

Arizona Professional Writers

Formerly Arizona Press Women

Colorado River District explores free lancing

by Brenda Warneka

A PW/NFPW member Shirin McGraham presents "Free Lancing for Newspapers" at the regular monthly meeting of the Colorado River District at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 12, at Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Drive, Bullhead City.

Shirin is a writer, editor and coowner with husband Thom McGraham of the weekly *Bullhead City Bee* newspaper and the *Economic Development Journal of Mohave County*. Prior to moving to Arizona in 2000, she worked as a



teacher, reporter and publicist in Los Angeles, California. In 2015, McGraham's book, *Bullhead City*, was published by Images of America.

If there is time at the end of the program, Brenda Warneka will speak briefly about styles of writing, with particular emphasis on the differences in AP style and Chicago style.

The meeting is open to the public and free. Attendees order from the menu with separate checks. RSVP: apw.reservations@gmail.com. Info: Brenda Warneka, warneka@cox.net.

Bestselling author discusses social media



by Connie Cockrell

The Rim Country district of APW meets at noon on Jan. 20 in the Payson Library meeting room, 328 N. McClane Road, Payson. No RSVP is required. All writers, authors and the public are welcome to attend. A short business meeting will precede the featured presenter.

Join *USA Today* bestselling author D'Elen McClain for a fun hour of social media basics that include

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At-Large State-level Communications Contest commences

A rizona Professional Writers association is not offering its own communications contest this year. Therefore, Arizona members wishing to participate in a communications contest are required to join NFPW to participate in the 2016 At-Large

State-level Communications Contest.

Complete information for entering the allelectronic competition can be found at nfpw.org and within the pages of the electronic contest itself.



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Holiday party highlights





Rim Country District partygoers. From left: Lynda Wescott, Carol Mathewson, Sharon Langdale, Marie Fasano, Carol Brown, Kimberly Channing, Connie Cockrell. Photo by Bing Brown

Rim Country District

by Jodi Weisberg

A small group of Rim Country District APW members brought fun gifts to share and enjoyed interesting "writers talk at their holiday party."

Sharon Langsdale told the group about a new book written by members of the National League of American Pen Women, *The Light Between Us.* Sharon is a contributor. The book has literary members sharing their true stories about ordinary life experiences that encouraged their personal growth creating healing through creative expression.

During the party, members discussed programs for 2016. Connie Cockrell has a great list of speakers scheduled starting with D'Elen McClain, "How to market in social media;" Marsha Ward, "Creating Memorable Characters;" and Carol Mathewson, "How to do research for historical novels." And that's just the first three months of the year!

The group looks forward to an exciting and productive 2016.

Central District

by Barbara Lacy

More than 20 APW members and friends celebrated the holidays at a lavish potluck buffet Sunday night, Dec. 13, in the clubroom of the



Left to right: Emily Cary, Candace Hughes and Kixx Goldman. Photo by Brenda Warneka

Scottsdale Waterfront Condominiums, Scottsdale, courtesy of Brenda and Dick Warneka.

Members brought books to exchange and donations for the Sojourner Center, a facility in Phoenix for abused women and children. Two prospective members attended the party, Tish Murphy and Kixx Goldman, who joined APW shortly thereafter.



Front row left to right: Colorado River District celebrants Karole Finkelstein, Pamela Clarkson. Back row left to right: Margaret Perry, Elsie Needles, Stuart Clarkson, Shirin McGraham, Brenda Warneka and Sheryn Smith. Photo courtesy of Brenda Warneka

Colorado River District

embers of APW's Colorado River District gathered for a holiday party at Lisa's Bistro in Bullhead City on Dec. 15. The party included a gift exchange and donations collected for St. Vincent de Paul.

AZ authors invited to 2016 Payson Book Festival

Registration is open for Arizona authors who wish to participate in the 2016 Payson Book Festival. Rim Country District of Arizona Professional Writers and Gila Community College partnered to present this one-day event on July 23 at the college campus, 201 N. Mud Springs Road, Payson. Author registration remains open through April, but is filling quickly.



