

# SASP

# NEWS

April 2018

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers  
P. O. Box 18573  
Spokane, WA 99228-0573



**Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers (SASP)** began in 1998 when *Chuck O’Conner, Elmer Freeman, Joe Meiners, and Dan Vollmer*, Spokane area authors formed a club in order to share their knowledge and experience with those interested in writing and alternative ways of publishing. Today, SASP is a large non-profit organization dedicated to anyone with interests in any aspect of writing and art. Members now include aspiring (and successful) authors, poets, journalists, illustrators, editors, publishers, printers, writing instructors, and many others. Monthly luncheon meetings provide inspiration and education by way of knowledgeable and entertaining guest speakers, and the cheerful camaraderie of people sharing common interests and goals. Membership is open to all who love writing, art, and interesting people.

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers meets the first Thursday of each month at **Golden Corral**, 7117 N. Division Street, in Spokane

Presentations begin at **2:30 pm**. The room opens at **2:00 pm** so members and guests can dine, visit, join, pay dues, browse, and perhaps buy each other’s books. After short break, members and guests relate their accomplishments, mention upcoming activities, and we draw for door prizes.

Members and guests are requested to buy lunch upon entering the establishment, and to leave an appropriate tip for the waiter/waitress.

Members need to be present to win door prizes.

**Membership benefits** include listing on the SASP website, [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org). Many members provide short biographies and links to external personal websites, creating more marketing exposure. Current members may list and describe their published works on the SASP website and offer their work for sale at meetings. (Be sure to visit the “links” page on our web-site. It will connect you to many interesting on-line locations, including those of many SASP members.)

**Guest speakers** at our monthly meetings inform, inspire, and entertain members and guests with a variety of topics, all designed to provide knowledge pertinent to writing and publishing.

**SASP members** are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works of and with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate examples of their work for use as door

prizes. Those who win other members’ works are expected to provide a review of that work.

**Note:**

SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from our meetings. Please take your name tag with you. It is yours to keep and maintain. Please take any books you have provided for display with SASP. We will provide space for you to display your books, but you must bring them to each meeting.

**SASP now has a dedicated e-mail account. Contact us at:**  
[authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org)

**2018 Officers:**

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| President:         | <b>Esther Hildahl</b><br>mr.inky@yahoo.com     |
| Vice-President:    | <b>Sue Eller</b><br>sue@ellermarketing.net     |
| Secretary:         |  |
| Newsletter Editor: |  |
| Web Master:        | <b>Dave McChesney</b><br>daveeva@comcast.net   |
| Treasurer:         | <b>Kate Poitevin</b><br>kate@murphyscorner.com |
| Public-Relations:  | <b>Beth Camp</b><br>bluebethley@yahoo.com      |

**Advisory Board:**

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Member: | <b>James Parry</b><br>parry9922@q.com        |
| Member: | <b>Bob Weldin</b><br>minersquest@comcast.net |
| Member: | <b>Chuck Lehman</b><br>cmlehman4@yahoo.com   |

**“Like” the SASP Facebook Page:**

[www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679)

**“join” the SASP Facebook Group:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1646364128981815/>

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at the Golden Corral on Spokane's North Division Street. The meeting room is available for dining, conversation, and general socializing at 2:00 pm. Our meeting and scheduled presentation begin at 2:30.

This month fellow Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers members Beth Camp and Wayne Spitzer will talk about their experiences with audio books.

### "Audio Books: Should I or Shouldn't I?"

Spokane Authors meets Thursday, April 5, Golden Corral, 2:00pm

Join SASP members Wayne Kyle Spitzer (filmmaker and writer) and Beth Camp (historical fiction) to learn about the process of turning your published book into an audio book with Amazon's ACX.



Beth has worked as an international banker, an English teacher at the community college level, and, now retired, writes fiction, short stories, and poetry. A love of writing, international travel, and history led her to write historical fiction.

