

# Southern California Writers Association

## The Perennial Writers Conference



## Newsletter

Volume 17, Number 4 -- April 2018

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## President's Message

Larry Porricelli, SCWA President



At our March meeting Elaine Ash spoke to a packed house on story and narrative structure.

Our April meeting features Angela Bole, who will teach us about indie book publishing. Make your reservations for this exciting event.

Thank you for making the SCWA the phenomenal organization it is today, and for even better things to come. If your annual fees are due, please sign up to extend for your next twelve months. Happy writing.

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## SCWA Board of Directors

President ..... Larry Porricelli  
Vice President ..... Steven G. Jackson  
Vice President of Finances ..... Don Westenhaver  
Vice President of Programming ..... Madeline Margarita  
Vice President of Communications ..... Don Westenhaver  
Vice President of Membership ..... Yann Jackson

Webmaster ..... Brennan Harvey  
Newsletter Editor ..... Steven G. Jackson  
Newsletter Speaker Reporter ..... Glenda Rynn

**Mailing Address: PO Box 47, Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

**Membership:** Yann Jackson, [ykj3678@gmail.com](mailto:ykj3678@gmail.com)

**Meeting Reservations**

Larry Porricelli, [meeting@ocwriter.com](mailto:meeting@ocwriter.com)

714-580-5072



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# Southern California Writers Association Anthology

## *IT'S ALL IN THE STORY*

The book launch for *It's All in the Story* on November 2nd, 2017 at Book Carnival in Orange, CA, was a big success.

The following SCWA members created the masterpieces that are included in this exciting edition:

Biff (Harold D.) Baker, Phyllis Blake, PJ Colando, Rose de Guzman, Lani Forbes, Wanda Green, Dana Hammer, Catheryn Hull, Steven G. Jackson, D.P.Lyle, Maddie Margarita, Jeffrey J. Michaels, Anne Moose, Andrew R. Nixon, Jo Perry, D. J. Phinney, Jo Ellen Pitzer, Casey Pope, David Putnam, Glenda Brown Rynn, Janis Thomas, and Julie Wells.

Here are a few of the many praises for *It's All in the Story*.

“What John Steinbeck said about one of his stories—that he wanted it to ‘strike without the readers’ knowledge’—might be said of many of these tales. . . . This collection is as expansive as the West itself.”

—**Dr. Susan Shillinglaw**, Director, National Steinbeck Center

“It’s All in the Story is a moveable feast of California literature, brilliantly selected to illustrate the value of the compelling short story.”

—**Kimberley Cameron**, Kimberley Cameron & Associates Literary Agency

Our hope is that sales of our anthology justify publishing another one, and that this is just the beginning for SCWA. We are grateful for the tremendous response and support, and look forward to branching out in new ways that will add value to our writing community.

For more information visit the SCWA Anthology website at: [www.SCWAanthology.com](http://www.SCWAanthology.com).

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## Speaker Schedule

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT or SPECIALTY
<a href="#">April 21st, 2018</a>	Angela Bole	Independent book publishing
<a href="#">May 19th, 2018</a>	Eric Beetner	How to be a more prolific writer

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## April 21st Speaker - Angela Bole

### “Independent book publishing”



Angela Bole is the CEO of the Independent Book Publisher's Association.

Prior to becoming IBPA's new executive director, Angela Bole served as deputy executive director (since 2009) of the Book Industry Study Group, Inc. (BISG), which “fosters conversation and consensus across all sectors of the book business.” Before that, Bole served for two years as BISG's associate director and two years as its marketing and communications manager, “furthering the BISG mission of creating a more informed, empowered, and efficient book industry supply chain for physical and digital products.”

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## May 19th Speaker - Eric Beetner

### “How to be a more prolific writer”



Eric writes hardboiled crime fiction. He's been nominated for two Anthony Awards, an ITW award, a Derringer and even won a few awards like the 2012 Stalker award for Most Criminally Underrated author.

