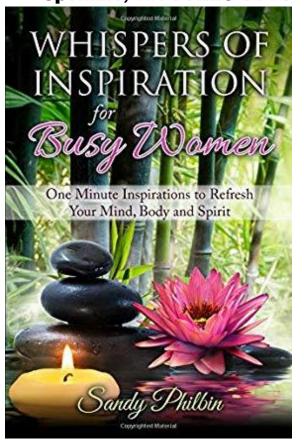


# Literary Gazette Robember 2024

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



Spokane Authors and **Self-Publishers** (SASP), now known as Spokane Authors, began in 1998 when Chuck O'Conner, Elmer Freeman, Joe Meiners, and Dan Vollmer, Spokane area authors, formed a club to share knowledge and experience with those interested in writing and alternative publishing. Today, SASP is an organization dedicated to anyone interested in any aspect of writing and art. Members include aspiring (and successful) authors, poets, journalists, illustrators, editors, publishers, printers, writing instructors, and many others. Monthly meetings inspiration and education provide by 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** meets the **second Friday** of each month at the **Sans Souci West Club House**, 3231 W. Boone Ave., Spokane.

Presentations and discussions begin at **2:00 pm.** Members and guests also have a chance to relate accomplishments and note upcoming activities. We usually draw for door prizes.

**Spokane Authors** also meets the **third Saturday** of each month in the social hall of **St. Francis of Assisi Church**, 1104 W. Heroy Ave., Spokane.

Meetings begin at **2:00 pm**. We must be out of the room and building by **4:00 pm**.

We often provide refreshments such as bottled water, cake, or cookies. We set up a collection jar for those who wish to help reimburse whoever brings such refreshments.

**Membership benefits** include listing on the Spokane Authors website, <u>www.spokaneauthors.org</u>. 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 Spokane Authors website and offer their work for sale at meetings.

Visit the "members" page on our website to connect with members' webpages. Our "links" page connects to interesting on-line locations.

**Guest speakers** inform, inspire, and entertain with a variety of topics designed to provide knowledge about writing and publishing.

**Spokane Authors members** are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate copies of their work as door prizes. Winners of other members' work are expected to provide a review.

**Note:** Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. We provide space to display your books, but *you* must bring them to each meeting.

# Submissions Due by: November 25<sup>th</sup> for the December 2024 issue.

#### 2024 Officers:

President: Carl Northup (Nathaniel Bennett)

(509) 445-0166 (509) 671-3949 ikneadedthat53@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Bob Manion

(509) 448-2901 haygunnerbob@g.mail.com

Secretary: Linda Sonntag-Noble

Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Web Master:

Dave McChesney

(509) 325-2072 daveeva@comcast.net

(509) 768-6178

Public-Relations: Marilee Hudon

(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

Equipment Manager: Bob Hildahl

mr.inky@yahoo.com

# **Advisory Board:**

Member: Esther Hildahl

mr.inky@yahoo.com

Member: Mary De Bord

(509) 999-4797 violetpetalsbook@gmail.com

Member: Bob Weldin

(509) 514-2747 minersquest@comcast.net

"Like" the Spokane Authors Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-

Publishers/1640079982945679

"Join" the Spokane Authors Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1646364128981815/

"Follow" us on "X": https://twitter.com/AndAuthors

Contact us at: authors@spokaneauthors.org

Or: saspworks4u@gmail.com

Videos of many of our presentations are available at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com@spokaneauthorsself-publishers">https://www.youtube.com@spokaneauthorsself-publishers</a>

Cover: From the pen of Spokane Authors member Sandra Philbin.

# THE BOOKS ON THE COVER...

Spokane Authors member Sandra Philbin is the author of *Whispers of Hope for Busy Women: One Minute Inpirations to Refresh Your Mind, Body and Spirit*. Visit her Member Web Page at:

www.spokaneauthors.org Go to "MEMBERS," scroll down and click on her name.

