



The Founders
Elmer Freeman, 1920-2003
Dan Volmer, Joe Meiners
Chuck O'Connor

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www.spokaneauthors.org

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Our meetings are
the
FIRST THURSDAY
of the month,
September-May.
We meet at 11 am at the
OLD COUNTRY
BUFFET

5504 N. Division,
Spokane WA

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members in January through May of 2007: Pam Albee, JoanDeGroot, Jessica Ferry, Carol McAdams, Janet Nelson, Candace Reyes, Shirley Santana, Carolyn S. Williams, Donald A. Williams, Catherine Willis, Ann Floch, Steven F. Fucile and Claudine Pearson Luppi. It will be a pleasure getting to know all of you.

2007-2008 Speaker Schedule

September 6, 2007: Carrie Stuart-Parks speaks on *Seeking Deception in Language: "Don't lie to Me!"* Carrie is a full time fine and forensic artist. Her misty watercolors grace the walls throughout Coeur d'Alene including every room of the Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene Inn, Kootenai Memorial Hospital, and numerous other corporate and private collections. She is a Signature Member of the Idaho Watercolor Society, the first from North Idaho. Carrie's art work also glares out from wanted posters and the evening news in the form of forensic sketches. She is an award-winning internationally known instructor of forensic art and travels frequently to instruct police officers in this skill.

Carrie is a popular presenter with her topic on recognizing lies and signs of deception and has developed training materials for fraud investigators, law enforcement, and businesses.

She illustrated *Seasons of My Heart*, written by Barbara Peretti and published by J. Countryman, wrote and illustrate *Secrets to Drawing Realistic Faces* for North Light Publishers. With her artist-husband Rick, she completed her third book, *Secrets to Realistic Drawing*, and is working on her next book *Secrets to Drawing Realistic Children*, again for North Light Publishers.

Carrie is using her forensic background to pen a series of mysteries under the expert tutelage of Frank Peretti, the Dean of Christian Fiction.

October 4, 2007: Storyteller Candy Reyes will speak on *Storytelling: Oral and Written*. Candy will talk about how a storyteller will find your written story and prepare it for presentation.

She is a member of the Spokane Storyteller's League. They are a group of people actively engaged in telling stories around the Spokane area. They do not read stories, nor do they memorize them, but learn the stories they like and tell them in their own words.

Candy was born in Colfax, Washington and grew up on a small wheat farm on the west side of Whitman County. She is planning on opening a children's museum in Colfax with a focus on Whitman County. It will be a 3-prong approach: natural history, farming history and Indian history.

November 1, 2007: Linda Bond from Auntie's Bookstore will speaking on *How to Put Your Book on consignment and Book Signings*. Linda Bond is the Consignment Coordinator and Book Club Coordinator at Auntie's Bookstore. She has worked in government, retailing and the music business. She has been at Auntie's for over 5 years, and has held a number of positions with the store, but says managing consignments is one of her favorite responsibilities. Linda will give us an overview of consignments from the book store's perspective, covering suggested do's and don'ts for your prospective placements.

December 6, 2007: Anne Mini, Ph.D. Writer, Editor, Raconteuse and Author of *Family Darkly: Love, Loss, and the Final Passions of Phillip K. Dick* and *The Buddha in the Hot Tub*, will speak on **Avoiding the most common mistakes that get manuscripts rejected, making your manuscript conform to the rules of standard format for fiction and nonfiction and adapting an existing manuscript, synopsis, author bio, etc. to the particular standards of an individual agency.**

By learning to look at a manuscript the way agents and editors are trained to do, you can substantially increase your submission's chances of success. This class will guide participants through the basics of successful manuscript formatting and submission, with particular emphasis on the most common mistakes first-time submitters make.

Writer, editor, and online writing guru Anne Mini specializes in helping other writers refine their work for submission and publication. The youngest child in a family of writers, Anne grew up helping writers smooth their prose and reconfigure their plots; her friendship with a science fiction writer spawned her Zola Award-winning memoir, *Family Darkly: Love, Loss, and the Final Passions of Phillip K. Dick*. She holds an undergraduate degree (magna cum laude) from Harvard/Radcliffe, a master's degree from the University of Chicago, and a doctorate from the University of Washington.

