

www.norcalpa.org

The Pen & Press

Northern California
publishers & authors

Thursday 10 Jan 2019 6:30pm – 9pm

Gary McKenzie

(Repeat performance ~ he was so great before, we've got him again!)

**Representing the IRS ~ especially for Publishers & Authors,
Regular & Self Employed ~ Come with your tax questions!!**

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

Thu 14 Feb ~ Chris Rice, **CDTFA**: BASIC SA:LES & USE TAX plus Avoiding those Tax Problems

CDTFA = CA Dept of Tax & Fee Admin = previously SBOE

Thu 14 Mar ~ Kelly Hazen, Storyteller Production ~ Audio Books

Thu 11 Apr ~ Chrissi Villa with report on IBPA Conference ~ also, Book Awards Banquet update

Same Denny's 12Noon

Wed 16 Jan ~ No Speaker ~ just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Same Denny's 12Noon

Wed 20 Feb ~ No Speaker ~ just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Same Denny's 12Noon

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

Wed 17 Apr No Speaker ~ just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Same Denny's 12Noon ~ **We'll also discuss the Sun 14 Apr BOOK AWARDS BANQUET**

ALWAYS 3rd WED OF EACH MONTH ~ RSVP normally needed for Wed meeting

An Email will be sent a few days to a week prior to EACH WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME meeting, **asking for an RSVP if you plan to attend.** If we don't receive the minimum amount required another Email will be sent, notifying that the meeting has been canceled. **PLEASE SEND AN RSVP EMAIL to normathornton@yahoo.com if you plan to attend this month's NOON meeting.** Thank you. It's either this, or stop the Wed meetings completely.

President's Message

In light of Norma's earlier message about the meaning of a check as in a bill, I thought of a piece I'd written many years ago after teaching a lesson to my high school students. I'm offering it as my President's Message for this month. English has been my job and love for most of my life, but it is a strange language in all of its insanity.

ENGLISH MADNESS

I'm in a strange position as an English teacher. I truly love the language in all its complexity, but I am fully aware that it is a schizophrenic language that often doesn't make a whole lot of sense. When teaching grammar to my students, I add the following addendum to every single lesson:

"Although this is a rule, there is an exception..." It doesn't take long for one of my clever students to ask why?

For instance, while teaching about verb tense, we come across the two words *lie* and *lay*. The rule is that *lie* doesn't take a direct object and means to rest or recline. *Lay* takes a direct object and means to place something somewhere. For example, you *lie* on your bed and you *lay* your head on your pillow. The problem arises when you change it to past tense. Then *lie* becomes *lay*. Why? I don't know.

When you *read* a book, eventually you will have *read* it, which must not be confused with *red*, which is a color, or *reed* which is a type of grass. A *rose* by any other name is still a *rose*, unless you mean the past tense of the verb *rise*, which is *rose*. The *brake* on my car might *break* if I press too hard, which will mean it *broke* and paying to have it fixed will make me *broke*.

And should you meet the president, you will *bow* and probably wear a *bow* tie, which shouldn't be confused with *bough* as in the branch of a tree or *bow* as in weapon.

Don't even get me started on *see*. You *see* me, but in the past tense you *saw* me, which shouldn't be confused with *saw* as in tool. In the past participle, you have *seen* me, which isn't anything like the *scene* in a play, and really, thinking about it makes me want to take a trip to the *sea*.

But not in a boat, because if it springs a leak, I will have to *bail* unless I have a hay *bale* to plug it or a *pail* to fill, which all makes me feel a little *pale*. None of which is *bail*, that you'll need if you ever go to *jail*. Do you *hear* what I'm saying *here*? And again, don't even get me started on *there*. Or *their*. Or *they're*.

Madness, this. And yet, each year I have a student who says, "Why do I need to take English? I've been speaking it all my life."