His books include *Rumrunners* and its prequel - the Anthony Award nominated *Leadfoot*, *The Devil Doesn't Want Me*, *When The Devil Comes To Call* and book 3 in the trilogy, *The Devil At Your Door* (out in 2018), *Criminal Economics*, *Dig Two Graves*, *White Hot Pistol*, *The Year I Died Seven Times*, *Stripper Pole At The End Of The World* & the story collection, *A Bouquet Of Bullets*.

He's co-authored *The Backlist*, *The Short List* and *The Getaway List* (2018) with Frank Zafiro and also (with JB Kohl) the novels *One Too Many Blows To The Head* and *Borrowed Trouble* and the standalone novel *Over Their Heads*. He's also written two novellas in the popular Fightcard series, *Split Decision* and *A Mouth Full Of Blood* and two novellas in The Lawyer series of Westerns.

He lives in Los Angeles where, among other things, he co-hosts the Noir At The Bar reading series and the podcast *Writer Types*.

He's toured as a musician, painted, written screenplays, acted in short films, been to China twice, fished in the Mississippi, once met Barry Manilow, directed films and music videos, his name's been on TV over a hundred times, he owns a real human skull and his kids think he embarrasses them.

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## March Meeting Highlights - Elaine Ash

### “Award-winning story and narrative structure”



Elaine Ash celebrated a boisterous St. Patrick’s Day with SCWA members by presenting “Award Winning Story and Narrative Structure.” When not writing in her own “hard-hitting crime” genre, she helps established authors and emerging talent in shaping manuscripts, acquiring agents, landing publishing deals, while still finding time to lead workshops and moderate conference panels.

All these writing activities have enabled her to compile data for her latest publication: *Bestseller Metrics: How to Win the Novel Writing Game*. It is a “self-editing workbook” on its way to “becoming software, maybe an app.” It’s “a writer’s tool.” Ms. Ash’s handout explains its origin:

“Starting in 2015, I accidentally discovered that by isolating and studying the first and last quarters of highly successful novels, amazing similarities were evident. Although there is no fixed number of characters that makes up a bestselling novel (what a relief!) the first and last quarters were extremely predictable.

“A pattern emerged that seemed crucial to how well readers could understand and follow any story.”

Examining books with millions of sales and lasting influence, from the early 1900s to the present day, Ash counted the numbers of characters in each quarter of the outstanding books in all genres. (“Word counts range from 65,000 to about 146,000 words.”) The term *characters* means everybody who appears, even “a talking rock,” is “name-dropped” or in a flashback. “In *The Hunger Games*, the crowd, an aggregate, counts as one until someone is singled out.”

Examples of what she found: The first quarter of the Thriller *Gone Girl* has 53 characters but only 13 in the last quarter. Those beginning and ending numbers for Chick Lit *The Devil Wears Prada* are 39 to 12. For *Lady Chatterley’s Lover*, Literary Erotica, they are 37 to 8. The most extreme drop appears in *Interview with the Vampire*, 30 to 4, simply because the vampires “ate a bunch.” Ash’s handout says, “A low number may also indicate an absence of subplots that serve to keep interest high on a number of levels.”

Thus, it seems that core characters carry through from the first quarter to the end. “We want characters we know at the end.” Also, “has the reader had enough chance to bond with them?” Warning: “If the arch villain shows up only at the end, he needs to have been mentioned all along.”

Member Annie Moose asked, “What about a beloved character who is no longer with us? He’s deceased but still lives in the character’s mind.” Ms. Ash responded, “Find ways to insert him when meaningful.”

*Bestseller Metrics* evidently also shows some breakdown of story structure and “the timing when the important characters show up,” but those factors were not discussed.

