



Scribbles

California Writers Club – Central Coast Writers Branch

centralcoastwriters.org

July 2016

July 19 Speaker Chelsea Lindman

The Art of the Query Letter

Chelsea Lindman, literary agent at Sanford J. Greenburger Associates, will provide useful tips on how to write an effective query letter that gets an agent's attention, presents you as an appealing potential client, and introduces your work in the most saleable way. She will explain and discuss author-agent working relationships and provide ideas on what to look for in your agent.



Her primary interests include playful literary fiction, genre-bending fiction, smart women's fiction, and forward thinking or boundary-pushing non-fiction. Her fiction clients include Sherwood Anderson Fiction Award Winner Kristopher Jansma, LA Times Book Prize Finalist Ariel S. Winter, and Richard Bausch Fiction Prize Winner Jesse Goolsby. Her non-fiction clients include performer Roslyn Hart, and comedienne Laura Lane and Angela Spera. Chelsea enjoys working with debut authors and is most interested in working with clients that are looking to build lasting relationships.

Coming in August

The CCW Annual Summer BBQ and Picnic!



**Sunday,
August 7, 2016
1:00-3:00 p.m.**
Details on page 5.

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Red, Write, and Blue

Within days of receiving this edition of our club newsletter, the Central Coast Writers will be participating in the Monterey 4th of July celebration by walking in the parade. This, as with the Pacific Grove Good Old Days Parade, has become an annual event. We always have a terrific time, and you might consider having friends or family meet you on the lawn of Colton Hall for the after party. The music is fun, the food booths offer yummy (if not especially healthy) lunch options, and the day provides an opportunity to reflect on just how lucky we are to be living in this country.

I promise not to go off on some crazy patriotic rant, but I'll share this with you. I've lived in, and visited, many countries, and most of them have provided me with the joys of good food, history that stretches further back than our own, and people who have welcomed me with open arms. However, extended sojourns in foreign lands are springboards into a pool of insight. I'm no jingoist, but the juxtaposition of any of those places with my home country always brings me to the same conclusion—I live in a fantastic place. One where I'm afforded the opportunity to voice personal opinion without fear of persecution—as long as that opinion doesn't hurt, or belittle, anyone else. As writers, I'm sure we're all pleased with that personal freedom. And doesn't that make you want to celebrate by walking with us in a parade (followed by a corn dog, lovingly prepared by the Boy Scouts, of course)!

Exercising another freedom, votes were cast for the 2016/2017 CCW Executive Committee. I was honored to be asked to remain president for another term, and I'm exceedingly grateful that the remainder of the board has acquiesced to stick with me for another year. We have become a true team, and we'll continue to work together to make the coming year terrific for our members.

This seems a good place for this reminder—if you have yet to do so, please consider renewing your membership with Central Coast Writers. Everyone's personal journey is different, but I'm convinced that we all benefit from membership. If I didn't feel that way, I wouldn't be a member myself.

I hope to see many of you in July at the parade on the 4th and at our next general meeting on the 19th when we'll be treated to literary agent Chelsea Lindman as she shares tips about writing an effective query letter.

As always, until we meet again, happy writing!

Laurie

In Memoriam



Daniel E. Gentry

January 1947 - May 2016

Please join CCW as we bid farewell to one of our members. Dan died on the morning of May 12, 2016, in Pacific Grove. Dan was an active participant in our club, attending almost every general meeting. He was the valedictorian of Madison Heights High School (Detroit, MI) and was the first of his family to go to college. He successfully earned a Bachelors and Masters of Science in Electrical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1970 followed by an MBA from Harvard University in 1979. He moved to California in 1979 to start his career in the technology industry. His absence in our group will be felt by many.



Revision — Michael David Lukas

For the man who authored *The Oracle of Stamboul*, revision meant throwing out many drafts and re-imagining the novel multiple times. Michael David Lukas began his first novel at 24, prior to joining an MFA program with the University of Maryland. Over the next seven years he started over seven times, each time tightening the narrative arc, filling out characters and making descriptions more precise. It was published by HarperCollins in 2011.

