

San Gabriel Writers' League

SIGNAL

April 2026

*The 2026 Writing Contest ends April
30th. That's just a few days away!
Get your story in now!
Details are on our website.*

New Member

Please welcome:

Teri Turicotte

Opportunities

- *Dave Perkins* is looking for Beta Readers. If you are interested, contact him directly or through our email.
- *Interested in being part of a Critique Group?* Contacts can be made through our email. This is a great way to build friendships and strengthen your writing skills.
- *Volunteers* are needed to help coordinate our Zoom meetings. We need a few people to spread out the administration of Zoom at our regular meetings. Some knowledge of Zoom is helpful but not necessary. We can work out the training. Duties would be to start the meeting, mute and unmute speakers, monitor sound level, etc. Help is really needed to spread out the workload and make our meetings smoother, more meaningful, and more enjoyable!

To join, volunteer, or get more information on any of these opportunities, please email sgwlcontacts@gmail.com

Upcoming Events -

- **Georgetown Library, June 7th 1:00 - 3:00**

Part 2 of the series entitled *From Blank Page to Finished Book*, two of our authors will discuss their writing journeys to educate and motivate attendees.

“The Power of Story”

- *Janice Airhart*, writer of memoir and narrative nonfiction, will present perspectives on the shape and significance of story in both fiction and nonfiction. Story is not simply a vehicle for sharing information, but a uniquely powerful tool for engaging imagination and communicating ideas and emotions.
- Sharing a well-crafted story with readers is the ultimate goal for any writer. Airhart has pursued traditional, nontraditional, and independent publication and will describe the advantages and disadvantages of each. Her presentation will also include advice on maximizing content for different markets/publishers and provide tips on choosing editors, graphic designers, and formatters on the way to self-publication.

“From Inspiration to Publication”

- *Gloria Reyes*, will share insights on the evolving landscape of digital media and its impact on young readers. Drawing on her experience as an educator and the author of two children's books, including her latest release, *Rio, Paws of Hope*, she will discuss practical tips for fostering a lifelong passion for reading and the unique advantages of print books in the digital age.
- During her session, Gloria will also share her journey from inspiration and book concept to self-publication, with an emphasis on literacy fundamentals and strategies for filling literacy gaps. Additionally, she will explore how engaging with book characters and events provides young readers with the undeniable benefits of print media.
- Gloria looks forward to sharing her stories, learnings, and experiences with family, friends and other aspiring women authors. Her newest book, *The Neighborhood Critters Show Gratitude* will be out just in time for Christmas.

Subsequent sessions are on September 6 and December 6.

Sessions are open and free to the public. No advance registration is required.

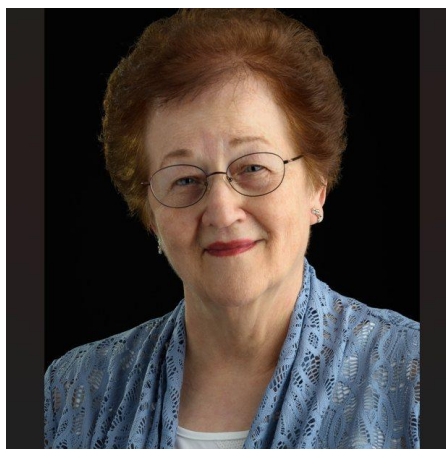
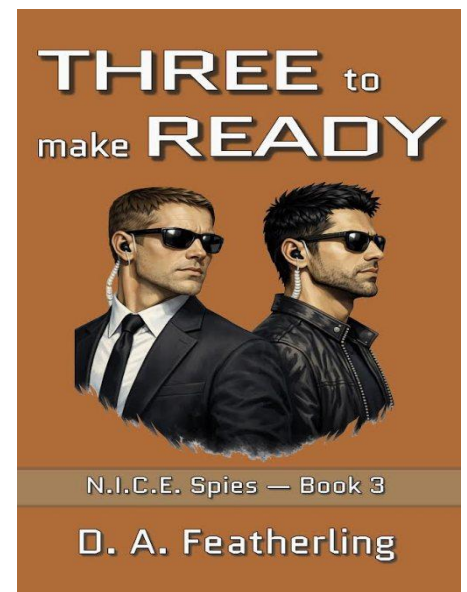
- *Jarrell Library- On May 29th, the Jarrell Library will celebrate with a “BBQ and Bounce Houses for a Building” event. Join us for a day of family fun as we introduce you to our new location! We will also distribute **FREE back-to-school supplies** while supplies last. The event will run from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM.*
- ***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 Dorothy Featherling***

THREE TO MAKE READY – N.I.C.E Spies –Book 3

Book 3 in the N.I.C.E. spies series continues the clean read, humorous adventures of a fascinating cast of characters...both the bad and the good. Will they be able to stop counterfeit money from flooding the USA, along with phony merchandise?

The team continues their investigations, this time into international crime waters. Suspects are limited, but it’s hard to tell who to pursue, especially when you add the man from Hong Kong into the mix.