#### **OUR NOVEMBER MEETINGS!**

We will meet at 2:00 pm. on Friday,
November 8, 2024, at the San Souci West
Club House, 3231 W. Boone Ave., Spokane,
WA. We will hold elections to choose our
officers for the next year.

Because a large number of members will be participating in Arts and Craft Fairs that day, we have CANCELED our meeting at St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday, November 16, 2024.

#### FROM THE PREZ

I feel the need to apologize for last month's letter. I seem to have disseminated



some misinformation. And in this political climate it needs to be clarified. Last month I stated that the last batch of canning had just finished, and everything could be put away for the year. The next day my wife came home with three boxes of pears.

I hope this clears up any misunderstandings.

It will be great to see all of you again. Don't forget we are holding elections for 2025 officers. We don't have a formal speaker for this meeting, but I have a few thoughts to

share and hopefully it will generate some discussion.

Your Prez, Carl/Nathan

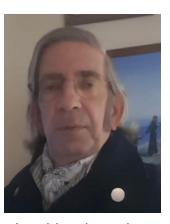
#### FROM THE VEEP

We did not receive any message from our vice president for this issue.

# FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

We are getting close to the end of another membership year. I thank all sixty-four of you who have joined or renewed your membership in and for 2024. But 2025

approaches and most of us need to renew our memberships. It's never too early to pay dues for the upcoming membership period. And you are always welcome to pay ahead if you want. I believe we have ten individuals who already paid for the next year.



Don't forget, membership does have some benefits. Paid members with published books are included in our catalog. You are listed on our MEMBERS list on our website, complete with a link to your Members Webpage.

As always, we realize that paying dues might pose a problem for some. We are not all in the same boat financially, and I'm sure many of us would help those who might have difficulty in paying. But we need to know if you are having difficulty. At the same time, we need to be as discreet about it as possible, primarily for your sense of pride. But if you are having problems, contact someone and we'll see what we can do.

As always, you can send dues to:

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

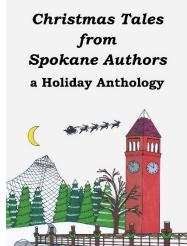
Or you can bring cash or check to a meeting. (If I remember to bring my "Square," or someone else does, there is the chance that we can charge your dues to a card.)



#### **ELECTIONS!**

We currently have nominations for President, Vice-President, and Treasurer. We do not have nominations for Secretary and our current office holder has indicated they will not serve another term. Otherwise, we consider those currently serving to be nominated for another term. That would include those currently serving on the advisory board. If that's you and you don't want to continue, let us know so we can take you off the ballot. Likewise, if you do want to serve in some capacity, let us know so we can add you to the ballot.

Ballots will be sent out to all members a week or so ahead of our November 8th meeting, probably at the same time as the November issue of the newsletter goes out. You will be able to return them via email, USPS, or bring them to the November meeting. We'll also have ballots there in case you do not receive one.



# CHRISTMAS ANTHOLOGY

The first print run of 200 copies was completed and picked up on the morning of our October 11th meeting. Nearly all that had been reserved were

picked up and paid for. In addition, a few more copies were bought at the meeting. One individual has also ordered a second batch of books for use at upcoming craft fairs. We've put out a call for people to send in corrections and requested changes for the next print order.

We are working on making them available online, both as paperbacks and as eBooks.

# SPOKANE AUTHORS CATALOG

The catalog is, as far as can be, finalized, and files for both versions have been sent to our members. The first version can be printed out as full letter sized pages and if desired, put in a binder with document protectors. This can be available at a craft fair for passersby to look through. The second version prints out to a smaller booklet or pamphlet that can be passed out to those who want it or delivered to those who might be interested. It's smaller and uses less paper than the first version.

We are now looking into having copies professionally printed for delivery and presentation to more prestigious recipients. While we want it to be of high quality, we also want the printing costs to be low enough that we can have many, many copies printed.

