



SASP

NEWS

January 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](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. **(January 27<sup>th</sup> for the February 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](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, January 6<sup>th</sup> at the Golden Corral on N. Division Street. We are asking our members to share a little about marketing and other related topics. Presentations should be no more than five to ten minutes in length.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

### Remember the old

### Ring in the new

The year 2022 is upon us, and with it, new opportunities to make our voices heard. It is also a time we can choose to set goals for the next 12 months.

It has been said that the best goals are written down, have a deadline, and are specific. Setting goals is a choice, not a



requirement, so have some fun if you decide to take on the challenge.

Vice President Marilee Hudon and I have been brainstorming about speakers for the coming year. So far, there are two speakers lined up to share with the

group. However, January has proved to be a challenge. I recently attended a virtual book launch and can share some things I learned on how to make it a successful one. If any of you would like to talk about other marketing techniques, we can all benefit from each other's experiences. Contact Dave or Marilee or me if you have some insights to share, and we will make time for you in the meeting.

Finally, some words of wisdom from Bill and Ted: *Be excellent to each other, and Party on, dudes!*

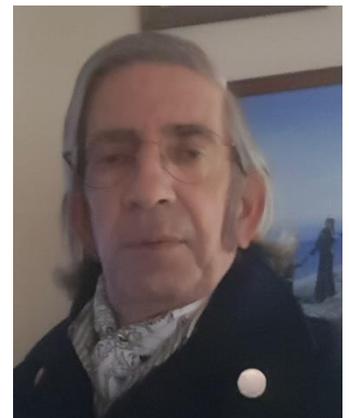
*Sue Eller*

## FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

My last time here I bragged about getting back to posting things on the web-site in a timely manner. Yet since posting a couple of things early in November I've not updated the web-site. Oh, I tried, but when I went to do so on Cyber Monday, I could not get into the account to update it. I contacted the company but was told I'd have nearly a two hour wait before someone could get back to me. I declined, intending to retry in the next day or two.

As a practicing procrastinator, it took me until three days after Christmas to try again. And guess what? Everything worked as it should. I managed to get those things updated that I had planned to do a month ago and will be working on the next (January) edition of SASP News over the next few days. As well I should have The web-site updated in a more timely manner

As we begin the new year, I'd like to remind everyone that we also enter a new year in terms of membership and dues. If you haven't yet paid for 2022, please do so at your earliest convenience. In a couple of months, those who are not current will be removed from the Members Page on the web-site and there will no longer be links to those individuals' Member Web-Pages.



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 DECEMBER MEETING

Our December meeting saw Linda Sonntag, Kate, Poitevin, Dave McChesney, Marilee Hudon, Robert Hildahl, Esther Hildahl, Tiffani Harvey, Sue Eller, Larry Danek, George Critchlow, and Caryl Briscoe-Michas gather at the Golden Corral to share excerpts from their work. Also attending were Eva and Jessica McChesney, Dave's wife and daughter, and Kate's daughter.

Acting President Sue Eller welcomed everyone and invited those who wished to do so to read a small portion of something they'd written.

Esther Hildahl began the afternoon with "Angus the Rat," a short story from her latest children's book, *Winter Stories*. Dave McChesney was next, offering a scene from *Darnahsian Pirates: The Third Stone Island Sea Story*. Linda Sonntag shared a short poem called "I Don't Remember Winter."

Although he's been a member for some time, George Critchlow was attending for the very first time. He read from the beginning of his non-fiction book, *The Lifer and the Lawyer*. Tiffani Harvey offered a sample of *Freedom Seeking*, while Caryl Briscoe-Michas provided an excerpt from her memoir. Lastly, Sue Eller read a selection from her recently published collection of short stories.

Following the open mic session there was some discussion about taking advantage of the vendors market at Northtown Mall. As this set up goes until April, it was decided that

those who wanted to do so could check things out and report back at our next meeting.

After a short break, raffle tickets were distributed and a drawing held for the day's door prize. Oddly, we only had one prize, a copy of Dave McChesney's *Darnahsian Pirates*, won by Caryl Briscoe-Michas. Following the drawing we wished each other Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas! And Happy New Year before departing for home or places unknown.

