Thursday * 12 DECEMBER 2019 * 6:30pm–9pm
NO SPEAKER * It’s our ANNUAL BOOK DISPLAY
In addition to having your own books there to sell, someone – probably more than one -- will also have available, both of the 2019 NCPA Animal Anthologies:

* Birds of a Feather, & More Birds of a Feather

Denny’s (in the Private back room)
3520 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento (Auburn Blvd @ Watt Av & I-80)
No-host food &/or beverage
Friends, Family, non-members welcome ~ FREE MEETING FOR ALL

2020 GUEST SPEAKERS 2nd Thursday each month 6:30pm-9pm

Jan 9  * Bitsy Kemper * Writing Children’s Books: Why it's harder than you thought
Feb 13 * Gary McKinsey, IRS * Alvaro Hernandez, FTB * Chris Rice CDTFA (SBOE) * “A Taxing Panel”
Mar 12 * PENDING (Taking suggestions)
Apr 9  * No GUEST SPEAKER * IBPA Winner? * Anthology stuff * Book Awards Banquet Stuff, 26 Apr
May 14 * Catriona McPherson ~ “Long Ago and Far Away: writing authentic time and place”
Jun 11 * Sigrid Bathen ~ Magazine Writing
Jul 9  * No GUEST SPEAKER * Housekeeping & State of NCPA *
Aug 13 * Stephanie Chandler ~ Internet Marketing & Content Marketing
Sep 10 * Jennifer Chen Tran (+maybe more?) ~ Bradford Lit Agency ~ taking your book pitches again
Oct 8  * PENDING (Taking suggestions)
Nov 12 * Karen Phillips ~ Book Cover Design
Dec 10 * No GUEST SPEAKER * Book Display & Sell Your Books Time

RSVP needed for each Wednesday norcalpa.org ~ Same Denny’s ~ 12Noon - 2pm
Wed 18 Dec * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
  Same Denny’s 12Noon ~ We’ll also discuss NCPA’s 2020 Travel Anthology & 2019 Book Awards
Wed 15 Jan 2020 * * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
  Same Denny’s 12Noon ~ Wed 19 Feb 2020 * * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but

Writing Children's Books: Why it's Harder Than You Thought
Summary: Everyone has a great idea for a children's book. And with so few words, how hard can it be? That's why some publishers get 10,000 submissions a year and may only publish 6. Learn the challenges of kidlit along with the joys, and how to get your first work a step ahead of the crowd.

Bio: Bitsy Kemper is author of 21 children's books, from picture books to chapter books to YA. You may have seen her on CNN, heard her on CBS National Radio, or read her nationally-syndicated newspaper column (that also ran in the Bee). A recovering corporate marketing manager, she's spent the past decade writing and raising her three children (four if you count her husband). Find out more at www.BitsyKemper.com

9 JAN 2020 SPEAKER BITSY KEMPER
President’s Message

I’m running low on witty things to say.

December is a good time to reflect on the past year and plan for the new one. When I think over the past year, I am so proud of all the accomplishments NCPA has achieved. We hosted a successful book awards dinner, had a record number of submissions to our book contest, published two anthologies and had a wonderful holiday celebration. We’ve had many dynamic speakers and have supported each other on this publication journey.

2020 marks a new decade -- the roaring 20’s. What will you do this coming year? How will you leave your mark? The beauty of looking both backward and forward this time of year is that you can see how far you’ve come, but the future is still a blank slate.

In 2020 we will again publish two anthologies, both on travel. I think a new decade is a great time to focus on adventure and exploring new things. Even if you don’t go far from home, you can try a new restaurant, walk in a new park, or see a movie that transports you out of your comfort zone.

Or maybe publish that book you’ve always wanted to publish.

The future is limitless.

Have a healthy and happy holiday season, and I wish you and yours a happy New Year.

