



IN THIS ISSUE

HEADLINES

General Meeting Previews - March, April, May and July 2021

March 9: Anne Janzer..... [3](#)
April 13: Sue McGinty..... [4](#)
May 11: Mara Purl..... [5](#)
June 8: TBD
July 13: Ava Homa..... [6](#)

Critique Group News [7](#)

North County Critique Group seeks new members

Notices [8](#)

The San Luis Obispo County *Bar Bulletin* offers publication opportunity
Zoom meeting and Critique Table information

FEATURED ARTICLES AND SERVICES

President's Letter by *Janice Konstantinidis* [2](#)

Word Play by *Morgann Tayllor*..... [9](#)

Kangaroo Words

Tips and Tidbits by *Judythe Guarnera*.....[10](#)

Nonfiction Pandemic Writing

The Ethics Sage by *Dr. Steven Mintz*[12](#)

Becoming an Influencer Through Blogging

Kudos, Kudos, Kudos.....[14](#)

NightWriters Review Board[18](#)

Services Offered.....[19](#)

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

Nazis In Skokie, Illinois by *Ruth Starr*.....[15](#)

Soft Skin by *Susan Tuttle*.....[16](#)

For The Birds by *Shari Hollander*[17](#)

President's Letter

by Janice Konstantinidis

Dear Fellow NightWriters,

The earth is brimming with life; snowdrops and crocuses lead the charge, and bulbs of all kinds are peeking out in our garden. So much anticipation, I can hardly stand it!

Better yet, vaccines have reached our age group, and our household is now halfway to protection against this deadly virus. The numbers are down and there is hope that this time they will stay down.

So, new life emerges and we are happy; at the same time, we mourn the loss of so many who will not greet this spring. There is much to think about and to write about in these difficult times.

Now, to NightWriters business: we are still hoping for a volunteer to step forward to run the contest this year. We usually open the contest in May, so time is short to get the necessary preparations made. Please let me know if you are interested.

Meanwhile, stay safe and keep writing!

Janice Konstantinidis

An icon to Aussies am I,
as I stare with a glint in my eye.
My greens and my blues,
with many red hues,
stand out to all who pass by.

Known far and wide for my name,
I've reached international fame,
I'm a Rosella,
a noisy darn fella,
but very well loved all the same!

Janice Konstantinidis



Photo by Lorraine Flakemore

General Meeting Previews

Tuesday, March 9

Anne Janzer

5:15 pm: Join the Critique Table

6:30 pm: Anne Janzer

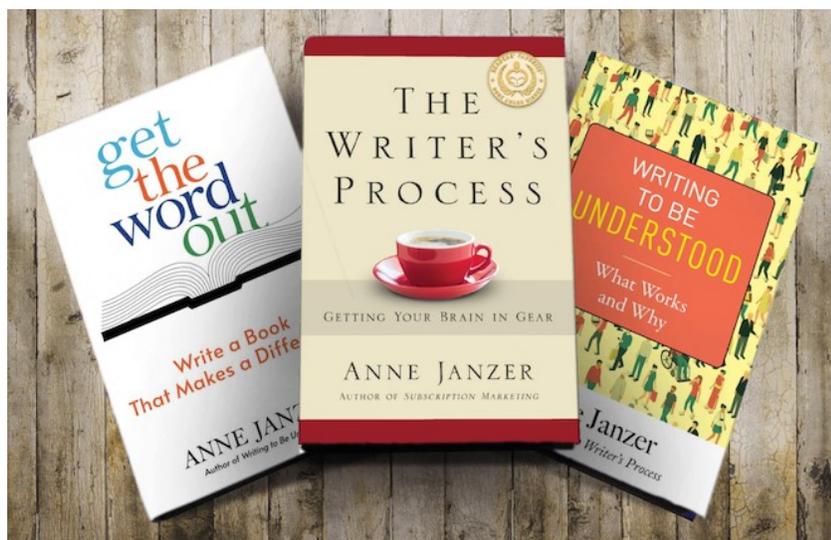
Get the Word Out: Write a Book that Makes a Difference

Did you know that only 6% of nonfiction writers stick with their initial outlines? (That number *must* be smaller for fiction writers!)

Did you know that while most books take longer than anticipated to write, most authors find that the experience exceeds their expectations?

And for many published authors, the biggest surprise about the process of writing is what happens afterward—marketing.

