

In this issue:

- Monthly Meeting Info
- This Month's Speaker
- A Note from the PWC President
- Miss Out? Last Month's Minutes
- PWC Critique Workshop News
- WOW and Other News
- What's Happening Around Town

PWC Monthly Meetings

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

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, June 18 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. via Zoom.

Members: No fee. Guests: Two meetings free, then membership required for further attendance.

RSVP to Navissa Kaiser at navissak@hotmail.com, call or text (480) 200-5191.

June Speaker

In June, we welcome Amber Royer!

Amber Royer writes the *Chocoverse* comic telenovela-style foodie-inspired space opera series, and the *Bean to Bar Mysteries*. She is also the author of *Story Like a Journalist: a Workbook for Novelists*, which boils down her writing knowledge into an actionable plan involving over 100 worksheets to build a comprehensive story plan for your novel. She also teaches creative writing and is an author coach.

Amber and her husband live in the DFW Area, where you can often find them hiking or taking landscape/architecture/wildlife photographs. If you are very nice to Amber, she might make you cupcakes. Chocolate cupcakes, of course!

Amber blogs about creative writing technique and all things chocolate at www.amberroyer.com.



Call for new Board Officer

We have a need for a new Vice President board officer. Next month, if the position is still open, we'll include a job description. If you or anyone you know might want to take on this role, please contact Cindi.

A Note from the PWC President



“Be shore of yourself. Come out of your shell. Take time to coast. Avoid pier pressure. Sea life’s beauty. Don’t get so tied down on work that you miss out on life’s beautiful waves.” – Advice from the Ocean

As a New Jerseyan, summer meant ‘going down the shore’. The pike lined up for hours as everyone heeded the call of the ocean, the boardwalk filled with cotton candy frosted faces, screams from the roller coaster, and guys trying to impress their dates with a giant teddy bear on games that doled out winners cautiously.

Summer in Phoenix means ‘freezing’ when you get out of the pool even though it’s 110 degrees, winding roads up to the lakes and pines to escape the dry heat, deals at the resorts for ‘staycations’ and battenning down for the monsoons.



As summer heats up, take some time to let your creativity with words shore you up! As writers we have such an impact with our words. Having fun with them is a surefire way to lollygag along the beach (if you’re lucky!) or desert. What better beach read is there than your own creativity. Play like a child, make sandcastles of your thoughts and let your imagination soar.

It is better to be a young June bug than an old bird of paradise. ~ Mark Twain

Write on,
Cindi Reiss

Member Spotlight

Unfortunately, D’Anne did not receive a member spotlight submission for the newsletter this month. If you’re interested, this is a nice opportunity to tell the other PWC members a little about yourself. You can send your spotlight to azdanne@gmail.com. Please include a photo of yourself.

Miss Out? May 2022 Meeting Minutes

By acting Secretary Pam Coulter

President Cindi Reiss called the Zoom meeting to order at 12:37.

There were sixteen participants, including guest, Kathleen Wilcox, in attendance. Cindi asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what MAY means to them. There were many who mentioned May poles, May baskets, Mother's Day, and gardens.

- Jenny Bilskie-Smith spoke about the upcoming Uta Behrens contests. The poetry contest deadline has been moved up to June 11th. This contest is to be a rhyming poem of at least 20 lines. The winner will receive a prize of \$75. She still needs one more judge. The second contest is for a book, published or ready for publishing. The book is to be non-fiction and should be at least 120 pages. The deadline for book entries is 9/16/22. The winner of this contest will receive \$300. All entries should be sent to Jenny, (jenny12366577@gmail.com). She still needs all the judges for this contest.
- The Critique Workgroup meeting days have changed to the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Reach out to Bernadette Inlan bsbincoin@aol.com if you would like to join this group.
- The WOW group will meet immediately after the main meeting.
- D'Anne Pientka, our illustrious Editor, azdanne@gmail.com, is always looking for writers to feature in the Stimulus Member Spotlight. She also wants news of any kind from our members to share.
- Sue Fulton told that the group Shut Up & Write! held a Book Launch Celebration: *Roots, Shoots, and Blooms: An Anthology* on Saturday May 7th, 2022. PWC members Jenny Bilskie-Smith, Mary Cornelius, Sue Fulton and Cindi Reiss were participants. To find out more about the book or order a copy in print or Kindle go to <https://tinyurl.com/5ffhjshz>
- For new guests wanting to join PWC, contact Navissa Kaiser at navissak@hotmail.com.
- Members can submit biographies and headshot photos for the PWC website to ilsamanningwrites@gmail.com