Michelle Hamilton, President NCPA

* Repeat from November newsletter, because it’s IMPORTANT, about Something NEW FOR the Book Awards BANQUET

We often fear stepping outside our comfort zone to try new things, but sometimes when you do, you find yourself meeting a whole new group of people, experiencing things that you’ll never forget, and once in a while, once in a rare, beautiful moment, you get to hear the crowd roar for something you’ve done. It’s priceless.

Because NCPA is about encouraging each other to do new things, I’m so proud to announce that we will be adding an award to the Book Awards Program called the Risk-Taker Award. This first year we will be giving out two awards (one for each anthology), to the writer who has taken risks with his or her writing. The awards can be bestowed for any of the following reasons:

- a writer who wrote outside his or her usual genre,
- a writer who worked exceptionally hard to perfect his or her craft, or
- a writer who is publishing for the first time.

I’m so excited to announce this award and hope everyone who submitted stories to one, or both, of the anthologies, Birds of a Feather, and More Birds of a Feather, will attend the Book Awards Banquet, to see who wins, and who knows? You may be the one hearing the roar of the crowd when we announce your name.

Michelle Hamilton, President NCPA

Editor’s note: We also have something else planned for the Book Awards Banquet in the year of the “Roaring 20s” What do you think it is? MORE ON THAT LATER, but get your thinking hat on ....
2019/2020 NCPA 26th Annual Book Awards Banquet
* 5pm-9pm * Sunday 26 April 2020 * Cherry Island Golf Course, Elverta *

Banquet tickets for attendees are $30 each for anyone who doesn’t have a book entered in the book awards competition. (Fee for each entry in the Book Awards competition includes one dinner.)

Menu: * Tri-Tip * Chicken Breast * Vegan Pasta * Rice * Beans * Salad * Rolls * Coffee or Tea * Special Cake, ½ Chocolate, ½ White. (No-Host Bar: Wine and Beer available)

Now, authors with a story in an anthology also have something to look forward to at the Book Awards! If you’ve never attended an NCPA Book Awards Banquet, you’ve missed a lot of fun ~ great camaraderie with other authors and wannabees … published or not … I guarantee, you’ll be bitten by the bug. Sign up for the Banquet (GREAT GIFT FOR THE HARD-TO-GET-FOR) at norcalpa.org

Contact Norma if you have questions: NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

JAN 2020 Bitsy KEMPER Writing Children’s Stories; Why it’s harder than you thought.

MAR 2020 Speaker Pending ~ suggestions?

APR 2020 NO Speaker IBPA if we have one BOOK AWARDS & Anthology

Feb 2020 Speakers * “A Taxing Panel” * Gary McKinsey, representing the IRS *
*Alvaro Hernandez from the FTB * Chris Rice from CDTFA (formerly SBOE) *

Gary McKinsey Business Success Coach
Professional Speaker and Workshop Leader.
Certified Guerrilla Marketing Coach.
How to Increase your Customer Engagement Through Video
Working With You to Build Your Dream Business
Phone: 209-345-4230

Alvaro E. Hernandez, FTB Education and Outreach Manager
Franchise Tax Board
For more than 25 years, Alvaro E. Hernandez has worked for the Franchise Tax Board (FTB), and for most of those years he has provided education and outreach services to taxpayers, small business owners, and other stakeholders

Chris Rice CDTFA Business Taxes Administrator
Sacramento, California Area
Business Taxes Administrator CDTFA
Oct 2015 – Present 4 years 3 months Sacramento, California
Business Taxes Specialist California State Board of Equalization
Jan 2014 – Oct 2015 1 year 10 months Sacramento, California
Business Taxes Specialist Tax Auditor Board Of Equalization
Jan 2007 – Jan 2014 - 7 years 1 month
MAY 2020 Speaker * Catriona McPherson
“Long Ago and Far Away: writing authentic time and place”

Catriona McPherson is the national best-selling and multi-award-winning author of the Dandy Gilver series of preposterous detective stories, set in her native Scotland in the 1930s. She also writes darker contemporary standalone suspense and has recently begun the Last-Ditch trilogy, loosely based on her immigrant experience in a northern California college town.