“For the first book, revision was inseparable from my growth as a writer,” Lukas said.

He wrote three drafts of his second book, a multigenerational novel about the Jews of Cairo. With each draft he pared down the number of plot lines to be included, starting with ten, and finally settling on three. Then as feedback came trickling in, he transcribed each comment onto a printed draft of the novel, placing it where the reader thought he should make changes. He said that created a “serious muddle” that took him two years to emerge from.

“That process was fatally flawed. Instead of re-envisioning the novel, I was spackling conflicting versions onto an already flawed draft,” Lukas said. He sat down with a blank piece of paper and sketched out a new vision of the most troublesome plot line of this novel.

“I burned the house to the ground and this let me rethink the section entirely. I got rid of time constraints. A year and a half later I was in a good place,” he said. He has sent out what he hopes is the final draft.

Lukas said he has no rules to offer, only lessons learned:

- Know yourself: turn up your creative self when it’s time to create and your critical self when it’s time to critique.
- Don’t be afraid to throw things out.
- Feedback is not always your friend — sometimes it muddies your vision.
- When something isn’t working, try something new.
- Keep at it. Writing is hard. Revision is harder, but nothing is more important.



Five-minute Reader Fran Cartier
Photograph by Clarissa Conn



Speaker Michael David Lukas
Photograph by Clarissa Conn



Laurie Sheehan and Dorothy Vriend raffling
Photograph by Jonathan Shoemaker

Announcements

Membership News

Welcome to our new CCW members:

Mary Feliz Roxan McDonald Ayaz Pirani
Patricia Reed Deanna Ross Terry Textor



Member Congratulations!

Patricia Hanson received a write-up in the *Monterey County Weekly Arts* column (June 9-15) regarding Networking Aloud, the second Tuesdays evening program at Old Capitol Books.

Laureen Diephof was featured on KSBW for her globe-trotting adventures. Look for her book about her journeys.

Congratulations to **Joyce Krieg**, who is slated to become president of California Writers Club as of August 1, guiding our parent organization that now includes 21 branches and just over 2000 members!

An Interview with Kurt Vonnegut Jr., a Staged Reading written and directed by **Carol Marquart** will be presented at The Cherry Center for the Arts, 4th and Guadalupe, Carmel. Meet 84-year-old Kurt Vonnegut Jr., as he gets a call from an old flame from his teaching days. The show stars Rollie and Jeanne Dick and runs August 12 to 21, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays 2:00 p.m. Tickets: \$20.00 brownpapertickets.com.

Executive Board Elections

Cheri Love presented the nominating committee's slate at the June General Meeting. No nominations were offered from the floor. The four re-elected officers in our club are President Laurie Sheehan, Vice President Sharon Law Tucker, Treasurer Clarissa Conn, and Secretary Joyce Krieg. Congratulations and thanks to all of them for their continuing service on behalf of Central Coast Writers.

Writing Reminder

Ongoing "let's get together and just write" gathering Tuesday mornings 9:30-11 a.m. at Crema, 481 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove. Free and open to writers of all levels and interests. No critiquing, no sharing, just an opportunity to devote time to our writing with other like-minded creative individuals.

Networking Aloud: A Writers Open Mike

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 12, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (2nd Tuesday of each month)

Where: OLD CAPITOL BOOKS – 559 Tyler St., Monterey, CA 93940

Submitted monthly by Pat Hanson

A "love offering\$" monthly event open to the public **every second Tuesday: NETWORKING ALOUD: A WRITERS OPEN MIKE**. Come early & sign up for a five- to seven-minute reading from any genre: prose, screenplay, poetry & essay that follows 15 minutes from a featured published reader. Only applause, no critique allowed.

