



SASP

NEWS

June 2019

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



Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers (SASP) began in 1998 when *Chuck O’Conner, Elmer Freeman, Joe Meiners, and Dan Vollmer*, Spokane area authors, formed a club in order to share knowledge and experience with those interested in writing and alternative ways of publishing. Today, SASP is a large non-profit organization dedicated to anyone with interests in any aspect of writing and art. Members include aspiring (and successful) authors, poets, journalists, illustrators, editors, publishers, printers, writing instructors, and many others. Monthly luncheon meetings provide inspiration and education by way of knowledgeable and entertaining guest speakers, and the cheerful camaraderie of people sharing common interests and goals. Membership is open to all who love writing, art, and interesting people.

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers meets the first Thursday of each month at **Golden Corral**, 7117 N. Division Street, in Spokane

Presentations begin at **2:30 pm**. The room opens at **2:00 pm** so members and guests can dine, visit, join, pay dues, browse, and perhaps buy each other’s books. After short break, members and guests relate their accomplishments, mention upcoming activities, and we draw for door prizes. Members and guests must be present to win.

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

Membership benefits include listing on the SASP website, www.spokaneauthors.org. Many members provide short biographies and links to external personal websites, creating more marketing exposure. Current members may list and describe their published works on the SASP website and offer their work for sale at meetings. (Visit the “members” page on our web-site to connect with members’ web-pages. Our “links” page connects to interesting on-line locations, including those of many SASP members.)

Guest speakers inform, inspire, and entertain with a variety of topics designed to provide knowledge about writing and publishing.

SASP members are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works of and with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate copies of their work as door prizes. Winners of others’ work are expected to provide a review.

Note: SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from meetings. Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. Please take books you provide for display. We provide space for displaying your books, but you must bring them to each meeting.

Submission Deadline: Items to be included in the next edition of SASP NEWS must be received by the editor a week prior to the next scheduled meeting.

2019 Officers:

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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!

Please join us **Thursday, June 6, 2019** at the **Golden Corral** on Spokane's **North Division Street**. The meeting room is open for dining, conversation, and general socializing at 2:00 pm. **Our meeting and scheduled presentation begin at 2:30.**

Our speaker for the next meeting is one of our newest members, Joy Linn. She will talk about her experiences in the publishing industry and give us some tips about marketing. The title of her talk is *Alice in Wonderland*.

Joy Linn is an ordained minister and is the author of *I've Been Born Again, Now What?* and her latest *Ten Keys to Freedom*. She is a poet who has won numerous awards in that field; a songwriter; stage director and playwright.

Joy has been listed in *Who's Who in the West* and *Who's Who International*. For many years she was a member of ASCAP and has been involved in the writing of music for films.

Joy is a gifted and prolific writer. She co-wrote a Christian album for children entitled *The Bible Story Lady*, which will soon see be re-released, and she presently has five more books scheduled for publication.

You can find out more about her on her Facebook page. Search for Joy Linn or Joy Linn Author.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Saw comedian Craig Ferguson on TV the other day. He has written a book, *Riding the Elephant*, and is hitting all the talk shows promoting it. (Wish each of us had that kind of power!) Mr. Ferguson actually took an elephant ride in Sri Lanka a few years ago. He learned that riding an elephant is a metaphor for life itself:



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You think you're in charge, that you're guiding the beast, but in reality, the elephant can and will go wherever it wants. You can train the elephant. You can train the trainers. But ultimately, the pachyderm goes where it wishes to go. Same with life: You make all these plans, you work hard pursuing the plans (and all of that helps guide your life) but sometimes life just takes off on you and goes its own way. This analogy applies very specifically to us writers: You take a big risk (and a big chunk of time) writing down your personal thoughts to share with the world. Scary! You try to steer your final product toward certain vendors, audiences, and/or progeny, but it's never a given which way the wind will take your work. Even during the writing process (Has this ever happened to you?) the characters often just take off on their own.

So don't forget to use some analogies in your writings. Metaphors and similes can add pizzazz to your stories. Just don't overdue the adverbs. ("We make wonderful tops for kitchen cabinets," he said counterproductively.)

Jim

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

For the cover of SASP NEWS I try to select an emblem, photograph, or design that reflects the current month. It may have to do with a particular holiday, a season of the year, or events commonly taking place during that particular month. This month I actually came up with something for Flag Day, Fathers' Day, and Graduation Day! If you have ideas for future cover images, let me know, or send something along. I just might be able to use it.