# **OUR OCTOBER 2024 MEETINGS**

Compiled by Dave McChesney

Spokane Authors met on Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at the Sans Souci West Club House. Members present included Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Beth Camp, Larry Danek, Mary De Bord, Carolyn Eller, Sue Eller, Mark Lee Golden, Denise Guy, D. J. Guy, T. Hammond, Esther Hildahl, Bob Hildahl, Suzanne Holland, Kevin Hostbjor, Marilee Hudon, Amy Logan, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Terry Stratton, Shandra Tanner, and Sarah Vail. Attending as a guest was Scott Keeler.

Our first order of business was to nominate folks for our upcoming elections. For president, Carl Northrup. For vice president, Sue Eller

and Bob Manion. For secretary, no one so far, and our current office holder has declined to run. Treasurer, Dave McChesney. We did not nominate anyone for the advisory positions, and it is understood that unless an individual declines to run, they will again be on the ballot. We will hold elections at out November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President Carl Northup clarified the status of upcoming Saturday meetings at St. Francis of Assisi. He stated we would meet on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> of October as scheduled, but we would not meet on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup>. That meeting would not be held due to many members participating in Arts and Crafts Fairs and not being able to attend.

Marilee Hudon advised us to let her know of our upcoming events so she can get word out about them via various forms of social media. Esther Hildahl mentioned that she would be at a Craft Fair at a church in Chattaroy on Saturday October 26th, at Shadle Park High School in November, and at an elementary school in Newport in December. Mary De Bord is set to be at an event at Rockwood South. T. Hammond told us that the craft fair at Sans Souci West was set for Friday and Saturday, November 15th and 16th, from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, with doors open at 8:00 am for The place would be available for early set-up on Thursday, November 14, from 3:00 pm. until 8:00 pm.

We also looked at a couple preliminary versions of the catalog, with members making a few suggestions as to how it could be made better.

Our speaker for the day was Robert Winfield, a writer and editor who works to help people with publishing and marketing. Amongst other things, he talked about sponsored ads on Amazon, emphasized the importance of show, don't tell, and indicated the Screenwriters Workbook could help in writing dialogue.

The initial print run of our anthology had arrived earlier that day and most of those who had preordered copies picked up and paid for their orders. As the meeting ended, we drew tickets for a number of door prizes called it a day.

Spokane Authors also met on Saturday

October 19th, at St. Francis of Assisi. Present were Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Kevin Hostbjor, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Terry Stratton. First time guests were Judi Mahoney and Gary A. Edwards.

Due to a scheduling conflict with the church, we were in a different room that we usually are. We discussed improvements made to the catalog since our Friday meeting, and discussed the world of writing, publishing, and marketing in general.

#### **MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE**

- 1. Name and **photo/headshot**
- 2. Brief biography
- 3. Links to any web-site, blog, or other online locations.
- 4. Information about any books published.
  - a. Book cover shot/thumbnail
  - b. Brief description/blurb.
  - c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other catalog number
  - d. Locations where physically available.

In many cases your editor/webmaster can find much of this on-line, if it is there. If it's not and you would like to have a member webpage that is as complete as possible, please e-mail information to daveeva@comcast.net,

<u>authors@spokaneauthors.org</u>, or send via USPS to:

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers

P. O. Box 18573

Spokane, WA 99228-0573

We are always ready and willing to update and correct your member webpage. Do not hesitate to contact your webmaster if your page needs attention.

# A MEMBER'S SUCCESS!

Kevin Hostbjor's short story, *The Hindenbug*, was published in an annual anthology by Living Springs Publishers. This year, the anthology is titled "*Stories*"

Through The Ages Baby Boomers Plus 2024." These anthologies are available through Amazon (and other retailers). This is the eighth year of the annual series. You can guess the titles of preceding years. 2023, 2022, etc.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# **Central Valley High School**

Saturday & Sunday November 2 - 3 Contact: Debra Long, 14222 E Desmet, Spokane, WA 99216

# **Mead High School**

Saturday & Sunday November 9 - 10 Spokane Authors Larry Danek and Marilee Hudon have information

