

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

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Take a Look at Our Snazzy New Calwriters.org!

Here at CWC World Headquarters, we've been talking for several years now about the need to re-do the CWC website, calwriters.org, to create a modern, inviting, useful and easy-to-navigate experience for current and prospective members as well as the general literary public. I am thrilled to announce that, thanks to the hard work and design genius of Webmaster John Byrne Barry of the Marin branch, "the new calwriters" has just launched.

We want to include your news! Items that will be posted should be of interest to members of other branches or the general public (conferences, workshops, anthologies) as well as your own branch, or demonstrate how you are fulfilling our mission of educating writers (scholarships, student writing contests, participation in literary festivals, etc.) Sorry, this is not the place to publicize individual members' books or literary services.



To submit items for consideration for the news section, send them to webmaster@calwriters.org and president@calwriters.org.

I'd also like to call your attention to the section Resources for Branches. Our intent is to offer "one stop shopping" for useful items like the CWC logo, minutes of Central Board meetings, our governing documents and the like.

In case you are wondering ... yes, the new site is responsive, meaning it looks great and functions properly whether you're using it on a computer, a tablet, a smart phone, or whatever new gizmo they come up with.

We're "Sailing On" with the CWC Literary Review



The branches have spoken! Your members like receiving a printed, hard copy publication from CWC on an annual basis, and they want to see the tradition of the *Literary Review* continue in some form or another.

At least, that was the impression I came away with after a lengthy and lively discussion at the July 23 Central Board meeting. The exact format may change—CreateSpace, anyone?—but the basic concept remains, a curated collection of the finest examples of our members' work.

The discussion concluded with the formation of a committee of several volunteers from a number of different branches who will be meeting in August, probably via Skype or other electronic means, to hammer out a plan and issue submission guidelines by September 1 on calwriters.org.

Something New from CWC: A Scholarship Program

Exciting news from the July 23 CWC Central Board meeting—we now have a scholarship program in place that any branch may apply for and put to use to help a deserving writer in your community.

Here's how it works: the branch makes contact with the Financial Aid department at a local college of their choosing (as long as it is accredited and in the state of California) and lets them know of your intent to donate a scholarship in the name of branch. The branch needs to be prepared to put up at least \$250 of its own funds. The Central Board will review your program and assuming all is in order, will then match that \$250, resulting in a scholarship worth at least \$500.

CWC's Tri-Valley branch already has a program like this with their local community college, and they report it is easy to administer and has been of tremendous value when it comes to reaching out to younger generations.

For details and the exact wording of the motion, see your branch's Central Board representative.

