

June 2013
TypeRider

Arizona Press Women

Writers recharge at APW retreat

Sign-up now for special discount!



Share ideas with writers like Betty Merritt, left, and Gail Hearne during the APW Writers' Retreat July 27 and 28 in Payson. Photo by Bing Brown.

Rim Country District invites you to indulge your muse, nurture yourself and have fun at an APW Writers' Retreat July 27 and 28 in the cool pine country of Payson. Make plans now to enjoy a laid-back weekend getaway at the secluded Merritt Lodge where you can escape the heat and relax in a peaceful country setting.

The cozy resort provides a comfortable atmosphere conducive to personal and organizational renewal and empowerment. There you can curl up with a good book in a peaceful setting, engage in some optional creativity-boosting activities or ease into the natural rhythms of nature on a hike through tall pines. Play with paints, walk the labyrinth or enjoy a soothing massage.

See Retreat, Page 3

NFPW extends some conference deadlines

The registration deadlines for some of the extracurricular National Federation of Press Women Annual Conference events have been extended. The event is held Aug. 22 through 24 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Monday, July 1 is the new deadline to sign up for the post-conference tour to the southern Utah area of Moab.

See NFPW, Page 7

APW does social media

by Patricia Myers

Five experts spoke at the May 4 APW Spring Conference on "Social Media for Writers and Journalists: What Works and Why." Here is an overview of each presentation.



In addition to hearing dynamic speakers, APW conference attendees bid on silent auction items.

See Social media Page 5

APW members accept at-large awards, officers inducted at May conference



Jaimie Bruzenak, far left, receives two first-places: Columns, informational, *Workamper View-point* column, *Workamper News*; Nonfiction Book, General, for *Retire to an RV: The Roadmap to Affordable Retirement* by Bruzenak and Alice Zytz. Lynda Exley, right, receives a first place for Page Design and second for periodical Regularly Edited by Entrant, both for the APW *Typewriter* newsletter. Brenda Warneka presented the certificates.



Left to right: Patricia Myers, state PR chair presides over the installation of the 2013-14 state officers including Pam Stevenson, president; Katherine Atwell Herbert, secretary; Beverly Raphael Konic, Treasurer; Barbara Lacy, Central District director; Carol Osman Brown, Rim Country District director. Not present were: Jane Eppinga, Southern District director; and Joan Westlake, second vice president/communications and scholarship chair.



Left: Patricia Myers receives first places for Specialty Articles, arts & entertainment, online or print; and Speeches "Jazz Goes to the Movies." She also received second place in Columns, personal opinion for "Riffs;" as well as two thirds for Feature Story, online for *Paris Jazz Diary*; and Specialty Articles, online or print. Right: Sheila Roe, Lois McFarland, Brenda Warneka, Pam Stevenson, Carol Hughes (not shown) and June Payne (deceased) jointly received first place for Book Edited by Entrants, *Skirting Traditions: Arizona Women Writers and Journalists: 1912-2012*. A list of all at-large winners can be found in May's APW newsletter.

Scholarship winners honored at spring conference

by Patricia Myers

Rebecca Brisley and Kelcie Anne Johnson were awarded Arizona Press Women scholarships during the May 4 APW Spring Conference in Scottsdale. Both were accepted into the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Arizona State University.

Brisley, 18, a graduate of Marana High School, was awarded the \$500 June Payne Scholarship, established with funds from the sales of the *Skirting Traditions* anthology.

"I want to write hard-news stories that will make people think," Becky said. "My dream job would be a reporter or anchor for CNN."

Brisley worked on her high school newspaper for four years and was editor-in-chief during her senior year. She also was president of both the journalism and world travelers clubs.

"I've gone on two student tours, to Paris and London, and to Rome, Athens and Florence, Italy" she said.

The Marana graduate also received two small scholarships from ASU and plans to work to help pay for other expenses. She is the daughter of Terry Botkin and has lived in Marana for six years, following four years in Mesa after moving to Arizona from Copley, Ohio.

Johnson, 18, a graduate of Apache Junction High School and a native Arizonan, is the winner of the \$500



Rebecca Brisley

Betty Latty Hurlburt Scholarship, which honors the memory of a longtime APW member.

