



SASP

NEWS

April 2022

**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 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 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 must be present to win.

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

**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. (Visit the “members” page on our web-site to connect with members’ web-pages. Our “links” page connects to interesting on-line locations, including those of many SASP members.)

**Guest speakers** inform, inspire, and entertain with a variety of topics designed to provide knowledge about writing and publishing.

**SASP members** are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works of and with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate copies of their work as door prizes. Winners of others’ work are expected to provide a review.

**Note:** SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from meetings. Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. We provide space to display your books, but you must bring them to each meeting.

**Submission Deadline:** Items to be included in the next edition of SASP NEWS must be received by the editor a week prior to the next scheduled meeting. **(April 28th for the May 2022 issue.)**

## 2022 Officers:

**President:** *Sue Eller*  
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(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

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**Treasurer:**  
**Newsletter Editor:**  
**Web Master:** *Dave McChesney*  
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(509) 768-6178 (c)

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(509) 299-7802 cmlehman4@yahoo.com

**Member:** *Esther Hildahl*  
mr.inky@yahoo.com

**Member:** *Bob Weldin*  
(509) 327-2897 minersquest@comcast.net

**“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/>

**“Follow” us on Twitter:**  
<https://twitter.com/AndAuthors>

**Contact us at:** [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org)

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

We are scheduled to meet at 2 pm. on Thursday, April 7th at the Golden Corral on N. Division Street. Our speaker for March will be: Khaliela Wright, who earned her master's in economics from Washington State University. In 2016, she founded the Palouse Writers Guild, a non-profit service organization whose goals are bringing professional development to authors, championing indie book sales, and helping self-publishers navigate the business side of writing. Combining her love of books and business, she founded Hart & Hind Publishing Company in 2021.

When not immersed in business and economic statistics for work, she writes feature articles and columns as a freelancer. Khaliela lives in rural Idaho and delights in being anything but the quintessential small-town girl. And, like many other people with too much time on their hands, she is also working on a novel.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT Marketing for Dummies like Me



It's springtime in the Lilac City, and soon we can look forward to Easter and the Lilac Parade. As I promised last month, here are some of my thoughts on marketing.

The arena of marketing your books is a broad subject, but the fact is that no matter how you publish, selling your masterpiece is up to you.

My focus has been mainly on local sales. I use Gray Dog Press to print copies of my books, and I sell them at a profit through book signings (I miss Hastings for that, but

other bookstores will sometimes take books on consignment and schedule signings for you), craft fairs, and any other sales venues I can find.

I also market internationally through Amazon/KDP, which saves me the printing costs. They charge a fee to host your book on their website and handle the financial transactions, but I don't have to spend any money upfront, so it's worth it to be one author in millions. Amazon also provides an author page for you free of charge, where you can link your book titles and your blog posts (at least Word Press does that, and maybe other blog sites as well.) On my to-do list is updating my Amazon author page. Also, book descriptions, keywords, and categories can be changed from time to time to attract new users. Revising those details can be done without taking your book off the market while they approve changes.

Name recognition is another important tool you can use. I hand out business cards wherever I go, letting people know that I write books. Several of our members always have copies of their books in their cars and can sell one whenever they talk to someone interested.

I have taken my books to several local library outlets. The first two Emily Trace mysteries are available at the Spokane City and County Libraries. I donated them, and the libraries had someone read them to approve for quality that met their standards. You might think that would take away from local sales, but I believe it has helped. I also donated a few copies to other libraries, including the Little Library system. My granddaughter took a couple of my books to her middle school, and they put them in the school library.

There are probably many other ways to do your marketing. One more outlet available is the two radio hosts who are always looking



for guests on their shows. They are both affiliated with KYRS, and one of them is our friend Stephen Pitters, who has had several of our members as guests on his radio show and other events he has hosted.

You can also search the internet for information and ideas on marketing. Beware of those who charge money. Some are legitimate; some are scams. Joanna Penn is a blogger who has loads of free information. She is internationally known for her blogs and podcasts. She also offers courses in various writing subject areas. Another writer whose blog I follow is K. M. Weiland. Her website is [www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com](http://www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com), and I have picked up many helpful tips from her. Finally, a good resource for marketing is Reedsy.

