

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

# The Pen & Press

**NO MEETING IN MAY, Zoom or otherwise**

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY Sun 14 May**

**Ticket to NCPA'S 29<sup>TH</sup> BOOK AWARDS BANQUET 25 June makes a GREAT MOTHER'S DAY gift**

**\*NO IN-PERSON MEETINGS UNTIL AUG 2023, then @ FLAMING GRILL: info on time & day coming soon**

**\*UPDATE: NCPA ANTHOLOGIES: Now accepting stories for both anthologies: *Beautiful World* \* & \* *ALL Holidays Vol 3*: entry deadline for both is 1 Sep 2023 (date subject to change), and *Beautiful World* will now include ALL parts of the world, including all of the Americas. That other was way too confusing for all of us. Our tentative launch dates for both will be 12 Noon at the Black Angus on Sun 10 Dec 2023.**

**\*REMEMBER: NCPA's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Awards culminates this year in Elverta, at the Cherry Island Golf Course 5pm-9pm **Sunday 25 Jun 2023**. TIME TO START GETTING THOSE \$30 dinner TICKETS NOW – go to [norcalpa.org](http://norcalpa.org)**

**Suggestions for 2 GREAT Mother's Day Gifts: - TICKETS TO:**

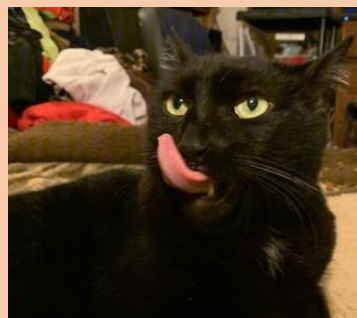
**Last weekend for BROADWAY POPS (formerly PLACER POPS)**

**With an Ode to Legends of Broadway: Rogers & Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Weber, Sondheim & More Oklahoma! \* Guys & Dolls \* My Fair Lady \* Cats \* Tunes from HAMILTON, Rent, Dear Evan Hansen & More**

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> May 7:30pm \*\* Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May 2pm \*\* Harris Center, Folsom**

**For Ticket Info & to Purchase Tix, click: [Harris Center](#) | [Placer Pops Chorale](#) | [Broadway Pops](#)**

**Broadway Pops : \$32 - \$55 (NCPA Silent Auction donor) - [Harris Center](#) | [Placer Pops Chorale](#) | [Broadway Pops](#)  
\$30 TICKET - NCPA'S 29<sup>TH</sup> BOOK AWARDS BANQUET get yours now at [norcalpa.org](http://norcalpa.org)**



**5 April 2023 (12 years)**

**RIP Chickery & Windy  
Feline Hyperthyroidism**



**24 Sep 2022 (19 years)**

**\*May Guest Journalists are two for the price of one: a duo, with a very special message --- Past President / long-time NCPA member Barry Schoenborn and wife, also long-time NCPA member and generous donor (both are), Jennifer Grainger Schoenborn, provide us with a "great, warming, titillating, fun story of their NCPA surprise"! You have to read it, whether you read anything else in the newsletter. A "MUST" READ! Pages 3-5: while you're at it, read Michelle's Prez Message, pg 2.**

**\*June Guest Journalist ---- **YOU?** Just send me your stuff (bio, pic, book info, story, etc.): [normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com)**

## President's Message

This past weekend, I took my youngest son to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Yesterday was his twenty-sixth birthday, and that is what he chose to do. He's been wanting to go for a few years now, but Covid sort of derailed our previous plans.

Two of my sons are vision impaired due to a genetic mutation, so taking him was a priority for me while he still has remaining sight. We had a wonderful time and while we were in the wave exhibit, I took a picture of him, staring up in amazement. It's a picture I will cherish for the remainder of my life.

Many of you know about the struggles my two sons have had, because I've talked about it before, but I haven't written about it. In fact, this may be the first time. It's been hard for me as a mother (I know it isn't anything as hard as what my sons are going through), but I worry about what will happen if I'm not here to help them or how they will manage in life as their vision worsens. I follow all the latest research with a strange desperation, and while I believe there will eventually be a cure, the other fear that there might not be crowds my mind. In fact, this constant worry has kept me up more nights than I can tell you.

However, life is a constant surprise, and humans are resilient. Both of my sons are adapting far better than I have, but even for me, I'm learning to live with the realization that this is our reality. As my youngest son has told me over and over again – it's not a death sentence, it just makes things more challenging.

Since Covid, my family has felt like it's been in a weird stasis where so much of our time has been dominated by our adjusting to their vision loss, but this past year has seen a flurry of wonderful events for us that I didn't expect to happen.

My middle son got married, had a baby daughter, and bought his first house. In Idaho, but I'm choosing to ignore that. I'm forcing myself to look on the bright side, knowing that he's only an hour's plane ride away. My oldest son is getting engaged and has also bought his first home. And my youngest has a new love interest. He is happier than I've seen him in years, and this makes me so very happy for him. Knowing that all three boys have healthy, happy relationships takes away some of the worry. They have someone in their corner, even when I can't be there.