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## Recent SCWA Publications and Productions

"The Optimism of Youth" - Steven G Jackson



*The Innocents* - David Putnam



*A-List* - DP Lyle



*13 Minutes* - Jeff Lyons



*What Remains True* - Janis Thomas



*It's All in the Story* - SCWA



*Worlds in Transition* - Peter Dingus



*Arkansas Summer* - Anne Moose





## Recent SCWA Publications and Productions (cont)

"Life Dies, and Then You Suck" - Steven G. Jackson



*The Age of Change: A Challenging Path to the Future* - Jeff Michaels



*Chameleons* - Marcus A. Nannini



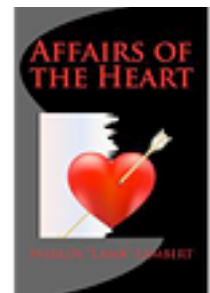
*Missing Star* - Don Westenhaver



*Affairs of the Heart, Vol. 2* - Harlen and Sharron Lambert



*Affairs of the Heart, Vol. 1* - Harlen and Sharron Lambert



*Rebuilt* - Victory Crayne



*Hashes & Bashes* - PJ Colando



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## Active Member Directory (A-F)

The SCWA offers a complimentary listing with all paid memberships. If you would like your contact information listed in the newsletter, please forward this information to [steven@stevengjackson.com](mailto:steven@stevengjackson.com).

Name	Genre	Email	Web	Phone
Adams, Tonya				
Adkins, Judy				
Adkins, Robert				
Baker, Harold				
Barnham, Deborah				
Barry, Frank				
Beer, Raphael				
Beirne, Jim				
Belmont, Julie				
Bensworth, Kurt				
Black, Terry				
Blake, Phyllis				
Blaney, Ryan				
Bradbury, Mary		<a href="mailto:MDBradb@aol.com">MDBradb@aol.com</a>		714-960-9179
Caffrey, Dot	Fantasy	<a href="mailto:dot.caffrey@gmail.com">dot.caffrey@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://dotcaffrey.com">dotcaffrey.com</a>	
Casas, Ann				
Casella, Lynn	Thriller	<a href="mailto:lcasella@mac.com">lcasella@mac.com</a>	<a href="http://lynncasella.com">lynncasella.com</a>	626-818-2571
Chalagonian, George				
Chen, Esther				
Chung, John				
Clitheroe, Leighanne				
Cohen, Charlotte				
Colando, PJ	Humor & Satire	<a href="mailto:talklady@sbcglobal.net">talklady@sbcglobal.net</a>	<a href="http://pjcolando.com">pjcolando.com</a>	
Cook, Alan				
Crane, Robert	Crime & Romance	<a href="mailto:R.N.Crane@icloud.com">R.N.Crane@icloud.com</a>	<a href="http://RNCbooks.com">RNCbooks.com</a>	
Crayne, Victory	Spy/SciFi	<a href="mailto:victory@crayne.com">victory@crayne.com</a>	<a href="http://crayne.com">crayne.com</a>	949-206-0922
Daisomont, Bruce				
Dashti, Vali				
de Guzman, Rosie				
De Ladurantey, Joseph		<a href="mailto:jc.del@cox.net">jc.del@cox.net</a>		
Dingus, Peter				
Dolan, Martin		<a href="mailto:mdolan3md@gmail.com">mdolan3md@gmail.com</a>		714-315-5845
Dolle, Stephen				
Donenfled-Vernoux, Alice				
Drucke, Carl				
Dun, Sulan				
Dunlap, Larry		<a href="mailto:larry@larrydunlap.com">larry@larrydunlap.com</a>	<a href="http://LarryJDunlap.com">LarryJDunlap.com</a>	
Dunn, Pauline				
Dzwonkowski, Ed				
Escobedo, Maria				
Fenenga, Susan				
Fliedner, Colleen				
Fink, Sheri				
Forbes, Lani				

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## Active Member Directory (G-M)