I smirk and say, "Each day we will spend part of *our hour* to learn a language that *bears* close study because I can't *bear* your ignorance, which isn't at all like *bare* meaning naked or *bear* the animal. You will need *cloths*, not your *clothes*, to wipe away the *tears* as you *tear* through the information I will provide. At the end of the *course*, you will realize how *coarse* your knowledge has been and then *raise* your hand in *praise* as you go to the *principal* on *principle* to ask that I be given a *raise*."

Whew!—

Happy holidays and a very Happy New Year! Here's to a productive, healthy and happy 2019!

Michelle Hamilton

President NCPA

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This all came about when I wrote the following for our Holiday Luncheon: “*Separate checks*”... *will give each of us our own ‘check’.*” I was asked by more than one, did they have to pay the bill by “check” only (instead of cash or credit card.). Even with experience as being a waitress many years ago, and saying “Separate checks” often, that caused me to question my own usage of the term so I did a Google. This is what I found.

**SCREWY
WORD
USAGE**

**“We’re through ... could we have the check please?”
Why is the bill called a check in a restaurant?
I still don’t know ... but I know it is...
Because I used to be a waitress!!**

**What
Michelle
refers to**

In my search, I’ve found that “bill” and “check” are both correct terms to describe the way the amount is given to one to pay for a meal at a restaurant. It’s not clear as to how either came about, but there are many suggestions for the word “check” which is also similarly used in a game of chess.

“Checkmate” is loudly expressed when the chess game has ended, and in a restaurant, we ask for the “check” to advise the serving person that our time at their table has ended.

However, when we receive the “check” that we’ve asked for, it’s basically a “bill” that is owed, and we must pay ... so it appears that a “check” is a “bill” ... then is a “bill” a “check?”

We might have been able to blame those pesky Frenchmen for the “check”, because there’s evidence it may have started with the French, since they call the bill at a restaurant a “cheque” ... but then I checked the dictionary, which totally messed things up ... and says “check” comes from Middle English chek (check at chess), which comes from Old French eschec (check at chess), which comes from the Medieval Latin scaccus (check at chess), which comes from the Arabic shah (check at chess), which finally comes from the Persian shah (king ... the principal piece in a chess game.) So we’re back to chess.

When looking up where the word “bill” came from ... Germany or England, take your pick ... But I’d rather go with a duck, and basketball, since we have chess, so maybe the Oregon Ducks?

Actually, I think it was nothing but a waste of the hours that I spent messing around trying to find out why a “check” is the “bill”, because we ask for the “check”, then say we pay the “bill” ... sometimes even by check (but I prefer credit card for their frequent flyer miles), because it only confused me further and was a HUGE reason that kept me from getting this newsletter out earlier

Each time I tried to muddle through all the stuff I found, it frustrated me further, probably because I was trying to make this a serious piece, and all I wanted to do was have fun with it. It basically just took me in circles, so I gave up on trying to figure it out, and decided to do it my way.

All that matters is we order, we eat, we ask for the “check”, we pay the “bill,” we let the restaurant worry about it, we go home, and hopefully, everyone’s happy! Until the next screwy word comes along ... **More examples of screwy WORD USAGE & the English language!**

Supper / Dinner ... or Dressing / Stuffing, which can each be interchangeable And ... a few anecdotes that grabbed my attention during my search for the truth between “bills” and “checks” ...

My granddaughter went to the doctor for congestion plus other stuff, so when she told me what he said, I wasn’t sure which word she meant, since I’d never heard either before in reference to tonsils. Did she have phlegmsy or flimsy tonsils? (It was flimsy.)

Heard “*Justice for a ‘poached’ puppy...*” during a report on the NorCal wildfires on TV news - since I write Cookbooks, poaching to me brought visions of how/why in the world they could/would report cooking a dog - until they gave further info : someone tried to “poach” the pup, plus stole the wallet, from the pup’s owner who was selling the puppy.

And heard on the radio that “...they were going to limit gun magazines to 10 rounds.” Being an author, a magazine to read jumped into my head, as I tried to figure out 10 rounds of what?

