



SASP

NEWS

February 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. Currently we are required to wear masks unless seated at a table and eating.

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. 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. **(February 24th for the March 2022 issue.)**

2022 Officers:

President: *Sue Eller*
(509) 499-2012 author@emilytracemysteries.com

Vice-President:
Public-Relations: *Marilee Hudon*
(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

Secretary: *Linda Sonntag-Noble*

Treasurer:
Newsletter Editor:
Web Master: *Dave McChesney*
(509) 325-2072 (h) daveeva@comcast.net
(509) 768-6178 (c)

Advisory Board:

Member: *Chuck Lehman*
(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

“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!

We are scheduled to meet at 2 pm. on Thursday, February 3rd at the Golden Corral on N. Division Street. Our speaker will be Robin Bishop, who is the editor-in-chief of Art Chowder Magazine.

She holds a BA degree in Professional and Creative Writing from Central Washington University and a master's degree in Organizational and Change Leadership from Gonzaga University.

At our meeting, she will discuss her role at the magazine, her love of writing, and share her professional journey with us.

NOTE:

If you would like Carl Northrup's daughter to take your book or books with her to Antarctica, please bring them to our February meeting for Carl to collect.



Mickey the Marmot, starring as Punxsutawney Phil

FROM OUR PRESIDENT Groundhog Day

In honor of the first February festival, I have a few words about Groundhog Day, which happens to fall on the day before our next meeting.

First of all, hope and pray for a cloudy, foggy, even snowy day. We don't want another six weeks of winter, so let us all hope Mickey the Marmot (Spokane's version of the infamous Punxsutawney Phil) does not see his shadow. I am ready for some sunshine and cheeriness.

Next is a writer's view of the movie named after the holiday. Groundhog Day stars Bill Murray, who plays a not-so-loveable weather forecaster with delusions of fame. He must take an assignment to travel to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, for their annual groundhog festival, starring the intrepid rodent, Phil. Bill thinks he is too important to take on such a mundane assignment and treats his crew and the townspeople rudely.



A blizzard strands them in the Pennsylvania town, and the next morning Bill awakes to a repeat of February 2. The day keeps repeating until he conquers his annoying personality, his delusions of grandeur, and his inability to love. In other words, he keeps changing his actions for the better until he finally gets it right.

We write and rewrite until our story is the best we can do. How many rewrites should we do? As many as it takes to tell our story in the way we intended it to be. Along the way, we discover more and more about ourselves, our values, and how we communicate with other people.

One more thing! There comes a time when all the rewrites in the world won't make

the story any better, and we must let it go out into the world and make its own way.

This month we will have a guest speaker for the first time in a long while. I look forward to hearing what she has to say. See you at the Golden Corral on Thursday, Feb. 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Sue Eller

FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

If you have author related events coming up and you let me know with enough lead time, I can get them posted on the web-site and in the newsletter. If it is a last minute notification I'll try to e-mail it to our members. If



you are aware of other events that our group might have an interest in, let me know as well and I can get word out to the others.

Have you recently published a book? Please make sure I'm aware of it so I can update your Member Web-Page.

Some of those could also use an author's head shot and a bio. I don't think everyone resembles the cartoon authors I've used. You can find your Member Web-Page on the web-site, under the "Members" listing. (If you do not have one showing, it's because you are behind in your dues.)

And since we are into a new year, dues are due again, unless you have already paid. Quite a few members are paid up for 2022, but there are several who are not. In another month or two, all those not paid for the current year will be removed from the membership list on our web-site

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

**P. O. Box 18573
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.

OUR JANUARY MEETING

On January 6th Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers met for the first time in 2022 at The Golden Corral on Spokane's North Division Street. In attendance were Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Larry Danek, Sue Eller, Chuck Lehman, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Kate Poitevin and daughter, along with potential new member Emery Clark and his wife. Once the meeting got under way we spent a few minutes introducing ourselves and briefly noting what we were working on.

We didn't have a program or speaker scheduled, but we did have a couple of brief presentations. President Sue Eller talked a little about doing a virtual book launch while Dave McChesney offered some advice on using Twitter. He also pointed out that when one replies to an e-mail it only goes back to the person who sent it, and that if it has been forwarded a number of times it will not go back to the first person to send it.

Carl Northrup mentioned that his daughter would be leaving for Antarctica in February or March and suggested that those who wanted to provide a copy of their book(s) for her to take with her should be brought to the February meeting.

