



Throughline



Newsletter of the *California Writers Club-North State Branch (NSW)* Volume 3, Issue 1, January 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.

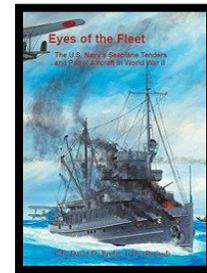
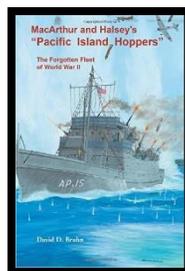
JANUARY 16, 2016 MEETING is at the **Veteran's Memorial Hall, 554 Rio Lindo Ave, Chico, CA, 6:00 pm social time, 6:30 p.m. meeting.**



Commander David Bruhn, US NAVY (Retired)

Marketing, Research, Foreword, Preface, Cover Art.....

Cdr. David D. Bruhn, U.S. Navy (Retired) is the author of 7-books on naval history published by Heritage Books, and one on naval engineering published by the Naval Institute. His ninth book, Ingram's Fourth Fleet, is currently undergoing the review/editing process. He will be sharing his knowledge on researching and writing historically accurate books.



Upcoming meetings

February 20, 2017 – Zu Vincent on Characterizations (Note \$5 fee for nonmembers)

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.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2017 is here, and a new year always brings a sense of new opportunities. Chances are, you'd like to write more, and maybe even publish your work. This takes work, and it pays to start with small steps and work your way up. Like a resolution to lose weight, it's not something you're likely to achieve overnight. It's going to take some discipline. Here's an idea to get you started. The North State Writers is taking submissions for an anthology we're putting together. You can submit up to 3 short stories or poems for a small reading fee of \$10 each. Works will be read anonymously and selections will be published in our 2017 anthology. It's a great way to get your work out there to some

new readers and hone your craft.

North State Writers will also be participating in Butte College's Wordspring this year. This is a conference for writers that can also help you learn more about the craft of writing. There will be some professional writers giving classes, including one on independent publishing. You won't want to miss it.

If you're not ready for an anthology or a writer's conference, come to our meetings. We have a number of new and seasoned writers, editors, and artists there who can help you at any stage in your journey. We want you to feel welcome and supported. We want you to succeed, and we hope that you will go far in your writing career. Maybe you'll even mention us in your acknowledgments! We should all strive to dream.

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



EDITOR'S CORNER



2017 is already shaping up to be a busy year for North State Writers. Plans are underway for several book promotion events for members and we have some excellent speakers scheduled. Additional information will be coming shortly regarding The Paradise Chocolate Fest, the Word Spring Writers Conference at Butte College, the Downtown Chico Thursday Night Market and more. These events should prove to be both an opportunity to increase public awareness of our group as well as an opportunity for our authors to gain name recognition and hone their skills interacting with their readers. It's going to be a great year.

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. 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.

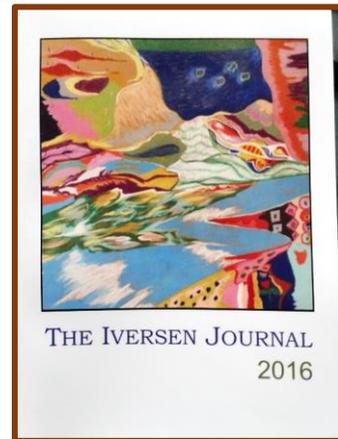
NAME BADGES – NSW MEMBER ONLY BENEFIT: North State Writers' members may purchase a high quality, elegant name badge, with both the California Writers Club and North State Writers logos as well as their name. The cost of a badge is \$11 for one with a -clip or pin and \$13 for one with a magnetic backing. Please speak with David Bruhn at our next meeting; he will be coordinating the ordering process.

Next NSW Board meeting is Monday, February 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.

MEMBER NEWS

NSW member **Margie Yee Webb** announces she is serving as the Contest Chair for the Redwood Writers 2017 Fan Fiction Contest, which is open to all CWC members. Fan fiction is fiction written by fans of a TV series, movie, book, etc., using existing characters and situations to develop new plots. The contest launch is January 8, 2017, with a deadline of February 19, 2017. Awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be presented at the RW meeting on April 9, 2017. For details and the contest flyer, see <http://redwoodwriters.org/contests/>.

NSW member **Andrea Wagner** has completed an editing project for The Iverson Journal. This is a collection of art, literature, and crafts submitted by members of the Iversen Center. The second edition will be available Feb. 9 at a Journal Release Party.



NSW AUTHOR KEN YOUNG WAS PROFILED IN A RECENT ARTICLE IN OUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

PROFILES

Putting the stories on paper

Local novelist Ken Young brings virtues to life

By Eli Stillman
Estillman@paradisepost.com
@EliStillman13 on Twitter

When it came to parenting, Ken Young took a creative approach to teaching his daughter, Heather, about right from wrong. Instead of lectures, Young created a fantasy world through written stories that taught virtues and responsibility.

