



SASP

NEWS

May 2019

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.

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:

President: *James Parry*
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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, May 2, 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 will be **Jeff Benfield**, who is with the **Spokane Public Library**. Among other things, he will talk about resources available at the library. Jeff is a native and long-time resident of Spokane. He has accumulated nearly forty years experience in reference assistance in both public and academic libraries, harking back to the old card catalog days. He has a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Buffalo.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We've been doing a good job of supporting each other, but let's do even better in 2019. This can be done in a variety of ways (and I think most of us are already doing most of these things, but let's redouble our efforts):



The simplest, yet most effective method is to speak to each other with words of encouragement. Let us congratulate each and every member about each and every accomplishment (with our bell-ringing ritual, but even more importantly, individually.)

Another way to show support is to attend each other's releases, signings, and readings. I've really fallen short in this area. All events get written on my calendar, but then something comes up or I just plain forget. If memory serves, the only events I've attended lately are one of Dave's readings and one of Kate's signings.

SASP NEWS

And if you can afford to buy books from local authors, especially SASP authors, BUY THEM. (Most are excellent!) I'm not the world's most avid reader, but in the past I've purchased two of Robert Pillsbury's works and *Stillpoint* by Pat Kowal. I've also bought books from other local authors including Sherrida Woodley's *Quick Fall of Light*, Holly and Bruce Holbert's *Signed, Your Student*, Bill Elston's *120 Years of Inland Northwest Sports*, Pat McManus' *The Deer on a Bicycle*, and Jess Walter's *The Financial Lives of the Poets*. More recently, SASP books that I've purchased are Dave's *Beyond the Ocean's Edge*, Kate's *Saving Tir Gaeltacht*, MJ's *Waxing Is Useless*, and all of Sue's sci-fi works: Good books all! (I'm sure I've forgotten some.)

Last, but not least: Post reviews of others' works on the SASP website, on Amazon, on Goodreads, etc. I've written reviews on most of the above books, but could do more.

GO SASP!

Jim

FROM THE EDITOR/WEB-MASTER

For those who don't know, I switched hats recently, with regards to my roles in SASP. Primarily I've stepped down from taking notes and writing up the accounts of our meetings.

"Thanks!" to Linda Sontag for assuming that role. In exchange I'm now serving as treasurer. Other than that, I'll be doing the same things as before... compiling and distributing SASP NEWS and trying to keep the web-site somewhat up to date.



If you should happen to send me something for the newsletter and/or the website, please know that I will try to respond and let you know I received it. More than likely you will have sent it via e-mail, so if you don't hear back from me within a day or so, remind me. And maybe that is something we should all do when contacted by a fellow member of SASP. We should at least let them know we received their message, even if we don't have an answer for them at the time.

There are still several folks who haven't yet paid dues for 2019. Please remember to bring your \$15.00 to our next meeting or put it in the mail. In most cases I check the mail every Friday and if any funds are received, they are immediately deposited in our account.



OUR APRIL MEETING

(Compiled and submitted by Linda Sonntag)



Our speakers today were Sandy Nowack and Kim Ortiz, both Assistant Directors of Career Services at Whitworth Univ., who came to tell us about their internship program - Sandy is also director of internships - and how student interns can help facilitate an individual or company's project. Students must be the primary beneficiaries by, for example, gaining experience and achieving outcomes that match their learning goals or gaining references, but students often bring expert social media knowledge to their

employer. Students can also proofread, edit, etc. Interns' work can be done at school, home, or online if no physical office space is available and mentoring can even be done at a coffee shop. Evaluations have to be done at the end to ensure students receive credit.

Sandy Philbin shared how a student intern helped her with a project called "Pilates for Pooch & You." Sandy also announced the publishing of her book *Whispers of Inspiration for Busy Women*.

In order to post an internship, go to: whitworth.joinhandshake.com and be very explicit with what you need and want.

We had one guest who has since become a member. He writes as Michael Zargona. His first novel, *Turn Red Tomorrow* is available on Amazon Prime in paperback and kindle formats. He is a Christian vet, an honors graduate, a family man, and a small business owner who grew up and now lives in the Pacific NW.

Other announcements included: Tiffani Harvey recently sold 7 sets of her books at Denny's Harvest Foods in Cheney. Esther sold 8 books at the Shadle High School Arts and Craft fair. Larry Danek was there on Saturday and also sold several books, while Dave McChesney sold enough on Sunday to cover his share of the cost for the booth.

Sue Eller showed us her new book, *Send in the Drones: An Emily Trace Mystery*. Sue will hold a book launch event on Saturday April 6th from 11am until 2 pm at Second Look Books. Fred Jessett has compiled a list of online resources for writers and self-publishing groups, and will have it available in May.

Stan Parks, who freely admits to being living in a community for the *chronologically-advanced*, shared his humorous answer to those who ask, "how does it feel to get old?"

It was noted that Bob Weldin had sent in a book review, but the web-master had not yet uploaded it to the SASP Web-Site. Bob also mentioned that former member Barbara Hollace would be involved in a writers conference at the end of May. Dave McChesney said he could provide contact information for anyone who wished to contact Barbara.

