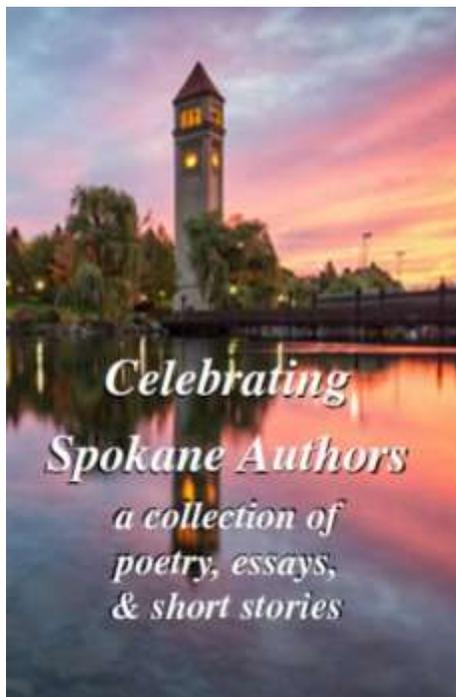


SASP

NEWS

November 2017

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 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.

(Schedule variations will be posted on the SASP website, www.spokaneauthors.org, and current members notified via e-mail or telephone.)

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 and stands for you to display your books, but you must bring them for each meeting.

2017 Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| President: | Esther Hildahl
mr.inky@yahoo.com |
| (509) 489-2136 | |
| Vice-President: | Sue Eller
sue@ellermarketing.net |
| (509) 499-2012 | |
| Secretary: | |
| Newsletter Editor: | |
| Web Master: | Dave McChesney
daveeva@comcast.net |
| (509) 325-2072 | |
| Treasurer: | Kate Poitevin
kate@murphyscorner.com |
| (509) 326-3434 | |
| Public-Relations: | Beth Camp
bluebethley@yahoo.com |
| (509) 863-5536 | |

Advisory Board:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Member: | James Parry
parry9922@q.com |
| (509) 325-9922 | |
| Member: | Bob Weldin
minersquest@comcast.net |
| (509) 327-2897 | |
| Member: | Chuck Lehman
cmlehman2@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 on **Thursday, November 2, 2017, 2:30 pm**, at the **Golden Corral, 7117 N. Division**. (The room opens at **2 pm** for dining and mingling prior to the actual meeting at **2:30**.)

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers members Sue Eller and Dave McChesney will talk a little about using social media to market our books.



Sue will focus on setting up a Facebook “Author” page. She writes the Emily Trace Mystery Series, combining “cozy whodunits” with a slice of Science Fiction. Sue recently finished the third book in the series, *Send in the Drones*, and it is due out at any time now.



Dave will focus on using Twitter as a marketing tool. He is working on the *Stone Island Sea Stories* which combine Naval Adventure/Age of Sail with a touch of Science Fiction. The first two books have been

published and he is making slow progress on the third.

Ten Minute Discussion:
“Do we want a members’ directory?”

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



About a month ago, I told my husband that I had never seen a praying mantis in our yard. I wanted to make it a monster to be feared in my latest book, and I was hoping to study a real one if I could. Usually, I am able to find an insect or spider that I am writing about in my yard or sometimes even in my house! If I find them dead, I scoop them up and study them with my magnifying glass. But if they are alive, I sometimes capture them in a glass jar and study them. Then I take them back outside and turn them loose. I’ve learned a lot doing this. For example, I never knew how hairy a fly was or how its wings are attached until I saw one greatly enlarged.

A few days later, my husband called to me to come outside and look at our front screen door. I did and there it was—a green praying mantis, about two inches long, still as could be. I thought maybe it was dead, but then I saw a tiny movement and realized it was alive. Its green eyes seemed to be staring at me. It’s so cute, I thought. How can I make this my monster insect? I watched it a while longer

and then left it alone. The next day it was still on the screen. I studied it some more. The next day it had dropped down to the rubber mat on our front porch. "Hmm, is it dead?" I asked. My husband assured me that it was not. Our dog, Charlotte, ignored it, which I thought was strange as I've seen her sniff spiders and other critters.

