



The INKSLINGER

Speed Rounds: 6 tables, 6 moves

HIGH DESERT BRANCH CWC
Inspiring a Community of Writers

Sail On

May 2019

Speed Rounds: 6 tables, 6 moves

Are You Ready to Speed Date This Time?

We'll host six presenters at our regular meeting Saturday May 11 from 10 am to noon. Admission is free, and the public is welcome to attend.

Featured guest speakers will be local specialists talking about several topics in a "round robin" type of presentation where the audience moves from table to table for information that pertains to the writing life. Topics and Presenters are:

"What constitutes poetry?" Mary Langer

Thompson

"Self-editing tips" Jenny Margotta

"From Manuscript to digital" Roberta Smith

"How to Write Great a Thriller/Suspense Novel;" Michael Raff

"From Publication to Book Signing" Beckie Lindsey

"What Toastmasters Can Offer the Writer" Morris Anderson, guest.



Dorothy C. Blakely
Memoir Project



ACSA, State Legislature Honor HDCWC with Partners in Educational Excellence Award

ACSA (Association of California School Administrators) Region 12 held its Spring Celebration April 15, 2019 to honor outstanding achievers in the region's school system. Mary Langer Thompson, Director, and Robert Isbill, Founder of the Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project, accepted trophies for the project's partnership with Victor Valley Union High School District.

Field Representatives for State Senator Mike Morrell of the 23rd District and Assemblyman James C. Ramos of the 40th District were on hand to present certificates of recognition from the California State Legislature.

Founded in 2014 by Robert Isbill and named in memory of his late sister, the Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project takes professional writers from the High Desert California Writers Club into local high schools to teach memoir writing to stu-



dents. In this inter-generational project, students are teamed with senior citizens over fifty. Students interview the "Memoir Stars" and write a story of a segment of their lives.

"I loved working with the students and staff of University Preparatory High School in Victorville, California in this our third year of the Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project. What students accomplished in one school year's time as seen in these now-published stories is amazing," said Dr. Langer Thompson, a retired high school English teacher and school principal.

The assignment for English teacher Anna Lovato's eleventh graders at University Preparatory High School was to find a "Memoir Star" over the

Continued on page 3

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
jennymargotta@mail.com

Member-at-Large

Linda Boruff
lindajeonboruff@msm.com

Programs Chair

Bob Isbill
Risbill@aol.com

Public Relations

Sheryl Lynne Thomas-Perkins
Solsis1@bellsouth.net

Membership

Michael Raff
mprseven@aol.com

Newsletter Editor

Rusty LaGrange
Rusty@RustyLaGrange.com

Webmaster

Roberta Smith
hdcwc_web@aol.com

Slate of Officers Declared

In accordance with the HDCWC Bylaws, Bob Isbill was appointed Nominating Chairman at the April Board Meeting. He and Jenny Margotta consist of the Nominating Committee for 2019.

Two Board Officers have opted not to stand for re-election: Rebecca Kosco, president, and Roberta Smith, secretary.

The HDCWC Nominating Committee announced the upcoming slate of officers eligible and willing to stand for election at the general membership meeting on June 8 at the Jess Ranch Community Church in Apple Valley. The election of officers will be determined at that time by those members present and voting.

The members standing for election are as follows:

President — Dwight Norris

Vice President — Lorelei Kay

Secretary — Joan Rudder Ward

Treasurer — Jenny Margotta

Member-at-Large and other positions are co-terminus with the expiration of the term of the current president, and will be appointed by the president after the June 8 election. If you would like to stand for election, please notify Bob Isbill or Jenny Margotta of the Nominating Committee.

Other eligible members in good standing are able to be nominated at the June 8 meeting with or without notice to the Nominating Committee, but anyone nominated must be present to declare willingness to serve out the term, or have that willingness in writing in order to run for election.



GHOSTWRITING

Ever wonder what it would be like as a ghostwriter? How do you collect the research? Capturing the voice of the client? How long will it take to write and complete? What type of pay can you ask for?

Many of these questions can be asked during an upcoming meeting, soon to be determined.

