

# Surfwriters Newsletter

Vol. XXXXVIII Issue 8

K. C. Johnson, Editor & Publisher

January 2007

-- Announcements --

*Friday, January 26 - 11:00 a.m.*

Special Guest, Leo Smith,  
Features Editor at the *Daily Breeze*

#### *A Brief History of the Daily Breeze*

The *Daily Breeze* was founded in 1894 as *The Breeze*, a weekly publication serving the Redondo Beach community. Coverage gradually spread to other coastal cities, and by 1922, the weekly had become a daily publication. Along with its three local weeklies, the *Daily Breeze* indeed has been "the voice of the South Bay with an eye on the world." The Hearst Corporation purchased the Torrance-based *Daily Breeze* in December 2006, and the paper is now published as part of the Los Angeles Newspaper Group by MediaNews Group Inc.

Join us to hear Leo Smith speak of his experiences as Features Editor  
and share insights on recent changes at the *Daily Breeze*.

<http://www.dailybreeze.com>

#### **Business Meeting - 10:00 a.m.**

Two new topics of business:

We'll begin discussing Poetry and Music in the Gallery and the 2008 Writer's Seminar.

Palos Verdes Art Center  
5504 W. Crestridge Road  
Rancho Palos Verdes  
(310) 541-2479

*Guests are welcome.*

*See you there!*

Congratulations to Surfwriters Mary Lee Friesz and Julia Foster,  
whose articles appeared in *My Turn, Daily Breeze*, December 2006!

## ◊◊ -- Events -- ◊◊

*-- Art Jam!*

Friday, January 26, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Open Mike!  
Art Display, Poetry/Prose  
Music and Song, Refreshments

Free to the Public  
Summer Studios Arts Academy  
25004 Narbonne Ave.  
Lomita 90717

Call David Parsons, Executive Director,  
for information at (310) 325-8801.

*-- Panel Discussions --***IWOSC**

**Independent Writers of Southern California**  
January General Meeting/Panel Discussion:  
"Unraveling Mystery Writing" with  
Moderator Diana James and Five Mystery Novelists

Monday, January 29, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (7:30 sharp)  
Veterans Memorial Building,  
4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City 90230

General admission: \$15. IWOSC members: Free  
Reservations are required. Space is limited!  
Contact info@iwosc.org or 877-799-7483 for reservations,  
directions, or information. Reservations will be honored  
up to ten minutes before the meeting begins.

## ◊◊

***Beyond Words, Nominees Panel***

Thursday, February 8, 7:30 p.m.

Beyond Words features the Writers Guild of America and Academy Award nominees for original and adapted screenplays. This moderated "panel discussion and celebration of the year's best writing for the big screen" will be held at the Writers Guild Theater, with dessert reception to follow.

Tickets \$20/\$15/\$10  
Tickets/Info: [www.wgfoundation.org](http://www.wgfoundation.org)  
or (323) 782-4692

Writers Guild Theater  
135 So. Doheny Drive  
Beverly Hills 90211

Park in adjacent lot.

## ◊◊

*-- Poetry Reading --*

Featured Readers and Open Mic  
Saturday, February 10, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
at the

**The Artists' Studio Gallery**

Bring a favorite poem or two!  
Enjoy poetry, art and refreshments!

**Free to the Public**

Suite 300C The Village  
627 Silver Spur Road  
(just west of the library)  
Rolling Hills Estates 90274

Call (310) 265-2592 for information.

*-- Palos Verdes Village Players --*

(Surfwriters and Others)  
Present a Staged Reading of

**Neil Simon's *Come Blow Your Horn***

2:00 p.m., Saturday, February 17, 2007

**Free to the Public**

**The Artists' Studio Gallery**  
Suite 300C The Village  
627 Silver Spur Road  
Rolling Hills Estates 90274  
(310) 265-2592

Enjoy the play, art exhibit and refreshments!

*-- Workshops at the Ruskin --*

Saturday, Feb. 10 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
*The Contemporary Sonnet*  
with Tony Barnstone  
-\$75-

Saturday, March 10 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
*Lyric Inspiration in Contemporary Poetry:*  
*Cinematic Fragmentation and Erasure*  
with David St. John  
-\$85-

Lunch and snacks included  
Morning only audits - \$45  
Advance reservations required

**The Ruskin Art Club**  
800 S. Plymouth Blvd.  
Los Angeles, 90005  
For information:  
(323) 755-3530 or (310) 669-2369  
Check the website for the complete schedule.  
[www.ruskinartclub.org](http://www.ruskinartclub.org)

## ◊◊

*-- Exhibits at LACMA --***November 16, 2006 - February 25, 2007***Picasso's Greatest Print:**The Minotauromachy in All Its States*

"On view together for the first time in the U.S., the eight etchings that comprise this focused exhibition represent the only existing suite of all the states...and give the opportunity to trace Picasso's creative process."

**November 19, 2006 - March 4, 2007***Magritte and Contemporary Art:**The Treachery of Images*

"...featuring sixty-eight paintings and drawings by Magritte, including many international loans of his signature works, and sixty-eight works in diverse media by thirty-one contemporary artists..."

In addition, the exhibition installation is specially designed by conceptual artist John Baldessari.

This exhibition is only on view in Los Angeles.

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

*-- Exhibit at The Getty Villa --***October 26, 2006 - April 30, 2007**

Stories in Stone: Conserving Mosaics of Roman Africa;  
Masterpieces from the National Museums of Tunisia

*-- Art in the Community --***Madrona Marsh Exhibit**

Photographs by Jack Ludwig will be on display at the Madrona Marsh Nature Preserve through March 3. Exhibit hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. The preserve is at 3201 Plaza del Amo, Torrance. **The exhibit is free.** For more information, call (310) 782-3989 or (310) 326-2774.

