

www.norcalpa.org

# The Pen & Press

**1pm \* SUNDAY \* 9** (date may change) **January 2022** **zoom & in person**

We normally try to have all of our tax guys speak in January, but we're looking for another place to hold monthly meetings (which means we may have to switch to a later Sunday). \* We need a confirmed date to schedule any speakers, and with the holidays, Covid, etc., we're in limbo right now for January but will let everyone know before the 9<sup>th</sup>, what's up. \* Apparently other writing groups are having trouble finding venues for meetings, also. \* **If you have a FREE place in mind where we could hold our SUNDAY meetings in person, please respond to this Email and we'll check it out.** Just remember, it needs to be fairly centrally located, and can't be too far out in any direction, since we have members attending from all areas: Lodi, Elk Grove, Rancho Murieta, Placerville, Shingle Springs, Pollock Pines, Lincoln, Rio Linda, Arden-Arcade, Carmichael, Fair Oaks, No. Sacramento area, to name a few. INFO COMING in Jan newsletter for 2022

It was great seeing the 29 in attendance at our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Luncheon last Sun at *Black Angus*, and for those who weren't there, you missed a really nice time, as well as a good meal – (plus two flavors of my Sac Co. Fair & State Fair-Award-Winning Rocky Road candy). A few authors brought their books and Sharon had all 5 of our prior anthologies on hand, so a bit of gift shopping was done; we gained two new members; 3 PBs were submitted to the Book Awards (I think that takes us up to 12 books now); and at least 3 indicated they'll submit a story to the *Beautiful Americas* anthology (LOY HOLDER, LISA RANDOLPH & AMY ROGERS – get busy on those stories!). That means we only have 2 spaces left for a story: 500 min, to 3,000 max words.

**Deadline to RSVP is 31 Dec 2021.** Anthology questions? [2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com](mailto:2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com)

Unfortunately, we're running behind on *ALL Holidays 2021*, so have retitled it *ALL Holidays Vol 2*, to prevent an issue on "outdated" stories. That one is full, but if you have a holiday story just burning a hole to get written, go ahead and write it! We'll be doing a Vol 3 sometime after we've finished these two, but I have no idea at this time, when that will be. We're all getting burned out, and will need a break for a bit.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS: Merry Christmas \* Happy Hanukkah \* Happy Kwanza \* Winter Solstice \* Boxing Day \* St. Lucia Day \* La Posadas \* Saint Nicholas Day \* Happy Festivus for the Rest of Us - Hopefully I didn't miss anyone \* AND a HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

**Now accepting 2021 published books for the 28<sup>th</sup> NCPA BOOK AWARDS COMPETITION**  
(Published between 1 Jan 2021 & 31 Dec 2021)

**MORE info coming later, from Sharon**

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Awards Banquet will be Sun 22 May 2022 – Cherry Island Golf Course**

**ZOOM MEETINGS:** still beyond my capabilities. As of yet, I haven't gotten involved in sending out the initial notice, but I do get it done in the newsletters. To benefit our out-of-area/state members, and lurkers, we plan on combining Zoom with our regular meetings once we can start having them again.

**Instructions on how to ZOOM connect inside this newsletter, top of Page 3**

\*\*\*\*

Join our **NCPA FB PAGE** <https://www.facebook.com/NORCALPA>

### **President's Message**

With Thanksgiving behind us and Christmas looming out the front window, I want to wish all of our members a wonderful and joyous holiday season. I hope you've been able to restart some of the traditions that were forsaken the past year due to Covid. If you'd have asked me a year ago if I'd still be masking and rushing off to get a Covid test before Thanksgiving a year and a half later, I'd have told you no way.

But here we are, for better or worse.

The shelves are still bare in the grocery stores, but we managed to pull together a respectable Thanksgiving dinner. We even had the grandparents here, and everyone, thankfully, is healthy. Gas prices continue to climb and the cost of rent just keeps going up, while the number of job openings around the country are the likes I've never seen before. At least the wildfires are done for another California fire season.