Fortunately, I was also raised around guns my entire life, so it didn’t take long to remember the type magazine they actually referred to. (A gun magazine is the place where the ammunition is held in the gun, and can be removed.) **It’s no wonder we’re constantly confused!**

2019 GUEST SPEAKERS

Don't Over Pay Your Taxes

What Authors and Publishers Need to Know About Schedule C.

Don't overpay your taxes because you have poor business records or because you don't know which expenses are deductible. At the January 10, 2019 meeting business and tax consultant Gary McKinsey will review the essential types of records you need to support your tax-deductible business expenses.

You'll leave this program with an understanding of

- Records you need to keep.
- How to substantiate tax deductible expenses
- Business use of your home for tax purposes.
- When travel and meals are tax deductible



10 January ~ GARY MCKINSEY ~ IRS

MORE TAX STUFF

14 Feb 2019

Chris Rice

California Dept of Tax & Fee Administration
(was **SBOE** now **CDTFA**)

Basic Sales & Use Taxes for self-Employed Publishers & Authors ~ &~ Avoiding Sales & Use Tax Common Mistakes



14 March

Kelley Hazen

Storyteller Productions
AUDIO BOOKS



11 April

Chrissi Villa

Report on 2019 IBPA Conference PLUS update on Book Awards Banquet

CONGRATULATIONS to Chrissi Villa, NCPA's Webmaster, Social Media Director & Photographer for receiving this year's IBPA Scholarship for the 2019 IBPA Conference in Chicago, 5 & 6 April.

That also makes her eligible to the \$500 from NCPA for transportation and her Hotel during the Conference. A bonus for Chrissi; she has family in Chicago she's not seen for a long time!

Her obligation to NCPA is to report on the Conference once she returns. Chrissi will be our speaker 11 April.

Interested in applying for the 2020 Conference scholarship? (location TBD) Talk to Sharon or Amy

Thank you NCPA member **Denise Branco**, for including NCPA in your rushed November fundraiser for animal victims from the Camp Fire. Rather than minimize it in this newsletter, I just sent your report, with pictures, in an Email by itself. I'm glad we could help, at least a little.

PUBLISHERS CLOSING ~ Heads-up from Cap Crimes ~

Medallion Press filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy October 18th ...cited between 200 to 999 creditors..
Founded in 2003, the house initially focused on publishing mass market paperbacks in general fiction, romance, fantasy, sci-fi, paranormal, mystery and thrillers. Agents have been working to retrieve publishing rights of their autors from the company **For more info, do a Google search.**

Midnight Ink, an imprint of Llewellyn Worldwide began in 2005. Known mostly for their metaphysical book titles plus traditional mystery and cozy mystery titles, *Midnight Ink will close in August 2019. One local author published through them is Catriona McPherson, a Cap Crimes member.* **For more info, do a Google search**

25th BOOK AWARDS * NEW: eBooks accepted this year!

Get those books Published in 2018 ~ & ~ Submit your published books

Now Accepting Book & eBook Entries

Book entry Deadline 15 February 2019**25th Book Awards Banquet * Sunday 14 April 2019****VERY SPECIAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER ~ a Blast from the Past**

Our KeyNote Speaker will be **Dierdre Honnold Wolownick**, the 2nd President during the SPA era. We're working on making this special 25th Anniversary a **Blast from the Past**, by encouraging all past presidents of NCPA (plus SPA and SP&A) to attend our momentous celebration. (Check out the **July 2017** newsletter, for all Past President's names, and a little history about the organization's changing title until settling on NCPA.)

If the **Honnold** name sounds familiar, it's because you've heard it in relation to the National Geographic documentary movie, **Free Solo**, recently out with a rare, almost 100% rating from Rotten Tomatoes. Do a Google for a mesmerizing and terrifying 2.5 minute trailer of the 90 minute film, which opened at the **Tower Theatre, 2508 Land Park Drive, Sacto.** The son of Dierdre, Alex Honnold is the first person to climb Yosemite's El Capitan WITHOUT the help of ropes, etc ... ONLY his fingers and toes! ...

