

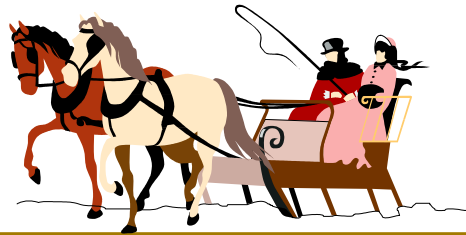
Sierra Writers

P.O. BOX 1595 GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945

CRAFTING YOUR AUTHOR PLATFORM

At our November meeting, *Sierra Writers'* Board President **Babette Donaldson** and Board member **Lucinda Porter** presented *Crafting Your Author Platform*. The meeting was well-attended with a good exchange of information and questions. Participants were asked if they wanted a longer workshop on this subject, such as a Sierra Writers Camp that focused on marketing, promotion, and creating the essential elements for a solid author platform. A show of hands suggested a strong interest in this. Watch for more details.

Tip: Many participants brought bios to the meeting. Send these to Lucinda via lucindaporter@yahoo.com and she will create your bio page and post them to the *Sierra Writers* website. This is an easy way to begin building your platform.



DECEMBER 2011

WWW.SIERRAWRITERS.ORG

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OUR BOARD MEMBERS

President, Babette Donaldson

babettedonaldson@sbcglobal.net

Hospitality, Carol York

carol-york@sbcglobal.net

Young Writers Contest,

Program Coordinator,

Publicity, Susan Conlon

sturnercon@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster, Lucinda Porter

lucindaporter@yahoo.com

Treasurer, Marty Austin

homebookkeeper@yahoo.com

Membership Coordinator, Joanne Brown,

jobrown5273@sbcglobal.net

Sierra Writers Newsletter Staff: Susan Mone, Jenny Dewey, Claudine Chalmers

WRITER'S RESOURCES

Have you visited any great websites for writers? Found must-have software, applications, or tools? Share what works for you.

For less ambitious, but still serious goals, consider Julia Cameron's suggestion from *The Artist's Way* to write 750 words every morning.

750words.com

If you need a little sterner incentive, check out *Write or Die* **writeordie.com**. This site forces you to write delivering undesirable punishment, by destroying what you have written if you don't keep up a reasonable writing pace.

If you want more rational and fun motivation, check out Seth Grodin's blog. In his entry, *Talker's Block*, Grodin wrote, "No one ever gets talker's block. No one wakes up in the morning, discovers he has nothing to say and sits quietly, for days or weeks, until the muse hits, until the moment is right, until all the craziness in his life has died down."

www.sethgodin.com

The literary journal, *Rattle* is looking for poetry and essay submissions from those who have worked in the law enforcement field:

[www.rattle.com/
callsforsubs.htm](http://www.rattle.com/callsforsubs.htm)



MEMBERS CORNER

"Legendary Locals: A new series from Arcadia Publishing."

Submitted by Claudine Chalmers

Arcadia Publishing is excited to announce the launch of *Legendary Locals*, a new series celebrating residents who have made a memorable impact on their communities. Each book will include a variety of notable residents, past and present, who run the gamut from politicians to high school coaches and athletes; from notorious personalities to beloved entertainers. Their images and stories will document the unique contributions residents have made that shape each community today.

While still image-based, this series takes a different approach and design to reveal the faces of pioneering citizens who have built and shaped communities large and small across the US.

We are looking for authors to join us in this new endeavor. If you are interested or know someone who would enjoy this approach to local history, please contact editor Tiffany Frary at tfrary@arcadiapublishing.com.

If you'd like more details on how Arcadia works, please email Claudine Chalmers at claudecameron@yahoo.com

GET INVOLVED WITH SIERRA WRITERS

Sierra Writers is looking for help with the website, special events and whatever interests you. If you are interested in helping, contact Babette Donaldson babettedonaldson@sbcglobal.net or Lucinda Porter lucindaporter@yahoo.com



Members may have their own web pages, which they may use in a variety of ways. Members may use their page to introduce themselves, to link users to information on how to purchase their books, or to link back to their own website. A new feature of the *Sierra Writers* website is a page listing links to our members' blogs. To add your info, contact Lucinda Porter: lucindaporter@yahoo.com Check it out at www.sierrawriters.org

MEMBERS CORNER

We'd love to hear from you! Tell us what you are working on. Do you have any successes to share? Have you received any encouraging rejection notices? Send information to lucindaporter@yahoo.com

KUDOS

Larry Gold submitted his screenplay "Rage" to the *Writer's Digest* annual contest. It came in 57th out of 11,000 entries. Now that is an achievement!

Lucinda Porter's book *Free from Hepatitis C: Your Complete Guide to Healing Hepatitis C* has been released. To read the *Sierra Writers* mentioned in the acknowledgment, go to Amazon.com and click on the "search inside this book" feature.

