

# Surfwriters Newsletter

Vol. 49 XLIX Issue 1

K. C. Johnson, Editor & Publisher

September 2007

---

## -- Announcements --

---

---

### *First Fall Meeting*

*Friday, September 28, 2007, 3:30 p.m.*

Note our new time, this month only!

### *Surfwriter Panel Discussion -- Plus Q&A*

*-- Marcia Reed, Jean Raynes, Wanda VanHoy Smith and Cat Spydell --*

*Hear what panelists have to say—*

- *-world traveler/author Marcia Reed about travel writing*
- *-historical romance novelist Jean Raynes (as Diane Austell) on fiction*
- *-children's writer, poet Wanda VanHoy Smith about poetry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*
- *-novelist, poet, playwright Cat Spydell on playwriting and producing in Los Angeles*

Palos Verdes Art Center  
5504 W. Crestridge Road  
Rancho Palos Verdes 90275  
(310) 541-2479

*Come early for coffee and conversation.*

---

**Haiku!** Marcia Reed requests that we each write a haiku and bring it to the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

"So many of our members are into poetry these days; (writing) haiku might be a good idea. I'm hoping that the Art Center will include some (of our) haiku in their quarterly newsletter...a contribution that is visible." She adds, "A haiku does not necessarily have 5-7-5 syllables, but it should be three lines with a punch at the end."

*See page 5 for more information on haiku. (Ed.)*

---

### *Author Talk/ Book Signing with Jack D. Kahlo*

**Meet author, pilot, real estate developer Jack Kahlo!**

Celebrate the release of Jack's book, *My Path Through Life* and congratulate Surfwriter, Virginia Twohy, who worked for two years as transcriber, editor and wordsmith to bring the project to fruition!

**2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 6, 2007**

Community Room, Malaga Cove Library  
2400 Via Campesina  
Palos Verdes Estates 90274  
(310) 377-9584x551

**Free and Open to the Public**

---

◊Δ◊ -- Community Events -- ◊Δ◊

-- Workshop --

**The Sounds of Poetry  
with Carine Topal**

"Discover your own voice and sources of personal inspiration through a series of writing exercises. Workshop members improve writing fluency, the ability to constructively critique personal work, and edit work of their peers in a supportive environment. Writers become familiar with contemporary literature and generate work rich in language and imagination."

**Classes begin Wednesday, September 19  
Eight sessions, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Sept. 19-Nov 7  
Torrance Cultural Arts Center**

Activity/Course Code Number is 1504.401.  
Price: \$60 - residents; \$70 - non-residents.

**Register in advance**

online, via phone, fax, walk-in or mail-in.

<http://www.torrnet.com/sdi/registrationmain.sdi>

City of Torrance

West Annex Registration Office

3031 Torrance Blvd., Torrance 90503

(310) 618-2720 or [www.torrnet.com](http://www.torrnet.com)

**Spoken Word/Poetry at Coffee Cartel**

**Guests and Open Mic Readings**

Tuesdays 8:10 p.m. (Sign up for open mic at 7:45 p.m.)  
Hosts Jim Doane, Larry Colker & Stephany Prodromides

**Professor-Poet-Authors Featured in September**

4<sup>th</sup> Open Mic  
11<sup>th</sup> Open Mic  
18<sup>th</sup> Randy Cauthen  
25<sup>th</sup> John Menaghen

1820 So. Catalina Avenue, Riviera Village  
Redondo Beach 90277

Call (310) 548-5344 or visit [www.redondopoets.com](http://www.redondopoets.com).

-- Art Jam --

**This Month's Theme:**

**Open Mic! Your choice! Potpourri!**

**Friday, September 28, 7:00-9:30 p.m.**

(Musicians and writers: Sign up at 6:30 p.m. Visual artists, please contact David Parsons a few days in advance.)

Art Display, Poetry/Prose,  
Music and Song, Refreshments

**Free to the Public**

**Summer Studios Arts Academy**  
25004 Narbonne Ave., Lomita 90717

(North of PCH, south of Lomita Blvd.;  
east of Crenshaw Blvd., west of Western Ave.)

