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Newsletter of North State Writers (NSW), a Branch of the *California Writers Club*
FEBRUARY, 2019

NSW promotes the art and craft of writing across genres, connecting writers, editors, illustrators, publishers, reviewers, agents, and others interested in the continual renewal of creative thought and the written word. <http://www.northstatewriters.com/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

**General Meeting 2/18/2019 6:00 pm, Veterans Memorial Hall, 554
Rio Lindo Ave, Chico, CA**

February 13, 2019 - Sit and Write (No leader available for this one meeting date)

**February 18, 2019 - General Meeting -
Speaker - Jennifer Grainger**

February 23, 2019, Sit and Write

March, 11, 2019 Critique Group

March 18, 2019 -General Meeting

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NORTH STATE WRITERS

HOSTS

JENNIFER GRAINGER

Feb 18 6 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Hall
554 Rio Lindo Ave, Chico

GHOST WRITING

Jennifer's writing skills were honed in a two-year program with Bill Manville, a former Village Voice columnist ("Saloon Society") and a Contributing Editor for Helen Gurley Brown at Cosmo. She specializes in ghostwriting Memoirs, Autobiographies, Spiritual/Motivational books as well as How-To Manuals and business books. She is the author of "Becoming Conscious: One Woman's Story of Spiritual Awakening," and will share what she has learned in her ghostwriting projects and offer resources for those who wish to enter the Ghostwriting arena.

<https://JenniferTheEditor.org>

North State Writers

What is Ghost
Writing?

Ghost Writers do
More than Write
Memoirs

Meetings are Free
& Open to the
Public

Join Us!

NORTH STATE WRITERS
Veterans Memorial Hall
554 Rio Lindo Ave
Chico, CA



www.northstatewriters.com

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Notice of Still Photography, video/Audio Recording. North State writers is providing this notice to inform members and guests at our events that Still Photography will be taking place and Video and/or Audio Recording may be taking place. By entering the venue, members and guests are granting permission that their likeness may be used for publicity purposes.



NSW NEWS



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Cathy Chase, President
North State Writers

MEMBERSHIP

As the time approaches to vote for new board members and renew our memberships, I felt it was important to remind our members of some of the benefits of membership and encourage you to consider serving as a board member.

The benefits of membership:

1. Monthly meeting with expert speakers in all genres of writing, editing, publishing, and art.

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just to get new ideas.

3. A monthly critique group of other writers. Read your work in a non-threatening environment. This is an invaluable process not to be skipped.

4. You have the opportunity to be a published writer in one of our yearly short story anthologies. We have published two in the past and are currently collecting submissions for two more this year.

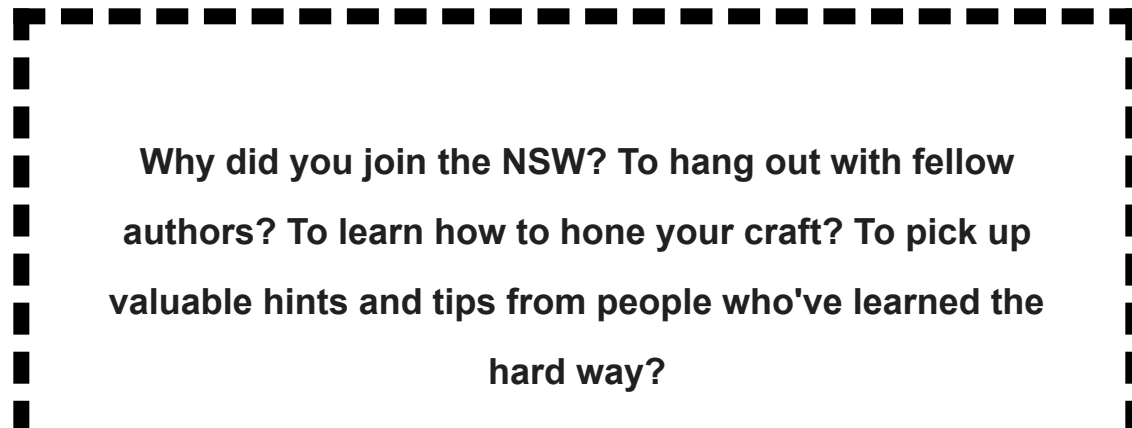
5. How would you like for your work to be performed on stage? Well, it is happening. Twelve of our authors have their short stories being presented in the Blue Room. You could be one of them.

