

www.norcalpa.org

The Pen & Press

6:30pm * Thu * 10 June 2021 * ZOOM MEETING

TWO GUEST SPEAKERS: Both NCPA "ROYALTY!"

V.P. SHARON DARROW & Prez. ML HAMILTON

"From Under a Rock & Back into the Sunshine!"

NCPA V.P. Sharon Darrow & NCPA Prez Michelle Hamilton will cover:

"FROM UNDER A ROCK & BACK INTO THE SUNSHINE! – WHAT COMES NEXT?"

A little bit of everything: What it takes for our Authors-as-Vendors to get active again, and some of the tools we'll need * With links to a variety of stuff, such as Resale Certificates vs Business License * Vendor Insurance * and MORE: Attend the 6:30pm ZOOM meeting to find out the rest!

ZOOM MEETINGS: still beyond my capabilities. As of yet, I haven't gotten involved in sending out the initial notice, but I do get it done in the newsletters. To benefit our out-of-area/state members, and lurkers, we plan on eventually combining Zoom with our regular meetings once we can start having them again.

Instructions on how to ZOOM connect inside this newsletter, top of page 3

8 July Meeting

NO GUEST SPEAKER - Housecleaning time & a bunch of Q & A 's – anything you need to know about writing -- including the kitchen sink. Maybe that can be our prompt!?

Just ZOOM ON IN at 6:30pm with those questions! We have the answers (We hope!)

12 August Meeting

Another NO GUEST SPEAKER Meeting - This one will hopefully focus mostly on follow-up Q & A's from July mtg, plus our scheduled 29 August Book Awards & Risk Takers Anthology Awards Banquet Yet Another 6:30pm Zoomer

29 August 2021

27th Annual Book Awards & 2nd Anthology Story Risk Taker Awards Banquet

5pm-9pm * Cherry Island Golf Course

More info as time draws closer

Book & Risk Taker-Awards Banquet (Pending Covid Restrictions)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NCPA! We also celebrate 30 years and counting!

Check out our **NCPA FB PAGE**

<https://www.facebook.com/NORCALPA>

President's Message

For Thursday's meeting, Sharon and I will be discussing how to move from pandemic living as an author to reemerging into the world. The truth is, pandemic living is probably a happy place for authors. I'm not meaning the death, or the loss of connection, but I think for a lot of us, marketing ourselves, forcing ourselves out in public is very hard, and if we're being honest, holing up in our bunkers and writing isn't the worst thing in the world.

I know for a fact that everyone can sell my books better than I do. I've had potential buyers ask me, "Why should I buy your book?" and I kid you not, my first instinct is to duck my head and say, "You're right, you shouldn't. I'm the worst."

Now, if you are among the treasured few that are exceptional salespeople and authors both, bravo! But it still might be hard getting back out, doing what we did before the pandemic started. In fact, it might feel almost impossible.

I know the first day I walked into my classroom and taught in person again, I had the instinct to go back into hiding, worried that everyone was carrying the plague, and doing that weird side-step we've adopted when I met someone in the hallway, but each day, each hour, it got better. In fact, I stopped flinching every time someone coughed near me.

The thing is, I'm excited to get back to meeting with people, to doing live appearances, even to speak in public again. I want to put the pandemic in my rearview mirror and get back out there laughing and talking with people without feeling like I need to quarantine for two weeks afterward.

While being holed up might be good for the introverted writer, the truth is this: In modern writing, the author is also expected to be his or her own coach, salesperson, and cheerleader. We have to market our work ourselves; even if you land a coveted contract from a big 5 publishing house. So, I'm gonna give you a cheer to get you motivated:

Ready, okay!
We're fired up, we're sizzling hot.
With Covid, we've been through a lot.
We've got the heat.
We won't be beat.
Authors are emerging.
So, get to purch...um...a-sing.
Our books are on fire.
We're not gonna retire.
2021 is our year.
So, let's all give a cheer.

