

SASP

NEWS

July 2018

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



Happy 4th of July!

Celebrate Independence

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

Members need to be present to win door prizes.

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. (Be sure to visit the “links” page on our web-site. It will connect you to many interesting on-line locations, including those of many SASP members.)

Guest speakers at our monthly meetings inform, inspire, and entertain members and guests with a variety of topics, all designed to provide knowledge pertinent to writing and publishing.

SASP members are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works of and with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate examples of their work for use as door

prizes. Those who win other members’ works are expected to provide a review of that work.

Note:

SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from our meetings. Please take your name tag with you. It is yours to keep and maintain. Please take any books you have provided for display with SASP.

We will provide space for you to display your books, but you must bring them to each meeting.

SASP now has a dedicated e-mail account. Contact us at:
authors@spokaneauthors.org

2018 Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------|
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mr.inky@yahoo.com |
| (509) 489-2136 | |
| Vice-President: | Sue Eller
sue@ellermarketing.net |
| (509) 499-2012 | |
| Secretary: | |
| Newsletter Editor: | |
| Web Master: | Dave McChesney
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| Treasurer: | Kate Poitevin
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| Public-Relations: | Marilee Hudon
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Advisory Board:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|
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| Member: | Bob Weldin
minersquest@comcast.net |
| (509) 327-2897 | |
| Member: | Chuck Lehman
cmlehman4@yahoo.com |
| (509) 299-7802 | |

“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/>

OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us **Thursday, July 7th** at the **Golden Corral** on Spokane's **North Division Street**. The meeting room will be available for dining, conversation, and general socializing at 2:00 pm. **Our meeting and scheduled presentation begin at 2:30.**



Guest speaker for the July 5th Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers Meeting will once again be **Stephen Pitters**. Since his last visit he has published a book of poetry. Hopefully he will tell us about his book launch efforts and read from this new volume.

Stephen hosts a poetry and writing related show every week on *KYRS Thin Air Radio* (kyrs.org). In odd numbered months he hosts presentations at **Barnes and Noble** in the *North Town Mall*. After he spoke at a previous meeting several SASP members were interviewed on his radio show or have taken part in the Barnes and Noble events. Possibly he would welcome more member participation in the future.

He continually helps promote local authors, poets, and musicians. He has also talked of his quest to find his ancestors and spoke at several events during Black History Month. Stephen notes that the LDS Church Genealogy Library, here in Spokane, is possibly the best source for ancestral research he's discovered.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I like to write. I always have ideas for new stories and think about different aspects of writing daily. I've learned to jot down many of these ideas, and I know the more you write the more motivated and creative you become. I even enjoy the tasks of researching information for my stories and tweaking my sentences and paragraphs to make them as readable and interesting as possible.

However, after saying all of these things about the hobby I love, there is one obstacle that is very frustrating to me and sometimes prevents me from creating and writing my stories for days, weeks, months, even years. That obstacle is time. I never seem to have enough of it. Often my best laid plans are interrupted by unexpected surgeries, spouse's surgeries, appointments, computer problems, vacations, family events, grandchildren, home remodeling, yard work, etc. In other words - life.

What's a writer to do? Give up? I say, "Never!" I have three manuscripts in different stages of being ready for publication that I am currently working on, but it is slow going. I'm hoping for some magic that will give me more time. If any of you have any ideas on this subject, please write and share your magic.

Happy writing!

Esther

(Reprinted from the July 2016 edition of SASP NEWS.)

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER



Over the past decade or so I've missed very few meetings of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers. On occasion I've been a bit under the weather or job requirements have prevented my attendance. I was not at our most recent meeting for an entirely different reason, that being I was attending another writer related event.

Along with a handful of other SASP members, I attended the Connecting Writers with Hollywood Conference at the Davenport Hotel in down town Spokane. It has been a while since I'd attended a conference and it felt good to once again immerse myself in the world of writing/publishing, and in this case, film production.

I thought the conference was interesting and educational, well worth the price paid. As the name of it suggests, the primary focus was on authors getting their work in front of film producers with the hopes of one day seeing the written work translated into a movie or television show. The conference also served to get folks with an interest in film, screen writers, etc. connected with others in the film business.

Before the conference I had, pretty much at random selected the two industry "bigwigs" I wanted to pitch my work to. Neither offered to buy the film rights to either of the *Stone Island Sea Stories* on the spot, but I did come away with some encouragement. One individual seemed interested in the stories but was concerned with the books' sales success. The other was also interested and seemed less concerned about prior sales. Both were

interested enough that I was asked to contact them in the future.

One thing I took away from the event was that film production is expensive. That is why producers won't simply jump in and make a film version of any old story out there. It has to be something that is going to generate ticket revenue and help them recoup their expenses. My books my never see the silver screen, even though I can visualize the events in the stories being played out there. I remember a critique from a contest I entered several years ago stating that the book would lend itself to being filmed commercially. Who knows, perhaps someone in the film industry will see it the same way.

