

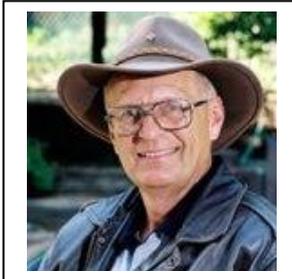
The Writer's Life

www.sdwritersguild.org

January, 2016



Even Dr. Seuss (Theodor Geisel) received twenty-eight rejections, which eventually led to the sale of over two hundred million books in fifty different languages.



Writing Creative Nonfiction

Can nonfiction appeal to a reader like fiction? Gered Beeby, SDW/EG member, will speak on Writing Creative Nonfiction at the January, 2016 meeting. Our many members who write nonfiction can hear techniques and applications of the principles of good writing to make nonfiction anything but boring and “just the facts.” Creativity in financial reporting and legal briefs doesn’t apply here, but there are plenty of ways to spice up nonfiction to hold the attention of readers.

Gered served as president of SDW/EG in 2003, is a member of the Board of Directors, and serves as a reviewer for the San Diego Book Awards. His career includes serving as an officer on a submarine, working in engineering and construction management, teaching classes in building codes, and serving on the San Diego Grand Jury. His novel *Dark Option* was nominated for the PMA Benjamin Franklin Award in the category: Best New Voice – Fiction. Gered has recently published in *The Oasis Journal* anthology as well as *The Guided Pen*. See you the 25th!

Read and Critique Groups

Taking advantage of a read and critique group is very helpful for beginning and experienced writers alike.

If you know of a read and critique group that is forming or seeking additional members, please submit the information to the newsletter editor by January 25th, 2016. If you would like to join or start a read and critique group let me know that also, along with the area of the county that would be convenient for you to attend. I would like to include these items in a future issue of the newsletter to support SDW/EG members.

Thanks, Ruth Leyse-Wallace, Editor

Deadline Extended for Member Survey

A big thank-you to members who have returned their Member Survey with helpful comments and ideas. To be sure the results are representative of all members, the deadline has been extended for those who have been just too busy over the holiday season to complete and send in their Member Survey.

Please find your November copy of the newsletter or get a blank copy of the survey from the website and return by January 23, 2016; mail to P.O.Box 881931, San Diego, 92168 or email to RthLys@cox.net.

Happy New Year

Looking Ahead to 2016

It is even more **convenient** to join SDW/EG – we now have PayPal, and credit card capability to accept and process dues and purchases. The **web site** provides **current blogs**, notices and other information of interest. It is never too late to **be included in the Speakers Bureau or the Members’ Works page**.

The **Marketing Support Group** is a high-energy group to share, ask, discuss, and get ideas. It is becoming more popular to **receive the newsletter in digital form** as well as, or instead of, the paper copy. It isn’t too early to give some thought to your submission for the **next anthology** – new in 2015: also in e-book form. Consider joining the **new SDW/EG program for supporting the writing of youth**.

Tip of the Hat to

Joe Bonpensiero for TV publicity for his book *Niputi*; check out this video:
<http://www.news3lv.com/content/specials/videovault/story/video-vault-hawley-las-vegas-Joe-Bonpensiero/14drFdhiTUCSdEID2VZnPA.csp>

Marie DeMercurio for publication of her book, *From Birth Until Sunset -- Poisoned to Death*.

Frank Newton for publication of his book, *The Trials of Tizoc*.

What You Missed by Mardie Schroeder

The annual holiday party was a festive occasion – one table laden with everything from shrimp appetizers to baked beans to ham and turkey sandwiches to deviled eggs, various chips and dips, etc. The other table sagged with mouth-watering cakes, delicious breads, rugalach, pies, brownies and candies. Sparkling cider, coffee and water rounded out the feast. Entertainment by Oscar Arias on the keyboard kept the party lively.

About fourteen gift books donated by SDWEG members were raffled near the end of the party. Members took the opportunity to collect autographs from anthology contributors or buy a copy of the 2015 or previous editions of *The Guided Pen*. A number of members let the board know they could not join the party because of illness; you were missed by your kindred spirits. You surely don't want to miss it next year.