6. I feel the most important aspect of membership is the writing connections you make with other writers and presenters. We spur each other to greater writing feats and applaud each other in our successes.

Cathy Chase, President
North State Writers



NSW BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS



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Well, you'll get all of that, and plenty more, when you sign up for the Board. Trade in a paltry two hours a month for a chance to take the wheel, and help steer this adventurous writing ship where YOU think it ought to go.

Elections are coming up in June. More details to follow.

CAMP FIRE STORIES

North State Writers is gathering stories from the Camp Fire to create a collection to memorialize the experiences of our members, friends, and family.

We are reaching out to members to write stories based on their own personal experience or the story of someone they know. We sit at the threshold of the fire and as a writer's group, we are ideally located to do such a book. Our hope is to create a book with quality writing, impactful stories and to attract a publisher. All proceeds will go to fire victims.

The stories can be based on the day of the fire or the aftermath of this historical, tragic event. So many have and will continue to be impacted by this event. If you would like to write a story but do not have access to one, we should be able to get you connected to someone. whose story you can

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book including reviewing all content and editing..

The speaker at our February 18th meeting, Jennifer Grainer, will be speaking about Ghost Writing. This is good timing to learn about writing the story of another. However, our authors' names will be associated with whatever stories are published.

We have formed a committee to work on the book including reviewing all content and editing. The committee is headed by North State Writers Vice President, Dan Irving. If further interested, please contact Dan at danielnirving@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Writing specs: Poems and photos can be submitted. Stories to be limited to 3,500 words or less. Font: Times Roman, font size:12, MS Word doc. A deadline has not yet been established

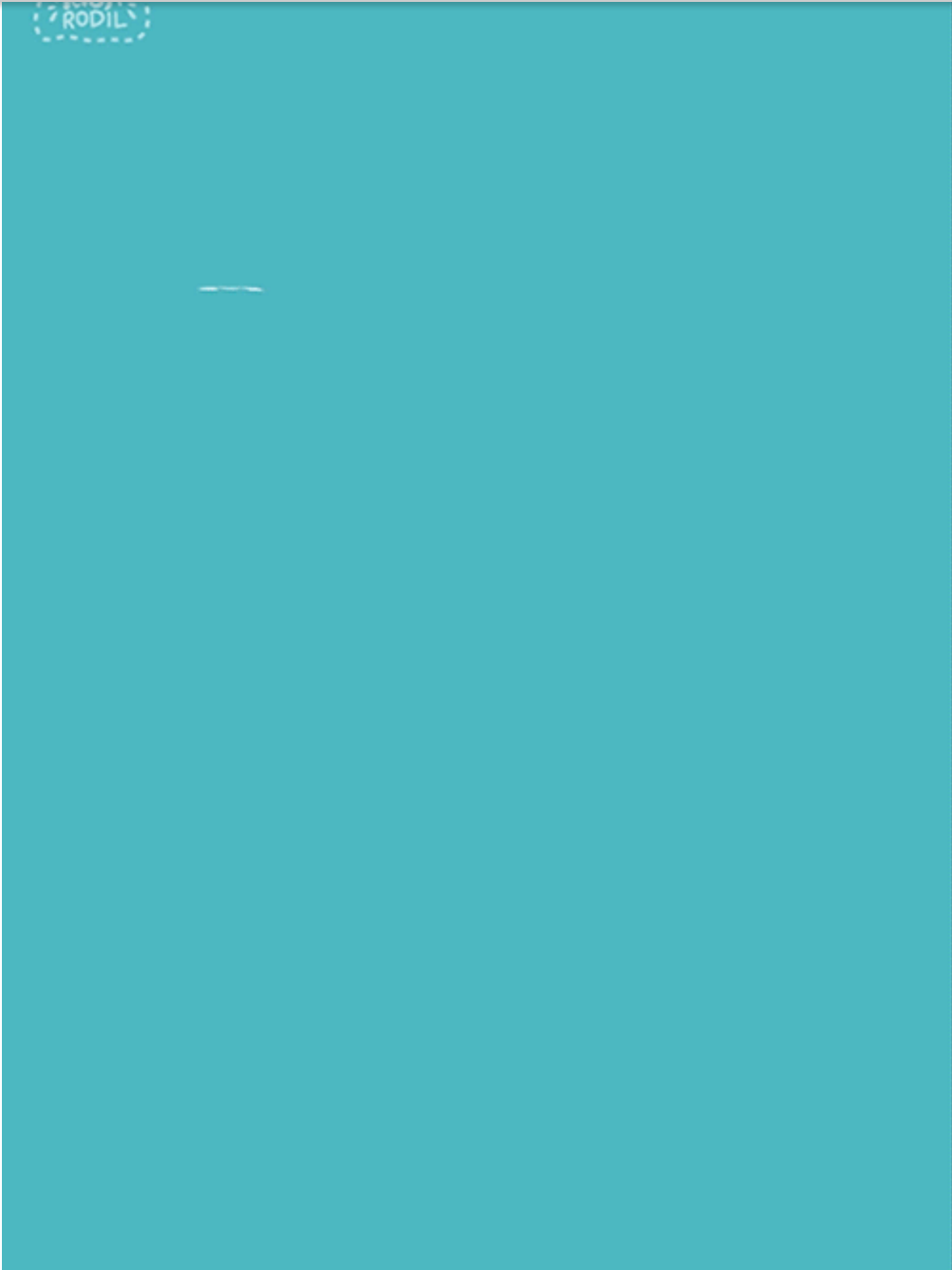
Dan Irving
Vice President
North State Writers

