

NCPA Monthly Meeting

Dec 10, 2011

- Agenda:**
1. Self-introductions and Announcements
 2. Author of the Month
 3. Book Display Meeting and Networking

Present (24): Anson, Branco, Hoirup, Jasper, Johnson, Kando, Luccini, Mason, Ortega, Potter, Pryor, Ryan, Schoenborn, Sample, Silver, Straus, Suwinsky, Tavai, Teie, Thornton, Umbach, Van Eaton, Westlund, Yee Webb.

Barry Schoenborn opened the meeting. He explained that today's meeting did not have a featured speaker, but that it was the annual Book Display Meeting. Attendees could display and sell their books, and they could also gift a copy to the Merrill Gardens Retirement Community library.

Then, individual self-introductions took place:

Pamela Johnson reminded us of the upcoming 2012 NCPA awards competition and ceremony. Later, Barry Schoenborn told us that he was reading a huge (920 pp) and great book by Pamela.

Jim Van Eaton, a new member, will be next month's featured speaker.

Alton Pryor has published 23 paper books and 12 e-books and he is selling many Kindle books. Recently, a Berkeley song writer asked Alton to put some of his material into folk songs. If this happens, Alton will pick up singing.

Tom Kando pointed to his books on display, including one about recreation and leisure, which was published in Japan.

Pam Suwinsky is working on her first book, about adventures in lingerie management. She also publishes a monthly newsletter.

Joyce Mason is the member of the month (see below).

Lynda Straus writes poetry.

Susan Luccini was here for the first time. She writes personal histories, and she helps with editorial work.

Denise Branco published a book about her horse *Freedom*, which died a few years ago, and she has met up with a new horse also named *Freedom*.

Laurie Hoirup's autobiographical book *I Can Dance* will be published by Ken Umbach in March, 2012.

Ken Umbach is the NCPA's Communications Director. He publishes a column in the *Senior Spectrum*.

Everett Anson just published *The Third Party*, which is an updated version of *Bullets for Ballots*.

Bill Teie, head of *Dear Valley Press*, just published his 16th book, *The History of Rescue*, a book full of photographs selling for \$70-\$75. He is converting all his books to e-books, which is a major project, as there are hundreds of graphics. He also told us that one may not sell 3-D books to people who are one-eyed or color-blind.

John Westlund published *Where is Wiley?*, about the life of a dog, which sells for \$5 as an Amazon Kindle book.

Dennis Potter publishes technical articles and he is attempting to become a novelist.

Cindy Sample writes humorous mystery stories which take place around Placerville and vicinity. She has published a series of books the "traditional" way, for example *Dying for a Dance*.

Sam Ortega's book about *Pancho Villa* will be published soon. He finds the networking provided by the NCPA very helpful.

Margie Yee has published an attractive book about cats, among others. She announced about events taking place at the Market Place on December 10, a Holiday Social at Romano's Macaroni Grill on December 11, the next CWC's luncheon on Jan. 21, which will feature Smashwords' Mark Coker's talk about e-publishing, "Open Mike" at Barnes and Noble every 2nd Friday of the month, and the big Annual Northern California Literature Festival in Roseville on April 14, 2012.

Carol Ryan talked about *Right Now's Perfect*, a book about sailing across the South Pacific. She also gave advice as to how to navigate the system when publishing both paper versions and Kindle versions of books on Amazon.

Adrian Jasper writes poetry and essays, and she has published on her website. She describes her conversion to Islam, and she writes about the Quran.

Norma Jean Thornton schedules our guest speakers, and she publishes a monthly newsletter.

Phil Silver is recovering from illness. He recently published his second children's book on Smashwords - *Andi the Bee*.

Barry Schoenborn has co-written many books, including *Technical Math for Dummies*, *Medical Dosage Calculations for Dummies*, and also published several including Frances Kakugawa's *Breaking the Silence*, and *Men of Poseidon*. He gave away a couple of Celebex staplers.

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The member of the month was Joyce Mason. She has been a professional astrologist for years. She began writing poetry in the 1970s. She published an anthology of short stories with Ken Umbach, with whom she has collaborated on other projects as well.

She retired from a state job in 2005. She has published three books on astrology, reversing the customary order, and publishing *first* as e-books and then, if warranted, as paper books.

She has also sold several hundred CDs. One of her astrology books is *Chiron and Wholeness*. Her books are sold as PDF books on her website and on her blog.

She has submitted her next book to a contest.

She has posted 180 astrology articles on her blog.