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

-- Awakenings Coffee House --

Live Music, Open Mic Night, Live Drama, Art Shows  
Internet Stations, Wi-Fi, Kids Play Room  
Birthday Parties, Concerts, Art Exhibits

Open Mic Poetry 9:00-10:00 p.m.

First & Third Friday of Each Month

Tues-Fri 6:00 a.m.-midnight; Sat-Sun 8:00 a.m.-midnight

24100 Narbonne Ave., Lomita 90717

(310) 325-2565

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

-- UCLA Writers Faire --

**UCLA Extension Writers' Program  
Presents Writers Faire 2007.**

**Sunday, September 9, 2007**

**11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**UCLA Campus: Young Hall Courtyard**

"Join us for our eighth annual Writers Faire. This whirlwind event includes 24 free mini-panels and lectures, where you can hear your favorite instructors/writers in lively discussions about the art, craft, business, and life of writing. Learn more about Los Angeles area MFA programs. Meet and mingle with 15 professional and community organizations. Whether you are interested in writing for film and television, fiction writing, creative nonfiction, poetry, writing for the youth market, playwriting, or publishing, come and hear more than 70 professional writers share their insights, tips, and know-how."

-- Writers Faire Highlights --

- Hear from more than 70 creative writers/screenwriters as they share their expertise and tips in 24 unique mini-classes.
- Enroll in most Writers' Program fall courses at 10 percent discount.
- Get one-on-one advice on courses and certificate programs.
- Attend a special session on graduate creative writing programs.
- Talk with representatives from 20 community and professional organizations, graduate programs, and writing-allied businesses.

**Admission is free. Parking on campus in Lot 2 is \$8.**

For more information, call 310/825-9415 or visit

[www.uclaextension.edu/writers](http://www.uclaextension.edu/writers).

-- Writers Guild Foundation --

*Presents Two Exciting Events!*

**Sublime Primetime**

**Tuesday, September 11, 7:30 p.m.**

Writers Guild Theater

135 S. Doheny Drive, Beverly Hills 90211

"Always a rowdy good time, **Sublime Primetime** features a powwow with a prestigious panel of Emmy nominated primetime writers." Reception follows in the theater lobby.

Check the website for updates about panelists,

but get your tickets now. Sublime Primetime always sells out.

Tickets: [www.wgfoundation.org](http://www.wgfoundation.org)

\$20 -General; \$15 -WGA members; \$10 -Full-time students w/ID

**-- Writers Guild Foundation --**

**Saturday, September 15, 11:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.**

Spend a day with the writers  
who created some of your favorite films!

***Living Legends:******Three Classic Films and Their Writers***

Screening & conversation with three legendary writers:

**Irving Brecher**

**Screening of "Meet Me in St Louis" - 11:00 a.m.**

Q&A following with moderator Robert L. Freedman

**Fay Kanin**

**Screening of "Teacher's Pet" - 3:00 p.m.**

Q&A with Robin Schiff

**RECEPTION 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

(Bar sponsored by Hahn Estates)

**Millard Kaufman**

**Screening of "Bad Day at Black Rock" - 7:30 p.m.**

Q&A with Phil Alden Robinson

**Prices: All day pass, General Admission \$30; WGA members \$25; Senior (62 and over) and full time students with ID \$20 (includes evening reception). Individual daytime tickets \$8 (\$7 WGA; \$6 senior and student), Evening screening (including reception) \$20 (\$15 WGA, \$12 senior and student).**

Writers Guild Theater

135 S. Doheny Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

**Find full details and purchase tickets online  
at [www.wgfoundation.org](http://www.wgfoundation.org).**

**For information, call (323) 782-4692.**

**-- Tebot Bach --**

Tebot Bach is dedicated to strengthening community, promoting literacy, and broadening the audience for poetry by demonstrating through readings, workshops, and publications, the power of poetry to transform human experience.

Tebot Bach sponsors a poetry reading and writing workshop series supported in part by a grant from Poets and Writers, Inc., through a grant from The James Irvine Foundation. The readings --hosted by "five penny poets"-- feature local, national, and international poets.

**September Reading and Workshop Schedule**

Readings	28 <sup>th</sup>	Kathleen Lynch, Lynne Thompson
Workshop	29 <sup>th</sup>	Kathleen Lynch

All readings are held at:

Community Room 102, Golden West College  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Parking is free for the Tebot Bach audience.

