

SASP

NEWS

March 2020



We'll be at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery for our Thursday March 5th meeting! Same time as usual!

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



Everyone's Irish
On March 17th.

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. **(March 26th for the April 2020 issue.)**

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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

As of February 20th we have learned that the Golden Corral renovations will not be completed by the time of our March Meeting. This time we'll be at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, 12 E. Olive Ave., in Spokane. (It's just east of Division St. near downtown Spokane.)

OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us Thursday, March 5, 2020 at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, 12 E. Olive Ave., in Spokane. The meeting room will be available at **2:00 pm for dining and socializing. Our meeting and scheduled presentation will begin at 2:30.**

Our speaker is scheduled to be **Michael Murray**, the current president of the Idaho Writers League, Coeur d'Alene Chapter.

His topic will be: **Audiences, Characters, and Process** - three ways to move forward as a writer.

Michael Murray is an award-winning comedy writer, playwright and speaker. He holds degrees in Psychology and English and believes that everything improves through feedback and revision. He is the writer/performer of the Idaho Writers' League parody *Scary Day or Night*.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The Golden Corral remodeling project gave us a chance to compare our current SASP venue with Denny's Restaurant. Denny's was fine, but it seemed a bit too cozy, and would keep getting cozier as our organization grows. (And Denny's needs more than one server for our 30 members.) I'm perfectly happy where we are

(especially since Golden Corral promised we



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could use both halves of the banquet room if/when needed.)

But having G.C. closed for a bit did open our eyes to other possibilities. Besides a few favorable comments regarding Denny's, Darcy's Restaurant was suggested (but it appears to be way out in the Valley.) Timber Creek on Argonne, where we met briefly a few years ago, has also been suggested. A couple of people mentioned the potentiality of using one of the meeting rooms at one of our many city libraries (but Bob H wants hot food cooked for him - and the Shadle branch is closed for the next two years.)

One of the drawbacks of moving is: Every time we've done that in the past we've lost members. On the plus side: We could change the meeting time, maybe back to noon, like in the old days.

Let's discuss these options and vote at our upcoming meeting. See you THURSDAY, March 5th.

Orchids in your bouquets,

Jim

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

I agree with most aspects of Jim's assessment of our recent gathering at Denny's. It's a nice place, but I thought the room was a bit small for our needs or our potential needs. I thought the service could have been better for those of us ordering food. I also found it difficult to focus on our speaker's message while trying to eat. Lastly, I ended up spending somewhat more for roughly the same meal as I would have had at the Golden Corral. So, if you haven't read between the lines, I'm all in favor of returning to the Golden Corral when it is back in operation.

Remember, if you want to publicize your upcoming author event, please let me know as soon as possible. I'll try to get it listed in



“Programs” on the web-site, and in SASP NEWS. Please allow time for it to be uploaded to the web-site and for the next edition of the newsletter to be published.

I still haven’t heard from anyone about a list of members’ books available on other on-line platforms such as Barnes and Noble On-Line, etc.

We now have forty-nine people paid up for the current year. Fifteen or so were members last year, but haven’t yet paid for 2020. It would be great if you brought your \$15.00 dues to our March meeting or put a check or money order in the mail as soon as possible. There are also about ten folks who haven’t paid dues since 2017. When the roster gets updated after our March meeting, these people will be taken off the roster and the e-mailing list. We’d also like to have you back with us as active members.

You are welcome to pay dues at our March meeting, or to send them to our Post Office Box. I check mail every Friday and immediately deposit any dues received.

The address is:

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers
P. O Box 18573
Spokane, WA 99229-0573

If you did not pay for 2019 or for 2018 and 2019, we will not charge you back dues, but we’d like to have you as paid members for 2020.