Kristina Baer kristinabaer.net is the July 12 featured author, reading from her fictional memoir/novel *Minerva's Fox* (Two Harbors Press, 2015). The protagonist Malorie Ellsworth recounts twenty-four years in her journey from young adulthood to middle age. We first meet her as a first-year graduate student at the threshold of a promising academic career. A year later, when her academic and personal life fall apart, Malorie realizes she has made a terrible mistake. We follow her as she searches for balance in her life, facing serious challenges.

On August 9, Eboni Ardell will read from her fantasy novel *The Fourth Piece* (48fourteen Publishing). She spent her childhood obsessed with anything science fiction, fantastic, paranormal or just plain weird. She now specializes in young adult fiction.

Questions or to be featured in the future: Pat Hanson [831-601-9195](tel:831-601-9195) or co-emcee Janice Rocke [831-521-0375](tel:831-521-0375).

Annual 4th of July Parade

CCW will be marching in the Monterey 4th of July celebration (on Monday this year). We always have a great time and hope you will join in. As in past years, we're invited to park at Leslie Patiño's (903 Jefferson Street, Monterey) and be shuttled to our parade meeting spot, so no parking hassles. If you are not meeting us at Leslie's, our gathering place is behind the Hartnell Professional Center, 576 Hartnell St, Monterey. Join us there by 9:30 a.m.; the parade begins at 10. After the parade, we meet at Colton Hall to return our signs to Leslie. If you have questions, or would like to RSVP to meet us on the 4th, please contact Lana at лана.bryan@writeteam.com.

CCW's Annual BBQ

CCW's annual members-only BBQ is on **Sunday, August 7** from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The brilliant team of Harold and Sam Grice will once again be our grill masters. How lucky are we? Leslie and Hugo Patiño's lovely home (903 Jefferson in Monterey) is once more our venue. Again, lucky! All the food and water will be provided. Alcohol is BYOB. Chairs are also BYOC (bring your own chair). Please remember that this event is only for members plus one guest.

CWC Members in the Spotlight at Bay Area Book Festival

The Bay Area Book Festival, now in its second year, is proving to be the premier literary event in Northern California—and several CCW members were in good company among some 300 authors who signed and sold their books. An estimated 50,000 book lovers attended the festival in downtown Berkeley on June 4 and 5. The event included author presentations, book signings, panel discussions, readings, music and 10 blocks closed to traffic and lined with booths.

CCW members Harry Freiermuth and Leslie Patiño promoted the club and their work at the California Writers Club booth, while right down the street, Diana Paul was spotted behind the table of her publisher, She Writes Press.

Our own Joyce Krieg organized and coordinated CWC's presence with participation by 16 authors representing nine California Writers Club branches. "It's always gratifying to see something like this come together and represent our club in front of thousands of readers and writers in such a positive manner," Joyce said.



Joyce Krieg staffing the California Writers Club booth. Harold Grice's antique typewriter proved to be a popular attention-getter and crowd-pleaser.



Writer's Row, where the CWC booth was located, was one of ten themed streets in downtown Berkeley at the Bay Area Book Festival.

Palettes & Quills 5th Biennial Poetry Chapbook Competition

The Poetry Chapbook Competition is open to all writers. For details, go to palettesandquills.simplesite.com. Prize: A \$200 cash award plus 50 copies of the published book. Deadline: September 1, 2016.

Photography at Meetings

California Writers Club, Central Coast Writers Branch, provides this notice to inform our members and guests at our events that still photographs are often taken during meetings. These pictures are occasionally posted on our website and in this newsletter. If, for some reason, you don't want your likeness used, you must notify us in advance.

Clarissa Conn is willing to take members' photographs to use with your bios on our [Central Coast Writers website](http://CentralCoastWriters.com).

