



# SASP

# NEWS

September 2020

Another "Stay Home Stay Healthy" Issue

**Looks like we won't be meeting for a while, due to Covid-19 concerns**

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



Back to School? Maybe, maybe not!

**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. (Or when the next meeting would normally be held.) **(September 24<sup>th</sup> for the October 2020 issue.)**

## 2020 Officers:

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**“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](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org)

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

**This pandemic seems to be dragging on longer than we expected. At this point it's hard to predict when we will be able to meet again. Until then, stay home as much as possible, wear a mask when out and about, and try to maintain your social distancing.**

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hi folks. Once again, it's just about time for no meeting.

After witnessing what covid19 can do to people, especially older people, my wife and I have joined the Big Chicken Club. We have gone virtually (that word has taken on its more original meaning during the pandemic) nowhere during the past six months, even buying groceries on line and then hitting each item with a disinfectant spray once they arrive. After an hour of spraying, I become so bored



I've taken to grabbing my mother's numerous scrapbooks and paring them down into one large three-ring binder. So far, I've thrown away the contents of eight waste baskets. Most of the throwaways have been photos of unknown places

and/or unknown people; at least, people that my kids are not going to recognize when (if?) they look through this book. I did run into my first-grade report card. It said I was a good student but needed to quit being so shy, and needed to get up in front of the class to share things – and needed to speak louder. Nearly seventy years later I volunteered to be SASP

president in an attempt to overcome those deficiencies (but these past six months have once again silenced me.)

I guess I should be writing. Is anyone writing? Is anyone getting published? Is anyone selling? Kinda thought more people would be bored during this virus and, thus, reading more books. (I see I did sell one e-book in July – Whoopee!)

On a related note: While browsing the internet, I ran into a site which might be of value to some of you: *Self-Publishing Companies to Avoid and How to Spot Them*.

Stay safe and spread kindness,

*Jim*

P.S. – If anyone is interested, I'll be signing books tomorrow at Barnes & Noble from 6:00 PM until I get escorted out by security.

## FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

I've had a few responses to the questionnaire for additional roster information. Thanks to those who have responded. I did notice that all so far provide much more detailed information than there is room for on the second page of the roster. Therefore, it's my plan to incorporate the received forms into a single document and forward it on to the membership. That way you will be able to have a better idea of what each of these individuals is looking for, rather it be in terms of help needed or assistance offered.

For the time being, I'm trying to keep this within the group itself, so I won't be posting to the web-site or including details here in SASP NEWS. If you wish to reach outside of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, let me



know. I can then include it on the web-site or in the newsletter. Let me know if I can include your contact information in the posting/note or not. I'll be sending the information form along with this edition of SASP NEWS, in case you have misplaced it.



## OUR AUGUST 2020 MEETING

Due to the Corona Virus/Covid 19 pandemic, we did not meet on Thursday, August 6, 2020.

## 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. **A lot of them are still "bare bones basic."** Send information to your editor/web-master and let's get them up to speed!

## SASP NOTES

Fellow SASP member J. B Rivard's Low On Gas – High On Sky was reviewed by the American Aviation Historical Society. You can

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see the review, along with several others relating to aviation history, and view the entire issue at:

[https://aahs-online.org/flightline/fl\\_199.pdf](https://aahs-online.org/flightline/fl_199.pdf)

\*\*\*\*\*

Sad to note in the Spokesman-Review that one time SASP member Billie Bennett passed away in early August.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fellow SASP member (and former President) Esther Hildahl noted she has received word from Laurie Awbery at Brighton Court Assisted Living, stating the residents there appreciated the books, stories, and poems several of our members shared with them.

## READERS WANTED

Dave McChesney is looking for one or more individuals willing to read and provide critical feedback of the third *Stone Island Sea Story*. (He appreciates the comments and the finding of many small typos the one reader so far pointed out.)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Note: Many events have been cancelled or postponed to a later date because of the current Corona Virus/Covid 19 outbreak. If cancellation or change isn't indicated here, please check to see if it is still taking place.**

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 second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, 12 East Olive Ave., (downtown) Spokane, WA.

(Probably cancelled for the immediate future. If you are on the group's mailing list, you may have received an invitation to participate in an on-line meeting.)

## 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 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)

### 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*  
B0110Z500Q  
*Jed's World* B00MWDJ1YY  
*Ghostly Reunion: A Nomadic Ghost Story*  
B077KHR33M  
*The Runaway Ghost: Story of the Nomadic*  
*Ghost (Vol. 3)* 1986978605

### Esther J. Hildahl

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

### Russell H. Ford

*Depop* B019NGA00Q 159849175X  
*Re-Ring* B011RW4XVY

### 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

### Marilee Hudon

*Waxing Is Useless* B07HY4Y85T 172128186X

### Joan Carter

*Gray Swallow* B07PXM1VXC

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

We've received three new reviews, including one of a yet to be published book.



Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

In this book Temperance continues her search for the powerful daemon Belial who destroyed her hometown and everyone she loved, including her mother, father, and grandfather, James Whiteoak, inventor of the

powerful hexbullet and first of the Pistol Warlocks, the greatest sorcerer of all.

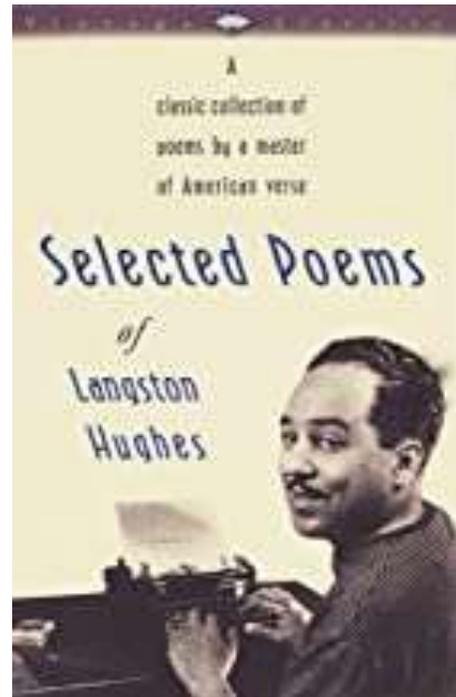
However, Belial set a trap for her, causing her to fall into a pit. Her only hope for rescue was her talking horse, Astor, but she wasn't sure he knew where she was. After three days, she was finally rescued by an old weather-beaten looking man by the name of Sven Jacoben, but her horse was nowhere to be found. Following Sven, she ends up in the little mountain town of Shady Hollow. Here she discovers that the residents have their own problems with daemons, missing young men, and she becomes friends with a young girl named Ruth.

There's a lot of adventure in this story and a surprise involving "sweet innocent" Ruth. Blair is a creative writer. Here are two examples: "Fear. That particular emotion had been absent for so long, even the sound of it felt strange in Belial's head: dry and musty as ancient spiderwebs found in a sealed room." And "It was a beautiful day, for all that it was cold. The sky was an endless blue canvas stretching away towards the horizon, the sun overhead serving as the centerpiece. Every plant in the forest tilted skyward, trying to grasp what last bit of warmth they could before winter came upon them."

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

(Editor's note: The author was recently a guest speaker at a SASP meeting. This book is available at:

[www.amzn.com/dp/B07QSPM2JL](http://www.amzn.com/dp/B07QSPM2JL) and [www.amzn.com/dp/1093792272](http://www.amzn.com/dp/1093792272) )

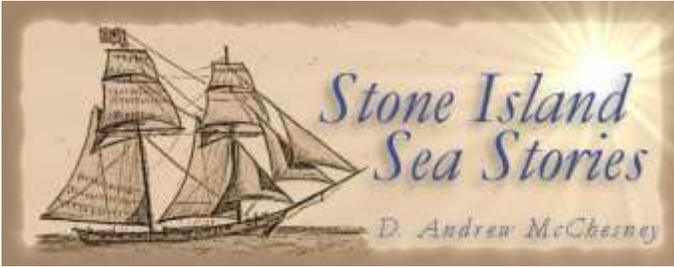


Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

When I was in college many, many years ago, I took a Black History class and was introduced to various Black writers. One of my favorites was Langston Hughes. I loved his poetry and short stories. He wrote over thirty books during his lifetime. First published in 1926, he died in 1967. Recently, I was in Barnes and Noble and purchased two of his books. This particular book, *Selected Poems of Langston Hughes* tells of the experiences of Black men and women in America. He expresses through his poetry the soul of slaves, of musicians, of the poor. He writes about religion, humor, love, hopelessness, despair, dreams, freedom, and much more. It's a wonderful collection of poems written by a very talented poet. Although depressing at times, I enjoyed reading it and highly recommend it.

(This book is available at: [www.amzn.com/dp/B005C2SHK6](http://www.amzn.com/dp/B005C2SHK6) or [www.amzn.com/dp/067972818X](http://www.amzn.com/dp/067972818X) )

# Darnahsian Pirates



(Cover art is not yet finalized.)

