

SASP

NEWS

August 2020

Another "Stay Home Stay Healthy" Issue



Looks like we won't be meeting for a while, due to Covid-19 concerns

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



August brings the heat and the harvest.

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. (Or when the next meeting would normally be held.) **(August 27th for the September 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!

This pandemic seems to be dragging on longer than we expected. At this point it's hard to predict when we will be able to meet again. Until then, stay home as much as possible, wear a mask when out and about, and try to maintain your social distancing.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

My daughter and her family departed Arkansas recently for their annual summer visit to Spokane. Because of the pandemic, they carried their own food for their four-day journey by car, stopped at only lonely looking rest areas, and stayed in cabins away from the main hotels. Her husband, Matt, is a - for lack of a better term - disseminator of information from all of the science departments at the University of Arkansas; that is, he finds out about the latest projects and discoveries, interviews the professors, summarizes the projects, and then distributes the info to all sorts of news media outlets.



So, anyway, Matt made a resolution that he would, every day, write a short story about the family's adventures on this journey to Spokane. And he has followed through. Sort of a - what's the old phrase? - busman's holiday. I've been reading his blogs each day at:

Might be a good idea for each of us to do a similar thing while isolated at home or on the road? I'm going to give it a go.

Stay safe and spread kindness,

Jim

P.S. - zyzzyva, zyxst, zyxt = Noah Webster's last words

People found guilty of not using punctuation deserve the longest sentence possible.

What do you get when you mix alcohol and literature? *Tequila Mockingbird* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

It seems like this Corona Virus stuff is dragging on longer than we thought it would. When it began its assault late last winter, we all figured it would be a thing of the past my now, and we'd be back to having regular meetings by now. But since we can't meet yet, I hope everyone is staying safe and getting on with the writing!

As always, if you have anything you'd like to share, pass it on. I can include it in the newsletter or post it on the web-site. Just be sure to get it to me in timely fashion. For the newsletter, it should arrive a week or so prior to the day we would normally meet. (I try to list the submission dead-line for the next issue on the inside cover.)

Don't forget to visit the SASP web-site and check out your Member Web-Page. Please let me know if it needs anything, such as an author head shot, a better, more complete bio, or updated book information. If you could provide what is needed, that would be great!

I'd also like to flesh out the second sheet, the additional information page on our roster. That's a place where ideally we can find out a little more about our fellow members,



and perhaps find someone to help us or who could use our help. I can't guess at these things, so I need input to be able to include them in the roster.

If you are looking for, or are willing to help a fellow writer, let me know and besides adding it to the roster, I can pass the word via group e-mail or in SASP NEWS.



OUR JULY 2020 MEETING

Due to the Corona Virus/Covid 19 pandemic, we did not meet on Thursday, July 2, 2020.

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/thumbnail
 - 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,
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. A lot of them are still "bare bones basic." Send information to your editor/web-master and let's get them up to speed!

If you are contemplating publishing with **Lulu Publishing**, please review all documentation with this company and tread carefully.

I published with them in 2014 and have recently learned they allowed a download of my book (and others) without any notification or consideration to me.

My best wishes to all SASP members,

Johanna Price

READERS WANTED

Dave McChesney is looking for one or more individuals willing to read and provide critical feedback of the third *Stone Island Sea Story*.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Many events have been cancelled or postponed to a later date because of the current Corona Virus/Covid 19 outbreak. If cancellation or change isn't indicated here, please check to see if it is still taking place.

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

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.

(Probably cancelled for the immediate future. If you are on the group's mailing list, you may have received an invitation to participate in an on-line meeting.)