It can often feel overwhelming, especially when you hear of the latest Greek alphabet Covid strain. I never knew I'd grow to dread the Greek alphabet as much as I have the past two years. And don't get me started about the construction on the roads everywhere I go. But there is something about this time of year that calls to our better natures, makes us want to be more charitable, more generous with our time, maybe a little more patient. I want to believe that, especially since the mountain of frustration the last few years have, at times, felt insurmountable.

No matter what you're doing this holiday season, I hope you take time to sip some warm cider, watch a holiday movie, or just sit in front of the fire and read a book. It's the simple things that have come to mean the most, that longing for normalcy, for the traditions we've missed so much.

As for me, I've decided I'm cooking soup for Christmas dinner. It seems more important to serve my family something hearty and healthy and comforting, rather than go all out and make a feast.

Here's to the end of another no good, very bad year, and because I believe in endless optimism, I'm looking at you, 2022. Please be less terrible, and we'll all be happy.

After all, if Covid has taught us anything, it's taught us to manage expectations and cherish the sweet parts of life.

ML Hamilton  
[authormlhamilton.net](http://authormlhamilton.net)

### **Editor's Note:**

Ditto Michelle's comments. Here's hoping 2022 will be much better than both 2020 & 2021 for everyone. I don't think I've ever been so discombobulated as I have been these past two years, and even though every other year has gradually passed by quicker than the previous, they've been nothing compared to the two we've just experienced.

It's less than a week from Christmas, and I feel like it's only April. To top it off, I've done absolutely ZERO shopping ... and I have 6 kids, 12 living grands, and now 15 greats! Gift Cards, here I come! I'm behind on everything, including the newsletters, so apologies that not everything I've received is going to be in this one – hopefully January will be better! *njt*

**Permanent link for monthly ZOOM NCPA meetings:**  
 Author ML Hamilton is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: NCPA Monthly Meeting  
 Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime  
 (I'm not sure what this means: ask Michelle)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84185416630?pwd=aEJaTGlyakhBQ1pYWU5KS3FEanBTUT09>

Meeting ID: 841 8541 6630

Passcode: 828631

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,84185416630#,,,,\*828631# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,84185416630#,,,,\*828631# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 841 8541 6630

Passcode: 828631

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84185416630?pwd=aEJaTGlyakhBQ1pYWU5KS3FEanBTUT09>

**Great last minute Gifts for Writers in Your Life \* OR Treat Yourself!**



**Support our gracious Silent Auction DONORS: these are all NCPA members**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Looking for a detailed critique and line edit?** Contact donor **Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media**

Amy Rogers, independent publisher, beta reader for James Rollins, and former judge for International Thriller Writers' Thriller Awards. [amy@AmyRogers.com](mailto:amy@AmyRogers.com) [Web: AmyRogers.com](http://Web: AmyRogers.com) (916)-712-3334

\*\*\*\*\*

**Need a Manuscript Evaluation?** Contact donor **Jennifer Grainger**

Jennifer says a manuscript evaluation is not editing. It is evaluating the quality of the writing so she will carefully and thoughtfully read your manuscript from beginning to end and provide very explicit feedback for you on what works, what could be better and how to fix the weaknesses.

[jennifer@JenniferTheEditor.org](mailto:jennifer@JenniferTheEditor.org) [www.JenniferTheEditor.org](http://www.JenniferTheEditor.org) 209-369-6188

\*\*\*\*\*

**Want your own Website?** **Sharon Darrow** will build you one **through Wix.Com**

Hourly rate, with a four-hour minimum appointment. ~ in your home. (Will accept phone calls for help for 3 months after completion if you still need it. Anything further, price will be negotiable.)

