

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

# The Pen & Press

**Sun 14 Aug 1pm-3pm Meeting:**  
**NCPA member & AUTHOR Chrissi Villa – rescheduled from June**  
**Writing & Publishing Children's Books & More**  
**at our new location BROOKFIELDS Restaurant**  
**4343 Madison Av Sacto, CA 95842**

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GUEST JOURNALISTS for Aug 2022 newsletter NCPA member & author Rae Rankin

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Guest Speaker September 11 meeting: **Linda Joy Singleton** --- details to come

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Sep 2022 GUEST JOURNALISTS for newsletter NCPA member & author will be: Sharon Darrow discussing something of special interest, & NEW to Northern California Authors! The newly formed NC Alliance of ????? You'll just have to wait to hear what all Sharon has to say – but NCPA member Loy Holder has a big part in it, as do representatives of a few other local writing organizations

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Sun 9 Oct Meeting **TBA**

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**Oct & NOV 2022 Guest Journalist for newsletter NCPA member & Author Barbara KLIDE**

Sunday 13 NOVEMBER meeting - Moved from July - (BOOK EXCHANGE \* usually held in Dec)  
We bring back an oldie, but goodie! - Gone when we started having our Holiday Luncheon at the  
Black Angus, but not forgotten, we bring back the ever-popular Book Exchange / Network &  
Schmooze. All NCPA MEMBERS (only) who have published books, no matter when, bring them in to  
brag about, share, sell &/or barter, with others.

Everyone is welcome to attend but ONLY NCPA MEMBERS may bring and sell their books

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**Guest Journalist for Dec NCPA newsletter will be Andrea Roth –**  
**a chatty letter all the way from the 'dismal swamp' in Chesapeake VA!**

**DEC 11 Meeting CHANGE IN TIME & LOCATION: will be our Holiday Luncheon 12Noon Black Angus**

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

**NOTE:** in-person attendees start getting there around 1pm but it takes a while to set up the Zoom process, so the actual meeting doesn't start until 1:15-1:30. If you're there early on Zoom, the screen will be blank.

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

President's Message**Nana ML & 1<sup>st</sup> grandchild**

ML Hamilton

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

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Well, the Fair's over for another year, and it was a rousing good time ... especially for Michelle. July was a very busy month for her: not only was she running the Authors Booth at the California State Fair and there every day (well – almost every day), but she also became a first-time grandma halfway through the Fair!

That's why I've given her a break from the President's Message, so she can get as much of that baby-snuggling-time in as possible before she has to go back to teaching full-time next Monday.

Even though the Fair ended Sunday, Michelle also had to be there Monday to make sure all the authors' books, supplies and other stuff was cleared out, plus to receive our collective daily sales forms and checks made out to the Fair for the State's 15%, so she can get it all cleared up and they'll be ready and willing to have us back next year.

Some days were exceptional, some great, some not so ... and one of the days was horrible – none of us made many sales that day, but the next day was spectacular. By the end, several of our authors had sold out, or almost did, of many of their titles ... I was flabbergasted that three complete 2-year sets of *Nosie Rosie's Diary Year 1 (3 vol) & Year 2 (2 vol)* sold, and I had to order more! (My cat's diary.) I had figured I'd have them around forever, and had no plans to ever purchase any more. Ya just never know?!

I don't know how many of you are aware of how fortunate we are that we don't have to pay for a booth, because if we did, there would be NO Authors Booth, nor would any of us be able to afford one of our own. I asked the gal at the DMV booth what it cost: theirs was a single one, about the size of our Nook table plus 5' or so behind it. They paid \$4000. That was in a lesser building, and area, than the choice one we have, so that price might have been even higher if it was situated where we were. Plus, they were an information booth only, not selling anything, and that might also be a different price.

THAT is why we have to follow the rules very closely and not abuse things ... we want to be invited back every year.

And, now that the Fair's over, it's back to NCPA Anthology time for me ... Book Awards time for Sharon ... and both for Michelle, as we get ready for the Book Awards Banquet 7 May 2023. Sharon will be getting her info out in the next few weeks. Actually, I just remembered I asked her to be Guest Journalist next month, and she'll hopefully have all that info to add then. She also has some other stuff of interest from discussions with Presidents &/or VPs of other writing organizations (Loy Holder with EGWG for one) and we're joining with them all, for something new. That will all be in the September newsletter.