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Hi Fellow SASP Members,

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 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

Chuck Lehman:

<i>Angels Three Six</i>	B00KMJXQR8
<i>The Big Woods</i>	B007SQ4CTE
<i>Asher</i>	B00HNZ6TTG
<i>Lazarus Arise</i>	B007R0NPW6
<i>The Shepherd</i>	B00HJBN4P6
<i>Rogue 6</i>	B01H7N8G2G
<i>Exposure: A Story of Survival and Intrigue</i>	B01H5W4V64
<i>The Apostle's Wife</i>	B07NJ4DFCW 179039239X

Bob Manion:

<i>Santa's Heroes</i>	1936178095
<i>The Tree House</i>	B004IZLHLE
<i>The Tree House (new edition)</i>	1946882003
<i>Springer's Heart</i>	0978850742
<i>Summer Rain</i>	B00ZM3S2IM
<i>Vampire and the Cop</i>	B00ZM4BBOS
Retitled <i>Vampire Justice</i>	0996864415
<i>Sabrina's Promise</i>	0996864407

Sandra L. Mason:

(Illustrated by Natalie J. Apodaca)
N is for Nativity **1517614880**

Stan Parks:

Jakob's Ladies **1532910762**

Tiffani Harvey:

A Journey to Independence **1533499438**
Growing Independent **1533499926**

Fred Jessett:

<i>My Name is Tamar</i>	B00DH3REWO
<i>Drummer Loves Dancer</i>	B073H2RP7P
<i>Getting Past Point No Point</i>	1725865211

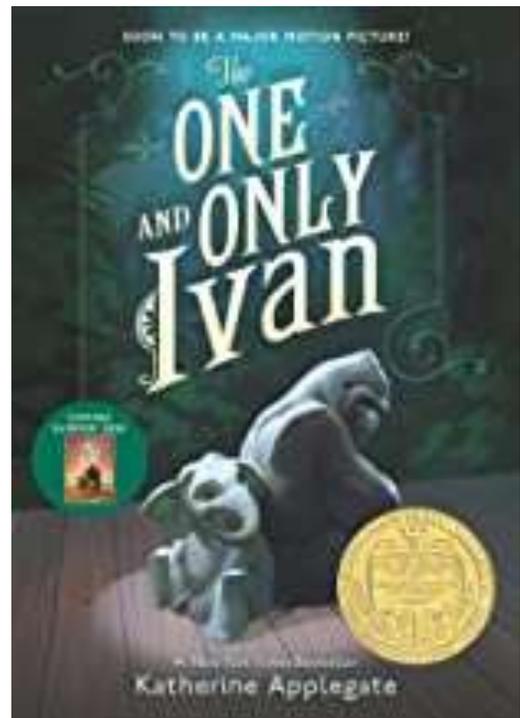
Lewis Meline:

Lies Exposed! The Truth about Diets...

0997915501

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

We've received one new review, which we will include here, along with continuing the normal rotation.



By Katherine Applegate

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

The One and Only Ivan is a wonderful story. It won the Newbery Medal in 2013 and will soon be a movie. It's a work of fiction, but was inspired by the true story of a gorilla who lived for 27 years at the B&I Shopping Center in Tacoma, Washington. During that time, he never saw another of his own kind. Finally, he was moved to the Zoo Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia, where he lived for 23 more years until his death in 2012 at age 50. He liked to paint and was known for his paintings. In 2016, a 600 lb. statue of him was placed outside Point Defiance Zoo in Tacoma, Washington. An interesting point of information for me was that

my husband saw him when he lived in Tacoma in the 60s.

The author tells the story of her main character in his own voice. It begins with him saying, "Hello, I am Ivan. I am a gorilla. It's not as easy as it looks." Thus, he tells his story of how he has lived in a shopping mall in a glass enclosed cage for 27 years. He tells how he spends his time looking back at mall customers as they curiously watch him through the thick glass, how he likes to draw and paint, and watch TV. He makes friends with a small, stray dog named Bob, Stella an elephant, Ruby a baby elephant, and Julia, the janitor's daughter, who comes many nights to sit outside his cage to do her homework and draw pictures. After Stella dies, he becomes obsessed with a plan to have him and Ruby moved to a zoo.

