
	<h1 style="text-align: center;"><i>The Write Way</i></h1> <p style="text-align: center;">A publication of <i>The Writers of Kern</i> Branch of the <i>California Writers Club</i> <b>July 2007</b> © 2007, Writers of Kern.</p>
<p><b>The Writers of Kern</b> PO Box 22335, Bakersfield, CA 93390-2335 <a href="http://www.writersofkern.com">www.writersofkern.com</a></p>	<p><b>President:</b> Donnalee Huffman, <b>Vice-President:</b> Rob Berry, <b>Secretary:</b> Lucinda Soria, <b>Treasurer and Membership:</b> Sandy Moffett, <b>Representatives At-Large:</b> Kathy Summers, Joe Tomasi, <b>Program Chair:</b> Margie Custer, <b>Publicity:</b> Camille Gavin, <b>CWC Representative:</b> Sandy Moffett, <b>Newsletter:</b> Marty Gorsching</p>
	<p>Regular meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, 10:30 to noon at the <b>Best Western Inn on Buck Owens Blvd.</b> Join us for lunch after the meeting.</p>

## Coming Up

**Next Meeting: July 21**

**Special Guest: Julie Jordan Scott**

**J**ulie Jordan Scott is the Director of Productions at Bakersfield Community Theatre. She has been the Artistic Director of the last two One Act Play Festivals. She is also an Actor, Director, Singer, Poet, Writer and Mother. She has written two plays that have been produced here in Bakersfield. She has developed numerous life and Creativity Coaching programs.  
<http://www.5passions.com>.

Julie will talk about the annual One-Act Play Festival at BCT and give us information about play writing (form and format) as well as some do's and don'ts. For anyone who has ever considered writing a play, this month's meeting is a must.

### **ANNOUNCING:**

**O**pen contest for the cover design of this year's anthology. \$100.00 cash prize to the winner! Your **CAMERA-READY** design submission must be received by Aug. 1 to be considered. Send by e-mail to Lucinda Soria, [LAS30251@msn.com](mailto:LAS30251@msn.com), or to **WOK**  
**PO Box 22335,**  
**Bakersfield, CA**  
**93390-2335**  
**Attn: Cover design**

✓ **V**oting for and installation of the new officers will be held at the July get together. Our slate of officers:

- President – Carol Black
- V.P. – Joe Tomasi
- Secretary – Lucinda Soria
- Treasurer & Membership – Sandy Moffett

All other board memberships, i.e., Programming, Publicity, Newsletter, and “At-large” members, are appointed positions.

✓ **B**eginning in July, after the election of new officers, board meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, at 6:30 p.m., at 4009 Rio Del Norte, Bakersfield

### **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kern Projections Film Festival Accepting Submissions**

Kern Film Festival  
Contact: Emily Thiroux, Festival Director

PO Box 12440, Bakersfield CA 93389  
**telephone:** 661-428-3610  
**email:** Kern.Projections@yahoo.com  
**website:** [www.KernProjections.com](http://www.KernProjections.com)

The 1st annual Kern Projections Film Festival, scheduled for Oct. 10-14 at the Spotlight Theatre, is now accepting submissions. Filmmakers can submit their work to the festival online at <http://www.withoutabox.com/login/6102>. The festival is seeking films from independent filmmakers in the categories of

fiction, documentary, animation, music videos, and sponsor-related ad spots. Deadlines and submissions fees: **Early-bird deadline-July 15, \$20 regular and \$15 student; Regular deadline-August 10, \$25 regular, \$20 student; Late deadline-August 24, \$35 regular and \$30 student; Latest deadline-September 1, \$45 all entries.** For more information on category requirements and submissions information, go to <http://www.kernprojections.com> or <http://www.withoutabox.com/login/6102>.

*Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape from emotion: it is not the expression of personality but an escape from personality. But, of course, only those who have personality and emotion know what it means to want to escape from these* -Emily Dickinson

✦ *If there's a book you really want to read but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it* - Toni Morrison

### **CALLING ALL POETS!**

**Ann Williams** reports: We have a meeting place and time for the poetry critique group. Eight people have already expressed interest, and we hope for more. We will meet, as before, on the **first Saturday of every month**. The place: **McRay Lab, at 3123 19<sup>th</sup> St.**, diagonally across from Jim Burke Ford. Our first meeting will be at **10:00 a.m. on July 7<sup>th</sup>**. At the first meeting we can discuss any new ideas for logistics and procedures. Everyone should bring a poem to share.

## Marty's Muse

Something to think about . . .

July 2007



Okay, kids, this one's just for fun.

How to make a really great morning cup of coffee:

1. Roll out of bed
2. Pick self up from floor, reminding self that feet must be placed on floor first, when rolling out of bed
3. Apologize to cat for landing on her when rolling out of bed (dumb cat!)
4. Stumble to kitchen; turn on light
5. Turn around, stumble to bathroom. Conduct conversation with Nature. Wash hands
6. Return to kitchen and locate coffee maker
7. Remove coffee basket and dispose of used coffee grounds
8. Retrieve coffee basket from trash can (dumb fingers!) and wash it
9. Place new coffee filter in coffee grinder; pour coffee beans into coffee maker basket
10. Turn on grinder
11. Turn off grinder
12. Dislodge filter paper remnants from grinder. Transfer beans from basket to grinder. Place new filter in basket
13. Grind coffee. Place ground coffee into filter in basket. Place basket into coffee maker
14. Turn on coffee maker
15. Turn off coffee maker
16. Remove empty coffee carafe from coffee maker, take to sink and rinse out yesterday's dregs
17. Move to filtered water dispenser and dispense water
18. Stop. Turn carafe over. Dispense water into carafe
19. Mop up water from floor (dumb water!)
20. Pour filtered water into coffee maker
21. Turn on coffee maker
22. Turn off coffee maker to stop flow of water onto counter and floor
23. Remove carafe from countertop and place on heating element of coffee maker
24. Mop up water, again (double-dumb water!)
25. Turn off kitchen light
26. Return to bed
27. Let wife do it

Happy Writing!

**Marty "Just-One-More-Cup" Gorsching**

## **Members Write**

### **Contributions from fellow WOKers**

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#### CHRISTIAN WRITER'S CONFERENCE

By **Sandy Moffett**

Surrounded by a towering forest of fragrant trees and snow dusted mountains, is YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park Center. A magnificent setting, where elk roam freely through the grounds, is home to the Colorado Christian Writer's Conference. This year's event ran from May 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> and was honored to have such well known authors as Cecil "Cec" Murphey, Susan Titus Osborn, David Manuel and Lisa Sampson just to name a few. In addition, there were a bevy of agents, editors and publishing house representatives.

Opportunities to pitch a book proposal, secure an agent or just seek the advice of the

experts were available by appointment. Some however, were there just to refresh their passion for writing, which too often succumbs to the busyness of everyday life. Days were filled with classes too numerous to name, covering every aspect of writing. Suffice it to say that if any conferee left without being taught and inspired, it was not the fault of any but themselves.

I would highly recommend this conference to anyone with a desire to be taught by the best that the Christian writing community has to offer. Next year's conference is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>.

For more information visit [www.writehisanswer.com/Colorado](http://www.writehisanswer.com/Colorado)

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#### Don't Blame the Children

By **Vicki Kyker-Jameson**

We read in the papers and hear on the air,  
of killing and stealing and crime everywhere.  
We sigh and we say and we notice the trend,  
this generation, where will it end?  
We leave less quantity to point their way,  
too many things lead them astray.  
Too much money to spend, too much idle time,  
too many movies of passion and crime.  
Too many books not fit to be read, and too much evil  
in what they hear said.  
Too many children encouraged to roam,  
by too many parents who won't stay at home.  
The children don't make the movies, they don't write the books,  
that paint good pictures of gangsters and crooks.

They don't buy the booze, they don't run the bars,  
they don't make the laws and they don't buy the cars.  
They learn to peddle drugs that goof up their brains,  
that's all done by older folks, greedy for pain.  
Delinquent teenagers oh how we condemn, the sins of the  
nation and blame it on them.  
By the laws of the blameless where children are known,  
who are we among, to cast the first stone?  
In so many cases, it's sad but true, the title "delinquent," is for adult folks too.

