

# ARIZONA AUTHORS ASSOCIATION

Issue 12

Arizona Authors Association

February-March 2021

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## Vice President's Corner by Toby Heathcote

Hello dear fellow members,

Our annual membership meeting will transpire on January 23 from 10 to 12 noon on Zoom. Because the deadline for the newsletter happens before the meeting, I can't fill you in on how it went. Because it's our first time using Zoom, I hope it's successful because that method makes the annual meeting accessible for all our members rather than just Phoenix area members. One year of Zoom costs about the same amount as we normally paid in previous years for a location and snacks, so that's an excellent use of our funds.

Memberships renew each January, as most of you know already. You got an email note if you owed money and how much and how to pay. Those members who contribute their time have their dues comped. Others have paid years in advance so we didn't contact them.

We currently have 108 members in the database. We hope everyone wants to renew, but we understand if people decline.

If you have a friend who is a writer, editor, or author and you'd like to encourage him or her to become a member, you can send the link to our website, where new members can print the brochure or click to access the website to become a member. Here's the Join button:

[Arizona Authors Association Membership Form](#)

continued on the next page

Vice President's Corner Continued

The *2021 Arizona Literary Magazine* is available for purchase as a paperback. We had many talented writers who won this year and several authors contributed beautiful Arizona photos. Enjoy an excellent read and help support your Association. Below is the link to buy:

[2021 Arizona Literary Magazine](#)

Our literary contest started again as of January 1, thanks to Jane Ruby. We've made changes to the cost structure and added a new category called Oldie but Goldie. I think many of you will want to enter.

The entry blank appears elsewhere in the newsletter. Print the page for your own convenience. You'll help yourself and AAA by entering as many times as you can. Also here is the link:

[2021 Arizona Authors Association Literary Contest](#)

I'm looking forward to 2021, safe and covid free.

Blessings my friends,

Toby

Toby Heathcotte



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Saguaro National Park  
By AAA Member Janet Crum

## What's New?

The 2021 Arizona Authors Association Literary Contest has a new feature this year, and it will probably excite our entire membership! If you haven't written a book in a while, you may be thinking that you can't participate in the contest. We've changed that.

This year, we feature a new category, "Oldie but Goldie." You may submit ANY book, no matter when it was written, provided it has never before earned an award in the Arizona Authors Association Literary Contest. You may have previously submitted it, as long as it didn't earn a placement or honorable mention.

This will open up the contest to a great many more of our wonderful writers. We all have favorite books of ours from years past that have never won an Arizona Authors award. Dust off those covers and submit them now! It's time to earn recognition for a worthy book that fell through the cracks in years past.

Your book may have won awards in other contests; that's okay! As long as it didn't previously win in our own contest, then submit as many books as you wish, no matter what their copyright date. You may finally earn recognition for a beloved Oldie but Goldie book. Check out this [link](#) for our contest form and send off that book now!



While you're at it, why not visit the Arizona Authors Association [blog](#) and check out our latest news, stories, and interesting posts? Vijaya Schartz manages the blog and updates it regularly with timely posts of interest to all of our authors, editors and publishers. Submit your news to the blog. Have you recently found a publisher or earned an award? Do you have a new book release? Make sure to advertise it on the blog. Don't waste that resource when it can help you reach a larger readership. The Arizona Authors Association has resources available to you. Take advantage of them!

The Arizona Authors Association board members and editor wish you a very happy Valentine's Day on February 14.



"The best and most beautiful things in life cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart." -Helen Keller

### Arizona Authors Association Leadership

Board of Directors:

President.....Russell Azbill  
 Vice President.....Toby Heathcotte  
 Treasurer.....Debbie Weiland  
 Board Member.....Nicolas Lagrand  
 Secretary/Literary Contest Director.....Jane Ruby  
 Newsletter Editor.....Kathleen Cook

Unless expressly stated, Arizona Authors Association, including its newsletter staff, neither endorses nor takes responsibility for the opinions expressed in this publication.

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**All other inquiries should be sent to:**

[Arizona.Authors@yahoo.com](mailto:Arizona.Authors@yahoo.com)

### Literary Trivia Fantasy and Sci-Fi

1. In the *Harry Potter* series, what is Hagrid's first name?
2. What does Arya Stark name her direwolf cub in *A Game of Thrones*?
3. What is the name of the high school Bella attends in *Twilight*?
4. Who wrote *The Foundation Trilogy*?
5. Nathaniel York is a captain in which Ray Bradbury novel?
6. Which London shop owner sells Winston Smith a glass paperweight in an Orwell novel?

(Answers on Page [27](#))

For more Trivia, go to:  
[Bustle](#)



Barn Owl  
 Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
 Near Tucson, Arizona  
 Photo from [Indies1 Wikimedia Commons](#)



## Arizona Authors Association

### Current Benefits and Submission Guidelines

#### Membership Benefits

The Arizona Authors Association offers several valuable benefits to our members. This newsletter provides you with a bimonthly guide to workshops, events and activities, many of them free or low cost, designed to hone your skills as a writer. In addition, both our blog and our newsletter offer advice, suggestions, and insight to reinforce your expertise.

The yearly Literary Contest furnishes an opportunity to showcase your work and the possibility of earning prizes that will enhance your reputation as an author. As the relaunch of this association progresses, we plan to once again participate in book fairs or other events. The opportunity to advertise under the Arizona Authors Association banner will allow you to promote your work and increase your visibility with a minimum of expense and effort.

I hope you will take advantage of the newsletter to report your accomplishments. Our "Congratulations" page is designed to applaud your efforts and inspire other members. We also welcome your input on anything author related, such as your own literary news, useful tips, helpful websites, etc. Ask questions that will be answered in the next issue. Together, we will all benefit from the combined knowledge of our diverse membership.

Lastly, one of the biggest benefits of your Arizona Authors Association membership is the ability to reach others with your book releases and advertisements. At present, members may submit a quarter-page ad for author-related services without cost. Books released within the previous six months will receive a free, full-page ad.



#### Submissions to the Newsletter

Your input is welcome! The following categories accept submissions through midnight on the **15th** day of odd-numbered months. Send all entries to: [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com).

**Features** are generally between 800-1200 words (lengthier or shorter submissions will be considered). We seek articles that motivate and inspire writers, enhance their skills, assist in promoting their works and more.

**What Are You Reading?** asks members to share their current reading material in 200 words or less. Tell us why you like or dislike a book (written by anyone except yourself). This will help other members in their quest for new reading material.

**Road to Imagination** seeks finished works of 800 words or less based upon the previous issue's story prompt. **Back Page Quotes** seeks jokes or quotes (200 words or less) on the foibles of writing, editing or publishing. We also need **Arizona landscape photos** as inspiring space fillers for our newsletter. If we use them, we'll credit you. Please be sure to state in your email that you took the photos.

If you published a book within the last six months, share it with the Arizona Authors Association newsletter. We'd love to advertise it in our next issue. We will also list any upcoming book-related events, meetings, workshops, book sales, book signings, etc., across the state or in nearby regions as space permits. If you offer editing, proofreading, or other literary services, submit a quarter-page ad with us, currently without cost to members in good standing.

Send your articles in Word, Notepad or Wordpad format. Articles will be standardized to a Times New Roman 11pt font. Pictures may be gif, png or jpegs. Send large pictures, if possible, (no less than 2"x4") since we can shrink any picture without losing quality, but small pictures cannot be enlarged without deterioration. Note that all submissions are subject to light editing/proofreading. You will be informed in advance of publication if extensive edits are needed.

Thank you!

## Recent and Upcoming Events

### RECENT and UPCOMING EVENTS

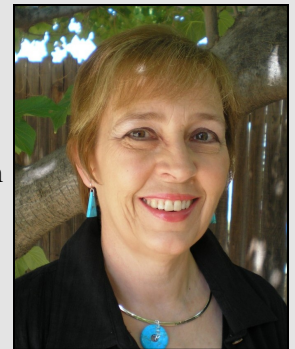


Patricia L. Brooks, MAOM, Arizona Authors Association member, award-winning author of three memoirs, workshop presenter, publishing consultant, and advocate spoke on a two-hour Zoom call January 12<sup>th</sup> for the Tempe Public Library on the topic, *Advocate for Others with Memoir*. Ms. Brooks also spoke for an hour on January 15th, on a Zoom call for the Scottsdale Public Library with a portion of her workshop, *Write the Memoir You're Afraid to Write*.

