

www.norcalpa.org

The Pen & Press

Thursday * 11 July 2019 * 6:30pm–9pm

NO GUEST SPEAKER

State of NCPA + Catch-up on Anthology (x2) & Book Awards

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

Denny's (in the Private back room)

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

No-host food &/or beverage

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

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

- 11 Jul * **No Speaker** ~ Chit Chat on Anthologies, Book Awards, all-things Publishing, writing & more
- 8 Aug * **Amy Rogers** ~ working w/Amazon & if time, touch on Marketing in general
- 12 Sep * **Frances Kakugawa** ~ Catching up with her wild & crazy ride to writing, publishing, speaking & more
- 10 Oct * **Al Gonzalez** ~ Working with YouTube & Make Videos to promote Authors
- 14 Nov * **Lit-Agent Jennifer Chen Tran** ~ What an Agent looks for; if time allows, a few pitches for books
- 12 Dec * **No Speaker** ~ **ANNUAL BOOK DISPLAY** * Bring your books to sell, barter, share or whatever

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

Wed 19 Jun * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

Wednesday July * No July Wednesday Meeting * Fair-Time!

Wed 15 Aug * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

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

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

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

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

NCPA's 3rd Annual Holiday Luncheon * Sun 1 Dec 2019 * Black Angus

Sun 1 Dec 2019 ~ 3rd Annual NCPA Holiday Lunch 12Noon -??

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

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

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

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

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

President's Message

Often as a writer, you may feel the call to write, but sometimes what to write is more challenging than how to write it. Ideas for writing can come in many forms. A memory. A photograph. A song. Once you've found the inspiration, now you have to figure out what all you'll put into your work -- you have to create the plot, the characters, or do the research.

The big umbrella idea can be easy to come up with, but often it's getting from point A to Z that's the problem. Finding the smaller sections, the scenes to write about can be difficult. You might come up with a perfect ending, but I don't care how perfect your ending is, you've got to guide your reader to it.

Other times, the scenes are there, but how do you end well? Unfortunately, the reader is less likely to remember how you began and more likely to remember how you end. So often I've read a really good book only to have the ending fall flat. Sometimes you can actually tell that the author got bored with the story and just wanted to finish it. I believe that if you have a powerful ending, readers will forgive some minor missteps in the middle.

It's sort of like theatre. You want to hook them at the start, lull them into complacency, then have a big dance number in the middle just before intermission. Finally, you want to give 'em the ol' razzle dazzle at the end.

There's a formula to good storytelling. I know that is a dirty word in writing, but formulas work because they work. Find the formula that works for you, no matter what genre you write in. Then when that formula seems to be getting old, switch it up and create a new one.

Maybe try a different point of view. Write in a new genre. Or just change the type of music you're listening to. If the old formula has become stale -- shake things up. Do something different. Write the ending before the beginning. Write the beginning before the ending. But as Robin Williams says in the *Dead Poets Society*, "I stand upon my desk to remind myself that we must constantly look at things in a different way."

Michelle Hamilton, President NCPA

Michelle's mention of the theatre, hooks, lulls, dance & razzle dazzle reminds me of our own **Sacramento Music Circus**, celebrating its **69th** year ~ this season opened Tue night with **SHREK the Musical** and it had every bit AND MORE of the above. **Andre Jordan as Donkey & Jennifer Leigh Warren as the Dragon** absolutely stole the show, and had the audience, both young and old, in awe with their spot-on performances and special effects. From young Shrek & the 2 young Fionas to adult Shrek & adult Fiona ... Lord Farguaad to each of the Fairy-tale characters ... the music and dance plus the outstanding costumes, this is one of the best shows I've seen at Music Circus, and I've had season tickets since 1976. **SHREK** runs through Sunday 16 June.

