

www.norcalpa.org

The Pen & Press

1pm * SUNDAY * 9 January 2022 ZOOM ONLY

NCPA VP Sharon Darrow will be discussing Grammarly & ProWritingAid.com and Book Competitions & Anthologies, plus NCPA's new Critique Groups. Sharon's is set to start on Tue 11 Jan, but Michelle and I are still working on ours. Mine will be in-person ONLY, since I don't ZOOM, so it'll be a while before it can start. Michelle can give an update at the meeting on hers. **MORE INFO BELOW:**

- Sharon's handling non-fiction (NF), including memoir
- Michelle will work with the fiction (F) genre
- Norma will continue with the non-specific genre covering Heinz 57 critiquing, as a group, for those lookie-loo's, wannabees, and the newbies to writing. We invite everyone, for a mix of beginners, as well as experienced authors, who still need some help with their work. I PROOF, but DO NOT EDIT, however, we can still cover some mild editing, and we'll probably be open to more members joining in on the meetings, than the other two crit groups will have.

In my experience, it's this type group that's generally the least stressful for crit-beginners, since it's much more liberal and flexible, for a greater learning experience. Besides, a good non-specific will give the newbie a taste of the need for proofing and editing from the beginning, allowing them to feel more secure once they get into their genre-specific group, with something to contribute to their new group. I was moderator for two non-specific critique groups for 17 years, starting in 2002, with the last one ending in 2019, when NCPA started our Anthologies. All of my time since has been tied up with proofing those stories, but I've basically been working a one-on-one non-specific crit group, with each anthology, when the need is there to contact an author over something to do with their work. Just because an author is well-established, or has published a jillion books, doesn't mean they don't need someone else to proof/edit each new story or book.

And a bonus perk? Critique Groups are free, except for the copies of stories printed for each meeting ... which yes, means this group will be done totally hands-on. *Norma Jean*

HAPPY Winter Solstice * AND a HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Now accepting 2021 published books for the 28th NCPA BOOK AWARDS COMPETITION

(Published between 1 Jan 2021 & 31 Dec 2021)

CORRECT DATE for 2022 Banquet is SUNDAY 15 MAY (I keep switching the dates!)

28th Annual Book Awards Banquet will be Sun 15 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

I don't make New Year's resolutions. Like baby-keepsake books, they are designed to guilt you into feeling inferior. (And don't get me started about the third child's book. Poor little orphan. Kidding.)

Well, to be honest, I made one and only one resolution in my life and that was back in 2010. I made a resolution to get serious about my writing. That same year I was published by Wild Wolf Publication.

While I think that New Year's resolutions are just guilt trips masquerading as something fancy, I do think setting goals is a worthy practice. In fact, this week, my producer and I will meet to set our audiobook goals for 2022.

If done right, goals should be attainable and tiered. You should be able to check off accomplished steps to a bigger goal, and they should be something that you are likely going to do or have a concrete plan of how to attain.

To be an effective goal, there has to be a final culmination date. Let's say December 31, 2022. If a year is too long, try six months.

Second, make sure you know what you really want to achieve. Is it writing a book and completing it by the end of the year? Or is it submitting to publications once a month? Be clear on what you want to accomplish.

Third, set a period of evaluation. I suggest every 90 days. Take a look at where you are and what you've achieved every 90 days. Then reevaluate the main goal. Be honest with yourself about why you didn't make some of the milestones and how you might change your trajectory to do so.

Finally, consider having a goal partner, someone you share your goals with and then update each other on your progress. Having someone you are accountable to can make the difference between achieving something or procrastinating. And let's be honest, procrastination is the main obstacle to goal achievement.

Whatever goals you set for yourself this year, I hope you find success and pleasure in having something to work towards. And if you are a resolution person, I hope you are able to stick with it. Any goal you set is worthwhile as long as you know why you want to achieve it.

Go forth and conquer, fellow writers. Happy 2022!

ML Hamilton

authormlhamilton.net

Editor's Note: Ditto Michelle's comments on making resolutions. I normally don't make any either, because I can never keep any beyond a month at the absolute most ... generally maybe a week, but this year I actually outdid myself. I didn't even make it past the first hour on breaking the first one (going to bed before 1am – instead of 3am or later), and the second didn't make it through the day (get out of bed earlier, since I'm normally up so late).

The other three? Yep, I actually made five fairly easy, simple ones: two others didn't last through the second day either, but the third one I took care of at 11:30pm, 1 Jan – I put on makeup!

