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PWC Monthly Meetings

Phoenix Writers Club meets every 3rd Saturday of the month.

PWC HOLIDAY SALON:

Saturday, December 18 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

RSVP by December 10th to Jenny Bilskie-Smith at jenny12366577@gmail.com, call or text (602) 380-1236

PWC Holiday Salon

Saturday, December 18, 12:30—4:00

Joseph and Bernadette's home

2528 N 19th Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85009

Finger foods, desserts, tea, coffee, water, hot beverage packets provided. Otherwise, BYOB.

Have a book to sell? Good reads make great gifts.
Tables will be provided.

A Salon is an event to showcase your talents. Present your talent in five minutes or less: Song, Dance, Magic, your writings.

Please join us for a fun event-filled afternoon.

A Note from the PWC President



Happy Holidays



In this month of December of goodwill and cheer

I wish you all joy in the faiths you hold dear.

Lighting Hanukkah candles, spinning dreidels of
clay

May peace be upon you as you honor each day.

As you set your Nativity under the tree

May your hearts be blessed with joy, love and glee.

May the principles of Kwanzaa fill up your abode

As you honor your culture and follow that road.

However you celebrate and those who do not

May you smile at your neighbors in our large melting pot.

So send off your cheer in your writerly ways

I wish you much goodness for all of your days.

Look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Salon!

Cindi Reiss



Miss Out? Last Month's Meeting Minutes

PWC OCTOBER 2021 MEETING MINUTES

By Bernadette Inclan

Meeting

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Cindi Reiss at 12:36 p.m. with a welcome to all eighteen attendees.

- PWC has a new member, Bert Haagenstad. **Welcome !**
- Two guests attended, Nathan Slater and Lindsay Oliver. **Also, Welcome !**
- Cindi asked attendees to introduce themselves and to tell the group in the spirit of Thanksgiving what we were thankful for apart from the obvious, such as family.
 - ◇ Members expressed gratefulness for being published.
 - ◇ Brad launched his book *Boca by Moonlight*. You can find it on Amazon, and he plans to bring copies to the Holiday Salon.
 - ◇ One member expressed reestablishing a community of friends.
 - ◇ Another that speakers are so gracious when asked to talk to the group about their writing successes.
 - ◇ Several members are grateful for being able to write and for what PWC offers for them to enhance their writing skills.
 - ◇ Another reconnected with a friend after a 45-year absence of communication.
 - ◇ One member gave a picturesque waterfront view of his back yard in Kansas and commented on the cold weather there.
 - ◇ Several expressed being thankful for the vaccine, recent job changes, and of course, our furry pets.
 - ◇ And there's gratefulness for doctors that know how to put lenses in when you get cataracts and not having to cook a full Thanksgiving dinner.
- Cindi reminded members to send Social Media Coordinator Ilsa Manning an author's picture and a short bio for our website
- Sue Fulton said the Shut Up & Write group is accepting pieces from members until November 30th for their Inkwell Anthology. More information is available in last month's newsletter, plus you may contact Jenny or D'Anne for the requirements.

Board News

- Vice-President Jenny Bilskie-Smith asked members to RSVP for the Holiday Salon either in the chat or by email.
- Reminder that membership dues are due. Contact Navissa to send your renewal.

Newsletter

D'Anne Pientka oversees the newsletter. Consider submitting a picture and a short biography to azdanne@gmail.com for *The Member Spotlight* column, which allows members to showcase their writing life.



Meeting minutes, continued

September Speaker

Speaker Chair Susanne Brent introduced Allison Brennan, a New York Times bestselling author. She's written over 40 thrillers. You can preview her book series in order by accessing the link <https://www.allisonbrennan.com>.

She gave the group excellent advice on writing. She's a mother of five and discovered during a maternity leave that she needed more stimulation and read seventy-seven books. She had written over 100 books but never finished them. She says that if you want to write, you'll find the time. In her case, she gave up cleaning and TV. She also said to find the system that works for you and to stick to it. She has an agent, but she indicated that small presses don't care if you don't have an agent. She recommends that you research for an agent at <https://www.agentquery.com/>.

Ms. Brennan is not a fan of self-publishing. She initially wrote five books in two years. She said she wrote sloppy copies to get the story out. She recommends the book *Self Editing for Fiction Writers* to do self-editing. Ms. Brennan writes between 2000-3000 words a day and self-edits.

