



# *THE WRITE WAY*

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

AUGUST 2013

## **The Writers of Kern August Meeting**

**Dana Martin**, WOK  
President, will talk about  
**Critique Groups**. She  
has started 7 groups for  
the club.

The Clarion Hotel on  
Saturday, August 17  
@ 10:00 AM,  
Entrance Fee: \$10

### **Critique Group Leaders**

Sunday, Jana Wong,  
(Sci-Fi and Fantasy) OPEN  
Monday 1, Dan McGuire, OPEN  
Monday 2, Jeff Hill  
Tuesday, 1:30 PM, Nan Rinker, OPEN  
Wednesday AM, Dana Martin, Closed  
Wednesday 1, Terry Redman, Closed  
Wednesday 2, Joan Raymond, OPEN



**Monday Night Critique Group** with  
Mary Morton, Catherine Pruett, Dan McGuire

### **Our New Members**

*Bethane Banks, Nancy  
Clover, Donnee Harris,  
Laurelyn Iriving,  
Stephanie Jones-Gibson,  
Jasmine Lowe, Pam  
Milton, Marie Parks, Joe  
Peterson, Mikie Pyle,  
Frank Reina, Nan Rinker,  
Pat Stagler, Mandy  
Wallace, Lori Wolf*

# Technology Changes for WOK

Dennis VanderWerff



Writers of Kern has had a Facebook presence for some time as a Facebook group. Last week, WOK made a giant leap into the social media stratosphere by creating a Facebook page

giving WOK a unique Facebook identity and the coveted ability to be "Liked" on Facebook.

WOK is represented across the social media spectrum. Blog posts published on the Writers of Kern web site are now automatically posted to the Writers of Kern Facebook page and tweeted on Twitter.

Probably the most exciting innovation on the web site is the addition of online dues processing. Members may now renew their membership online through PayPal. This feature does not require users to have a PayPal account.

Online membership renewal and new member application forms allow collection of information that help to build the Writers of Kern Roster and Directory that provides a listing of members, their genre(s), and links to member blogs and websites.

Recently added pages include: A "Resources" page listing many excellent online writer resources. An "Our Members" page, listing members who publish blogs with links provided to their blogs and a "Contests" page. Contests are added as information about them is received. Please check out [www.writersofkern.com](http://www.writersofkern.com). We look forward to providing a quality resource for members. Member comments and suggestions are essential to making that happen. And, please, don't forget to "Like Us" on Facebook and "Follow Us" on Twitter. We put up a new WOK FB page this week that has been receiving a lot of traffic. The old WOK FB page will go away at the end of August.

**The Writers of Kern  
PO BOX 22335  
Bakersfield, CA**

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

**Regular meetings the 3rd  
Saturday of the month,  
10 to 12 registration 9:45**

**Clarion Hotel  
3540 Rosedale Hwy.  
Hwy. 99 at Rosedale**

**The Writers of Kern  
Executive Board**

**President:** *Dana Martin*

**Vice President:**

*Dennis VanderWerff*

**Treasurer:** *Joan Raymond*

**Secretary:** *Janet Skibinski*

**Membership:** *Patrick Kelly*

**Newsletter:** *Annis Cassells,*

*Terry Redman*

**CWC Representative:**

*Sandy Moffett*



## JASMINE LOWE

Jasmine Lowe is a Cal Poly Pomona graduate with a BA in English Literature and Language and a minor in Journalism. She is currently a graduate student studying Professional Communications at Cal State Fullerton. Her past writing and editing experiences include Cal Poly Pomona's campus newspaper, *The Poly Post*, Cal Poly Pomona's Uloop site, as a campus editor, *The Loop 21*, *Giuliana Rancic's FabFitFun*, some projects with *YouTuber*, Philip DeFranco, and *The Bakersfield Californian* on their local *Bakersfield Life Magazine*. She continues to write on her blog, [Jazzed About Stuff](#), each week and she currently is a writer and Social Media Analyst for [Miss Millennia Magazine](#).



## The Jack London Award

### Annis Cassells

Every two years, each branch of the California Writers Club selects a member to receive the prestigious Jack London Award. This award recognizes an individual's service in furthering the CWC's and local branch's goals. For 2013, Writers of Kern chose me. I was touched and surprised.

On July 21, at a special Jack London Awards luncheon and entertaining program held in Oakland, CA, I felt proud to stand with other honored writers from all over the state.

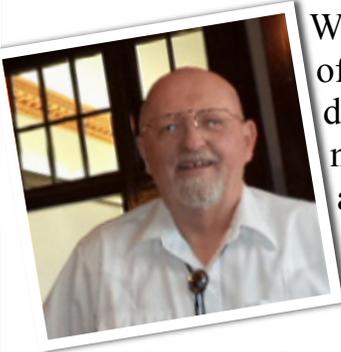
Becoming acquainted and sharing ideas was fun and instructive. Though our experiences varied, we have common goals for our organizations. (For recipients' bios and nomination letters, see [www.calwrits.org](http://www.calwrits.org).)