**Torrance Art Museum**

The Torrance Art Museum will display three exhibits through March 10. Gallery hours are noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. **The exhibit is free.**

3320 Civic Center Drive  
Torrance 90503

Call (310) 618-6340 for more information.

*-- Members in the News --*

Thanks to Debbie Paul  
for hosting our wonderful luncheon on December 15!

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Look for Meredith Grenier's column every Tuesday in the *Daily Breeze*. Meredith keeps readers up to date on South Bay society and community events.

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*-- Writing Groups --***Millie Ames Writing Workshop**

Tuesdays, 1:00-3:00 PM

Peninsula Center Library  
Conference Room (Main Level)

701 Silver Spur Road  
Rolling Hills Estates 90274

Purpose: To help writers get published

Facilitator: Jean Shriver

Frequency: Meets Weekly

(no meeting the last week of the year)

Genre: Fiction and Non-Fiction

(no drama or poetry)

**Writing Workshop/Critiquing Group**

Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Community Room at Christ Episcopal Church

400 So. Broadway (at Pearl Street)

(Between PCH and Catalina Ave.)

Redondo Beach 90277

Purpose: To help writers get published

Facilitator: Edith Battles

(group first organized by Jody Wilkinson)

Frequency: Meets Weekly

Genre: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Drama

Questions? Call Edith at (310) 540-2331

**New Writing Workshop**

Genre: Poetry/Short Prose

Frequency: Meets Bi-weekly

Mondays 2:00-4:30 p.m.

(Next meeting: January 22)

Palos Verdes Estates

Purpose: Explore voice, form, and style;

support/critique work;

share publishing opportunities

Facilitator: Rotating

(Everyone participates!)

Questions? Contact

[kcjohnson@starnetdial.net](mailto:kcjohnson@starnetdial.net).

*-- Ongoing Activities --***Spoken Word/Poetry at Coffee Cartel  
Featured Guests and Open Mic Readings**

1820 So. Catalina Avenue, Riviera Village

Redondo Beach 90277

Tuesdays 8:00 PM until...

(Sign up for open mic at 7:45)

Hosts Jim Doane & Larry Colker

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

Call (310) 316-6554 for information.

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-- Submissions --

**Kenyon Review**

**Reading Period Ends January 31**

Writers interested in submitting work for consideration must submit by January 31. After that time, work will not be read again until September 1, 2007. KR only accepts work via its online submission program. Email or snail mail submissions will not be accepted. Please read KR **guidelines** for more information.

<http://www.kenyonreview.org/writers/guidelines.php>

KR accepts --

- short fiction and essays (up to 7,500 words)
- poetry (up to six poems)
- plays (up to 35 pages)
- excerpts (up to 35 pages) from larger works
- translations of poetry and short prose

*Only previously unpublished material is considered.*

-- Looking ahead --

--Poetry and Music in the Gallery--  
Annual event at the Malaga Cove Library  
will take place Saturday, April 28.

-- Membership, Et Cetera --

**-- Associate Members --**

Is it time to renew your Associate Membership?  
If you're not certain, please check with  
Membership Chair, Marilyn Litvak at  
[mltrvlarng@hotmail.com](mailto:mltrvlarng@hotmail.com)

**-- Active Members --**

Is it time to renew your membership?  
If you're not certain, please check with  
Lisa Shea, Membership Services Coordinator  
at the Art Center, (310) 541-2479  
or e-mail [info@pvtartcenter.org](mailto:info@pvtartcenter.org).

**-- Newsletter Online --**

Read the monthly newsletter online  
at the Surfwriters website:  
<http://www.palosverdes.com/surfwriters/newsletters.htm>

**-- Future Announcements --**

Please send your announcements for future  
newsletters to [kcjohnson@starnetdial.net](mailto:kcjohnson@starnetdial.net).



-- Literary Miscellany --



TEN BEST BOOKS of 2006 per *The New York Times Sunday Book Review*

FICTION

- ABSURDISTAN By Gary Shteyngart
- THE COLLECTED STORIES OF AMY STEMPEL
- THE EMPEROR'S CHILDREN By Claire Messud
- THE LAY OF THE LAND By Richard Ford
- SPECIAL TOPICS IN CALAMITY PHYSICS By Marisha Pessl

NONFICTION

- FALLING THROUGH THE EARTH, A Memoir By Danielle Trussoni
- THE LOOMING TOWER, Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11 By Lawrence Wright
- MAYFLOWER, A Story of Courage, Community, and War By Nathaniel Philbrick
- THE OMNIVORE'S DILEMMA, A Natural History of Four Meals By Michael Pollan
- THE PLACES IN BETWEEN By Rory Stewart

Wishing the best of good health to all our members!

**Happy Writing!**

**-- Excerpt from a Seaside Tale --**

"And to this day, if you travel to the Palos Verdes Peninsula, or even to the regions far beyond, you will encounter the stories of these clever mermaids. As their fame spread far and wide, these story-tellers became known as the Surfwriters. And that's why a Surfwriter is a daughter of the sea, while her editor, the crab, is still a mere son of a beach."

Who wrote this? If you guessed Penny Holland, you are correct! Years ago Surfwriters conducted a tongue-in cheek contest seeking the best answer to "How Surfwriters Got Its Name" and the winner was Penny Holland, now Mrs. Wally Hume of Coupeville, Washington. Read the entire tale in the Surfwriters Anthology, planned for publication in spring, 2007.