Shoppers crowded the aisles at last year's Payson Book Festival. Photo by D.J. Craig

More than 60 authors

and 500 visitors enjoyed the inaugural Payson Book Festival last summer at the same location. Get a glimpse of the successful 2015 book festival by visiting paysonbookfestival.org. Scroll down to "Watch the video from last summer's event" and click on the link to view the YouTube video.

Arizona authors are invited to participate in this one-day event which takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in several areas on the college campus. They have an opportunity to sign, sell and speak about their books at this family oriented festival, offered to the public free of charge. Proceeds benefit the scholarship funds of these two nonprofit organizations.

"Our goal is to promote literacy and showcase Arizona authors," says Rim Country District Director Carol Osman Brown. "We want to foster a love of reading by providing a friendly environment that encourages

personal interaction between Arizona authors and readers of all ages."

Fees:

- \$80 full table (inside)
- \$60 full table (outside)
- \$40 half table (inside)
- \$30 half table (outside)

The GCC college campus has limited space to accommodate 60 authors and publishers. Registration is open through April, on a first-come, first-served basis. Each author gets a table and two chairs to exhibit their books and materials. More information, including a registration form, is available at paysonbookfestival.org. If you have questions, email info@paysonbookfestival.org.

NFPW institutes new membership level

A Premium Professional Membership category is now available through the National Federation of Press Women. Membership dues for this category include an additional \$60 annually to cover access to libel insurance.

The ability to obtain libel insurance is limited, and some members join NFPW for the purpose of gaining access to this coverage. Previously the premium paid by NFPW to provide this access has been picked up by the general membership. Now it is being charged to those members who wish to have the coverage. NFPW Members with Premium Professional Membership gain access to coverage, but they must still purchase their own libel insurance.

Any member who wishes additional information about this new membership level or the libel insurance available should contact NFPW.

Do words, gemstones have anything in common?

by Marion E. Gold

Many people are surprised when the marketing consultant and writer they hired – or "book author" they meet – also designs jewelry.



Actually, there is a

great similarity between creating a press release, ghostwriting an article or editorial or crafting a tactical marketing plan – and designing a piece of jewelry.

Words or gemstones: both need to be carefully considered in order to meet the needs of the client and the target audience. As my jewelry-designing persona, "Miriam Bat-Rachel," I design each item of jewelry around the shapes and colors of the natural stones, choosing and then arranging the stones and sterling silver beads on my worktable, moving them around until I like the way they look. When designing the silver or bronze wire accents, I bend and twist the

wire, so it looks natural on the focal stone – literally as if it were part of the natural texture of the stone.

Words and gemstones, working with either takes great precision. They both light up my creative spirit!

You can see Marion's (aka Miriam's) Designer Jewelry at moonbeamsdesignerjewelry.com.



Contest from Page 1

Deadlines

The At-Large contest deadline is looming. Submit all entries at one time or at various times from now until the contest ends.

- Early-bird Electronic/Postmark deadline: Monday, Jan. 18
- Electronic/Postmark Deadline, all other entries: Monday, Feb. 1. After Jan. 18, a one-time-only late fee of \$25 will be added, whether you have one entry or many.
- Hard-copy entries may be submitted in categories 15A, 15B, 56–59, 60B, 60C, 61B, 61C and 64 only.

Eligibility

Anyone who is a current member of NFPW or who is a professional communicator and chooses to join NFPW is eligible to enter.

Work published from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2015, is eligible for this year's contest. Anyone who receives a first-place award in the At-Large state-level contest will be eligible to enter the NFPW National Communications Contest, providing 2016 NFPW membership dues have been paid. Those in the At-Large contest pay no national contest entry fee(s), which are normally \$20 per entry.

Entry fees

NFPW Members: \$25 for the first entry; \$15 for subsequent entries. If you are not a member of the National Federation of Press Women but would like to enjoy the many benefits of national membership, join at nfpw.org.

To enter, go to nfpw.org and click on Competitions. The first link on the Competitions page, NFPW Communications Contest, will take you to the information about the contest as well as to a link to the electronic contest

Get your APW directory

The updated APW directory is now available in print. Copies were distributed in December if you attended a meeting or holiday party. If you did not receive yours, check with the director of your district to make arrangements to pick one up.