"I want to pursue an education in journalism and global studies because I'm passionate about human rights on a global level," Johnson said. "I would like to write internationally and interview those who don't have an outlet for their thoughts."

Johnson worked on the high school yearbook for three years, including two as editor of designs and photography. She was historian of the National Honor Society for two years, played varsity girls' soccer and was class president and youth advisor of the Young Women's Club in the Latter Day Saints program. She placed first in a Central Arizona



Kelcie Anne Johnson

College math competition and second for a French poem in an ASU-sponsored foreign-language competition. She was awarded a scholarship from another organization, and will work to pay other costs. She is the daughter of Randon and Michelle Johnson.

The APW scholarship competition had 12 applicants from the metro-Phoenix area, said APW chairman Joan Westlake, who judged the entries with president Pam Stevenson and member Patricia Myers. Each student submitted an application, a letter of recommendation from a teacher and a one-page letter or essay with personal background information and reasons for wanting to pursue a career in journalism.

Retreat from Page 1

Reserve your space now in the homey main lodge or a snug private room for the remarkable early-bird rate of \$95 for double occupancy or \$140 for single occupancy. This rate is good until June 26. After that, the cost is \$110 for double occupancy and \$150 for single occupancy. The final registration date is July 11.

Invite a spouse or friend to share an overnight stay, which includes four healthy, home-cooked, buffet-

style meals, beginning with lunch on Saturday. Plan to enjoy a campfire under the stars, too.

Space is limited to 20 people, so be sure to save a place by calling 928-468-9269 or 928-472-7132, and ask for a registration form. Checks should be made payable to APW and mailed to Carol Brown at 575 W. Beaver Flat Road, Payson, AZ 85541. For more information, contact Brown at 928-468-9269 or email carolosmanbb@gmail.com.

Writing & the Law: Damages to real people in fiction

by Brenda Warneka, JD

At a recent Arizona Press Women celebration of Betty Webb's new mystery, *Llama of Death*, Webb mentioned she changes details about living people she uses in her novels to protect against lawsuits.

One attendee exclaimed, "But it doesn't matter, you're writing fiction!"

Webb quickly responded that it does, indeed, matter.

People may suffer legal damages and sue as a result of being "identified" in fiction. A person is identified if those who know her would reasonably link the fictional character with the real person and understand it to state true facts about her. Lawsuits in such cases may be based upon defamation (libel), invasion of privacy and other causes of action.

A federal court case in the early 1980s arose out of a *Penthouse* magazine article that described a baton-twirling Miss Wyoming whose routine in the talent competition of the Miss America Pageant was a sex act that caused men to levitate.



Kim Pring

A jury awarded \$26.5 million to Kim Pring, the 1978 Miss Wyoming, whose talent routine in the national pageant had involved twirling a baton. The case was eventually dismissed on appeal on the basis the story was parody: No reasonable person could believe it stated true facts. So much for levitating men. *Penthouse* won, but undoubtedly at high financial cost.

More recently, Tempe resident Todd McFarlane and his comic book company were sued by ice hockey player Tony Twist in Missouri state court over his *Spawn* comic book character, Antonio Twistelli, a violent Mafia don. McFarlane admitted he named Twistelli after Twist, a feared enforcer for the St. Louis Blues.



Tony Twist

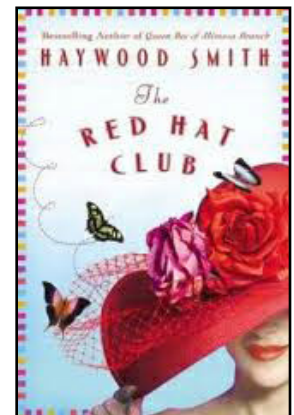
Based upon infringement of his right to publicity, Twist was awarded \$24 million by a jury in 2000, then \$15 million in a new trial in 2003. In 2004, the defendants filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy in Phoenix, eventually settling with Twist for \$5 million.

These cases involved "Deep Pockets" (defendants with substantial wealth). A more typical decision may be *Stewart v. Smith*, a 2009 Georgia case where the jury awarded Vickie Stewart \$100,000 based upon her allegations that she was portrayed as a sexually promiscuous alcoholic in Haywood Smith's novel *The Red Hat Club*.