Marilee Hudon warned us about an outfit called Readers' Magnet and cautioned us not to get involved with them. Tiffani helped with the door prize drawing. Winners included: Henry Sasser, Bob Manion, Stan Parks, Joyce Caudel, Mel Brown, Kate Poitevin, Esther Hildahl, Joyce Seebaum, Larry Danek, and Joan Carter. With that, the meeting ended.

GETTING OLDER

By Stan Parks

The other day on my Birthday a friend asked me how it felt to get older. How I felt? Well, I made it another year. That was an achievement.

Physically, I thought to myself, I wish it was forty instead of ninety-five, but that is impossible and so I must face my chronological age. If I screw up, so what? Who cares? Certainly not me. So I'm kinder to myself. Who's my best friend? Me.

I've seen too many of my best friends leave this world much too soon. Grade school, high school, university; leaving before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging. They're all gone so it's up to me to carry on.

Whose business is it if I choose to stay up late at night and then get up late in the morning? I will dance with myself to those great songs of the forties, fifties, sixties, and seventies. Or sing those melodies and weep over lost loves.

I can dream of walking the beach with waves crashing on the shore in the moonlight, or swimming in my ill-fitting bathing suit if I choose to, despite getting pitying glances from the jet set. If they are lucky they too will get old.

I know I forget things sometimes but then there are things I would rather not remember, but I do remember a lot of good things in my life.

Yes, I've had my share of heart break. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when some beloved friend passes? A wise

one once said that broken hearts are what give us strength, understanding, and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect. How many of us are perfect?

I am truly blessed to have lived long enough to see my hair turn gray, and I still have hair. And the wrinkles mean I've had some good laughs in my time. So many have never laughed and have died before their hair turned gray.

As you get older it's easier to become positive in your thinking. You care less about what others may think about you. If they don't like something I may have done, "tough!" I have earned the right to even be wrong.

So to answer the question about me getting old and whether I like it... I like it. What else have you got to offer that's better? It has set me free. I like the person I've become. I'm not going to live forever, but as long as I'm here, I will not waste my time lamenting on what could have been, or for that matter, what will be.

So pass me a martini with an olive in it. Here's to ya all!

May our friendship never fail because it comes straight from my heart.

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
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. 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.

Sunday, May 5th, tune your TV to CNN for the Kamau Bell interview with authors Aaron Dixon and **Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers member Chuck Armsbury**. It is scheduled to air at 7 pm PDT and again at 10 pm.

Sunday, May 12th (Mothers' Day) *Listen To Your Mother* presentation at the Bing Crosby Theater.



SELF-PUBLISHING CONFERENCE

Are you ready to take the book in your heart and put it in writing?
Interested in learning how to become a self-published author?
Ready to get the tools you need to accomplish your goal to become an author?

This conference is for YOU! • For details and to register go to:
www.compasscts.com or www.barbarahollace.com

MAY 31, 2019
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Transitions
3128 North Hemlock
Spokane, Washington
(Home Yard Cottages Community Room)



Rachel Dolcine, MPA, CPM



Barbara Hollace, JD

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON & KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™
(We post short 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

Joan Carter
Gray Swallow

B07PXM1VXC

Sonja Mongar
Two Spoons of Bitter

069205524X

Michael Zargona
Turn Red Tomorrow **B07Q7TNLTC 1092144404**

Various SASP members
*Celebrating Spokane Authors:
A Collection of Poetry, Essays, and Short
Stories* **B077GBTQ67**

D. Andrew McChesney:
*Beyond the Ocean's Edge:
A Stone Island Sea Story*
B008TXC332 1432780379

*Sailing Dangerous Waters:
Another Stone Island Sea Story*
B00HF9Y05K 1478721898

James Parry:
*Book All the Teachers:
An Irreverent Ride through Middle
School* **1501042211**

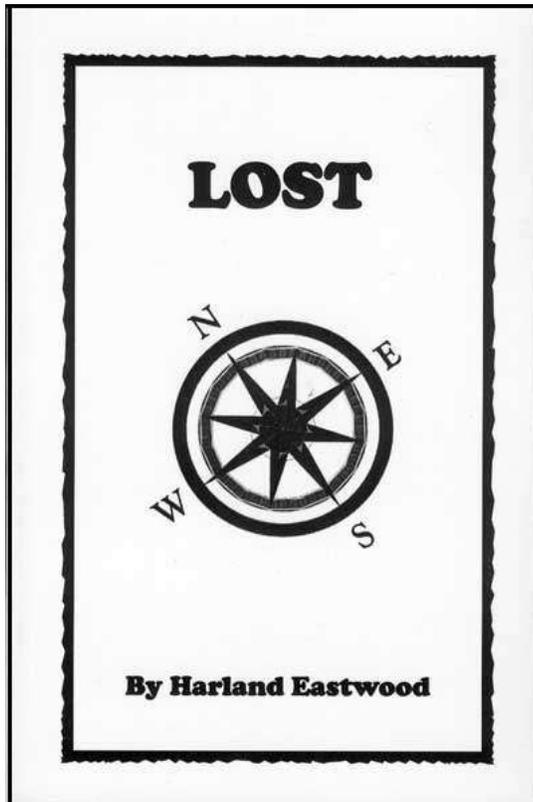
Bob Weldin:
The Dry Diggin's Club **0578106825**
The Adventurists **153027253X**