Catriona is a proud lifetime member and former national president of Sisters in Crime, committed to advancing equity and inclusion for women, writers of colour, LGBTQ+writers and writers with disability in the mystery community. www.catrionamcpherson.com

JUNE 2020 *
Sigrid Bathen
Magazine Writing
Sigridbathen.com

July 2020 * No Speaker *
State of NCPA & Housekeeping

August 2020 Speaker *
Stephanie Chandler
Internet Marketing & Content Marketing

September 2020 SPEAKER, AGENT JENNIFER CHEN TRAN * Book Pitch
Jennifer Chen Tran is an agent at Bradford Literary joining in September 2017. She represents both fiction and non-fiction. Originally from New York, Jennifer is a lifelong reader and experienced member of the publishing industry. Prior to joining Bradford Literary, she was an Associate Agent at Fuse Literary and served as Counsel at The New Press. She obtained her Juris Doctor from Northeastern School of Law in Boston, MA, and a Bachelors of Arts in English Literature from Washington University in St. Louis.

Jennifer Chen Tran, Literary Agent, Bradford Literary (516) 350-1653 * @jenchentran

October 2020 SPEAKER
Pending ~ Suggestions?
Contact me normathornton@yahoo.com

November 2020 SPEAKER, Karen Phillips
Book Cover Design phillipscovers.com

Your book cover receives experienced, expert design front, back and spine all designed myself. (If your book is hardcover, jacket flaps are included.) You are entitled to see three different cover concepts. You own all rights to the cover design. You have unlimited usage of the cover, in any form you wish, forever.
PREPARING TO ENTER A STORY in the NCPA 2020 Travel Anthology

To those who haven’t submitted a story yet, and those few who skipped some of the instructions for More Birds of a Feather (you know who you are ) I’m repeating those instructions, with the strong suggestion, that if you don’t have a critique group, you really should get involved in one … NOW.

Rather than have your story returned for the same thing that a regular publisher, editor or agent would reject, we have very strict guidelines, some of which are bulleted below, that you’ll hopefully follow:

When your story is complete, or during the process, have your critique group check it for you.

1. **If you don’t have a critique group, let us know.** We can possibly help with that … after all, we want each of you to submit the best possible story you can.
2. **Final thing before sending to NPCA, be sure to *PRINT IT OUT *PROOFREAD* your own story, for clarification, typos, grammatical errors, etc., (e.g. misspelled words, capitalization, punctuation, convoluted sentences, etc.) Stories with major issues will be returned to Author, without being thoroughly proofed or edited, for Author to fix and return, or send a different story.
3. **Then, READ IT OUT LOUD** prior to sending, to make sure it sounds like you want it to.
4. **This is not a critique group, to catch major errors or mistakes. Authors are expected to do that prior to submitting.** Again, if you don’t have a critique group, please let us know
5. **Stories received with multiple typos, grammatical, structural, or punctuation errors may be returned, without being completely read, and without explicit corrections suggested.**
6. **Make sure your story is thoroughly critiqued, proofed, read, and ready to go, before sending to NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com** if not it WILL be returned to you un-proofed/ un-edited.
7. **NCPA has the option to deny or refuse a story if it doesn’t meet our requirements, or standards, and unfortunately, have previously done so.**

THE PUBLISHING PROCESS

I proof all stories. If major obvious stuff that should be caught by you, the author, prior to being sent in, like a lot of incorrect or wrong spelling, punctuation, missing words, extra words, incomplete sentences, typos, clarifications needed, etc., that story will be returned for the AUTHOR to correct and re-send. Much of that can be corrected by the author prior to sending the first time, by looking closely at any auto-corrected areas identified with either squiggly blue or red lines under the offending words, etc.