On Friday, February 5, from 1:00-3:00 pm, she will offer via Zoom her full two-hour workshop, *Write the Memoir You're Afraid to Write*, for the Desert Foothills Library Association of Cave Creek (DFLA). In an encouraging and insightful presentation, Patricia will help you capture your untold story. Through her highly regarded workshop, she will share with you how to produce this memoir to your own satisfaction. Please RSVP in advance for the ID/PW. To RSVP this or any future events, or for more information on Patricia's books/memoirs/bio or workshops, contact Patricia at [patricia@plbrooks.com](mailto:patricia@plbrooks.com) or [www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com](http://www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com) or text her at 480-250-5556 anytime.

Donis Casey's newest mystery, *Valentino Will Die*, is scheduled for release in all formats on February 2nd. The book's description as well as a biography of Ms. Casey are featured in this issue's New Book Releases section on page 24. A virtual book launch event occurred on January 30th, 2021, at 4pm MST at the Poisoned Pen Bookstore in Scottsdale, Arizona. The live virtual event with Barbara Peters discussed Bianca LaBelle, heroine of the series, *The Adventures of Bianca Dangereuse*, and her friendship with Rudolph Valentino, silent film star. As Valentino lay dying, Bianca vows to find his murderer.

Donis will be with PatZi Gil on February 4, 11:00 Eastern Standard Time, at [Joy on Paper](http://JoyonPaper.com), a syndicated radio show for writers and those who dream of writing! She will be making the podcast/blog circuit over the next few months. Find out all about Donis and her books on <http://www.doniscasey.com/>.



Marilyn June Janson M.S. Ed. and CEO of Janson Literary Services, Inc. offers the following online workshops. Visit [www.janwrite.com](http://www.janwrite.com) to find out more.

#### **Ms. Janson's Online Workshops**

\*10% discounts for Arizona Authors Members only.

#### **Each Student Receives:**

1. One-On-One Instruction.
2. Personalized Materials, Assignments, and Expert Critiques.

continued on the next page

Upcoming Events, Continued

3. One-On-One Instruction.

4. Personalized Materials, Assignments, and Expert Critiques.

**Enrollment:** Contact Marilyn at **480-699-6389** or via email [@janlitserv@cox.net](mailto:@janlitserv@cox.net).

Beginners and advanced writers are welcome to attend.

**New Workshop. Writing For the Authors/Artists Health.** 6 Sessions. \$250. During this difficult time, isolation and social distancing continues to have devastating consequences on our physical and emotional wellness. Through inspirational, motivational, and comprehensive guided writing exercises and readings, Instructor Marilyn invites you to explore and learn how to remedy these feelings for better health.

**Book Proposal Package Writing Workshop.** 6 sessions. \$300. Have a finished manuscript to publish? Write the perfect book proposal that sells your work to traditional publishing houses. Lessons Include writing your book introduction, winning cover and query letters, chapter outline, manuscript synopsis, marketing strategy, book comparisons, chapter summaries, and your Publishing Vitae. Novels, nonfiction, business tools, short story collections, poetry, memoirs, family history, young adult, children's picture and chapter books.

**Short Story Writing. 6 sessions.** \$250. Instructor Marilyn guides you through her unique step-by-step fiction writing process including character and plot development, scene construction, dialogue, tension, and tone and mood. Receive affirmations and expert critiques on your homework assignments.

**Memoir and Family History Writing.** 6 sessions. \$300. Organize your manuscript. Learn to write stories for today's audience. Memoir and family history excerpts from bestselling authors, and motivational writing exercises for all stages of life are provided. Receive affirmations and expert critiques on your homework assignments.

**Novel Writing Workshop. 8 sessions.** \$300. From story idea to plotting, chapter and scene construction, dialogue, tone and mood, pacing, Instructor Marilyn shares her foolproof story telling process. Receive affirmations and expert critiques on your homework assignments.

**Children's Picture & Chapter Book Writing.** 8 sessions. \$265 Create irresistible, fun, kid friendly characters, and story lines. Fiction, nonfiction, concept, Edutainment, issue oriented, and inspirational manuscripts. Picture, text, and chapter formatting instructions are included. Receive affirmations and expert critiques on your homework assignments.

## Congratulations to Our Members



Arizona Authors Association member Mike Rothmiller has had an incredibly busy couple of months. Two of his books have made Number One on Amazon's Hot New Releases (see below). They remain great sellers, and Volume One hit number one in three Amazon categories. Volume Two hit number 6 in its category on the site from advance orders even before its release, and since then, it has jumped to number 32 overall in Hot New Releases, and is still climbing.

Mike received an email from a major publisher in England just before Christmas. He wished to publish both Volume One and Volume Two of Mike's True Crime novels in the UK and the Commonwealth.

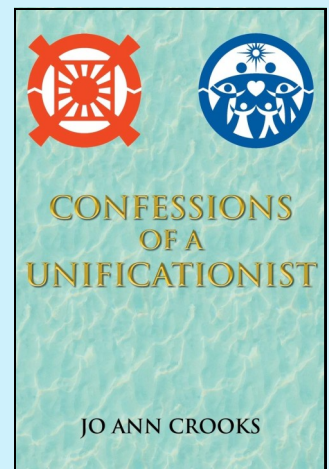
In November, Mike released his new book, [\*The Ultimate Reference Book of Law Enforcement Codes\*](#), which is featured in this issue in the New Book Releases section of the newsletter.

This adds to Mike's earlier news from a Czech Republic publisher who purchased the translation rights for his country. In addition, Mike has another book deal coming up that the publisher expects will be a world-wide best seller. Find out more about Mike [HERE](#).



Jo Ann Crooks, author of [\*Confessions of a Unificationist\*](#), which was featured in our October issue, will be interviewed on March 9, 2021, for an upcoming broadcast on WOR 710 radio in New York. She will also be featured on IHeartRadio.com; the exact airing dates are as yet unscheduled. She will discuss her book, *Confessions of a Unificationist*, which details her life as well as her marriage within the religion's context.

Ms. Crooks also participated in a book signing at the Farmer's Insurance on Macdonald Road in Mesa. The signing, which occurred on December 15th, featured several other writers including former sheriff Joe Arpaio. Find out more about Jo Ann on her Arizona Authors biography page [HERE](#) or on her website page [HERE](#).





Congratulations To Our Members, Continued

Arizona Authors Association columnist Mark D. Walker was featured on Craig Storti's BookMarks blog, on the Society for Intercultural Training and Research website. Craig starts out with a tribute to the importance of Moritz Thomsen as a writer, humanitarian and cultural authority, and then segues into his extensive interview with Mark. He says, "Moritz Thomsen died in 1991. In his stead we have asked Mark Walker, a former Peace Corps volunteer and author of the memoir *Different Latitudes*, to do the honors in our author interview."

Mark finishes the interview with a favorite quip by Mark Twain: "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

Read the entire blog on the SIETARUSA website [HERE](#).

Find out more about Mr. Walker on his website, <http://www.millionmilewalker.com>

**Mark D. Walker** MA, CFRE, President  
Million Mile Walker LLC.



After a year of translating, Peter Bernhardt recently published the German language edition of his second novel, *Kiss of the Shaman's Daughter*, with his ebook publisher in Munich and on Amazon. The German language editions of *The Stasi File* and *Red Romeo* have been selling quite well by word of mouth, mostly as ebooks. His good friend in Bavaria polished his German language skills grown a bit rusty after 53 years in the United States.

Peter also helped a writer publish his recently completed novel on Amazon and Smashwords, and he is currently querying literary agents on behalf of a Sedona writer friend who has penned a captivating young adult novel that takes place in China.

Peter Bernhardt, Author: [The Stasi File – Opera and Espionage: A Deadly Combination](#), 2011 ABNA Quarter Finalist; [Kiss of the Shaman's Daughter](#), [Red Romeo](#)

Find out more about Peter [HERE](#).