Not to be "much" outdone, in 2017, at the age of 66, **Dierdre** became the **oldest woman** to climb Yosemite's El Capitan. Both have written books: Alex this year, Dierdre's comes out 1 May 2019, just after the Banquet..

Author / Publisher**BOOKS ENTERED SO FAR : Book Title****Category**

1. Mallory M. O'Connor	<u>American River: Currents, Book 2 of the American River Trilogy</u>	Fiction
2. Margaret Duarte	<u>Between Yesterday and Tomorrow</u>	Fiction
3. Sharon Darrow	<u>She Survives</u>	Fiction
4. Sharon Darrow	<u>Navigating The Publishing Maze, Self-Publishing 101</u>	General NF
5. Amy M. Rogers	<u>Science in the Neighborhood</u>	General NF
6. Matthias Mendezona	<u>You Can't Save 80 Million Filipinos! But You Can Build Me a Park</u>	NF?
..... Foreign Publisher		
7. Patricia E. Canterbury	<u>The Case Of The Bent Spoke</u>	Young Adult
8. Michelle Travis	<u>My Mom Has Two Jobs</u>	Children
9. Elaine Russell	<u>In the Company of Like-Minded Women</u>	General Fiction
10. Paul Zimmer	<u>At's Amore</u>	General Fiction
..... ebook		
11. Eldonna Edwards	<u>This I Know</u>	Literary Fiction
..... Trade Publication		
12. A.K.Buckroth (aka Andrea Roth)	<u>My Diabetic Soul An Autobiography</u>	NF Memoir
13. Daphne Stammer	<u>Clyde The Cat That Came In From The Cold</u>	Children
14. Kate Zarella	<u>A Quick Succession of Busy Nothings</u>	Adult Coloring Book
15. Jessica Levine	<u>Nothing Forgotten: A Novel</u>	Fiction
..... Trade Publication		
16. Angelica R Jackson	<u>Crow's Rest: Faerie Crossed Book 1</u>	Young Adult
17. Angelica R Jackson	<u>Merlin's Stronghold: Faerie Crossed Book 2</u>	Young Adult
18. Judy Bebelaar & Ron Cabral	<u>And Then They Were Gone: Teenagers of Peoples Temple From High School to Jonestown</u>	Non Fiction

SCBWI Spring Spirit Conference 4 May 2019
Registration opens SOON

Bouchercon2020.org
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
Registration now open

NCPA : Thu 10 Jan Gary McKinsey ~ IRS ~
Taxes for Publishers & Authors

Cap Crimes meeting
Sat 19 Jan ~ 1pm
Rancho Cordova Library
Kelli Stanley - Bestselling Author -
<https://kellistanley.com>
FREE MEETING

CWC Sat 19 Jan meeting 10am-2:30pm*
Cattlemens Rancho Cordova
12409 Folsom Blvd
Pros & Cons of Pen Names ~ plus ~
Wendy Nelson Tokunaga : Novels & Memoirs
\$15 member \$25 Non-member lunch included
***Note expanded meeting times**

25th NCPA
BOOK AWARDS
BANQUET
5pm-9pm
Sun 14 April 2019

Sacramento Suburban Writers (SSW) 2nd Mon each month
7pm-9pm ~ Mon 14 January 2019 sactowriters.org
Crossroads Fellowship Christian Church, 5501 Dewey Dr, Fair Oaks

NCPA: **Wed 16 Jan** 12 Noon ~ Denny's
NCPA : **Thu 14 Feb Chris Rice ~was SBOE now CDTFA**
(from California Dept of Tax & Fee Administration)
Basic Sales & Use Taxes for self-Emp Publishers & Authors
~ &~ Avoiding Sales & Use Tax Common Mistakes
NCPA: **Wed 20 Feb** 12 Noon ~ Denny's

Andrea's working on scheduling more
Library events in 2019 ~ if you'd like your
Library to participate, contact her at:

Andrea K. Roth (aka: A. K. Buckroth)
(916) 396-3414
www.mydiabeticsoul.com

AND ... If you hear of any local events such as Craft Shows, in
2019 where we could sell books, let Andrea know.

