

# Whatcom Writers & Publishers

May 2012

[www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org](http://www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org)



## ***Meeting Place: Windows on the Bay***

2625 S. Harbor Loop (Bellingham Yacht Club Building)

Wednesday, May 16 ~ 6:00 p.m.

This is a dinner meeting and reservations are required

### **NEW WAY TO PAY: RSVP and Pay by Credit Card thru PayPal**

(see [www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org](http://www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org) for instructions—  
move to bottom of page—click on Reservation box)

**Dinner: \$16.00 (Includes tax & gratuity)**

For more info, contact Carolyn at: 714-8901 or [cdleeper@hotmail.com](mailto:cdleeper@hotmail.com)

#### **Buffet Menu:**

A choice of 3-burgers: Hamburger, Salmon Patty, or Veggie Burger, with all the fixings

Mixed Green Salad — Fresh Cut Seasonal Fruit

Homestyle Baked Beans Seasoned with Bacon — or Pasta Primavera

Assorted Home-style Cookies and Dark Chocolate Dipped Macaroons

## **Panel: "Design: Book, Web, and Promotion."**

### **Keith Turley, Rod Burton, Kate Weisel**

A panel of design experts will talk about book design and how to make your front cover stand out. They will also talk about web design, as well as design of promotional materials.

If you have a design project in the works, then bring it to the meeting. Our experts will comment on it free of charge. One item per person. First reserved, first served, until the hour is up. When reserving, say to Carolyn Leeper, put me down for the "design review."

Burton is a graphic designer and illustrator who creates publications and other print media materials. He has designed the covers of *Whatcom Places* and *Whatcom Places II*, as well as cover and interior designs for many works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. [www.rcburton.com](http://www.rcburton.com).

Keith Turley owns Imagine Design Studio with his wife Lori. They design, develop, and build websites. They also offer graphic design services, social media, and other services to assist small businesses. [www.imagineds.com](http://www.imagineds.com).

Kate Weisel offers typesetting, design, and prepress production on books, book covers, and ebooks - from 1 to 1000s of pages. She also does magazines, newspapers, and marketing materials. (She produces the Fairhaven Guide.) She also designs and builds websites with built-in SEO (search engine optimization). [www.weiselcreative.com](http://www.weiselcreative.com).

\*\*\* This is a dinner event and reservations are required. \*\*\*

Contact Carolyn Leeper: 714-8901 or [cdleeper@hotmail.com](mailto:cdleeper@hotmail.com)

[www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org](http://www.whatcomwritersandpublishers.org)

***Whatcom Writers and Publishers***

*serves the local writing and literary community in Bellingham, Washington, and the surrounding area. WWP is professional association of writers, freelance professionals, book authors, self-publishers, publishers, editors, proofreaders, book designers, booksellers, web designers, and others, all of whom are dedicated to promoting the written word, whether through fiction, nonfiction, or poetry.*

**Whatcom Writers and Publishers**

Fred Su: President  
Pam Beason: Membership Chair  
Carol Schultz: Treasurer  
Kathy Brown: Publicity  
Amanda Hagarty: Webmaster  
Carolyn Leeper: Newsletter Editor  
(submit items to: cdleeper@hotmail.com)

**Calendar**

June 20 — Lyssa Browne,  
Cedar House Audio, on "Audio Books."  
September 19 —  
October 17 —  
November 14 —  
December — No Meeting —

**2012 Membership Dues! \$25.00**

You can pay the dues at the meeting or mail your check to:  
Whatcom Writers and Publishers, P.O. Box 2342, Bellingham, WA 98227.

**WWP Membership Form:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe your writing interests and activities: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# President's Message

*One of the biggest hurdles self-publishers hit is that wall called "Marketing."*

Though you may have written the greatest book in the world, no one outside of family and friends will hear of it without proper and, most likely expensive, marketing. The first step in marketing (unknown to most neophytes) is book design, especially the front cover. Most prospective readers will spend 5 seconds or less looking at a front cover. Will your cover announce "Pick me up!" and thus get that prospective buyer to look at the back cover blurb and thumb through your book?

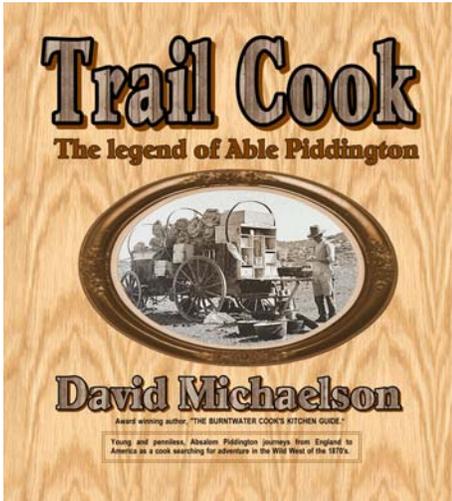
Come hear our panel of design experts, Rod Burton, Keith Turley, and Kate Weisel, talk about book design and how to make your cover stand out. They will also talk about web design, as well as design of promotional materials.