In this session, Anne Janzer will share the results of a survey of more than 400 authors, which she conducted as research for her most recent book *Get the Word Out: Write a Book That Makes a Difference*. We'll cover insights about publishing, book marketing, motivation, and of course the writing process. Anne will also share the words of advice and wisdom from the survey participants.



General Meeting Previews

Tuesday, April 13

Sue McGinty

5:15 pm: Join the Critique Table

6:30 pm: Sue McGinty

Creating Catchy Characters

Join author Sue McGinty to discuss the elements of character development in writing. The discussion will include:

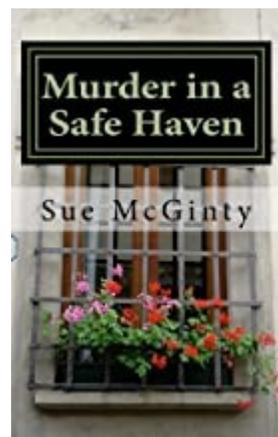
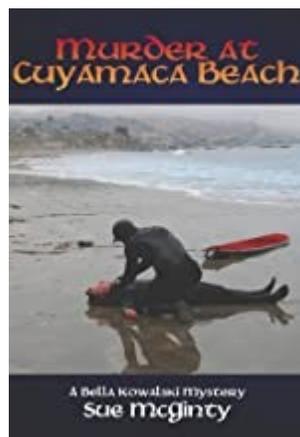
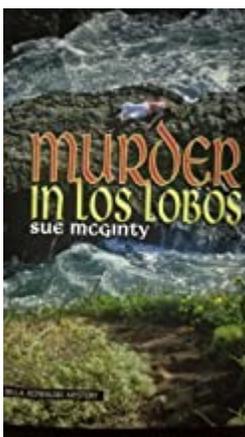
- Which comes first, the character or the story?
- Introducing your main character: appearance, voice, strengths, weaknesses.
- Understanding how the story's arc relates to the goals of your characters.
- Secondary characters: how many and when should they be introduced?
- Secondary characters that help the main character achieve his or her goals.
- Secondary characters that hinder the main character.



Sue McGinty escaped Los Angeles June 17, 1994, the same day OJ Simpson took his infamous ride. Unlike OJ, Sue had a destination in mind: the Central Coast hamlet of Los Osos. Her goal: writing fiction, a whole different mindset than writing technical courses for McGraw-Hill.

She made the most of her newly-found time, publishing five Central Coast mysteries: *Murder in Los Lobos*, *Murder at Cuyamaca Beach*, *Murder in Mariposa Bay*, *Murder in a Safe Haven*, and *Murder at Smuggler's Cove*. Her current release, an historical fiction coming-of-age story, *The Sojourner Chronicles*, takes place in Detroit during WWII.

Contact Sue at SueMcGinty@aol.com or on Facebook: Sue McGinty.



General Meeting Previews

Tuesday, May 11

Mara Purl

5:15 pm: Join the Critique Table

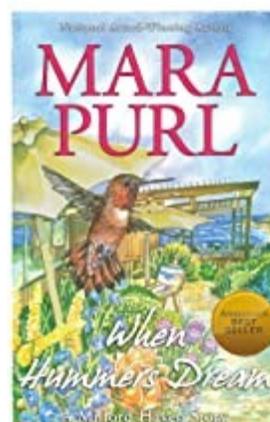
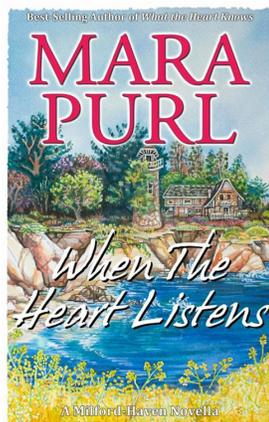
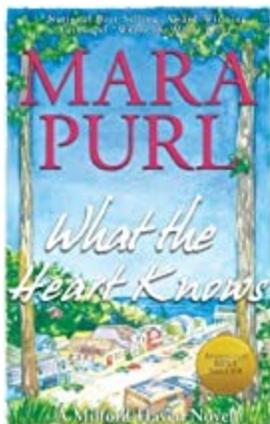
6:30 pm: Mara Purl

A Journey to Milford-Haven and Beyond

Join Mara on a journey through her varied and fascinating career as she reveals who were some of her major influencers, teachers and mentors. Enjoy stories about Louis L'Amour, James Michener, Margaret Coel, Joseph Campbell and several others. Hear how she went from television star to her own radio drama creator and from script writer to best-selling novelist.