## 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](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

## WRITING SERVICES UPDATES

Crystal Carney lives in Coeur d' Alene and provides editing services. She hopes to attend a Spokane Authors and Self-Publisher's meeting in the near future.  
she/her  
(208) 704-9031  
[crystallinediting.weebly.com](http://crystallinediting.weebly.com)  
[crystalcarney.weebly.com](http://crystalcarney.weebly.com)  
Connect with her on LinkedIn:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/crystal-carney->

[6917a0192/](#)

"Everyone you will ever meet knows something you don't."

— **Bill Nye**

## Upcoming Events

Currently we do not show any upcoming events or functions for any of our members. However here is a note for anyone who might be looking for an opportunity to sell books, etc. I think this is set to run through April. There is more information at the listed web-site. Thanks, Esther for providing this.

Dear Authors,

If you are interested in selling your books at Northtown, go to [www.beyoutifullocalmarket.com](http://www.beyoutifullocalmarket.com). The application is short and easy to fill out. It's expensive, but Bob and I were told that more than one vendor can share a booth. You must sign up for a minimum of two weekends. Also, every table must have a black floor length table cloth.

Esther

## 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.

### Phillip Jones

*The Casebook of Thadeus Rede & Other Stories* B00HWXAWTW 1492181730  
*Inventions and Discoveries: A Trip Through History* B00FBHNFRW 149038460X  
*Forensic Science for Writers: A Reference Guide* B008Y2MX8S 1475267207  
*Criminal Investigators, Villains, and Tricksters: A Trip Through History* B00DVP4YHQ 148279960X

### Gail Saunders

*Cluckenstein: The Halloween Chicken*  
[1946882054](#)

### Asia Rachel Cohen

*Fire of Thorns* B07YW6838N 1973671298

### Lauri "Midge" Cline

*Prey to the Order: An aon Lah Hathra Adventure* B07Z48BR56 1700086456  
*Wyndham Hall* B07FY59VRP 1723480436  
*Shadow Blades (The BREED Fae Chronicles)* B07MDT8B52 1791691226

### Kylea Carter

*Out of the Sand* B01E4FARAE

### Johanna Price

*Raising Buckshot: A Family's Experience with Autism* B00RKH993A 1483420205

### George Critchlow

*Travels with Vamper: A Graybeard's Journey* B0787NRJ8Y 1506905277

### Joan M. Kop

*The Freedom Chaser* B07PNYVCSF 0578217740

### Joy Linn

*I've Been Born Again! Now What?* 0977342808  
*Ten Keys to Freedom* B07B67SQ4M 1640289283

