



March 13, 2026

Joyce Krieg, Editor



## We're Celebrating Poetry on St. Patrick's Day

Ireland is well-known for its rich heritage in poetry, so it's only appropriate that our March 17 meeting will focus on poetry with Monterey County's poet laureate, Marie Boucher.

Marie's topic will be "Rewilding Our Words." She plans to offer suggestions for engaging more deeply with the natural world and each other in order to expand our connections, content, and writing in community. When she's not writing poetry, Marie teaches Creative Writing and similar courses at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies.



[Find Out More About Marie](#)

***Tuesday, March 17, 5:30 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Awakening in Pacific Grove. Free and open to everyone.***

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## Welcome to the Funhouse

by Scotty Cornfield, CCW President



Hey there, writers (and the rest of you mere mortals as well),

Welcome to the funhouse. In this edition, I'm serving up a few quick bites for you, starting with a shout-out to the following CCW members who represented us well at the big

Left Coast Crime Convention in San Francisco a couple of weeks ago. Most of the guilty parties named below either took to the stage as panelists, moderators on panels, or both. I wanted to cover all the bases, so I showed up in a panel truck (but that's another story).

Joyce Krieg (AKA: Kate Hopkins Joyce), Wendy Goodman (AKA: Seren Star Goode), Chuck Foster (AKA: C.R. Foster), David Olsen (AKA: Nik Xandir Wolf), Scotty Cornfield (AKA: "El Presidente"), Dwight Holing (AKA: Dwight Holing), Laurie and John Sheehan (AKA: Laurie and Curly). Sarah Pruitt (AKA: Sarah Pruitt "with two T's") was also seen gadding about San Francisco during conference week.

If you've always wanted to participate in the fabulous Good Old Days Street Fair in Pacific Grove, consider this your lucky year. It will be happening on May 2-3, and the Central Coast Writers will once again be at our booth, riveting the "locals" and letting them talk to us writers just so they can experience the magic and be gobsmacked by our literary "chops." If you think you can pass our rigorous written test, followed by the Marine's official obstacle course, and perform our club song while juggling, let me know at [president.ccw@gmail.com](mailto:president.ccw@gmail.com).

Finally (and isn't it about time?), would you like to be one of our Five-Minute readers? Same drill. Email me at [president.ccw@gmail.com](mailto:president.ccw@gmail.com). I'll see if I can get you on the list. To guarantee a premium time slot, send large, unmarked bills.

Until next time ...

Scotty out

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## Poetry Group Is on the Move!

The CCW Poetry Group has changed locations to accommodate more members. Instead of meeting in Moss Landing, the group will now be meeting in Monterey at Peet's Coffee, 560 Munras Ave., on the first Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. beginning in April. If you have questions or need more info, contact: [poetryaptos@gmail.com](mailto:poetryaptos@gmail.com)



**CCW Monthly Meeting:** Tuesday, March 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Center for Spiritual Awakening, 522 Central Ave., Pacific Grove. See above for information on our guest speaker and his topic. Free and open to members and the public.

**Salon:** Sunday, March 22, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the PG Meetinghouse, 599 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove. Share your writing in an informal, supportive atmosphere. Free and open to all members and friends.

**Sat-Chat:** Saturday, March 28, 10:30 to noon at the Seaside library, 550 Harcourt Ave., Seaside. Get together and chat about all things having to do with writing and publication. Free and open to all members.

**"Shut Up and Write":** Saturday, April 5, 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. at Starbucks, 865 Lighthouse Ave. in New Monterey. Led by CCW member Jennifer Schmidt, the idea is to get together and "just write." Free and open to all writers.

**Poetry Group:** Saturday, April 5, 1:00 p.m., at Peet's Coffee, 560 Munras Ave., Monterey. Free and open to all members. Bring a one-

page poem or lyric to share.



## Zero to Bestseller

If you're an indie author like your News Blast editor, you probably find success stories from fellow indie authors either inspiring or intimidating--or a bit of both! UK sci-fi author BA Gillies claims to have gone from zero sales to over 4.2 million Kindle Unlimited page reads in just seven months. Hard to believe, right? He shares how he did it in a guest post on the BookBub blog. Click on the button to check out his strategy for success.

[Zero to Bestseller](#)



## Say Hi to Our New Member!

**Maija Danilova West** lives in Monterey and is the author of *Matriarch Makeover: A 30-Day Invitation*, which she describes as "a daily practice to transform your leadership identity and craft a personalized map grounded in your unique cultural lineages."



### Central Coast Writers

P.O. Box 997  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
United States of America

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