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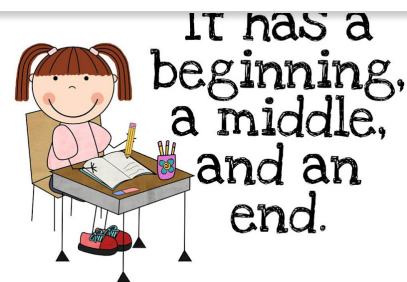
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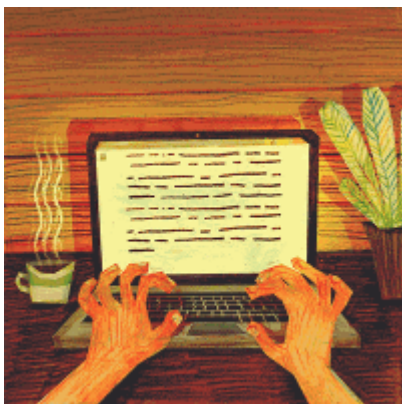
CRITIQUE GROUP

567 E. Lassen Ave, Chico, CA



The Critique Group is here. It will be a low key non-threatening environment. According to your wishes, it will meet on the second Monday of every month between the hours of 6PM-8PM. The location is the Almond Grove Mobile home park 567 E Lassen Ave, Chico, CA, cross street Esplanade. It will be in the clubhouse which is located on Front Street behind the pool. Please park in visitor parking. For the first meeting, please bring 3 pages (4 copies) of your work.

I hope to see you there. Critique groups are a valuable addition for any writer.



SIT AND WRITE

Starbucks (Skyway and Notre Dame,
Chico, CA

Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm **There will be no leader for just this night this month but feel free to sit and write

Join your fellow NSW writers and make time to Sit and Write. An informal gathering of members, bring your laptop or pen and paper. If you don't have a project started and need help we will have writing prompts available to get your creativity flowing. You can write or edit your project or even create your book launch and marketing strategy, whatever stage your project is in. NSW members Linda Sue Forrister or Andrea Wagner will be on hand to facilitate the gathering.