OUR FEBRUARY 2020 MEETING

(Compiled by Linda Sonntag-Noble and
Dave McChesney)

See a video of our meeting
at: https://youtu.be/zs2G6_nMrXA

Because the Golden Corral on North Division was undergoing renovation, we held our February 6, 2020 meeting at Denny’s, a bit farther to the south. President Jim Parry opened the meeting by thanking Tiffani for telling him the Golden Corral would be shut down till the end of this month. Sue Eller

booked us into Denny’s, and Dave McChesney ensured we all knew of the location change.

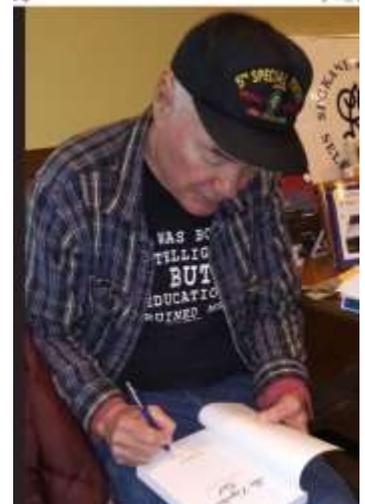
Jim then shared some “Tom Swifties.” The *Tom Swift* adventure series, comparable to the *Hardy Boys* or *Nancy Drew* was noted for overusing adverbs. Examples include, “the cops are working on finding who is stealing all the wheels...tirelessly,” and “the thesaurus is great! There’s just no other word for it.”

Guests were introduced and asked to share their names, genre, & how they discovered our group. Sydney Hemming-Moore talked about her in-progress book, *Health Secrets of the Bible* and how her cancer was healed through miraculous prayer. Michael is self-publishing two fantasy books and discovered our group at a craft fair last October. Connie Wynecoop also has a new book, *Closer Than a Shadow*. Connie and Sydney are both now members of SASP

Our guest speaker was Tom Reppert, a retired veteran, teacher, and author with a Master’s Degree in Creative Writing from Colorado State University, and a Master’s Degree in Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. Over his career he taught English AP and literature classes. In addition he has taught overseas.

He told us if you really want to improve your writing you will read authors who create the kind of tension you want to create. He mentioned *The One*, a story about a scientist at Auschwitz. He also talked about his time travel books and how to create character & plot.

He mainly writes *time slip* books in which the characters doesn’t know they have slipped back in time. In his book, *The Far Journey*, the main character, a defiant teenager finds herself on the Oregon Trail on a wagon train and is captured by the Northern Cheyenne. She doesn’t recognize moving in time but only wants to



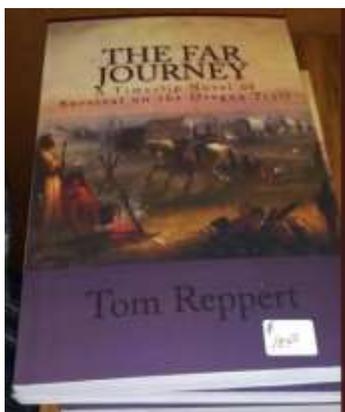
return to her Pacific Palisades high school and her boyfriend.

His book, *Assassin 13*, is the story of a young female assassin, an Annie Oakley type of character, who grew up in the 22nd century, some WWI veterans, and Wyatt Earp, going after the mob in Hollywood in the 1920s.

When creating character it's important to create conflict out of a *psychic wound*. For example, a character in 1941 Lithuania escapes Nazi *herder squads* when her mother shoves her into a mass burial pit. Escaping a hail of bullets, she punches up out of that grave, avoiding the fate of hundreds of thousands of Jews, creating her psychic wound and establishing internal conflict.

Tom said creating *audible books* is a great marketing option and suggested non-fiction is easiest to record. Additionally, if you aren't writing from first-hand knowledge, it's important to do research for a believable setting. If you did not live in 1940s Brooklyn, it is difficult to write about it authentically without doing research.

