



# Throughline



Newsletter of the *California Writers Club-North State Branch* (NSW) Volume 3, Issue 2, February 2017

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.

**FEBRUARY 20, 2017 MEETING** is at the **Veteran's Memorial Hall, 554 Rio Lindo Ave, Chico, CA**, 6:00 pm social time, 6:30 p.m. meeting.

**North State Writers**

HOSTING.....

**Zu Vincent**

Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.

**Writer's Workshop: Enhancing Your Characters**

Award winning author, Zu Vincent, is a freelance writer, editor and writing instructor who holds an MFA in Writing from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She has authored 3-books & numerous articles and has been a senior editor of an art & travel magazine; Expressions. As a college instructor, she teaches & presents workshops to classes & organization. Open to the public.

**Coming Feb 20th**

#### Upcoming meetings

March 20, 2017 – Emily Gallo

April 17, 2017 – Leeanne Crusemark – Query Letters (Note \$5 fee for nonmembers)

*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.*



*It's a good day to be inside writing*

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....	2
EDITOR'S CORNER.....	3
NSW BOARD NEWS.....	3
MEMBER NEWS.....	4
NSW ANTHOLOGY.....	4
BOOK REVIEWS.....	5
TOOLS FOR WRITERS.....	5
CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH.....	5
GREAT QUOTES.....	5
OPEN MIC NIGHT.....	7
STATE & BRANCH NEWS & EVENTS.....	7
EVENTS, CONTESTS & CONFERENCES.....	8

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In today's world of self-publishing, which, most of our local writers are, one must learn to jump back and forth between the worlds of book marketing and sharpening our writing craft. The task can be tedious for the seasoned writer, and frighteningly daunting to the beginner. Fortunately, there is help.

At North State Writers we try to bring you a balance of speakers to help guide you through these difficult tasks. This month of February, we are honored to present Zu Vincent, an accomplished writer, who will be gracing us with a workshop on the finer art of character enhancement. It should prove very useful to you in your own endeavors, for who among us can say we have perfected the craft of character creation? Bringing someone, or something, to life in the minds of our readers can be a challenge, but we hope you find something in this month's presentation that will make it a little less difficult.

Also, watch for the announcement of our participation with Word Spring at Butte College, and with the Chocolate Festival in Paradise. These are fantastic events for writers and the North State Writers will be involved with both.

"Plot is no more than footprints left in the snow after your characters have run by on their way to incredible destinations."

Ray Bradbury, *Zen in the Art of Writing*

*Steven J. Thompson*  
*President, North State Writers*  
*Branch 21-California Writers Club*



## EDITOR'S CORNER



So much to do and so little time... We've all heard that phrase and can attest to its truthfulness. It seems every time you think you have things under control something else needs attention. I did manage to find time to get two submissions in for the NSW Anthology just in the nick of time before the deadline ran out. The production of a branch anthology requires a lot of commitment from our volunteers. Please be sure to thank Cathy Chase and her team for taking on this task as a benefit to our entire group.

Thanks should also be given to Cara Gubbins who has agreed to organize our monthly book review program. Reviews on Amazon, Good Reads, and other sites are crucial to the success of our member's book sales and Cara's work is greatly appreciated. If you took advantage of the free downloads please be sure to leave a review for the author.

Linda Sue Forrister  
NSW Newsletter Editor

*Have a great month Writing!*

## NSW BOARD NEWS

**PUBLICITY – NSW MEMBER ONLY BENEFIT:** The North State Writers (NSW) Facebook page continues to grow in followers which makes it an excellent place to post information about your up and coming book signings, special offers or giveaways for your books, and/or other milestones and/or announcements. We can also post scanned/copied certificates, photos, book covers, newspaper/magazine reviews, etc.

If you have questions or concerns regarding your book-posting requests, please email Kathi Hiatt, Publicity Coordinator.

**EVENTS – NSW MEMBER ONLY BENEFIT:** Upcoming events include The Chocolate Fest in Paradise, Word Spring writer's conference at Butte College, the Downtown Chico Thursday Night Market and others. Additional information will be provided at our meetings.

**WEBSITE – NSW MEMBER ONLY BENEFIT:** Our website continues to grow in the number of visitors. Your name on the NSW website with a link to your website, Facebook page, Amazon author page, whatever you prefer. If your link needs to be corrected or added please email our Digital Content Manager, Gail Stone with the information at [trueblueinnovations@gmail.com](mailto:trueblueinnovations@gmail.com). As a member, we would appreciate your comments or information on additional items that might need to be included on our website.

**HOSPITALITY –** A list for the coming year will be passed around at our next meeting. Please sign up to provide refreshments at a meeting most convenient for you. We are also looking for someone to handle reminders for the refreshments, assist with room set up and greeting members and guests at the meetings. Please contact President Steve Thompson for more information.