Purchase tickets at Wells Fargo Pavilion Box Office 1419 H St call: 916-557-1999

Or go to: <https://www.broadwaysacramento.com/tessitura-template/>

EASY WAY To RSVP discounted parking tickets (\$7.50 this year) go to: <https://reserve.sacpark.org/>
(Only takes about 5 minutes to RSVP your parking tickets for Music Circus this way)

OKLAHOMA! 25-30 Jun * **GUYS & DOLLS** 23-28 Jul ***The WIZ** 6-11 Aug * and 2 more

- **Minutes NPCA 9 May 2019 Meeting:** Attendees: Michelle Hamilton, Norma Jean Thornton, Amy Rogers, Charlene Johnson, Christine Villa, Andrea Roth, Mary Lou Anderson, Tammy Andrews Brandon, Sam Ortega, Jennifer Granger, Julie Beyers, Barbara Young & more ... names hard to read
 - **General Information:**
- Birds of a Feather Anthology –in the final stages. Once stories are in final draft, it will go to formatting and printing. Plan to have ready by the State Fair 12 July.
- We received \$1,000 from the silent charity auction held during the April awards dinner. Kudos to Norma for setting it up. This year's charity was the Mustard Seed School, a school for homeless children at Loaves & Fishes Campus. Sharon, Norma & Amy presented them with the check.
 - **Member Introduction:**

Tell the group about yourself. What publishing related topics would you be interested in having

- Marketing
- Multi-cultural works
- Finding an agent
- Locating poetry/short story/anthology contests

April 2020 Book Awards:

- Book awards are open for 2020. If you have a book that will be published in 2019 please get it in as soon as possible. The prices are going to be fluctuating. Sharon will have more information on that.
- Next Year's banquet is being held on April 26, 2020 at the Cherry Island Golf Course. The menu will be the same. The meats, rice and pasta will be prepared differently than this year.
- Norma is look for suggestions for the MC and the guest speakers.

Great Speaker – Yuri Kvichko, Business, Start-up and Intellectual Property attorney Copyright Highlights:

- Focused on copyright for authors
- Intellectual property – rights for intangible assets
- Copyrights protect your works, not your ideas or methods
 - Copyright your works as soon as possible. It's easy to do a **copyright.gov**. If you wait too long, you could lose your rights and money.
 - Recipe books – copyright protects the book itself but not ideas, processes or methods.
- How long does a copyright last?
 - Until an author's death plus 70 years.
 - To use something from a literary work, it has to be 95 years from publication or 120 years from creation. Do your research: does the work you want fall into the criteria.
- Quoting Other Works
 - Titles are mostly fine
 - Song lyrics are not
 - Books – depends of what quote you are trying to use.
- Real people /Companies
- The main time it is an issue is if they are used in an intentionally negative way.
 - **Trademark Highlights:**
- Yuri didn't really talk much about trademarks other than its better to trademark early before what you are marketing has value. Doing it too late, could cost you a lot of money if the value increases. Trademarks last forever if they are being used.
 - Example - Disney.

Note: Refer to Yuri's handout for more details. His contact information is in the presentation.

Charlene Johnson, NPCA Secretary

Book Competition for 2019 ~ *there are changes!*

There will be several changes in our Book Competition for works published in 2019. The changes are designed to continue the growth in reputation and credibility. We will be publishing new rules and applications soon, but in the meantime, you can enter using the application forms for 2018.

The primary changes are as follows:

- We will bring our competition in line with most of the other major national competitions and give Gold and Silver awards in individual categories, rather than the multiple levels we have given in the past.
-
- There will be three different fee levels for applications based on submission dates. Watch for the breakdown when we release new rules and applications. The purpose is simple -- to encourage authors to send their applications as early as possible to reduce pressure on our judges.
-
- eBooks will not be entered as a separate category. Authors will decide whether to enter their books as print editions or eBooks. Ebook entries will be the same application fee, but rather than sending in four books, the author must provide a MOBI file for distribution to the judges. If the author doesn't have a MOBI file (books converted to digital, by Kindle Direct Publishing, do NOT.) The author must provide four (4) gift coupons for distribution to the contest coordinator and the judges. Also, eBooks will NOT be entered in cover/interior formatting category, since there's no physical book to judge.
-
- Books that are not sold at the Banquet will not be shipped back to the authors. If you attend the banquet you will take your unsold books home; however, if you do not attend, the unsold books will become the property of NCPA to be donated or disposed of as the organization sees fit. You may also make arrangements to pick your books up elsewhere, such as a meeting or at Sharon's home, within 30 days of the banquet.
-
- Shipping costs are becoming too expensive, and inconvenient. It's either this, or raise the price of entry substantially to cover those costs.
-