Once proofing problems have been fully addressed by both, it will go to the 1st editor for review. (I’m a proof-reader, **not** an editor, although sometimes I can also catch some of that editor stuff.) From there, the story is either returned to the author for correction or changes, and once returned to me, complete, it’s on to Michelle for the final editing process to be put together as a book, then to Sharon for publishing.

- We want to encourage each of our members to submit a story, and to those writers who have yet to publish out of fear of rejection, don’t think your piece is good enough, etc., now’s your chance.
- However, this is a very time-consuming project, with very few of us working on it, and we don’t have time to do an intense critique on every story, so forgive me for being blunt in what I’m about to say.
- We’re all writers, and we all need to begin somewhere. The first place to begin, is to get a thick skin, because we all wind up needing it at one time or another, when our stories are critiqued negatively, or we think it’s negative. Join a critique group and find that out! So, “lizard-it-up”, and let’s get started!
- “If you don’t have a critique group, now’s the time to get one.” You’ve seen that mentioned several times in here, for very good reason. EVERYONE needs a critique group, even well-established authors, at least in the beginning. And again, if you don’t have one, or don’t know how to get one, ask us. Sharon and I have been discussing setting up a critique group specifically for NCPA members, especially for the Anthologies. If we get enough interest in it, we probably will, so let us know. We promise to not be too harsh on you 
- **Authors ~** Get started, and send in those stories! You have until 30 June 2020 to work on this one!
More Promos compliments of Charlene Johnson ~ I love these things!
Thanks, so much Charlene.
More Promos compliments of Charlene Johnson ~ I love these things! Thanks, so much Charlene.

FREE PR: SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT FOR YOU AUTHORS WHO ARE ALREADY PUB’D:

The NCPA Anthology is a great FREE, QUICK, EZ-MARKETING OPPORTUNITY, with free advertising to expose a group of authors and others, to one of your stories, get a taste of your writing, and have your book titles plus contact info at hand, if they like your story ~ all it takes is a little of your time to write and submit a story about Travel; as little as 500, to as many as 3000 words. Then at our Annual Holiday Luncheon at Black Angus as well as our Dec meeting at Denny’s, bring all of your books to share, barter, trade, sell, or whatever

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN ENTERING COMPETITIONS AT THE FAIRS (cooking, art, needlework, etc.)

2020 SACRAMENTO COUNTY FAIR Thu 21 May – Mon 25 May Sacfair.com for more info, including all competitions such as art, photography, crafts, cooking (competition booklet not ready yet; I’ll try to remember to let everyone know when it is, for submission deadlines.)

2020 CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR Fri 17 July – Sun 2 August CAsatefair.org for more info, including all competitions such as art, photography, crafts, cooking (competition booklet not ready yet; I’ll try to remember to let everyone know when it is, for submission deadlines.)
More Birds of a Feather Book orders Books are $6 for any author with a story in the anthology * $10 for those not included in the anthology. (One of the perks of having a story in an NCPA anthology!)

Anthology Authors: Planning to attend the BOOK DISPLAY meeting 12 Dec? If so, and you want more books Contact Sharon Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com

Perfect Holiday gifts for those hard-to-get-for, or stocking stuffers.

Our combined Holiday Luncheon/Anthology Book Launch on 1 Dec at Black Angus, was a great success

We’re doing it again 6 Dec 2020 with two volumes of our next Anthology, DESTINATION: The World, so get those stories in to me

NCPA dedicated Email address, below, for anything Anthology-related: Contact me with questions, or ??

NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

NCPA ANTHOLOGY UPDATES ~~ November 2019 We finished the 2nd one, and in the projected time frame!

If you have an Amazon account, Sharon will have an article soon on how to include these four Anthologies to your page.