Norma Jean –  
Newsletter Editor

**CONGRATULATIONS Michelle & Family!**

**NEW info for ZOOM** – it takes a while to set up the computer for Zoom, so it won't be available until 30 minutes or so after the meeting time given; we're normally just schmoozing and chit-chatting then anyway, so if we show the meeting starts at 1pm that means ZOOM starts around 1:30pm.



### 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>

### Something to chuckle about – how true it is!

- I'm at a place in my life where errands are starting to count as going out.
- I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.
- I don't mean to brag, but I finished my 14-day diet food supply in 3 hours and 20 minutes.
- I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented... I forgot where I was going with this.

### **Changed from the CANCELED July meeting to November meeting**

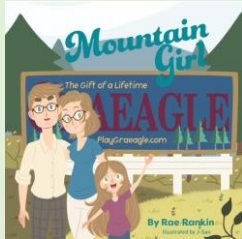
#### **SPECIAL 13 November 2022 MEETING \* ANOTHER NCPA PERK FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

For our **13 Nov meeting**, we bring back the ever-popular **NCPA BOOK EXCHANGE**, previously held every December, until we started going to Black Angus for our Holiday Luncheon. Another NCPA perk, **\*ONLY\* CURRENT-PAID NCPA MEMBERS** are **welcome to bring your published books** to brag about, share, sell or barter with others. As many books as you want; set them on the tables at Brookfields. **NO CHARGE**, only for food or drink purchases. Bring change for your book sales & be prepared to network & Schmooze

**Everyone is welcome to attend but ONLY NCPA MEMBERS are welcome to bring their books.**

**Rae Rankin \* Guest Journalist**  
[Raerankinauthor@gmail.com](mailto:Raerankinauthor@gmail.com) \* [www.raerankin.com](http://www.raerankin.com)  
 August 2022 NCPA NEWSLETTER

**July 6, 2022 For Immediate Release**  
**El Dorado Resident Wins 2nd Purple Dragonfly Book Awards**



... [www.raerankin.com](http://www.raerankin.com) ...



El Dorado Hills, CA – The results for the 2022 Purple Dragonfly Book Awards have been announced and *Mountain Girl*, by El Dorado Hills, CA children's book author, Rae Rankin, took first place in the category of Outdoor Recreation.

Celebrating the beauty of Plumas County, *Mountain Girl* is a charming book about a family exploring the outdoors and participating in activities in the area.

"This is as much a win for me as it is for Graeagle and Plumas County," Rankin said. The Purple Dragonfly Book Awards is part of a prestigious international book award contest, hosted annually by Story Monsters LLC, which recognizes exceptional authors for excellence in writing and publishing in 56 categories. Story Monsters LLC is also home to the award-winning Story Monsters Ink® magazine, the literary resource for teachers, librarians, and parents—selected by School Library Journal as one of the best magazines for kids and teens.

"It is an honor to be recognized among a group of talented authors and illustrators," Rankin also said.

In addition to *Mountain Girl*, Rankin has published six other books including *Cowgirl and the Ghost Horse* which was recognized with a 2021 Purple Dragonfly Award.

Rae is currently working on her eighth book which she anticipates releasing later this year.



Rae Rankin is an award-winning author and has had a career in the marketing and graphic design field both in the corporate world and as an independent contractor.

She has always loved reading and writing and wrote her first book *Cowgirl Lessons* for her daughter and the lesson horse she loved.

She is also a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, the Northern California Publishers and Authors, the Arabian Horse Association, Motherlode Arabian Horse Association, and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Books by Rae Rankin**

- *Cowgirl Lessons* - Best Children's Book USA 2019 Equus Film and Arts Festival
- *Cowgirl Christmas* - Best Children's Holiday Book USA 2019 Equus Film and Arts Festival
- *Cowgirl and the Ghost Horse* - Best Children's Short Story at the 2020 Equus Film and Arts Festival, Purple Dragonfly Book Award 2021
- *Show Day – A Cowgirl Lessons Adventure*
- *Mountain Girl* – Purple Dragonfly Book Award 2022 – First Place Outdoor Recreation
- *Mountain Winter*
- *Beach Day*