Contact donor **916-803-1665** [sharon@sharonsdarrow.com](mailto:sharon@sharonsdarrow.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## NCPA's 28<sup>th</sup> PUBLISHED BOOK COMPETITION (for 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2021 Books)

28<sup>th</sup> Book Awards Banquet Sun 22 May 2022 Cherry Island Golf Course

Now's the TIME TO FINISH WRITING, and PUBLISH YOUR 2021 BOOK/s

if you want to enter them in the NCPA 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Awards for the 2022 Banquet

Scheduled (2021 Book) Awards Banquet Date Sunday 22 May 2022

### EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM SUBMISSIONS

the earlier you submit the cheaper it is so get those books in to Sharon Darrow

**Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com** \* or \* 916-803-1665

no later than 31 December 2021 for the cheapest rate

**Full details coming soon.**

Old information for prior years can be found on our website at **[norcalpa.org](http://norcalpa.org)**

### STILL ACCEPTING STORIES FOR *Beautiful Americas* Anthology:

RSVP DEADLINE 31 Dec 2021

Submitted a story for one of this year's NCPA Anthologies? If not, get busy...We're currently working on anthology #7 *Beautiful Americas*. Only TWO (2) spaces left.

RSVP Deadline 31 Dec 2021. Minimum 500 words to maximum 3000. click <https://www.norcalpa.org>  
For information on our anthologies and contact info for questions.

Submit all stories to [2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com](mailto:2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com) No charge to submit, plus receive one free book with option to purchase more at cost, if story is included. All books are available locally with our publisher, Sharon Darrow (at cost for our Anthology authors) and on Amazon (at the regular price, even for our authors). **MUST BE AN NCPA MEMBER TO BE INCLUDED IN AN NCPA ANTHOLOGY.**

Each story is proofed upon receipt, sent through two editors, then back to be proofed again, and returned to author for corrections, if necessary, prior to being added to the anthology. Upon occasion, more than one story has been sent through multiple stand-by editors, also, in an attempt to make the story workable. The entire Anthology is proofed one final time, from cover to cover. Yes, we have rejected stories, but only after deemed unusable or needs too much work to be accepted at the time. Authors receive feedback if applicable. **ANY GENRE WILL WORK** as long as it fits each theme and is family friendly. **Questions?** [2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com](mailto:2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com) Membership

### Looking for classes to help guide you through examining the many forms of description?

**Gini Grossenbacher** will be teaching a very entertaining course \* \$25/class \* pay-as-you-go \*  
with Elk Grove Writers & Artists Jan -Mar 2022. Tuesday evenings, Zoom,  
January 11-March 15, 2022

For more info contact Gini: [ginis.writers1@gmail.com](mailto:ginis.writers1@gmail.com) [www.ginigrossenbacher.com](http://www.ginigrossenbacher.com)



**NCPA still accepting submissions for 2021 anthology from MEMBERS ONLY for Beautiful Americas Submission **DEADLINE 31 December 2021****

### 2019 NCPA Anthologies



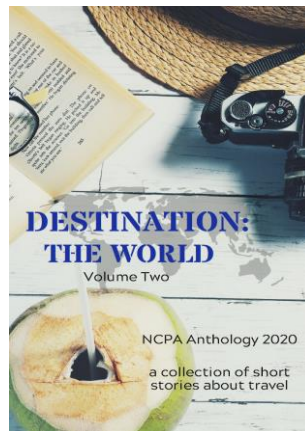
**BIRDS OF A FEATHER**  
An NCPA Anthology  
*A Collection of Short Stories about Animals*



**MORE BIRDS OF A FEATHER**  
An NCPA ANTHOLOGY  
*A Collection of Short Stories about Animals and Other Things*

**\$40/ year to join**  
**[www.norcalpa.org](http://www.norcalpa.org)**

### 2020 NCPA Anthologies



**ALL (five) 2019 & 2020 ANTHOLOGY BOOKS (above) AVAILABLE**

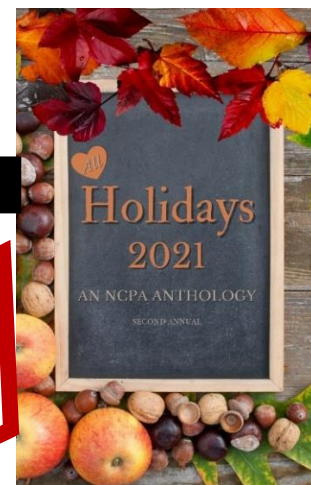
**PAPER COPIES @ Cost for Authors) \$10 for others From Sharon Darrow:**

