

The Write News

September 2026

A Monthly Newsletter
Denis Hoyer, Editor

Mt. Diablo Branch

CWC Mt. Diablo September 12, 2026 General Meeting ***Poetry as the Language of the Soul with Diane Frank***



Diane Frank is author of nine books of poems, three novels, and a photo memoir of her 400 mile trek in the Nepal Himalayas. While Listening to the

Enigma Variations: New and Selected Poems won the 2022 Next Generation Indie Book Award for Poetry. Her new book of poems, *Prayer to the Invisible*, was an overnight bestseller – #3 for *American Poetry*, #3 for *Poems by Women*.

She teaches poetry, flash fiction, and memoir workshops at San Francisco State University and Dominican University. Her first novel, *Blackberries in the Dream House*, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Her new novel, *Mermaids and Musicians*, is an unusual love story, full of music and a plea to save the Earth. www.dianefrank.com.

ATTENDEES WILL BE SHOWN:

- How poems take the flying leap to the magic place
- Writing poetry larger than yourself
- Reaching the transcendent core of a poem
- What poetry offers to writers of other genres
- How poetry speaks through time.

Part 1: 2026 YWC Winners Readings
Part 2: Poetry as the Language of the Soul

SCHEDULE

- 9:30 – Sign-in table opens
- 10:00 – Readings from YWC winners
- 11:00 – Feature Presentation
- 12:00 – Meeting End
- Stay after the meeting until 1:30 for optional events. Meeting attendance is required to participate in optional activities.

LOCATION

Pleasant Hill Community Center
320 Civic Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA

COST

Members: \$15.00 (\$20.00 after Sept. 5th)

Guests: \$20.00

Pay online when you register or cash/check at the door. Coffee/tea and pastries included.

Mt. Diablo Branch Mission

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

[Register Here](#)

We will be having winners of the Young Writers Contest Reading their works at 10 am!

President's Message

The start of another CWC year, and I am still President. Thank you for that—or perhaps I should say, *you have only yourselves to blame*. But enough about that. Being President is not nearly as interesting as talking about the people who make this club what it is: all of you.

How are you? Did you manage to take a break from the passion that drives you to the keyboard every day? Or did you have an especially productive summer, with chapters piling up and waiting for you to put on your editor's hat? If so, remember: be gentle, but concise.

I had a rewarding couple of months, self-publishing my first collection of short stories, *Adventure Shaped Me*. The title reflects the theme of the collection—the experiences and adventures that have shaped who I am. It doesn't, however, explain how I ended up as President of CWC. That story remains unwritten, and perhaps that is just as well.

We are now only days away from the start of our Fall program, with our usual selection of monthly general meetings, Writers Connection, Open Mic, Short Story Group, and Poetry Group. There may well be other gatherings that I have somehow failed to discover, but the important thing is that there are plenty of opportunities to meet with fellow writers, share our work, and enjoy the company of people who understand why we spend so much time at a keyboard. And, of course, we can continue our long-standing suspicion of generative AI. Spell-checkers and basic grammar tools are perfectly acceptable; when it comes to generating the writing itself, however, I think most of us would rather keep the words our own.

I want to finish with a sincere thank you for allowing me to continue as President. I am

genuinely honored to serve, especially in a club filled with so many talented and dedicated writers. I look forward to another year of good writing, lively discussion, and, I hope, plenty of stories worth telling.

Keep writing.

Barry

CWC Mt. Diablo Branch

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One change to our usual schedule is worth noting. ***The October general meeting will be extended from two hours to three and a half, running from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.*** We will be holding a workshop, “**The Writer’s Journey: Moving Beyond the Draft,**” with Gala Russ.

Member Wins Prestigious Award



Writer of the Year Michael Barrington

I found this story, "*Ernest*" so moving and was gripped as the story progressed, wondering how it would end, and then it did so in such a heart-rending way of putting feelings into words as a man truly realizes, that love should be spoken, not assumed, because there may come a day when it's too late.

The message I took from this is that you should always tell the people you love, that you love them and it's all too easy not to.

A great little story that says so much.

Congratulations!

Nick Oldham



The Mercer Cup

Member Awards Continued



‘Crash’ – Highly Commended

The Rosebowl Cup

Very well written and convincing. Detailed and clever, perfectly painting a picture of chaos and disaster.

The sights, smells and sounds are all clearly brought to life.

And then there's the ending! Well done.