**CONGRATULATIONS RAE!!**



For a complete list of Purple Dragonfly award winners visit

<https://www.storymonstersbookawards.com/purple-dragonfly-winners/purple-2022>

**UPCOMING Conference Updates**

**Erma Bombeck WRITERS' WORKSHOP rescheduled to October 20-22 2022**

2022 Workshop University of Dayton, Ohio ([udayton.edu](http://udayton.edu))

## VENDOR OPPORTUNITY 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Rio Linda Elverta Country Faire

Sat 17 SEP \$40 for 10x10 space

Deadline to sign up 9 September 2022

riolindaelvertacountryfaire.com for application & PayPal

### Rae Rankin BIO

I am an award-winning children's book author as well as having an extensive career in marketing and graphic design both in the professional world and as an independent contractor. In my current real-life job, a large portion of my time is dedicated to making sure documents posted onto the website meet state and federal accessibility requirements. I have extensive training in document accessibility, and I feel it's an important topic to share.

I have published seven books, with an eighth one on the way. My book *Mountain Girl* was just recently named First Place Outdoor Recreation by the Purple Dragonfly Book Awards.

I live in El Dorado Hills, CA with my husband, teen equestrian daughter, a dog with her own business cards, and a cat that eats plastic house plants.

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### Quick HOW-TO tip of the day from techy Kim Komando: **EZ TO FIND TEXT CONVERSATIONS**

#### PIN, DON'T SCROLL

- Android phones: pin any message in a text thread.
- iPhones: pin a link or image.

Simply:

- Open a text conversation
- then press down on the message and
- tap the **pin icon**(iPhone) or **star icon** (Android).
- Later, open the message thread
- then tap your contact's **photo** or **initials**.
- Look for **Pinned messages**.
- Tap it and you'll see everything you've marked to save.
- You can also pin an *entire conversation* so you don't have to swipe down your inbox to find it. Just hold down on a thread and tap Pin. Now you'll see it at the top of your message inbox.

### PENGUIN PUBLISHING MERGER – lots of stories to read on Google:

[https://www.google.com/search?q=penguin+publishing+merger&client=safari&channel=ipad\\_bm&sxsrf=A LiCzsa-OwNj7soBS2fMvllkHND37bB\\_PA%3A1659450368199&source=hp&ei=ADTpYqrYBobFqtsP\\_c-lwAl&oq=penguin+merger&gs\\_lcp=ChFtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1ocBABGAlYBQgAEMQCMgYIABAeEBYyBggAEB4QFjIGCAAQHhAWMgYIABAeEBYyBggAEB4QFjIGCAAQHhAWMgYIABAeEBY6BwgjEOoCEC c6BAgjECc6BAguECc6BAguEEM6CwguEIAEEMcBENEDOGsILhCxAXCDARDUAjoOCC4QgAQQsQMq xwEQ0QM6CwgAEIAEELEDEIMBOgQIABBD0g0ILhDHARCvARDUAhBD0g0ILhCxAXDUAhBD0g4ILh CABBCxAXCDARDUAjoICAAGQgAQQsQM6CwguEIAEELEDEIMBOhEILhCABBCxAXCDARDHARDRAzo HCAAQsQMqQzoFCAAQgAQ6CAguEIAEELEDOgsILhCABBCxAXDUAjolCAAQsQMqgwE6CAgAEIAE EMkDOgUilhCABFCsDFjgPGD2fmgBcAB4AIABtQKIAcETkgEIMC4xMi4xLjGYAQCgAQGwAQ8&sc client =mobile-gws-wiz-hp](https://www.google.com/search?q=penguin+publishing+merger&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&sxsrf=A LiCzsa-OwNj7soBS2fMvllkHND37bB_PA%3A1659450368199&source=hp&ei=ADTpYqrYBobFqtsP_c-lwAl&oq=penguin+merger&gs_lcp=ChFtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1ocBABGAlYBQgAEMQCMgYIABAeEBYyBggAEB4QFjIGCAAQHhAWMgYIABAeEBYyBggAEB4QFjIGCAAQHhAWMgYIABAeEBY6BwgjEOoCEC c6BAgjECc6BAguECc6BAguEEM6CwguEIAEEMcBENEDOGsILhCxAXCDARDUAjoOCC4QgAQQsQMq xwEQ0QM6CwgAEIAEELEDEIMBOgQIABBD0g0ILhDHARCvARDUAhBD0g0ILhCxAXDUAhBD0g4ILh CABBCxAXCDARDUAjoICAAGQgAQQsQM6CwguEIAEELEDEIMBOhEILhCABBCxAXCDARDHARDRAzo HCAAQsQMqQzoFCAAQgAQ6CAguEIAEELEDOgsILhCABBCxAXDUAjolCAAQsQMqgwE6CAgAEIAE EMkDOgUilhCABFCsDFjgPGD2fmgBcAB4AIABtQKIAcETkgEIMC4xMi4xLjGYAQCgAQGwAQ8&sc client =mobile-gws-wiz-hp)



