



## *San Gabriel Writers' League*

# **SIGNAL**

*October 2025*

### *Special Notice*

*Please note our new email address is -*

*[sgwlcontacts@gmail.com](mailto:sgwlcontacts@gmail.com)*

*We simply added an "s" on contact. Any emails sent to the old address are automatically forwarded to the new address. However, please **update your contact list with the new address**. The old email address can be deleted.*

- ***From the Board:** Election of officers for 2026 will take place at our November meeting. The Vice President and Secretary will be elected.
  - *Candidate for VP.- **Kerry and Peter Deshawn**. (They will share VP duties if elected.)*
  - *Candidate for Secretary- **Joyce Munsch** (incumbent)*
  - *If you wish to be included on the ballot for either position, please contact Lisa Greinert, Treasurer at the above address prior to our November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
    - *Candidates may also be nominated from the floor at that meeting.**
  - *All members are encouraged to vote either on Zoom or in person.**

- *Please welcome the following **New Members** for 2025 - 2026*

*Charles & Myrna Ingram*

*Veta Stratmann*

*Marba Wojcicki*

## Shout Outs

We want to acknowledge the submissions and accomplishments of our members. Tell us what's happening in your writing experiences. Submit info by emailing [sgwlcontact@gmail.com](mailto:sgwlcontact@gmail.com). Use the heading of "Shout Outs."

- *Dina Cavazos' poem, "Remembering You," was accepted for the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of "Kindred Characters," published by Lark and Owl in September!*
- *Lance Lemanski's book, "From Shadows to Sunlight," is available in audio format. Lance feels he was incredibly fortunate to have the talented actor and musician James Coyle narrate the book. James's impressive resume includes Broadway, off-Broadway, theater, and TV roles such as *The Sopranos*, *Law & Order*, and *Law & Order: SVU*. Lance stated that, "He (Coyle) did a fantastic job bringing the story to life with his incredible range, tone, and pacing. I was amazed at how different—and alive—it feels when listened to."*

**Note:** Our December meeting will be focused on creating an audiobook.

- *Kent Cummins indicates that there are still a few tickets left for his event, which will announce the release of Kent's latest book, "I Want to be Like Houdini!"*



*One night only · Thursday, October 30, 2025 · Georgetown, Texas*

[\*Buy Tickets Now\*](#)

*IT'S THE MAGIC OF HALLOWEEN, HONORING THE SPIRIT OF HOUDINI*

- *Tarot readings by Saul Ravencraft*
- *Haunted Magic Museum Tour*
- *Amazing Magic Show!*
- *Wine, Cheese, & Snacks*
- *Special Surprises*

*Event Details*

*Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025*

*Time: Doors open at 6:30 PM*

*Venue: Fantastic Magic Center, Georgetown, TX*

*Parking: Free street parking*

*General Admission is \$30*

[\*Buy Tickets Now\*](#)

*Kent Cummins*  
***FANTASTIC MAGIC CENTER***  
*1116 Brendon Lee Lane*  
*Georgetown, TX 78626*



***Note:** Kent is also looking for a few Beta readers. If you are interested, please email [sgwlcontacts@gmail.com](mailto:sgwlcontacts@gmail.com) and we'll put you in touch with Kent.*

**Book Briefs:** Our authors have been busy. If you have recently published a book, please let us know. We'll try to get recognition in our local paper. To do so, we need a short bio and blurb in a .doc document, and both a headshot and cover photo as a .jpg

*New Book by Lance Lemanski*



**American Spitfire.** This historical fiction is inspired by the true story of an American fighter squadron that arrives in Europe, eager to fight, only to discover they don't have any planes to fly. The British government offers them an extraordinary opportunity: to fly the legendary British Spitfires.



**Upcoming Events:** The Jarrell Library will be breaking ground soon on a new library! Look for updates on that. Here's another way to celebrate with our working partner!



# HARVEST

Street Festival and Business Expo



Nov. 15th, 2025

Festival and Music  
11:00-5:00 pm

Kids Activities    Food and Beverages  
Vendors    Raffles    Live Music



113 LIMESTONE TERRACE  
JARRELL, TX



**Vendor  
Registration**

<https://tinyurl.com/35z7dm2s>

- Caryn Hawk, Kerry Deshawn, and Clementine Msengi will present *"The Power of Women's Voices and Their Stories In-Person."*

*Come to the Round Rock Public Library to hear the stories and personal journeys of three new female authors on one panel. While diverse in their backgrounds, they share the common experience of being women in the new millennium and the challenges and triumphs that come along with that status. A former Catholic nun, a Rwandan genocide survivor, and a retired manager and director in the corporate and non-profit sectors - all telling their stories. This is a unique opportunity to hear them read from their books, respond to your questions, and engage in dialog with you and other audience members.*

