

# Southern California Writers Association

## The Perennial Writers Conference



## Newsletter

Volume 17, Number 1 -- January 2018

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## President's Message

Larry Porricelli, SCWA President



At our December meeting Matt Coyle spoke to a capacity crowd on his journey to publication, and tips for authors on navigating the complex world of publishing.

Our January meeting features our friend, SCWA member, and the editor of our anthology, D.P. Lyle. His talks are always spectacular. You won't want to miss it.

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="#">January 20th, 2018</a>	DP Lyle	Developing unique voice and unforgettable characters
<a href="#">February 17th, 2018</a>	George Galdorisi	Strategy, Operations, Tactics, and Technology
March 17th, 2018	Elaine Ash	Award winning story and narrative structure

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## January 20th Speaker - DP Lyle

### “Developing unique voice and unforgettable characters”



DP Lyle, MD is the Macavity and Benjamin Franklin Silver Award winning and Edgar (2), Shamus, Agatha, Anthony, Scribe, USA Today Best Book Award (2), and Foreward INDIES Book of the Year nominated author of many non-fiction books as well as numerous works of fiction, including the SAMANTHA CODY, DUB WALKER, and JAKE LONGLY thriller series and the ROYAL PAINS media tie-in novels. His essay on Jules Verne’s THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND appears in THRILLERS: 100 MUST READS and his short story “Even Steven” in ITW’s anthology THRILLER 3: LOVE IS MURDER. He served as Editor for the Southern California Writers Association’s short story anthology, IT’S ALL IN THE STORY as well as contributing the story “Splash.”

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## February 17th Speaker - George Galdorisi

### “Strategy, Operations, Tactics, and Technology”

George Galdorisi is a professional military writer specializing in strategy, operations, tactics, and technology. A retired USN Captain, he is a naval aviator who began his writing career in 1978. He has published eight books, including a series of collaborative works with Tom Clancy.

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## December Meeting Highlights - Matt Coyle

### “My Journey to Publication”



If you're visiting Open Houses in San Diego and notice a man examining and then making notes about the floor plans, furniture, window coverings, decorations, and yard designs, don't interrupt him. This engrossed person may very well be writer Matt Coyle detailing a murder scene for the next book in his Rick Cahill series.

Before Matt was a teenager, his father gave him the first book Matt read, *The Simple Art of Murder* (gulp). It contains a Raymond Chandler essay with the same title, followed by several of Chandler's stories. Continuing to read crime books, Matt also began to write, and his father always liked whatever he wrote. But *The Simple Art of Murder* had so impaled Matt that at only twelve years old, he knew writing was his future. [Download a free PDF version online from Semantic Scholar.]

After growing up in La Jolla, Coyle finished a degree in English at U.C. Santa Barbara. But to solve the practicalities of life, he immersed himself in the restaurant business and then sporting equipment. When he reached his early forties, the imperative of “Write the book or forget it!” floated up in his soul. He left the other businesses behind and wrote every day for five months.

At that time, Coyle said his manuscript had Chapter One and The End. “I thought I had a book.” He discovered he'd been writing “in a cocoon,” because he hadn't known about writers' groups. He began to network.

Coyle took three writing classes at U.C. San Diego Extension. His conclusion: “The writing classes people go to are to decide if they want to write.” At the end of one course, several students started a writers' group. “I thought they were idiots because people didn't think my stuff was good.” However, he was now out of his cocoon. “The hard part of mysteries is leaving clues for readers.’ He also learned that if more than one person has the same question about your story, “You better pay attention.”

The next challenge: “Getting an agent is almost as hard as getting published.” “Agents ignore you.” He learned to go to an agent's website and compose a query letter “specific to that agent.” But he says, “There's so much rejection in this field, feel good when they do like your work.” Round 3, four years later, he finally received a thorough critique in which the agent was specific about he/she didn't like—twelve pages, single-spaced. Soon, he learned to use Beta readers.

The next lesson: “Social media sells books.” Coyle started one Facebook account three years before publishing. “Become a part of different communities.” If people like your book, they discuss it on Facebook “no matter your genre.” Besides your personal Facebook page, you can have a “book/publisher's page/author's page.”

Along the way in a Sisters-in-Crime meeting, he met Kimberly Cameron of Kimberly Cameron & Associates (mailing address in Tiburon, California). He made connections with her “off and on through the years.” [K.C. has also represented D.P. Lyle.]