Birds of a Feather (Animal Anthology)

Sharon has ordered 400 books so far: They’re still being purchased by authors with a story in the book, because they’re selling well. If you want more, contact Sharon ASAP (see box above for info), so she can order more, if necessary, for the holidays. The most sold reported by an Author last month is 15, probably more now

More Birds of a Feather (Animal Anthology)

Our combined Holiday Luncheon/Anthology Book Launch on 1 Dec at Black Angus, was a great success, Sharon has already ordered 300 books for this one, and they’re almost all gone..

We’re doing it again 6 Dec 2020 with two volumes of our next Anthology, DESTINATION: The World, so get those stories in to me … or at least let me know you plan to submit a story.

NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

Destination: The World (Travel-themed Anthology) VOL 1 & VOL 2!

Start writing now, for the 30 June 2020 soft DEADLINE

First-come, first-serve, for 35 stories: let us know if you’re planning to submit an entry. Send an Email to hold your page-space. You don’t need a title, nor word count now, just let us know you’ll have a story. We already have 33 RSVPs and I’ve received 10 stories so far for Vol 1, and 11 RSVPs for Vol 2 (that one will be given a title during our Anthology Committee meeting in Jan 2020; interest has been so great, we wound up with a second one before we even had a chance to think about it, and they’ll publish at the same time.)

NCPA dedicated Email address, below, for anything Anthology-related: Contact me

NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

Launch date for both DESTINATION anthologies is scheduled for 12Noon-?? Sunday 6 December 2020, at the Black Angus Restaurant on Greenback @ Sunrise, Citrus Heights, along with our 4th Annual Holiday Luncheon
Have you started your story yet for the 2020 NCPA Travel-themed Anthology, Destination: The World? Submissions now being accepted Soft-Deadline 30 June, 2020, but space is going fast for both Vol 1 & Vol 2. Before you ask, the answer is YES, if you have a story in Birds of a Feather, &/or More Birds of a Feather, you may still submit for Destination: The World. You may also submit one story for each volume of Destination. Reserve your pages ... let me know now, that you’ll be submitting a travel story ~ NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com ~ (any type travel, anywhere, all genre, even Sci-Fi. We don’t need a title or word count yet, just a commitment.)

• Author MUST be an NCPA member in good standing in order to submit a story
• If you’d like to join, membership is $40/year
• Costs NOTHING for your story to be included in the Anthology
• Perks: you receive one free book and option to purchase more at cost, to sell later for profit.
• The biggie? You’ll be a published author, if you aren’t already.
• If you’re already published, it’s a great marketing tool and an excellent way to make easy money
• We have an Email account especially for anthologies ONLY, so there won’t be the issue of Email from other places, for different topics conflicting with anthology stuff.

• The ONLY Email TO BE USED for the Anthology is NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com
**List of Facebook Book and Author Promotion Groups**

*Many thanks to Andrea Roth for providing this info*

- Kindle Book Promotion Authors, Writers & Bloggers  
  https://www.facebook.com/groups/372796783067409/  
- Creative Designers and Writers: Authors, Artists, Book & Painting Promotion:  
  https://www.facebook.com/groups/creative designers writers  
  Note: This is the single largest group on Facebook for Writers, Authors, Publishers, Editors, Poets, Bloggers, and Book Lovers  
- Join the Facebook group (Marketing | Social Media: (authors and writers can join and promote free)  
  https://www.facebook.com/groups/397363764432989/

**Collection of best book promotion sites offering a range of options promoting your Book.**

- BMI Books: https://bmibooks.com/ For book marketing through email blasts, BMIBooks is still the heavy-hitter.  
- Wordlikes: https://www.wordlikes.com/ Use promo code: PRU5M4U38A for 20% discount  
- Writers Support: https://writers.support/

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**An Apostrophe Catastrophe! 2 Dec 2019**

“Ignorance and laziness have won,” 96-year-old Chairman, John Richard says, as he closes the *Apostrophe Protection Society*, he started in 2001, that was dedicated to preserving the “much abused” punctuation mark.  
(Editors note: I agree with him!)  
For more detailed info, check out one of the URLs below; there are several links once you open each.