*Standing Stones*, award winner at Pacific Northwest Writers Association's 2010 literary contest, introduces the McDonnell family threatened by eviction in 19<sup>th</sup> Century northern Scotland. The second book, *Years of Stone*, quarter-finalist in 2014's Amazon's Break-through Novel competition, follows Mac McDonnell as he's transported to Van Diemen's Land (present Tasmania, Australia). Beth recently published the third book in this series: *Rivers of Stone*, which is set in the wilderness of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Canada.

Beth lives in Spokane and is happily ready to travel at a moment's notice with her husband (and netbook) to parts unknown. She serves as Public Relations Person for Spokane Authors.

Wayne Kyle Spitzer, who joined Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers a few months ago, is an American author and low-budget horror filmmaker from Spokane, Washington. He is the writer/director of the short horror film, *Shadows in the Garden*, as well as the author of *Flashback*, a SF/horror novel published in 1993. Spitzer's non-genre writing has appeared in *subTerrain Magazine: Strong Words for a Polite Nation* and *Columbia: The Magazine of Northwest History*. His recent fiction includes *The Ferryman Pentalogy*, consisting of *Comes a Ferryman*, *The Tempter and the Taker*, *The Pierced Veil*, *Black Hole*, *White Fountain*, and *To the End of Ursathrax*, as well as *The X-Ray Rider Trilogy* and a screen adaptation of Algernon Blackwood's *The Willows*.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



The other day I received an email from Amazon, telling me that I had sold a book. It informed me when the book was sold, when I would have my payment paid to me, and how much the payment would be. The payment or royalty turned out to be 55¢. But it didn't tell me what book I had sold, which would have been very helpful.

In the past, I always knew when I had sold books and what books they were since I often logged on to CreateSpace to check. After my listed books it would show if I had sold any for the current month and how much I would be paid in royalties.

However, because I haven't sold any books on Amazon the last few months, I neglected to

check the "Dashboard" on CreateSpace as often as I usually do. When I did check, my latest sale wasn't listed because it was sold the end of January and now it was March. So after some time-consuming research on CreateSpace, I finally discovered that it was *Meadow Pond* that I had sold. From now on, I will check at the end of each month to see if any books have been sold during that month.

A couple of my fellow authors mentioned to me that they thought my royalty was too low. When I had sold books before, they were sold in groups of two and three, so naturally my royalty was much higher. After thinking about it, I decided to ask CreateSpace to explain to me why I only received 55¢ for a book that sold for \$6.99. Here's how they explained it:

List price--\$6.99

60% of the list price for expanded distribution--\$4.20

To produce the copy--\$2.24

$\$6.99 - \$4.20 - \$2.24 = \$0.55$ , my royalty

I don't know about you, but I think 60% is a rip off of us poor, hardworking authors. I suggested they lower it to 40% or keep the 60% and do the producing of the book for free. I think they can do better. What do you think?

*Happy writing!*

*Esther*

### FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER



At this point in time, I'm as far along as I

can be in constructing Member Web-Pages. Folks need to renew memberships for 2018 or provide more information to allow me to do more. For those who haven't yet paid for 2018, your names will be removed from the "Members" page on our web-site soon after our April meeting.

As we progress into Spring and Summer, I hope to continue to make changes and improvements to the web-site. Please let me know what you think of my efforts to improve it.

### FROM OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR



### "A Season of Writing?"

What about that blast of snow in the last week of March? What??? I've barely recovered from the annual switch to Daylight Savings Time. Luckily, that unseasonal snow melted by early afternoon. But it made me wonder: "Do changing seasons affect how and what we write?"

**SPRING brings several writing challenges.** April is National Poetry Month. Check out the Academy of American Poets' website <https://www.poets.org/> for reading or writing poetry prompts and join the fun. The A to Z Challenge (<http://www.a-to-zchallenge.com/>), a daily blog post throughout April, is organized around the alphabet, with Sundays off, and currently has some 350 folks

signed up. Many have already announced their theme for the month (for example, 26 memories from last year). I do like the adventure of deciding that morning what to write in response to the letter of the day. In previous years, I have written a poem a day for the entire month, but this year, I'm deep in plotting a new story, so I just might work around that. What would you write about? Consider using <https://750words.com/> if you don't want to post your work on your blog.



