

SASP

NEWS

March 2017

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



Happy St.Patrick's Day !

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, and current members notified via e-mail or telephone.)

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

2016 Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| President: | Esther Hildahl
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| Vice-President: | Sue Eller
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| (509) 499-2012 | |
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| Newsletter Editor: | |
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Advisory Board:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Member: | James Parry
parry9922@q.com |
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| Member: | Bob Weldin
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| (509) 327-2897 | |
| Member: | Chuck Lehman
cmlehman2@yahoo.com |
| (509) 299-7802 | |

“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/>

OUR NEXT MEETING!

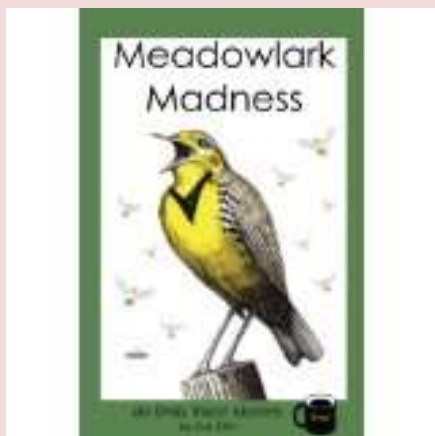
Please join us on **Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 2:30 pm**, at the **Golden Corral, 7117 N. Division**. (The room opens at **2 pm** to allow for dining and mingling prior to the actual start of the meeting at **2:30**.)

SASP Vice-President **Sue Eller** will talk about the **“Writing a Science-Fiction/Mystery Series.”** She’ll focus on the thought processes involved and plans to allow plenty of time for questions and answers.

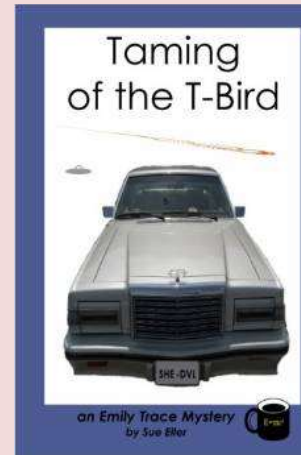
Sue is the author of the *Emily Trace Mystery Series*, in which people often believe the initials “E. T.” stand for “extra-terrestrial.”



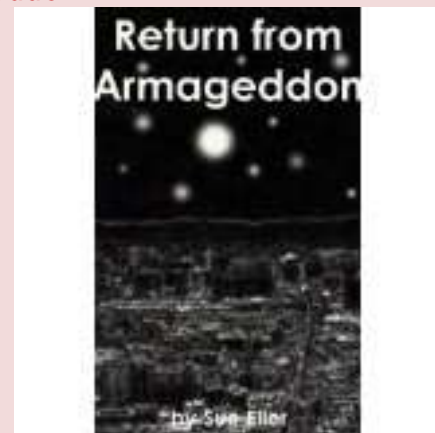
Meadowlark Madness is the first Emily Trace Mystery.



It was followed by *Taming of the T-Bird*, and a third volume is due any day. (It might even be out by now.)



Sue is also the author of *Return from Armageddon*



and *The Gluten Free Gourmand*.



**Ten Minute Discussion:
“How to Sell a Series”**

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



After Hastings went bankrupt, I suddenly found I had no current place to sell my children's books, *Meadow Pond* and *Mr. Inky: Spider with an Attitude*. So I decided to do what most authors have already done--have my books put on Amazon. When books are sold, CreateSpace, which Amazon owns, prints them up and sends them out for you.

All this sounded great, but when I first went on Amazon, I found that the only way a person could find my books was to look them up under my name. I scrolled through many listings trying to find my books. I looked under "frog stories for kids," "spider stories for kids," "talking spiders," "frogs and ponds," etc. But they weren't listed anywhere that I could find. I fretted about this, for how could anyone find my books, especially, if they had never heard of me or my books?

During the next several days, I checked through the different lists often, searching for my books, but to no avail. Soon I found this activity to be addictive and time consuming. But on the plus side, I began to notice all the different styles of book covers displayed. Some were bright, some more dull-colored. Some seemed to be professionally generated, while others were more homemade looking, like my own covers. To me, almost all of them were creative and attractive.

One day, I noticed that I could "flip" the pictures of my books to their back covers.

Pretty cool! Another day, I noticed an arrow and the words "look inside." Inside the book chosen, the reader is able to read the first chapter or a part of the book. This way the reader can get a sense of the author's style of writing and be able to tell if the story is interesting enough for the reader to want to purchase the book. I loved this. It's a great idea!

Almost three weeks later, much to my delight, I started to notice my books showing up on three or four different lists like "frog stories for kids" and "spider stories for kids." And now, almost a month later, I have a book review for each of my books. I would like a few more reviews, but to be able to write a review, you have to have spent some money on Amazon.