Q&A following the presentation!

Mara Purl is the author of the best-selling Milford-Haven Novels, which have earned fifty book awards. The saga is based on her BBC radio drama which had 4.5 million U.K. listeners. Her radio and book series is set in the Central Coast, where she is a long-time performer, speaker, and author. A dynamic voice in Women's Fiction, Mara speaks nationally on heart-matters and personal transformation, and is an accomplished audio book performer. She was an actress on Days Of Our Lives, and a journalist for the Associated Press, Rolling Stone and the Financial Times of London.



General Meeting Previews

Tuesday, July 13

Ava Homa

5:15 pm: Join the Critique Table

6:30 pm: Ava Homa

A Best Book of 2020: Daughters of Smoke and Fire

Mark your calendars for July 13 when we will have a special guest presenter, [Ava Homa](#). Ava's [Daughters of Smoke and Fire](#) was named "A Best book of 2020." She was nominated for the Frank O'Connor International Prize. Her book has been described as an unforgettable, haunting story of a young woman's perilous fight for freedom and justice for her brother.

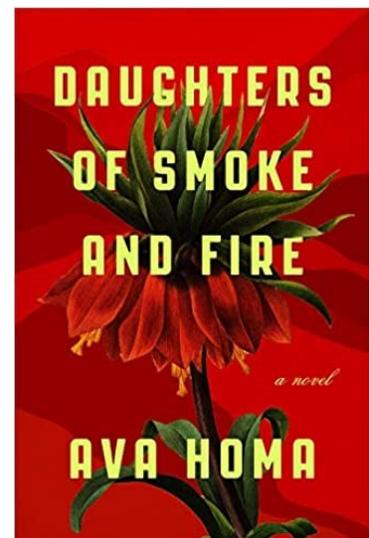


Set primarily in Iran, this extraordinary debut novel takes readers into the everyday lives of the Kurds. Leila dreams of making films to bring the suppressed stories of her people onto the global stage, but obstacles keep piling up.

Leila's younger brother Chia, influenced by their father's past torture, imprisonment, and his deep-seated desire for justice, begins to engage with social and political affairs. But his activism grows increasingly risky and one day he disappears in Tehran. Seeking answers about her brother's whereabouts, Leila fears the worst and begins a campaign to save him. But when she publishes Chia's writings online, she finds herself in grave danger as well.

Daughters of Smoke and Fire is an evocative portrait of the lives and stakes faced by 40 million stateless Kurds and a powerful story that brilliantly illuminates the meaning of identity and the complex bonds of family, perfect for fans of Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*.

Daughters of Smoke and Fire "unfurls the history of an oppressed people fighting for their right to live, love, thrive, and create. Homa peels back layers of sorrow and injustice to reveal the resilience and hope of so many Kurds living in the stateless nation."—Chicago Review of Books



Critique Group News

North County Critique Group Currently Open to New Members

The **North County Critique Group** is looking for a few new members. Are you a fiction or creative non-fiction writer of intermediate to advanced ability who is looking for a group with which to share your work, listen to others, and grow your craft? We are currently meeting via Zoom on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. If interested in joining this amenable group, please send a writing sample to coordinator Lillian Brown at lilliofslo@aol.com.

Sunshine Corner

Need a Little Sunshine?

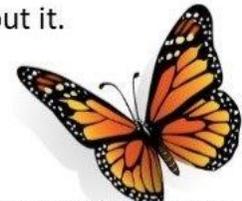


Into every life a little rain might fall, times when we long for sunshine, but no one notices.

NightWriters would like to send a card to any of its members who are ill, have lost a loved one, had surgery or an accident, but we don't always hear about it.



So, Fellow Writers, we need you!



Please email me, Judythe Guarnera: judy.guarnera@gmail.com and let me know when someone you know needs a little sunshine.

Moved or Changed Email?

Please notify NightWriters of any change in address or email: jkon50@gmail.com. Join NightWriters and send dues or renewal checks (payable to SLO NightWriters) to: SLO NightWriters, PO Box 2986, Paso Robles, CA 93447. Or join/renew online through our website: www.slonightwriters.org and pay with a credit card.