In the meantime, you can access the directory at any time at arizonaprofessionalwriters.org. The new password is available to members by contacting Brenda Kimsey Warneka at warneka@cox.net. The list is confidential and should not be used for commercial purposes.

Social Media from Page 1

Twitter and Facebook. If you're an author and want to sell more books, joining social media is a must and you can do it from the privacy of your home while sitting in PJs. Be sure to bring a pen or pencil for some hands-on learning so you're no longer scratching your head when someone says words like: hash-tag, algorithm or fan versus friend page.

McClain, who authored 24 books, wrote the bestselling Fang Chronicle Series. Under her pen name, Holly S. Roberts, she is the USA Today bestselling author of the contemporary romance Completion Series. As Suzie Ivy, she writes her humorous misadventures in the police academy during her midlife crisis.

ON TOUCH WOTH APW

eep 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.

Patricia Myers moved during Christmas week from her secondfloor condo residence of the past 30 years, where she enjoyed living on a greenbelt of trees and grass with melodic songbirds, quick-hopping bunnies, zippy hummingbirds and winter-season visits by grazing javelinas. She



found the perfect-fit patio home, six miles south in the equally tranquil Villa Monterey neighborhood. When asked by condo neighbors why she was moving, she replied, "I'm moving on to the next chapter of my life, but I'm not downsizing as many do; I'm upsizing so I can live larger than ever!" She's keeping her businessrelated P.O. Box 4201 Scottsdale AZ 85261, so the

new APW directory is still

accurate.

"Kixx" Audrey Goldman, **Ph.D.** is welcomed as APW's newest member. From Scottsdale, her expertise is in psychology, couples therapy and learning disabilities.



"A nice write up (on Betsy Batish, October APW Newsletter). Thank you for sending. I have sent it on to Paul (Betsy's husband) and the rest of the family." —Buddy Rice

"Thank you very much for the lovely party (Central District at Dick and Brenda Warneka's residence). I thoroughly enjoyed chatting with members old and new, and greatly appreciate your detailed driving directions which made it so easy."—Emily Cary



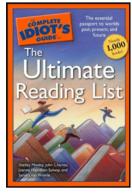
UPCOMING STATE-WIDE EVENTS

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

Jan. 6: 3-5 p.m. Writing Workshop: Where Are You? at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin St., Prescott. Readers experience setting on many levels. Place and time exert a powerful influence on plot and character and set the atmosphere that permeates the story. Learn to craft this element as an integral force in your story. Registration required: 928-777-1526. Info: prescottlibrary.info.

Jan. 7, 6 p.m., Jan. 9, 1 p.m. and Jan.11, 6 p.m. (three-day event): Tell your Story: Writing your

Memoirs at Velma Teague library, 7010 N. 58th Ave., Glendale. Make it your New Year's resolution to document your life with the help of author Shelley Mosley, former Velma Teague Library director and author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Ultimate Reading List, Crash Course in Library Supervision:*Meeting the Key Players and



Romance Today: An A-to-Z Guide to Contemporary American Romance Writers. She also contributed a story to Chicken Soup for the Soul: Family Matters: 101 Unforgettable Stories about Our Nutty but Lovable Families. Free, but registration required at bit.ly/1LVYHNc. Walk-in participants admitted only if space is available. Info: 623-930-3440.

Jan 9: 10-11:30 a.m. The Food of Arizona: Many Cultures, Many Flavors is presented by Gregory

McNamee, a writer, editor, photographer and publisher, at Prescott Valley Public Library, 7401 E. Civic Circle, Prescott. The foods of Arizona speak to the many cultures, native and newcomer, that make up our



state. Explore these many traditions at this free Arizona Humanities presentation. Info: 928-759-3040, www.gregorymcnamee.com.

Jan. 12: noon. APW Colorado River District Monthly Meeting. Member Shirin McGraham, writer, editor and co-owner with her husband of the Bullhead City Bee and the Economic Development Journal of Mohave County, presents Free Lancing for Newspapers. Order from menu with separate checks. RSVP: apw.reservations@gmail.com. Info: Brenda Warneka, warneka@cox.net.