Since cataract surgery in Oct, I couldn't wear makeup for 6 weeks, so got out of the habit and needed to start again; totally forgot until I was thinking about going to bed by midnight. (Yes, I put makeup on the 2nd day, and this morning also, so it's a go, so far. I also made it to bed at 12:58pm on the 2nd, and 1:03am the 3rd.) And here I thought makeup would be the easy one.

I totally forgot, and missed the fourth resolution, but have until next Sunday for the fifth, but by then I'll probably forget I even made one for then, too, so we'll see if I can keep up with the makeup, at least. Three days, so far, on the makeup! I'm on a roll, no matter how late it is!

Here's hoping 2022 will be much better than both 2020 & 2021 for everyone, and each of you have better luck with your resolutions than I did ... if you even made any. *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>

Christine "Chrissi" L Villa, is giving a 6-week PB workshop **7 Jan 2022 – 18 Feb 2022**

WORKSHOP: Essentials of Writing a Picture Book

Have you been dreaming of writing a picture book, but don't know where to start? Do you have a character idea or plot churning inside your head restlessly waiting to come to life? Or maybe you have already written a story for children. Do you ever wonder how you can revise it and turn it into a delightful picture book? In this six-week workshop, we'll explore step-by-step the route to writing your picture book from knowing your target readers well, discovering how to take the leap of faith to write your unique story, developing your compelling characters and plot and finding your voice, to learning all the other basics of writing and revising a picture book.

For more info & to contact Chrissi: chrissivilla@gmail.com 916-993-8798 h or 916-500-3492 c
www.purplecottoncandyarts.com/about.html & <https://www.velvetduskpublishing.com/about.html>

Chrissi also gives PICTURE BOOK EVALUATIONS, and donated one for the 2021 Awards Banquet Silent Auction. If you're interested, it's a 1-to-2-page detailed evaluation, with or without the illustrations. Chrissi will read your book three times to make sure she's covered everything, and will also include some tips and guidelines on improving your work. Contact Chrissi for more info:

chrissivilla@gmail.com 916-993-8798 h or 916-500-3492 c www.christinevilla.com

Awards: CONGRATULATIONS Chrissi, on: *The Magic Paintbrush* won **2nd place in the Picture Books 6 and older category** and *Zoobooloo* won **honorable mention in the same category**, plus **honorable mention in the Book Trailer category in the Royal Dragonfly Book Awards 2021**

NCPA's 28th PUBLISHED BOOK COMPETITION (for 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2021 Books)

28th Book Awards Banquet Sun 15 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 28th Annual Book Awards for the 2022 Banquet

Scheduled (2021 Book) Awards Banquet Date Sunday 15 May 2022

EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM SUBMISSIONS

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

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

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT 28 FEB 2022

Full information can be found on our website at **norcalpa.org**

STILL ACCEPTING STORIES FOR *Beautiful Americas* Anthology:

RSVP DEADLINE 15 Jan 2022

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

RSVP Deadline 15 Jan 2022. 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 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.** (Membership dues \$40/year)

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

ALL INFORMATION, INCLUDING BLANK FORMS, ON NCPA WEBSITE MAIN PAGE: www.norcalpa.org

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 www.ginigrossenbacher.com

**NCPA still accepting submissions for 2021/s 2nd anthology from MEMBERS
ONLY for Beautiful Americas Submission DEADLINE 15 January 2022**

2019 NCPA Anthologies

**\$40/ year to join
www.norcalpa.org**

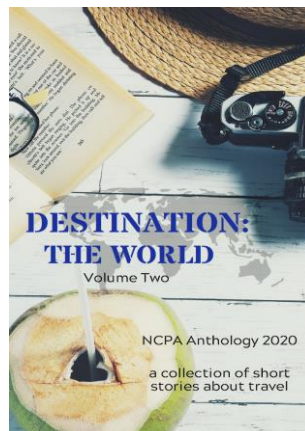
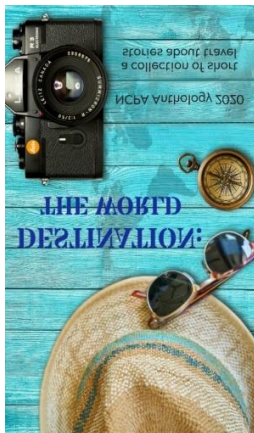