Thank you for recognizing me, but thanks also to all of you who attend WOK meetings, participate in club events, hold office, and pitch in where needed. We've all had a hand in the success of Writers of Kern, and I'm pleased to be associated with this excellent group.



## *THE EDITORS' INKWELL*

Terry Redman



Welcome to the revived *Write Way*. As part of the re-energized Writers of Kern, Annis Cassells, Jasmine Lowe and I are sharing editorial duties to publish the newsletter. Annis and I will take alternate months as editor, and Jasmine will handle the layout to make it attractive. See Jasmine's profile and Annis' article about the Jack London Award to get more insight into the talent they bring to the enterprise.

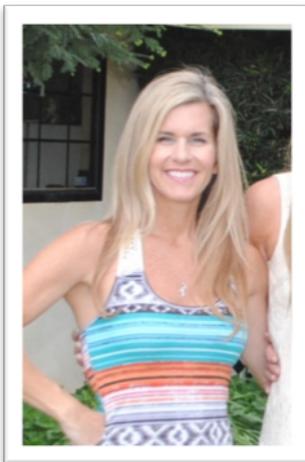
Beth Davisson passed the editorship to me and I passed it on to Marty, so I've been here before. I know from experience two editors in sync are better than one under water. Several of the other branches have a regular staff to produce their newsletter, so our team approach is not even novel.

We are focusing on NEWS but leave our options open for the future. As Dennis VanderWerff points out in his article, we have a new website and it is filled with information, much of which used to be in the newsletter. There is also the new Facebook page where members can easily post and read what's going on.

If you have wanted WOK to have a newsletter, you're in luck. In the future we will be asking for member input, so please be generous. Enjoy the journey.

## **A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**August 2013**



Greetings, most amazing writers and friends!

Happily, this president's column heralds the return of our monthly newsletter! A HUGE thank you goes out to Annis Cassells and Terry Redman, who are spearheading its return and will be managing the content and other newsletter volunteers.

For many of you, this will be the first issue you've ever seen, as we have had many new members join WOK during the months our newsletter was dark. Our newsletter is typically a monthly publication filled with great information on upcoming meetings, past meetings, announcements, contests, and samples of member writing. The newsletter provides a great place to sink your writer

toes into a small pond to test the waters of publication. It will be available on our website and through private distribution.

Speaking of our website, another HUGE thank you goes to Dennis VanderWerff for taking over as our club's webmaster. (continues next page)

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dennis has completely renovated our website to make it more user friendly than it has ever been. Our website will serve as WOK's calling card as well as a hub of downloadable forms and information on upcoming meetings and contests. Please feel free to contact Dennis if you have questions about posting to our website.

Volunteers are what make this organization valuable to its paying members. Without our board and other volunteers graciously donating their time to create content on social media sites, send email, bring bagels to monthly meetings, assemble the monthly opportunity bag, organize classes and critique groups, and help me during the months when my Halloween business takes over my life, we could not provide value as a professional writing club. On that note, did you know that the Writers of Kern is the only branch of the California Writers Club in the valley? Fresno does not have a branch – we are it! Therefore, it's important to run this club with pride, knowing that we provide a service to professional and amateur writers that no one else can offer. If you have time in your schedule to donate some time to the club, please contact me at [Dana@DanaMartinWriting.com](mailto:Dana@DanaMartinWriting.com).

### Writers of Kern Annual Summer Writing Contest

This year we are bringing back the Non-Fiction genre with a twist. Narrative/Creative Non-Fiction will be the genre. Any topic is fair game. For those not familiar with the genre, a definition from the English Language & Usage site says: "Writing that tells a factual story, sometimes even a personal one, but also makes an argument and conveys information in vivid, effective ways." Write your story in a personal way, with you, the author, possibly becoming part of the story. The guidelines:

- Not to exceed 1,200 words, doubled spaced, 10 or 12 pt. font (Times New Roman or something similar)... Narrative Non-fiction. Only one entry per member. Please number your pages.
- The requirements: Each entry must be attached twice to an email – one entry should have your name and contact information on it, and the other should have just the title in the file name AND on the header of the document. (You can attach both of them to the same email.) The "blind" copy is for the judges. To reiterate: You're emailing (2) copies of your story – one that identifies you as the writer, and one that does NOT. Email to [WritersOfKern@gmail.com](mailto:WritersOfKern@gmail.com) no later than August 31, 2013.
- If you choose to mail a hard copy of your story, you may do so. Please mail (2) copies of your story—one with your name on it and one without—to: Writers of Kern Summer Writing Contest, P.O. Box 22335, Bakersfield, CA, 93390.
- NOTE: Contest open only to new or returning dues-paying members of Writers of Kern, who pay their current dues on or before August 31, 2012. Winner will be announced at the Christmas Dinner in December. Prize: \$200.