He belongs to the Sandpoint Chapter of the Idaho's Writers League, the organization's largest group. They meet on the first & third Saturdays of the month. He also participates in critique meetings in Coeur d'Alene on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm



Tiffani Harvey mentioned that her participation at a craft fair on February 1st was a bit slow, but that she had received a scholarship to defray the costs of renting a booth or table. She also mentioned that on the 8th, she would be taking part in a vendor's fair at the Mirabeau Hotel on North Sullivan Road. Kari Barr told us her latest book was at the editor's and that she would be the guest speaker at a forth coming meeting of the Idaho Writers League, Coeur d'Alene Chapter. M. J. Hudon let us know she'd written a review for Bob Manion's *Santa's Heroes* and had posted it on Good Reads.

Larry Danek has another book in his *Nomadic Ghost* series which should be available in the near future. Jim Parry has finished writing a screenplay and is looking for someone to offer advice. There were suggestions of people to contact for this. Bob Manion announced his new book, *Vampire Genesis*, a prequel to *Vampire Justice*.

There was some discussion regarding our meeting location, brought on by the need to relocate to Denny's this month due to renovation work at the Golden Corral. It was decided we would return to the Golden Corral for our March meeting, but we would then consider the possibility of going elsewhere in the future.

Door prize winners include: Kate Poitevin, Esther Hildahl, Samijo Tinsley, Tiffani Harvey, Dave McChesney, Linda Sonntag-Noble, LeAnn Aakre, and M. J. Hudon.

We are next scheduled to meet on Thursday, March 5th. ~~We'll be back at Golden Corral on North Division,~~ and Our speaker is slated to be Michael Murray, the incoming President of the Idaho Writers League, Coeur d'Alene Chapter.

Late note: we'll be at Perkins on Thursday March 5th, with the meeting proper beginning at 2:30 pm

MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

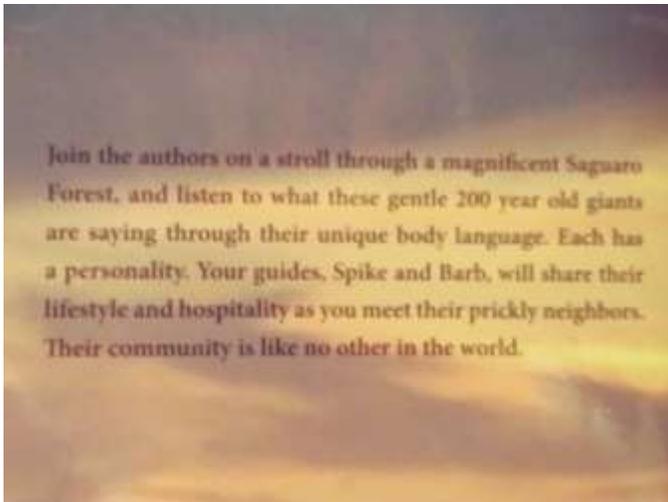
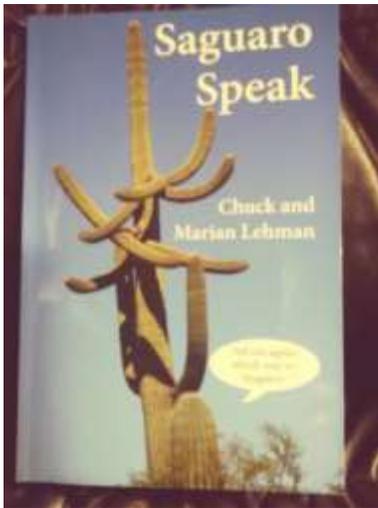
1. Name and photo/headshot
2. Brief biography
3. Links to web-site, blog, or other on-line locations.
4. Information about any books published.
 - a. Book cover shot/thumbnail
 - b. Brief description/blurb.
 - c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other
 - d. Locations where available.
5. Send as much information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

MEMBER MILESTONES

Marian and Fellow Spokane Author and Self-Publishers member Chuck and Marian Lehman are in Arizona selling books, amongst other things. They have a new one, seen here.



OF INTEREST

Our January speaker, Blair Miller, has provided some links which might be helpful. One includes free downloadable books on marketing.

