

The INKSLINGER

HIGH DESERT BRANCH CWC
Inspiring a Community of Writers

Sail On

March 2019

DCB Project Update

Wins SoCal District Level & Moves to State Finalist Nomination

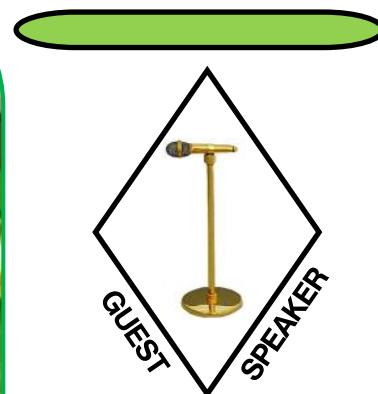
Our Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project has won a Partners in Educational Excellence Program Award! The award is granted through ACSA, Association of California School Administrators, Region 12. There will be an awards dinner on April 15, 2019, at The Doubletree by Hilton in Ontario. Mary Langer Thompson and Bob Isbill will be attending to accept the award. Further information for times and paying guests will follow. Congratulations and thank you to all those involved in the DCB Project!

Story and letters continue on Page 3

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Never enough said about the creative and colorful place settings designed by Rita Wells and her helpers, Sally, Diane, Anita, and others who delight us with holiday tabletops.



Do You Know Students Bullied at School?

Tensie Taylor to speak on her lifelong determination to get past the bullying. She'll share her book — *BULLIED: From Terror to TRIUMPH* — and how she managed her book marketing to become a Best Seller.

Story begins on page 2

High Desert Chapter
of
California Writers
Club
Board of Directors



*The following officers
and appointed positions are current to
the fiscal year of July 2019.*

President

Rebecca Kosko
RKosko@icloud.com

Vice President

Lorelei Kay
LoralieKay7@gmail.com

Secretary

Roberta Smith
hdcwc_web@aol.com

Treasurer

Jenny Margotta
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Member-at-Large

Linda Boruff
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Bob Isbill
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Bullying Victim Rises from Terror to Triumph

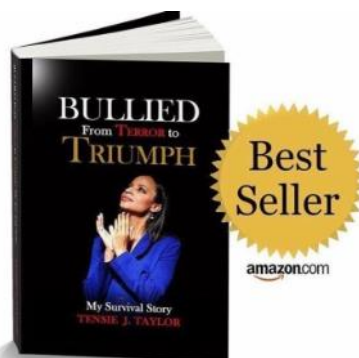
Well-mannered and smart kindergartner Tensie was very excited to begin her first day of school. Although she was smaller than her peers, she had big dreams about how much she would enjoy being in grade school. However, her hopes were shattered that first day and the torment she experienced continued for 13 years. Now a successful author, university administrator, and motivator on a mission to curtail bullying in schools, Tensie J. Taylor will share her inspiring story during our March 9th meeting of the HDCWC, held from 10 a.m.-noon, at the Community Church at Jess Ranch. Admission is free.



Tensie Taylor

Bullying has become a national crisis, and Taylor's best-selling book *BULLIED: From Terror to TRIUMPH* is packed with horrendous stories of bullying. During her presentation, she will share intimate details about her childhood battle and how she survived throughout the torment, stopped being a victim, and thrived in its aftermath—including how the experience encouraged her to write.

Taylor masterfully wrote her memoir in record time, and will discuss her writing process, how to secure an agent, and her related publishing and marketing success.



In addition to providing valuable information to inspire writers and help boost one's marketing, her presentation will offer worthwhile tools for anyone who experiences bullying directly or who knows victims (or bullies), or suspects that someone they know may be a victim.

Make your plans to meet Taylor one-on-one, and she will have copies of her book for purchase.





Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project



Recognized for Educational Excellence; Now Selected as State Award Finalist

High Desert CWC member, Dr. Mary Langer Thompson, was recently notified that the HDCWC Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project has won substantial recognition for educational excellence. Mary Thompson is the 2015 and 2017 Project Director of the DCB Project.

The letter read:

“Congratulations! ACSA (Association of California School Administrators) Region 12's Board of Directors has selected your nomination of the Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project at Victor Valley UHSD's University Preparatory High School as the recipient of our Partners in Educational Excellence Program Award for 2018-19.

“This year's Spring Celebration/Administrator Awards Dinner will be held on the evening of Monday, April 15, at The Doubletree by Hilton in Ontario (the former Red Lion Inn). All Region 12 members and awards recipients will be receiving registration information within the next few weeks. As the main representative for the Memoir Project, registration fees for you and guest are *gratis*. You may also bring additional guests at the standard rates to be announced in the online registration form in a few weeks.