*Did you pick up your copy of the  
Arizona Literary Magazine 2021?*

*It's on sale [HERE](#)!*

*Each purchase helps us to grow and  
thrive. Thank you!*





## The Million Mile Walker Review What We're Reading and Why

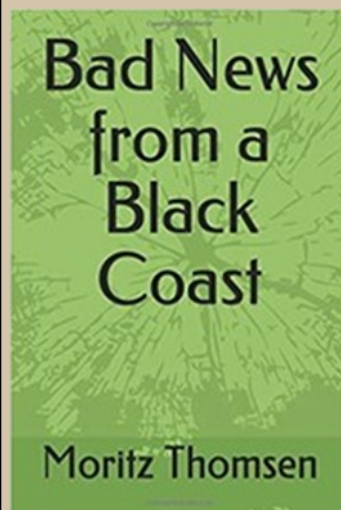
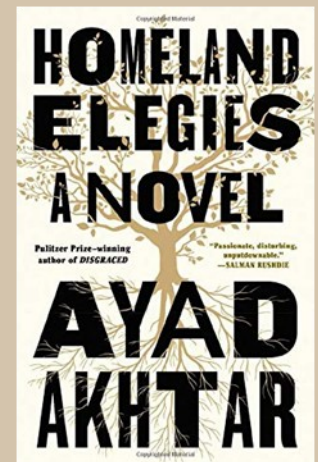
By Mark D. Walker



I initially heard Ayad Akhtar when he was interviewed by PBS and then came across the words of Bill Moyers about one of the author's many plays. He said Akhtar's plays are "not only history, but prophecy. A Biblical-like account of who's running America, and how." Moyers added: "Our times at last have found their voice, and it belongs to a Pakistani American: Ayad Akhtar." This novel about identity and belonging in a nation coming apart at the seams, told from the perspective of a Muslim writer, is a must read. The book reflects the power of fiction to explore and understand what's going on in reality and includes a powerful social commentary. Not surprisingly, Alison Bechdel's quote is on the page just before the first chapter, "I can only make things up about things that have already happened..."

The author blends fact and fiction to tell an epic story of longing and dispossession in the world that 9/11 made. Part family drama, part picaresque novel, part social essay at its heart, it is the story of a father, a son, and the country they both call their home. The author forges a narrative voice to capture a country in which debt has ruined countless lives and the gods of finance rule, where immigrants live in fear, and where the nation's unhealed wounds impact the rest of the world. Akhtar's story unfolds within one family and moves from a heartland town in America to palatial suites in Central Europe to guerrilla lookouts in the mountains of Afghanistan. In the process, he spares no one -- least of all himself.

Hari Kunxra of the **New York Times Book Review** said, "[A] moving and confrontational novel . . . [Homeland Elegies](#) deals in ambiguities that were beyond the pale of public discourse in the years after 9/11. . . . He has an unerring sense for the sore spots, the bitter truths that have emerged from this history."



I didn't know Moritz Thomsen and never corresponded with him. We were both Peace Corps Volunteers involved in agricultural work and his first book, *Living Poor*, would be "obligatory reading" for thousands of volunteers like me involved in community development work. His transparency and lifelong commitment to live among, and try to understand, some of the most abandoned people in Ecuador, the different ways he described what he saw and the impact it had on countless ex-pats were an inspiration and something worth emulating.

After my career working with international development agencies, I turned to writing, which introduced me to the other books written by the man who became one of the great writers of our time. Having missed him personally, I fell in love with his books instead, which reflected in my own life what I sensed in his. He became my "literary patron saint."

Like many Thomsen enthusiasts, I had wondered where his last, illusive manuscript was and how it might be published, bringing the number of travelogue classics to five. So when it appeared on Amazon, published—I jumped with joy—at last, 28 years after his death. And I was not disappointed, as it was worth the wait.

continued on the next page

The Million Mile Walker Review, Continued

Thomsen began talking about this book in 1980 and sent some of the manuscript to fellow Returned Peace Corps Volunteer and author, Christopher West Davis, who told him that it was some of his best work, “He was in the zone, in top form, etc. encouraging him to keep it up...” But later on, Thomsen would lament the difficulties getting it published.

This first edition was created from a photocopy of the original typed manuscript and includes his handwritten notes. The book is over 300 pages, the chapters are untitled, and the index only includes a brief “Editor’s Note,” “Forward,” the book and “endnotes,” which list where “unreadable texts” were located. Thirty vignettes dating from his arrival in Ecuador as a Peace Corps Volunteer in 1964 include snippets of characters from his previous books, making sense of the beauty and complex world of the Esmeraldas on the coast of Ecuador.



Moritz Thomsen

Although those who have read Thomsen’s previous books will recognize more details and insights into characters and circumstances, this book is a standalone publication and includes several spectacular stories like this treatise on creativity and an author’s responsibility when facing human degradation and violence.

One of the more bizarre stories which reflects the creative process comes alive when Thomsen describes reading a story from Russian-born American novelist, Vladimir Nabokov, who wrote *Lolita*, and, like Thomsen, has been compared to Joseph Conrad. While reading in his two-story writing “tower” on his farm, Thomsen realizes that Nabokov has written the same story, and says,

*“I came to the end and sat there up above the farm stunned into an ecstasy of joy...Discounting the quality of the writing and my cowardice set against his courage, our stories were the same, enough the same, at any rate, to make me pant like a dog, make me laugh and cry at the same time. I sat there shaking all over, joined for what turned out to be somewhat less than the next minute into a sacred partnership with that writer I admired above all others, but I couldn’t just sit there; I had to move, dance, fly. Feeling as though I had grown wings at my heels, I rushed down the stairs, yanked open the front door, stepped out onto something I should have stepped out on, and now, flying at last, flying like a bird parallel to the earth with my wings like helicopter blades, fell out of my house....”*

With that Thomsen lands on a pile of cement blocks, breaking his wrist and head, some ribs cracked and “blood al gusto.” When he came to, Nabokov, who had recently died, knelt beside him, “Don’t worry, my darling,” he whispered.” *This, too, you will one day write about.*”

After reading Thomsen’s last book, I was inspired to start my next one, which will be an anthology of authors who knew and wrote about Thomsen. The tentative title will be, ***The Moritz Thomsen Reader: His Books, His Letters, His Legacy Told by the Writers Who Knew Him Best.*** I’m looking for a publisher at this time.

You can find the entire book reviews of these two books and 60 others on my [website](#) under the “Library” tab.

Please let me know what you think—about this newsletter, my reviews and most importantly, what you’re reading so I can ponder all of it and share some of your comments in my next column. You can email me at:

[Mark@MillionMileWalker.com](mailto:Mark@MillionMileWalker.com) or through my website: <http://www.millionmilewalker.com> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/millionmilewalker/>

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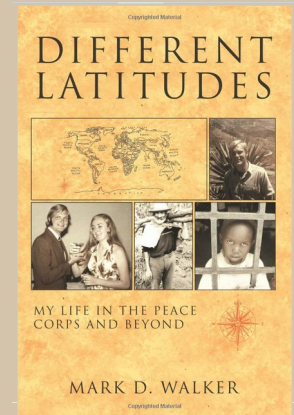
The Million Mile Walker Review, Continued.

Walker was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala and spent over forty years helping disadvantaged people in the developing world. He came to Phoenix as a Senior Director for Food for the Hungry, worked with other groups like Make a Wish International and was the CEO of Hagar USA, a Christian-based organization that supports survivors of human trafficking.

His book, *Different Latitudes: My Life in the Peace Corps and Beyond*, was recognized by the Arizona Literary Association for nonfiction and according to the *Midwest Review*, “. . . is more than just another travel memoir. It is an engaged and engaging story of one man’s physical and spiritual journey of self-discovery . . .”

Several of his articles have been published in *Ragazine* and *WorldView Magazines* while another appeared in *Crossing Class: The Invisible Wall*, an anthology published by Wising Up Press. His reviews have been published by *Revue Magazine* as well as *Peace Corps Worldwide*, including one on Paul Theroux’s latest book, *Figures in a Landscape*.

His honors include the "Service Above Self" award from Rotary International. His wife and three children were born in Guatemala. You can learn more at [www.MillionMileWalker.com](http://www.MillionMileWalker.com) and follow him on his [Facebook](#) page.