Continued from page 1

age of fifty, to interview that person about the turning points or defining moments of his or her life, and to write a 3500 word maximum memoir. The result was the published book, "Footprints From Around the World," named by the students and edited by Jenny Margotta, a local professional editor and HDCWC member.

The project had over one hundred participants from the school and community. Students enjoyed inspirational speakers who volunteered their time to teach the skills of interviewing, story structure, dialogue, beginnings, loglines, and more. Mentors of the club eagerly came into the classroom to help students with individual drafts.

Principal Valerie Hatcher expressed a long-time wish that younger generations be brought together with seniors to learn more about each other. New knowledge is evidenced in these stories—stories of childhood, immigration, war, illness, healing and more. Readers can see the respect and love for the "Memoir Stars," many of them grandparents, and their joys and struggles.

An HDCWC panel of writers who have published full-length memoirs was an additional attrac-

tion. Club president, Rebecca Kosko, expertly moderated so that the audience could hear first-hand how each started and completed a book.

The celebration was an evening to remember at the Doubletree by Hilton in Ontario, California. HDCWC members in attendance and involved in the project were authors Dwight Norris, Lorelei Kay, Michael Raff, and Jenny Margotta. Dr. Ron Williams, Superintendent of Victor Valley Union High School District and Bill Olinger, State ACSA Vice President for Region 12, retired from the Fontana Unified School District, and Ted Alejandre County Superintendent and State ACSA Director for Region 12 presented the awards.

Footprints From Around the World is available on Amazon.com. A curriculum handbook for the project is forthcoming.



Robert Isbill



Front Row: (l-r) Jenny Margotta, Dwight Norris, Mary Langer Thompson; behind Jenny is Lorelei Kay and Robert Isbill, with state dignitaries and administrators. (Photo credit: Robert Isbill)



What You Missed

Open Mic & HDALF events

With a split venue for April 13, (at Jess Ranch and Apple Valley Inn) members and visitors learned of the differences between “traditional” vs. self-publishing from Holly LaPat. She writes under the pen name Sierra Donovan and has many romance novels to her writing credit.

Our tech savvy member and college teacher, Steve Marin, shared points on security and ways to keep your computer access resistant to cyber hackers and other online intrusions.

Here’s a collection of candid shots taken throughout the day.

Photo credit:
Barbra Badger



Steve Marin



Holly LaPat

Meanwhile, over at the Historic Apple Valley Inn, it was new venue for 20 of our authors and aides who filled one room with their booths.

Artists and crafters displayed their wares in an indoor environment. Many noted it was a quality location, more comfortable than in 2017.



Marilyn King



Mary DeSantis
& daughter Gemma



Mary Ruth Hughes

Continued next page



Gary Layton

HDALF 2019

Many more booths and authors than last year. They were also able to sell directly to their visitors. Venue included a food truck for lunch and drinks, as well as a children's craft room.



Ann Miner with Mary

**Text & HDALF Photos
by Rusty LaGrange**



Jenny Margotta and EmmaLisa Hill



Mary Langer Thompson

Linda Boruff, one of several volunteers sitting in to sell anthology books.



Loralei Kay

Continued next page

**... and the draw of fine art with
handcrafted works**



Beaded gourds to pottery, fashion jewelry to floral art, the fair provided an excellent cross-section of our quality talents.



Floral artists

Fired and painted plates



Featured artist, Eudell Cunningham



News You Can Use

Maximize Goodreads giveaways!

Readers love free books. Take advantage of the large readership base at Goodreads.com. Be sure to send connection requests with personalized notes to each of the winners, congratulating them on their win, letting them know you can't wait to see their review and hear what they think, extend the opportunity to reach out to you directly with questions or comments as well.

The extra connection really encourages them to post a review and it's a great way to build your network!



Kindle Storyteller contest

The UK Kindle Storyteller Award is open for entries from 1st May until 31st August 2019.

Following the tremendous success of the 2018 UK Storyteller contest, which was won by Hannah Lynn with her book, *The Afterlife of Walter Augustus*, we are delighted to announce that the hunt is on for the next great storytelling talent writing in English.

