Thursday 12 Jan 2017
6:30pm-8:30pm Regular Meeting

Denny’s (in the Private back room)
3520 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento (Auburn Blvd @ Watt Av & I-80)
No-host food & beverage … it’s not mandatory to make a purchase

Just in time for those dreaded taxes, in a return appearance, Gary McKinsey, EA tax professional, will go more in-depth on Federal Income Taxes specific to Authors, Writers & Self-Publishers
GaryMcKinsey.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

**Wednesday**
18 Jan ~ 12N–2pm ~ Lunchtime Meeting (No Speaker)
Denny’s (in the Private back room)
3520 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento (Auburn Blvd @ Watt Av & I-80)
AGENDA: Discussions and Q&A’s relating to all things writing & publishing

**2ND Thursday Evening Regular Meetings * 6:30PM – 8:30PM**
9 Feb: Frances Kakugawa: How to sell books without sales talk: It’s all in your presentation.
9 Mar ~ Karl Palachuk ~ Topic Pending
13 Apr ~ Speaker pending; whoever goes to IBPA Conference ~ Topic: IBPA & More
11 May: Jeri Chase Ferris: How to write NF & Historical Fiction, dig up (true) facts, work with Editors & Publishers, and much, much more

**3RD Wednesday Lunchtime Meetings AT DENNY’S * 12N-2PM**
15 Feb ~ NO SPEAKER
15 Mar ~ NO SPEAKER
19 Apr ~ NO SPEAKER
17 May ~ NO SPEAKER

SUNDAY 23 APRIL 2017 ~ NCPA AWARDS BANQUET
CHERRY ISLAND GOLF COURSE
Elverta, CA

Submit your books now for the 2016-2017 book awards.
Registration information ready at norcalpa.org
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

This is the second "Prez Message" I've sent to Norma today, definitely one more than I'd planned. When I sent the first in response to her "tactful" reminder that I was holding her up, she got right back to me, but not with good news.

That message was designed to encourage everyone to attend our December meeting. Too bad the newsletter was for January meeting info! Oh well, I ended up sending that message out to you all as a separate, special email. Hope it worked and got a lot of you motivated to attend the December meeting, and also to learn more about our member's books.

So, this message will be short, but hopefully will inspire you a little.

In that Prez Message-turned email, I mentioned the fact that a chance encounter with a stranger at our Anthology launch ended up with me writing a book with a man living in London.

Well, so many amazing things have happened with that project that I'd like to share, and to remind you that the most important thing is to believe in yourself.

Henry Ford said “Whether you think you can, or you think you can't--you're right.” This is a mantra worth living, especially with our writing. Here are a couple of the challenges I'm facing with this project, and how they've worked out.

#1 My co-writer, Tom, lives in London, and can't read or write. At first I was emailing his local contact, and waiting for information to come back. Very time consuming and awkward:

  Tom learned how to get his computer to read his Facebook messages aloud, and to compose them as well. Now we communicate quickly.

#2 Several people I needed to talk to live in England, and I've never made international calls. I had no idea of what they'd cost or the process: Called AT&T and learned it only costs

  $5.00 per month to add international calling to my plan. And they have a cheat sheet to help!

#3 I needed to include articles published in the Psychic News back in the 1990s. They've gone through several ownership changes, are now a magazine, and are located in Essex, UK:

  The Psychic News staff responded within 2 days to my emails, sent several articles, and agreed to write something to include in the book -- and will promote the book for me!

#4 Tom's work has involved Spiritualist Churches around the world, several of which he mentions by name. I want to have written material from some of them in the book, talking about Tom. Two churches, one in Sacramento and one in San Francisco, have already agreed to write something for me. And every single one he mentions by name in England, Canada, Ireland and Australia, are still active! I'm sending out emails to them, and fully expect their support.

  See what I mean? I'm sure each of you has faced, or are facing challenges that looked impossible, but with the right attitude of expectation, you can do the impossible! In fact, I'll bet that many of you can produce lists that are longer and more inspiring than mine.

  I'd love to hear about what you've overcome in your writing career, and I'll bet other members would too. How about sharing some of your stories during the January meeting? We'll all be ready to cheer you on, and you may make a huge difference to other members.