“Congratulations once again, and we look forward to your attending and accepting this award!”

Subsequently, she was notified of the following:

“This is to notify you that your nominee, Dr. Mary Langer Thompson, The Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project of the California Writers Club, High Desert Branch, and University Preparatory High School of Victorville, California, has made it to the final round of consideration for ACSA statewide awards.

Your nominee was submitted by their region as the region's finalist for ACSA's statewide awards in the category Partners in Educational Excellence

Award. The Awards Committee is currently reviewing all state finalist nominations and will make their selections next month.

“If Dr. Mary Langer Thompson, The Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project of the California Writers Club, High Desert Branch, and University Preparatory High School of Victorville, California is selected as a statewide award recipient, they will be personally notified of their award in late March.

“ Out of more than 260 state finalists, only 25 individuals and one partnership program will be chosen for state recognition throughout California, representing candidates from all 19 ACSA regions. ”

The complete list of state recipients will be publicly announced by April 1 in EdCal and online at www.acsa.org/awards.”

The Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project was begun in 2014 and named in memory of founder Bob Isbill's late sister. The project teaches memoir writing to high school students who are then connected with “Memoir Stars” (persons 55 or older) who are interviewed by the students. The students then write their memoir. The project has produced three books, each edited by Jenny Margotta, HDCWC Treasurer.

Each project consisted of coordinating over one hundred individuals including students, Memoir Stars, teachers, and HDCWC volunteers.



Our next HDCWC in April with feature
Discussions on

**“What Do You Need to Become a
Published Author for Membership?”**

A majority of our regular members and authors will be attending the High Desert Arts & Literary Festival on the same day.

Bob Isbill will be Emcee this program.

19th Year Black History Month Celebrates “Read-In;” First Year at Hesperia Library



By Sheryl Lynne Thomas-Perkins

A spirited gathering of HDCWC and community members shared entertaining and informative passages from books written mostly by African American authors along with writings about African Americans during our club’s first African American Read-In. Participants gave sometimes dramatic readings from personally selected passages, as part of National Black History Month.

“The night was very good, and a great experience for all of us to share,” said member Rita Wells who enlightened everyone with information about historical figures including Phyllis Wheatley who was the first published African American female poet; writer Lorraine Hansberry who was the first black female author to have a play performed on Broadway; and explorer Matthew Henson, from “Book of Black Heroes from A to Z,” by Wade Hudson and Valerie Wilson Wesley.

Member Emma Lisa Hill told heartfelt stories, including what led her to author “Pray Every

Continued next page



Emmalisa Hill



Jolene Dallyn

Day,” which celebrates her return to the practice of prayer after abandoning it due to personal struggles.

Jolene Dallyn, another HDCWC member read, “And still I rise...” from Maya Angelou’s poem of the same name, and quickly captured everyone’s attention as the 1993 poem has experienced a rebirth among artists in recent years.

Award-winning poet and visionary for the event Dr. Mary Thompson also was pleased with the Read-In, and said, “There were resources for young and old. We learned about works and people some of us didn’t know.” One example was Wells’ reading about the founder of Chicago, pioneer and trader Jean Baptist Point du Sable, who several people said they had never heard of.

Works by Angelou, Langston Hughes, and James Weldon Johnson were read by multiple participants.

Johnson, who along with his brother John wrote the lyrics and music, respectively, for “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” were acknowledged with singing. Everyone sang the first verse of the song which was originally penned as a poem. It was performed for the first time by school children to celebrate former President Abraham Lincoln’s birthday on February 12, 1900. Not long afterward the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People adopted it as its official song. It is often referred to as the Black National Anthem.

Martha Perry Dickerson, one of our newly-published members, read from her debut novel “Henry.” She also read Hughes’ “A Dream Deferred,” and “Mother to Son;” which she related to because it addresses challenges of raising a teen age son which she experienced.

Bestselling author T. Faye Griffin read moving pieces, including “The Wildman and the



**Joan Rudder-Ward,
videographer**



**T. Faye
Griffin**



**Martha Perry
Dickerson**

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Colored Woman,” from her book “Morning Man-
na,” which addressed critical race matters, and
ended softly with a plea to “Let love be without
hypocrisy...” from the Bible, Romans 12:9.

Former HDCWC president Dwight Norris
amazed listeners reading from his new book,
“The Story of Sandy Armistead,” about an elderly
African American man he met in a local fast food
restaurant just a year and a half ago.

HDCWC videographer and YouTube
Channel manager Joan Rudder-Ward, MBA,
CPP, recorded the Read-In and read from
“Addy,” the American Girl historical series, by
Connie Porter.