If this all seems confusing, I apologize. The changes will be made clearer when we publish the new guidelines and application forms. The overall purpose is simple, to make things easier and more efficient for the authors and those handling the competition, and to help ensure that the competition pays for itself rather than becoming a cost center for the NCPA. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me

Sharon Darrow,
916-803-1665

"TRUST ME!" (?)

Have you noticed how often you hear "Trust me," in a month, a week, or occasionally, just in one day? It's like one of those worm things like they say the "It's a Small Word" song is ... "Trust me" has been like an obsession with me for more than three months now every ... single ... day I've heard it, at least once, either on TV, the radio, from someone I'm talking to or overhear it while out shopping ... even at Music Circus Tue night. And we all know that when anyone says "Trust me" that's the furthest thing from what you should do! There's obviously a bunch of liars and/or crooks running around out there in lala land! Now maybe you'll all have the same affliction as I, and can't ignore that "Trust me" phrase!

UPCOMING Non-Library BOOK EVENTS * contact ANDREA

- Aug 2019 Carmichael Founder's Day Celebration **PENDING**
- 8 December 2019 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church Craft Fair **PENDING**
- 14 December 2019 "Christmas at the Castle" Preston Castle Holiday Bazaar **PENDING**

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

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

- **Saturday 21 September 2019 8am-4pm** * 7th Annual Rio Linda/Elverta Country Faire
\$35 per 10'x10' booth. Contact Cheryl Cook rlevendors@yahoo.com
- **Saturday 12 October 2019 10 am-4 pm** * Great Valley Bookfest * The Promenade Shops at Orchard Valley, AKA: Bass Pro Center, Hwy. 120 at the Union Road Exit, 280 Lifestyle Road, Manteca, CA.
"Featured Author Applications" available at www.greatvalleybookfest.org.

50th Anniversary Southern California Genealogy JAMBOREE
FREE Live & Streaming through 31 July 2019 ~ Check it out!
<http://genealogyjamboree.com/>

Genealogy Presentations at Central Library 2019
Please note: New time is 10:00 am – 11:30 am

- July 14: (Topic to be Announced) – Gena Philibert-Ortega
August 11: Southern States Research -- Kathryn Marshall, PhD
Sept 8: Picture This: Cataloging Digital Family Photographs -- Nancy Loe
October 6: What GEDmatch Can Do for the Genealogist's DNA Research – James Baker, PhD
November 3: Jewish Genealogy: How Is This Research Different from Other Research? – Janice Sellers
December 1: (Topic to be Announced) -- Deborah Sweeney

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

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



June 2019

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

MORE BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Another NCPA Anthology



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

Just because the deadline is closed on "*Birds of a Feather*" doesn't mean we're through ~ We're starting our 2nd one, "*More Birds of a Feather*" with December the hopeful publishing date, just in time for the holidays

We've learned a lot working on the first one, our very first baby, so we'll have lots of changes on the 2nd one ~ just like with real babies ~ Loosen up regs (like word count), stricter on others (only ONE address to send to, Word doc, not PDF, and more in this one), plus flexible on others, like MAYBE, not just animals. Let's TALK!

Send us your comments, suggestions, or whatever.

Birds of a Feather ~ ANTHOLOGY UPDATE 9 May 2019 ~ doin' good!