Notices

SLO County Publication Seeks Submissions

The San Luis Obispo County legal magazine, the *Bar Bulletin*, is expanding its range of articles and is seeking submissions from the community. Tara Jacobi, editor of the *Bar Bulletin*, states that "I am looking for articles about anything from the history of SLO, the latest book mystery you read, work-life balance, a lifestyle choice that made the difference and more. Generally, I am open to almost anything that writers wish to write about who may wish to obtain the experience of being published."

To submit an article or to ask any question, contact Tara Jacobi at slosafire@icloud.com.

Monthly Online Zoom Meetings

During the pandemic isolation, we are offering online meetings and presentations via Zoom (see page 3 for details of our March 9 General Meeting). We encourage interested visitors to join us. The meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month. The Critique Table will begin at 5:15 pm and the General Meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

If you have any ideas or comments about our online presentations, please contact our Program Director, Steven Mintz, at smintz@calpoly.edu

Visitors are always welcome. For details, visit our website: www.slomightwriters.org.

How to Join the Monthly Zoom Critique Table

1. If you desire to have your work critiqued, send your chosen two pages to Susan Tuttle (aim2write@yahoo.com) and Terry Sanville (tsanville@sbcglobal.net) by the Saturday before the meeting.
2. Login to the monthly Zoom meeting a few minutes before 5:15 pm on the day of the meeting using the link below or the link provided in the email that is sent to members. You are welcome to join us even if you just want to listen and hear the critiques.
3. If you have any specific issues or questions you'd like covered at the Critique Table, just let Susan (aim2write@yahoo.com) or Terry (tsanville@sbcglobal.net) know before the meeting.

The Zoom Meeting Link

[Click Here to Join the Zoom Meeting](#)

WORD PLAY

by Morgann Tayllor

KANGAROO WORDS

Kangaroos may be content to live in Australia but **kangaroo words** have gone global, with the same letters found in the pouch of the parent word. These *joey* words are not anagrams, but antonyms, synonyms and close relatives of the mother **roo** arranged in sequential order of the letters but not necessarily clumped together.

A kangaroo word can produce a single *joey*, or a pouch of twins and triplets. **Entwined (tied)** as they are by family, twins can be **amicable (amiable)** synonyms or triplets who **feasted (fed, ate, eat)**, with **fasted** as an antonym. A *joey* antonym in plain sight is **covert (overt)**.

The *grand kangaroo* gives birth to a *joey* within a *joey*—one *joey* word in the pouch inside the other *joey*. **Frangible** is easily broken into **fragile** and **frail** synonyms while **complaisant** becomes **compliant** and **pliant**.

* * * * *

A loose kangaroo word with a *joey* in three languages has a storied history.

Portuguese navigators seeking new trade routes discovered an archipelago of islands nestled on the west coast of the Indian subcontinent. Recognizing the area as an excellent natural harbor, they called it **Bom Bahía** (the good bay).

After the English began to colonize India in the seventeenth century, they anglicized the place name to **Bombay**, today a bustling port and the ninth largest city in the world with

some 21 million. Years after their 1947 independence from Britain, India reverted to the Hindi/Marathi equivalent—*Bombay* is now called **Mumbai** (**bai**=bay=Bahía).

* * * * *

Because kangaroo words are ubiquitous, they can begin with almost every letter in the alphabet, including **abnormality (anomaly)** to **balderdash (blah)**; **honorable (noble)** to **infuriated (irate)**; **quintuplet (quintet)** to **misinterpreted (erred)**; **unanimity (unity)** to **yearning (yen)**.

* * * * *

Zax (ax), an ancient multi-purpose hatchet, can be labeled as a small axe. Over time, it has been retooled to meet the needs of each contemporary era. It has staying power, a possible candidate for the marsupial synonym. Could it be a legitimate *joey*?

Apparently not. If the word letters are adjacent, such as **input/put**, the would-be *joey* is sent packing. So **zax/ax** gets the hatchet.

* * * * *

Word game for writers: Pen a poem or flash fiction with kangaroo words. They may be **rambunctious (raucous)**, **stealthy (sly)**, or **wonderful (woeful)**, but they will be no less entertaining. Happy hopping!

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TIPS AND TIDBITS

by Judythe Guarnera



NONFICTION PANDEMIC WRITING

Many writers have complained that the pandemic has resulted in their creative juices developing sludgy properties that have prevented them from writing. A noticeable drop in new Covid cases is occurring because of more mask and social distancing compliance. Now we have several vaccines that have proven effective. Estimates are that by the end of summer, a good portion of our fellow citizens will be vaccinated.

