



SASP

NEWS

October 2022

CONHAR'S CREATION

THE MONSTER HIDING WITHIN

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

JULIE BERGMAN

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 the **Shadle Park Library**, 2111 W. Wellesley. Ave., Spokane.

Presentations are slated to begin as soon as possible after **2:00 pm**. After a 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.

The library does not allow individuals to bring food in. However we can provide refreshments such as cake or cookies. We pass the hat, so to speak, to help reimburse whomever brings such refreshments.

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. We provide space to display 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 two weeks prior to the next scheduled meeting. **(October 27th for the November 2022 issue.)**

2022 Officers:

President: *Sue Eller*
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Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Web Master: *Dave McChesney*
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(509) 768-6178 (c)

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Member: *Esther Hildahl*
mr.inky@yahoo.com

Member: *Bob Weldin*
(509) 327-2897 minersquest@comcast.net

“Like” the SASP Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679

“Join” the SASP Facebook Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1646364128981815/>

“Follow” us on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/AndAuthors>

Contact us at: authors@spokaneauthors.org

Cover: **Sahar’s Creation** by SASP member *Julie Bergman*

OUR NEXT MEETING!

We are scheduled to meet at 2:00 pm. on Thursday, October 13th at the Shadle Park Library, 2111 W. Wellesley Ave., Spokane. We will be in the largest meeting room, the Events Room, which will be open at 1:00 pm. This will be our normal location and time for the next year.

Our October 13th speaker will be artist, illustrator, and graphic designer, Shannon Potratz. He will speak about the games, comics, and books he's worked on, as well as what makes a great book cover.

Shannon has been an illustrator and graphic designer for almost 30 years. He has worked on a variety of projects for Outland Entertainment since 2008, including games, books, comics, and more. In 2021 his first major comic book, *Dragonring*, written by Cullen Bunn, was released. He has since released his creator-owned book, titled *The Redeemers*, with his friends HJ Whapeles and Andy Owens, and published by Outland.

Shannon currently resides in Spokane, Washington. Ever since he was 4 years old, he dreamed of being an artist with the encouragement of his father who always said, "do what you love." He's never deviated from that goal and to this day, you never see him anywhere without his sketchbook at his side.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Fall has arrived!



A message from your president...

It is now officially fall, and our next meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2022. We continue to meet in the Events Room at the Shadle Library, W 2111 Wellesley Ave. The room will be open at 1:00 p.m., and the meeting begins at 2:00.

This month, our speaker will be Shannon Potratz, a local artist, cover designer, graphic novelist, and writer. I'm sure you will enjoy his presentation and ask him lots of questions.

Next month, we will hold elections for officers and board members. Please submit nominations to Dave McChesney in person or via email at authors@spokaneauthors.org.

I would like to propose a ballot issue on adding a second meeting each month. We will design the ballot so that you may choose your first and second choices for an additional meeting. We really need and appreciate your input and are willing to volunteer our time to make it a success.

The proposed additional meeting would be of a critique or instructional format. It would be held in the evening or on the weekend so that some members unable to attend a daytime meeting could join us in person. Voting could be done online, mail-in, or in person at the November meeting.

Don't forget that our regular meeting has been permanently changed to the second Thursday of the month.

As for the picture (banner) at the top of this month's message, it is the banner I've been using on my website and on bookmarks. I will update my other social media pages and business cards to match. Hopefully, I will be updating my professional headshot soon. A few things I've done consistently over the past few years haven't changed, and I've discovered that this is a part of developing a brand. Perhaps you have some things that have become part of your writing persona. I



hope we have time to discuss branding in further detail at our October meeting.

Sue Eller, President

FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

I didn't have any response to last month's cover, and I guess that is a good thing. No one complained about it. I hope to continue using covers or members' books as the cover for SASP NEWS. If for some reason you would prefer I not use your book, please let me know. My intent is to start at the top of our membership list as it appears on the web-site and work my way down. I'll also try to utilize covers that are appropriate to the season. I have a feeling that it will take a while to work through all the books available from fellow members of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers.

Last month I mentioned the possibility of changing the SASP e-mail account, as I found the current one a little difficult to work with. Not long after that, while working with it, I gained some insight into its operational features and decided that I could deal successfully with them. So, I renewed it for another year and will continue on with it. So if you are looking for a new e-address for SASP, there won't be one... at least for the foreseeable future.