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When He was Four....  
by **Caroline Reid**

He was four when he said it first.  
"I want to be a policeman."  
He said it again when he was eight.  
"I want to be a policeman."

She laughed and said,  
"Oh that's fine, that sounds like fun."  
He said it over and over through the years  
And she stopped laughing.

At 21 he walked out the door,  
A gun at his side and  
A bulletproof vest protecting his heart.  
Hers was fully exposed.

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Fear (late at night)  
By **Terry Redman**

Fear  
comes not on cat's feet  
but in the cold, late night of a lonely parking lot.  
fear knocks on a window, insistently, at 1:30 in the morning  
fear tells lies to gain my trust and sympathy.

Fear  
demands money dressed as a plea  
'wife sick, baby sick, no money, need medicine.'  
fear picks vulnerable to rap on my space  
and threatens to make a good deed horrific.

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Fear may have known I had my wife & daughter in the other car  
and then...stalked my car when I could not leave.

Fear, I saw you check out my car before approaching  
and heard your lies.

I hate the way you made me feel; I despise you, and your lies.

Fear

money in hand you slithered back into the dark  
and I yelled at my wife to drive, so I could follow:  
that money was for emergency...*a craven thief*.

Fear

you owe me money and the moments when I expected to see your gun  
you owe me trust of dark men late at night  
you owe me sanctity of space and peace.

My revenge.....is that you understand the harm you do  
change your ways, accept Jesus,

steal no more.

Fear, that is the revenge I want!

and a thousand years from now we will chat amiably  
in Paradise, speaking *truth* and *trust*.

Angels guarded me & mine

as yours wept

and apologized to another of its kind  
for heartless evil in the dark.

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## **WOK-Abouts: Clips, Quips, & Kudos**

*Brag, boasts, and bravos —*

*What are you up to?*

*Tell us all about it!*

### **Peg Connelly:**

I will be having a book signing for all 3 of my books at Barnes and Nobles on July 21, from noon to 4pm. I will be competing with the outing of the last Harry Potter book. How's that for competition? There will be lots of people in the store, so that may help.

Also my June free short story for children is available on my web site. It is taken from a book, yet to be published, called Giggly Gilda and her Friends. [www.grannywrites4kids.com](http://www.grannywrites4kids.com)

**Marilyn Meredith** is happy to report that the next in her Deputy Tempe Crabtree series, *Judgment Fire*, will be available this summer. She's been busy promoting *Calling the Dead* by

attending “Mayhem in the Midlands” in Omaha and has two book signings coming up in Ventura. Also, her psychological horror, *Wishing Makes It So*, is a finalist in Author Island Reader’s Choice Award for horror.

**Vicki Jameson** has a one act play being produced by Bakersfield Community Theatre. She also has a new website: [www.thegolden10.com](http://www.thegolden10.com). She’d be happy to have you take a peek at it.

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## Places to visit

### WOK Members’ Websites

Annis Cassells, [www.connectionsandconversations.com](http://www.connectionsandconversations.com)

Carol Black, [www.publishedauthors.net/CarolBlack00](http://www.publishedauthors.net/CarolBlack00)

Maggie Caldwell Smith, [www.magpiepress.com](http://www.magpiepress.com)

Robbie Byrne, [www.robbybyrne.com](http://www.robbybyrne.com) is dedicated to my writing, and another website is dedicated to cultural music, [www.bagpiper-weddings.com](http://www.bagpiper-weddings.com)

Peg Connelly, [www.grannywrites4kids.com](http://www.grannywrites4kids.com)

Marilyn Meredith, author’s website, <http://fictionforyou.com> .

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

Sandy Moffett, [www.sandymoffett.com](http://www.sandymoffett.com)

Debra Blackmon, [www.debrablackmon.com](http://www.debrablackmon.com)

Susan K. Stewart, [www.skstewart.com](http://www.skstewart.com)

Vicki Jameson, [www.thegolden10.com](http://www.thegolden10.com)

California Writers Club, [www.calwriters.org/](http://www.calwriters.org/)

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

WOK members: Do you have a personal site you would like to list here?