Now if someone asks where my books are available, I can tell them they are available on Amazon. However, I realize that in the long run, Amazon is just another marketing tool, and I need to continue promoting my books in as many different ways and places as I can.

Esther

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER



As of late it seems I've become lazier than usual when it comes to updating the web-site. I blame it on the fact that I'm still working, and that as I age mature I become less ambitious. During the work week I tend to not want to do anything more on the computer than check e-mail and visit social media sites.

Hardcore computer “work” is generally reserved for the weekends, and when there is a deadline of some sort. However, final retirement is fast approaching, and for those last months on the job I will be going to a slightly different set of hours. Beginning Monday 13 February I’ll be back to the schedule I worked for several years at the Valley Spokane Club. I’ll start at 4:00 am and finish up at 12:30 pm. My hope is that I’ll find enough ambition to do computer related tasks in the afternoon... perhaps even work on the third Stone Island Sea Story, or keep the SASP web-site updated better. It also means that for the few SASP meetings remaining until I retire, I won’t have to leave work early in order to attend. I hope to see all of you on Thursday, March 2nd.



FROM OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR



Beth and Allen are still travelling. She has been doing her SASP PR duties via the internet. Again this month, I will attempt to fill in with a bit of writing advice... or perhaps a question relating to writing.

When you write dialogue, do you hear each character speak in his or her distinct

voice? Do you ever envision your dialogue spoken by well-known individuals with distinctive voices and accents?
Dave

SASP member and Spokane author Beth Camp writes historical fiction and blogs from time to time at <http://bethandwriting.blogspot.com>
She currently serves as SASP’s public relations person.
Visit [Beth's Amazon Author Page](#)
Audiobook now available for *Standing Stones!*
Scottish proverb: "Bend, don't break."

Have a writing tip? Why not send it to daveeva@comcast.net for inclusion in a future edition of SASP NEWS.

FEBRUARY’S MEETING



The February meeting of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers featured fellow member Dave McChesney speaking about the basics of book marketing. He touched on such things as trade discounts, production costs, distribution, cash flow, and price structure.

Joining the organization because of, or perhaps in spite of this presentation were Art Greenfield and Tom Wallace. Welcome! Also attending were a number of guests, but names were not recorded or saved. Our apologies and we hope you enjoyed your time and that you’ll come back and join us.

Dennis Held said he had reprinted his poetry book and that he had also aided in editing and reprinting a book by local author Barbara Parsons. She has a reading at Auntie's scheduled for the 17th of February at 7:00 pm. He also put in a word for the Three Minute Mic event to be held the next evening at Auntie's Bookstore, and mentioned a similar event taking place on Wednesdays at Neato Burrito.

Bob Manion noted that Russ Davis and Gray Dog Press is becoming more of a printer than a publisher, and that Julie is taking over much of the operation. He also noted that there is a considerable back log at the firm. Bob also has a signing scheduled at the Barnes and Noble store in the valley on February 25th at 3 pm.

Joyce Caudel is working on getting her books in to audio format with Books In Motion. Larry Danek told us about self-publishing via Reader's Digest, although he wasn't sure about the cost. Sue Eller recently spoke at Affinity, a retirement community and sold a number of books. Don Brocket wondered if we have information about local book clubs, with the possibility of contacting them regarding speaking opportunities.

Bob Weldin asked about the upcoming conference involving getting one's books into Hollywood. A number of attendees mentioned recent guest Speaker J. D. De Witt and Ink Slinger Entertainment. The conference is currently scheduled for late May of this year.

Esther Hildahl mentioned that her two children's books are now available on Amazon and will shortly be available on Kindle™. She also noted that her husband and fellow member Bob continues to help sell copies of her books.

Our ten minute discussion was supposed to involve GoodReads, but there was some confusion between it and the Home Town Reads web-site. Next month we will discuss, "How to Sell a Series."

Door prize winners included Sue Eller, Jim Silliman, Joyce Caudel, Bob Manion, Betty Deuber, Esther Hildahl, Larry Danek, and Bob Weldin.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 2nd, beginning at 2:30 pm. Currently we do not have a scheduled presentation. If anyone would like to speak, or if anyone has a suggestion for a speaker, please contact our Vice-President, Sue Eller. Contact information is available on the web-site or in SASP NEWS. (As this issue goes to "press," we find that Sue has volunteered to speak at our March meeting.)