# **Shadle Park High School**

Saturday & Sunday November 16 - 17 Spokane Authors Esther and Bob Hildahl have information

# **Ridgeline High School**

Saturday & Sunday December 7 – 8 www.ridgelinebandboosters.org/craft-fair

#### Other!

Auntie's Local Author Book Club Wednesday November 6, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)

# **Spokane Authors**

Friday November 8, 2:00 pm Sans Souci West Club House

#### **Inland Northwest Writers Guild**

Saturday November 9, 2:00 pm.
In Person meeting, **Coffee with Linda**The Meeting House, 11<sup>th</sup> and Pittsburg, Perry
District. Looking for volunteers or just to
socialize. Please RSVP at
<a href="mailto:lindathewriter@gmail.com">lindathewriter@gmail.com</a>

#### **Inland Northwest Writers Guild**

Wednesday November 13, 7:00 pm.(ZOOM) Contact: Linda Bond at <a href="mailto:lindathewriter@gmail.com">lindathewriter@gmail.com</a>

#### **Spokane Authors**

Saturday November 16, 2:00 pm St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall CANCELED

#### **Auntie's Local Author Book Club**

Wednesday December 4, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)

# **Spokane Authors**

Friday December 13, 2:00 pm Sans Souci West Club House

#### **Inland Northwest Writers Guild**

Saturday December 14, 2:00 pm.
In Person meeting, **Coffee with Linda**The Meeting House, 11<sup>th</sup> and Pittsburg, Perry
District. Looking for volunteers or just to
socialize. Please RSVP at
lindathewriter@gmail.com

#### **Inland Northwest Writers Guild**

Wednesday December 18, 7:00 pm.(ZOOM) Contact: Linda Bond at lindathewriter@gmail.com

#### **Spokane Authors**

Saturday December 21, 2:00 pm St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall

#### Sandpoint Writers on the Lake

Meet twice, both in person and via ZOOM for critiques. Information at bonniemcdade@gmail.com

#### SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We print short parts of the list on a rotating basis. The complete, and hopefully up to date list is available on the web-site, under "NEWS")

To speed your search, add the provided ten digit numerical or alpha-numerical code (ASIN) to: www(dot)amzn(dot)com/dp/
Example: www.amzn.com./dp/B008TXC332
or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044
ASINs for each book are the same, regardless

- 4 -

of what Amazon Marketplace you use.

#### Sarah Vail

Old Schoolhouse Road

B09PMNPPMW 1490025583 1940025575

James Street

B09V1SG5CR 1480844683 1940025648

Snow Country Lane

B09YL18654 1480886378 1940025664

Lightning Ridge Road

B0CK51PT4G 1960059084 1960059076

Mary A. De Bord

Violet Petals on My Heel 1667858688

**Elena Smith** 

Why Birches Are White

B004PLNL4M 1419627511

Truths and Lies

B0BXFSSGMP 1667891650

**Suzanne Holland** 

Mermaid In A Fish Bowl

B073SCB5GS 1545555451

**Connie Kerbs** 

Paths of Fear
Whatsoever Things
A Season for All things
What is a Camel?
The Giraffe Gaffe

B017Z1EQT8 0996966110
B07L8J8QK7 099696617X
1736741926
B091DFCCQG 0996966196
173674190X

T. Hammond

Blind Seduction: Team Red, Book 1

B00C8UB0JK
Color Blind: Team Red, Book 2
Blind Faith: Team Red, Book 3
Blind Rage: Team Red, Book 4
Blind-sided: Team Red, Book 5
Blind Luck: Team Red, Book 6
B00PE9YOVI
Blooks 1 – 3)

B00HI50VAY

Team Red: Omnibus 2 (Books 4 – 6)

B019LS2VOS

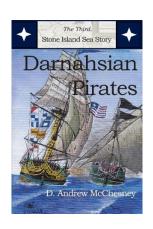
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Posse: Legends

# FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

This month we continue with our usual rotation of reviews



# Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

Another great book by McChesney in the *Stone Island Sea* Story series. This is the third book in the series, and it takes over where the second book left off.