The evening’s senior reader was the
mother of member Sheryl Lynne Thomas-
Perkins, 79-year-old Barbara Thomas, who is an
award winning seamstress and quilter. She read
from her daughter-in-law Dr. Duchess Harris’
book “Hidden Human Computers.” The author’s
grandmother is featured in the book which tells
the story of African-American women who
worked behind the scenes on key NASA space
programs. Their story was portrayed in the hit
2017 big screen movie “Hidden Figures,” starring
Taraji P. Henson and Kevin Costner.

Creator of the High Desert Book Festival,
author Davida Siwisa James’s execution of Nikki
Giovanni’s “Ego Trippin” was riveting. It gave the
audience the sense that she channeled Giovanni
as she read “I am so hip even my errors are cor-
rect.”

Community member Paul Pawlak drew
laughter when he read the shortest poem of the
evening, and his wife Peg read a popular and
well received Gwendolyn Brooks poem “We Real
Cool.”

The Read-In ended with a moment of si-
lence to honor award winning poet, screenwriter
and author Ntozake Shange, whose choreopo-
em, “for colored girls who have considered sui-



Dwight Norris

Davida James at podium



Peg Pawlak



Rita Wells

Continued next page

cide/when the rainbow is enuf,” set records with its groundbreaking format and subject matter. Shange passed October 27, 2018 at age 70.

Moderator for the evening, HDCWC publicity chair, and award-winning writer and speaker Thomas-Perkins shared a passage from Shange’s first novel “Sassafrass, Cypress & Indigo.” Thomas-Perkins and Shange were both mentored by the late award-winning author, New York Times war correspondent and University of Southern California School of Journalism Professor Emeritus A.J. “Jack” Langguth, as they both received their Master of Arts degrees from USC.

Other passages not previously mentioned, including the readers’ and authors’ names follow: Griffin, “I, Too,” Hughes; Dallyn, “Tending,” Elizabeth Alexander; Thomas-Perkins, “Erasing Racism,” Molefi Kete Asante; Hill, “Phenomenal Woman,” Angelou.

Special thanks to HDCWC Program Chairman Bob Isbill who was co-coordinator for the event and took pictures; photographer and videographer Rudder-Ward; Wells who provided and beautifully displayed refreshments, as always; and to the visionary and coordinator Thompson.

The National African American Read-In is the nation’s first and oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. It was established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. This initiative has reached more than 6 million participants around the world.



Davida Siwisa James



Paul Pawlak

OPEN MIC
READ-IN
INCLUDED
PUBLIC &
MEMBERS

Sheryl Thomas-Perkins and mother Barbara Thomas



Photos by Bob Isbill & Sheryl Lynne Thomas-Perkins



CWC to Honor Volunteers with 2019 Jack London Awards

Every other year, each CWC branch may nominate one member to receive a Jack London Award in recognition of outstanding service to the organization.

The award honors a member whose service to the CWC and/or a branch has been exemplary. The merit of the award is in the service, independent of writing accomplishments. It is not mandatory that a branch designate a recipient simply because the opportunity exists. The CWC president bestows the awards at the annual corporate meeting.

It's time for HDCWC members to nominate an individual or individuals whom they think is deserving of special recognition for their exceptional service to our branch.

This may be done by email to Treasurer Jenny Margotta. Write JACK LONDON NOMINEE in the subject line and include the person's name.

In the body of the email, tell why you are nominating this person.

Nominate only one person per email. You may nominate more than one person you think deserves the honor, but only one per email. Only one Jack London Award will be given in any one award period.

Past recipients are not eligible because it is a once in a lifetime award. Those past recipients are: George Grazcyk, Bob Isbill, Carol Warren, Roberta Smith, Dwight Norris, and Jenny Margotta.

The winner will be announced in June 2019.

Send your nomination email(s) to JennyMargotta@mail.com

HIGH DESERT BRANCH JACK LONDON AWARD RECIPIENTS

1993 Ruth Theodus	1995 J'Amy Pacheco
1997 Carol Bachofner	1998 Wilma Willis Gore
1999 Liz Pinto	2000 Teri Lucia
2001 -----	2002 -----
2003 George Grazcyk	2004 -----
2005 -----	2007 -----
2009 Robert Isbill	2011 Carol Warren
2013 Roberta L. Smith	2015 Dwight Norris
2017 Jenny Margotta	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! SHAKESPEARE AND CERVANTES

In honor of "World Book Day", April 23, the birthday of Cervantes and Shakespeare, the High Desert California Writers Club continues our tradition for the seventh year of giving out free books in our community. Each time 20 books are donated by 20 of our authors.