*Rhododendrons in the Spring at Manito, Spokane*

**SUMMER's writing challenge** for me is how to write while we're on the road. My current project determines which files get transferred over to my trusty laptop. Where I write can vary from a condo shared with friends, to a series of motel rooms, and, occasionally, a tent. As long as that ole laptop is charged up, and I can find a quiet corner early in the morning, progress is possible. Sometimes, we writers need quiet time to

simply let the story simmer. Nothing like a long hike around a national park to bring different perspectives about story arcs, characters, and conflict.

**FALL:** As those leaves change from green to gold and brown, we wind down from summer vacation. Some of us get the kids ready for school, and some of us face down other life changes. November brings NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month, <https://nanowrimo.org/>), that month-long challenge that asks participants to write a novel of 50,000 words in one month. "Oofta," as my Swedish grandmother used to say. Most Novembers, you'll find me signing up, ready for fast drafting as I attempt to write 1,250 words a day!



*A Fall walk at Finch Arboretum, Spokane*

**WINTER is perhaps the best season** for writing, planning what's next, or evaluating what we've done as we hunker close to a fireplace. Have we met this year's New Year's resolutions for our writing? Consider checking out A Round of Words in 80 Days at <https://aroundofwordsin80days.wordpress.com/blog/> This online community asks us to set measurable goals, report on our progress weekly, and recognize that sometimes, real life gets in the way of our writing goals. What looked so possible in the beginning of the year and those green days of spring may just morph into something new as we realize how close we are to the end of another year.

**WHAT ABOUT YOU?** What is your favorite season for writing? for setting goals? How do you nurture your writing self -- that place you write, the writing goals/challenges you tackle, and how you reward yourself once you reach an important goal? What online or

face-to-face resources do YOU use to inspire your growth as a writer?

May every season be a good one for your writing!

*Beth*

**Beth Camp**

[My writing blog](#)

Historical fiction and more on [Beth's Amazon Author Page](#)

Scottish proverb: "Bend, don't break."

## MARCH's MEETING



CHARLES OLIVER, founder of the Spokane Fiction Writers Group, spoke at Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers' March meeting. Currently with 67 members, SFWG meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 7 to 10pm. Their primary focus is helping members publish their work. At their meetings, they use overhead projectors to show each author's work. It is read aloud by someone other than the author and is then critiqued and discussed. More information is available at <https://www.meetup.com/Spokane-Fiction-Writers-Group/>

To date, SFWG has published three annual anthologies. Charles emphasized having clear submission guidelines to help avoid content issues. For example, they do not publish graphic sex and/or violence. At the same time, their guidelines do not exclude or ban any groups. They use *blind readers* from a 4-person review team to select items for

**SASP NEWS**

publication. Contributing authors agree in writing not publish their work in a different venue for ninety days and receive a free copy of the published anthology. All sales proceeds from the Anthology go to the SFWG. To promote and publicize the anthology, they schedule readings and book signings at local bookstores, as does Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers.

We had several guests, new members, and returning members at our meeting. Among them was, Grant, who had visited us a year or so ago. Another visitor was a guest of his wife. Joining the group was Jodi Mayburry, and returning after a couple of years away was Joyce Wilkens. Welcome and welcome back!

President Esther Hildahl was not feeling well, so in her absence, Vice President Sue Eller led the business meeting. Members approved of Sue Eller, Beth Camp, and Caryl Briscoe-Michas to investigating the hosting a writers' conference with the Spokane Fiction Writers Group, Inland Northwest Writers Guild, and the Idaho Writers League. If the conference goes forward this year, our next SASP Anthology will be postponed to 2019.

Kate Poitevin reported we were down to one printed copy of our anthology, and that we would be ordering another print run via Russ Davis and Gray Dog Press. She also noted a book signing at the Red Lion on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Esther Hildahl will be participating in the Central Valley High School's Craft Fair the weekend of March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. A number of other Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers will join Esther at various times over the weekend.

Beth Camp, Stan Parks, Bob Weldin, and Dave McChesney will read at the Touch Mark senior living facility on Spokane's South Hill at 1 pm on Thursday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Beth also noted the arrival of the print version of her latest book, *Rivers of Stone*, and excitedly held up a copy for all to see.