The conference ran for three days, so there was a lot more going on than quick pitch meetings with film professionals. There were a lot of classes, seminars, and presentations about the industry, screen writing, and other aspects of film making. Once again I thought the experience well worth the price of attending. And it gave me a chance to explore and soak up the atmosphere of a treasured local landmark.

JUNE's MEETING



Since several of our members were attending the CONNECTING WRITERS WITH HOLLYWOOD conference, the June meeting consisted primarily of an “Open Mic” session. Esther did her brief “opening-the meeting” thing. This was followed by Kate announcing, in order, those who had signed-up to read brief portions of their latest writings.

Henry Sasser was first up. While visiting the Google Maps site Henry was surprised to find that there were cities called East & West Berlin (and Liverpool) in Nova Scotia! This led his imagination to a very entertaining Medieval-type fairy land.

Next up was Tiffany Harvey who read a chapter from *A Journey to Independence* entitled “Dating and Marriage”, which gave us some excellent rules by which to live.

Chuck Lehman played part of his audio book, *Lazarus Arise*. Cameron Beierle’s reading made us feel as if we were in the Holy Land two thousand years ago.

Bill Tracy read an article from *Aramco World Magazine*. It described Bill and his writings about and exploits in the Middle East.

Steve Webber captivated us with a short memoir focusing on his severe stroke suffered a few years ago. He continues to have some difficulty finding the right word as well as a few other problems, but, on the whole, has recovered remarkably well.

Gail Saunders read a brief portion from her second book in her *Moon* series. It focused on (a well-written – and sad) description of a young couple splitting apart.

Esther Hildahl told us more about *Poopy the Fly*. The chapter she read depicted Poopy, Amber, and Butch discussing school and the dangers of spiders.

After the break Esther passed out two interesting brain teasers (which fooled most of us), and Kate discussed (and was disgusted by) Amazon’s policy of not letting a person review a book unless she or he had purchased at least \$50 worth of merchandise.

Door prizes were won by: Joyce Caudel, Tiffani Harvey, Chuck Lehman’s wife, Tiffani’s guest, Bob Hildahl, and Bill Tracy.

(Thanks to Jim Parry for taking notes at the meeting while Dave McChesney attended

the Connecting Writers with Hollywood Conference.)

SASP FINANCIAL STATUS

Our Treasurer reports that there was no change in our financial status since the last report. We currently have a balance of \$2751.80

MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

A couple of weeks ago your editor/web-master was updating a web-page for one of our members. That individual asked if we had a form for folks to fill out and submit regarding those web-pages. At this point in time we do not. Until we do have one, we will provide the following guide for those that wish to provide information for a member web-page.

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

In many cases your editor/web-master can find much of this on-line, if it is there. If it’s not and you would like to have a member web-page that is as complete as possible, please e-mail information to daveeva@comcast.net, authors@spokaneauthors.org, or send via USPS to:

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

Naturally you are encouraged to check out the other member web-pages posted on our web-site at www.spokaneauthors.org. Click on the “Members” button along the left and then click on the member whose page you wish to view.

Please note: We are always reading and willing to update and correct any web-page. Do not hesitate to contact your web-master if you think your page needs attention.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

WRITE on the SOUND

Writers' Conference
Edmonds, Washington

Keynote speaker:

NYT best-selling author **Cara Black**

Pre-conference FULL DAY WORK SHOP

with **Michael David Lukas**

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday,

October 5, 6, & 7, 2018

Registration opens

Wednesday July 18th at 10 am PDT.

Complete Information and Schedule at:

www.writeonthesound.com

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON & KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are available on Amazon and/or Kindle™

(Contact the editor/web-master at daveeva@comcast.net 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

Various SASP members

*Celebrating Spokane Authors:
A Collection of Poetry, Essays, and Short Stories* **B077GBTQ67**

D. Andrew McChesney:

Beyond the Ocean's Edge:
A Stone Island Sea Story **B008TXC332**
Sailing Dangerous Waters:
Another Stone Island Sea Story **B00HF9Y05K**

James Parry:

Book All the Teachers:
An Irreverent Ride through Middle School **1501042211**

Bob Weldin:

The Dry Diggin's Club **0578106825**
The Adventurists **153027253X**

Sue Eller:

Return from Armageddon **B005JVAJKQ**
Meadowlark Madness **B0097D599**
Send in the Drones **Coming Soon!**
The Gluten Free Gourmand **150853134X**
Taming of the T-Bird **1505963982**

Beth Camp:

The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales **B0090VHKBC**
Standing Stones **B0013RYFW6**
Years of Stone **B00LF3FY4S**
Rivers of Stone **B077M1TFLP**

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht **1503167844**
(This book is currently being reissued as a three volume set. Information will be provided when available.)

