

Surfwriters Newsletter

Vol. 51 Issue3

Spring-Summer 2010

~~~ Announcements ~~~

SURFWRITERS ANNUAL SUMMER LUNCHEON

Friday, June 25, 2010

Ildy Lee's home, 2928 Paseo Del Mar, Palos Verdes Estates 90274

(Thank you, Ildy!)

Please RSVP ildylee@cox.net

We'll begin at 11:00am

FOOD:

Those whose first names begin with first half of alphabet (A-M), please bring light entrees or salads; second half (N-Z), please bring deserts, juices or other beverages. If you have a specialty --whether sweet or savory-- do bring it.

ACTIVITY:

We hope Virginia Twohy's son, David, will come and share the video he created for her memorial. Regardless, we all may bring work-in-progress to read: any genre or theme. (So that all may read, please observe a three-five minute time limit.)

See you there!

PREVIOUS SURFWRITERS MEETING - Friday, May 28, 2010

10:00 a.m. - Business/Discussion

11:00 a.m. - Guest Speaker: Howard Lewin

Howard Lewin, author of "Sunsets, Bulldozers, and Elephants: Twelve Years in Laos, The Stories I Never Told" Shares how he published his book plus a few stories of those years in Laos.

Free and Open to the Public

PALOS VERDES ART CENTER

Beckman Gallery, downstairs (Enter from parking lot.)

5504 W. Crestridge Road

Rancho Palos Verdes 90275

(310) 541-2479

~~ Newsletter Preview/Table of Contents ~~

Event/Activity	Page
June 2010 - Surfwriters Annual Summer Luncheon	1
May 2010 Speaker - Howard Lewin	1
Art, Music, Poetry & Drama	2-3
○ "Tending Words" - Six Sessions in the South Coast Botanic Garden, June 9th-July 14th	
○ Performance - <i>Love Letters</i> at the Peninsula Center Library, June 27th	
○ Music, Art & the Spoken Word: Poetry & Music in the Gallery-April 10th; Ildy Lee's, May 22nd	
○ Coffee Cartel, Summer Studios Art Jam, Writing Workshops, Santa Barbara Writers Conference	
Members in the News	4
○ Tributes: Farewell to Marcia Reed and Virginia Twohy	
Miscellaneous	5
○ Excerpts from Meeting Notes by Sigrid (Ziggy) Novak	
○ Travel: Marcia Reed & Maria Ruiz	
○ Books for Troops	

◊Δ◊ -- Community Events: Past, Present & Future-- ◊Δ◊

"TENDING WORDS"

~~ South Coast Botanic Garden ~~

Once again, poet-artist Regina O'Melveny will conduct early evening (always a magical time) sessions, Wednesdays in June and July at the South Coast Botanic Garden. Walk, reflect, write, be inspired!

Tending Words

Wednesdays

6:30 - 8:30 pm

\$45 members/\$50 non-members

June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14

(Classroom 'A', which is closest to the kitchen)

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

26300 Crenshaw Blvd.

Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

(310) 544-1948

Check out the website!

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

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~~ *The Spoken Word* ~~

Jean Alden and Ken Cohoe
Present a Benefit Performance of

Love Letters

by

A.R. Gurney

Directed by Maria A. Ruiz

Music Provided by Ambiance Entertainment Group

Refreshments, Raffle, Door Prize

Sunday, June 27

1-4pm

Peninsula Center Library Community Room

701 Silver Spur Road

Palos Verdes Estates 90274

Call (310) 377-2034 for information.

Tax Deductible Donation \$7

Benefit for Four Legged Friends Foundation

www.flff.org

~~ *Music, Art & the Spoken Word* ~~
at Ildy Lee's

Ildy says,

"Don't Miss the Fun!"

An Evening of Art and Music

Ildy Lee, singer/songwriter

Playing songs from her latest album

Stephen Smoke, singer/songwriter/novelist

Playing songs and reading from:

Cathedral of the Senses

Aapo Puck, painter

Will debut his latest canvas

Author readings by:

Bernadette Shih

KC Johnson

Alan Cook

Mark Your Calendar:

Saturday, May 22

7 PM sharp

at Ildy's house

2928 Paseo Del Mar, PVE

(From the south on PV Drive West, take a left on the southernmost Paseo Lunado and follow it to Paseo del Mar.)

Reservations:

R.S.V.P. at ildylee@cox.net

(The show will be recorded for YouTube, with audience participation. See you there!)