**NAME BADGES - NSW MEMBER ONLY BENEFIT:**

North State Writers' members may purchase a high quality, elegant name badge, with both the California Writers Club and North State Writers logos as well as their name. The

cost of a badge is \$11 for one with a -clip or pin and \$13 for one with a magnetic backing. Please speak with David Bruhn at our next meeting; he will be coordinating the ordering process.

*Next NSW Board meeting is Monday, March 6, 2017, 5:30 p.m. – Check with any board member for more details, all members are welcome to attend to learn more about how our group functions.*



**NSW ANTHOLOGY**

North State Writers would like to invite all members to submit their treasured short stories, poetry or memoirs in the North State Writers 2017 Anthology. It is an opportunity for unpublished writers to be published and published writers to add to their resume. As writers, we love to write, but it is even more rewarding to be recognized and appreciated. Let's celebrate our work.

The North State Writers 2017 Anthology will be published in the spring and available for purchase on Amazon Books.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

**All submissions must be received by February 20, 2017. None will be accepted after this date.**

You may submit maximum of 3 published or unpublished short stories and/or poems

Entry fee is \$10 for each story submitted. The nonrefundable \$10 fee pays for professional line readers who will read and judge each story and poem for quality in grammar and structure. Each entry will be read twice.

Entries will be read anonymously. Please submit a cover page for each emailed submission with your name, email, phone number and story/poem title (s). Each entry will be issued a number to preserve anonymity. Do not put your name on the work itself.

Please include on the cover sheet this statement; I, (name here) own and convey the rights to publish this/these works (title/titles) to Northstate Writers for one-time publishing in their 2017 Anthology.

**MECHANICS OF SUBMISSION**

Short story 750-5000 maximum words; 12pt Times Roman, 1.5 spacing

Poetry 30 lines or fewer; 12pt Times Roman, 1.5 spacing

Works that are proselytizing, libelous or gratuitous vulgarity/obscenity will not be considered.

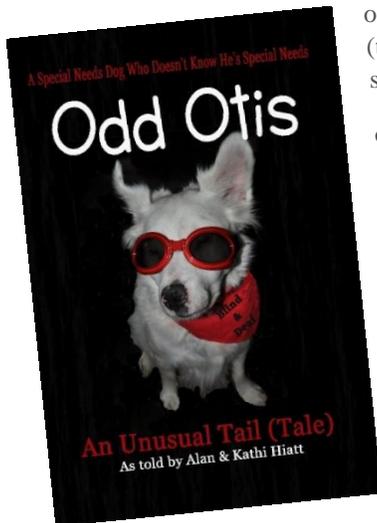
Works will be accepted for entry upon receipt of payment. Please pay at the meetings.

Email your submissions to: [chaseca310@gmail.com](mailto:chaseca310@gmail.com).

## BOOK REVIEWS

**FEBRUARY FEATURED BOOKS:** These great North State Writers Featured Books were available for free download February 1-5, 2017

o Divine Beings by Dr. Cara Gubbins. One of the finest spiritual scientists exploring our world today takes us on a dramatic, inspiring, revelatory journey into the inner world of animals. (Non-fiction)



o Odd Otis by Alan and Kathi Hiatt. An unusual tail (tale) about a special needs dog who doesn't know he's special needs. (Non-fiction)

o Jump by Cathy Chase. Jump is an adventure in a mysterious world run by dangerous minders. (Fiction)

**EACH REVIEW COUNTS! Help us reach our goal of 50 NEW REVIEWS for each featured book this month.**



## TOOLS FOR WRITERS

### CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

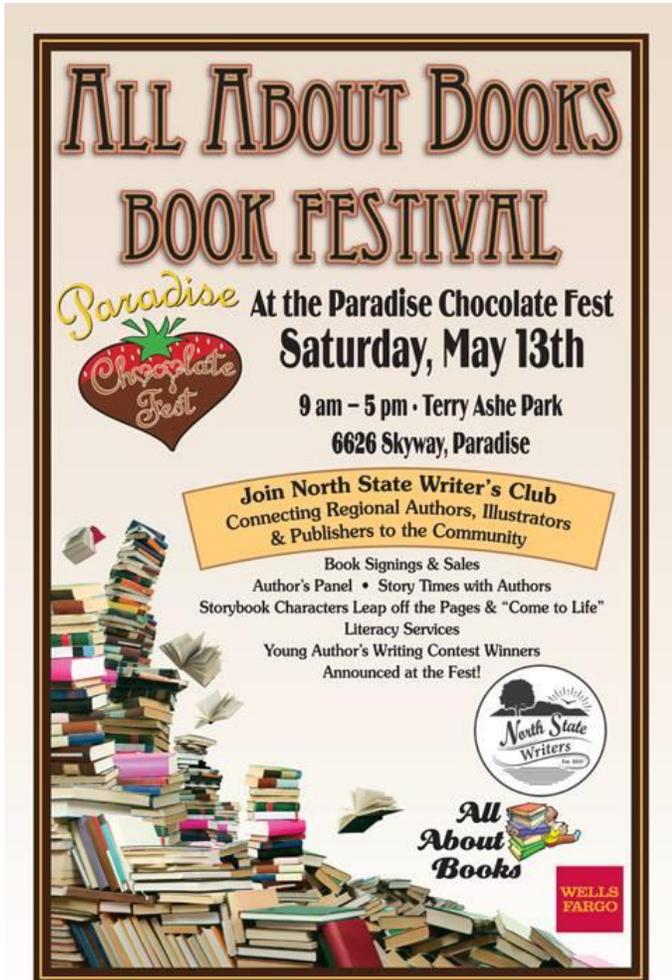
Submit something to the anthology and leave a review for the books available for free download.