Working on a design project for your book? Need a critique? For instance, I've designed a poster for my novel, *An American Sin*. I think it's pretty good, but I want to get a professional opinion. Bring your project for a free critique. When you make your dinner reservation, also announce to Carolyn Leeper, that you would like to participate in the "design review." First reserved, first served, as time allows.

Rod Burton has designed several book covers for Ken Morrow, former WWP member, who wrote *A Boyhood in Nelson*. Kate Weisel has formatted many WWP members' books, including doing the front and back covers of my novel, *An American Sin*. And, I like Keith's designs, using that frog, when he ran ads in the WWP newsletter.

Now, for some business. Sandra Lucke has agreed to step into the Events Coordinator (Speaker Seeker) position to line up speakers for future WWP events. Amanda Hagarty has volunteered to run (and upgrade!) the WWP website. Thanks to these two new volunteers, who provide new blood and energy to keep WWP a viable organization!

*Fred Su*



## Dave Michaelson's Books

See SHORT SYNOPSIS on next page

**THE**  
**Burntwater Cook's**

for the overworked,  
the overwhelmed  
and the inept

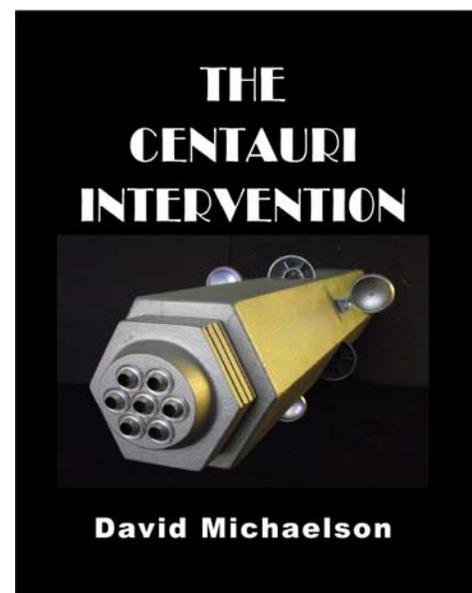
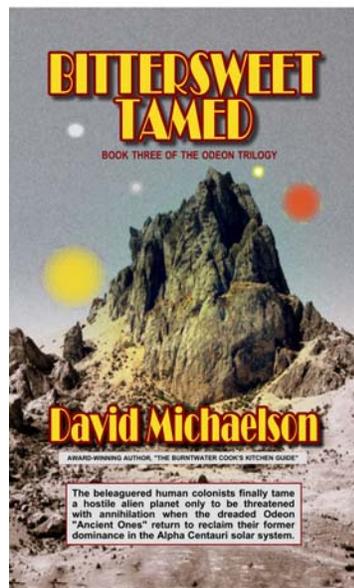
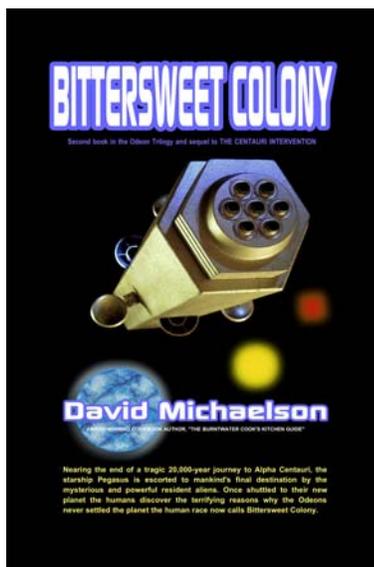
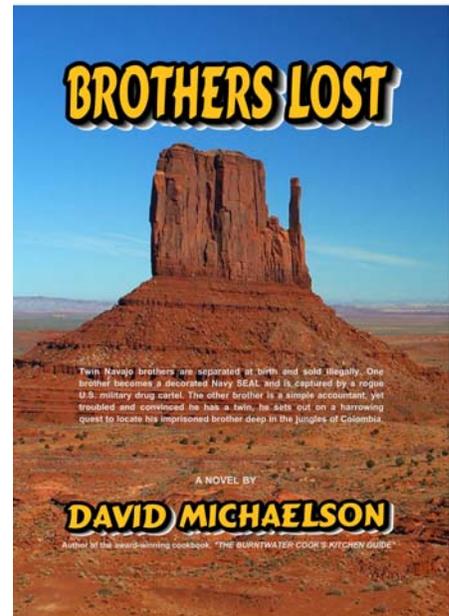
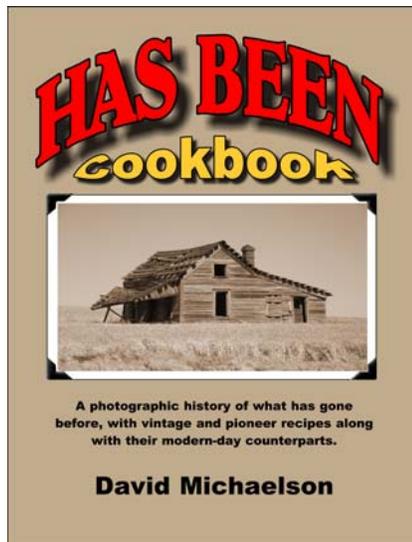
**Kitchen Guide**