First Proofing is complete, Editing is almost complete, Formatting is in the works with Edit Proofing soon to begin, and then it's off to the printers to be published! Deadline still on track ... we're doin' good!

Birds of a Feather ~ UPDATE 14 June 2019 ~ Still on track

First **Edit** proofing is almost complete ... I have some great bloopers that I DID, thanks to an unrelenting computer that keeps trying to run things. I'll share them later ... Working with 5 docs open on one screen, to copy and paste from one to the other, causes problems at times when the computer can't keep up with my fingers, and the action meant for one doc winds up on another. Think words deleted or wrong ones added on the wrong doc ... (LOL I just found that good & goof are only one finger off on the keyboard when typing.)

BTW, and FYI: We have a few stories with names of foods, products, or businesses, etc. I found by doing a Google search, that there really are places with those names, whether they're the ones actually mentioned in the stories, or not. Rather than take any chances, especially since some of the stories spoke negatively about the business, I've altered those names, to make them generic. I was also concerned about using brand names of actual food, household products, and similar things.

Fortunately, our speaker last night was an attorney on book publishing. I asked him what should be done. The consensus was it was just best to alter each, and not take any chances, so you've all been notified in this newsletter, that if your story has one of those, the likelihood is, it's been changed, per attorney's suggestions. Anthology's still pretty-much on schedule, just a lot of nit-picky work that takes a lot of time ... and my cat's not helping! She keeps rubbing her head in the top corner of my touch-screen, and the doc I'm typing on keeps disappearing, because her nose is hitting the doc on the screen! Good thing I saw her do it the first time!

Since I'm constantly bugging her for something for the newsletter, I got the following info from Frances Kakugawa 23 April. Her writer's-life is keeping her busy, so NCPA is very fortunate to have her as a speaker Thu **12 Sep** (about her wild & crazy ride to writing, publishing, speaking & MORE!)

"Hey Norma, if you're desperate for some items for the next newsletter...here is an update on my schedule."

BUSY SCHEDULE FOR NCPA MEMBER FRANCES KAKUGAWA

- Was interviewed recently on both the Dave Hannasey and the Neil Haley syndicated radio shows, heard in 130 countries with over 3 million listeners on Poetry and Caregiving.
- Locally spoke to the Rotary Club and is on her way (23 Apr) to Hawaii to do the same on caregiving and children's literature.
- Her children's book character Wordsworth is now a mascot for the Alzheimer Association in Hawaii and in full sized costume, Wordsworth is working with children on understanding memory loss.
- Her work on nature and ancestry is being published in various anthologies from Univ of Chicago to Hawaii.
- On June 25th, she is speaking at the Alzheimer Association event in Sacramento. Reservations are needed via 916-930-9080.
- In July, she will be speaking on Children's Literature at the Gold Country Writers' meeting.
- **At the 12 September meeting she's speaking to NCPA on everything going on in her life, so get those questions ready for her!**
- She has bookings up to 2020 so she's spending her leisure time staying alive.
- _____

[frances' website](#)

[frances' blog](#)

[frances' facebook page](#)

[<dearfrances.png>](#)

fhk@francesk.org

books by Frances:

- [<IAS 123x190.jpg>](#)
- [<Kapoho 75x113.jpg>](#)
- [<tlh 119x79.jpg>](#)
- [<bts](#)
- [<wwip-inktype.png>](#)
- [<wwp 89x79.jpg>](#)
- [<wwdw 91x79.jpg>](#)
- [<bldzr 75x86.jpg](#)
- [>](#)
- [click book covers for information]

NCPA MEMBERS If you have a busy schedule you'd like to share in an upcoming newsletter, send it.

If it fits, we'll include it ... as long as it's writing-relevant.

normathornton@yahoo.com

"TRUST ME!" (?)