[uk/news/article-7743349/Pedantic-society-dedicated-preserving-apostrophe-closes.html](https://www.2gb.com/podcast/ignorance-laziness-wins-over-the-apostrophe/)


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**2019 BOOK AWARDS UPDATE**

As of today, 6 November 2019, Sharon has received 18 book entries. Mine is paid for, but she hasn’t received my paperwork or books yet, so hasn’t counted it, along with at least two others not submitted yet, so that will give us 21 so far. (Sorry, I don’t have an update today ~ 7 Dec, but I know she’s received more.)  
If your book was published and available to the public PRIOR to 31 Oct 2019, YOU’VE MISSED THE EARLY BIRD price, and it will now cost you either $75 (member) or $105 (non-member) to enter the competition, through 30 November 2019 … and an additional $10 each, from 1 through 31 December 2019. HOWEVER ~ if your book will publish between 1 November 2019 and 31 December 2019, the price will be the EARLY BIRD price of $65 (member) or $95 (non-member) until 30 November, then see above.  
New cut-off date is 31 January 2020, for Sharon to receive a book entry to the competition.  
If any of the deadlines are confusing to you (they are me), contact Sharon for assistance:  
916-803-1665 * or * Sharon@SharonSDarrow.com
2020 NCPA Book Awards Competition (for books published in 2019)

Submission Criteria

- Books must have been published for sale in the 2019 calendar year, that is, between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019.
- New, updated editions are acceptable as long as update was published in 2019.
- To be considered “published,” copies of book in published form (not merely as galley or advanced reader copies) must have been on hand and available for sale to retail consumers on or before December 31, 2019 and not have been for sale earlier than January 1, 2019.
- If copyright year or Library of Congress year (if present) is not 2019, entrant must supply supporting evidence that book was “constructively” published in 2019.
- Book must be in printed form, unless entered in the e-book category.
- Submissions due no later than January 31, 2020. Please submit as early as possible, so judges have time to read all entries.

Categories

Books will be accepted in the following categories:

- General Fiction
- General Non-Fiction
- Non-Fiction Memoir
- Children’s
- Young Adult
- Poetry
- Trade Publications

- e-Book NOTE CHANGES TO EBOOK ENTRY:

This year Ebooks must be submitted in MOBI format OR author must send 4 gift coupons to Sharon Darrow for distribution to judges

Rules, Regulations, and Fee Schedule

- The window period of acceptance of entries is August 1, 2019, to January 31, 2019.
- Entries may be made by an author or by the publisher of the book.
- Complete the online entry form, found on the NCPA website at www.NorCalPA.org.
- Use the check boxes on the form to indicate categories in which you wish to have your book considered and complete all the necessary fields. Please note that if the judges feel you’ve chosen the wrong category, they will move your book to the category they feel is proper.
- You have the option of submitting forms and payments online or printing out the form and sending it with your books and entry fee to the address below: Make payments online using credit card or PayPal account. OR submit check along with books.
- You may enter as many books as you choose, but each book must be entered in only one general category. A separate fee must be submitted with each title.
- Four copies of each book must be submitted.
- All books entered will be considered for Design awards, which will be awarded to the publisher. The artist or designer need not be a member of NCPA.
- Please follow instructions on the entry form. Your entry may be disqualified and money forfeited if information is missing or incorrect.
- A separate entry form is required for each title submitted.
- Entries must be received by January 31, 2020. One copy of each book is non-returnable. Three copies will be available for sale at the Awards Banquet, with money from sales, and unsold copies returned to the author.

