



California Writers Club
Central Board Meeting
February 16, 2025
On Zoom
1:30 pm. to 4:00 pm.

Note: Agenda and reports follow the minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. by President Roger Lubeck, who welcomed those attending and issued ground rules for the meeting.

ROLL CALL

President	Roger Lubeck (Redwood)
Berkeley	Bob Haus
Central Coast	Joyce Krieg
Coastal Dunes	Michelle Turner
East Sierra	Donna McCrohan Rosenthal
Fremont	Evelyn LaTorre
High Desert	
Inland Empire	Sam Nichols
Marin	Jean K
Mendocino	
Mt. Diablo	AnneMarie Mazotti Gouveia
Napa Valley Writers	Amber Starfire
North State	Lynn Tosello
Orange County	Mary Vensel White
Redwood Writers	Crissi Langwell

Sacramento	Bernard Wozny
San Fernando Valley	Karen Gorback
San Joaquin Valley	Bill VanPatten
San Francisco Peninsula	Geri Spieler
South Bay Writers	Bill Baldwin
Tri Valley	Jordan Bernal
Writers of Kern	Donna McCrohan Rosenthal (By proxy)

- No guests

We have a quorum.

President Roger Lubeck (Redwood) reminded the central board it is our responsibility to communicate the information from this board meeting to their branch.

Minutes

See the Draft Minutes of the July 28, 2024 meeting sent by Crissi Langwell (secretary, Redwood) for approval.

The following corrections were voiced:

- Member of large - change to "Member at large"

The minutes were approved as reported with correction

Reports

Membership – Sandy Moffett

See Membership Report
(Numbers are at time of report)

New Members: 448
Total: 1971 w/ duals
1895 w/o duals

Financial report / 2024-2025 YTD – William Baldwin / Roger Lubeck

See Financial Report

Income total: \$43,414.28
Expense total: \$23,734.14
Profit & Loss: \$19,680.14
Total: \$157,569.62

The board discussed CWC sponsorships for branch events that appeal to CWC wide. Sponsorships are up to \$250 for approved requests. Sponsorship requests should be sent through the check request form on the CWC website that will go to the treasurer and president.

No changes. All approve.

Treasurer's Report approved.

Cal DOJ – Roger Lubeck

Roger received a letter from the California Department of Justice that the CWC ~~annual tax report statement of current board officers~~ (for nonprofits earning under 50,000 a year) had not been filed for 2020, 2021, and 2022. As such we were not in compliance, and our nonprofit status would be canceled unless we filed and paid \$590 fee and fines. Our accountant had to drive to Sacramento ensure the filings and fines were paid. Steve will be paid for his work to clear this up. We are now in compliance. In the future the CWC president must ensure that a future tax accountant and the treasurer report this in a timely manner to ensure this doesn't happen again.

CWC Member Survey – Roger Lubeck

[See survey here.](#)

Received 587 responses.

Results revealed:

- Bulletin
 - Many interested in it
 - Would like it simpler, fewer pages, streamlined
- Lit Review
 - 8% members want it
 - But only a small percentage actually buy it
 - Issues with quality
 - Issues with diversity
- Vision & Verse
 - 39% would like it to continue
 - Concerns about competing with branches
- Published members
 - Over half the members have published books
 - Many have other types of published works beyond books
 - Poetry, short stories, memoir make up most of non-book publications
 - Only 6% are not published
- Other
 - Craft workshops requested most
 - Branches do more on critique groups and social
 - Diversity
 - Hybrid quality issues
 - More info on editing & self-publishing
 - Book fairs requested
- Over 75% satisfied with branch
- Over 80% satisfied with CWC

A new survey will ask about types of published works.

