



# SASP

# NEWS

October 2019

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



*Classic Cars and Fall Foliage! Something to write about?*

**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](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. **(August 29<sup>th</sup> for the September issue.)**

## 2019 Officers:

**President:** *James Parry*  
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(509) 499-2012 author@emilytracemysteries.com

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**Treasurer:**  
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## Advisory Board:

**Member:** *Chuck Lehman*  
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**Member:** *Esther Hildahl*  
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**Member:** *Tiffani Harvey*  
responsiblyindependent@yahoo.com  
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**"Like" the SASP Facebook Page:**  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679](http://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](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org)

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us **Thursday, October 3, 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**

**Dan Van Voorhis**, owner of **Indie Audio**, will speak about audiobooks, and what he is doing to make it easier for authors to get audiobooks produced and *out there*.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

While watching the Academy Awards Ceremony on TV a few years ago, I had an epiphany (but I traded it for an accordion): Forget writing books! Screenplays are where the money and glory are!



So I set about turning my book into a screenplay, except I didn't know how to write a screenplay. For any project, research is key. I read everything I could find online (where I found a sample template and the original screenplay for *Forrest Gump*.) Several

resource books from the library were also checked out. More recently, *Jeff Herman's Guide to Literary Agents* has helped me compile a list of agents who specialize in screenplays. After putting the finishing touches on the play, the plan is to send a query letter to at least 30 of those agents. (Previously, Mr. Herman's guide led me to 30 book agents. I got a few bites, but nothing came of them.) I wasn't quite ready for this year's *Connecting Writers to Hollywood* conference. Darn! Hope some of you attended and can tell me at the meeting if it was of value, and fingers crossed for next year.

Over these past many years SASP has listened to a large number of speakers with good ideas on how to get published and on

marketing. But, in addition, be sure to read everything you can about these two related subjects, including books that have sold well in your same genre. And go to workshops - if you can afford them. The more you learn the better your chances are at having a best-seller.

Good luck to each and every one of you!  
Pearls in your oysters!

*Jim*

## FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

I've been involved with organizations like Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers for the better part of three decades now, two at least with this fine group. One of the biggest changes to come along in that time is the computer, the internet and the world-wide-web. In most ways it has made producing and distributing a newsletter a lot simpler.



Now, once it is complete, all I have to do is compose an e-mail, ensure all members are included in the "to" or "blind carbon copy" list, attach the document containing the newsletter, and push, "send." Years ago it would have meant a great deal of time to print out dozens of copies, assembling them, printing address labels, applying them, affixing postage, and then taking them to be mailed. In those days, when I would do the Rear Engine Review for the Inland Northwest Corvair Club, printers weren't as sophisticated as now. I'd have to print all copies of page one, turn it over and feed it through a second time to print page two, and so on. When assembling I'd get near the end and realize I must have picked up two sheets at once, because all of a sudden I'd be short a page. Now the printer I have prints front and back and goes all the way through the newsletter before starting another copy of it.

And because of e-mail we no longer have to print as many copies. As we have

close to sixty people listed as current members, we would have had to print upwards of five dozen copies. Then there is the expense and effort required to send them all through the mail. Today, we have one member who does not have e-mail, and a handful of folks who for various reasons choose not to receive the SASP NEWS electronically. It is an easy task to print out a half dozen copies, and mail a few out each month. Any remaining are brought to our meetings, either for guests or those members who want a printed copy. And honestly, I don't mind printing and mailing out a small number of copies each month. I just don't want to go back to the day when it was a laborious, ongoing, and often expensive process.

The fact that we no longer have to print and mail dozens of copies each month might also explain why we haven't raised dues in over a decade. Printing and sending out the newsletter was one of the biggest ongoing expenses.

Speaking of dues, (I'll switch hats to Treasurer, here) the end of the calendar year is getting closer. If you plan to continue your membership into 2020, you are welcome to pay dues early. It's a good way to ensure your name and access to your Member Web-Page stays on the "Members" roster on the web-site.



