

The Write Way

A PUBLICATION OF THE WRITERS OF KERN BRANCH OF THE CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB



Vol. 2010

Issue 07

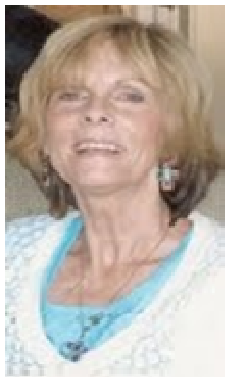
Our speaker for August is **Lucinda Crosby.**

Lucinda is a former Hollywood actress, appearing most notably in "Pretty Woman" and "Beaches." She comes from a family of actors: Her mother, Linda Hayes, was an RKO actress with Roy Rogers (who is also her godfather). Her dad, Lou Crosby, was an announcer for Lawrence Welk. Her sister is Cathy Lee Crosby.

Lucinda will be joined by Laura Dobbins, who will talk about marketing a novel.

Lucinda writes:

My presentation will outline my evolution as a lover of the written word who naturally became a voracious reader who then, somewhat unexpectedly, continuously morphed into a writer who has attempted a number of disparate genres and achieved some measure of success in each. How the challenges of poetry (published), Nashville songwriting (published and recorded), journalism (award winning news story and sports column) and finally the novel can upend the



faint of heart ass over teakettle. I plan to bring an example of each with me. I will also share my thoughts on my inescapable passion for writing - like my passion for See's Candy or chic yet comfortable shoes - and how vital I feel it is to evoke thought and emotion when you have your reader's undivided attention.

Coming in September:

Noted columnist Valerie Schultz



Ms. Schultz "is a weekly columnist for the THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN, and an occasional columnist for AMERICA. She has also been a high school English teacher and a Director of Religious Education."

Be sure to check out Terry Redman's new contributor's page, "Coffee With Terry" (pg. 4)

The Writers of Kern

PO Box 22335

Bakersfield, CA

93390-2335

www.writersofkern.com

Regular meetings are the 3rd Saturday of the month

10:00 to noon.

Clarion Hotel,

3540 Rosedale Hwy (Rosedale at Hwy 99)

Registration at 9:45-10:00

Our Board:

Pres. Dana Martin
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CWC Sandy Moffett
Prog. Caroline Reid
Pub. Dana martin
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SUMMER GREETINGS, WRITERS!

July 2010

Dana Martin



I don't know about the rest of you, but it seems like it's getting harder than ever to find the time to write. I'm not vacationing (really!), I'm not redecorating my house, and I'm not raising small children, but because I write and/or edit for a living, it feels like I'm always sitting at the computer. The last thing I want to do at the end of the day is continue writing.

However, I have found one way to inspire myself is through visualization (the Law of Attraction stuff.) I print out photos of things (yes, material things) I want, expensive things—things my husband and I could afford only through inheritance bequeathed to us by some relative we don't have, winning the lottery, or through my success as a NY Times best-selling author. I realize that the chance of any of these happening is about the same.

Forget the likelihood! If everyone waited for deliberate success, we wouldn't have Coke, non-stick pans or penicillin. I can be a successful writer as easily (or through as much hard work) as Stephen King or Mary Higgins Clark. It just takes a love of the craft (check!) and a willingness to put aside other responsibilities for an hour a day to devote to my novel.

What are your methods to keep your writing pump primed? Think about how you keep yourself motivated, and we'll talk about it at the next meeting.

Speaking of the next meeting, we have a Hollywood actress (with quite a legacy) coming to visit. Lucinda Crosby will travel from her home in Ridgecrest to speak to us about how her writing evolved over the years (she's also a Nashville songwriter and award-winning journal-

ist). Laura Dobbins will join Lucinda and speak from a marketing perspective: "You were published, now what?" Both will be incredible speakers and will have so much to offer us. I really hope to see some members who haven't attended in a while.

