

Oct  
2018



### President's Message



As a board we're in constant communication, our members at the forefront of our every decision. With that, we've taken extra care this year in helping our members, beginners or advanced, in their publishing journey—including our Young Writers of Kern, students from the sixth grade through high school.

The YWOK Essay Competition is Writers of Kern's flagship community service project. The purpose of the competition is to promote critical thinking, writing, and research skills. Up to twenty awards of \$150 (middle school) and \$200 (high school) are given each year.

In addition, winning essays are published in an annual anthology (a publishing credit before the young writer graduates high school).

Ava, one of our budding young writers, has enlisted the help of her sisters and Kind Girls Make Strong Women volunteers to strengthen YWOK's foundation. During the month of October KGMSW will donate all proceeds from their apparel sales and online donation drive.

For parents, students and teachers interested in joining/inviting writers to participate, check out [www.writersofkern.com/ywok/](http://www.writersofkern.com/ywok/). You do not need to be a member to participate.

# Calendar

## Schedule 2018

Mark your personal calendars for these dates

**September 1, 2018 Fall Writing Contest Accepting Submissions**

**October 20, 2018**

**Joey Garcia**

“Writing About Love and Relationships:  
A Guide for All Ages”

**November 17, 2018**

**Mar Preston**

“Suspense: Not Just for Crime Fiction”

**December 8, 2018**

**Winter Dinner**

If you *would* like to join WOK/YWOK, all student memberships (18 and younger) are \$10 a year and include meeting fees with membership.

If you'd like to donate via check, (EIN# 77-0383293) send to KCSOS, 1300 17<sup>th</sup> St, Bakersfield CA 93301 c/o Stephen L. Sanders.

To purchase Kind Girls' apparel or donate via credit card, [www.kindgirlsmakestrongwomen.com](http://www.kindgirlsmakestrongwomen.com).

# Meetings

**October 20th 2018 Monthly Meeting**

***Featured Speaker – Joey Garcia***

***“Make Money Writing about Sex, Love, and Relationships”***



*Joey Garcia*

# Nuts & Bolts

Regular monthly meetings of Writers of Kern are held the third Saturday of each month (with the exception of special events in March, May, and December).

Meetings are held at Hodel's. Route 99, Olive Dr West turnoff, right turn onto Knudsen, big sign. Meeting: 9:15 to 11:15 am. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for visitors. Hodel's breakfast buffet is included and available from 8:45-9:30. Visit [www.writersofkern.com](http://www.writersofkern.com) to pay admission online.

New members are always welcome, both Active [previously published] and Associate [not yet published]. Writers of Kern energetically assists Associate Members who aspire to become Active.

Writers of Kern welcomes submissions of members' writing for both the newsletter and the website. For prose, memoir, poetry and essays submit to the Webmaster. For book reviews and articles of general interest, submit to the newsletter editor.

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**The Write Way  
October 2018**

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Bakersfield CA 93390-2335**

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Join Writers of Kern and Fox 40 on-air Relationship Expert, Joey Garcia, on October 20th for our monthly meeting and latest workshop for writers, *Make Money Writing about Sex, Love, and Relationships*.

Garcia will cover how to write realistic and emotionally-driven love and sex scenes, ways to manage the fear of revealing personal details about yourself or your friends, how to recognize and capitalize on relationship trends, and how to find markets for your writing about love, sex, and relationships.

Meet us at Hodel's Country Dining, 5917 Knudsen Drive in Bakersfield, 8:45am-11:30am. Tickets are \$10 for members, \$15 for guests, and include a buffet breakfast.

As always, you can pay online or at the door. See you there!

## **September 15th 2018 Monthly Meeting**

### ***Featured Speaker – Joan Raymond***

### ***“How To Create Realistic Characters for your Fiction”***

Telling is easy; your story is related and it is up to your audience to remember or interpret it. Showing is harder but more effective. However, to really engage your audience and drive your points home, there is no substitute for hands-on doing with real-time interaction between teacher and taught. Joan Raymond demonstrated this very effectively with her workshop on character creation.

Members were invited to create character profiles based initially on nothing more than name, age and profession. Then, using a typical profile sheet prepared by Joan, flesh was added to this skeleton. The character's appearance, background and backstory, psychological quirks, possessions and secrets were used as prompts in creating credible and fully-rounded personalities to be remembered for themselves and as agents in the developing storyline.

Members came out of this highly-interactive session with significantly improved understanding of how character development can be undertaken in a structured and effective way. Thank you, Joan!

## **The Writers of Kern Executive Board**

**President & Program Chair: Clarissa Kae**  
[president@writersofkern.com](mailto:president@writersofkern.com)

**Vice President: Donnee Harris**  
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**Treasurer: Martha Jarrett**  
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**Webmaster & Publicity Chair: Mandy Wallace**  
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**Membership: Sandy Moffett**  
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**Newsletter: Ian Cant**  
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**CB Rep & SoCal District Rep: Sandy Moffet**  
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**Hospitality/Sunshine: Annis Cassells**  
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**Website and Facebook:**  
[writersofkern.com](http://writersofkern.com),  
[www.facebook.com/writersofkern](http://www.facebook.com/writersofkern)

# Members

## **Congratulations!**

**Allison Crotzer Kimmel's picture book about an unsung American heroine, Betty Robinson, will be published by HarperCollins.**

**Annis Cassells's poem "Late to Madrid" won First Place in the Coos County Historical Society's creative writing contest.**

## **Welcome Aboard!**

*Ann Cook*

*Emerald Guthridge*

*Teresa Beechie*

We all look forward to your active participation in Writers of Kern.