(Entrance closest to Room 102 is on Gothard  
near the corner of Gothard and Edinger.)

[Click here for directions \(CTRL + click to follow link.\)](http://www.tebotbach.org/contactus.html)

Tebot Bach

P.O. Box 7887, Huntington Beach, CA 92615-7887

For information: <http://www.tebotbach.org/contactus.html>

**-- IWOSC --**

**Independent Writers of Southern California**

**-- Panel Discussion - Plus Q & A --**

**September General Meeting/Panel Discussion:  
Monday, September 24, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (7:30 sharp)**

***Launching An Audio Book***

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](mailto:info@iwosc.org) or (877) 799-7483

for reservations, directions, or information.

Reservations will be honored until 7:15.

**-- Writing Workshops --**

*(Free of Charge)*

**Millie Ames Writing Workshop**

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

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: Nina Murphy, ([Murfink9@aol.com](mailto:Murfink9@aol.com))

(Organizer, Jody Wilkinson; Previous Facilitator, Edith Battles)

Frequency: Meets Weekly

Genre: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Drama

**Writing Workshop**

Frequency: Meets Bi-weekly

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

(Next meetings: September 17, October 1)

Palos Verdes Estates

Purpose: Explore voice, form, and style;

support/critique work;

share publishing opportunities

Facilitator: Rotating

(Everyone who wishes may participate as facilitator!)

Questions? Contact [kcjohnson@starnetdial.net](mailto:kcjohnson@starnetdial.net).

Genre: Poetry/Short Prose

*-- Submissions/Contests --***California State University  
Philip Levine Prize in Poetry**

A prize of \$1,500, publication by Anhinga Press, and 25 author copies is given annually for a **book-length poetry collection**.

Submit 48 to 80 pages of poetry with a \$25 entry fee by **September 30**. Visit the website for complete guidelines.

(Click to see recent winners.)

California State University, Philip Levine Prize in Poetry  
English Department, 5245 North Backer Avenue, Mail Stop PB 98  
Fresno, CA 93740-8001  
mfafresno@cvip.net  
www.csufresno.edu/crwr/07philprize05.htm

**Chautauqua Literary Journal  
Annual Contests**

Two prizes of \$1,500 each and publication in *Chautauqua Literary Journal* are given annually for a **poem or group of poems and a short story or essay**. Submit up to six poems totaling no more than 500 lines or up to 7,000 words of prose with a \$15 entry fee, which includes a copy of the prize issue, by **September 30**.

Send an SASE, e-mail, or visit the website for complete guidelines. (Click to see recent winners.)

*Chautauqua Literary Journal*, Annual Contests  
P.O. Box 2039 York Beach, ME 03910  
Richard Foerster, Editor  
cljeditor@aol.com; writers.ciweb.org

**Red Hen Press  
Ruskin Art Club Poetry Award**

A prize of \$1,000 and publication in *Los Angeles Review* is given annually for a **single poem**. Elena Karina Byrne will judge. Submit up to three poems totaling no more than 120 lines with a \$20 entry fee, which includes a one-year subscription to *Los Angeles Review*, by **September 30**. Send an SASE, call, e-mail, or visit the website for complete guidelines.

Red Hen Press  
P.O. Box 3537, Granada Hills, CA 91394  
(818) 831-0649

Kate Gale, Managing Editor  
editors@redhen.org; www.redhen.org

**Zoetrope: All-Story  
Short Fiction Contest**

A prize of \$1,000 is given annually for a **short story**. The winner and seven finalists will be considered for representation by the William Morris Agency, International Creative Management, Regal Literary, the Elaine Markson Literary Agency, Inkwell Management, Sterling Lord Literistic, and the Georges Borchardt Literary Agency. Joyce Carol Oates will judge. Submit a story of up to 5,000 words with a \$15 entry fee by **October 1**.

Send an SASE or visit the website for complete guidelines.