Finally, I'd like to thank Rob Berry for stepping in and being my very capable replacement last meeting. I've heard great things about the meeting (the speaker was phenomenal, too, from what you've told me), and I owe the entire board a huge thank you for making my absence underwhelming. I hadn't missed one meeting in 14 months, but I don't like skipping any of them. I knew Allison would be great, and as a former participant (and winner!) of NaNoWriMo, I knew her tips would inspire the group to try to write a novel in a month. I can't wait to see who is going to join me in November this year!

Keep writing, friends. It's what we do.

Dana

The Summer Writing Contest

You must have Paid Dues by July 31 to enter.

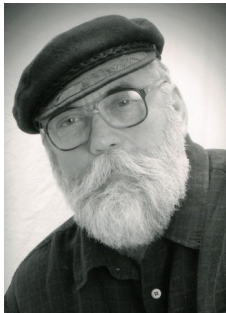
- Submit short stories or non-fiction on any subject
 - limit 1500 words
- Fee: \$0.00 when you pay your dues before 7/31
- Double-spaced, 12pnt, Times New Roman (or comparable font)
- Submit your entry electronically to Writer-sofKern@gmail.com or to Writers of Kern, P.O. Box 22335, Bakersfield, CA, 93390
- Include (2) copies: One copy with the title of your submission, your name and contact information, and a **second** "blind" copy with **ONLY THE TITLE**.
- Only (1) entry per member
- Entry Deadline: August 15
- Members paying their dues after July 31 will not be eligible for the contest this year

Grand Prize = \$200

Marty's Muse

August 2010

Something to think about ...



TRIM THE FAT!

Summer's nearly over. Is your current project wearing it's bikini body, or is it still packing a few pounds of last winter's over-indulgence in words? Time to trim the fat, to get that beach-perfect body.

Every short writer (short stories, short features, short essays) knows that wordiness can kill a submission. Strunk, and White, in their treatise on style admonish, "Omit needless words." Shakespeare wrote "Brevity is the soul of wit." Steinbeck puts it another way, through the voice of one of his characters: "I don't want hoopedoodle to get mixed up with the story."

Is your story (or memoir or essay) full of hoopedoodle? (Define that any way you like.)

Okay. Maybe. Mine too—sometimes. So what's the solution? How do we trim the fat? Ken Rand, in his concise "The 10% Solution" puts it simply: Cut ten percent. First then, I suppose we ought to attempt to differentiate between what is and what isn't "fat." We want to "trim the fat without cutting the meat." We can all probably agree on things like redundancies, bloated phrases, too many examples, too much description. Do a quick scan of your current project. You might be able to lop 5% right there, just by reducing your adjectives to one per noun. Let's fine tune that, though, take it a little farther. Our editing goal is to be clear, concise. Think about what makes you stop reading. Some of the best advice I ever found is "Leave out the stuff readers skip."

Another great piece of advice is "avoid adverbs." Do a search-find in your document for "ly" I'll bet you find a lot. Now go back and replace those verb-adverb sets with stronger verbs.

But not all modifiers are bad, are they? Well, no. It might be important to know the get-away car is a blue Packard. But if it "sped away really rapidly!!" you need to fix something.

Exercise: take one short writing example or excerpt, up to 1000 words, and delete every word ending in "ly."

How much did you lose? Did you reduce the example by 10%? No? There's more to cut, so let's make a list. Remember, we want our writing accurate, clear, brief. We are in "editor" mode here. Think of it as the need to justify every word to the Boss. Mr. Rand addresses some of these in his book. You can start your own list.

What to look for (use your word processor's search-find to look for specific words or letter combinations):

Eliminate "fat" descriptions (fewer adjectives) - "It was a viciously dark, stormy, angry rainy night" or "Rain poured down" Less is more. Don't use two words where one will do.

Delete adverbs ("ly" words) - at least 99% of them. You don't need them. Trust me. Use stronger verbs

Examine every instance of "to be," especially *was*, *were*, and *had*. These verb forms often indicate passive voice. For stronger writing, avoid passive voice. (As in "Mistakes were made.")

