



Established 1933 To Encourage The Craft

*Ventura County Writers Club*  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**“Your Voice: Your Ticket to Publication” is  
the topic for the September meeting of the Ventura County Writers Club**

**Author, editor and writing instructor Shelly Lowenkopf  
will discuss how to develop your own unique voice in your writing**

(Ventura, CA – August 3, 2011) What is it that makes a reader admire a certain poet, novelist, or short story writer? It’s their voice, the way they present their vision, their emotional impact and their story. Their voice is who they are and why they are read and published. At the September 13th meeting of the Ventura County Writers Club (VCWC), this important topic will be discussed by author, consultant and writing instructor Shelly Lowenkopf.

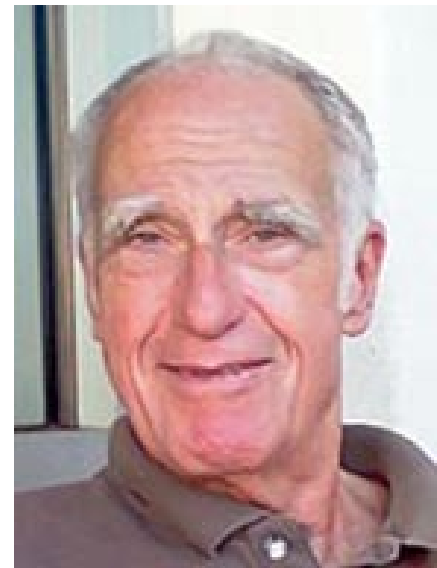
“Virtuoso musicians are recognized by the manner in which they produce tone either through an instrument or in vocal rendition,” Lowenkopf said. “Actors convey voice through their movements, manipulation of time, or projection of attitude. Writers also express voice, which hints at attitude and the degree of emotional involvement with the matter at hand. Voice begins to appear then deepen in a writer in direct proportion to the writer’s honesty in dealing with interests, passions, and philosophy. The writer who has found voice has recognized vital interior forces and concerns.”

Mr. Lowenkopf has worked in editorial positions at such companies as Sherbourne Press, Dell Publishing and Clio Books. He has taught courses in short story, novel, dramatic writing, editing, genre fiction and revision at one of the most prestigious writing programs in the country at the University of Southern California (USC) where he was awarded a Lifetime Teaching Award. Mr. Lowenkopf has also led the nightly Pirate Writing Workshops at the Santa Barbara Writers Conference every year since its inception. In addition, he is a past regional president of the Mystery Writers of America and has been the weekly reviewer for the Montecito Journal since 2005.

Mr. Lowenkopf’s latest book, *The Fiction Writer’s Companion*, scheduled for release in September 2011, is a guide to terms, concepts and forms related to storytelling. Copies of this book will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Prior to Mr. Lowenkopf’s speech, Claudette Young and Audrey Bishop, co-chairs of the VCWC Short Story Contest will make a presentation. There will be a brief ceremony to install the new VCWC officers for the term beginning September first.

The meeting will begin promptly at 7 PM at the club’s new meeting place, the Pleasant Valley Senior Center in Camarillo. The public is welcomed to all meetings, which are free.



## **CALENDAR INFORMATION**

September Meeting of the Ventura County Writers Club

September 13, 7 PM

Pleasant Valley Senior Center,

1605 Burnley St, Camarillo, CA

Guest speakers: Editor Shelly Lowenkopf

Open to Members and non-members. No fee.

For more information on the Ventura County Writers Club, visit: <http://www.venturacountywriters.com/>

### About Ventura County Writers Club

Since its formation in 1933 with four members in Ojai, the club has grown to more than 175 members and holds regular monthly general membership meetings. Members may attend, free of charge, a variety of Writers Workshops, groups that meet one or more times a month throughout the county to read and critique manuscripts and discuss many aspects of the business of writing. Monthly meetings are open to all interested writers and are held the second Tuesday of each month (except December).

For more information, contact: Kathleen Kaiser, 805-524-6970, [Kathleen@KathleenKaiser.com](mailto:Kathleen@KathleenKaiser.com)