**[Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com](mailto:Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com) OR [NCPA Anthologies \(5 book series\) Ebook & Paperback Edition \(amazon.com\)](https://www.amazon.com/NCPA-Anthologies-5-book-series/dp/B085L7L7L7)**



### TENTATIVE COVERS FOR 2021 ANTHOLOGIES

**ALL Holidays 2021 had a name change –**  
**it's now ALL Holidays Vol 2**



*"With extravagant pleasure I announce the chance to **preorder my hundred-year novel on Kindle**."* Bert

**CONGRATULATIONS TO NCPA member  
Roberta "Bert" w/a Berta Davis**

***Morphers & Mayhem, A Werefolk Tale,*  
her first published book.**

Adventure with humor, not chick-flick-gushy stuff, M&M is a sci-fi/fantasy, with aviator type characters, plus a bit of animal rescue.



(Feels like it took that long to write it!).

Publishing done by Samati Press,  
our own NCPA member Sharon  
Darrow's Publishing Company

Preorder now, available for delivery 7 Feb 2022 in Kindle, later in paperback and limited hardbacks, plus it will eventually be out in audio book, for those who "don't read". KINDLE Link at Amazon, below:

[Amazon.com: Morphers & Mayhem: A Werefolk Tale eBook: Davis, Berta, Brown, Jeff: Kindle Store](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B095L7L7L7)

**DOUBLE CONGRATS TO NCPA VP Sharon Darrow, who finished her own book & published Bert's!**

*"I finished writing the fourth and last book of the Laura's Dash series inspired by my maternal grandmother."*

The Kindle version of *\*Her Triumph* is available for [preorder through Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B095L7L7L7) now, for delivery on Dec 30. Sharon says she's working on also having the paperback available the same day. For those who haven't yet read the [first three books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B095L7L7L7) in the series, they're all available at greatly reduced prices on Kindle for the same time span.

\* (Sorry – I can't get it to copy a picture of the book here – you'll have to go to Amazon to see it)

*"I'm also almost as excited on behalf of Roberta Davis, an NCPA member and fellow kitten/cat rescuer, for the publication of her first book, [Morphers and Mayhem](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B095L7L7L7). Samati Press, my publishing company, is proud as can be of Roberta for her creation of a super Sci-Fi novel that's full of action, humor, and an amazing cast of characters. The Kindle version of her book is available for preorder now, with delivery set for February 7, 2022. If you are a fan of Sci-Fi, go order her book and get it started with a bang!"* Sharon S Darrow

**916-803-1665** [sharon@sharonsdarrow.com](mailto:sharon@sharonsdarrow.com) [sharonsdarrow.com](https://www.sharonsdarrow.com) [sharonsdarrow.com/samati-press](https://www.sharonsdarrow.com/samati-press)

### Random Realizations

\*A skeleton walks into a bar. The bartender says, "What'll you have?"  
The skeleton says, "Gimme a beer and a mop."

\*Right now, I'm having amnesia and Deja vu at the same time. I think I've forgotten this before.

\*You can't have everything. Where would you put it?

\*Just because nobody complains doesn't mean all parachutes are perfect.

\*My theory of evolution is that Darwin was adopted.

\*A chemistry joke:

Q: What kind of fish is made of only two sodium atoms?