NCPA 2019 ~ 6:30pm Thursday night meetings & GUEST SPEAKERS
Denny's 3520 Auburn Blvd

10 Jan ~ Gary McKenzie IRS
14 Feb ~ Chris Rice from **CA Dept of Tax & Fee Admin (CDTFA ~ was SBOE)**
14 Mar ~ Kelley Hazen ~ Storyteller Productions ~ Audio Books
11 Apr ~ Chrissi Villa : Report on IBPA Conference ~ PLUS ~
Book Awards Banquet update

No Speaker at
lunchtime
meetings ~ just
Chit-Chat:
Same Denny's
12Noon
Wed 16 Jan
Wed 20 Feb
Wed 20 Mar
Wed 17 Apr

Didn't know NCPA was on FB?
Check our newly updated FB page (also NCPA's website homepage) at
norcalpa.org ~ Webmaster Chrissi Villa has been busy working on
upgrading and redesigning it.

NCPA Celebrates 28th Anniversary & 25th Book Awards Banquet

5pm - 9pm Sunday 14 April 2019

Cherry Island Golf Course ~ 2360 Elverta Rd, Elverta CA

\$30 dinner tickets * (One Dinner included with each Book Entry) norcalpa.org
or send your check to NCPA, PO Box 214673 ~ Sacramento, CA 95821

All you can eat Buffet: Chicken, Tri-Tip, Vegan Pasta, Rice, Beans, Salad, Rolls & Cake, Coffee or Tea

* **Be sure to mark if regular or Vegan** * **NO HOST BAR** ~ Sodas, Beer or Wine

Info on Book Awards & Banquet: Bits & Pieces of the usual stuff, plus some stuff still pending:

- Keynote : Dierdre Honnold Wolownick, Past President of NCPA (2nd President during SPA era)
 - Emcee : Ashley Williams ~ from CW31s Good Day Sacramento week-ends
 - NCPA Poet Laureate Frances Kakugawa, with another Poetry Read
 - On-Site Book Store again
 - Card-Split again
 - **NEW:** eBooks this year
 - PROGRAM: selling advertising space again ~ Get yours in now!
 - Smaller Silent Auction this year ~ Hopefully more Sponsors
 - New non-profit to sponsor this year: Mustard Seed School
 - Working on having as many past presidents of NCPA (SPA & SP&A) as possible in attendance
 - **NEW:** Book Cover Poster with all Entries from last year (32) and this year (??) thanks to Chrissi V
 - **Trade Books too.** not just NCPA members self-pub submissions; many changes since Dierdre's time
 - We're hoping for the best turnout yet. in both attendance & book entries. please help **DO YOUR PART**

Each time I'd proofread the newsletter Michelle's Prez message constantly reminded me of this crazy rhyme that I had quickly written at the last minute, for a critique group prompt years ago. (Besides, it fits the theme of the English language, and our confusing words.)

I can't stand empty space, and this box was empty, but too small for some things, too big for others, so I finally just gave in and more-or- less adjusted the style of the rhyme to fit here ... It's much better displayed in an actual rhyming format, but it was taking too long, and this is the only way I could do it, so I apologize for the rough format. Here the PROMPT is, in all its glory ~

"I HAVE NO TAIL / TALE"