Old Town Scottsdale, Arizona

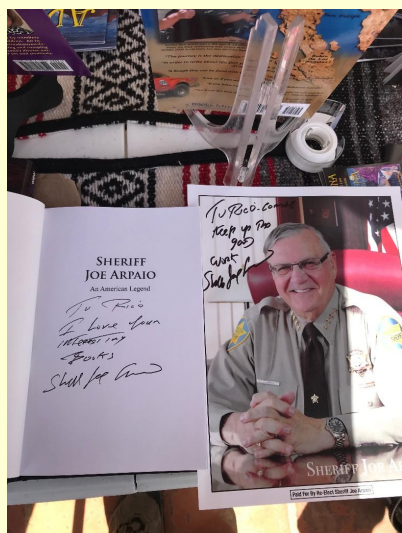
Photo by Arizona Authors Association member, Marilyn June Janson





## Rico Solves Sheriff Joe's 60-Year Mystery

by Rico Austin



It was a warm, pleasant day for a book event and signing hosted by Mr. Jason Hoffer of Farmers Insurance and fellow AZ author Ms. Eileen Pieczonka in Mesa, Arizona on December 15, 2020. In attendance were about 12 different Arizona authors including Arizona Authors Association members Rico Austin, Eileen Pieczonka and Jo Ann Crooks. The book event became even more interesting when former Maricopa Sheriff Joe Arpaio, aka "America's Toughest Sheriff," showed up for the debut signing of his book of memoirs, [\*Sheriff Joe Arpaio, An American Legend\*](#), written by David Thomas Roberts and Foreword by American Rocker Ted Nugent.

The highlight of the day was when Sheriff Joe purchased [\*BAJA LOCO, 4 Racing Days and Tequila Nights on the NORRA Mexican 1000\*](#) for \$20.00 from author Rico Austin, and then Rico gave the \$20.00 back by getting an autographed copy of Sheriff Joe's life story of America's Most Beloved Crime Fighter. Sheriff Joe entertained the crowd with many short stories including one in the book, when he stopped Elvis Presley who was speeding over 100 mph on a motorcycle with a young girl in her early twenties. Sheriff Joe was a Las Vegas police officer at the time in 1961 and told Rico that he'd always regretted not finding out the girl's name.

Upon seeing two of Rico's books featuring ELVIS and/or his legitimate illegitimate son, Sheriff Joe Arpaio asked Rico if he recognized the lady in the photo with Elvis. Fate has it that Rico was good friends with the lovely woman at the ELVIS FESTIVAL held at LVH (Las Vegas Hilton) during a pool party on August 14, 2013 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Rico interviewed the gorgeous, most delightful Darlene Tompkins, who was dressed in a white, soft, flowing muumuu dress which fit the occasion perfectly. Darlene had starred opposite Elvis Presley in the hit movie *Blue Hawaii*, which was released on November 14, 1961. The interview was written and put in Chapter 11 of Rico's third novel/biography, [\*Son of the KING, an ELVIS paradox unveiled\*](#). Chapter 11 was titled, "Darlene Tompkins and the filming of *Blue Hawaii*."

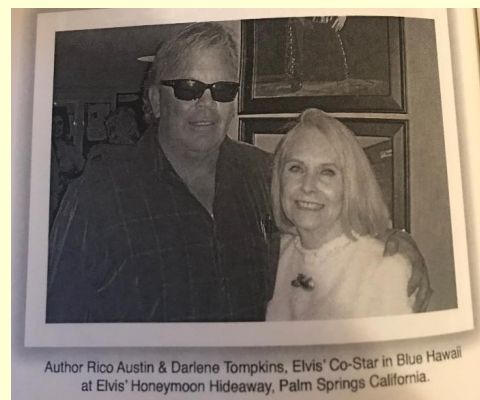
Rico solved a 60-year old mystery for America's toughest sheriff. Unfortunately, the dear Ms. Darlene Tompkins RIP passed away in 2019. The actress was born November 16, 1940 and left this Earth on July 18, 2019.

As the boat ride in Disney Land attests, *It's a Small, Small World!*  
And, as Louis Armstrong can harmonize, *What a Wonderful World!*



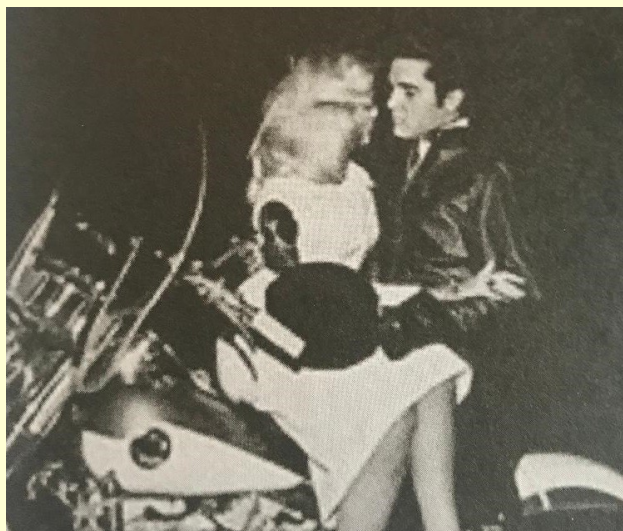
Left: Darlene Tompkins and Elvis Presley on the set of the movie, *Blue Hawaii*.

Right: Arizona Authors Association member Rico Austin and Darlene Tompkins at Elvis' Honeymoon Hideaway, Palm Springs, California.



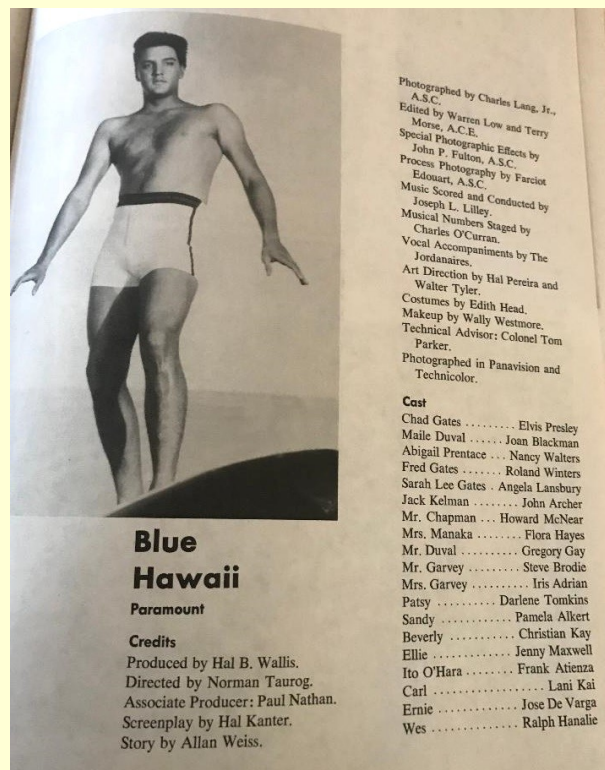
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Rico Solves Sheriff Joe's Mystery, Continued

Above: Elvis and Darlene on the motorcycle that Officer Joe Arpaio stopped during the filming of *Blue Hawaii*

Right: *Blue Hawaii* cast and credits

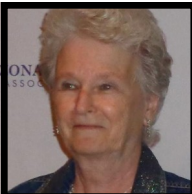


Rico Austin, PhD is the author of many award-winning essays and books including [My Bad Tequila](#). His first children's book, [ARIZONA Is Where I Live](#), was featured in this newsletter and on television. Find out more about Rico [HERE](#).



Arizona North Country





## The Road to Imagination by Cherie Lee

Do you ever need a prompt to get you started? Try Cherie Lee's story starter to spur your imagination and get the sentences flowing. An award-winning author, Cherie wrote the following paragraph as a guide:

"This fictional teaser can be used by teachers or by anyone (recommend sixth grade and up through all adult ages) who wants a creative writing exercise or to jump-start a new work. This idea is not meant to be genre specific, but left to the writer's imagination. There are no specific rules to follow. All the listed questions do not need answers. There is no order for preferred reading."

If anyone would like to share the story they create with this prompt (800 words or less), please send it to [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com) and we may publish it.

### Moon Willow

Water ripples over the rocks in the small creek next to the teepee Moon Willow had set up. She gathered rocks from that cold water to line a fire-pit dug with a tree branch. Pine cones scattered across the ground as sunlight flickered through the tree leaves.

It took only a few seconds to gather and toss some of the cones into the pit and mix dry leaves and grass with them. Moon Willow gathered a few broken tree branches and put them close to the pit. The sun waxed high overhead, but night would come quickly. She whistled.

A pinto horse appeared. Feathers dangled from its black and white mane. Moon Willow entered the tent, snatched a pouch and took her bow and arrows with her as she jumped on the horse. "The trap is set," she whispered into the horse's ear as she rode off into the forest.

### Questions:

In what time period does Moon Willow live?

Why did she set the trap?

Is someone pursuing her?