A former intrepid writer/researcher for the *LET'S GO* series of travel guides, Anne has written professionally on everything from fashion to political platforms to wine chemistry. Her most recent projects include *NO FEAR*, a memoir co-written with noted environmental activist Marsha Coleman-Abedayo and a mainstream comic novel about the adult lives of children who grew up on a commune in the Oregon Cascades.

She is currently working on her second novel and, of course, answering aspiring writers' questions daily on the highly popular 'Author! Author!' at www.annemini.com.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The SASP Officers did a great job this past season keeping our organization running, our Website informative, and our meetings interesting. The following have been nominated for next years' officers: David McChesney, Bob Weldin, Bob Manion and Elizabeth Michael. Other nominations will be accepted up until our December meeting, at which time we will have our election. It will be exciting to have new ideas and energy leading SASP.

Authors are encouraged to bring their books to our meetings. We hold a drawing to purchase one of our members' books at each meeting. This is a great way to promote your work and to receive recognition in addition to your book being eligible for the drawings. We then give away the book for the general drawings to paid members. Unpaid members and guest may purchase a drawing ticket for \$1.

Membership dues of \$15 are due in January. To avoid being dropped from our list and Website, mail your renewal to: SASP, P.O. Box 28444, Spokane, WA 99228-8444.

Remember to submit by e-mail your published book, poetry, and music information to barbara@barbaracagle.com. You must be a paid member to promote your work on our site or to be eligible for the drawings.

We want to hear from folks in all facets of writing and art including but not limited to: published and non-published authors, publishers and self-publishers, poets, journalists, editors, writing instructors, illustrators, musicians, song writers, sculptures, painters, writers in progress and anyone else who has an interest in writing. Our meetings are a great place to promote your work and share your experiences with others. You will receive encouragement by your mutual interest and association to continue to become all that you can. Guests are welcome.

Your President, Barbara Cagle

2007-2008 SPEAKER SCHEDULE (continued)

January 3, 2008: Dan and Angela Mortimore will speak on the *History and Services of Mortimore Productions, Focus on Audio*. They will walk you through the steps of audio production, specifically how they produce "books on tape" and present a demo of their work both video and audio to give the you an overall glimpse of what they do.

Dan Mortimore, is a seasoned professional, with 31 years of experience as a producer/director of television, film, commercials, live remotes & broadcasts, a sound & lighting technician, and sound designer. He's well known for his work with advertising agencies in the Northwest.

Angela, Dan's daughter, has grown up in the business with a great talent for producing projects and coordinating talent. Angela's experience includes work as a voice-over talent event coordinator, and freelance audio technician for network & cable shows such as Oprah, Dr. Phil, ESPN, HGTV, and NBC Nightly News.

February 7, 2008: Wendy Carroll, a 26 year veteran of the film industry, will be speaking on *The Nuts and Bolts of Screenwriting* and *Script 1 Screenwriting*. She will be discussing the differences between novels and screenplays, particularly regarding writing style. She also will be addressing issues such as, why some excellent novels either don't succeed as films or are never adapted to film. She will offer an overview of the film industry, the process by which a novel or screenplay makes it to the big screen, and discuss screenwriting contests.

From 1980 to 1993, she was a producer and story analyst at Disney Studios. In response to urging from a befuddled novelist, Wendy began offering seminars and private lessons on the craft of screenwriting since

1994. For five years, she was on the adjunct faculty at Scottsdale Community College in Scottsdale, Arizona teaching beginning and advanced screenwriting, and for three years she operated the *Film in Arizona Screenwriting Competition* for the Arizona Film Commission.

Wendy has been a guest speaker at a number of writers' conferences including the Southwest Writers Conference, Women Writing the West Conference, Romance Writers of America and at several writers' group meetings in Arizona and Idaho. She is also a contributing writer for *Markee Magazine*, a national publication specific to the film industry.

Wendy offers private lessons, group lessons, seminars and story analysis services.

March 6, 2008: Bob Weldin speaks on *Finding Your Niche as a Writer and Speaker*. He will discuss how they are interrelated and how to develop you niche through oral history.

