

The Writer's Life

www.sdwritersguild.org

October, 2013



What is more important in a library than anything else—than everything else—is the fact that it exists. Archibald MacLeish, 1972

October Meeting: SDW/EG Field Trip by Ellen Shaw Tufts

(Please remember--- we won't be meeting at our usual County Mental Health facility venue at 3851 Rosecrans for our monthly October meeting!)

Come join your Guild co-members on Monday, October 28 for our first San Diego Writers/Editors Guild Field Trip at the dazzling new San Diego Central Library located at 330 Park Boulevard in the city's East Village. Join us for this special one-hour event to be led by a gracious library staffer. Plan to meet the group at 6:45 P.M on October 28 in front of the new library. For this occasion, you may bring your camera and feel free to take photos during our excursion.

We have all heard about this \$185 million high-rise, built around an outdoor square, with its gleaming dome made of overhanging metallic sails, a new community gathering place, a cultural arena and a regional educational resource including a charter high school! And for months we have read about the garden courtyard, the first-floor Children's Book Section with its colorful Dr. Seuss murals, the gleaming escalators to the second floor, and the eighth-floor reading room with its magnificent view of the Gaslamp District, San Diego Bay, Coronado and the Pacific.

A sneak preview was held on Saturday, September 28 when the new library unofficially opened its doors to an estimated thousand eager patrons on a glorious fall day. And Sunday, September 29, the day before the official opening, an overflow crowd of almost 400 gathered to hear a glorious string ensemble, the San Diego Symphony Ella Quartet, perform at Joan and Irwin Jacobs Common on the Library ground floor.

There will be one hour free parking in the parking area below the library and additional paid parking available at three nearby areas: the Parkade on 11th Ave. between I and J Streets, also two Petco Park lots south of the new library across Imperial Avenue on either side of the park.

Enjoy this chance for a special excursion to the latest landmark on the city's spectacular skyline, an awesome, free cultural facility for us all and future generations!

Annual Local Author Exhibit

The San Diego Public Library will hold the 48th Local Author Exhibit in the new Central Library during the month of February 2014. Authors in San Diego whose book was published in 2013 may submit a copy of the book and a registration form to Rachel Esguerra, 330 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101-7416 (resguerra@sandiego.gov), or call (619)236-5817 for more information.

Registration forms may be found at www.sandiegolibrary.org. The deadline for

The next meeting is October 28th, 2013

Meet at 6:45 P.M. near the front door at the new San Diego Library at [330 Park Blvd](http://330ParkBlvd.com), San Diego, CA 92101, downtown, (Park Boulevard at 11th Avenue). Parking is available at the library or at I & J, or near Petco Park.

The Prez Says . . .

Welcome to new members of the Board of Directors: Simone Arias, Harry Huntsman, and Jennifer Russell, elected at the annual meeting in September. Ellen Shaw Tufts and I were re-elected for continuing terms. Even though he will soon be living in Tijuana, Sam Warren will continue to serve as our webmaster.

The deadline for submitting entries for the 2013 *Guilded Pen* has come and gone. The last count was 46 submissions by 26 authors! The 2014 edition is due out in December, just in time for Christmas!

The new SDW/EG Speakers Bureau is now open for business. If you are interested in informing groups about the Guild and speaking about your own published work, contact me to sign up. You will need to submit a short paragraph about you and your work/speaking topic.

Ruth Leyse-Wallace

A Tip of the Hat To . . .

Gary Winters for being invited to read from his multi-award-winning multicultural novel *The Deer Dancer* at the 8th Annual Spring Valley Library Fiesta to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month in September.

Margaret Harmon for a launch party for *The Genie Who Had Wisbes of His Own: 21st-Century Fables*, which will be at Warwick's Bookstore in La Jolla, on Sunday, October 27, from noon to 2:00 p.m. You are invited.

Ruth Leyse-Wallace for being invited to speak at the "Nutritional and Integrative Adjuncts to Conventional Approaches for Psychiatric Disorders" conference at Kansas University Medical Center in October.

If you, or someone you know, has published a book, scheduled a book signing, or some other accomplishment to share, please be included in our next newsletter. Let your light shine!

What You Missed . . by Catherine Barr Taking the Mysteries out of e-Publishing

Larry Edwards (larryedwards.com) explained how to better prepare a manuscript for the ever-more popular e-book environment. After the usual careful editing, the manuscript needs to be split into two files: one for a print edition and another for an e-book. This is because there are often problems going from a print book to an e-book even when using such software as InDesign.

There are two types of e-book formats: fixed layout (most commonly used for children's stories (no industry standard) and the more common reflowable text layout (plain text, few illustrations (epub or mobi standards). Before typing your reflowable text manuscript in a word processor set the Styles—do NOT use Tab or Space Bar (except between words).

When your manuscript is ready for production you can hire a conversion house for a flat fee and percentage or just a percentage of your profit. Or you can hire an independent contractor. Or try to do it yourself. If you do it yourself you will need additional software such as: MS Word (2003), an HTML editor, Calibre, Sigil, an epub validator, Kindle previewer, and Nook previewer. You will also be responsible for cover design.

SDW/EG Congratulates Writers Ink

An open house held by Writers Ink at their new headquarters on September 12th was attended by Marcia Buompensiero, Guild anthology editor, and Ruth Leyse-Wallace, Guild president.



Marcia B, Ruth L-W, Kristen Fogel, Kim Keeline

Kristen Fogel, Program Director, and Kim Keeline, Media, Marketing, and Communications Coordinator, were presented with a decorative arrangement to celebrate the well-attended event.

