

August 2019

www.norcalpa.org

The Pen & Press

Thursday * 12 September 2019 * 6:30pm–9pm

FRANCES KAKUGAWA

Catching up with Frances on her Wild & Crazy Ride to Writing, Publishing, Marketing and Speaking ~ How She Did It ... and MORE!

Friends, Family, non-members welcome ~ FREE MEETING FOR ALL

Denny's (in the Private back room)

3520 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento (Auburn Blvd @ Watt Av & I-80)

No-host food &/or beverage

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS ~*~ You might want to bring a light sweater

2019 GUEST SPEAKERS 2nd Thursday each month 6:30pm-9pm

10 Oct * **Al Gonzalez** ~ Working with YouTube & Make Videos to promote Authors

14 Nov * **Lit-Agent Jennifer Chen Tran** ~ What an Agent looks for; if time allows, a few pitches for books

12 Dec * **No Speaker** ~ **ANNUAL BOOK DISPLAY** * Bring your books to sell, barter, share or whatever

3rd Wednesday each month RSVP needed norcalpa.org ~ Same Denny's ~ 12Noon - 2pm

Wed 18 Sep * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

Wed 16 Oct * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

Wed 20 Nov * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

Wed 18 Dec * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

NO GUEST SPEAKERS ~We'll also discuss the Anthology & 2019 Book Awards

NCPA's 3rd Annual Holiday Luncheon * Sun 1 Dec 2019 * Black Angus PLUS Anticipated Launch of NCPA's 2nd Animal Anthology *MORE Birds of a Feather*

Sun 1 Dec 2019

3rd Annual NCPA Holiday Lunch 12Noon -?? ~ back at Black Angus again ~

Everything's the same as the previous 2 years: order what you want; purchase off the menu that day

No group bill for one of us to try to figure out what everyone owes:

You're given your own bill and you pay Black Angus as you normally would when going out to lunch.

* **SAVE THE DATE** * 12 Noon * Sun 1 Dec 2019 *

President's Message

Recently I've had a number of experiences with authors who have paid huge amounts of money for services to be rendered, and the results are less than stellar. With our treasurer, Amy Rogers, giving us a talk at the NCPA meeting this month about working with Amazon, I thought I might also address some of the frequent places where I see authors spend more money than they need to spend.

Layout: formatting your manuscript is intimidating. It's hard to figure out what the various platforms require and how to navigate through their regulations. However, if someone wants to charge you a couple hundred dollars to format your work, they'd better be offering a full-service package that includes uploading and troubleshooting. That's a lot of money to pay for something that isn't really difficult, but rather tedious.

An author I greatly respect paid a lot of money for the formatting of her latest novel. When I looked at the layout, I was surprised to see how poorly it was done. Knowing she needs to make updates, she mentioned that the formatter wanted a lot of money to make the necessary changes. Be careful about giving a blank check for something that is relatively easy once you know how to do it.

Cover art: True, you shouldn't judge a book by its cover, and yet, we all do it. I'm as guilty as the next person and I've paid a good amount of money for covers when I needed the branding. I don't regret it, but at the same time, you can get a really good cover on the cheap. When I launched my *Year of Discovery* series, I wasn't sure how well it would sell and I didn't want to spend a lot of money on covers if there wasn't going to be a return on investment. I went to selfpubbookcovers.com and found some really quality covers for very little money. You have to design your own title, but they have an easy system that is user friendly in order to do that.

Being able to get twelve covers without breaking the bank has already allowed me to turn a profit on a series I was worried might not sell. If you have a particularly niche book, you have to be very careful where you spend that hard-earned cash.

Website: Again, an author I greatly admire has spent a national ransom on web designers. They nickel and dime her for every single thing she wants done. It's robbery and one of the things that makes my blood boil. Most web hosts offer very easy web layouts that you can customize. It is well worth it to try designing your own site instead of paying other people to do it for you. If you become a New York Times Best Selling Author, by all means, hire professionals, but until then, you can design a very attractive and usable website for very little muss and fuss.