They are:

kindlepreneur.com

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(there is a lot of information and relevant links on this site, as well as some free downloads)

hiddengemsbooks.com

(An ARC program – Advanced Reader Copy – which might get you some advance reviews)

David Gaughran has posted an article entitled *Granular Targeting 101* at:

www.davidgaughran.com

They are now included on the “Links” page of our website.

CAUTIONS & ALERTS

Recently, a SASP member sent word that she had found two of her three books on the **bookinistika(dot)com** web-site. Apparently there is no system in place to pay authors whose books are available or sold on the site. (This information was forwarded to all e-mail using SASP members a couple of weeks ago.)

In response to the original notice, another member sent along a couple of links that we may want to regard with suspicion. They are: **pdfdrive(dot)com** and **https (colon)//lightpdf(dot)com/websites-download-pdf-books(dot)html** (*Your editor is purposely not providing active links to these sites.*) This last site has links to many other sites where supposedly books can be downloaded for free.

Of course there is nothing wrong with free books, free downloads, or additional sites where one may buy books. The questions are: do authors get paid when their books are sold, or did the author (or bona fide representative) authorize the free giveaway?

UPCOMING EVENTS

POETRY RISING

at the

SOUTH HILL LIBRARY

Tuesday March 3, 6:30pm, South Hill Library
3324 S. Perry St.

Poetry Rising at the South Hill Library is a program we will be offering every other month, featuring poetry and prose readings and music and art presentations. Please join us!

FEATURING!
Musician Alexander Manzoni
Author Cookie Robertson
Poet Mika Maloney

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

On Going:

The **Inland Northwest Writers Guild (INWG)** meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, 12 East Olive Ave., (downtown) Spokane, WA.

Note: This is a new meeting location for the INWG.

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We print 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

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

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 1432780379

Sailing Dangerous Waters: Another Stone Island Sea Story B00HF9Y05K 1478721898

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 B0097D599I
Send in the Drones 1726834662
The Gluten Free Gourmand 150853134X
Taming of the T-Bird 1505963982

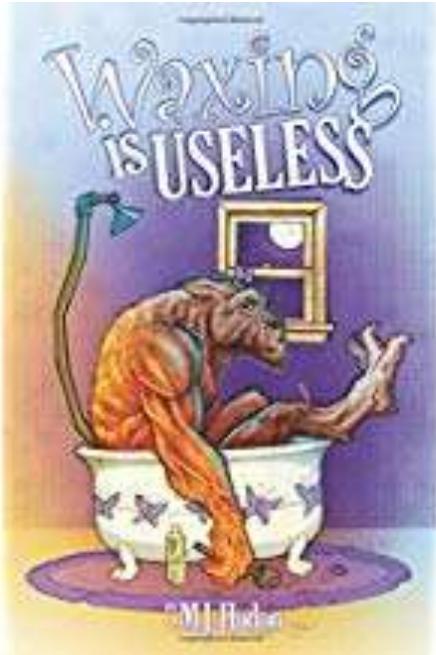
Beth Camp:

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

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (original, entire story) 1503167844 B00QJA8B3I
Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part One) 1986153959
Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Two) 1986179486
Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Three) 1986179923

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



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

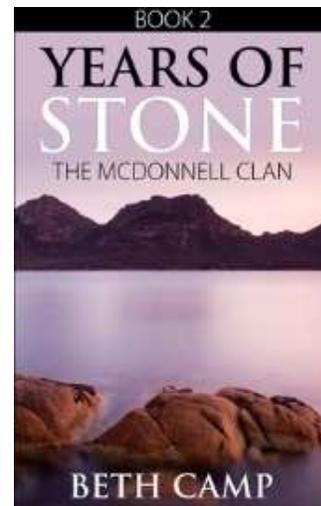
pages of a book in bed each night before the book puts me to sleep, but *Waxing Is Useless* kept me reading for hours – until my wife would yell at me to turn out the light.

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.

Available as an E-book on Amazon's Kindle and as a Paperback on Create Space.

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" Madriago. 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.