

# The Writer's Life

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

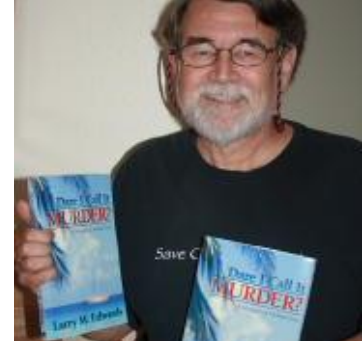
October, 2014



“Writing a book was an adventure. To begin with it was a toy, an amusement; then it became a mistress, and then a master, and then a tyrant.” – Sir Winston S.Churchill, 1949

## Larry Edwards Shares How He Did It

... “It” referring to how he sold 7000 copies of his book *Dare I Call It Murder? – A Memoir of Violent Loss* in eleven months and how he received 150 reviews (96 being 5★ ratings) on Amazon.com. The fact he began with a book good enough to win the 2014 San Diego Book Award for Best Memoir started him on the route to success. Larry will share the when, how and what of his marketing and publicity campaign. He will explain his strategies with use of websites, press releases, book clubs, reviews, book signings, radio interviews, and more. Larry will also reflect on his use of social media and listing in catalogs and perhaps what he will do if he wins the Pulitzer prize.



Evolving from his career in journalism and business writing, Larry is an editor (Polishing Your Prose) and publisher (Wigeon Publishing) as well as an author. His previous titles include *Food and Provisions of the Mountain Man* and the *Official Netscape Internet Business Starter Kit*. For a preview or a follow-up of the meeting, start with one of his websites: [www.LarryEdwards.com](http://www.LarryEdwards.com).

Please note a change in scheduling of the October meeting.

Join us for Larry’s sure-to-be-informative presentation on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup>, the third Wednesday of the month from 6:30–8:30 P.M.

## Election at October General Meeting

Election of the Board of Directors of SDW/EG will be held at the annual General Meeting in October. There are ten positions on the Board of Directors; terms of office are two years. Five Directors’ terms expire on alternate years. Presently four terms are expiring and one position is vacant.

The Board meets the second Tuesday of each month from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Newly elected Board members start their term with the November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting after the election.

Members may nominate themselves or someone else, if that person is agreeable. Board members may be re-elected. Nominations were sought at the September meeting, **but it isn’t too late to make a nomination**. Call Harry Huntsman at (858) 571-0201 or email him at [hwhuntsman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hwhuntsman@sbcglobal.net) or call any current Director for discussing your interest or ask questions.

“One of the most difficult things is the first paragraph. In the first paragraph you solve most of the problems with your book. The theme is defined, the style and the tone.”  
Gabriel Garcia Marquez

## Future Meetings: Mark Your Calendars

November . . . 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday; 11/19/14

December . . . 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday; 12/17/14

### Coming Soon to SDW/EG

**November – Richard Lederer** – His new book: *Monsters Unchained*

**December - Party** – Music by Oscar Arias; presentation of *The Guilded Pen*, 2014 edition.

The Man Booker prize for fiction was open to Americans for the first time this year. Finalists included three British writers, two Americans (Joshua Ferris and Karen Joy Fowler) and an Australian.

## The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 15, 2014

6:30 PM sign-in and networking

6:45 PM business meeting

7:00-8:30 PM program

## **A Tip of the Hat to . . . by Lisa Hunt**

**Ken Yaros** whose writing, *It's Thanksgiving: "Daddy's Here"* will be published in the November 2014 issue of Oasis Journal.

**Phil Pryde** whose revised and updated 5<sup>th</sup> edition of *San Diego: An Introduction to the Region*, is now available directly through Sunbelt Publications.

**Tom Leech** whose book, *Say it Like Shakespeare, The Bard's Timeless Tips for Communication Success* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition is available through Amazon and Presentation Press.

*If you, or someone you know, has an accomplishment to share, please submit to Lisa Hunt at [sunrae77@cox.net](mailto:sunrae77@cox.net) or at (760) 975-6311 to be included in our next newsletter. Let your light shine!*

## **What You Missed . . . by Ellen Shaw Tufts**

Got \$3,000-4000 for publishing your book independently?