My point is this: you never know what might happen in life. Even when things seem like they are the most bleak, the most difficult, there is always the possibility of change. Never give up hope.

And as our two guest journalists for May will tell you, there's always a chance for something amazing to enter your life when you least expect it.

ML Hamilton

[authormlhamilton.net](mailto:authormlhamilton.net)

**Editor's Note:** *The amazing thing Michelle refers to with our guest journalists, begins on page 3 & ends on page 5. In addition to their amazing "thing" It's a really fun read.*

And as you've all most-likely guessed, I hate white space, SO, filling this one with the following suggestion for a great Mother's Day gift, from one of our regular Silent Auction donors. I saw them last week-end at Dietrich Center in Rocklin, and this is a FABULOUS production – I especially loved all the old Broadway songs. You may have seen a few (only 19) of the cast on GDS TV this morning; they were ok, but didn't do their 70-member group justice.

**This is the last weekend for this season of BROADWAY POPS (formerly PLACER POPS)**

**With an Ode to Legends of Broadway: Rogers & Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Weber, Sondheim & More  
Oklahoma! \* Guys & Dolls \* My Fair Lady \* Cats \* Tunes from HAMILTON, Rent, Dear Evan Hansen & More**

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> May 7:30pm \*\* Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May 2pm \*\* Harris Center, Folsom**

**For Ticket Info & to Purchase Tix, click: [Harris Center](#) | [Placer Pops Chorale](#) | [Broadway Pops](#)**

## **Jenn and Barry's Most Excellent Adventure**

*A tale of two "diddies" told separately by Barry Schoenborn and Jennifer Grainger Schoenborn*

### **BARRY**

The year was 2018 and it was the day of an important luncheon—the NCPA Book Competition judge's luncheon. The judges were going to compare scores and rank the entries.

I was late—and I knew it. I called Sharon Darrow before starting the 45-mile drive from Nevada City to her home. As Steinbeck never said, I had the hammer down and the pedal to the metal. I was hauling buns, and I don't work for a bakery.

### **JENNIFER**

I was a judge. I joined NCPA to share my editing services, and I had written a book. Sharon had clued the other judges that this Barry Schoenborn person was running late, and he would probably be in an awful mood when he got here.

I didn't care. There were a couple of male judges and one had cancelled. Who cared about the other one? My life certainly didn't hinge on whether some dude showed up.

Little did I know, I had an appointment at Samarra, a date with destiny, an upcoming life-changing experience.

### **BARRY**

I entered the Darrow home and met the other judges. (You don't know who they are until the day you meet them.)

I was the model of good manners. I hadn't gotten the memo that I was supposed to be in a foul mood. I mean, why does the chicken drive I-80? Because he's in a fowl mood? I don't think so.

I knew several of the judges, but there was a stranger. A cutie! Something in her eyes was so inviting. Something in her smile was so exciting. Something in my heart told me I must have... some of Norma THORNTON'S chili.

### **JENNIFER**

This Barry Schoenborn person was OK. Bold and brash, but that made no impression me. When he gave critiques, I wondered. Was he incompetent? Was he afraid? Eventually, it dawned on me that he was a gracious diplomat.

### **BARRY**

I was the last to leave. And so was the hottie. We talked a lot.

### **JENNIFER**

This Barry person and I talked a lot. I assumed it was because of my charm. But I had an appointment. Was this guy going to talk forever?

### **BARRY**

We started talking every night. I invited her to come to Nevada City. I promised her lunch and comps.

By August 6, 2018, it was serious.

**JENNIFER**

I liked the comps and I liked the lunch.

By August 6<sup>th</sup>, I concluded that this guy was good. At least, he had no flaws I couldn't fix.

**BARRY**

By August 6<sup>th</sup>, I concluded that this gal was good. At least, she had no flaws I couldn't fix.

**JENNIFER**

In the spring of 2019, things looked serious. We had shared Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. He cooked.

**BARRY**

We got engaged. As Manfred Mann sang in "Do Wah Diddy Diddy:"

Well, I'm hers (I'm hers)  
She's mine (She's mine)  
I'm hers, she's mine  
Wedding bells are gonna chime

**JENNIFER**

July 10, 2019. It happened in the gazebo outside the Nevada County Administrative Center. His "Best Man" was a woman. My "Maid of Honor" was, too.

**BARRY**

July 10, 2019. Nice lunch at Tuscany Gardens.

July 21, 2019. The moving van pulled away from my house in Nevada City, headed to Lodi. I had crossed the Rubicon.

**JENNIFER**

What's "the Rubicon?"

Now, I had a new husband and a garage full of "stuff." Be careful what you wish for.

**AND IN CONCLUSION**

(Barry) July 10, 2023, will mark four years. I love her.

(Jennifer) July 10, 2023, will mark four years. I love him.

(The Universe) The first rule of the Marriage Club is that you don't talk about the marriage club.