Discussion

- Suggestion: Include a simplified summary of survey in Bulletin
 - Include PR details to make sharing easier
- Members who unsubscribe are missing out on CWC/branch news
- Percentages are on members who responded

CWC South – Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal

- Website has new essays and poems each month.
- No longer doing Dickens festival
- Mini grants: 3 or 4 branches will do partnerships with local nonprofits and organizations

Nor Cal – RCL - Request from Kim Edwards

- Sacramento's Centennial Celebration
 - Requesting sponsorship
 - Working on budget
 - Statement needed in April Bulletin
 - Happening in California Writers Week

CWC publications – Roger Lubeck

See full details in agenda

Vision & Verse: 217 copies sold (contest brought in most income)

The Smalls: 94 copies sold (loss)

Lit Review: 110 copies sold (contest brought in most income)

V&V II: Art contest has started as of Feb. 15

Discussion

- Consider running a contest before creating publication to help with income
- Small books lower cost of publication
- More push needed by individual branches
 - Share at each meeting, newsletters

Bulletin – Roger Lubeck / Bill VanPatten

Huge thank you to Joyce Krieg for her excellent and details work on The Bulletin over the years. Bill VanPatten is now the new editor of The Bulletin.

Plans for Bulletin (with input form survey)

- Shorter Bulletin (10 pages)
- Streamline look
- 7 recurring sections
 - Presidents message (Roger)
 - From the branches (needs editor)
 - From the CWC (Roger/Crissi)
 - Members highlights
 - Tips, Tidbits & More
 - Featured creative work (needs editor)
 - Featured essay (about writing or profession) (needs editor)
- 3 times a year

- Special edition Bulletin for in-depth reporting on CWC development (i.e. survey)
- Looking for 2-3 associate editors
 - Can be individuals from branch

Discussion

- Bulletin feels like a repeat of branch news
 - Other branches aren't seeing these, so it's okay to repeat in The Bulletin
- Like idea of excerpted pieces with links to longer articles on website
- What is the intent? Appears like an e-magazine.
- Survey reveals what members are hoping to see in The Bulletin

BVP has requested \$200 for newsletter, but is donating back to his branch. Vote not necessary, but board moved to go ahead and vote.

Donna seconded

18 yays

0 nays

1 abstention

Motion approved

Jack London – Jordan Bernal / Roger Lubeck

Jordan got quotes from various hotels in Burlingame. See agenda for full report.

Discussion:

- DoubleTree seems most in line with what we've done in past with Oakland location
- List is of hotels that have enough space for us.
- Ad hoc committee determined the leadership conference and JLA are not a good fit to run together.
- Suggestion to add a keynote speaker to event to give this a special bonus to winners

New Business

Proposed Change to the P&P – Deborah “Jordan” Bernal

Points to know

- Bylaws are to be filed with state
- P&P is more of the housekeeping items that can be voted on by board.
- **Bylaws** must be voted on by mail
 - Discussion: What defines mail?

Deborah “Jordan” Bernal moves that the following changed be considered for the P&Ps:

1. Delete comma and change “and” to “or” after associate, and associate literary...” to be consistent with VI, J).
 - a. BVP seconded
 - b. Discussion:
 - i. Suggestion: Committee needed for updating bylaws
 - ii. Jordan assured that was coming
 - c. **Vote**
 - i. **17 yays**

- ii. **2 nays**
 - iii. **0 abstain**
 - d. **Motion passed to change this wording.**
- 2. Section VI K) Student. Change “ages eight through 22” to “ages 14 through 22”
 - a. Geri seconded
 - b. Discussion
 - i. Suggestion to take out verified full-time student from accredited school
 - 1. This would be considered an amendment
 - ii. Where did age 14 come from
 - 1. High school age
 - iii. Wording about students are not in the bylaws
 - iv. Concern about not including student writers younger than 14 or older than 22
 - v. Bylaws don’t preclude student members
 - vi. How do people deal with offensive material with minors?
 - 1. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by adult
 - c. **Amendment**
 - i. Change to 14 to 22, remove sentence about accredited school, as well as taking out sentence about writer experience:
 - ii. 1) Section VI, K) Student. Change “ages eight through 22” to “ages 14 through 22” ~~& add a sentence about meeting attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.~~ And delete the sentence about accredited school and no experience necessary.
Previous wording: Student memberships are offered to writers from the ages of eight through 22, or any writers who are a verified full-time student at an accredited school. No experience as a writer shall be required. Student members will not be eligible to vote or hold office. (Exceptions may be made by the central board.)
New wording: **Student memberships are offered to writers from the ages of 14 through 22, or any writers who are a verified full-time student at an accredited school. No experience as a writer shall be required. Student members will not be eligible to vote or hold office. Exceptions may be made by the central board. All in-person meeting attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a**
 - iii. Full amended text:
Student memberships are offered to writers from the ages of 14 through 22. Student members will not be eligible to vote or hold office. Exceptions may be made by the central board
 - iv. Seconded by Donna
 - v. Discussion:
 - 1. Get rid of parentheses
 - 2. Seconded by Donna
 - vi. **Vote**
 - 1. **16 yays**
 - 2. **2 nays**
 - 3. **0 abstentions**
 - a. **Note: One person left before vote**
 - vii. **Motion passed to change this wording.**
- 3. Section X, B) 2) a. Change to make the President the executive officer who can be the one from the same branch as VP or Secretary. Add in sentence that clarifies “only one branch member may vote.”
 - a. BVP moved to table motion
 - b. Bill Baldwin seconded
 - c. All approved
 - d. Motion tabled