This year we will again collect books and give them out to people at an undisclosed location. Last year we gave to Moses House Ministries. In past years we have given books away to a homeless shelter, Urgent Care facilities, and the federal prison. This is a chance for you as an author to get your name out there in our community, to get your books read by someone who might not have access to books, and to simply spread the joy of reading and being an author. You might also get your name and book title in the newspaper.

We will keep to the tradition of 20 books, only one per author. Please bring your book to the March or April meeting and give to Mary Langer Thompson. Cervantes and Shakespeare would thank you, as well, but both are long gone. As a historical note, Shakespeare also died on his birthday, April 23.

Penguins in the Rain

by fumi-tome ohta

It was cold again this morning with a certain kind of dampness in the air. My friend took off his coat, putting the coat on me, then fiddling with the buttons to keep the warmth of the insulation within. I looked to him in gratitude with my heart and eyes. When he shared his coat, I felt a kind of shyness, well, not really shyness but a warm feeling tinged with a bit of embarrassment that he would forsake his own comfort with such a chivalrous gesture.

I continued on with our walk taking for granted that my friend was traveling in the same direction as me. His coat was so big and so heavy. I felt like I was a penguin. When I realized he was not walking with me, I turned to see him looking back at me. The way he looked at me with that little boy smile and that special twinkle...I walked a few steps toward him to ask him what was the matter. His smile widened as he put his hands in his pockets and began walking towards me like a penguin, imitating me, mocking me. Although he made me laugh inside, I pretended to pout, he making fun of me. When I couldn't pretend moping any longer, I laughed at his endearing silliness then, when he came upon me, he laughed aloud at his comedic Chilly Willy penguin impersonation, then pulled me close and gave me a playful headlock.

The heavens above must have been conspiring this moment because it started to rain hard, but I didn't notice the change in weather and apparently, my friend didn't either. It felt like the most natural thing to be soaked to the skin, strolling casually without concern of time or environmental



Image by [skeeze](#) on Pixabay

onslaught, we, two penguins out for a walk on the sandy shores of Waikiki.

High Desert Highlight

High Desert Mother and Daughter Team Up for National African American Read-In

Longtime Victorville resident, 79-year-old Barbara Thomas, holding "Hidden Human Computers" book, teamed up with her daughter Sheryl Lynne Thomas-Perkins of Oak Hills, during the National African American Read-In. Several community members read from a diverse selection of books for the event hosted by HDCWC at the Hesperia library.

Thomas-Perkins moderated the program and introduced her mother who read from her daughter-in-law Dr. Duchess Harris' book "Hidden Human Computers" which tells the story of African-American women who worked behind the scenes on key NASA space programs. Their story was portrayed in the 2017 feature film "Hidden Figures," starring Kevin Costner and Taraji P. Henson.



An award-winning writer, speaker and retired government affairs specialist, Thomas-Perkins shared a passage from author and playwright Ntozake Shange's first novel "Sassafras, Cypress & Indigo." Shange, who passed last October at age 70, gained great fame for her groundbreaking choreopoem "For colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf."



Thanks for a Great Turn Out

(For those of you who didn't see Dwight's email in Feb. his book signing at El Pollo Loco was amazing and repeated for your information on the following pages. ~ Editor)

Hello everyone,

I wanted to thank members of the HDCWC for coming out to our book signing on Saturday, February 23rd. Sandy, the subject of my book, was not feeling well enough to attend. It was unfortunate because he was the star and the one people came out to see and we were all disappointed, but at 97, he's

done pretty well for himself and we have to understand any limitations he may be feeling.

Club members just kept coming through the doors, supporting my effort to get this book, *The Story of Sandy Armistead, a Black Man's Journey in a White Man's World*, into people's hands. Others came who knew Sandy from 24-Hour Fitness, the Wine Cellar, church, and of course, El Pollo Loco itself, where he and I met. About three people came into the restaurant just to buy the book. They didn't know either one of us but saw a posting about the signing and the book and just wanted to pick up a copy of it.

(And 37 books were sold)

My sincere thanks for your interest and support of my work. It's great to have good friends who are fellow writers and members of the HDCWC. Thank you very much!

Warm regards, *Dwight Norris*



Dwight Norris



Photos by Bob Isbill

“... and they just kept coming”

Fast Food Book Signing Leads to a Record Number of Sales



It's easy to see by the lively discussions around the tables that the activity was beneficial for El Pollo Loco as well as getting the book sales off to a good start.

When you are ready to launch your new book, consider alternate venues like a restaurant, a department store, or a place that supports your book's theme.