"At last, a cookbook for the rest of us"

super easy every day recipes  
that will surprise the most  
experienced culinarian

"Just what the working person needs"  
"Why didn't I think of that?"  
"It was easy, I already had all the fixin's"  
"My husband loved the dinner"  
"This book stays on my counter!"

**David Michaelson**



## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

### **David Michaelson's Books**

#### **RAPSCALLION SUMMER**

A humorous romp through the author's 12<sup>th</sup> summer in 1955. David had the distinction of being the first kid kicked out of Disneyland.

#### **THE CENTAURI INTERVENTION**

First book of the Odeon Trilogy. The story of life aboard the starship PEGASUS as it nears the end of a 20,000-year journey to Alpha Centauri.

#### **BITTERSWEET COLONY**

Second book of the Odeon Trilogy. The tragedies and triumphs of the first humans to settle the planet they call "Bittersweet."

#### **BITTERSWEET TAMED**

Third book of the Odeon Trilogy (due out in May, 2012). The intrepid pioneers finally tame the planet Bittersweet only to be threatened with annihilation by the returning Odeon Ancient Ones.

#### **THE BURNTWATER COOK'S KITCHEN GUIDE**

A cookbook and kitchen guide for the overworked, the overwhelmed and the inept. (Silver Medal winner, 2010)

#### **The HAS BEEN Cookbook**

A photographic history of what has gone before, with pioneer recipes and their modern day counterparts.

#### **BROTHERS LOST**

The story of identical twins sold illegally at birth and their struggle to find each other, their birth mother and their Navajo heritage. This book is dedicated to the Navy Seals that lost their lives in Afghanistan.

#### **TRAIL COOK (due out Autumn of 2012)**

The story of a penniless young Englishman and his adventures while crossing the Atlantic and realizing his dream of visiting the Wild West in 1874 as part of a wagon train.

# Artists' Residency

## Why Not Apply for an Artists' Residency

**Artist-in-residence programs** have been part of the international art world for over a century. Some residency programs cover all costs, some offer stipends, others don't cover any costs at all, still others provide lodging but require that you pay rent. In all cases, you're required to apply. Documents may include a curriculum vitae, references, and a project statement or proposal. Participation is planned well in advance, often six months to two years.

**I've participated in three residencies** as a writer. The first one, **The Montana Artists' Refuge**, in Basin, MT, was for the month of September, 2005. I didn't have a place to live for a month. I contacted them a month in advance, and they had an opening—a one-bedroom apartment in an historic building, for which I paid \$250. (Note: This residency program no longer exists.) I enjoyed interacting with the two other residents and the townspeople. We participated in a fun artwalk/evening in Butte, MT, and interacted with local artists. One of the other artists told me about **Jentel Foundation for the Arts**.

**I applied to Jentel** in January 2006, and was accepted for the period April 15 – May 13, 2007. Jentel is located on a working cattle ranch near Banner, WY. The closest town of any size is Sheridan, WY. While each of the six residents (two writers; four visual artists) paid our own way to/from the residency, we received a stipend of \$100 a week. We were taken to Sheridan once a week to buy groceries, which we cooked cooperatively in a lovely kitchen. Our private bedrooms were suitable for visiting royalty, and the common area featured soaring windows facing the Bighorn Mountains. Separate studios were provided. Besides the time to focus on a project for the month (I wrote 20,000 words on my second memoir), I thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the other residents in the evenings. Some of us are still in touch. We had bicycles to ride, and over 1000 acres to roam. More information on this incredible place can be found at [www.jentelarts.org](http://www.jentelarts.org). During this residency, we visited back and forth with artists from nearby **Ucross Artists Residency**, on another working cattle ranch. The link to Ucross is [www.ucrossfoundation.org](http://www.ucrossfoundation.org).