Nominating Chair – Roger Lubeck

Note: Branches need to start looking for Jack London Awardees

Need chair for CWC board nominations

Adjourn at 4:29 p.m.

Bernard moved to adjourn the meeting

BVP seconded

All approved

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.



California Writers Club
Central Board Meeting
February 16, 2025
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1:30 pm. to 4:00 pm.

AGENDA

- 1:15 Zoom Opens
- 1:30 Welcome—introductions CWC Reps and Visitors
- Opening remarks - meeting process - rules Roger Lubeck
- Minutes Crissi Langwell
- Reports
- Membership Sandy Moffett
- Financial report / 2024-25 Budget YTD William Baldwin / Roger Lubeck
- Cal DOJ Roger Lubeck
- CWC Member Survey Roger Lubeck
- CWC South Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal
- Nor Cal RCL - Request from Kim Edwards
- CWC publications Roger Lubeck
- MRMS Roger Lubeck
- Jack London in October Jordan Bernal/ Roger Lubeck
- Bulletin Roger Lubeck / Bill VanPatten
- 2:45 New Business
- Proposed change to the P & P Deborah 'Jordan' Bernal
- Nominating Chair Roger Lubeck
- Up coming events Roger and Reps
- 4:00 Adjourn Roger Lubeck

Roger Lubeck is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: My Meeting

Time: Feb 16, 2025 01:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7999924459?pwd=bMXXICQNkKPzLeE8crdhZqRnXT0SdU.1&omn=89830005573>

Meeting ID: 799 992 4459

Passcode: CWCBOARD

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,7999924459#,,,,*86012470# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,7999924459#,,,,*86012470# US

Dial by your location

- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 799 992 4459

Passcode: 86012470

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kd344deN4x>

MEMBERSHP

Status	Count	Branch	W/Duals	No Duals
Life	24	Berkeley Branch	72	69
Active	1800	Central Coast Branch	173	171
Associate	23	Coastal Dunes	47	47
Supporting	5	East Sierra Branch	34	34
Student	25	Fremont Branch	47	40
Courtesy	5	High Desert Branch	96	94
Dual	76	Inland Empire Branch	35	35
Emeritus	11	Marin Branch	70	67
Hardship	0	Mendocino Branch	84	82
Honorary	2	Mt. Diablo Branch	137	134
Total	1971	Napa Valley Writers	66	62
		North State Writers	25	24
New Members	448	Orange County Branch	178	177
		Redwood Branch	226	203
		SF-Peninsula Branch	173	157
		Sacramento Branch	165	164
		San Fernando Valley Branch	64	63
		San Joaquin Valley Writers	38	37
		South Bay Writers	101	97
		Tri-Valley Branch	82	80
		Writers Of Kern	58	58
		Total	1971	1895