Have you noticed how often you hear "Trust me," in a month, a week, or occasionally just in one day? It's like one of those worm things like they say the "*It's a Small World*" song is ... "Trust me" has been like an obsession with me for more than three months now every ... single ... day I've heard it, at least once, either on TV, the radio, from someone I'm talking to or overhear it while out shopping ... even at Music Circus Tue night. And we all know that when anyone says "Trust me" that's the furthest thing from what you should do! There's obviously a bunch of liars and/or crooks running around out there in lala land! Now maybe you'll all have the same affliction as I, and can't ignore that "Trust me" phrase!



NCPA MEMBERS' NEWLY PUBLISHED WORKS ~~ CONGRATS TO BOTH OF YOU!

Elaine Faber: *Black Cat and the Clue in Dewey's Diary*

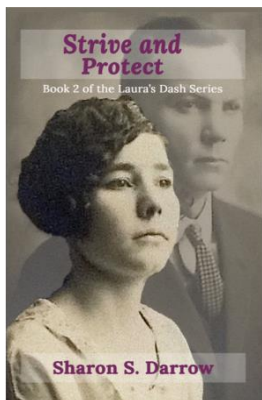
Sharon S. Darrow: *Strive and Protect, Book Two* in the *Laura's Dash* series

Sharon's on a roll this month ~ she got Book 2 published (only missed her deadline to get it published in a year, by a few days,) and has submitted three things to the newsletter ~ her book, info on this year's Book Awards, and an advertisement to build websites through Wix.com for those who would like a website, but don't have one (like me!) See **page 11** for information on that.

Elaine's good about Emailing me some of her blog entries. You too can do that, to have your work include in an upcoming newsletter ... just send to me: normathornton@yahoo.com

Elaine says: "Go to <http://www.mindcandymysteries.com> to read a preview about my next novel to be published Fall, 2019"

Continue scrolling down to 30 May to read Elaine's thoughts on creating a book cover
elaine.faber <elaine.faber@mindcandymysteries.com>



I'm thrilled to announce the release of ***Strive and Protect, Book Two in the Laura's Dash*** series. It's now available online through Amazon

Laura was raised to hide who she was. She'd been told repeatedly to never reveal her Cherokee heritage, or the fact that she'd been attacked by her own father. And no one should ever know she had the Second sight, or they might think she was crazy or possessed.

Somehow Laura built a life on her own, married a good man who adored her, and had children, all while managing to keep her secrets. She was determined to raise her children in a home filled with love and support, rather than in an atmosphere of fear and pain like the one she'd known.

Laura's husband shared her ideals, but had demons and fears of his own from his experiences in World War I. Together they worked hard, but their best intentions were repeatedly beaten down by the realities of life during the Great Depression.

This book, part of the *Laura's Dash* Series, is Historical Fiction but was inspired by a real woman, the author's maternal grandmother. It's her way of honoring an amazing woman, and all of the other ordinary women throughout history who overcame incredible challenges. ***SHARON S. DARROW***

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

***Bouchercon2020.org Registration now open**

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

FREE MEETING

Cap Crimes meeting Sat 15 June 1pm

POTLUCK & BOOK READ

1pm-???

New location:

Antelope Library 4235 Antelope Rd
Capitolcrimes.org for complete info &

Gold Country Writers meeting (FREE)

Wed 19 June 10am-12Noon

Goldcountrywriters.com for more information

CWC meeting Sat 15 June 11am-1pm

2nd Biannual Pitch Live with Lit Agents
Jennifer March Soloway & Elizabeth Kracht

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

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

NCPA member **Frances Kakugawa** will speak to
Gold Country Writers * Wed 17 July 2019 10am-12noon
Bethlehem Lutheran Church * 1279 High St * Auburn, CA
(enter and park in the back)
MEETING IS **FREE**