## **YOUNG WRITERS OF KERN**

The 2019 Young Writers of Kern (YWOK) Essay Competition marks the seventh year of a Kern County youth essay competition and the sixth year of sponsorship by Writers of Kern.

The YWOK Essay Competition is Writers of Kern's flagship community service project. The purpose of the competition is to promote critical thinking, writing, and research skills. Up to twenty awards of \$150 (middle school) and \$200 (high school) are given each year. In addition, winning essays are published in an annual anthology focusing on the essay's topic.

## California Writers Club News

The November issue of the CWC Bulletin will be coming out in mid-November. The deadline for submissions is October 28, 2018.

Please share with your members that Rusty LaGrange has offered to do special advertising with a limit of ten 5x7 ads that she will design and publish for just \$60 rather than the usual \$90 rate. These are the popular "Cover Story" Display ads that she did for the 2017 Summer edition. But it's on a first-come, first-served basis.

E-mail advertising to [advertisingCWC@gmail.com](mailto:advertisingCWC@gmail.com).

Rusty said in the last issue of the Bulletin: "This gives first-time authors a chance to showcase their new title for a discount of 30%. Plan now for your Oct 27th deadline. All display ads created by me are owned by you. Just request a copy and you can use it in any other publication — no strings attached. Authors from last summer 2017 can still request a copy before my files are deleted. I hope you let others know that within the news you find here is the credit you all deserve as accomplished writers & authors."

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THE  
BULLETIN  
California Writers Club

Vol. 4 No. 1

Spring / 2018



self publishing



## Lasting Images

Portraits from our September meeting, by Cyn Bermudez.

This year, students will be asked to submit their competition entries directly to Writers of Kern. Submissions will be rated by a panel of judges selected by the Writers of Kern Executive Board. The submission period is October 1 through October 31, 2018. The top essays will be announced in February 2019. Awards will be made at the annual WOK Honors dinner in May 2019. Winners will be asked to provide a brief biographical sketch and to complete a publication agreement allowing WOK to include winning essay in an Annual YWOK Anthology.

Check out competition details and deadlines [here](#)

## Sunshine

A member of Writers of Kern has a health issue or an injury. Months pass by. We don't hear about it. When we do happen to get wind of it, the person is back to their regular activities. Gosh! We do care, but can't let our members know that – and feel our concern – until we know of their situation. So do us all a favor, and be our eyes and ears. Help us send out the sunshine.

The Sunshine Committee strives to reach out to any Writers of Kern Member who could use a bit of comfort, encouragement, condolence or congratulations. BUT, we can't fulfill our mission if we are not informed. When you know of a WOK member to whom we should send a card, please let us know at [sunshine@writersofkern.com](mailto:sunshine@writersofkern.com).

This is what we need to know:

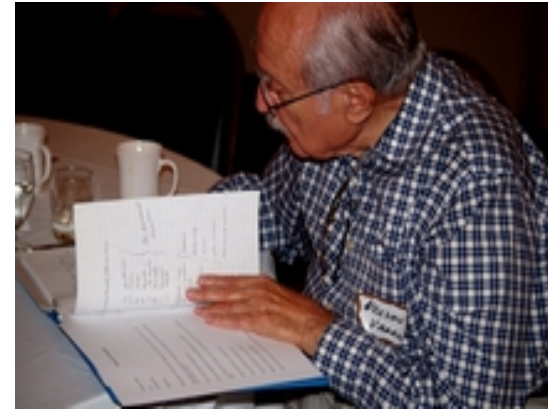
**WOK Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occasion:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Name (so we can get back to you if we need more info)**

Look for our Sunshine Request Form at the next WOK meeting!

*Annis*



Writing

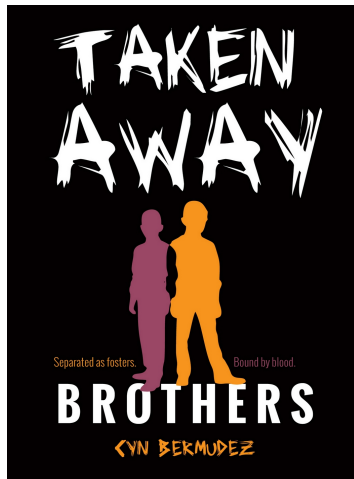


Volunteers



Because Bacon.

**New Book by WoK Member Cynthia Bermudez**



What happens when four siblings are taken away and placed in different foster homes?

Follow the story of Victor, Issac, Vanessa and Sara in the first book in the new series, *Taken Away*.

Order Cyn's book at [tinyurl.com/takenawaybook](http://tinyurl.com/takenawaybook)



Our Youngest Member



Thank you, Joan Raymond, outgoing President.