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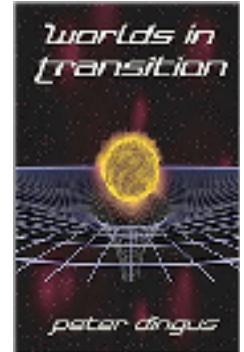
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## Recent SCWA Publications and Productions

*It's All in the Story* - SCWA



*Worlds in Transition* - Peter Dingus



*Arkansas Summer* - Anne Moose



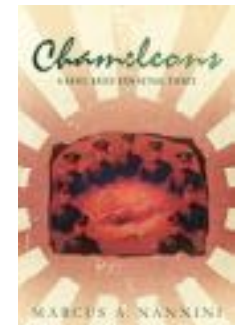
"Life Dies, and Then You Suck" - Steven G. Jackson



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



*Chameleons* - Marcus A. Nannini



*Missing Star* - Don Westenhaver

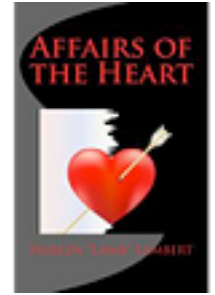


*Affairs of the Heart, Vol. 2* - Harlen and Sharron Lambert



## Recent SCWA Publications and Productions (cont)

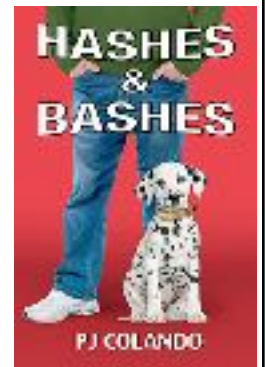
*Affairs of the Heart, Vol. 1* - Harlen and Sharron Lambert



*Rebuilt* - Victory Crayne



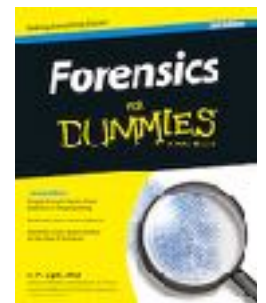
*Hashes & Bashes* - PJ Colando



*Deep Six* - DP (Doug) Lyle.



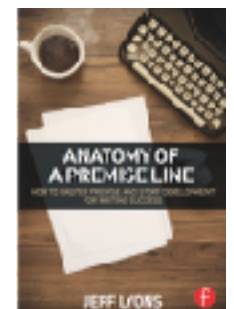
*Forensics for Dummies* - DP (Doug) Lyle.



*Jack Be Dead* - Jeff Lyons.



*The Anatomy of a Premise Line* - Jeff Lyons.



*Fighting for Love* - Leonard Szymczak.



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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				
Baker, Harold				
Baker, Marianna				
Barnham, Deborah				
Barry, Frank				
Beirne, Jim				
Bensworth, Kurt				
Black, Terry				
Blake, Phyllis				
Blaney, Ryan				
Bradbury, Mary		<a href="mailto:MDBradb@aol.com">MDBradb@aol.com</a>		714-960-9179
Cabral, Ela				
Caffrey, Dot	Fantasy	<a href="mailto:dot.caffrey@gmail.com">dot.caffrey@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://dotcaffrey.com">dotcaffrey.com</a>	
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://picolando.com">picolando.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
Crighton, JD				
Daisomont, Bruce				
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>		
Dolle, Stephen				
Donenfeld-Vernoux, Alice				
Draper, Jan				
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				
Fink, Sheri				
Fliedner, Colleen				
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				
Herrmann, Marcy				
Hollingsworth, Amy				
Howard, Charla				
Hull, Cathy				
Ito, Traci				
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				
Katch, Coralie				
Keown-Watkins, Mary				
Kim, Cacilia				
Kimino, Rinko				
Klimisch, Karen				
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				
Martin, Paola L				
McCallum, Phillip				
McGraw, Sharmyn				
Meler, Alison				
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
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				
Pederson, Maren				
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				
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				
Szymczak, Leonard				
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				
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
Winstead, Lisa				
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	"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

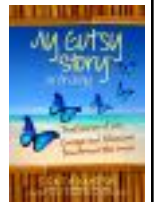


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# SCWA Member Publications and Productions (L-M)

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>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>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

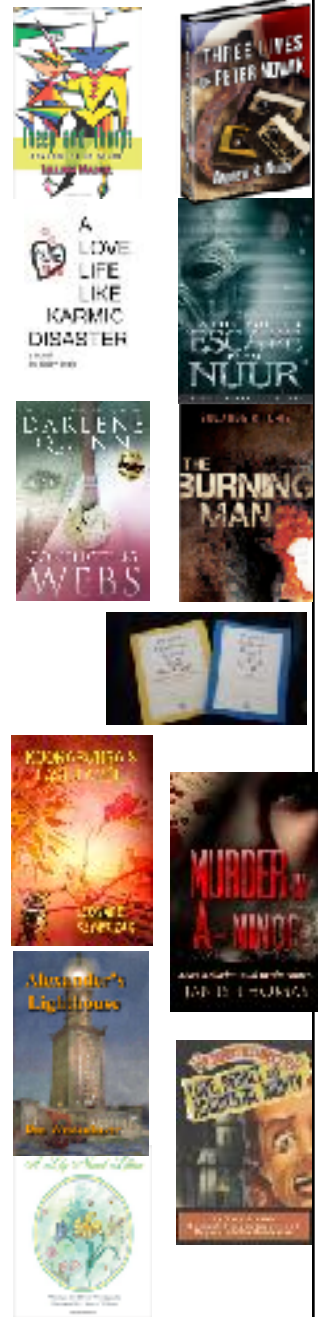


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# SCWA Member Publications and Productions (N-Z)

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
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>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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## December Highlights - Continued

By our breakfast meeting, Matt Coyle has published four Rick Cahill novels.