TIP OF THE QUILL

SOME TIPS FOR SETTING GOOD WRITING WORK HABITS

By Daphne Gray-Grant Communications and Publications Coach

1. **Examine your previous patterns:** Think about why you started unfinished projects and why you stopped. Are there any patterns in your habits that are holding you back?
2. **Differentiate between experiments and commitments:** We need to differentiate between those tasks we want to finish and those we are just experimenting with. We



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3. **Count the full cost:** Don't bite off more than you can chew. When you decide on a project, like a novel, understand the commitment you are making. You can then decide if you want to proceed.
4. **Don't get stuck on the big picture:** With a big project, it is easy to be overwhelmed. Don't think about 80,000 words. Instead, just get started.
5. **Set exceptionally *small* daily goals:** The bigger the project, the smaller the daily goals; especially if this is your first attempt at a large undertaking. You put one foot in front of the other and soon you have walked a mile.
6. **Find the pleasure in the work:** Enjoy your writing for writing's sake. Take pride in your accomplishment no matter how small. This is supposed to be something you want and relish in doing.
7. **Track how you're doing:** Share your goals and work with others. You could join a writing group or pair up with another writer friend and discuss your project regularly.
8. **Stop fixating on the negative:** Things will go wrong. Handle them and go on. Focus on your successes no matter how small —

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day.

9. **The only obstacle:** You are your only obstacle. Learn how to say no to others. Believe in yourself. Plan your project. Most importantly, JUST HAVE FUN.



NSW MEMBER NEWS



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LiveWord

TWELVE LOCAL AUTHORS

FIVE BLUE ROOM ACTORS



NO COSTUMES, NO PROPS, NO EXCUSES!
Just a dozen takes on the world, delivered with total conviction.

At the Blue Room Theatre
139 West 1st St., Chico ● 7:30 p.m., Feb. 23 ● 2 p.m., Feb. 24 ● \$10

 North State Writers
A Branch of the California Writers Club 

BLUE ROOM
T H E A T R E

Look! Up in the sky! It's a play! It's a reading! No, it's LiveWord!

So let's face it. We're all addicted to stories. But what really grabs us are those very same stories as conveyed by a human voice. As members of North State Writers, we have attended our share of readings, only to be reminded, time and again, of one essential fact. We were writers, not performers. Our voices failed our words. We needed to find a cadre of actors who could bring our tales to life.

And thus was LiveWord born. It features twelve works, a wide-ranging blend of short fiction, poetry and essays. Some are humorous, some heartfelt, all from award-winning local authors. And all read aloud by the skilled orators of Chico's Blue Room Theatre. There will be no props. No costumes. No distractions. Just the word and the voice, in tandem. We hope this collaboration will be the first among many. A new way of sharing our work. That it might inspire a few more people to take up pen in hand.

Performances will be at 7:30 on Saturday, February 23, and 2:00 on Sunday, February 24, with a ticket price of \$10.00. For further information contact Brian Marshall at 530 877-5734.

Tickets can be purchased in advance on the [Blue Room Theatre website](#) but will also be available at the door.



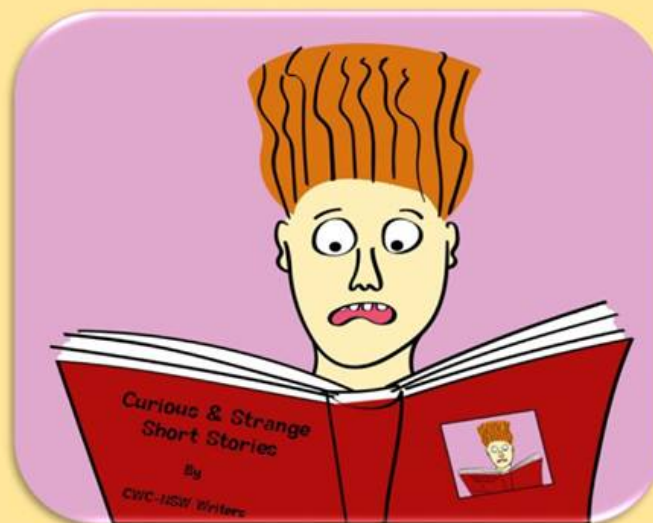
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North State Writers (NSW)