**Barry Schoenborn**, President  
WVS - The Technical Writing Company  
Willow Valley Press  
Willow Valley Software

530/575-6345 cell

<http://www.wvswrite.com>

<http://www.willowvalleypress.com>

#### **Released books:**

*The Nurse and the Earl*

by Barry Schoenborn

<https://amzn.to/2GtTHzQ>

*Math For Real Life for Dummies*

by Barry Schoenborn

<http://amzn.to/WEvoyx>

*Physician Assistant Exam for Dummies*

by Dr. Rich Snyder and

Barry Schoenborn

Amazon: <http://amzn.to/NDPPqU>

*Medical Dosage Calculations for Dummies*

by Dr. Rich Snyder and

Barry Schoenborn

Amazon: <http://amzn.to/nVh4ql>

*Technical Math for Dummies*

by Barry Schoenborn and

Bradley Simkins

Amazon: <http://amzn.to/9ZSy3T>

#### **Jennifer Grainger Schoenborn**

209-269-2210.

[jennifer@jennifertheghostwriter.com](mailto:jennifer@jennifertheghostwriter.com)

<https://JenniferTheGhostwriter.com>

**Jennifer the Ghostwriter:** *Let's get that book inside you ... OUT!*

GHOSTWRITING service

[PRELIMINARY EVALUATION](#)

[MANUSCRIPT EVALUATION](#) service

EDITING services

[PROOFREADING](#) service

#### **Manuscript Evaluations:**

"A Manuscript Evaluation is not proofreading or editing. I'll read your manuscript from cover to cover with an eye on story arc, clarity, tone, character development, and overall readability.

"Whether you plan to self-publish or submit to agents or publishers, a professional manuscript evaluation will either assure you your manuscript is as good as it can be, or where there might be areas of improvement to take it from good to great."

#### **Book:**

***Becoming Conscious: One Woman's Story of Spiritual Awakening***

By Jennifer T. Grainger (Schoenborn)

[PREVIEW: Read the first four chapters HERE:](#)

(If clicking any link doesn't work, go to her website)

<https://JenniferTheGhostwriter.com>

**Editor's Note:** Barry has a long history with NCPA: Website Manager 2005-2006, then in addition to staying Website Manager, also became President of NCPA 2006-2007. He gave up the Website position but stayed President for 2007-2008, left the presidency in 2008-2009 to become the Annual Conference Director as well as Immediate Past President, then jumped right back into President's position in 2009-2010, left it again in 2010-2011 for dual positions as Treasurer and Immediate Past President. For the final time, in 2011-2012, he once more took on being President. Also for the final time - for two terms - was Immediate Past President in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. He's no longer on the Board, but Barry has since led a workshop, plus he's been a Judge during several of our Book Awards Competitions. His most important position, to me, was being my mentor when I first joined NCPA as a writing novice, in 2008. BTW: the chili he refers to is what I had made and taken to the judge's luncheon that day. He liked it, too, but not nearly as much as he did Jennifer! LOL

**Editor's Note:** Jennifer has once more generously donated a \*Manuscript Evaluation (valued at \$495) to this years' Silent Auction during the 29<sup>th</sup> NCPA Book Awards Banquet at Cherry Island Golf Course, Elverta, 25 June 2023.

\*Manuscript Evaluation info can be read in the above box, plus full details can be found by going to Jenn's website: <https://JenniferTheGhostwriter.com>



## DOWN THAT GOOGLE RABBIT HOLE AGAIN! This time with corn

This morning, while husking nine ears of corn, I noticed that on a few, there was an exorbitant amount of corn silk - you know, those extremely annoying long golden strands of silky stringy stuff that stick like Velcro to your hands and anything else, one ... or more ... happens to land upon; or better yet, act like your hands and fingers are magnets, and the electrical pull just draws those silky strands to them. Since my hands were busy, my mind was free to wander, and those corn silks were very wander-inducing. That meant another trip down Google's rabbit hole - so here we go.

What IS the purpose of those annoying things, anyway? It seems I remembered they might have a part to play in the pollination process - or maybe my common sense several years ago just made me assume that's it, but whichever, because I'm an author and a cook, writing cookbooks that include cooking tips and other tidbits of curiosity or nonsense, I wanted to know for sure, in case I wanted to add portions of it to my upcoming cookbook on *Fruits, & Veggies the Healthy Stuff – (or Icky, Stuff?)*, so down that Rabbit hole I went. Three hours later, and here we are:

I must admit, the first three ears (the ones that seemed to have the most silk) did appear to prescribe to the notion that perhaps they weren't fully developed since there were several spaces between a few of the kernels plus none of the kernels were in a tight-knit row on any of the three. Not only that, but these ears really lacked in flavor, and even though I added the usual: lots of salt and even more sugar, to the boiling water they were cooked in, none of them were sweet like the other four batches of corn I've had thus far this season.