This story is very well written and is a page turner. Ms. Applegate has created wonderful characters that make you care about them, while at the same time taking the reader into the cruel world of exploiting animals without any thought to their well-being. I recommend this book for children or adults who like to read about animals. It would also be an excellent read-aloud book to children at home or in the classroom.

(Available on Amazon or Kindle at:
www.amzn.com/dp/0061992275 or
www.amzn.com/dp/B005DIB5GG)

Close Calls: The True Tales of Cougar Bob

By B. J. Campbell

Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Close Calls: The True Tales of Cougar Bob is a very enjoyable group of short stories about the life and hard times of Cougar Bob. The book starts out with stories of his life in high school, and then in the navy as a young man with polio.

After returning home from the navy, he gets on with his life and has many new

adventures, most of which, I would not attempt myself.

Campbell is a very talented writer, and after I read about each new adventure, I always wondered--What will Bob try next?

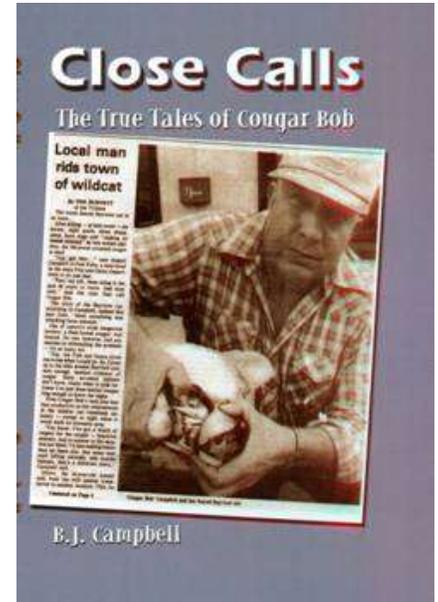
Reviewed by
James R.
Buchanan

"Determination!" *Close Calls: The True Tales of Cougar Bob* is a "way of life" story, lived out by a man of great courage and determination, overcoming all obstacles to excel in his ever adventuresome spirit. Cougar Bob, a "man's man" has lived the life that most men only dream of and lived to tell about it!

Reviewed by Forrest Burgess

"*Close Calls* is close to perfection!" This charming tale is full of the adventures of a true western character. Bob Campbell alias "Cougar Bob" is one of those bigger than life individuals that we seem to grow out here in the mountains of Idaho and Montana the "real west". His numerous experiences and close calls provide the reader with an honest and light hearted view of living in the great northwest.

Although some of the exploits may ring a bit exaggerated the essence of the stories are essentially true and full of fun. Well written and with a tongue in cheek playfulness, this book is a joy to read. Obviously a labor of love, this story is about a unique individual whose life-long challenges and exploits in the wilderness areas of the inland northwest provide the reader a close-up of the strength of character and resourcefulness that living and hunting in the wilds of Idaho and Montana require.



You will not be disappointed with this book.

Reviewed by G. T. Rees

Some great stories about north Idaho and the adventures of Cougar Bob. Funny and some great history of the region.

Reviewed by Mary E. Trimble "Author"

"5.0 out of 5 stars. A perfect read for outdoor and wilderness enthusiasts!" Robert L. Campbell, aka Cougar Bob comes to vivid life as his wife, B. J. Campbell relates colorful stories beginning from his childhood on through his senior years. Written in first person, the book is chock-full of colorful descriptions of outdoor adventures, hunting, trapping, sometimes for sustenance, sometimes to save farm stock, often for hire when wildlife stalks too close to civilization.

As a boy, Bob loved to run—he could run for miles. He ran for the love of running. He ran nine miles to catch the school bus in rural Idaho. He ran for survival. He ran for play. While in the Navy, he contracted polio and, for most people, that would have been the end of running. But not for Bob. As soon as he could he was up and struggling to walk. He graduated to walking with leg braces and eventually managed without the braces. Although continuing to be an active outdoorsman, he still suffers from the pain of post-polio syndrome.