Don't flirt with a lawsuit in any amount. Do what Webb does, and change the details about living people you write about in your fiction so they are not recognizable to themselves or readers who know them.



Todd McFarlane's Antonio Twistelli, a violent Mafia don.



Submissions wanted!

Share industry related news with your fellow APW members including committee reports, event news, writing contests, industry related articles, industry-related personal accomplishments ... anything you think would be of value to our membership! Send submissions, photos and art to Lynda Exley at exlent@aol.com. The deadline for the July issue is June 21.

Social Media from Page 1

Pamela Bayless: “Fast-Forward Your Career with 21st Century Tools”

Bayless, a New York-based journalist, editor and marketing expert, believes “to reach a smart, sophisticated audience, you need to cut through the clutter using social media effectively.”

In her talk, she enumerated “sweeping changes” in media and discussed ways to use electronic tools. A good starting place, she said, is joining LinkedIn and using Facebook and Twitter. She also recommended using Google and Wikipedia to create links to a client’s business or your own.

Bayless advised conference attendees to consult an expert to set up an easy-to-use website with navigation tools for search links (URLs). She does not recommend a link to a blog, calling it “clutter.” She emphasized that websites should be updated at least once a week, while retiring older articles.

“There is strength in having current material,” she said.

Bayless has provided website content for media, corporations and nonprofit groups.

Ruth Carter: “The Legal Side of Social Media: How Not to Get Sued, Fired, Arrested or Killed”

Carter, owner of Carter Law Firm in Phoenix, outlined copyright laws and “fair use” elements, warning against using text or photos without permission.

She recommended using CreativeCommons.org to find links for photos and other materials, rather than Google Images, and emphasized asking for permission to avoid legal action. As an employer, the company has creative ownership of what is created. Also, personal copyright is granted when the material is produced.



Pamela Bayless



Ruth Carter

“Never post anything on the internet that you wouldn’t want to see on Page One of a newspaper,” she said, “or anything you wouldn’t want seen by your boss, your mother, your best friend or your worst enemy.”

Carter warned about defamation via false statements, but noted, “There is no privacy guarantee for public figures,” such as elected officials and entertainment celebrities.

When outsourcing social-media action, Carter says to always have a written and signed work-for-hire contract for Facebook postings, blogs or tweets.

Carter authored the eBook *The Legal Side of Blogging: How Not to Get Sued, Fired, Arrested or Killed*. She was selected American Bar Association Legal Rebel in 2012 for her work in flash mob law.

Kevin Hearne: “Social Media for Authors”

An Arizona native and former high school English teacher who became a *New York Times* bestselling author, Hearne uses social media to promote his books.

“To become known, get bloggy and social,” he said, citing actions that will promote a product or service: start a blog, get a Twitter account and create a website. He said a good blog will have a continuous feature-element on one or more themes, personal or professional.

Hearne suggested using Blogger or WordPress to get started and added, “Make strong statements and update the blog once or twice a week.”

He recommended posting to Facebook, Storify and Google+ once or twice a day – with the best time being 10:30 a.m. ET – and logging “likes” and writing comments. Although contests and giveaways can generate traffic to a website, he said they are time-consuming to set up and monitor.

Hearne is author of the *Iron Druid Chronicles*, a series of urban fantasy novels published by Random House/Del Rey. He combines social media to interact with readers and connect with publishers, editors and



Kevin Hearne

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Social Media from Page 5

authors in the fantasy/science fiction genre.

Dave Barnhart: “Random Acts of Social Media”

“Social media is a two-way, viral highway and a cost-effective way to gain a digital presence that boosts credibility and revenue,”



Dave Barnhart

said Barnhart of Business Blogging Pros. “For a blog, choose a main topic that you are an expert in, present trends and current events, and offer behind-the-scenes information to make a personal connection.”

Barnhart also likes the concept of presenting lists, whether informative or amusing. He said he prefers WordPress for blogs because it’s easier to move data to a website and export posts than with Blogspot.

