



THE PENINSULA WRITER

17th JACK LONDON WRITERS CONFERENCE

8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, March 24 at the Foster City Crowne Plaza

Daniel Handler, author of the international bestseller series *Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events*, will kick off the 17th Jack London Writers Conference with a morning keynote speech.



At noon, **Christopher Moore**, author of *You Suck: A Love Story*, will take the keynote stage.

Other speakers and workshop leaders include bestselling author **Lolly Winston** (*Happiness Sold Separately*), screenwriter **James Dalessandro** (*1906*), and romance author **Candice Hern** (*One of*

Those Flings). Inspirational speaker **Erica Ross-Krieger** (*Seven Sacred Attitudes*) will give a parting class on "After the Conference: Keeping the Inspiration." To top off the day, Edgar nominee **Steven Hockensmith**, author of *Holmes on the Range*, will regale us with his hilarious struggles to be published.

The conference will offer more than 20 workshops. Topics will include:

- Writing fiction, non-fiction, poetry, screenplay, romance, true crime, memoir and children's books
- How to publicize a book after publication
- Pitch your book to an agent (one free appointment comes with registration)

CWC members pay only \$125. College students, \$95, and non-members \$150. Conference fee includes breakfast and lunch.

For full details: www.sfpensulawriters.com.

Questions can be emailed to writersconference@hotmail.com

LIT BREAKFAST & MENTORING CANCELLED

There won't be a literary breakfast or mentoring session this month because the club is devoting its efforts to putting on an outstanding conference. Our monthly literary breakfast will return on April 21.

OPEN MIKE NIGHT

Wed., March 21
7:30 p.m.

Twelve writers read for 10 minutes each, a great opportunity for authors to get exposure and practice public speaking skills.

For details, contact MC Jim Hanna at jim@willwriteforfood.org

Where: Borders Books,
San Mateo

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Getting Involved

Dear members,
This is conference time for us. Our branch has created a conference that is part of our identity known as our "One Day Jewel."



We put on our Jack London Writers Conference for one day only. Yes, there has been thought of doing a two or even three day conference. We all agreed we could offer more, have evening gatherings, conduct more programs - and be like everyone else.

But we always came back to who we are and what we do best. We offer in one day what some conferences do in three. And, our Jack London just gets better every year. We try to learn from the past in both what works well and what we could improve.

I can tell you from my experience of chairing the last conference, it's a lot of work. But it's also very creative and offers immeasurable opportunities to meet publishers, writers, editors and agents first hand. As a conference chair you have entree to the entire spectrum of the publishing world. I have relationships today from Jack London conferences three years ago.

You don't have to chair the conference to get these advantages. Just helping and certainly attending is an advantage. Participating in workshops, networking and sharing stories with other writers. Get your proverbial feet wet by hanging out.

This is a special time of year for us, and I never get tired of the excitement and pride in our Jack London Writers Conference.

Geri Spieler

**SPRUCE UP THAT RESUME:
JOIN THE CWC BOARD**

At the June CWC literary breakfast, we will be electing new board members. Hopping on board is a great way to spiff up that resume, which literary agents like to see when reading query letters. If you want to run or nominate someone email your suggestion to the Nominating Committee: George Jansen, georgejansen@sbcglobal.net or Chris Wachlin, cwachlin@hotmail.com.

The following new board positions will take effect in the fall:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| • President | Vice President |
| • Treasurer | Secretary |

PUBLISHED

Branch member Laurel Hill had a personal story titled, "A Fair Trade," published on February 3 in the Time Out section of the *Contra Costa Times*.

PUBLIC READINGS

Mountain View

Charlotte Krepismann Jarmy, author of "Reflections, A Columnist's Journey through Time," will read at the Mountain View Senior Center on March 8 at 1 pm.

Howard Jarmy, author of "Fables & Fables," will appear on April 12 at 1 pm.

Where: Mountain View Senior Center, 204 Stierlin Road.

Their website is JarmyBooks.com

IOTA PUBLISHING WRITING CONTEST

Iota Publishing, a new commercial publisher in Irvine, is sponsoring a writing contest for thriller, suspense, sci-fi novelists. The winner will receive \$1000 and a contract to publish their novel.

Applicants with completed manuscripts can submit them online at www.IotaPublishing.com/IotaWritingContestLink.asp. The competition is open through April 2 and requires a \$10 entrance fee. More details can be found on the website at www.IotaPublishing.com.

MARTHA ALDERSON WRITING WORKSHOP

7 Essential Elements To Writing Scenes 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat., April 21

Come at plot from the scene level and see your story in an entirely new light. Deepen and expand your piece. Leave inspired and ready to carry on what you started. Time to develop a Scene Tracker for your individual project. Lunch and a private consultation on your project are included.
Where: Los Gatos

Plot Development Workshop 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sat., April 28

Not only will you learn about action, character and thematic plot, and how to apply the universal structure of story to your unique project, you will have the opportunity to practice using your scenes to create a plot-line for your latest project. Plot Planner for your individual project, lunch and a private consultation are included.

For fees and registration details, go to:
www.blockbusterplots.com/plotplanner.html

Sign up for both workshops - the April 21st Scene Tracker Workshop and the April 28th Plot Planner Workshop - for \$250 and receive a free Scene Tracker Template CD.

GOT NEWS? Deadlines

If you hook up with an agent or publisher, or are doing a literary reading or workshop this fall, let us know. Deadline to submit to the Peninsula Writer for the April issue is **Friday, March 16**. Send info. to newsletter@sfpeninsulawriters.com. Put in subject heading: "Hey Kev! Got News 4 U."

CWC- SF/PENINSULA BRANCH CLUB officers and committee chairs:

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