Amy Zajac



Marie DeMercurio and Bill Barrons



Dave Feldman, Val Zalfaghari, Simone Arias



Corey Fayman, John DeMercurio



Tom Leech, Nancy Clement, Phil Pryde



Sally Gary

There's no such thing as too much fun ☺

See You at the Book Signing

Corey Lynn Fayman will be having a book release party at Mysterious Galaxy on January 30, 2016 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM. His third Rolly Waters mystery novel, *Desert City Diva*, was published this month by Severn House.

Classes for Writers

❖ **Caroline McCullagh** and Lola Sparrowhawk will teach **Creative Writing** at OASIS on Fridays from February 19 through April 15 from 10:15 AM – 12:30 PM.

❖ **David Feldman** and Lola Sparrowhawk will teach **Introduction to Creative Writing** January 15 through February 12, 10:15 AM- 12:30 PM Fridays at OASIS.

❖ **Chloe Edge** has two classes in **Creative Writing** at the Escondido OASIS. One is from January 15 to February 19, the second class is from March 11 to April 15. Both are from 10 AM to noon.

❖ OASIS also offers an **Intermediate Poetry Workshop** taught by Mary Harker from February 9 through April 12 from 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM.

Go to www.sandiegooasis.org or call OASIS at (619) 881-6262 for more information on these classes.

❖ Grossmont Adult School offers a **Creative Writing** class taught by L. Smith in La Mesa from January 12 through March 8 from 12:30 PM-4:00 PM Tuesdays.

❖ Grossmont Super Saturday includes a class in **Social Media** taught by Stefanie Blue from 12:30 to 3:30 on March 5.

Go to www.adultschool.guhsd.net for more information on these classes.

❖ **SDSU College of Extended Studies** offers online classes in Business Writing, Professional Writing, and Marketing. See online catalog at www.neverstoplearning.net

Mark Your Calendar

February 22, 2016 – Marni Freeman, writing coach, will speak about the five biggest mistakes writers make.

Fiction is life with the dull bits left out.
... Clive James

Upcoming Writing Conferences

The SDSU Writers Conference will be held January 22-24, 2016 at the Marriott Mission Valley San Diego. For more information see <http://www.ces.sdsu.edu/writers/>

The San Francisco Writers Conference will be held February 11-14, 2016 at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco.

The UCLA Extension Writers Program will be held February 11-14, 2016 (four days, 10 workshops, small classes) and will be at 1010 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles. Go to www.uclaextension.edu/writersstudio for more information.

Writers Symposium By the Sea at Point Loma Nazarene University will be held February 18-19, 2016.

The Digital Author and Indie Publishing Conference will be held February 26-28 at Los Angeles Valley College. See www.wcwriters.com

The 2016 Las Vegas Writer's Conference, sponsored by Henderson Writers' Group, is scheduled for April 28-30, 2016 in Las Vegas. Go to: www.lasvegaswritersconference.com for more information.

Agents Seeking Authors

❖ **Rob Kirkpatrick** of the Stuart agency. His specialties include memoir, biography, sports, music, pop culture, current events, history. For nonfiction, send a query letter outlining your credentials along with proposal. For literary fiction, send a query letter with synopsis and full manuscript to: rob@stuartagency.com.

❖ **Rachel Burkot** of Holloway Literary. She is interested in representing: women's fiction, upmarket/book club fiction, young adult fiction, and contemporary romance. Send a brief query and the first five pages of your manuscript pasted in the body of your email to submissions@Hollowayliteraryagency.com. In the email subject header, write "Query: [Title/Genre]." Rachel will only respond if she's interested.

A resource you might be interested in: *Guide to Literary Agents – 2016 edition* by Chuck Sambuchino.

San Diego Writers/Editors Guild
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The San Diego Writers/Editors Guild
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Meetings: The Fourth Monday each month
General Meeting:
6:30 PM- Sign-in/Network
6:45 PM - Business Meeting
7:00 PM - Speaker/Program

Marketing Support Group: 5:30-6:30 PM

Location: San Diego County
Health Services Complex
3851 Rosecrans, SD, CA 92110

For a map see: www.SDWritersGuild.org

Membership: \$36.00 per year
Guests: \$5.00 per meeting

Mission Statement

The San Diego Writers/Editors Guild shall promote, support, and encourage the writing arts for adults and youth.

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