  Sharon Darrow
  NCPA President,
  NCPA.Membership Coordinator,
  NCPA Book Awards Competition Coordinator
  916-803-1665

Have you heard? Barnes & Noble Kitchen is coming to the Palladium in Folsom on Dec 13. Yes, Barnes & Noble will open a new concept BOOK store, with a full-service restaurant (9am-10pm), and also serve beer & wine, plus have”areas to linger.”
Guest Blogger Columnist * Frances Kakugawa

A Literary Afternoon at Borders with Frances H. Kakugawa

(Written after a book signing, 2004)

My name is announced over the intercom, followed by a press release on *Mosaic Moon.* Shoppers are invited to join me in reading, promising a literary event of magnitude.

“Sets,” I say to my partner in reading, “we will read and give our all to an audience of one or a hundred.”

We settle for one.

We sit facing three rows of empty chairs, except for one in the front row, occupied by an employee of Borders, hoping to be honey to ants. Shoppers curiously walk around the edges, sneaking looks at *Sets* and me.

It can’t be good if no one’s there, can almost be read from their faces.

Soon hard rock music fills the room, followed by an aria from an opera (Not even my favorite, Puccini), drowning out our voices as we read our literary creations.

Empty chairs, an aria, poetry without rhyme. Omar Khayyam at least had bread and Thou beside him. And lots of wine.

Sets, the philosopher, states with conviction as I gather unused fountain pens and clean white blotters, “I learn something from every experience.”

“Yeah, right Sets,” I mutter, “Empty chairs don’t applaud.”

Editor’s Note: We can all take heart from this experience; it just proves it can happen to the best of us! It’s how you deal with it, and learn from it, that matters.

MEMBERS’ CORNER

*“The Surprising Scary Day”* a Juvenile Fiction book by new member Judy Pierce is now available for purchase at Amazon and B&N.

Amy Rogers is hoping to launch her 3rd book, “*The Han Agent*”, in April.

Norma Jean Thornton has finally finished her 3rd “Stuff” cookbook, “*Soups & Beans, Chowders & More One-Pot-Stuff... Plus Accompaniments*” for her 2016 “Nonie’s Big Bottom Girls’ Rio Linda Cook Book ‘Stuff’ Series” and is diligently working on two more “Stuff” Cookbooks as well as a KidZ Cookbook, three more Big Bottom Girls’ (BBG) Cookbooks, and resizing her “1st **BBG Cookbook**” from 8.5”x11” down to 5.5”x8.5” to match her “Stuff” cookbooks.
The NCPA Annual Book Awards Competition is under way, so, if you have a book that was -- or will be -- published during 2016, we'd love to have you enter. The process is very simple, the cost is reasonable, and we have a great panel of five judges. Winners will be announced at our next Book Awards Banquet, on April 23, 2017. Here are the basic guidelines:

- Books must have been published during 2016. This also includes books that have come out under a new edition during the year. Full regulations outlined here [2017 NCPA Book Awards Competition (1).pdf](#).
- The entry form is simple to complete, either online or with a mail-in form. The cost is $60 for members, and $90 for non-members. $25.00 of the entry fee covers dinner at the Banquet. You need to send in four copies of your book; however, three of those copies will be for sale at the banquet. You will receive payment for books sold, and unsold books will be returned. That means you are only actually donating one copy of your book for the competition. Entry form here: [2017 NCPA Book Award Entry Form.pdf](#).
- We have expanded the categories for this year's competition. You can enter your book in General Fiction, General Non-Fiction, Non-Fiction Memoir, Children's, Young Adult, Poetry, and Trade Publications.
- Award winners receive very nice plaques, a supply of gold award winner stickers for their book covers, lots of PR on the NCPA website and local media, plus congratulations and support at the Banquet.

Send your application soon (ENTRY DEADLINE 31 JANUARY 2017) so the three judges that will be reading your book will have time to truly savor your work. Questions? Contact Sharon Darrow by phone or email and I'll help every way I can. There are so many, many talented writers in our group, plus locally, let's make sure your talent is recognized!