Angela Danby

A Dog Days of Summer Night

1st Place—Lavonne Taft for Flash Fiction

Another evening resting under the Sycamore tree, its parched leaves curled in mottled browns under a candescent summer sun.

A sudden rainfall has not chased me indoors. Instead, raindrops carry the constant stars to earth. Falling on trampoline leaves, they drum a silent tune. The liquid prisms hold the moon captive—a hundred moons on each leaf. Infused by steamy breezes, the leaves drip perspiration.

After a sultry slumber until 2am, I wake to find vines weaving dewdrops—strung lanterns lit by the moon.

The chain clinks behind my collar as I slip into my doghouse and nap until dawn.

Upcoming Events

September 11th**Mt. Diablo Board Meeting**

3:00 pm — 4:30 pm PDT

Zoom Meeting

September 12th**Mt. Diablo Monthly Meeting**

10:00 pm — 12:00 pm PDT

Pleasant Hill Community Center

320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA

[Register for Meeting](#)**September 16th****Open Mic Night**

7:00 pm — 8:00 pm

Host: Lyn Roberts

[Register for Zoom](#)**September 18th****What's Your Short Story**

12 pm — 2 pm PDT

Walnut Creek Public Library

Las Trampus Room

1644 N. Broadway

Walnut Creek, California

[What's Your Short Story](#)**September 30th****The Writer's Connection**

12:00 PM — 2:00 PM PDT

Chicken Pie Shop

1251 Arroyo Way

Walnut Creek, CA

[Writer's Connection](#)

Open Mic Night on Zoom — September 16th

*Meeting from: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm | Online event***Details:** Join us for Open Mic

Night! *NOTE: Your RSVP on Meetup does not register you for this event. Register online.



Sign up to read a five-minute segment from something you've written. It can be a work-in-progress, something already published, or that sheaf of poems you hid under the bed last year. Share it with writers and readers at our 60 - 90 minute meeting.

Hosted by: Marlene Dotterer

[Register for Open Mic on Zoom](#)

What's Your Short Story — September 18th

Meeting from 12 pm to 2 pm.

If you are reading:

- Time yourself beforehand. Practice! A 2,500 word story will typically take 10/12 mins to read. The 15-minute limit is firm.
- We will use a microphone.
- Michael will introduce each reader. He/she will read the title and the genre.
- Feedback, if requested, will be given. Note: feedback includes your allotted 15 minutes. Note, your reading time will be shortened.
- If time permits, we'll have final questions.

Come, Read, and enjoy listening at CWC Mt. Diablo's Short Story Reading Group

This is not a critique group. A reader will be given feedback only if requested.

- On average six/seven readers will be allocated 15 mins max. to both read their short story and receive feedback.
- There will be no 'walk in' readers.
- But walk in listeners, YES.

[Register for What's Your Story Group](#)



The Writer's Connection — September 30th

Meeting from: 12 Noon to 1:30 pm

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 CWC member, published or not, interested in a freewheeling, nonjudgmental, welcoming, and relaxed environment. Content will include a potpourri of any writing or associated topics: news items, agents, publishers, bouquets & brickbats. Membership is open-ended, limited only by space, and people may come and go as they please.

Short readings are welcome. Please Register so we can have the venue prepare a large enough table for us – Food and Beverages are encouraged and are on your own dime! Delicious!

Join us at:

The Chicken Pie Shop
1251 Arroyo Way
Walnut Creek, California 94523

[Register for The Writer's Connection](#)



And From Our CWC State President's Office

Hope you're staying cool and creative this summer. Our *CWC Bulletin* for September is around the corner, and our editorial team invites you to submit new work. Be aware that the guidelines for poetry have changed somewhat, and that we are looking for additional editors for different sections of the *CWC Bulletin*. So please read through.

In each issue, we'd like to feature prose writers, poets, and essayists from among our California Writers Club ranks. We're looking for striking, well-written material that's ready for print.

Please send your work to Calwriters.org no later than August 15 for publication on September 15. To help you with your submissions, here are some guidelines:

File type: Word document (*.docx)

Typeface: Times New Roman, 12 pt. font

Featured Prose: We will consider a flash fiction submission or excerpt from a longer short story, novel, or memoir, etc. The maximum length for any prose submission is 500 words. We are looking for work that will intrigue readers. The piece must stand on its own.

Featured Poetry: You can send in as many as three poems (in one file) for a total of 100 lines.

