



SASP

NEWS

Our April 2020 meeting has
been **CANCELLED!**

April 2020

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. 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. Please take books you provide for display. We provide space for displaying 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. **(March 26th for the April 2020 issue.)**

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“Like” the SASP Facebook Page:
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

OUR NEXT MEETING!

Due to the Corona Virus/Covid 19 Pandemic, we have cancelled our April 2 meeting. With the State's latest "Stay Home" order, a meeting such as ours would be against the rules, and with restaurants and other establishments closed, we probably would not have a place to meet anyway.

We are taking a look at meeting on line, and if the shutdown continues, we will consider that for May.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

To continue our discussion regarding the Golden Corral's remodeling project: It just ran through my mind (And it's an easy, straightforward run since there's nothing in there to block its path.)



that the Golden Corral could not have picked a worse time to close for remodeling, especially since their two-week estimate has now turned into two months – because the coronavirus will now extend their closure for who knows how long. If

they had only waited two months longer, the two shutdowns would have coincided. But, then, who could have predicted this strange turn of events?

The only good news coming out of this pandemic is: It gives us lots of time to WRITE as we shelter in place, so I expect to see a ginormous amount of excellent writing the next time we meet – in June? Tangentially, it seems to have slowed us down a bit so that we're better able to concentrate on and appreciate the more subtle yet more important things in life - such as friends and family.

Stay well my friends,

Jim

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

I imagine most of you are tired of me nagging everyone about paying dues or providing input for the web-site or the newsletter. So I'll take a break from doing so this time. Instead, I'll pass along my hopes that you and yours are doing well in these unusual times. I hope you are all able to cope with the social distancing, the self-isolation, and the fact that life is very different than we are used to. I also hope we all find a bit of time to write, and to read. I believe either would be therapeutic in light of the current situation.



Dave McChesney

OUR MARCH 2020 MEETING

(Compiled by Linda Sonntag-Noble and Dave McChesney)

Still waiting for renovations at Golden Corral to be completed, Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers met on March 5th at Perkins Restaurant near down town Spokane. Our guest speaker for the day, Michael Murray, writes fiction, non-fiction, coaches high school drama students, and was a lead singer and guitarist for many years. (Here's a link to a video of his presentation: <https://youtu.be/GvD2bRQLwS4>)

He opened by asking what our frustrations as writers are and tied those answers to what readers, our audience, are looking for. If we find a way to meet our readers' needs, we will connect with them and

keep them interested and invested in our story.

When we use *marketing thinking*, he said, we connect with people who expect certain things from us. It's important to get feedback from readers to help us grow. People who critique needs to be literate and have core values based on their life shaping experiences. Readers want to be connected to your story, and if they give constructive criticism, it's important not to be defensive but to get readers to elaborate and help us to improve our writing skills.

For most readers, characters are usually the favorite part of any story. One technique to develop characters is to imagine conversations with them. Picture yourself taking a character for coffee. Whenever a big event happens in the story, you can capture, even journal about, the feelings of those experiencing that event and incorporate their reaction into your story.

Sue Eller announced that Kate Poitevin, M. J. Hudon, and she would be at a craft fair at Spokane Community College on Saturday March 7th. On Saturday March 14, she, along with Larry Danek are scheduled to participate in a craft fair at West Valley High School. Connie Wynecoop told us someone has asked to use her book in teaching a Bible class.

Our occasional guest, Morgan Walters, pointed out that there will be art shows at the Flour Mill every other Saturday, from 10 to 3, including the 4th and the 18th of April. Those exhibiting could possibly include potential cover and/or interior illustrators for authors. Tiffani Harvey plans to sell books at a band booster craft fair March 14th. On April 11th she'll be in Airway Heights at the El Katif Shrine.

There's a new vendor group called Step It Up, which will provide an outdoor venue for vendors beginning June 23rd.

We discussed meeting locations and the majority agreed that a return to Golden Corral

would be best. The two other places we've recently met were a bit on the small side. Service was not always that good and many found that trying to order and be served during the meeting was a distraction to themselves and to others. It was suggested that if we needed an alternate location, the library on Hawthorne might be a good choice.

Door prizes were won by Connie Wynecoop, Larry Danek, Kate Poitevin, Morgan Walters, Wendy Spencer, Tiffani Harvey, Caryl Briscoe-Michas, and Dave McChesney.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 2nd, hopefully back at the Golden Corral. At this time we do not have word on a speaker or program. Additionally, in light of the current Corona Virus/Covid 19 situation, we may well decide to cancel our April meeting. If so, all members will be notified a week or so in advance.

(Our April Meeting has been CANCELLED.)

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.
 - c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other
 - d. Locations where available.
5. Send as much information as possible to:

daveeva@comcast.net,
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. 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.