Anthology of *Curious Things*

Open for Submission through May 31, 2019

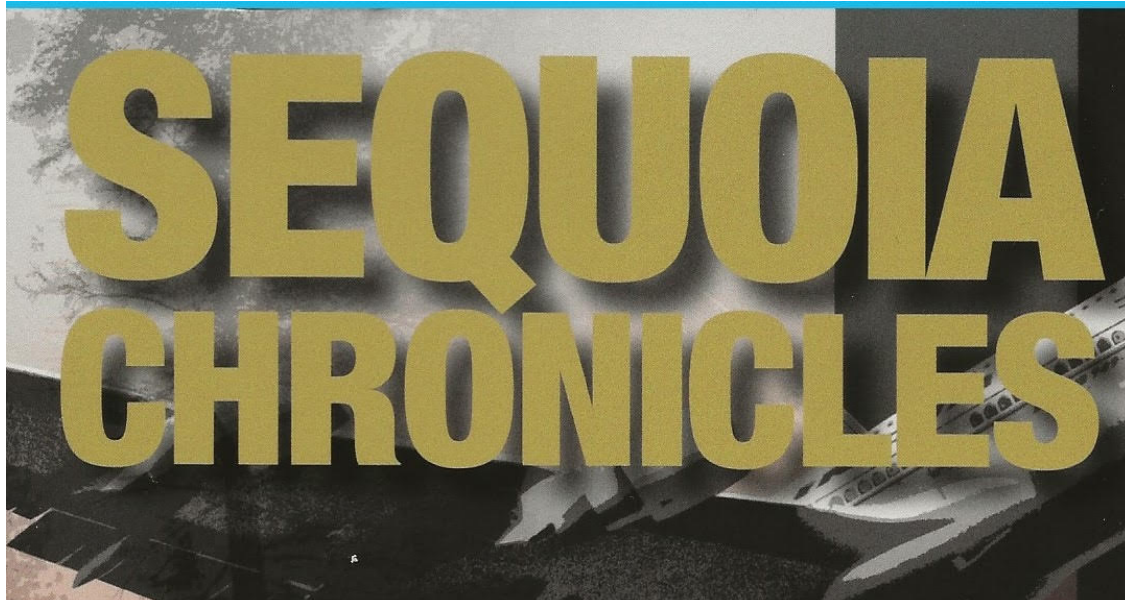
North State Writers is accepting submissions from members of the California Writers Club for *Curious Things*, an NSW Anthology of fiction and non-fiction short stories about curious or strange events, Halloween memoirs or humor, unexplained oddities, ghosts, curses, and/or other amazing tales.



Submission Guidelines at: www.northstatewriters.com

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NSW author Jim Moll was recently featured in the Oroville Showcase along with his book, Sequoia Chronicles. A launch party and book signing is planned for Friday the May, 22nd from 4 to 7 at Gray Nurse Hardware, 1359 Huntoon St. in Oroville, CA