“Google+ is an online community that brings people to your blog,” he said, adding that Pinterest is a website where people “pin” images, videos or information that link back to them. He touted using Twitter and joining LinkedIn as well.

Barnhart's company focuses on strategies for using blogs, websites and social media to achieve a digital presence.

John Southard: “Dollars and Sense of Facebook: Social Media as a Personal Branding Tool”

Before starting a website or blog, Southard recommended developing a plan with a regular schedule for posts.

“You need to target your prospective audience and engage it by demonstrating the website’s value

with reliable posting frequency,” he said, “but never post from a sense of urgency.”

Southard emphasized “branding” to demonstrate consistent expertise in a subject.



John Southard

The tone can be serious or light-hearted, but be sure to keep the content professional, with no typos or errors.

“You are building a reputation with your range of posts,” he stressed.

Southard works on contract projects for historic preservation groups and cultural organizations to establish a social media presence.

Social Media Tips for Writers & Journalists

Always give an attribution when using others’ work under Fair Use.

Make sure you have a rock-solid Works Made For Hire contract if you’re outsourcing content to a third party.

The law cares about what you said, not what you meant. Make sure your research is thorough and statements are accurate. Repeating a lie is just as bad as telling a lie.

There is no expectation of privacy in anything you do or say in public.

Make sure your employer has a social media policy that complies with the Federal Labor Relations Act and clearly states who owns and controls company social media accounts.

You will be sued in the state where the alleged victim was harmed, not where you live.

Always disclose when you are compensated for giving an opinion.

Crimes to avoid: Harassment, Solicitation, Illegal Sales, Threats Against the President.

Yes, you can be killed because of a post on social media - just not in the U.S.

Just because you don’t get in trouble, it doesn’t guarantee you haven’t done something wrong.

Rules of Thumb:

- 1. Don’t put anything online that you wouldn’t put on the front page of the newspaper.**
- 2. Assume every post will be seen by your best friend, your worst enemy, your boss, and your mother.**

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Meet Vickie LoPiccolo Jennett

by Brenda Warneka

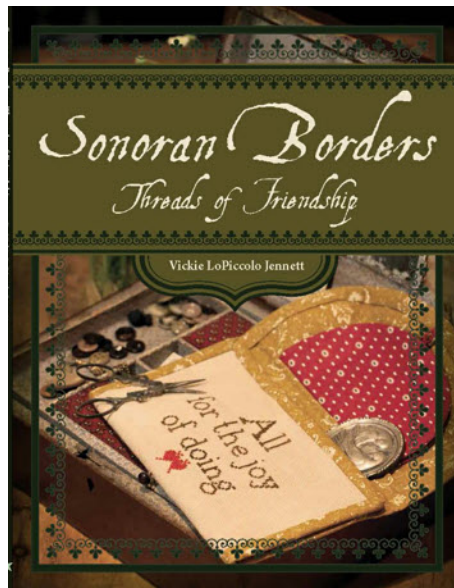
A member of Arizona Press Women since 2012, Vickie LoPiccolo Jennett is a writer and journalist who turned a passion for antique needlework into a successful home-based business.

At NeedleWorkPress, she and her daughter-in-law and partner, Maegan Jennett, are “dedicated to preserving and presenting printed materials related to historic needlework.”

Jennett’s articles about needlework have appeared in such magazines as *Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly* and *Just Cross Stitch*. Her new book, *Sonoran Borders: Threads of Friendship*, a historical fiction about two women who met in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona Territory more than a century ago, will be published this month by Kansas City Star Books.

Jennett spent her childhood in York, Penn., and moved to Arizona in 1968, where she graduated from Xavier High School. She attended Iowa State University and earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism, with a print media emphasis, and later a master’s degree in industrial relations.

After college, she first worked as a computer forms designer for Bankers Life Insurance, learning to balance form and function in layout, knowledge she later used in her needlework business.



After Bankers, she was a reporter and feature writer at the *Ames Daily Tribune* and then at the Iowa State University Information Service.