MEMBER MILESTONES

Congratulations J. B. Rivard!
Winner!

2019/2020

Reader Views Literary Awards



History
Second Place

Low on Gas – High on Sky

by J.B. Rivard

Three finalists in each category are determined by a point system. Criteria for judging:

1. content/originality
2. presentation/design
3. innovation
4. social relevance
5. production quality
6. enjoyment/impact

Final judging is determined by a panel of judges.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Many scheduled events have been cancelled or postponed to a later date because of the current Corona Virus/Covid 19 outbreak. If such cancellation or change in schedule is not indicated here, please check with those holding the event to see if it is still taking place.

Contact daveeva@comcast.net or e-mail authors@spokaneauthors.org to get your event listed.

Book Signings

Midge Cline is scheduled to sign books at the **Flour Mill** in downtown Spokane on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10 am until 3 pm. Upcoming dates include April 18th, May 16th, and June 20th.

On Going:

The **Inland Northwest Writers Guild (INWG)** meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, 12 East Olive Ave., (downtown) Spokane, WA.

Note: This is a new meeting location for the INWG.

Usually April brings **GET LIT** to Spokane and the surrounding area.

Check the Spokesman-Review, The Inlander and other news and event information outlets for the various events. More information will be provided here as it becomes available.

More than likely, the current health situation will cause these events to be cancelled or postponed to a later date

Coeur d' Alene Christian Writers Conference

Saturday, May 16th, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

The Coeur d' Alene Resort
115 S. 2nd St.

Coeur d' Alene, Idaho 83814

Information available

at: <https://jancline.net/conference/>

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

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

(Contact the editor/web-master at daveeva@comcast.net or at 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
or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044

Joyce Caudel:

The Hat Pin Murders 1936178397
The Hat Box Mystery 1481959107
A Hat to Die For 1530028612

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
The Apostle's Wife B07NJ4DFCW 179039239X

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
Retitled
Vampire Justice 0996864415
Sabrina's Promise 0996864407

Sandra L. Mason:

(Illustrated by Natalie J. Apodaca)

SASP NEWS

N is for Nativity 1517614880

Stan Parks:

Jakob's Ladies 1532910762

Tiffani Harvey:

A Journey to Independence 1533499438

Revised and retitled

Freedom Seeker

Growing Independent 1533499926

Revised and retitled

Freedom Seeking

Fred Jessett:

My Name is Tamar B00DH3REWO

Drummer Loves Dancer B073H2RP7P

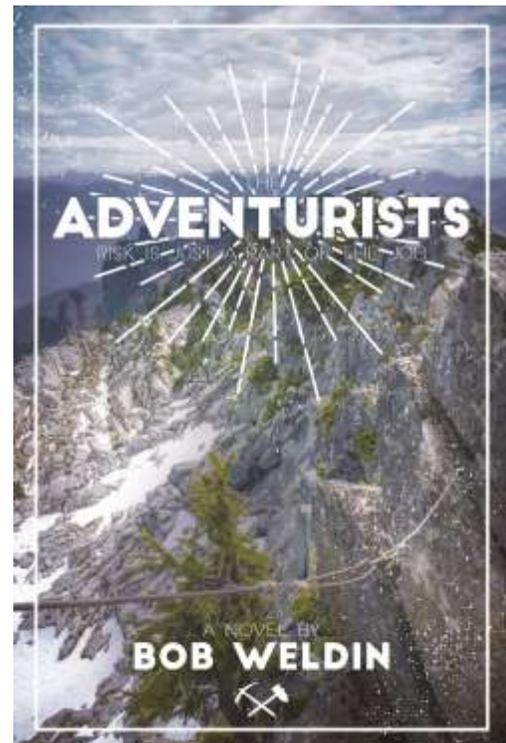
Getting Past Point No Point 1725865211

Lewis Meline:

Lies Exposed! The Truth about Diets...

0997915501

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Another great story by Bob Weldin. Sara Mullins, the main character and also

from Weldin's first book, is an exploration geologist. She and her soon-to-be husband, Brad, travel into the Idaho wilderness on horseback, searching for old mines, lost gems, and treasure. Sometimes, they have to use small planes to get in and out of these remote locations. Throw in a South American drug cartel, trying to get even for having their drug stash destroyed, and you have quite an adventure.

Weldin uses his knowledge as a former geologist, adventurer, and mining engineer to create this exciting story. *The Adventurists* should be read by all who like adventure stories and want to learn more about the dangers of mining.

Reviewed by [Mary E. Trimble](#)

When exploration geologist Brad O'Connor investigates an old underground mine in the North Cascades on the Washington/Canadian border, he finds more than he bargains for: trouble, serious, international trouble. Later, he meets up with his fiancée, fellow geologist, Sara Mullins, to take an assignment in the Salmon River Mountains of central Idaho. The problem is, trouble follows them.