### GREAT QUOTES

“Plot is no more than footprints left in the snow after your characters have run by on their way to incredible destinations.”

Ray Bradbury, Zen in the Art of Writing

\*\*\*I liked the quote that our branch president used so much I felt it warranted repetition.\*\*\*



## A SPECIAL INVITE TO AUTHORS, ILLUSTRATORS, & PUBLISHERS

The Paradise Chocolate Festival is inviting **AUTHORS, ILLUSTRATORS, PUBLISHERS, and LITERARY EXHIBITORS** a 10x10 space to sell their books for **ONLY \$40** (if you find another author to share a space with, you only pay **\$20**-after **March 1st** spaces are **\$85**). *The Flyer & Application for this reduced rate must be received by the Terry Ashe Center by March 1st.*

Reserve your 10x10 space now through **May 1st** for Only **\$40** for the *All About Books Chocolate Festival* .....

Just Follow These Simple Steps.....

1. Go on-line & fill out the application for a *CA Resale Number* (also called a *Temporary Sellers Permit*). It's free and easy at <https://efile.boe.ca.gov/ereg/common/capturePreparerInfo.boe?cid=244424>

- Sales & Event Address: 6626 Skyway, Paradise, CA 95969
- NAICS number: 451211
- Event Coordinator: Debbie Mosley (debbie@chocolatefest.us) (phone: 530-342-4896)

2. Complete the Chocolate Festival Application, attach your new Resale Number, a check for \$40 (made out to Youth on the Ridge) & mail by May 1st to:

Youth on the Ridge/Paradise Chocolate Fest  
P.O. Box 2621  
Paradise, CA 95967

**Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to sell & market your books!**

## OPEN MIC NIGHT

Open Mic is Wednesday, February 15 at 7 pm, Chico Library Meeting Room, 1108 Sherman Av, Chico. Remember: Prose, Poetry, Short Stories are welcome; 10 minutes per reading (unless the audience begs for more - at the closing of our readings); ALL are welcome!

## STATE & BRANCH NEWS & EVENTS

### CWC BULLETIN ADVERTISING SUBMISSION DEADLINES

In 2017 there will again be three issues of the CWC Bulletin published. For your information, and as posted on [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org), here are the deadlines for the upcoming issues:

February 28, 2017, for the March publication;

July 28 for the August publication, and

October 28 for the November issue.

Please encourage your membership to use the advertising available in The Bulletin as well as the 2017 Literary Review to promote their writing accomplishments and/or services. Ads in both publications reach approximately 2,000 potential buyers!

Advertising deadline for the 2017 Literary Review is March 30, 2017.

Please view our advertising video which is on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCz4Y-ENAY0&feature=youtu.be>



## EVENTS, CONTESTS & CONFERENCES



### LITERARY EVENTS

Literary Events Provided by:

**Margie Yee Webb**, author and photographer of *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings: Insight and Inspiration for a Wonderful Life* and co-creator of *Not Your Mother's Book . . . On Cats*.

#### **San Francisco Writers Conference**

February 16-20, 2017

San Francisco CA

<https://sfwriters.org/>

“The 14th Celebration of Craft, Commerce & Community” with Pre/Post Event Open Enrollment Classes  
Plus

**Scholarships for 2017 San Francisco Writers Conference:** Scholarships have no fees and all have a simple submission process. See scholarships and note submission due dates. <https://sfwriters.org/scholarships/>

**2017 San Francisco Writing Contest:** The contest is open to all writers everywhere. All fees and entries must be received by 5 p.m. Pacific Time on January 13, 2017. <https://sfwriters.org/2017-writing-contest-overview/>

#### **Southern California Writers' Conference**

February 17-20, 2017

San Diego CA

<http://writersconference.com/sd/>

#### **Left Coast Crime Convention 2017**

“Honolulu Havoc”

March 16-19, 2017

Honolulu HI

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

<http://www.leftcoastcrime.org/2017/>

“Left Coast Crime is an annual mystery convention sponsored by mystery fans, both readers and authors. Our purpose is to host an event where readers, authors, critics, librarians, publishers, and other fans can gather in convivial surroundings to pursue their mutual interests.”