"That" indicates that there might be a problem. You can get rid of it most of the time. (Write: "That indicates a problem." Cutting four words reduced the sentence by 50%.)

"Of" - The second sentence in item 4 above can be re-phrased: "In general, you can delete it." (Four words, 40%.)

"Said" is the only attributive needed in dialogue. If you've deleted or changed most "ly" words, you probably took care of the biggest part of this problem. And stop trying to find substitutes for "said." Your character development and dialogue should cue the reader how something is voiced.

"By" can indicate an area for improvement. "By the time" could be reduced to "when." However, since an interesting story is as important as clear, concise, "tight," writing, it's the author's call.

Him and *her* – when used reflexively or as modifi-

(Continued on page 10)



Coffee with Terry

Terry Redman

Why did you join Writers of Kern?



*“*I joined Writers of Kern* because one day Terry Redman took my picture, and then spent a year trying to find me to get permission to use it. When he heard I was interested in writing, he invited me to join.” **Marty Gorsching**

*“*In March of 2009*, I began recording my recollections of events surrounding my mother's murder. It wasn't long before I realized that I was writing a book. An old friend suggested I seek out the Writers of Kern; I'm so glad I did. With the encouragement and critique expertise of many of the members, my work is now a completed manuscript. It has ceased being an open wound and become a project to get published.” **Bobby Scrivner**

*“*Nine years ago I retired*. I decided that I would finally become all that I was intended to be - - Erma Bombeck's replacement. I announced that to a skeptical group of writers at my first WOK meeting. I may not be as funny as Erma Bombeck, but I'm getting there! My dream is that people will say, 'Hey, I knew her when she was only a writer of *Letters to the Editor*.’” **Caroline Reed**

Marty, Bobby, and Caroline, thank you for submitting your stories. I'm glad you accepted the invitations.

Would you like to know the title of a good book to read? Stephen King says reading is crucial to being a good writer, so WOK members must be readers. Right?

Next Month: Recommend a Good Book (53 words) Tell us the **title** and **author**. Then take up to **33 words** to tell us why this is a good read. I will post your recommendations in the next WOK newsletter. If I have too many, a good problem, I will post some in later editions.

Email your recommendation to me by August 29: terryredman@att.net

Apple Valley CWC presents
**“Howl At The Moon Writers'
Conference”**
September 25, 2010
\$35
Apple Valley CWC
20162 Hwy 18 Ste G-281
Apple Valley, CA 92307
(<http://hdcwc.org/HowlAtTheMoon.aspx>)

A Lesson in Laundry

Siri Ved Khalsa



Winter is over (trust me, it's going to be 100+ here this weekend) and as I was changing the sheets I thought, Hmm, this would be a good time to get the mattress pad cleaned. Remembering the 30% off coupon from the local dry cleaners that had recently arrived in the mail, I stopped by the hall closet and also grabbed a couple of wool coats. The

camel coat had one button hanging barely by a thread and another loose button in the pocket. I thought, OK I'll get these all cleaned now, they can sew on those buttons, and then I'll put everything away for next winter. Thus, with the entire back seat of my car filled with a huge bag of my coats, blouses, pants, silk salwar kameez suit, and my husband's vests, plus the California King wool mattress pad, I headed out to Today Cleaners on my way to the farmer's market.

I don't know if Today Cleaners is anywhere other than Bakersfield. They have a near monopoly here. In by 11, out by 4, same day, every day, even Sundays. The two locations I've been to are clean, in nice buildings, there's always plenty of parking, and they even offer drive up service for those too busy to get out of their cars. I like the free laundry bags that are actually quite sharp looking, including a personalized ID tag. So, if you're in a rush you can simply drop off the bag and run. I like that they have 25% off coupons on the internet and all you have to do is print them out.