*Light refreshments will be served.*

*Saturday, November 1, 2025, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM*

*Meeting Room A&B Combo (132 people)*

***Noteworthy Information:*** *From time to time, we receive information on a variety of subjects that may be of interest. Often, the information is quite lengthy. If so, we'll provide a link for those interested. At other times, we may summarize the information and/or provide an attachment for further review. Let us know your thoughts!*

### **Settlement for pirated use of copyrighted books**

*Bartz v. Anthropic* was a landmark copyright class action lawsuit filed by several authors against the artificial intelligence company Anthropic. The plaintiffs alleged that Anthropic illegally used their copyrighted books, sourced from pirate websites, to train its large language model (LLM) Claude. In September, the case ended in a proposed settlement of at least \$1.5 billion.

There now is a database of the books that are eligible for inclusion in the settlement. A website has been created for eligible authors and publishers to submit claims by March 23, 2026. This is one of several sites where you can search for your book by your name or the book title: <https://www.anthropiccopyrightsettlement.com/> You also will be able to file a claim at this site.



**Scam Report from Jane Friedman**, author of the free newsletter, *Electric Speed*, which provides informed and insightful guidance from someone who's been working with writers and publishers for nearly three decades. For more information, visit [www.janefriedman.com](http://www.janefriedman.com)

Recently I had a meeting with an author (I'll call her Kay) who published a business memoir and wants better visibility and book sales. She brought a file folder thick with notes and printouts, and pulled out a reader email she'd saved. It was the type of email most authors love to receive: someone had carefully read her book, summarized the parts that most resonated, then asked open-ended, inquisitive questions about her journey.

Kay held up this email as proof that if she could just get her book into the right channels, or in front of the right people, it would sell and change lives.

I found the email incredibly tidy. And what felt really odd were the questions. I didn't understand why an appreciative reader would ask questions that seemed most appropriate if you were writing a book report or an advertorial.

Right then I searched for the sender's name and immediately found a LinkedIn post from a professional editor warning that a fraudster was impersonating her and trying to scam authors out of money. I showed the post to Kay and told her my theory: someone was using AI to make it sound like they had carefully read the book.

The next day, Kay told me I needed to broadcast a loud warning about scams. So that's what I'm doing. AI has unfortunately accelerated all kinds of writing and publishing scams, plus scammers will impersonate people you know and trust,

## *Next meeting is:*

Our next regular meeting is **November 13**. Please note the date! This is the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** of the month.

*Social Time begins at 6:30. Come early and meet and mingle before the formal meeting begins!*

*If transportation is needed, please contact Ken Stubert  
[sgwlcontacts@gmail.com](mailto:sgwlcontacts@gmail.com)*

**Deborah Raney**

*will present*

### **TRAD AND HYBRID AND INDIE, OH MY!**

*Trad and Hybrid and Indie, Oh My!* The decisions along the road to publication don't have to be as scary as lions and tigers and bears (oh, my!) Here's a look at one author's decision to go hybrid, then indie, after a long traditional career, discussing pros and cons of each valid path, plus top tips for each.

DEBORAH RANEY's first novel, *A Vow to Cherish*, inspired the World Wide Pictures film of the same title and launched Deb's writing career. Forty-plus books later, she is a three-time Christy Award finalist, and her novels have won the ACFW Carol Award, Selah Award, RITA® Award, Foreword Indie Gold, and many others. Deb teaches at writers conferences across the country and served on the executive board of the 2500-member American Christian Fiction Writers organization for almost 18 years. With her husband, Ken Raney, she is a transplant to Southeast Missouri from their native Kansas. A few of her favorite things are: coffee mugs, rainy days, screened porches, empty journals, e-biking, Friday garage sale dates with her husband, houseplants in pretty pots, kaleidoscopes, memories of Paris, guacamole, colored pencils, and her fourteen grandkids in any combination (but especially one-on-one). Visit Deb on the Web at [www.deborahraney.com](http://www.deborahraney.com).

The in-person hybrid meeting is held at the **Community Room in the Parks Administration Building located at 1101 North College Street in Georgetown, Texas.**

*\*Special Note: Zoom links will be sent out to all members between November 5 -9. If you do not receive an email ZOOM invitation by November 10, please send an email to [sgwlcontacts@gmail.com](mailto:sgwlcontacts@gmail.com)*

*Could this be Lance in action?*

