

# SASP

# NEWS

March 2019

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.

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

**2019 Officers:**

- President:** *James Parry*  
(509) 325-9922 jimparry@q.com
- Vice-President:** *Sue Eller*  
(509) 499-2012 sue@ellermarketing.net
- Secretary:**  
**Newsletter Editor:**  
**Web Master:** *Dave McChesney*  
(509) 325-2072 (h) daveeva@comcast.net  
(509) 768-6178 (c)
- Treasurer:** *Open*
- Public-Relations:** *Marilee Hudon*  
(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

**Advisory Board:**

- Member:** *Chuck Lehman*  
(509) 299-7802 cmlehman4@yahoo.com
- Member:** *Esther Hildahl*  
mr.inky@yahoo.com
- Member:** *Tiffani Harvey*  
chooseresponsibly@yahoo.com  
[www.seekyourindependence.com](http://www.seekyourindependence.com)

**“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>

## OUR NEXT MEETING!

Please join us **Thursday, March 7, 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.**

**Stephen Pitters** returns for the third time as our guest speaker at the March meeting of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers. Stephen hosts a poetry and writing related show every week on KYRS Thin Air Radio (kyrs.org). After he spoke at a previous meeting several SASP members were interviewed on his radio show. He continually helps promote local authors, poets, and musicians. He has also talked of his quest to find his ancestors and spoke at several events during Black History Month.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



In last month's *SASP Newsletter* I made an attempt at humor by sarcastically defining *Book Release*, *Book Reading*, and *Book Signing*. It has since been brought to my attention that not everyone appreciated that attempt, and some found it downright negative. In reality, with much hard

work, you can be a very successful author: Esther has sold many books at craft fairs; Col. Chuck travels all over the U.S. selling a ton of books; January's guest speaker, Shawna Shields has spent a ginormous amount of time writing and then marketing her books, and it's really paying off. So go forth, and I'm sure you'll be rewarded with rainbows, puppies, and unicorns.

On to another subject:

Following is the *Forward/Warning* from my well-received, near best-seller, *BOOK ALL THE TEACHERS*:

*With its adolescent humor, convoluted sentence structure, and many asides, the book is best enjoyed when accompanied by a bottle – or box – of cheap wine; or, perhaps, Icehouse Beer would be a more fitting complement. If you like parentheses, em dashes, commas, and semicolons (and, hey, who doesn't?), you'll love this book.*

I bring this up because I think every punctuation rule in the book was broken in the book. (See what I did there?) In hindsight, hiring a copy editor would have been a wise choice for me. Fortunately, Dennis Held is going to help us – for free - during the revival of the *Ten-Minute Discussion* at our approaching meeting. He has five easy, simple rules that will solve many of our punctuation stumbers that we often trip over and over and over again.

Also, we would like to hear suggestions that can be discussed at our next *Ten-Minute Discussion* on April 4. I first thought that maybe *Pet Peeves Related to the English Language* would be a good topic. You know, like “went missing” which newspapers and newscasters often use, or space fillers when speaking, such as “you know” (which I just used) or “I mean,” - or using “or” too many times. But that would just turn into a gripe session. So please come up with better suggestions. Send them to me or Dave or any of our officers.

Keep on keepin' on,

*Jim*

P.S. - One of my pet peeves is the term *pet peeves*. Also, I don't care for “shot and killed.” It sounds to me as if someone was shot and then killed by a passing bulldozer. Whatever happened to “fatally shot.” (Or, once, I heard a news anchor say, “fatally killed.”)

## FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER



I have a couple reminders for you this month. To begin with, please pay your dues for 2019. Currently, about two thirds of our 2018 membership has renewed for this year. We need that remaining third to pay dues and

continue membership for another year. As we get into March, those who are not paid for the current year will see their Member Web-Pages disappear from our web-site.

If you want your Member Web-Page to remain, or if you want to have one created and posted, please make sure you are a paid member for the current membership year.

Not long after our February meeting, I received a group of book reviews from one of our members. In publishing these reviews to our web-site I discovered one of our members has written and published several books. However, I had no idea this individual was such a prolific writer. Please, please let me know if you books out there so I can update your Member Web-Page.

If you are a current paid member and by chance do not have a Member Web-Page, or if yours is generic and basic, please provide me with the information needed to create and or update and upgrade it.

Lastly, you may be aware your editor also produces the REAR ENGINE REVIEW, the newsletter for the Inland Northwest Corvair Club. It was just named Newsletter of the Year for 2018 by the Inland



Northwest Car Club Council. To say the least, it was a complete surprise.

