



# SASP

# NEWS

November 2021

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



*Thanksgiving means pies!*

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

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

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

Attendees are requested to buy lunch upon entering the establishment, and to leave an appropriate tip for the waiter/waitress. Currently we are required to wear masks unless seated at a table and eating.

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

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

**SASP members** are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works of and with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate copies of their work as door prizes.

Winners of others’ work are expected to provide a review.

**Note:** SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from meetings. Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. 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. **October 28<sup>th</sup> for the November 2021 issue.)**

## 2021 Officers: (Elections coming)

**President:**

**Vice-President:** *Sue Eller*  
(509) 499-2012 author@emilytracemysteries.com

**Secretary:** *Linda Sonntag-Noble*

**Treasurer:**

**Newsletter Editor:**

**Web Master:** *Dave McChesney*  
(509) 325-2072 (h) [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net)  
(509) 768-6178 (c)

**Public-Relations:**

*Marilee Hudon*  
(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

## Advisory Board:

**Member:**

*Chuck Lehman*  
(509) 299-7802 cmlehman4@yahoo.com

**Member:**

*Esther Hildahl*  
[mr.inky@yahoo.com](mailto:mr.inky@yahoo.com)

**Member:**

**“Like” the SASP Facebook Page:**

[www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679)

**“Join” the SASP Facebook Group:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1646364128981815/>

**“Follow” us on Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/AndAuthors>

Contact us at: authors@spokaneauthors.org

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

We are scheduled to meet at 2 pm. on Thursday, November 4th at the Golden Corral on N. Division Street. Our primary focus will be on electing officers and advisory board members to serve for the next year or so.

## FROM OUR ACTING PRESIDENT

Happy Fall!

Some of our members, including me, participated in craft fairs this past month. It was a lovely experience for me as I talked to lots of people and sold some books that had been languishing in my office for nearly two years. I also saw several of our SASP members actively selling their books as well.

NaNoWriMo is upon us, and those who choose to participate look forward to a busy month of writing. I plan to finish a project (book) before the end of the year and decided to use the NaNoWriMo event to spur me on to the finish line. (Fingers crossed!)

As most of you know by now, I get emails from several sources that often contain helpful tips and tricks for writers. I'd like to



share a link with you that came from a screenwriter's blog. It details the tricks of foreshadowing and how to use them to make your story more exciting. The example is from the movie "The Sixth Sense" with Bruce Willis, and I found the tips to be helpful

in writing a novel. The link is [How to Use Plants and Payoffs](#). (Spoiler alert! If you

haven't yet seen the movie, I recommend watching it before and after you read the blog post.)

SASP is gradually returning to full strength. Each month there are more attendees at our meetings, and the feedback I'm hearing is positive and encouraging. I urge all of you to help elect the slate of SASP officers. Gather with us at the Golden Corral to celebrate the joys of writing and to encourage each other in our respective endeavors.

*Sue Eller*

## FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

Evidently I'm still a little out of sync with again having real meetings. Here I am working on the newsletter for November and I still have to write up some sort of summary for our last (our October) meeting. As best as I can remember the days prior to the pandemic, that is something that would be written and posted to the web-site not long after we had met. Maybe after our November meeting I'll be more in tune with things and get notice of that one posted sooner. Bear with me!

I now have a ballot for our elections put together. I'll be sending it out to SASP members, along with our newsletter, our roster, and a treasurer's report. You can download, fill out and e-mail back. Or you can print it out, fill it out and bring with you to our November meeting. (We'll have copies on hand as well, in case you misplace, lose, or forget it. If you wish to vote, please make sure your dues are paid up.



Because of the Pandemic we haven't been screaming for dues, but as we get back to meeting on a regular basis, we need to have

everyone up to date. We want people who are running for office to be current, and we want people who vote to be current. Please check the current and accompanying roster to see if you need to pay. You can bring cash, check, or a money order to a meeting or mail a check or money order for \$15.00 to:

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**P. O. Box 18573**  
**Spokane, WA 99228-0573**

I check the mail weekly, and if we receive any dues payments, I take those payments directly to our financial institution for deposit. I also try to notify anyone who pays that the dues payment has been received... usually by way of e-mail.