Does she know how to survive without any modern conveniences or is she an actress in a television show?

If she escaped from prison, how did she do it?

What if this happened before America became a country?

Where was Moon Willow raised?

Where was her family?

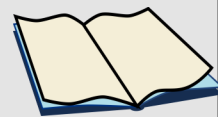
What will happen to Moon Willow if she is caught?

Now, it's your turn. Go forth and write!



## What Are You Reading?

This month I read Jane Fonda's [\*My Life So Far\*](#), a forthright account of the entertainer's colorful life, successes, failures, achievements and mistakes. Ms. Fonda doesn't hold back when confessing the errors of judgment that some have condemned her for. I found myself liking her a great deal more after reading it. —Editor





**Recent Publisher's Weekly Best Sellers**

1. [\*A Promised Land\*](#) by Barack Obama
2. [\*Keep Sharp: Build a Better Brain at Any Age\*](#) by Sanjay Gupta
3. [\*Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits and Break Bad Ones\*](#) by James Clear
4. [\*Know Yourself, Know Your Money: Discover Why You Handle Money the Way You Do, and What to Do About It!\*](#) by Rachel Cruze
5. [\*Star Wars: Light of the Jedi \(The High Republic\)\*](#) by Charles Soule
6. [\*Green Lights\*](#), by Matthew McConaughey
7. [\*Untamed\*](#), by Glennon Doyle
8. [\*Neighbors\*](#), by Danielle Steele
9. [\*Cat Kid Comic Club: From The Creator of Dog Man\*](#) by Dav Pilkey
10. [\*Little Blue Truck's Valentine\*](#), by Alice Schertle



Saguaro National Park  
Photo by Arizona Authors Association member  
Janet Crum



*Arizona Authors  
Association membership  
fees for 2021 are due now.  
See page 17 of this  
newsletter for a member-  
ship form you can mail in.  
Thank you!*



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF ARIZONA  
Arizona Daily Star

TMC  
HEALTHCARE

Tucson  
Festival  
of Books

## 2021 Tucson Festival of Books Sneak Peek

TUCSONFESTIVALOFBOOKS.ORG

**MARCH 6 & 7, 2021**

Join us to preview the exciting and exclusive author lineup for the 2021 Tucson Festival of Books, scheduled for March 6 & 7, 2021! The Sneak Peek will include author announcements for the 2021 virtual festival and a conversation with one of our featured authors. The following list includes only a few of them:

**Mary Kay Andrews**, New York Times bestselling author of *Sunset Beach* and *Hello, Summer!*

**Gary Trudeau**, famed comic strip author and Pulitzer Prize winner.

Two-time Edgar winner **James Lee Burke**, author of *Heaven's Prisoners*, which was adapted into a film.

Rice University Professor and Grammy Award winning producer **Douglas Brinkley**, author of *American Moonshot: John F Kennedy and the Great Space Race*.

**Susan A. Crane**, University of Arizona professor and author of *Nothing Happened, A History*.

Former Washington Post staff writer **John Feinstein**, author of *The Back Roads to March: The Unsung, Unheralded, and Unknown Heroes of a College Basketball Season*.

And many more . . .

For more information on the Tucson Festival of Books, click [HERE](https://tucsonfestivalofbooks.org).

Tucson  
Festival  
of Books



# Application for Membership

## Benefits of Membership

**Literary Contest   Awards Banquet   Literary Magazine  
Book Festivals   Book Signings   Facebook Page   Critique Groups  
Newsletter   Speakers   Workshops   Website Page**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLICATIONS OR CURRENT PROJECTS:

**Writers Published or Unpublished:**

One year \$45  
Two years \$80  
Three years \$110

**Send Checks To:**

**Professional Membership:**

Related Services such as Publishers, Agents,  
and Editors:  
One year \$60  
Two years \$110  
Three years \$165

**Arizona Authors Association**

**6145 West Echo Lane  
Glendale AZ 85302-5709**

**ALL MEMBERSHIPS RENEW EACH JANUARY**

Arizona Authors' Association is a Non-profit 501c3 organization. Its mission: To foster literary achievement, advance the art of writing and serve the writers, authors, editors, publishers and allied professionals of Arizona and the nation. [Arizonaauthors.com](http://Arizonaauthors.com)  
[Arizona.authors@yahoo.com](mailto:Arizona.authors@yahoo.com) [toby@tobyheathcotte.com](mailto:toby@tobyheathcotte.com)



# Desert Nights, Rising Stars

Virtual Writing Conference | February 18 – 20, 2021

*Literary Craft & Culture  
In Your Living Room*



From the ASU [website](#):

With COVID cases in Arizona, restrictions surrounding travel around the nation, and ongoing orders against large public gatherings, we want to do what we can to provide a conference that feels safe and enjoyable for everyone during this stressful time. With that in mind, we have made the choice to move Desert Nights, Rising Stars 2021 to a completely virtual conference. In short, we are moving the conference from our house to yours.

This is a whole new world of programming for us, and we wanted to get a head start now instead of waiting and watching throughout the semester. We are so deeply appreciative of the time you spend with us each year at Desert Nights and hope that you will let us bring the desert to you this year, wherever that may be. We always want to do what is right for those who so generously gift us with their time, funding and passion for writing. We couldn't do anything we do without all of you.

To learn more about the Desert Nights, Rising Stars Virtual Writers Conference, you can:

[Meet our faculty](#) of nationally-recognized and award-winning authors, agents, and other literary professionals here to share their knowledge and help you achieve your goals

[View the schedule](#) of more than 50 craft talks, panels, workshops, and other sessions covering a wide variety of genres and forms

[Register](#) for the conference before December 31 and take \$50 off. Single-day passes and discounts are available, too.

Visit the website [HERE](#).



## The Inevitable Author

by Kathleen Cook

### Make Fun of Yourself!

I have discovered the joy of being vulnerable, of making fun of myself in writing. The “confessions” genre is very popular, because everyone wants to know that someone else does the same dumb, silly, ridiculous things that they do (but won’t admit). They respect others who can talk about the things that show their foolish side.

For example, I’ve had strangers phone to tell me how much they loved my article in the newspaper. How they got my number, I’ll never know, but in a small town with only 600 residents, I’m not surprised. They love it when I admit to being a newbie to the rigors of Maine. They guffaw at my descriptions, such as when I wrote:

During my first October in Maine, I purchased a nice, shiny red snow shovel. Old man winter wasn’t going to catch me napping! My neighbor Bruce came over one day and spotted it sitting in a corner, the \$19.95 sticker still attached. He confused me when he said, “Oh, I didn’t realize you had small children. That should be fun for them.”

It sounded like a joke that lost its punch line. Was the snow so easy to shovel that small children could do it? I’d heard about Maine winters, and that didn’t sound quite logical to me. I explained, “I want to get a jump on the snow. I haven’t seen it in five decades while living in Phoenix, but I’m looking forward to shoveling it for exercise. I suppose we might have some by Thanksgiving, you think?”

He smirked and said, “We’re late, actually. The first snowfall usually arrives in October.”

I clapped my hands in amazement! I would get to use my shiny new shovel sooner than I thought. He looked at me and smiled, just like my uncle smiled when, at five years old, I insisted on opening the pickle jar all by myself. Come to think of it, that didn’t turn out too well. Why did I recall that broken pickle jar now?

Just as Bruce was leaving I asked, “Have you got your shovel out yet, too?”

He answered, “Yeah, I just put it on today.”

“Put it on?”

“Yep, it’s sitting right outside.”

I looked out and saw a four-foot wide snow shovel (which I later learned was called a snow plow) attached to the front of his pickup truck. He turned back and said, “When you need help with that shoveling, let me know.” He didn’t say “if.” He said “when.” Hmmm.

Our first snowstorm hit the next week, and it suddenly dawned on me why he had asked if I had small children. I hung that mangled shovel on my wall and called it art, and then nearly broke my neck trudging through the drifts to yell, “Bruce . . . HELP!”

End Quote.

When you open up, confess (and even exaggerate, just a little, as I did in the previous passage), you lift your readers’ spirits, make them feel good about themselves (after all, they now think they’re smarter than you are!) and you forge a relationship that allows you, later, to display your acumen without making them feel inferior. Everyone loves to know that while you are smart, they have at least one area of expertise in which you lack knowledge. Eventually, you wind up on an equal footing.