916-803-1665 sharon@sharonsdarrow.com

Sharon Darrow NCPA President, Membership Director, Book Awards Coordinator

Editor's Note: If you have problems clicking one of the links above, go to the Book Awards section on the NCPA website, norcalpa.org for the information.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW ~ & ~ GET THOSE 2016 BOOKS PUBLISHED!!**

BOOKS READY TO SELL BETWEEN 1 Jan-31 Dec 2016 are ELIGIBLE FOR 2017 BOOK AWARDS

**2017 BOOK AWARDS BANQUET**

SAME PLACE < SAME MENU > SAME PRICE (Great Birthday or Holiday Gift!)

*Sunday 23 April 2017 * 6 PM *

*CHERRY ISLAND GOLF COURSE ~ 2360 Elverta Rd ~ Elverta, CA 95626*

$25 Buffet includes all you can eat ~ NO HOST BAR

- Silent Auction for 2018 Scholarship
- 3rd year for $1,000 Scholarship to local HS student college-bound for Pub or Writing
- The 2016 on-site bookstore* went over so well, it will also be back * Must Be Present to Sell Books
Rachel Chu was one of our nineteen 2016 Scholarship entrants. She’s currently a student NCPA member, in her first year at Sac State, and sent this Email.

College at Sacramento State is going well; it is a bummer that I have class during the NCPA meeting time! :( Hopefully next semester's scheduling will let me come to the meetings. Thank you for keeping me updated on the club happenings.

Below, I have included an article that I wrote a while back

THE IMPACT OF CHEATING

I remember my math class in 7th grade quite well. It was a stuffy room, loud classmates, and I had few friends in the class. The class was not particularly difficult, but when finals rolled around, many of my peers realized that they were unprepared because they had spent the entire semester socializing rather than learning.

On the day of the final exam, our teacher handed out the Scantrons, and we filled in the bubbles for our 100 question final. Little did I know that a girl sitting to my left was reading off my paper.

When we got the tests returned the following day, I was thrilled to receive a 100%. However, the girl to my left was less than thrilled because she got every question wrong. She was confused. What happened to her well-designed plan of cheating? And then she realized, with the exclamation of a few obscenities—she had copied all my Scantron answers one letter to the right; thus, when I put A, she put B, and when I put B, she put C.

That classmate of mine received the fruits of her labor in cheating. Instead of working hard, studying, or going to the teacher to ask for help, she decided that copying my answers was the way to go.

That experience left a great impact in my mind. It was depressing to see how people so easily compromise their morals for the hope of a better grade, but I also realized that people who cheat will eventually face the consequences.

Even if the consequences are not now, they will eventually come. Cheating will always present ramifications in the future. This example was in the school setting, but the dangers of cheating apply to the workplace and life in general. We will never get far by cheating. We must remember that there will always be ramifications for our deceitful actions.

And for our faithful work, there are rewards. Perhaps the biggest reward is the knowledge that you are a person of integrity and will not let your morals be compromised under any condition.

Rachel Chu
rachelgchu@gmail.com

A dozen* Honorary Student NCPA Members receive our newsletter—come on guys and gals—follow Rachel’s example and send me an Email and something for the newsletter! Jon?

I know you’re all busy with your new life at college, but remember, it means you’re legitimately PUBLISHED if we use your piece.

(A dozen* also includes our 2015 scholarship winner, Tia Jenkins, who’s in her second year at Dublin University in Ireland.) CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!
Get It in Writing

Reneau Peurifoy, Author & Counselor  www.whyemotions.com

While on the elliptical at the Gym, I often watch one of the court programs on TV, where two people are having a dispute over things such as services provided, the sale of property, or rental agreements. One of the first things the judge usually asks is, “Is there anything in writing?”

This is one of the great lessons when doing business: make sure your agreements are written down. This can range from a formal contract to a simple exchange of email or text messages. Because people often recall what was said differently, it protects you from disputes that can harm relationships as well as from potential legal claims, especially those claiming that you breached an oral or implied contract. Having it written down also helps you if the other party does not follow through on an agreement.