The Adventurists is rich with mining, gems and mineral information. The story takes place in 1967, before conveniences such as GPS, cell phones or laptops exist. In addition, small plane and helicopter use adds to the story's adventure, as does the use of horses to get to dense wilderness areas. When all else fails, Sara's rock climbing experience comes into play for those hard-to-access mineral deposits.

Author Bob Weldin, a former mining engineer for the US Bureau of Mines, writes from experience about the logistics of mining. His creative mind fills in the rest. *The Adventurists*, Weldin's second novel, is a sequel to *The Dry Diggin's Club*.

Reviewed by [Amazon Customer](#)
([Otto Schoumacer](#))

An outdoor adventure mystery 4.0 out of 5 stars

In *The Adventurists*, Bob Weldin draws from his own life's experience to create a gripping story of wilderness adventure that takes the reader into the wilds of Idaho to confront dangers presented not only by nature, but also by men with evil intent. In Sara Mullins, Weldin creates a character as alluring as she is tough and capable. Sara is a geologist, trained and experienced at wilderness work, but on this assignment, she and her partner, Brad, are stalked by a murderous assassin in a complex web of intrigue and danger involving airplanes, underground mines, drugs, guns and mysterious people.

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

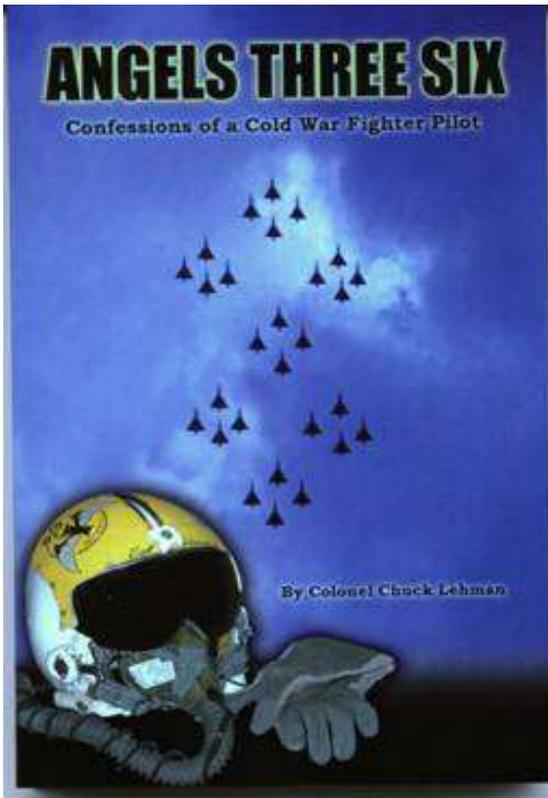
Exploring wilderness areas searching for profitable mineral deposits and evaluating old mines for renewed production is risky enough without contending with a South American drug cartel.

Investigating an old mine near the U. S.-Canadian border, Brad O'Conner and his partner discover it is being used to hide large supplies of drugs. Barely escaping the smugglers, they vow to never talk about what they have seen. When the old mine mysteriously blows up shortly thereafter, Brad realizes that he, his partner, and most importantly, Sara Mullins, his love interest and fellow geologist are in danger. Provided FBI protection, Brad and Sara begin exploration of mineral deposits and mining claims in a large wilderness area in Idaho. They are aided by friends living in the local area, family members with the controlling interest in a fly-in only recreation ranch, and members of associated government agencies. All the while they are forced to keep an eye out for members of the cartel who are seeking revenge for the destruction of their drug supply.

Besides being an exciting and fast-paced thriller, *The Adventurists* contains large doses of outdoor adventure, a proportional serving of romance, and a bit of geological and mining education. Taking place in the 1960s, it seems odd to us that the characters are in the wilds without cellphones or internet capability. They have to find an established

phone or two-way radio in order to contact anyone.

The story is well written and proves difficult to put down. As the sequel to *The Dry Diggin's Club*, it completes a story the author originally began in hopes of detailing his career and experiences as an exploration geologist and mining engineer.



Reviewed By D. Andrew McChesney

I grew up during the Cold War, aware of, but probably not fully cognizant of the dangers we all faced. As a grade school student I knew that the United States Air Force stood by, ready to defend this Nation and its people from Soviet aggression. My uncle was a SAC (Strategic Air Command) bomber pilot, and I could name and recognize many of the fighters that stood ready to meet any incoming threat. It was a time I thought, of unlimited numbers of aircraft, all with amazing performance and abilities, piloted by steely-eyed warriors, itching to be at any intruder.