(Continued next page)

**(Continued)**

## **Artists' Residency**

### **Why Not Apply for an Artists' Residency**

**Because I'd been a resident** at Jentel, I received an invitation to apply for a new program in southern Wyoming, **The Brush Creek Ranch Foundation for the Arts** near Saratoga. I was accepted for a two-week residency for April 3-17, 2012, although in the future most residencies will be for a month. The residency program is separate from the guest ranch and spa, all this working cattle ranch of 13,000 acres. The website with information is [www.brushcreekarts.org](http://www.brushcreekarts.org).

**Residents pay** their travel expenses to/from the ranch (or the Laramie airport), but there are no other charges. Meals are provided. There are eight residents at a time. The residents during my stay included composers, visual artists, and writers. Again, interacting with the other residents was stimulating and enjoyable.

**Lodging and studios** were furnished with upscale ranch décor and were totally comfortable. One day we were treated to a guided horseback ride.

**Another residency**, where I visited a friend one time, is the **Wurlitzer Foundation for the Arts** in Taos, NM. There three-month residencies are free for eleven artists at a time. The individual casitas are furnished, and you sleep and work in the same unit. You purchase and prepare your own meals. I'd apply for this situation except that pets are not allowed, and I don't want to leave my dog for that long. That link is: [www.wurlitzerfoundation.org](http://www.wurlitzerfoundation.org).

**If you're interested** in a retreat where you can focus on your writing (or other creative discipline), I highly recommend applying for a residency (or maybe several, to increase your chances). There are hundreds of opportunities worldwide. A simple search online will turn up several links, probably even blog posts and facebook entries by various residents, but one umbrella organization to check out is [www.artisticcommunities.org/residencies/directory](http://www.artisticcommunities.org/residencies/directory).

**There is competition** for these situations, of course, but if you demonstrate that you're earnestly working on a project and can fulfill the application requirements, you have as good a chance as anyone.

#### **Note: Rae Ellen invites everyone to her**

author event at Village Books on Tues.,

June 5 at 7:00 p.m. Her memoir

**MY NEXT HUSBAND WILL BE NORMAL - A St. John Adventure**

will be featured, and will include a slide show

about St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, the setting for memoir.

More info can be found on her website <http://raeellenlee.com>

# Stone Soup

## Miki Gilliland

### Creating Credible Characters

*One of the best things a writer can do is to read a favorite book twice: the first time for enjoyment and content, the second time for technique.*

If an author is not a purist, he can write in the book margins.

*Maude Binchy must have done this when she read Great Expectations. Her favorite character is Joe Gargery because he was so decent and real. “He was humble. You think you know him. He made me want to cry,” Binchy said. Ken Follet said James Bond changed his life because “Bond knew all that intrigued me—cars, cocktails, guns and girls.”*

*Characters generally include a protagonist, a scoundrel and some cohorts in every story. Almost every story has a love interest, no matter what the genre. Characters come from the writer's fantasies and are made to fit the authors standards.*

*The actions the writer gives his characters should first be informative. One author makes a detailed outline for each character in a spiral notebook. This writer gives each character a birthday, birthplace, physical description, likes, dislikes, what the character hopes to gain, what he wants, how he is stopped. The character talks in the story not just to advance the plot, but also to create a persona as well as expose his deeper self. There should be both tension between thought and behavior. The character's thoughts can gain a reader's empathy, make the reader feel emotion toward that character.*

*Some writers find a person in real life so interesting that they want to get that person on paper. Unless it's a biography, resist this temptation. Use part of a given person, but combine that person's traits with other behavior of a different person or to be really safe, think of three similar persons, each who seem to be cut from the same cloth. One writer changes the sex of a real life person to avoid recognition. Aunt Louise becomes Uncle Hester without the feminine side of Louise, but still has Louise's annoying habits.*

*Writers keep diaries in their associative minds. One event recalls another. Events become distorted over time, so when turning a real incident into fiction, a writer doesn't have to stick to what really happened. Two events that happened years apart may fit together in the story and that embellished, becomes fiction. The aim is to make the story believable.*

*Minor characters make a cameo appearance, but they are extremely important or they don't belong in the narrative. Minor characters must be very strong, never flat, yet memorable. They can be recognizable for a variety of reasons, either a trait or a physical appearance.*

*Characters must change from the opening page to the last or there's nothing to be gained. Characters must care about something that is important to them, significant or trivial. Readers can like or detest the characters, but readers can never be bored by a character. It's the writers job to create characters that make the reader turn pages to the very end.*

# Events / Conferences / Contests

## “Authors & Artists Afternoon”

In the Sudden Valley Dance Barn — Sudden Valley, Gate 2

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 5 — 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

Special Children’s Activity Hour from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Valley Arts Group will display paintings, photography, and other art object.