On the fourth day, my husband told me that he was sure my praying mantis had died. It was still on the mat, lying on its side. I leaned over and picked it up, holding the back part of its body. Suddenly its triangular head swiveled and its mouth opened. I heard a hissing sound as its wings shot up. Its spiky forelegs were held wide and waving about as their two claws at the end of each leg opened and closed repeatedly. All of this so startled me, that I dropped it at once.

Looking down at the mat, I saw that the praying mantis was now standing on its back legs. I could see that it was in attack mode. Underneath each of its front legs was a large black spot with a white center. It didn't look so cute to me now and I could imagine small insects trying to escape such a monster.

To make a long story short, it hung around our porch a few more days and then it was gone. I thought maybe it had died, for I still wanted to study it with my magnifying glass, but there was no sign of it anywhere. I have since learned that a praying mantis can live up to a year. Maybe I'll see it next summer.

Happy writing!

Esther

FROM OUR VICE-PRESIDENT



So, You Want to Write a Book

Thank you for your lovely letter. I am always pleased to meet writers and aspiring writers.

There are several things you can do, if you want to write a book (or two or more). I will try to summarize, but the journey for each person is their own.

First of all, write. There is a wonderful, free event beginning November 1. It is called NaNoWriMo. Funny name, but it stands for National Novel Writing Month, and the idea is to write as much as you can for the 30-day month of November. I am sending you the link to their site, and I encourage you to participate. [Http://nanowrimo.org](http://nanowrimo.org)

The event has participants from all over the world, and there is a chapter right here in our town. You can have a writing buddy or buddies if you wish, attend local "write-ins" or just sit down every day and write about 1,700 words. Don't worry about the editing at this point, or even the flow of your story. Just write. The goal is to produce a 50,000 word novel rough draft. The best thing about NaNoWriMo is that you are accountable to no one except yourself. If you've put off getting started, it's a good way to kick yourself into gear.

Second, I would urge you to attend a local writers' meeting such as Spokane Authors. We meet the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral on North Division. If you work during the day and are unable to attend, there is a group which meets the third Wednesday of the month at Frankie Doodle's Restaurant on Third and Division at 6:00 p.m. Both these groups have been around for a while, and I attend both meetings whenever I can. The advantages are that you become more connected with Spokane's writing community, and you will meet some of Spokane's authors and aspiring authors.

Third, find a critique group. There are many in Spokane. Not all of them will fit your personality and writing style, but if you try out several, you will find one that will nurture and help you in your writing journey. Critique groups are generally smaller than the two

groups I mentioned above. They also usually meet more often, and take turns reading from their works in progress. The one I belong to meets twice a month, and we print out copies of what we will read, so that everyone can write their comments down. That's not necessary, but it is helpful. I also meet with a couple of writer friends and go even more in detail into whatever project I'm involved in at the moment.

Finally, never give up! 😊 You have a story within you. Let it come out. Who knows? The world may end up a better place because you chose to put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard). Good luck, and thank you for your wonderful email. Because of it, I wrote something I can share in our newsletter and in my blog.

Sue

(Our Vice-President wrote this in response to someone who found her name on the SASP website. She has also posted it to her blog. www.emilytracemysteries.com)

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER



Sorry to have missed last month's meeting. As near as I can figure it was due to something I ate and drank the night before. I'm trying to experiment a bit and make sure I don't indulge in that particular combination again... at least if I have something to attend the next day. (Thanks to Jim Parry for taking notes at the last meeting! Appreciate the help!)

On a somewhat different note, I've recently undergone some fairly routine medical tests, but the outcome has not been routine. I have a couple more visits to make in the near future, and it is possible that I will need to undergo further treatment. I'm hoping to schedule any procedures around our scheduled meetings. I figure that if I'm to be "down" with any sort of recovery time, I might use it to upgrade the SASP web-site.

FROM OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR



**NaNoWriMo: Should I or Shouldn't I?
Have you signed up for National Novel
Writing Month?**

This long-running challenge nicknamed NaNoWriMo asks writers to draft a novel of 50,000 words in just 30 days. That's 1,667 words a day for 30 days. Quite a challenge to those of us who might crank out 300 or 500 words a day. Yet, thousands of writers attempt this challenge each year – beginning November 1.