Ms. Brennan called herself a college drop-out who began writing as a child. She joined Romance Writers of America and the group was an inspiration for her to get on track. She recommended Stephen King's book *On Writing*. She told the group that once published she had to stick to her audience who didn't appreciate her moving to a different genre and recommends using a pseudonym if you do that.

Ms. Brennan also recommends that authors have a web page with basic information and is easy to navigate. She has a newsletter that she sends out quarterly. Maintain a social media with a Facebook page you post daily. Avoid controversial topics in your author's page.

Ms. Brennan said to set goals and reward yourself. Every time she finishes a book she rewards herself—she bought the whole season of Deadwood and binged watched the series. She writes three to five books every two years.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Member News

PWC Competition Reminder—Volunteers needed

Jenny is coordinating our PWC competition sponsored by long-time member, Uta Behrens, who enacted the rules for a book and a poetry piece. The book must be either published or ready to publish, at least 120 pages; the poem must be a rhyming poem of at least 20 lines. The prize is \$300 for the book and \$75 for the poem. **NOTE:** Submissions begin **Sept. 2022**. Jenny needs volunteers to judge the submissions. Contact Jenny at jenny12366577@gmail.com for information or to volunteer to judge books or poems.

Mark Walker

Here's a link to an article just published by "Literary Traveler" to mention in the member spotlight of our newsletter. I'm a contributing writer for Lit Traveler and this was my fourth article:

https://www.literarytraveler.com/articles/la-pulsera-the-bracelet/?fbclid=IwAR2wYYqErOvddRwmxz9N4qKC4b-HPW-5_QhPnJ9MGYf2d-uetjxl-g3gUeA

Member News, continued

Also, his essay, “Ramon & Moritz: A Partnership on a Black Coast” was a winner at the AZ Authors Association Literary competition and will be highlighted in the holiday edition of their newsletter. His column, “Million Mile Walker Review: What We’re Reading and Why” will also be included.

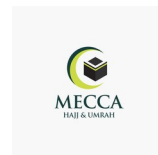
Bernadette Inclan

She’s pleased and proud to announce that her story “Time To Say Goodbye” has been published in the Inkslingers Anthology, published by her local writing group. Beginning November 8th , the eBook and paperback are available for purchase—and for two weeks, the eBook will be just 99 CENTS! Go to <https://westvalleywritersworkshop.weebly.com>

Check out Brad Graber’s publishing news in the meeting minutes. Congratulations.

Holiday Salon/Write On Writers (WOW)

The WOW group didn’t convene because the Board needed to finalize the menu for the Holiday Salon. Present were Cindi, Navissa, Jenny, Chris, and Bernadette. As of 11/22/2021, we have twenty-seven guests, five salon presenters, three book tables and a table for donations to Helen’s Hope Chest. The budget is \$300.



Bernadette made jeweled bookmarks during her Craft/Social Saturday and is donating them to sell for gifts with monies going to Helen’s Hope Chest.

We planned for thirty-five guests for the Holiday Salon. Food will be available from 12:30 – 1:30. The Salon will begin after 1:30.

Parking may be awkward: Joe will direct people where to park, either their lane or their neighbor’s.





PWC Contact Info

President	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Ex-officio President	Uta Behrens	602-441-3888
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Writers Critique Workshop	Bernadette Inclan	bsbincoin@aol.com
WOW! Coordinator	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Historian	TBD	

PWC Critique Workshop News

Bernadette Inclan, bsbincoin@aol.com, encourages members to join our PWC Critique Writing Group. We meet on Zoom every other Friday from 6-8 pm; next meeting is December 3. To run a successful workshop, the guidelines recommend to limit participants to between 4-5. Due to the current workshop's growth, we plan to start a second Zoom Room, same day and time. Submit any writing for critique and the group will give you gentle opinions, suggestions, and guidance. Any genre is accepted and it's primarily a fun time, as our success has shown.

Local Writing Activities

Book Writing & Publishing Masterclass -Passion2Published — Scottsdale

Sat, December 4, 2021, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM MST

“Learn The Book Publishing & Writing Blueprint to effectively write, publish and market your book that will help to be a published author”

by Sush Dutta - CEO : Global Book Publishing

It's Time to Write Your Book: 3-Week In-Person Workshop Series

Sat, Dec 4, 1:00 PM

Modern Allo • Chandler, AZ

Starts at \$300.00

Book Pre-Launch Success Masterclass: Get Paid To Publish — Phoenix

Tue, Dec 7, 5:00 PM

Online - Anywhere w/Fast Wifi and Sound, Phoenix • Phoenix, AZ

Free