When working with suppliers or contract work that is arranged through a verbal agreement, send an email or text after your discussion that states your understanding of what was agreed upon. This provides you with a written agreement you can use later if there are any questions as to what the agreement was. It also provides the other person a chance to clarify anything that was misunderstood.

In my case, there have been several times when this simple practice has saved me money when claims were made that we had not initially agreed upon. I simply present the original email to confirm our initial agreement.

One area where a written contract is especially important is when you are working on a joint project or anthology. Over the past year I’ve been writing a memoir for a lady who died shortly after I gave her the completed draft for her final review.

Because we had signed a co-author contract, I can proceed with the project knowing I’m protected from any claims beyond those specified in the contract. In this case, it states that I have final editorial authority.

However, it also states that I’m bound to give half of any proceeds to her two sons. Fortunately, the two sons would like the project to go forward and even want to contribute a final chapter describing their relationship with their mother.

The internet has many examples of various types of contracts that you can use as models for whatever purpose you can imagine. For example, I found several sites that had sample co-author contracts (also known as collaboration contracts). After looking at several, I found one I liked and modified it to fit my needs and those of my co-author.

So whether it’s a formal written contract or a simple email or text restating what you recall, get it in writing!

Writing Tid Bits & Odds & Ends

The industry scale for advances on books

- "nice deal" $1 - $49,000
- "very nice deal" $50,000 - $99,000
- "good deal" $100,000 - $250,000
- "significant deal" $251,000 - $499,000
- "major deal" $500,000 and up
Folks, I write to bring you a sad tale that, if you haven’t already considered, may serve you well should you conduct an interview. Part of my book material was an interview of a key person involved in the planning and directing of an industrial park in the Philippines.

With the interviewee’s consent, I taped the interview with a recorder. My tape recorder of choice was the classic cassette recorder I had used in decades past. Moving on to transcribing the two cassettes of product, I began my agony in the garden. I realized quickly two things: first, my auditory faculties were not those I had many decades ago, thereby making it difficult for me to follow what was being said; second, when I punched the playback button to repeat what I could not follow, I oftentimes did not play back the exact desired spot on the tape.

At that point my dog Juani kept his distance because animals have an uncanny ability to sense building frustration, rage and impending violence.

My solution was to play back the entire interview onto the microphone of my laptop. Following that, the software playback facility on the laptop allowed me to pause and replay sections with far greater facility. As for my auditory shortcomings, I plugged ear buds (I found some at the 99 cent store for-yes, 99 cents) into my computer.

What will I do in future interviews? I will follow what those reporters do, which is to have a digital recorder (or my IPhone) do the recording for me, and then transfer that digitally to my computer. I will still use the 99 cent ear buds because technology cannot restore my failing physiology.

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**ALL-THINGS-BOOK AWARDS/ BANQUET UPDATE**

So far, so good on the Book Awards

Amy’s deposited the money, Sharon has the applications and has passed the books on to the 5 judges who are ready, willing and eager to start on the 16 entries we have so far. **WE WANT MORE!**

**DEADLINE FOR ENTERING BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2016 : 31 JAN 2017**

June has made contact with all of the schools, verifying the Email addresses we have, and will soon be sending out Scholarship applications and regulations so we can start the reading and judging process for the students. We made our $1,000 at the 2016 Banquet for 2017 so it’s in the bank waiting. Menu confirmed, contract signed and all things are a go for the 2017 Awards Banquet at Cherry Island Golf Course. Donations are coming in slowly but surely for the Scholarship Silent Auction.

I have to get an Email off to our potential MC to confirm, and closer to the event Amy will get the information out on how to get your books in the on-site book store SUN 23 APR 2017.

**NOW YOU NEED TO DO YOUR PART** ~ make your reservations for the event ~ you can either order on-line (norcalpa.org), mail a check, or pay in person at one of our meetings ~ it’s only $25, and would be a great present, even for those hard-to-buy-for. * & **ENTER YOUR PUBLISHED BOOKS**

**NEW DONOR**: NCPA member Andrea Roth w/A.K. Buckroth, has donated 10 pages of Proofreading, from Buckroth Enterprises Proofreading Services ~ $250 Value

mydiabeticsoul@pacbell.net * 916-489-1599 * Thank you Andrea! *
Tom says his recently published (Sep) **HUMANITY’S FUTURE: THE NEXT 25,000 YEARS** is an experiment inspired by Teilhard de Chardin (*The Human Phenomenon*), Arthur C. Clarke, and humanistic Sociology, a field in which he has a PhD.