Although I've never stopped writing, I have noticed that it has been taking me longer to complete even a short piece. Recent happenings have made me feel more hopeful which must have flipped a switch in my brain because I'm ready to increase my writing. How about you?

Since I've made the switch from novel writing to shorter pieces, I've begun a search for appropriate markets for work I've already done—two pandemic short stories, one pandemic essay, and one poem. It's important as writers to help document what for many of us seems like a lost year—a year of fear and worry.

Finding an appropriate anthology can be as simple as doing an internet search. For a later column, I might provide a list of sources I've found.

Let's pretend you've found a pandemic anthology market that interests you and you've completed the draft of a nonfiction piece—memoir or an essay—and have begun the editing process. Although the suggestions below weren't written specifically for pandemic writing, I think you'll find many that

will help you prepare your writing for submission.

There are many software editing programs for sale and free on the Web. It's a good idea to use these.

Take the time to check off the items below. When we submit our work, our hope is for acceptance and publication. Hiring an editor to review your work can be worth the price if it gets you published.

The following areas of focus are what makes a compelling story.

Overview

- Does the introduction engage the reader?
- Does the subject have importance?
- Is there a clear thesis?
- Do the facts stand up to scrutiny and are clearly stated?
- Does your conclusion effectively prove your premise, or tie up the points of your premise?

Narrative

- Is it presented in digestible pieces?
- Does it have an interesting view, angle, hook?
- Does it provide supporting details helpful in clarifying the main idea?

Organization, body

- Is there a clear structure?

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

- Is there a logical progression that develops the thesis?
- Are the transitions mature and smooth?
- Is information relevant with details from personal experience, and prior knowledge when appropriate?
- Is there a distinction between general observations and specifics?
- Is it informative, does it improve reader's understanding, and impart worthwhile knowledge/ideas?

Style

- Is your premise clearly depicted, and precise with strong word choices?
- Does it stay on topic without diversions or distractions?
- Does its rhythm, pace, and format make it easy to read?
- Did you use humor or other catchy techniques, if applicable?

Grammar & Spelling

- Have you used your program's spelling and grammar check?
- Have you used other online editing programs?
- Have you read it out loud?
- Have you had people, other than family, read it for content and edit it?

Finally finishing writing a piece doesn't mean you're done. Checking the points above to see if you've complied, can make the difference in your nonfiction piece being published or rejected.

*In the Rhythm of Writing,
Judythe*

President: Janice Konstantinidis
Vice-President: Vacant
Secretary: Leonard Carpenter
Treasurer: Steve Derks
Program Director: Steven Mintz
Membership Coordinator: Jim Aarons
Critique Group Coordinator: Tina Clark
Social Media/Publicity Coordinator:
 Meagan Friberg
Contest Director: Vacant
Welcome Committee: Vacant
Sunshine Chair: Judythe Guarnera
Website Master: Janice Konstantinidis
Web Assistant: Steve Derks
Newsletter Editor: Steve Derks
Photographer: Vacant
Member at Large: Susan Tuttle

We Need Your Help

The success of non-profit organizations like SLO NightWriters depends on its members. We all have talents other than writing that any organization could make use of. NightWriters has many special opportunities for members to get involved, working "behind the scenes." If you'd like to assist in any capacity, email: jkon50@gmail.com.

The Ethics Sage

by Dr. Steven Mintz

BECOMING AN INFLUENCER THROUGH BLOGGING



I've been blogging for about fifteen years and have become what many would say is an influencer in my field – ethical behavior. Given my blogging activity, I thought it advisable to develop a code of ethics taken in part from those who have been there, done that, and my own experiences.

The essence of my comments rely on the famous expression in Shakespeare's play, *Hamlet*: "To thine own self be true." These words are spoken by King Claudius' chief minister, Polonius, as part of a speech where he is giving his son, Laertes, his blessing and advice on how to behave while at the university.

To me this means to blog only about things I feel passionate about and do so in an honest, transparent way so my readers will come to trust my words and build my credibility in my field of ethics. One thing I learned early on is not to blog about things I don't know. I focus my blogs on my areas of expertise: political ethics, workplace ethics, and ethics in higher education.