Jan. 15: 1-2:30 p.m. Written in Thread: Arizona Women's History Preserved in Their Quilts is

presented by APW member Pam Stevenson at Sedona Public Library, 3250 White Bear Road, Sedona. Beginning with Mexican women of the 1860s through Hopi women of the 1990s, she traces the history of Arizona through women who recorded pieces of their lives in their needlework. Featured women include: Atanacia Santa Cruz Hughes



of Tucson, Viola Slaughter of Southeastern Arizona, Alice Gillette Haught of Payson, Sedona Schnebly of Sedona and Emma Andres of Prescott. This Arizona Humanities presentation is free. Info: 928-282-7714.

Jan. 18: midnight AZ time. Early Bird Electronic/Postmark Deadline for NFPW At-Large Communications Contest Entry. \$25 for first entry; \$15 subsequent entries. First-place at-large winners go on to National competition without additional fees. Info: nfpw.org.

Jan. 19: 2:30-3:30 p.m. Pens & Paintbrushes: The Legacies of Early Arizona Women in the Arts

presented by APW member and Award-winning author and lecturer Jan Cleere at Apache Junction Library, 1177 N. Idaho Road, Apache Junction. Explore the lives of five artists whose talents personify the beauty of the early western frontier: Hopi potter Nampeyo, writer and historian Sharlot Hall, author Martha Summerhayes, painter and photographer Kate Cory, architect Mary



Colter and folk singer Katie Lee. This Arizona Humanities program is free and open to the public. Info: 480-474-8555, ajpl.org.

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Jan. 20: noon. Join USA Today bestselling author

D'Elen McClain for a fun hour of social media basics that include Twitter and Facebook. The Rim Country Chapter hosts the event in the Payson Library Meeting Room, 328 N. McClane Road, Payson. No RSVP is required. All writers, authors, and the public are welcome to attend. A short business meeting will precede the featured presenter.



Jan. 21: 10 a.m.-noon. The Latest in Self-Publishing is presented by Linda F. Radke of Five Star Publications and hosted by APW Central District in the Activity Room of Shephard of the Hills Congregational Church of Christ, 5524 E. Lafayette, Phoenix. Free to members; \$10 nonmembers. Lunch follows at Kitchen 56. Order from menu with separate checks. RSVP: apw.reservations@gmail.com with telephone number and someone will call you for credit card information, or mail check to Barbara Lacy, 5425 E. Mockingbird Lane, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253. Info: 480-620-1358.

Jan. 21: 6-8 p.m. Arizona Humanities hosts author

Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr. at 1242 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. Hear the challenging, triumphant story of how Arizona's African-American community came together in the 1980s to work towards recognition of the famous civil rights leader. Stewart served as the first General Chairperson for Arizonans for a Martin Luther King, Jr. State Holiday, which



contributed significantly to the legislative passage of Arizona's Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Sept. 21, 1989. Free. Includes refreshments. RSVP required at azhumanities.org, click on Programs. Directions: 602-257-0335, azhumanities.org.

Jan. 27: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Creative Writing Instructor

Dr. Rene Allen addresses the Scottsdale Society of Women Writers at their monthly dinner meeting at Chaparral Suites Resort, 5001 N, Scottsdale Road (room location to be announced later due to construction). Allen is a



nonfiction/memoir instructor for Wilkes University. COST: members \$28, guests \$30. Check-in begins at 5 p.m. RSVP: Patricia L. Brooks, 480-250-5556, patricia@plbrooks.com.

Jan. 30: 1 p.m. Tell Your Story: Self-Publishing for Fun & Profit at the Velma Teague library, 7010 N. 58th Ave., Glendale, is open to adults and teens. Local teen and college romance author Ginger Scott, who successfully made the transition from self-publishing to traditional publishing, tells attendees how it can work for them too! Learn valuable tips and marketing tricks from this award-nominated, Amazon-bestselling industry insider. Info: 623-930-3430.