However, this day I had a *special 30% off* coupon.

I pulled up to the store, got all of my items out of the car, and with my arms so laundry laden I could barely see in front of me made my way through the door. Then, I couldn't understand why there were people all standing in a row behind a

glass counter that wasn't there before, and why were there little tables and chairs in there? I peered around my bundle and saw a sign listing all the many varieties of Subway sandwiches. Not quite in the mood for a Veggie Delight, my laundry and I turned around, located the door, and went outside, one door down, to the cleaners.

Being in a bit of a hurry as I already would be barely making it to the farmers market before they closed at noon, I dumped everything on the counter. A slightly round young woman looked at everything and pointed to my mattress pad and said, "What is *that*?"

I replied, "*That* is a wool mattress pad."

She then proceeded to explain to me why they would not clean it... "It's just our policy, I'm sorry."

"What do you mean?" I asked incredulously. "Of course you can clean this. Here, look at this tag, right here, it says, 'Dry Clean Only.'" I felt I had certainly proven my point; after all it was written in plain English on the tag.

"I'm sorry Mrs. Khalsa, but we don't accept these. We've had some of them fall apart." It was clear this woman was not going to budge, and I was in a hurry.

"Well, I've had it cleaned before with no problem. I would be happy to sign a waiver or something so you aren't responsible if it gets damaged," I said, trying to employ the best rhetoric I could muster up.

"I'm so sorry, M'am," she said one more time. "These other things will be ready for you this afternoon at 4:00."

I muttered, "Fine, then," picked up the mattress pad and bolted out the door. I hadn't raised my voice, but I was a little annoyed and started having thoughts about never ever going there again.

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from "Laundry" page 5)

A few nights later I realized that I had left the slightly round assertive young woman at Today Cleaners without getting a receipt or telling her about my camel coat and its buttons that were falling off. I thought about calling and telling her, "Remember me? The impatient woman with the turban who walked out when you refused to take my mattress pad? Could you please sew on my buttons?" but just didn't even want to deal with it. Besides, I'm never ever going there ever again. Ever. How could they refuse to clean *my* mattress pad?

However, I *did* worry about the buttons on my coat. The one could just fall right out of the pocket and be lost forever, and the other was literally hanging on 2 inches of thread. And damn, this was probably the first time I had ever thrown out the packet of spare buttons that is pinned inside so many garments.

I ended up bringing the mattress pad to another dry cleaner closer to our home. They took it without hesitation, asked for \$24 payment in advance (just my luck, no coupon), and when I picked it up a week later it was perfectly fine.

My husband must have picked up the dry cleaning from Today Cleaners, because a few days later I noticed it all hanging in the hall closet. My mind was still stressing about the buttons. Finding the camel coat, I reached up under the plastic and felt inside the pockets. Gone. Just my luck. But, examining the coat I saw that not only were both buttons securely fastened, but someone had taken the time to reinforce the stitching on *all* of the buttons. The coat looked as new and fabulous as when I bought it on sale at Macy's last year.

I guess I'll be going back to Today's after all.

Redwood Writers Heads-up! Note the deadlines for the Redwood Writers Annual Conference 10/30/2010 in Santa Rosa: Early Bird Registration: August 15th - Save \$\$\$s by registering early. Conference Registration: October 19th (or when all seats are filled) Go to: <http://bit.ly/bLFpRb>. See you there!

Call to Exhibitors

Applications are now being accepted to exhibit at the 2010 Latino Book & Family Festival. Call 760-434-4484 to reserve your booth today!

Latino Book and Family Festival
Los Angeles, October 9-10, 2010, CSULA at
Greenlee Plaza
<http://lbf.us/los-angeles-2009>

Guest Columnist
Marilyn Meredith
Writer, Speaker, Member Writers Of Kern

Having a Successful Book Blog Tour



A book blog tour is easier than a regular book tour in that you do get to stay home while you're on it. However, if it's going to be successful it takes a lot of work on the part of the author before and during the tour.