**CWC Literary Review: Issue 2013-14,  
Submissions open July 1 thru August 30, 2013**

CWC members are invited to submit their published or unpublished work following the guidelines below. Submissions are blind-read and work meeting a threshold of quality and interest will be published. Minor editing, enhancing/correcting presentation, may be performed. While satire and parody are welcome, proselytizing or potentially libelous material as well as pornographic forays, and/or gratuitous vulgarity and obscenity will not be considered. Rejections will be accompanied with editors' suggested improvements. Send submissions, for this issue only, as an email attachment to Dave LaRoche, [dalaroche@comcast.net](mailto:dalaroche@comcast.net), "CWC Lit-Review" in the subject line.

**General Guidelines (Nonconforming work will not be considered)**

Prose: 2500 words or fewer: fiction, memoir, or essay (excerpts if the submission can be judged as a complete story). Poetry of 40 lines or fewer. Photography and graphics through arrangement with the editor. A maximum of two submissions per member, separate files, will be accepted per issue. The author must have the rights to convey rights for this one-time use by the CWC. Work selected will be published "as is" except for (possible) minor change after proofing

**Preparing Your Submission (electronic, via email only)**

**Body of email:**

Author's name, email address, and branch affiliation. Title(s), word count, and genre: fiction, memoir, essay, or poetry. Statement must be included: "**I, (name here) own and convey the right to publish this/these work(s) (title or titles here) for this one time publication in the CWC Literary Review.**"

**Attachment(s)—your artistic work:**

Pages numbered in footer, prefer bottom center. Do not use a cover sheet. Each page will contain the title of the work; once above the body of the work on the first page. Include the notation, NF-M, NF-E, poetry or fiction. Please, no other identifying information. (This means put the genre and title on the first page, nowhere else.*TR*) MSWord: rtf format. Left justified, one and one-half line spacing, New Times Roman 12 pt font. One-inch margins all around. Note: present poetry in the form you expect it to be published. No page breaks, special leading, or any other unusual text manipulation or spacing.

*The Editors in Dialog\**

**Terry:** "Annis, how about a bet?\* If 20+ WOKians enter the **Summer Writing Contest**, I'll buy you a glass of wine, if not, you buy. And, if 10+ WOKians send a submission to CWC for the *Literary Review*, I buy the coffee & bagels, if not you buy."

**Annis:** "Sure!"

# The Back Page

*“Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration,  
the rest of us just get up and go to work.” - Stephen King*

**July Meeting:** Speaker, David Wolf: Assistant DA  
“The 10 Most Stupid Crime Writers Blunders”

Mr. Wolf presented an entertaining list of examples when the writing for crime dramas and books wander away from the reality. DNA results take at least 90 days, no suspect tells all just after waiving his right to counsel, the coroner never shows up in heels and she'd never give an estimate of time of death until after she examines the body back in the lab. TV drama routinely ignores the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights, and no iPad can access a suspect's bank account on the spot. What really scares a DA is paperwork, not the next election. Attorneys and judges speak in numbers—they'd say 2157.2 not assault. This is not an emotional case for the defense attorney; he has other cases and he learns to assume most clients lie. I plan to keep watching my CSI shows and reading my suspense books but now I know what is and isn't real. We had nearly 70 people at the meeting, standing room only.

## *Good to Know*

**NEXT MEETING: September 21**

CWC Website, [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org)

Writers of Kern: [www.writersofkern.com](http://www.writersofkern.com)

WOK on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WritersOfKern>

Membership: [www.writersofkern.com](http://www.writersofkern.com)

Membership Chair, Patrick Kelly: [pkelly@bak.rr.com](mailto:pkelly@bak.rr.com)

Dana Martin, WOK President: [WritersOfKern@gmail.com](mailto:WritersOfKern@gmail.com)

Email Writers of Kern: [WritersOfKern@gmail.com](mailto:WritersOfKern@gmail.com)

**Refer to Facebook or the website for more information.**

**\*I need to know who submitted to CWC or WOK so I can get my wine and bagels.**

**Dr. Michael Flachmann** died in Cedar City, Utah August 8, bringing Shakespeare to the world. He taught legions of students at CSU Bakersfield, and in at the Summer Shakespeare Festivals in Utah to love language, Shakespeare, good writing and the wonder of the written word. Thanks to him I loved teaching Shakespeare, love the power of drama and see the magic of teaching. For more on my thoughts about him see my blog, [Terry's Desk](#) .