A published author and frequent speaker on mining history, mineral resources, and wilderness areas, Bob has been a lumber jack, rancher and miner. He graduated from the University of Idaho College of Mines and has done post graduate work in geology and related subjects, at Eastern Washington State University and other colleges in the Spokane area. He worked for the U.S. Bureau of Mines as a mining engineer, rising to the position of Chief, Branch of Engineering and Economic Analysis and retired in 1990 as Chief, Branch of Mineral Resource Evaluations.

He was 2005-06 president of the national Mining History Association, is an active member of Toastmasters International with an Advanced Speaking Certificate and is past president of a local chapter. He has been chairman of the Columbia Section, AIME, Society of Mining Engineers and vice-president of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Profession Geologists. He is a certified professional geologist in the State of Idaho. Currently, Bob is writing and speaking on mining history, working on his memoirs and doing research on polar explorers and men in mining.

April 3, 2008 : Lolly Hinz will speak on *Producing a simple cookbook designed for use in a kitchen*.

Lolly Hinz grew up in Richland, Washington, but moved to Spokane in high school. Her mother, Jacky Hertz, was a published author and a long-time member of the Spokane Writer's Club. Lolly learned about writing by proofreading her mother's manuscripts. She continues editing, proofreading, and providing writing suggestions for her writer husband, Mike, who is a member of Spokane Writers and Self-publishers.

For the past thirty years, Lolly has followed a career as a registered nurse. She currently serves as the evening charge nurse for the in-house infirmary at Holy Names Convent.

One of her hobbies is cooking. In addition to many traditional family recipes, over the years she has collected numerous dishes and developed a number of her own. A few years ago, as her recipe file became too unwieldy for a simple box, she decided to create a cookbook to preserve her recipes. She also decided to produce numerous copies so that she could pass family recipes to her two daughters. Requests for copies by others soon resulted in the limited publication of a cookbook.

May 1, 2008: Dr. Joan Quall Becker will speak on *Making Connections; and Her Dream to Bring a Highlight Foundation Workshop Here to Us in Spokane*.

Joan Quall Becker has recently returned to Spokane, her hometown, after graduating from Whitworth College in Speech, doing graduate studies at the University of Washington and spending thirty-three years in Fresno, California where she taught writing, storytelling, creative

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dramatics, and literature at Fresno Pacific University as well as at California State University, Fresno as well as at The University of San Francisco and at a couple of other local community colleges while raising two children.

Joan also wrote children's stories, short stories, and poetry, plus a novel or two. Did she publish them all? No, not yet! But she did learn about agents, authors, and publishers by editing books for others, attending Highlights Foundation's workshops on illustrating in Pennsylvania and spending a week at Chautauqua in New York meeting many of her favorite authors! These journeys, plus a trip to England—where she enjoyed a workshop with Madeleine L'Engle—opened her eyes to the advantage of living in New York and Los Angeles near publishers! But, this is important, her agent came from here originally and worked for Hyperion Press!

She has self-published and has been published, but not widely and not nearly as successfully as J.K. Rowling [who, alas, shares the same first name!]; still she considers herself an aspiring writer who is usually contented and hopeful, always!

Book Reviews:

Stillpoint by Patricia Campbell Kowal

As readers we often prefer a certain author, a certain genre, or a particular theme in our reading. Many of us are loathe to step outside of our preconceived and often narrow range of reading opportunities. As bookstore customers and library browsers, we make many of our decisions based on the cover illustration and title. It is a shame that we do, for often that story that does not appeal to us at first glance can turn out to be an inspiring and tremendous read.

Such is the case with *Stillpoint* by Patricia Campbell Kowal. Because of the title and the cover, my first assumption was that it was probably a little too feminine and a little too self-analytical for my reading tastes. But, having won a copy of it at my second ever SASP meeting, and having had it graciously autographed by the author, I determined that I would read it, and that I would try to keep an open mind as I did so.

