



# SASP

# NEWS

September 2019

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 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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## Advisory Board:

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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)

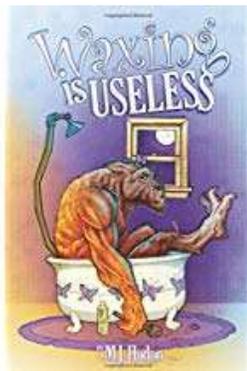
## OUR NEXT MEETING!



Please join us **Thursday, September 5, 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.** (We will be back to our normal day and time.)

Fellow Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers member **Marilee Hudon** will be our speaker. She plans to talk about using **social media**, and in particular, **Instagram**, to promote yourself and your books. Also known as M. J., she serves as the Public Relations Person for SASP. She is the author of *Waxing Is Useless*, available locally and on-line and blogs at:



<http://thesquidandsquirrel.wordpress.com>

On a side note: While J.B. and his wife, and my wife and I were introducing ourselves to others at the signing (the museum director and a couple of pilots), we found ourselves repeating that we were members of an organization called *Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers*. It was a mouthful that others had trouble hanging onto. So – and I've brought this up before – maybe we should call ourselves simply *Spokane Authors*, although that would ruin my traditional meeting greeting of, “Hi dee ho fellow SASPers and SASPerillas.”

As Monty Python used to say, “And now for something completely different”: Our discussion of door prizes at last month's meeting. There were strong opinions on both sides of the argument, but we all remained civil. During this day and age that was quite an accomplishment. I'm very proud of us. Today, politicians and others often end up calling each other derogatory names. There is far too much vitriol in our society. So I think we can all live with the decision to bring only door-prize books that were written by SASP members or speakers, or books about the art of writing – no matter what side you were on. Congratulations to us

*Jim*

## FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

So here it is, the Friday before the next meeting of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers. I should have sent the newsletter out today, but I wasn't quite done with it. I ended up doing some things for my upcoming high school reunion, the fiftieth by the way, knowing I had just a smidgeon of stuff left to do on this issue of SASP NEWS.

So when I sat down to complete it a while ago, the first thing I noticed was that I had not yet written the monthly *From the*



## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I just returned home from J.B. Rivard's signing of his book *Low on Gas/High on Sky* at the Spokane Valley Heritage Museum. Besides the book being hugely informative, thoroughly researched, and well-written (I've read only the first third thus far), it was a wonderful event and a wonderful museum! I'm ashamed to admit I had not been there before.



*Editor/Webmaster* blurb. Usually I have several things in mind I want to write about, but this evening I'm drawing a complete blank. Hopefully this will serve to take up a little space, give you something to read, and perhaps cause you to wonder. And if you wonder about me, I won't blame you.



## OUR AUGUST 2019 MEETING

(Compiled by Linda Sontag & Dave McChesney)



Dennis Held, our August 1<sup>st</sup> speaker

As has come to be expected, President Jim Parry started the meeting with a humorous anecdote. As has come to be expected, it was met with a combination of laughs, chuckles, groans and boos. Once the uproar died down, he asked any guests to introduce themselves. Joining us for the afternoon were Celia Hoath and Carl Northrup, along with his wife, Beverly. (Celia joined the group later in the day and is now a member of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers.)

Our speaker for the day was fellow Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers member Dennis Held. He presented a tutorial on the importance of correct spelling and editing. He was the copyeditor for Spokane Coeur d'Alene Living Magazine for many years. Dennis provided some tips to help remember the correct spelling of certain words. For

*secretary*, consider the root is *secret* and a good secretary keeps secrets. He suggested we turn off or at least do not rely on grammar check and mentioned it's best not to use hyperbole. He talked about homophones, words that sound the same but are spelled differently (they're tricky), and Jim illustrated with *compliment* and *complement*. Dennis also said good sentence structure allows the author to pull the reader along on a rope.

After Dennis' presentation there was a brief discussion about the cost of ordering books on Amazon. It was mentioned that Amazon charges for shipping and handling, plus the cost of the book, typically leaving the author about 40%.