Jenny Margotta

from an

EDITOR'S DESK

COPYRIGHT YOUR WORK

Everyone should copyright their work. Many writers are aware of registering their work with the Library of Congress, but did you know that you can also copyright your work with the Writers Guild of America West? Registering your work with the WGAW Registry does not take the place of registering with the Library of Congress, U.S. Copyright Office. However, both create valid legal evidence that can be used in court.

WGA West is the home to nearly 12,000 of Hollywood's leading TV and screenwriters and has been the industry standard in the creation of legal evidence for the protection of writers' work since 1927. The WGAW Registry accepts stage plays, novels, books, short stories, poems, commercials, lyrics, drawings, music and various media work such as websites and other digital content.

Why should I register my material? You might ask.

Registration helps prevent against plagiarism or unauthorized use of your material. While it doesn't prevent someone else from having a similar storyline—you can't register a plot idea—registration does "potentially discourage others from using your work without your permission."

Though the Registry cannot prevent plagiarism, it can produce the registered material as well as confirm the date of registration. Reg-

istering your work creates legal evidence for the material that establishes a date for the material's existence. The WGAW Registry, as a neutral third party, can testify for that evidence.

For the cost of \$20.00, you can register your work with WGAW for a period of 5 years. You do not need to be a member of WGA to register your work.

Registration is easy. Submit your work digitally at <https://www.wgawregistry.org/registration.asp> and follow the prompts. Or you may submit a hard copy of your work and payment to WGAW Registry, 7000 W. Third Street, Los Angeles, CA 90048. U.S.A.

For more information, go to <https://www.wgawregistry.com>. Along with registration information, the site also provides links to many great tools and tips for writers.



**TIME FOR
A LAUGH**



**** Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.**

**** Men are from Earth. Women are from Earth. Deal with it.**

**** A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.**

**** Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.**

Publicity Wise



with
**Sheryl Lynne
Thomas-Perkins**
Publicity Chair

Fine Art Heading Our Way

About a year and a half ago, our club partnered with the local chapter of the American Association of University Women Victor Valley Branch (AAUW) for what would be the most successful fundraiser to date for both agencies. This was during the AAUW's annual fundraiser, which had just been renamed the High Desert Arts and Literary Festival (HDALF). After a hiatus in 2018, the HDALF is again slated to showcase world class fine art in the High Desert, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., April 13th, in the historic Apple Valley Inn.

What is now the HDALF started as the Art Tour at AAUW member's homes, in 1996. For our club, the 2017 HDALF was an unprecedented opportunity for member authors to sell their books—which they did at record levels. It was also an opportunity for our members to share their expertise during the day-long Author Talks when scheduled authors spoke about publishing, marketing, and more. This year our club will participate as a special event sponsor.

HDALF proceeds provide greatly needed scholarships for women at Victor Valley College, and STEM related training for 7th and 8th grade girls—and therefore the festival has multiple benefits. Authors' booths are restricted to 20. Sign in early to secure a table.

As we know, it is challenging to find avenues to publicize our club and share information about the wonderful perks membership provides such as opportunities to get tips from guest authors, special book selling events, free advertising, and much more. Yet, we press on, always seeking ways to share with the public how fulfilling, entertaining, educational, and even therapeutic reading and writing can be.

Sharing our personal works and "how to" with fellow writers, aspiring writers, and the general public during the HDALF is invaluable, and HDCWC members are encouraged to support the event. There are multiple ways to support—and publicize—the event: you may secure space to sell your books; give an electrifying Author Talk about your writing experience or related specialty; leisurely stroll through the Inn and enjoy viewing extraordinary fine art and crafts,

most of which will be available for purchase; and, encourage your network of family, friends, and associates to attend.

A free children's creative corner is offered where youth may make masterpieces to take home. Food trucks also will be available for your convenience.

Collectively our members sold more books at this single event than they had at any of our similar events. The exposure alone, to the hundreds of people expected to attend, makes this a worthwhile event, as we will be able to display and share general information about the HDCWC in addition to the talks and books that will be available for purchase.


As an art lover and collector—in addition to being an award-winning writer and speaker, I can hardly wait for the HDALF, and I hope to see you there. Remember, publicity is every HDCWC member's business.