Join Dan and Khaleed as they enlist the help of team members, current and new. Especially the guy who’s likely a former British agent. Or is he? the crimes. Throw in a little administrative help and the team is off to a promising start as they pursue the trail of stolen jewels.



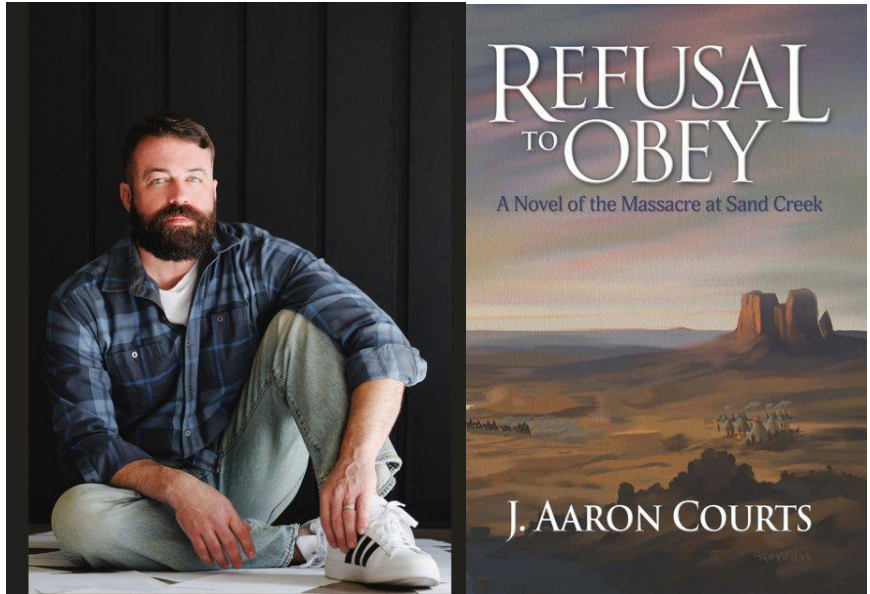
- *New Book by Aaron Courts*

Refusal to Obey

[A Novel of the Massacre at Sand Creek](#)

Winter 1855. It's a hungry, burgeoning nation, and Quinton Stoddard is drawn into hardship and adventure by his only friend, Silas Soule. First as a Jayhawker during the Bleeding Kansas era, and afterwards, as one of Kit Carson's soldiers in the U.S. Army during the Civil War and several of its campaigns to conquer the American Indian.

But when the territorial government and one of her darling commanders, Colonel John Chivington, plot the massacre of hundreds of defenseless Cheyenne and Arapaho at Sand Creek, both men are put in an impossible situation—to follow their orders and commit a massacre or refuse to obey.



AI Update

Jeff Cramp provided the following information that should prove useful to everyone!

I asked Claude AI a question about my father's life. I included his full name, date of birth, place of birth, etc. It replied:

"Alfred A. Cramp is a hypothetical individual who experienced a muscle cramp on May 29th. Muscle cramps are painful, involuntary muscle contractions that can last for seconds or minutes. The exact cause of muscle cramps is not fully understood, but factors like dehydration, muscle fatigue and certain medical conditions can increase the risk. [The Mayo Clinic](#) provides information on diagnosis and treatment of muscle cramps."

Jeff is now searching for this all-important answer! "Does this mean I am also hypothetical?"

Next meeting is:

Our next regular meeting is **May 7th**

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

If transportation is needed, please contact sgwlcontacts@gmail.com

““Hybrid” Meeting*

Thursday, May 7 7:00 – 8:00 P.M.**

Jackie Hunt

will present

“From Toastmaster, to Yoga Instructor, to Blogger, oh my!”

Many things in our lives come together to shape our personalities. The older we get, the more “shaped” we become. Toastmasters is a speaking club. Toastmasters has helped me *shape* ideas and get them across *verbally*. One day, my Toastmasters club challenged me to *write a blog*. What started as a single blog post to fulfill a Toastmasters project has blossomed into a full-scale writer’s website. As for yoga, it’s really just a “speech” set to movement!

Jackie Hunt is a retired chemist who spent 30 years working for the Dow Chemical Company along the Gulf Coast. Five years ago, she moved to Georgetown to, as she puts it, “get away from the hurricanes and mosquitoes.”

Her passions include health, nutrition, and yoga. Jackie’s interest in nutrition began after she was diagnosed with Celiac disease, which led her to take a closer look at food labels and ingredients. Drawing on her background in chemistry, she enjoys exploring and explaining the complexities of diet and nutrition. This led her to begin writing a health blog, which she has maintained for the last 4 or 5 years.

She leads a nutrition club in Sun City and has been an active member of Toastmasters International for about 10 years, where she has developed her public speaking skills and helped others do the same. In retirement, Jackie has also devoted time to becoming a yoga instructor, combining her interests in health and wellness with a desire to serve her community.

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.**

If you do not receive an email ZOOM invitation by May 3rd, please send an email to sgwlcontacts@gmail.com

(Bring a copy of your books, articles, blogs, etc for display to let members know what you write!)