Sue Eller:
Return from Armageddon **B005JVAJKQ**

Meadowlark Madness
Send in the Drones
The Gluten Free Gourmand
Taming of the T-Bird

B0097D599
1726834662
150853134X
1505963982

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

In this slim volume, the author recounts his life, pivoting on the moment when he thought to end it. It was his discovery of Faith in Jesus Christ that stopped him from pulling the trigger, led him to a life of Truth, and allowed him the Grace to share his story.

Harland tells his very personal story in a straight forward honest way. He describes his earliest years and does not omit the details of parental neglect that led to self-doubt and a lack of self-respect. He is also sincere when describing the moment he found Faith and in the doubts he had, and the trials he faced afterwards.

Besides a declaration and testimonial of Faith, this is also an auto-biography. From it the reader gains a picture of Harland's life, from the earliest days of his existence, to the

near present. One also learns how he developed a passion for collecting old bottles and other antiques, and came to write several historical works about Washington's Adams County. This is a very personal work and the author is to be commended for his willingness to share both the good and the bad details with the reader.

The Man in the Closet

By Michael Andrew Marsden

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

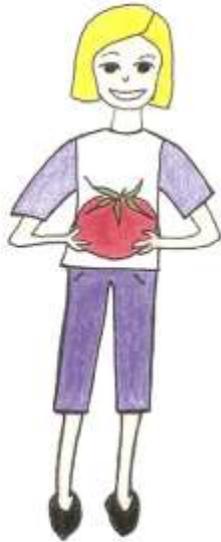
When Kyle Carraher's family moves from Washington, D. C. to Wallace, Idaho, his fear of large rodents gnawing through the wall is replaced by dread of the man in the closet. Over the subsequent years, the supposed presence in the upper floor storage room exerts unusual influences over members of his extended family. Eighteen years later Kyle returns to the house to determine if there really is a man in the closet.

As it begins, this book reads like one intended for a younger reader. The straight forward writing clearly depicts extraordinary events in what were quite ordinary lives. As the story progresses, darker, more sinister, more adult themes are introduced, taking the tale to a level meant for a more mature audience. When one reaches the final page, murder, arson, sex for sale, sex as a means of coercion, and criminal insanity have all made their presence known. Each chapter takes the reader to greater heights of suspense and increases the "can't put it down" factor.

The Man in the Closet is the author's second ghost story set in north Idaho, and is pleasantly devoid of many of the faults associated with self-published work. In all aspects it is a well-written, well-edited, and professionally produced book.

The Man in the Closet, from Marsden Publishing, ISBN 1-59975-485-1, is priced at \$16.00 and is available at local Spokane, and Coeur d'Alene bookstores and at www.amazon.com. Check out the author's web-site at www.michaelmarsden.com

Marie's Marvelous Tomato



Esther J. Hildahl

Reviewed by Joyce Caudel

Marie's Marvelous Tomato is a delightful story of a young girl's summer project. Marie and her best friend, Ginger, have planned a summer full of excitement. When Ginger announced her parents were getting a divorce and she must move to Seattle to live with her grandparents, Marie's summer plans all vanished. Marie felt very sad for Ginger because her own parents divorced years ago and she lost touch with her father.

Marie is a girl that loves to eat tomatoes and suddenly she comes up with a plan for her summer project, she will grow a tomato plant. She plants it with care and tends to it daily. Finally, a small green tomato appears on her plant. It is the only tomato on the plant, but it grows and grows into a giant tomato! Marie's family encourages her to enter her tomato in the fair.

The judges agreed, Marie's tomato was the largest tomato entered in the fair but it had the best shape and color. Marie was given a blue ribbon for her successful summer project.

The story ends very happy when Ginger announces her parents are getting back together and she won't have to move to Seattle. Marie receives a letter from her father saying he missed her and her brother and would like to come to visit them if it would be alright with her mother. Marie was very happy, she had her best friend back and was going to get to know her father.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

This is a delightful story about Marie who is faced with a lonely summer. Her best friend, Ginger, is gone, Mom is busy with her work, and stinky brother, Mel, is no help at all. Marie decides to grow a tomato plant to fill her lonely time. Through the ups and downs of horticulture, Marie stays focused on her task and loyal to the helpless plant she has vowed to tend while also keeping in touch with Ginger. Ms. Hildahl has created great characters (I was especially fond of the grandmother...) and a sweet story that will charm any age. It has a satisfyingly happy ending, as all children's books should, with an added surprise.

(Note: If anyone wants or needs a copy of a review written by a fellow SASP member, please contact the member and ask for it. If they do not have it, chances are I have it on file and can provide it. We also might want to get in the habit of sending our fellow authors and fellow SASP members a copy of the review(s) we've written of their books.)

