

# RIZONA AUTHORS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1978



A non-profit  
501c3 organization

[Arizona Authors.org](http://Arizona Authors.org)

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[Arizona Authors Blog](#)

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

Issue 17

Arizona Authors Association

December-January 2021-2022

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## President's Corner by Toby Heathcotte

I'm happy to report that we have arrived at the end of 2021 in excellent shape. 2022 yikes! Switching over from previous leadership to the current leadership happened with few personnel problems.

One change thrust upon us was the demise of Moonfruit, the company that hosted our website for the past four years. We decided to go with Wix, a web host that's fairly popular and could give us more capability with a small cost increase. We did buy arizonauthors.org to enhance our presence. It is now live. Soon, we will also have arizonauthors.com point to our new website. Hopefully having both web addresses will give us a more professional look.

Kathleen Cook has taken over as Webmistress and has upgraded and made changes to the format. If you haven't been on our website for a while, take a look. If you need to make changes to your personal webpage, you can do it with her at [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com).

The 2022 literary contest entry blank is available on the website. We made no changes to categories or rules, but we updated the language to clarify the rules to avoid problems encountered this year. Lucky for us, Jane Ruby plans to execute her deft coordination of the contest again.

Membership has grown by 30 people throughout 2021. At the beginning we had 98. Now we have 128 and hope we give the new members good value so they will renew and invite their friends to join.

Reminder: Dues are payable by end of January each year. You will receive a message from me if you need to renew your membership. Many who have paid for

continued on the next page

President's Corner, continued

multiple years will not receive a message from me. There is no change to the amount of dues.

Zoom meetings will continue as the most accessible option for another year. We hosted 4 regular writing works and 3 book fairs, in addition to the annual meeting. We're open to more suggestions for using the Zoom platform. If you have ideas, let us know.

I wish you could all have attended the banquet. It was great fun and a real chance for authors to get together to laud each other and give testimony to talent. Check out the pictures in this newsletter and on our website, courtesy of Jan Nichols. Kathleen assures me they will be up on the website before Christmas. I trust the banquet in 2022 will be far bigger and better.

If you have not already received your literary magazine. Here's the link to purchase one:

[2022 Arizona Literary Magazine](https://www.arizonaauthors.org/2022-Arizona-Literary-Magazine)

Our upcoming annual meeting on January 8, 2022 on Zoom will be a chance to give your two cents about where our organization is going. Please plan to attend.

Blessings for a prosperous and safe year,  
Toby

Toby Heathcote  
Arizona Authors, President  
<https://tobyheathcote.com/>  
<http://arizonaauthors.com>  
<https://www.arizonaauthors.org>



Out of the hush, there is music  
Out of the shadow, there is light  
Out of difficulty, there is hope  
Out of solitude, there is love

May your holidays be filled with music, light, hope and love in these challenging times.

Arizona Authors Association

*Just Released!*

*The 2022 Arizona Literary Magazine is on sale [HERE](#)*

*"Those were the days, my friend..."*

2022 Arizona Literary Magazine

Winning Contest Entries



 \$10



**Cactus Car at the Tucson Botanical Gardens  
Photo by Arizona Authors Association  
member Janet (Crum) Alcorn**

### Arizona Authors Association Leadership

Board of Directors:

President.....Toby Heathcotte  
 Treasurer/Literary Contest Director.....Jane Ruby  
 Secretary/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.

**Editorial correspondence and  
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[faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com)

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

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

### Literary Trivia

(This is a toughie! Answers on the Back Page)

1. In which ancient city was the magnificent Celsus Library, which once held about 12,000 scrolls?
2. Which famous author said, “language ought to be the joint creation of poets and manual workers”?
6. Name the American writer who said: “Slang is a language that rolls up its sleeves, spits on its hands and goes to work.”
4. In *Henry IV, Part 2*, Henry predicts that once he is gone, his kingdom will be a wilderness again, peopled with which animals?
5. Name the ancient writer who said: “The time will come when our successors will wonder how we could have been ignorant of things so obvious.”
6. In *King Lear*, the Earl of Gloucester’s son Edgar describes his half-brother, Edmund, as a traitor spotted like a \_\_\_\_\_.

For more trivia, go to:  
[Brittanica.com/quiz](http://Brittanica.com/quiz)



**Sunset in Carefree, Arizona**

**Photo by Arizona Authors Association Member  
Diana Grillo**

## 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. Do you have an older book that never got the recognition it deserved? Our new “Oldie but Goldie” category offers a chance to relaunch and renew interest in it. We also offer online book fairs or other events through our Zoom account. Advertising under the Arizona Authors Association banner allows 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 (or about to be released) 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

**Word Weavers** recently conducted a workshop in Cottonwood titled, “**A Day With Eva Marie Everson, Word Weavers International President.**” Word Weavers International is a group of writers dedicated to providing a forum for Christian writers. Arizona Authors Association member Alice Klies is the leader of the Northern Arizona Chapter that meets monthly in Cottonwood. For more information on Word Weavers, contact Alice at: [Alice.Klies@gmail.com](mailto:Alice.Klies@gmail.com)

Patricia L. Brooks, MAOM, President and Founder of the Scottsdale Society of Women Writers, held a workshop entitled, **Networking as an Author to Improve Your Writing**, on 11/7/2021 in Scottsdale, AZ.



Patricia also had the pleasure of welcoming Laurie Fagen as the guest speaker at the SSWW’s meeting held on November 17, 2021. Laurie is the author of crime fiction novels such as *Dead Air*, *Equalizer*, and *Fade Out*.

To find out more about Patricia and her books, go to: [www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com](http://www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com) or text her at: 480-250-5556. You may also email her at: [patricia@plbrooks.com](mailto:patricia@plbrooks.com)



Donis Casey’s new feature, “Tell Me Your Story,” shares the stories of varied authors who write in a wide range of styles and genres. The following recent guests are featured on her website:  
 September: Hannah Dennison  
 October: Wendell Thomas  
 November: Karen Odden

Check out these authors as well as Donis’ own books on her website, and participate in her giveaways as well. You may win a great book! [www.doniscasey.com](http://www.doniscasey.com)

### UPCOMING



Donis Casey’s December guest for her feature, “Tell Me Your Story,” will be California writer Robert Crawford, author of many mysteries, including the *Scott Carson* series, an (alternative) historical series about an American team of amateur investigators chasing down Jack the Ripper over years and through several countries. The books are rich with historical detail and include characters like Buffalo Bill, Annie Oakley, Frank Butler, Freud, Arthur Conan-Doyle, Sitting Bull, TP O’Connor, Frederick Abberline, and more. The latest, *Hollywoodland*, is the climax of the series. Robert has plenty to say about publishers, agents, and the state of the publishing industry these days! For more on Donis and her website series, go to: [www.doniscasey.com](http://www.doniscasey.com)

On Monday December 6th, 2021, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm, the Holland Center will feature award-winning author and publishing consultant Patricia L. Brooks in her Zoom workshop, **Write a Memoir to Remember**. The cost is \$20.



Register at [www.hollandcenter.org](http://www.hollandcenter.org). Tap Events Calendar, scroll to December 6th, tap register.

We’ve experienced an unprecedented time in our history. Make the move to start your memoir. With tips and techniques from her own daring memoirs, *Gifts of Sisterhood*, *Three Husbands and a Thousand Boyfriends*, and *Sick as My Secrets*, Patricia will inspire you to complete your manuscript and discuss why you should keep a writing journal, do the necessary research, write goals, and make no excuses about your writing.

For more information contact: Patricia L. Brooks, MAOM, Goldmann Publishing Company, LLC [www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com](http://www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com) [patricia@plbrooks.com](mailto:patricia@plbrooks.com) or 480-250-5556 text/cell.

Upcoming Events, continued

Marilyn June Janson M.S. Ed. CEO of Janson Literary Services, Inc. is offering her literary expertise to both new and veteran authors.

*"Personalized and Professional Services  
For Every Client"*

**Choose From the following Services:**

Text Editing and Manuscript Analyses  
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Have questions? Ask Marilyn @ [janitserv@cox.net](mailto:janitserv@cox.net), [www.janwrite.com](http://www.janwrite.com), or call her at 480-699-6389



## Arizona Authors Association Annual Meeting

The Arizona Authors Association Annual Meeting will be held online via ZOOM again this year. You may join a Zoom meeting for free, either with a web cam or a phone, and enjoy participating in the Arizona Authors Association event without leaving the comfort of your home. We will be discussing upcoming events, this year's literary contest, budget concerns, anticipated changes, the new website, and much more. Please RSVP Toby at: [toby@tobyheathcotte.com](mailto:toby@tobyheathcotte.com) for more information.

**TIME: 10:00 AM MST**

**DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 08, 2022**

If you need information on how to set up a free ZOOM account, click here: [ZOOM](#)

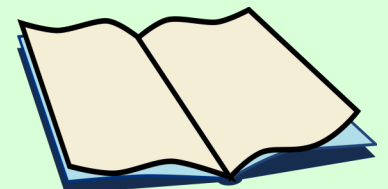
You'll find tutorials and other helpful guides on the ZOOM website.



## What Are You Reading?

Lately I find myself reading Tom Clancy novels, including *Executive Orders*. I'm following the series, which is very heavily into America wearing white hats and basically saving the world, both militarily and politically. Although my politics and Tom Clancy's clearly diverge, particularly in his denial of climate change (although it was two decades ago that he wrote these books; I don't know if his view has changed) I find myself drawn to the America in a white hat scenario. This is what I want America to be, and what I hope it can be again. This is my heart back in my childhood, waving flags and shooting fireworks on the 4th of July.

Tom Clancy makes Americans feel good about being Americans. It seems like in the last couple of years, sometimes on both sides of the aisle, that's been hard to justify. Reading books like this makes me hope that the future will be as good as the past I remember. I want it to be, so I'll keep reading. -Editor

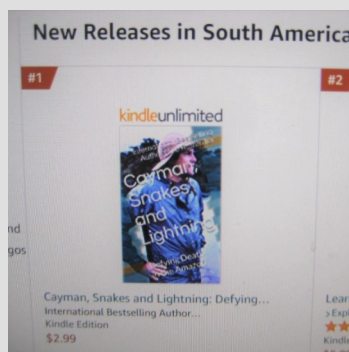


## Congratulations to Our Members

Mike Rothmiller has started publishing “Short Reads,” a new Amazon category for article-length books of between 2-100 pages. He published his first one, [Cayman, Snakes, and Lightning: Defying Death in the Amazon](#), last month, and this month followed it with another short read, [The Symbionese Liberation Army Shootout: LAPD's Most Intense Gun Battle](#). Both reached number one in “Hot New Releases” in their categories within two weeks. Mike drew from his personal experience in both cases; in the first he was a television reporter on assignment in the Amazon, and for the second, he was an LA police officer at the time of the famous Patty Hearst case.

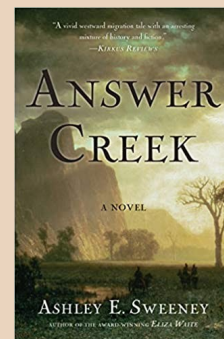
Mike has continued his many successes with his full-length book, [Bombshell: The Night Bobby Kennedy Killed Marilyn Monroe](#), and his publisher has just released that title in the Czech Republic.

To find out more about Mike, click [HERE](#).



Ashley E. Sweeney is pleased to announce that [Answer Creek](#), the 2020 AAA Literary Award winner, and winner of five other literary awards, recently won the New Mexico-Arizona Book Award for Historical Fiction.

To find out more about Ashley and all of her works, go to her website at: <https://ashleysweeneyauthor.com/>



Mark D. Walker's article, "[The Bracelet/La Pulcera](#)," will be highlighted in the forthcoming issue of [Literary Traveler](#). This is his fourth article that they've published, but the first one in his new status as "contributing writer." Mark is also a contributing writer at [Revue Magazine](#), which published his seventh article in October.

Mark's essay, "Ramon and Moritz, a Partnership on the Black Coast," which was a second-place winner in the Arizona Authors Literary Contest this year, will be included in his upcoming book, *The Moritz Thomsen Reader: His Books, His Letters and His Legacy Told by the Writers Who Knew Him Best*.

To find out more about Mark, check out his website: [millionmilewalker.com](http://millionmilewalker.com)

To check out the trailer for his upcoming documentary film, go to: <https://www.troubleinthehighlands.com/>



## New Arizona Authors Association Website Live!

We are now in transition to our new website at [www.arizonaauthors.org](http://www.arizonaauthors.org). The old website, currently at [www.arizonaauthors.com](http://www.arizonaauthors.com), is still up, but will soon be no more. By January, we will have both web addresses, .com and .org, pointing to the new website. We at Arizona Authors Association are excited about the new website and plan to add more features and capabilities in the new future. As we accomplish this time-consuming transition, please be patient with us if you do not see everything that was available on the old website. It will come, eventually!

Kathleen Cook, editor of the newsletter, will be the first webmistress for the new site. Check out your own authors page and make sure all links are working and that everything is correct. If you find something amiss, please contact her directly at [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com).

The new site has options available that the old site did not. Firstly, it is much more secure. You'll notice that the address starts with https, not http as our old site does. The https encryption system means that your info is totally secure and the page is "unhackable" by any normal methods. Also, you cannot be misdirected to an unsafe site. It's as close to hack-proof as anyone currently makes websites, so we should be able to enjoy that new security for years to come.

Secondly, the new platform offers options that we may take advantage of in the future, such as creating a forum for our members to network, start groups, or just chat online. It will take a good deal of time for Kathleen to study all the new capabilities and enhance the site, but at least the possibility is there, which we didn't have in our old site.

Lastly, the new site can be much more easily SEO optimized, which means we'll be able to "get it out there" in cyberland, enhance our page ranking, and attract new members.

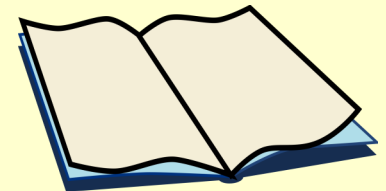
As always, projects like this take many hundreds of hours to complete. Please be patient, but don't hesitate to contact Kathleen if you find an error on your page. Those take priority over anything else! If you haven't yet updated your web page on the old site, you may send Kathleen a photo and short biography. (200-500 words is ideal, but you may use more if you need to do so.) Please be sure to send a photo with "portrait" orientation (ie, taller and more narrow instead of shorter and wider). The dynamic pages in use on the new site do not handle "landscape" orientation pictures on the member pages, which are all uniform in appearance for a more professional look. If you must send a landscape-oriented picture of yourself, the Arizona Authors Association retains the right to edit as needed. However, you are the ultimate authority for your page, and anything you don't like will be removed upon request.

Enjoy the new website! [www.arizonaauthors.org](http://www.arizonaauthors.org)

## Zoom Critique Group Proposal

We are gauging interest in an Arizona Authors Association critique group. The group would meet twice a month on Zoom. Participants would submit 15-20 pages of their current work ahead of the meetings, and all group members would be expected to read and critique the other members' offerings and provide input. Feedback is essential to good writing, and some of the best writers run their manuscripts through critique groups before submission for publication. If you want to up your expertise to the next level, a critique group may just give you that edge, all without leaving your home!

If you are interested in joining such a group, please contact Toby at:  
[toby@tobyheathcotte.com](mailto:toby@tobyheathcotte.com)







## 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 you would like to share a story you create with this prompt (800 words or less), please send it no later than January 15 to [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com) and we may publish it.

### The Bell Ringer

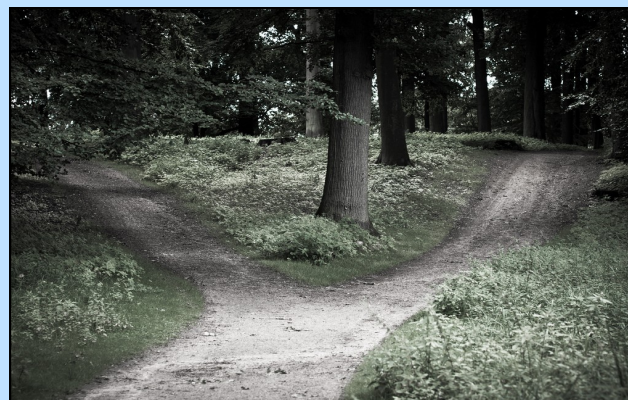
Mary heard a tinkling sound, but it wasn't time for the bell ringers in front of stores at Christmas. It was hot and muggy, and she hoped that rain would soon pour from heavy clouds over the farm crops. Her father called out as he stood in the corn row. "Hey Mary, you're getting your wish. Should rain in a few minutes."

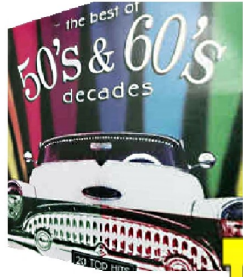
"That good, Pa," she answered. "Lord knows we need a good crop this year or we'll lose the farm." Rain splashed on the ground in a steady drizzle. Seconds later, a black cat streaked across the yard into the barn. Its bell tinkled as the animal ran to get out of the rain, but Mary and Pa didn't see the cat.

### Questions:

1. Is the sound of the bell significant to the development of the story?
2. How big is the farm and what kinds of crops do Mary and Pa grow?
3. Does the cat belong to the family, or is it a stray?
4. Does the cat have magical powers, or is it special in some other way?
5. In which time period does this story take place?
6. Is this mainly a story about a farm, or a family, or a cat, or something else?
7. Will the rain stop soon or will there be a deluge?

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





# Those Were The Days, My Friend!

## Arizona Authors Literary Awards Banquet Winners:

### Published Nonfiction

1st Place: Military Wives in Arizona Territory by Jan Cleere  
 2nd Place: One Hundred Sixty Acres of Dirt by Marsha Arzberger  
 3rd Place: Remove to Play by Lia Woodall  
 Honorable Mention: My Dog Is My Relationship Coach by Maureen Scanlon

### Published Fiction:

1st Place: Blood and Silver by Vali Benson  
 2nd Place: On Traigh Lar Beach by Dianne Ebertt Beeaff  
 3rd Place: Desert Fountainhead: A Tale About the Borderlands by Robert Marek  
 Honorable Mention: Needles Arizona by Ben Coates

### Published Children's Picture Books:

1st Place: Who Will Save the Desert? by Judy L. Paris  
 2nd Place: Blake's Big Day by Sande Roberts  
 3rd Place: Above the Clouds: What Really Happens in Heaven During A Thunderstorm? by Stephanie Barton  
 Honorable Mention: The Little White Lie by Analynn Sardella

### Published Juvenile/Young Adult:

1st Place: Shorty, Alien Dog by Bill Lynam  
 2nd Place: Sally The Stray Puppy by Lynn Marie Lusch  
 3rd Place: Blood and Silver by Vali Benson  
 Honorable Mention: Boy to Successful Man by Rico Austin

### Published Oldie But Goldie:

1st Place: Paris Lamb by Marcia Fine  
 2nd Place: Jewish Thighs on Broadway by Penny Orloff  
 3rd Place: Symbols of the Grid by Jeri Castronova  
 Honorable Mention: You Want My Dog to Get a Job? by Lynn Marie Lusch

### Unpublished Poetry

1st: Church of Summer Desire by Lori DiGuardi  
 2nd: The Adventure of 1914 by Marty F. Feess

### Unpublished Essay

1st Place Hike by Teri Dunn  
 2nd Place Ramon and Moritz: A Partnership of the Black Coast by Mark D. Walker  
 3rd Place Essay Rush by Jan Nichols  
 Honorable Mention A Summer Gift by Teri Dunn

### Unpublished Short Story

1st Place Dog by Rico Austin  
 2nd Place Escape by Barb Renner  
 3rd Place The Duel on Granite Mountain by Mark Ford  
 Honorable Mention: Christmas at Topock Hobo Jungle by T.J. McMichael

### Unpublished Novel

1st Place: Delta Dawn by Janet Alcorn  
 2nd Place: The Long Now: Aldin by Cherrie Anderson Smith  
 3rd Place: The Mystery of the Unseen Hand by John Hansen  
 Honorable Mention: Walking Across Walden by Todd Herzog

Congrats, Contest Winners!



*Janet Alcorn and  
Mad Max*



*Toby Heathcotte and  
Vijaya Schartz*

Contest Winners, continued



*Lynne Marie Lusch and  
guests*



*Rico Austin and Vijaya  
Schartz*

Contest Winners, continued



*Roger and Ellen  
Martig, guests of  
Wayne and daughter  
Jana Winterton*

*Albert and Veronica  
Monreal Quihuis, at  
registration.*



Contest Winners, continued

*Penny Orloff, Barbara Renner, and Toby Heathcote*



*60's Hippies, Those Were the Days My Friend!*

# Thank you, Judges!

Without You, The Contest Would Not Be Possible!



*Russell Azbill*



*Marlene Baird*



*Kebba Buckley  
Button*



*Jeanne Burrows-  
Johnson*



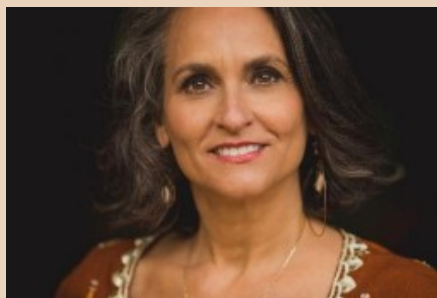
*Caren Cantrell*



*Emily Pritchard  
Cary*

Contest Judges, continued

# Thank you, Judges!



*Lori DiGuardi*



*Marcia Fine*



*Valerie Foster*



*Rosalinda Haddon*



*Candace S. Hughes*



*LA Leslie Keller-Rager*



Contest Judges, continued

## Thank you, Judges!



*Cherie Lee*



*K. Patrick Malone*



*Jeffrey Marshall*



*Richard McMaster*



*Penny Orloff*



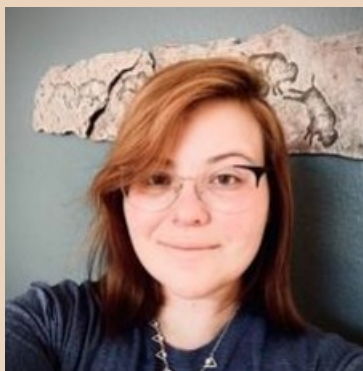
*Albert Monreal  
Quihuis*

Contest Judges, continued

## Thank you, Judges!



*Barbara Renner*



*Gillian Ruby*



*Jane Frances Ruby*



*Sharon Sterling*



*Ashley E. Sweeney*



*Jan Tenery*



*Christmas is not a season covered in snow. It needs no jolly Santas or trimmed trees. Christmas is anywhere, anytime, within anyone of any faith. It is a spirit indomitable and pure, with one crystal message: LOVE*

-Kathleen Cook

**Tumacacori**  
**Photo by Arizona Authors Association Member Janet Alcorn**

# The Book Doctor Is In...

Producing, marketing and promoting books since 1985.

Have a manuscript in hand?  
 Want to increase your book's visibility?

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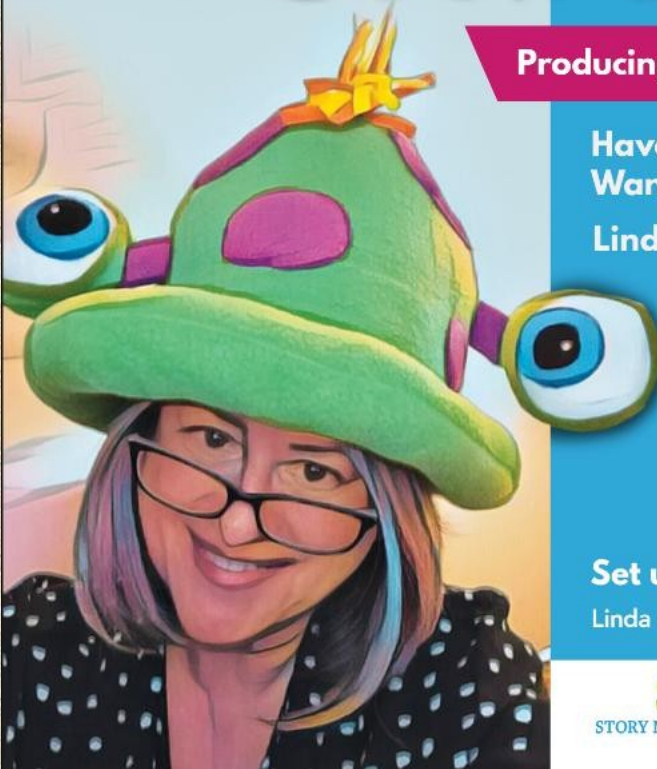
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## The Million Mile Walker Review What We're Reading and Why

By Mark D. Walker



I'd read this Latin American classic in Spanish years ago but decided to read it again in English to share it with a broader audience. Although it was published before I was born, it's relevant today, as it portrays the damaging psychological impact of a totalitarian government and the brutality it will inflict to maintain power—a phenomenon all too real to Guatemalans today.

Much to my surprise, my Guatemalan wife had to read this when she was in seventh grade - something I wouldn't recommend for today's students in the U.S. even though it's been translated into English. I was shocked when my wife informed me that she also had to memorize the first paragraph, which is a clear indicator that you're in for an interesting literary journey:

*“BOOM, bloom, alum-bright, Lucifer of alunite!” The sound of the church bells summoning people to prayer lingered on, like a humming in the ears, an uneasy transition from brightness to gloom, from gloom to brightness. “Boom, bloom, alum-bright, Lucifer of alunite, over the sombre tomb! Bloom, alum-bright, over the tomb, Lucifer of alunite! Bloom, alum-bright...bloom...alum-bright...bloom, alum-bright...bloom, boom.”*

The passage also reminds me why I'm glad I didn't have to translate this book! The style of *El Señor Presidente* influenced a generation of Latin American authors. His use of dream imagery, onomatopoeia, simile and repetition of phrases, combined with a discontinuous structure, make for an interesting but challenging read.

The dictator depicted in the novel is Guatemalan President Manuel Estrada Cabrera (1898-1920). The author started writing the novel in the 1920s when he was a young law student, but it wasn't finished until 13 years later in Mexico due to strict censorship policies of the Guatemalan dictatorial government.

The author draws from experience as a journalist writing under repressive conditions to convey the government's transgressions reflected in this passage about the plight of one political prisoner who is sent to the dungeons below:

*A few steps further on they entombed him in an underground dungeon three yards long by two and a half yards wide, in which twelve prisoners condemned to death were already standing packed together like sardines, motionless for lack of space, satisfying their physical needs where they stood and trampling on their own excrement...*

The author's work reflects the origins of the use of violence and torture still common in Guatemala today.

Asturias was one of the early authors to use magic realism, a literary technique often employed by such acclaimed Latin American writers as Gabriel Garcia Márquez. The author's surrealistic dream sequences to demonstrate the police-state's impact on the individual psyche is reflected in this passage:



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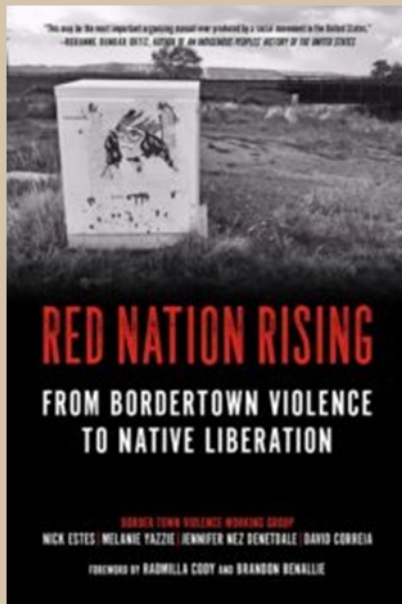
The Million Mile Walker, continued

And each time anyone described what had happened, General Canales came out of his grave and died all over again; he sat down to eat by lamplight at a table without a cloth, they heard the rattle of cutlery and plates, the footsteps of the orderly, a glass of water being poured out and a newspaper unfolded, and then—nothing more, not even a groan. They found him lying across the table dead, his cheek resting on *El Nacional*, his eyes half-closed, glassy, staring at something that was not there.

Asturias expressed what motivates his writing in his acceptance speech of the Nobel Prize for Literature: “My work will continue to reflect the voice of the people, gathering their myths and popular beliefs and, at the same time, seeming to give birth to a universal consciousness of Latin American problems.”

**The Author**

Born in Guatemala, Miguel Angel Asturias studied the myth and religion of Central America in Paris, where he was a correspondent for several Central American Newspapers. He pursued a diplomatic career and represented the Guatemalan government in France, Argentina, El Salvador, and Mexico. The author was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1967 for his entire body of work and in recognition of the region’s literature as a whole—another reason his books are so important. Other works include *El Papa Verde* and *Hombres de Maiz*. This book received an Ibero-American Novel Award from The William Faulkner Foundation.



Ironically, I finished reading *Red Nation Rising* on what was called “Columbus Day,” which is not what it used to be—there’s a new story/reality in town. And this book written by four professors at the University of New Mexico—three of the four are from Dine and Kul Wicasa tribes—provides a decidedly different perspective on our country’s relationship to, and treatment of, Indigenous communities. A decidedly Indigenous perspective. And for the first time in our history, a U.S. President officially issued a proclamation marking “Indigenous Peoples Day.”

Much of this was never taught in any of my high school history courses. It was after that, when I was in college in the early ‘70s, that I came across Dee Brown’s *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, which details the consequences of American expansionism from the point of view of Native Americans. This book is especially timely due to the growing awareness of the thousands of Indigenous women and girls who have been abused or gone missing, and the hundreds of children found in mass graves at the boarding schools where they had been taken from their parents, as well as the growing role of Indigenous communities protesting pipelines and mining on their sacred lands as part of the response to climate change.

The four authors investigate the dynamics of border town white domination and cities that separate the territory of sovereign Native nations from the lands claimed by the United States. My wife and I recently stayed in one as part of our first vacation in a year—Gallup, New Mexico, “The Gateway to the Navajo Nation,” although it evidently has another role to play for the Navajo.

The border towns fulfilled the role of the first U.S. military forts and trading posts, which were strategically placed along expanding frontiers to control Indigenous resistance and incorporate Indigenous territories to the growing “wild west.” The authors point out:

...*Border town economies rely almost entirely on Native customers to turn a profit. While these businesses*

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The Million Mile Walker, continued

*would collapse without Native dollars and cheap Native labor (something we've seen due to the COVID-19 pandemic), almost no border town businesses are owned by Native people. Why is this? Pawnshops, car dealerships, payday loan shops, trading posts, retail stores and liquor stores all rely on a business model that exploits Native people for their money, labor, talents, and culture...*

Not exactly something you'd expect to find in a Gallup Chamber of Commerce brochure. The book also provides innumerable examples of the U.S. Government's failure to abide by treaties and points out that the most devastating piece of legislation was the "Indian Relocation Act," where from 1953 to 1964, one hundred Native nations were terminated, and 1.3 million acres of Native land was removed from trust status to be converted into private ownership.

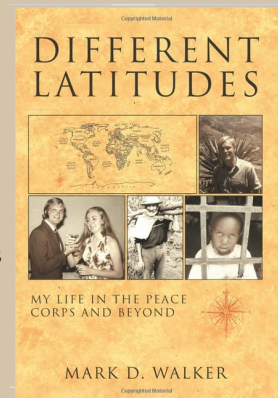
John Redhouse (Diné) provides an insightful critique of the book,

*A remarkable body of work that effectively weaves long overdue native scholarship and historical analysis of settler colonialism with direct and timely frontline reports on the continuing border town wars and conflicts in occupied native territories...*

You can find the entire 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 are 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 websites: <http://www.millionmilewalker.com/> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/millionmilewalker/>

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 Authors 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..." 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.



**Yellow-Backed Spiny Lizard  
(Sceleporus uniformis)  
at Tucson Botanical Gardens**

**Photo by:  
Arizona Authors Association  
member Janet (Crum) Alcorn**

# Holiday Book Fair

**Come Join Us For Our Holiday Book Fair!  
Saturday, December 4th 10-Noon MST**

**TOBY HEATHCOTTE, KATHLEEN COOK, &  
JANE RUBY, FACILITATORS**

**Arizona Authors Association Members May Showcase Books  
Free and Open to the Public on Zoom**

**Zoom - Register with [toby@tobyheathcotte.com](mailto:toby@tobyheathcotte.com)  
or 623-847-9343 (Voice mail only, no text)**

Members may sign up to showcase their books in our virtual Book Fair! Each author will be introduced by Toby with a short biography, and then will have five minutes to discuss their book. Kathleen will enter the link to your book in chat, so that other participants may check it out. To secure your five-minute slot, you'll need to register with Toby. Be sure to include the following information:

1. A short (200 words or less) biography. Toby will introduce you before your five minutes starts.
2. The title of the book you wish to showcase. You may feature one book.
3. The link to your book where it is available for purchase.

[Register](#) no later than December 1<sup>st</sup> and we will provide you with the lineup no later than December 2nd, so that you will know when your slot is coming up.

**Enjoy the Arizona Authors Association Virtual Book Fair!**



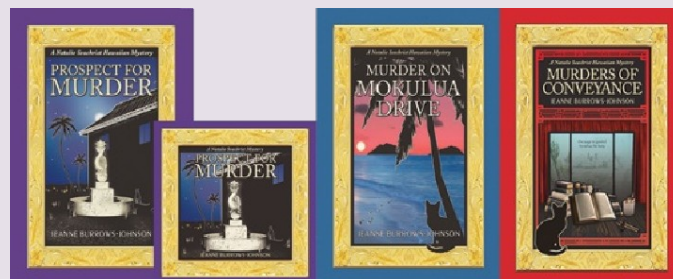
## Coloration for Authors: Part Two

by Jeanne Burrows-Johnson

### Technical Aspects of Color

*An artist's sense of color is normally reflected in their creations, so today's discussion may be most appropriate to authors, especially those launching their first book or moving into a new series, genre, or nom de plume which may produce new design dilemmas...*

Even if you are an author under contract to a publisher who controls the art for your books, you may be able to offer input regarding the ambience you wish to see projected. Therefore, I suggest you contemplate artistic issues like color in advance of signing with a publisher. In fact, you may find that analyzing their artistic taste will help you select an appropriate publisher. I'm fortunate to have had the liberty of working regularly with an artist of my choice to develop the rich covers of the Natalie Seachrist Hawaiian Mysteries.



As a writer and design consultant, I often focus on color. One of my favorite questions for clients seeking branding advice is, "Have you had your color today?" On the surface, this seems like a simple question, perhaps referencing a bright scarf or sales banner. However, *my* question is directed at the person's preferences in coloration.

If you are an author, the question addresses your approach to color in both the art and science of your writing...and how you envision the images to accompany your text. If your writing reflects your personal voice and style, choosing artistic elements may be straightforward. If not, research can ensure colors appropriate to your genre and writer's voice.

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Coloration for Authors, Continued**SELECTING COLOR**

Scientifically, colors [hues] are specific wavelengths of visible light. When considering coloration in your writing and for book jackets, one of the first questions you might ask yourself is, “What is my design aesthetic?” Also, “Does the style of my writing reflect my taste in art?” Do you like the detail of classicism or the sharp clean lines of modern art? Do you prefer bright primary colors or muted tones? Like an artist, the author draws on a rich palette of images within their mind’s eye. But to effectively communicate through the images that accompany your words, this must be tempered by the expectations of the readers of the genre in which one works.

~ **Lighting.** The intensity and type of lighting affects one’s perception of tone [intensity of color] and shade [a mixture of black with color which determines how bright the color is].

~ **Layering.** The layering of color also affects our view of it. For instance, putting a red color on an ivory background will produce a color that has hints of orange.

~ **Tint.** The tint of a color is determined by the amount of white it may have, which lightens the color.

**FANTASIAS OF COLOR**

Before we look at definitions and samples of colors, let’s consider the historical and classical interpretations of color. Some colors, like the royal purple from **Tyre**, Lebanon, were originally drawn from rare and precious sources. To produce even small amounts of the Tyrian colorant, thousands of Mediterranean Sea mollusks [scientific name, **murex brandaris**] were needed for the dyes with which luxurious garments for ancient royals were fashioned. Another historically rare color was the crimson worn by Roman legionnaires and wealthy matrons. Traditionally associated with power and wealth, this color was obtained from the **kermes vermilio planchon**, an insect that grows on the kermes oak tree [**quercus coccifera**] of southern Europe. Although the means for obtaining and utilizing dyes and paints have changed dramatically through history, their inner meanings have remained linked to aspects of nature.

To help you consider more than your personal preferences in color, let’s explore classical and traditional interpretations of colors and shades.

**Red** – This color is traditionally linked to sunsets, fire, blood, Mars the planet and Mars the Roman god of war. Red is now often associated with signature holidays like New Year’s, Christmas, and St. Valentine’s Day, as well as certain nations like China. This vibrant color is at the bottom of the color spectrum. It calls attention to anything depicted in it. Philosophically, it has been associated with licentiousness and the concept of Satan.

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Coloration for Authors, Continued

**Yellow and Orange** – Associated with the sun and gold, these happy and bright colors are used for many attention-getting purposes. Depending on their tone, they may announce deeply discounted items, or conversely, the richest and most valued products.

**Green** – Representative of nature, green is often used for health and environmental topics, products, and services. Green hues are also used for military uniforms and equipment.

**Blue** – In daily conversation, blue ideally speaks of clear and serene waters and skies. In many philosophical traditions, it has been associated with purity and loyalty. Today, the color is often utilized by financial and insurance institutions wanting to declare their honesty, and by myriad healthcare industries wishing to project their dedication to the well-being of their patients and clients.

**Violet and Purple** – Although these colors are not adjacent on the color wheel, humans perceive them as related to one another. Located at the end of the visible spectrum of light [literally next to ultraviolet], violet is a spectral color that is less saturated [intense] and displays more blue. Purple is more saturated [intense, pure] and balances two spectral colors, red and blue. With both colors perceived as blends of blue and red, these rich colors remain linked to ancient concepts of royalty, power, and wealth.

**White** – White is an **achromatic color** [without hue]. It reflects light and embodies all wavelengths of visible light. While many substances in nature are white, animals having pure white fur are rare, and therefore their pelts were historically associated with the power and wealth of royalty. Once difficult to achieve in consistent form, white colored clothing was often deemed valuable regardless of the type of fabric. It is historically linked to purity, cleanliness, goodness, and perfection. Like black, it is a good background for highlighting all colors.

**Black** – Absorbing all colors of light, this achromatic color is the absence of all visible light and therefore color. Obtained by the mixing of all primary colors, black is linked to darkness, night, and evil in historical and religious writings. It is an excellent background for both vibrant and subtle colors.

*Note: White and black are often paired for the expression of opposites, as in good and evil, the white hats of the good cowboys vs. the black hats of rustlers, the white dress of the bride and the black of a widow in mourning.*

**Gray** – Also an **achromatic color** [without hue], gray is created by the mixing of white and black. Being neutral, this color is most often associated with somberness, dullness, boredom, uncertainty, and advanced age.

continued on the next page

Coloration for Authors, Continued**COLOR SAMPLES**

Please note that despite how I've planned for these samples to appear, your hardware/software will alter the experience...



Once you've completed your research and contemplation of coloration for your project, I suggest you write a paragraph outlining the design elements you desire in your current project or the overall style required by your series. Then play with a couple of sample color palettes. With colors identified by number in your art or text software program, this will facilitate communication with publishers and artists [or yourself, should you decide to self-publish].

Finally, I should caution you again that identifying the colors you wish to see on a book jacket is no guarantee of how the printed work will arrive at your doorstep. Even two editions of the same book, printed by the same company following the same instructions, can yield variations in color because of differences in batches of ink or toner, the moisture content of the paper used, and production executed on innumerable types and conditions of equipment.

Wishing you the best in your writing,

*Jeanne Burrows-Johnson*, author, design consultant, motivational speaker

Additional in-depth tips for authors is provided at:

<https://blog.JeanneBurrows-Johnson.com>

Note: The menu is located on the left panel beginning after the Facebook logo

You are also welcome to send me an email at [Info@JeanneBurrows-Johnson.com](mailto:Info@JeanneBurrows-Johnson.com).

Jeanne Burrows-Johnson is an author, narrator, consultant, and motivational speaker who writes works of fiction and nonfiction. She is the author of the award-winning *Natalie Seachrist Hawaiian Mysteries*, featuring pan-Pacific multiculturalism and history in a classic literary form that is educational as well as entertaining. She was art director, indexer, and a co-author of the anthology *Under Sonoran Skies: Prose and Poetry from the High Desert*. Drawing on her interdisciplinary experience in the performing arts, education, and marketing, her authored and co-authored articles have appeared in literary, professional, and general readership publications such as *Newport This Week*, *Broker World*, the *Hawai'i Medical Journal*, and *The Rotarian*. To learn more about Jeanne, visit her website at: <https://jeanneburrows-johnson.com/>

## 2022 Arizona Authors Association Literary Contest

### First Prize

\$100 & publication or feature in Arizona Literary Magazine

### Second Prize

\$50 & publication or feature in Arizona Literary Magazine

### Third Prize

\$25 & 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**)



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### ARIZONA AUTHORS ASSOCIATION 2022 LITERARY CONTEST

#### Unpublished Categories

Poem

Short Story/Essay/Personal Narrative/

Review

Novel /Novella

#### Published Categories

**OLDIE BUT GOLDIE**

Fiction Nonfiction

Children's Picture Book

Juvenile/Young Adult



Since 1978, the Arizona Literary Magazine has launched the careers of many authors.

**CRITIQUES OFFERED**  
For unpublished works only  
Extra Fee - See entry form

Literary Contest Form, Continued

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BELOW, check category you wish to enter, fill in price and TOTAL AMOUNT DUE AT BOTTOM

**PUBLISHED ENTRIES:** (\$30 for members, \$35 non-members)

\_\_\_\_ FICTION: Novel/Novella/Short Story Compilation = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NONFICTION = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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**UNPUBLISHED ENTRIES:**

\_\_\_\_ POEM (\$20 for members, \$25 non-members) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SHORT STORY, ESSAY, PERSONAL NARRATIVE, REVIEW (\$25 for members, \$30 non-members) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE** (for entries & critique requests) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pay by check or Venmo (see QR code below):  
 Checks payable to Arizona Authors Association  
 Mail entries (and copy of Venmo payment if applicable) to:

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**Contest & Submission Rules**

Contest starts January 1, 2022 and ends midnight July 1, 2022.

**ALL BOOKS/E-BOOKS IN PUBLISHED CATEGORIES –** Submit 2 copies. Books must include ISBN, copyright date, and publisher information. E-Books must be submitted in print & bound form like a galley or ARC.

**OLDIE BUT GOLDIE** entry can have any publication date, but never have won this contest. Must be indie work. **ALL OTHER PUBLISHED ENTRIES** must have 2021 or 2022 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 regular 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.

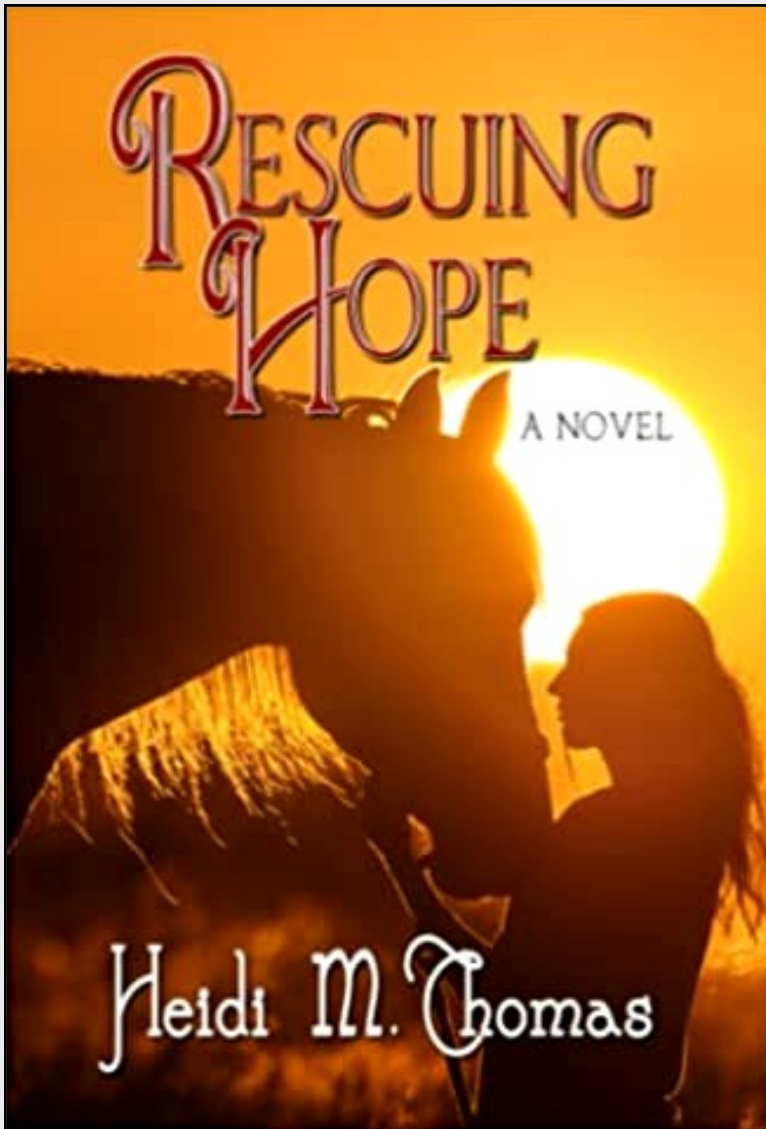
Winners in ALL unpublished categories automatically consign first serial rights to Arizona Authors Association (our right to publish in Arizona Literary Magazine) in November 2022 before anywhere else.

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.

## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Heidi M. Thomas



### Rescuing Hope A Novel

Samantha Moser's quest to buy the ranch her great-grandparents once owned—the ranch she's struggled to manage for a heartless owner—seems impossible. With the help of the troubled teen she's mentoring, and her rescue horses, life is rich under the Montana sky.

But when a group of veterans with PTSD need her help, and the man she could find happiness with has a serious accident while helping her rescue another horse, life takes an overwhelming, stressful turn.

Can Sam find the strength and courage to overcome, or will all her dreams shrivel and die on the prairie?

You can find this book on [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and on the author's website at: <http://heidimthomas.com>.

You may find the first of the series, *Rescuing Samantha*, [HERE](#).

From Heidi's Amazon page:

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 nonfiction book, *Cowgirl Up! A History of Rodeo Women*.

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



## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Dr. Diane Holloway Cheney

**DONALD TRUMP  
ROBERT MUELLER  
CHRISTOPHER STEELE**

**Mogul, Enforcer, Spy**



**DR. DIANE HOLLOWAY CHENEY**

### Donald Trump, Robert Mueller, Christopher Steele: Mogul, Enforcer, Spy

This thrilling page-turner describes the lives of the most controversial men of our era and how they impacted each other. We now realize that the greatest threat to our country can come from within as well as those not in our own country. Can an administration ignore laws and attack democratic institutions without damaging democracy?

These shocking revelations are not without some humor to brighten what are otherwise dark and scary truths.

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

You may visit Dr. Diane Holloway Cheney's Amazon biography page [HERE](#), where you may check out her many other nonfiction and fiction works.

Dr. Diane Holloway Cheney was a psychiatric nurse at Dallas' Parkland Hospital when President Kennedy was killed, in training to be a psychologist. She later wrote three books about the JFK assassination (encouraged by FBI director James Abbott, because the case was left unsolved). Her work as a psychoanalytic psychologist shifted when she was hired to develop the first assessment center for the Dallas Police Department. Mayor Annette Strauss appointed her as Drug Coordinator for the City of Dallas. As Drug Czar, she had complete access to documents obtained when police raided Oswald and his Russian wife's living quarters. Ten years of research enriched her works about Oswald.

Diane belongs to the American Psychological Association, International Association of Police Chiefs, Intelligence National Security Alliance, American Society for Industrial Security, National Association of Social Workers, American Nursing Association, American Medical Writers Association, International Social Science Review, American Film Institute, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, and Sundance Institute. Find out more about Diane's books [HERE](#).



## NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Dr. Diane Holloway Cheney



### Academy Award Winning Movies 1928-2020 How Movies Have Changed Through The Years

The history of the Academy Award ceremonies and awards is captured here for each passing year. Important themes and movies of lasting value are examined for additional ideas, sights, dialogue, stars, cast selections, racial issues, inside relationships, and musical impacts.

Keep this book close by to re-watch important movies.

You may find *Academy Award Winning Movies, 1928-2020*, on [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), and other outlets.

You may visit Dr. Diane Holloway Cheney's Amazon biography page [HERE](#), where you may check out her many other nonfiction and fiction works.

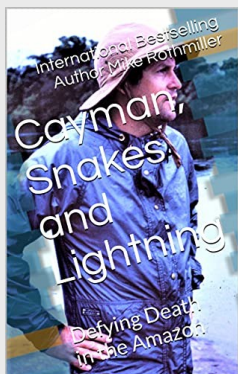
Dr. Diane Holloway Cheney was a psychiatric nurse at Dallas' Parkland Hospital when President Kennedy was killed, in training to be a psychologist. She later wrote three books about the JFK assassination (encouraged by FBI director James Abbott, because the case was left unsolved). Her work as a psychoanalytic psychologist shifted when she was hired to develop the first assessment center for the Dallas Police Department. Mayor Annette Strauss appointed her as Drug Coordinator for the City of Dallas. As Drug Czar, she had complete access to documents obtained when police raided Oswald and his Russian wife's living quarters. Ten years of research enriched her works about Oswald. Diane belongs to the American Psychological Association, International Association of Police Chiefs, Intelligence National Security Alliance, American Society for Industrial Security, National Association of Social Workers, American Nursing Association, American Medical Writers Association, International Social Science Review, American Film Institute, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, and Sundance Institute. Find out more about Diane's books [HERE](#).





# SHORT RELEASES

New Feature! If you have a short story, article, essay or other work that has recently been published, submit it by contacting our editor, Kathleen Cook, at [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com). The work **must contain at least 2000 words**, fiction or nonfiction, on any topic of general interest published within the past six months.



This is a true story. The book, [Cayman, Snakes and Lightning, Defying Death in the Amazon](#), takes you deep into the Amazon Jungle where adventurer Mike Rothmiller narrowly escaped death. From catching Cayman and wild pigs to surviving a lightning strike, this story is fast paced and thrilling. This is the first book in his true adventure series.

Mike Rothmiller has risked his life dozens of times in pursuit of adventure, flying with the Blue Angels, exploring Mayan ruins, swimming with sharks, sky diving, scuba diving, recovering artifacts from Spanish Galleons, kayaking the icy fjords of Alaska, and driving in a demolition derby. He is indeed a renaissance man. Find out more about Mike [HERE](#).

Check out Mike's short release:

[Amazon](#)



“[Tschiffely’s Epic Ride: Part of the Yin & Yang of Travel Series](#),” was recently published in *Literary Traveler*. Mark D. Walker is a contributing writer to the well known travel magazine. *Tschiffely’s Ride* tells the story of one of the greatest horse rides of all time. A.F. Tschiffely’s 10,000- mile journey through Latin America over a three-year period from 1925-1928, made him one of the most influential equestrian travel writers of his day. Mike’s interest was piqued by his own 15,000-mile, eleven-country trip, going from Guatemala all the way to Southern Chile and back again over a five-month period, 45 years after Tschiffely’s ride.

Check out the article on [Literary Traveler](#). To find out more about Mark, click [HERE](#)

Mark D. Walker’s recent article, “[Uncovering the Art of Francisco Goldman](#)” was published in the October, 2021, issue of *Revue Magazine*.

The article references an HBO documentary, “The Art of Political Murder,” in which Francisco Goldman and his works were introduced to a much wider audience than he may have previously enjoyed.

Many of Francisco Goldman’s works are reviewed in the article, and Mark delves into his own connections to Guatemala as well.

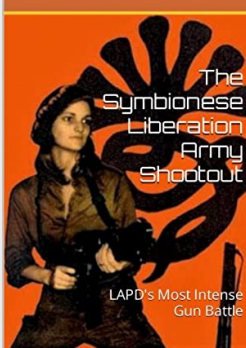
To find out more about Mark, click [HERE](#).



Read Mark’s article in the October issue of *Revue Magazine*:

[Revue](#)

International Bestselling Author Mike Rothmiller



Check out Mike’s short release:

[Amazon](#)

[The Symbionese Liberation Army Shoot-out](#) is a short read by Mike Rothmiller. Mike was a young patrol cop present at one of the most infamous shootouts in LAPD history. Members of the ragtag "Symbionese Liberation Army" were surrounded by hundreds of LA cops, LA Sheriffs, and the California Highway Patrol.

Months earlier, this group of criminals kidnapped heiress Patty Hearst. They held her for ransom, then surprisingly, she announced she had become a member of the gang. What you are about to read is the harrowing story of one LAPD cop during the shootout.

Mike Rothmiller has risked his life dozens of times in pursuit of adventure. Find out more about Mike [HERE](#).



# Application for Membership

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PUBLICATIONS OR CURRENT PROJECTS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Writers Published or Unpublished:**

One year \$45  
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Three years \$120

**Send Checks To:**

**Arizona Authors Association  
6145 West Echo Lane  
Glendale AZ 85302-5709**

**Professional Membership:**

Related Services such as Publishers, Agents,  
and Editors:  
One year \$60  
Two years \$110  
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To pay for membership and  
contest fees, you can go to  
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**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)

## Where in Arizona?

Each issue we'll 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 answer will have their name featured on this page in the next issue.

This month's photo was taken by Dick Waters. Have you seen this unusual rock formation?



### Possible Locations:

Yuma

Jerome

Page

Gila Bend

Bisbee

Flagstaff

Sedona

Prescott

Nogales

Buckeye

Write to [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com) no later than January 15th if you know the location of the photo. If you answer correctly, we'll publish your accomplishment on this page in the next issue.



## The Inevitable Author

by Kathleen Cook

### Holiday Traditions

The holidays always give me a glow inside. I smile a little broader; I walk a little faster than these 70-year-old legs usually go. Even my stories are a little more positive, with hope and love and looking forward to the future as my big themes. Looking back isn't bad either, though. Holidays of the past always wax nostalgic in people's hearts. Some of my biggest successes on the old *Yahoo Voices of the Community* platform were centered around holiday traditions.

People still love to read about the holidays ... somehow, it never grows old. Sure, people can write boring Christmas or Hanukah stories, but it isn't the theme that's boring. It's the delivery. As long as you can hold a person's interest, you can write a successful holiday story.

I wish *Yahoo Voices* were still around. They used to pay for the stories people submitted (as long as they were deemed worthy), both an upfront payment and then a percentage payment for each 1000 views. These amounts were small, it's true ... perhaps five dollars up front and fifty cents per thousand views. But for popular articles, you could always earn fifty to a hundred dollars or more, and for bread-and-butter writers, that's not bad.

One article I wrote on that platform, titled *Irish Christmas Traditions*, racked up over 100,000 views before the site shut down. People really want tradition in their lives. They want to build memories, a routine that they can pass down to their children. By writing about old traditions of your culture, your ethnicity, your faith, your home town, etc., you provide the framework that allows them to build that routine and those memories.

Although *Yahoo Voices* is no more, there are many platforms such as *Medium*, *Vocal*, and more, where you can attract new viewers hungry for traditions to work into their lives, to provide a set of values, an opportunity to celebrate, and a sense of pride in one's uniqueness.

Think about it: do you have traditions and routines that you perform every year for the holidays? Do you play the same songs, watch the same movie as a family, or cook the same foods? Are they in some way unique to your family, locale, or ethnic group? Write about them! There are people out there who share your similarities and would like to start those routines themselves, but they aren't sure how.

Since I am of both Irish and Lithuanian descent, I observe many different traditions. I still have a traditional Kūčios, the Lithuanian Christmas Eve meal, which includes no meat. (The fact that I'm a vegetarian anyway makes that part pretty easy!) I also put straw under the table cloth. On my father's Irish side, I learned to make biscuits and put a candle in the window. What do you do? Write about it.

Yes, there are other articles out there, but none do exactly what you do. I make my foods just a tiny bit differently, muddle the words of songs in a way that suits me, and create my ornaments in a different way. So don't feel as if

continued on the next page

The Inevitable Author, continued.

the subject is saturated . . . there will never be a saturation of things that warm your heart and make your mouth sing!

You don't need to do this for Christmas. Hanukah, Kwanza, Chinese New Year, Krishna Janmashtami, Mabon, Sukkot, Ostara, Setsubun-sai and so many more holidays have their own unique traditions. If you celebrate them, then write down how you do it and why. Someone will want to know, and you'll be spreading joy throughout the world, so that others learn and adapt your traditions to make them unique to their own situations.

I hope all of us experience peace in the coming year, and I hope all of us have something to celebrate when we come together during the next holiday season. Until then, keep writing, my friends.

Kathleen Cook is a retired editor and the author of more than twenty books. A former copy writer/editor for Demand Studios, she also served as the Fictional Religion Editor for the ODP (Open Directory Project) in the late 90s. She is currently the Arizona Authors Association Editor as well as the new Secretary and Webmistress. Find out more about Kathleen [HERE](#).



*"The color of springtime is flowers; the color of winter is in our imagination."*

- Terri Guillemets

Bonito Park, Arizona

Photo Courtesy of the US Forestry Service

## Thank you, Member Contributors!

A hearty thank you goes to all the members who contributed their time, news, articles, books, photos, credits and more to the Arizona Authors Association Newsletter in 2021. Without you, we could not thrive.



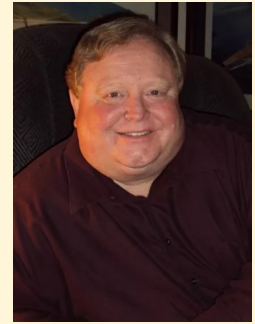
Janet Alcorn (Crum)



Marsha Arzberger



Rico Austin



Russell Azbill



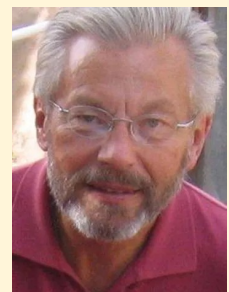
Marlene Baird



Isabel Banerjee



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Kebba Buckley Button



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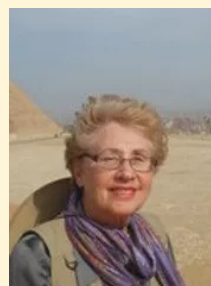
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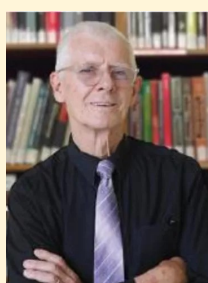
Contributors, Continued



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Jo Ann Crooks



Martin Feess



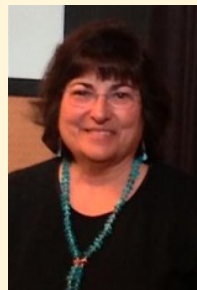
Marcia Fine



John Floyd



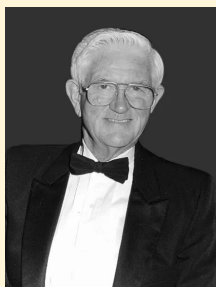
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K. Patrick Malone



Richard McMaster



Jan Nichols



Ashleen O'Gaea

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Linda Radke



Barbara Renner



Mike Rothmiller



Jane Frances Ruby



Vijaya Schartz



Barbara Shovers



Sharon Sterling



Ashley E. Sweeney



Jan Tenery



Heidi Thomas



Mark D. Walker



Dick (Rich) Waters



Debbie Weiland

Your Picture Could Be Here in 2022! Please contribute your time, news, articles, pictures and columns to the Arizona Authors Association Newsletter. We need you, and thanks!

*In Memory of Arizona Authors Association Members:*

*Donna Marie Reimer-Becker of Sun City, AZ, 1943-2021*

*Patricia Otilie Yagmourian of Surprise, AZ, 1939-2021*





### Update Your Bios for the New Website!

We have moved to a new website [HERE](#). If you haven't yet created a member page, please send us your info and picture. Please note that the new website requires portrait orientation for the member page photos. Use a color or b/w portrait up to 3" wide x up to 5" high, 96 dpi minimum. No landscape view please, since we can't optimize landscape for mobile devices.

If you write under more than one name, one will be shown on the group member page and any other pseudonyms will be added to your individual page. We will list your trade as Author, Editor, Poet, Publisher, Literary Judge, Journalist, Blogger, Technical Writer, or etc. Indicate if you are published.

You may provide an email address where anyone who visits the site may contact you. If you have a website, supply an http or https web address, if desired.

Add your biography of up to 2000 words. Preferred length is around 500 words. We will list your published works in whatever order you like, but group series together. If you write under more than one name, group your works by name. Include the titles and the links where buyers may purchase your books. Please include a book cover photo, if you have one. Note that our staff may edit or supplement any section as needed, unless instructed otherwise. Please send your completed updates to: [faerland@yahoo.com](mailto:faerland@yahoo.com). In the subject line of the email, insert Website Bio Update.

Thank you!

### Literary Trivia From Page Three

#### Answers

1. Ephesus
2. George Orwell
3. Carl Sandburg
4. Wolves
5. Seneca
6. A Toad

### Back Page Quotes

Just think, you have only a few more shopping days before your loved ones learn just how little you know them.



Why are Christmas trees such bad knitters?

Because they're always dropping their needles!

The following famous authors' quotes were submitted by Arizona Authors Association member [Peter Bernhardt](#):

Your intuition knows what to write, so get out of the way.

— Ray Bradbury



You can always edit a bad page. You can't edit a blank page.

— Jodi Picoult

Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.

— Louis L'Amour

Do you know a joke about writing, publishing or editing, or a quote from a famous author? Share it with Back Page Quotes and if we use it, we'll credit you 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.