Featured essayist: We accept personal essays and essays on writing. Please limit yourself to 500 words.

It is the CWC policy that *The Bulletin* will not print gratuitous vulgarity, obscenity, explicit sexual content, or political or religious rants or proselytizing. Please abide

by the submission guidelines. Submissions that do not, will not be considered.

If you submitted your work for our May issue, but were not selected, please do not resend the same work unless asked to do so. But also, please don't be discouraged. We received many, many high-quality submissions. We encourage you to submit new work, and look forward to seeing it published in our next *CWC Bulletin* in September.

Finally, please note that the *CWC Bulletin* still needs a long prose editor, essay editor, branch news editor, CWC (statewide) news editor, and member publications editor. If you would be interested in any of those positions, please contact us at:

All the best to you!

Susan Marquez Owen

CWC Bulletin Editor-in-Chief

Calwritwers.org



Writers Connection Resources for September 2026

23 Terrific Small Presses Open to Direct Submissions

<https://authorspublish.com/23-terrific-small-presses-open-to-direct-submissions/>

Free Book Submissions

Submit, Publish, Repeat: How to Publish Your Creative Writing in Literary Journals

<https://authorspublish.com/books/submit-publish-repeat-2026/>

Writing When the Spark Fades Out Too Early

<https://authorspublish.com/writing-when-the-spark-fades-out-too-early/>

50 Romance Publishers Seeking Submissions

<https://authorspublish.com/50-romance-publishers-seeking-submissions/>

Editing Fiction & Memoir Writing

By the Staff at Book Baby

If you've ever looked back at something you wrote and asked yourself, "What was I even trying to say there?" ... you already know how important editing is. Let's take a closer look at how editing can shape storytelling in both fiction and memoir writing, and why it's about more than just grammar. We'll show you how the right edits can make your writing clearer and more impactful while staying true to your voice. We'll also cover helpful resources you can take advantage of to make your editing solid.

- Why editing matters
- A slice of life: the micro-memoir
- Refining your work's structure and clarity
- Three stages of professional editing
- Fiction editing vs. memoir editing
- Editing is rarely a straight line

[Try This Article on Editing & Memoir](#)



ATTENTION, WRITERS!

MASTERING THE SHORT STORY WORKSHOP

Taught by Award-Winning Author, MICHAEL BARRINGTON

"You Will Never Read -- or Write -- a Short Story the Same Way Again"

A two-session workshop for experienced writers,

September 13 and 20, 2 - 4pm

Downtown Benicia, 401 First Street, The Union Hotel Restaurant

\$20 each session; \$40 for both.

CWC and BLA Members Discount for the two sessions: \$35

Contact <https://www.benicialiteraryarts.org/> to enroll

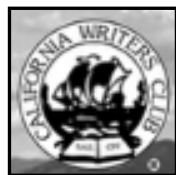
Go Beyond the Basics to Master Your Short-Story Writing Skills!

For more information, visit [Benicia Literary Arts.org](https://www.benicialiteraryarts.org/)

Co-sponsored by

California Writers Club

Benicia Literary Arts



Also from Michael Barrington

There is no doubt that our lives are being impacted in multiple ways by AI. My Doctor now responds to my emails and provides reports all generated by AI. But more recently I have been disturbed (my naivete!) by learning that some members of our club are actually using AI to write their material. To what extent, I do not know but on their own admittance, AI is no longer simply being used for their research or as a dictionary, a spelling/grammar/syntax checker, but as a direct aid that actually writes stories in their own voice. I am not surprised AI can do that, but am shocked that so called authors are resorting to it. Then this morning I received this article from LitMag News to which I subscribe. I would like to share some of it with you as it captures my sentiments perfectly.

Here is an excerpt written by Becky Tuck, the editor:

I was thinking about why people make art, why people persist in making art, and all the ways that the practice of making art, so often, is what saves us.

These thoughts were coming to me as I contemplated the prevalence of AI in our writing community. Specifically, I was contemplating my own recent feelings of occasional despondency and listlessness when it comes to making art, now that the bots have so firmly and seemingly intractably nestled themselves within our world.

It's bad enough to see AI slop all over prominent news outlets. Now it appears to be winning major literary prizes. It is showing up in published novels. Those of us who continue to write our own work will invariably have it scraped for the purposes of training and improving LLM's. Many publishers and presses are even selling licenses to AI companies, giving them full permission to scrape the work of their authors in order to make a few extra bucks on the side.