Excerpt from *The Price of Courage, Poland 1939*

Marked for Death

By Fred Nolan

I had gotten used to the sound of gunfire, I had gotten used to dodging bullets, I had gotten used to feeling my silenced sub-machine gun hanging under my coat, I had gotten used to all the demands of being a member of the Resistance in Occupied Poland in 1939, all except one. It rankled me. I felt insulted to be individually singled out to die, to be marked for death. Just six months ago in free Poland before the invasion my performance had been applauded and cheered and recognized for what it was, the best imitation of Adolf Hitler ever. I was especially adept at languages and enough Poles spoke German, once the word got out, to create standing room only at my Friday afternoon performances on lyceum's stage. Some of my critics said that I strutted across the stage more like Mussolini than Hitler, but no one criticized my voice. It was perfect with just the right trace of an Austrian accent blended with the Bavarian tones of Munich. Close your eyes and it could be Hitler himself up there.

But in the audience some sour member of the Volksdeutsche, the Germans of recent German ancestry, wasn't laughing. The Volksdeutsche had been a pain in the ass since the end of The Great War. The Peace Treaty of Versailles had redrawn the borders of Europe and thousands of Germans had been left in Poland and thousands of Poles were stuck in Germany. I had insulted their great leader and I had to go. The Volksdeutsche had been secretly conspiring with Nazi agents to quickly clean Poland of disruptive elements immediately after the success of the invasion. Hitler did not want a revolution in Poland while he conquered the rest of Europe. It was known as the Special Pacification Plan.

I suppose that I should be proud to be on the death list. It was actually a compliment on my performance. The only way off the death list was to be already dead. My death had been neatly arranged. It was a shock to be told I was dead. I had always thought I would be the first to know. I was surprised to find out that I had been killed on the first day of the bombing of Warsaw. My old school was a direct hit. Nothing was left but a hole in the ground. I had been inside. There was no trace of my body. It was a slick story. The trick was not to contradict my own death. Invisibility wasn't an option.

Fortunately or unfortunately, I had lost twenty pounds escaping from the Russians on the Eastern border when we ran from our Polish National Work Camp Project only to be captured in an old barn. I was a shadow of my former self after following the stars at night with two buddies and walking back across Russia for two months to get home. However, there was still enough left of my former appearance to be recognized. The look of absolute horror when an old friend spotted me across the street told me that I must look like I had risen from the grave. Being dead was unexpectedly complex. It was only a matter of time until the Gestapo would wake up to the existence of the walking dead. There must be legions of the walking dead trying to slip by unseen, unnoticed and unrecorded, masquerading as painful memories coughed up by the mind.

Those happy days in free Warsaw seemed so long ago. Had they been real? I was looking forward to going to the University of Warsaw in the fall. The university buildings had now been turned into barracks for German soldiers and I had killed eight men. My school had been trashed, my city had been trashed, my nation had been trashed and I had been trashed. Maybe death wasn't such a bad idea.

From the author: My novel is loosely based on my late brother-in-law's war experience. It has a rich cast of characters going back to World War I and the war that nobody seems to know about, the Soviet-Polish War of 1920 (Poland won).



“The Mystery of It All”

Marina Romani

When Marina Romani was seven or eight, she aspired to become an author. “My parents read chapter books to me long before I could read them on my own,” Marina recalls, “and I knew the books came with authors.” She even began writing a novel back then but never got past the first chapter.

Fast forward to the late 1960s when Marina taught English to adults in Bangkok. “The exotic location and my youth made it both interesting and unusual.” Subsequently, she earned a master’s in English from State University of New York, then transitioned into editorial work, spending her last twenty years of employment at UCLA.

Upon retiring twelve years ago, Marina turned her focus to writing poetry and an occasional short piece of poetic prose inspired by her interest in human emotions and how people respond to life events. “I get impatient with long narratives and the demands of working out a plot,” she says. “It’s the subjective side of human experience that’s the stuff of poetry. Sometimes even minor events lead to complicated emotions and reactions.”

