Thursday * 13 February 2020 * 6:30pm–9pm

Gary McKinsey IRS * Alvaro Hernandez FTB * Chris Rice CDTFA (was SBOE)

“A Taxing Panel” (more info on each speaker on page 9)

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
Feb 13 * Gary McKinsey, IRS * Alvaro Hernandez, FTB * Chris Rice CDTFA (SBOE) * “A Taxing Panel”
Mar 12 * Naida West ~ Topic TBA
Apr 9 * No GUEST SPEAKER * IBPA Winner Angelica Jackson * Anthology & Book Awards Banquet
SUN 26 April 5pm-9pm * BOOK / Risk-Taker AWARD BANQUET * Cherry Island Golf Course Elverta
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 * Bitsy Kemper ~ Writing Children’s Books: Why it’s Harder than you Thought
Nov 12 * Karen Phillips ~ Book Cover Design

RSVP needed for each Wednesday norcalpa.org ~ Same Denny’s ~ 12Noon - 2pm
Wed * 19 Feb 2020 * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Wed * 18 Mar 2020 * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Wed * 15 Apr 2020 * * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Wed * 20 May 2020 * * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff
Wed * 17 Jun 2020 * * No Speaker * just chit chat & other fun &/or informative, but mundane writing stuff

Gary McKinsey: IRS
Business Success Coach

Alvaro E. Hernandez: FTB
Education and Outreach Manager

Chris Rice: CDTFA
Business Taxes Administrator

6:30pm * THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2020 * Guest Speakers for Taxing Panel * Denny’s in Sacramento
President’s Message

In 1920, women earned the right to vote, more people were living in cities than on farms, and a new consumer society was born. It was a decade of advancement in music, art, and literature. The Harlem Renaissance ushered in a new age of recognition for African American artists. Jazz was invented. Young people had new freedoms afforded them by the automobile so they could go to dance halls, and listen to music on the radio and records.

While these advancements created a new mass culture in the United States, it wasn’t without its difficulties. Older generations didn’t like the new freedoms of the youth, and Prohibition created an entire underground industry of speakeasies and bootleggers. The Red Scare and hate groups like the KKK sought to fight against the new, “city-slicker” mentality that was growing in the north. And of course, the rampant consumerism would lead to the Great Depression of the 1930’s.

However, no one can deny the impact the Roaring 20’s had on American culture. We are in the midst of a new Roaring 20’s. No one can predict the changes this decade will bring, but it’s exciting to think of where we might be ten years from now.

In the spirit of this new decade, we’ve decided to add costumes to our Awards Banquet. You don’t have to participate if you don’t want and there is no restriction on what sort of costume you can wear (except no birthday suits, please.) If you want to go flapper, go flapper. If you want to imagine how we’ll dress in 2120, do that. If you just want to wear an interesting hat, go for it.

This is the month for our Board of Directors meeting where we’ll discuss the anthologies and awards banquet. We’ll also be bringing forward any new ideas to take NCPA into the new decade. One of the things we will discuss is our new Anthology Risk-Taker award, for an NCPA member who took risks in contributing a story to an NCPA Anthology: first time published, writing outside of one’s comfort zone, or most effort expended for improvement. There will be one award issued for each NCPA anthology, so if you contributed to either one, reserve your spot at the awards banquet. You just might win a prize.

As of our deadline, we had 37 books turned in for the NCPA Awards, just one shy of our all-time highest amount. This competition has grown over the years and we have attracted not only our local writers, but international submissions as well. Our award competition has become well respected in the writing community.

In addition to our annual award competition, we produced two anthologies last year, centered around the theme of pets. This year we are also producing two anthologies, with the theme of travel. If you haven’t submitted your entry yet, do so before July. The space is limited and we are filling up. I’m so delighted with the responses we’ve received on our anthologies and I know the next two will be even better.

Keep writing, NCPA. The next decade awaits you.