BIRDS OF A FEATHER
An NCPA Anthology
A Collection of Short Stories about Animals



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

2020 NCPA Anthologies



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

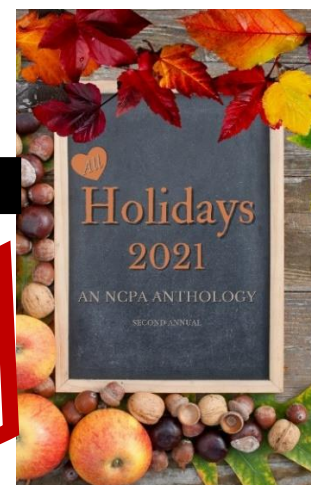
PAPER COPIES @ Cost for Authors) \$10 for others From Sharon Darrow:

Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com OR [NCPA Anthologies \(5 book series\) Ebook & Paperback Edition \(amazon.com\)](https://www.amazon.com/NCPA-Anthologies-5-book-series/dp/B08YJYJYJY)



TENTATIVE COVERS FOR 2021 ANTHOLOGIES

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



***The Negro Motorist Green Book*
Traveling Exhibit from the Smithsonian
offers a look at Travel during Jim Crow era**

California Museum @ 1020 O St in Sacramento

Green Book Exhibit now thru 27 Feb 2022
of special interest for African-American blacks
doing Memoirs. Includes travel in Sacramento

[CaliforniaMuseum.org/green-book](https://californiamuseum.org/green-book)

WRITER'S BLOCK? GIVE THIS A TRY

How Writing by Hand Got Me Unstuck | by
Aurelia Wong | The Writing Cooperative

<https://writingcooperative.com/how-writing-by-hand-got-me-unstuck-8717be7e8e53>

I've Been In 13 Chicken Soup Collections. If You Want to Break In, Here's My Advice

<https://writingcooperative.com/ive-been-in-10-chicken-soup-collections-if-you-want-to-break-in-here-s-my-advice-9ef3612aacd9> | by Roz Warren | The Writing Cooperative

News from, and CONGRATS to, NCPA's Poet Laureate and longtime member, Frances Kakugawa

Wordsworth the Musical, based on the first two children's books of Frances Kakugawa's Wordsworth the Poet series is now a stage musical, scheduled to open the 2022 season at the University of Hawaii Theater in Hawai'i. The musical, translated into Hawai'ian language, will be made into a film to be presented at the Hawai'i Festival. This was all rescheduled from last year because of the pandemic.

Just sharing my review that appeared in 5 Dec **New York Sunday Times** in their **Book Review section**.

Frances H Kakugawa Sacramento CA

It's always been my outcry to find the author's voice in children's books, trying to teach a lesson. There is such a difference in children's books and children's literature. This book on Isamu Noguchi supports this.

James Yang's *A Boy Named Isamu* is what excellent children's literature is, the absence of the adult voice interfering in the telling of a story with the intent to teach a lesson or two. Children are surrounded by adult voices in life, here in *A Boy Named Isamu*, there are Isamu and the reader alone. This book will also be excellent for readers in their 80's and 90's, as they, too, are surrounded by too many adult voices. What a pleasure of a stroll with Isamu, awakening our senses to our own world

More about this on Frances, plus her picture, at [GOOD TIMES...ON A SUNDAY - wayneharada.com](https://www.wayneharada.com)

WORDS to Live By

*If you think the microwave is collecting data and the TV is spying on you is bad: The vacuum has been collecting dirt on you for years.

*Waitress: "How did you find your steak, sir?" Customer: "I just looked next to the potatoes, & there it was."

*My friend keeps saying, "Cheer up it could be worse. You could be stuck in a hole full of water." ... I know he means well.

*Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything and cleaned it thoroughly. Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom.

*So many people these days are too judgmental. I can tell by looking at them.

*DAST: "How dast you!" <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/dast> Heard on an old 1971 Carol Burnett Show on Channel 6 earlier. I'd totally forgotten about that, it's been so long since I've heard it.

If you like Bob Ross, here are a few episodes of Bob painting, plus some from others, doing his style. Channel 6 had a show on him and his *Happy Little Trees* a week or so ago, so I checked You Tube, and voila! I have most of his painting books and lots of his paints and canvas, and took a class with his son in the mid-90s, but the cats stopped me from painting years ago; cats can't paint, and don't wear paint well, no matter how hard they try!!