As we near the end of 2022, it's time to think about dues for 2023. You are more than welcome to pay early. And if you haven't yet paid for 2022, there is still time to do so. Remember, you need to be current in your dues to be listed on our Members Page on the web-site, and to have a link to your Member Web-Page.



Speaking of Member Web-Pages, if yours needs updating, let me know. Ideally each one should have a member bio, a photo

or headshot of the member, as well as information about any books or other publications by that member.

Paying dues is easy. You can pay at any SASP meeting, or you can send a check or money order for \$15.00 to:

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers
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.

If your personal situation means paying dues will pose a financial hardship, please contact a SASP Officer or Advisory Board Member. We will see what we can do to accommodate you.



OUR SEPTEMBER 2022 MEETING

Compiled by Dave McChesney

Once again Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers met at the Shadle Library, this time on the Second Thursday of the month and in the largest meeting room available. We are slated to have this room and day through 2023.

Members attending included Bob Weldin, Mikel Stevenson, Sandy Philbin, Karl Northrup, Rich McKay, Dave McChesney, Bob Manion, Marilee Hudon, Esther Hildahl, Bob Hildahl, Dennis Held, Sue Eller, Larry Danek, and Caryl Briscoe-Michas. We welcomed Susanne Holland who attended along with our guest speaker.

Sarah Vail of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho was our featured speaker for the day. A writer, she is a member of the North Idaho Writers League and works with Bitterroot Mountain Publishing House. That functions as a cooperative and was set up to give writers a better means of getting published. Sarah talked about how the publishing process works when working with

Bitterroot, describing and showing us images from the web-site. Sarah noted that they publish a little of everything, and that the site has author pages, and on-line store, complete with links to buy.

She and Susanne also provided a couple of handouts for all in attendance. One was about Bitterroot, and the other was a compressed and comprehensive list on how to prepare a manuscript to pass along to an editor.

Following our break, Vice-President Marilee Hudon conducted the rest of the meeting, President Sue Eller's presence being required elsewhere. Marilee asked that we all try to get the word out about our organization and our meetings.

Carl Northrup, Marilee, and Sue were scheduled to be at Art on Monroe on Saturday, September 10th. Bob Manion noted that it might be possible to have a book signing at local Barnes and Noble stores if one's books are in the distribution system. Esther Hildahl announced she would be at the Mt. Spokane High School Craft Fair in early October.

There was some general discussion about libraries accepting or not accepting self-published books.

We ended the day by drawing for door prizes.

Our next meeting is slated for Thursday, October 13th, beginning at 2:00 pm. Our speaker will be artist, illustrator, and graphic designer, Shannon Potratz. He will speak about the games, comics, and books he's worked on, as well as what makes a great book cover.

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/blurbs/reviews
 - 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mt. Spokane High School Craft Fair
Saturday and Sunday, October 8th & 9th
Esther and Bob Hildahl, Dave McChesney

Inland Northwest Writers Guild ZOOM meeting
"Book Launches and Signings"
Wednesday, 19 October at 7 pm.
Linda at lindathewriter@gmail.com for info.

Shadle Park High School Craft Fair
Saturday and Sunday, November 5th & 6th
Esther and Bob Hildahl, Dave McChesney

Ridge Line High School Craft Fair
Saturday, and Sunday, November 12th & 13th
Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup
Tiffani Harvey (Saturday only)
Esther and Bob Hildahl (Sunday only)

Rogers Highschool Craft Fair
Saturday, October 29th, from 10 am to 4 pm
Tiffani Harvey, Esther and Bob Hildahl

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 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/
Example: www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332
or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044

If you are overseas or shop in a different
Amazon Marketplace, the URL will be as
required for that location, but the ASINs, the
number provided here will remain the same.