NaNoWriMo started in 1999 with just 21 writers participating. By 2010, over 200,000 writers committed to write 50,000 words in just one month.

Why undertake such a challenging goal? I can only share my experience as I've participated in NaNoWriMo for eight years. I don't reach that 50K goal each time. But I do gain a good running start on a new story. Each year, I discover something new about my story, characters, or my writing process as I strive to draft those 1,667 words a day.

Some writers (called 'pantsers' because they write by the seat of their pants) start on Day One with no sense of what story they want to work on. Others (dubbed 'plotters') spend much of October mapping out what they'd like to accomplish; they begin November by methodically carrying out their plans. I've used both methods and had a lot of fun (and surprising results) each year.



How do I sign up? If you wish to tackle NaNoWriMo, check out the National Novel Writing Month website at <http://nanowrimo.org>. Here you can set up your own dashboard (free) to announce your project, set goals for the month, track words, connect with friends, and read inspirational articles (including NaNo prep).

You can also participate in forums, earn badges, and buy t-shirts or coffee-cups. Another helpful and social way to get those daily words written is to attend a face-to-face NaNoWriMo write-in scheduled throughout November in the Spokane/Spokane Valley area. Check out the calendar for local writers at <https://nanowrimo.org/regions/usa-washington-spokane>

Before starting, you might want to think about your best writing time, how much you normally write, and how much additional time each day you will need to reach your goals. Let family and friends know about your commitment to NaNoWriMo so they can support you. Chocolate is always good!

Consider describing what you want to accomplish during NaNoWriMo and write it down! Keep in mind that drafting will not lead to a perfect story in just one month, but words on the page will get you closer to your goals.

One of your goals might well be to push the boundary of how you usually write – and have fun in the process by trying something new. If you sign up officially on the NaNoWriMo site, you can add me as one of your writing buddies (My NaNo name is bluebethley). I've got a new story to write. Let's do this!

Beth

P. S. I just received this inspiring article from Kate Sparkes, entitled: "A Few NaNoWriMo Tips." It's at:

<https://disregardtheprologue.com/2017/10/26/a-few-nanowrimo-tips/>

SEPTEMBER'S MEETING



Bill Bancroft was guest speaker for the October 5th Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers' meeting. He gave an informative and very entertaining talk about his life as a musician, actor, and (recent) author. Being a rock musician in the '70s, Bill had many wild stories that he would often tell at Thanksgiving gatherings, etc. Friends and neighbors told

him he should write a book... and so he did. A few years ago he ran into published author Colin Conway, and together they wrote *Tales from the Road*. Colin spoke of their collaboration, and then the two answered many questions from the audience.

Welcome recently joined members, Jessy Humann, Marilee Hudon, Melvin Brown, and Kathleen Schrum.

Bell-ringers:

Tiffany Harvey has a book signing at Auntie's on October 7th.

Sue Eller finished her next book which should be out by the end of this month.

Sue Eller & Larry Danek will be signing at Book Traders in Garland on Sat October 14th.

Beth Camp & Sue Eller both their submissions to Spokane County Library Districts' *Spokane Writes* accepted.

Beth Camp's 3rd book is coming out soon. Also, she will be running a workshop for the Idaho Writers League in the near future.

Ester Hildahl, Joyce Caudel, & Kate Poitevin will be selling at the Mt. Spokane H.S. Band Fair on October 14th. (Sue Eller will replace Kate on October 15th.)

Several SASP members cashed in on last month's speaker's invitation to do interviews with Stephen Pitters, host of Spokane Open Poetry on Thin Air Radio, KYRS. Their interviews are scheduled to air on 88.1 or 92.3 FM at 11 am, Saturdays, as follows: Sue Eller, November 11th, Tiffani Harvey, November 25th; Joyce Caudel, December 2nd, and Esther Hildahl, December 9th.

Chuck Lehman & wife have been signing books all over the U.S., including Minnesota and Nashville.

Dave McChesney and Joyce Caudel each turned in 3 book reviews for the SASP site.

Beth Camp and Sue Eller are been working hard on the SASP anthology. Over 20 submissions have been received and many have been edited. They hope to have the anthology out by the end of October.