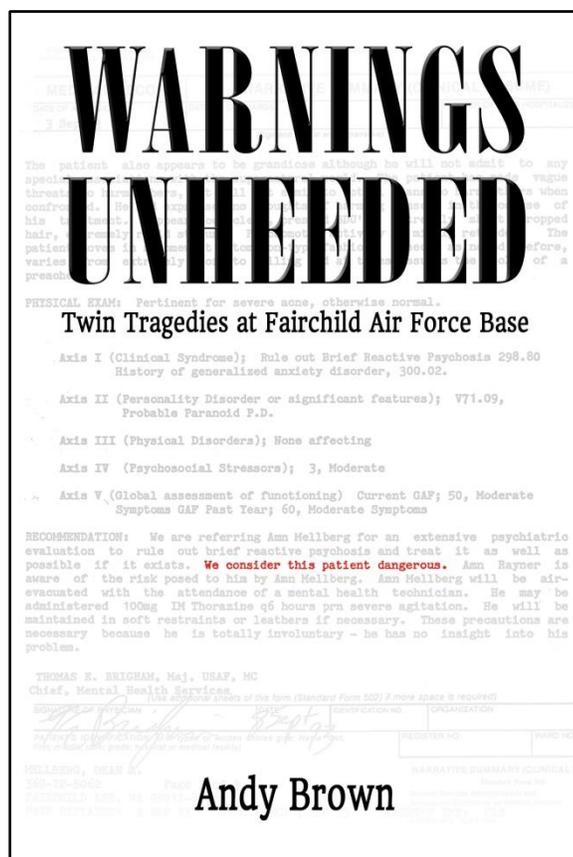
### Stephen D. Lalonde

*The Phoenix Gift* B07KGMSBDJ  
*A Palette of Verse* B01NCJ8IP7

### Sidney Hemmingsmoore

*Health Secrets of the Bible* B09HJJ1K57 B09HG4KHDZ

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



Reviewed by James B. Parry

This is a first-person account of the 1994 twin tragedies at Fairchild Air Force Base: a mass shooting followed by a B-52 crash four days later – written by the very airman who took out the shooter! It's a thoroughly gripping book that would make a thoroughly gripping movie, as it has an *In Cold Blood* vibe. Although this is Mr. Brown's first book you'll be amazed by his excellent, professional, matter-of-fact writing style.

Having lived in Spokane all of my life I vividly recall these two incidents, but knew few of the details. Brown provides all of those details. Besides having been in the middle of the bloodshed he has researched the heck out of both tragedies, finding that both were quite preventable had any of the "professionals" taken the time to think things through. Hundreds of interviews, medical records, and

other transcripts show that colossal mistakes in judgement were made. They seemed like two unrelated events, but Brown has tied them together by showing us that both were caused by warnings that went unheeded.

Towards the end of the book, Brown discusses the trauma experienced by all involved – that continues to haunt them still. Andy has had a particularly difficult time of it but has finally made peace with it. He currently has a good job and a wonderful, supportive family.

A fast-paced, exciting (and sad) book with a good ending.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

I was living in Spokane in 1995 when the events depicted in *Warnings Unheeded* took place. I remember being glued to the TV, waiting for any bit of news to explain what was happening. We heard how the hospitals were filling up and sketchy details, film of, what looked like, every first responder in the county gathered together. There was one of those info bites that they kept repeating about the young man who stopped the rampage. I remember my heart aching for him and I thought *this will change his life forever*. I never was giving the answers I needed, but frequently thought about that day and the brave young man who saved so many more lives.

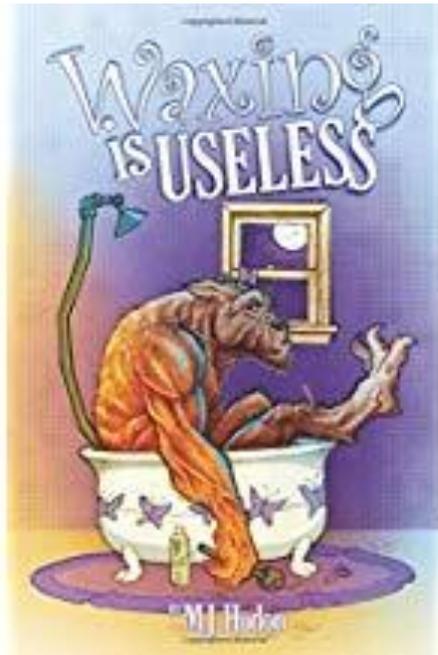
Imagine my surprise, 22 years later, when that same young man stood up to speak at my writer's group. I nearly burst into tears! Andy spoke to us of that day and about the research he had done to put this book together. It was clear that I was right all those years ago; his eyes revealed that he is still haunted by the events, not only the one he was involved in, but also the tragic B-52 crash later that week.

Mr. Brown has finally answered all my questions and more, not only in the minute-by-minute telling of the events of that day, but of the histories of the shooter and all those involved. He tells the story in a fair and completely non-judgmental way. Just the facts.

And with those facts, he lets us decide where to lay the blame.

Recently, a former military man, with a bad conduct discharge for violent acts, entered a church and killed 26 people with a gun he should never have been able to buy. He did buy it because the military “forgot” to put him on the list. My first thought when I heard the news, was of Mr. Brown. After all these years and so many *unheeded warnings*, they still foist their damaged men out onto an unsuspecting population with no back up plan.

From the eyes of an author, *Warnings Unheeded* is very well written, extensively researched, on-the-edge-of-your-seat, best non-fiction book I’ve ever read.



By M.J. Hudon

Reviewed by James B. Parry

Don’t judge this book by its cover (or by its playful title.) It is quite a serious (with some humor) fantasy, horror, thriller, murder mystery about a seemingly ordinary family. Turns out, Mom (Miranda) has a weird recessive gene that causes her to turn into a wolf whenever stressed. Events gradually reveal this to her,

and later to her family, as her lupus and problems at work worsen, not to mention the stress caused by her two teenage children.