That's what "indie publishing" may realistically cost to make your writing look professional, according to Dr. Kathleen B. Jones, our speaker at the September 22 Guild meeting.

A distinguished political theorist who's currently Professor Emeriti of Women's Studies at San Diego State University (SDSU), Jones believes the book industry has changed enormously within the last decade and she presented with insights galore the current "perils, pitfalls and pleasures" of being a writer.

Jones offered chilling advice: "If you're NOT already famous, it'll be difficult to convince an agent to represent your non-fiction book, even harder for fiction! And if you do get an agent, stay clear about your vision for your book!"

For those considering independent publishing (not "self-publishing," a term she abhors), her insights were especially apt, but also for our audience of writers (published or not), bloggers, and biographers, with her cornucopia of ideas, warnings, and tips.

A prolific writer, editor and scholar, Jones recently wrote and independently published a biography "*Diving for Pearls: A Thinking Journey with Hannah Arendt*" (Thinking Women's Books, 2013) re the famed political philosopher who fled Nazi Germany and subsequently covered the war criminals trial for the New Yorker, considered a publishing landmark.

"Keep writing," advised our speaker, whose popular Twitter (KB Jones Writes) and her daily >>

## **Op Ed: Harmon Featured in LA Times**

SDW/EG member Margaret Harmon was published with a byline in the Sunday, September 14, 2014 issue of the *LA Times*. With the headline "Measles is Back: A Mother's Warning", Harmon wrote of her personal experience to make the case for vaccinating children for diseases. See also <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-harmon-measles-encephalitis-vaccinations-20140914-story.html> . (Nicely enough, her new book was also noted.)

Harmon comments ". . .the Twitter and Opinion responses are fierce and numerous. There are now two websites that have pages and pages of debate raging about this Op-Ed piece. They were arguing before, but it's now spun off from the Op-Ed. I've never had this before."

"This is encouraging to us to realize that if we are rejected it may simply be that the topic is not hot for this particular editor or the public. Timing IS key. But we should keep writing what we believe in and send it out so it will hit when the time is right."

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### **Phil Pryde – Limerick Contest Entry**

Richard Lederer's recent SD Union Tribune limerick contest had 185 entries, with SDW/EG member Phil Pryde receiving an Extremely Honorable mention.

Phil's Limerick:

Edgar A. Poe had a cravin'  
To converse at midnight with a raven.  
But the bird was a bore,  
Would just say "nevermore,"  
So Poe tried no mo' and just gave in.

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### **2015 Annual Local Authors Exhibit**

The San Diego Public Library's 49th Annual Local Author Exhibit is calling resident authors for submissions. The exhibit is open to authors who had a book or eBook published in 2014. The **deadline to register and submit your book is Sunday November, 30, 2014**. The exhibit will run the entire month of February 2015. For more information and registration forms go to <http://sandiego.communityguides.com/localauthor>

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>> blog, (More Buzz @Kathleen B. Jones) are now essential for many writers—published and otherwise.

### **Companion Trivia Book Published**

Caroline McCullagh and Richard Lederer announced the publication Sept. 13 of their *American Trivia Quiz Book*, the companion book to *American Trivia*. They will have a class and book signing at Macy's in Mission Valley at Oasis on Dec. 1, from 10:15-11:45 AM.

### **Murder Survivor's Handbook**

Wigeon Publishing, operated by SDW/EG member Larry Edwards, released its fourth book, "Murder Survivor's Handbook: Real-life Stories, Tips & Resources," on Sept. 25 to coincide with National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims. Written by Connie Saindon, MA, MFT, the book helps family members adapt to the aftermath of murder. Larry will be speaking at the Descanso Branch Library on Sat., Oct. 11, at 1 p.m., discussing his book and the theme of survivors of violent loss.

### **Monstress: 2014 Book Choice**

In its eighth year, "One Book, One San Diego" selected a collection of short stories called "Monstress," by San Diego native [Lysley Tenorio](#). NPR reports "Tenorio...has taken a uniquely Filipino-American perspective, . . . and used it to make a bold collection of stories of the rejected, the helpless and the lost. . . He reveals the lives of people on the outside looking in with rare skill, humor, and deep understanding, in stories framed by tense, fascinating dichotomies—tenderness and power, the fantastical and the realistic, the familiar and the exotic."