Okay, so I don't have a career as a cheerleader or apparently a cheer writer, but let's get out there, NCPA, and shake some hands...okay, maybe not shake hands, but let's smile...okay, not smile, because masks, but let's raise our brows meaningfully at our adoring public.

GOOO get 'em!

ML Hamilton
authormlhamilton.net

Now's the TIME TO WRITE & PUBLISH YOUR 2021/2022 BOOK/S
if you want to enter them in our 28th Annual Book Awards for the 2022 Banquet.
Submissions will start sometime around October 2021. Full details coming soon.

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>

AWARDS BANQUET UPDATES: Celebrating FOUR (4) events

- **NCPA celebrates our 30th Anniversary**
- **NCPA's 27th (2020) ANNUAL BOOK AWARDS,**
- **NCPA's 2nd (2020) ANNUAL ANTHOLOGY RISK TAKER AWARDS**
- **Launching 2021 NCPA Anthologies: *Beautiful Americas* & *ALL Holidays 2021***

AWARDS BANQUET is scheduled for Sun 29 Aug 2021, once more at our favorite location:
Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta, CA, pending Covid.

Anthology Risk Takers Awards for our three (3) 2020 Anthologies: *DESTINATION: The World Vol 1* & *Vol 2* and *ALL Holidays 2020* have been chosen and the awards are ready.

Books for the BOOK AWARDS have all been read and the judges are getting together this week at a secret designated time for the final decisions, then those awards will be completed, the program will be published and we can hopefully all get together in Aug to celebrate!

Newsworthy Notes for Authors

***Simon & Schuster's imprint Gallery Books: FREE CONTEST** for first-time writers
Gallery Books, an imprint of Simon & Shuster, announces their launch of the BOOKS LIKE US First Novel Contest, a new annual opportunity to highlight underrepresented writers, and to celebrate the diversity of their readers served. **The two-week entry period dates are 1-14 June 2021.** For more information click on the following link:

<https://www.simonandschuster.com/p/gallery-first-novel-contest>

***PROMOTE YOUR BOOKS ON TV FREE:** Weekend Book Club CW31 – Good Day Sacramento – It's back, and our own Chrissi Villa was there with her Haiku puppy PB, *Will You Still Love Me?* on 23 May. Contact Tina Macuha at booking@kmaxtv.com or call 916-374-1313 and ask for her contact info.

***WRITING A COOKBOOK?** Read this for more info on copyright and plagiarism:
<https://www.plagiarismtoday.com/2015/03/24/recipes-copyright-and-plagiarism/>

***CHROME VS. EDGE:** WHICH IS THE BETTER BROWSER TO USE ON A PC?
<https://www.komando.com/comparison-charts/chrome-vs-edge/791552/>

***Clicking on the link** below should take you to either the **ERMA BOMBECK WRITERS' WORKSHOP website**, or a group of articles that covers it.

***Mark your calendars for the March 24-26, 2022, Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop at the University of Dayton. Registration opens in December.**

***Just in case the above does NOT take you there, I've added a few important links below to some of the articles within the Email I received:**

... Applications for the **Humorist-in-Residence Program** will be accepted Sept. 7-28. What funny writer wouldn't want to win a free workshop registration *and* an all-expenses-paid trip to the Dayton Riviera, where our two winners will spend two weeks in a hotel room working on their craft (and ordering free French toast)?

Entries for the **Erma Bombeck Writing Competition**, sponsored by the Washington-Centerville Public Library, will be accepted Nov. 30-Jan. 4 in two categories — humor and human interest. The four winning writers will receive a free registration to the spring workshop, \$1,000 and publication of their essays online and in the workshop's program.

All entries must be previously unpublished.

For both contests, cash prizes will be awarded for honorable mentions.

Keep writing!