Interspersed with the chapters, each of which tells a story, are excerpts from The Cougar Bob Review, an annual newsletter that "captures the hunter, trapper and straight shooter's endless supply of stories that happens because he is himself." Also included throughout the book are clips of newspaper articles. One such article tells of the state Fish and Game Department hiring Cougar Bob to hunt down a cougar, known as the Bayview cat, who was blamed for killing 6 horses, 8 goats, 3 sheep, 7 farm dogs and stalking children at the school bus stop.

All of the stories in the book are true and are told in Cougar Bob's voice, with attitude.

It's a book full of humor, yet awe inspiring in the courage of one man who conquers threats, dangers, and his own health issues to solve problems at hand.

Animal activists might have issues with some of the stories. A fair amount of the hunting is done for the meat, or simply for the sport. On the other hand, authorities hire Cougar Bob to trap wildlife that threaten the safety of people or their property. When practical, the trapper will displace the animal, but when necessary, he will kill it. That might seem harsh to some, but it's reality to many.

I enjoyed *Close Calls: The True Tales of Cougar Bob*. I love a good story and this book captures the essence of rugged wilderness and its sometimes eccentric occupant, outdoorsman extraordinaire, Cougar Bob Campbell. For more about author B.J. Campbell and her husband, Bob Campbell, visit www.cougarbob.com

Reviewed by Tiffani Harvey

It's good, but requires a strong stomach! Not for the faint hearted.

Coal Wars: Unions, Strikes and Violence in Depression Era Central Washington

David Bullock

Reviewed by Bob Weldin

In addition to his documented sources, David Bullock had another authoritative source that most historians will envy. His mother's family lived through the events depicted in *Coal Wars*. When his grandfather, a skilled Roslyn coal miner, decided to stay with the United Mine Workers of America he and his family were threatened and called *filthy scabs* by those in favor of a new labor union—the Western Miners Union of America. The locality is the Roslyn-Cle Elum coal field in Kittitas County, WA on the east side of the Cascade Mountains. This field was the largest

single coal-producing region in the state, and contributed nearly half of the state's annual coal production during the 1920s and 1930s. The Northern Pacific Railroad was the major consumer of the high-grade bituminous produced from the Roslyn-Cle Elum mines. The railroad delayed the introduction of diesel locomotives to its line because of its large reserves of coal, but the writing was on the wall, and it wasn't written in coal dust. The prologue is used to familiarize the reader with the state of the US coal mining industry during the early depression years. He gives an account of the lingering influence of socialism, the IWW, communism, and political radicals that infiltrated the early unions. It was a time of rapid development of new technologies, although some of it came later to Roslyn than to other mines in the country. By the late 1920s, mechanical coal cutting and drilling machines were being introduced, that required fewer miners. In 1900 machines cut 25 percent of US tonnage, but by 1930 that number had risen to 81 percent.

It was during the early years of the great depression when FDR assumed the presidency in March of 1933, with the promise to America's workers of a New Deal—a promise of fair wages and a revitalized economy. As the economy worsened he created the National Recovery Administration (NRA) setting broad powers for representatives of business, labor, and government to negotiate fair prices, wages, and working hours. Labor leaders took this language as a pro-union government endorsement and enlisted workers around the nation. Membership in the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) had dropped from half a million in 1923 to just over 100,000 by 1931. It rebounded to nearly 400,000 during the summer following the NRA's signing. The support for labor union membership prompted an acceleration in the number of work stoppages. Work stoppages doubled from 841 in 1932 to 1,695 in 1933. The number moved upward in 1934 when some 1,856 strikes involved more than 1,470,000 workers. The Western Miners strike at the Roslyn-Cle Elum coal field was one of those actions.