Authors from around Whatcom County will display and sell their books:

*Gaye Leigh Green, Rosanna Porter,*

*Emmalee Chloe Parham, Carol Cline Schultz*

*Robert Lopresti, Alma Alexander, J. L. Oakley,*

*Pamela Beason, Sandra Bowens, Susan Colleen Browne,*

*Richard Lee Harris. W. David Jones, MD, Jennifer Muller,*

*Nanette J. Davis, Ph.D., Calvin Hanson and Muriel Hanson,*

*Sue Parsons, Heidi Thomas, Tim McHugh, Rae Ellen Lee,*

*Peggy Sullivan, C.J. Prince, Dan Baharav, and Carolyn Leeper*

Event is sponsored by Sudden Valley Friends of the Library.

Refreshments — Raffle — Free Admission

Contact Carolyn Leeper, 714-8901 or [cdleeper@hotmail.com](mailto:cdleeper@hotmail.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

## Write on the River

Wenatchee, May 19 & 20

Register by May 8 to avoid late registration fee

Twelve Workshops, award winning authors and fuel to keep your writing fire alive. On the banks of the mighty Columbia,

Keep the words flowing . . . [www.writeontheriver.org](http://www.writeontheriver.org)

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## Chuckanut Writers Conference

Whatcom Community College, Bellingham

Friday and Saturday, June 22 & 23

[www.chuckanutwritersconference.com](http://www.chuckanutwritersconference.com)

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# Chanticleer Book Reviews

*Traditional Book Reviews for Today's Book Publishing*



## **Special Pricing just for Members of WhatcomWriters and Publishers**

*~Published Novels Contest Entries~*

*~Professional Book Reviews ~*

*~Manuscript Reviews~*

**for a limited time only!**

*Take advantage of CBR's Beta Release with special pricing  
for WWP Members*

WWP CBR Contest Entry Fee: \$ 20 (after May 8, WWP \$35, non-members \$ 40)

WWP Professional Book Review: \$ 95 for 250 - 350 words

WWP Manuscript Editorial Review: \$145 for 350 - 450 words

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## **Chanticleer Book Reviews**

### ***Blue Ribbon Contest 2012***

***Published Novels: 2012, 2011, 2010, & 2009***

Official Entry Deadline for Published Novels:  
June 15, 2012 midnight

*~ Six Categories ~*

- Mainstream • Cozy (any genre) • Young Adult,*
  - Mystery/Thriller • Contemporary • Historical*
- Professionally judged. Score sheets used.*

Winners will be announced at the July's PNWA, RWA, & other conferences,  
in press releases, publications, and social media sites.

Finalists will be awarded prizes and promotional packages.

**www.ChantiReviews.com**

FMI: Contact: Kathryn Brown at kbrown@ChantiReviews.com or call 970.218.9628

# Announcements

## **Lorraine Wilde**

is among 32 parent-writers and 25 experts featured in the anthology, *Easy to Love But Hard to Raise: Real Parents, Challenging Kids, True Stories*. This collection shares essays by parents of children with ADD, ADHD, OCD, PDD, ASDs, SPD, PBD and/or other alphabet soup diagnoses that takes the already difficult job of parenting and adds to the challenge. Available now through Amazon and from the publisher DRT Press (Feb. 2012). Lorraine will host a reading at Parent to Parent of Whatcom County/Whatcom Center for Early Learning in Bellingham on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 – 4 PM.

## **Selah J Tay-Song**

I have a new short story up on my website: [www.deasofqaimaj.com](http://www.deasofqaimaj.com). The latest one is called “Kinyara.” All the stories on the site are teasers for my upcoming fantasy novel, “Dream of a Vast Blue Cavern,” to be self published this coming fall. I release one new short story every month.

## **Naida Grunden**

Just got back from Las Vegas where my co-author, Charles Hagood, and I launched our new book, *Lean-Led Hospital Design: Creating the Efficient Hospital of the Future* before an audience of 500 people. The journal Modern Healthcare covered it on this video. [www.modernhealthcare.com/section/LivesHBS](http://www.modernhealthcare.com/section/LivesHBS)  
Author Gwendolyn Galsworth interviewed me for her podcast on Voice of America: <http://www.voiceamerica.com/episode/61156/lean-led-hospital-design-naida-grunden>  
If anyone wants to view the book's web page, it is at: [www.leanleddesign.com](http://www.leanleddesign.com)  
Naida Grunden, LLC [www.naidagrunden.com](http://www.naidagrunden.com)

## **JoAnn Roe**

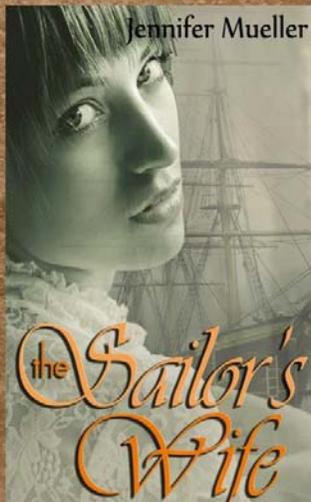
JoAnn Roe reports that sales of her book on the San Juans released just before Christmas by Caxton Publr. are brisk!