- A. May 2013. ***Yesterday's Echo***—“Explores what one man will risk for a chance at redemption.” It took seven drafts. Representative K. Cameron took it to Oceanview Publishing in Longboat Key, Florida. It won an Anthony Award for Best First Novel, a San Diego Award, and a Benjamin Franklin Silver Award.
- B. June 2015. ***Night Tremors***—finalist for The Shamus Award for Best First Private Detective Novel.
- C. Fall 2016. ***Dark Fissures***—finalist for the Macavity Award for Best Novel.
- D. December 2017. ***Blood Truth***. Brand new.

Miscellaneous growing-pain wisdom:

1. A weekly critique group doesn't see the overall plot.
2. When your book starts, it's practically all autobiography. “You have to write outside your life, beyond yourself.”
3. The protagonist has to be relatable.
4. You have to change your storyline and make more tension, over and over, “at least four times.”
5. If you have a series, keep it with the same publisher.
6. He's learned to trust his process, “which is disjointed and hard.”
7. Yes, he has audiobooks. Found out “men can't do women.”
8. Bookbug “sells books big time. Books for \$0.99, \$1.99, and \$2.99.”

Conclusion: Matt Coyle's father was not just supportive but prescient about his son's talent.

Glenda Brown Rynn, SCWA Reporter  
grynn@cox.net

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## Conferences, Events, and Announcements

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Long Beach Searches for the Greatest Storyteller returns for Season 8 on January 29th 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.

Anaheim Public Library is hosting its 2nd Annual Romance Author Day on February 17, 2018. The deadline to submit an application to participate is December 4th, 2017. <http://anaheim.net/4749/Romance-Author-Day>.

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## January "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 January SCWA meeting. To enter, email your story by January 13th, 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>.

The Roswell Award for short sci-fi submissions is open to January 29, 2018. Learn more at [www.LightBringerProject.org/science-fiction-contests](http://www.LightBringerProject.org/science-fiction-contests).

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## Free Suspense Magazine for SCWA - from John Raab

Who is *Suspense Magazine*? We began the magazine ten years ago and have just completed our 80<sup>th</sup> issue. The goal we had at the beginning of our journey is still our mission statement today. We wanted to provide an outlet to all writers; a place where they could have a voice, share their experience, and showcase their work.

Right now we have a little over 50,000 readers—a number that continues to grow every day. We cover everything within the suspense, thriller, mystery and horror genres. That span includes romantic suspense/thrillers, professional thrillers, urban fantasy, and so much more. It's challenging enough to learn the ins-and-outs of writing a good book, something that we also have covered for our readers. Inside the last issue we had bestselling author Alan Jacobson give advice and information by opening up his "Writer's Toolkit." In the past, we have had *NY Times* bestselling authors, Steve Berry, Jeffery Deaver, David Morell, Lee Child, Lisa Gardner, Sandra Brown, and the list goes on. It is in the magazine where authors and fans are able to "get inside the heads" of these men and women, and learn from the masters for free.

We would like to offer your writing group the magazine for free; for life. If anybody is interested in learning more about how to be on the podcast, publish a short story or a book excerpt, or possibly even be interviewed in the magazine, they can email me directly.

When it comes to what we publish in every issue, the list includes, short stories, book excerpts, over twenty pages of book reviews, interviews, articles, and more. Besides the magazine, we also have a podcast that includes four shows: "Suspense Radio Inside Edition," "Beyond the Cover," "The Story Blender" and "Thriller Radio." Each show is unique and offers authors yet another chance to reach readers. "Inside Edition" is the flagship show that started nine years ago, where we interview authors about their work. "Beyond the Cover" is where we discuss book reviews, movies, interview authors and talk everything about the genre, not just individual book titles. "The Story Blender" is hosted by bestselling author Steven James. On the show he discusses how a story is crafted with different guests. "Thriller Radio" is hosted by bestselling author Jenny Milchman and produced in part by the *International Thriller Writers* (ITW).

Lastly, we have a publishing company where we have published twelve award-winning books, one #1 *NY Times* bestselling author, and several other award nominees.

Here is the last issue of our magazine (in digital form): [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/1b8d54d10b72d257fc8b96db9/files/690de7f3-2180-42b9-ab87-de0e41c3d83e/Suspense\\_Magazine\\_July\\_August\\_2017.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/1b8d54d10b72d257fc8b96db9/files/690de7f3-2180-42b9-ab87-de0e41c3d83e/Suspense_Magazine_July_August_2017.pdf)

John Raab

CEO / Publisher

Suspense Magazine

[www.suspensemagazine.com](http://www.suspensemagazine.com)

Check out Suspense Radio: [www.blogtalkradio.com/suspensemagazine](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/suspensemagazine)

Future editions will be emailed to SCWA members along with our Newsletter announcement.

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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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