These are just a few areas where I recommend trying to cut corners. If you save money on these things, it allows you more funds to pay for editing (essential) and advertising (required). And ask people around you who they use or if they know how to do these things themselves. For a nominal fee, many of our fellow authors may be able to assist you in these areas and free up some cash for more important parts of this crazy and ever-changing publishing business.

Michelle Hamilton, President NCPA

UPCOMING Non-Library BOOK EVENTS * contact ANDREA

- **8 Dec 2019 "St. Nick's Breakfast & Craft Fair"** 4123 Robertson Avenue, Sacramento **PENDING**
School cafeteria of Our Lady of Presentation Church, (916) 481-7441 ~
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church Craft Fair
- **14 Dec 2019 10am - 4pm, "Christmas at the Castle" Preston Castle** Holiday Bazaar **PENDING**
900 Palm Drive, Lone, CA 95640. (209) 258-3623; [www..Prestoncastle.com/HolidayBazaar.html](http://www.Prestoncastle.com/HolidayBazaar.html)

Contact Andrea ... 916-396-3414 * mydiabeticsoul@gmail.com * #buckroth ...
to sign up for any or all of the above dates. Some are space-sensitive, and all are on a first-come-first-serve basis Andrea K. Roth (aka: A. K. Buckroth) ~ NCPA Book Event Coordinator

MORE UPCOMING Non-Library BOOK EVENTS * Do NOT contact Andrea

- Aug 17 - Dec, 2019: Apple Hill 2901 High Hill Road, Placerville, CA - Call (530) 644-1973 or email Highhillsranch.com
- **Sat 21 Sep 2019 9am-4pm * 7th Annual Rio Linda/Elverta Country Faire, Depot Park, Rio Linda**
\$30 per10'x10' booth. Contact Cheryl Cook rlvendors@yahoo.com
"Vendor Booth Application" necessary; details at <https://riolindaelvertacountryfaire.com/>.
- **Sep 28, 2019: 10am - 3pm Carmichael Founder's Day ~ Carmichael Park** 5345 Engle Road, Carm.
events@carmichaelpark.com or (916) 483-7861 "Vendor Booth Application" necessary
- **Sat 12 Oct 2019 10 am-4 pm * Great Valley Bookfest * Promenade Shops at Orchard Valley, AKA: Bass Pro Center, Hwy. 120 at the Union Road Exit, 280 Lifestyle Road, Manteca, CA.**
"Featured Author Applications" available at www.greatvalleybooksfest.org.
- **November 2019**, is available for your event announcement(s).

Genealogy Presentations at Central Library 2019

Please note: New time is 10:00 am – 11:30 am

- Sept 8: Picture This: Cataloging Digital Family Photographs -- Nancy Loe
October 6: What GEDmatch Can Do for the Genealogist's DNA Research – James Baker, PhD
November 3: Jewish Genealogy: How Is This Research Different from Other Research? – Janice Sellers
December 1: (Topic to be Announced) -- Deborah Sweeney

All lectures are on Sundays, 10:00 – 11:30 am, in the West Meeting Room on the 1st floor. Please note the new time! Since these programs are being held before the library is open, please enter the building through the Old Foyer (the door east of the main entrance on I Street). This entrance has steps, so contact bdaugherty@saclibrary.org if you need a more accessible entrance.

There is no registration. For information, please contact Beth Daugherty, Librarian, at bdaugherty@saclibrary.org Sacramento Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: 916-264-2920. Website: <http://www.saclibrary.org>

• **4 FAKE GRAMMAR RULES YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT**

- <http://mentalfloss.com/article/68490/4-fake-grammar-rules-you-dont-need-worry-about>
BIG LIST OF PREFIXES & SUFFIXES & MORE ~ Google Search
- https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&source=hp&ei=62hCXcuLEoTusQXJgq_oDA&q=-ian+suffix+meaning&oq=&gs_l=mobile-gws-wiz-hp.1.0.4116j41i131i275j41i131.0.0..4053...0.0.0.0.....0.....8.4efjAzpV020

August 2019

Northern California
publishers & authors

Work in progress on anticipated cover for NCPA's upcoming Anthology **COMING SOON**

MORE BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Another NCPA Anthology



*Authors start your stories now for the 2nd Anthology "**More Birds of a Feather**"

*New word count amounts are:

MINIMUM ~ 500 words

MAXIMUM ~ 3000 words

***We now have a dedicated Email address just for the 2nd Anthology.** If you have a story, questions, comments, suggestion, complaint, or anything else, please send to me

NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

***Do NOT send your 2nd Anthology story or any other 2nd Anthology Email to any address except THIS ONE.** You'll get NO response.

*Start using that Gmail address NOW.

Birds of a Feather ~ ANTHOLOGY UPDATE 8 Aug 2019 ~ WE DID IT, AND IN THE PROJECTED TIME FRAME!

200 books total were ordered and purchased by authors with a story in the book, who had first chance at them, and are now selling to anyone who wants one, or more. The price listed on the book is \$11.95, but who knows? You might get a deal from an author who has books to sell. Sharon will order another batch soon.

(Snippets below from Sharon's review of *Birds of a Feather* to the Anthology Committee early July)

*I think we should get a Kindle version made for sale through KDP for *Birds of a Feather*. The extra exposure would help all the authors as well as the group. (Michelle did just that during the Fair, so it's also available on KINDLE.)*

*Last but not least, **every author in the Anthology who has an Amazon Author page can have the Anthology added to their books.** They have to have the ISBN number, then call the number at the bottom of their Bookshelf in KDP. The person will verify their connection, then add the title to their Bookshelf. Not hard, but great to have an additional title to their credit...." Sharon* **(Ed note: Contact Sharon for more info on how to do that.)**

NCPA MEMBERS, send us your new releases, so we can acknowledge them and share with others.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO SUBMIT to More Birds of A Feather

A Collection of More Short Stories about Animals

If you missed the first one, *Birds of a Feather*, then get busy on your stories NOW for this one ~ only open to NCPA members in good standing. If you would like to submit a story to this Anthology, you're welcome to join NCPA if you aren't already a member.

Membership is \$40/year. No charge to enter a story ... instead, as a perk to being a member, you get one free book plus the plus the option to purchase more at cost. You may then sell them for whatever you want. We won't know the price until we order the books, since it depends on the number of pages (but, once you've submitted your story to me, I can tell you how much the 1st one, *Birds of a Feather*, cost each author to purchase ... very reasonable!) AND you'll be a published author, if you aren't already!

- **SOFT Entry deadline 1 Sep 2019 ~ anticipated publish/launch date 1 Dec 2019**
- **CHANGE IN NUMBER OF WORDS * MINIMUM now 500 * MAXIMUM now 3000 ***

Questions? Come to the **Meeting 12Noon Wed 21 Aug 2019 at Denny's * 3520 Auburn Blvd * Sacto (@ Watt Av & I-80)** OR Email **NCPAAntology2019@gmail.com** with anything pertaining to the 2nd Anthology.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR STORY FOR NCPA's 2nd Animal Anthology, More Birds of a Feather

Go to the NCPA website at norcalpa.org and follow instructions on the main page regarding submitting to the anthology (under the picture of the animals OR [Click here for details](#).) There are five (5) attachments you need to **submit ~ each by separate attachment, please**.

1. Your signed agreement
2. Your signed application
3. Your story In **word ONLY, NO PDF** * Will be returned unread if sent any other way.
 - a. 500 to 3000 words *
 - b. Garamond Font *
 - c. 12 pt Font *
 - d. Single Space *
4. Your bio:
 - a. **Italicize** all book titles, please
5. Your picture:
 - a. **JPG or JPEG ONLY**, or it won't be accepted. (Yes, there's a difference, if you use Mac) if you don't know how to do a JPG/ JPEG, or have other questions, please contact me NCPAAntology2019@gmail.com

FREE FRESH FLOWERS ~ Mark Mezger's Zinnia Patch 2 miles north of Yolo ~ Through September
https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&source=hp&ei=rN1GXbq7J8H8tAXZzpfYDA&q=the+zinnia+patch+woodland+ca&ogq=the+Zinnia+Patch&gs_l=mobile-gws-wiz-hp.1.1.0i22i30j33i299i2.1781.13329..15441...0.0..0.293.2663.0j13j3...2..0....1.....8..41i131i275j41i275j41i10j41j41i131j41i10i160j41i3j41i67j0i131j46i131j0j46j46i131i275j0i10j33i22i29i30j33i160.ONo1FwY4U84

More Birds of a Feather UPDATE for SUBMISSIONS

Our first Animal Anthology, *Birds of a Feather*, is out, and a success, with several sold at the Fair. Because authors at the fair were impressed with the book, we gained new members who want to be involved, and we've received 5 stories so far (4 from authors at the Fair), for our 2nd Animal Anthology, *More Birds of a Feather*. **Have you started your story yet for *More Birds of a Feather*? Submission Deadline is 1 Sep 2019.**

- Before you ask, the answer is YES, if you have a story in *Birds of a Feather*, you may ALSO have one in *More Birds of a Feather*.
- Every Author MUST be an NCPA member in good standing in order to submit a story. Membership is \$40/year, and, as with *Birds of a Feather*, it costs NOTHING for your story to be included in the Anthology, plus you receive one free book and the option to buy more at cost, to sell later for profit. And the biggie? You'll be a published author, if you aren't already.

I've set up an Email account especially for the 2nd anthology ONLY, so there won't be the issue of Email from other places, for different topics, causing anthology stuff to get missed, or lost;

The ONLY Email TO BE USED for the second Anthology is
NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

Please send EVERYTHING pertaining to *More Birds of a Feather* to the above Gmail address ONLY ~ any and all stories, questions, complaints, suggestions, etc., will go to that Email ONLY. If you send anything pertaining to the anthology to anyone else, or to any other Email address, there's no guarantee it will even be seen, and I can pretty much guarantee that it will NOT be acknowledged, in order to help prevent those Email issues that are mentioned in the paragraph above.

We've learned so much on our first one, we're hoping to simplify this one, SO, rather than have your story returned for the same thing that a regular publisher, editor or agent would reject, we'll be setting up some very strict guidelines, some of which are bulleted below:

1. Once your story is complete, or during the process, have your critique group check it for you.
2. If you don't have a critique group, let us know. We can possibly help with that ... after all, we want each of you to submit the best possible story you can.
3. Final thing **before sending to NCPA**, be sure to **PROOFREAD your own story, for clarification, typos, grammatical errors, etc.,** (e.g. misspelled words, capitalization, punctuation, convoluted sentences, etc.) **Stories with major issues will be returned to Author, without being thoroughly proofed or edited, for Author to fix and return.**
4. Then, **Read it OUT LOUD prior to sending,** to make sure it sounds like you want it to.
5. **Stories received with multiple typos, grammatical, structural, or punctuation errors will be returned without being completely read, nor with explicit corrections suggested.**
6. This is not a critique group, to catch major errors or mistakes. Authors are expected to do that prior to submitting. Again, if you don't have a critique group, please let us know.

Make sure your story is **thoroughly critiqued, proofed, read, and ready to go, before sending to NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com** if not it **WILL be returned to you un-proofed/un-edited.**

• **ONE MAJOR CHANGE is word count.** The amounts we set on *Birds of a Feather* were too restricting on both ends. Those who write short stories (500-850 words) struggled to reach 1000, so rather than tighten-up our stories, we did the opposite. For those who write more, such as Charlene,

she had to end her story abruptly, making it incomplete and unfinished. We suggested she use more words to give a proper ending.

- **minimum word count 500** (instead of 1000)
- **maximum word count 3,000** (instead of 2500)
- **If you have a story (or stories, with the minimum) you'd like to submit that's out of those boundaries, contact me. We can discuss it in the committee, and if there aren't too many with that type request, we might be able to accommodate you.**

I'll initially proof all the stories, and if major obvious stuff that should be caught by you, the author, prior to being sent in, like a lot of incorrect, or wrong spelling, punctuation, missing words, extra words, incomplete sentences, typos, etc., that story will be returned for the AUTHOR to correct and re-send. Much of that can be corrected by the author, prior to sending the first time, by looking closely at any auto-corrected words, or areas, that are identified with either squiggly blue or red lines under the offending words, etc.

Once proofing problems have been fully addressed by both, it will go to the editors for review. (I'm a proof-reader, **not** an editor, although sometimes I can also catch some of that editor stuff.)

REMINDER ~ this goes out as a bulk Email, sent to all members, even those who aren't involved in the Anthology, but this still pertains to you, as an author.

We want to encourage each of our members to submit a story, and to those writers who have yet to publish out of fear of rejection, you don't think your piece is good enough, etc., now's your chance to get published.

However, this is a very time-consuming project, with very few of us working on it, and we don't have time to do an intense critique on every story, so forgive me for being blunt in what I'm about to say.

We're all writers, and we all need to begin somewhere. The first place to begin, is to get a thick skin, because we all wind up needing it at one time or another, when our stories are critiqued negatively, or at least we think it's negative. Just join a critique group and find that out! So ... "*lizard-it-up*", and let's get started!

"If you don't have a critique group, now's the time to get one." You've seen that mentioned several times in here, for very good reason. EVERYONE needs a critique group, even well-established authors, at least in the beginning. And again, if you don't have one, or don't know how to get one, ask us. Sharon and I have been discussing setting up a critique group specifically for NCPA members, especially for the Anthologies. If we get enough interest in it, we probably will, so let us know. We promise to not be too harsh on you :>)

I'm really looking forward to working on this second one, to see how much better we can all be, and how much quicker we can do another one ... although we all have to admit, that first one went pretty darned quick, and looks really good!

Authors ~ send in those animal stories! We'd like to have this 2nd Anthology published and ready to launch at our holiday luncheon Sat 1 December, 2019.

***Bouchercon2020.org Registration now open**

World Mystery Convention Bouchercon is coming to Sacto!
***15-18 October 2020**, NCPA's own Rae James is Chair of
Bouchercon 2020 at the Sacramento Convention Center

FREE MEETINGS

Cap Crimes on summer hiatus
Capitolcrimes.org for more info

Gold Country Writers meetings (FREE)

3rd Wed 10am-12Noon each month
Goldcountrywriters.com for more information

CWC meeting 3rd Sat monthly 11am-1pm
CWCSacramentowriters.org

\$20-member \$25 Non-member lunch included

1st Friday each month at Coco's on Sunrise
3rd Sat each month at Cattleman's on Folsom

**26th NCPA
BOOK AWARDS
BANQUET
5pm-9pm
Sun 26 April 2020**



SAVE THE DATE: Sun 1 Dec 2019
3rd Annual NCPA Holiday Lunch 12Noon -??