## **Diane Wood**

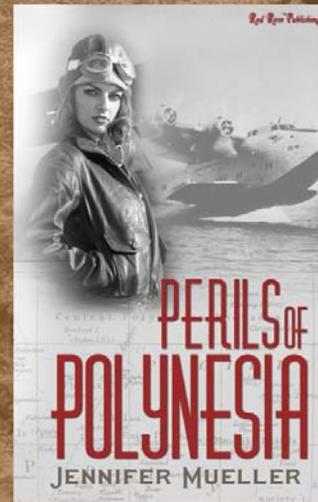
Our new, fiction Writers Group meets at Village Books upstairs in the open room next to Book Fare. It's on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month from 6-8 pm. We just had our first meeting and are open to new members. All levels of writers are invited.

# Announcements

## Just Released



Out now at  
Kindle and in  
multiple  
ebook formats



When a man washes ashore Tanley's whole life is turned upside down in this regency tale.

With the world on the edge of war a crash landing could be the least of their worries.

More info at [www.jennifermuellerbooks.com](http://www.jennifermuellerbooks.com)

*Dawn-Marie  
Hanrahan*



*Lisa Nichols*



# UNBREAKABLE SPIRIT

*Rising Above the Impossible*

#1 BEST  
SELLER



LISA NICHOLS

with **Dawn-Marie Hanrahan**  
& 38 Ambassadors of Fortitude

## YOU ARE INVITED

**FERNDALÉ PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
2007 Cherry Street  
Ferndale, Washington

Contact: Sarah Koehler  
Phone: 360-384-3647

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

Saturday, May 19, 2012  
2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

<http://5starlifequests.com/5-star-events/>

**#1 bestselling, local author DAWN-MARIE HANRAHAN will be discussing "Unbreakable Spirit: Rising Above the Impossible." Inspiring true stories of overcoming life's challenges and attaining victory! Co-authored with world renowned Lisa Nichols, this anthology of 40 authors illustrates the unbreakable, unshakable power of the human spirit! Don't miss this event!**

# **Book Review of The Embers of Heaven by Alma Alexander**

## **Epic By S. Smith**

Alma Alexander's *The Embers of Heaven* is incredible. While it is technically fantasy, it reads like a historical novel. *The Embers of Heaven* is set in fictional Syai - hundreds of years after her fictional Jin-Shei sisters lived in Imperial Syai in "*The Secrets of Jin-Shei*." Syai is a country based on China, and, in "*The Embers of Heaven*," is facing the Cultural Revolution.

Alexander blends historical narrative with epic storytelling. The first novel of hers I read was "*The Secrets of Jin-Shei*." In it, I was blown away by the depth and power of the story. *Embers of Heaven* had the same effect. Alma Alexander is wonderful at transporting readers across time and place, to feel and see and fear and love as her characters do. It is rare to find an author who can do that. She is particularly good at invoking emotions in her readers. Few books have made me bawl. This is one. Or made me want to put down the book rather than read what will follow.

I love the way this book dealt with the Chinese communist revolution -she brings history to life, even when writing fantasy, better than many historical writers. Her attention to Iloh (the fictional Chairman Mao) is particularly well-done. As with *Jin-Shei*, Alma Alexander gives special focus to deep friendships between women. Whether these friendships are realistic (I would love for them to be so), I don't know - but I love female-centric novels.

Alma Alexander is one of my favorite authors. The only difficulty I found in her writing was that sometimes she'd write very long about parts of the story I wasn't interested in following - dreams, of memories, or suchlike. I'd skim and skip and then reread them later. Probably my own impatience in reading, though, not her writing style."

[http://www.amazon.com/Embers-of-Heaven-ebook/dp/B007MJI4VE/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1335141155&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Embers-of-Heaven-ebook/dp/B007MJI4VE/ref=sr_1_1?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1335141155&sr=1-1)

# Poetry

## Richard Lee Harris



***Frank Tom***  
**Circa 1875-1949**  
**Native American ferryman**  
**on Skagit River, Rockport WA**  
**circa 1915-1945**

When I was a child crossing the Skagit River on the Rockport ferry in the back seat of my parents' 1929 REO *Flying Cloud*, or huddled with my brother and sister under an old quilt behind the cab of our 1927 Chevy flatbed truck, Frank Tom was "our ferry man."

As I grew older and crossed the river to school, to go "over town" for the mail, or play in the school gym, he was the omnipresent ferryman who safely got me there and back. Since leaving the valley, Frank has become, for me, more than "the Indian" who operated Rockport ferry during the years I lived on the south side of the river. He has become the personification of transportation on the Upper Skagit River before high dams controlled floodwater, or ferries mechanized and eventually replaced by bridges.