Teri Rizvi * Founder, Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop

***FUNDS FOR WRITERS:** Info straight from Erma Bombeck's Email. **LOTS of good info:**
<https://fundsforwriters.com/>

***POETS & WRITERS** offers **40% Discount** off Ads in Sept/Oct issue – **DEADLINE 24 June 2021** - I can't get a workable link to their Email, so try this: **E-mail me at tosullivan@pw.org or call (212) 226-3586 x210**

***Elk Grove Writers Guild** is holding their first **Summer Academy of Writing** with the following three Zoom classes: **Price for all 3: \$25 – Individual classes \$10 each**

***June 19 at 2:00pm – Branding and Marketing** – This enlightening class will be presented by **ML Hamilton, a prolific mystery author ... and President of NCPA.**

***July 17 at 2:00pm – Pen Names and Finding Your Niche** – **Cheryl Stapp** will present this informative topic. Cheryl is a Northern California Historian & author ... **and member of NCPA.**

***August 21 at 2:00pm – Journey of a Self-Published Author** – **Margaret Duarte will present this insightful topic.** She is the author of an award-winning psychological fiction series "Enter the Between." ... **and member of NCPA.**

For more information, go to: www.egweg.org * click on events * then on Summer Academy

WOW! WHAT A BOOKSTORE!!

Pictures and stories of the Never-ending bookstore in China (Google Search) – with a mirrored ceiling, "...looks like it's straight from Harry Potter!" Click on images when you first open the site, for a plethora of AMAZING pictures, prior to reading the numerous articles.

[Never ending bookstore China - Google Search](#)

Helping Writers Become Authors?

I keep seeing **white line breaks** referred to, but not sure what it means. Even after looking it up, I'm still in the dark ... I'm a visual person, so I need to actually see what they're talking about! But here it is, for those who also wonder about it and too afraid to ask. I obviously wasn't, nor do I care that I still don't know! Just click on the Bing link below: Hopefully it helps you!

[what is a white line break in writing - Bing](#)

And, while we're at it, here's another one I ran across while looking up the other one ...

paragraph breaks Just click on it for several articles explaining ... but not showing (not quick enough for me, anyway): [How to Use Paragraph Breaks to Guide the Reader's Experience –](#)

*

***ELK GROVE WRITERS CONFERENCE & BOOK FAIRE – 9 October 2021**

Held at District 56, presented by the City of Elk Grove, EG Arts Commission & EG Writers Guild.

Admission to the Conference only, barring any unforeseen circumstances, will be **\$60**. And will include breakfast with assorted muffins, coffee, tea, and water. The Elk Grove Arts Commission will also hold a **Short Story Contest** (entry fee **\$10**) during the combined Book Faire & Conference.

*

***SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GEEALOGY SOCIETY**

Southern California Genealogy Society offers **FREE** On-Line Virtual Conferences

Mon 7 Jun & Wed 9 June 2021

2 FREE Live On-Line Genealogy Jamboree sessions

There's MORE – check them out at link below:

[JamboFree Schedule – Genealogy Jamboree 2021](#)

*

Learning new words from TV shows lately – especially from Canada, England, Australia: and occasionally New Zealand – Mostly on OVATION channel, but some also on KVIE Channel 6

from Murdoch Mysteries in Toronto, Canada, but a New Zealand word: What is **hongqi**
https://www.google.com/search?q=what+is+a+hongqi+in+new+zealand&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&ei=e1KnYMGqM8P5-gTovaWICQ&og=what+is+a+hongqi+in+new+zealand&gs_lcp=ChNtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1zZXJwEAMyAggAMgUIABCGAzoECAAQRzoECAAQDTogCAAQBxAeOgQIHhAKUMOnAVjc2AFgz90BaARwAXgAgAG7AYgB8QWSAQMxLjWYAQCgAQHIAQjAAQE&sclient=mobile-gws-wiz-serp