Gail Saunders

Cluckenstein: The Halloween Chicken
1946882054

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

George Critchlow

Travels with Vamper: A Graybeard's Journey
B0787NRJ8Y 1506905277
The Lifer and the Lawyer
B08QRY3259 1725278367

Joan M. Kop

The Freedom Chaser B07PNYVCSF 0578217740

Joy Linn

I've Been Born Again! Now What?
0977342808
Ten Keys to Freedom B07B67SQ4M 1640289283

Stephen D. Lalonde

The Phoenix Gift B07KGMSBDJ
A Palette of Verse B01NCJ8IP7

Sidney Hemmingsmoore

Health Secrets of the Bible
B09HJJ1K57 B09HG4KHDZ

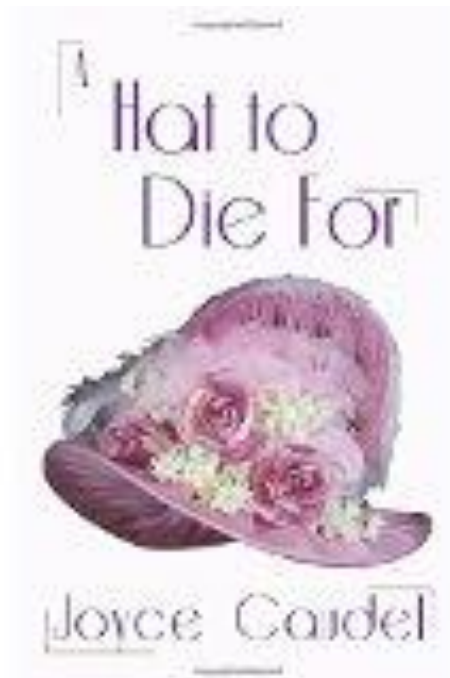
Joyce Seebaum

I Know Your Secrets, Dad
B09G25NPY3 B09M4KTHJJ8

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

If you have read a fellow SASP member's book, don't forget to write a review so we can include it on our web-site and here in our newsletter. (To be honest, your editor has a number of reviews to write, hopefully in the near future.)

Reviews here and on our web-site or most often reviews of books by our members, reviewed by our members. Some may be reviews our members have written of other books, and on occasion they are of our members' books written by someone outside the group.



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

A Hat to Die For is Caudel's third mystery novel involving the Red Hat Society and the good people of their town. Like her other two novels, this one is just as exciting and interesting to read.

Chancy Goodnight is a bestselling author. She writes mystery novels. One day, she receives some red roses and a package with no return address on it. Since she has been receiving threatening phone calls, she tells the delivery boy to take it back. Later she finds out that inside the package was a dead rat!

When Chancy throws a party at her home for all her friends, it is interrupted by a dead man found in one of her flower beds. And the next day, she discovers that her granddaughter, Brandy, is missing.

This book tells a very good story about changing your life for the better and finding forgiveness from new friends because of the changes you have made. I recommend this book to anyone who likes a good mystery.

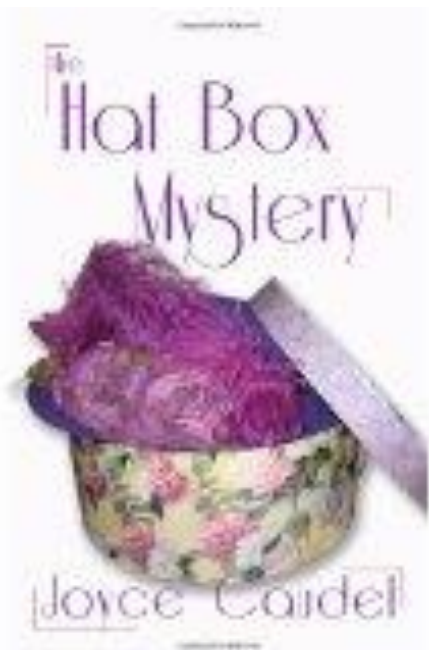
Available in several Spokane area bookstores and on Amazon.

rough with her, she called Jake, her Great Dane dog. Jake ran into the kitchen and attacked the man, clamping his big teeth on the man's arm. The other two men ran off while Rachel called the police.

When Jake is wounded in a drive by shooting a few days later, Rachel wonders if the same masked men that broke into her house could be trying to get even with her and her dog.