Following the break Sue suggested various ways to use our group funds. It was suggested we could use them to bring in speakers who charge a higher fee, provide writing scholarships for students, and pay for select individuals' conference fees. Sue said we already have speakers scheduled for September and October, but she encouraged us to recommend future speakers.

Jim passed out book review forms provided by Bob Manion and then asked about upcoming events or other writing and publishing news. J. B Rivard noted the mayors of Spokane and Spokane Valley would proclaim August 15-20 "Nick Mamer Days" honoring the 90th anniversary of the record flight of the *Spokane Sun God* in 1929. This flight is the subject of J. B.'s book *Low on Gas - High on Sky*, now available nationally, and on Amazon. Tiffani Harvey announced she will promote her books at the valley Players & Spectators from 11 am until 4 pm, on Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Following a tie the previous month, we voted again on limiting what books could be offered as door prizes. The vote was close, but we decided we should limit books to those by local authors or members, and those dealing with writing. We will implement the new guidelines next month. Sue pointed out the raffle was originally set up to make our fellow members' books available so we could write reviews.

Tiffani held the raffle and winners today

included: Linda Sontagg, Esther Hildahl, Kate Poitevin, Carl Northrup, Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Sue Eller, Beverly Northup, Dennis Held, Joyce Seebaum, Jim Silliman, Bob Manion, Celia Hoath, Cindy Silliman, Dave McChesney, Kylea Carter, Betty Deuber, Samijo Tinsley, and Marilee Hudon. (Apologies if any door prize winner was omitted from this list. The individual recording names happened to win a prize and may have missed recording one or two individuals while selecting a prize.)

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 5<sup>th</sup>. We'll meet at the usual time and location, the Golden Corral on North Division St. in Spokane, with the meeting proper starting at 2:30 pm. Our own Marilee Hudon is scheduled to speak about social media.

## Notes and such from our members:

### J. B. Rivard...

Has had an article published in the latest edition of Nostalgia Magazine. It deals with Nick Mamer, the subject of J. B.'s latest book, Low on Gas – High on Sky.

### Asia Cohen...

Is excited to announce that her new religious novel, Fire of Thorns will be available in mid-September. It should be available in paper back from Barnes and Noble and Amazon. It'll also be available on Kindle™ and Nook™.

## 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.

## Southwest Washington

### Writers Conference

Centralia, Washington, Saturday Sept 7<sup>th</sup>.

Info and Details at:

[www.southwestwashingtonwriters.com](http://www.southwestwashingtonwriters.com)

contact at:

[swwc18@gmail.com](mailto:swwc18@gmail.com) (310) 941-6660

Keynote speaker: New York Times bestselling author **Hallie Ephron**

## PNWA Writers Conference

Seattle Thursday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> -- Sunday Sept 15<sup>th</sup>

Information and Details at: [www.pnwa.org](http://www.pnwa.org)

## Idaho Writers League

State Writers Conference

Sandpoint, Idaho, September 19, 20, & 21.

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

Or: [www.idahowritersleague.net](http://www.idahowritersleague.net)

## Craft Fair

Spokane Authors & Self-Publishers member

**Tiffani Harvey** will be there.

12407 E 16th Ave, Spokane Valley, WA

Saturday, September 28, 2019  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**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)

### Azalea Dabill

Falcon Heart	B00VOEQXIO
Falcon Flight	B019YRTIRO
Lance & Quill	B010ZD7PVS
Path of the Warrior	B00W4JYHL8
Falcon's Ode	B075ZZBPKR
Nightshade & Knitbone	1943034109

### Karen Jean Matsko Hood

<i>Blood Heiress</i>	1592108857
<i>Bloom of Autumn Gold</i>	1592102166
<i>Huckleberry Delights</i>	B0045U9U34 1596493852
<i>Transracial Adoption</i>	1594346186
<i>Petting Farm Fun</i>	1594346186
<i>Finding Rudolph</i>	B074JZPG9X 1598082957
<i>Morning Reflections</i>	B00DH70LVG 1930948557

(This is a partial list of Karen's books. More will be added with time.)