Being generous, and giving the benefit of doubt to the fact this group was (reportedly, supposedly "sweet") white corn, and not the usual yellow corn like the four prior groups I had previously consumed, I was willing to wait until eating another ear, later, before deciding for sure. I was even willing to lay the blame on the smaller than I usually purchase, tub of soft, newly opened, *Challenge* butter, since it was "*Sea Salted Spreadable Butter with Canola Oil*" instead of my usual, but when I looked at the old tub for the title, I realized it was actually the same stuff, just in a different size tub, and also different wording "*With Sea Salt*" in a little orange box at the top, above the words "*Spreadable Butter with Canola Oil*" --- and here's another tie-in to writing: Marketing! See the importance?

I really think it's just a combination of the above --- white corn vs yellow, and not fully developed.

But, back to those strands of silkiness: they're as bad as cat hair, and can be found everywhere; in my hair, on my clothes, the floor, counter, cabinet, but especially under the strainer headed down the drain to clog the sink.

Google gives the following links with lots more info on these golden things. I highly recommend reading the third link, at least, about "the purpose" – it's definitely the most entertaining of the three.

- [Corn Silk Benefits, Uses, Dosage and Side Effects - Dr. Axe \(draxe.com\)](#) By reading this, you'll find that they have a long history of medical use in Chinese and Native American traditional medicines, plus supposedly the silks are rich in nutrients, especially antioxidants, vitamins and minerals, also a benefit to eradicating inflammation, and more wonderful things.
- <https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/corn-silk> This one explains everything you need to know about corn silk, including potentially medicinal attributes such as an herbal remedy. Supposedly still used today in many countries, including China, France, Turkey, and the United States, it was used for centuries in traditional Chinese and Native American medicine, as told in the first one.
- <https://thefarmerslife.com/what-is-the-purpose-of-corn-silk/> The best of all, this one actually tells what it really is, why it's there and how it works, by "someone who really knows" about the sexy parts of the silken stuff! Plus, there are pictures!!



I have no idea if any of the links are true so use/read any suggestions at your own risk.

## Fun to Say WORDS & DEFINITIONS: (from Word Genius) A few used in my childhood

- Bedight: Adorned
- Coulee: Abyss, canyon chasm crevasse, crevice, ditch, gorge, gully, valley
- Colporteur: A person who sells books, newspapers and similar literature
- Lollygag: Dawdle, dally, goof off (LOL – my mom used to tell us all the time, not to lollygag)
- Tarantism: A mania characterized by an uncontrollable impulse to dance (prevalent in Italy in 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries).
- Diablerie: Reckless mischief; charismatic wildness
- Pleonasm: Redundancy, repetition, verbosity, windiness
- Instauration: Reinstatement, renewal, revival
- Funitel: Wind stable gondola lift with two parallel haul ropes at a distance. (ex: Palisades Ski Resort @ Tahoe)
- Coruscation: Sudden gleam or flash of light; striking display of brilliance or wit; blink, flicker, gleam, glimmer, spark
- Rhynchonant: Make a snorting noise
- Shambolic: Chaotic, disorganized, or mismanaged
- Diphthong: Sound formed by combination of two vowels in a single syllable; the sound begins as one vowel and moves towards another (as in coin, loud, and side).
- Plutography: Depiction, presentation, or coverage of the rich, particularly the lifestyles they enjoy
- Collywobbles: 1. Stomach pain or queasiness. 2. Intense anxiety or nervousness, especially with stomach queasiness
- Parisology: The use of equivocal or ambiguous words.
- Favonian: 1. Pertaining to the west wind 2. (By extension) Mild, gentle
- Badinage: To joke: banter, fool, persiflage, raillery, repartee, ribbing, teasing
- Verisimilar: Appearing to be true or real; probable; likely
- Hidebound: Unwilling or unable to change because of tradition or convention
- Scrimmage: A confused struggle or fight
- Homonymous: Having the same name as another
- Gentrification: the process of making someone or something more refined, polite or respectable
- Farouche: Sullen or shy in company
- Xiphoid: 1. Shaped like a sword 2. Of or relating to the xiphoid process (medical)
- Saudade: Feeling of longing, melancholy, or nostalgia, is supposed characteristic of Portuguese/ Brazilian temperament.
- Eupeptic: Relating to or having good digestion or a consequent air of healthy good spirits
- Pareidolia: Perception of apparently significant patterns or recognizable images, especially faces, in random or accidental arrangements of shapes and lines. (Like in the clouds – my dad always pointed things out in the clouds)
- Scrumpling: To steal fruit such as apples from trees. Stealing
- Misophonia: A disorder in which certain sounds trigger emotional or physiological; hatred of sound, refers to the intense rage and disgust provoked by hearing sounds made by others. (One of my grands has this)
- Insidious: Proceeding in a gradual, subtle way, but with harmful effects.