# The Importance of Addressing Accessibility as an Author

By Rae Rankin

We have a lot on our plate as authors. Writing, editing, design, marketing, websites, business management, events - it can be extremely overwhelming. So, when I bring up the word accessibility and how it relates to the author business, I can imagine a lot of you start cringing with the idea that there is one more thing you need to think about.

If you are wondering why this is important consider the following facts - One in five Americans has a disability, 8.1 million people are visually impaired, 2.2 million people have seizures, 19.9 million people can't use a mouse. All are protected by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

## Basic Accessibility for Documents

The general guidelines I am talking about here apply to documents not necessarily our published books, although some of these principals should be considered when developing books, covers, and content posts to social media.

- **Use fonts that are easy to read.** Arial is the recommended font for accessibility at a minimum of 11 point. Anything smaller is harder to read for people with vision disabilities.
- **Use built-in tools to format titles, headers, subheaders, body text, lists, paragraph spacing, and tables.** Most of us know styles are in Word but we avoid using them. These built-in tools are critical for those who use screen readers on documents. Not only do they allow the user to navigate easily through a document, they also provide cues to the screen reader user on the information being provided.
- **Use color appropriately.** Color contrast is the one thing I think is critical for authors. Too often I see covers and children's books that would absolutely fail a color contrast check.
  - For text to be compliant:
    - Large text (14 point bold or larger, or 18 point or larger) requires a contrast ratio of 3:1.
    - Normal text (17 point or smaller) requires a contrast ratio of 4.5:1.
  - I prefer using the WebAim [Color Contrast Checker](#). The key to use it is knowing the colors Hexadecimal Code. If you know the RGB or CMYK you can easily use an online converter to check the contrast.
- **Use meaningful hyperlinks.** Avoid using words such as click here. Try to keep hyperlinks short and to the point and use meaningful words if you can. If possible, instead of providing a long link, link words associated with the link. The previous paragraph is a perfect example of what I mean.
- **Add Alternative Text to all Images.** All images should have alternative text describing in detail the image. Adding alternative text to photos and charts is also critical on

websites and social media. As I mentioned earlier, 8.1 million Americans are visually impaired. A lot of them use screen readers to access the internet. When the screen reader accesses the photo, if there is not alternative text all they hear is “Image”. But what is the image? By not putting alternative text on your photos and charts you are in effect denying a group of individual’s access to your content.

Word has a built in Accessibility Checker. I highly advise using it, but I also caution you as there are things that it does not catch. It is generally located under the Review tab at the top of the Word screen. If you convert the Word document to a PDF, there is a whole list of additional items that need to be done in order for the document to be accessible.

### Applying Accessibility to our Websites

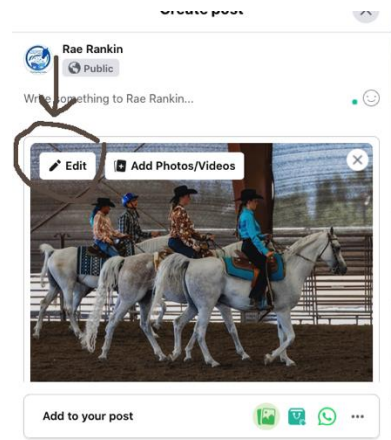
Accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act does not just apply to business locations – it applies to online presence as well and the Supreme Court confirmed that in 2021 when they ruled against Domino’s pizza for having a website that was inaccessible for a blind person to order a pizza. There is a lot more legalese that applies to this case, but the message is clear. We should be making sure our websites are accessible.