Perfect character flaw for mystery writers - saw it on CRACKED - Canadian Mystery/ Crime/
/Drama on Ovation: Psych Crimes
https://www.google.com/search?q=face+blindness+disorder&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&source=hp&ei=jpSmYN-QAeOs0PEP5aecuAs&oq=face+blindness&gs_lcp=ChFtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdppei1ocBABGAlYBQgAELEDMgUIABCxAzICCAAYAggAMgIIADICCAAYAggAMgIIADoCCCk6BQgpELEDQgQIKRAKOgkIKRANEEYQ-wE6BQgpEMQCOgUIKRCgAToLCCkQsQMqxwEQrWE6CAgAEOoCEI8BOggIABCxAxCDAToLCC4QsQMqgwE6CAguEMcBEK8BOgIILjoLCC4QsQMqxwEQowl6BQguELEDQgQIABAKOgcIABCxAxAkUIwiWL5KYJ5qaAJwAHgAgAGWAYqBswySAQQyLjEymAEAoAEBSAEe&scient=mobile-gws-wiz-hp

Another suggestion for Character flaws for Mystery Authors - another one from **CRACKED** (same episode of Psych Crimes)

https://www.google.com/search?q=dupers+delight+body+language&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&source=hp&ei=fqKmYJ2jEdu60PEP9tWSgAc&q=dooors+delight&gs_lcp=ChFtb2JpbG_UtZ3dzLXdppei1ocBABGAMyBAgAEAOyBAgAEAOyBAgAEAOyBAgAEAOyBAgAEAOyBAgAEAOyBAgAEAOyBggAEAOQHjoCCCK6BQgpELEDOgQIKRAKOgkIKRANEEYQ_-wE6BQgpEMQCOgUIKRCgAToLCCKQsQMoxwEQrWE6CAgAEOoCEI8BOgcIKRANEJMCOgsILhCxAxCDARCTAjoiCAAQsQMogwE6CwgUeLEDEMcBEKMCOgUIABCxazoGCCkQfFAheAQgQIKRANOggILhCxAxCDAToOCC4QsQMoxwEQowIQkwl6AggAOgUILhCxAzoTCC4QsQMoxwEQowIQChCTAjoiCCC46CggUELEDEIMBEAo6BwgAELEDEAo6BAgAEao6BwguELED_EAo6BAguEAo6CggUEMcBEK8BEAo6BggaEA0QCjokCC4QsQMQRDCTAjoeCC4QDTonCC_4QxwEQrWEQDRCTAjohCCEQChCgAToGCAAQfFAeUNAUWLWOAWCgtwFoAnAAeACAaeWBiAGoEpIBBJAuMTQuMZgBAKABAbABHg&scient=mobile-gws-wiz-hp

Cat litter commercial: BEANS - BOOPS - SLONKY - CHONKY - BISCUITS - FLOOPS - PEETS
- FLONKY - all things that cats do

https://www.google.com/search?q=chonky+definition&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&ei=IrFqYMyWAaL89AOQyq2IBA&ogq=chonky+definition&gs_lcp=ChNtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdppei1zZXJwEAMyAggAMgYIABAHEB4yBggAEAcQHjIGCAAQBxAeMggIABAIEAoQHjIFCAAQhgMyBQgAEIYDMgUIABCGAzoECAAQRzoICAAQBxAKEB46BAgAEAO6BggAEAOQHjoICAAQCBANEb46BQgAEM0COgUIABCRAjoFCAAQsQM6BwgAELEDEEM6BAgAEENQopwDWJrqA2Du8wNoB3ABeACAAYcCiAG-FpiBBjAuMTcuMpgBAKABAcgBB8ABAQ&sclick=mobile-gws-wiz-serp

And for those who write about DRUNKS:

Ossified: Irish slang for drunk -or **snockered:** Frankie Drake Mysteries - Toronto

https://www.google.com/search?q=ossified+definition&client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&source=hp&ei=HQm3YMX9IPbE0PEP9f-BsA4&og=ossified&gs_lcp=ChFtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1ocBABGAEyCggAELEDEEYQ-QEYAggAMqIIADICCAAYAggAMqIIADICCAAYAggAOqIIKToJCCkQDRBGEPkBOqsIKRCxAxC-DARCTAjoICAAQ6qIQjwE6DgguELEDEMcbEKMCEJMCOggILhCxAXCDAToICAAQsQMQgwE6CwguELEDEMcbEKMCOqIIlJoFCAAQsQM6CAQuEMcbEKMCOqUILhCxAZoICC4QsQMqkwI6CAQuEMcbEKM8BUK4PWLkYLCxaAJwAHgAgAGZAYgBggeSAQMyLjaYAQCgAQGwAR4&sc_lieent=mobile-gws-wiz-hp

Toss in a bunch of nonsense and we get, also from Frankie Drake Mysteries:

Pish, Piffle, Balderdash & Poppycock

What's the difference between balderdash and poppycock ...

<https://wikidiff.com/balderdash/poppycock>

Poppycock is a synonym of **balderdash**. **Balderdash** is a synonym of **poppycock**. As nouns the difference between **balderdash** and **poppycock** is that **balderdash** is senseless talk or writing; nonsense while **poppycock** is (colloquial) foolish talk; nonsense. As a verb **balderdash** is to mix or adulterate.

Piffle: *informal* nonsense. "it's absolute piffle to say that violence is ok" **synonyms:**

[nonsense](#) · [rubbish](#) · [garbage](#) · [claptrap](#) · [balderdash](#) · [blather](#) · [blether](#) · [moonshine](#) · [foolishness](#) · [silliness](#) · [rot](#) · [tripe](#) · [hogwash](#) · [baloney](#) · [drivel](#) · [bilge](#) · [bosh](#) · [bull](#) · [bunk](#) · [guff](#) · [eyewash](#) · [poppycock](#) · [phooey](#) · [hooy](#) · [malarkey](#) · [twaddle](#) · [dribble](#) · [cobblers](#) · [codswallop](#) stuff and nonsense [tosh](#) cack [havers](#) codology [flapdoodle](#) [applesauce](#) [wack](#) · [bushwa](#) · [bunkum](#) · [tommyrot](#) · [cod](#) · [gammon](#) · [toffee](#) [gubbins](#) ·

Pish: a reaction of frustration meaning to strongly disagree

***And from Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries from Melbourne, Australia:**

Collywobbles: stomach pain or queasiness. * intense anxiety or nervousness, especially with stomach queasiness. * **Cattywampus:** Askew * **Ninnyhammer:** A fool or simpleton: ninny

A bit of TWISTED word levity:

- Why do you have to "put your two cents in"... but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's that extra penny going? (taxes)
- What disease did cured ham actually have?
- Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours?
- If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?
- Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?
- Dentist: "You need a crown." Patient: "Finally someone who understands me"

NCPA still accepting submissions for both 2021 anthologies

2021 ANTHOLOGIES * Beautiful Americas & ALL Holidays 2021.

SUBMISSION soft DEADLINE now 15 June 2021 for anticipated publication launches on both 29 Aug 2021, and 5 Dec 2021. Get those stories in NOW -

to Norma at this **new E address** ONLY: 2021NCPAAnthology@gmail.com

Beautiful Americas: Any genre, any type, anywhere, on land, the sea, in the air, everywhere! Write a story that takes place in the Americas (North, South, Central America, including the Caribbean. Since the Americas are so scattered, to find whether an area is actually included in one, **click:** [Countries by Continent :: American Countries - Nations Online Project](#)) (**OR COPY AND PASTE AS AN URL**) It does **not** have to be a travel story. Any story anyplace in the Americas is all that's needed. **Just be sure to mention the location. That's our only stipulation ... and family-friendly, please.**

ALL Holidays 2021: Any genre, any holiday, from New Years' Day to New Year's Eve, anything in between, alongside, or outer space, even Seinfeld's Festivus, as long as it's a holiday, an interesting read, and family friendly ... for both books. **POETRY OK IN THIS ONE.**