High Desert Arts & Literary Festival

April 13th at Historic Apple Valley Inn

- Provide scholarships for women at Victor Valley College
- Support the Celebrating Women in Math & Science STEM Conference for three hundred local 8th-grade girl students
- Send local 7th-grade girls to Tech Trek, a science and math camp at University of California, Irvine for one week



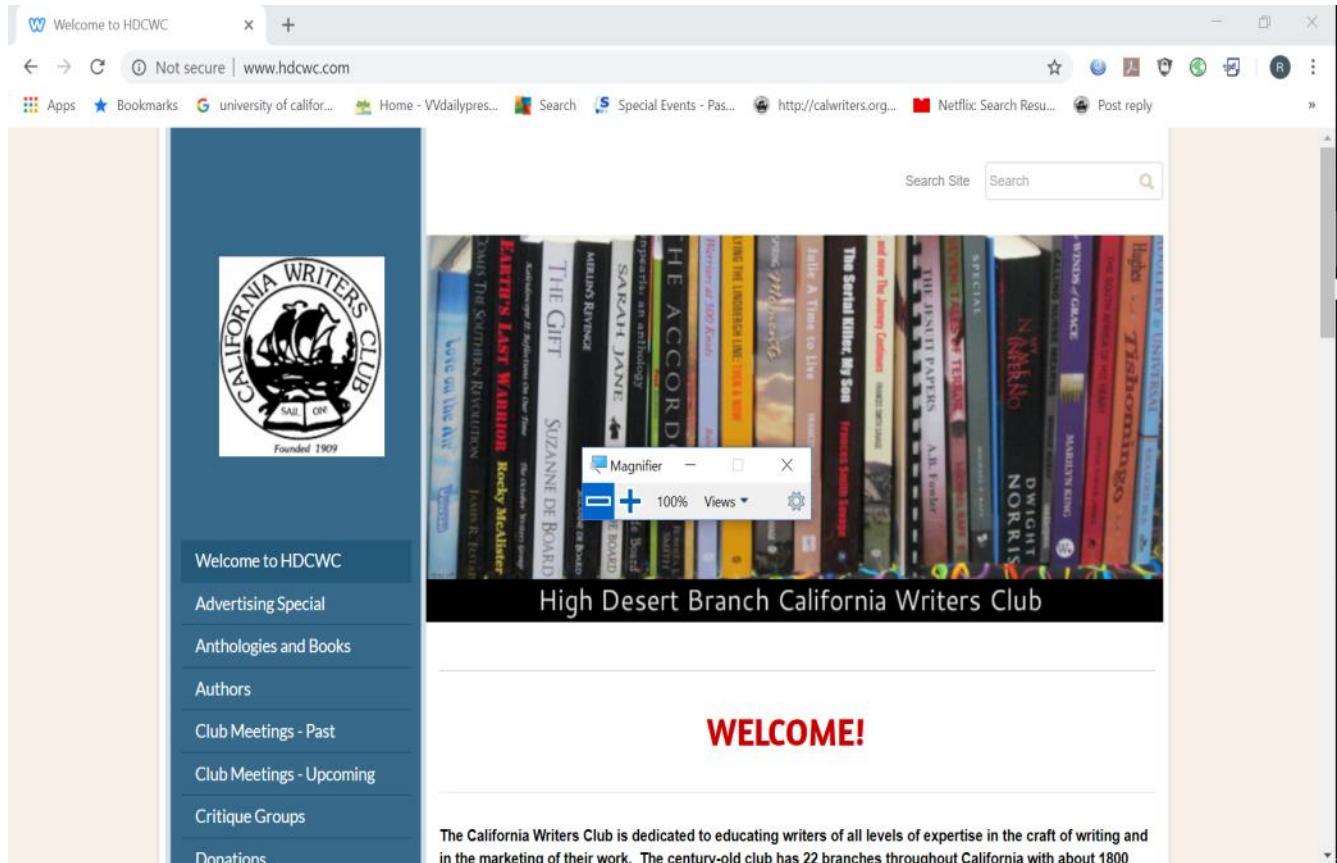
AAUW

[Did You Know We Have a YouTube Channel?](#)

How to View Joan Rudder-Ward's HDCWC Meeting Videos Online

Visit www.hdcwc.com and look at the side menu panel on the left. Scroll down until you come to "Links for Club Members." Click on that and it will take you to several selections including "Link to HDCWC's YouTube Channel." Click on that and you may then select which year or Open Mic session you want to explore.

Enjoy our past guest speakers again, thanks to Videographer Joan Rudder-Ward.



RISING FROM THE ASHES

by Diane Neil

Our friends and relatives who lost everything in the Paradise fire are now resettled in other areas. With the help of FEMA, the Salvation Army, relatives and charities, they have been provided with clothing, furniture, and the necessities of life.

But sometimes it's not the necessities that mean the most to people. We spent a considerable amount of time copying family pictures we had for a niece who had lost all of hers.