The winner of the 2019 contest will receive a £20,000 cash prize, a marketing campaign to support their winning title, and the opportunity to have their book translated.

Visit the Kindle Storyteller page for more information, including full Terms and Conditions.

Good luck! This message was sent by The Kindle Direct Publishing Team.



Book Fair Coming Oct. 12

Early indications for another book fair in mid-October will include a Poetry Reading Room among other features. Davida Siwisa James is organizing the event.

Although still early, volunteers are needed to help and booths will be available for rent in the Book Fair sections. Go to www.VicArtsEd.org for details.

B&N Book Fair May 18 Scheduled for Saturday

Join HDCWC authors Beckie Lindsey, Marilyn King, Jenny Margotta, Mary Ruth Hughes, Michael Raff, Roberta L. Smith, Emma Hill, Mary Langer Thompson, Mary Mack, to participate in a HDCWC Barnes & Noble Book Fair signing and selling on Saturday, May 8, 2019 at the Victorville Barnes & Noble Booksellers from 10 am to 8 pm.

If you are planning a book related purchase, please do it on that day using our Customer ID code 125336657 at time of purchase, either in any Barnes & Noble Booksellers or online at www.bn.com.

Support the California Writers Club, High Desert Branch

Make your purchases during our
Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Saturday, May 18, 2019

Buy in-store at any Barnes & Noble Bookseller

anywhere or

online at www.BN.com

Use Voucher #12533667

in promo field upon checkout



TIME FOR A LAUGH



A Conscience is what hurts when
all your other parts feel so good.

~ ~ ~

While on your diet, you should not
weigh more than your refrigerator —
this is not a bonding moment.

Let's Get to Know ... *Mary Langer Thompson*

Thompson Selected for Jack London Award



Mary Langer Thompson

Retired English teacher and public school principal, Mary Langer Thompson, has been an active member of the California Writers Club, High Desert Branch, since 2009. She immediately joined a critique group and

credits The Wordsmiths with helping her to transition into writing fiction and children's stories when previously she had published non-fiction and poetry. Later, as Senior Poet Laureate of California for 2012, she founded the critique group, The Poemsmiths, which meets bi-weekly and has ten members. They have performed their poetry at open mics in southern California and at the local theater, and are currently putting together an anthology.

For several years, Mary was a member of the small group of High Desert California Writers Club members who taught writing at the Federal Correctional Facility in Victorville. She has also taught writing workshops at Barstow College and several schools in the High Desert. She has judged writing for the Young Authors program and the National Scholastic Writing Contest.

She has served on the HDCWC board and hosted several salons for club members, including a Children's Author salon, a Poetry Appreciation salon, and a Handling Rejection salon. She has served on panels and spoken at other branch meetings.

She recently organized Women's History and Black History Month Open Mics at the Hesperia Library.

World Book Night celebrates the birthday of Shakespeare and Cervantes and 2011 began to be celebrated in the U.S. Mary applied and the club was awarded twenty books from a single author by writers such as Ray Bradbury. Club members donated their books to prisoners and Urgent Care facilities since the purpose was to get books into the hands of people who don't easily have access to them. When the program ceased nationally, Mary made sure the High Desert continued it, and this, our eighth year, the club gave twenty HDCWC authored books to an organization that helps single mothers and offers parenting classes.

Her proudest achievement with and for the club was as Director of the award-winning Dorothy C. Blakely Memoir Project, which in its three years partnered with high school English teachers to have eleventh and twelfth graders write 3500-word memoirs of senior citizens and have their collections published by the writers club. The intergenerational project, founded by HDCWC member Robert Isbill, won two City Proclamations from the town of Apple Valley and the Partners in Educational Excellence Award from the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), Region 12. (see page 1) Mary is working on a curriculum handbook so that schools and organizations nationwide can conduct the program in their regions.

Mary continues to write her own award-winning books and loves to lift up the other wonderful writers and authors in the club.