Jan. 31: 2:30-4:30 p.m. Writing the Mystery Novel

with Donis Casey, who has eight published mystery novels, at Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd, Tempe. Free for Valley of the Sun or Tucson Society of Southwestern Authors members. Prospective members can attend two workshops before joining SSA-VS. Annual dues are \$25,



which includes all workshops. Info: Betty Webb, webbscottsdale@aol.com.

Feb. 1: midnight AZ Time. Deadline for NFPW At-Large Communications Contest Entry. \$25 for first entry; \$15 for subsequent entries. After Jan. 18, a one-time-only late fee of \$25 is imposed whether you have one entry or many. See NFPW website nfpw.org for more information. First-place at-large winners go on to National competition without additional fees.

Feb. 3: 10:30 a.m.-noon. The Food of Arizona: Many Cultures, Many Flavors is presented by Gregory McNamee, a writer, editor, photographer and publisher, at Ed Robson Branch Library, 9330 E. Riggs Rd., Sun Lakes. The foods of Arizona speak to the many cultures, native and newcomer, that make up our state. Explore these many traditions at this free Arizona Humanities presentation. Info: 602-652-3000, mcldaz.org.

Feb. 3: 3 p.m. Writing Workshop Series: Paint with Words is presented at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin St., Prescott. Learn to use a combination of

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action and dialogue to make your characters memorable. Free. Registration required: 928-777-1526. Info: prescottlibrary.info.

Feb. 6: 1-2:30 p.m. A Man Would Be a Fool to Take

a Chance on Me: Violet M. Irving of Skull Valley Arizona, Iconic Arizona Woman is presented by Liz Warren, author of *The Oral Tradition Today: An Introduction to the Art of Storytelling.* This free Arizona Humanities program is held at Phippen Museum, 4701 Highway 89N, Prescott. Info: 928-778-1385, phippenartmuseum.org.



Feb. 9: noon. APW Colorado River District

Monthly Meeting. APW member Elsie Needles, President of the Colorado River Historical Society, presents Historical Research for Writers in the Colorado River Area. Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Drive, Bullhead City. Open to the public. No fee to attend. Order from menu with separate checks. RSVP: apw.reservations@gmail.com.



Info: Brenda Warneka, warneka@cox.net.

Feb. 10: 1-2:30 p.m. Two Six Shooters Beat Four

Aces: The Lives of Men on the Arizona Frontier is presented by APW member and award-winning author Barbara Marriott at Parker Public Library, 1001 S. Navajo Ave., Parker. Hear true stories about incredible gun battles, deadly weather, Indian attacks, outlaws and evasive fortunes. Arizona characters



include outlaw John Ringo, lawman Commodore Perry Owens, tough Pete Kitchen and miner Henry Wickenburg, who found a rich mine and died a pauper. This Arizona Humanities program is free. Info: 928-669-2622, parkerpubliclibrary.com.

Feb. 27: 2-3:30 p.m. Adventurous Spirits: Arizona's Women Artists, 1900-1950 is presented by author and Arizona State University Art Professor Betsy Fahlman at Tohono Chul Park, 7366 N. Paseo del Norte, Tucson. Learn about Kate Cory, Marjorie Thomas, Lillian Wilhelm Smith, Jessie Benton Evans'

Scottsdale villa became a social center for local artists. Mary-Russell Ferrell Colton and Mary Jane Colter at this free Arizona Humanities program. Info: 520-742-6455, azhumanities.org.

March 1: 1-2:30 p.m. Tombstone, Arizona: The

Town Too Tough to die is presented by APW member and award-winning author Jane Eppinga at Buckeye Public Library-Downtown, 310 N. Sixth St., Buckeye. Learn about the West's wildest mining towns, which owes its beginning to prospector Ed Schieffelin, who found a vein of rich silver ore and registered two claims,



and see vintage photographs. This Arizona Humanities program is free. Info: 623-349-6300, buckeyeaz.gov/library.

March 3: 5-6:30 p.m. Written in Thread: Arizona Women's History preserved in their Quilts is presented by APW member Pam Stevenson at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin St., Prescott.
Beginning with Mexican women of the 1860s through Hopi women of the 1990s, she traces the history of Arizona through women who recorded pieces of their lives in their needlework. Featured women include: Atanacia Santa Cruz Hughes of Tucson, Viola Slaughter of Southeastern Arizona, Alice Gillette Haught of Payson, Sedona Schnebly of Sedona and Emma Andres of Prescott. This Arizona Humanities presentation is free. Info: 928-777-1509, prescottlibrary.info.

Mar. 8: noon. APW Colorado River District Monthly Meeting. Program TBA. Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Dr., Bullhead City. Open to the public. No fee to attend. Order from menu with separate checks. RSVP: apw.reservations@gmail.com. Info: Brenda Warneka, warneka@cox.net.

March 12-13: Tucson Festival of Books on the University of Arizona campus along East University Boulevard, stretching from Old Main to east of Cherry Avenue and in several nearby buildings. The event attracts more than 130,000 book-lovers each year. Exhibitors from literary and educational organizations are welcome to participate. Registration for booth

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space is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Booth fees vary. Admission and parking are free for attendees. Net proceeds from the festival go to fund critical literacy programs in Southern Arizona. Info: tucsonfestivalofbooks.org.

March 14: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 26th Annual Brandeis Book and Author Luncheon. JW

Marriott Desert Ridge Resort, 5350 E. Marriott Drive, Phoenix. Attendees meet and listen to authors, purchase and get books signed. Doors open at 9 a.m. for shopping at Boutiques. More information upcoming at BrandeisPhoenix.com. Fee: \$125; proceeds provide scholarships to local students at Brandeis. Info: 480-442-9623 or Brandeis. Info: 480-442-9623 or

BncPhnBA@gmail.com. To sit with APW members who are attending, contact Brenda Warneka at warneka@cox.net.

Mar. 19: 2-3:30 p.m. Written in Thread: Arizona Women's History Preserved in Their Quilts is presented by APW member Pam Stevenson at Mohave Museum of History and Arts, 400 W. Beale St., Kingman. Beginning with Mexican women of the 1860s through Hopi women of the 1990s, she traces the history of Arizona through women who recorded pieces of their lives in their needlework. Featured women include: Atanacia Santa Cruz Hughes of Tucson, Viola Slaughter of Southeastern Arizona, Alice Gillette Haught of Payson, Sedona Schnebly of Sedona and Emma Andres of Prescott. This Arizona Humanities presentation is free. Info: 928-282-7714.

Mar. 21: noon. Thirty Years in Broadcast Journalism is presented by APW President Pam Stevenson in a special appearance before members of the APW Colorado River District. Lisa's Bistro, 1595 Mohave Dr., Bullhead City. Open to the public. No fee to attend. Order from the menu with separate checks. RSVP: apw.reservations@gmail.com. Info: Brenda Warneka, warneka@cox.net.

April 1: noon. Member Jan Cleere presents at APW Central District (Phoenix Metro) meeting. Place to be announced.

April 14-17: 2016 Arizona History Convention.

Hilton Garden Inn & Pivot Point Conference Center, Yuma. Info: arizonahistory.gov.

April 16: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. First Tempe Book Festival

at Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe. Co-sponsored by the Tempe Library and Arizona State University, this event offers visits with local authors, booksellers, panel discus-



sions, book signings and fun activities for all ages. Info: Jill_Brenner@tempe.gov, 480-350-5569, tempe.gov/library.

July 23: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Payson Book Festival at Gila Community College, 201 N. Mud Springs Road,

Payson. Sponsored by APW Rim Country District and the college. Last summer's event featured 60 Arizona authors and attracted more than 500 visitors. Get a glimpse of the 2015 book festival at paysonbookfestival.org. Scroll down to "Watch the video from last summer's event" and click on



the link to view the YouTube video. Info: 928-468-9269.

Sept. 9-10: NFPW conference, Wichita, Kansas.

2017

Sept. 2017: NFPW National Conference, Birmingham, Alabama.

Submissions wanted!

Share industry related news with your fellow APW members including committee reports, event news, writing contests, industry articles, industry-related personal accomplishments ... anything you think would be of value to our membership!

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