Please have a good rest of March and hope it goes out like a lamb. See you at the April meeting.

*Sue Eller*

## **FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER**

I guess that lack of ambition and inability to concentrate on anything I mentioned last month is still with me. I am on time for compiling and sending out the April Edition of SASP NEWS, but there were a couple of things relating to the web-site I did not get to as I would have liked. Maybe the advent of spring and the continuing downward trend of the pandemic will snap me out of it. Additionally, I hated to miss our last meeting, but I did not feel well at all that morning and a couple hours before decided I wouldn't be up to attending. I look forward to being at our April meeting.

Following our April meeting we will be making adjustments to the "Members" list on our web-site. Those who are not paid members, not paid for 2022 will be removed from that list. If you are not on that list, there is no way anyone can link to and view your Member Web-Page. For those who haven't been paid members since 2019, you will soon

be removed completely from our roster and will no longer receive copies of our newsletter. We will also remove your books from the list of member's books on Amazon.

Personal note, please renew or rejoin. It's a lot less work for yours truly to update memberships than it is to remove them.

You can bring cash, check, or a money order to a meeting or mail a check or money order for \$15.00 to:

**Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers  
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Spokane, WA 99228-0573**

I check the mail weekly, and if we receive any dues payments, I take those payments directly to our financial institution for deposit. I also try to notify anyone who pays that the dues payment has been received... usually by way of e-mail.

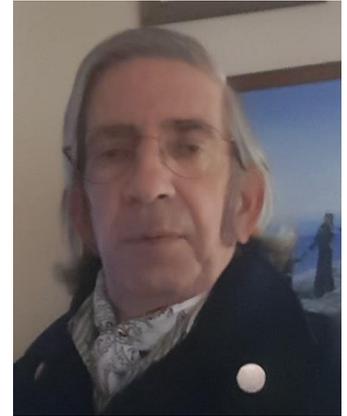
*Dave Miller*

## **OUR MARCH MEETING**

Unfortunately, both of our members who would normally record meeting events were unable to attend our March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Therefore, details related here are somewhat sketchy.

Our speaker was Wayne Kyle Spitzer, a local author and producer of low budget horror films. He (presumably) announced the first issue of Dark Horses: The Magazine of Weird Fiction for some time in March.

Rumor has it his presentation was informative, entertaining, and well received. Rumor also has it that the presentation was recorded, and when available, a link will be provided.



## MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

1. Name and photo/headshot
2. Brief biography
3. Links to web-site, blog, or other on-line locations.
4. Information about any books published.
  - a. Book cover shot/thumbnaill
  - b. Brief description/blurb/reviews
  - c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other
  - d. Locations where available.
5. Send as much information as possible to:

[daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net),  
[authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org), or

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers  
P. O. Box 18573

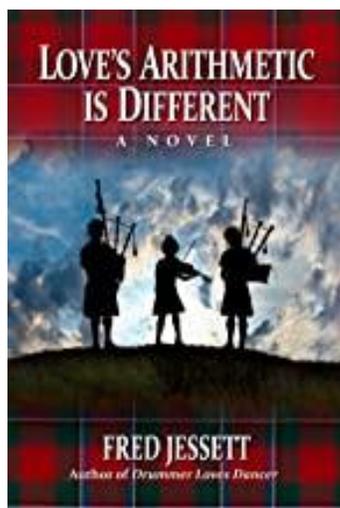
Spokane, WA 99228-0573

Check out other member web-pages at [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org). Click on the "Members" button and then on the member's page you wish to view.

Contact your web-master if your page needs to be updated or corrected

## A NEW BOOK

... from fellow SASP Member Fred Jessett. It's available on Amazon/Kindle, with ASIN **B09BYPQRGW** for paperback and ASIN **B09BXWNJG7** for the Kindle edition.