***Sacramento Suburban Writers Club (SSWC) 2nd Mon ea/mo**
7pm-9pm ~ 2nd Mon each month 2019 Sactowriters.org

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

8 AUG 2019 MINUTES: Secretary Charlene is once more out of town on a book tour, so no minutes taken, but meeting consisted of self-intro of all in attendance, which included the return of Past-President Dennis Potter, and 3 newbies. * Animal Anthology Authors in attendance who hadn't received their free book picked one up, plus purchased a total of 21 more, and we gained one new member. * 2nd Animal Anthology was lightly discussed, * and **guest speaker Amy Rogers** gave a rousing and interesting spiel on **WORKING WITH AMAZON**, including Amazon Services for Authors & Publishers, KDP Jumpstart, KDP Publishing Kindle & Print, KDP Select, Distribution & Fulfillment (rates, prices, taxes), Author Central, Advertising, and Amazon Associates. * Concerns were brought up about providing all bank info and SSN before even being able to decide if you want to use KDP (vs Lulu.com for example.)

Sharon Darrow has since provided an Email about how to get around that, with an EIN.
HER EMAIL IS COPIED ON PAGE 12

11JULY 2019 MINUTES: Secretary Charlene was out of town with book sales, and there was no Guest Speaker, due to the Fair starting the following morning, so no minutes taken, but meeting consisted of attendance and self-intros, heavy discussion on our big event ~~ NCPA's Animal Anthology was received right on time, (100 of them) the day before the meeting, so one free **BIRDS OF A FEATHER** was provided to those Animal Anthology Authors who were at the meeting. So many books were already ordered, and sold that evening, that Sharon had to order another 100, that were received 16 July. * Also discussed was this year's Book Awards and changes, with the promise that more info would be coming after the Fair. * In addition, we started requesting stories for our 2nd Animal Anthology, **MORE BIRDS OF A FEATHER**. This one has an anticipated launch date as 1 Dec 2019, to combine with the 3rd Annual NCPA Holiday Luncheon at Black Angus in Citrus Heights.

13 June 2019 MINUTES SPLIT INTO 2 SECTIONS: General Meeting Conversation & Guest Speaker, next page

MINUTES for the General Meeting Conversation Thu `2 June 2019

NCPA 2020 Book Awards

There are a lot of major changes for next year's book competition. If you have books ready, use the old application.

- The major change NCPA is going to join the other national competitions in how we do awards. We won't do first, second third and honorable mention anymore. We'll have gold and silver. Gold will be first place. There could be more than one silver award given if multiple works are considered noteworthy.
- The application fee schedules will differ depending on when the book is submitted. The purpose is to encourage authors to submit their books as early as they can so the judges don't get a lot of books near the end of the submission period, overloading the judges.
 - \$65 for members, \$95 for non-members through the end of October
 - \$75 for members, \$105 for non-members November 1 thru Dec 31 unless your book was published during that period
 - \$85 for members, \$115 for non-members January 1 thru 31, 2020.
- The book submittals will have to be in by Feb 1, 2020.
- E-book submittals – will not be a separate category. You must submit a Mobi file unless you had it created through KDP (Kindle Direct Publishing). If you used KDP, you'll have to buy copies and gift them. Sharon will need the codes to give to the judges so they can get copies to review.
 - If you submit an e-book, it will not be entered in the cover and interior competition because the book spine and back are things that are judged too.
- If you send in books to be sold during the awards dinner and do not come to the event, you'll receive the money for the books sold but will not get the books shipped back to you. It takes money from NCPA funds to ship them back. The author can make arrangements with Sharon to get the books back.
- Last year 38 books were submitted.
- We have some judges in place already, and Sharon is looking for judges who are very specific. The judges will be focused on their genre. **More information on changes to 2019 BOOK AWARDS will be by separate Email from Sharon once she has them written. No space in this newsletter.**

Birds of a Feather Anthology Discussion

- For the next anthology, minimum and maximum word count will be less restrictive.
- When you finish your story:
 - Have a critique group read it
 - Proof your own story
 - Read it out loud, and listen to it
- *MORE Birds of a Feather* will be released by Christmas, if possible
- The first book, *Birds of a Feather*, should be ready by the State Fair in July.
 - Anthology will be in Amazon, Barnes and Noble and many more places. The contributing authors will be able to add the book to their bibliography.
- Sharon is ordering 100 books initially, with the first 35 going to contributing authors, at no charge to the author.
- Anthology Authors purchase as many books as they want, at printing cost; everyone else purchases from them.
- We're considering having the books converted to Kindle.

Member Introductions

NCPA MEMBERS If you have a busy schedule that you'd like to share in an upcoming newsletter, send it to me. If it fits, we'll include it ... as long as it's writing-relevant. normathornton@yahoo.com

13 June 2019 Meeting ~ Guest Speaker: Robert Pimm is a lawyer, Chief Learning Officer and Director of Legal Services for California Lawyers for the Arts. Robert *manages CLA's State Bar Certified Lawyer Referral Service, CLA's Modest Means Incubator Program and CLA's Clinical and Educational Programs*, as well as other duties.

Some Facts: (For more information and a copy of his presentation, email Robert at: Bob@rg.pimm.com)

- 7 mil books in print
- 25K books published a month
- Independent books stores doing well
- Amazon is the 5th largest book store chain in the U.S.
- Print books are doing better than e-books
- 60% of self-published books go through Amazon
- Readers decide if they like a book in the first 100 pages

Publishing is a team effort and you must have agreements in place for the various associated disciplines.

Discussion on copyrights and negotiating tips.

Some **HIGHLIGHTS** that Robert discussed regarding **WRITTEN AGREEMENTS**.

- Independent Contract Agreement should cover:
 - Payment schedule
 - Delivery date
 - Early termination
- Literary Agent Agreement – not favorable to the author
 - Rights covered
 - Territory covered
 - Who will represent you
 - Terms of representation
 - Payment scheme
 - Early termination mechanism
- Traditional Publisher Agreements
 - Grant of right and territory
 - Subsidiary rights
 - E-book rights
 - Advance against royalties
 - Royalty rates
 - Royalty statements/payment dates
 - Agency clause – make sure the agents don't receive more rights
 - Options
 - Warranty & indemnity
 - Permissions
 - Terminations

Self-Publishing Problems –

- Imbalanced contract
- Hidden add-on costs
- Overprinting
- Copyright ownership lost
- Controlling the price
- Distribution issue
- Marketing budget commitments
- Untimely distribution of sales proceeds
- Untimely statement details

Concerns were brought up during the Aug 2019 meeting about providing all bank info and SSN before even being able to decide if you want to use KDP (vs Lulu.com for example.) Sharon Darrow has provided a way to get around that.

I missed the last meeting because of my grandson's emergency appendectomy, but wanted to thank you all for your concern and kind words. Your support for my family has meant more than you know.

I heard all about the great information Amy Rogers shared about working with Amazon/Kindle. Norma told me about it, but also about her concern at providing a social security number in order to set up an account. I definitely understand that, and have a suggestion. Instead of using your social security number, you have the option of providing your EIN (Employer Identification Number.) No, you don't have to have any employees, that's just the name. No, there is no cost if you get it directly through the IRS online. DO NOT waste time and money going through a third party, because they often charge and can take longer because your application has to be submitted through the IRS. To start, here is the [link](#) explaining what an EIN is. It's about as clear as mud, but this page explains the process and **contains the link** to the actual online application. When you click on the link you get a little more information and a button that says "Begin Application." For anyone uncomfortable with completing this online -- or with the 15-minute timespan you have to finish the process -- the bottom of the page has a form you can download to apply through the mail.

The EIN is connected to your social security number through the IRS; however, no outside entity or vendor can make that connection. As a writer, YOU ARE A BUSINESS, and have the right to give your EIN to any vendor such as Amazon, Kindle, or any other vendor or supplier that requests information on the business. Using the EIN not only protects your privacy, but makes you look just a little more professional.