Like most, I grew up on *Star Trek* in its many generations, *Star Wars*, and innumerable other science fiction materials, from optimistic classics such as Arthur C. Clarke’s and Stanley Kubrick’s *2001* to a variety of apocalyptic prognoses. All of these are fairly specific. I have always wanted to write a general, comprehensive (pseudo-)history of the entire future, a total extrapolation of what we humans have been doing so far. I also wanted to give the story a positive twist, one that places us, humans, at the center, and which relies on US to be the solution rather than the problem. So this is it. An experiment. An attempt to describe the WHOLE picture. Ambitious and flawed, I’m sure. But pretty provocative, I hope.

The story evolves from mundane, early 21st century contemporary politics to a cosmic apotheosis. The first chapters examine the struggles of current nation states, with a special focus on the United States: Presidential successions, immigration, the energy crisis, the war on terrorism, etc.

History advances through the ebb and flow of and retrogression, taking one step back for every two the near future, the US and the Western Hemisphere suffer great decline.

However, there occurs a Renaissance - the Great Western Hemisphere, a new confederacy called again will provide renewed leadership and inspiration to

Gradually, there is world unification, and expansion time, there is a federated Earth - Gaia - which expands into the Solar System - Solaria. Bit by bit, war between nations becomes something of the past and humankind relies increasingly on true science.

Scientific progress means space travel, the conquest of space, super communication networks, and above all: the science of the mind. True science is not mechanistic. It is the science of consciousness.

Humanity is a forward moving intelligence. It moves towards perfect knowledge - what primitive cultures have called “God.” Humanity becomes a unified macro-organism, now called Solaria. In addition, there is A.I. (Artificial Intelligence).

Throughout this history, dozens of figures appear. They are major historical figures, some bad, some good, some related to each other in long dynasties. They are society’s political and scientific leaders and protagonists. They help humanity to overcome conflict, wars and other challenges.

Solaria is the leading anti-entropic life-force in the galaxy and ultimately in the universe, counteracting the universe’s relentless race towards ultimate entropy and oblivion.

The narrative culminates in an apotheosis when, in the late 25th millennium, Solaria begins to expand into the galaxy in order to humanize it. Because of Solaria/humanity, the universe becomes self-aware. Humanity evolves towards the Omega point, the point in infinity where total knowledge is achieved.

Available on Amazon www.tomkando.com european-americanblog.blogspot.com
Tom Kando

Outstanding NCPA Secretary since 2011

Married to Anita and living in Gold River, Tom Kando is a professor of Sociology emeritus at California State University, Sacramento, holds an M.A. degree from the University of Amsterdam and a PhD from the University of Minnesota. Tom and Anita have two children and two grand-children.

Born in Budapest during World War Two, Tom escaped Fascism, Communism, and the Holocaust, grew up in the slums of Paris in the 50s and in Amsterdam’s Counterculture in the 60s. He sailed to America at 18, alone, received his Ph. D. and became a professor for the following 40 years at Penn State, the University of California and Cal State.

His memoir A Tale of Survival: From War Ravaged Europe to the Promise of America describes his hair-raising life growing up in WWII, his escape from Hungary and his fascinating odyssey after emigrating to America.


Tom has lectured worldwide and authored articles about crime, terrorism, psychology, Sociology, sports, travel and other topics in venues such as the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Examiner, the Sacramento Bee, Human Events and scientific journals.

Currently working on his next novel titled The Mission, he is also preparing to publish an anthology of some of his posts on his blog.

Tom has been a life-long distance runner, winning some races and running the Boston Marathon several times. He has also been an amateur musician all his life (flute), performing many times in the Netherlands and the US.

Truly an international person, Tom is fluent in four languages, travels to Europe several times a year to see his 104-year old mother, and has a blog called the European-American Blog.

For more about Tom, see his web sites: www.tomkando.com & www.csus.edu/indiv/k/kandot

MEMBERS’ CORNER

Have something to share? Send it!
*If you want to join a critique group, let us know
* If you belong to a critique group & need members, let us know
* If you have anything to report about a local writing / publishing event, let us know

Anything to report about a local writing / publishing event? Let us know

Send an Email; we’ll add your info to the next newsletter normathornton@yahoo.com

Have a tip? *Tell us about your writing progress * your writer’s block * your accomplishments * what project are you currently working on * did you write that final chapter * recently published * have you won any awards * having a launch? Details * already had one? Details * how many books did you sell * what did you learn * selling at an upcoming venue? Details * attended any conferences? Details * Book Signing? * Book Releases * Special Awards * Etc *
MEMBERS’ CORNER

Congratulations to Robert Pacholik for the great review received on his book entry in the 24th Annual WRITER’S DIGEST Self-Published Book Awards Co-sponsored by BOOK MARKETING WORKS LLC

Below is a commentary on Pacho’s entry in the 24th Annual Writer’s Digest Self-Published Book Awards, and a description of how entries are evaluated.

Entry Title: Night Flares: Six Tales of the Vietnam War
Author: Robert M. Pacholik
Judge Number: 70
Entry Category: Mainstream/Literary Fiction

Books are evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 meaning “needs improvement” and 5 meaning “outstanding”. This scale is strictly to provide a point of reference, it is not a cumulative score and does not reflect ranking. Our system only recognizes numerals during this portion of logging evaluations. As a result, a “0” is used in place of “N/A” when the particular portion of the evaluation simply does not apply to the particular entry, based on the entry genre. For example, a book of poetry or a how to manual, would not necessarily have a “Plot and Story Appeal and may therefore receive a “0”.

“If you wish to reference this review on your website, we ask that you cite it as such: “Judge, 24th Annual Writer’s Digest Self-Published Book Awards.” You may cite portions of your review, if you wish, but please make sure that the passage you select is appropriate, and reflective of the review as a whole.

Structure, Organization, and Pacing: 4
Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar: 4
Production Quality and Cover Design: 3
Plot and Story Appeal: 4
Character Appeal and Development: 4
Voice and Writing Style: 5

Judge’s Commentary*:

Robert M. Pacholik’s NIGHT FLARES: SIX TALES OF THE VIETNAM WAR is an interesting hybrid (the term used on the back cover) of a book, consisting of both fiction and non-fiction, based, one assumes, on the author’s own experiences as a photographer during the war.

Pacholik’s time in Vietnam lends the book its vivid sense of reality, and I would guess that he didn’t need to do a tremendous amount of homework for the stories. There’s so much visual detail in the book that I might actually have guessed that he’d been a cameraman had I not known it from his bio, and it’s this level of detail that should please Vietnam War buffs and military aficionados.

For those of us who aren’t big readers of military fiction/memoir, however, there were times when I felt that there was perhaps a bit too much jargon and military detail, and I found myself occasionally getting lost in the minutiae of equipment, ranks, guns, etc. But this is a relatively minor complaint.

What I admire most about the book is the sheer variety of the writing. The piece I probably like most is “Dappled Light,” which reads something like a prose poem and is quite beautiful. I would guess that this book will have a built-in audience, and Pacholik should be applauded for his eye and for his willingness to break out of the standard form of military fiction and memoir and to try something new.
Thank You for Submissions & MORE

A huge thank you to Reneau Peurifoy, Matthias Mendezona, Tom Kando, Frances Kakugawa, Robert Pacholik, Amy Rogers, Sharon Darrow, new member Judy Pierce and student member Rachel Chu for providing articles and writing/publishing/contest information for this month, also to new donors Andrea Roth, and repeat donors NCPA and Antelope Marketplace Tugboat Fish & Chips.

EDITORIAL

THANK YOU TO OUR FABULOUS MONTHLY GUEST SPEAKERS, Past, Current & Future

Editing the newsletter has caused me to think outside the box a lot, while looking for interesting articles, and suddenly a HUGE one slapped me right upside the head since I’ve just started booking our guest speakers for 2017.