Nominees for Jack London award continues on the next page

Nominees for Jack London Award 2019

This year our branch nominees have brought dedication to their volunteer duties with enthusiasm, and creativeness...The Board is proud to announce the 2019 Jack London Award Nominees:

(List in no particular order)

Jack London Nominees 2019

Mary DeSantis

She is consistent with stereo speakers and set ups, eager to help, offers graphic instruction, promotes new authors for screen play writing, and is a pleasant person to be around. She has also submitted a 7-part series to the *Inkslinger* and jumped in to give me a break from desktop printing three times.



Joan Rudder-Ward

I am nominating Joan Rudder-Ward, MBA, CPP, for this year's Jack London Award. Joan's work on our YouTube channel is unequaled. By creating this social media site for our club, she has helped propel our outreach infinitesimally.



I can't even imagine what personal sacrifice this takes, but it is a great gift to our club and the world. The time she takes to set up equipment, record our events, and "study" and edit the footage, and place it within the YouTube system is incredible and valuable to our club.

Joan began recording our monthly general meetings in October 2016, and then she

set up the YouTube channel which is about a year and a half old now. It helps with our outreach and with our corporate as well as individual goals to publicize our club and share our talents.

Joan is an award winning documentary filmmaker and certified professional photographer who freely lends her talents to our club, unlike most others.

Evelyn Blocker (posthumously)

I nominate Evelyn Blocker, in memoriam. Not only did she regularly attend, she judged contests and edited other's work whenever the opportunity existed. She was a member of the original Wordsmiths, helped build the club up from the original 15 members, wrote blurbs for people, acted in skits and participated in Memoir panels. She was a member of the age 90 and over Wise Women that still meets regularly. She loved the club and its interests.



Winnie Rueff (posthumously)

I nominate Winnie Rueff in Memoriam. She was a member since the 80's, served on memoir panels, was a "Memoir Star," member of the original "Wordsmiths," "Wise Women," and served on panels, in skits, and edited others' work whenever asked. She spoke at retirement homes, SWIM, and other

venues, many provided by the club. She served in other organizations started by CWC members, and was a support to other writers, writing reviews, and generally serving in any way she saw fit or was requested.

Rusty LaGrange

I nominate Rusty LaGrange for outstanding service to the HDCWC and the CWC. She consistently produces an excellent newsletter for our branch, month after month, which is an enormous amount of work. She also provided multiple hours of work on the *2018 CWC Literary Review* as well as compiling, editing, and producing the *CWC Bulletin* for three editions per year. This entails tracking 22 branches and their submissions, and publishing advertising in the *Bulletin*, often helping to edit and assimilate ads for our CWC clients. She has done notable work and invested dozens if not hundreds of volunteer hours.





MEET THE AUTHOR

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019

10 AM

Barstow Senior Center

555 Melissa Ave.

Barstow, CA 92311

760-256-5023

Author shares mind-blowing details about the *Age of Aquarius* In fascinating new book

The Age of Aquarius Is it real or just some colorful fantasy that was born out of the 1960's Fifth dimension song with the same title?

According to author Luanne Hunt, a new age where peace, harmony and understanding among all people will indeed become a reality. She tackles this subject in her fascinating and eye opening new book, "This is the Dawning. Exploring the Divine plan for the emerging Age of Aquarius."

Along with offering a crash course in astrology Hunt's book shed light on how God's awe-inspiring plan for humanity is written in the stars and also corresponds with the Zodiac wheel.

"I am beyond excited to bring this information to the general public," said Hunt, and inspirational speaker and author of the book. "Moving God, Moving Mountains." "Most people have no idea that the story of man is written in the stars—especially where the ages of time are concerned.

"When they find out, it gives them a brand new understanding of why we're here and how we all play a significant part in the grand design of life."

"This is the Dawning" provides insights (many of which are backed up by bible passages) into what the world has to look forward to, as well as what it will be up against, in this new age.

"I was very interested in astrology in my teens but eventually steered away from it because everyone in my Christian circles believed it was of the devil" said Hunt. "Now that I've reconnected with my study of the stars, I see how this is knowledge that every human being should have. Astrology is most definitely of God and something he uses to speak to us in every moment of our existence."



Jenny Margotta

from an

EDITOR'S DESK

REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

One of the things that drives me nuts is when people who should know better make what, to me, are glaring errors in grammar. The other night I was watching a rerun of NCIS, and I cringed when I heard the following conversation.