My sister-in-law was elated when several little statues, dishes and gewgaws were unearthed. None of the items had intrinsic value, but all of them were priceless to her. Sometimes it's the little things that mean the most to us and tug the strongest on our heartstrings.

Special Salon Draws Brazilian Actor & Director Back to Apple Valley

Mary Ruth Hughes, author of *Tishomingo*, and member of the High Desert branch, recently hosted writer/director Gui Pereira and co-star Guile Branco of *Coracao del Cowboy* (Cowboy's Heart,) voted the best Foreign film entry as well as Top film in the Desert Rock Film and Music Event of 2018.

Along with viewing the prize-winning film, the HDCWC members attending were also treated to professional insights of the process of writing and developing a successful film which has been shown in over 800 theatres in Brazil. Pereira and Branco, who had been guest speakers at the January meeting of the HDCWC, had promised to return when they learned of Hughes' home theater, and her commitment to hold a special salon.



Gui Pereira (second from left) writer and director of the Brazilian film, "Coracao del Cowboy," and actor Guile Branco (seated on his left,) discuss writing and movie-making with members of the High Desert Branch of the California Writers Club, following a private screening of the film.

News You Can Use

The same night as the "Black History Month National Read-In", Rusty LaGrange spoke to the High Desert Genealogy group at the Family History Center at Ridgecrest Dr. in Apple Valley.

The topic was Interviewing Tips and Mic Etiquette. About 20 members and guests braved the icy winds to join the meeting.

Several of their members have visited our HDCWC meetings to learn how much we have in common when it comes to research, writing, and interviewing followed by marketing.



Did you know that T.E.Watson, children's author and past HDCWC speaker, received his first call from HDCWC after the Paradise fire? Learn more about the devastation in the next March issue of CWC's *The Bulletin*, digital news magazine.



If you'd like to learn more about Jenny Margotta's latest book, *The Woman in Room 23*, you can join others at the Barstow Senior Center at 555 Melissa Ave.

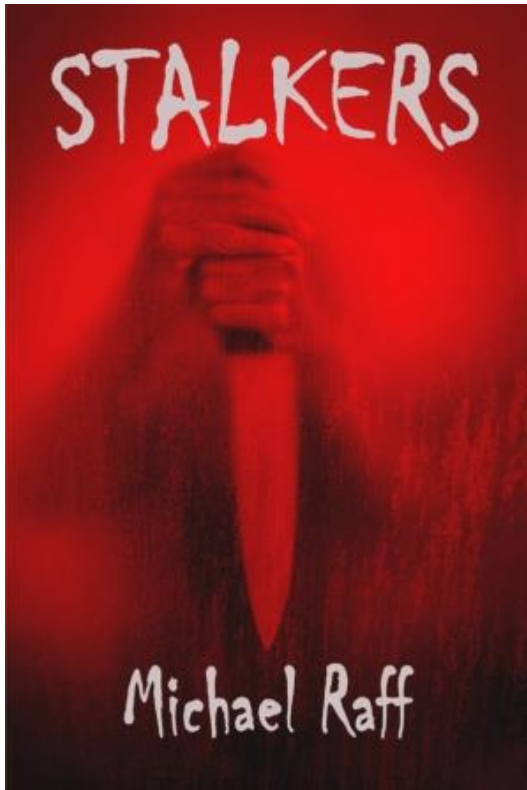
She'll be their guest speaker March 11th and the meeting begins at 10 am. For more information contact the Center at 760-256-5023 or contact Jenny at JennyMargott@mail.com.



Only two more free table booths remain at the High Desert Arts and Literary Festival coming up April 13th. Contact Sheryl Lynne Thomas-Perkins or Jenny Margotta for sign-in. If seats are filled you can choose to pay for an author's booth.

Now in Print

Keep the lights on while you read



STALKERS

On the night of June, 30, 1995 in Springdale, Georgia, David Conway relaxes on the balcony porch of his new home. The night has come alive with thunder and lightning. He spots four figures burying some objects in his neighbor's backyard. He observes them through his telescope and realizes that they're burying the dismembered body of his neighbor. Before he can phone for help, they discover him and all hell breaks loose. David Conway, amateur astronomer, chess enthusiast, and family man, finds himself not only battling for his life, but for the lives of his wife and five-year-old daughter. Not a conventional battle by any means—but with a band of evil Satanists—and not the sheriff, his deputies, or the FBI can stop them.



Michael Raff

Longtime member Michael Raff of the High Desert Branch and current Membership Chair has published his sixth book since joining the club in 2011. Mike specializes in writing tales of horror, but he shifts back and forth to other genres as well, and has had three of his stories published in the *Literary Review*. His new book, *Stalkers*, available on Amazon.com and Kindle is now available. This time around, the plot of his story is darker and edgier than ever, an entire book based on a nightmare. He describes *Stalkers* as more suspenseful, fast-paced, and action-packed than any of his previous material.