YouTube of Bob Ross Joy of Painting episodes:

https://www.google.com/search?q=youtube+bob+ross+joy+of+painting&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&source=hp&ei=wr6-YbqGGM-P9PwPgqil2Ag&oq=youtube+bob+r&gs_lcp=ChFtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1ocBABGAYyCAgAEIAEELEDmQUIABCABDIFCAAQgAQyBQgAEIAEMgUIABCABDIFCAAQgAQyBQgAEIAEMgUIABCABDoCCCK6BQgpEIAEOgYIKRAWEB46BQgpEKsCOgUIKRCgAToLCCkQgAQQsQMqgwE6DggAEI8BEOoCElwDEOUCOgSIAABCABBCxAXCDAToOCC4QgAQQsQMqgwEQ0QM6EQguEIAEELEDEIMBEMcBEKMCQg4ILhCABBCxAXDHARCjAjoICC4QsQMqgwE6EQguEIAEELEDEIMBEMcBENEDOGgILhCABBCxAXCDAVDIB1jjUGCBfGgDcAB4AIAB_AWIAesRkqEHNS44LjYtMZgBAKABAbABHg&sclient=mobile-gws-wiz-hp

Three Tips to submit Stories for Anthologies & to Enter Published Book Competitions

Sharon S Darrow 916-803-1665

sharon@sharonsdarrow.com sharonsdarrow.com sharonsdarrow.com/samati-press

- 1) The importance of making sure your book or story is as perfect as you can make it: One of the best ways is through participating in a critique group. Each person not only receives fresh insights into their own material, but improves their ability to read with a more discerning eye. Critique groups vary, so finding one that is a good fit is invaluable, and may take some time.
- 2) Whether or not you participate in a critique group: we all are much too familiar with our own work to catch all the little grammatical, spelling, or style mistakes. There are two great programs to choose from: **Grammarly** and **ProWritingAid.com** that are worth considering as an addition to our writing regimen before submitting our work for publication anywhere.
- 3) Writing competitions and/or anthologies: not only showcase our material, but also have the potential of adding visibility and credibility. BUT, competitions and/or anthologies are not created equal! It is important that you thoroughly check out any you are considering, before sending in your work. Especially if it also means sending in money.

TIDBITS & ODDS & ENDS

Save money by turning your smartphone into a full-fledged webcam

<https://www.komando.com/tech-tips/turn-smartphone-into-webcam/820941/>

Who was Carolyn Keene? *(Did you know?)*

Behind many Nancy Drew books was a Jersey girl

<https://www.nj.com/entertainment/2020/04/who-was-carolyn-keene-behind-many-nancy-drew-books-was-a-jersey-girl.html>

SAN FRANCISCO WRITERS CONFERENCE

Feb 17-20 2022 SFWriters.org

[SFWC Registration — San Francisco Writers Conference \(sfwriters.org\)](https://sfwriters.org)

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 * 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

*** 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 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 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

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 ~ 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 ~ 209-296-4100 ~ 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 209 759-3453 or 209-759-3713 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 CARDTHE CENSUS RECORDS ARE GREAT, EVEN IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING ELSE

Go to 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 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
3rd Sat monthly 1pm-3pm
Capitolcrimes.org for more info
ZOOM MEETING FREE

Gold Country Writers meetings (FREE)
3rd Wed 10am-12Noon each month
Goldcountrywriters.com **CONTACT** for more information

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

**28th NCPA
BOOK AWARDS
BANQUET**
5pm-9pm
Sun 15 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 WILL APPLY

Sun 11 Dec 2022 ~ 12Noon-?
Citrus Heights' Black Angus on Greenback
NCPA's 5th Holiday Luncheon - 2022
Email me: NCPAAnthologyLuncheon@gmail.com

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

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MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

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

Monthly Luncheon Meetings generally **3rd Saturday** of each month ~ 11am – 1pm
 \$15 members, \$25 non-members, includes lunch **Rancho Cordova Cattlemen's Writers Network** 9-11am **1st 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

➤ **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 **3rd 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

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

Meets the 1st 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

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

3rd 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

➤ **Sacramento Suburban Writers (SSW)**

Meets 2nd 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

➤ **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

4th Saturday of each month \$20 for members \$30 for non-members

Contact: Deb at debjulienne@gmail.com for RSVP information & directions

Debbie Putnam, President: 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

➤ **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.

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Anthology 2019, 2020 & 2021Norma Jean Thornton: **Coordinator**Michelle Hamilton: **Editor**Bob Irelan: **Editor**Norma Jean Thornton: **Proofreader**Sharon Darrow: **Publisher**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

Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)

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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

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 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 5th of each month, unless otherwise noted ~ and ~ if you have something after the 5th 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