A: 2 Na fish. (In case you didn't take Chemistry – Na, on the Periodic Table of Elements, is Sodium)

**YOU TOO COULD ADVERTISE HERE for a whole year EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER**

Just donate something of value to the Silent Auction held during our 2021 Book Awards Banquet in 2022  
**SUNDAY 22 May 2022 at the Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta**

**SILENT AUCTION DONORS 2019 \* THANK YOU SO MUCH to our donors \***

Cherry Island G.C. \* Sharon Darrow \* Jennifer T. Grainger \* Grand Oaks Inn B&B \* Dierdre Honnold \* Frances Kakugawa \* Placer Pops Chorale \* Roaring Camp Mining Company \* Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media \* Sharif Jewelers \* Antelope Walmart Bakery

**Looking for a great venue for your Banquet &/or more? How about a decorated Cake?**

Both great for Writing Organizations, and Highly recommended by NCPA Book Awards Banquet Committee

**Cherry Island Golf Course** \* 2360 Elverta Rd \* Elverta, CA \* [www.golfcherryisland.com](http://www.golfcherryisland.com) \* 916-991-6875

Looking for a great decorated cake for ANY event, including that Banquet?

**Walmart Supercenter Bakery** \* 5821 Antelope Rd. \* Antelope 95843, CA \* Bakery: [916-729-6217](tel:916-729-6217)

**Placer Pops Chorale & Orchestra 2022**

**Great present for everyone** \* [www.placerpops.com](http://www.placerpops.com)

\*\*\* Locations, DATES & TIMES COMING CLOSER to dates \*\*\*

**ADVERTISING FOR MORE OF OUR DONORS, all NCPA members**

**Looking for a detailed critique and line edit?** Contact donor **Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media**

Amy Rogers, independent publisher, beta reader for James Rollins, and former judge for International Thriller Writers' Thriller Awards. [amy@AmyRogers.com](mailto:amy@AmyRogers.com) Web: [AmyRogers.com](http://AmyRogers.com) (916)-712-3334

**Need a Manuscript Evaluation?** Contact donor **Jennifer Grainger**

Jennifer says a manuscript evaluation is not editing. It is evaluating the quality of the writing so she will carefully and thoughtfully read your manuscript from beginning to end and provide very explicit feedback for you on what works, what could be better and how to fix the weaknesses.

[jennifer@JenniferTheEditor.org](mailto:jennifer@JenniferTheEditor.org) [www.JenniferTheEditor.org](http://www.JenniferTheEditor.org) 209-369-6188

**Want your own Website?** **Sharon Darrow** will build you one **through Wix.Com**

Hourly rate, with a four-hour minimum appointment. ~ in your home. (Will accept phone calls for help for 3 months after completion if you still need it. Anything further, price will be negotiable.) **916-803-1665**

[sharon@sharonsdarrow.com](mailto:sharon@sharonsdarrow.com)

**Need a special gift ~ Or a donation to your non-profit event?**

Check out the fine jewelry at Sharif's

Sharif Jewelers \* 1338 Howe Ave, Sacramento, CA \* [www.sharifjewelers.com](http://www.sharifjewelers.com) ~ 916-927-0542

There are three (3) locations, total ~ check out their website for the other ones.

**How about an Outdoor event for the entire family**

Roaring Camp Mining Company in Pine Grove, CA just 1-1 ½ hours south east of Sacramento ~ Roaring Camp has BBQ Cookouts, Guided Gold Mine & Gold Panning Tours & Dinners, All Day Adventure & Gold Panning Tours & more ~ Camping or Cabins available

[www.roaringcampgold.com](http://www.roaringcampgold.com) ~ 209-296-4100 ~ [info@roaringcampgold.com](mailto:info@roaringcampgold.com)

**OR a romantic Indoor Stay for grandma & grandpa, or mom and dad ~ on the way to Roaring Camp**

Grand Oaks Inn B & B ~ Joe & Ann Mehrten 21941 Buena Vista Road P.O. Box 518

Clements, CA 95227 [grandoaksinn.com](http://grandoaksinn.com) 209 759-3453 or 209-759-3713 [grandoaks@inreach.com](mailto:grandoaks@inreach.com)

Grand Oaks, Sharif & Roaring Camp Mining Co have all generously donated to NCPA for every Silent Auction we've had **since 2010**



**2021 SILENT AUCTION DONORS Continued from prior page**

Many thanks to the generosity of Sacramento's Bouchercon 2020, for the donation of a case of Totes, some were used in our 2020 NCPA Book Awards, during the Silent Auction Sunday 29 August 2021. Thanks also to Rae James and M. Penny Manson from Capitol Crimes (Sacramento chapter of Sisters in Crime) for arranging for, and getting, the totes to me.

Many thanks also to:

\*EGWG for the donation of one ticket to the October 2021 Elk Grove Writers Conference

\*NCPA member Barbara Barrett for the donated set of lantern-shaped cut-glass candle holders

**INTERESTED IN GENEALOGY?** During the shut-down, the Library has generously made their access to Ancestry.com FREE from your own home to ALL WHO HAVE A LIBRARY CARD .....THE CENSUS RECORDS ARE GREAT, EVEN IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING ELSE

Go to [www.saclibrary.org](http://www.saclibrary.org) and click on Books & Media – Special Collections – Genealogy Collection – Have Questions (at bottom of screen) – click on “Learn More” under “Do you have other genealogy services available?” (or just click on this link as a shortcut - <https://www.saclibrary.org/Education/History/Genealogy>). (Other Genealogy sites free also)

Once there, you'll see the links to the websites in green. Once you click on the website, you'll be asked to enter your library card and PIN. If you don't know your PIN, click on Reset My PIN in blue and enter a new PIN. **THIS MAY NOT WORK NOW THAT LIBRARIES ARE OPENING**

**2021 Genealogy Presentations at Sacramento Central Library**

For information, please contact Beth Daugherty, Librarian, at [bdaugherty@saclibrary.org](mailto:bdaugherty@saclibrary.org) Sacramento Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: 916-264-2920. <http://www.saclibrary.org>

**Check out all organizations for ZOOM meetings ~ contact info for each is on following page**

**FREE MEETINGS**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat monthly 1pm-3pm  
**Capitolcrimes.org** for more info  
**ZOOM MEETING FREE**

**Gold Country Writers meetings (FREE)**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed 10am-12Noon each month  
[Goldcountrywriters.com](http://Goldcountrywriters.com) **CONTACT** for more information

**CWC meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat monthly 11am-1pm**  
**CWCSacramentowriters.org**  
\$20-member \$25 Non-member lunch included  
**ZOOM MEETINGS FREE**  
1<sup>st</sup> Fri each month Perko's 6215 Sunrise  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat each month at Cattleman's on Folsom

**28th NCPA  
BOOK AWARDS  
BANQUET**  
**5pm-9pm**  
**Sun 22 MAY 2022**

**\*Sacramento Suburban Writers Club (SSWC) 2nd Mon ea/mo**  
**7pm-9pm \* Sactowriters.org \* ZOOM MEETINGS FREE**  
Crossroads Fellowship Christian Church, **5501 Dewey Dr**, Fair Oaks.

**COVID RULES APPLY**

**Sun 11 Dec 2022 ~ 12Noon-?**  
**Citrus Heights' Black Angus on Greenback**  
**NCPA's 5<sup>th</sup> Holiday Luncheon - 2022**  
Email me: [NCPAAnthologyLuncheon@gmail.com](mailto:NCPAAnthologyLuncheon@gmail.com)

**YOUR Writing Club/ Organization INFO CAN GO HERE – JUST LET US KNOW**

**YOUR Writing Club/ Organization INFO CAN GO HERE – JUST LET US KNOW**



## MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

### ➤ **California Writers Club (CWC) (Sacramento Branch)**

Monthly Luncheon Meetings generally **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** of each month ~ 11am – 1pm  
 \$15 members, \$25 non-members, includes lunch **Rancho Cordova Cattlemen's**  
**Writers Network 9-11am 1<sup>st</sup> Fri** monthly **Perko's 6215 Sunrise, Citrus Heights**  
 Open to public, pay for your own breakfast (**NEW LOCATION**)

For information & prices on joining, go to: [cwcsacramentowriters.org](http://cwcsacramentowriters.org)

### ➤ **Capitol Crimes (Cap Crimes) (Sacramento Chapter of Sisters in Crime)**

If you write anything crime-related, or want to, then check out Cap Crimes.  
**FREE** monthly meetings, generally the **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** of each month, generally with guest  
 speakers, generally crime-related. They normally meet at **1pm** at the  
**Rancho Cordova Library 9845 Folsom Blvd in Rancho Cordova**

No-Host lunch 11:30am prior to meetings usually at Perko's 9647 Micron Av

Must be a member of Sisters in Crime (\$50) to join Cap Crimes (\$20) [Capitolcrimes.org](http://Capitolcrimes.org)

### ➤ **Elk Grove Writers Guild (EGWG) [Elk Grove Writers Guild \(egweg.org\)](http://ElkGroveWritersGuild.org)**

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Fri of each month in Elk Grove - **BY ZOOM RIGHT NOW**

**No further info, but go to the following for more:**

\* Email [egwg2020@egweg.org](mailto:egwg2020@egweg.org)

### ➤ **Gold Country Writers (GCW) <http://goldcountrywriters.com/>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wed Monthly Speaker Programs ~ 10am-12Noon: FREE & open to Public**  
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St, Auburn, CA 95603

"Writers Working Together to Promote and Improve their Work" Questions contact Margie

Yee Webb [mywebb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mywebb@sbcglobal.net)

### ➤ **Sacramento Suburban Writers (SSW)**

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon of each month 7pm- 9pm**

Crossroads Fellowship Christian Church, 5501 Dewey Dr, Fair Oaks, CA

Meetings, generally with guest speakers, are **FREE** ~ (\$40 membership fee)

Like with NCPA, you don't have to be a member to attend [Sactowriters.org](http://Sactowriters.org)

### ➤ **Sacramento Valley Rose (SVR)**

**(Sacramento Chapter of Romance Writers of America {RWA})**

If you write Romance, or want to, then check out SVR ~ they generally meet at 10am at the  
White Rock Community Clubhouse, 10488 White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month** \$20 for members \$30 for non-members

Contact: Deb at [debjulienne@gmail.com](mailto:debjulienne@gmail.com) for RSVP information & directions

Debbie Putnam, President: [DebbiePutnam.SVR@gmail.com](mailto:DebbiePutnam.SVR@gmail.com)

**Suggest you go to their site for their rules & stipulations** Must be a member of Romance  
 Writers of America (\$99+) before joining SVR (\$30) [Sacramentovalleyrose.com](http://Sacramentovalleyrose.com)

### ➤ **Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (SCBWI) (CA North/Central)**

If you're interested in writing ... or illustrating ... for kids of any age, this is the premiere  
 INTERNATIONAL organization to belong to! **Your first year of SCBWI membership is \$95,**  
**with an ongoing annual renewal fee of \$80.** No monthly meetings, but there are occasional  
 Schmoozes, Workshops, Intensive-Events, Special Events, and Critique Groups, as well as a  
 great Holiday Party in December, and a discounted Spring Spirit Conference ... plus more ...

Go to their website for full information: <https://canorthcentral.scbwi.org/>\*

**All info may be outdated. Suggest you contact prior to attending any.**

**NCPA Board of Directors****President**

Michelle Hamilton

[authormlhamilton@gmail.com](mailto:authormlhamilton@gmail.com)

916-837-6812

**Secretary OPEN**

Charlene Johnson

[circleoftheredscorpion@gmail.com](mailto:circleoftheredscorpion@gmail.com)

408-205-6472

**Communications Director / Newsletter Editor**

Norma Jean Thornton

[normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com)

916-991-5751

**Immediate Past President**

Sharon Darrow

**Membership Chair**

Sharon Darrow

[Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com](mailto:Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com)

800-462-2328

**Book Awards Chair**

Sharon Darrow

[Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com](mailto:Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com)

800-462-2328

**Awards Banquet Chair/ Coordinator**

Norma Jean Thornton

**Monthly Speaker Coordinator**

Norma Jean Thornton

[Normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:Normathornton@yahoo.com)

916-991-5751

**Webmaster & Photographer**

Chrissi Villa

[chrissivilla@gmail.com](mailto:chrissivilla@gmail.com)**norcalpa.org****Vice President**