"You should know. You two work together," one character said.

"Are you talking about Gibbs and myself?" the other replied.

No! No, no, no. Come on, Mark Harmon, *you* should know better. The reply should have been, "Are you talking about Gibbs and me?"

"Myself" is a reflexive pronoun. The term may be hard to remember, but think about it this way: "I" look in the mirror and see a "reflection" of "myself." The sentence in which "myself" appears properly nearly always includes the subject "I." The same goes for all the other reflexive pronouns: they are nearly always accompanied in the same sentence by their corresponding personal pronoun:

- me — myself
- you — yourself
- you — yourselves
- her — herself
- it — itself
- he — himself
- one — oneself
- our — ourselves
- they — themselves

The function of the reflexive pronoun is to serve as the direct object of the verb or as the object of the preposition when the subject of the clause is the same person as the object of the verb or preposition. (<http://grammartips.homestead.com/self.html>) Or, more simply, a reflexive pronoun indicates that the person who is realizing the action of the verb is also the recipient of the action.

EXAMPLES: Reflexive pronoun as direct object of verb

- **She** told **herself** she would be better off without him.
- Consider **yourself** lucky. (In this sentence, "You" is the implied subject of the imperative verb.)

EXAMPLES: Reflexive pronoun as the object of the preposition:

- He told everything **about himself** on our first date
- They insisted on doing the work **by themselves**.

Here are a few more examples of the use of reflexive pronouns:

Incorrect: I'm doing well. And yourself?

Correct: I'm doing well. And you? (Elliptical phrasing of "... and how are you?")

Incorrect: Everything in the book was written by John and myself.

Correct: Everything in the book was written by John and I.

Incorrect: This issue concerns only you and himself.

Correct: This issue concerns only you and him.

There's an easy test you can use when you're not sure if the sentence calls for a reflexive pronoun. Rewrite the sentence so that the pronoun becomes the subject.

In the NCIS example I started this article with—"Are you talking about Gibbs and myself?"—you would never say, "Myself am talking about you." I think everyone would correctly say, "I am talking about you." The corresponding simple pronoun to "I" is "me," so the correct original sentence would be "Are you talking about Gibbs and me?"

The same test works for the examples I gave above. You would say, "I wrote everything in the book," not "Myself wrote everything in the book." It would be "He is the only one concerned with this issue," not "Himself is the only one concerned with this issue," and so forth.

But what about the sentence, "I myself don't believe in aliens"? In this case, "myself" is defined as an intensive pronoun. The **intensive pronoun** has the same form as the reflexive pronoun; however, the function of the intensive pronoun is to emphasize or **intensify** a noun or pronoun.

Continued page 13

Ground Breaking Film Maker Singleton Dies at Age 51

Sheryl Lynne Thomas-Perkins, who was recently standing with Singleton at a fundraiser, offered her photo again to denote the Film Maker's career and his raw film style. The photo was taken on March 25, 2017 during a fundraiser to provide scholarships for deserving students, in Marina Del Rey, Ca., for the University of Southern California Black Alumni Association. Sheryl Lynne and Singleton are alumni of USC.

Thomas-Perkins, left, is pictured with the film director John Singleton, who made one of Hollywood's most memorable debuts with the Oscar-nominated "Boyz N the Hood." Singleton died April 29, at age 51. Also pictured is Sheryl Lynne's mother, Victorville resident and award-winning clothing and home goods designer Barbara Thomas. Singleton wrote numerous films depicting the unique struggles African Americans face in the United States, especially growing up in the south central area of Los Angeles.



(l-r) Thomas-Perkins, Singleton, Thomas

(photo credit: Sheryl Lynne)

"John was so easy going and down to earth when we met," Sheryl said. "He didn't shy away from the crowd that started to gather after we approached him before others seemed to recognize him. He was clearly comfortable in his own skin, and I thought it really kindhearted for him to embrace everyone who approached him as graciously as he did. A lot of public figures and celebrities wouldn't even consider going out on a ship with the public, so to speak, for hours, but John did, and it speaks volumes about his wonderful character."