In *Angels Three Six*, Col. Lehman, an ADC (Air Defense Command) fighter pilot, relates his adventures while serving in defense

of the nation. Most of the stories do not deal with the horrors of possible nuclear war, but with the daily routine, the ever-present danger, and the sometimes humorous incidents of high performance military aviation. Reading his book causes one to realize that the pilots we look up to aren't supermen, but human beings with the same failings and fears as the rest of us. Many of his tales are humbling, and he should be lauded for passing them on.

Having spent over two decades in Naval Aviation maintenance, I connected closely with many of the detailed accounts mentioned in the book. While there is always that inter service rivalry, *Angels Three Six* superbly shows us all what military aviation was all about. It is a must read for anyone who wants to experience and understand the Cold War era.

Angels Three Six, ISBN 0-9788507-9-3 was published in Spokane, Washington, by The Write Place. It is available for \$19.95 + \$3.00 S&H from CALCO, 13811 S. Finney St., Medical Lake, WA 99022.

Col. Lehman is also the author of *Emergency Survival* for \$9.95 and *Desert Survival Handbook* for \$7.95, both available from CALCO, each with an added \$3.00 shipping and handling charge. He has also written a novel based on the exploits of his ancestors during the American Civil War.

(Since reading the book and writing this review, the author has issued a newer revised edition, which I believe is from Spokane's own Gray Dog Press. Col. Lehman has also written a published several historical novels centered around events in the early Christian Era.)

Reviewed by James B. Parry

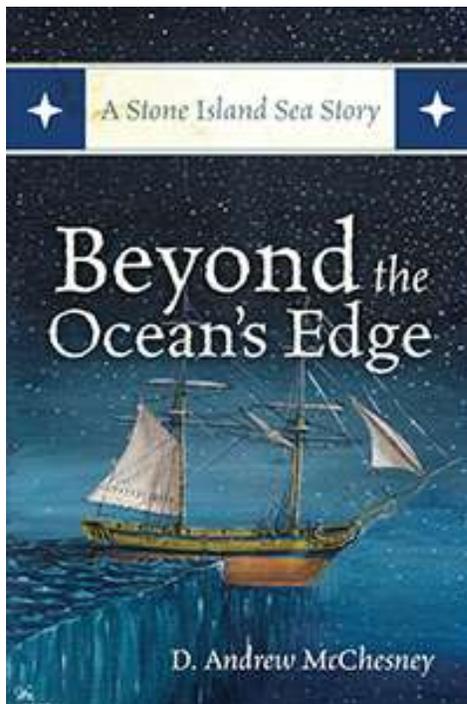
In the late 50's and early '60s, while I was hiding under my school desk, Colonel Lehman was practicing shooting down Russian planes so that they would not drop atomic bombs on me. Now he has written a book about his exploits piloting jet planes, primarily F-102s and F-106s. And what a book it is! One harrowing experience after another (mostly at 600 miles an hour); near misses, forgetting he had a pistol in his pocket as he

stood next to President Kennedy, icing up so severely that the plane was nearly uncontrollable. A brief book that you can't put down because you're always anxious to get to the next adventure. Just wish it was longer.

Whether it's the Cuban Missile Crisis or bringing lobsters back to the base in a missile pod, there's never a dull moment in Colonel Lehman's "Cold War" fighter pilot career.

In addition to being a highly skilled pilot, turns out Lehman is also a highly skilled writer, relating these exploits in a You-Are-There style that will keep you engrossed right up to the end of his Cold War career.

Thank you Chuck for your service in protecting all of us U.S. citizens, and thank you Chuck for writing this wonderful book.



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

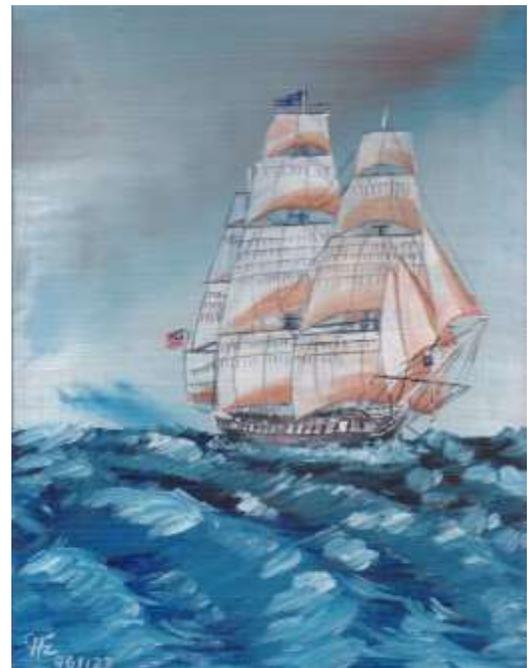
Beyond the Ocean's Edge effectively recreates that time in the early 19th Century when Britain ruled the seas. McChesney's

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.



"All Plain Sail"