**To find out how to pronounce the following words, click on the links with them. I got them all right!**

**Torschlusspanik**: The fear that time to act is running out --- <https://worddaily.com/words/torschlusspanik/>

**Arrière-pensée**: A concealed thought or intention an ulterior motive : <https://worddaily.com/words/arriere-pensee/>

**Syzygy**: Conjunction or opposition, e.g. of the moon with the sun. Pair of connected/ corresponding things. [Syzygy - Word Daily](#)

**Appropinquate**: To approach; to near [Appropinquate - Word Daily](#)

**Click link below for full info on why these 8 words have two correct spellings**

Axe/ Ax \* Doughnut/ Donut \* Ketchup/ Catsup \* Likable/ Likeable \* Opossum/ Possum \*

Racket/ Racquet \* Theater/ Theatre \* Whiskey/ Whisky

**8 Words with Two Correct Spellings | Word Genius :**

Due to health, death, and other issues beyond the Board's control, we were forced to make changes with the 2023 anthology project  
**Anthology submission date now 1 Sep 2023 for both Beautiful World & All Holidays Vol 3, with projected launch 10 Dec 2023.**

**SEND YOUR QUESTIONS &/or STORIES to our dedicated email: [2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com)**

## NCPA ANTHOLOGIES 2023

**Beautiful World & All Holidays Vol 3** --- Start writing your stories now  
 Questions? Send ONLY to Dedicated Email [2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com)

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR STORY for **BEAUTIFUL WORLD** is now **1 September 2023**.

500–3000-word max for **World** -- NO POETRY -- \*&\* ✓

**NEW CHANGE:** due to mass confusion **Beautiful World** can now include all of the Americas

**ANYWHERE in the world, INCLUDING ALL of the Americas**

- ✓ **ALL Holidays Vol-3** DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR STORY is now ALSO **1 Sept 2023**.  
 500–3500-word max for **Holidays** – POETRY accepted, AFTER you've ALSO submitted a story
- ✓ Anticipated launch -- **NEW CHANGE:** for **BOTH anthologies** -- joins our Holiday Luncheon **Sunday 10 December 2023**
- ✓ In addition to each story, you also need to submit two signed and dated documents that I'm including as attachments with this Email. THERE ARE TWO LINKS copied below - one for each anthology. Those links each have guidelines, an application, and an agreement, and there **are two places on each that need to be signed and dated**. (May not reflect current changes).
- ✓ **UPDATED GUIDELINES MAY COME LATER.**
  - ✓ Please be sure to **send all correspondence ONLY to the dedicated Email address:** [2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com)
- ✓ The attachments are in Word doc and can be **\*E-signed and returned**. If you're having problems signing them, send me an Email and your phone number and I'll walk you through how to do it.
- ✓ **REMEMBER: An \*E-signature, for those who don't know, is when you type your name to a document and send it by Email. That's just as good as a signed, written signature, in this case.**

Hopefully the links below can be used by clicking on them in this Email --- if not, you can Email me direct at the dedicated Email address [2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com) for a copy.

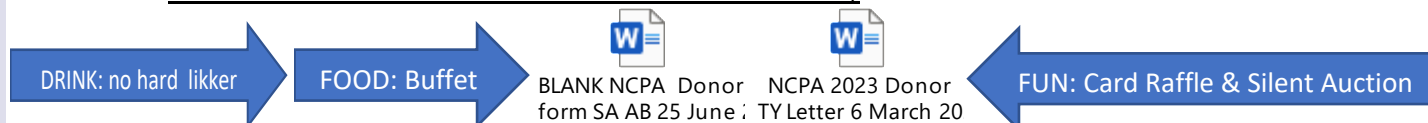
 [NCPA All Holidays Vol 3 Word doc](#)

 [NCPA Beautiful World](#)

Thank you for your interest in joining our Anthology projects - it's a very simple, FREE, process, to get published, and a great start for those who have never published anything before. We're happy with our regular authors, some of whom are in each volume, but we also like to have fresh blood, so to speak. We would also like to hear from a few of our members who have never published anything, anywhere, anytime, before. **Remember, [2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com) ONLY for ALL correspondence re THESE TWO anthologies ONLY, including questions and help.** Norma Jean

**GREAT GIFT FOR: \* Easter! \* Mother's Day! \* Father's Day! \* GREAT GIFT**

**Get your \$30 NCPA BOOK AWARDS BANQUET Dinner Tix NOW** --- [norcalpa.org](http://norcalpa.org) --- Final date to purchase Tue 20 Jun -- for the premier writing gala event of the year! Only local (Book Awards) "game" in town ... for more than a quarter century! Have something to donate to our Silent Auction? Just click on the [Donor Form](#) below, complete & return to [normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com) --- click on the [donor TY letter](#) for more information on our Silent Auction History



Go down that rabbit hole with us, and help celebrate the year of the rabbit.

Get those tickets quick like a bunny, before they all hop away, or like in the magician's hat ... disappear!!