## OUR OCTOBER 2021 MEETING

The saying, “the third time is a charm,” might well apply to our October meeting. We had a much better turn out for this gathering than we did for two earlier meetings. Joining us were Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Larry Danek, Ed Des Autel, Sue Eller, Tiffani Harvey, Sidney Hemmingsmoore, Bob and Esther Hildahl, Chuck and Marian Lehman, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Stan Parks, Linda Sonntag, and new member Morgan Walters.

Acting President Sue Eller opened the meeting and there was some discussion regarding elections to be held in November. She also noted that Larry M. J. Hudon, Larry Danek, and she would be at the Mt. Spokane High School Craft Fair that coming weekend, as well as a couple other events during October. Stan Parks talked briefly about his new book, **Jakob’s Legacy**, while Tiffani Harvey told us about her involvement with Toast Masters.

Sidney Hemmingsmoore introduced her book, **Health Secrets of the Bible**, while Chuck Lehman talked a little about his latest story, **Double Exposure**. Carl Northrup told

us his daughter is going to Antarctica and is looking to take some books to help stock the library there.

Morgan Walters, who has attended as a guest in the past, mentioned the place she and a colleague have established to provide artists and the like a place to work and display their art. Esther introduced her new children’s book, **Winter Stories**. She mentioned that she would be at the Mt. Spokane High School Craft Fair that coming weekend. She also talked about her experience teaching grade school and how it helped lead to her writing children’s stories. Larry Danek mentioned his newest, **Pioneer Ghost**.

Dave McChesney provided an oral Treasurer’s report and spoke again of his newest book, **Darnahsian Pirates: The Third Stone Island Sea Story** and indicated that he too would be at Mt. Spokane. Dave also talked about his seventh and eighth grade English teacher and how she may have been one of the factors that eventually led to him being a writer.

Ed Des Autel spoke about his time in the Air Force and a planned new book based on that experience. Caryl Briscoe-Michas recapped her career her stage career, mentioned how she had always kept a journal and was now writing memoirs based on that experience.

While some folks brought and donated books for a door prize raffle, we evidently aren’t back into the swing of things. We did not have any tickets to use. Thus those who were interested simply swapped or gave books away to others.

### MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

1. Name and photo/headshot
2. Brief biography
3. Links to web-site, blog, or other on-line locations.
4. Information about any books published.
  - a. Book cover shot/thumbnail

b. Brief description/blurb/reviews  
 c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other  
 d. Locations where available.

5 Send as much information as possible to: [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net), [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org), or  
 Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers  
 P. O. Box 18573  
 Spokane, WA 99228-0573  
 Check out other member web-pages at [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org). Click on the "Members" button and then on the member's page you wish to view.  
 Contact your web-master if your page needs to be updated or corrected

## MEMBER UPDATES

### Upcoming Events

M. J. Hudon, Larry Danek, and Sue Eller will be at:  
**Central Valley High School**  
 821 S. Sullivan Rd. **Nov 6 and 7**

Esther Hildahl, Bob Hildahl and Dave McChesney will be at:  
**Shadle Park High School**  
 4327 N. Ash St. **Nov 6 and 7**

## SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We print short parts of the list on a rotating basis. The complete, and hopefully up to date list is available on the web-site, under "NEWS")

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

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

own unique ASINs to the paperback editions of books, rather than using the ten-digit ISBN as they previously did. In the future we will attempt to point this out in individual listings.)

### Fred Jessett:

*My Name is Tamar* B00DH3REWO  
*Drummer Loves Dancer* B073H2RP7P  
*Getting Past Point No Point* 1725865211

### Lewis Meline:

*Lies Exposed! The Truth about Diets...*  
 0997915501

### J. B. Rivard

*Illusions of Magic: Love and Intrigue in 1933 Chicago* B01EGSC8N8 0996836306  
*Illusions of Magic: The Movie* B0751RL53G 0996836330  
*Low on Gas: High on Sky* B07V2V48XD 0996836349

### Larry Danek

*I'm the Ghost in this Body: The Nomadic Ghost* B01I0Z500Q  
*Jed's World* B00MWDJ1YY  
*Jed's World (New, Revised Edition)* B08HSPQPG6 B08HW4F323L  
*Ghostly Reunion: A Nomadic Ghost Story* B077KHR33M  
*The Runaway Ghost: Story of the Nomadic Ghost (Vol. 3)* 1986978605  
*Ghost at the Border* B089S6TWTX B089M1D93T (pb)  
*Pioneer Ghost: A Story of the Nomadic Ghost* B0957397G1 B094TCDGZG (pb)