## OUR FEBRUARY MEETING

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers latest meeting was on Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup>. The afternoon began with few puns and some laughs generated by President Jim Parry. This month's presentation was a group forum by some of our members. The topic for the day was *marketing*. Esther Hildahl spoke about selling books at various arts and craft fairs. Dave McChesney suggested that those on various social media accounts should make sure to be active on those accounts, while Marilee Hudon went into greater depth regarding social media. Sue Eller added more information about marketing.

Among our guests for the day were Joy Lynn and her sister, Glen Suitor, and Robert Carter. Robert is part of the Carter family which includes members Joan Carter and Kylea Carter. (As your editor recorded these names based on what he heard, it is possible one or more might be misspelled. He extends his apologies if that is the case.)

Dennis Held noted an up-coming poetry reading at the Unitarian Church on Fort George Wright Drive. Sandy Philbin announced her book, *Whispers of Inspiration* was due to be available on Amazon any day now. Tiffani Harvey said she is checking with thrift stores and consignment shops as places to sell her books.

Kate Poitevin mentioned meeting former SASP member Connie Causey, and said Connie may rejoin the group. President Jim Parry told us he'd written and submitted a review of M. J. Hudon's new book, *Waxing Is Useless*. (The review is posted on the SASP web-site at [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org))

Larry Danek let us know that he and Jim Parry both had stories in a recently published anthology. He said the initial printing had sold

out within two hours. He hopes to have a copy or two available at our next meeting.

Door prize winners included Dave McChesney, Esther Hildahl, Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Sandy Philbin, Bob Weldin, Jolene Feher, Linda Sonntag, and Fred Jessett.

Our March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature Stephen Pitters, local poet and host “Spokane Open Poetry on KYRS Thin Air Community Radio. This will be Stephen’s third stint as our speaker.

We were going to try and resume our Ten Minute Discussions but ran out of time. We’ll try to get back to that at our next (March) meeting. The topic will be as we announced for this meeting, dialogue and dialogue punctuation.

(Not long after our most recent meeting, your editor received an e-mail from member Tom Wallace, who lives in St. John, Washington. He had planned to attend our meeting but was involved with some medical procedures involving a family member. He also mentioned the formation of a writing group in St. John which meets twice a month. Your editor suggested Tom pass along the link to our web-site and future editions of our newsletter to members of that group. It was also suggested that these writers would be welcome to attend a future meeting of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, either individually or as a group.)

## ST. JOHN WRITERS GROUP

By Thomas Wallace

This writers group was recently established by, and is led by Clancy Pool, head librarian of the St. John Branch of the Whitman County Library. Hour long meetings take place at the library on the first and third Fridays of each month, beginning at 1:00 p. m.

From the beginning, this has been a very active and peer-supportive group. In addition to Clancy, the group includes a couple of copy editors. Six or so aspiring authors meet and present their latest creative writing, and then the group critiques each presentation. Later, each member takes another member’s

written presentation home, evaluates the entire work, and returns it to the author at the next meeting.

There is a **lot** of talent in this little group.

## 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](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net), [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org), or send via USPS to:

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

You are encouraged to check out other member web-pages posted on our web-site at [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://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](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net) or e-mail [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto: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](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)

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

### Kathy Rae:

*The Jewel of Hope: Book 1:*  
*The Hope Trilogy* 1500236578  
*Ducky Day or Yucky Day...You Choose* 154139142X  
*Deprogramming a Bully: Book 1:*  
*The Barber Chair Series* B06W5NP6Y1

### Margaret Albi Verhoef & Rita Gard Seedorf:

*Letters from Brackham Wood* B00JEMX656  
*Letters from a Wary Watcher* B01EKOHO2C

### Russell H. Ford

*Depop* B019NGA00Q

### Wayne Kyle Spitzer

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*That Thing We Killed* B076QF8XZY  
*Comes a Ferryman* B074SJF1TJ  
*The Tempter and the Taker* B074SV557F  
*The Pierced Veil* B074STJMGW  
*Black Hole, White Fountain* B074SY83RW  
*To the End of Ursathrax* B074SWXM61  
*X-Ray Rider 1* B0755QN1N6  
*X-Ray Rider 2* B0755PY9NB  
*X-Ray Rider 3* B0755QPM67  
*Algernon Blackwood's "The Willows," a*  
*Scriptment* B07575JDFS  
*Flashback* B07689XLTX  
*Flashback Dawn: "Naaygi"* B07836PYT5  
**Flashback Dawn: The Devil's Snambnala**  
B078NHDKZN  
*Faraway, Nearby* B076PNH7V8  
*Behind a Pale Mask* 1973289415  
*Wet Bark* B077RJ463S  
*Killer in the Looking Glass* B0779DM1QH  
*Lean Season* B074VD53SF  
*How About a Coke and Some Fries?* B077TPR77D  
*Flying the Fog Roads of Cascadia* B077WTSXZN  
*Red Marillion* B077M3ZHWP  
*Coffin Road* B076XQY5FK  
*Napoleon* B076FBPRYV