It's crunch time — no matter what, this has got to be sent... My whole brain was wasted, my time, it was spent ~ and ~ I'm going to fail, 'cause I have no tale ~ I know ~ I'll write about the Holy Grail ... Someone stole it and went to jail ~ or ~ There once was a deformed whale ... Who moaned and groaned, and even would wail ~ about ~ The fact he couldn't sail ... Because he felt he had no tail ~ or ~ I once knew a guy named Dale ... Who was really smart and went to Yale ~ nah! ~ I went to school with a gal named Gail ... But she moved to Colorado, to a town named Vail ~ nope ~ One day we hiked on a tangled trail ... Where we came across a covey of quail ~ and ~ The ones with a topnotch were obviously male ... But, they've such tiny legs, they look so frail ~ then ~ The wind came up, it was quite a gale! One of the babies began to flail ~ oh! ~ All of a sudden, it started to hail ... I could feel myself turning pale! ~ and ~ I couldn't stand watching a tiny bird ail ... so It didn't take long for me to bail ~ then ~ I ran down the vale, and found a great sale ~ but ~ First to the store, to buy some kale ... To take to the quail, to help make him hale ~ & ~ I bought a whole bale ... Brought it back in a pail ~ then ~ I put on a veil ... And drank some strong ale ~ but ~ I staggered around, fell over the rail ... Broke my hand, and ripped my nail ~ now ~ I can't write at all, so I really have no tale ... Besides, it's too late ... I just missed the mail!

25th NCPA BOOK AWARD COMPETITION UPDATE:

As of today (31 Dec 2018) we have a total 18 entries, which includes 1 ebook, 1 International book (Phillipines), 2 Trade Books and 14 miscellaneous print books.

Did you publish a book in 2018? Plan to have one available to the public by 31 Dec 2018? (That's TONIGHT!) If so, be sure to enter the 25th Annual competition. See your 2018 book cover on NCPA's new Poster at the 2019 CA State Fair **ENTRY DEADLINE 15 FEB 2019**

- Find rules, online application, and online link to pay fees through PayPal at <https://norcalpa.org/book-awards>.
- If you'd prefer a printable copy of the rules, download [here](#). or use a printable version of the [2019 entry form](#) to mail it in with your books and a check.
- Remember that you need to ship four copies of your book with the entry form and entry fee to me at: NCPA Book Awards, c/o Sharon Darrow, P.O. Box 214673, Sacramento, CA 95821. If you do the application form and fee online, please include a note to that effect with the books. You can also deliver the books in person to Sharon's home or take them to one of the meetings.

There are a couple of exciting changes this year:

- **We will be accepting ebooks for the first time.**
- If your book is available in print **and** ebook, **you must choose which to enter since you cannot do both.** The ebooks submitted will be judged in the same categories as print books, depending on how many submissions we receive.
- After sending your application and fee, send me (via email attachment) a mobi and/or epub format edition of your ebook for our judges review.
- I will also need a high-resolution image of your ebook cover.

Since I can't scan that myself, it will be up to the writers to get those to me early so they can be included in the program brochure and advertisements for the competition.

- If you are interested in knowing how your book was scored and what comments the judges made, you can make a note on your application or in an email to me. I will then make sure you get them after the contest is over. You will NOT know which judge made what comments or scores. ~ you will also need to remember that their comments are for their own use, and may not be particularly diplomatic. But if you are interested, have a thick skin, and think they might be helpful, we'll make them available to you.
- Last but definitely not least, we are looking for qualified judges for our panel. If you know someone who is an outstanding editor, publisher, proofreader, writer, or other professional in the industry -- preferably not a member of the NCPA since we try to avoid any potential personal or political influences or conflicts -- please send me their information. We'd love to see our competition increase in size, scope, and reputation, and continuing to have impressive, professional judges is a huge plus.

Thanks everyone, and please send any and all suggestions you have on the competition!

Sharon S Darrow
916-803-1665



NCPA Judge Instruction Sheet for 2018-19 ~ 25th Anniversary Book Awards

Without judges willing to take the time to read and review each submission, there would be no book awards competition, so **thank you** for your time and your service.

My dream is for the NCPA competition to grow in both numbers and credibility, so that eventually it has a nationwide reputation for quality and integrity. A great panel of judges is one of the most vital components to making that happen.

We value your work, but don't want to overwhelm you. For that reason, we will not send you more than fifteen books to review. Books of 100 pages or less will be classified as 1/2, to keep things even. Prior to shipping books, I'll send a list so that you can let me know if there are books you don't feel comfortable reviewing.