A CCW member for three years, Marina continues to write poetry, drawing from ideas that grab her in bed, in the shower or during walks by the ocean. “I don’t react well to any regular schedule,” she admits. “Sometimes I write nothing for a week or more, then suddenly an idea takes hold of me, and I write during every spare minute for several days, forgetting to eat and sleep until my body cries out for me to stop.”

Finding beauty in the sounds, rhythm and fluidity of words and language, in “the mystery of it all,” Marina marvels at the paradox in “the way language can manipulate us, or the way we can manipulate it, in good directions or negative ones.” Touting the value of rereading and rewriting one’s work, she also emphasizes the need to be self-critical.

“Decide what your standards are, appreciate your uniqueness, and trust your instinct,” she advises. “Know or learn the rules, but don’t be afraid to break them.”

Since 2008, approximately forty of Marina’s poems have appeared in print and online journals. She recently completed a book length manuscript (Park Place Publications) titled *Child Interwoven: A Russian Girlhood in 1940s Shanghai*, a collection of mostly autobiographical poems and prose. Presently, she leads tours of Tor House in Carmel while acquainting visitors with the life and work of poet Robinson Jeffers.

Michelle Smith’s articles have been published in a variety of magazines. Her website is thebonyquill.com.



Tarfia Faizullah

Bangladeshi American Poet



Tarfia Faizullah was born in 1980 in Brooklyn, New York, and raised in Texas. She won the Crab Orchard Series in Poetry First Book Award for her book *Seam*. Explaining the book in an interview, she states that she learned about the widespread rape of the Bangladeshi women by the Pakistani Army during the 1971 Liberation War. She won a Fulbright scholarship, which enabled her to go to Bangladesh and interview the women who had been raped. The book *Seam* was the result. It took her five years to write *Seam* and two years to publish it.

Tarfia also tells us what inspires her. She is in awe of the Detroit poets such as Vievee Francis, Nandi Comer and Tommye Blount. And she loves to return to poets in translation such as Rumi, Cesar Vallejo, and Hikmet. She says that what keeps her going is “mindfully rolling around in the world and feeling it in my whole body.”

She advises to let yourself be surprised. Do the work of making every word of every line of every poem sing. Make mistakes and they will often lead you into unexpected and wondrous places. Tarfia quotes poet Russell Edson, who said, “Desire and patience takes us where we want to go.”

Tarfia won the Cohen Award in 2014. At age 36, she teaches at the University of Michigan’s Helen Zell Writers’ Program as the Nicholas Delbanco Visiting Professor in Poetry, and co-directs the Organic Weapon Arts Chapbook Press and Video Series with Jamaal May.

This short bio is mostly in her own words.

[Editor’s note: This Paris Review [interview](#) tells you much about Tarfia Faizullah and her poetry.]



En Route to Bangladesh, Another Crisis of Faith By Tarfia Faizullah

Because I must walk
 through the eye-shaped
shadows cast by these
 curved gold leaves thick
atop each constructed
 palm tree, past displays
of silk scarves, lit
 silhouettes of blue-bottled
perfume—because
 I grip, as though for the first
time, a paper bag
 of french fries from McDonald’s,
and lick, from each fingertip,
 the fat and salt as I stand alone
to the side of this moving
 walkway gliding me past dark-
eyed men who do not look
 away when I stare squarely
back—because standing
 in line to the restroom I want
only to pluck from her
 black sweater this one shimmering
blond hair clinging fast—
 because I must rest the Coke, cold
in my hand, beside this
 toilet seat warmed by her thighs,
her thighs, and hers.
 Here, at the narrow mouth
of this long, humid
 corridor leading to the plane,
I take my place among
 this damp, dark horde of men
and women who look like me—
 because I look like them—
because I am ashamed
 of their bodies that reek so
unabashedly of body—
 because I can—because I am
an American, *a star*
 of blood on the surface of muscle.