Michelle Hamilton, President NCPA

ANTHOLOGY RISK TAKER AWARD during the BOOK AWARDS BANQUET

Starting the decade with something new, NCPA has added an Annual Risk-Taker Award to the Annual Book Awards Competition. This award will honor the writer who has taken risks with his or her writing, in the NCPA Anthologies started last year. One award will be given for each anthology. Hopefully everyone who submitted a story to one, or both, of the 2019 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 one of the two hearing the roar of the crowd when we announce your name … NOW join us … get your travel / vacation-themed stories in for the (2) 2020 DESTINATION: The World Anthologies: entry deadline 30 June, 2020. More info below.
**ADVERTISE HERE for a year EVEN IF NOT A MEMBER ~ Be an NCPA DONOR or SPONSOR**

Donate something of value to the Raffle or Silent Auction held during our 2020 Book Awards Banquet or Sponsor by purchasing ad space in our Book Awards Program

**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 March 2020 newsletter. **THANK YOU**

**“American Pops from BOOGIE WOOGIE to BROADWAY” Placer Pops Chorale & Orchestra 2020**

Great Mother’s Day present * www.placerpops.com (80 voice choir)

(go to bottom of website & click on links for sample songs ~~ FABULOUS!)

Harris Center in Folsom *** Sat 30 May *** Sun 31 May *

Dietrich Theatre in Rocklin *** Fri 5 June *** Sat 6 June *** Sun 7 June

(Placer Pops recorded excerpts from their Broadway repertoire at Skywalker Sound in 2016 (George Lucas Skywalker Ranch)

**ADVERTISING FOR MORE OF OUR 2019 GRACIOUS DONORS, all NCPA members**

*Looking for a detailed critique and line edits?* 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 still needed. Anything further, price will be negotiable.) 916-803-1665 sharon@sharonsdarrow.com www.sharondarrow.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 Clements, CA 95227 grandoaksinn.com 209 759-3453 or 209-759-3713 grandoaks@inreach.com

Grand Oaks, Sharif’s & Roaring Camp Mining Co have all generously donated to NCPA every year
February 2020

2019/ 2020 NCPA 26th Annual Book Awards Banquet

* 5pm-9pm * Sunday 26 April 2020 * Cherry Island Golf Course, Elverta *

**Banquet tickets** 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 … their own award! 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

### MAR 2020 Speaker

**Naida West**

**Topic TBD**

### APR 2020

**Update on BOOK AWARDS & Travel Anthology * PLUS * Speaker: Winner of NCPA’s entry * for IBPA Conference Scholarship * Angelica Jackson’s Report on the IBPA Conference**

### Sunday 26 APR 2020

BOOK AWARDS Banquet * plus *

*Birds of a Feather & More Birds of a Feather* Anthology

**RISK-TAKER AWARD**

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.catronamcpherson.com

JUNE 2020 *
Sigrid Bathen
Magazine Writing
Sigridbathen.com

AUGUST 2020 Speaker *
Stephanie Chandler
Internet Marketing & Content Marketing

July 2020 * No Speaker *
State of NCPA & Housekeeping

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 * @jenchentrans

DECEMBER 2020
NO SPEAKER
* NCPA MEMBER BOOK DISPLAY & MEMBER BOOK SALE *
Sun 6 DECEMBER 2020
4th Annual Holiday Luncheon * & *
2nd Annual Anthology Launch
Black Angus

October 2020 SPEAKER
Bitsy Kemper
Writing Children’s Books: Why it’s Harder than you Thought

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 *Birds of a Feather & 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 us 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 there’s 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, typos, incomplete sentences, clarifications needed, etc., that story **will be returned for the AUTHOR to correct & 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, you 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’ll see 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!
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, in your bio, if they like your story ~ all it takes is a little of your time to write and submit a STAND-ALONE story about Travel; as little as 500, to as many as 3000 words. Then at our Annual Holiday Luncheon at Black Angus Sunday 6 Dec 2020, as well as our Thursday 10 Dec meeting at Denny’s, bring all of your books to share, barter, trade, sell, or whatever. (You can’t say we didn’t give you plenty of warning!)

How to submit a story Soft Deadline 30 June 2020
Free for NCPA’s 2020 Travel Anthology, Destination: The World

Go to the NCPA website at norcalpa.org and follow instructions on the main page regarding submitting to the anthology (under the picture of the animals), or,

Click here for details.