#### **Pitch-O-Rama**

March 25, 2017

San Francisco CA

Women's National Book Association, San Francisco Chapter

<http://wnba-sfchapter.org/>

“Pitch-O-Rama delivers the 4 Ps that lead to publication: Polish, Pitch, Promote, Participate.” Details to be announced.

**IBPA’s Publishing University 2017**

April 7-8, 2017

Portland, OR

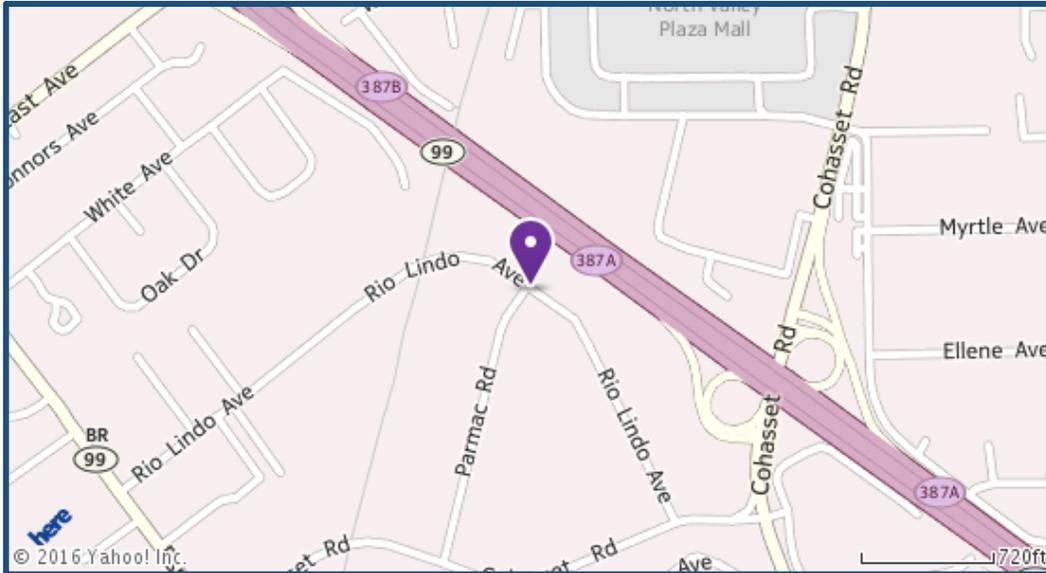
<http://www.publishinguniversity.org/>

Independent Book Publishers Association’s Publishing University: “The Premier Educational Event for Indie Publishers and Self-Published Authors”



**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

The deadline for newsletter content is the 25th of each month. Content submitted after this date may be saved for a subsequent issue. The Editorial Committee will review submitted material before selecting items to be included in each issue. The editor or *NSW* board may edit the material for length and content. Please email submissions to the Newsletter Editor, Linda Sue Forrister at [lindasueforrister\\*att.net](mailto:lindasueforrister*att.net)



*Our meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. 6:00 pm Social time, meeting starts promptly at 6:30 pm and ends at 8:00 pm, Veterans Memorial Hall, 554 Rio Lindo Avenue, Chico, CA*

### OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** Steven J. Thompson  
daughtersdaring\*comcast.net

**Vice-President:** Lynn Tosello,  
lynnte\*live.com

**Secretary:** Andrea Wagner  
lavoywagner\*hotmail.com

**Treasurer (Interim):** Nick Hanson,  
nickhanson16@yahoo.com

**Director of Membership:** Ken Young,  
northpoint157\*aol.com

**Central Board Rep:** Steven J. Thompson  
daughtersdaring\*comcast.net

**NorCal Group Rep:** Cathy Chase  
chaseca310\*gmail.com

**Creative Director:** Rod Warren,  
rodwarren46\*gmail.com

**Digital Content Manager:** Gail Stone  
trueblueinnovations\*gmail.com

**Publicity:** Kathi Hiatt  
kathihiatt\*att.net

**Newsletter Editor:** Linda Sue Forrister  
lindasueforrister\*att.net

**Member at large:** David Bruhn  
commanderbruhn\*gmail.com

**Branch Consultant:** Tom Watson  
tew\*tewatsononline.com

**Newsletter Proofreaders:** Suzanne Markuson Roberts  
and Margie Yee Webb

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

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