscript. Write, re-write, revise, revise, revise. You should go through several drafts over a significant period of time to get the absolute best manuscript possible. Confidence in your work will play a key role later down the road when you're marketing.
- Don't be afraid to be edited. No one writes in a vacuum – not even self-published authors. These editors and readers can be family and friends, or you can find a professional editor for a fee. There are different types of editing:
- Continuity editing Continuity editing Continuity editing Continuity editing focuses on the major, “high order” aspects of your book; story, character development, plot points, narrative arc, etc.
- Copy editing focuses on the “low order” proofreading things like grammar, spelling, and punctuation. It is extremely important to present a polished product to your readers. It creates a reputation for your credibility as a writer.

What You Take on When You Do It Yourself

- There are some things you should consider during the writing and editing process.
- If you are writing non-fiction, you'll be legally liable for anything you publish. Take the time to do your research into slander and libel, as they are very real concerns. If a character in your book is portrayed in a manner that damages their reputation, they can seek legal redress.
- There are different ways to minimize your risks.

A Guide to Self-Publishing (cont'd)

Slander

- Change names and physical characteristics. Do so in a way that makes it impossible for a reader to know exactly what person you are writing about. When in doubt, consult a media attorney.
- Send portions of the manuscript to the people about which you are writing and ask for their approval in writing.

Libel

- Research your book thoroughly. There are many reasons why presenting false information to the reading public is bad. Of course, the damage to your reputation is among them. If you are writing from memory, tell the readers in the introduction that the work is accurate to the best of your knowledge and offer a caveat that human memory isn't perfect.

Copyright

- You'll want your finished product to be protected by copyright. While there is an informal copyright on anything you write and publish, it is best to register a formal copyright with the US government to protect your intellectual property. You can find more information at <http://www.copyright.gov/>

ISBN

- You will need to purchase an International Standard Book Number. Many of the companies involved in self-publishing can help you with this. Find more information directly from <http://www.isbn.org>

Cover design

- Books are judged by their covers. Many firms involved in self-publishing can help you for a fee, but a friend or colleague savvy with digital imagery can help you produce a great cover. Each self-publishing firm has their own requirements on size and resolution.

Sole proprietorship

- Becoming a self-published author means you'll become a business owner for tax purposes. Do research into your municipal and state regulations. You can also set up a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC). While this is not required, it has benefits in that there are more tax deductions available and any legal liability only accounts for assets of the LLC instead of your personal worth.
- Keep track of any expenses you incur in your career as a writer.
- They can be used as a tax deduction. (Conferences, website fees, advertising, home office, printer ink, etc.)
- The best advice is to have an accountant help you find the maximum amount of deductions.

A Guide to Self-Publishing (cont'd)

The Options

- There are many self-publishing firms in existence today. While you are still self-publishing, you'll need a firm to change your manuscript to e-book format or help with getting it print-on-demand ready.
- Additionally, they'll be the ones distributing your book to major online retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and international sellers like Gardner's in the UK. Their business models vary greatly, and most differ in terms of charging an upfront fee for conversion and 0% of your royalties, or no up-front fee and a small (10-30%) cut of your royalties. Take the time to investigate which one is the best fit for you.

Bookbaby

- Offers both e-book distribution to about 12 retailers (including the major ones) and the same for print-on-demand.

Amazon Kindle Direct

- – Conversion of your manuscript to e-book format and distribution on Amazon. (Major drawback is that you are limited to distributing on Amazon only)

Smashwords

- Similar to BookBaby without the option to print-on-demand.

Amazon Create Space

- One of the newest in the business, they offer print-on-demand and distribution on Amazon. Their models differ in whether or not you'd like to pay for extra services like cover design. Most of these companies offer competitive royalty rates. It is mainly a matter of preference. Do your research, call them up, and ask as many questions as you can. Also, be wary of many of the "extra" services they offer for fees. You can save a lot of overhead by designing the cover yourself, for instance.

Metadata

- All of the information about a book which appears on retail sites comes from you. Title, subtitle, synopsis, and categories are all very important elements of marketing your book. Look up some of your favorite titles and read their synopses. (The synopsis will appear in many, many places.) See what catches your eye, what turns you off, and what might work best for you.

Pricing

- This is another important element in terms of marketing.
- The less expensive your book, the more attractive it may be to potential readers. But if it's priced too low, it may be seen as being low quality. And remember, while you can always lower the price of your book, you can never raise it!
(Important note on pricing: The higher your sales volume, the higher the rankings on distributor sites will be, and thus the more visible your book will be to readers.)

A Guide to Self-Publishing (cont'd)

Proofing

- Once you submitted a finished manuscript, the publisher will send you back proofs of your work, essentially showing you exactly how your book will appear. **READ THROUGH IT CAREFULLY**, and have others read it, too. Typos happen, and they are hard to live with once they're out there in the literary marketplace.

Release

- Once everything is finalized, your book will be released to the public.

Congratulations! Now What?