Their new location, at Liberty Station, is 2730 Historic Decatur Road, Barracks 16, Suite 22, San Diego, 92106. Classes and other activities will be held at the new address.

Classes Coming Up

Jared Kuritz will be teaching a 3-session class, "**Publishing for a Profit**", covering viable publishing methods, their pros and cons and the cost/benefit of various methods. It will be held at UCSD starting 9/25/13. To register go to <http://extension.ucsd.edu/studyarea/index.cfm?vAction=singleCourse&vCourse=WCWP-80004>.

Midge Raymond will be presenting "**Everyday Book Marketing**", a workshop covering promotion basics, checklists and creating your own marketing plan. September 29 sessions will be from 10-11:30 a.m. and 12:00 -2:30 p.m.. Register at www.adventuresbythebook.com or call 619.300.2532.

Marla Ryan will present a San Diego Book Awards workshop titled "**Through an Editor's Eyes**" on 10-19-13, from 9:30 a.m.- noon. It will be held at the Community Association of Bernardo Heights. Register at www.swdbookawards.org.

Coming Soon to SDW/EG

November 25th, 2013 – Richard Lederer will speak about important anniversaries and celebrations.

December Meeting (Watch for notice of the date) – The Holiday party for members 7-9 p.m.. *The Guilded Pen*, the 2013 edition, will be featured. Bring your favorite holiday treat. Beverages and utensils will be provided.

American Trivia

by Richard Lederer and Caroline McCullagh

SDW/EG members Richard Lederer and Caroline McCullagh are the proud co-authors of *American Trivia: What We All Should Know About U.S. History, Culture & Geography* (Gibbs Smith Publisher, 2012). Over a span of three years, Rich and Caroline will share with you their journey through American history.

Fascinating Facts About the Civil War, Part I

Like the first American flag, the Confederate flag ultimately displayed 13 stars, represented the 13 Confederate states — Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

- William H. Seward, Simon Cameron, Salmon P. Chase, and Edward Bates were all members of President Abraham Lincoln’s cabinet, even though they had run against him for the presidency.

- Confederacy President Jefferson Davis was son-in-law to Zachary Taylor, our twelfth president. In 1835, Davis married Sarah Knox Taylor, the daughter of his commanding officer, Zachary Taylor. On their honeymoon, they both contracted malaria, and Sarah died of the disease three months later.

- Abner Doubleday is erroneously credited with inventing baseball, but he did start a war. At approximately 7 a.m. on April 12, 1861, in defense of Fort Sumter, Captain Abner Doubleday fired the first shot by the Union army in the Civil War.

- Virginia’s secession on April 17, 1861, gifted the Confederacy with many of the most able U.S. Army officers. The new Confederacy now included high-caliber commanders Robert E. Lee, Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, Pierre Beauregard, Ambrose Hill and Joseph Johnston. The Union army would have a lot of catching up to do.

- When the Civil War broke out, President Abraham Lincoln offered command of the Union Army to Virginian Robert E. Lee. Lee declined the Union generalship, resigned his U.S. military commission altogether and ultimately became a commander of the Confederate forces.

- The face of Union general Ambrose E. Burnside was adorned by luxuriant side-whiskers sweeping down from his ears to his clean-shaven chin. Reversing the two halves of Burnside’s surname, the style became known as sideburns. continued>>

Tips for Writing a Book Proposal

Elise Capron, an agent from Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency provided the following tips for writing a strong book proposal when submitting to an agent.

The proposal should contain:

- *A title that is memorable, original, and indicates what the book is about.

- *A synopsis of 1-2 pages which explains the book's purpose and why it is important. This is the type of information often found on the back cover.

- *A chapter outline which gives the name and one brief paragraph about each chapter.

- *A readable summary of the author's platform, establishing yourself as an authority; may include a photograph

- *A list and description of the top three to five works on the market similar to your book. Provide the title, publisher, publication date, and one-two lines comparing each of these works to your book.

- *One to two sample chapters with a minimum of twenty double-spaced, single-sided pages per chapter; providing a sample of writing style and ability.

The first novel ever written on a typewriter was *Tom Sawyer*.

Deciphering Tweets

Add these to your Tweet vocabulary:

IYSS – If You Say So

FITB – Fill in the Blanks

NRN – No Reply Necessary

RTM - Read The Manual

RRQ – Return Receipt Requested

IIRC – If I Remember Correctly

Source: Randall Manning *Texting Dictionary of Acronyms* 3rd edition, 2012.

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Fascinating Facts About the Civil War, Part I

- During the Civil War, poet Walt Whitman acted as an untrained male nurse and wrote prolifically about his experiences in the conflict.

- The word *deadline*, which entered the English language in 1864, began life as a line of demarcation, generally about 17 feet, around the inner stockade of a Civil War prison camp, such as Andersonville. Any prisoner crossing this line was shot on sight.

San Diego Writers/Editors Guild
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<p>The Writer's Life is published by The San Diego Writers/Editors Guild P. O. Box 881931 San Diego, CA 92168 Telephone: (619) 445-6656 General Meetings: The Fourth Monday of the month 6:30 P.M. - Sign-in and Networking 6:45 P.M. - Business Meeting 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. - Speaker/Program Location: 3851 Rosecrans, SD, CA 92110 San Diego County Health Services Complex <u>OCTOBER, 2013 - Field Trip</u> <u>No meeting at Rosecrans facility</u> Visit our web site for a map www.SDWritersGuild.org Membership: \$36.00 per year Guests: \$5.00 per meeting</p>	Board Of Directors		Term Expires December 31st
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	<p>Mission Statement The San Diego Writers/Editors Guild shall promote, support, and encourage the writing arts for adults and youth.</p>		