



**Naida West**

**NAIDA WEST** holds a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, M.A. from California State University at Sacramento, and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis. A former teacher of sociology and consultant on state environmental matters, she also served on the Board of the San Juan Unified School District in Sacramento County. In 1990 she gave up her other work to become a full time writer.

Naida lives and writes in the California Gold Country on her historic ranch along the Cosumnes River. The place and the artifacts she found there inspired her trilogy. Her award-winning history novels are perennial sellers and required reading in colleges across the U.S. – in literature, creative writing, California history, anthropology, geography, and other subjects. She is a sought-after speaker and storyteller, bringing to life the history of northern California. She has also led many walking tours through the settings of her books. Good book sales have enabled her to establish Bridge House Books, her own publishing company.

Naida is at work on the third historical novel in her California series. She is also writing *Meet the Author*, a humor-tinged account of her publishing and marketing experiences. The first chapter of it will be

provided to workshop participants. For more information on West, please visit [www.bridgehousebooks.com](http://www.bridgehousebooks.com)