Marilee Hudon, our September 5<sup>th</sup> speaker

We were also privileged to have Samantha Wohlfeil and Young Kwak of **The Inlander** join us for the afternoon. Samantha was there to write an article for the paper's annual *Fall Arts Guide*. Young was there to photograph the event. The resulting article can be found in the September 19 -25 issue of *The Inlander*. On-line it can be found at: [https://issuu.com/theinlander/docs/inlander\\_09-19-2019](https://issuu.com/theinlander/docs/inlander_09-19-2019) or visit [www.inlander.com](http://www.inlander.com).

Speaker for our program was Marilee Hudon, who talked about the internet and social media. She offered a number of ideas to help grow one's presence on social media and improve one's marketing abilities.

Jim Parry told us that one of his former students, one perhaps indirectly portrayed in *Book All the Teachers*, was at last count, doing very well. Sue Eller announced she would be going to Linda Bond's on blogging presentation at the South Hill Library.

Tiffani Harvey listed a number of upcoming events she'll be participating in. She also said she's been taking part in Toast Masters and had recently made a completely unplanned speech. Samijo Tinsley had a question about the upcoming Idaho Writers League Conference, and other members were able to answer to her satisfaction.

Barbara Cagle, former SASP president, complemented the group on its accomplishments and said her mother, Rose, the subject of her book *16 X Mom* was doing well and had recently celebrated her 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday. Larry Danek showed us a new book

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave McChesney".

## OUR SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETING

(Compiled by Dave McChesney)

As has become the norm, our September 5<sup>th</sup> began with chuckles and perhaps a groan or two, as President Jim Parry presented his latest puns and jokes. Two guests, both of whom have now joined Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, introduced themselves. They were Gena Bradford and David Reynolds. Both have just published books. A guest from our August meeting, Carl Northrup, was also in attendance and is now a member of our organization.

cover and mentioned that he and a friend had both had short stories published in an anthology.

Finally, in an attempt to revive our Ten Minute Discussion segment, President Jim Parry passed around a list of quotes or sayings, each with some error in grammar or syntax. We spent a few minutes trying to find the mistakes

Drawings for door prizes were held and winners included: Larry Danek, Joyce Caudel, Joan Carter, Ed Des Autel, Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Carl Northrup, Stan Parks, Kate Poitevin, and Dave McChesney.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. As usual, we'll meet at the Golden Corral on North Division Street in Spokane, with the meeting room available at 2 pm. The meeting proper will begin as 2:30. **Dan Van Voorhis**, owner of **Indie Audio**, will speak about audiobooks, and what he is doing to make it easier for authors to get audiobooks produced and *out there*.

## 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.

If you would like a member web-page that is as complete as possible, please e-mail information to [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net), [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org), or send to:

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

Please check out member web-pages on our web-site at [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org). Click on the "Members" button along the left and then on the member whose page you wish to view.

We are ready and willing to update and correct any web-page. Contact your web-master if you think your page needs attention.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) or e-mail [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto: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, Washington.

### Write on the Sound Writers Conference

Edmonds, WA, October 4, 5, & 6.

Info at: [www.writeonthesound.com](http://www.writeonthesound.com)

## 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](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)

### Gena Bradford

*I Can't Rest Now, Lord! I'm Responsible...*

1072677067

### Phillip Jones

*The Casebook of Thadeus Rede & Other Stories*

B00HWXAWTW 1492181730

*Inventions and Discoveries: A Trip Through History*

B00FBHNRW 149038460X

*Forensic Science for Writers: A Reference Guide*

B008Y2MX8S 14752676207

*Criminal Investigators, Villains, and Tricksters: A Trip Through History*

B00DVP4YHQ 148279960X

Visit: [www.amzn.com/e/B003ZPI81K](http://www.amzn.com/e/B003ZPI81K) for more of Phillip's books.