26th NCPA

BOOK AWARDS

BANQUET

5pm-9pm

Sun 26 April 2020

***Sacramento Suburban Writers Club (SSWC) 2nd Mon ea/mo**

7pm-9pm ~ 2nd Mon each month 2019 sactowriters.org

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

CAP CRIMES: Summertime Writing * FREE

Sat 20 July & Sat 17 Aug 1pm-3pm

Rancho Cordova Library

Spend Quality Time with other writers and work on your WIP

Odds & Ends, Bits & Pieces

BOOKSTORE NEWS

- **COMING SOON** Used and New Independent BOOKSTORE to downtown Vallejo
alibibookshop.com
- **B&N sold to Hedge Fund Elliott Advisors for \$638 million**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/07/books/barnes-noble-sale.html>

Ever need to check your grammar at odd hours of the night? Try this Google search for websites on a proper grammar check if one needs such a service, shows lots, and sharing with you. They've not all been vetted, so use at your own risk.

https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&channel=ipad_bm&ei=mNn_XJ_vJ8HksAXC_ZHYBg&q=any-length+project+or+any+length+project+proper+grammar+check&oq=any-length+project+or+any+length+project+proper+grammar+cgeck&gs_l=mobile-gws-wiz-serp.1.0.33i10.21939.33725..35978...2.0..0.274.3754.0j17j6.....0....1.....0i71j33i299j33i160.FvQXd3SfW98

CA State Fair 12 July through 28 July. Many of our NCPA members will be in the Authors Booth a few days with our books ~ if you're going to the Fair, and aren't in the Booth, stop by and say hi ~ see our NCPA posters for last year's Book Awards, and the *Birds of a Feather* Anthology, plus the Anthology. All 38 titles entered in last year's Book Awards are on display, as are the names of all 35 authors of the Anthology stories. See your name at the Fair, if you entered either..

SILENT AUCTION DONORS 2019 * THANK YOU SO MUCH *

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

Need a special gift for Father's Day? ~ It's SUNDAY 16 June ~ just 2 more days!
Or a donation to your non-profit event?

Check out the fine jewelry at Sharif's ~ He's very generously donated to NCPA for 10 years, and asked me to pass along his information for others looking for donations.

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 Mother's Day ~ OR Father's Day ~ Sunday 16 June
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 an Indoor Stay for Mother ON Father's Day ~ 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

ADVERTISING FOR MORE OF OUR DONORS, both 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

Need a great venue for your Banquet &/or more? Need 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 2019

Great present for everyone * www.placerpops.com

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

Dietrich Theatre in Rocklin *** Thu 19 Dec * 7:30pm *** Fri 20 Dec * 7:30pm *

Dietrich Theatre in Rocklin *** Sat 21 Dec * 2pm *** Sun 22 Dec * 2pm

NEED A WEBSITE? ~~ Sharon will build you one through Wix.com ~~

Sharon Darrow has been preaching to all the writers she knows about the importance of a good website to promote themselves and their books. Many of us have said we don't have the confidence in our ability to do it by ourselves, or the money to pay someone to do it for us. Or, we have the money to get a site built, but worry that we won't know how to keep it up to date.

Sharon may have the answer to our dilemma, since she's become familiar with Wix.com through the creation and maintenance of her own site: sharonsdarrow.com

Sharon says she doesn't claim to have mastered everything available through Wix.com, but if her site has the main things we want, she can help us through one-on-one training, and if we want something she hasn't done, we can learn it together, with any color scheme that's available.

She won't do the work for us, but she'll sit by us at our own computer (Oh no! That means cleaning house!) and guide us through every single step. The two of us will work at our pace, on the pages we consider the most important.

Since we do all the work in our home setting, she says we'll quickly become familiar with the steps needed for the various functions. Sharon has found that this method is generally more effective than a class, because we're working in our own computer environment.

She does charge an hourly rate, with a four-hour minimum appointment. (Now here's the good part ... she's even agreed to accept phone calls for help for 3 months after completion if we still need it. Anything further, price will be negotiable.)