Books are shipped out USPS Express Mail, flat rate boxes, so they're delivered in from one to three days. The last date I will accept submissions is February 15, 2019, and they will be shipped to you (judges) within two days of receipt.

Three judges will read each submitted book, and all judges will receive a variety of genres. Each book will have two judging sheets tucked inside, one for the submitted category and one for cover/interior design.

Each judge sheet has ten questions, which you answer with a numerical value rating from one to ten. You can make comments on each question; however, that's not required. Many judges make comments to help them recall the material so they can discuss it at the judge's luncheon when the final decisions are made.

In the past some of the comments made were extremely harsh, which was fine when no one but the judges saw them. Now, however, if authors want to see the judge comments to help them understand how their books were rated, I will scan and send them copies of the judge sheets.

To protect privacy, the writers will NOT get the judge names or any identification, but the comments can be quite valuable. Please make sure any negative comments are written in a way that will be constructive rather than destructive.

The judges luncheon, which will be on a weekend in middle March, is the time all judges bring the books back so they can be on display for sale at the banquet on April 14th. It is also the time when the numerical scores are compared and final decisions are made on the awards.

Number scores are not the final criteria because people judge differently; however, individual judges can champion books they especially liked -- or vilify ones they don't see as worthy -- as part of the process.

Having their judge sheets handy will help each judge remember the book and discuss it accordingly. Please be sure to either mail copies of your judge sheets (not the originals, can't risk them being lost in the mail), or scan and email them to me prior to the luncheon so I can enter the scores on a master sheet. That saves a lot of time!

In past years judges used to make marks in the books as they read; however, now we ask that the books be returned in saleable condition. Please don't make notes or marks on the pages or covers. If there is a book you would like to have, let me know at the luncheon. We have one copy that is not returned to the author, so is available for one of you to have if you are interested. Books that are not taken by the judges (the fourth copy) are donated after the banquet.

If you have any questions, please let me know. And if you have any suggestions on how we might improve the competition or the judging process, I'd love to have them!

Thanks again,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Darrow".

Sharon Darrow

DONORS 2018

Black Angus Restaurant * Cherry Island Golf Course * Sharon Darrow * Elaine Faber * Jennifer T. Grainger * Grand Oaks Inn B&B * Doreen Irwin Fine Art * Angelica Jackson, Crow & Pitcher Press * Frances Kakugawa * Brenda Novak * NCPA * Placer Pops Chorale * Roaring Camp Mining Company * Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media * Barry Schoenborn * Sharif Jewelers * Linda Joy Singleton * Smog King *

SPONSORS 2018

California Writers Club (CWC):* Diane Potter Gold Nugget Promotions * Christine "Chrissi" Villa * Sharon Darrow * Amy Rogers * Wal-Mart BAKERY (Antelope)

Want to be a donor or sponsor for our 25th Anniversary 2018-2019 Book Awards & Banquet 14 Apr 2019?
Please send your info to ... normathornton@yahoo.com

~ THANK YOU one and all ~

Genealogy Presentations at Central Library 2019

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

January 6: DNA – Jeane Berry

February 3: African American Research: Beginning and Intermediate -- Denise Griggs

March 3: Finding Great Grandpa: Locating Lost Ancestors in 1890 Census Substitutes
– Madeline Yanov

April 7: The Path from Passenger Lists to Naturalization Papers – Kathryn Marshall, PhD

May 5: West Coast Immigration in the 20th Century -- Linda Harms Okazaki

June 2: Researching Revolutionary War Ancestry – Melinda Kashuba, PhD

July 14: (Topic to be Announced) – Gena Philibert-Ortega

August 11: Southern States Research -- Kathryn Marshall, PhD

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>

Call for Submissions ~ found these doing a Google search. (Wish I had copied the site to give proper credit for collecting them.). The only thing I did was open each to make sure they were actually a site, so I know nothing else about any of them. **USE AT YOUR OWN RISK** NCPA and newsletter editor not responsible for any negative incidents from going to, or using, any of these sites. (To use, hover your mouse over each, and follow instructions given.)

If you use any, please send feedback so I can let everyone know

January 2019:

Shifters United: Shiter Mix-ups. Genre: Paranormal romance/urban fantasy novellas featuring shape shifters. Length: 20,000 to 50,000 words. Payment: Royalties. Deadline: January 15, 2019.

18th Wall Productions: War of the Worlds – Absolute War. Genre: Short stories expanding on H.G. Wells' The War of the Worlds. They're seeking to show the entire world's response to the Invasion. They have detailed guidelines about what they do and do not want in the stories. Payment: Royalties. Deadline: January 20, 2019.

NonBinary Review. Genre: Art and literature that "tiptoes the tightrope between now and then. Art that makes us see our literary offerings in new ways. We want language that makes us reach for a dictionary, a tissue, or both. Words in combinations and patterns that leave the faint of heart a little dizzy. We want insight, deep diving, broad connections, literary conspiracies, personal revelations, or anything you want to tell us about the themes we've chosen." Theme: Books of Blood. Payment: Semi-pro. Deadline: January 23, 2019.

The Children of Clark Ashton Smith. Genre: Fantasy inspired by CAS. Payment: One penny Sterling per word, with a minimum payment of £10 Sterling for poems and very, very short stories. For illustrations, £30 for 'header' illustrations to a story, £100 for full page illustrations and £200 for the cover illustration. Deadline: January 31, 2019. *Reprints accepted*.

Room Magazine. Genre: Feminist fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, art, interviews, and book reviews. Next issue: "Sports." Payment: \$50 CAD for one page, \$60 for two pages, \$90 for three pages, \$120 for four pages, \$150 for five or more pages. Deadline: January 31, 2019.

March 2019:

THEMA. Genre: Short stories, flash fiction, poems, art on theme of "Six before Eighty." Payment: short story, \$25; short-short piece (up to 1000 words), \$10; poem, \$10; artwork, \$25 for cover, \$10 for interior page display. Deadline: March 1, 2019. *Reprints accepted*.

World Weaver Press: Glass & Gardens: Solarpunk Winters Anthology. Genre: Fiction. "For this anthology, I want to see solarpunk stories that take place in winter. That might mean working together to survive extreme blizzards, or feeling the heat in places that no longer see snow. Which renewable tech works best during long winter nights? How do solarpunk societies celebrate the winter holidays? Keep it planet-based (Earth or other), and optimistic. Solarpunk worlds aren't necessarily utopias, but they definitely aren't dystopias." Payment: TBD (Determined by Kickstarter success. \$10 minimum.) Deadline: March 1, 2019.

May 2019: Apparition. Genre: Poetry and fiction on theme of Retribution. Payment: \$0.01 per word, minimum of 10.00 dollars. Deadline: May 31, 2019.

June 2019: Allegory. Genre: Speculative fiction. Pay: \$15. Deadline: June 30 2019. *Accepts reprint*

July 2019: Thema. Genre: short stories, flash fiction, poems, art on theme of "the clumsy gardener." Payment: short story, \$25; short-short piece (up to 1000 words), \$10; poem, \$10; artwork, \$25 for cover, \$10 for interior page display. Deadline: July 1, 2019. *Reprints accepted*.

August 2019: Apparition. Genre: Poetry and fiction on theme of Euphoria. Payment: \$0.01 per word, minimum of 10.00 dollars. **Deadline: August 31, 2019.**

https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&ei=RQonXlRTAoeKtQWroKeQCQ&q=call+for+submissions+anthology+2019&oq=call+for+submissions+anthology+2019&gs_l=psy-ab.3...0.0..281...0.0..0.0.0.....0.....gws-wiz.hJyNZP-17QA

Check out this **Google search for submission entries** in Anthologies for 2019

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, \$20 non-members, includes lunch **Rancho Cordova Cattlemen'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/>*

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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

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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

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* 2017-2018