By D. Andrew McChesney

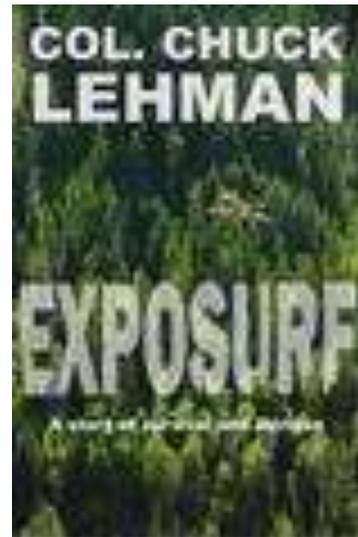
Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

Another great book by McChesney in the *Stone Island Sea Story* series. This is the third book in the series and it takes over where the second book left off.

After Edward Pierce's reunion with his true-love, Evangeline, they get married. Then they decide to go back to Stone Island. This time they have three ships. They end up having a fierce battle with the Pirates that are holding Pierce's father-in-law who is the Governor of Stone Island captive.

I would recommend this book to anyone looking for an exciting book that moves right along and tells a great story about a sea adventure and fighting pirates.

(Note: Work on this story is still in progress. Review was written following a beta-read.)



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Another great book by Col. Chuck Lehman. Using his survival training skills, he has successfully created an exciting suspense-filled thriller and a page turner.

The story begins with Cal, a pilot, being forced to crash land his plane into the tree tops of a Canadian forest. Now he and his photojournalist, Jillian, must not only survive in the woods but must also avoid being shot by a mysterious stranger who is shooting at them. With a little romance mixed in, *Exposure* is a great read.

Reviewed by Fred Jessett

I don't usually read thrillers but this looked like it might be a good read so I decided to give it a shot. I was not disappointed. A routine aerial photo mission for a mining company turns deadly when the plane carrying former U. S. Air Force pilot Cal Cunningham and risk-taking photojournalist, Jill Adams is forced down in the wilderness of northern Canada. They soon discover that they have to deal with the wilderness but also a Russian sniper and a Mexican drug cartel. All of Cal's survival training and his resourcefulness are put to use as Cal and Jill devise ways to survive both nature and those out to kill them. In the process Cal and Jill also find themselves relying on prayer and on each other in ways

that rekindle faith and love in lives that had lost both somewhere in the past.

## Full Disclosure



By Helen Christine

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Jenny Scott is happily married to her husband, Greg. She has a dream job at Taylor Myers, a Seattle investments firm, and is about to have her first initial public offering (IPO). Everything is perfect. Or is it?

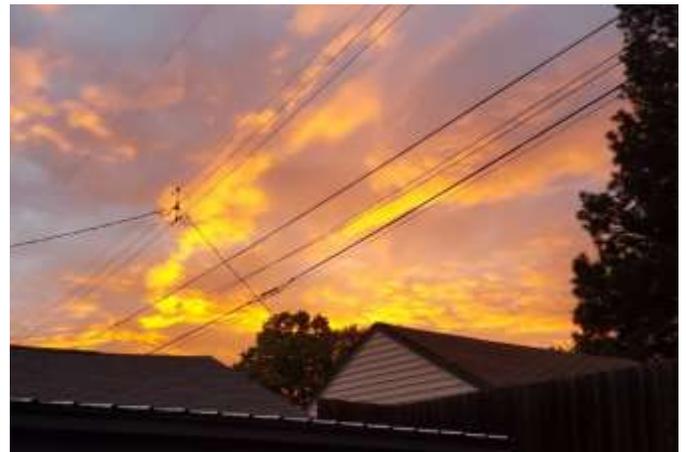
She can't help but think about her friend Cabot McAvoy's warning to be cautious when dealing with others in the firm and to not always believe what she's told. When she discovers someone has gone through her desk, looked at some of her files, and later discovers a mysterious file on her computer that she can't open, her suspicion grows that she is being set up to take the fall for some sinister happenings at the firm.

With the help of her assistant, Alex, she takes on the unscrupulous, greedy bad characters, who she discovers have already murdered two people that got in their way. After a spine-tingling office break-in and a harrowing car chase, they eventually find out what has "really" been going on.

Helen Christine is a fine writer and spins a great story of greed, dishonesty, corruption, and murder in the securities

industry. It has a surprising and satisfying ending. The characters are well-defined and interesting. I enjoyed reading this book, and I recommend it to anyone who likes to read a story that is both a thriller and a page turner.

Available from Amazon.



*Sunset in May of this year. It has nothing to do with writing or publishing, but it does fill up a blank spot on the page.*