Tenorio will be appearing at libraries around the county to kick off the season:

- >[Central Library](#) - Monday, 10/13/14, 7 to 9 p.m.
- >[University of San Diego](#) - Wednesday, 10/15/14, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- >[SDSU Love Library](#) - Wednesday, 10/15/14, 6 to 8 p.m.
- >[City College International Book Fair](#) – Thursday, 10/16/14, 12:45 to 2:10 p.m.
- >[Mira Mesa Library](#) - Sunday, 11/16/14, 2 to 4 p.m.

### **Coming Soon: New SDW/EG website**

Sandra Yeaman, SDW/EG member, is putting her web experience to work for the Guild and transferring our website to a Wordpress platform. Much of the content will be familiar, but it will be easier to maintain. We'll keep you posted. A big "Thanks" to Sandra.

### **La Jolla Writers Conference**

Scheduled to begin at 1:00 PM Friday, October 24 and run through 4:30 PM Sunday, October 26, 2014, the annual La Jolla Writers Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine, 3777 La Jolla Village Dr. San Diego, CA 92122.  
See also: <http://lajollawritersconference.com/>

### **Out of Town Conferences**

>[Hay House](#): November 5-7, 2014 presents "Speak, Write, Promote: Become a Mover and Shaker," in Chicago. See also: [www.HayHouse.com](http://www.HayHouse.com)  
>[UCLA Extension: Writers Studio](#) will be held February 5-8, 2015. See also: [www.uclaextension.edu/studio](http://www.uclaextension.edu/studio)

### **East County Writers MeetUp**

The East County MeetUp group convenes on the fourth Thursday each month at 6:30 PM. Meeting are held at the Rancho San Diego Library at 11555 Via Rancho San Diego, El Cajon, CA. The organizer is Gary Deutscher. See also: [http://www.meetup.com/East-County-Writers/events/208375582/?gclid=wc1c.2\\_e&a=wc1c.2\\_gnl&rv=wc1c.2\\_e](http://www.meetup.com/East-County-Writers/events/208375582/?gclid=wc1c.2_e&a=wc1c.2_gnl&rv=wc1c.2_e)

### **Tucson Festival of Books**

The Tucson Festival of Books will take place on March 14 and 15, 2015 on the University of Arizona campus. See also: <http://festivalofbooks.org/>

### **Dan Poynter: Speaking at PWSD**

The October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of Publishers and Writers of San Diego will be held in Encinitas at 10:00 AM. (see <http://publisherswriters.org/>) Publisher Dan Poynter will speak.

**San Diego Writers/Editors Guild**  
**Post Office Box 881931**  
**San Diego, CA 92168**

<p><b>The Writer's Life</b> is published by  The San Diego Writers/Editors Guild  P. O. Box 881931  San Diego, CA 92168  Telephone: (858) 571-0201  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</p> <p>San Diego County  Health Services Complex  Visit our website for a map  <a href="http://www.SDWritersGuild.org">www.SDWritersGuild.org</a>  Membership: \$36.00 per year  Guests: \$5.00 per meeting</p>	Board Of Directors		2-year Term Expires December 31st
	President	Harry Huntsman	2015
	Vice President	Bob Doublebower	2014
	Secretary	Simone Arias	2015
	Treasurer	Marcia Buompensiero	2014
	Membership Chairman	Rick Peterson	2014
	Directors-At- Large	Simone Arias Gered Beeby Ellen Shaw Tufts	2015 2014 2015
	Past President & Newsletter Editor	Ruth Leyse Wallace	2015
	Webmaster	Sam Warren Sandra Yeaman	
	<b>Mission Statement</b>		
The San Diego Writers/Editors Guild shall promote, support, and encourage the writing arts for adults and youth.			

Benefits of membership: SDWEG supports members and promotes the writing arts through the following: educational meetings with speakers on timely topics for writers; networking with writing/editing professionals; manuscript review services and the opportunity to submit your work for publication in the annual anthology; information about communitywide writing/editing classes and conferences and other events; links to writing/editing resources on the website; publicity for your creative work on the "Members' Works" web page; and the opportunity to be included in the Speakers Bureau.