**AWARDS: for Books + one Anthology Story Risk Taker Award per Anthology \* PLUS BOOKS GALORE \* On-Site Book Store**

FOOD: buffet – tri-tip & chicken + all the fixin's ... including rabbit greens & carrots (but no rabbit)

DRINK: no hard likker, but wines, beer, sodas, coffee & tea \*\* **Silent Auction with proceeds to Friends of the Library**



**OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THOSE DOING GENEALOGY****Quaternary Twins: STRANGER THAN FICTION:**

Identical twin sisters married identical twin brothers. The two couples ended up having babies within a couple of months of each other, and those kids are known as quaternary twins. Read the entire story below:

[Boys Born To Two Sisters Are Both Cousins And Brothers | Elvis Duran and the Morning Show \(iheart.com\)](#)

[https://www.californiaancestors.org/WordPress/wp-content/files/New\\_Library\\_Acquisitions\\_2020-2022.pdf](https://www.californiaancestors.org/WordPress/wp-content/files/New_Library_Acquisitions_2020-2022.pdf)

Click to see new books for the California Genealogy Society

[Conference Keeper.org](#) \* <https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/> \* <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/ngs>

[Midwest African American Genealogy Institute \(MAAGI\)](#)

[Gen-Fed 2023 Registration Coming Soon! – Genealogical Institute on Federal Records](#)

[42nd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy](#)

**Upcoming: FREE & OPEN TO ALL \* GENEALOGY presentations from the Sac Library:** Newspapers are an excellent source of genealogical, social, and historical information about our families and their communities, and reveal what was happening in a time and place-something other records might not tell us. Newspapers can be found on both free sites and subscription sites.

Mam-ma's Southern Family: <http://mammassoutherfamily.blogspot.com/> My Trails into the Past <http://mytrailsintothepast.blogspot.com>

**Sac Library virtual Genealogy programs take place on Zoom. To register in advance for any meeting, click link:**

<https://saclibrary.evanced.info/signup/Calendar> On that calendar screen, go to date and click on title of event. In description that pops up, click on link to register, and enter your name and e-mail address. After clicking the "register" button, you will receive a confirmation email containing an invitation to join the meeting on Zoom. You can also register on library homepage (<https://www.saclibrary.org/>) by clicking "Events" link towards top of screen. **The library's genealogy programs are free and open to all to attend.**

**Presentations are recorded and posted on the Genealogy Playlist of the library's YouTube channel for 30 days,** but it will possibly be a week or more after presentations for recordings to post on library's YouTube channel - If you need more information about availability of any recording, contact librarian Dave Munger: [contact@saclibrary.org](mailto:contact@saclibrary.org) There are other recordings of some past library genealogy presentations available to watch on the library's YouTube channel. **Library card not needed to view Library's Genealogy playlist link:** [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwtrWI\\_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6R](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwtrWI_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6R)

Questions? Contact [bethd2073@gmail.com](mailto:bethd2073@gmail.com) or Dave [contact@saclibrary.org](mailto:contact@saclibrary.org)

**Info on library's upcoming genealogy programs, through June 2023 \*22 Apr:** Ancestral Road Trips, Part I: East of the Mississippi, speaker Madeline Yanov. **\*20 May:** Ancestral Road Trips, Part II: Go West, Young Man, speaker Madeline Yanov. **\*24 June:** Introduction to Mexican Genealogy, speaker Lisa Medina.

**Ancestry® Storymaker Studio** \* Enhance Photos and Capture Audio: Family History on the Go!

**California Genealogical Society \*\*\*\*\* CaliforniaAncestors.org (in OAKLAND, CA)**

Reservations no longer needed to visit the library during its open hours Wed, Thu & Fri from 10am-2pm & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat ea/month 10am-4pm (NOTE: Visits are free for members; NON-members can pay \$5 fee at time of visit or join and have fee applied to membership)

**INTERESTED IN GENEALOGY?** During the shut-down, the library had 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 OPEN: Try this one: thanks to Barbara Barrett:** <https://www.saclibrary.org/Education/Online-Learning/Online-Resources-Alphabetical>

2023 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> (Possible old info, if so, try [bethd2073@gmail.com](mailto:bethd2073@gmail.com))

## UPCOMING 2023 NCPA EVENTS – & others

C  
H  
A  
N  
G  
E

### 29th **NCPA** **BOOK AWARDS** **BANQUET** **5pm-9pm**

**Sun 25 June 2023**

Cherry Island Golf Course  
Elverta, CA

**COVID RULES WILL APPLY**

**NOTE:**

**NCPA DATE CHANGE**

**Sun 10 Dec 2023 ~ 12Noon-?**  
Citrus Heights' Black Angus on Greenback  
**NCPA's 6<sup>th</sup> Holiday Luncheon 2023**  
& 2 Anthology launches (anticipated)  
(1<sup>st</sup> one in 2017 - COVID canceled only one?)