This time we had plenty of door prizes and it seems nearly everyone won something to take home.

Since notes from our meeting are quite brief, we'll include the notes from Sue's presentation here...

How to do a successful virtual book launch

As with any project, planning and preparation are crucial. I will try to analyze and recommend a sequence of steps to make the project successful.

1. Don't get in a hurry and launch your book before its time. I have done this more than once and regretted it. I am still striving to learn patience, but progress is not as fast as I'd like.
2. Take advantage of presale options such as KDP offers. Study the methods and recommendations for presales on sites such as KDP, Smashwords, and Ingram-Spark.
3. Choose a date for your book launch and coordinate with printers and online markets to have it ready for sale on that date.
4. Make sure you have done a good job getting your book ready for sale. It should be edited, formatted properly for print and digital, have a professional-looking cover for both e-book and print copy.
Now to the fun part - the actual virtual launch.
5. Okay, I lied. There is still more prep to be done. First of all, you need to decide on a venue. Some examples are Zoom, Facebook Live, and YouTube.
6. You need to find a host - someone you know and who has read your book. Perhaps this will be a person who has some "street cred" of their own - a person who is well-known and respected in their area of expertise.
7. You need a tech person to manage the behind-the-scenes aspects such as chat rooms, links to purchase the book, links to your website, etc., unless you are the tech genius and want to do it yourself.
8. It would also be helpful to have a few guests to help weigh in on your backstory, expertise, qualifications, and other good things to say about you. It's much more powerful to have your friends extoll your capabilities and your

book's good points, than it is to have you tell them yourself.

Finally, if you follow these steps, you can focus on why you wrote the book: what inspired you, what you had to research or learn, what your background on the subject, and what you feel is the driving reason you want to share your ideas with others.

Don't forget to set the stage for your launch video. Pay attention to your personal appearance and the background visible to others. Have a copy of the book for each person to hold up at some point in each of their presentations. Don't have the book in your hand the entire time you talk, but hold it up a few times so people can see what they will be buying.

Now, here are a few pointers on the pre- and post- virtual launch activities:

- A. Make a list and invite people to your virtual launch. If you use Facebook, you can create an event on Facebook Live and have people respond if they are attending. Either way, you should have a list of who will attend so you can contact them both before and after.
- B. Send out several reminders before the event itself. The day of the launch, send out a note that says you are excited for them to be there and that you look forward to seeing them on (fill in the blank - could be zoom or FB live or other).
- C. Enlist their help to promote your book to the people they know.
- D. **Have links to share to purchase the book and invite them to purchase now.** A special incentive such as swag, discounted price, signed copy will make them feel special. Let them know their attendance makes you feel special.
- E. Follow up after the event with thank you emails.

- F. You can even have a follow-up event to discuss what they thought about your book. Limit attendance to those who have read it.
- G. Direct people to your website so they can get more information on all your books and when the next one will be available for presale. Encourage them to write a review, subscribe to your blog, and tell their friends.

Finally, here are some links to other ideas about virtual book launches, pre-sales, and other marketing and promotion resources:

- [How to Host a Successful Virtual Book Launch | FriesenPress](#)
- [Virtual Book Launch Events: 8 Ideas from Authors](#)
- [Planning And Capitalizing On Your Book's Pre-Sale | BookBaby Blog](#)
- [New Year, New Opportunities: Author Tips for 2022](#)

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.

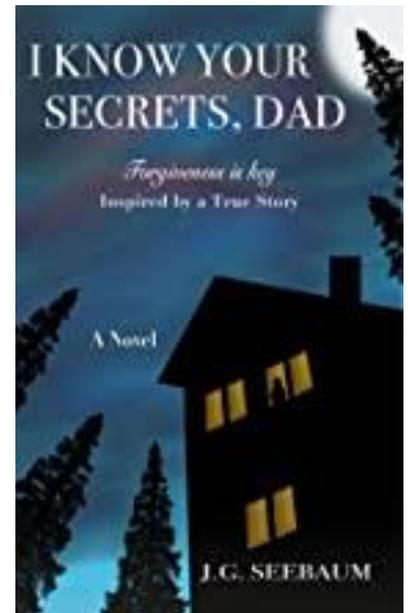
Contact your web-master if your page needs to be updated or corrected

NEW BOOKS!

