



WRITERS OF KERN ANNUAL SPRING WRITING CONFERENCE
APRIL 25, 2015

CLARION HOTEL AT 3540 ROSEDALE HWY, BAKERSFIELD

- 8:30 - 9:00** Sign-in, Social Time, Snacks
9:00 - 9:15 Welcome. Writers of Kern President, Joan Raymond
All day Door prizes, book sales and signings, networking, a cornucopia of learning opportunities



9:15-10:15 -- DAVID CONGALTON, Author, Screenwriter - "The Writer's Journey: Rules of the Road" No two routes on writers' journeys are ever the same, but the experienced writer understands that a good map, a clear sense of destination, and knowing when to ask for direction can often determine creative success or failure. Learn some basic rules of the road and how to apply them to your own writing.

David Congalton is a screenwriter, nonfiction author, freelance writer and radio talk show host. His first movie Authors Anonymous was released last April. A second film, Seven Sisters, is in production.



10:35-11:35 -- TONI LOPOPOLO, Editor, Agent - "Mastering Editing Skills" Techniques that help the writer learn the all important skill of self-editing: Avoid The 10 Most Common Mistakes First Novelists Make. Insights you've not heard before from an agent or an editor.

Toni Lopopolo worked 20 years in New York publishing, from Bantam Books to executive editor at Macmillan and St Martin's Press, before opening her literary management company in 1991. She conducts a popular workshop, Tea With Toni, for writing fiction and narrative non-fiction.

11:40-12:30 LUNCH



12:35-1:35 -- ALLISON CROTZER KIMMEL, Middle Grade Author - "Finding Your Fiction: Building Blocks of a Great Story"

This workshop takes writers through the essential parts of crafting a quality story with exercises devoted to strengthening characters, creating setting, building plot, and finding theme.

Allison Crotzer Kimmel published her first Middle Grade non-fiction book January 2014 with Capstone and has two additional titles coming out this spring. A former teacher, she now serves as the SCBWI Kern County regional advisor.



1:55-2:40 -- HERB BENHAM, Columnist - "That was Easy"

Favorite stories through the years, the great people I've met, the balancing act of writing about one's family, and some "million dollar"-writing writing tips.

Herb Benham has been writing columns for almost 30 years for the Bakersfield Californian, "I've written probably close to 5,000 columns. The hope is that one day I might get it right." Most recently, he's published That Was Easy, his third book of collected columns.

2:45-3:00 Wrap-up & Acknowledgements

EARLY REGISTRATION: February 1 - 28, 2015: \$35 for WOK/CWC members, \$40 for non-members, \$25 for students 14-22. REGULAR REGISTRATION: Begins March 1 until Sold Out: \$50 for members/non-members, \$25 for students. Catered box lunch by Sequoia Sandwich Company, add \$5.00. Seating is limited - Register today at www.writersofkern.com