### Esther J. Hildahl

*Meadow Pond* B072FS1CLL 154244828X  
*Mr. Inky: Spider with an Attitude* B07177PLGX 1542451248  
*Marie's Marvelous Tomato* B073SFTS74 1548307653  
*Poopie the Fly and Friends* B07HNQLKMW 1724038427  
*Winter Stories* B09BGF8TGL

### Russell H. Ford

*Depop* B019NGA00Q 159849175X  
*Re-Ring* B01IRW4XVY

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

## Wayne Kyle Spitzer

*That Thing We Killed*

*Comes a Ferryman*

*The Tempter and the Taker*

*The Pierced Veil*

*Black Hole, White Fountain*

*To the End of Ursathrax*

*X-Ray Rider 1*

*X-Ray Rider 2*

*X-Ray Rider 3*

Algernon Blackwood's "The Willows," a

Scriptment

Flashback

Flashback Dawn: "Naaygi"

Flashback Dawn: The Devil's Snambnala

Faraway, Nearby

Behind a Pale Mask

Wet Bark

Killer in the Looking Glass

Lean Season

How About a Coke and Some Fries?

Flying the Fog Roads of Cascadia

Red Marillion

Coffin Road

Napoleon

B076QF8XZY

B074SJF1TJ

B074SV557F

B074STJMGW

B074SY83RW

B074SWXM61

B0755QN1N6

B0755PY9NB

B0755QPM67

B07575JDFS

B07689XLTX

B07836PYT5

B078NHDKZN

B076PNH7V8

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B077RJ463S

B0779DM1QH

B074VD53SF

B077TPR77D

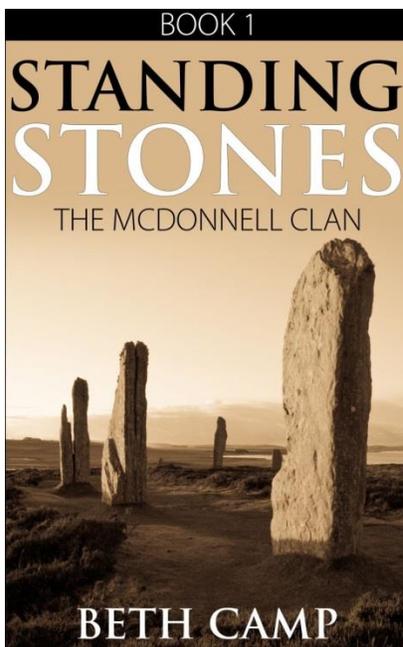
B077WTSXZN

B077M3ZHWP

B076XQY5FK

B076FBPRYV

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



Having recently joined Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers group, my first newsletter told me of the release party for Beth Camp's new book, *Standing Stones*. I went, thinking it was only right to support fellow authors, even if we hadn't met.

At first glance of the cover, I knew I had to buy it. Later that day I found myself transported to a time and place I have only ever wondered about. Being of Celtic descent, I was aware of the Orkney Islands, but had no idea what a hard life the people there lived. Ms. Camp painted a perfect picture of the day to day life of the wonderful characters she created. When they are forced from their homes, we follow the McDonnells as they try to find a new life.

This book ends in a way that had me begging for more. I waited, very impatiently, for the second book to be released.

Reviewed by Bob Hildahl

Mac McDonnell and his brother Dougal are both fishermen, trying to make a living off the sea. Mac, his sister, and three brothers live on Foulksay Island in northern Scotland. There they live in a stone cottage owned by Lord Gordon. When Lord Gordon wants to evict small farmers from their homes because he wants to use their land to raise sheep, Mac leads a protest against him. This results in Mac being arrested, the McDonnell's boat confiscated, and the family home destroyed.

Beth Camp is an excellent writer who has created an interesting story with great characters and dialogue. The story is a page turner, which encourages the reader to just keep reading and not stop! *Standing Stones* is the first book telling the continuing story of the McDonnell clan.