Norma had another concern about giving Kindle bank account information. I understand that too, and the remedy is also very simple and helpful for your tax records. Set up a separate account for your writing business. Even if you only have a handful of transactions a year, it protects your privacy and is more professional. Make sure you are getting an account with the bare minimum or no fees, and ask your banker if it's connected to any of your other accounts in a way that an outsider could access. If you are especially worried, set up the writing account at a bank or credit union where you have no other accounts. This way, you can give the bank account information to Kindle with no worries. And after all, you want them to have a place to send you all those rich royalties.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, just let me know. And again, thanks for being such wonderful, warm people. You are what makes this group special and why I keep working hard on your behalf.

Sharon Darrow 916-803-1665

SENIORS LOOKING FOR COMPUTER ASSISTANCE? TRY THESE SITES

TechConnections, Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. in Sacramento, with satellite sites at the South Natomas Community Center and the Pannell Community Center. Registration for the winter and spring program started Jan. 16. Upcoming classes include computer basics, introduction to Windows 8.1, iPad/iOS basics, introduction to the Internet and introduction to Excel. For more information, call (916) 808-5462.

Read more here: <https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article7613255.html#storylink=cpy>

Sr Citizen Computer Classes ~ Hart Senior Center 915 - 27th St (27h & J St) Sac

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/ParksandRec/Recreation/older-adult-services/Programs/TechConnections>

http://www.cityofsacramento.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/ParksandRec/OAS/TechConnections/0_TC_2019SummerReg.pdf?la=en

August 2019

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 2019 Book Awards Banquet
SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2020 at the Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta

SILENT AUCTION DONORS 2019 * THANK YOU SO MUCH *

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

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

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**

"Holiday Placer Pops" Chorale & Orchestra 2019

Great present for everyone * www.placerpops.com

Harris Center in Folsom *** Sat 14 Dec * 2pm * & * 7:30pm *** Sun 15 Dec * 2pm *

Dietrich Theatre in Rocklin *** Thu 19 Dec * 7:30pm *** Fri 20 Dec * 7:30pm * *** Sat 21 Dec * 2pm *** Sun 22 Dec * 2pm

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

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 Cattleman's**
- Writers Network 9-11am 1st Fri monthly Coco's 7887 Madison Av @ 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

*

Gold Country Writers (GCW)

- **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" <http://goldcountrywriters.com/>
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) (California 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/>*

August 2019

NCPA Board of Directors

norcalpa.org

President

Michelle Hamilton
authormlhamilton@gmail.com
916-837-6812

Vice President

Sharon Darrow
Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com
800-462-2328

Secretary

Charlene Johnson
circleoftheredscorpion@gmail.com
408-205-6472

Treasurer

Amy Rogers
Amy@ScienceThrillersMedia.com

Communications Director / Newsletter Editor

Norma Jean Thornton
normathornton@yahoo.com
916-991-5751

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

Immediate Past President

Sharon Darrow
Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com

Webmaster

Chrissi Villa
chrissivilla@gmail.com

Book Awards Chair

Sharon Darrow
Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com
800-462-2328

Social Media Director

Chrissi Villa
chrissivilla@gmail.com

Photographer

Chrissi Villa
chrissivilla@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Sharon Darrow
Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com
800-462-2328

Book Events Coordinator

Andrea Roth w/a A.K. Buckroth
Mydiabeticsoul@pacbell.net
916-396-3414

Awards Banquet Chair

Norma Jean Thornton
normathornton@yahoo.com
916-991-5751

Monthly Speaker Coordinator

Norma Jean Thornton
normathornton@yahoo.com
916-991-5751

Evening meetings with guest speakers are the **2nd Thursday of each month**

6:30pm to 8:30pm Denny's 3520 Auburn Blvd

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

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

Meetings are always FREE ~ Visitors are always welcome.

Mailing Address

Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)

PO Box 214673 ~ Sacramento, CA 95821

Michelle Hamilton, President ~ 916-837-6812

Norma Jean Thornton, Editor ~ 916-991-5751