### Tom Wallace

*To Kill a Poacher: A Psychological Case Study in Empathic Health and Applied Spirituality*  
0595475442

### Ed Des Autel

*III Minutes to XII* B07B3YDPLK 1641382511

## SASP NEWS

### Marilee Hudon

*Waxing Is Useless* B07HY4Y85T 172128186X

### Joan Carter

*Gray Swallow* B07PXM1VXC

### Sonja Mongar

*Two Spoons of Bitter* 069205524X

### Michael Zargona

*Turn Red Tomorrow* B07Q7TNLTC 1092144404

### M. Kari Barr

*Once Again Tales of Destiny*  
B07H8Q5CJD 1732140103

*They Came From the Sea*

(D. P. Waters, co-author)

B07FDK1VKG 1722744367 (audio) B07GC5WXS2

*Thinktacular Thoughts*

(Illustrated by Stoyan Dobrev) B07GNYD2C4

*Rain on Me: Poetic Frenzy*

B07GNVPQX9 1468123378

*Arcadium Autum Emporium:*

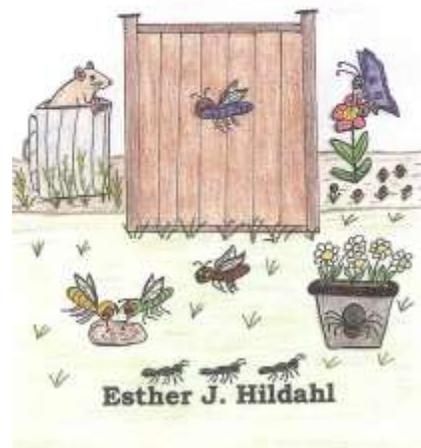
*Tales of the Gate Keeper* 173214012X

### Dennis Held

*Betting on the Night* 0966861280

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

### Poopie the Fly and Friends



Reviewed by Rhonda Cordes (a fan)

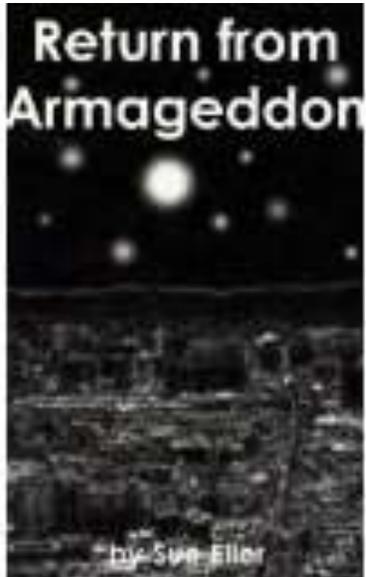
I've finished reading *Poopie the Fly and Friends*. What a clever and creative book! My

favorite thing about it is the way the author weaves education and life lessons throughout the story and still keeps it entertaining. I enjoyed reading it very much.

Return to Armageddon, ISBN 9781477655726 is available on Amazon, both in paperback and Kindle formats.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

Mr. McChesney already said it all better than I could. I would add that it could have been longer. It is nice to read a book that doesn't take a month to read, but I wanted more of this future world. Perhaps there will be a sequel someday, to let us know how her version of the world turns out. Perhaps Becky and David's grandchildren?



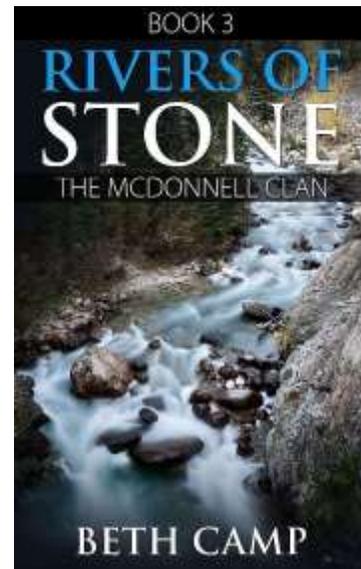
By Sue Eller

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

In the not too distant future, all of Earth is united as the Federation of United Countries and United Peoples. Realizing the possibility of invasion from space, Becky Johnson designs a defense system to protect the planet. On her way to the initial activation of the system, Becky disappears and earth-changing events begin to occur.