Guest Speaker

At this point, Susanne Brent introduced our speaker, **Jamie Figueroa**. Ms. Figueroa received her MFA in Creative Writing from The Institute of American Indian Arts, where she is now an assistant professor. She has won many awards, and will be speaking today about her debut novel, BROTHER, SISTER, MOTHER, EXPLORER.

She titled her talk, Writing and Relationships. She said we have a relationship with our writing, as our writing has a relationship with us. She began by reading a riveting portion of her book. Her word imagery has a poetic feel to it, capturing attention and interest, and evoking intense feeling. In a few paragraphs she completely fleshed out the 4 characters, and the setting.

After her editor told her she needed to hold the hands of her readers, she began ending her chapters with the setting speaking to the reader, to clarify the intent of the story. She said genres can inform your writing, but that they should not constrain you. She said, "Don't be afraid to use multiple genres, weaving them together."

The author had many artistic interests, but after working with Natalie Goldberg (Writing Down the Bones,) she began a relationship with her writing that eventually created a desire to share it with the world. She said truly connecting with your writing, translating bits and pieces into something that can affect others, is the goal.

Some exercises she suggested are; Describe your writing and how it relates to you, How do you listen more fully? How devoted are you to your writing? And how do you honor your writing?

The group found this speaker mesmerizing and had many questions for her.

At 2:05, Cindi adjourned the meeting.

Next month's speaker will be Amber Royer.

Write On Writers (WOW) News

You are always welcome to join us at our Write on Writers (WOW) group after the general meeting. This is a fun general meeting to ask questions about printing, finding an agent, and other questions that often arise with writers. Email Cindi Reiss at writeoncindi@gmail.com for more info.

PWC Critique Writing Group

Our critique workshop meets via Zoom every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month (a new change). The June workshops will be on June 10, 6-8 p.m. and June 24, 6-8 p.m. Email Bernadette Inclin at bsbincoin@aol.com for information.

Writing Tips & Tricks

When the editor (me) finds extra space in the newsletter, I'm going to add a mechanical tip or trick to writing that some of our members might find useful. For example, how many of you copy a url only to discover that it's really really long. Here's my tip:

Go to Tiny Url at <https://tinyurl.com/app/> . You can copy your long url and generate a user-friendly url to use. It's free. There are other similar apps; it's just that I've used this one for several years and find it reliable. Note, you do not need to register to use it.

If you have a tip or trick you'd like to share, please send it to me at azdanne@gmail.com.



PWC Contact Info

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Historian	TBD	

Local Writing Activities

Central Phoenix Writing Workshop – check their website—they have several workshops scheduled
https://www.meetup.com/CentralPhoenixWritingWorkshop/?_cookie-check=mzzcOalgDI-tuB9n

Write Here, Write Now, Virtual pop-up workshops each month, hosted online, co-presented by Phoenix College and ASU's Piper Center for Creative Writing . Go to Changing Hands to register. 6:30-8:00

Writing Workshops, <https://writingworkshops.com/>, lists all sorts of upcoming workshops for writers.

DailyOM, <https://www.dailyom.com/>, a year of writing (52 weeks) to uncover your authentic self.

Desert Foothills book festival Scottsdale Arizona—

<https://www.meetup.com/Scottsdale-Society-of-Women-Writers/events/286208388>

Saturday, June 4, 2022, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM MST

Holland Center in North Scottsdale , 34250 N 60th Street, Scottsdale, AZ.

Hosted by Patricia L. B.

Write the Memoir to Remember

Saturday, June 11, 2022, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM MST

Hosted by Patricia L. B.

RSVP for more information on a text message at 480-250-5556 or email her at patriacia@plbrooks.com for the flyer. Reservation deadline Friday, June 10.