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~~ *April Activities* ~~

Surfwriters & La Mer Consort

Present

Poetry and Music in the Gallery

April 10

1:00-3:00pm

Malaga Cove Library Gallery

2400 Via Campesina

Palos Verdes Estates 90274

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*~~ Coffee Cartel ~~***Guests and Open Mic Readings**

No charge. Tuesdays 8:10 p.m. (Sign up for open mic at 7:50 p.m.)
Hosts Jim Doane, Larry Colker & Stephany Prodromides

Featured Readers, May - August 2010

May 4	Wanda VanHoy Smith
May 11	Millicent Borges
May 25	Noor Al-Samarri
June 1	Chris Tysh
June 22	Keith Niles
June 29	Mindy Nettifee
July 6	Dina Hardy
July 13	Candace Pearson
August 3	Jessica Goodheart

1820 So. Catalina Ave., Riviera Village
Redondo Beach 90277
(310) 316-3544

For info, call (310) 548-5344 or visit www.redondopoets.com.

*~~ Summer Studios Free Art Event! ~~***ART JAM Night! at Summer Studios**

4th Friday, 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Visual Art Display, Poetry/Prose Reading, Music and Song**Themes**

June 26	"Summertime"
July 24	"Let's Dance"
August 28	"Open Mike"
September 25	"All Media" Awards Reception

Talent Showcase: 7:00-9:30 pm

Come Celebrate the Arts!

Summer Studios Arts Academy supports the local arts community with "ART JAM! Night." Artists sign up to bring an art piece for display, writers and poets a page to read, and musicians a song to play for an exciting evening of cultural enrichment, refreshments, and relaxed socializing. Come join the fun and mingle with the art crowd!

SUMMER STUDIOS ARTS ACADEMY
2161 Lomita Blvd., Lomita, CA 90717
(1 block east of Narbonne Ave.)

All talent must call and speak with David Parsons no later than Tuesday prior to Art Jam regarding sign up and specific requirements.

Contact David Parsons, Exec. Director
Phone: (310) 325-8801
www.SummerStudios.net

~~ Free and Open to the Public ~~

NEW: Become a member of our MEET-UP group!
www.meetup.com/SummerStudiosArtsAcademy/

*~~ 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**

Meets Bi-weekly

Fridays 1:45-3:45 p.m.

(On hiatus until August)

Palos Verdes Estates/Rolling Hills 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.

Genre: Poetry/Short Prose

*~~ More Literary Riches ~~***Santa Barbara Writers Conference**

June 17 through June 23, 2010

For a fee of \$995, the **Santa Barbara Writers Conference (SBWC)** includes six days of workshops, lectures, panels, speakers, Saturday night cocktail party and final award breakfast on Wednesday, June 23. For a small additional fee, writers may request the Agents and Editors Day option. Go to the SBWC website for details.

www.sbwriters.com/

Santa Barbara Writers Conference
P.O. Box 6627 * Santa Barbara, CA 93160
info@sbwriters.com * (805) 964-0367



Thanks to **Mel Harter**
for initially forwarding the **SBWC** information.



~~ Surfwriters in the News ~~

We lost two of our long-time members this year, Marcia Reed in January 2010, and Virginia Twohy in April. Marcia and Virginia were inimitable: both of them were strong women imbued with a love of life.

~~ ◇◇◇ ~~

Marcia Reed, who died at 93, was writing and traveling as recently as 2009. Marcia, a travel writer with an adventurous spirit, was a member of the International Food, Wine & Travel Writers Association (IFTWA). Check out her piece "Instanbul's Pera Palace Hotel" published just last year in *Global-Writes*.

<http://www.global-writes.com/destinations/index.html?Token.article=101&-Token.index=5>



Here is an excerpt from her *Reed Report*, sent to family and friends last Christmas. Along with the family news, Marcia reported taking an IFWTWA cruise in January to the Mexican Riviera, with seminars and sightseeing. In June, she flew and panga-boated to Las Animas, a little cove in the Gulf of California, slept in a yurt and kayaked to even smaller

coves. Then, in November, she attended a three-day La Jolla Writers Conference. She left at conference end, ready to put all of her California Historic Ranchos information into a book.

Her children Robyn, Pat and Ryan Reed wrote, "A week before her death, she had been busy planning another year of travels and adventures. Her final illness was brief, with many health issues conspiring against her at once. She died peacefully, at age 93, surrounded by her children.

To those who knew her, Marcia's boundless energy and unrelenting optimism were legendary. It will be difficult to leave behind such a constant and positive force in our lives. But she never understood those who would dwell on sadness, and we can hope to follow her example in this."