(Book Awards Continued on next page 12)
(Book Awards Continued from prior page, 11)

• **NOTE: CHANGES IN FEE STRUCTURE & DEADLINE DATES:**
  • "Early Bird" entry time has the same prices as shown ($65 & $95), but entries must be received by October 31, 2019. **ENDED: But if your book is published after, it still applies**
  • "2nd Level" entry time prices are increased by $10, and must be received by 31 Dec 2019. (for books published prior to 31 Oct 2019. After 31 Oct, Early Bird above will apply.)
  • "Third Level" entry time prices are increased by another $10, and must be received by January 31, 2020.
  • This means the $65/ $95 early bird price goes to $75/$105 for Second Level entries,
  • Then to $85/$115 for Third Level entries.
  • The only exception is for those who publish and submit their books during the Second Level period. (1 November through 31 December 2019.) They pay the Early Bird price of $65/ $95, since there was no way for them to enter earlier.
  • Entry fees for NCPA members are $65/ $75/ $85 per book, $30 of which covers one dinner at the Awards Banquet
  • Entry fees for non-members are $95/$105/$115 per book, $30 of which covers one dinner at the Awards Banquet

**Please send books -- and, if applicable, fees and forms -- to following address:**
Sharon Darrow
NCPA Book Awards Coordinator
P.O. Box 214673, Sacramento, CA  95821

**Other Rules & Information**
1. The "publisher" is defined as the person or company who owns the ISBN.
2. An author may enter his or her own book.
3. Judges are drawn from NCPA’s membership, the community, publishing professionals, and the media.
4. No judge may submit works for consideration.

**Judging Criteria**
1. Categories not having any entries will not be part of the year’s awards.
2. Winners are determined at the sole discretion of the judges, based on NCPA policy, publishing merit, and literary merit.

**Awards**
1. First, second, and third place awards may be awarded in each general book category.
2. The judges may award “honorable mention” certificates at their discretion.

**Winners**
1. Winners will be announced at the awards celebration and annual NCPA banquet, scheduled for April 26, 2020 at Cherry Island Golf Course, Elverta, CA.
2. Winners will be announced in general press releases sent to Northern California media.
3. Winners will each receive a plaque/trophy.
4. Winners will receive labels they may use on their book covers. They will also receive, via email, a digital file of the award label artwork to incorporate into their book covers, if they wish
5. Winners may use supplied label art in their marketing/promotional materials. Past winners have successfully used their NCPA awards to obtain media interest and increase sales.
6. Winners will be featured on the NCPA website

**END of BOOK AWARDS info**
DOING GENEALOGY? 2020 Genealogy Presentations at Sacramento Central Library

All lectures on Sundays, **new time effective Jan 2020 1:00pm – 2:30pm** West Meeting Room 1st Floor
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

- **January 5:**  Researching your Family Using City Directories – Lisa Gorrell
- **February 2:** Finding African American Ancestors -- Craig Manson
- **March 8:** Courthouse Research – Glenda Gardner Lloyd
- **April 5:** Overcoming the Most Challenging DNA Problems – James Baker, PhD
- **May 3:** Topic TBD – Nancy Loé
- **June 7:** Researching Gold Rush Era Ancestors – Melinda Kashuba, PhD
- **July 12:** 25 Websites to Find U.S. Vital Records -- Gena Philibert-Ortega
- **August 9:** Pivotal Events Impacting America’s Westward Migration -- Kathryn Marshall, PhD
- **Sept 13:** But It Wasn’t a Foreign Language to Your Ancestors - Janice Sellers
- **October 4:** An Introduction to DNA Painter – Stephanie K. West
- **November 8:** Book Publishing Features in Pedigree Software and FamilySearch Affiliates – Kathryn Marshall, PhD
- **December 6:** An Introduction to German Genealogy – Ingeborg Carpenter

Send us your writing/ publishing/ “the End” information * If it fits, we’ll include it … as long as it’s writing-relevant. normathornton@yahoo.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

Silent Auction Donors 2019 * Thank You So Much *

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

“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 * 7:30om * *** Sat 21 Dec * 2om *** Sun 22 Dec * 2om

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 sharon@sharonsdarrow.com

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 Clemants, 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
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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916-991-5751

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
Northern California Publishers & Authors (NCPA)
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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.