## 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**

she was placed in high school where she did not fit in and experienced brutal bullying. Her life took another turn when her mother became very ill and she had a life-changing decision to make that resulted in a violent altercation with her father. After that, she and her brother Lee set off on a fact-finding adventure to learn the truth about Grace's life.

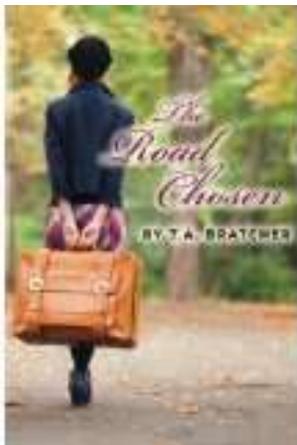
*The Road Chosen* is a book well worth reading. It's different, interesting, and never boring. Bratcher has done a wonderful job of bringing her main character, Grace, to life. The reader truly cares about her as she searches for a meaningful life and cheers her on as she struggles to overcome one obstacle after another.

This book is available at bookstores and online.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

### The Road Chosen



T. A. Bratcher

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

This story begins when Grace is born to an unwed drug addict and is adopted by an older couple, who have two grown sons that they adopted many years ago. When she was thirteen, her parents decided to move from England to the United States, eventually settling in New Hampshire. Being very smart,

Ms. Bratcher has shared a compelling, sometimes heart-wrenching, tale about a young girl's struggle to survive high school bullies and an unconventional family dynamic. At one point she caused me to burst into tears, while sitting in my car in a parking lot. (You'll know where it was when you get there)

It is sometimes hard for those of us who had 'normal' childhoods, to believe these things really happen, but they do. It is also hard for us to be confronted with these realities, but we must.

This book really opens your eyes as to what might be lurking in the past of those around us. One never knows what hardships and horrors might have been the norm for the person we see on the bus daily. The old adage, "walk a mile in his shoes" is so true. Ms. Bratcher allows us to walk along with Grace, to experience with her, as she suffers through her teens and comes out a strong, caring, young adult. I know there is more to her story and I hope we get to read it. Grace's story will stay with me for a long, long time.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

Grace's life is filled with challenges most of us never have to face. An orphaned child of

a drug addict, she is adopted by a couple who eventually move from England to the United States. Through adversity she maintains a positive outlook on life. *The Road Chosen* encompasses true and lasting friendships, unconditional love, the importance of family, and a positive outlook on life. The author draws the reader into Grace's story and creates memorable and loveable characters. Note: some scenes are too intense for young children.

Available at local bookstores in the Spokane area, across the United States, and in the United Kingdom. Visit T. A. Bratcher's website: [www.tabratcher.com](http://www.tabratcher.com) for more information.

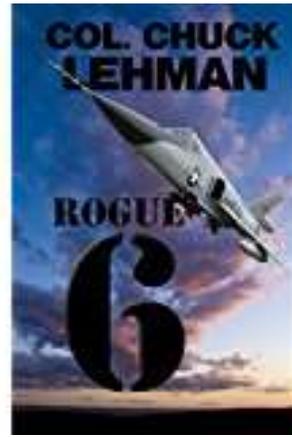
Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

This story is about Grace, a young teenage girl who has just moved to the States from Europe. Her first year of high school in North Conway, New Hampshire is not a very happy one. Being an outsider, being from Europe, and being very smart means she is not accepted by the local students. She ends up being brutally bullied and makes only one friend.

Later in high school when she is named valedictorian of her class, she is beaten by two boys and put in the hospital. Then her life takes another tragic turn when her mother becomes very ill.

After that, Grace and her brother Lee go to Europe to learn the truth about Grace's early life and why her elderly parents adopted her after raising their two sons, who were also adopted. Many surprises await Grace as she learns the truth about her biological mother and her past.