In the 1970s, Jennett was introduced to the pleasure of needlepoint. Because of an allergy to wool, however, she started to work with counted cross stitch and cotton and silk fibers. In 1983, she and her husband, Niles, whom she met in high school and married after college, moved back to Phoenix. In 1993, she started a business to create needlework patterns and books, which evolved into today’s NeedleWorkPress. Over the years, she also worked with a friend to write the MOM series of women’s spirituality books.

The Jennetts live in a replica 19th century farmhouse they built more than 20 years ago outside Phoenix. The home serves as the headquarters for NeedleWorkPress. Niles is a dairy veterinarian, who with seven partners cares for dairy cows throughout the state. The Jennetts have been married almost 37 years and have two sons and three grandchildren. They also raised calves and pygmy goats.

Jennett says she is “best characterized by the sentiment stitched on a sampler in her living room: ‘My faith, my family and my friends bring meaning to my life.’”

NFPW from Page 1

Registration forms and payments should be sent to Peggy Parks, Media Network Idaho, P.O. Box 1317, Challis, ID 83226. The three-day tour runs \$375 double occupancy or \$450 single occupancy and includes bus transportation, two nights lodging in Moab, breakfast Monday and Tuesday at the Moab hotel, lunch Sunday and Monday in Utah parks, admission to both parks and dinner Monday

evening. To pay by credit card, call NFPW headquarters at 703-237-9808.

The pre-conference tour offers a chance to see the Idaho National Laboratory. The revised registrations deadline is Thursday, June 13, for non-U.S. citizens and Tuesday, July 23, for U.S. citizens. For reservations, email Teri Ehresman at tlehre@aol.com and include the tour name and dates, your full name, home address and date of birth. This information is

required due to the area's high security. The group will visit the place where space batteries were prepared for the Curiosity rover currently exploring Mars.

The early deadline for the NFPW conference and all day tours is Tuesday, July 23. Media Network Idaho recommends making airline and hotel reservations immediately, but send conference registration forms to NFPW headquarters.

Leaving Arizona

by Glennis McNeal

Because I have stopped saying "s—t" I could only say "c—p" when I read that the Arizona Press Women conference would take place May 4, the day I was loading a moving van to head out of state.

After 21 winter visits to Arizona, I'll now spend my snowbird time closer to my two youngest children and three granddaughters – all living near Riverside, Calif.

In the last two decades I credit Arizona Press Women for my most interesting experiences and most fascinating acquaintances.

Marion Peddle was the first APW member I met. It was a treat to see her again and again at NFPW conferences. It was a treasured experience to get to know June Payne, and in time, be invited to witness an outpouring of love at her memorial service.

I attended as many of the Baja Babes meetings as I could and learned so much Tucson lore. I was proud to take a college-age granddaughter, then a business student at U of A, to a luncheon at El Parador to experience vibrant APW members reporting on their continuing communications triumphs and activities.

Among their members I especially loved meeting Barbara Clerihew, Jane Eppinga and the indomitable Joan Cox and Ellie Mattausch. More recently, it was comforting to work with Cheryl Kohout and Bunny Badertscher on the NFPW conference post-tour.

I even attended board meetings for the privilege of spending more time with fascinating women, all doing fascinating projects. APW officers Brenda Warneka and Kathryn Runback inspired me, as did the NFPW conference planners. I always looked forward to the company of the amazing Joan Westlake at various meetings.

Payson meetings introduced me to Carol Osmond Brown and Bing Brown, Jamie Bruzenak and Dee



Glennis McNeal

IN TOUCH WITH APW

Barbara Bayless Lacy spoke on May 15 at a luncheon gathering at the Shepherd of the Hills Church in Phoenix about the Navajo historical use of plants. The information came from her book: *Nanise, a Navajo Herbal*. She also has a solo painting exhibition on display through Sept. 5

at Church of the Beatitudes, 555 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix. An artist's reception is at 10 a.m. Sunday, June 2. Lacy shows "Three Chicks," representing Erin Conway, Marnelle North and Lacy, who are sharing the entire exhibit space of ASU Gammage, 1200 S.



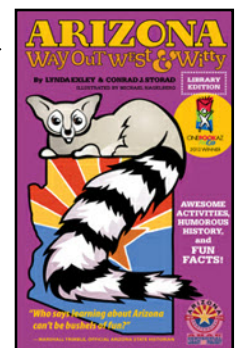
Palms at Piestewa Peak
by Barbara Lacy

Forest Ave., Tempe. The exhibit runs through June 30, during *Flashdance* and *Sister Act* and is open to the public from 1 to 4 p.m., Mondays or by appointment. Info: 480-965-6912. Lacy is represented by the Wild Holly Gallery, 22 E. St., Carefree.

Jaimie Bruzenak is Friends of Payson Library's June guest speaker for a series featuring local authors. Her topic is "Go RVing- a few whys, wheres and hows." The event takes place 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 26 at the Payson Library, 328 N. McLane Road, Payson, AZ.



Conrad J. Storad and Lynda Exley learned their book, *Arizona Way Out West & Witty*, made the Library of Congress "52 Great Reads" book list, representing the literary heritage of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The list is distributed by the Library of Congress' Center for the Book during the National Book Festival held this year on Sept. 21 and 22 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama are honorary chairs for the



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See In Touch, Page 10

Dragonfly Awards adds youth categories

by Lynda Exley

In response to suggestions made by published authors younger than 18 years old, Five Star Book Awards' Purple Dragonfly and Royal Dragonfly contests recently added two new categories: Youth Author Fiction and Youth Author Nonfiction.

Entrants in these categories must be 17 years old or younger and have a parent or guardian's permission to enter. In doing so, they are eligible for all the same prizes and paraphernalia as adult authors who enter. There are no restrictions on publication date as long as the books entered are still in print.

"I'm amazed at how many young authors there are out there," says APW member Linda F. Radke, president of Five Star Publications, Five Star Book Awards' parent company. "Adding the two new categories to accommodate youths just made sense. It's one more way the contest has grown over the past few years. We've doubled our number of entrants and have international attention now. Along with the United States, we receive entries from England, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Israel, France, Canada, Dubai and others.

The Royal Dragonfly Book Awards honors published authors of all types of literature – fiction and nonfiction – in 52 categories, appealing to a wide range of ages and comprehensive list of genres. The Purple Dragonfly Book Awards is strictly for children's literature, offering 37 distinct subject categories, ranging from books on the environment and cooking to sports and family issues. Judges are



industry experts with specific knowledge about the categories over which they preside.

In addition to award certificates, book stickers, free listings and news releases, each contest awards a grand prize winner \$300, and lucky winners drawn from the first-place wins of each contest receive \$100.

The next Royal Dragonfly Book Awards contest is already underway. Submissions postmarked Aug. 1, 2013 or earlier are eligible for the Early Bird reward: a free e-copy of *The Economical Guide to Self-Publishing or Promote Like a Pro: Small Budget, Big Show* written by Radke. Final deadline for submissions is Oct. 1, 2013. The Early Bird deadline for the next Purple Dragonfly Book Awards contest is March 1, 2014, and the final deadline is May 1, 2014. Winners of the 2013 Purple Dragonfly contest will be announced June 15, 2013.

For rules and submission forms for either contest, visit www.FiveStarBookAwards.com and click on the contest of choice. To learn more about Five Star Publications, access www.FiveStarPublications.com, email info@FiveStarPublications.com or call 480-940-8182.

Leaving from Page 8

Dees. What a thrill to follow the development of APW's legacy project, *Skirting Tradition*. Need I say that I had to pack up and move shelves of books authored by APW members?

Barbara Lacy put me to work on numerous Central District meetings and projects throughout the years including two featuring speakers from Oregon Press Women, my summer group. It was a privilege to assist at several of Betty Webb's APW sessions.

In consequence of the NFPW conference, I had the chance to travel with Patricia Myers and to discover

that our common experiences characterize us as twins separated at birth. At all times, I leaned heavily on Pam Stevenson, who hosted the APW's NFPW Northern Arizona Pre-tour while also serving as NFPW conference chair.

In short, I can't thank APW sufficiently for enriching my time in Arizona. I'll continue dual membership (Arizona and Oregon) and recommend that step to all who move to a new state on a full or part-time basis.

Thanks, APW, for being a 500-watt bulb for those who are not content to depend only on the light of a computer screen.

Upcoming AZ writing events

June 16, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., *Skirting Traditions Program at Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott, presents Eleanor ("Ellie") Mattausch by Gail Bornsfield.* Mattausch was

a broadcaster on radio and TV news shows in the Phoenix area, and news editor of the *San Pedro Valley News* in rural southeastern Arizona. She was the first woman editor of the *Fort Huachuca Scout*, where she filed and won the first equal pay case in Arizona. She eventually helped start and manage the *Oracle* monthly newspaper in Pinal County. Free with admission to museum: \$3 to \$5. Info:

www.sharlot.org, arizonapresswomen.com.



Ellie Mattausch

June 30, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., *Skirting Traditions Program at Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott, presents Yndia Smalley Moore by Elizabeth Breuning Lewis.* Moore

was the daughter of well-known Arizonan newspaper legend George Smalley and granddaughter of a Minnesota newspaper publisher. She created the publication that became the *Journal of Arizona History* and edited her father's reminiscences, *My Adventures in Arizona: Leaves from a Reporter's Notebook*, which is now a classic. Free with admission to museum: \$3 to \$5. Info: www.sharlot.org, arizonapresswomen.com.

July 1 deadline: Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 2013 Harvest Book Reading at South Mountain Community College, 7050 S. 24th St., Phoenix. A literary event produced and co-sponsored by RICHER Press, a Phoenix-based trade book publisher. The free event was established by Manaspirits, an Arizona nonprofit philanthropic organization and local life enrichment partner aimed at helping feed the hungry while feeding the community's literary passion. Authors read, showcase, sell and autograph their *published* books. Featured authors are chosen via a competition, which closes July 1. Authors may register for a trade table at the conference. The cost is \$100, and space is limited. Registration fees are donated to the St. Mary's Food Bank to assist needy families in the Phoenix area during the holiday season. Contest info and online registration: www.manaspirits.org.

July 27-28, APW Writer's Retreat at The Merritt Center and Lodge Retreat Center, Payson. Sponsored by APW Rim Country District, the event offers a chance to cool off and relax among the pines. The early-bird rate is \$95 (double occupancy), \$140 (single occupancy). After June 26, rates go up to \$110 (double occupancy),

In Touch from Page 8

event. The festival is free and open to the public. The book retails for \$11.95 (ISBN 978-1-58985-092-7) and is distributed by Ingram, Baker & Taylor and Midpoint Trade Books. It is available at Amazon.com, BarnesAndNoble.com and bookstores everywhere. Info: www.AZWOWW.com, www.loc.gov/bookfest/kids-teachers/educators/greatreads.html, www.loc.gov/bookfest.

Marion E. Gold, a dual Arizona-Illinois member, won first place in the public relations/media kit category of the Illinois Woman's Press Association annual communications contest for the Press Kit she created for Jan Huttner's book, *Penny's Picks: 50 Movies by Women Filmmakers 2002-11*. Gold's entry will go on for national judging in the NFPW contest.



Betty Webb's blog post, "Method Acting for Writers," offers good points to consider when developing characters for stories. After writing a character into her story that did not fit, Webb fully immersed herself in the character, and everything fell into place. Read it at bloggingwebb.blogspot.com. Webb recently appeared on the PBS-TV show *Books & Co.*, where she was interviewed about her mystery novel, *The Llama of Death*. Info: www.azpbs.org/books/authordetail.php?id=342, www.bettywebb-mystery.com.



\$150 (single occupancy). Registration closes July 11. Info: carolosmanbb@gmail.com, or 928-468-9269.

August 3, Tenth Annual Western History Symposium at the historic Hassayampa Inn in Prescott - Program details are being finalized and will be posted on the websites of the sponsoring organizations: the Prescott Corral of Westerners (www.prescottcorral.org) and the Sharlot Hall Museum (www.sharlot.org).

Aug. 22-24, NFPW Annual Communications Conference, Marriott Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah. Arizona Press Women join with members from affiliates around the country for their parent organization's annual conference. Full details, including pre-tour and post-tour events appear in the Spring 2013 NFPW *Agenda*, which was emailed to members May 20. Info: www.nfpw.org.