Name	Genre	Email	Web	Phone
Gammer, Victoria				
Goldinger, Sharon		<a href="mailto:pplspeak@att.net">pplspeak@att.net</a>	<a href="http://detailsplease.com/peoplespeak">detailsplease.com/peoplespeak</a>	949-581-6190
Green, Jude-Marie				
Green, Wanda				
Haines, Greg				
Hammer, Dana				
Hamo, Phyllis				
Harvey, Brennan		<a href="mailto:webmaster@ocwriter.com">webmaster@ocwriter.com</a>		
Heiser, Nanette				
Hollingsworth, Amy				
Howard, Charla				
Hull, Cathy				
Jackson, Steven G	Thrillers	<a href="mailto:steven@stevengjackson.com">steven@stevengjackson.com</a>	<a href="http://stevengjackson.com">stevengjackson.com</a>	
Jackson, Yann				
Jarvis, Michael				
Jordan-Dardashiti, Irene				
Juniper, Jamie				
Kai, Suzanne				
Kammerzelt, Michael				
Katch, Coralie				
Kim, Cacilia				
Kimino, Rinko				
Klann, Nancy				
Knippers, Christopher				
Ko, Jaina				
Krishnan, Rathi				
Lambert, Harlen "Lamb"	Free verse poetry, memoir	<a href="mailto:lambtheauthor@gmail.com">lambtheauthor@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://lamblambertauthor.com">lamblambertauthor.com</a>	
Lambert, Sharron	Free verse poetry, memoir	<a href="mailto:lambz1309@gmail.com">lambz1309@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://lamblambertauthor.com">lamblambertauthor.com</a>	
Long-Coyle, Linda				
Louise, Char				
Lyle, DP (Doug)				
Lyons, Jeff		<a href="mailto:jeff@storygeeks.com">jeff@storygeeks.com</a>		
Margarita, Maddie				
McCollum, Phillip				
McGraw, Sharmyn				
Michaels, Jeff			<a href="http://jeffreyjmicroels.com">jeffreyjmicroels.com</a>	
Miles, Marjorie				
Milton, Lee				
Moose, Anne				
Morgan, Richard				
Morrow, Linda				

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## Active Member Directory (N-Z)

Name	Genre	Email	Web	Phone
Nabor, Tina				
Nader, Lillian	Author, Freelance copyeditor	<a href="mailto:Lnader@lilliannader.com">Lnader@lilliannader.com</a>		714-747-4926
Nannini, Marcus				
Nakamura, Linda				
Nixon, Andrew		<a href="mailto:nixonar3@gmail.com">nixonar3@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://andynixonwordsmith.com">andynixonwordsmith.com</a>	702-240-8000
Owedi, Sheila				
Pardee, Diana				
Perrin, Steve				
Perry, Jo				
Pham, Kristen	Non-fiction / Screenplays	<a href="mailto:maiscreenwriting@gmail.com">maiscreenwriting@gmail.com</a>		
Phinney, Dennis				
Pitzer, Jo Ellen				
Pope, Casey				
Porricelli, Larry		<a href="mailto:president@ocwriter.com">president@ocwriter.com</a>		714-316-9155
Porter, Kathy	SciFi Thrillers	<a href="mailto:Kathy@grayguardians.com">Kathy@grayguardians.com</a>	<a href="http://grayguardians.com">grayguardians.com</a>	562-431-0366
Pratt, Sheri				
Putnam, Dave				
Quinn, Darlene	Mainstr. Fic	<a href="mailto:Darlene@darlenequinn.net">Darlene@darlenequinn.net</a>	<a href="http://darlenequinn.net">darlenequinn.net</a>	562-432-1280
Rakower, Steve				
Redemann, Vickie				
Ridenour, Ananya				
Ridenour, Brett				
Ritchie, Solange				
Roberts, Donna				
Rynn, Glenda		<a href="mailto:grynn@cox.net">grynn@cox.net</a>		
Sayers, Dirk				
Sena, Theresa				
Shaikh, Tami				
Sharp, Michael				
Sheppard, Pamela				
Sikes, Sara				
Silverstein, Mark				
Simcic, Janet				
Singerton, Ronald				
Strbich, Michelle				
Strelow, Tom				
Suveiu, Virginia				
Szymczak, Leonard				
Takos, Jim				
Tate, George				
Thomas, Janis				
Thomas, Shirl		<a href="mailto:shirlth@verizon.net">shirlth@verizon.net</a>	<a href="http://shirlthomas.com">shirlthomas.com</a>	
Thompson, Russ				
Torphy, Elizabeth				
Van Camp, Wendy				
Wallace, Albert				
Walters, Sharon				
Wasserman, AE				
Weiss, Jill Q.		<a href="mailto:jillqw@gmail.com">jillqw@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://quintessencecrystals.com">quintessencecrystals.com</a>	
Wells, Craig				
Wells, Julie				
Westenhaver, Don	Hist Fic/Thrllrs	<a href="mailto:donwestenhaver@roadrunner.com">donwestenhaver@roadrunner.com</a>	<a href="http://donwestenhaver.com">donwestenhaver.com</a>	714-994-1943
Welsh, Rebecca				
Woodcock, Don				
Zasio, Belinda				