FINANCIALS

Wells Fargo = Ck126,964.08 CD 25,000.00 = Total 151,964.08

INCOME	2024-2025	1 QT	2QT	3QT	4QT	Total YTD
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Member Dues	40,000.00	1,299.21	29,738.88	6,811.00		37,849.09
Ekphrastic	3,400.00	390.19	49.09	9.55		448.83
Contests	1,500.00		10.00			10.00
Lit Review	800.00	306.57				306.57
Jack London	-					-
Workshop	600.00					-
Interest	1,000.00	246.72	154.11			400.83
Ads	200.00					-
Donations	100.00					-
Other	-	2,500.00	1,898.96			
Taxes	100.00					-
Income Total	47,700.00	4,742.69	31,851.04	6,820.55	-	43,414.28
EXPENSES	2024-2025	1 QT	2QT	3QT	4QT	Total YTD
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Accounting	9,000.00	2,085.00	1,860.00	2,515.00		6,460.00
Website	7,500.00	660.00	448.02	360.00		1,468.02
Insurance	7,000.00	3,905.12	501.29			4,406.41
Jack London						-
Board Functions	2,400.00					-
Travel and Food	600.00	74.84	68.80			143.64
V & V	1,650.00	676.31	724.70			1,401.01
Smalls	-		12.86	12.63		
Nor Cal	2,000.00					-
South CWC	2,000.00	1,500.00	250.00			1,750.00
Branch Conferences	1,000.00					-
Speakers	1,000.00					-
Miscellaneous	1,000.00					-
Taxes (Sales)	800.00					-
Communication	720.00					-
Bulletin	500.00	100.00	100.00	100.00		300.00
Scholarships	500.00					-
Discretionary Fund	500.00					-
Literary Review	553.00	784.15	661.83			1,445.98
Contests	425.00			512.63		512.63
CWC Publications						
Postal and Postage	300.00					-
Office Supplies	250.00					-
CWC Press	300.00			500.00		500.00
Legal Fees	100.00	25.00	703.44			728.44
Other	-	4,592.52				4,592.52
Expense Total	40,098.00	14,402.94	5,330.94	4,000.26	-	23,708.65
Income Total	47,700.00	4,742.69	31,851.04	6,820.55		43,414.28
Expense Total	40,098.00	14,402.94	5,330.94	4,000.26		23,734.14
Profit and Loss	7,602.00	(9,660.25)	26,520.10	2,820.29		19,680.14
Bank Checking opening		107,258.34	97,598.31	124,127.41		
Bank Checking Close		97,598.31	124,127.41	126,911.58		
Bank CD		25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00		
Interest		246.72	154.11	52.50		
Wells Fargo		122,845.03	149,281.52	151,964.08		
Pay Pal		4,135.51	5,605.54	5,605.54		
Total		126,980.54	154,887.06	157,569.62		

BULLETIN

I am pleased to announce that Bill VanPatten, president of the San Joaquin Valley Writers has agreed to take on the role of Editor in Chief for the CWC Bulletin. Bill has reviewed the comments regarding the Bulletin from the member survey in 2024. He and I have had several discussions regarding structure and formatting for the future CWC Bulletin. His plan for the Bulletin will be presented at the Feb 16 CWC board meeting. Bill brings his organizational skills, experience as a newsletter editor, and experience in website design and maintenance to the task. I know that all of us want to thank Joyce Kreig for her exceptional dedication and service to the club in producing the Bulletin.

CWC PRESS – Publications

Vision & Verse: A Fusion of Art, Photography, Prose and Poetry
Copies 217

Income 451.36
Expenses 1401.01



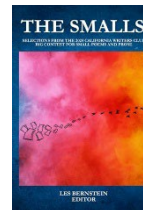
Best of the Best: 2024 Literary Review

Copies 110
Income Book 374.11
Fee income 430
Expense 1445.98



The Smalls: Selections from the 2024 California Writers Club
Big Contest for Small Poems and Prose

Copies 94
Income 347.80
Expense 500.00



Vision & Verse Art Contest

Income 2585.86
Expenses 100

Smalls Contest

Income 1470.19
Expenses 400

CWC JACK LONDON 2019-2023	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
INCOME					
Jack London Meal paid by guests	1190	0	910	0	431
Total Income	1,190.00	-	910.00	-	431.00
EXPENSES					
Meetings					
Board Travel/Lodging	2203	0	296		0
CWC Meeting Facilities		1811	0	956	5093
CWC Meeting Meals		0	0	0	0
Speakers		0	0	0	0
Jack London Travel & Lodging	1725	2089	76	0	5895
Jack London Award	1371	0	7866	408	467
Jack London Room	3761				
Jack London Meals					
Jack London Decorations					
Jack London Refund	70				
Total Expenses	9,130.00	3,900.00	8,238.00	1,364.00	11,455.00
NET (Income - Expenses)	(7,940.00)	(3,900.00)	(7,328.00)	(1,364.00)	(11,024.00)