I know I'm not the only one who gets to feeling bleak about these matters. Last week, I shared on social media that The Yale Review had published a piece about the benefits of using LLMs to write. (Incidentally, Yale University has also committed \$150 million to support AI within their university.)

The responses to my posts on Substack and on X about this Yale Review piece included everything from "I almost threw up" to "Terrible news!" to "Barffff" to "I'm going to vomit" to "This is so sad" to "This plain ol' makes me wanna puke."

My reaction was similar. Yes. It is nauseating. The kind of nauseousness, though, where you don't ever actually throw up. You just sit around with a pit in your belly feeling terrible. I find it all extremely depressing.

I believe there is real despair within our literary community at this moment. There is fear. And there is a lot of anger. All of this, in my opinion, is warranted. We are at a critical moment of change. And the odds do not look good for us, we diligent laborers who have spent the better parts of our lives committed to studying, teaching, and learning the very difficult craft of writing.

AI brings all sorts of terrible things with it. Data centers that re-shape and damage communities; environmental harm; pollution; increased mass surveillance; the loss of critical thinking; the end of jobs...

But for us, as creators, it also has the power to bring feelings of profound alienation with our work, our passions. Why bother? We think.

Why bother taking a writing workshop with others, when I can just have AI improve this paragraph for me?

Why bother reading closely to understand craft choices and taking notes in dozens of craft books, when AI can fix my story's problems in under three minutes?

Why bother writing at all, when writing can be so fucking hard, and so fucking lonely, and so fucking disappointing sometimes, and now these stupid fucking machines can do it all for us in literal seconds, and without any of the mental and emotional strain?

But then, like I said, I began thinking about my grandmother. And I began thinking quite seriously about why people make art.

The answer seemed so suddenly simple: We make art because we have to.

We do it because this is how we survive.

Three Months of Summer

2nd Place—Ceci Pugh for Flash Fiction

Who can forget the ecstatic feeling when the last bell tolls its final swan song and classroom doors swing open releasing throngs of thundering feet stampeding like a herd of wild horses. Excitement rises like a slow rumble escalating into a clamor of chatter echoing through hallways leading to the front escape hatch where a mass of youthful humanity will burst through the opening, to breathe the freedom of summer air. Released from a nine-month mandatory sentence of mind-altering dialogue and book reading, into a retreat where each day is an eternity to explore desires stored in a child's imagination.

From the Central Coast Writers Branch

Is This the Evil AI?

by Scotty Cornfield, CCW President

Greetings, fellow word masters. I'll keep this short so you'll have more time to do whatever it is you're doing instead of sitting in the chair writing that thing you're feeling guilty about not writing.

First, a quick update on our new group for crime/mystery writers. We just had our first meeting in Capitola. Seven brave souls showed up, including a writer from Oregon and one from Livermore (which is considerably closer than Oregon). The Coast & Dagger Crime Writers will probably meet every three months. We're not a critique group, just folks looking to talk crime writing. If you want in, hit me up at president.ccw@gmail.com and I'll share the secret handshake and decoder ring.

If you missed Sat Chat the other day, you didn't get to hear me sing the praises about **ProWritingAid**. Think of it like **Grammarly**—but better. I've been a paid user for a few years, using it for proofreading mostly, but last week I tested out their manuscript analysis. Cost me \$35 and it was incredible. The 21-page report covered setting, themes & motifs, potential readers, comps, narrative purposes of each chapter, plot & structure (including what works well, and major and minor concerns—with suggested fixes). It took 4-5 minutes to produce and blew me away. No, it won't replace my dev editor, but if this is the evil AI everyone fears, I say bring it.

A Sudden Summer Shower

1st Place—Sandra Simmer for Poetry

A sudden summer shower
Brings a dense delivery of
Moist air pockets thick with
Raindrops that cluster when
They fall upon my windowsill
And blow through the open
Screen to collect upon my skin.

Mottled mounds of grey clouds
Transform the scene overhead
And challenge my contemplative
Spirit to absorb the unexpected
Atmospheric change that
Turns a lazy daydream day
Into a cool reflective phase.