There are five (5) attachments to complete & submit:
(Submit each by separate attachment, please.)

1. Your signed agreement
2. Your signed application
3. Your story, in word ONLY, NO PDF * Will be returned unread if sent any other way.
   a. 500 to 3000 words *
   b. Garamond Font *
   c. 12 pt Font *
   d. Single Space *
4. Your bio:
   a. Italicize all book titles, please
5. Your picture:
   a. JPG or JPEG ONLY, or it won’t be accepted.
   (Yes, there’s a difference, if you use Mac) if you don’t know how to do a JPG/ JPEG, or have other questions, please contact me NCPAAnthology2019@gmail.com

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 CAstatefair.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.)

2020 PLACER COUNTY FAIR * June 25-28 * 2020 EL DORADO COUNTY FAIR * June 18- 21 * I know nothing about these County Fairs or others … do a Google for more info on your County if it’s not one of these.
NCPA’s 2020 Travel-Themed Anthology, Destination: The World

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.) ALL STORIES MUST BE STAND-ALONE STORIES

- 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

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 to each: 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. 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 Feb 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 scheduled for 12Noon-?? Sunday 6 Dec 2020, at the Black Angus Restaurant on Greenback @ Sunrise, Citrus Heights, along with our 4th Annual Holiday Luncheon

DONATE TO NCPA FOR THE RAFFLE &/OR SILENT AUCTION DURING THE BOOK AWARDS BANQUET PROCEEDS TO MUSTARD SEED SCHOOL

I would like to pull together a basket for NCPA to raffle at the Awards Dinner Raffle. I have some book related items and some books on writing, that sort of thing. Maybe something tasty to eat (bought from a store of course). Judy Pierce *** THANK YOU JUDY!! YOU STARTED BEFORE ME! ***

This E from Judy is the kind of Email we like!

Now accepting baskets of goodies OR things for baskets (we can put them together) any type … for kids &/or adults … stuffed animals, toys, games, sports, wines, foods, anything book or writing-related, travel … you name it, for a raffle, or something for the silent auction: tickets to an event or the movies, restaurant gift cards, paintings, art, wines, jewelry, services, such as:

* edit * manuscript eval * website * book trailer * critique * webinar * workshop * retreat * illustrations *

OR ~ if you’d prefer to be a SPONSOR you could donate cash OR purchase an ad ($25-$???) in the Book Awards Program for the evening … more info later on prices for spaces in the program.

Click on links below for a donor form or thank you letters, with lots of information

NCPA BLANK Donor form 2020 SA AB 15 Jan 2020.docx (DONOR FORM complete & return to Norma)
NCPA 2020 Donor TY Letter 15 Jan 2020.docx (Donor Thank You Letter)
NCPA 2020 Sponsor TY Letter 15 Jan 2020.docx (Sponsor Thank You Letter)

February 2020
Robert M. Pacholik’s **SAIGON SUMMER**
10am-11am Sat 22 Feb 2020 * Ranch Cordova Branch, SAC LIBRARY
9845 Folsom Blvd, Sacto CA

“If you lived through, or read about the Tet Offensive in South Vietnam in 1968, you only got part of the real story,” author Robert M. Pacholik said. **SAIGON SUMMER** is a startlingly insightful novel that examines what really happened during those first nine months of 1968.

EVERYONE WELCOME * CONGRATULATIONS ROBERT!

Want Your Short Story on a Beer Label? Here’s how:
From Ontario, Canada, comes a short-novel idea (pun intended) for marketing … with a 28 Feb 2020 deadline … no payment, just your story on a beer can, and “…beer-label publishing glory.” Enter here, for your FREE chance to submit an unpublished, original 300-word, or less, story. If that doesn’t work, click on the following link: https://www.refinedfool.com/bookkeeper/

“To celebrate the 40th anniversary of The Book Keeper, our local independent bookstore, we’ve partnered with them to create a series of beer labels featuring short stories sent to us by budding writers like yourself.

“We’ll read every story sent to us and our favourites will be printed on custom designed beer labels for the world to read! Happy writing!”