FULL INFO ON BOTH CAN BE FOUND BY CLICKING THE FOLLOWING LINK FOR THE FEB NEWSLETTER: [NCPA FINAL FEB 2021 Newsletter 1 March.pdf](#)

ALL INFORMATION, including blank forms, CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE MAIN PAGE OF THE NCPA WEBSITE, AT www.norcalpa.org

MEMBER WEBSITES: Send yours to normthornton@yahoo.com for newsletter inclusion

Personal websites **UPDATED FOR CURRENT MEMBERS ONLY.** If you aren't a current paid member, and wish to be included, you may join at www.norcalpa.org

UPDATED FROM MARCH NEWSLETTER:

<http://www.marlenebumgarner.com>
bettykstaley.com
<https://www.angelicarjackson.com/>
<https://bobbiefite.com/home.html>
<http://mydiabeticsoul.com/>
<https://libernetics.com/writings/>
www.bob-irelan.com
<http://www.christinevilla.com/>
<https://www.thebicyclewaltz.com/>
<https://www.sharonsdarrow.com/>
<https://www.charlenejohnsonbooks.com/>
<http://dierdrew.us/>
www.sigridbathen.com
<https://www.deborahpittman.com/>
www.thepyrateheartpress.com

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

2019 NCPA Anthologies

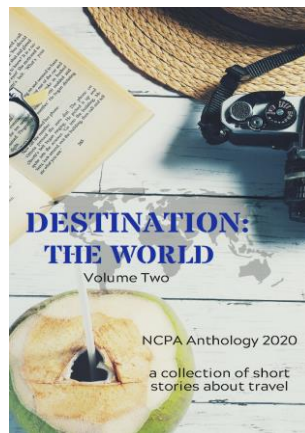


BIRDS OF A FEATHER
An NCPA Anthology
A Collection of Short Stories about Animals



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

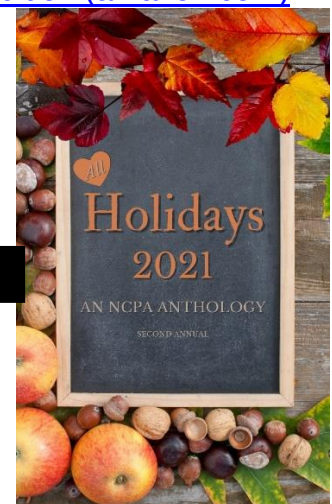
2020 NCPA Anthologies



ALL (five) 2019 & 2020 ANTHOLOGY BOOKS (above) AVAILABLE
CHEAPEST PAPER COPIES: From Sharon Darrow: Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com
OR [NCPA Anthologies \(5 book series\) Ebook & Paperback Edition \(amazon.com\)](https://www.amazon.com/NCPA-Anthologies-5-book-series/dp/B085L7L7L7)



TENTATIVE COVERS FOR 2021 ANTHOLOGIES



Both 2021 covers look better: I just can't get the right ones to copy, and minimizing makes it worse. The back of ALL Holidays will also have "Don't Judge A Book by Its Cover" added, along with a blurb.

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 2020 Book Awards Banquet in 2021
SUNDAY 29 August 2021 at the Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta

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

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

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

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

Cherry Island Golf Course * 2360 Elverta Rd * Elverta, CA * www.golfcherryisland.com * 916-991-6875

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

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

"Holiday Placer Pops" Chorale & Orchestra 2020

Great present for everyone * www.placerpops.com

***** Locations, DATES & TIMES COMING SOON**

ADVERTISING FOR MORE OF OUR DONORS, all NCPA members

Looking for a detailed critique and line edit? Contact donor **Amy Rogers: Science Thrillers Media**

Amy Rogers, independent publisher, beta reader for James Rollins, and former judge for International Thriller Writers' Thriller Awards. amy@AmyRogers.com Web: AmyRogers.com (916)-712-3334