Bloggers and content creators have one important thing in common with journalists - they create public content. When something is public, it is available to everyone and this means that you have a huge responsibility because words matter and influence others. A successful blogger becomes an influencer and should always ask: How will my readers benefit from my words. What must I do or say to build my reputation for trust?

According to content creator Martin Couture, "when you set a Code of Ethics when blogging, you are rooted enough to fly high to the spheres of creative content writing and

exploring new fields of possibilities." He calls this "being on the highway rather than on a golf cart riding here and there on the golf course."

So, the comments you make should attract your tribe and build a loyal following. Here are some ways of doing it and what not to do.

The Do's

- Be authentic.
- Create content value.
- Give due credit to those who inspire you.
- Be open to honest feedback.
- Share your knowledge.
- Build quality content not quantity.
- Collaborate when called for.

I have been focusing on the last suggestion in my blogs recently. I look for ways to motivate others and enable them to share their ideas by posting guest blogs. I like to inspire others and help them achieve their online objectives.

The Don'ts

Most of the don'ts are obvious: don't plagiarize others; give credit where credit is due; don't allow others to use your site as a way to link back to their products and services; and don't let others post inappropriate content on your site.

- Focus on the value of your blog, not try to monetize your blog.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

There are many opportunities to monetize one's blog. I am frequently contacted by other groups asking to pay a nominal amount (i.e., \$50-\$100) to have their blog posted and link to their website on my website and/or download a resource of their organization. I never do this mainly because I don't know enough about their content and readers to gauge their trustworthiness and what they'll do, and how they'll do it when linking back to my post/website -- if anything at all.

- Carefully vet guest blog requests.

Many writers have asked to post on my website. Some of these requests are good; some not so much. I've already focused on the good so here are my thoughts about the bad points and cautionary words.

Whenever someone contacts me to post a

blog on my site I immediately look for a sign that they know the content that I write about. I have developed guidelines for the kind of blog I will consider and the criteria for choosing a guest blog. I also look for links to blogs they have already written so I can assess their writing skills and the quality of their content. I then decide whether I am interested in what they have to say. I ask: Would my readers be interested in the content? Why or why not?

Blogging is here to stay. To become an influencer in your area of expertise, always ask the following question: Will those who read my blogs want to continue to do so in the future? You are trying to build a loyal following. With credibility comes loyalty. Remember, you're only as good as your reputation allows you to be.

Submit Stories, Photos and Ads to the Newsletter

We will publish advertisements for NightWriters' books and book writing related events. This advertising is Free For Members. Please provide the graphic (book cover or other graphic) for the announcement.

We will also accept original photographs, and unpublished Flash Fiction between 400-800 words from current members. Excerpts from published works, if they stand alone as their own mini-story, are also acceptable. We are also interested in articles, kudos and event notices. And if you have any other ideas for content, please let us know.

Send all submissions as attachments to: slonwnnewsletter@gmail.com, and put NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION in the subject line. We're all writers... so, take advantage of this opportunity to be published in your newsletter.

Kudos, Kudos, Kudos...

Brandy McKay

Brandy McKay became one of the finalists for the [Fourth Annual Adelaide Literary Award Contest 2020](#) for her short story, *Don't Drop the Eggs*, which will appear in the [2020 Adelaide Literary Award Anthology: Short Stories, Vol. 1](#), released Feb. 27, 2021.

Terry Sanville

Terry Sanville's short stories, *Slow Friday Night* and *Secrets Best Kept*, will be published in the print journal [The Phoenix](#), published by Pfeiffer University, a private college in Misenheimer, North Carolina.

Terry's short story, *Leroy's Blues*, will be included in an upcoming edition of the [African American Review](#), a journal published by the [Johns Hopkins University Press](#).

Terry's short story, *Other Side of the Lake*, will be included in the upcoming edition of [The Ogham Stone](#), a journal published by the University of Limerick, Ireland.

Terry's short story, *Silence*, will be included in the upcoming edition of the [Concrete Desert Review](#), a journal published by Cal State University San Bernardino Palm Desert Campus.

Have Kudos to Crow About?

Do you have a recent article or story published in a local, national or even international print or online magazine? Or a book published?

How about a review, or an award, honor or recognition of your writing?

If so, we'd like to know about it. To have your literary kudos included in *WordSmiths*, send an email to slonwnewsletter@gmail.com by the 20th of the month.

Have You Checked Out Our Website Lately?

Control Your Own Information

Post your bio, picture, book covers and ordering links. Contribute a writing blog post-free publicity!