You can set up a blog tour yourself, or you can hire one of the many blog tour companies who are willing to do it for you. To be honest, that's what I've always done because it takes a lot of time to set up your own tour. One thing I do, however, is suggest blogs for them to fit into the schedule.

If you plan to set up your own tour you need to begin long before your book is going to be available. Find the blogs that you like the best who also host authors. Approach each one and tell them a bit about your book and yourself and ask if they would be willing to host you on your tour. If the blog owner says yes, then settle on a date. It's important that you keep good track of these dates. Find out what they'd like you to do for their blog—try to do something different on each one. Some may want to do an interview and if you have a lot of those, it's a good idea that if after the basics, you add some new information about yourself.

Some other ideas for a blog are: an interview of your main character—or the villain; 10 things no one knows about you; what gave you the idea for this particular book; what you are going to do to promote the book besides the blog tour; the setting for the story; your best writing tips; describe the place where you write; any writing rituals; and of course an excerpt or a first chapter of your book.

With every blog you should add a short bio, a book blog, and send an attachment of the book cover and a photo of yourself. (You could send a different photo to some of the blogs just for variety.)

As a means to get people to visit a blog, you

might have a contest of some sort. Some authors give away a copy of the book they are promoting, but since you're having the tour to get people to buy the book, it's better if you give a different book or something else all together. For my latest tour, I'm giving away the opportunity to be a character in one of my mysteries. The winner will be the person who leaves a comment on the most blogs.

Your work is not done once you've got the tour set up. Every day of your tour you must promote the blog you'll be visiting on. Send announcements to your friends, the lists that you're on and to all your social sites like Twitter, Facebook, and MySpace etc.

Once you've done that, you should visit the blog yourself and leave a thank you. A couple of times during the day, check the blog and see who has left a comment and thank each one for visiting. If someone asks a question be sure and answer it. This is important. This will make the difference if you ever want to return to do another guest spot on this blog.

I'm sure your biggest question is, does a blog tour work? If you mean does it result in sales, it's kind of hard to determine, but I do know whenever I've been on a tour, my numbers on Amazon have dropped—which is a good thing.

One last remark about blog tours, I think they are fun. To me, it's a challenge to come up with new topics to write about for each blog. I also love going back to see who has come and visited. And remember, for all those who left comments, there are many, many more who merely read the blog and didn't write anything.

Blog tours are another way to get your name and information about your book in front of the public. And isn't that what we are all trying to do?

* *Marilyn Meredith, is author of Dispel the Mist, Deputy Tempe Crabtree series, An Axe to Grind, Rocky Bluff P.D. series, and Lingering Spirit, a romance with a supernatural touch.*

<http://fictionforyou.com>

<http://marilynmeredith.blogspot.com>

LOVE IS MURDER 2011 is sponsoring a contest. The winner will have his or her story published in *CRIMESPREE MAGAZINE*! The issue will be the one available concurrent with the **Love is Murder Conference**, February 4-6, 2011.

THE RULES

- Only unpublished fiction authors are eligible.
- The story must be in the crime, suspense, thriller, or horror genres.
- Maximum word count 5000 words. No minimum.
- Manuscript must be double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, page numbered, with cover sheet that includes your name and contact information (especially e-mail).
- Put the TITLE at the top of page 1 or in the header (after the cover sheet) but do not put the author's name or contact info on any page except the cover page.
- Mail Three (3) copies of the manuscript (address below.)

Entry submissions must be postmarked no later than Sept. 1, 2010.

The winner will be announced in November 2010.

Susan Gibberman

Love is Murder Short Story Submissions

Schaumburg Township District Library

130 S. Roselle Road

Schaumburg, IL 60193

San Joaquin Sisters in Crime

1st Saturday of the month

10:30 AM

Yosemite Falls Cafe

4248 West Ashlan Avenue

Fresno, CA 93722-6331

(559) 275-6060

yosemitefallscfe.com

\$15 members, \$20 non-members

Includes choice of (3) lunches

Kate Anderson 559-228-9867

San Joaquin Sisters in Crime upcoming meetings:

August 7 - Simon Wood from N. Calif.