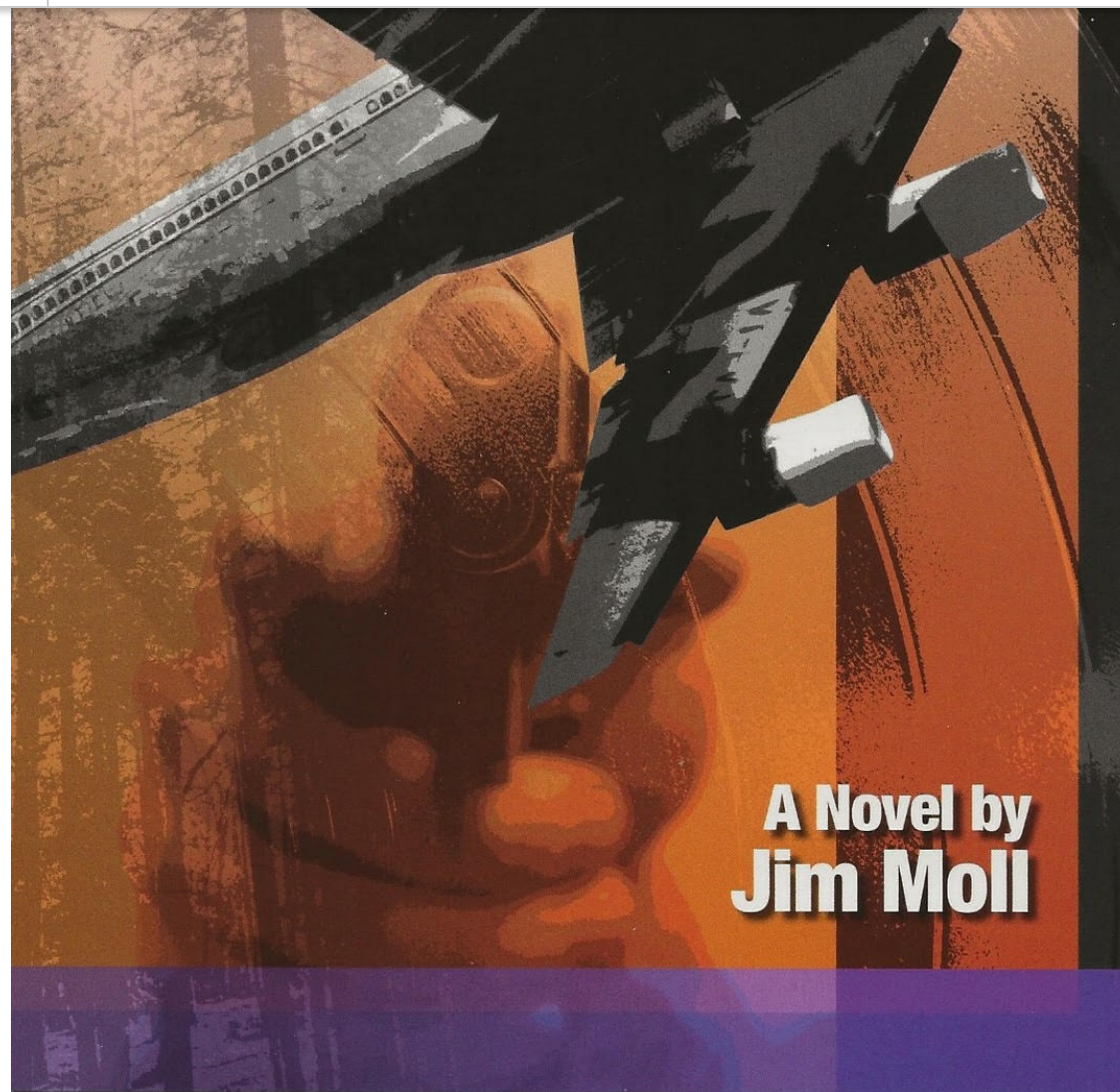


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CWC BRANCH NEWS

Tri-Valley Writers Conference 2019

Mark Your Calendar for [TVW Writers Conference](#) on April 13, 2019

Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, CA

California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch is pleased to announce its third full-day writers conference featuring keynote speaker **Robert Dugoni**.

Dugoni is a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon bestselling author as well as the winner of 2015 Nancy Pearl Award for fiction. Has twice been a finalist for the Harper Lee Award for Legal Fiction, twice been a finalist of the Silver Falchion Award for his mysteries, was a 2015 and 2017 International Thriller Writer's finalist for thriller of the year, and a 2017 Mystery Writers of American Edgar Finalist. His books are sold worldwide in 30 countries and have been translated into a dozen languages. For more information on Dugoni's current projects, visit www.robertdugonibooks.com.

Join us along with the following presenters: Jim Azevedo from Smashwords, Angela Bole from IBPA, Stephanie Chandler, David Corbett, Robin Cutler from IngramSpark, Rachael Herron, Linda Lee, and Penny Warner. For presenters bios and session synopsis: see Conference Resources on sidebar.