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

### Jody Visits Tooth Fairy Land

Written by E. J. Deuber  
Illustrated by Harry H. Deuber

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

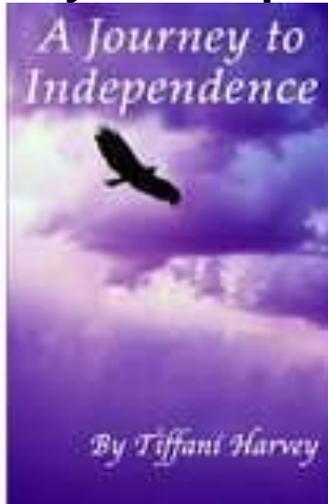
Jody has lost a tooth and she wants to talk to the Tooth Fairy. Her wish comes true when the Tooth Fairy appears and invites Jody to fly with her to Tooth Fairy Land. Here the Tooth Fairy, Wee Fairies, and Wee Elves live. Jody, wearing her magic tooth necklace, has an exciting time exploring Tooth Fairy Land and discovering where teeth go and what they are used for after the Tooth Fairy takes them.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this charming children's book. It's creative, well-written with interesting characters, and has a

surprise ending. An excellent story to read aloud to young children. Plus, the illustrations are great. They, too, are creative, well-drawn, colorful, and fun to look at.

I recommend this book to anyone who has ever lost a tooth!

## A Journey to Independence



By Tiffani Harvey

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

*A Journey to Independence* was written by the author who was born with many disabilities. It's the story of her life experiences and the choices she has had to make—often not easy. She has a strong belief in God and herself and sometimes has to prove to others that just because she is disabled doesn't mean that she isn't capable of doing many things. I learned from this book that there are things that can make life better and safer for the disabled. One of these things is public transportation. It should be a lot easier to schedule rides on the disability van and the people who ride them should be dropped off and picked up as close to the time the person signed up for as possible. More drivers should be hired. No one likes to have their time wasted, waiting for long periods of time or being dropped off hours before an appointment.

Ms. Harvey takes us into her world and offers good advice for other disabled people and to those who are interested in what she

has to say. She's also written a workbook to go along with this book.

## The Lenders



By Helen Christine

Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

This book is about the housing market just before its fall around 2007-2008. Bad home loans, which involved changing figures to qualify buyers for homes they couldn't afford, led to this disaster.

The story begins with the murder of Justin Diamond, an accountant at Franklin Mortgage. Justin's friend, Annie Robinson, one of the only honest loan processors at the company, and his wife, Stephanie, set out to solve his murder. Along the way, they find out that Stephanie's neighbor witnessed the murder but can't go to the police for reasons of his own. They discover fraud, greed, dishonesty, and other schemes to become rich. After they discover who killed Justin, Annie's child is kidnapped!

*The Lenders* is another great book by Helen Christine. It's very well written and is an exciting page turner. I really enjoyed reading it, and I recommend it to anyone who enjoys a good mystery.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

In *The Lenders*, Ms. Christine tells the other side of the story we only saw in the headlines and evening news. They were all about the big boys, the ones that stole millions.

Her story might be a murder mystery, but the background tells the tale of how greed in the lending business caused countless people to lose their life savings and homes. Ms. Christine paints a believable picture of the fraud that took place with strong, interesting characters, including the city of Seattle which is very recognizable. The story pulls you right along and has a satisfying ending. It is written with short chapters that make it great to grab and read while waiting in the car or at bedtime.

reading mystery books and/or wants to learn about the housing crash of 2008.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

*The Lenders* is about mortgage fraud, the housing crash of 2008, and why it happened. It's about extreme greed and not caring whether buyers could really afford their home mortgages or not. Subprime home loans became the norm and were given to buyers with poor credit ratings and/or not earning enough money to make monthly payments on their newly acquired grossly overpriced homes. These poor risk loans were packaged and sold to secondary investors and then sold over and over again all over the world. When the housing market crashed, many buyers couldn't make their payments. They soon discovered they had no idea who actually held their loans, and thousands of buyers ended up losing their homes.

This story takes place in Seattle, Washington, where Annie Robinson is a loan processor for Franklin Mortgage. She is suspicious of some of the other loan processors and their dealings with prospective buyers. One day her friend, Justin Diamond, an accountant at Franklin Mortgage, is murdered. Annie wonders if he knew something incriminating about mortgage fraud at Franklin Mortgage. Justin's wife, Stephanie, befriends Annie and together they set out to try to solve Justin's murder.

Helen Christine is a very talented writer. She did a great job writing about mortgage fraud in a way that all could understand what went wrong in 2008. I thoroughly enjoy reading her books. I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys