

**January
2017**

TypeRider

Arizona Professional Writers

Formerly Arizona Press Women

Payson Book Festival registration opens

Now held at Mazatzal Hotel & Casino

Registration for new and returning authors for the 2017 Payson Book Festival opens on Jan. 4. The festival will be held July 22 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

New this year are fill-in registration forms and a PayPal button, which allows vendors to pay with credit cards or PayPal accounts. New authors should go to the "Author Registration" tab at paysonbookfestival.org. Returning authors use the



"Returning Author Registration" tab. An email will be distributed shortly to provide the password for this page.

Be sure to read the Criteria, as festival coordinators have changed the location from the Community College to the Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Ballroom. The entire event will now be indoors, and the table price is \$80. More information on the author workshop, meet and

2017 NFPW/APW dues 'n' news

There has been some confusion over membership dues because NFPW's fees need to be combined with APW dues. Membership dues are as follows:

- **NFPW Professional:** \$79 + \$15 (APW) = **\$94 total.**
- **NFPW Retiree:** (NFPW members at full dues for at least five years, who no longer receive substantial pay for work in the communications field) \$30 + \$5 (APW) = **\$35 total.**
- **APW only** = \$30 total.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we begin 2017, I encourage all writers to make time to enhance your craft and enrich your life by participating in APW. For more years than I can comprehend, I have found the camaraderie of APW to be a source of technical support, inspiration, networking and "atta girls" when I needed it most.

I mourn that many of you will never know some of our fabulous foremothers, but take heart in those in



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Colorado River Chapter offers Writers Roundtable

The program at the next meeting of APW's Colorado River Chapter will be a Writers Roundtable, chaired by Chapter Director Brenda Warneka on Jan. 10 at noon. The location is Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Drive, Bullhead City. Attendees order lunch from the menu with separate checks.

The "roundtable" program will consist of questions and answers by attendees about writing and related matters. Questions should be submitted in writing to the chairperson.

"We will go around the room giving those who have input the opportunity to answer each question and share their knowledge," explains Warneka.

"Questions may be submitted ahead of time to me by email, and people may submit multiple questions."

If there is a shortage of time, preference will be given to questions by members received prior to the meeting. For additional information, to submit questions for the meeting or to RSVP, contact Warneka at warneka@cox.net or 602-740-9579.

Holiday meeting enjoyed by Colorado River Chapter

A gathering on Dec. 13, 2016, at Lisa's Bistro in Bullhead City served as APW's Colorado River Chapter holiday celebration. The event included lunch, a gift exchange of books about writing and readings of works by attendees.

The readings ran the gauntlet from a sentimental essay by guest Rose Wall about Christmas and her uncle, Tuti, which left no dry eyes in the room, to a Christmas fable by member Stuart Clarkson, and various other poems and essays.

There was also a discussion about programs and field trips for future meetings. One of the suggestions for a future program was the Writers Roundtable, which will be held in January.

The Colorado River Chapter wishes a "Happy New Year to all!"



Guest Rose Wall, right, reads her essay about Christmas and her Uncle Tuti, while APW member Karole Finkelstein looks on. Brenda Warneka photo

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For membership information, call Westlake at 480-968-8902.

In order to enter the **Communications Contest**, you **must be an NFPW member**. There has been talk of an APW-only contest. However, according to APW President Joan Westlake, the misconception that, "it only requires getting some judges" reflects a "lack of experience with this task," even when submissions are minimal.

"Cheryl Kohout and I co-chaired the NFPW Communications Contest the last time it was held by APW, with Cheryl doing the bulk of the work," explains Westlake. "It was a great deal of work and expense for APW—far more than it generated. Even with Cheryl's and my media and professional writing contacts, getting the best judges was time consuming,

but that was a only small part of the endeavor."

Additional tasks associated with coordinating the contest involve collecting and organizing entries; distributing entries to judges with judging forms, criteria, etc.; and answering a plethora of questions from judges and contestants. Then, the judging forms and entries must be retrieved from the judges and sent to NFPW, following specific formats and guidelines. This is with categories already clearly defined.

"The Communication Awards should remain at a professional standard that makes them meaningful," continues Westlake. "Joining as an NFPW professional and entering the At-Large contest is the best pathway to this recognition. Many members who did this recently fared even better than when it was initiated through APW."

Rim Country learns to record their stories



Left to right: Carol Osman Brown, Linda Wescott, Marsha Ward, Connie Cockrell, Marie Fasano, Sharon Langsdale.

by Marie Fasano

A small, but joyous group of APW Rim Country Chapter members met at the Pinon Café for lunch on Dec 21, 2016.

Conversation about the Story Tellers of Star Valley, a group that meets every Monday morning, was nonstop. The writers are recording their stories on the website storytellersofstarvalley.com and on the Rim Country radio station 99.7 KPJM. Another website that publishes their writings is arizonarimcountryoutdoors.com. It's comprised of area artists, photographers, poets and writers. Elton Mellum is the webmaster.

The Rim Country Chapter also discussed business with Chapter President Marsh Ward, who attempted to corral them for a few minutes to talk about plans for the upcoming year. Connie Cockrell reported that the 2017 Payson Book Festival will have online registration with PayPal, making it easier for authors to register. Gila Community college has outgrown the Festival and the new site will be Mazatzal Casino. They will also provide the audio-visual support.

April brings in Raleigh Pinsky, a noted social media guru, to keep writers up to date with Twitter, Pinterest

and other forms of social media for marketing their writings. Hear more about this event later.

The Treasurer's report showed the chapter has seed money for this year's events. The group gave a \$500 scholarship to Gila Community College for a media student, and they have another \$500 to be given to a high school student who plans to study communications.

Cockrell, Ward and Carol Brown are sending a request for an Arizona Humanities Mini Grant to help support the Payson Book Festival. More good ideas were shared about getting additional publicity for meetings and programs

Many ideas were brought up for future meetings, with some of the group wanting a few meetings a year left open for members to talk about their projects. There were other suggestions for speakers. So far, they have had excellent speakers, and Cockrell promises that will continue. Those who attended past meetings learned much and encourage other writers to attend, too.

Members brought gifts for Payson's Time Out Shelter, who accepted the gifts with joy.

What is a real writer?

by Betty Webb

What is a real writer? After reading a very dull memoir, I pondered this question for what had to be the hundredth time. On page after page, the memoirist kept lamenting that she had written 14 novels without having any publisher offer her a contract, and she just didn't



understand why. Her parents said she was a born writer, her college teachers said she was a born writer, her husband said she was a born writer, her friends said she was a born writer, and most importantly – she herself knew she was a born writer. But after reading her emotionally flat memoir, I'm not so sure.

A real writer is interested in the natural world, even when writing her own memoir. She is interested in the way the sun moves around the earth. She is interested in the fantastical formations clouds make. She is interested in the musty smell of wet concrete after a rain. She is interested in the sting of pine boughs slapping her face on a windy day. She is interested in the sound of insects buzzing around. She is interested in the cowlick in a bus passenger's hair. She is interested in the odd scar on a man's otherwise pristine briefcase. She is interested in a child's intake of breath just before it begins to cry... In other words, a writer's interests stretch beyond her own flesh. She is continually fascinated with the world and all the wondrous and horrible things in it – even when she believes they don't personally impact her. Otherwise, she's not truly *writing*, she's just typing love letters to herself.

Chances are if you've never been accused of being "nosy," you're going to have a hard time becoming a writer. Real writers are so enamored of, so obsessed with, so appalled by the human condition that even with a broken leg they'll hobble out the door to

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NFPW announces plans for 2017

Like the media, which has morphed from newspapers and local television as primary news sources to the electronic era of social media and reading newspapers and magazines online, Birmingham, Alabama, continually reinvents itself, making it the perfect place to meet for the NFPW 2017 conference, held Sept. 7 to 9, when so many of us are regrouping our careers.

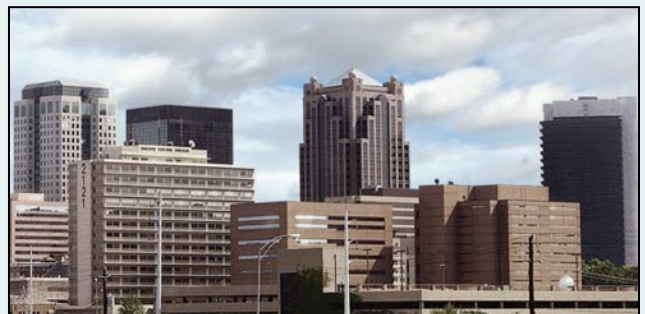
The workshops, seminars and panels will deal with what communicators need to know NOW, and the next steps after that.

The star-studded conference includes workshops such as creative nonfiction with Pulitzer-prize winning author Rick Bragg. Learn the latest on copyrights and trademarks, blogging for fun and profit, and tightening your writing for busy readers.

Need more? Get the scoop on the changes in the AP Stylebook. Learn how to talk about your book on television, with an interactive, mini-press conference. Find out why community publications are surviving and thriving, and get fresh insights from a panel on covering racially-charged events and situations.

And, just wait until you see the sparkling celebration of NFPW's 80 years of helping its members be the best communicators around.

Reprinted from the NFPW Quarterly Agenda Newsletter



IN TOUCH WITH APW MEMBERS

Kee up to date with APW between newsletters by checking out arizonaprofessionalwriters.org and the APW Facebook page, which is public so colleagues can be Friends even if they are not APW members. Feel free to post news and other information of interest to members on the Facebook page.

Lois McFarland recently saw her son, Craig McFarland, sworn in as the Mayor of Casa Grande. Lois, a longtime member of APW, was also a



writer for the *Scottsdale Tribune*.

Jan Cleere already knew her latest book, *Never Don't Pay Attention: The Life of Rodeo Photographer Louise L. Serpa*, won the 2016 New Mexico/Arizona Book Award for best Arizona biography. However, she was quite surprised when just before Christmas she learned she also received the 2016 New Mexico/Arizona Book Award for Best Arizona Book.



President from Page 1

our organization who receive national recognition, yet still find time to encourage and nurture those just starting out or struggling in the world of words. I want to give a special thanks to Pam Stevenson for leading us these past few years in her second service as President of APW. Her press, publishing and history writing/filming credentials elevate this organization's prestige.

Some in Central Chapter, I imagine, were dismayed that we did not have a holiday party this year. But many of us work, and with the obligations of family and friends, I personally wasn't able to make the time.

After a decade of leading the Central Chapter, "Saint" Barb Lacy has relinquished her position. We very much need a few members to step forward and help us rethink what the Central Chapter is to be. Perhaps co-directors might be the best option. I'd like to see us partner with some sister organizations on meetings and seminars, so we aren't spending lots of time and energy on monthly events that only a few attend. Please email your ideas to me at westwoman@aol.com. Tell me what you would like to see in the way of workshops or seminars, as well as what you think would make APW more meaningful to you. Instead of in-person meetings, we might consider webinars or teleconferences or Skype gatherings.

Rim Chapter has emerged as a powerfully active chapter and has taken up the reins for this organization. I am so grateful for officers such as the new Chapter-President Marsha Ward, Program Chair Connie Cockrell, Treasurer Kim Chambers and Secretary Marie Fasano. In theory, Carol Osman Brown is stepping back from some of the duties, but we all know how tough it is to keep her from being involved.

Jane Eppinga is holding together the Southern Chapter which needs some revitalizing, which I hope will come from the state overall. The Colorado River Chapter seems to be going strong, and I'd like to know more about all of you. Brenda Warneka continues to grow this northwestern Arizona group and work on the *Skirting Traditions* committee.

I am targeting Sunday, Jan. 15, for a Board Meeting, and, hopefully, a meeting of the Central Chapter Committee. It will probably be in the Tempe area, but let's see who can attend and from where you will be driving or where you might connect via teleconferencing or another social contact technology.

Best Wishes for a prosperous and fulfilling 2017!

Writer from Page 4

eavesdrop on a conversation down the street. Real writers are nosy people. If something's happening to anyone anywhere at any time, they want to know about it. And first hand, whenever possible. They want to know every sloppy detail of a friend's messed-up love affair and how she felt when she finished the Boston Marathon. That's why so many novelists start out as journalists (you can't beat being paid *not* to mind your own business). That's why when tragedy strikes, the first question a journalist asks is, "How do you feel?"

Real writers are interested in emotions other than their own. They want to know how you felt when your house was foreclosed on, how you felt when your son first nursed at your breast, how you felt several years later when he shipped off to Afghanistan. They want to know why you can't stand the sight of blood. They want to know why you prefer country life to the city. They want to know how you felt when the man who raped you was found not guilty.

Real writers are emotional vampires. Allow them access, and they'll suck the emotion right out of you. Not out of malice – far from it – but because they need to write it down so that others can feel the way you feel, and thus develop the most precious attribute of true humanity: empathy. When real writers write their books, their stories, their poems and their articles, they want to convey to people they will probably never meet the feelings of a complete stranger. They want you to feel that stranger's humanity and to recognize it in yourself.

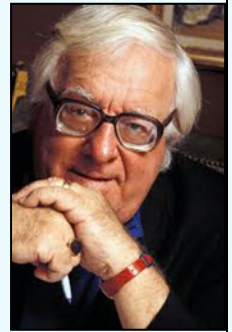
That's because *real* writers recognize one great truth: we are all related. Each of us has a common ancestor – the paleontologists have named her "Mitochondria Eve" – and our many-times-great-grandmother was born around 3.2 million years ago in Africa's Olduvai Gorge. Like it or not, we are all long-lost sisters and brothers. In opening up our distant kin's heart to us, real writers remind us of our shared humanity. Real writers will always do that – it's their job – and they will continue to do it in darkness and in light, whether surrounded by laughter or by ashes.

Betty Webb is the author of *Desert Rage*, bettywebb-mystery.com, and *The Puffin Of Death*, www.bettywebb-zoomystery.com.

Famous Writers' Quote:

Any man who keeps working is not a failure. He may not be a great writer, but if he applies the old-fashioned virtues of hard, constant labor, he'll eventually make some kind of career for himself as writer.

—Ray Bradbury



Don't try to figure out what other people want to hear from you; figure out what you have to say. It's the one and only thing you have to offer.

—Barbara Kingsolver

APW Officers and Board of Directors

President - Joan Westlake

Immediate Past President - Pam Stevenson

First V-P (President elect) - Open

Secretary - Open

Treasurer - Beverly Raphael Konik

Central Chapter Director - Open

Colorado River Chapter Director - Brenda Warneka

Rim Country Chapter Director - Marsha Ward

Southern Chapter Director - Jane Eppinga

Membership Chair - Joan Westlake

Communications Contest Chair - Open

Scholarship Chair - Open

Historian, Memorial - Pam Stevenson

Bylaws Director - Brenda Warneka

Public Relations Director - Open

Newsletter Editor - Lynda Exley

Webmaster - Jaimie Bruzenak

Anthology Committee Chair Brenda Warneka

Help! It's shrinking

by Lynda Exley

No, it's not your imagination. The APW newsletter has shrunk, and we need your help to make it grow again.

APW is home to a variety of accomplished writers, many of whom create articles and blogs. Why not increase your professional exposure by submitting some of your industry-related works for publication in

the APW newsletter? If you've written anything about the craft of writing, career advice for writers or publishing, we want your input. Remember: submissions are eligible for entry in writing contests. In addition, we welcome your events and personal accolades.

Send submissions, photos and art to Lynda Exley at lynexlent@gmail.com. The deadline for the February issue is Jan. 21.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE EVENTS!

***B**e certain to confirm meeting details before leaving home, as locations, dates or times may change after the newsletter has gone to print.*

Jan. 2: 3:30-5 p.m. The Life and Times of Tom Jeffords, Friend of Cochise at Casa Community Center, 780 S. Park Centre Ave., Green Valley. Author Doug Hocking discusses the subject of his biography in the works, Tom Jeffords, a gold prospector, scout, co-originator of Tucson's mail service and friend of Apache Chief Cochise. This Arizona Humanities presentation is free. RSVP required at AZHumanities.org, click on Programs. Info: 602-257-0335.



Jan. 9: Noon-1:30 p.m. Writers Lunch at Fronimo's Greek Café, 3242 E. Speedway, Tucson. Theme: Resolution, Revolution and Reclamation in our own writing or a favorite piece or author. Contribute a submission site or source you found for your work, or pay the dreaded penalty of \$2, which will go to a lucky winner. Bring flyers, business cards and books to share/sell. No fee for the meeting, but attendees are expected to purchase lunch. RSVP required by Jan 4 to Linda Biuso, lbioso@comcast.net.

Jan. 10: Noon. APW Colorado River Chapter Regular Monthly Luncheon. Lisa's Bistro, 1595

Mohave Drive, Bullhead City. Program: Writer's Roundtable. See article in this newsletter for details. Open to the public. Free to attend. Attendees order lunch from the menu with separate checks. Info and RSVP: Brenda Warneka at warneka@cox.net, 602-740-9579.

Jan. 11: 2 p.m. Writing Workshop Series: Learn from the Pros at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin St., Prescott. Join Carol Levin and explore the writing strategies of renowned authors. Registration required: 928-777-1509, prescottlibrary.info.

Jan. 25: 10-11:30 a.m. Sedona: From Cucumbers to Leavenworth is presented by author Lisa Schnebly Heidinger at R.H. Johnson Lecture Hall, 19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Through interviews with Sedona Schnebly's children, attendees learn details about this amazing woman's life, from being written out of the will for marrying TC Schnebly on her 20th birthday, to the fate of the man she didn't marry. Her story includes the journey west and the comic and tragic details of



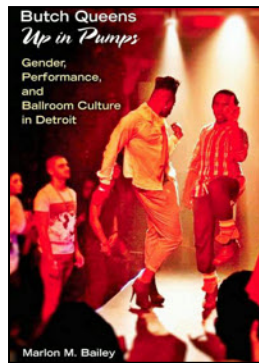
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CALENDAR FROM PAGE 7

building community in an admittedly beautiful, but harsh place. Heidinger's state centennial book was voted OneBookAZ. This Arizona Humanities presentation is free. RSVP required: 623-544-6130. Info: suncitywest.com/rhjohnson.html.

Feb. 14: Noon. APW Colorado River Chapter Regular Monthly Luncheon. Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Drive, Bullhead City. Program TBA. Open to the public. Free to attend. Attendees order lunch from the menu with separate checks. Info and RSVP: Brenda Warneka at warneka@cox.net, 602-740-9579.

Feb. 15: 5:30-8:30 p.m. Evening with Marlon Bailey, Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies at ASU and author of *Butch Queens Up in Pumps*, which examines a ballroom culture in which inner-city LGBT individuals dress, dance and vogue to compete for prizes and trophies. This free program is presented at Arizona Humanities, 1242 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. RSVP: 602-257-0335. Info: azhumanities.org.



Feb 18: 10-11:30 a.m. Rising from Invisibility: Indigenous Arizona Women in Charge of Themselves is presented by Laura Tohe, who is Diné/Navajo and an award-winning poet/author and editor of the oral history book, *Code Talker Stories*. She is also Professor with Distinction in Indigenous Literature at Arizona State University and Poet Laureate of the Navajo Nation for 2015-17. The free Arizona Humanities event takes place at Church of the Holy Nativity, 1414 Easy St., Payson. RSVP: 928-476-3092. Info: azarchsoc.org/RimCountry.



March 4: 7:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Self-Publishing Expo sponsored by the Society of Southwestern Authors and held at the Tucson Expo Center, 3750 E. Irvington Road, Tucson. There will only be three speakers to allow plenty of time for attendees to browse the 30 exhibiting vendors. Speakers include Smashwords Founder Mark Coker, who will kick it

off and do three follow-up workshops. In the afternoon, start off with Robin Cutler, the Director of IngramSpark, followed by Chris Syme, an expert in social media marketing. Fee: \$20 in advance online at tucsonselfpublishingexpo.com, \$25 at the door.

March 11-12: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tucson Festival of Books on the University of Arizona Campus.

March 14: Noon. APW Colorado River Chapter Regular Monthly Luncheon. Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Drive, Bullhead City. Program TBA. Open to the public. Free to attend. Attendees order lunch from the menu with separate checks. Info and RSVP: Brenda Warneka at warneka@cox.net, 602-740-9579.

April 11: Noon. APW Colorado River Chapter Regular Monthly Luncheon. Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Drive, Bullhead City. Program TBA. Open to the public. Free to attend. Attendees order lunch from the menu with separate checks. Info and RSVP: Brenda Warneka at warneka@cox.net, 602-740-9579.

July 22: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Payson Book Festival at Mazatzal Hotel & Casino, Highway 87, Mile Marker 251, Payson. Info: Paysonbookfestival.org.



April 20-23 Arizona History Convention. Little America Hotel, Flagstaff. Joint meeting with New Mexico. Info: arizonahistory.org.

Sept. 7-9: NFPW National Conference, Birmingham, Alabama.

Oct. 26-29: "Set in the West: Cultures Old and New," Women Writing the West annual conference at Tucson's Loew's Ventana Canyon Resort. Carolyn Niethammer and APW member Jan Cleere are the conference co-chairs with Susan Cummins Miller serving as book chair. Info: Jan@JanCleere.com, 520-909-2299.

2018

Sept. 2018: NFPW National Conference, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.