MEMBER SITE LINKS

List your website(s) and blog(s) with live links — makes it easier for the public to find you and helps build your platform.

BOOK REVIEWS

Get your book reviewed. Write a review—it's a valid publishing credit.

WRITERS SERVICES

Do you have a writing or professional skill? Get listed on our new Services Page.

FACEBOOK

Become a "Fan" of NightWriters! Visit NW's Facebook page and sign up today! Also, link your Facebook page and your websites and blogs to NW sites.

LINKEDIN

Connect with NW on LinkedIn. Help build your author platform with writing professional connections.

Nazis in Skokie, Illinois

by Ruth Starr

Nazis coming to our town! Unbelievable. Living in Skokie, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, I didn't pay much attention to the news during the seventies. I heard talk, probably a rumor, that Nazis were going to have a march in Skokie.

Skokie was home to about 69,000 people; nearly 40,000 of them were Jews. Many were Holocaust survivors. They had witnessed the horror of concentration camps. Their memories were so traumatized that many could not speak of what happened to them. They had always felt safe in Skokie, and if Nazis indeed showed up, who knew what might happen. We had seen movies, crying at the pictures of people who had been starved and beaten and finally saved.

I could hear the screams of my cousin Alex, his wife, and five children as they were herded to Auschwitz Concentration Camp on trains and then being gassed to death. I felt sick and hoped no Nazis would be in our midst. Please not be true.

"My God," I thought, "the Nazis would wear armbands with swastikas on them. This, a horrific reminder to those survivors of what they had just come through". During the thirties and forties, they marched through the streets of countries like Poland wearing Nazi uniforms with swastikas on the armbands.

The march was real, I found out. My stomach ached from anxiety. I was at the edge of panic. The leader of this Nazi group, Frank Collin, had applied for permission to hold a rally in Skokie, and it was granted.

My phone rang all day long; the word of the Nazi march spread throughout the country, every T.V. news broadcast had a story about it.

My husband and I gathered with other friends at home the evening we found out

the truth. Ted, a local contractor, had always been a peaceful man, but I saw a Ted I didn't know that night. He was livid with rage. "I'm gonna get a gun", he said. "If those S.O.B.s step in the streets of Skokie, I'll kill them."

"Yeah," the others yelled, "we'll buy guns too. No mother fuckin' Nazi is coming to my town."

My friend Ron said he was bringing his golf club to clobber any of them over the head with it.

I was scared that our friends' angry mob would kill or be killed in the streets of what was once a peaceful town. Personally, I hated guns. A Rabbi from another town loudly told everyone who would listen that there was going to be blood flowing in the streets of Skokie, but not Jewish blood.

To make matters worse, we found out that the ACLU, made up of mostly Jewish attorneys, was defending the rights of this Nazi group to hold their rally and march in Skokie. We understood the First Amendment rights but still did not want Nazis in Skokie.

I felt helpless and hopeless. Battles were going on in the courts to let them march or to not let them march. They won in court. We were furious.

The furor began to die down as word filtered down to us that the Nazi event would not happen. The march was finally called off in Skokie. I was so grateful.

It was called off when the City of Chicago relented and issued permits to the group to march in Marquette Park, located on the Southside of Chicago. I could breathe again. The end to the whole ugly affair happened when a few Nazis showed up at Marquette park; no one paid any attention to them.

Soft Skin

by Susan Tuttle

I remember
 my mother's skin
 as she aged,
 so delicate and soft,
 like stroking clouds
 or the down
 on a newborn baby's head;
 a touch of Heaven as she
 neared her entrance into that
 august Palace above,
 a reminder that soon she
 would be far beyond my touch.
 Far beyond my presence.

Now as I stroke the underside
 of my own arm
 and feel that same softness,
 that same delicacy,
 I wonder how
 I got to this place
 of endings,
 my own body slipping
 down the road of no return,
 never enquiring if my spirit
 wants to accompany it.

Greedy in its desire
 to follow its own path,
 my body bows to years that
 my conscious mind discounts—
 uncaring of the years yet to
 come,
 the things still to accomplish—

pulling me where
 I do not want to go,
 where I cannot imagine
 myself venturing,
 not for decades to come.

If ever.

How strange
 and somehow fitting
 that both the beginning
 and the ending
 encapsulate themselves
 in delicate softness,
 when death—
 unlike the space in between—
 is so harsh,
 so heart-stoppingly feared,
 so final.