Now like most of you I am not a web developer. For those of you with web developers, ask them if your website is accessible and if it passes WCAG 2.0 (Website Content Accessibility Guidelines).

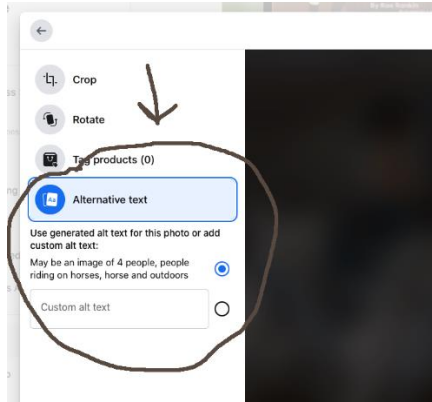
If you are managing your own website, in my case I use WordPress, check to see what accessible tools are available for you. In the case of WordPress or Squarespace you can use a plugin such as UserWay, Accessible, One Click, or WP Accessibility. I personally use UserWay, but any of these are equally good.

### Adding Alternative Text to Photos on Facebook

Facebook does attempt to add alternative text to images when you post them. However, it is good practice to review the alternative text when you post because the user experience for all users should be as equal as possible.



When adding a photo to Facebook before clicking on “Post” click on the button that says edit. This will open a second window that allows you to add or edit alternative text associated with that image.



Enter a description to the area under alternative text. The goal here is to describe the object to someone who is blind or has low vision. Don't just say, "photo of horses". You should be answering the questions such as:

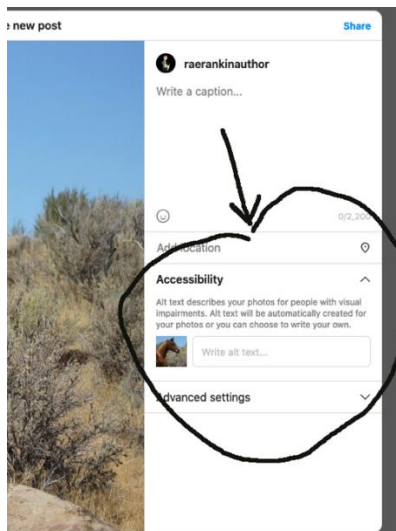
- How many horses?
- What type of riding?
- How many riders?
- Where are they riding?

In this case, I would probably enter the following alternative text to this photo: *Photo of four people riding four white horses in an arena at a horse show. The riders are riding western style.*

### Adding Alternative Text to Images of Instagram

Applying accessibility principles to Instagram are similar to Facebook in that we should be addressing alternative text on images.

The field for alternative text on Instagram occurs on the window right before you click "share." Instagram does not provide an attempt at alternative text like Facebook does, so you do need to make an effort to add it.



If you have questions about accessibility, please send me an email at [raerankinauthor@gmail.com](mailto:raerankinauthor@gmail.com) and I will do my best to answer!



## 2019 NCPA Anthologies



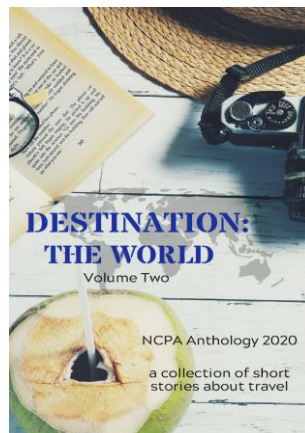
**BIRDS OF A FEATHER**  
An NCPA Anthology  
*A Collection of Short Stories about Animals*



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

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

## 2020 NCPA Anthologies



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

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

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



**COVER FOR Beautiful Americas Vol 1**



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

**Last call - There are still 2 spaces left for the *Beautiful Americas* \*Deadline 15 Aug 2022**  
**Now that the Fair's over, it's intensive back to work on it \* *Beautiful Americas* launch scheduled with Holiday Luncheon on 11 Dec 2022, Black Angus in Citrus Heights. \* **SAVE THE DATE****

Get those thinking caps on and start writing now for two books in 2023:

\* *Beautiful World* plus get your memories stirring for Our \*3<sup>rd</sup> Volume of *ALL Holidays*  
**COMING SOON** \* A new dedicated Email address for these two