On the other hand, when you try to dazzle them with your wit right off the bat, you set up a distance between yourself and your reader . . . a distance that may or may not be erased in the future. No one likes a smarty pants.

Erma Bombeck knew this so well. She once said, “He  
continued on the next page

Inevitable Author, continued.

who laughs, lasts.” It is my belief, (I am sure she shared, it) that the one who makes them laugh, also lasts. Be the one they remember forever, the one that made them laugh by laughing first at yourself. Publicly. With abandon. Without shame. You’ll find yourself laughing, too.

Kathleen Cook is a free-lance editor and the author of twenty books. A former copy writer/editor for Demand Studios, she also served as the Fictional Religion Editor for the ODP (Open Directory Project). She is currently the Arizona Authors Association newsletter editor.



The **HARD** deadline for submission into the Arizona Authors Association Newsletter is the **15th of the month** in the following months: January, March, May, July, September, November. If your submission is late, it will go into a future issue.  
Thank you!

*A Forest is Mystery  
but a Desert is  
Truth*

*Life Pared to the  
Bone*

*-Keith Miller*

Saguaro National Park  
Photo by Arizona Authors Association  
member Janet Crum





**PUBLISHED ENTRIES**

(\$30 for members, \$35 non-members)

\_\_\_ FICTION: Novel/Novella/Short Story  
Compilation

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ NONFICTION

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ JUVENILE/YOUNG ADULT

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ OLDIE BUT GOLDIE

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**UNPUBLISHED ENTRIES:**

\_\_\_ POEM

(\$20 for members, \$25 non-members)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ SHORT STORY, ESSAY, PERSONAL  
NARRATIVE, REVIEW

(\$25 for members, \$30 non-members)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ NOVEL/NOVELLA

(\$35 for members, \$40 non-members)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CRITIQUES For Unpublished Only:**

\_\_\_ POEMS (\$25 for members, \$30 non-  
members)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ SHORT STORY, ESSAY, PERSONAL  
NARRATIVE, REVIEW

(\$30 for members, \$35 non-members)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ NOVEL, NOVELLA

(\$35 for members, \$40 non-members)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE  
(for entries & critique requests)

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable & entries mailed to:  
Arizona Authors Association  
1119 East Le Marche Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85022  
Arizona.Authors@Yahoo.com

Write one check for multiple entries &  
critiques. Delivery confirmation OK  
No signature confirmations please

Sponsor of the 2021  
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For A Larger Entry Form  
Click [HERE](#)

TITLE OF SUBMISSION:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make a copy of this form  
for each additional entry.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/  
STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the categories you wish to  
enter on the left, fill in the price  
and pay the Total Amount Due

**First Prize:**

\$100 &amp; publication or feature in Arizona Literary Magazine

**Second Prize:**

\$50 &amp; publication or feature in Arizona Literary Magazine

**Third Prize:**

\$25 &amp; publication or feature in Arizona Literary Magazine

**Honorable Mention:**

Publication or feature in Arizona Literary Magazine

1st and 2nd Prize Winners in Poetry, Essay & Short Story  
get nominated for the National Pushcart Prize (value:  
PRICELESS)

**Contest and Submission Rules**

Contest starts January 1, 2021 and ends midnight July 1,  
2021.

ALL BOOKS/E-BOOKS IN PUBLISHED CATEGORIES must include ISBN, copyright date, and publisher information. E-Books must be submitted in print & bound form like a gallery or ARC.

OLDIE BUT GOLDIE entry can have any publication date, but must never have won this contest. Must be indie work. ALL OTHER PUBLISHED ENTRIES must have 2020 or 2021 publication date.

Submit two copies of book. No submissions by publishers unless entry is a compilation.

Winning entries will be featured in annual literary magazine. Feature includes author photo, bio, and cover design. After judging, books will be donated.

UNPUBLISHED CATEGORIES – Submit 3 copies  
Poetry entries - 50 line maximum in 12-point plain font.  
Single-spacing within stanzas OK.

Short Story/Essay/Personal Narrative/Review entries cannot exceed 15 pages and must be printed in 12-point plain font, double-spaced lines, 1-inch margins, title and page numbers in header. Author's name cannot appear anywhere in text—only on entry form.

Novel/Novella entries must include a synopsis (max. 5 pages) and the first 25 pages of manuscript. The synopsis must summarize entire story. Must be printed in 12-point plain font, double-spaced lines, 1-inch margins, title and page numbers in header. No author's name in text – only on entry form. Manuscripts must be completed and available upon request. They will not be returned except if critique is requested.

Winners in unpublished categories automatically consign first serial rights to Arizona Authors' Association (right to print an excerpt in Arizona Literary Magazine before anywhere else).

Multiple entries – need an entry form for each entry. You may print extra forms from our website ([www.ArizonaAuthors.com](http://www.ArizonaAuthors.com)) or photocopy this form.

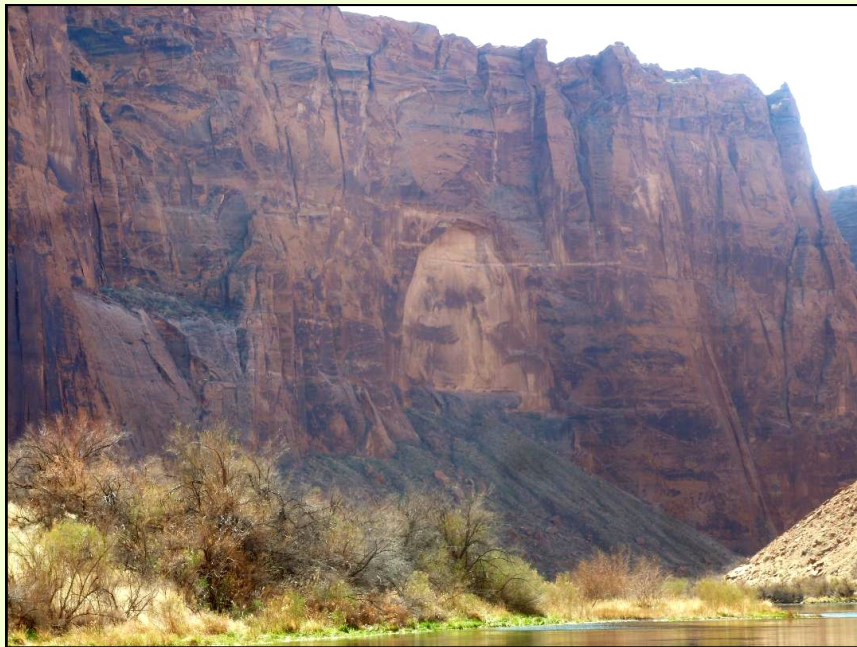
We reserve the right to switch an entry's category, cancel a category, or not award any winners if they don't meet publishing industry standards. Any entry not following rules will be disqualified without notification or refund.

## Where in Arizona?

by Dick Waters

In each issue, we add a photograph taken somewhere in Arizona along with a list of ten locations, one of which is correct. If you think you know which one, write to [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com) and let me know. The first one to guess the correct answer will have their name featured on this page in the next issue.

This issue's photograph was taken by Dick Waters:



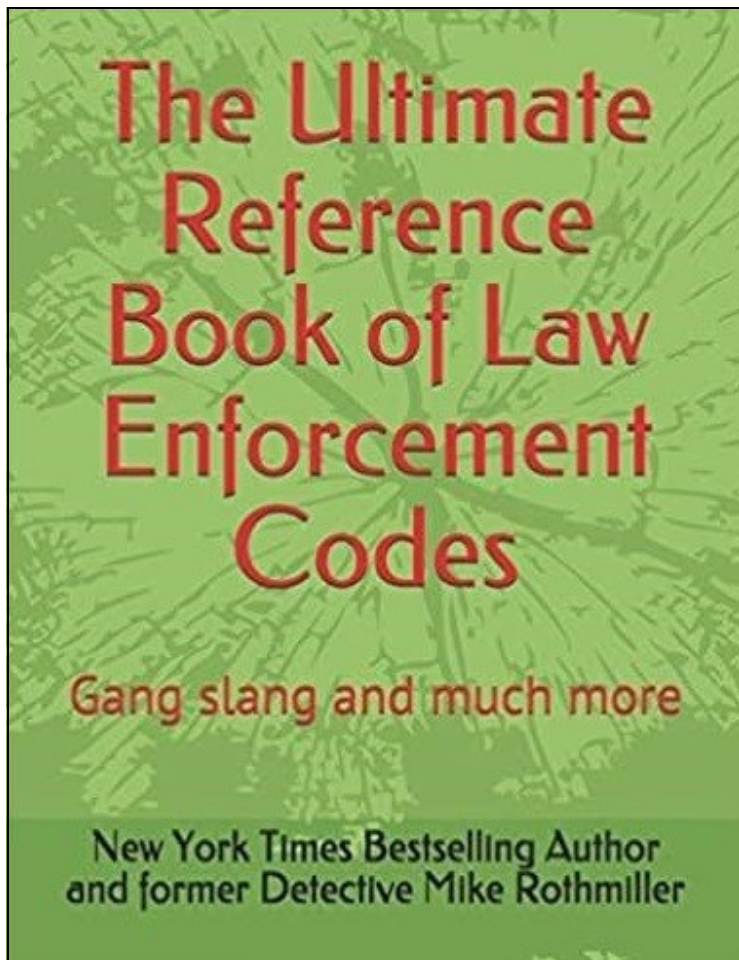
### Possible Locations:

