Newsletter

The Writer's Block

By Sandra D. Simmer

FALL 2025

Dear Readers, to share my creative activities, I usually send my newsletter at the end of the season. But I'm sending the Fall issue in advance in case you want to participate in the many fun October events to be held in Bay Area communities. For those out of the region, my winter issue will include my poetry contributions for everyone to enjoy. Details on page three.

This issue does include my poem from the September 6th Ekphrastic art event sponsored by Suzanne Bruce, Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita in collaboration with the Fairfield - Suisan City Visual Arts Association. They will be offering additional Ekphrastic events this fall. See inside on page two.

Please join me at the Author Showcase at William Welch Wines in Martinez, Ca. on Saturday, October 11th. The main street winery is hosting an event to sip, savor and discover new reads in collaboration with the Ca. Writers' Club–Mt. Diablo chapter. More details inside on page four.

Best wishes for a fun fall and a lovely holiday season.

Sandra D. Simmer

www.sandradsimmer.com

Please visit my website for more information on my creative work

All rights reserved for this newsletter. All poetry and artwork cannot be reproduced in any form without written permission from the author/artists.

© 2025

The Faded Church

The faithful had forgotten the faded church
Once a shining beacon of salvation,
It's light shone across the roads and fields
To call the farmers and laborers to its doors.
Then times changed and the world spun faster.
The country roads gave way to highways,
And the congregation moved away.
The church kept its doors open for a time
But when the last few members grew
Old and grey and no longer could attend.
The doors where closed, the interior gutted,
And the sound of singing was no more.
Still the church building stood its ground,
A reminder to those who happened by
Of a time when religion was a part of
Everyday life and a prayer to God was not archaic.
The faded church holds fast to its foundation,
Determined to weather the storms of troubled times
In hope that members will move home
And return the building to its former glory
That it might again serve a higher purpose
To help the faithful find a better life.

"America"

Ekphrastic Poetry to Art

September Gallery Exhibit

Solano Town Center

Sponsored by

www.fvaa-arts.org

and

Suzanne Bruce

Fairfield Poet

Laureate Emerita

Poem: *The Faded Church*

Poet: Sandra D. Simmer

Art: *Country Church*

Artist: Annie Johnson

Ekphrastic Poetry

Viewing the amazing artwork of the many local artists on exhibit at galleries around the east bay area has been a great source of joy. Then having the opportunity to write poetry inspired by the art makes it really special.

See contacts provided for participation deadlines or for the poetry readings times & locations.

Fall Poetry and Art Events

Benecia Ekphrastic Event at Martinez Main Street Gallery

Reception and Poetry reading 10/12/2025

Contact::poetlaureatebenicia@gmail.com

Fairfield Ekphrastic Event at Solano Town Center Gallery

Reception and Poetry reading 10/18/2025

Contact: fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com

The 39th Annual Emeryville Art Exhibition

Ekphrastic Poetry Reading 10/26/2025

Contact: https://www.emeryarts.org

Coming Event

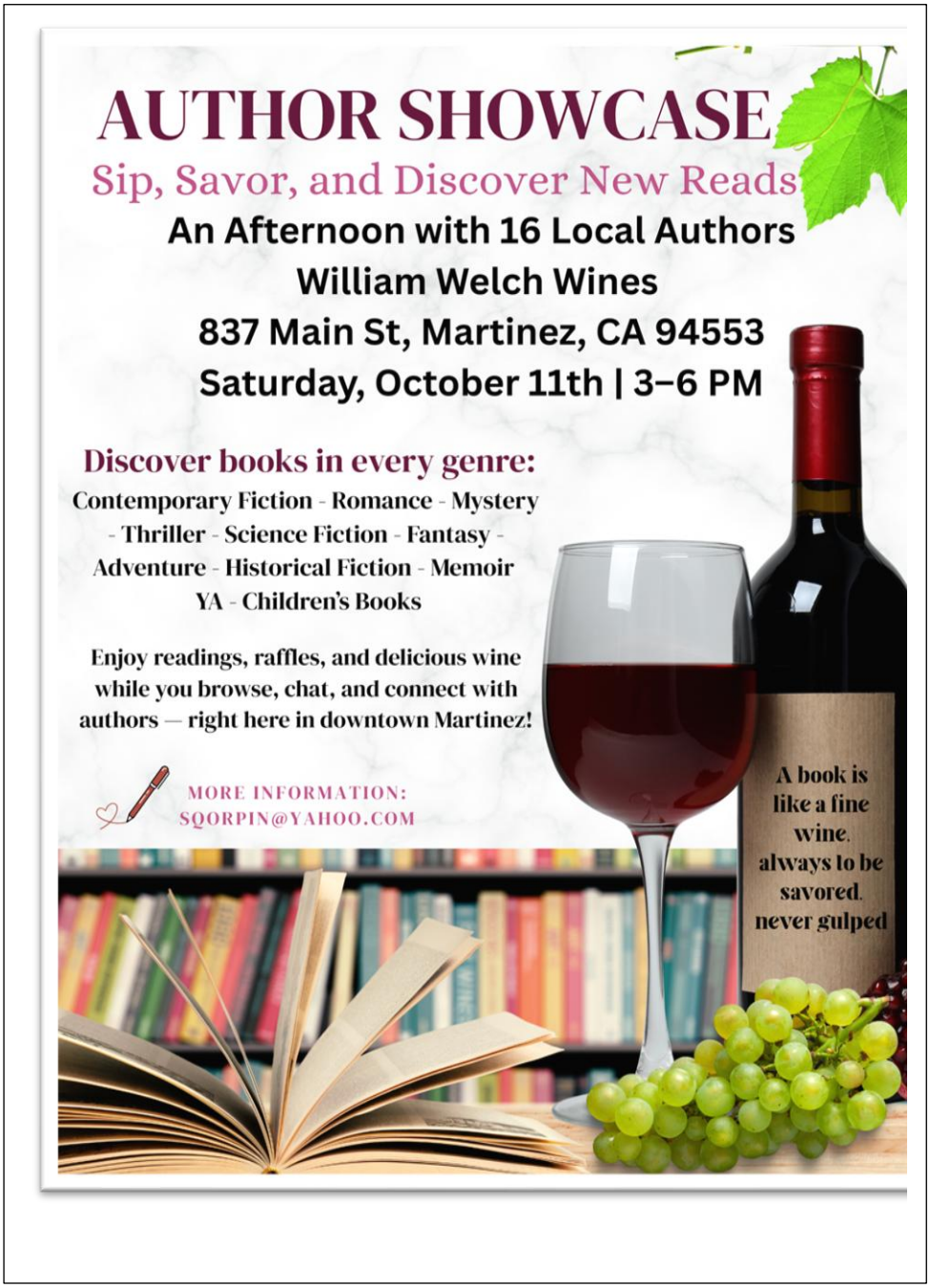
Author Showcase

October 11, 2025

3:00 p.m.– 6:00 p.m.

Please join the Mt. Diablo California Writers' Club members for a literary celebration of books and authors including book discussions, book displays, author interactions and refreshments. I will host a table to feature my science fiction novel and a selection of anthologies including my poems and short stories.

Hope to see you there!



Click link below to view my Book of 42 interview on You Tube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nF76qBHT8kk

Thank you everyone for reading my newsletter. You are welcome to forward it to other interested readers, writers, and artists. To subscribe visit www.sandradsimmer.com

Best wishes to all!