***

COPYRIGHT & NO LICENSE A NO-NO
A Berkley Elementary PTA found out the hard way about copyright laws and licensing, during a fundraising event where they initially raised over $800. The PTA now owes Disney $250 for showing a film without a Public Performance License.

One of the parents had earlier purchased the Lion King DVD, then volunteered it for a “parent’s night out / movie-pizza night” last November. It was advertised on a local website for events, and more than two months later, the PTA received an Email from a third-party company used by Disney and other studios to enforce copyright and licensing laws, saying the PTA had violated copyright laws.

Legal permission is needed any time a movie is shown for entertainment outside the home, including in the classroom. The PTA intends to pay the fine, and have already started receiving donations from parents.

***

Book Promo 101 through BookBub
Check out BookBub’s free, online guide, including a book-launch checklist, target-audience research tips, and more. Read at their blog or copy and paste the link below: https://insights.bookbub.com/book-promotion/

***

VALENTINE’S DAY IS COMING ~ E-CARDS (for ALL occasions)
Some are FREE, some are NOT, at both sites
https://www.jibjab.com/eCards
https://www.123greetings.com/

***
February 2020

*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

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

RISK-TAKERS AWARD  
For Your Anthology STORY Too!  
26 April

Costumes optional at Anything Goes  
ROARING 2020s Costumed Event @ NCPA Book Awards Banquet  
26 April 2020

Sacramento Suburban Writers Club (SSWC) 2nd Mon ea/mon
10 Feb 2020 * 7pm-9pm * Sactowriters.org  
SPEAKER William Burg, CA Historian & author of Wicked Sacramento and 6 more books, plus articles on Sacramento History.  
Crossroads Fellowship Christian Church, 5501 Dewey Dr Fair Oaks  
SPEAKER Mon 9 March David Kulczyk ~ author  
SPEAKER Mon 13 April Phil D'Asaro, Graphic Novelist

SCBWI Annual SPRING SPIRIT CONFERENCE  
2 May 2020 * Fountain Square in Citrus Heights  
Registration NOW OPEN  
Early Bird thru 1 March $130 SCBWI member, $180 non-member  
Regular 2 Mar-15 Apr 2020 $160 SCBWI member, $210 non

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  
No registration  Info: Beth Daugherty, Librarian bdaugherty@sac-library.org  

March 8: Courthouse Research – Glenda Gardner Lloyd
April 5: Overcoming the Most Challenging DNA Problems – James Baker, PhD
May 3: Topic TBD – Nancy Loe
June 7: Researching Gold Rush Era Ancestors – Melinda Kashuba, PhD
Aug 9: Pivotal Events Impacting America’s Westward Migration – Kathryn Marshall, PhD
Sep 13: But It Wasn’t a Foreign Language to Your Ancestors - Janice Sellers
Oct 4: An Introduction to DNA Painter – Stephanie K. West
Dec 6: An Introduction to German Genealogy – Ingeborg Carpenter

NEW FEB INFO: California Genealogical Society & Library CaliforniaAncestors.org
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 Bakery * 5821 Antelope Rd.* Antelope 95843, CA * Bakery: 916-729-6217

“American Pops from BOOGIE WOOGIE to BROADWAY” Placer Pops Chorale & Orchestra 2020
Great Mother’s Day present * www.placerpops.com (80 voice choir)
(go to bottom of website & click on links for sample songs ~~ FABULOUS!)
Harris Center in Folsom *** Sat 30 May *** Sun 31 May *
Dietrich Theatre in Rocklin *** Fri 5 June *** Sat 6 June *** Sun 7 June
(Placer Pops recorded excerpts from their Broadway repertoire at Skywalker Sound in 2016 (George Lucas Skywalker Ranch)

ADVERTISING FOR MORE OF OUR GRACIOUS 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 https://www.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 Mehrtens 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’s & Roaring Camp Mining Co have all generously donated to NCPA every year
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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916-396-3414

Monthly Speaker Coordinator
Norma Jean Thornton

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.

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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.

... Norma Jean Thornton, editor The Pen & Press 2016-2019

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