**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 5 June 2022 at the Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Placer Pops Chorale & Orchestra 2022**

**Great present for ALL** \* [www.placerpops.com](http://www.placerpops.com) \* Locations, DATES & TIMES COMING CLOSER to dates

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

**Looking for a detailed critique and line edit?** Contact donor **Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media**  
 Amy Rogers, independent publisher, beta reader for James Rollins, and former judge for International Thriller Writers' Thriller Awards. [amy@AmyRogers.com](mailto:amy@AmyRogers.com) Web: [AmyRogers.com](http://AmyRogers.com) (916)-712-3334

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Writing Picture Books for Kids?** **Chrissi Villa** gives detailed Picture Book Evaluations

Chrissi also hosts PB Workshops. contact her [chrissivilla@gmail.com](mailto:chrissivilla@gmail.com) \* [www.Christinevilla.com](http://www.Christinevilla.com)

[www.purplecottoncandyarts.com/about.html](http://www.purplecottoncandyarts.com/about.html) \* <https://www.velvetduskpublishing.com/about.html>

**916-993-8798 h**

**916-500-3492 c**

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

Check out the fine jewelry at Sharif's

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**More 2021 SILENT AUCTION DONORS**

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.

Special thanks also to Elaine Faber for the Vintage Thomas Round Wood Radio/ Cassette Player reproduction, Barbara Barrett for the pair of cut-glass Hurricane Lamp-shaped Candle Holders, Kathy "Kanika" Marshall for her Kanika creations, Bob Irelan and Michelle Hamilton for their great baskets, and the EGWG for the donation of one ticket to the October 2021 Elk Grove Writers Conference

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

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

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

**2021 Genealogy Presentations at Sacramento Central Library**

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

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

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

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

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

**29th NCPA  
BOOK AWARDS  
BANQUET  
5pm-9pm  
Sun 7 May 2023**

**\*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 5<sup>th</sup> Holiday Luncheon - 2022**  
Email me: [NCPAAnthologyLuncheon@gmail.com](mailto:NCPAAnthologyLuncheon@gmail.com)

**FREE MEETINGS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat monthly 12Noon – 2:30 pm  
**San Joaquin Valley Writers CWC ZOOM Meetings**  
<https://junegillam.com> <https://www.sjvalleywriters.org>

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



## MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

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

Monthly Luncheon Meetings generally **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](http://cwcsacramentowriters.org)**

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

If you write anything crime-related, or want to, then check out Cap Crimes.

**FREE** monthly meetings, generally the **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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://Sactowriters.org)**

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

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

If you write Romance, or want to, then check out SVR ~ they generally meet at 10am at the

**White Rock Community Clubhouse, 10488 White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova**

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

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

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

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

### ➤ **San Joaquin Valley Writers (SJVW Branch CWC) FREE** Monthly Meetings generally **2nd Saturday** of each month 12Noon-2:30pm UOP in Stockton - Questions? June Gillam

President SJVW-CWC **<https://junegillam.com>** Dues Info unknown at this time

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

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

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

## NCPA Board of Directors

### **President**

Michelle Hamilton

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916-837-6812

### **Secretary**

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### **Immediate Past President**

Sharon Darrow

### **Membership Chair**

Sharon Darrow

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800-462-2328

### **Book Awards Chair**

Sharon Darrow

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800-462-2328

### **Awards Banquet Chair/ Coordinator**

Norma Jean Thornton

### **Monthly Speaker Coordinator**

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## norcalpa.org

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### **Treasurer**

Amy Rogers

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

### **Social Media Director**

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### **FB & Promo Coordinator**

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### **Book Events Coordinator**

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916-396-3414

### **Anthology 2019, 2020 & 2021**

Norma Jean Thornton: **Coordinator**

Michelle Hamilton: **Editor**

Bob Irelan: **Editor**

Norma Jean Thornton: **Proofreader**

Sharon Darrow: **Publisher**

[2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com](mailto:2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com)

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

**In Person 1pm-?\* New Location: Brookfields Restaurant 4343 Madison Av 95842**

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

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

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

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

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

Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)

PO Box 214673 ~ Sacramento, CA 95821

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



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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](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

... Norma Jean Thornton, editor *The Pen & Press* 2016-2022