Was I ever wrong regarding my first impressions of the story! I found it to be a touching and emotionally moving story, nearly a lifelong "biography" of a very likable, believable, and yet fictional character. The writing itself is clear, concise, and inspiring; qualities that allow the reader to progress steadily through the story without the need to reread or try to guess at the author's meaning and intent. As with all exceptionally well written stories, I found that I lost track of my surroundings and was physically present, perhaps as a silent observer, in the events unfolding on the page.

Stillpoint encompasses Sam Barsby's life, from his childhood in Vermont, through a cross country hobo-like train trip during the Great Depression, his military service in the Pacific during the Second World War, and his migration to Australia. It covers his times of great loss and sadness, as well as his moments of extreme joy and happiness. The story pivots on that instant in Sam's life when, with help of a Native Australian, he gently drives away the despair and agony of his suffering and begins to look forward to a continued existence. This is his *Stillpoint*, that moment when directions change but there is no movement at all. It is a rebirth, a renewal, and following this, Sam eventually returns to his boyhood home for one last visit.

Stillpoint is a very well written, uplifting, and inspirational story. I most strongly urge everyone to read it and to pass it along to others so that they might read it as well.

Reviewed by David A. McChesney

Somewhere Every Day by Verne Patton is a must read volume, filled with food for thought, best taken in small servings. The author has combined his memories and family stories of the Great Depression years with his observations of current day street people into an indictment of a national shame: the ever increasing number of people that our society has thrown away, the homeless.

The main characters in this book are portrayed in a sympathetic and caring manner. Their step by step progress held this reader's interest in a tight grip to the final page. In my opinion, you will be sadder but wiser for having read *Somewhere Every Day*. Bravo, Verne Patton!

Reviewed by Jolene Weller Fehér

Poets Amongst Us

The Final Return

by Molly Saty

Once I knew this whole town,
the people, the parks, the shortcuts.
I was here before streetlights...
today, I hardly found the church.

Inside, a pale boy hands out cards.
Stiff words I'll have to read later.
The pews have shrunk, the wood paled,
the minister reads poems, the survivors names rhyme.

I uncross my legs. I'm wearing too much leather.
I see old friends, but when our eyes meet
theirs are tired from five o'clock milkings.
They smile polite like strangers.

Would the corpse know me now—
or would his eyes stay dead like the rest?
If I stood and called my name
they'd remember...skinny-dipping in the reeds,
blowing dreams through hollow grasses.

At the cemetery...oaks always old, are dying.
Twisted roots heave the ground.

As teens we came on purpose—
saddle shoes scraping gravel in "Rag Mop" time,
doors flung wide on beat up Chevies. Voices shrill
sang songs of love and war...before we'd known either.

But no one would grab me now—
swing my feet over tombstones.
Their arms are brittle, their bodies heavy,
bulky in coarse coats.

They didn't suspect then...I'd return one day,
like an alien gravedigger
and bury them all in the same grave.

2006 AZ State Poetry Contest \$100 Legacy Award

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POETS**Spring at the Old
Summer House***Sue Turner*

The door creaks open
leaks air stained by stale
the wrong scamper here
feisty mice chitter on the floor
a squirrel's fox-hued tail
whiskers circlets at my feet.

I wish these interlopers
into distant homes

I'll re-wind the mobius strip
bring back my missing.

Morning lights a shadow,
a lump of non-lustrous fur,

somber as a bastard child
mourning jumps the bar.

On the Cusp of Sunday*Sue Turner*

Sweet scent of sunlight
dances tango on my hip,
dapples spun by curdled clouds
tattoo my croning feet.

Behind a flimsy veil
Cassandra sings eternity.
I turn my back
glide deeper into dance.

Moonset*Sue Turner*

sweet chinks of time
dark as Pele's tears

drape my night in mabe magic
draw circles over circles

a scatter of mandarin
mantles one obsidian bird,

defying vertigo,
rocking a knot of pine

screens of shadow
haunt the warm black

spread a mojo mood
before it shakes me free

(Moonset was previously
published in T-Zero Writers E-
Zine)

Check List

- Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings
 - Submit your bio for publication on the website
 - Do a review for another member
 - Keep us posted on your accomplishments as we together encourage one another in our publishing endeavors
 - Pay your dues: now only \$15 per calendar year
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