### The Ferryman

Stout and strong, a man of few words,  
he waves a log truck on, holds another back.  
He knows when the ferry is loaded  
for a river running high, a river running low.

Hand-over-hand, he turns a windlass,  
winching bridle cable shackled to line  
sweeping upward to a travelling carriage  
riding a skyline between spar-trees on either shore.

He anchors the windlass, hurries to the  
bankside apron arm, climbs onto its  
counterbalance, grips the top rail,  
forcing his weight downward, leveraging  
the fulcrum lifting the apron. He kicks  
a bail over the end, secures it to the deck,  
scans the current for swirling debris.

In a bracing stance at the ferry's stern,  
he drives his pike into the gravelly  
shallows, pushing out from the calm  
of a log boom lea into ricocheting current.

Overhead, the carriage rattles,  
jerking forward with each roll of  
the current. The skyline vibrates, sings  
as spar-tree guys shimmy and strain.

The ferryman unchains the windlass,  
presses hard on the brake pedal,  
slowly unspools the cable, widening  
the vessel's angle, reducing its speed.

# Poetry

## Purple Vetch and White Daisies

A narrow trail winds seductively through the shrubs,  
Hidden from the wide road just beyond the fence.  
Nootka roses poke their ragged thorns through rails.  
In the woods, the warm sun fades into filtered light  
Playing upon a stage of moss-covered fallen logs,  
Ferns, the underlings at their feet.  
The aromatic scent of lemon balm wafts through the air  
Elusive,  
As I search along the path's edge.  
We turn sideways, my granddaughter and I,  
Greeting hikers walking the trail's steep slopes.  
Purple foxgloves, blushing, nod in the light breeze  
While small birds weave through the quivering leaves.  
The path opens to sunlight  
Flooding a wide meadow.  
Melting pots of golden gorse hide suburban houses.  
Grasses of mixed colors stand tall around our knees:  
Purple vetch and white daisies dance in the glow.

— Jane Vawter —

# Poetry

*Note to readers: I was an invited guest to the annual Phrasings for Word and Dance 4/27 to write an impromptu poem while watching a 3 minute dance performance. It's a collaboration between the Chuckanut Sandstone Writer's Theater and Bellingham Repertory Dance Company. The poem was finished in 3 minutes and copies onto a large paper and displayed by intermission for audience members to read. Here is the poem.*

## Poem to Dance, untitled

Petals clang metallic.  
Don't walk past me.  
We walk our own walk—

Never pause at the  
moment, moments

No circle here,  
we write lines with our feet.

Hands will not undo  
how I can lift you up  
Up,  
Lift you up, up  
Lift you up.

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# Member's Websites & Blogs

**Alma Alexander:** [www.AlmaAlexander.com](http://www.AlmaAlexander.com)  
Blog: [www.anghara.livejournal.com](http://www.anghara.livejournal.com)  
[www.heritageofclan.wordpress.com](http://www.heritageofclan.wordpress.com)  
**Wendy Alex:** [www.indexpert.com](http://www.indexpert.com)  
**Pamela Beason:** [www.pbeditorial.com](http://www.pbeditorial.com)  
[www.pamelasbeason.com](http://www.pamelasbeason.com)  
**Janey Bennett:** [www.palesurfaceofthings.com](http://www.palesurfaceofthings.com)  
[www.janeybennet.com](http://www.janeybennet.com)  
**Dina Berry:** [www.dinaberry.com](http://www.dinaberry.com)  
**Sandra Bowens:** [www.apinchof.com](http://www.apinchof.com)  
**Susan Colleen Browne:**  
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[www.littlefarminthefoothills.com](http://www.littlefarminthefoothills.com)  
[www.littlefarminthefoothills.blogspot.com](http://www.littlefarminthefoothills.blogspot.com)  
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**Barbara Gilday:** [www.BarbaraGilday.com](http://www.BarbaraGilday.com)  
[www.ghanatogether.com](http://www.ghanatogether.com)  
**Lawrence Goolsby:** [www.thebuttonboy.com](http://www.thebuttonboy.com)  
**Taimi Gorman:** [www.gormanpublicity.com](http://www.gormanpublicity.com)  
**Richard "Dick" Harris:**  
[www.richardleeharris.net](http://www.richardleeharris.net)  
<http://blog.richardleeharris.net>  
**David Jones:** [www.bigrivermeadows.com](http://www.bigrivermeadows.com)  
**Judy Kleinberg:**  
<http://chocolateisaverb.wordpress.com/>