These stories involved giant man-eating frogs, an evil sorcerer and also a strong willed princess whose duty it was to protect her kingdom.

As his daughter grew older, the characters and plots in Young's stories grew as well. When Heather graduated from

law school, she told her father that as a gift, she wanted him to finish the tale and put it all together. From the bedtime stories used to teach his daughter about life came Young's first novel, *The King's Frog Hunter*.

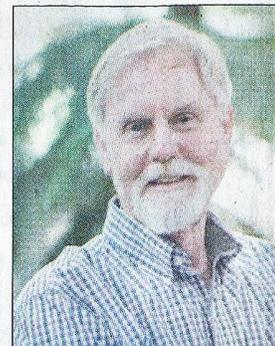
The local novelist has always enjoyed writing fiction, but it never was his main focus in life. While growing up in Southern California, Young was convinced by his friends to submit screenplays to Universal Studios. Though never having a full script accepted, parts of his work were used in the classic television show, *The Six Million Dollar Man*.

Young and his wife Cindy landed in Paradise in 1976 after visiting friends in the area and re-

alizing they didn't want to leave. "I came here to figure out what I wanted to do with my life," Young said. While building homes as a contractor by day, and writing stories for his daughter by night, Young had found a balance for living but he wasn't being consistent with his writing. "Sometimes I would write everyday and sometimes I wouldn't touch it for three months," he said.

When Heather told him to put together the book, he found a whole new motivation and knew that he wanted to become a full-time writer. He published his novel in the fall of 2014 and has traveled around the West Coast promoting it since.

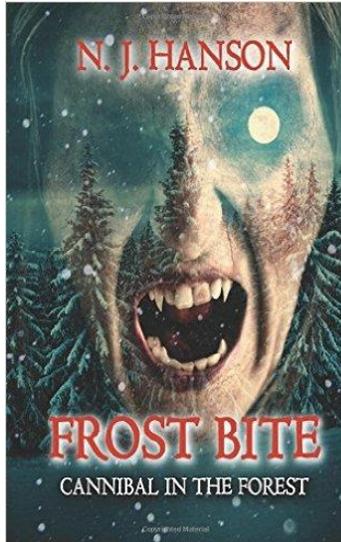
Today *The King's Frog Hunter* can be found on Amazon, in local libraries and even in Reno and



Paradise novelist Ken Young is in the process of writing his second book of the *King's Frog Hunter* trilogy.

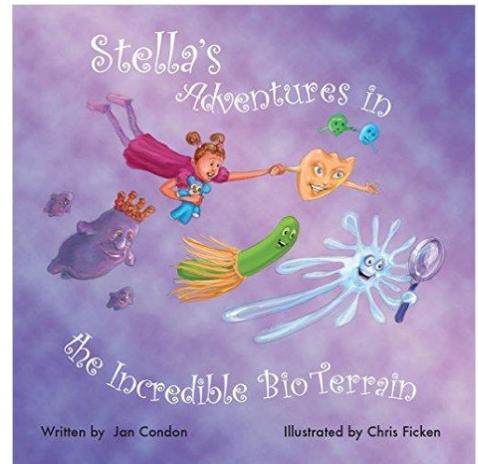
San Jose bookstores. The positive response and questions about what happens next have inspired Young to make the tale into a trilogy and he is two-thirds of the way done with his second book

STORIES » PAGE 4



NSW author [Nick Hanson](#) announces the release of his most current book "[Frostbite-Cannibal in the Forest](#)" now available on Amazon. You can obtain this book and other titles by visiting his author page on Amazon.

NSW member Jan Condon held a book signing on December 3rd, 2016 for her book "Stella's Adventures in the Incredible BioTerrain" which is available on Amazon. You can learn more about Jan Condon and other titles available from her at her website, <http://www.janicecondon.com/> or on her Amazon author page



NSW 2016 Holiday Party photos



TOOLS FOR WRITERS

CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

This month's challenge comes from Writer's Digest:

Get inspired on a field trip. Museums, gardens, movies and city skylines have all provided inspiration for reality TV challenges. Your assignment: Go on an outing to any artistic venue. Then, when you return home, write not *about* the inspiration you found on the field trip, but *from* the inspiration. If you want to go one step further, write while you're actually out and about. A change of scenery may be just the thing you need to get you thinking in new directions.

GREAT QUOTES



“If you have a dream, don't just sit there. Gather courage to believe that you can succeed and leave no stone unturned to make it a reality.”

– Roopleen

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Open Mic is Wednesday, January 11 at 7 pm, Chico Library Meeting Room, 1108 Sherman Av, Chico. Remember: Prose, Poetry, Short Stories are welcome; 10 minutes per read (unless the audience begs for more - at the closing of our readings); ALL are welcome!

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.

BOOK REVIEWS

NSW FEATURED BOOKS OF THE MONTH: North State Writers members and friends are getting together to promote our authors and their books online. Each month, one or more books written by NSW member(s) will be highlighted as our featured selection(s).