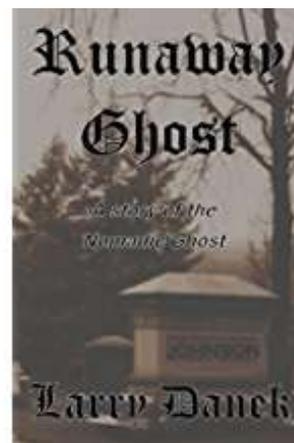
I highly recommend this book. It's well written and a good read. *The Road Chosen* is available at bookstores and online.



Reviewed by Sue Eller

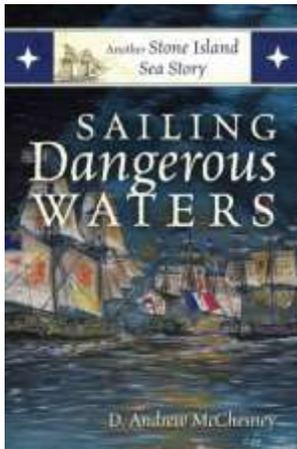
Air Force Captain Rusty Markham is sent on a mission to shoot down his childhood friend, who is flying an F-106 fighter plane to Cuba to turn over to Communist dictator Fidel Castro. Set in the era of the Cuban Missile Crisis and an uneasy peace between Cuba and the United States, agencies and countries on both political sides focus on the chase.

Lehman begins near the end of the tale and uses the tension and conflict to keep the reader engaged as he weaves back story and relationships in ever more complicated detail. The author's first-hand knowledge of the planes, the techniques, and the lingo bring a realism to the story that makes it hard to believe it's fiction. The values of duty, honesty, integrity, and friendship sometimes seem to war against each other, while an unexpected element tweaks the outcome.



Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

I have read all of Larry's books and this one, the third in his *The Nomadic Ghost series*, is my favorite one. It takes place in a ten-year-old boy's body who was abused and starved. The Nomadic ghost enters the boy's body and what he does is unexpected and surprises everyone. This story is fast paced, well written, and very entertaining. I recommend it to everyone, especially, those who like ghost stories.



Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

*Sailing Dangerous Waters* picks up where *Beyond the Ocean's Edge* left off. Equally well written, I continued to love/hate the characters accordingly, and was present as they explored and settled into the new world, made new friends and got caught up in the local politics. I was frustrated along with Pierce and his men as they strove to make ready to return to England.

Mr. McChesney is a talented writer who can make you smell the sea air, feel the deck roll beneath your feet, and even duck and cringe and cover your ears at the sounds of cannon. He really must get that third installment out.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

Captain Pierce misses his beloved Evangeline, and tries everything in his power to get back to her. He leaves Stone Island to return home, but his plans and hopes are thwarted by an enemy who should have been a

friend. Pierce struggles to understand an unfamiliar government dynamic, uses all his diplomatic skills to try to get his ship released, and makes some unexpected friends along the way. *Sailing Dangerous Waters* continues the *Stone Island Sea Stories* as McChesney captivates the reader and draws him in to another thrilling adventure.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

It's the early 1800s. Captain Edward Pierce of the HMS *Island Expedition* and his crew, who are thought to be pirates by the Tritonish Government, have been held captive for a year.

When they are finally freed, Edward's hope is to leave this parallel world and sail home to England. He is anxious to see Evangeline, the love of his life, who he hasn't seen for three years. But before they can leave, their ship needs to be repaired.

After repairs are completed, they are on their way. However, their journey is a dangerous one, for England and France are still at war. They have a fierce battle with a French ship and Captain Pierce is shocked when he discovers who the captain of this vessel is.

Eventually, Edward and his crew arrive home. Edward worries that no one will believe his stories of the strange, but similar other world, he and his crew discovered beyond the ocean's edge.

*Sailing Dangerous Waters*, the second of the *Stone Island Sea Story* series, ends with Edward and Evangeline meeting to discuss their future. Much has happened since they last saw each other, especially in Evangeline's life.

McChesney spins an exciting story with lots of detail and action. His characters are well-defined and interesting. He is very knowledgeable on naval history. He has a good command of the language of the time and knows how a ship and its crew works.

I enjoyed reading this book and recommend it for one and all.