



# THE PENINSULA WRITER

Saturday, July, 18 a.m.

A Novel Twist

An open reading and pot luck!!

At:

Tory Hartman's

70 Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo

(one block west of El Camino)



Celebrate your authorial independence with an open reading and pot luck at our president's house Saturday, July 18, in San Mateo. We will NOT meet at the library. The meeting starts at 10 a.m., at Tory's beautiful home.

Unlike regular meetings, this one is free. All you need to bring is yourself, a desire to have fun, and food to share. Bring swimwear, too, and relax in the hot tub or take a lap. You can attend without having to read aloud, but if you'd like to read, bring up to 5 pages and let 'er rip.

The food to share will work alphabetically based on your last name:

A-H - bring fruit and veg

I-P - bring something hearty

Q -Z - bring something sweet



## CWC OPEN MIKE NIGHT



Wednesday, July 15th

7:30 PM

Twelve writers read for ten minutes each. A great opportunity for authors to get exposure and practice public speaking skills

Open to all!! Readers, writers, and passers by.

To reserve a spot, contact emcee Jim Hanna:

[OpenMic@sfpensulawriters.com](mailto:OpenMic@sfpensulawriters.com)

WHERE: Borders Books and Music, 2925 El Camino Real, San Mateo

650-286-1895



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**July, 2009**

It has been my pleasure to serve the San Francisco/Peninsula Branch of Cal Writers this past year and I look forward to serving one more year. Some of you have come up with some suggestions for programs for next year. They revolve around help in plotting, craft, critique groups, and editing. Your wonderful Vice President, Linda Okerlund is in charge of programs and I'm sure she'd love to have even more suggestions.

I would also like to thank Ann Foster, Diane Warner, Elise Miller, Dale King, Martin Dowd, Chris Wachlin, Laurie Huth, Jim Hanna, Elliotte Mao, Lenny and Joyce Robins and Teresa Leung Ryan. It takes a village to run an organization! I know some of you are trying to find the right fit in a critique group. From personal experience, I can tell you that it sometimes is difficult to find the right group for your goals and writing level. It also takes a certain tact and discretion to be a good critique partner.

Your goals and the goals of the people in your group should be approximately the same. If your goal is to finish your novel and someone else's goal is to make friends and chat—both of you are going to be disappointed.

Here is a good formula for running your critique session: Everyone arrives on time. About 20 minutes is set aside for chatting and getting comfortable. Everyone sits in the same place each time. Each person passes out their chapter and reads aloud. Some groups don't read aloud, but email the new piece around so people can read it before hand. The piece is discussed, but the person being reviewed cannot speak. This eliminates a defensive attitude. You are there to listen, not defend. All comments must be constructive as in, "I really liked the energy in this piece, but the slang in the dialogue popped me out of the action." Give constructive ideas on how to fix anything that seems wrong. Mark up the pages, noting good areas and areas that need improvement, encouraging all of the writers to do better work.

As a writers' group evolves, so do goals. Sometimes you find yourself outgrowing a group or the group members aren't as serious as you and don't keep up with the deadlines. Writing to a deadline will enable you to finish your project, but if you find you are the only one bringing fresh work or the critiques aren't helpful, it might be time to move on.

*(President's Message, continued)*

Good luck to all those seeking critique groups and let me know if you need some help linking up. I hope to see all of you at the next meeting, an ad hoc Potluck Brunch and Reading Fest at my house. Hopefully, the day will be warm and the shade cool. Bring something to eat as well as something read aloud and let's talk craft! (You don't have to read to come!) There will be no charge for this meeting.

Check out our new website at <http://www.cwc-peninsula.org/>

We also now own

[www.jacklondonwritersconference.org](http://www.jacklondonwritersconference.org)

## Looking for places to submit your work??

### Literary Contest - July 15 Deadline

The San Mateo County Fair is sponsoring a literary contest. The categories are essay, short story and poetry. Check this out at [www.sanmateocountyfair.com](http://www.sanmateocountyfair.com). Click on Competitive Exhibits and Contests, then on Fine Arts. This brings you to the fair catalog. Scroll down to page 29, Literary Arts. You can enter the contest on line and bring in or mail your submission later. But don't miss that July 15 deadline!

The Lit Up Writers inaugural reading series seeks first-person humor narratives for its upcoming event, "Hello My Name is..." All submissions must address the topic of names, branding and/or identity. This could be about your own name, a time you changed your name, your band's name, your company's name or whatever else you name.

Selected pieces will be read aloud on August 20th at Space Gallery. Send us stories that will make us double over, fall off our chair or roar with unmitigated laughter. Essays must be 1,000 words or less, double-spaced and preferably in PDF or MS Word format.

**Deadline for Submissions:** Friday, July 24, 2009

**Send Submissions to:** [litupwriters@gmail.com](mailto:litupwriters@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.litupwriters.com](http://www.litupwriters.com)

Selected writers will be notified by August 7, 2009. Worried about performing your piece on stage? If so, you can either read your essay yourself or have someone else read it on your behalf.