In the 1930s, John L. Lewis led the UMWA—the most powerful labor union in the nation. A popular story in Roslyn (and probably in other coal towns) suggests that three pictures hung prominently in many miners' homes—Jesus, FDR, and John L. Lewis. By some accounts, Jesus' picture was not always at the top; such was the respect for Lewis. However, during the early years of the depression, many miners were starting to lose faith in their great leader and the UMWA in general. In 1932 miners were asked to take yet another cut in pay—down 20 percent to \$5.40 per day. The six-hour workday had been on the United Mine Workers agenda through the 1920s and early 1930s, yet no progress was being made. There was also much dissent about the use of electric coal cutting machines as a safety and employment reducing issue. By 1932 the situation was no better and the UMWA seemed incapable of resolving the demands of their miners.

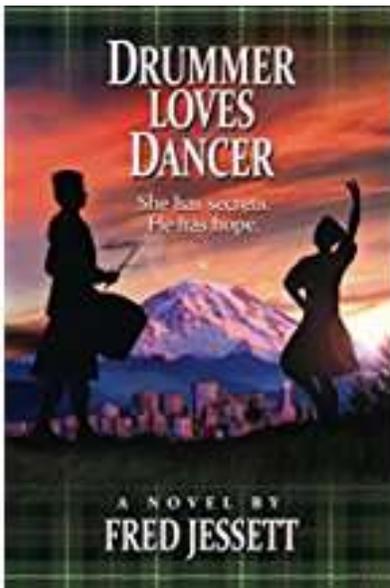
Frustrated miners in the Roslyn coal fields talked openly of taking their union back. Andrew Hunter, a socialist with a sharp mind and serious approach to issues drew the notice of his mining peers. He was the man most responsible for leading the dual union movement at the Roslyn mines. Many of the miners joined the new Western Miners Union and then decided to strike. Reasons for joining the new union were as varied as the diverse backgrounds of the workers. Immigrant miners who could not read or write English were undoubtedly swayed by the convincing speakers—better pay, better working conditions, and a six-hour day. Many felt the pull of family and friends, while some joined because they felt their safety could be better protected by a local union. Still other preferred a local union because they felt it was wrong for capitalists in the East to profit from their spilled blood in the mines. Some miners wanted to be sure to be on the winning side, so they signed with the UMWA as well as the Western Miners. With the exception of a murder, it was mostly a verbal battle of threats and insults between members of the two unions and their families. The fight intensified on April 3, 1934, when miners tried to cross the picket lines to return

to work. The state police were called in to squelch the riots and UMWA miners went back to work without a better deal. Hard feeling existed between the families of the competing unions for years to come.

The six-month saga of the new union's struggle for recognition began with hope and determination, but ended in bitter disappointment and frustration. The Western Miners Union was abolished and some of their leaders were 'black-balled' from working in the mines. Not a good position to be in during the great depression, with unemployment at 25 percent.

The ability of the author to weave in his families stories makes this mining history a highly personal account. As Carlos Schwantes put it—"This is labor history as it should be done."

Pullman, Washington: WSU Press, 2014, 210 pp, illus., notes, bib. paper, \$24.95.



Reviewed by Beth Camp

Boy meets girl; boy falls in love with girl. This story is a sharp reminder of what life is like when we question the meaning of love, innocence, racism, commitment, and our faith in God. These are the large issues that preoccupy us when all is before us, irrevocable decisions haven't yet been made, and we don't quite know who we are.