A couple of members of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers have recently published their books, and we feature them here. (Please note that a few of our members publish under a pen name, so you may not connect a particular author as a SASP member.)

I Know Your Secrets, Dad By J. G. Seebaum

Clark and Rose Ridgeway lived in Grand Lake, Colorado when they adopted Heather at two weeks old. On the outside looking in, she had a picture - perfect life. But that couldn't be further from the truth.

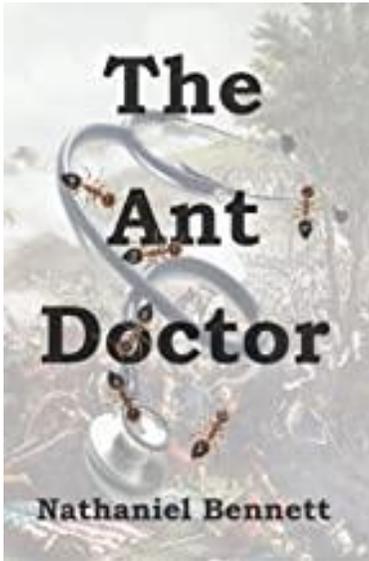


At thirteen, Rose died. Clark took off and she and her brother, William who was also adopted, were left with the nanny to grieve their mother's loss. A month later, Clark's car pulled into the driveway late at night. The next morning at the breakfast table, Clark introduced Heather to her worst nightmare-Gretchen.

When Heather turned sixteen, she was desperate to know the reason why her birth parents had given her away. Was she a family secret? Or was there something more sinister going on with her adoption?

Heather's research did uncover one truth that had been a long-buried secret. After four decades, will Heather learn the names of her biological parents?

Join her while she unravels the secrets to her past.



In 1836 Jonathan Hagen was a man out of time. Although raised to be a plantation owner, he despised slavery and plantation life. At age twenty four Jonathan sold all he ever knew and set out to create his own legacy.

UP COMING EVENTS

Tiffani Harvey: Will be at Northtown Mall on Wednesday, February 12, 2022. She also plans to be at Rogers High School, typically a weekend, but dates were not provided.

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 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

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.

Joyce Seebaum

I Know Your Secrets, Dad

B09G25NPY3 B09M4KTHJJ8

Nathaniel Bennett

The Ant Doctor

B09QP55ZSX

Various SASP members

Celebrating Spokane Authors:

A Collection of Poetry, Essays, and Short Stories

B077GBTQ67 1978483619

D. Andrew McChesney:

Beyond the Ocean's Edge: A Stone Island Sea Story

B008TXC332 1432780379

Sailing Dangerous Waters: Another Stone Island Sea Story

B00HF9Y05K 1478721898

Darnahsian Pirates: The Third Stone Island Sea Story

B09FFJSSGC B09BC9P9WL

James Parry:

Book All the Teachers: An Irreverent Ride

through Middle School B00US5918V 1501042211

Bob Weldin:

The Dry Diggin's Club

0578106825

The Adventurists

153027253X

Sue Eller:

Return from Armageddon

B005JVAJKQ 1477655727

Meadowlark Madness

B0097D599I 1479181714

Send in the Drones

B07TFDFVS9 1726834662

The Gluten Free Gourmand

B00TRBKT9U 150853134X

Taming of the T-Bird

B00S2ZDIQTQ 1505963982

Short Trips to Alternate Universes

B08P342L5V B08P3QTJQL (pb)

Beth Camp:

The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales

B0090VHKBC 1479180971

Standing Stones

B00I3RYFW6 1494772434

B01ATPTL5U (audio)

Years of Stone

B00LF3FY4S 1500129585

Rivers of Stone

B077M1TFLP 1545217491

The Seventh Tapestry

B08GJ8VRGL B097SKDWRF (pb)

Poetry in a Time of Pandemic

B0889TDKR2 B088LKFB6G

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part One) 1986153959
Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Two) 1986179486
Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Three) 1986179923

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
Double Exposure B097XNQXVF
The Apostle's Wife B07NJ4DFCW 179039239X

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

16 X MOM: A Mastery of Motherhood



By Barbara Olivo Cagle

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

Dedication and devotion are keys, both to the story told and the production of this book. Growing up without the warmth of family love, Rose Nunez Olivo marries and showers her sixteen children with devotion. She dedicates herself to providing each of them

with the love, guidance, and caring she never had. Recognizing the transformation in her mother's life, daughter Barbara (child number thirteen) tells Rose's amazing story to the world.

