



# INKSLINGER

HIGH DESERT BRANCH CWC

SAIL ON

**SPECIAL EDITION**

Vol. 24, No. 1 – January 2010

## PRESIDENT CAROL EXTENDS CALL FOR MEMBER PARTICIPATION

Hello, Members, and welcome to 2010. The past year of CWC saw tremendous growth as well as great speakers and programs throughout the year. I get excited even thinking about what we have already lined up for your enjoyment and learning in the coming months. We even have people who would like to speak to us and we have to put them on a waiting list. As if that isn't wonderful enough, we have decided to sponsor an all-day writer's conference next fall. Details will be forthcoming in e-mails, newsletters and at meetings so you won't want to miss any of it.

This brings me to the most important part of this message and that is we need more members that want to serve in some capacity. The months will fly by and it will be time for annual election of officers before you can say "Jack Robinson". We don't even want to wait that long, though, as we need what I call "worker bees". We can only be as strong as our least involved members and you really do get out of things what you put into it.

What are some of your special talents to share with CWC? Would you enjoy doing photography? We need help setting up and closing down our meeting room. Maybe you would like to be our branch historian. Do you like to plan meetings? The opportunities expand as your imagination creates ideas. I have seen first hand what great talents and ideas flow among our members. Now is your chance to let those shine and make High Desert CWC better than ever.

This special edition of the *Inkslinger* is coming to you to tell you we have information the Board felt you should know, as indicated in Pres. Carol's message and V-P Bob's call for the special meeting. We will return to the regular edition of the newsletter with the February issue. Thank you. N Ward, Editor

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULED

So many times we leave our meetings wishing we had had more time to socialize and/or really get the message across of what is going on at our very active High Desert Branch of the California Writers Club. We hear it from our members that they'd like to get together more frequently also.

Well now, that is going to happen.

A special meeting is planned for Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 10 a.m. The location is McDonald's on Bear Valley Road just west of Apple Valley Road on the South side of Bear Valley. Bring your appetite. Come early and buy breakfast; come on time and buy lunch. Or just come and join us for a "catch-up" conversation of plans for 2010.

We're inviting every member to participate in this time of communication. We've come a long, long way since January 2009, and we want to share with you what is planned for 2010, and to get your input on how to best get there.

In short, we need help!

We need help at all levels and in any amount you can give. For example, the branch needs those who will periodically volunteer to bring the refreshments (you'll be reimbursed the day of the meeting); we need some who will move the chairs around and help set up the meeting room; we need a photographer, and someone who will write a follow-up article for the *Inkslinger*. We're growing so that we need a historian to remember our history, judges for contests, proofreaders for submissions, people to contact other organizations to publicize our existence, and those who will just raise their hand and say, "Can I help?"

However, this scheduled meeting is not to just beat the drums for labor. We need you to give us your direction—to let us know how we're doing and how we could do it better.

We have some exciting events coming up for the New Year, and plans to make our club even more interesting and informative for writers.

Join us at the Happy Place on January 23<sup>rd</sup>!

■ VP Bob Isbill, HDCWC

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JUST IN!

FLASH!



**Great News!** Even as this special edition is being prepared, information is received that our Board signed for a venue for the First HOWL AT THE MOON WRITERS' CONFERENCE, sponsored by the High Desert Branch of CWC. The one-day conference is slated for September 25, 2010!

More information will be available at our regular meeting, January 9, with planning going full bore at our Membership Meeting, January 23! Be sure these dates are reserved on your CWC calendar.

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIR – COMMITTEE - by Anne Fowler

Membership is the most fun of all the jobs because you get to know all the new people's names and read a little bit about them from their applications. But we need some help in this department. Our membership has quadrupled since this time last year and we need to form a committee to greet both new members and visitors at our monthly meetings. We need people to follow-up with a phone call to visitors and new members to answer their questions and make them feel welcome. And last, but not least, we need experienced writers to mentor our newer members who have questions about the writing process itself. So, come join in. It's the best way to get to know people and feel a real part of the group.

HIGH DESERT CWC NEEDS YOU!!!

### MISSION STATEMENT

**The California Writers Club (CWC) shall foster professionalism in writing, promote networking of writers with the writing community, mentor new writers, and provide literary support for writers and the writing community as is appropriate through education and leadership.**