

## **Results are in for the annual Election April**

Executive Board of Directors are

Kathleen Osborne --President

Jacque Hillman -- Vice President

Paula Winskye - 2nd Vice President and Membership

Deborah Barber -- Treasurer

Nancy Marshaall -- Secretary.

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### **Meet the New President**

I'd like to introduce myself to you, my name is Kathleen Osborne, some of you haven't met me so here is a little bit about me:



I'm married, have two kids, five grands and 4 greats. I grew up in north Indiana.

My background is statistical analysis including reports that went to congress.



I'm retired from the Air Force.

My husband and I moved to Arizona ten years ago and love it.

I started writing fiction six years ago. Then, three years ago I became a member of APW. I write and publish anthologies with a variety of genres. My novels are Science Fiction

Romance True Mate Aliens.

I became the President of White Mountains Chapter of APW and with the team there, we are conducting our third Writers Conference and Festival of Books, and our second writing contest.

This year I was elected as the President of the Arizona Professional Writers. Lol, I am still getting used to writing the words President of APW next to my name.

It's not because I don't want the job. I do. But the title is bigger than I thought it would be when I said 'yes' — and I have spent the last little while learning the weight of it.

Some of you who have stepped into a new role know exactly what I mean.

Instead of opening this year with a list of plans and policies, I want to tell you what I hope APW will feel like under my watch. Because the plans will come. How an organization feels takes more care.

I want us to feel comfortable. Exuding that sense that all of us — no matter our background — are working toward one common goal. Growth.

Currently, we are small but mighty. Our hearts are bigger than we are. I am one of those people who keep my eyes up on the prize before me, not down or back. As one, none of us move unless our gaze is set on that prize.

Our prize: more members than ever before. And we, you and I, are the ones who will create the momentum to make it happen.

Please, I am not suggesting it will happen overnight or even within the next two years. But we can lay the groundwork for the future.

We are incredibly good at welcoming new people.

I would like us to attend more activities. Let people get to know us and see the warmth of our members. That welcoming spirit can't help but make us grow.

And most of all — I want APW to feel like you. Each of our members are dynamic and creative. We as a group manifest that same spirit. My hope is that the warm flames by the fire and the cool drink of being around like-minded people will draw people to join us.

This is my vision for this year.

Tell me what you want it to be.

I will be listening.

— *Kathleen*

*kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org*

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## **Calling All Speakers and Teachers**

*Help us build a speaker and instructor database for APW*

We know Arizona Professional Writers is full of talented people — and a lot of you do more than write. Some of you teach workshops. Some of you speak at conferences, libraries, schools, and community events. Some of you have been doing it for years and just never thought to mention it.

We'd like to change that.

We're building a speaker and instructor database — a resource we can share with organizations, event planners, schools, and groups who are looking for

knowledgeable, experienced speakers and teachers. If you've ever (led a class,) given a talk, run a panel, or taught a workshop on anything related to writing, publishing, communications, or the creative life, we want to know about it.

Here's what we need from you: a short bio, less than 100 words, how you'd like to be

contacted, a photo, and a brief description of the topics you're available to speak on or teach.

That's it. Nothing fancy. Just enough so when someone asks, "Do you know anyone who can talk about self-publishing?" or "We need a workshop presenter for our writers' group," we can point them straight to you.

Send your information to [\*\*Author.Winskye@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:Author.Winskye@gmail.com) and we'll take it from there.

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### **Help Us Tell Our Story**

*We're building a membership handout — and we want your input*

We're putting together a brochure for potential members, we can take to events, leave at libraries, and share at book fairs.

It sounds simple until you sit down to write it. We want it to be clear, welcoming, and honest about what APW offers. Not a sales pitch. Not a wall of text. Just a good, solid explanation of who we are and why someone might want to join us.

And that's where you come in. If there's something you think should

absolutely be on that handout — something that would have mattered to you when you were deciding whether to join, or something you wish more people knew about this organization — we want to hear it.

What made you join? What keeps you here? What would you tell a stranger at a book fair who asked, “What is this group, anyway?”

Send your thoughts, suggestions, or even a rough draft to [Kathleen@kathleen-osborne.com](mailto:Kathleen@kathleen-osborne.com). There are no wrong answers here. If it matters to you, it probably matters to someone else, too.

Send your ideas to [Kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:Kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org)

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## **NFPW 2026 Conference Announcement**

*Ink, Influence, Innovation: Communicating at 250*

The National Federation of Press Women (NFPW) has announced its 2026 Communications Conference, themed “Ink, Influence, Innovation: Communicating at 250.” The conference will take place September 24–26 at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, Maryland.

As the nation prepares to mark 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, this conference will explore the enduring power of words and the future of media. In a historic first, Maryland will host the NFPW national conference for the first time in the organization’s 89-year history.

Founded in 1937, NFPW is a nonprofit supporting communications professionals and students across journalism, public relations, marketing, photography, design, and digital media. The conference is open to members

and non-members alike.

The conference will feature speakers and panels on artificial intelligence and emerging digital business models, journalists transitioning to long-form and creative writing, and online safety and advocacy in an evolving media landscape.

For registration details and hotel information, visit NFPW's official conference page at [nfpw.org](http://nfpw.org).

Learn more and register at [nfpw.org](http://nfpw.org)

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**Please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues.**

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**Payson Book Festival**

**July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**To the public the cost is..... FREE!**

**It starts at 9 am and ends at 230pm.**

**Located at the Mazatzal Casino Event Center**

**Payson Book Festival is Sold Out.**

**No vendor spots available.**

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**WHITE MOUNTAINS CHAPTER APW**

**Writers' Conference**

**830am – 330pm July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

**Arts Alliance of the White Mountains**

**250 N Penrod, Show Low AZ 85901**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**

**James A Owen**

**Three Top Speakers:**

**Eva Eldridge, Jacque Hillman, Beth A Freely**

**Registration still Open**

**[www. Wmfestivalbooks.org](http://www.Wmfestivalbooks.org)**

**Information : [Info@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:Info@whitemountainsofapw.org)**

**Or [kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org)**

**White Mountains Festival of Books**

**9 am to 3 pm August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

**Elks Lodge, 805 Whipple St, Show Low 85901**

**Registration Open**

**Information : [Info@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:Info@whitemountainsofapw.org)**

Or [kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org)

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**White Mountains Writer's Contest**

**Closed.**

**Winners Announced at the Writers Conference**

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**Speaker at White Mountains Open Meeting**

**Jacque Hillman**

**Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm local**

**Zoom meeting contact**

**[kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org)**

**for more information.**

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**Share Your Word – Open Mic Night**

**Friday, 5-7 pm, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Art Alliance of the White Mountains**

**250 N Penrod, Show Low AZ 85901**

**\$10 donations requested to cover expenses.**

**For more information contact**

**[Kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:Kathleen@whitemountainsofapw.org)**

**Or [info@whitemountainsofapw.org](mailto:info@whitemountainsofapw.org)**

**Please feel free to share this newsletter with your  
friends and colleagues.**