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# SCWA Member Publications and Productions (A-K)

SCWA Members are published. Check with the author for details on how to purchase your copy.

Author	Title	Year
Belmont, Julie	<i>Creativity Business Plan for Artists at Heart</i>	2014
Belmont, Julie	<i>The Path to Personal Success and Freedom; Turning Hurdles into Stepping Stones</i>	2005
Caffrey, Dot	<i>Cursed Power</i>	2015
Caffrey, Dot	<i>Awakening Powers</i>	2014
Colando, PJ	<i>Hashes &amp; Bashes</i>	2016
Colando, PJ	<i>Stashes</i>	2014
Crayne, Victory	<i>Rebuilt</i>	2016
Crayne, Victory	<i>Humans Only</i>	2016
Crayne, Victory	<i>Freedom</i>	2015
De Ladurantey, Joseph	<i>Making Your Memories with Rock &amp; Roll and Doo Wop</i>	2016
De Ladurantey, Joseph	<i>Cowards, Crooks, and Warriors</i>	2015
Dingus, Peter	<i>Worlds in Transition</i>	2017
Donenfeld-Vernoux, AR	<i>Pudel &amp; Cie: Case #1 Moroney Boloney</i>	2015
Donenfeld-Vernoux, AR	<i>Cave Dreams</i>	2014
Donenfeld-Vernoux, AR	<i>Out of the Chute</i>	2014
Donenfeld-Vernoux, A	<i>How To Get And Keep The Best Jobs: Secrets HR Won't Tell You</i>	
Dunlap, Larry J	<i>Night People</i>	2015
Fink, Sheri	<i>Cake in Bed</i>	2016
Fink, Sheri	<i>My Bliss Book</i>	2015
Fink, Sheri	<i>The Little Seahorse</i>	2014
Fink, Sheri	<i>The Little Firefly</i>	2013
Fink, Sheri	<i>The Little Gnome</i>	2012
Fink, Sheri	<i>Exploring the Garden with the Little Rose</i>	2012
Fink, Sheri	<i>The Little Rose</i>	2011
Gilmore, Susan Kay	<i>Possessed by Baseball</i>	2013
Giussani, Sara	<i>Malibu</i>	2015
Giussani, Sara	<i>Come fare... La valutazione di un processo aziendale</i>	2014
Giussani, Sara	<i>Management dei processi aziendali</i>	2012
Jackson, Steven G	"The Optimism of Youth"	2018
Jackson, Steven G	"Full Service"	2017
Jackson, Steven G	"Life Dies, and Then You Suck"	2017
Jackson, Steven G	"The Master Playwright"	2016
Jackson, Steven G	"The Asylum for Rejected Characters"	2016
Jackson, Steven G	<i>The Zeus Payload</i>	2015
Jackson, Steven G	"Fade to Crazy"	2015
Jackson, Steven G	"The Loan Officer"	2014
King, Roy	<i>Symfonie Fantastique</i>	2011
Klann, Nancy	<i>The Clock of Life</i>	2012
Klann, Nancy	<i>Like The Flies On The Patio</i>	2012



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# SCWA Member Publications and Productions (L-M)

SCWA Members are published. Check with the author for details on how to purchase your copy.