What emerges as a result of Barbara's dedication is a massively complete work. It begins with the arrival of Rose's immigrant father, Joseph Nunez in the historic mining town of Campo Seco where he meets, falls in love with, and marries Adelaide "Lydia" Madiago. When she tragically dies of tuberculosis at twenty-one, the couple already has three children. Jacqueline Rose is the second born. She has an older brother, Rodger, and a younger sister, Marie.

As a single parent, Joseph "Pa Pa" struggles to keep his young family united while providing for them. Disagreements with one of his late wife's family, and a desperate need to see his children cared for, force him to contact Children's Aid and place them in foster care. Rose and Rodger go to live with Teresa Espinosa, an older lady with a perhaps shady past, whom they know as "Ma." The children are properly, if not generously provided for, and contribute to the household income from an early age, delivering Ma's homemade enchiladas and tamales around their San Jose neighborhood.

After graduating from high school, Rose marries Nello John Olivo, Sr. She blossoms, enveloping their ever-increasing brood with all the love and care she had been denied in her childhood.

The laminated hard cover volume is well illustrated with family photos, genealogical charts, and excerpts of Rose's philosophies. 16 X MOM: A MASTERY OF MOTHERHOOD is an inspirational celebration of maternal love and well worth reading. As a gift, it is the ideal way for all to say, "Thanks, Mom!"

See Barbara's web site at www.barbaracagle.com for ordering information

Reviewed by Shirley Smith-Allen

Dear Barbara,

I enjoyed reading every word of your book. Having known you over the years made it more special. Getting to know your family was such an honor. You did such a wonderful job writing this book, I felt you took me right into your family and their life.

Being a Baby Boomer and growing up during the same years as most of your brother and sisters, I was taken back in time when family life was so much different than today. Life was simpler and we depended on the family unit to get us through all of the difficult times. We appreciated what we had and not what we did not have. No we did not have a lot of money but we learned that we needed to work to get the things we needed.

Your mom is so special and I can see the love you have for her radiate throughout this book. She is a very strong woman and I know she passed this on to her children. Her faith in God is what got her through the difficult times. Without the faith in God I don't know how I would have weathered the many ups and downs we all experienced in life. I know you have this faith as well. You gave me such a positive insight into the Catholic Religion.

Today I recorded in my journal during my devotions Father Dondero's unforgettable speech on page 283 and 284. I bet there were very few dry eyes during his speech. I know my eyes were not dry when I read it.

Thank you for writing this book and paying tribute to your wonderful loving mother and family. I am so proud of you and what you have accomplished and with you all the success you deserve.

I feel so close to your family after reading this book and feel that if I ever went to one of your reunions that I would know each and every one of them.

God Bless

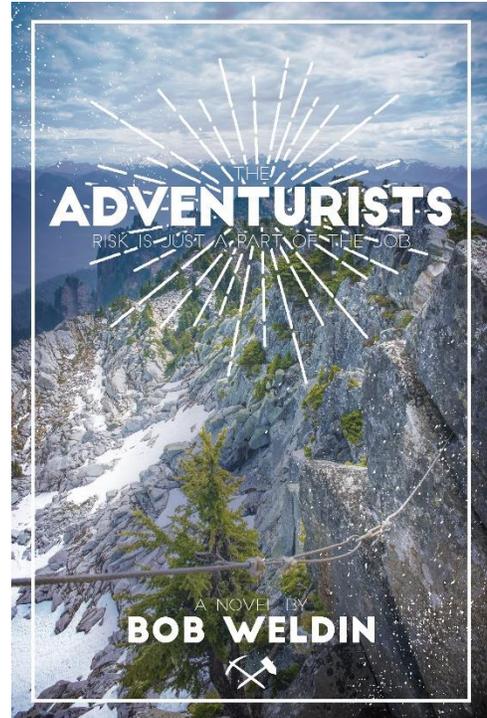
Reviewed by Dora Tylock

Barb,

Your mother's story is fantastic! I am so enjoying reading about your family. What a tribute to a wonderful woman, an inspiration to

womanhood. The thoroughness that you applied in getting information and pictures attributes to the fact that this is an outstanding piece of writing.

You are to be commended and I'm sure your family is very proud of you.



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.

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.

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.