In addition to the humor reading, there will also be on display photography related to the "Hello My Name is..." theme. So come, laugh at us, throw back a few drinks, peruse the photography and hang with the bookwormy cool kids.



The 2009 London Book Festival will consider entries in general non-fiction, fiction, biography/autobiography, children's books, cookbooks, compilations/anthologies; e-books; genre-based, how-to, photography/art, spiritual, music, teenage/young adult, unpublished stories and the wild card (anything goes!) categories published on or after Jan. 1, 2005. All entries must be in English and can be published, self-published or issued by an independent publishing house.

**FESTIVAL RULES:** London Book Festival submissions cannot be returned. Each entry must contain the official entry form, including your e-mail address and contact telephone number. All shipping and handling costs must be borne by entrants.

Deadline submissions in each category must be postmarked by the close of business on Nov. 25, 2009. Winners in each category will be notified by e-mail shortly after the final entry deadline and the results will be posted at [www.Londonbookfestival.com](http://www.Londonbookfestival.com). Please note that judges read and consider submissions on an ongoing basis, comparing early entries with later submissions at our meetings.

**TO ENTER:** Entry forms are available online at [www.Londonbookfestival.com](http://www.Londonbookfestival.com) or [www.diyconvention.com](http://www.diyconvention.com) or may be faxed/e-mailed to you. Applications must be accompanied by a non-refundable entry fee via check, money order or PayPal online payment of \$50 in U.S. dollars for each submission. Multiple submissions are permitted but each entry must be accompanied by a separate form and entry fee.

## ***Workshops!!***

Ellen Sussman will be offering a fall fiction workshop on Thursday evenings at her home in Los Altos Hills. She has 5 spots open for this class, to meet from 6:30 - 9:30 PM. Classes with an hour exploring craft, usually through in-class exercises, followed by two hours critiquing student work. If she hasn't seen your work before, please submit something to me in advance. Cost for ten weeks is \$550.

Classes will be held on Sept 3, Sept 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 5, Nov 12, Nov 19, Dec 3, Dec 10, and Dec 19—the last one to be held on Saturday morning, followed by lunch

If interested, please email!! [www.ellensussman.com](http://www.ellensussman.com)

## ***Events!!***

### ***San Francisco-Peninsula Branch California Writers Club Summer Outing***

#### ***Sail On and On... A Sailing Adventure on San Francisco Bay Saturday, August 15, 2009***

*Join Captain Josh aboard the Ruby, a fully equipped 64 foot yacht, for an unforgettable sailing adventure on the San Francisco Bay.*

*Your lunch cruise begins at 12:30 noon with the Ruby motoring out from its berth behind The Ramp at the foot of Mariposa Street in San Francisco. As you come around China Basin, the Captain will cut the motor, crank the winches and hoist the sails. The canvas will flap, catch the wind and you'll be sailing now. You can kick back as you glide silently through the waters, confident in the capable hands of Captain Josh, an old salt who, in a former life, was a pirate more treacherous than any that ever lived. The galley maid will serve a deli lunch and share some of Ruby's wicked tales.*

*The Ruby can hold 30 people. You and your friends are invited to sail along for a nominal fee of \$40 per person. You'll want to bring a camera for those memorable shots as you sail under the Bay Bridge, along the San Francisco skyline and around islands in the Bay. If you forget your camera, ask the Captain...who can also perform a marriage ceremony, if that's your wish. However you frame your trip, whether alone or with all your friends and family, don't be late. The Captain's waiting, "Ahoy Mate! Welcome Aboard."*

***Maximum Occupancy: 30 people, make your reservation today. Send \$40:***

***Dale King***

***Jack London Conference Headquarters***

***790 Main St., Suite 2D***

***Half Moon Bay, Ca 94019***

***650-560-9676 (JLC)***

***650-726-1272(Home)***

***[Deking8@msn.com](mailto:Deking8@msn.com)***



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 Award-winning Science Fiction  
 Award-winning Mystery Novel *Black and Blue*  
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**Dan Millman**  
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 Author of *Way of Zen*  
 Author of *Way of Zen*  
 Author of *Way of Zen*



**Sister Helen Prejean**  
 Author of *Dead Man Walking*  
 Author of *Dead Man Walking*  
 Author of *Dead Man Walking*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Natalie Goldberg** Author of *Writing the Buddha* and *Writing the Zen*  
 Author of *Writing the Buddha* and *Writing the Zen*  
 Author of *Writing the Buddha* and *Writing the Zen*

**Plus, the following speakers and agents:**

**Speakers**

**Field**

**Books**

Alderson, Martha M.A.  
 Bell, Janis PhD  
 Bisson, Terry  
 Blake, Corey  
 Brown, Edward Espe  
 Cook, Charlotte  
 Darnovsky, Marcy PhD  
 Emerson, Sandy  
 Flacco, Anthony MFA  
 Hemker, Julie PhD  
 Hill, Laurel Anne  
 James, Scott (aka Kemble Scott)  
 Jones, Frank PhD  
 Jyoti, Jeneane Prevatt PhD  
 Levine, Paul S. Esq.  
 MacCoun, Catherine  
 Mach, Jean M.A.