JLA Ceremony & Central Board Mtg Oct. 19, 2025

	Conference Room (30)	Lunch Room (100+)	Plated Lunch (3)	Full Rest. & Bar	Block of Rooms (10)	Parking	Airport Shuttle	Other	
Hyatt Regency 1-650-347-1234	Bayside \$750.00++	Poolside (see Lunch \$)	\$7,500	Yes		\$20/day	Yes	Contingency: refunded if no	Quote
Embassy Suites 1-650-342-4600	Diplomat \$600.00++	Waterfront \$1200.00++	\$60.00	Yes		Free	Yes		Quote
DoubleTree 1-650-344-5500	Sonoma/Men \$500.00++	Sierra (see Lunch \$)	\$5,000	Yes	\$129.00 ++	Free	Yes		Quote
Crowne Plaza 1-650-342-9200								Left messages 2/4/25, &	
Hilton								talked on 2/7	waiting
Marriott								talked on 2/5	waiting

CWC P&P Proposed Changes Motion Amendment

I, Deborah 'Jordan' Bernal move that the following changes be considered:

- 1) Section VI, A). Delete comma and change “and” to “or” after “associate, and associate literary...” to be consistent with VI, J).
Previous Wording: A) Membership categories are active, emeritus, life, patron, honorary, courtesy, student, associate, and associate literary professionals.
New wording: A) Membership categories are active, emeritus, life, patron, honorary, courtesy, student, associate or associate literary professionals.
- 2) Section VI, K) Student. Change “ages eight through 22” to “ages 14 through 22” ~~& add a sentence about meeting attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.~~
Previous wording: Student memberships are offered to writers from the ages of eight through 22, or any writers who are a verified full-time student at an accredited school. No experience as a writer shall be required. Student members will not be eligible to vote or hold office. (Exceptions may be made by the central board.)
New wording: Student memberships are offered to writers from the ages of 14 through 22, or any writers who are a verified full-time student at an accredited school. No experience as a writer shall be required. Student members will not be eligible to vote or hold office. (Exceptions may be made by the central board.) ~~All in-person meeting attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.~~
- 3) Section X, B) 2) a. Change to make the President the executive officer who can be the one from the same branch as VP or Secretary. Add in sentence that clarifies “only one branch member may vote.” *
Previous wording: Candidates should be from different branches. The candidate for Secretary may come from the same branch as president, provided the board approves.
New wording: Candidates should be from different branches. The candidate for President may come from the same branch as VP or Secretary, provided the board approves. If two members are from the same branch, only one may vote.

*I believe this is the correct way to address the possibility of two executive committee members from the same branch for the following reason:
According to 2023 P&Ps (which Section V has been completely deleted in the 2024 P&Ps, so I can't find another reference to the President not being allowed a vote): V A) 4: The CB President shall act as e-business Presiding Officer (PO) and shall act as or appoint an e-business Moderator.
And: V C) 1) e: Remains neutral in the e-business process and may not participate in discussion or voting; although may encourage participation through means, external to this e-business process.

Respectfully,
Deborah 'Jordan' Bernal

The Mt. Diablo Branch Board of Directors met on 2/7 and is not aligned with this specific proposed change:

- 1) Section X, B) 2) a. Change to make the President the executive officer who can be the one from the same branch as VP or Secretary. Add in sentence that clarifies “only one branch member may vote.” *

Previous wording: Candidates should be from different branches. The candidate for Secretary may come from the same branch as president, provided the board approves.

Our reasons being:

1. Our branch’s steadfast belief is that each elected officer should come from a different branch and the proposed revised change is contrary to that belief.
2. There are inferred inconsistencies between the Bylaws and the proposed revised changes to the P&P.