Our Ten Minute Discussion focused on, "Exploring Connections between Art and

SASP NEWS

Writing." Beth Camp reminded us that writing *is* a form of art. She told us she not only wrote prose and poetry about mermaids in her book *The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales*, but she also made a beautiful *mermaid* quilt, which she displayed. In November, our discussion will target whether or not we should have a directory for our membership.

Currently our November 2nd program calls for Sue Eller to talk about setting up a Facebook Author Page, and Dave McChesney to provide some guidance on using Twitter.

(Editor's note: Thank you Jim Parry for taking notes at our October meeting. Your secretary, editor, and de facto reporter was not able to be there, and Jim's notes formed the basis for this report.)

FROM A SASP MEMBER

The November issue of Poets & Writers has an interesting opportunity. Besides all else, there is an article entitled, "Now Open: 50 Magazines and Five Small Presses Accepting Submissions with No Reading Fees."

I took a chance not long ago and sent a list, yup, a list to a magazine, *Bella Grace*. I wrote it even as I was working on two poems. All were published, albeit in different places. The magazine paid me...for a list! Sometimes, doing things on a quirk works.

Kathleen Schrum

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact daveeva@comcast.net to get your event listed.

BOOK SIGNINGS

Stan Parks

Thursday, November 23rd

**Barnes And Noble (North Town Mall)
4790 N. Division St., Spokane, WA**

For Writers...here are some events you won't want to miss. (The following information courtesy of Jan Cline)

Spokane Christian Writers One-Day Conference, March 17, 2018. More information to come.

Chip MacGregor, Literary Agent: Half-day seminar in Spokane, April 21, 2018. More details to come, but you won't want to miss the chance to hear him.

[James L. Rubart Writing Academy](#) in Chelan, WA, May 3-6, 2018. An intensive 4 day event designed to get you on the path to publication.

[Northwest Christian Writer's Conference](#) in Seattle, June 1-2, 2018, Rachel Hauck, keynote speaker.

[Connecting Writers with Hollywood Conference](#), in Spokane, June 7-9, 2018. Last year's conference was a hit. Plan to come and broaden your opportunities for your writing.

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/) (You may not need the "www.") For example: www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332 or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044 (Note: Alpha-numeric ASINs indicate a Kindle™ book. Numeric ASINs are for hard copy editions. Generally, one can find links to alternative editions on the chosen site.)

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

River of Stone

Coming Soon!

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht

1503167844

James Vasquez:

Men Who Knew Jesus Well

1604941901

Women of the Bible: their Story in Verse

1604942703

Prophets of the Old Testament: A Classic

Collection of Bible Heroes in Verse **1615661166**

Words Jesus Spoke: In Verse **1452077894**

The Psalms: In Verse **1449710344**

Prayers from the Bible: In Classic Verse

1449727794

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

T. A. Bratcher:
The Road Chosen 1495293165

B. J. Campbell:
Close Calls: True Tales of Cougar Bob 1936178044

Bob Manion:
Santa's Heroes 1936178095
The Tree House B004IZLHLE
Springer's Heart 0978850742
Summer Rain B00ZM3S2IM
Vampire and the Cop B00ZM4BBOS

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

Larry Danek
I'm the Ghost in this Body:
The Nomadic Ghost B01I0Z500Q
Republished as:
I'm a Ghost in This Body:
A Story of the Nomadic Ghost 148971183X
Jed's World B00MWDJ1YY

Diana Wickes
Home is Where the Heart Is 1523381841
Elegy to a Montanan: A widow's Song 1523382414

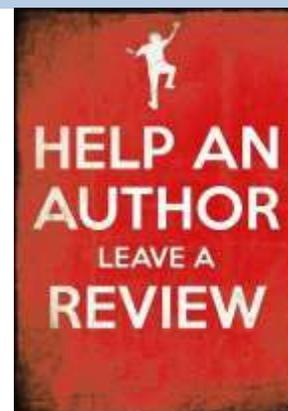
Andy Brown
Warnings Unheeded:
Twin Tragedies at Fairchild Air Force Base 0997863404

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



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.