As SASP Web-Master and SASP NEWS Editor, I try to publicize members' events and other writing related activities in the

local area. Sometimes I receive information at the last minute and think about not sending it, because I figure it's too late. When I do send it, I occasionally get complaints due to the lateness of the announcement and that this person would have gone, had he or she known a bit earlier. So now I am trying to list many regular events by other writing groups on our "Programs" page and in the newsletter. Then any last minute notice should serve as intended, as a reminder only, and not catch anyone (or as many) off guard.

Continuing on, if you want to have your event listed, please send me the information as early as possible. I think we all recall someone at a meeting announce a signing or other author event in the immediate future. There is simply not enough time to get those events listed on our web-site, put it in SASP NEWS, or send a reminder out to our membership. The more lead time there is, the better chance I will be able to include your event on the SASP Web-site or in our newsletter. Consider that the newsletter is usually sent out a week ahead of our next scheduled meeting. Your event needs to be scheduled after that time to be listed.



OUR MAY MEETING

(Compiled and submitted by Linda Sonntag)



Spokane Library Logo

After a few jokes that President Jim Parry assured us were just "playing with words," he introduced our Vice-President, Sue Eller, who in turn introduced our guest speaker, Jeff Benefield. Jeff is the librarian for Spokane's North Region. He began by saying his "thunder had been stolen" because he had intended to use a white screen and present a power point, but his presentation was, nonetheless, full of great information.

First, he asked how many had library cards and, if not, indicated we could get one today. He also talked about the food drive the city library is doing; if you have late fees or fines, they can be erased just by donating. There is also a pet drive and the same goes for a donation of a new leash, pet food, or collar.

Shadle Library has many items that can be checked out that people are not aware of. Some of these things include: snowshoes, guitars, telescopes, garden tools and backpacks. Shadle Library is due to double in size and will soon have many more meeting rooms.

Multicultural events are going on now at all city libraries (South hill, downtown), such as celebrating Asian Pacific American week.

Jeff also told us that there is \$165,000 allocated for online services for library patrons. For example, histories of local counties - Spokane, Stevens, Whitman - can be googled, as can research of car repair, copyright law for teachers, and much more.

Various services include: "appy hour" when I.T. people can answer your techy questions; a Northwest history display downtown; resources for the blind; requested books, pop titles or even obsolete items such as VHS tapes put on hold and, if something is not immediately available, there are interlibrary loans. For more information, contact jbenefield@spokanelibrary.org

Joy Linn read two beautiful poems: "Poem of the Bumblebee" and "Angel Horse." The first poem's primary message is: ignore the naysayers - bumblebees are not supposed to be able to fly, but they do! "Angel Horse" is about a black mustang that saved a suicidal vet's life and an equestrian group for veterans with challenges.

Over the past month, Esther Hildahl sent in three book reviews. Bob Hildahl submitted two, and Bob Weldin and Joyce Caudel each provided one.

Chuck Lehman announced his new book, fourth in a series of Historical Christian Fiction, entitled *The Apostle's Wife*. He described it as a "book of transformation".

Upcoming events include: Esther Hildahl will be (was) at the Nazarene church at 9004

N. Country Homes Blvd May 4th from 9 a.m. till 3. There will be arts & craft events at this location on Saturday, June 1st, Sat., July 6th, and Sat., August 3rd, all outside, and space may be available to sell books. On the 21st at 6 p.m. Kate Poitevin will be at the Shadle Library.

Tiffani Harvey's book signing at 2nd Look Books will be Saturday the 25th of May. There had been some confusion as word had originally been received indicating it was to have been on May 2nd, the same day as our meeting.

Tiffani handed out raffle tickets, winners helped draw names, and the meeting ended. Door prize winners included, Samijo Tinsley, Asia Cohen, Sandra Philbin, Linda Bond, Jim Silliman, Esther Hildahl, Sue Eller, Jeremiah Sargent, Ed Des Autel, Stan Parks, and Cindy Silliman.

Welcome new members Kari Barr, Samijo Tinsley, and Asia Rachael Cohen. Thanks to those who renewed membership in Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers for 2019.

Our next meeting will be June 6th and fellow member Joy Linn is slated to be our speaker.

MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

We are providing 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

You are encouraged to check out 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 ready 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.