Do we simply come from
 the softness of nothing
 to slip into
 the wonder and bustle of life,
 then vanish back into the
 nothing of softness?
 I do not want
 to be beyond the touch,
 beyond the present.

And still my skin softens.
 It softens.

For the Birds by Shari Hollander



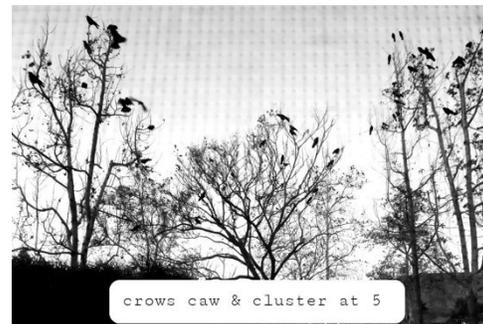
A lone bird is not
Lonely but always looks like
Potential haiku



Impudent crow stands
Strong in his conviction that
I am no challenge



I've found the best crumbs!
If only I can sneak in
And no one finds me...



5 o'clock shadow
A raucous caucus of crows
Murder my rooftop

NightWriter REVIEW BOARD

As writers, we need to read in order to see what others are doing. We also find out what works and what doesn't, what we need to avoid and what we want to incorporate into our own bag of skills.

So, as long as we're reading, why not read other members' books and write reviews for them? It's a win-win for everyone: we learn by reading, and authors garner those all-important reviews for their work.

NightWriters has set up a Review Board, where we connect member readers with member writers' new works. Below you will

find a listing of members who are willing to read and review (on Amazon, Goodreads, or their other favorite review site) specific works by other members. You must be a NightWriter member in good standing to take advantage of this board. If you have a new book for review, just contact the reader(s) listed here, and arrange to have a book sent to them. Please check carefully to make sure your genre fits the genres each person reads. Have fun!

Review Board Members*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Genres</u>
Jim Aarons	jim@jeadv.com	historical fiction
Mark Arnold	markarnoldphd@gmail.com	historical, sci-fi
Judith Bernstein	ryewit@live.com	memoir, creative nonfiction
Steve Bowder	sbowder@live.com	historical novel
David Brandin	dbrandin@earthlink.net	political, historical, general, sci-fi
Tina Clark	outsidetheglasstjc@gmail.com	sci-fi, creative nonfiction
Ruth Cowne	abuela10@att.net	memoir, flash fiction
Steven McCall	steven.mccall7@gmail.com	literary fiction
Jody Julkowski Nelson	jjnteacher@gmail.com	fiction, creative nonfiction
Jennifer Rescola	jkrescola@charter.net	autobiography, novels
Brian Schwartz	brian@selfpublish.org	nonfiction
Mary Silberstein	luvlamas@gmail.com	poetry, fiction
Susan Tuttle	aim2write@yahoo.com	mystery, suspense, paranormal suspense

****To be added to our Review Board listing, write to: slonnewsletter@gmail.com and put Review Board in the subject line.***

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To contact the cover designer directly, email aaron@aaronkondziela.com. He is a great graphic designer with a good handle on the pulse of today's book cover needs. If you are ready, or almost ready, for your book cover, contact Aaron and see what he can do for you and your book.



Complete Editing Services
Let me help you Write It Right
 Susan Tuttle, Award Winning Author

Proofreading: spelling, punctuation, and grammar only. The last step before publication.

Cost: \$5/3 pages

What you get: a corrected document. Turnaround time @ 1 week for a 250-300 page manuscript.

Line Editing: spelling, punctuation, grammar, word usage, sentence construction, consistency of voice/style.

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What you get: two documents, one corrected (spelling, punctuation, grammar only), one with suggestions in track changes. Turnaround time @ 1-1/2 weeks for a 250-300-page manuscript.

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Cost: @ \$850-\$1,200 for 250-300-page manuscript, depending on amount of work the manuscript needs. Flat rates also available.

What you get: a document with track changes for spelling, punctuation and grammar, and comments, suggestions, and examples on ways to improve the work. Turnaround time: 2-3 weeks, depending on amount of work needed.

I will never rewrite your work, I will only suggest ways you can make it better, with examples for clarification. My goal is to help strengthen your unique author's voice while making sure you tell the best story you can write.

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Contact me at: editme1@yahoo.com