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Year</u>
Lambert, Harlen, Sharron	<i>Affairs of the Heart, Vol. 2</i>	2017
Lambert, Harlen, Sharron	<i>Affairs of the Heart, Vol. 1</i>	2016
Levine, Jennifer	<i>Summer Secrets</i>	2016
Lloyd, Rita Lee	<i>How to Survive in the 21st Century as a SSOFF</i>	2011
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>A-List</i>	2018
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Deep Six</i>	2016
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Forensics for Dummies, 2nd edition</i>	2016
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Original Sin</i>	2015
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Devil's Playground</i>	2015
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Double Blind</i>	2015
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Murder and Mayhem</i>	2013
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Royal Pains: Sick Rich</i>	2012
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Run To Ground</i>	2012
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Thriller3: Love Is Murder (Short Story)</i>	2012
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>ABA Fundamentals: Understanding Forensic Science</i>	2012
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Royal Pains: First, Do No Harm</i>	2011
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Hot Lights, Cold Steel</i>	2011
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Thrillers: 100 Must Reads (Essay)</i>	2010
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Stress Fracture</i>	2010
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Howdunnit: Forensics: A Guide For Writers</i>	2008
Lyle, DP (Doug)	<i>Forensics and Fiction</i>	2007
Lyons, Jeff	<i>13 Minutes</i>	2018
Lyons, Jeff	<i>Anatomy of a Premise Line</i>	2016
Lyons, Jeff	<i>Jack Be Dead</i>	2016
Marsh, Sonia	<i>My Gutsy Story Anthology</i>	2013
Marsh, Sonia	<i>Freeways to Flip-Flops</i>	2012
Marshall, Evelyn	<i>Concerning Georgia Stekker</i>	2014
Marshall, Evelyn	<i>The Way They See</i>	2013
Marshall, Evelyn	<i>The Provider</i>	2012
Martinez, Maria	<i>The Apple Tree Wish</i>	2012
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>The Age of Change: A Challenging Path to the Future</i>	2017
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Becomes Us All</i>	2016
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>A Day at the Beach</i>	2015
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Tasa's Path</i>	2015
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>How to Become The True You</i>	2015
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Light: The Reason for Existence</i>	2012
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Beings: A Journey to Joy</i>	2010
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Touch the Earth: A Path to Ascension</i>	2009
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Crystal Experience: Manifest an Extraordinary Life</i>	2007
Michaels, Jeffrey J.	<i>Harmonic Coalescence, the Future of Humanity</i>	2007
Moose, Anne	<i>Arkansas Summer</i>	2017
Muhle, Charles	<i>One Way to Write</i>	2011
Muhle, Charles	<i>The Sky Tree</i>	2011

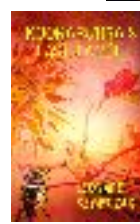


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# SCWA Member Publications and Productions (N-Z)

SCWA Members are published. Check with the author for details on how to purchase your copy.