Do you have a new book coming out this year?
Share the news and you can have a page just for
yourself. We're proud of our authors.

Let us be your promoters.

IT'S FREE.



MEET THE AUTHOR

The Woman in Room 23



J Margotta-Ferrara

Monday, March 11,
10 am
In the library at the
Barstow Senior Center
555 Melissa Ave.
Barstow
760-256-5023

Alzheimer's Disease is the 6th most common cause of death in the US and is the only major cause of death which cannot be cured. With an 89% increase in deaths due to Alzheimer's between 2000 and 2014, and today, nearly 1 in 10 of every American over the age of 65 is affected.

Author and editor **Jenny Margotta** spent 12 years dealing with personal relationships, family dynamics, the health care system, and financial issues as her mother suffered each agonizing step of Alzheimer's.

Now, seven years after her mother's death, **Ms. Margotta** has written *The Woman in Room 23*. Although the book is presented as a work of fiction, many of the events, particularly those depicting life in an Alzheimer's care facility, stem from actual, real-life situations.

The Woman in Room 23 might make you cry or it might make you laugh, but it will not leave you untouched.

Events Ahead > Book Fairs & more

MARCH & APRIL ACTIVITIES

BOOK SIGNING

High Desert Arts & Literary Festival April 13

at the Historic Apple Valley Inn, Hwy 18
@ Dale Evans Dr. in Apple Valley, 10-4.

ANTHOLOGY SUBMISSIONS

Deadline for our HDCWC Anthology entries is
April 15th. Contact Jenny for info.

WORLD BOOK NIGHT

Prior to April 23rd you can donate one of
your personal book titles to be given away.
See details on Page 8.

Send in your upcoming events and
book signings so we can share



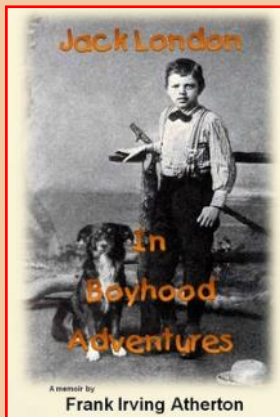
Order extra copies of our HDCWC
anthologies for your bookshelf, your
gifts, as a Senior Center donation.
Titles can be found on Amazon.com
Pre-orders can be delivered at our
regular meetings.

JACK LONDON IN BOYHOOD ADVENTURES

— A document
found stashed away in a box
of mementos, recounts the
downhome early years of a
famous California boy and
his pal. They find life full of
serious & frivolous days of
summer in early Oakland.

First Printing now available for
only \$13.35 at Amazon.
\$13.08 at Barnes & Noble.

www.JackLondonInBoyhoodAdventures.com



OUR OWN YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Here's the link to the channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UC28XLtEK5oBNq5qW2Zy1ssg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC28XLtEK5oBNq5qW2Zy1ssg)



Remember we now offer
PayPal as a
payment method for
dues and purchases.

Member Services

Take advantage of your membership benefits

Free advertising & free posting of
your book titles, your latest project,
your free PR author's webpage
& other free & fantastic benefits!!

Because you belong to CWC High Desert Chapter.

Contact a Board Member,
our Webmaster Roberta Smith,
or review your Benefits Booklet
online: www.HDCWC.com

Do you provide a service that could benefit
other writers?

Send a JPEG file of your business card or ad to
Rusty@RustyLaGrange.com. We'll advertise it
free of charge!

Editor



Rusty LaGrange

*Editor of the
CWC's
The Bulletin*

Notes From the Editor

A real sign of Spring!! So glad to get past this last month with my unknown "spider" bite that compounded with my "toddler" cold. I should never have gone to my granddaughter's 2-year-old party full of rugrats carrying who knows what diseases. What's worse is the horrible dry, hacking cough that never seems to leave. I was in hiding for several weeks until the threat was gone. Doncha just hate it when people return to community meetings and events coughing and hacking throughout the meeting? Well, I vowed not to be that irritating person. Sorry to have missed Dave Berg's hour. But hey, I have our YouTube channel to catch up. It was awesome.

Submitting to The Inkslinger is easy. Use Microsoft Word, single-spaced, 11-point Arial font, please. The email address for submissions is Rusty@RustyLaGrange.com. Articles and stories between 300 to 700 words are accepted. Photos, poetry, and drawings are always welcome. Please avoid sending items that are embedded in other media.

**April's are due March 23
May submissions are due April 23**