Please remember that with the New Year, our membership year begins anew. Yearly membership is \$15.00. You may pay dues at our meetings, or you may mail it to: Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, P. O. Box 18573, Spokane, WA 99228-0573. If you have already paid, thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact 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 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/) (You may not need, "www.")
www.amzn.com/dp/B008TXC332
or this: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044

D. Andrew McChesney:

Beyond the Ocean's Edge:

A Stone Island Sea Story **B008TXC332**

Sailing Dangerous Waters:

Another Stone Island Sea Story
B00HF9Y05K

James Parry:

Book All the Teachers:

An Irreverent Ride through Middle School
1501042211

Bob Weldin:

The Dry Diggin's Club 0578106825
The Adventurists 153027253X

Sue Eller:

Return from Armageddon B005JVAJKQ
Meadowlark Madness B0097D599I
The Gluten Free Gourmand 150853134X
Taming of the T-Bird 1505963982

Beth Camp:

The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales B0090VHKBC
Standing Stones B00I3RYFW6
Years of Stone B00LF3FY4S

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht 1503167844

James Vasquez:

Men Who Knew Jesus Well 1604941901
Women of the Bible: their Story in Verse 1604942703
Prophets of the Old Testament: A Classic
Collection of Bible Heroes in Verse 1615661166
Words Jesus Spoke: In Verse 1452077894
The Psalms: In Verse 1449710344
Prayers from the Bible: In Classic Verse 1449727794

Joyce Caudel:

The Hat Pin Murders 1936178397
The Hat Box Mystery 1481959107
A Hat to Die For 1530028612

Helen Christine (Foster):

Full Disclosure 0990722201
The Lenders 0990722228

Chuck Lehman:

Angels Three Six B00KMJXQR8
The Big Woods B007SQ4CTE
Asher B00HNZ6TTG
Lazarus Arise B007R0NPW6
The Shepherd B00HJBN4P6
Rogue 6 B01H7N8G2G
Exposure: A Story of Survival and Intrigue B01H5W4V64

T. A. Bratcher:

The Road Chosen 1495293165

B. J. Campbell:

Close Calls: True Tales of Cougar Bob 1936178044

Bob Manion:

Santa's Heroes 1936178095
The Tree House B004IZLHLE
Springer's Heart 0978850742
Summer Rain B00ZM3S2IM
Vampire and the Cop B00ZM4BBOS

Sandra L. Mason:

(Illustrated by Natalie J. Apodaca)
N is for Nativity 1517614880

Don Brockett:

Tyrannical Rule of the U. S. Supreme Court B01GW712VU

Stan Parks:

Jakob's Ladies 1532910762

Tiffani Harvey:

A Journey to Independence 1533499438
Growing Independent 1533499926

Allen Dorfman:

Reaching: A Vietnam War Novel 1500489638

Fred Jessett:

Mountains Melt Away B00KD5KWIW
My Name is Tamar B00DH3REWO

Lewis Meline:

Lies Exposed! The Truth about Diets... 0997915501

J. B. Rivard

Illusions of Magic:
Love and Intrigue in 1933 Chicago B01EGSC8N8

Larry Danek

I'm the Ghost in this Body:
The Nomadic Ghost 1532863764

Diana Wickes

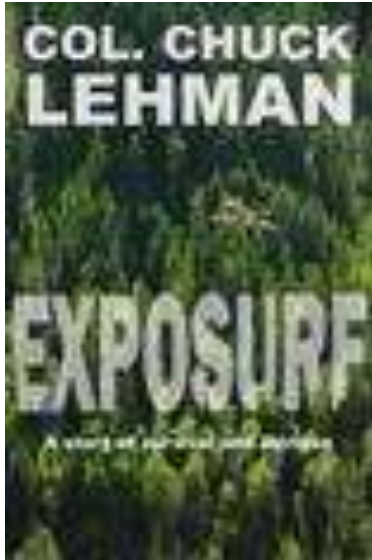
Home is Where the Heart Is 1523381841
Elegy to a Montanan: A widow's Song 1523382414

Andy Brown

Warnings Unheeded:
Twin Tragedies at Fairchild Air Force Base
0997863404

Esther J. Hildahl

Meadow Pond 154244828X
Mr. Inky: Spider with an Attitude 1542451248



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

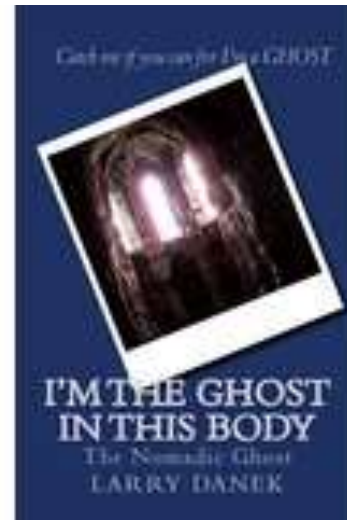
Another great book by Col. Chuck Lehman. Using his survival training skills, he has successfully created an exciting suspense-filled thriller and a page turner.

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.



Reviewed by Sue Eller

Not just another ghost story...

As the nomadic ghost was drawn into a recently expired body, I was drawn into his story. Author Larry Danek masterfully relates the tale of a spirit being who struggles to take charge on the physical plane and strives to tame the mental chaos of memories from past and present lives. This story could only be told from the perspective of the nomadic ghost himself, and Danek masterfully weaves a tale of cold-blooded murder and revenge contrasted with compassion for some down-and-out but decent people who need his help.