



SASP

NEWS

April 2019

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



April Showers!

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 their 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 now 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 are requested to buy lunch upon entering the establishment, and to leave an appropriate tip for the waiter/waitress.

Members need to be present to win door prizes.

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. (Be sure to visit the “links” page on our web-site. It will connect you to many interesting on-line locations, including those of many SASP members.)

Guest speakers at our monthly meetings inform, inspire, and entertain members and guests with a variety of topics, all designed to provide knowledge pertinent to writing and publishing.

SASP members are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works of and with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate examples of their work for use as door

prizes. Those who win other members’ works are expected to provide a review of that work.

Note:

SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from our meetings. Please take your name tag with you. It is yours to keep and maintain. Please take any books you have provided for display with SASP. We will provide space for you to display your books, but you must bring them to each meeting.

SASP now has a dedicated e-mail account. Contact us at:
authors@spokaneauthors.org

2019 Officers:

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“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>

OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us **Thursday, April 4, 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.**

Our guest speaker is scheduled to be Sandra Norwack, Assistant Director of Career Services at Whitworth University.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Reading Col. Chuck Lehman's book *Angels Three Six* got me thinking: Chuck and I



came from completely different backgrounds, and yet ended up in the same place – as authors in

Spokane, Washington, as members of SASP, and striving for the same literary goals. Chuck spent most of his career flying jet fighters all over North

America while I was teaching middle-schoolers, never leaving my home town. But we currently lead very similar *normal* lives. We can now say we've raised productive children, paid off our mortgages, and shop for groceries at Yokes. Dave had a naval career, Esther was an elementary school teacher, and Kate was practically raised on a boat. I'm sure some of you can identify with one of the aforementioned backgrounds. The rest of you probably have very different stories. We've all come from varied upbringings, and yet here we are – authors all. And I haven't even mentioned the rich *fantasy* lives that live in the minds of authors.

Chatting with Chuck also reminded me that each person involved in a dialogue can gain much insight into the other's life, and into life in general and its meaning(s). The more

divergent the backgrounds, the more enlightened one becomes. Also, just standing back and listening to the conversations of others will gain a person even more understanding.

Jim

P.S. – Listening to the conversations of others also will help you to *write* better, more realistic dialogue.

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

My apologies to everyone for the delay in posting *Our March 2019 Meeting* to our web-site. We had some communications problems and I did not receive our new secretary's notes about the meeting until recently. While I normally take notes, I am assuming duties as our treasurer and believe someone else should record our meeting events. Linda Sonntag has agreed to do so. Thus you will find me shifting from Secretary to Treasurer, while still continuing to edit SASP NEWS and serve as our Web-Master.



In the past week or so, changes have been made to both our roster and to our web-site. Those "recent" members who have not been paid up since 2016 have been removed from the roster and their e-addresses deleted from our e-address book. In addition, those whose membership is not paid for 2019 have been removed from the "Members" page list of members on the web-site. Names and links to Member Web-Pages will be reinstated upon payment of dues for 2019.

Dave McCall

OUR MARCH MEETING

(Compiled and submitted by Linda Sonntag)

Jim Parry opened the meeting, noting Bob M. had asked him not to use any more puns. Jim therefore opened with two knock-knock jokes, the contents of which are not included here. He also told an additional joke.

Today's guest was Randy Stolz from Sandpoint, Idaho. He told us he'd been thinking of visiting our group for some time. He writes non-fiction (articles), plays and short stories.

Recently joined member Joy Lynn made an announcement concerning her writing and publishing efforts.

Sue Eller introduced our guest speaker, local poet and radio show host Stephen Pitters, who does a lot to promote Spokane area writers and poets. As well, he has just finished his sixth book. He collaborated with other authors to write a series called "Conversations on Altered Roadways," and also read from his book of poetry named *Eye of the Spirit*. The first poem he read - "Hope: The Immigrant's Story" was brought to life by a picture, as well as a sculpture by James McCloud depicting two figures rising up from poverty with the white flower of Panama, the flower of spirit, on the base of the sculpture. That first poem describes the "jaw-dropping" skyline of the "concrete jungle" of New York, a "manufactured utopia," from the viewpoint of an immigrant first seeing the city and the "iconic woman," the Statue of Liberty.

His second poem, "What Really Matters," talks about the love of a father for his daughter that is (wider) than the "broadest sky." His next poem was based on Andy William's song - "Where Do I Begin?" which was inspired by memories he had of hearing an angelic voice along San Francisco Bay. He finished with a poem about his daughter finishing a 500-meter swim and another about the first year of his son's life, when he and his wife were zombies from lack of sleep. Today that baby is a six foot, two inch former football player and helicopter flight commander.