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### Critique Groups

**Children’s & Memoir:** Peg Connelly, 399-0423, 1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays, [mispegg@aol.com](mailto:mispegg@aol.com)

**Non-Fiction:** Donnalee Huffman, 859-1572, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 2:00 PM, 602 H St. (Donnalee’s office), [donnalee\\_huffman@hotmail.com](mailto:donnalee_huffman@hotmail.com)

**Fiction:** Vicki Jameson, 831-2046, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 PM, 1301 Taft Hwy #3 (call for directions) [meawrtr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meawrtr@sbcglobal.net)

**Poetry:** Ann Williams, 324-1055, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 10:00AM, 3123 19<sup>th</sup> St. [awmidge@atginternet.com](mailto:awmidge@atginternet.com)

**Romance Writing Group:** Carol Black & Bertie Warren, 832-9242 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6 PM, 7105 School House Lane. [Nanab5@bak.rr.com](mailto:Nanab5@bak.rr.com) .

**Sci-Fi, Fantasy Critique Group:** Joe Tomasi, 391-9124, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 7 PM, (currently closed to new members) [jtomasi@bak.rr.com](mailto:jtomasi@bak.rr.com)

**Screen Writing:** Carol & Terry Baker-Willey, 588-4943, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 10 AM at the Barnes & Noble Café in the Barnes and Noble store on California Avenue. [Cinehunden@juno.com](mailto:Cinehunden@juno.com)

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## Conferences, Contests, and Other Things

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**Marilyn Meredith** has a new open contest: **Submit** an idea for a murder victim or villain to be used in her next mystery novel. **Prizes:** The first five books in the Deputy Tempe Crabtree series. **About the book series:** Tempe Crabtree is a Native American female deputy in a small mountain community in the Southern Sierra of California called Bear Creek. **Please submit entries to** [editor@clarylopez.com](mailto:editor@clarylopez.com). The winner will be selected by the author and announced on the Book Den site <http://booksden.wordpress.com/> on August 1, 2007.

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**The 2007 SAN FRANCISCO WRITING FOR CHANGE CONFERENCE**  
*Change the World, One Book at a Time.*

**August 23<sup>rd</sup>—25<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at Grace Cathedral**

For more information, contact:

**Elizabeth Pomada, 415-673-0939 or Robin Carpenter, 415-601-4491**

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**The Muse Online Writers Conference:**

<http://www.freewebs.com/themuseonlinewritersconference/>

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**“Where and how to sell what you write”**

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

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**Writer’s tools and resources**

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

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**A good source for market, contest listings, etc**

[www.writeradvice.com/markets.html](http://www.writeradvice.com/markets.html)

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**Coffeehouse For Writers**

<http://www.coffeehouseforwriters.com/>

“Coffeehouse for Writers is an internet-based community of writers from all genres. There are more than ten thousand members all over the world including ships at sea!”

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**Freelance Writing e-zine**

<http://www.writersweekly.com/>

- Regular club meetings are held at **10:30 AM the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** of the month at Best Western, **2620 Buck Owens Boulevard, Bakersfield, CA** (next to the Crystal Palace).
  - Contact **The Writers of Kern** or the editor of *The Write Way* for information regarding reprinting any of these articles. Articles are the property of the authors and *The Write Way* is pleased to publish them for this one time use.
  - Quotes used herein are found @ [www.quotationspage.com/](http://www.quotationspage.com/) and [www.thinkexist.com](http://www.thinkexist.com)

## The Writers of Kern

PO Box 22335,  
Bakersfield, CA  
93390-2335

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



**EDITOR:**  
[mgorsching@bak.rr.com](mailto:mgorsching@bak.rr.com)

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## About Our Organization...

**Writers of Kern** is one of fourteen 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.

We now have over 60 members in our club.

Based in **Bakersfield**, Writers of Kern serves the western half of Kern County while our sister branch, **The Ridge Writers**, based in Ridgecrest, serves the eastern half.

The Writers of Kern  
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Bakersfield, CA  
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