

What You Missed at the May Meeting

Guest speaker Elise Capron has been a literary agent for 15 years; and her advice to our members emphasized that they fully understand and appreciate the competitive business realities of publishing. This means that their presentation of themselves as writers must be professionally polished — including their query letter, the quality of their manuscript, and their knowledge of their readers.

An agent, she explained, is part-business advisor, part-career manager and part-guardian angel. It is therefore vital to find the right agent for you. But that can be extremely difficult because agents are inundated with manuscripts and query letters. The trick, then, is for the writer to catch an agent's attention.

An outstanding way to learn about the publishing world and prospective agents is to regularly read the Publishers Marketplace website (www.publishersmarketplace.com). Getting support from established writers is also key since agents rely heavily on referrals from people they know.



In closing, Elise stressed that your relationship with an agent is like a marriage, requiring clear communication and mutual support.

SDWEG President Mardie Schroeder (left) presents agent Elise Capron with appreciation gifts after her speech.

Schedule of Future Speakers at SDWEG Member Meetings

Mark Your Calendar...

July 23 - Open Mic Night

Members read a selection of their work.

Sandra de Helen, Playwright SDWEG Guest Speaker June 25

What are the major elements of playwriting? Once a play is written, how does it get produced?

Join Sandra de Helen, courtesy of The Scripteasers, as she presents an overview of character, dialogue, and conflict — the elements that go into creating a script.

She will also briefly discuss the challenges and joys of getting a play produced. Get tips to help you decide whether to write for the stage, and how to get a play on its feet once you've written it.

Sandra de Helen's dramas and comedies have been performed all over the United States as well as internationally. Audiences in NYC, Chicago, Ireland, London, and the Philippines have been entertained and challenged by Sandra's provocative writing. In 2017, her work was staged at Athena Cats Theatre of Santa Monica, Women's Theatre Festival of NC, Samuel French in LA, and read by Scripteasers in San Diego. In the past five years, her work has been staged in NYC, LA, Portland, and Canada.

Sandra's writings are archived in the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Collection at Ohio State University. She studied with Maria Irene Fornés, and with Matt Zrebski. With Kate Kasten, she co-founded Actors' Sorority in Kansas City. Later Sandra founded the Portland Women's Theatre Company as well as Penplay. She is a member of Scripteasers of San Diego, International Centre for Women Playwrights, and the Dramatists Guild.



**Sandra de Helen
speaker on June 25**

SDWEG's book fair at the La Jolla Library

On Saturday, May 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 16 SDWEG members showcased their published works at the La Jolla Public Library. More than 60 people strolled through the book fair and 49 books were sold, plus a SDWEG 2017 Anthology, and SDWEG gained six new members through this event.



Margaret Harmon (in purple) discusses one of her books with an interested reader.



Janet Hafner,
SDWEG Board Member



Lawrence Carleton



Dr. Charlotte Thompson



Elke Ertle



Greg Fournier discusses his books.



Wanjiru
Warama



Marcia Buompensiero,
SDWEG Treasurer



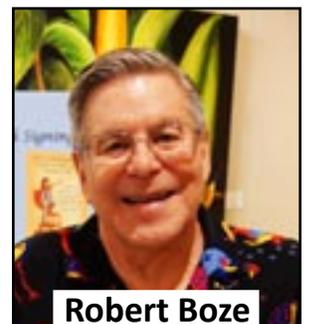
Mayra Brunson



Tom
Leech



SDWEG
President
Mardie Schroeder



Robert Boze

Upcoming Writer Events

June 21, 6:30 p.m.— *SD/Pen Networking Event for Writers*

Mark your calendar! The San Diego Professional Editors Network (SD/Pen) annual networking event is scheduled for Thursday, June 21, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the San Diego County Health Services Complex (3851 Rosecrans St. — exactly where SDWEG's meetings are held).

SD/Pen is inviting all members of the San Diego Writers & Editors Guild (SDWEG) to join them for a fun evening of noshing and networking! Enjoy snacking on tasty hors d'oeuvres and desserts while chatting with SD/PEN members. There will be drawings and games for prizes!

Don't forget to bring your business cards!

If you have questions, call SD/Pen's president Chris Zook at (619) 281-6951.

June 17-22 — *Santa Barbara Writers Conf.*

The 46th annual SB Writers Conference will be held at the Hyatt in Santa Barbara. The conference features workshops, lectures, meetings with agents and panel discussions. The cost is \$650. Visit the website — www.sbwriters.com.

Call for Submissions for *The Guided Pen – 2018*

There is still time for submissions for *The Guided Pen 2018 (7th edition)*, which is SDWEG's annual anthology of short stories, poems, and imaginative essays written by SDWEG members.

The anthology is produced as a fund-raising project, with all royalties from anthology sales supporting SDWEG's mission to promote, support, and encourage the writing art for adults and youth.

The submission deadline is July 16, 2018.

Please go to www.sdwritersguild.org/anthology-2/ to download the Submission Guidelines and Publication Agreement.

Anthology submissions should be sent to: **Marcia Buompensiero, Managing Editor**, at guildpensubmissions@gmail.com.

Welcome to 29 New Members!

SDWEG has been enjoying remarkable growth the past few months. It's a clear sign of a strong, healthy organization. We offer a heartfelt welcome to these writers who have joined since February 1.

Kathy Allan
Robyn Bennett
Jenna Benson
Sandra Block
Gaetano Anthony Cresci
Cheryl Garrett
Bob Gilberg
Marie Gollias
Marcelle Hawkins
Suzanne Haworth
Yvette Jackson
Pierce Kavanagh
Bradley Keller
Tammy Lockett
Diane Malloy
Kevin Manion
James McCann
Michael McMahan
Jean-Marie Romana
Cy Roseman
Barbara Sirignano
Gina Smith
Lindsey Stanley
Rita Sweeting
Terrie Trainor
Linda Tway
Candace Vianna
Alexandra Watkins
Robert West

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General meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

A **Marketing Support Group** for writers precedes the general meeting, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: the San Diego County Health Services Complex Bldg., 1st floor, 3851 Rosecrans Blvd., San Diego

Visit our website for a map.

Membership dues: \$36 / year

Guests: \$5 / meeting

Board of Directors (Term expires)

President: Mardie Schroeder (2019) president@sdwritersguild.org

VP & Publicity Chair: Bob Doublebower (2018) vp@sdwritersguild.org

Secretary: Laurie Asher (2018) secretary@sdwritersguild.org

Treasurer: Marcia Buompensiero (2018) treasurer@sdwritersguild.org

Membership Chair: Rick Peterson (2018) rick@sdwritersguild.org

Directors-at-Large:

Gered Beeby (2018) gered@sdwritersguild.org

Janet Hafner (2019) janet@sdwritersguild.org

Adolpho Sanchez (2019) adolpho@sdwritersguild.org

Ken Yaros (2019) ken@sdwritersguild.org

Newsletter Editor: Frank Newton (2019) editor@sdwritersguild.org

Social Media Mgr: Sandra Yeaman (ex officio) webmaster@sdwritersguild.org

Past-President: Anne Janda (2017) pastpresident@sdwritersguild.org

Mission Statement: The San Diego Writers and 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: educational meetings with guest 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, conferences and other events; links to writing and editing resources on the website; publicity for members' creative works on the "Members' Works" web page; and the opportunity to be included in the Speakers Bureau.