Pitters will host a prose/poetry/music

presentation on March 19th at Shadle library from 6-7 p.m. He told us there are three (prose/poetry/music) openings for a similar July presentation.

New books by SASP members include: *Gray Swallow* by Joan Carter, *Low on Gas, High on Sky* by J. B. Rivard, and *Whispers of Inspiration* by Sandy Philbin.

Tiffani conducted the door prize (book) drawing and meeting ended.

MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

We are providing the following guide for those that wish to provide information for a member web-page.

1. Name and photo/headshot
2. Brief biography
3. Links to any 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.

In many cases your editor/web-master can find much of this on-line, if it is there. If it's not and you would like to have a member web-page that is as complete as possible, please e-mail information to daveeva@comcast.net, authors@spokaneauthors.org, or send via USPS to:

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers
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Spokane, WA 99228-0573

You are encouraged to check out other member web-pages posted on our web-site at www.spokaneauthors.org. Click on the "Members" button along the left and then click on the member whose page you wish to view.

Please note: We are always ready and willing to update and correct any web-page. Do not hesitate to contact your web-master if you think your page needs attention.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact daveeva@comcast.net or e-mail authors@spokaneauthors.org to get your event listed.

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON & KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are available on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We are now printing shorter 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 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/](http://www(dot)amzn(dot)com/dp/)
Example: www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332
or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044

Azalea Dabill

Falcon Heart	B00V0EQXIO
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

Marilee Hudon

Waxing Is Useless

B07HY4Y85T 172128186X

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

Let's Share Our Patriotic Thread

by Jerry Garcia

Reviewed by Elizabeth J. Deuber

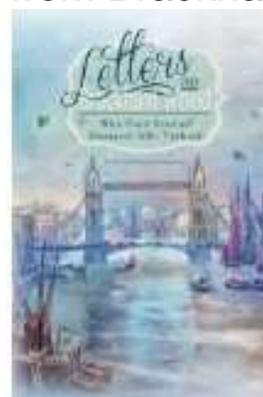
Let's Share Our Patriotic Thread by Jerry Garcia, is an anthology that provided an opportunity for veterans to share their thoughts and feelings about war experiences, why they joined the service and patriotism with other ex-GI's, family and friends.

Jerry's opinion as well as the accounts from the other men and women retired from the United States Military differed somewhat in that some had negative reactions about their tenures in the service, others positive. In general, however, all admitted to still being very patriotic.

The title is great, and the information he and his peers shared in this book is invaluable to non-service people, including our future citizens.

I'm a collector of personal history, and enjoyed the book very much.

Letters from Brackham Wood



By Rita Gard Seedorf
and Margaret Albi Verhoef

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

Here is the rarely told tale of the lives of those who are left behind when the men go off to war. It is written in the rarer still style of letters sent by cousins, one in England and the other in Spokane, WA.

It gives the viewpoint of the two women as they go about their lives with the specter of war hanging over them. There is a mystery that may or may not involve spies (no spoilers from me!) and in the background touches on the day to day life of air raids and rationing, with historical facts woven in to give time perspective.

I found it to be a delightful read.

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

This is a compelling book written in an unusual way. Other than a brief introduction in which an individual is handed a container of letters to sort through, the bulk of the story is told via those letters. In pre-World War II England, Moira Edwards takes a chance to write to her cousin Margaret, now living in the Northwest United States. The letter reaches Margaret's parents living in Chicago and her mother forwards it on to her. Thus the cousins establish a correspondence which lasts nearly to the end of the war.

As they exchange letters, the cousins inform each other of the conditions each are living under, and at times compare cultural difference between England and the United States. "I just read that in America the Post Office delivers the mail while here in England the Royal Mail delivers the post."

As the story goes on, it seems that something isn't right with the couple that Moira works for as a "maid of all work," or "helper to the woman of the house." There are hints of espionage and other activities that may impact on the war effort. Meanwhile cousin Margaret Walker is one of Spokane, Washington's pioneering female physicians. As war looms, and as America is finally drawn into the conflict, she finds herself helping both refugee Jews and displaced Japanese Americans.

It is the ability of the cousins to confide in each other which moves the story forward. Only in the end does the narrator reappear to tidy up loose ends. The authentic feel of the letters was achieved in part by each of the authors writing as one of the two cousins. They in effect exchanged and answered letters just as the cousins did.

The story also serves to illustrate just how much things have changed since World War II. Prices and wages mentioned seem minuscule compared to today's standards. Communication was primitive in light of the internet, web, most often done by mail or post. The story also touches on civil rights, women's rights, and the changes in society over the years.

This was an interesting and intriguing read, one that was hard to put down, and one this reader anxiously awaited to pick up again. As a result this reader looks forward to the next book by these talented co-authors: *Letters from a Wary Watcher: A Moira Edwards Walker Mystery*.