After Edward Pierce's reunion with his true love, Evangeline, they get married. Then they decide to go back to Stone Island. This time they have three ships. They end up having a fierce battle with the Pirates that are holding Pierce's father-in-law who is the Governor of Stone Island captive.

I would recommend this book to anyone looking for an exciting book that moves right along and tells a great story about a sea adventure and fighting pirates.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

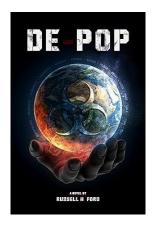
Darnahsian Pirates begins with Edward Pierce back in England. Here he reunites with his beloved Evangeline. In his absence Evangeline has had a baby boy named Glenn Lewis, who Pierce eventually accepts as his own.

After a while, it's time for Pierce to return to Stone Island, which is beyond the ocean's edge. Evangeline and Glenn Lewis will go with him. Later, Pierce and Evangeline are married.

There's trouble brewing in this part of the world, involving the Darnahsian pirates, who they learn have kidnapped Evangeline's father. Thus, leading several vessels, Pierce is determined to defeat these lawless pirates and rescue Evangeline's father. To cross to the other world, they have to convert established coordinates to ones they can use on charts of the other world. There are five transition points each vessel must sail through, where they completely disappear for a time.

As the story progresses, there are many adventures, problems to solve, and politics to deal with. At last Edward and his fleet go to war against the ruthless pirates. Many lives are lost, including someone who is very close to Pierce.

McChesney has written another wonderful story with an exciting battle scene. This book, the third in the series, is my favorite one. It has many interesting characters such as Dr. Robinson, the Kalish tribe, and Isaac Hotchkiss. The author is very knowledgeable about the age of sail, and it shows in his writing. I recommend this book for one and all, especially those who like to read about days of old.



Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

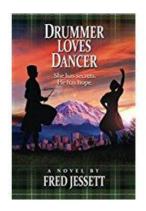
What if those folks secretly in charge of everything thought that controlling or limiting the population would be the best for everybody? What if others opposed that idea? Bring in others supporting the idea of population control and put them in conflict with those who are against it.

This is the premise of Russell Ford's first novel. Open the cover and step into a world of black ops, church intervention on a not so holy level, and the dangerous life of agent Neah Bey. It reads like a thriller because it is.

Well written, it is difficult to put down. Despite the deep sometimes disturbing

premise of the story, there is an entertaining, somewhat lighter air to it. Unique is that many of the characters are named for cities, towns, and other geographical locations in the Pacific Northwest. Being a resident of that region, this reviewer soon caught on to the author's method of creating character names and looked forward to see what little town or feature would be mentioned next.

This was an intense and interesting read, and I look forward to the author's next offering.



Reviewed by Beth Camp

Boy meets girl; boy falls in love with girl. This story is a sharp reminder of what life is like when we question the meaning of love, innocence, racism, commitment, and our faith in God. These are the large issues that preoccupy us when all is before us, irrevocable decisions haven't yet been made, and we don't quite know who we are.

Lad MacAdam, a drummer in a Seattle-based Scottish piping band, falls in the thrall of instant attraction to Ginger DeForest, a dancer and beautiful young woman of mystery from New York. Lad really does put Ginger on that pedestal, seeing her as far above him. Gradually, as their relationship deepens, they reveal their true natures, mourn their losses, and truly fall in love. But then the writer adds a twist.

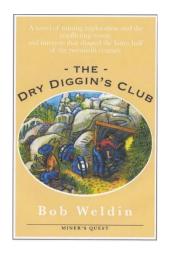
Since I grew up in Seattle, I was entranced by the vivid settings from the very first page, as they reminded me of those days long ago, when I was a child, swam at Green Lake, and watched the Sea-Fair parade in

awe. Lad and Ginger, dubbed Drummer and Dancer throughout, come to life with youthful angst, and the story resonates throughout with a celebration of life.