On Going:

The Inland Northwest Writers Guild (INWG) meets the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at Frankie Doodles in downtown Spokane.

Write on the Sound

Writers Conference
Edmonds, WA, October 5, 6, & 7.
Info at: www.writeonthesound.com

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON & KINDLE

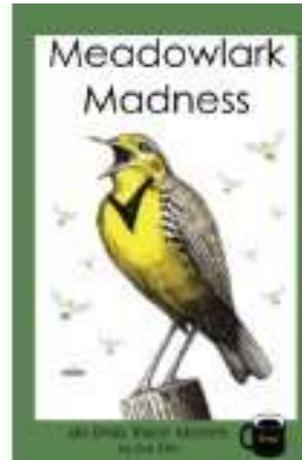
Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We post short segments of this list on a rotating basis. The complete list is available on the web-site, under "NEWS")

(Contact the editor/web-master at daveeva@comcast.net or at authors@spokaneauthors.org to get your Amazon/Kindle books listed)

To speed your search, add the provided ten digit numerical or alpha-numerical code (ASIN) to: [www\(dot\)amzn\(dot\)com/dp/](http://www(dot)amzn(dot)com/dp/)
Example: www.amzn.com./dp/B008TXC332
or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044

Beth Camp:*The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales***B0090VHKBC***Standing Stones***B00I3RYFW6***Years of Stone***B00LF3FY4S***Rivers of Stone***B077M1TFLP****Kate Poitevin:***Saving Tir Gaeltacht (original, entire story)***1503167844 B00QJA8B3I***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****B. J. Campbell:***Close Calls: True Tales of Cougar Bob***1936178044****Bob Manion:***Santa's Heroes***1936178095***The Tree House***B004IZLHLE***The Tree House (new edition)***1946882003***Springer's Heart***0978850742***Summer Rain***B00ZM3S2IM***Vampire and the Cop***B00ZM4BBOS**

Retitled

*Vampire Justice***0996864415***Sabrina's Promise***0996864407****FEATURED BOOK REVIEW****Meadowlark Madness:****An Emily Trace Mystery**

By Sue Eller

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

Naturally one would assume that E. T. Investigations was formed to look into encounters with UFOs and aliens from beyond this world. In fact, Emily Trace opened this detective agency to find out why her husband had been murdered. To fund her personal investigation she takes on a client who, like us, mistakes the significance of the initials "E. T." Assigned to look into the apparent disappearance of the region's meadowlarks, Emily and her friends are drawn into a bigger mystery, one that does involve aliens and other worlds.

This book is very hard to place into a specific genre. It is a mystery, a science-fiction novel, perhaps a police procedural, and may even qualify as a "cozy." Regardless of where it fits, it is a most entertaining and enjoyable read. Set in and around Spokane, Washington, and told as if by Emily herself, the pages turn at a rapid rate. Uniquely, Emily sometimes stops to admonish the reader or to remind them of bits of popular culture from days gone by, which adds to the direct conversational tone of the story.

Meadowlark Madness is a very enjoyable book, created by a writer with a clever and unusual view of the world. This

reviewer looks forward to reading more of the *Emily Trace Mysteries* as they become available.

Meadowlark Madness: an Emily Trace Mystery, ISBN 9781479181711 is available in paperback at a number of Spokane area bookstores, as well as on Amazon in both paperback and Kindle™ formats.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Emily Trace's husband, Jared, has been murdered, and the police can't figure out who did it, so Emily opens up her own detective agency to solve the crime herself. However, business is slow--no customers. Without customers she has no money to pay her bills and rent, and soon she'll be forced to close her office and move out. If only she had one paying client...

Then the office door opens and in walks a birdlike little character named Mr. Archibald Wren. He has a case for her to solve. A very strange case, for you see, he wants her to solve the mystery as to where all the world's meadowlark birds have disappeared to. And thus, the strange, sometimes out-of-this-world adventure begins.

Meadowlark Madness is Eller's first *Emily Trace Mystery*. It's well-written and her characters are well-defined, clever, and interesting. The story is fast-paced and exciting. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book, and I recommend it to all who love a good mystery.

Available at local Spokane bookstores, as well as on Amazon, and Kindle.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

Ms. Eller has woven an interesting tale, full of quirky characters and surprising twists and turns. Her ability to break the forth wall at regular intervals gives us the feeling that Emily is sitting with us as she tells her story. She keeps it moving right along so that you don't even want to stop to get a fresh cup of coffee. But, you must, because she has subliminally made you **need** one.