This is a different kind of werewolf book. These wolf/humans are here to HELP humankind. (Not to worry: There is a hideous - and odoriferous - monster lurking at all times in the background.) Apparently, many people have this hidden wolf gene. These “werewolves” then become “Guardians” protecting us normal human beings. Miranda must decide if she wants to become a Guardian (which would greatly lessen her lupus symptoms) or stick with her regular life.

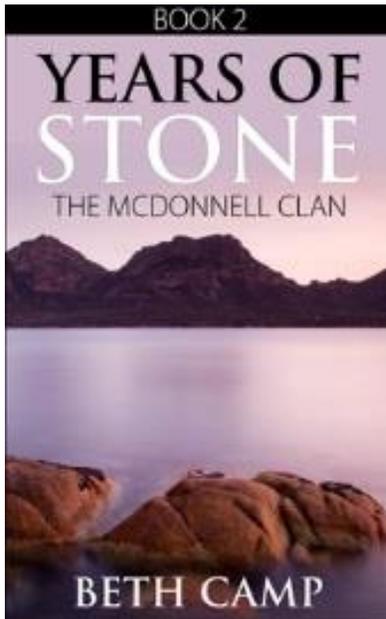
There are many surprises in this book including a few murders, a kidnapping, and a sort of exorcism. Exciting and well written. It was hard to put it down. Normally, I read a few pages of a book in bed each night before the book puts me to sleep, but *Waxing Is Useless* kept me reading for hours – until my wife would yell at me to turn out the light.

Buy a copy, and you, too, will be glued to this book.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

A nameless evil lurks in the side streets and back alleys of Spokane, Washington. Unseen, but felt by the more sensitive human residents and smelled by the Guardians of the mid-sized metropolis, it hunts the sweet taste of its next victim, a vulnerable soul.

Hudon contrasts the horror of the hunter’s depravity and destruction with the tale of a bumbling housewife as she discovers her very own superpower. Creative cusswords are not only G-rated but hilarious. Humor and hope are interwoven skillfully with terror and trepidation as the author reveals the true nature of the Guardians and the reader discovers that, at least for some, *Waxing is Useless*.



Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

When I got the news of a release party for *Years of Stone*, I put it on my calendar. That morning I arose to pouring rain and high winds, the weather was dismal. I had to drive to the other side of Spokane, to a new and unfamiliar area, and run across a flooded parking lot, but nothing would deter me from finding out what happened to Mac and Deirdre.

I was not disappointed.

*Years of Stone* follows Mac and Deidre to Van Deimen's Land, now known as Tasmania. Ms. Camp has woven the love story into the history of the time. I had no knowledge of Van Deimen's Land before reading this book. To my surprise, within days of finishing, several documentaries popped up on TV. I was so excited to see the places and hear again the history. You know how you feel when a city is in the news that you have been to and loved? That's how I felt.

*Years of Stone* had a satisfactory ending, but I want to know what happened to the rest of the McDonnells. Now, I have to wait again....

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

In the year 1842 Deidre Scott and Mac McDonnell, the man Deidre loves and left

Scotland for, are on a ship headed for Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania). Before they reach their destination, a storm comes up and their ship runs aground on an outcropping of rock. Through dangerous conditions, they must find their way to the beach and later to Hobart Town. Mac is a prisoner and has a sentence of seven years of hard labor to serve. He is beaten and treated very poorly. Deidre has promised to wait for him and must find work to support herself. Her dream is to be a schoolteacher and have her own school. She is befriended by Lady Franklin, the wife of the Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land. Lady Franklin is a good friend and tries to help Deidre and Mac when she can. But can Mac be saved when he is transferred to Port Arthur, the worst prison of all? Will Deidre and Mac ever be able to build a normal life for themselves?

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book. *Years of Stone* is book 2 of The McDonnell Clan. Camp is a very talented writer who writes an engaging story that the reader can truly get caught up in. It's a historical fiction book with well-defined characters and a wonderful love story. I recommend it to one and all.