This small book, which can be read in a fraction of the time required for most, packs an amazing story into a relatively small package. There is an understated but noted parallel with Biblical history and prophecy. Many characters appear to be modern versions of those from Scripture, identified in the story by more modern contemporary names.

The author does a marvelous job of combining Science Fiction with Biblical history and prophecy, while stirring in a bit of sarcastic humor and irony. The final result is certainly plausible, although not what we are led to expect by traditional interpretations.



Reviewed by Sue Eller

[Catriona McDonnell's greatest fear is deportation back to Scotland, where she would never see her beloved husband, Dougal, again.](#)

Beth Camp brought me so completely into the story of Catriona and her trek across the continent, that I found myself shivering and hungry. Her descriptions of the characters' experiences and feelings, of life in the primitive areas of Canada and the northern United States, and the hardships explorers and settlers endured, draw the reader into the story as few writers can. If you enjoy historical fiction, adventure, and a quest driven by love and hope, you will enjoy Rivers of Stone.

Reviewed by Betty Deuber

In her third McDonnell novel, *RIVERS OF STONE*, Beth Camp tells the story of a new bride, Catriona, who declines traveling to the Americas' east coast with her family as an indentured servant. Instead, she chooses to sail to the Americas on the Hudson's Bay Co. ship, Prince Rupert, as a hired-on-hand—disguised as Cat, her husband's brother. They dock at Hudson's Bay fort, York in September 1842

When Catriona's husband, Dougal, and his younger brother, Colin, are sent west with a brigade, Catriona/Cat stays behind at York, working as clerk and copier. Losing her advocates and protectors, she constantly looks over her shoulder in fear of someone discovering her deception. Nor only here, but throughout the novel, the reader feels Catriona's deep anxiety about the pretense, about sleeping in the same room with unwashed men and how she endures the severe winter climate in northern Canada.

Catriona/Cat acquires strength and stamina of a young man, and picks up the fort's lingo. Yet the reader gets a chance to know her as a woman when she shows her true female feelings in secluded places. When Dougal doesn't return in a year, like he promised, she desperately tries to hide her fear of abandonment. Later, when Dougal's letters stop, Catriona grieves in solitude. Then she buckles up and joins a brigade going to Vancouver in search of Dougal. The reader is intimately involved with the young woman as she—struggles in her four year search—endures the blizzards, floods and treks over the Canadian Rockies beside rough-tough furmen, buffalo hunters, scoundrels, breeds and friends .

*Rivers of Stone* is an interesting read. Compliments to Beth on the thorough bibliography she provided, as well as how she kept the narrator -third-person-direct throughout the novel. I would have liked to have followed a map of Catriona's journey

Reviewed By D. Andrew McChesney

In Scotland, in the first half of the nineteenth century, countless farmers were forced off their land so wealthy landowners could devote the countryside to pasturing sheep. As a result of this forced upheaval, Catriona McDonnell, her husband Dougal, and his brother Colin hire on with the Hudson's Bay Company. Known as Cat, she disguises herself as a boy and pretends to be a third brother.

Once arriving at York Factory on the icy shores of Hudson's Bay, she is soon put to work as a clerk in the trading post. Soon Dougal is sent to Fort Vancouver while she is forced to remain behind. Not only must she cope with her husband being away, she must maintain her identity as a boy, lest she be sent back to Britain. This then is the story of her trials over the next several years. During this time she makes friends, enemies, and nearly gives up hope of ever being reunited with Dougal.

Extremely well written, *Rivers of Stone* excels in authentic detail of the time. The suspense as Cat maintains her masquerade and her longing for Dougal continues at a high level throughout the story. Also notable is her willingness to make friends with, and to be friended by those of other origins, including members of the Cree Nation.

This is an entertaining, informative, and absorbing read. It is Book Three in the story of *The McDonnell Clan*, but it need not be read in sequence with the first two volumes. It is truly a stand-alone work, and its quality should convince readers they need to read the other stories in the series as well.