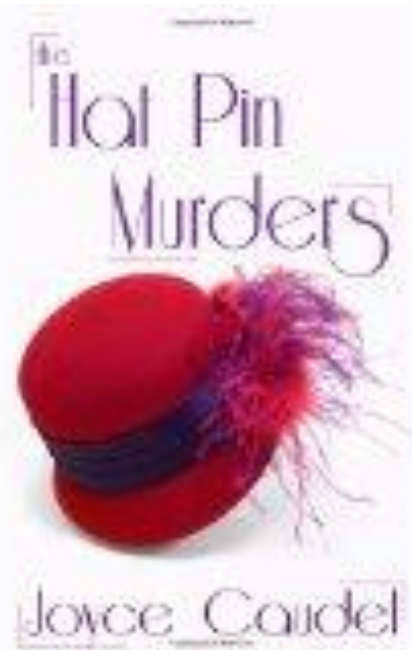
Thus, begins another great story by Joyce Caudel. I recommend this book to anyone who likes a good mystery with many interesting characters, such as Milo Jenkins, Rachel's wealthy uncle. It has a good ending and a good lesson in humanity and caring for those who have very little to nothing.

Available at several Spokane bookstores, Amazon, and on Kindle.



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Rachel Davis, a member of the Mystery Mama's Red Hat Book Club, awoke around three in the morning to find three masked men in her kitchen. When she confronted them, they were surprised that she was there, for they only broke into homes where the owners were not home. When one of the men got



Reviewed by Helen Foster

Maggie Coppenguee loves her Red Hat Chapter and the "Hatties," as she calls her friends. Fun loving and committed to having great times, she can't believe anyone at a Red Hat luncheon would kill her special friend, Mary Reed, and with a hat pin, of all weapons for a killer to use. Maggie becomes the prime

suspect and must find the real murderer in order to clear herself.

The Hat Pin Murders is a fun book to read. Joyce Caudel writes in an easy manner as she leads the reader on a trail of discoveries and clues in her search. Along the way Joyce lets us know why the Red Hat Society has become such a popular group.

The Hat Pin Murders is an enjoyable book and was an award winner in the General Fiction category of the USA "Best Books 2011" Awards. It's available at several Spokane area bookstores, as well as on Amazon.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Maggie Coppenger and Mary Reed live in Sommer, Washington, and have been best friends since kindergarten. Mary, a recent widow, only lives a few blocks away from Maggie, and they often do things together. Both enjoy being members of the Red Hat Society, which is all about dressing up in purple, wearing red hats, having fun, and spending time with their friends.

However, things turn tragic at the Red Hat Society Spring meeting, at the Sommerset Hotel, when Maggie finds Mary murdered with a rhinestone hat pin. Maggie and her friends are shocked that Maggie becomes the prime suspect. Therefore, her fellow Hatties, the Mystery Mamas, set out to find the real killer.

But who would want to kill Mary? Could it be Edith, Mary's neighbor, who pushed her and threatened to do her harm after an incident involving Edith's dog? Darlene, Mary's unfriendly, greedy stepdaughter? The mystery woman at the club? Or, could it be the driver of the black Mercedes who tried to run Maggie and her friend Jess off the road?

When the killer strikes again, this time attacking Marie Reader, a member of the Singing Sisters, and others at the Red Hats fashion show at the mall, Maggie and her friends come closer to having their questions answered.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book, the first of Caudel's *Red Hat*

Mystery books, and learning about the Red Hat Society. Caudel is a talented writer who spins a great mystery with numerous twists and turns. The reader is never bored. Her characters and settings are well-defined and interesting. I recommend this book to anyone who likes to read a good story that is a page turner and has a very satisfying ending.

Available in several Spokane area bookstores and on Amazon.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

The Hat Pin Murders is a delightful cozy murder mystery. Ms. Caudel has created a group of interesting characters, ladies "of a certain age" who are members of The Red Hat Society. Excitement abounds as they prepare for an event with all the area groups. Sadly, it wouldn't be a murder mystery without a murder. When one of their own is killed, it rattles her friends to the core. No one would really expect them to sit by and wait for the police to do their jobs, especially the prime suspect. Then the story takes a turn. We find ourselves immersed in mob activities. I've read many books of this genre and am pretty good at guessing where it's going to end. This one artfully twisted and turned until I was totally clueless and I couldn't venture a guess at all. The ending was certainly not on my radar! Well, done!