Yuma	McNary	Page	Gila Bend	Bisbee
Pinetop/Lakeside	Sedona/Oak Creek	Prescott	Greer	Apache Junction

Write to [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com) no later than March 15th if you know the location of the photo.

## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Mike Rothmiller



### The Ultimate Reference Book of Law Enforcement Codes Gang slang and much more

This book is to be used primarily as a reference for writers desiring accuracy in their work. It is impossible to list every possible abbreviation or code since technology and laws change, requiring a new or update abbreviation. A writer should double check with the concerned agency for up-to-date accuracy.

Writers must pay attention to various terms used within law enforcement; as an example, on the East Coast, police stations are generally called Precincts or Barracks. On the West Coast, they are called Divisions or Stations. Also, on the East Coast, criminals are called Perpetrators. On the West Coast, they're called Suspects or Defendants if they have been officially charged in court. Using correct police terminology for a particular agency is imperative to demonstrate you've conducted research.

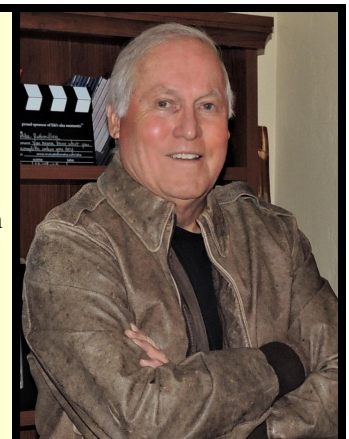
I've included a secret law enforcement list of slang and abbreviations used by various criminal organizations, including: The Aryan Brotherhood, Black Guerilla Family, Mexican Mafia, Motorcycle gangs, Skinheads, Black street gangs, Hispanic gangs, etc.

You can find this book on [Amazon](#) and other outlets.

From [Wild Blue Press](#):

"Mike Rothmiller is a New York Times Bestselling author, historian, a former cop, and an Army medic. He's a former TV Reporter, an award-winning documentary television producer, and television host for ESPN, PBS, and other international television markets. His nonfiction book, [My Hero, Military, Kids Write About Their Moms and Dads](#) (St. Martin's Press) received international acclaim and is the only book to have forwards written by three living Presidents and General Norman Schwarzkopf. Additionally, he's been a corporate President/CEO and directed three divisions of Sony Electronics EMCS-America, and he briefed the President of the United States. Readers of his books include; three Presidents, former First Lady Laura Bush, the late Charlton Heston, and Queen Elizabeth II. Media have interviewed him from 25 countries, and he's quoted in numerous books and magazines."

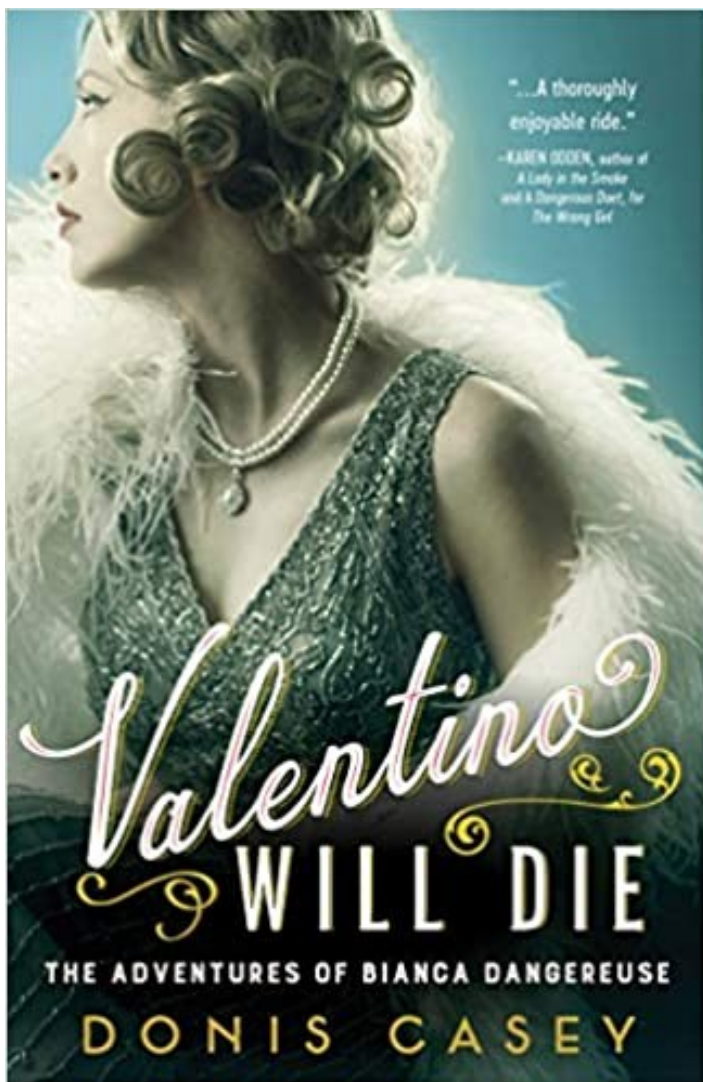
Find out more about Mike [HERE](#), as well as on his Arizona Authors member page [HERE](#).





## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Donis Casey



### Valentino Will Die A Bianca Dangereuse Hollywood Mystery

Donis Casey is pleased to announce that her second Bianca Dangereuse Hollywood Mystery, *Valentino Will Die*, is scheduled for release February 2. Publisher's Weekly says "Lovers of old movies and Hollywood gossip will have fun."

#### WHO IS TRYING TO KILL THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVER?

Though Bianca LaBelle, star of the wildly popular silent movie serial "The Adventures of Bianca Dangereuse", and Rudolph Valentino, the greatest screen idol of all time, have been friends for years, in the summer of 1926 they are making their first picture together, a steamy romance called *Grand Obsession*. One evening after dinner at Bianca's fabulous Beverly Hills estate, a troubled Rudy confesses that he has received anonymous death threats. In a matter of days, filming comes to an abrupt halt when Rudy falls deathly ill. Could it be poison?

As Rudy lay dying, Bianca promises him that she will find out who is responsible. Was it one of his many lovers? A delusional fan? Or perhaps Rudy had run afoul of a mobster whose name Bianca knows all too well? She calls on P.I. Ted Oliver to help her investigate the end of what had seemed to be the charmed life of Valentino.

Find the book on [Amazon](#) and [Barnes & Noble](#), etc.

DONIS CASEY was born and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A third generation Oklahoman, she and her siblings grew up among their aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents and great-grandparents on farms and in small towns, where they learned the love of family and independent spirit that characterizes the population of that pioneering state. Donis graduated from the University of Tulsa with a degree in English, and earned a Master's degree in Library Science from Oklahoma University. After teaching school for a short time, she enjoyed a career as an academic librarian, working for many years at the University of Oklahoma and at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ.