The summer Lad MacAdam fell in love with a beautiful, talented, sophisticated dancer from New York, he had no idea it would change his life in ways he never imagined. He almost lost her twice and then believed they would be together forever. But she had secrets and he discovered the power of real

love beyond falling in love. Both their lives became amazing stories of that real love.

Love stories don't always end the way we want them to. Some end happily, some not so much. Some just end differently than we expected. And some don't ever end. Sometimes we find someone, sometimes someone finds us. Sometimes we find love, sometimes love finds us.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tiffani Harvey will be at the Spring Vendor Fair at the Sinto Senior Center on Friday and Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

Esther and Bob Hildahl, along with Dave McChesney will be at North Town Mall on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Tiffani Harvey (and possibly other SASP members) will be at the Rogers High School Craft Fair on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We print short parts of the list on a rotating basis. The complete, and hopefully up to date list is available on the web-site, under "NEWS")

(Contact the editor/web-master at [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) or at [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org) 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/)  
Example: [www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332](http://www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332)  
or: [www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044](http://www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044)

If you are overseas or shop in a different Amazon Marketplace, the URL will be as required for that location, but the ASINs, the number provided here will remain the same.

## Russell H. Ford

Depop  
Re-Ring

B019NGA00Q 159849175X  
B011RW4XVY

## Wayne Kyle Spitzer (Our March Speaker)

*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

B07689LTX

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

943034109

## Karen Jean Matsko Hood

*Blood Heiress*

1592108857

*Bloom of Autumn Gold*

1592102166

*Huckleberry Delights* B0045U9U34

1596493852

*Transracial Adoption*

1594346690

*Transracial Adoption Guide*

1594346704

*Petting Farm Fun*

B00H5X0Y2E 1594346186

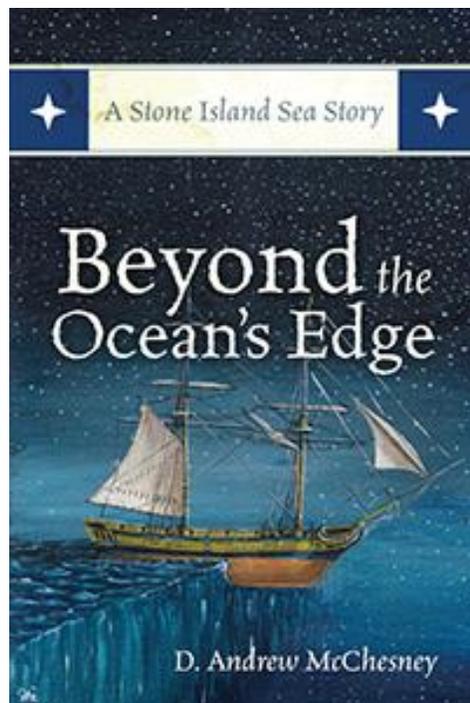
*Finding Rudolph*

B074JZPG9X 1598082957

*Morning Reflections*

B00DH70LVG 1930948557

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



Reviewed by James Bartlett Parry

I had never been a fan of books on naval history nor of fantasy... until now. D. Andrew McChesney has made me a believer. *Beyond the Ocean's Edge* is an extremely well-written, fascinating tale about the good ship, *Island Expedition*, its captain, Edward Pierce, and their amazing adventures. This book, my friend, is the work of a professional author – as if Tolkien and Michener had collaborated. McChesney has excellent command of the English language and takes you on an adventure that you'll have a tough time pulling away from. It has just the right amount – and at the right times – of excitement. It's beautifully paced writing. And he does what all good fantasy writers do: He makes the unbelievable, believable.

*Beyond the Ocean's Edge* is set at the beginning of the nineteenth century just after England and France have agreed to an uneasy peace. Pierce and company set sail toward an island that does not appear on any map; it is found only in legend. They overcome many obstacles, including a ferocious sea battle, as

they zigzag their way there. And I'd best not give away any additional parts of the story.

I was all geared-up for a fantastic ending that would blow me away, but then I remembered that this book is Part I of the *Stone Island Sea Stories*, so I'll have to wait till I've finished the last in the series for that fantastic ending. But his writing has left me wanting more. I'm very anxious for that second book to appear. And the third.