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

# Stillpoint

By Patricia Campbell Kowal

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

As readers we often prefer a certain author, a certain genre, or a particular theme in our reading. Many of us are loathe to step outside of our preconceived and often narrow range of reading opportunities. As bookstore customers and library browsers, we make many of our decisions based on the cover illustration and title. It is a shame that we do, for often that story that does not appeal to us at first glance can turn out to be an inspiring and uplifting read.

Such is the case with *Stillpoint* by Patricia Campbell Kowal. Because of the title and the cover, my first assumption was that it was probably a little too feminine and a little too self-analytical for my reading tastes. But, having won a copy of it at my second ever SASP meeting, and having had it graciously autographed by the author, I determined that I would read it, and that I would try to keep an open mind as I did so.

Was I ever wrong regarding my first impressions of the story! I found it to be a touching and emotionally moving story, nearly a lifelong "biography" of a very likable, believable, and yet fictional character. The writing itself is clear, concise, and inspiring; qualities that allow the reader to progress steadily through the story without the need to reread or try to guess at the author's meaning and intent. As with all exceptionally well written stories, I found that I lost track of my surroundings and was physically present, perhaps as a silent observer, in the events unfolding on the page.

*Stillpoint* encompasses Sam Barsby's life, from his childhood in Vermont, through a cross country hobo-like train trip during the Great Depression, his military service in the Pacific during the Second World War, and his migration to Australia. It covers his times of great loss and sadness, as well as his moments of extreme joy and happiness. The story pivots on that instant in Sam's life when,

with help of a Native Australian, he gently drives away the despair and agony of his suffering and begins to look forward to a continued existence. This is his *Stillpoint*, that moment when directions change but there is no movement at all. It is a rebirth, a renewal, and following this, Sam eventually returns to his boyhood home for one last visit.

*Stillpoint* is a very well written, uplifting, and inspirational story. I most strongly urge everyone to read it and to pass it along to others so that they might read it as well.

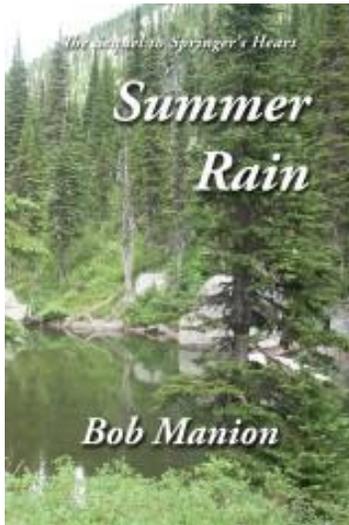
*Stillpoint* was published in 2005 through Vantage Press, Inc. and at that time had a cover price of \$12.95. It carries an ISBN of 0-533-14782-4.

Reviewed by James Bartlett Parry

Ms. Kowal skillfully weaves past with present in this intriguing romantic, tragic epic. Through chapters that alternate time periods, we witness wars and other calamities between brief respites of love and happiness. All of this happens through the eyes of several generations of the Barsby family.

This style of writing is difficult to pull-off and, in many books, confuses the reader, but Kowal relates her tale in a skillful and seemingly effortless manner that truly makes the story flow. She masterfully details the ambience of each location and era.

The first page will draw you into Sam's dreams of flying geese - that eventually take him on an odyssey around the world. Brace yourself for a plethora of tragedies (but there is, ultimately and thankfully, a happy ending).



Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

Sara Bennett is a Smokejumper, earning her living by parachuting out of airplanes to fight forest fires. On a training and qualification jump she is injured. While recovering she meets a young doctor that she feels may be the man in her life. At the same time she is forced out of the Smokejumpers and becomes a Ranger with the Federal Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement Service. Here she meets fellow Ranger Randy Springer. They soon become a team in a number of ways.

On the job, their pursuit of lawbreakers goes way beyond tracking down the occasional poacher or the fisherman with an expired license. Escaped prisoners, illicit drugs, terrorists, and corruption at the high levels of government make life interesting for Sara and Randy.

This was an interesting and entertaining story, one that was difficult to put down. It nicely combines action, romance, great characters, with an appreciation of both the wild lands of America with deep respect for those in the Armed Forces and Law Enforcement. It is a fitting sequel to Manion's earlier *Springer's Heart*.