Among his worthy accomplishments, Singleton, at 24, was the youngest director nominee in Oscar history. He was also the first African American director nominated for an Oscar.



EXAMPLES:

- **I myself** once faced a similar difficulty.
- **She** baked all those cookies **herself**.
- **He himself** must decide what is right or wrong.
- The **members themselves** decided not to hire the mime to speak at the monthly meeting.

So now that I myself have explained it all, you won't need to ask me next time. You can go forth and do it by yourself.



A Little Marionette

by *fumi-tome ohta*

Today was my day to drive the shuttle van for the veteran's hospital. I envisioned it would be a typical day. I brought along some books to donate as well as some jewelry I had not worn in years. I also had a small marionette that hung on my wall. I packaged this marionette in a plastic bag and was intending to give it to a woman in-patient veteran. Why a woman? Well, because I thought that a woman would enjoy it more so than a burly, rough and tough macho man.

I was wrong.

I was in the dining room getting ready to find a woman veteran who might like a little marionette when I saw this older, fully wrapped and bandaged veteran in a motorized wheelchair come into the dining room. I had seen him two other times but since he seemed wanting to be left alone or other times, sleeping in his wheelchair after he just wheeled himself in, I never bothered to go up to him.

Today, I don't know, for some reason, I saw him and approached to make conversation. I asked if he would like this marionette. He smiled and said that since he can't use his hands very well, he would not be able to take care of it but he still wanted to see it. I took the marionette out of the bag and held it by its string and made her dance.

It made him laugh.

Seeing his joy, I added that his nurse could place this marionette in his room for him. He could look at it at his leisure throughout the day.

He looked at the marionette, I could see him thinking. His face lit up with a smile.

"Could you place it over there between my ankles? I won't lose it if you put it there."

It was an unusual request but I did as he asked. He was right. There was nowhere on his being or on his wheelchair that I could place this marionette except between his ankles. He was a big man, a swollen man, and he had so much padding and bandages all around him for comfort.

After I securely placed the marionette where he wanted, I was getting ready to say thank you, wish him well then to be on my way. But when I stood upright, I saw him looking back at me so compassionately ... so warmly ... he then extended his swollen hand to me and smiled. The way he looked at me ... I could see the moisture building in his eyes and the way he locked his eyes on mine as he said "thank you", I could see that this little gesture of a simple marionette meant so much to him; it touched me deeply. He then told me of his ailments and Lou Gehrig's disease. With all his maladies he could still smile and light up and say that he wants to live; he said he wants to live independently and the VA was looking for a place for him. He told me his name and wanted to know mine. He wanted to know if I was Japanese. I told him "yes" that I was from Hawaii. He then said, "konnichiwa" and "arigato. I laughed and said,



"doitashimashita" (you're welcome), then I whipped my finger across my upper lip and said, "Don't touch my mustache," then explained that doitashimashita sounds like don't touch my mustache.

He laughed.

Time passed. I was sitting in my shuttle van, cooling the van for my passengers and doing some paperwork when I happened to look up from behind my steering wheel. I saw the gentleman I had met earlier moving slowly across the pavement ... and there between his ankles was the little marionette still there where I had placed it.

I smiled and thought ... how nice! That marionette that hung from a hook on my wall day after day was now going places and meeting new people with a wonderful gentleman...together...on their motorized wheelchair.



Author Accodades

Rusty LaGrange Selected for Lit Rev Issue

It feels a bit strange for me to talk about myself in *The Inkslinger*, but this month is a bit different. I recently found out that I was the sole entry selected from our branch for inclusion in the CWC's 2019 *Literary Review*. I'm honored.

It's my first time getting this type of recognition in the magazine. Last year I volunteered for the Graphic artist/Layout position in the 2018 issue. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I had creating a lighter and airier page development as many had requested.