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

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

jennifer@JenniferTheEditor.org www.JenniferTheEditor.org 209-369-6188

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

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

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

Check out the fine jewelry at Sharif's

Sharif Jewelers * 1338 Howe Ave, Sacramento, CA * www.sharifjewelers.com ~ 916-927-0542

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

How about an Outdoor event for the entire family

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

www.roaringcampgold.com ~ 209-296-4100 ~ info@roaringcampgold.com

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

Grand Oaks Inn B & B ~ Joe & Ann Mehrten 21941 Buena Vista Road P.O. Box 518
Clements, CA 95227 grandoaksinn.com 209 759-3453 or 209-759-3713 grandoaks@inreach.com

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

2021 SILENT AUCTION DONORS Continued from prior page – pending Covid restrictions for 2021??

Many thanks to the generosity of Sacramento's Bouchercon 2020, for the donation of a case of Totes, some to be used in our 2020 NCPA Book Awards, for the Silent Auction Sunday 29 August 2021. Thanks also to Rae James and M. Penny Manson from Capitol Crimes (Sacramento chapter of Sisters in Crime) for arranging for, and getting, the totes to me.

Many thanks also to:

*EGWG for the donation of one ticket to the 2021 Elk Grove Writers Conference (pending Covid 2021)

*NCPA member Barbara Barrett for the donated set of lantern-shaped cut-glass candle holders

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

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

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

2021 Genealogy Presentations at Sacramento Central Library

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

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

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

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

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

**27th NCPA
BOOK AWARDS
BANQUET
5pm-9pm
Sun 29 August 2021
&
Anthology Launch
Beautiful Americas &
ALL Holidays 2021**

***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.

Sun 5 Dec 2021 ~ 12Noon-? Citrus Heights'
Black Angus on Greenback **PENDING COVID**
NCPA's 2021 Holiday Luncheon & Book Launches for
Beautiful Americas - OR - ALL Holidays 2021

Elk Grove Writers Guild Conference (\$60)
Book Faire + Short Story Contest (\$10 entry fee)
9 OCT * 8230 Civic Center Dr. in Elk Grove *

Elk Grove Writers Guild ZOOM Classes **2pm**
June 19 **Branding & marketing – ML HAMILTON**
More info www.eqweg.org

MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

➤ California Writers Club (CWC) (Sacramento Branch)

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

Writers Network 9-11am 1st Fri monthly Perko's 6215 Sunrise, Citrus Heights

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

For information & prices on joining, go to: cwcsacramentowriters.org

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

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

FREE monthly meetings, generally the **3rd Saturday** of each month, generally with guest speakers, generally crime-related. They normally meet at **1pm** at the

Rancho Cordova Library 9845 Folsom Blvd in Rancho Cordova

No-Host lunch 11:30am prior to meetings usually at Perko's 9647 Micron Av

Must be a member of Sisters in Crime (\$50) to join Cap Crimes (\$20) Capitolcrimes.org

➤ Elk Grove Writers Guild (EGWG)

Meets the 1st Fri of each month in Elk Grove - **BY ZOOM RIGHT NOW**

No further info, but go to the following for more:

[Elk Grove Writers Guild \(egweg.org\)](http://Elk Grove Writers Guild (egweg.org)) * Email egwg2020@egweg.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) (CA North/Central)

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

Go to their website for full information: <https://canorthcentral.scbwi.org/>*

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

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Anthology 2019 & 2020Michelle Hamilton: **Editor**Sharon Darrow: **Publisher**Bob Ireland: **Editor**Norma Jean Thornton: **Coordinator & Proofreader**NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

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

By ZOOM 6:30pm to 8:30pm Denny's 3520 Auburn Blvd **COVID**

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

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

Meetings are always FREE ~ Visitors are always welcome.

www.norcalpa.org

Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

... Norma Jean Thornton, editor *The Pen & Press* 2016-2020