Nader, Lillian	<i>Theep and Thorp: Adventures in Space</i>	2016
Nannini, Marcus A.	<i>Chameleons</i>	2017
Nixon, Andy	<i>Three Lives of Peter Novak</i>	2016
Nixon, Andy	<i>50 Shades of Grades, My Journey Through Wacademia</i>	2013
Pope, Casey	<i>A Love Life Like Karmic Disaster</i>	2016
Porter, Kathy	<i>Escape from Nuur</i>	2013
Porter, Kathy	<i>Earth's Ultimate Conflict</i>	2010
Porter, Kathy	<i>Gray/Guardians</i>	2006
Putnam, David	<i>The Innocents</i>	2018
Quinn, Darlene	<i>Conflicting Webs</i>	2015
Quinn, Darlene	<i>Unpredictable Webs</i>	2013
Quinn, Darlene	<i>Webs of Fate</i>	2011
Quinn, Darlene	<i>Twisted Webs</i>	2010
Quinn, Darlene	<i>Webs of Power</i>	2008
Ritchie, Solange	<i>The Burning Man</i>	2015
Spence, Charla	<i>Personal Healthcare Record (Adult)</i>	2011
Spence, Charla	<i>Personal Healthcare Record (Child)</i>	2011
Szymczak, Leonard	<i>Kookaburra's Last Laugh</i>	2016
Szymczak, Leonard	<i>Fighting for Love</i>	2016
Szymczak, Leonard	<i>Cuckoo Forevermore</i>	2015
Szymczak, Leonard	<i>The Roadmap Home: Your GPS to Inner Peace</i>	2009
Thomas, Janis	<i>What Remains True</i>	2017
Thomas, Janis	<i>Murder in A-Minor</i>	2016
Thomas, Janis	<i>Say Never</i>	2014
Thomas, Janis	<i>Sweet Nothings</i>	2013
Thomas, Janis	<i>Something New</i>	2012
Weiss, Jill Q.	<i>Crystal Experience: Manifest an Extraordinary Life</i>	2007
Westenhaver, Don	<i>Missing Star</i>	2017
Westenhaver, Don	<i>Alexander's Lighthouse</i>	2012
Westenhaver, Don	<i>The Whiplash Hypothesis</i>	2008
Westenhaver, Don	<i>The Red Turtle Project</i>	2008
Westenhaver, Don	<i>Nero's Concert</i>	2008
Williams, Marianna	<i>Love, Regret and Accidental Nudity</i>	2014
Williams, Marianna	<i>The Valentine State</i>	2013
Williams, Marianna	<i>Stars or Stripes Fourth of July</i>	2011
Williams, Marianna	<i>Happy New Year, Darling</i>	2005
Woodcock, Don	<i>A Lily Named Lillian</i>	2015



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## March Highlights - Continued

Ms. Ash also provided examples of “The Feather Edit,” which is often needed. The handout explains: “The danger in meeting character after character lies in overloading readers with names that drop in and drop out, making it hard to remember them down the line.” The Feather Edit “aids readers with unobtrusive reminders” of identification so they won’t have to skim prior pages to locate when this character first appeared. It may be as easy as slipping in his/her title, position, or relationship to whoever is present. Sometimes, however, more detail is needed.

The addition here **in bold was added** to identify a character named Conway in *Pine Box Pin-Up* by Frank De Blasé:

“I wasn’t sure if anyone would answer when I called Conways’s office. Obviously, Conway wouldn’t, **now that he was drying off on a slab at the morgue after his swan dive into the river**, but maybe he had a partner, an assistant, a secretary, anybody who could shed some light.”

Elaine Ash’s own crime writing includes “Hard Bite” that *Spinetangler Magazine* named Best Short Story on the Web in 2009. Ash’s novel version, *Hard Bite*, received a Readers’ Choice Award in 2012 from Canada’s House of Crime and Mystery as did its sequel, *Bite Harder*. [Ash was born and grew up in Eastern Canada.] The first was also one of the Top 5 Debut Novels of 2013 by Book People/ Mystery People. These works are about “a paraplegic who unleashes payback on hit and run drivers with a little help from his monkey.” It is being considered for film.

More resources on Elaine Ash include <https://bestsellermetrics.com>, <https://ashedit.wordpress.com>, and [www.anonyous-9.com](http://www.anonyous-9.com).

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Glenda Brown Rynn, Reporter  
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## Conferences, Events, and Announcements

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Steven G. Jackson will be speaking at the Dana Point Library on Tuesday, April 3rd, at 5PM on his "One Hour MFA in Professional Writing." The event is free.

Lit Up! Orange County is April 24th at Kean Coffee in Tustin at 7PM. Scheduled readers are Baron Birtcher, Lance Charnes, and Elaine Ash. The event is free.

Novel Intensive, a comprehensive course for aspiring writers, is April 28th from 8:30AM - 7PM at Aloft El Segundo. Janis Thomas and Ara Grigorian host. Discount for SCWA members until April 15th (use code SCWA). [www.novelintensive.com](http://www.novelintensive.com).

Long Beach Searches for the Greatest Storyteller returns on April 30th at Malarkey's Grill on Alamitos Bay. The cost is only \$6 for a night of entertaining true tales, and the audience votes for the winner.