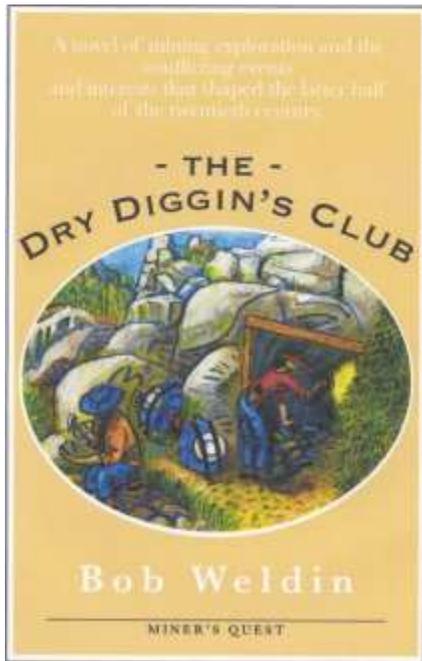
Lad MacAdam, a drummer in a Seattle-based Scottish piping band, falls in the thrall of instant attraction to Ginger DeForest, a dancer and beautiful young woman of mystery from New York. Lad really does put Ginger on that pedestal, seeing her as far above him. Gradually, as their relationship deepens, they reveal their true natures, mourn their losses, and truly fall in love. But then the writer adds a twist.

Since I grew up in Seattle, I was entranced by the vivid settings from the very first page, as they reminded me of those days long ago, when I was a child, swam at Green Lake, and watched the Sea-Fair parade in awe. Lad and Ginger, dubbed Drummer and Dancer throughout, come to life with youthful angst, and the story resonates throughout with a celebration of life.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

It is the 1950s in Seattle, Washington, a simpler and more innocent time. Lad McAdam, a drummer in the Puget Sound Scots Pipe Band, is involved in an outdoor stage production of Brigadoon. He becomes involved romantically with one of the dancers in the production, Ginger De Forest, a displaced New Yorker whose life has been anything but simple and innocent.

Jessett weaves a tale of young love, conflict, family, and religion, and brings together lives so different that the odds are stacked against them. *Drummer Loves Dancer*, but is it enough to make Dancer love Drummer in return?



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Weldin has written a very exciting novel about mining and searching for the *mother lode*. It makes you want to go backpacking with a miner's pick and search for minerals and gold deposits.

In many ways this book is similar in excitement to a Clive Cussler novel, but without all the bad guys shooting everybody. *The Dry Diggin's Club* is a real page turner with romance and adventure that keeps you interested and excited right to the end.

I highly recommend reading this well-written novel.

Reviewed by James Bartlett Parry

Bob Weldin's vast mining expertise and experience shine through as he weaves this captivating tale of exciting discoveries in romance and in other treasures. You'll learn a ton about mineralogy while being engrossed in the many dramatic happenings of the Mullins family. And you'll experience two generations of Mullins' – from the end of World War II through the 1960's. Primarily set in Montana, Sara Mullins attempts to enter a profession dominated by men. As she is doing this she finds herself involved with the Dry Diggins' Club and romantically involved with two men, one of whom turns out to be a scoundrel. With the help of her brother and the man who may become her soul-mate (Brad), Sara gains sweet revenge – in a unique way – on the scoundrel.

The book ends with Sara flying off with Brad. Will they find true happiness – and will they find the Lost Sheepeaters Mine?

I hope Mr. Weldin writes a sequel so I can find out. Perhaps, his next book will take us through the end of the last century and into the present. He left me wanting more.

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

Growing up in a ranching and mining Montana family, Sara Mullins is drawn into geological exploration and mine engineering. After college she becomes one of the first women to work in the male dominated field. She does extended field work in the Idaho wilderness and then in Alaska. While there, she successfully drives off a marauding grizzly and meets who she believes is the man of her dreams. Closer to home, she becomes a member of the Dry Diggin's Club, a group of mining professionals seeking to better their position. Along the way she discovers some unique advantages of aircraft equipped with auto-pilots, learns that not everyone can be trusted, and foils an attempt at extortion.

This proved to be an entertaining and enjoyable read. In large part the story is set in the local region, with much of the story taking place in Coeur d'Alene or Spokane. One scene takes place at this reviewer's current place of employment, and that establishment is mentioned in another. Although it does play a part in the story, it is surprising that the Dry Diggin's Club doesn't play a larger more central role throughout the book.

ISBN 978-0-578-10682-3 was published by Miner's Quest and retails for \$19.95.