



SASP

NEWS

August 2016

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 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.

*(Schedule variations will be posted on the SASP website, [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org), and current members notified via e-mail or telephone.)*

**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. (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 and stands for you to display your books, but you must bring them for each meeting.

**2016 Officers:**

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| President:         | <b>Esther Hildahl</b><br>mr.incky@yahoo.com    |
| (509) 489-2136     |  |
| Vice-President:    | <b>Sue Eller</b><br>sue@ellermarketing.net     |
| (509) 499-2012     |  |
| Secretary:         |  |
| Newsletter Editor: |  |
| Web Master:        | <b>Dave McChesney</b><br>daveeva@comcast.net   |
| (509) 325-2072     |  |
| Treasurer:         | <b>Bonnie Stichert</b><br>wbstichert@gmail.com |
| (509) 675-9253     |  |
| Public-Relations:  | <b>Beth Camp</b><br>bluebethley@yahoo.com      |
| (509) 863-5536     |  |

**Advisory Board:**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Member:        | <b>James Parry</b><br>parry9922@q.com        |
| (509) 325-9922 |  |
| Member:        | <b>Bob Weldin</b><br>minersquest@comcast.net |
| (509) 327-2897 |  |
| Member:        | <b>Chuck Lehman</b><br>cmlehman2@yahoo.com   |
| (509) 299-7802 |  |

**“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/>

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us on **Thursday, August 7, 2016 at 2:30 pm**, at the **Golden Corral, 7117 N. Division**. (The room opens at **2 pm** to allow for dining and mingling prior to the start of the meeting.)

Our special guest speaker will be local author and photographer **Dawn Troxel**. She will talk about creativity and marketing.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I like to write. I always have ideas for new stories and think about different aspects of writing daily. I've learned to jot down many of these ideas, and I know the more you write the more motivated and creative you become. I even enjoy the tasks of researching information for my stories and tweaking my sentences and paragraphs to make them as readable and interesting as possible.

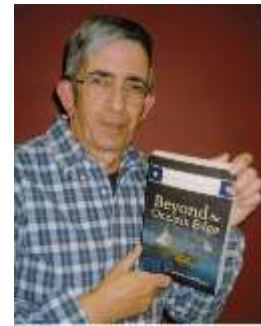
However, after saying all of these things about the hobby I love, there is one obstacle that is very frustrating to me and sometimes prevents me from creating and writing my stories for days, weeks, months, even years. That obstacle is *time*. I never seem to have enough of it. Often my best laid plans are interrupted by unexpected surgeries, spouse's surgeries, appointments, computer problems, vacations, family events, grandchildren, home remodeling, yard work, etc. In other words -- life.

What's a writer to do? Give up? I say, "Never!" I have three manuscripts in different stages of being ready for publication that I am currently working on, but it is slow going. I'm hoping for some *magic* that will give me more time. If any of you have any ideas on this subject, please write and share your magic.

*Esther*

P. S. The topic for our "10 Minute Discussion" will be: "Differences in Pitching Secular and Religious Books!"

## FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER



The other day I noticed a large "Going Out of Business" banner on the Shadle Hastings. Other than that I have no idea of what has happened regarding the recent Chapter Eleven proceedings, but my guess is, things didn't work out as well as they could have. The apparent demise of Hasting Entertainment is a great loss for self-published and independent authors. Their numerous stores in the local area provided us with locations to have our books on sale and to conduct book signings. Loss of one of our primary means of selling to the public means we will have to explore other means of marketing our books. We might need to look closer at participating in local arts and craft shows as well as attempting to get our books into local gift shops and other establishments.

While I have your attention, my apologies for the extreme delay in getting things updated this month. I can only say that my ambition level seemed to have plummeted over the past month while the laziness factor increased by the same degree. (I've also had

some computer/web-site difficulties, and we were out of the area one weekend in order to attend a Seattle Mariners game.)



## FROM A SASP MEMBER



### Writing Clinic: Trolling the Internet

Last week's e-mail brought this little graphic from [www.onestopforwriters.com](http://www.onestopforwriters.com) on revising for a deeper point of view. Just that reminder about "filtering words" (add 'look' to their list) has been very helpful.

In the last several months, I joined the Facebook group for Ten Minute Novelists. Their website [www.10minutenovelists.com/](http://www.10minutenovelists.com/) offers useful columns and a link to their Facebook group. If you are juggling a job or other commitments with your writing, this group offers advice and support in for writing in ten-minute segments.

One example: A writer posted to the FB page for Ten Minute Novelists asking if she should even worry about blogging any more since it looked like vlogs were going to replace them – and she didn't have time to write, let alone blog and vlog (whatever that was).

What's a vlog? The death knell for bloggers? Or the next ramp up to link technology and readers.

Simply put, a vlog is a blog where the content is presented primarily via videos. And here's an example:

With "Tips for Overwriters: How to Reduce Your Word Count," Jenna Moreci presents 5 tips to sharpen your red pen in a breezy, short video. Her tips (summarized

here) are very helpful. See Jenna's video for elaboration!

1. What scenes are essential?
2. Can any scenes be combined?
3. Which scenes drag?
4. Are there any redundancies I can chop?
5. Where can I further trim?