I don’t know if any of you are aware of, or have even thought about it, but the only compensation our great guest speakers receive for their generosity in speaking to us, is a one year membership to NCPA.

For example, our January speaker Gary McKinsey comes to us all the way from Modesto.

Others receive a hefty amount to speak to other businesses or organizations, such as the $500-$3,000 plus transportation and accommodations that’s the going price for one of our upcoming 2017 speakers, yet fees were waived for us. How generous & gracious!

They come to us for a variety of reasons, and donate their time and fees each month: whether out of the goodness of their hearts, they want to give to others what they have received in the past, share their expertise with other authors, publishers, and readers, or a host of other reasons. (Yes, they also often have a business, or their books, and possibly other merchandise available for purchase, but that doesn’t mean that they sell any during their visit. Yes, they also might be able to write off some of it … but it’s still their TIME, and that’s of GREAT value.

For some, yes, it’s their job, but it’s also still their time, and we all need to thank each of them, maybe a little more than we have in the past. In the case of topics on taxes: FTB, IRS, SBOE, the SBA, and attorneys on law, copyright, and a multitude of other legal things, we have been so fortunate in receiving some great professional, very helpful info from outstanding speakers: Susan Spann, Gary McKinsey, Chris Rice and Alvaro Hernandez to name a few.

I can’t think of a speaker (in the past 3 years, at least), that wasn’t excellent with a great topic, and very informative info on everything to do with writing &/or publishing. I’m just hoping to continue gathering great speakers with great topics in 2017 and beyond.

Speakers booked so far for 2017 are:

**January: Gary McKinsey : garymckinsey.com** (He’s getting a new website, so it’s currently under construction) Gary’s back for more on Authors as Publishers and taxes (see page 1) Gary’s a Certified Business Coach, a Certified Guerilla Marketing Coach, and a California Member of Society of Enrolled Agents: The Tax Professionals, NFIB Leadership Council-The Voice of Small Business National Speakers Association

**February:** long-time member Frances Kakugawa, (see page 1) (www.francesk.org)

**March:** long-time member Karl Palachuk (see page 1) (www.smallbizthoughts.com)

**April:** Sharon Darrow &/or an IBPA Attendee who receives a $500 expense from us.

**May:** Jeri Chase Ferris (see page 1) (www.jerichaseferris.com) More in Jan newsletter

**Month & Topic Pending:** not yet chosen: long-time member Stephanie Chandler
MAKING CONNECTIONS CORNER with our Local Sister Writing Organizations

California Writers Club (CWC)
(Sacramento Branch)
- Monthly Luncheon Meetings generally 3rd Saturday of each month ~ 11am – 1pm
- $15 members, $20 non-members, includes lunch Rancho Cordova Cattlemen’s
- Writers Network 9-11am 1st Fri each month I Hop 2216 Sunrise Rancho Cordova
  Open to public, pay for your own breakfast
- 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

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
- 3rd or 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 … with our double-fun NCPA Emcee, (who’s also SCBWI’s Regional Advisor {RA}), Bitsy Kemper
  Go to the website for full information:
  https://canorthcentral.scbwi.org/
Upcoming Writing Events LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS & Authors

Conference:

*SCBWI SPRING SPIRIT 2017 CONFERENCE ~ (ALL WELCOME)
https://canorthcentral.scbwi.org/
*Saturday 1 April 2017 in Citrus Heights
Tickets on sale NOW ~ SAVE WITH Early Bird special until 10 Feb

Book Awards Contest:

26th Year NCPA ~ (ALL WELCOME, member discount)
4 books (3 returned) + $60 (includes 1 dinner) per title
More info: 2017 NCPA Book Award Entry Form.pdf ~ OR ~ norcalpa.org
Entry form: 2017 NCPA Book Award Entry Form.pdf
Enter NOW ~ Awards given Sun 23 Apr 2017 at Book Awards Banquet

Book Awards Banquet & Scholarship:

NCPA ~ all welcome
*Sun 23 April 2017 ~ Cherry Island Golf Course Elverta ~ $25 Tickets on sale NOW

Writers’ Meetings

Meets in the back room every Wed 10am-12Noon at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1279 High Street, Auburn CA * FB: Gold Country Writers

BRENDA NOVAK’S FUNDRAISER FOR DIABETES RESEARCH

Local New York Times and USA TODAY best-selling author Brenda Novak’s Online Auction for Diabetes Research has raised a total of $2.5 million for research in the last 10 years, but this year she has stuff for sale, instead:

- “Love that! Brenda Novak’s every occasion cookbook” and a digital boxed set called
- “ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS” 14 romantic Christmas stories from Brenda and some of today’s most popular authors, like Debbie Macomber.

**ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS**” will only be available until 31 December 2016 then it will be gone for good. So grab your copy now for $9.99. Brenda’s already raised $33,000 this year, hoping for a goal of $100,000.

All the money from both of this year's efforts will go to Boston University to help Dr. Ed Damiano (who also has a son with Type 1) finish engineering the second-generation artificial pancreas. For more info go to Brendanovakfortheecure.org

(Brenda is a prior NCPA guest speaker and one-time NCPA Awards Banquet M/C. She’s also a repeat gracious NCPA Silent Auction Scholarship donor, including this year, when she was our first donor for the 2017 Awards Banquet Scholarship. Thank you Brenda!)
GENEROUS DONORS to 2017 SCHOLARSHIP SILENT AUCTION

YOUR NAME &/or BUSINESS COULD ALSO GO HERE ~ IF YOU DONATE!

Star ★ New York Times, USA TODAY Best-Selling Award Winning Romantic Suspense Author Brenda Novak donated her signature classy mini-tote, plus the entire 10-book-set of her Whiskey Creek Series ~ $100 Value www.brendanovak.com Repeat donor numerous years

Star ★ For the 2nd year, the Antelope Marketplace Tugboat Fish & Chips has donated a gift card. This is my very favorite Tugboat location … clean, friendly, and always excellent food! … including their tasty little chicken lumpia! And their homemade tartar sauce … made daily!

Star ★ Also for the 2nd year, our host venue, Cherry Island Golf Course, has donated one day of golf for 4, golf-cart included. $212 Value www.golfcherryisland.com 916-991-6875

★ NEW DONOR: NCPA member Andrea Roth, writing as A.K. Buckroth, has donated 10 pages of Proofreading, from Buckroth Enterprises Proofreading Services ~ $250 Value mydiabeticsoul@pacbell.net * 916-489-1599

★ For the 2nd year, NCPA will offer a 3 year Membership, valued at $120 ~ Thank you Ron Javor for being high bidder this year.

★ NCPA member, guest speaker, and Author-Literary Attorney Susan Spann will be donating a basket of goodies from her trip to Japan when she returns.

THANK YOU Andrea, and THANK YOU AGAIN, NCPA, Brenda, Susan, Cherry Island & Tugboat Fish & Chips!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR VERY GRACIOUS & GENEROUS SPONSORS & DONORS! THANK YOU TO ALL DONORS, SPONSORS AND BIDDERS past, current and future, for your fabulous generosity year after year.

Advertising for generous SILENT AUCTION DONORS & SPONSORS starts when donations received and goes through October 2017

DONOR CONTACT INFORMATION 2017 SCHOLARSHIP SILENT AUCTION

Brenda Novak, Author www.brendanovak.com

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

Andrea Roth w/a A.K. Buckroth * Buckroth Enterprises Proofreading Services mydiabeticsoul@pacbell.net * 916-489-1599

Susan Spann, Author & Literary Attorney www.susanspann.com

Tugboat Fish & Chips “Antelope Marketplace” 7909 Walerga Rd, Ste 111, Antelope, CA (Elverta Rd & Walerga Rd Across from WinCo) * 916-729-4243
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Meetings are on the second Thursday of each month, 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Denny’s (in the Private back room)
3520 Auburn Blvd Sacramento (Watt Av & Auburn Blvd)
Meetings are always FREE ~ Visitors are always welcome.

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Note from the Editor Send your articles and announcements to normathornton@yahoo.com
Please type NCPA N/L as the email subject (easier to find.)
NO DEADLINE for NEWSLETTER submissions ~ JUST SEND IT … or call me
Thanks, Norma Jean

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