Robin Martinez Rice announced that she is participating in NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month). As of Nov. 9th, she had written 25, 000 words and still made time to attend the *Sierra Writers* meeting!
www.nanowrimo.org

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GROUPS

Note: Critique and writing support groups are open only to members of *Sierra Writers*

Poetry Critique Group

Contact Susan Turner-Conlon sturnercon@sbcglobal.net

Fiction critique group

For information, contact Ron Cherry (530) 478-5616; romuluswolf@comcast.net

Nonfiction critique group

For information, contact Jan Westmore (530) 265-0718; jwestmore@sbcglobal.net

If you want help starting a critique group, or want to be in touch with members with similar genres, information may be found at: <http://sierrawriters.org/events/critique-groups/starting-a-critique-group>

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For Kindle Users

Lee Roddy now has the first 2 of **BETWEEN TWO FLAGS** series young adult novels on Kindle.

You'll meet three very different young people struggling to live and achieve their dreams in the midst of a devastating Civil War.

Emily, reared in the north has lost her abolitionist family and has no choice but to live with her southern, slave owning relatives.

Gideon, a poor farm boy is frustrated in his writing ambition because he has taken his older brother to fight and he's desperately needed to help his ailing father with their farm.

Nat, a young secretly educated slave, is driven by his need to find his family, separated and sold into slavery. His determination could cost him his life.

SIERRA WRITERS CALENDAR

MEETINGS

Unless noted otherwise, all meetings are held at the Madelyn Helling Library Community Room 980 Helling Way, Nevada City

Sierra Writers offers speaker meetings, critique groups, a newsletter, a membership directory, the young writer contest, and our ever-expanding website. Sierra Writers supports the Nevada County library and other community activities. Membership in Sierra Writers provides peer support and a venue for all of us to grow as writers.

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Our Next Meeting

December 4th 5-8 PM - Annual Holiday Party

Our December "Meeting" is our annual **members-only** (plus guest) party. We will not be hosting our monthly speaker at the library. Location of party TBA to members only. Membership is still open. Anyone returning their application and dues prior to **Dec. 4th** is welcome to come.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 11, 2012

Speaker: Molly Fisk – *Writing to Heal*

February 8, 2012

Speaker: Emma Santa – *Speechcraft for Writers*

March 14, 2012

Open Read

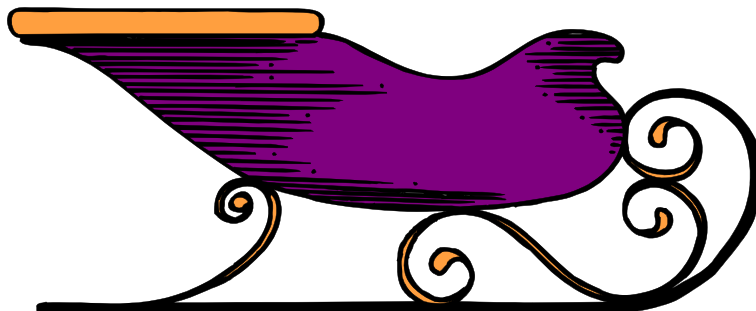
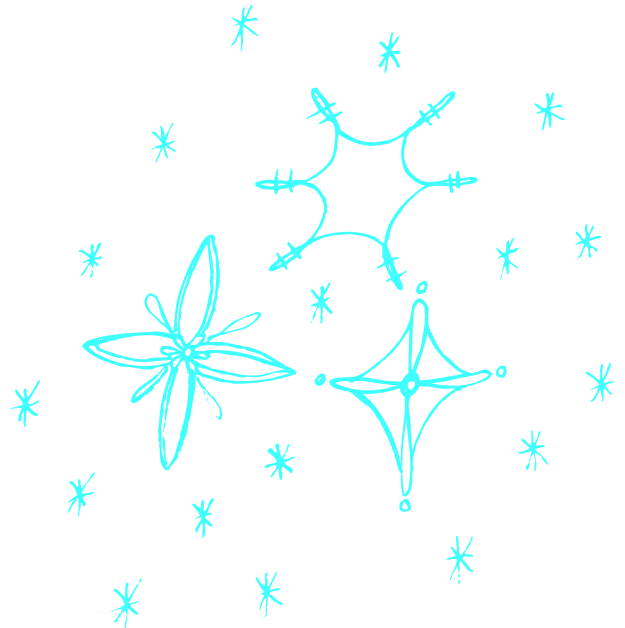
April 11, 2012

Celebrating National Poetry Month – Speaker TBA

May 9, 2012

Young Writers Contest Winners

June 13, 2012 - TBA



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Details on each event are listed on our website at www.sierrawriters.org

No Events submitted this month

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Sierra Writers' Board Members is looking for the following:

Program Coordinator

Publicity

Webmaster

Workshop Coordinator

Volunteers to help with raffle, newsletter and events

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Sierra Writers is looking for more news, writers, KUDOS, and information to include in our newsletter. Please send material to jennyd@cybermesa.com

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Sierra Writers members may use this newsletter or the website to promote their book, classes, or other workshops. Organizations that serve the writing community of Nevada County may submit announcements to upcoming events. Send information to jennyd@cybermesa.com

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Sierra Writers Newsletter Staff:

Jenny Dewey - jennyd@cybermesa.com

Claudine Chalmers - claudecameron@yahoo.com

Susan Mone - susie3@wordmagick.com

Deadline for January newsletter is December 15, 2011