Mack, Claire  
 Millman, Dan  
 Pierce, Andrew Esq.  
 Rinzler, Alan  
 Ryan, Teresa Le Yung

Sands, Katherine  
 Shaefer, Elizabeth Maynard PhD  
 Southard, Elisa  
 Spieler, Geri  
 Taylor, Nick PhD

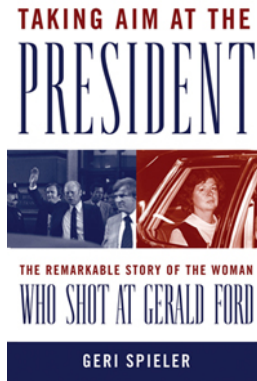
Teish, Luisah PhD  
 Warner, Penny  
 Weinstein, Ted  
 Wilson-Fried, Alice

International Plot and Story Consultant  
 English Professor, Golden Gate University  
 Science Fiction and Fantasy Author  
 Hollywood screenplay writer, actor, director  
 Zen Priest, Master Cook  
 Publisher/President KOMENAR Publishing  
 Assoc. Dir. Center for Genetics & Society  
 Technical Writer  
 American Film Institute  
 Prof of English, UC  
 YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Web Guru  
 CEO Gibbs Press, Professor of Literature  
 Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers  
 Literary Agent, Entertainment Lawyer  
 Literary Coach, Hermetist  
 Prof of English, College of San Mateo

Former Mayor of San Mateo  
 Teacher, Inspirational Speaker  
 Entertainment Lawyer  
 Editor, Jossey-Bass  
 Writing/Career Coach  
 New York--Sarah Jane Freymann Literary  
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*Tassajara Cookbooks*  
  
*The Practical SQL Handbook*  
*The Practical SQL Handbook*  
*A Checklist for Murder*  
  
*Heroes Arise*  
*SoMa*  
*What Are We Doing to Our Children*  
  
*On Becoming an Alchemist*  
  
*Imitation of Life: The Next Millennium*  
*Way of the Peaceful Warrior*  
*Pierce and Shearer Law Firm*  
  
*Love Made of Heart*  
  
*Making the Perfect Pitch*  
*Writing Through the Darkness*  
*Breaking Through the Noise*  
*Taking Aim at the President*  
*The Disagreement*  
*Jambalaya: The Natural Womans Book*  
*The Official Nancy Drew Handbook*  
  
*Outside Child*

**MEMBER NEWS!!**

***Taking Aim at the President has* won first place in the Wild Card division at the 2009 Hollywood Book Festival—it's third award!!**

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS



Have an announcement? Want to publicize an event, competition or writers forum of potential interest to other club members? If so, please submit your entries, no later than the 27<sup>th</sup> of each month for inclusion in the next newsletter to: Linda Okerlund, newsletter editor, at [lokerlund@comcast.net](mailto:lokerlund@comcast.net).

**BECOME A LIBRARY STOCKER!!**

Not stalker, silly! We have a cadre of members who have volunteered to keep their local library stocked with our conference flyer. We have a few libraries that are still uncovered. Can you help us out?

Brisbane, Burlingame- Easton, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park- Belhaven, Portola Valley, Redwood City- Fair Oaks, San Bruno, San Mateo - Marina, South San Francisco - both Grand and Main. If you can help us out at any of these locations, we will send you a packet of flyers for you to bring in. It is always best to get permission. Sometimes the library will hang a flyer in the window or in a case.

Don't forget your local bookshop or coffee house. We need flyers anywhere writers may hang out.

Thanks to the members of this Stocker Team! Winifred McCaffrey, Paul Payton, Ruth Hoppin, Dale King, Elise Miller, Ollie Welch, Ann Foster, David Hirzel, Joyce Robins, Chris Wachlin, Linda Okerlund, James Hanna, Diane Warner, Laurel Ann Hill, Teresa Ryan, and Geri Spieler.

If you need more flyers or have a suggestion where they should be placed, email Tory Hartmann.

**YOUR BOARD:**

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**DIRECTIONS TO THE BELMONT LIBRARY:**

**FROM HIGHWAY 280:** Take HWY 92 east to Ralston Ave. Turn left to The Alameda. Turn right.

**FROM HIGHWAY 101** Take the Ralston Ave, Belmont exit. Cross the El Camino to The Alameda. Turn left.

**FROM El Camino Real:** Head west on Ralston to The Alameda. Turn left.

Once on the Alameda, the library is two blocks further, to the right.

**BUS ROUTE:** Use SamTrans 295 on The Alameda or SamTrans KX, PX, or TX and get off at El Camino and Ralston in Belmont. Call 1-800-660-4BUS or check out [www.samtrans.com](http://www.samtrans.com) for further information regarding details on schedules and routes.

**\*\*\*PARKING \*\*\*:** There is free parking at the library. Some free street parking is also available. The library parking lot is very limited. **Please use the street and use the lot only if is absolutely necessary!**