# Reviewed by Sue Eller

It is the 1950s in Seattle, Washington, a simpler and more innocent time. Lad McAdam, a drummer in the Puget Sound Scots Pipe Band, is involved in an outdoor stage production of Brigadoon. He becomes involved romantically with one of the dancers in the production, Ginger De Forest, a displaced New Yorker whose life has been anything but simple and innocent.

Jessett weaves a tale of young love, conflict, family, and religion, and brings together lives so different that the odds are stacked against them. *Drummer Loves Dancer*, but is it enough to make Dancer love Drummer in return?



# Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

Growing up in a ranching and mining Montana family, Sara Mullins is drawn into geological exploration and mine engineering. After college she becomes one of the first women to work in the male dominated field. She does extended field work in the Idaho wilderness and then in Alaska. While there, she successfully drives off a marauding grizzly and meets who she believes is the man of her dreams. Closer to home, she becomes a member of the Dry Diggin's Club, a group of

mining professionals seeking to better their position. Along the way she discovers some unique advantages of aircraft equipped with autopilots, learns that not everyone can be trusted, and foils an attempt at extortion.

This proved to be an entertaining and enjoyable read. In large part the story is set in the local region, with much of the story taking place in Coeur d'Alene or Spokane. One scene takes place at this reviewer's current place of employment, and that establishment is mentioned in another. Although it does play a part in the story, it is surprising that the Dry Diggin's Club doesn't play a larger, more central role throughout the book.

ISBN 978-0-578-10682-3 was published by Miner's Quest and retails for \$19.95.

# Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

Weldin has written a very exciting novel about mining and searching for the *mother lode*. It makes you want to go backpacking with a miner's pick and search for minerals and gold deposits.

In many ways this book is similar in excitement to a Clive Cussler novel, but without all the bad guys shooting everybody. The Dry Diggin's Club is a real page turner with romance and adventure that keeps you interested and excited right to the end.

I highly recommend reading this well-written novel.

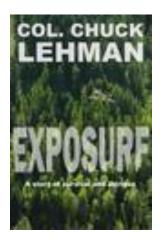
# Reviewed by James Bartlett Parry

Bob Weldin's vast mining expertise and experience shine through as he weaves this captivating tale of exciting discoveries in romance and in other treasures. You'll learn a ton about mineralogy while being engrossed in the many dramatic happenings of the Mullins family. And you'll experience two generations of Mullins' – from the end of World War II through the 1960's. Primarily set in Montana, Sara Mullins attempts to enter a profession dominated by men. As she is doing this, she finds herself involved with the Dry Diggins' Club and romantically involved with two men,

one of whom turns out to be a scoundrel. With the help of her brother and the man who may become her soulmate (Brad), Sara gains sweet revenge – in a unique way – on the scoundrel.

The book ends with Sara flying off with Brad. Will they find true happiness – and will they find the Lost Sheepeaters Mine?

I hope Mr. Weldin writes a sequel so I can find out. Perhaps, his next book will take us through the end of the last century and into the present. He left me wanting more.



Reviewed by Robert G. Hildahl

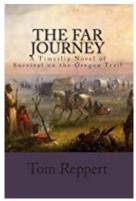
Another great book by Col. Chuck Lehman. Using his survival training skills, he has successfully created an exciting suspensefilled thriller and a page turner.

The story begins with Cal, a pilot, being forced to crash land his plane into the treetops 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. It 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.



By Tom Reppert

#### Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

The Far Journey is about a very spoiled girl named Paula Masters who goes back in time to when people were first coming out west on the Oregon Trail. The story tells how she helped save people from getting sick. She taught them about cleanliness and boiling water to make sure it was safe. It tells about the real hardships traveling back then by covered wagon. She did a lot of growing up real fast.

Tom Reppert, who was a guest speaker at one of our SASP meetings has written a great book with a surprise ending. It keeps you interested all the way through and is a real page turner. I definitely recommend this book.