Dave McChesney announced that Member Web-Pages had been constructed and posted for nearly all members paid for the 2018 membership year. He pointed out that some could be described as bare bones basic as there is very little information available regarding some members. Dave also

suggested that folks who are not paid for 2018 should do so as soon as possible so that they too can have a web-page posted to the SASP web-site.

Door prize winners included Kylea Carter, Steve Webber, Dave McChesney, Bob Manion, and Kathleen Schrum.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup>. Program information will be posted as soon as it is available.

### SASP FINANCIAL STATUS

In February our beginning balance was \$2493.11. We gained \$90.00 in dues from our members, and \$11.13 in sales of our Anthology on Amazon. We spent \$10.00 to provide lunch for our February speaker. Our net worth increased by \$91.13, leaving us with an ending balance of \$2584.24.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) or e-mail [authors@spokaneauthors](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors) to get your event listed.

**For Writers....** (The following information courtesy of Jan Cline)

**Chip MacGregor, Literary Agent:** Half-day seminar in Spokane, April 21, 2018. More details to come, but you won't want to miss the chance to hear him. **(Your editor has been searching for information about this but so far hasn't found anything. If anyone has any details about it, please contact your editor so he can forward to those who might be interested.)**

[James L. Rubart Writing Academy](#) in Chelan, WA, May 3-6, 2018. An intensive 4 day event designed to get you on the path to publication.

[Northwest Christian Writer's Conference](#) in Seattle, June 1-2, 2018, Rachel Hauck, keynote speaker.

[Connecting Writers with Hollywood Conference](#), in Spokane, June 7-9, 2018. Last

year's conference was a hit. Plan to come and broaden your opportunities for your writing.

### SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON & KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are available on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (Contact the editor/web-master at [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) to get your Amazon/Kindle books listed)

To speed your search, add the provided ten digit numerical or alpha-numerical code (ASIN) to: [www\(dot\)amzn\(dot\)com/dp/](http://www(dot)amzn(dot)com/dp/) (You may not need the "www.") For example: [www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332](http://www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332) or: [www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044](http://www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044) (Note: Alpha-numeric ASINs indicate a Kindle™ book. Numeric ASINs are for hard copy editions. Generally, one can find links to alternative editions on the chosen site.)

#### Various SASP members

*Celebrating Spokane Authors: A Collection of Poetry, Essays, and Short Stories* **B077GBTQ67**

#### D. Andrew McChesney:

*Beyond the Ocean's Edge:*  
*A Stone Island Sea Story* **B008TXC332**  
*Sailing Dangerous Waters:*  
*Another Stone Island Sea Story* **B00HF9Y05K**

#### James Parry:

*Book All the Teachers:*  
*An Irreverent Ride through Middle School* **1501042211**

#### Bob Weldin:

*The Dry Diggin's Club* **0578106825**  
*The Adventurists* **153027253X**

#### Sue Eller:

*Return from Armageddon* **B005JVAJKQ**  
*Meadowlark Madness* **B0097D599**  
*Send in the Drones* **Coming Soon!**  
*The Gluten Free Gourmand* **150853134X**  
*Taming of the T-Bird* **1505963982**

**Beth Camp:***The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales***B0090VHKBC***Standing Stones***B00I3RYFW6***Years of Stone***B00LF3FY4S***Rivers of Stone***B077M1TFLP****Kate Poitevin:***Saving Tir Gaeltacht***1503167844**

(This book is currently being reissued as a three volume set. Information will be provided when available.)