Donis left academia in 1988 to start a Scottish import gift shop in downtown Tempe. After more than a decade as an entrepreneur, she decided to devote herself full-time to writing. *The Old Buzzard Had It Coming* is her first book. For the past twenty years, Donis has lived in Tempe, AZ, with her husband. Find out more about Donis at: [DonisCasey.com](#) or [FanFiction](#)



## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Caren Cantrell

### Ranger Henry The Case of the Toy Thief

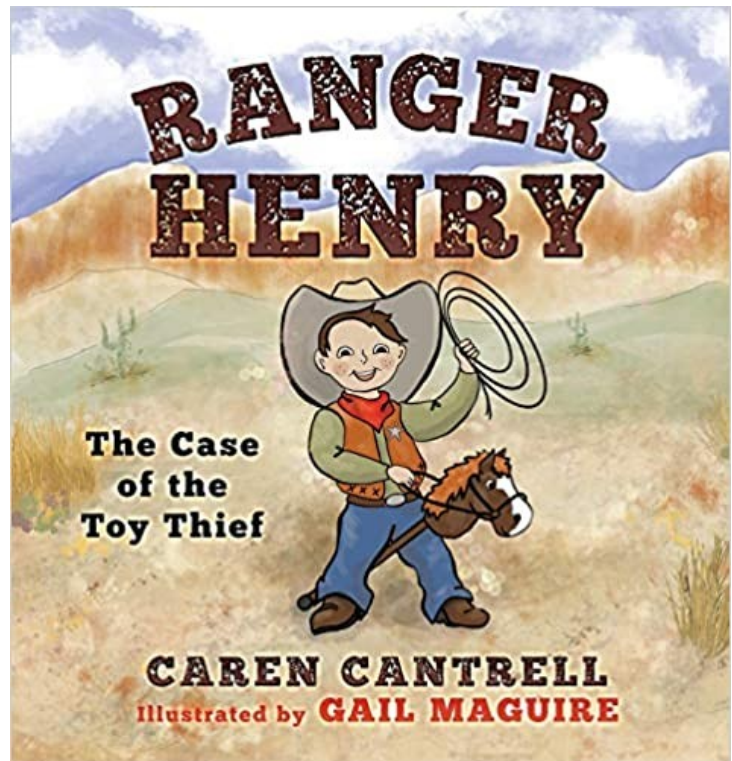
Set in the Old West, Henry dreams of being an Arizona Ranger and keeping law and order in his town. So, when his friend's toys start to disappear, Henry jumps on his hobby horse and goes looking for the culprit. But situations aren't always what they seem. After falsely accusing several suspects, Henry worries that maybe he isn't Ranger material after all. Then a flock of chickens gives Henry an idea. He'll have to use all his powers of observation to find the varmint.

While the story is meant to be fun and entertaining, there is a subtle theme for children to remind them that they shouldn't jump to conclusions or rush to judgment based on appearances alone.

Here's what others are saying:

*Caren Cantrell's narrative weaves a delightful children's story that takes young readers into the mind and heart of Henry and his desire to be of service to his community. The story is brought to life by the unique, vivid illustrations created by Gail Maguire, culminating in a team that complements each other's work for the benefit of us all.* Jamie Michele for Readers' Favorite

Find the book on [Amazon](#) and [Barnes & Noble](#) and other outlets.



I write stories about characters who are a little different and don't quite fit in with everyone else. They might have a flipper that's too short or whiskers that curl. Or they might just be vertically challenged like me. I love describing the adventures of an underdog who rises to the challenge.

Most often I write picture books. Writing for kids is something I've toyed with since I was little. I have eight lovely grandchildren who helped get me started and are a constant source of inspiration. I'm writing books for each of them with a character who shares their name. Lately, I've been dipping my toes into middle grade – and now I'm writing a science fantasy adventure called *The Sun Thief*.

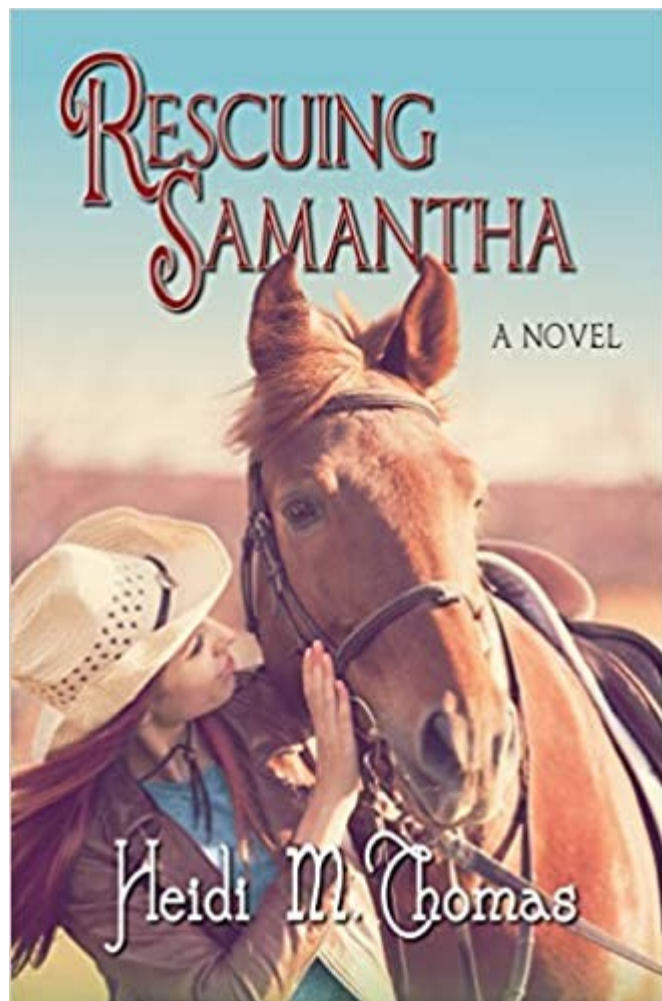
To find out more about Caren, click her [website](#) or visit her [Facebook](#) page.





## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Heidi Thomas



### Rescuing Samantha A Novel

From the Amazon [webpage](#):

With dreams of raising Thoroughbreds, Samantha Moser leases the Montana ranch that once belonged to her great grandmother, a trail-blazing rodeo cowgirl. After back-breaking work to fix up the abandoned, dilapidated ranch and a disastrous blizzard, her fiancé lacks the courage that runs in Samantha's blood, and he leaves her.

Struggling with shattered dreams, a proposed takeover of the land for an exotic animal refuge, and financial difficulties, Samantha must take a job on a dude ranch. In the midst of all the uncertainty, she rediscovers the healing power of horses for children and what life's purpose is for her.

But knowing her purpose might not be enough. Can she help a young girl overcome her insecurities, battle the investment group threatening the land, and trust the man who has a stake in the takeover while he professes his help?

Find this book on [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#) and other outlets.

Raised on a ranch in isolated eastern Montana, Heidi Thomas has had a penchant for reading and writing since she was a child. Armed with a degree in journalism from the University of Montana, she worked for the *Daily Missoulian* newspaper, and has had numerous magazine articles published.

A tidbit of family history, that her grandmother rode steers in rodeos during the 1920s and 30s, spurred Heidi to write three award-winning novels based on that grandmother's life: *Cowgirl Dreams*, *Follow the Dream*, and *Dare to Dream*. She also has published a non-fiction book, *Cowgirl Up! A History of Rodeo Women*. *Seeking the American Dream* and *Finding True Home* are based on her mother who emigrated from Germany after WWII. A new series following the next generation of the Moser family begins with *Rescuing Samantha*.

Heidi is a freelance editor, teaches community writing classes, and is working on the next book in her *Rescue* series. Find out more about Heidi [HERE](#).







Hoover Dam  
On the Border of Arizona/Nevada

Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons  
Photographer [Dietmar Rabich](#)

### Answers to Literary Trivia Quiz on Page 3

1. Rubeus
2. Nymeria
3. Forks High School
4. Isaac Asimov
5. The Martian Chronicles
6. Mr. Charrington

## Back Page Quotes



Everywhere I go I'm asked if I think the university stifles writers. My opinion is that they don't stifle enough of them. There's many a best-seller that could have been prevented by a good teacher." — *Flannery O'Connor*

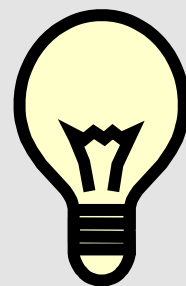
Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught." — *Oscar Wilde*



An escaped convict will never make a good author because he never finishes his sentences.

How many mystery writers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Two. One to screw it in most of the way and the other to give it a surprise twist at the end.



Do you know a joke about writing, publishing or editing, or a quote from a famous author? Share it with Back Page Humor and if we use it, we'll credit members with the entry. Send it to [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com) before the 15th of odd-numbered months, and it may appear in the next issue.