If you like a well-written naval history with cannon fire and a little fantasy thrown in, you're gonna love *Beyond the Ocean's Edge* (and, I'm sure, the entire series).

Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

*Beyond the Ocean's Edge* is a very exciting sea story that takes place around the 1800s. It's about Edward Pierce, a young British Navy Lieutenant, who is given command of a sailing vessel to go in search of a legendary island.

He and his crew have many adventures trying to find this island and their lives change dramatically along the way.

*Beyond the Ocean's Edge* is so well written by McChesney that it keeps you wanting to read every chance you get. As I finished the book, it left me with one question-- "When is the sequel coming out?"

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

Mr. McChesney has a talent for putting his reader in the moment. From the first pages that put me in the middle of a battle at sea, I felt like I was part of the tale.

Written with a mix of action and character development, the story moves along and makes it hard to put down. I loved, or hated, his characters and my heart pounded as they fought their way through storms and skirmishes. It melted at interjections of romance and tapped away in excitement as they found a new world.

The end leaves you wanting more and luckily I have the second book and was able to read on. I would suggest that anyone who purchases *Beyond the Ocean's Edge* should go ahead and get *Sailing Dangerous Waters* so you don't have to wait for shipping time.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

McChesney instantaneously transports the reader back in space and time to the deck of the *Theadora* in the year 1802. She is a British sailing ship about to do battle with the French, and hero Edward Pierce leads a boarding crew to victory. McChesney's use of nautical terms soon creeps into your own vocabulary, and his descriptions can draw you into the belief that you can smell the salt air and feel the ship roll with the waves beneath your feet. Then the real story begins. After a short stint on land, newly commissioned Captain Pierce and his fine crew set off with a group of would-be colonists in search of the uncharted Stone Island. The quest takes them further from home than they could have imagined, and Pierce even more distant from Evangeline, the woman he loves. The first of a series, *Beyond The Ocean's Edge* will sail you beyond the charted seas and into a fantastic adventure.

Reviewed by Beth Camp

*Beyond the Ocean's Edge* effectively recreates that time in the early 19th Century when Britain ruled the seas. McChesney's seamanship shows through with impeccable knowledge of the daily routines of men at sea, the storms, the battles, and the very rigid class boundaries that separated everyday sailors from officers.

We follow Edward Pierce, at first a third lieutenant of humble beginnings, as he seeks to improve his skills and as he searches for his brothers who had earlier been impressed into service. Throughout the first half of the book, Pierce seems balanced between two possible worlds, the life at sea and the life on land.

Those two worlds become more tangible (and more fantastic) in the second half of the book. At the end of the Napoleonic War when many sailors were dismissed from service, Pierce has an amazing opportunity to sail a new ship to a mysterious island far from all he knows – except that the voyage will take him back to his first love, the sea.

Pierce's integrity and inner conflicts, his doubts and hopes, his yearning for a relationship, even scenes that reveal him as demanding and irascible, add depth to his quest as he confronts very different cultures and becomes a well-respected commanding officer. A rewarding read well-grounded in history that will require Book 2 to fully resolve the issues raised in Book 1.

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



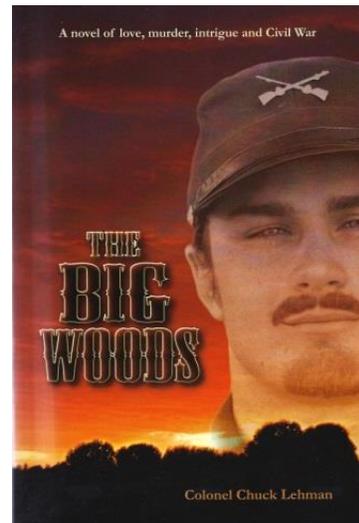
Written and Illustrated by Banana Grama

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.



By Col. 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.