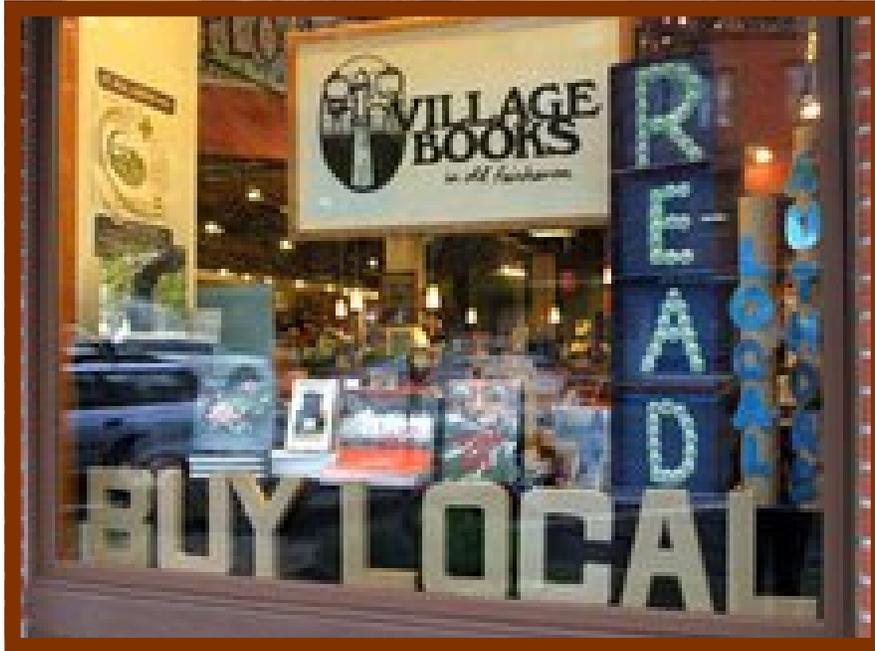
**Rae Ellen Lee:** [www.raellenlee.com](http://www.raellenlee.com)  
**Carolyn Leeper:** [www.cdleeper.com](http://www.cdleeper.com)  
**Jack McKee:** [www.woodshop4kids.com](http://www.woodshop4kids.com)  
**Dave Michaelson:** [www.enjaypublishing.com](http://www.enjaypublishing.com)  
**Mary Michaelson:** [ww.travelinlight.weebly.com](http://ww.travelinlight.weebly.com)  
[www.auntphoesbescorner.blogspot.com](http://www.auntphoesbescorner.blogspot.com)  
**Dorothy Morrow:** [www.TheGiftofRoots.com](http://www.TheGiftofRoots.com)  
**Jennifer Mueller:** [www.jennifermuellerbooks.com](http://www.jennifermuellerbooks.com)  
**Janet Oakley:** [www.historyweaver.wordpress.com](http://www.historyweaver.wordpress.com)  
**Curt Remington:** [www.curtremington.com](http://www.curtremington.com)  
**Chuck Robinson:** [www.villagebooks.com](http://www.villagebooks.com)  
[www.facebook.com/villagebooks](http://www.facebook.com/villagebooks)  
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**Sara Stamey:** [www.SaraStamey.com](http://www.SaraStamey.com)  
[www.BookProsNW.com](http://www.BookProsNW.com)  
**Mary B. Stanton:** [www.siamwasourhome.com](http://www.siamwasourhome.com)  
**Fred Su:** [www.bytewrite.com](http://www.bytewrite.com)  
[www.stepbystepvolvo.com](http://www.stepbystepvolvo.com)  
**Peggy Sullivan:** [www.love-prescription.com](http://www.love-prescription.com)  
**Heidi M. Thomas:** [www.heidimthomas.com](http://www.heidimthomas.com)  
**Keith Turley:** [www.imagineds.com](http://www.imagineds.com)  
**Jerry Watson:** [www.JerryLWatson.wordpress.com](http://www.JerryLWatson.wordpress.com)  
**Kate Weisel:** [www.weiselcreative.com](http://www.weiselcreative.com)  
**Lorraine Wilde:** [www.lorrainewilde.com](http://www.lorrainewilde.com)  
**Susan Witter:** [www.mysoundideas.us](http://www.mysoundideas.us)

## Member Favorites:

**Deck Deckert:** [GoodReads.com](http://GoodReads.com), [LibraryThing.com](http://LibraryThing.com), [RedRoom.com](http://RedRoom.com), [SheWrites.com](http://SheWrites.com),  
[WorldofBooks.com](http://WorldofBooks.com), [Bookazine.com](http://Bookazine.com), [Bookarmy.com](http://Bookarmy.com), [BookGlutton.com](http://BookGlutton.com), [BookBuzzr.com](http://BookBuzzr.com)  
**Carolyn Leeper:** [www.poetry4kids.com](http://www.poetry4kids.com)  
**Carl Steiner:** <http://www.maxbarry.com>

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