Joyce Caudel:

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

Helen Christine (Foster):

Full Disclosure **0990722201**
The Lenders **0990722228**

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**

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
Sabrina's Promise 0996864407

Sandra L. Mason:

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

Don Brockett:

Tyrannical Rule of the U. S. Supreme Court
B01GW712VU

Stan Parks:

Jakob's Ladies 1532910762

Tiffani Harvey:

A Journey to Independence 1533499438
Growing Independent 1533499926

Allen Dorfman:

Reaching: A Vietnam War Novel 1500489638

Fred Jessett:

Mountains Melt Away B00KD5KWIW
My Name is Tamar B00DH3REWO
Drummer Loves Dancer B073H2RP7P

Lewis Meline:

Lies Exposed! The Truth about Diets...
0997915501

J. B. Rivard

Illusions of Magic:
Love and Intrigue in 1933 Chicago B01EGSC8N8
Illusions of Magic: The Movie B0751RL53G

Larry Danek

I'm the Ghost in this Body:
The Nomadic Ghost B01I0Z500Q
Jed's World B00MWDJ1YY

Ghostly Reunion:

A Nomadic Ghost Story B077KHR33M

Diana Wickes

Home is Where the Heart Is 1523381841

Elegy to a Montanan: A widow's Song

1523382414

Andy Brown

Warnings Unheeded:
Twin Tragedies at Fairchild Air Force Base
0997863404

Esther J. Hildahl

Meadow Pond 154244828X
Mr. Inky: Spider with an Attitude 1542451248
Marie's Marvelous Tomato 1548307653

Kathy Rae:

The Jewel of Hope: Book 1:
The Hope Trilogy 1500236578

Ducky Day or Yucky Day...You Choose

154139142X

Deprogramming a Bully: Book 1:

The Barber Chair Series B06W5NP6Y1

Margaret Albi Verhoef & Rita Gard Seedorf:

Letters from Brackham Wood B00JEMX656
Letters from a Wary Watcher B01EKOHO2C

Russell H. Ford

Depop B019NGA00Q

Wayne Kyle Spitzer

That Thing We Killed B076QF8XZY
Comes a Ferryman B074SJJ1TJ
The Tempter and the Taker B074SV557F
The Pierced Veil B074STJMGW
Black Hole, White Fountain B074SY83RW
To the End of Ursathrax B074SWXM61
X-Ray Rider 1 B0755QN1N6
X-Ray Rider 2 B0755PY9NB
X-Ray Rider 3 B0755QPM67

Algernon Blackwood's "The Willows," a

Scriptment B07575JDFS
Flashback B07689XLTX
Flashback Dawn: "Naaygi" B07836PYT5
Flashback Dawn: The Devil's Snambnala
B078NHDKZN

Faraway, Nearby

B076PNH7V8

Behind a Pale Mask

1973289415

Wet Bark

B077RJ463S

Killer in the Looking Glass

B0779DM1QH

Lean Season

B074VD53SF

How About a Coke and Some Fries?

Flying the Fog Roads of Cascadia	B077TPR77D
Red Marillion	B077WTSXZN
Coffin Road	B077M3ZHWP
Napoleon	B076XQY5FK
	B076FBPRYV

Azalea Dabill

Falcon Heart	B00VOEQXIO
Falcon Flight	B019YRTIRO
Lance & Quill	B010ZD7PVS
Path of the Warrior	B00W4JYHL8
Falcon's Ode	B075ZZBPKR
Nightshade & Knitbone	1943034109

Karen Jean Matsko Hood

<i>Blood Heiress</i>	1592108857
<i>Bloom of Autumn Gold</i>	1592102166
<i>Huckleberry Delights</i>	B0045U9U34 1596493852
<i>Transracial Adoption</i>	1594346186
<i>Petting Farm Fun</i>	1594346186
<i>Finding Rudolph</i>	B074JZPG9X 1598082957
<i>Morning Reflections</i>	B00DH70LVG 1930948557

(This is a partial list of Karen's books. More will be added with time.)

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

(While the author of this book is not a member of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, the following review was written and submitted by long time member, former Vice-President and current Advisory Board Member Bob Weldin.)

Coal Wars:

Unions, Strikes and Violence in
Depression Era Central Washington



(No cover image currently available)
David Bullock

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.

(The following review was written by a current member, for a book authored by a current member.)

De-pop



By Russell H. Ford

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

What if those folks secretly in charge of everything thought that controlling or limiting the population would be the best for everybody? What if others opposed that idea? Bring in others supporting the idea of population control and put them in conflict with those who are against it.

This is the premise of Russell Ford's first novel. Open the cover and step into a world of black ops, church intervention on a not so holy level, and the dangerous life of agent Neah Bey. It reads like a thriller because it is. Well written, it is difficult to put down. Despite the deep sometimes disturbing premise of the story, there is an entertaining, somewhat lighter air to it. Unique is that many of the characters are named for cities, towns, and other geographical locations in the Pacific Northwest. Being a resident of that region, this reviewer soon caught on to the author's method of creating character names and looked forward to see what little town or feature would be mentioned next.

This was an intense and interesting read and I look forward to the author's next offering.