Sharon Darrow

[Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com](mailto:Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com)

800-462-2328

**Treasurer**

Amy Rogers

[Amy@ScienceThrillersMedia.com](mailto:Amy@ScienceThrillersMedia.com)

*Note that the Executive committee consists of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and communications director, the five elected officers*

**Social Media Director**

Chrissi Villa

[chrissivilla@gmail.com](mailto:chrissivilla@gmail.com)**FB & Promo Coordinator**

Charlene Johnson

[circleoftheredscorpion@gmail.com](mailto:circleoftheredscorpion@gmail.com)**Book Events Coordinator**

Andrea Roth w/a A.K. Buckroth

[Mydiabeticsoul@pacbell.net](mailto:Mydiabeticsoul@pacbell.net)

916-396-3414

**Anthology 2019, 2020 & 2021**Norma Jean Thornton: **Coordinator**Michelle Hamilton: **Editor**Bob Irelan: **Editor**Norma Jean Thornton: **Proofreader**Sharon Darrow: **Publisher**[2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com](mailto:2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com)

**Sunday afternoon meetings with or without guest speakers now 2nd Sun of each month**

**In Person 1pm-??? \* Round Table Pizza \* 3327 Watt Av Sacramento **changing****

**No purchase necessary but at least a soda would be appreciated \* By ZOOM 1pm- ???**

**Daytime meetings with NO guest speakers are the 3rd Wednesday of each month**

**ON HOLD 12 Noon to 2pm Denny's 3520 Auburn Blvd **RSVP's REQUIRED COVID****

**Meetings are always FREE ~ Visitors are always welcome.**

[www.norcalpa.org](http://www.norcalpa.org)

Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)

PO Box 214673 ~ Sacramento, CA 95821

Michelle Hamilton, President ~ 916-837-6812 \* Norma Jean Thornton, Editor ~ 916-991-5751

*The Pen & Press* is published by Northern California Publishers & Authors, a coalition of authors, small presses, and independent publishers. All newsletter content, unless otherwise attributed, is copyrighted by NCPA.

Material from the newsletter may not be reproduced in any way without written consent of the copyright holder.

The editor reserves the right to accept or reject submissions and to edit submissions for length, clarity, or style.

Readers are free to print copies for noncommercial personal use, and NCPA members are welcome to print copies of the newsletter to share with friends, colleagues, and prospective members.

### **Other News, Announcements, and Comments**

All submissions for this section of *The Pen & Press* including short items about NCPA members or otherwise of interest to writers, editors, publishers and allied folks, are welcome.

### **A Note from the Editor**

Send your articles and announcements to [normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com)

Please type either **NCPA N/L** or **NCPA NEWSLETTER** as the email subject heading, to help me find newsletter submissions easier.

Please provide submissions in Microsoft Word (or compatible) format, or in plain text. **NO PDF**, please, since I have to retype anything sent by pdf to make it fit.

If you have any suggestions, an article idea or any other questions or comments about the newsletter, feel free to email or phone ... [normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com) or 916-991-5751

Any news of members' books, activities, marketing, speaking engagements, and/ or other accomplishments are greatly appreciated.

Also: any information on members' insights into the challenges and opportunities of writing and/or publishing, or information on regional resources for authors and publishers works well.

Cover illustrations and other photos are welcome in jpeg or other standard format. Please keep file sizes reasonable. When in doubt, call or email editor in advance.

**Submissions for each issue will be the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month, unless otherwise noted ~ and ~ if you have something after the 5<sup>th</sup> call me (916-991-5751), then send it anyway ~** I'm flexible, so we'll probably be able to work it in, since the monthly Pen & Press publishing date depends on time available for the editor to complete and send out; sometime after the monthly meeting, held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, and as late as the last day of each month.

The goal of the current editor is to publish one Pen & Press each month, with two in April every year in order to cover the Book Awards Banquet ... one prior to the event, and one after.

... Norma Jean Thornton, editor *The Pen & Press* 2016-2020