### **NEW UPDATED NCPA ANTHOLOGY INFO & DATES** **NCPA SUBMISSION DEADLINES both 1 Sep 2023** **& Anthology Launch BOTH – 10 Dec 2023**

*Beautiful World* (now **INCLUDES THE AMERICAS**)  
ALL Holidays Vol 3

Submission Email & Contact info for both anthologies:  
[2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com)

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

**In August 2023 NCPA Monthly meeting location will change to the *Flaming Grill* in the old Country Club Plaza Mall at Watt & El Camino, where WinCo is an anchor store. Day & Time not yet decided.**

In Person NCPA meetings with or without guest speakers each month are TEMPORARILY ON HOLD through July 2023. Meetings will re-start in August at The Flaming Grill Country Club Plaza Shopping Mall at Watt Av & El

Times to be determined, but will probably not be purchase necessary but a soda/drink would be appreciated. Will be available

Meetings always FREE ~ Visitors always welcome

### **CAL EXPO EVENTS 2022 & 2023 \* & \* CA STATE FAIR 2023**

**Home- State Fair - Cal Expo & State Fair ([calexpostatefair.com](http://calexpostatefair.com))**

**CA State FAIR 14 – 30 JULY 2023 \* AUTHORS BOOTH – ARTS & KITCHEN COMPETITION \***

\*In addition to the Authors Booth, Chrissi Villa & I are both involved in the State Fair (also in the Sacramento County Fair) competitions: Chrissi in the ARTS, I'm in the KITCHEN (since 2014) – both of us have won multiple ribbons and awards each year for our submissions (my winning candies, cakes, cookies, biscuits, breads and jelly recipes are in my cookbooks) ... including some cash prizes. If you want to know more about entering either, or any, send me an Email.

[normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com) I'll forward the arts inquiries on to Chrissi.

**REMEMBER, the only ties NCPA has with Michelle and the State Fair AUTHORS BOOTH, is she just happens to be involved in both. NCPA has absolutely NO SAY IN WHO SELLS BOOKS AT THE AUTHORS BOOTH. We're just fortunate that Michelle is our President, and has the ability to notify ALL WRITING ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING NCPA, early, about the booth.**

To all SSWC members and those who received an SSWC newsletter from Feb, March and April, they contain incorrect info regarding the California State Fair's Authors Booth and NCPA. Although a correction has recently been made on their current on-line newsletter, that incorrect information has still gone out to mailboxes for three months. Please read **above** (typed in green text, highlighted in yellow) for correct info. *Editor*

### **Norma Jean's Basic Non-Genre Specific Critique Group – live & in person – Wed 17 MAY 1pm - 3pm.**

\* EITHER **inside Arden Fair Mall** (just through Macy's door into the Mall; immediately to the left, in the corner where the bakery is, OR back towards the middle and all the way to the back of the buildings; plenty of tables and chairs in both places, plus places to purchase something to drink, or eat) -- \*\* OR\*\* -- **inside the old Country Club Plaza (CCP) "mall"** (corner of Watt Av & El Camino Av, the side where WinCo is an anchor store), all the way back towards WinCo, by the bathrooms. Plenty of tables and chairs await us, at both places, with lots of space between. (In the center of that portion of the CCP mall surrounded by empty store-fronts, in peace and quiet. There are also a few places scattered within to get something to drink, OR BYO! – plus a bite to eat, including ice cream, if you want – OR go inside one of the local restaurants to eat. We'll decide the location once I hear from those attending.

**Please RSVP for the Critique Group** so we know how many copies of our work to bring [norma.B.N.A.F@gmail.com](mailto:norma.B.N.A.F@gmail.com)

Or contact me for more info if interested in attending \* 916-804-7201 c / 916-991-5751 h \*

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

## 2019 NCPA Anthologies

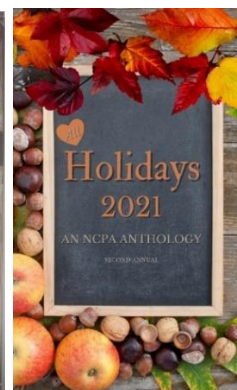
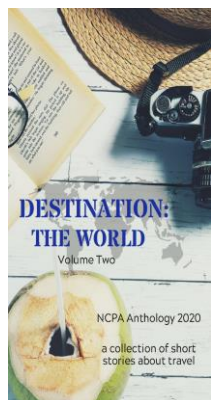


**BIRDS OF A FEATHER**  
An NCPA Anthology  
*A Collection of Short Stories about Animals*



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

## 2020 NCPA Anthologies



ALL (seven) 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 ANTHOLOGY BOOKS (above) AVAILABLE  
PAPER COPIES @ Cost for Authors from Sharon Darrow: Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com or  
[NCPA Anthologies \(7 book series\) Ebook & Paperback Edition \(amazon.com\)](https://www.amazon.com/NCPA-Anthologies-7-book-series/dp/1527000000)

## 2023 NCPA Anthologies --- COMING DECEMBER 2023

BEAUTIFUL WORLD  
COVER COMING  
SOON (as soon as I  
give it to Michelle &  
she fixes it out of a pdf  
format so I can copy it  
here)



(Holidays' title will also change: from 2022 to Vol 3)

Get those thinking caps on and start writing now for NCPA's next two anthologies in 2023:

**Submission deadline on both \* Beautiful World \* & \* ALL Holidays Vol 3 \* 1 Sep 2023**

**NEW dedicated Email address for both anthologies: [2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com](mailto:2023NCPAAnthologies@gmail.com)**



**SILENT AUCTION DONORS****Want your name and info advertised here?**

It's really simple:

Just donate something to the Silent Auction during one or more of NCPA's Annual Book Awards Banquets. Beneficiary of amounts received during the 2022 (published) Book Awards Banquet Sun 7 May 2023 will once more be Friends of the Library

**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 2022 Book Awards Banquet in 2023

**CHANGE OF BANQUET DATE: SUNDAY 25 June 2023 at the Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta****SILENT AUCTION DONORS 2022 \* THANK YOU SO MUCH to our donors \***

Cherry Island G.C. \* Sharon Darrow \* Ant-fm \* Chrissi Villa \* Frances Kakugawa \* Placer Pops Chorale \* Roaring Camp Mining Company \* Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media \* Sharif Jewelers \* Linda Joy Singleton

**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****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 Schoenborn****NEW INFO**

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@JenniferTheGhostwriter.com](mailto:jennifer@JenniferTheGhostwriter.com) \* <https://JenniferTheGhostwriter.com> 209-269-2210 \* 209-327-5475 **NEW 2023 INFO**

**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 \* There are other locations: check out their website for all.**How about an Outdoor event for the entire family**


**Roaring Camp Mining Company** in Pine Grove, CA just 1-1 1/2 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)

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

## MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

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

Monthly Meetings generally **3rd Saturday** of each month ~1pm-3pm (**NEW 2023 INFO**) Arden Dimick Library-  
891 Watt Av  \* ALSO \* Writers Network 9-11am **1st Fri** monthly

(**NEW 2023 INFO**) **CH Café & Grill** 6215 Sunrise, Citrus Heights 

Open to public, pay for your own breakfast (**NEW 2023 INFO**)

For information & prices on joining, go to: [www.cwcsacramentowriters.org](http://www.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://Elk Grove Writers Guild (egweg.org))**

Meets the **1st Fri** of each month in Elk Grove at the Round Table Pizza Restaurant,  
corner of Bruceville Rd. and Whitlock at 12:30 pm  (**NEW 2023 INFO**)

For more info, go to [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)

### ➤ **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 above info may be outdated. Suggest you contact prior to attending any.**

**If there are any changes in any of the above organizations, please let me know ASAP --- [normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com)**

I removed Sacramento Valley Rose & RWA since I've not been able to find them anywhere with a Google search or anything else & was told SVR had separated from RWA and restructured with a new name, but the person telling me couldn't remember the name.

**IF YOU KNOW OTHER LOCAL WRITING GROUPS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW SO I CAN ADD THEM**

**FREE ADVERTISING For Your Books or Writing-Related Business!** Contact Norma today [normathornton@yahoo.com](mailto:normathornton@yahoo.com) if you'd like to be a one-month 2023 NCPA Guest Journalist. Promote yourself and your writing accomplishments like all our guest journalists since 2022, which has turned out to be an interesting experiment, one I'd like very much to continue. **YOU CAN BE NEXT.**



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

Michelle Hamilton

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

916-837-6812

**Secretary**

Danita Moon

[danita@danitamoon.com](mailto:danita@danitamoon.com)

(916) 980-0375

**Communications Director / Newsletter Editor**

Norma Jean Thornton

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

916-991-5751 (h) 916-804-7201 (c)

**Immediate Past President**

Sharon Darrow

**Membership Chair**

Sharon Darrow

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

800-462-2328

**Book Awards Chair**

Sharon Darrow

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

800-462-2328

**Awards Banquet Chair/ Coordinator**

Norma Jean Thornton

**Monthly Speaker Coordinator**

Norma Jean Thornton

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

916-991-5751 home (has V/M)

916-804-7201 cell (NO V/M)

**Webmaster & Photographer**

Chrissi Villa

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

Sharon Darrow

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

800-462-2328

**Treasurer**

Amy Rogers

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

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

**Social Media Director**

Chrissi Villa

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

Charlene Johnson

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

Danita Moon

[danita@danitamoon.com](mailto:danita@danitamoon.com)

(916) 980-0375

**Anthology 2019 - 2023**

Norma Jean Thornton: Coordinator

Michelle Hamilton: Main Editor

Bob Irelan: Editor

Elaine Faber: Editor

Norma Jean Thornton: Proofreader

Sharon Darrow: Publisher

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

Amy Rogers

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

**In Person NCPA meetings with or without guest speakers each month are TEMPORARILY ON HOLD through July 2023 Meetings will re-start in August at *The Flaming Grill* in the Country Club Plaza Shopping Mall at Watt Av & El Camino Av**  
Times and Dates yet to be determined, but may not be on a Sunday.  
**No purchase necessary but a soda/drink would be appreciated \*Alcohol is available**  
**Meetings always FREE ~ Visitors always welcome.**

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

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

Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)

PO Box 214673 ~ Sacramento, CA 95821

Michelle Hamilton, President ~ 916-837-6812 \* Norma Jean Thornton, Editor ~ 916-991-5751  
*The Pen & Press* is published by Northern California Publishers & Authors, a coalition of authors, small presses, and independent publishers. All newsletter content, unless otherwise attributed, is copyrighted by NCPA.

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

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

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

### Other News, Announcements, and Comments

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

### A Note from the Editor

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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