Sept 4 - Valley writers Bonnie Hearn Hill & Hazel Dixon-Cooper

Oct 2 - Laurie R. King from N. Calif.

COLONEL DIGBY'S RENAISSANCE

Virginia Bush

Colonel Digby stood erect in the center of his new back yard and called out with a bark that sounded like, "Now hear this. I am the commanding officer. You will receive more orders soon." After scratching the ground with his hind feet to emphasize his message, he picked up his pink stuffed pig and tossed it into the air. No one needed to know that six months earlier he was a dirty, matted, flea-infested, brown and white dog who was wandering the city streets, homeless and nameless.

He was an old man, and it seemed like death was his destiny, until a kind lady with black hair came to the pound. When she saw him, she said, "Don't kill him. I will keep him until someone wants him." So she had him shaved and bathed. Then she took him to a veterinarian who vaccinated him. Then she named him Digby and posted his picture online.

An elderly lady saw his picture and adopted him. She didn't mind if Digby was old. She bought him a stuffed pink pig and let him sleep with her when he was scared. Digby began to feel important. He had a home. He was in charge. He had to tell the world that he had arrived.

WHY I WRITE

Ruth Smith

I write because I couldn't talk at the dinner table. Oh, I could say, "Pass the potatoes." or, "May I be excused, please?" But I could not say "Guess what I saw today. You know what happened today?" or "Do you know what I want to be when I grow up?"

My father worked, my mother worked, my sister, my brother and I all went to school so the only time we gathered as a family was at the dinner table. Five separate lives that stayed separated because each of us brought to the table our favorite book, magazine or newspaper and the dinner hour passed in silence.

No one said, "Well, what you think about that?" "How did that make you feel? Want to hear who I saw today? What are you going to do this weekend, - this

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

summer – this Christmas – with the rest of your life?”

So I would retire to my room and write. Simple things at first. A conversation with my current pet, a problem with my closest friend, the cute boy who sat in front of me, the shoes I saw in the store window or a new dress I got.

This was not a diary, just a short conversation with me. I told myself how the sky looked with the pillow-soft white clouds that took the shapes of animals before shifting into another object. I whined about not getting to go to the slumber party because I hadn't finished my home work. I discussed the possibility of going away to college when I was grown. I wondered what kind of a man I would marry or if I really wanted to ever get married.

I complained about my older sister and my baby brother. Some days I liked them and some days I didn't. I tried out cuss words and contemplated body parts. I never had to apologize for my feelings because I never told anyone but me.

Today I am a very private and positive person. I never voice my opinion unless I am encouraged to do so. I never disagree with my family or friend's decisions; I just smile and go my way. I am the perfect guest at gatherings; you can talk to me for hours without fear of me interrupting you with my stories or disagreeing with your outlook.

I don't know how to argue. My mind won't work fast enough in a face to face confrontation. But put a piece of paper in front of me and the words flow; the sky lights up, colors become vivid, sights are breathtaking and the air is cold and crispy or hot and humid. Bodies glisten and sighs are passionate.

That's why I write.

Early Registration special pricing
ends June 30

East of Eden Writers Conference

September 24 to 26, 2010 -- Salinas, California
southbaywriters.com/EastofEden2010

INLAND EMPIRE BRANCH EVENT

August 28, 2010 – 11:00-4:00

A Writing Day with Mike Foley
(keynote speaker)

Lunch and workshops: \$25

Top Cats Dance Studio,
733 Dunn Way,

Placentia, CA 92870

(In Orange County, just off the 57
Freeway)

(Continued from page 3)

ers. Not talking about gender folks; talking about redundancy. “He wore a smile on his face” or “He smiled”?