Conferences and Workshops



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Literary events provided
by
Margie Yee-Webb.

WNBA SF Pitch-O-Rama 2019

March 23, 2019

San Francisco CA

<http://wnba-sfchapter.org/pitch-o-rama-2019/>

“Women’s National Book Association—San Francisco Chapter presents Pitch-O-Rama: Meet the Agents and Editors”

The Author Website: Building a Site That Works with Linda Lee

March 23, 2019

San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/author-website-building-site-works-mar-23-2019>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute and San Francisco Writers Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.

WordPress Bootcamp: Creating a WordPress Website and How to Use It with Linda Lee

March 23, 2019

San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/wordpress-bootcamp-creating-wordpress-website-and-how-use-it-mar-23-2019>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute and San Francisco Writers Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.

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Application Deadline: March 28, 2019

June 22-29, 2019

Alpine Meadows CA

<https://communityofwriters.org/workshops/poetry-workshop/>

<https://communityofwriters.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Download-Brochure.pdf>

Presented by Community of Writers at Squaw Valley—"The Poetry Program at the Community of Writers is founded on the belief that when poets gather in a community to write new poems, each poet may well break through old habits and write something stronger and truer than before."

The Writers Workshops in Fiction, Nonfiction and Memoir

Application Deadline: March 28, 2019

July 8-15, 2019

Squaw Valley CA

<https://communityofwriters.org/workshops/writers-workshops/>

<https://communityofwriters.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Download-Brochure.pdf>

Presented by Community of Writers at Squaw Valley—"These workshops assist serious writers by exploring the art and craft as well as the business of writing."

Left Coast Crime 2019: Whale of a Crime

March 28-31, 2019

Vancouver Canada

<http://www.leftcoastcrime.org/2019/>

Left Coast Crime is an annual mystery convention . . . "where readers, authors, critics, librarians, publishers, and other fans can gather."

Our Life Stories Writers' Conference

Note: Registration required by April 5, 2019

April 13, 2019

Sacramento CA

<https://ourlifestories.org/>

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The Belize Writers' Conference, (Fiction, Creative Nonfiction and Memoir)

April 6-11, 2019

Jaguar Reef Resort, Belize

<https://www.joeygarcia.com/events/>

"Vacation with Literary Agents while Learning to Succeed as an Authorpreneur at the
Belize Writers' Conference!"

Tri-Valley Writers Conference 2019

April 13, 2019

Pleasanton CA

<https://www.trivalleywriters.org/conferences/tri-valley-writers-conference-2019/>

3rd Annual Conference of Tri-Valley Writers



2018-2019 North State Writers Board Members

Left to right, Andrea Wagner-Secretary, Cathy Chase-Vice-President, Nick Hanson-Treasurer, Brian Marshall-Events Coordinator, Gail Stone-Member at Large, Linda

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OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Cathy Chase

chaseca310@gmail.com

Vice-President: Dan Irving

danielnirving@yahoo.com

Secretary: Andrea Wagner

lavoywagner@hotmail.com

Treasurer (Interim): Nick Hanson

nickhanson16@yahoo.com

Director of Membership: Gary

Carter

gtc4202@aol.com

Central Board Rep: Kathi Hiatt

kathihiatt@att.net

NorCal Group Rep: Cathy Chase

chaseca310@gmail.com

Digital Content Manager: Linda

Sue Forrister

lindasueforrister@gmail.com

Publicity: Kathi Hiatt

kathihiatt@att.net

Newsletter Editor: Linda Sue

Forrister

lindasueforrister@gmail.com

Events Coordinators: Cara

Gubbins and Brian Marshall

caragubbins@caragubbins.com

Social Events Coordinator: Open

Newsletter Proofreaders: Suzanne

Markuson Roberts and Margie Yee

Webb

Members at large: Gail Stone

trueblueinnovations@gmail.com

Note: Asterisks are in place of @
symbol to block SPAM

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