Marketing

- Once your book is out, it's no longer your creative work – it's a product you need to sell!
- Unique Product Identifier – what distinguishes your book from others like it? Is it the perspective from which it's written? Is the story untold?
- Think of what is unique about your book, and focus on that when you market it.
- Even before your book is out, you'll want a large web presence. Drum up some interest in you as the author by blogging, writing short stories and articles, and in general get your name out there. Be prepared to have a big presence. You'll need it!

Facebook

- Widely used social media. You can choose an author page to brand yourself personally or a site specifically for your book. Don't be afraid to ask friends to "like" your page to get yourself out there initially. Facebook also offers a paid advertising option to appear in newsfeeds of a demographic of your choice. Facebook is also a good way to connect with organizations and groups which may be interested in your book.

Twitter

- Hashtags are a good way to engage readers by tweeting about trending topics. Brand your own hashtags, too, and see how they spread. Again, don't be afraid to use your personal networks to get started.
- Goodreads– Run by Amazon, Goodreads is a sort of social media for readers and authors alike. Many groups do review collectives, wherein authors trade books to review. Be sure to establish your book's presence on this site, as readers can review it and talk about it as well as recommend it to friends.

Website

- You'll want to be easily visible when someone types your name (or pen-name) into Google. One of the best ways to do this is by creating a personal website. There, you can blog, show pictures and images, provide links to interviews and other publications, and in general let a reader get to know you. Several companies offer relatively easy ways to establish a website. You can create your own URL, and for a small fee have a professional website.

A Guide to Self-Publishing (cont'd)

WordPress

- Squarespace
- Again, take the time and research what's best for you. A website is something which can serve you throughout your writing career.

Reviews

- While major media outlet reviews of your work is a big help, even customer reviews on Amazon and other digital retailers provide a big boost to your book's visibility and attractiveness. Always ask for reviews, but be prepared for some not-so-good ones, even if it's stellar work. Still, the positives far outweigh the drawbacks. An often-reviewed book is a major marketing asset.

Get out there!

- You've written a book of which you can be proud. Don't be afraid to get yourself out there and talk about your work. Radio, television, and podcasts are all powerful means of communicating with your readers. The more they hear about you, the better your sales will be.

Keep writing

- The more work you have published – poems, short stories, think pieces, etc. – the more the public will see you and your writing style. Submit to literary journals and popular websites.

Keep at it

- Writing is not easy, but having a book on the market is a major accomplishment. Seeing your name on a book is well worth the effort you'll be putting into it.

Contact Page

- Have a contact page where your readers can enter their email address to subscribe to you and receive notifications of new posts and announcements.

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What is the Young Writers Contest?

The Young Writers Contest has been a part of Mt. Diablo's annual schedule since 1995, a contest that has become a trusted part of the Contra Costa County middle school community, and a vital part of our mission to educate and engage the students in writing.






The contest is open to Co Co County middle school students whether public, private, or home-schooled. Students electronically submit writings in the categories of short story, poetry, essay/personal narrative, and humor. Branch volunteers read, confer, and rank the submissions. The first second and third winners in each category for each grade receive cash prizes, and at a celebration in their honor, they may read from their pieces. Families, teachers and branch members are welcome, and there are smiles and cameras clicking everywhere in the room.

In recent years we've assembled for sale a booklet of the winners' submissions.

To volunteer to help or read/rank, **contact Quynh Trinh at:** <https://cwcmt Diablo.org/contact-us/>



OUR UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Feb 10		Nina Schulyer	Making Metaphors & other stylish moves
Mar 9		Joyce Thompson	Workshop: The Art of Storytelling
Apr 13		Donna Levin	Creating a Writing Practice
May 11		Allison Landa	Developing Your Writing Voice
June 8		Maureen Studer/ Sisters in Crime	TBD

If you've heard a great speaker on writing/publishing/editing, let our Speaker Committee Chair, Michael Barrington, know. Select his name at <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/contact-us/>

You in the Newsletter!—Book Reviews

Writers should be readers. What are you reading? What genre is it? Would you recommend it to others and why? What worked? What didn't work? Why?

So here's the challenge and opportunity to member-writers of all genres, send in some short(ish) book reviews to put in the newsletters. <https://cwcmtdiablo.org/contact-us/> select Write News.

Please no advertising your books. Newsletter policy doesn't allow it, but you certainly may review a fellow member's book you enjoyed.

Writers Connection is a social place where like-minded people, hapless authors and creative geniuses can come together and chat about the one thing they all have in common: the compulsion to write. It is open to any writer, published or not, interested in a freewheeling, nonjudgmental, welcoming, and relaxed environment.

When you register, let us know if you want to be a reader. The first seven people to sign-up will be given a slot to read for five minutes. If we have more than seven requests to read, we'll start the list for the next event.

We'll have time for discussion, but please remember, this is not a critique session! Talk about what you liked, not what the author can do better.

Join us **January 29** (over lunch if you wish)

<https://cwcmtdiablo.org/contact-us/>

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm PDT

Chicken Pie Shop

1251 Arroyo Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

(Parking along the east side of the bldg or paid street parking in front.)

WRITERS CONNECTION