–ing – okay, it’s a gerund, whatever that is. I leave it to you to look up pros and cons of their use. They are not bad words, but they can affect the pacing of a story. If you can find a better way to write the sentence, good.

“Like” – Like everyone, I like a good simile like I like a good cookie; but like anything else, you can carry a good thing too far. Time flies like the wind; fruit flies like bananas.

“About, very, sort of, kind of” and other weasel or wishy-washy words. Be specific.

“The” - leaving out the article, strategically, can lend a stronger voice to the narrative: “The rain fell on the hills overlooking the sand-dunes . . .” Or “Rain fell on hills that overlooked sand-dunes . . .”

This is my list, or part of it. I encourage you to use it and expand it. If you’d like a step-by-step process, read Mr. Rand’s book. He lists 22 words he calls problem indicators. Using these techniques, I reduced this piece 12%.

As always, these are guidelines. Above all, stay true to your narrative voice. It’s a balancing act. Give your editor side some keys to writing tight. I have to warn you, though, the process gets addictive.

Just keep writing!

Marty “10%-less-fat” Gorsching

“I [write letters] because it's such a swell way to keep from working and yet feel you've done something.”

~Ernest Hemingway

OCEAN DANCE

My soul is drawn to the ocean’s waves
Yet I desire them to touch
Only on the shy tips of my bare toes

I steer away from the thunderous moving tide

As quick footed birds

Eagerly indulge in its bounty

The path it travels is etched in the sand
Graceful swirlings that rise and fall
In a dance of its own making

It draws up and retreats from an unseen line

Leaving treasures of life and death

For all who would find them

Too soon to react I am surrounded

By the foamy chill of the sea

Losing a game I had not intended to play

And I feel joy.



Sandy Moffett



WRITERS OF KERN IS ONE OF EIGHTEEN BRANCHES OF THE **CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB**. CWC WAS STARTED BY JACK LONDON AND FELLOW WRITERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOCIALIZING TOGETHER AND HELPING ASPIRING AUTHORS.

THE **WRITERS OF KERN** WAS FORMED IN 1993 BY HELEN GORDON (AN ENGLISH PROFESSOR AT BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE) WITH THE HELP OF UNDERWRITING FROM THE ARTS COUNCIL OF KERN, TO BRING TOGETHER PROFESSIONAL AND ASPIRING WRITERS IN A CREATIVE ATMOSPHERE, SHARING THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THROUGH CRITIQUE GROUPS, GENERAL MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS. WOK BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH THE CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB IN 1995.

BASED IN **BAKERSFIELD, CA**, WRITERS OF KERN SERVES THE WESTERN HALF OF KERN COUNTY. OUR SISTER BRANCH, **THE RIDGE WRITERS**, BASED IN RIDGECREST, SERVES THE EASTERN HALF.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE STRICTLY THOSE OF THE VARIOUS AUTHORS

QUOTES USED ARE FOUND @ WWW.QUOTATIONSPAGE.COM/ AND WWW.THINKEXIST.COM

TO **OPT OUT** OF THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SEND YOUR REQUEST TO CONTACT@WRITERSOFKERN.COM

WOK Members' Websites

(If you would like to post a personal website, please notify the editor. Members only)

California Writers Club: www.calwriters.org

Writers of Kern: www.writersofkern.com

Annis Cassells: www.connectionsandconversations.com

Carol Black: www.publishedauthors.net/CarolBlack00

Maggie Caldwell Smith: www.magpiepress.com

Marilyn Meredith: <http://fictionforyou.com>;

<http://www.marilynmeredith.blogspot.com/>

Sandy Moffett: www.sandymoffett.com

Debra Blackmon: www.debrablackmon.com

Susan K. Stewart: www.skstewart.com

Martin Gorsching: www.martinlgorsching.com

Mary Amelia: MaryAmelia.Com

B. J. Mitchell: www.viewpointpress.com

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