As an NSW member or friend, you can get these books as a free download from Amazon. As part of our promotional contest, when you give a short, honest review of the book online at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and/or Good Reads you are entered in our contest to win great prizes. Each review that you leave online equals 1 entry into the Book Promo Contest Drawing at the last NSW meeting of the year in December. The more reviews you leave, the more chances you have to win prizes. There will also be a Grand Prize for the reader with the most reviews posted during 2017.

(Reviews must be posted during the featured month to qualify. You don't need to have a Kindle to read the books – they can be read on just about any electronic device. If you're new to leaving reviews online, detailed directions will be included in an upcoming email.)

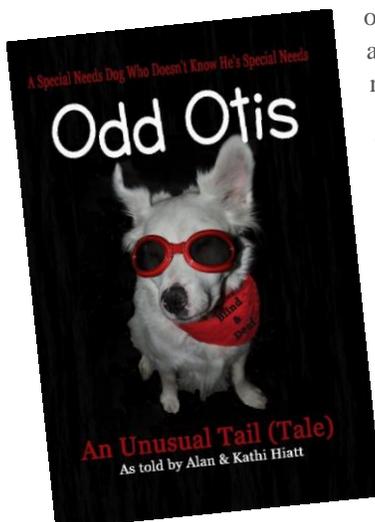
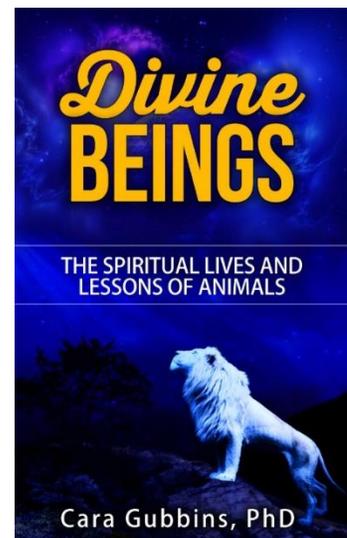
FEBRUARY FEATURED BOOKS: These great North State Writers Featured Books will be available for free download on February 1-5, 2017

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.



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, 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 Diego State University Writers' Conference

January 20-22, 2017

San Diego CA

<http://ces.sdsu.edu/wc>

33rd Annual SDSU Writers' Conference

Sierra Writers Conference

January 21, 2017

Grass Valley CA

<http://www.sierrawritersconference.com/>

“Writers all ... join us for a day of learning, sharing, growing and being inspired to craft your words into the stories, articles and books that only you can write. (Plus, get the information you need to market yourself and your work.)”

Plus

Afternoon Critique Fest

Critique Workshop

January 20, 2017

Grass Valley CA

<http://www.sierrawritersconference.com/p/get-critiqued.html>

“Also ... an optional afternoon Critique Fest where you get feedback on your work ... and learn how to give and receive helpful critiques.”

Auburn Winter Storytelling Fest

January 28, 2017

Auburn CA

www.foothillstorytellingguild.com

Children's Hour – Workshop – Open Telling – Liar's Contest – Evening Tellers Showcase —presented by Foothill Storytelling Guild

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/>

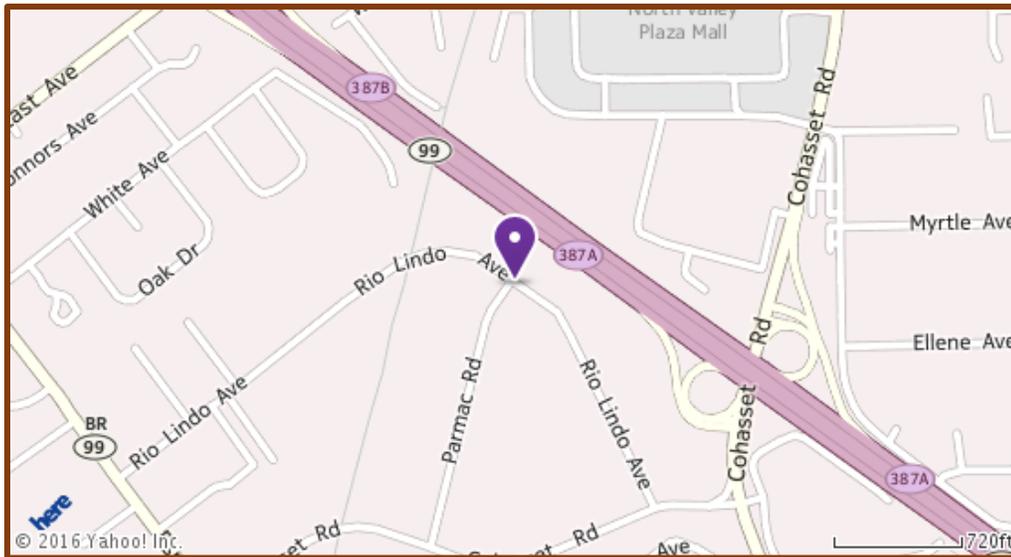
Independent Book Publishers Association's Publishing University: "The Premier Educational Event for Indie Publishers and Self-Published Authors"



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

Our meetings are the 3rd 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

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

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