See more at:

<https://www.facebook.com/authorjennamoreci>

*Challenge for the month:* Try it! Why not talk about your favorite writing-related topic in a short video and post it on your blog. Then ask: Did reader reactions change? What did you learn from this experiment? Were you satisfied with the camera/computer/program you used to make the video – and upload it? Share your experience (and link) on our SASP Facebook page. Let's talk about this.

SASP member and Spokane author Beth Camp writes historical fiction and blogs from time to time at

<http://bethandwriting.blogspot.com>

*Have a writing tip? Why not sending it to David McChesney for next month's newsletter at [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net)*

## JULY'S MEETING

A few days after celebrating Independence Day, members of Spokane Authors and Self-Publisher met at the Golden Corral on North Division. Our guest speaker was Cindy Hval, columnist for the Spokesman-Review and author of *War Bonds: Love Stories from the Greatest Generation*. Her presentation was informative, insightful, and inspirational.

Attending for the first time and joining the organization was Lewis Meline. He pitched his book about the diet and diet supplement industry. Also pitching their books were Larry Danek and Tiffani Harvey.

President Esther Hildahl mentioned the current situation with Hastings Entertainment and bemoaned the apparent loss of the support the individual stores had offered to independent authors. Bob Manion amplified



## NEWS

and explained the situation. Public Relations Person Beth Camp talked about the Artisans Market being put on by the South Hill Senior Center in August. She also mentioned that the Spokane County Public Library would supporting Indie Author Day in October, and suggested that Spokane Authors and Self-Publisher might attempt to work with them.

Joyce Caudel mentioned a convention or conference taking place in early September, designed to connect writers with Hollywood. Bob Manion and Dennis Held both put in a plug for having and using the Chicago Manual of Style. Member Paul Lecoq told us he would be moving to Vancouver, Washington, while Chuck Lehman said all nine of his books were now available on Amazon and Kindle.

Once again, door prizes were plentiful. Thanks to all who so generously donate items for this event. Winners include Bob Hildahl, Joyce Caudel, Paul Lecoq, Cindy Silliman, Dave McChesney, Bob Weldin, Lewis Meline, Stan Parks, Betty Deuber, Beth Camp, Bob Manion, Dennis Held, and Larry Danek.

As the meeting ended, it was suggested that the topic for our ten minute discussion at the August meeting would be: "Differences in Pitching Secular versus Religious Books." We were also told that our speaker for the August meeting would be announced at a later date. (We now know that local artist and photographer Dawn Troxel will talk about creativity and marketing at our August 4 meeting.)

**Please note we are well into the new membership year. Names of unpaid members have disappeared from the roster on the web-site. You can return your name to the list by bringing your \$15.00 dues for 2016 to our next meeting. (A few names have reappeared as of late.) You may also send a check or money order to: Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, P. O. Box 18573, Spokane, WA 99228-0573.**

### POSITION AVAILABLE

As of October, Bonnie Stichart will be stepping down as SASP Treasurer. If anyone would like to take over those duties, please contact any SASP Officer or Advisory Board Member.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) to get your event listed.

### SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON & KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are available on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (Contact the editor/web-master at [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) to get your Amazon/Kindle books listed. Please ensure your books can be found!)

Go to [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and search for the following titles:

**D. Andrew McChesney:**

*Beyond the Ocean's Edge:*

*A Stone Island Sea Story*

*Sailing Dangerous Waters:*

*Another Stone Island Sea Story*

**James Parry:**

*Book All the Teachers:*

*An Irreverent Ride through Middle School*

**Bob Weldin:**

*The Dry Diggin's Club*

*The Adventurists*

**Sue Eller**

*Return from Armageddon*

*Meadowlark Madness*

*The Gluten Free Gourmand*

*Taming of the T-Bird*

Beth Camp

*The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales*  
*Standing Stones*  
*Years of Stone*

Kate Poitevin

*Saving Tir Gaeltacht*

James Vasquez

*Men Who Knew Jesus Well*  
*Women of the Bible: their Story in Verse*  
*Prophets of the Old Testament: A Classic*  
*Collection of Bible Heroes in Verse*  
*Words Jesus Spoke: In Verse*  
*The Psalms: In Verse*  
*Prayers from the Bible: In Classic Verse*

Joyce Caudel

*The Hat Pin Murders*  
*The Hat Box Mystery*  
*A Hat to Die For*

Helen Christine (Foster)

*Full Disclosure*  
*The Lenders*

Chuck Lehman

*Angels Three Six*  
*The Big Woods*  
*Asher*  
*Lazarus Arise*  
*The Shepherd*

T. A. Bratcher

*The Road Chosen*

B. J. Campbell

*Close Calls: True Tales of Cougar Bob*

Bob Manion

*Santa's Heroes*  
*The Tree House*  
*Springer's Heart*  
*Summer Rain*  
*Vampire and the Cop*

Sandra L. Mason

(Illustrated by Natalie J. Apodaca)  
*N is for Nativity*

Don Brockett

*Tyrannical Rule of the U. S. Supreme Court*

Stan Parks

*Jakob's Ladies*

Tiffani Harvey

*A Journey to Independence*  
*Growing Independent*



Preliminary "working" sketch for "Helm, Steer Between Them," cover art for *Sailing Dangerous Waters: Another Stone Island Sea Story...* and something to fill up the last column of this issue.