Contests and Conferences

By Patricia Watson



CONTESTS

Contest: The Robert and Adele Schiff Prizes in Poetry and Prose

Website: cincinnatiareview.com/blog/contests/robert-and-adele-schiff-prizes-in-poetry-and-prose

Deadline: Entries accepted June 1 - July 15, 2016.

Entry Fees: \$20.00, submission online, includes subscription, details on website.

Prizes: \$1000.00 each for one poetry & one prose winner; publication in 2017 *Cincinnati Review*.

Contest Rules: Submit up to 8 pages of poetry or 40 pages of prose per entry, unpublished.

Contest: Literal Latté Contest

Deadline: July 15, 2016

Website: literal-latte.com/contests/poetry-awards

Entry Fees: \$10.00 for up to six poems, or \$15.00 for up to 10. Submission by post or email.

Prizes: First Prize: \$1000.00, 2nd Prize: \$300.00, 3rd Prize \$200.00.

Contest Rules: Unpublished poems only. All styles welcome. Visit website for details.

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Summer Fishtrap: A Gathering of Writers

Location: Wallowa Lake Camp, Wallowa Lake Oregon

Dates: July 10 - July 16, 2016

Deadline & Costs: Registration ongoing, 1st come, 1st served. \$230.00, weekend pass, \$750.00 for 5-day workshop, lodging \$100.00 per wk for tent camping, \$850 per wk for shared cabins; \$66.00 to add lunches, \$250.00 to add all meals.

Website: fishtrap.org

Contact: Summer Gathering of Writers, P.O. Box 38, Enterprise, Oregon, 97828, 541-426-3623

Roxan McDonald Daylong Writing Retreat

Location: Moss Landing, CA

Dates: July 23, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Due to popularity this event may soon add additional monthly dates.*

Deadline & Cost: There are a few spaces left. Cost is \$110.00, includes coffee, tea and snacks; bring your own lunch. A day of craft talk, writing prompts, and discussions on the writing life.

Website: roxanmcdonald.com.

Contact: To register for this event, email: info@roxanmcdonald.com.

Magic of Memoir Weekend Workshop with Brooke Warner

Location: Oakland Marriott City Center, Oakland, CA

Dates: October 15 & 16, 2016

Deadline & Cost: Early bird registration \$379.00; includes multiple early bird prizes and giveaways. Check out the list at the Magic of Memoir website.

Website: magicofmemoir.com

Contact: Brooke@warnercoaching.com

[Ed.: Submitted under the wire] **Make Some Noise** offers a monthly contest for any creative work. July 25 is this month's deadline. No entry fee and \$500 prize. Details here: noisemedium.com/make-some-noise.



“NaNoMo”

(for short)

On a dare, a child might attempt what seems impossible; and succeed, due to sheer enthusiasm and determination. Or s/he may just quit if it stops being fun.

“The secret of genius is to carry the spirit of the child into old age, which means never losing your enthusiasm.” —Aldous Huxley

You’ll never know what you can accomplish unless you try.

[National Novel Writing Month](#) (or NaNoWriMo) is about four months away. Thousands of authors intend to write a complete 50,000-word novel in the month of November. Hmm, that’s about 2,666 words per day. At 20 words per minute, that’s 133.3 minutes per day. Do you have a spare 2 1/4 hours per day in your schedule? If this sounds tempting to you, maybe you should prepare for it like a marathon runner. You might consider having your meals delivered and hire a gardener and housecleaner for a month. I personally tend to type at 10 words per minute when composing, so I would need to plan on 4 1/2 hours per day.