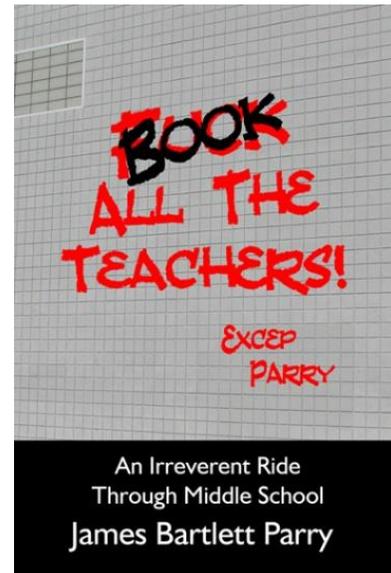
Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

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!



Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

James Parry spent the majority of his career in education teaching middle school students in Spokane, Washington. The fact that he survived and was able to write about his experiences is testament to his fortitude. From the obviously manufactured page of "blurbs" concerning the book, i.e., "Steinbeck, Hemingway, Faulkner, and, now, Parry. A remarkable book: dazzling. James Parry is a treasure. (Signed) James Parry, Author," and, "This book better sell after all the time you've spent on it. (Signed) Lynda Parry, Author's Wife," one is immersed in the hilarity and hijinks that is middle school. Even the title, *Book All the Teachers* was inspired by a true incident. Mr. Parry arrived a school one morning to find that someone had spray painted, "(Expletive Deleted) All the Teacher Excep Parry" on the wall. As it would be sometime before a pressure washer could be obtained to remove the offending language, the custodian used his own spray paint to change the obscenity to "book."

While *Book All the Teachers* is an over the top hilarious look at Middle School, it is also the story of one man's dedication to making a difference in the lives of his students. That dedication never faltered during the entire span of James Parry's teaching career. A *must*

read for those who taught, attended, or want to know the truth about middle school life.

*Book All the Teachers*, ISBN 978-1-936178-00-1, was published by Gray Dog Press, and lists for \$14.95. It is available through Gray Dog Press ([www.graydogpress.com](http://www.graydogpress.com)), Spokane area book stores, and at ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)).

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

*Book All The Teachers!* is a true, educational, often humorous story that depicts the ups and downs of all those involved in a certain middle school in Spokane, Washington. It's told by the author whose teaching career spanned 35 years, including five spent tutoring kids that had been suspended or expelled from school.

As a former teacher, I really enjoyed reading this book; wondering about the title and having it humorously explained in chapter one; reading the creative front pages "Here's what they're saying about *Book All The Teachers!*" written by the author, his friends??, and his wife--very funny stuff; and the "Warning" page--again, very funny.

Parry is a gifted writer who knows how to bring his characters and settings to life. This story is well constructed, fast paced, and a real page turner.

Everybody who cares or has ever had an opinion on our school system or its teachers must read *Book All The Teachers!* to truly understand what it's really like to be on the "ground" level of teaching in a middle school.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

Parry gives the reader an insider's look at life as a middle school teacher, and it's not what you might expect. Any teacher who can spend 30 years trying to implant information in the brains of children who have the mistaken idea they are adults and already know it all, deserves a medal or a complimentary stay at Eastern State Mental Hospital, or both. Parry got neither, but he did get to know that he impacted the lives of at least a few of his

students in a positive way. I think I would have liked to have had Parry as a teacher. Who knows? I might have even developed an interest in history. Excellent autobiography.

Available at Gray Dog Press or at local Spokane book stores.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

I thoroughly enjoyed *Book All the Teachers!* Mr. Parry has given us a window into the world of teachers. When I was in middle school, teachers were mysterious beings that must have lived at the school, and it never occurred to me that they had a life that didn't revolve around us. I would walk slowly past the teacher's room, hoping to catch a glimpse of what went on in there. After all these years, I finally know. I never would have believed it then.

I laughed all the way through the book, but there were also sad moments about the struggles of some of his students in their home lives. I was glad that the book followed Daniel and Holly to a satisfying conclusion, as I had become invested in their lives.

I only wish that Mr. Parry had been my grandchildren's teacher, the youngest starts middle school this year. I wish he had been my children's teacher. Really, if he weren't too young, I'd wish he'd been **my** teacher!