Summertime Items from Our Branch and Others

From Fremont Area Writers Branch

**“ I kept always two books in my pocket: one to read,
one to write in.” — Robert Louis Stevenson**

**“No author dislikes to be edited as much as he dislikes
not to be published.” — Russell Lynes**

**“My aim in constructing sentences is to make
the sentence utterly easy to understand,
writing what I call transparent prose.
I’ve failed dreadfully if you have to read
a sentence twice to figure out what I meant. ”
— Ken Follett**

From the Inkslinger of the High Desert Branch

A few months ago, I became the High Desert Branch’s liaison with the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce, taking over for Joan Rudder-Ward, who had been a great representative to the Chamber for years. The job primarily involves getting the Writers Club more exposure to the community by providing raffle prizes for drawings held at Chamber events.

Thirteen years ago, I joined the Hesperia Chamber of Commerce after I left a cozy job at Fort Irwin to open a custom framing shop, and I’ve never regretted it. My favorite Chamber event is Friday Coffee, a gathering of members who come together to socialize on most Fridays. When four local chambers (Hesperia, Victorville, Apple Valley, Adelanto) joined together to form the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce in 2021, Friday Coffee expanded beyond Hesperia, and is still a popular event.

The meetings start at 7 a.m. and last about an hour. First, a microphone is passed around and everyone introduces themselves, followed by announcements, then a main speaker enlightens the audience on their business or organization. The meeting ends with a raffle of member-provided items, including things like gift cards, cookies, trinkets, and, in our case, books. Recent winners of our donations include Marky Pascua and Kelvin Garcia from Rosenthal Community Care Services and Jessica Crouch from Rhea Lana’s of the High Desert.

“The most beautiful stories always start with. wreckage.” — Jack London, author

INTRODUCING CRUSHED AZALEAS

Behind embassy doors and elegant receptions, a diplomat's family life can look charmed. In *Crushed Azaleas: Shards from a Privileged Childhood*, Amal Moulik reveals the more complicated truth.

Born in Washington, D.C., and raised across Japan, the United Kingdom, Italy, and India, Moulik grew up amid constant motion—an outsider everywhere, yet belonging nowhere. Told through vivid vignettes, his memories capture the wonder of postwar cities, the rituals of diplomatic life, and the friendships that shaped a wandering childhood.

But beneath the cosmopolitan surface lies a more fragile world: a demanding father whose approval must be earned, a mother struggling with deep depression, and a boy searching for refuge in music, memory, and the cultures around him.

Evocative, intimate, and deeply reflective, *Crushed Azaleas* explores the quiet complexities of identity, family, and belonging—resonating with anyone who has ever lived between cultures or questioned where “home” truly lies.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Amal Moulik is a lapsed chemist with a B.Sc. (Chemistry) from the University of London, M.S. (Chemistry) from the University of Michigan, and M.L.S. from Case Western Reserve University. He leveraged his chemical knowledge into an information science career in chemical and pharmaceutical companies, then retired after twenty-five years of service at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Born in Washington, D.C., to an Indian diplomatic family led to many years of traveling in countries far away from the heritage of his parents. He plans to continue writing about his wanderings in Europe and the U.S., and the arc of these memoirs bends toward recovering a long-lost home in the U.S., a birthright taken away by parental choices and State Department conventions over seventy-five years ago.

PRESS INQUIRIES

Contact Atmosphere Press at publicity@atmospherepress.com.

atmosphere
PRESS atmospherepress.com

AMAL MOULIK
CRUSHED
AZALEAS
SHARDS FROM A
PRIVILEGED CHILDHOOD



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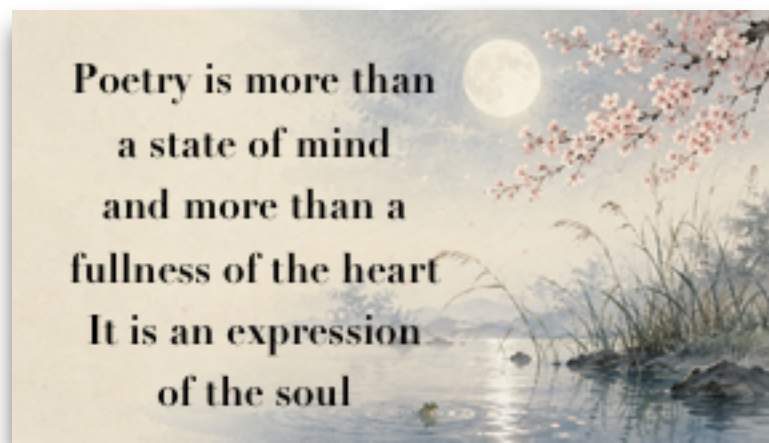
\$17.99 Paperback
\$31.99 Hardcover
\$8.99 ebook