*For those who had not read it previously,
below is Marcia's obituary.*

Marcia Battelle Reed (July 28, 1916 - January 12, 2010) Marcia Reed, longtime resident of Palos Verdes, travel writer, photographer, lover of nature and the arts, font of youthful energy, teacher of edible plant lore and pine needle basket weaving, passed away at age 93 on January 12. Raised in the San Gabriel Valley, Marcia graduated from UC Berkeley and lived briefly in Mexico before settling in Los Angeles, working as a magazine editor for Holiday and Look. She married Richard Reed in 1947, raised three children, and volunteered with the Brentwood Hospital Writer's Club, Affiliates for Mental Health, Child Guidance Clinic, and Las Candalistas. She also co-managed Benjor Products, a gift manufacturer, with her husband. In her 70s she returned to a writing career, traveling widely and publishing articles on folk art, travel, and cultural history. Marcia's generosity, optimism, and adventurous spirit were a constant inspiration to her family and her many friends.

~~ Surfwriters in the News ~~

Christine Yoast, one of Virginia Twohy's daughters, sent this tribute many weeks ago, asking that it be published in the newsletter. Thank you so much, Christine.

IN REMEMBRANCE - VIRGINIA TWOHY

By Christine, Steven, David and Cynthia

Growing up in the Twohy family was a blast.

Days were filled with board games, "mind" games, homework, bridge, clubs, weekly lessons, chores, and more homework! Dad was so much fun. He handmade outdoor play equipment and play-houses for us, started us on mint-condition stamp albums, constructed a cool wooden go-cart, got caught up in the model airplane frenzy, and loaded us into the 1950 convertible for days at the local pool.

But Mom was our guiding light. We never heard her raise her voice. She was steady, calm, caring, and above all, our biggest cheerleader. You KNEW you could do it (anything!) because she told you you could. She used adjectives like "smart," "talented," "organized," "beautiful." How could we fail?

We had her full attention. But now we realize that she juggled motherhood with many hours of community service and pro-bono publicity. Later, she flourished at the Palos Verdes Review, writing feature articles and starting the popular "Rising Star" stories. She was so proud of her mother and the writing heritage she was given. She was equally proud that several of her children exhibited the writing "gene."

Surfwriters meant much to Mom...partially because she was a second-generation Surfwriter, but also because it allowed her to cheerlead once again...to encourage new members, new writers. We're sure she must have praised them with words like "talented" and "rising star."

What a beautiful woman - inside and out. We are indeed a fortunate family.



*We miss you, Marcia and Virginia,
and we wish you well in your latest adventure.*

~~ "Ziggy's Meeting Notes" ~~
by Sigr id Novak

-- Excerpts from Ziggy's February 26th Notes --

Palos Verdes Art Center (PVAC) Executive Director Bob Yassin was our special guest and resource person. In lively discussions, he helped us determine how and where to use our talents in order to benefit the Arts Center and the community. We ultimately agreed to explore further the feasibility of involving youngsters, namely junior high school students, in creative projects. Director Yassin's comments and suggestions were extremely helpful. Many ideas were generated and now remain for us to work out.

-- Excerpts from Ziggy's March 22nd Notes --

Our guest speaker was Connie (Constance) M. Constant, author of *Austin Lunch*. Rarely have we been so joyfully entertained and inspired by an author as by Connie Constant. Her book describes the struggles, experiences and achievements of her Greek immigrant parents after their arrival in Chicago as 12-year-olds.

Born in Greece around the turn of the last century, her parents worked their way up from shoeshine boy and dishwasher to eventually owning a small restaurant, the "Austin Lunch". More than a mere historical account, *Austin Lunch* takes the reader into a wonderful world of Greek "*joie de vivre*" and the resourcefulness of these new American immigrants. *Austin Lunch* tells a tale that is so very Greek and yet at the same time typically American and --- deeply human.

Connie had us in stitches for over an hour with the most hilarious, very "human" stories and insights. We are thankful for this delightful presentation.

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~~ Members' Travels ~~

--Marcia Reed--

Kayaking in the Gulf of California, June 2009



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Mar a Ru z - France and Poetry, Spring 2010!

Surfwriters President Maria Ruiz enjoyed one of her favorite cities, Paris, this spring. For the fifth year —or is it the sixth— she joined poets from Europe and the United States for an invigorating week of writing, sightseeing and discussion.

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Peninsula Friends of the Library

~~ Books for Troops ~~

A \$15 donation will provide 40 books for our troops around the world. To donate, contact Malaga Cove Library, 2400 Via Campesina, Palos Verdes Estates 90274

(310) 377-9584 x553.

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Wishing best of good health to all our members in 2010!

Please send newsletter announcements to Editor-Publisher, KC Johnson: kcjohnson@starnetdial.net.

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

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