I have heard that there is a second book in the works and I will be first in line to get it. I must know if Emily will find Jared's killer. In the meantime, I must put on a fresh pot of coffee and wait.

Reviewed by Beth Camp

This 5-star cozy mystery is sure to delight!

Just when overdue rent threatens to close the doors of Emily Trace's E.T. Investigations, a new client arrives with an unusual concern (and a bundle of cash): The meadowlarks are missing!

Willing to accept nearly any commission to keep the doors of her private eye business open, recently widowed Emily Trace is determined to prove that her husband's death was not accidental.

What ensues is a riotous and eventually overlapping series of events, engaging characters that come to life, and a plot that mixes a cozy mystery with science fiction flair. Within a very few sentences, I was hooked by Sue Eller's witty and entertaining voice and imaginative storytelling. She brings to life the pleasures of living in a city with a small town heart, where people know each other and are willing to help when needed. Bird lovers and Star Trek fans will appreciate the allusions sprinkled throughout, and I thoroughly enjoyed Sue Eller's ability to characters so fully that I felt I knew them – even Mr. Wren and Mr. Finch.

Reviewed by Joyce Caudel

Emily Trace opens her own detective agency after her husband is murdered. While she looks for clues a relative of her late husband turns up, a guy she didn't know existed and is the spitting image of her late husband. Darla, an office temp, becomes a valuable part of E. T. Investigations.

Emily's first client thinks aliens have abducted all the Meadowlarks, a species of bird. Deputy Clyde Burton seems intent on watching over Emily in the hunt for the Meadowlarks. Strange folks keep popping up

in this story to make a fun and enjoyable read. If you're a fan of mysteries and science fiction you will love Meadowlark Madness.

Reviewed by Joyce Seebaum

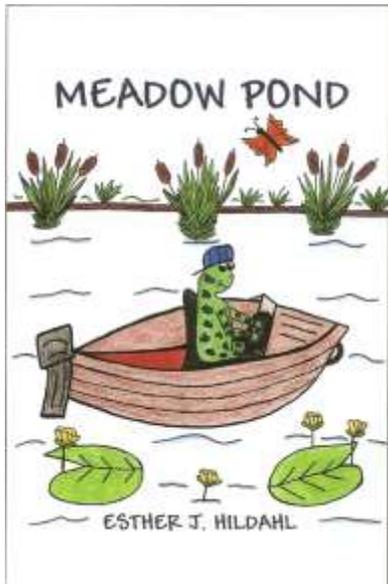
I have never read anything in this genre before but Meadowlark Madness kept my attention. Way to go Sue Eller.

You'll jump right in as Web, Clarence, Polly, Skier, Grover and others have many exciting adventures which include battles against the mean Red Boat Kids and Hes-per, the snake who likes to eat frogs. There is even a skiing turtle!

Hildahl has done a wonderful job bringing these animals to life in this cute tale that she relates so well. Although *Meadow Pond* is meant for children (ages 5 to 11), I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

Meadow Pond



By Esther J. Hildahl

Reviewed by James Bartlett Parry

In this charming children's book Esther Hildahl has anthropomorphized all of the animals living in or around Meadow Pond. They are delightful critters who have fears, doubts, happiness, and sadness, just as we humans do.

Meadow Pond teaches us many lessons: We learn much about the biology of frogs and other amphibians; we learn that putting aside differences and joining together to fight a common threat can save the day; and we learn to have respect for all of God's creatures.

This book is SO great! It starts out in the tadpole classroom as the wonderful frog teacher, Miss Gertie, explains to her students how their bodies will soon be changing. Then she tests them on the history of Meadow Pond. Charming. Next we meet the other inhabitants of the pond. The story quickly gets exciting as we meet the mean Red Boat Kids. Then there's Hes-per the snake. Ms. Hildahl has created a wonderful backdrop for her story with enough description to put a child right in the story. The characters are rich and recognizable as we all know people *just like that*. There are lessons about avoiding dangers, bravery against bullies, about working together for the common good, diplomacy in negotiations with another species, and making a plan, even if it's sounds too scary to pull off. It has a great happy ending, as it should. As an added bonus, Ms. Hildahl has filled the book with her own whimsical illustrations that call out for crayons to color them in. A perfect book for grandmothers to have in their libraries.