**Joyce Caudel:***The Hat Pin Murders***1936178397***The Hat Box Mystery***1481959107***A Hat to Die For***1530028612****Helen Christine (Foster):***Full Disclosure***0990722201***The Lenders***0990722228****Chuck Lehman:***Angels Three Six***B00KMJXQR8***The Big Woods***B007SQ4CTE***Asher***B00HNZ6TTG***Lazarus Arise***B007R0NPW6***The Shepherd***B00HJBN4P6***Rogue 6***B01H7N8G2G***Exposure: A Story of Survival and Intrigue***B01H5W4V64****B. J. Campbell:***Close Calls: True Tales of Cougar Bob***1936178044****Bob Manion:***Santa's Heroes***1936178095***The Tree House***B004IZLHLE***The Tree House (new edition)***1946882003***Springer's Heart***0978850742***Summer Rain***B00ZM3S2IM***Vampire and the Cop***B00ZM4BBOS***Sabrina's Promise***0996864407****Sandra L. Mason:**

(Illustrated by Natalie J. Apodaca)

*N is for Nativity***1517614880****Don Brockett:***Tyrannical Rule of the U. S. Supreme Court***B01GW712VU****Stan Parks:***Jakob's Ladies***1532910762****Tiffani Harvey:***A Journey to Independence***1533499438***Growing Independent***1533499926****Allen Dorfman:***Reaching: A Vietnam War Novel***1500489638****Fred Jessett:***Mountains Melt Away***B00KD5KWIW***My Name is Tamar***B00DH3REWO***Drummer Loves Dancer***B073H2RP7P****Lewis Meline:***Lies Exposed! The Truth about Diets...***0997915501****J. B. Rivard***Illusions of Magic:**Love and Intrigue in 1933 Chicago* **B01EGSC8N8***Illusions of Magic: The Movie* **B0751RL53G****Larry Danek***I'm the Ghost in this Body:**The Nomadic Ghost***B01I0Z500Q***Jed's World***B00MWDJ1YY***Ghostly Reunion:**A Nomadic Ghost Story***B077KHR33M****Diana Wickes***Home is Where the Heart Is***1523381841***Elegy to a Montanan: A widow's Song***1523382414****Andy Brown***Warnings Unheeded:**Twin Tragedies at Fairchild Air Force Base***0997863404****Esther J. Hildahl***Meadow Pond***154244828X***Mr. Inky: Spider with an Attitude***1542451248***Marie's Marvelous Tomato***1548307653****Kathy Rae:***The Jewel of Hope: Book 1:**The Hope Trilogy***1500236578***Ducky Day or Yucky Day...You Choose***154139142X**

*Deprogramming a Bully: Book 1:  
The Barber Chair Series* B06W5NP6Y1

**Margaret Albi Verhoef &  
Rita Gard Seedorf:**  
*Letters from Brackham Wood* B00JEMX656  
*Letters from a Wary Watcher* B01EKOHO2C

**Russell H. Ford**  
*Depop* B019NGA00Q

**Wayne Kyle Spitzer**  
*That Thing We Killed* B076QF8XZY  
*Comes a Ferryman* B074SJF1TJ  
*The Tempter and the Taker* B074SV557F  
*The Pierced Veil* B074STJMGW  
*Black Hole, White Fountain* B074SY83RW  
*To the End of Ursathrax* B074SWXM61  
*X-Ray Rider 1* B0755QN1N6  
*X-Ray Rider 2* B0755PY9NB  
*X-Ray Rider 3* B0755QPM67  
*Algernon Blackwood's "The Willows," a*  
*Scriptment* B07575JDFS  
*Flashback* B07689XLTX  
*Flashback Dawn: "Naaygi"* B07836PYT5  
*Flashback Dawn: The Devil's Snambnala* B078NHDKZN

*Faraway, Nearby* B076PNH7V8  
*Behind a Pale Mask* 1973289415  
*Wet Bark* B077RJ463S  
*Killer in the Looking Glass* B0779DM1QH  
*Lean Season* B074VD53SF  
*How About a Coke and Some Fries?* B077TPR77D  
*Flying the Fog Roads of Cascadia* B077WTSXZN  
*Red Marillion* B077M3ZHWP  
*Coffin Road* B076XQY5FK  
*Napoleon* B076FBPRYV

**Azalea Dabill**  
*Falcon Heart* B00VOEQXIO  
*Falcon Flight* B019YRTIRO  
*Lance & Quill* B010ZD7PVS  
*Path of the Warrior* B00W4JYHL8  
*Falcon's Ode* B075ZZBPKR  
*Nightshade & Knitbone* 1943034109

**Karen Jean Matsko Hood**  
*Blood Heiress* 1592108857  
*Bloom of Autumn Gold* 1592102166

**SASP NEWS**

*Huckleberry Delights* B0045U9U34 1596493852  
*Transracial Adoption* 1594346186  
*Petting Farm Fun* 1594346186  
*Finding Rudolph* B074JZPG9X 1598082957  
*Morning Reflections* B00DH70LVG 1930948557  
(This is a partial list of Karen's books. More will be added with time.)