*Zoetrope: All-Story*, Short Fiction Contest  
916 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94133  
Krista Halverson, Managing Editor  
contests@all-story.com  
www.all-story.com

*-- Submissions/Contests --***Dogwood  
Poetry and Fiction Prizes**

Two prizes of \$1,000 each and publication in *Dogwood*, the literary journal of Fairfield University, are given annually for a **single poem and a short story**. Micheal O'Siadhail will judge in poetry, and Abby Frucht will judge in fiction. **All entries will be considered for publication**. Submit up to three poems totaling no more than 10 pages or a story of up to 30 pages with a \$10 entry fee by **October 15**. Send an SASE, call, or visit the website for complete guidelines. (Click to see recent winners.)

*Dogwood*, Poetry and Fiction Prizes,  
Department of English, Fairfield University  
1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield, CT 06824-5195  
(203) 254-4000, ext. 2795  
Kim Bridgford, Editor  
www.faculty.fairfield.edu/dogwood

**Kore Press  
Short Fiction Award**

A prize of \$1,000 and publication by Kore Press will be given annually for a **short story by a woman**. The winning story will be published as a chapbook with a print run of 500 copies. Submit a story of no more than 8,000 words with a \$15 entry fee by

**October 31**. Send an SASE, e-mail, or visit the website for complete guidelines.

Kore Press, Short Fiction Award  
P.O. Box 3044, Tucson, AZ 85702-3044  
(520) 882-7542

Shannon Cain, Executive Director  
kore@korepress.org; www.korepress.org

**Briar Cliff Review  
Writing Contests**

Three prizes of \$1,000 each and publication in *Briar Cliff Review* will be given annually for a **short story, a poem, and a work of creative nonfiction**. The editors will judge. Submit a single poem of up to one page or up to 6,000 words of prose with a \$15 entry fee, which includes a copy of the prize issue, by **November 1**.

Call, e-mail, or visit the website for complete guidelines.

(Click to see recent winners.)

*Briar Cliff Review*, Writing Contests, Briar Cliff University  
3303 Rebecca Street, Sioux City, IA 51104. (712) 279-1651  
Tricia Currans-Sheehan, Editor  
tricia.currans-sheehan@briarcliff.edu  
www.briarcliff.edu/bcreview

**Del Sol Press****Robert Olen Butler Fiction Prize**

A prize of \$1,000 is given annually for a **short story**. The winning entry and all finalists will be published in an anthology by Del Sol Press. Submit a published or unpublished story of 2,000 to 8,000 words with a \$16 entry fee (\$5 for each additional story) by

**November 1**. Send an SASE, e-mail,

or visit the website for complete guidelines.

Del Sol Press, Robert Olen Butler Fiction Prize  
326 Lake Ontario Hall, Grand Valley State University  
One Campus Drive, Allendale, MI 49401  
robcontest@webdelsol.com  
www.webdelsol.com/dsp

*-- Members in the News --*

Kentucky Derby adventures! Read President **Mary Vandever's** account in the Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Daily Breeze*. Look for her article in *My Turn* with the title "A Dream, A Wet Campsite, Churchill Downs and The Paper."

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

Congratulations to **Wanda VanHoy Smith**, whose article "Students Grow with HB Sister City Work" appears on page 48 in the 38th Anniversary Contest issue of the Easy Reader. Wanda is pleased with the Honorable Mention, despite a few editorial changes to her piece.

In a note earlier this summer, **Penny Holland** said, "...Please give everyone my best regards. Looks like you've got some exciting projects and speakers to look forward to. Miss you all."

[redpen@whidbey.net](mailto:redpen@whidbey.net)

*-- Announcement --*

**Larry Colker** will feature  
at the *Two Idiots Peddling Poetry* reading,  
The Ugly Mug Café, September 19 at 8:00 p.m.  
Ugly Mug, 261 N. Glassel, Orange, (714) 997-5610

*-- Looking Ahead --*

Next month's meeting will take place at PVAC, 10:00 a.m., October 26. Author Barbara Abercrombie will speak at 11:00 a.m.

*About Barbara Abercrombie*

"Barbara Abercrombie has published novels, memoir, books for children and numerous personal essays and articles. She teaches creative writing in the Writers' Program at UCLA Extension and conducts writing workshops for the Wellness Community."

*-- Membership --**-- 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 PVAC membership?  
If you're not certain, please check with Lisa Shea,  
Membership Services Coordinator at the Art Center.  
Call (310) 541-2479, or e-mail [info@pvartcenter.org](mailto:info@pvartcenter.org).