If this approach to website building sounds like it might work for you, just contact Sharon
Sharon Darrow 916-803-1665 sharon@sharonsdarrow.com

YOU TOO COULD ADVERTISE HERE for a whole year EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER

Just donate something of value to the Silent Auction held during our 2019 Book Awards Banquet

SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2020 at the Cherry Island Golf Course in Elverta

All proceeds from the Silent Auction will go to the Mustard Seed School

Donate right now, and we'll start your advertisement in the July newsletter



MORE BIRDS OF A FEATHER

A Collection of More Short Stories about Animals ... and ???

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

Membership is \$40/year. No other charge to enter a story. No entry deadline as of yet, but anticipated publish date is in time for Christmas.

More information AFTER the Book Awards Banquet. Questions? Come to the **Meeting 6:30pm Thu 11 July 2019 at Denny's * 3520 Auburn Blvd * Sacto (@ Watt & I-80)**

Poster for our first Animal Anthology, *Birds of a Feather* showing names of all authors, plus 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 Book Award Entries Posters will be on display at the California State Fair Authors Booth during the State Fair, 12-28 July 2019.

MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

California Writers Club (CWC) (Sacramento Branch)

- Monthly Luncheon Meetings generally **3rd Saturday** of each month ~ 11am – 1pm
\$15 members, \$25 non-members, includes lunch Rancho Cordova Cattlemen's
- Writers Network 9-11am 1st Fri monthly Coco's 7887 Madison Av @ Sunrise, Citrus Heights
Open to public, pay for your own breakfast (**NEW LOCATION**)
 - For information & prices on joining, go to: cwcsacramentowriters.org

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

- If you write anything crime-related, or want to, then check out Cap Crimes.
- **FREE** monthly meetings, generally the **3rd Saturday** of each month, generally with guest speakers, generally crime-related. They normally meet at **1pm** at the **Rancho Cordova Library 9845 Folsom Blvd in Rancho Cordova**
 - No-Host lunch 11:30am prior to meetings usually at Perko's 9647 Micron Av
Must be a member of Sisters in Crime (\$50) to join Cap Crimes (\$20) Capitolcrimes.org

Gold Country Writers (GCW)

- **3rd Wed Monthly Speaker Programs ~ 10am-12Noon: FREE & open to Public**
 - Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St, Auburn, CA 95603
"Writers Working Together to Promote and Improve their Work" <http://goldcountrywriters.com/>
Questions contact Margie Yee Webb mywebb@sbcglobal.net

Sacramento Suburban Writers (SSW)

- **Meets 2nd Mon of each month 7pm- 9pm**
Crossroads Fellowship Christian Church, 5501 Dewey Dr, Fair Oaks, CA
 - Meetings, generally with guest speakers, are FREE ~ (\$40 membership fee)
 - Like with NCPA, you don't have to be a member to attend Sactowriters.org

Sacramento Valley Rose (SVR)

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

If you write Romance, or want to, then check out SVR ~ they generally meet at 10am at the White Rock Community Clubhouse, 10488 White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova

- **4th Saturday of each month** \$20 for members \$30 for non-members
 - Contact: Deb at debjulienne@gmail.com for RSVP information & directions
 - Debbie Putnam, President: DebbiePutnam.SVR@gmail.com
 - **Suggest you go to their site for their rules & stipulations**
- Must be a member of Romance Writers of America (\$99+) before joining SVR (\$30)

Sacramentovalleyrose.com

Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (SCBWI) (California North/Central)

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

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

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norcalpa.org

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

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Monthly Speaker Coordinator

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

Evening meetings with guest speakers are the **2nd Thursday of each month**
6:30pm to 8:30pm Denny's 3520 Auburn Blvd
Daytime meetings with NO guest speakers are the **3rd Wednesday of each month**
12 Noon to 2pm Denny's 3520 Auburn Blvd **RSVP's REQUIRED**
Meetings are always FREE ~ Visitors are always welcome.

Mailing Address

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June 2019

www.norcalpa.org

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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* 2016-2019