266 pages



Summer Love
2nd Place—Ceci Pugh for Poetry

I have four lovers.
Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring
Spring, my latest fling, is losing my interest.
Summer has been flirting with me.
Presenting multiple bouquets of sun rays to wrap around my body
Weakening my resistance
He'll entertain me with outdoor concerts, swimming parties, and walks on the beach.
Filling each day allotted with happy memories.
But a good thing can only go on so long before I become bored.
Constant high temperatures make me long for a cool crisp night.
Someone to hold me in his arms like Fall and shower me with kisses under the mistletoe.
Until my fickle heart wants to snuggle under a comforter with Winter
In a cabin surrounded with snow, hibernating for days before my soul begs for renewal.
To see my flashy, colorful lover, Spring, who with one kiss makes my heart soar.
Ah Spring... he may be the one.



Writers Helping Writers

CWC's motto is "Writers Helping Writers." We know that a struggling writer occasionally needs a little help. Our WHW fund is available to any member who needs help with paying for a meeting or workshop, or with membership costs. Just visit our website and complete this form:

<https://cwcmt Diablo.org/whw-form/>

Our WHW committee will discreetly review your request. When approved, you will receive a coupon code to use when renewing your membership or registering for a meeting or workshop. Your information is not shared anywhere.

CWC Fundraising

We wish to acknowledge our generous donors to one (or both) of our established funds through Nov 8th for this fiscal year (7/1/25-6/30/26).

Writers Helping Writers supports writers who may need financial help to attend meetings or pay for membership. We thank the following members for their donations to this worthy cause: LaVonne Taft, Nancy Chan, Barry Hampshire, Robert Poirier.

Young Writers Contest supports Contra Costa County middle school students with cash prizes in short story, poetry, and essay/personal narrative. Contest submissions are free. We celebrate and present awards in May and thank the following members for their donations: Colleen Gonzalez, Nancy Chan, Barry Hampshire, Robert Poirier.

Please consider donating to one of our funds either at a meeting or via our website at:

<https://cwcmt Diablo.org/writers-helping-writers/>

<https://cwcmt Diablo.org/young-writers-contest/>

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.

Why Every Writer Should Try Poetry

By Janna Lopez of Book Baby

As a writing coach, when I mention how liberating poetry might be, there's pushback. I share the five reasons why every writer should at least try poetry.

- Challenging ruts
- Saying what's not the page
- Saying old ideas in new ways
- Playing with form
- Creativity reignited

[Why Every Writer Should Try Poetry](#)

Be Interviewed in the Write News

Here's a chance to sit down with a cup of coffee and your fellow Writers. We want to learn about you. Choose questions from the list below to tell us about yourself. Try to include a mix of personal and professional.

Interview questions with sample answers in color (fill in your answers in a separate file) and click below and place the file in the block that says Drop file(s) here.

1. What do you like about writing? *The process of developing a story by creating distinctive, interesting characters through dialogue and action, creating descriptive settings, and developing page-turning plots.*
2. What part of the writing process is most difficult for you? *Finding the time to write and avoiding distractions or the right environment to write.*
3. Are there any resources, tools, or events that you have found especially helpful for writing or publishing? *My current writing group, writing books and magazines, Writer's Digest courses, and other writing courses.*
4. What are you currently working on: *Fiction novel; genre – crime/spy thriller; entitled Czech Mate (placeholder).*
5. Who or what has influenced you the most as a writer? *Elmore Leonard, Graham Greene, William Boyd, Michael Connelly, Steven King.*
6. How have your background, previous work, and/or experience contributed to your writing? *I'm a retired lawyer, having worked for an international corporation for 35 years.*
7. Approximately how long have you been a CWC member? *Just joined a few days ago.*
8. How has your CWC membership helped you or your writing? *Too early to tell.*
9. Do you have published works? *Not yet.*
10. Do you have any advice for new writers? *In writing a first draft, "Don't look back until you've written an entire draft, just begin each day from the last sentence you wrote the preceding day. This prevents those cringing feelings and means that you have a substantial body of work before you get down to the real work which is all in . . . the edit." (attributed to Will Self)*
11. How do you define success as a writer? *Getting published.*