Plan now! And start your marathon training:

- Set priorities—family/writing/sports/social life.
- Practice writing without stopping to proofread. That’s a tough one.
- Carry a pen and pad everywhere. Jot down ideas. If the notes to yourself turn into paragraphs, stop! Abbreviate them. Writing whole paragraphs before November 1st would be cheating. Wouldn’t it?
- Use a voice recorder when you can’t write (like when driving?). Or tell your phone to send you a voice message, text message, or email.
- Figure out your best writing times.
- Watch people—notice their idiosyncrasies; the way they move; their manner of speaking; anticipate what they are about to say or do. Take notes. If they act contrary to their usual manner, consider why. What caused it? Would it move your plot in a different direction?
- If you list personality traits of your protagonists on a whiteboard in plain view, you may get ideas about backstory that will help the reader understand why characters act the way they do. Add notes as they occur to you.
- Jot down possible plots as they occur to you, or when an incident catches your attention. Go back and add to them when a twist in a plot strikes you. You might have several plots in mind over the next few months. Decide which one to use by the time November comes around.
- Semper paratus—be prepared to deal with situations that might eat up part of your two hours of writing. Be aware of distractions that break into your normal activities. Similar interruptions may lure you from your desk in November. Decide how you can deal with them.

“If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception, it is a prevailing attitude.” —Colin Powell

These practices are important to a writer even if you’re not into that ridiculous NaNoWriMo.

**Be well,
and let it be fun.**

Jonathan

The Last Word

By Lana Bryan

The Galápagos, 2



Floreana Island

Continuing our cruise through the Galápagos Islands (see the [June Scribbles](#)), we anchored off Floreana Island. A foggy morning hike on Punta Cormorant rewarded early risers with a view of flamingos knee deep in the lagoon.

On a Zodiac, we toured around the tiny Champion Island looking for the Floreana mockingbird. “Don’t look at the sea lions; they are trying to distract you! That’s their job!” Finally, we saw one of the elusive birds, one of 50 remaining Floreana mockingbirds, all on that one island.



A hike to Post Office Bay brought us to a place where, since 1793, pirates and buccaneers placed missives addressed to loved ones. Other travelers, who were bound for those areas, took the letters and delivered

them, postage-free. We, too, wrote postcards and placed them in the post office barrel to be picked up and delivered. We distributed postcards to our group if their home destinations were near the addressees’ locations. We were charged with hand-delivering them, as custom demands. Our naturalist grew up on Floreana island, where his great-grandmother lived her whole life and died at 102.

[The Beak of the Finch: A Story of Evolution in Our Time](#) by Jonathan Weiner follows the careers of a married couple, Princeton biologists, who have observed evolution occurring very quickly in the Galápagos. A fascinating read, whether you go there or not.

More Galápagos stories next month.

Lana

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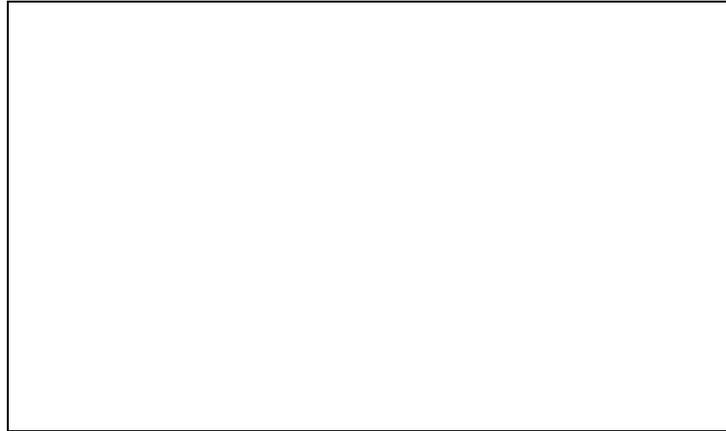
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Not yet a member of CCW?

You can join at a monthly meeting or online at:
centralcoastwriters.org



California Writers Club
Central Coast Writers Branch
Post Office Box 997
Pacific Grove, CA 93950



July 19

Chelsea Lindman —

The Art of the Query Letter

5:30 p.m. - CHECK-IN and DINNER

6:30 p.m. - MEETING

Point Pinos Grill

79 Asilomar Boulevard

Pacific Grove