----- Thanks to Contributors -----

Jean Shriver, Mary Vandever, Virginia Twohy, Marcia Reed, Larry Colker and Wanda VanHoy Smith

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

*Tidbit: At the September 28 meeting, we'll begin planning the August 2008 writers' seminar.*

*Two Hundred Words About Haiku*

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry with a rich history dating back to the 1400s as *haikai no renga*. Haiku came into being at the end of the 19th century when the opening verse (*hokku*) of *haikai no renga* was made an independent poem.

Haiku consisted of a pattern of approximately 5, 7, 5 "on", the Japanese word meaning "sound", which corresponds to a *mora*, a phonetic unit similar but not identical to the syllable in English.

In Japanese, (*hokku* and) haiku are traditionally printed in one vertical line; when handwritten, they may be almost any number of lines. English language haiku are usually separated into three lines with a distinct grammatical break, called *kireji*, typically placed at the end of either the first five or second seven *morae* (*phonetic units*).

While it is impossible to single out any current style, format or subject matter as definitive haiku, some of the more common practices in English are:

- Use of three (or fewer) lines of no more than 17 syllables in total;
- Use of a season word (*kigo*);
- Use of a *caesura* or a punctuation mark to implicitly contrast and compare two events, images or situations.

*Beyond Baroque***YEAR-ROUND FREE WORKSHOPS & OPEN READINGS**

Since 1969, Beyond Baroque has provided a free workshop and open-reading program as a gathering place for writers to develop their voice, find support, build communities, and experiment. Bring copies of your work.

**First Sunday of each month: FREE OPEN READINGS (except August, September, and January)**

Reading 5:00 p.m.; sign-up 4:45 p.m. Also, see Poets Beyond the Half Shell.

681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291, (310) 822-3006

[www.beyondbaroque.org](http://www.beyondbaroque.org), [beyondbaroque@aol.com](mailto:beyondbaroque@aol.com)

---

---

-- -- -- -- -- *Sixth Annual West Hollywood Book Fair* -- -- -- -- --

---

---

Winner of multiple awards, the **West Hollywood Book Fair** is one of Southern California's most eclectic literary events, attracting over 20,000 readers and writers of all ages and interests. **Over 300 participating authors!**

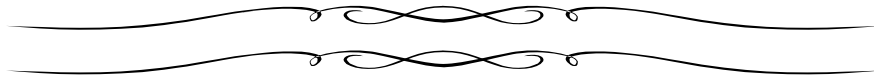
- See panel discussions and special guest authors on 12 stages.
- Browse thousands of books at independent bookstore and literary organization exhibitors.
- Hear storytelling, book and poetry readings.
- Watch live theater, poetry performances and slam poetry competitions.
- Attend writing workshops and "How To" panel discussions for writers.
- Experience interactive activities and workshops hosted by exhibitors.
- Enjoy children and family-friendly storybook readings, performances and book art.
- Eat delicious food and snacks.

**Sunday, September 30, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**Free Admission!**

Parking is available across the street at the Pacific Design Center. Enter from San Vicente across from the park.  
Free shuttle service is also available from Plummer Park (7377 Santa Monica Blvd.) the day of the Fair.

West Hollywood Park  
647 San Vicente Blvd.  
West Hollywood, CA 90069-5018  
[www.westhollywoodbookfair.org](http://www.westhollywoodbookfair.org)



---

---

**From "An Actor on Poetry" — an essay by Hector Elizondo in *Speechless the Magazine*, Spring 2007**

---

---

"...I judge poets by whether or not I wish to start or end the day with them." (figuratively speaking, *ed*)

"I find a commonality and a union with poetry and acting because, as an actor, I become the intermediary between author and audience and when the play sings, it becomes transcendent; almost metaphysical. It moves and ultimately changes me. That's sort of like, well—poetry."

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

---

---

Read the monthly newsletter online at the **Surfwriters website**: [www.palosverdes.com/surfwriters/newsletters.htm](http://www.palosverdes.com/surfwriters/newsletters.htm)

---

---

*Welcome to Surfwriters*  
Palos Verdes Art Center  
5504 West Crestridge Road  
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