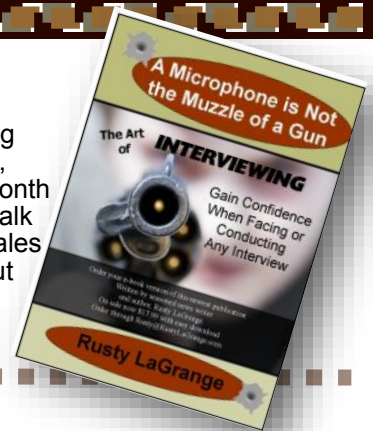


Rusty LaGrange

This is turning into an awesome year as well with my recent nomination for a Jack London award.

Mary Langer Thompson wins it this year. She's earned it, too. Congratulations, Mary.

I know everyone is tired of hearing that my interviewing book will be out soon. Well, soon is finally here. This month I *will* have books printed. Talk about a big lead and pre-sales campaign — it's been about four years, I hate to admit.



However, I do have other books in the works, including a poetry chapbook, prompted by my activities in the *PoemSmiths* critique group, hosted at Mary Thompson's home twice a month. We have some quality poets who have been recognized in county fair contests, online poetry collections, and other venues. My collection is called *The Decorated Cat and other poems*. I'm not placing a deadline on that one. A work in progress...

Now after 9 years — or is it 10 — I'm looking for someone I can help train to take over *The Inkslinger*. It's been a joy to produce but I need more "me" time to finish my own goals. I have a commercial digital magazine on my horizon and more traveling plans. Please drop me a note at Rusty@RustyLaGrange.com and we can talk. I will continue to produce *The CWC's Bulletin* 3x a year.

George Gracyk Died at 86



As we recently found through a memorial site for George's family, George Gracyk was very happily married to second wife, Marjorie Willet. They enjoyed their retirement years together, living in Paradise, Yuba City, and Apple Valley. George and Marjorie stayed active with family, travel, and hobbies.



George Gracyk

George Gracyk grew up in LaGrange near Chicago, Illinois, with his father, mother, and two sisters, Irene and Ruthie.

He had worked for PG&E for 20 years and loved to travel. George was the father of five children--Tom, Ted, Tim, Todd, and Cindy.

Many of us lost track of him as his failing health and loss of his wife, Marjorie in 2014, caused him to miss many meetings. George was one of the original High Desert members that helped to keep the branch active in the 90s. He had won a Jack London Award in 2003.

According to his family, he passed September 25, 2017, in Granite Bay, California, at age 86, where he was comfortable in an assisted living environment.

Events Ahead > Book Fairs & more

MAY & JUNE ACTIVITIES

SB COUNTY FAIR — VISIT OUR POETS

Fairgoers can now go to the old building site where another temporary pavilion tent is housing the hand-crafted collections, design, and poetry. Fair opens May 25th at noon.

AND VISIT OUR POETS?

It's a bit early to forecast the poets and authors who will sign in for the High Desert Book Fair coming October 12th. Are you interested? Davida James is looking for volunteers.

She's offering a pavilion-style tent for poetry readings.

Support the California Writers Club, High Desert Branch

Make your purchases during our
Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Saturday, May 18, 2019

Buy in-store at any Barnes & Noble Bookseller
anywhere or

online at www.BN.com

Use Voucher #12533667

in promo field upon checkout



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



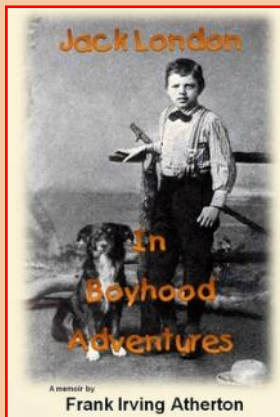
Order extra copies of our HDCWC anthologies for your bookshelf, your gifts, as a Senior Center donation. Titles can be found on Amazon.com. Pre-orders can be delivered at our regular meetings.

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>



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

Deadlines for submitting any articles, photos, news, announcements, etc is still the 23rd of each month. It hasn't changed in years. But that doesn't mean you can send it in any time after that. If you call me for an extension date or let me know what you'd like to submit, I might be able to fit it in.

I have other projects with other deadlines, so please follow the guidelines below. Short stories and poetry are highly prized.

Congrats! to those who have been nominated for the 2019 Jack London award.

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 were embedded in other media.

June's submissions are due May 23
July's are due June 23