*Editor's note: Over the years I have often included a book review or two within SASP NEWS to fill out empty pages. In the past, choice of what book review to include was more or less at random. I've now decided to go to the top of the list, which is basically in alphabetical order, and work my way down.*

*If you don't recognize some of the authors or reviewers, the author or at least one of the reviewers is a current or recently current member of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers. Billie Bennett, AKA Banana Grama is a former member of the organization. Colonel Chuck Lehman is a longtime and recently current member.*

Banana Grama's  
**Bible Nobodies Who Were  
Really Somebodies**



Written and Illustrated by Banana  
Grama

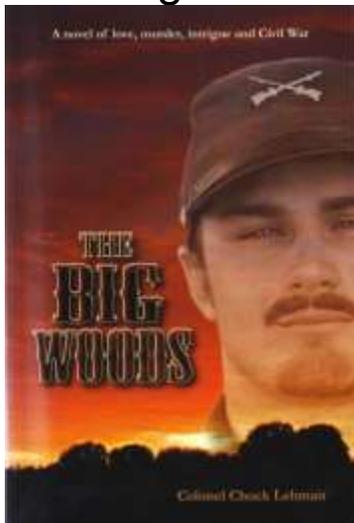
Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

This book is different than your usual Bible stories for children. Instead of only writing about the famous people in the Bible, this author chose to write about those who were considered by their

peers and themselves a nobody but were in reality a somebody for something they did. Take for example, Elisha, who saved a town's water system, or the blind beggar who managed to get his eyesight back by making sure he got the attention of Jesus. Then there was Jubal who made musical instruments to make people happy and Mordecai who gave Queen Esther the courage to talk to her king about a very important matter. Another nobody was the princess with no name who saved baby Moses from being thrown into a river to be eaten by alligators! This is just a few of the nobodies that you can read about.

I think the idea for this book was a clever one, and I enjoyed reading this book and looking at its many colorful illustrations. I recommend *Bible Nobodies Who Were Really Somebodies* for anyone interested in getting children interested in the Bible and Biblical times. Plus, I'm sure it would lead to lots of lively discussions about what makes a person a nobody or a somebody.

## The Big Woods



Colonel Chuck Lehman

Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Based on a true story, *The Big Woods* is a very exciting historical novel that tells the story of a young man's life and problems and adventures around and during the Civil War. It's also about his love of a young woman and

all the problems she goes through to help her young soldier.

It's a real page turner that keeps you reading and not wanting to stop. The adventures and life changing times keep the excitement going and really makes you aware of the hard times people went through back in the early and mid 1800s.

Lehman is a very good writer and, as with his other books, *The Big Woods* is an enjoyable story that does not disappoint.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Once while out to dinner with relatives, I found that they had all read the book *The Big Woods*. While I listened to their lively discussion about why they enjoyed this book so much, I decided that maybe it was time for me to read it, too. When I did, I discovered that everyone was right. It is a great book!

I liked the fact the book was based on real people and true events. It's a love story between Willie Meyer and Louisa Kiekenapp (the author's great-grandparents) who lived in Southern Minnesota near the Big Woods. And it's the story of their separation for many years when Willie goes off to fight in two wars-- the Indian Wars, where he finds himself fighting against his two Sioux Indian friends, and then the Civil War.

It's also about the murder of Willie's father who disappeared in the Big Woods when Willie was sixteen years old. Being the oldest of six children, he was now the head of his family. His many responsibilities included building a permanent log home for his mother, sisters, and brothers. And finally, many years later, it's about the clever way Willie goes about figuring out how his father died, and eventually, discovering who killed him.

*The Big Woods* is an interesting and well-written book. If you like romance, history, a good murder mystery, or you just want to learn how to build a log house--then this book is for you!