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## April "Will Write for Food" Contest

The "Will Write For Food" contest is a monthly blind competition. Winners are selected by a Literary Agent. First prize includes publication in the SCWA Newsletter, a certificate, and a \$25 cash prize.

You may write on any subject. Stories have a maximum of 1000 words. The winner will be announced at the April SCWA meeting. To enter, email your story by April 12th, 2018, to [meeting@ocwriter.com](mailto:meeting@ocwriter.com).

There are no limits to the number of times you can win. Join the fun and earn some rewards.

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## Publisher News

Commandeer Press is looking for short-story submissions: <https://www.commondeerpress.com/short-tales>.

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## SCWA Mission

The mission of the SCWA is to provide a forum for promoting the welfare, fellowship, spirit, education, information, and encouragement among published and unpublished writers in the Southern California area.

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## SCWA Active Member Benefits

Active members receive a 30% discount at every SCWA meeting.

SCWA provides scholarships to members who attend writer's conferences.

SCWA offers members 50% off professional critiques.

SCWA members receive a \$30 for submitting a story to the SCWA Anthology.

SCWA members receive discounts to Jeff Lyon's online courses.

The La Jolla Writer's Conference allows active SCWA members to receive a registration discount.

The Southern California Writers' Conference, held twice annually in San Diego and Orange County, offers discounts to SCWA members who register early.

SCWA Members receive "Suspense Magazine" for FREE.

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## SCWA Critique Program

We have some exciting news on the critique front. One of our members received a critique, and he credits that critique with getting him a two-day response from an agent, who wants to see the entire manuscript. We love it when that happens.

Critique requests should also be sent to Steve Jackson at [steven@stevengjackson.com](mailto:steven@stevengjackson.com). If you have not received a response to a previous critique request, please resubmit (without any fee if you've already paid) to Steve. Steve will direct your sample (up to 15 double-spaced pages) to one of the Board members once we receive your payment. Payments (\$20.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members) should be directed to Don Westenhaver.

- Check payable to SCWA: mail to Don at 5391 Fox Hills Ave., Buena Park, CA 90621

- Credit Card: advise Steve that you will pay by credit card. He will have Don send you an invoice with instructions on how to pay through the SCWA Square account.

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## Monthly Meeting Information and Map

### Meeting Location:

#### Claim Jumper Restaurant

Banquet Room entrance, rear of building  
 18050 Brookhurst St., Fountain Valley, CA  
 Restaurant telephone: (714) 963-6711

Registration & Networking: 9:30 a.m.  
 Meeting: 10:00 a.m.  
 Lunch: 11:30 a.m.  
 Afternoon Program: 12:30 p.m.



### Meeting Fees (cash, check or credit/debit)

Reservation Type	SCWA Member	Student	Others
RSVP	\$25	\$15	\$35

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## Terms of Use and Content Information Disclaimer

The SCWA encourages open, respectful communication between individuals interested in the craft of writing through a variety of social and traditional media, such as Facebook, SCWA website and emails. Any individual using inappropriate language, discussing inappropriate topics, or commenting in a disrespectful way will be removed from access to any future SCWA communication methods.

The SCWA communication sites should only be used for dialogues related to the craft of writing. Non-writing related topics should be done via other forms of personal communication. Please review the content disclaimer located in the newsletter via the SCWA website [www.ocwriter.com](http://www.ocwriter.com) or on the About page of the Facebook. The SCWA does not endorse individual opinions placed on any of its sites.

The SCWA receives information on various services, writing contests, and events. As a courtesy, we will forward the information to our members. Unless otherwise indicated, the SCWA does not discourage, encourage or recommend any of the services, contests or events. Many of these services, contests and events cost money; therefore, we recommend that you evaluate the opportunities based on your individual situation and interest. Because of our membership email protection policy, please do not forward information to the general membership directly. We request that all members forward any information to the SCWA President for approval and forwarding to the membership.

SCWA members wishing to share appropriate writing-related information and resources are welcome to do so via the SCWA Facebook page. The SCWA Newsletter Editor will determine the information to be contained in the SCWA on-line newsletter which is primarily used for official SCWA information.

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