

PWC Monthly Meetings

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Phoenix Writers Club meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday

Join us Saturday, April 20, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in person. We are no longer hybrid due to technical difficulties!

Arrive at Gallagher's (7575 N. 16th St. Phoenix, AZ 85020) by noon to place your lunch order (\$25 cash for members and \$30 for guests, includes lunch, drink, tax, and tip).

Questions? Email Cindi Reiss at writeoncindi@gmail.com

April 2024 Speaker

In April, we welcome Christy White, Arizona State Poetry Society's Branch President of Scottsdale Mustang Poets, for National Poetry Month!



Poetry lifts us in times of trouble and heightens joy within us in our everyday lives. Christy will share with us 'the poetry that we're already writing', as we explore the ways that poetry is found in much of what we read and write in any genre.

Christy White has been writing poetry and the occasional short story since she learned to write in first grade. She has been published in journals in the US and in Great Britain. Last year, as poet and one of the editors, she was published in *Bonfire of Poetry*. She has also self-published several chapbooks including *Rain: The Private Poems of Li Qingzhao*. Christy earned her Masters in Creative Writing/Poetry in 2017 at Wilkes University. She presented poetry workshops and read at venues in the US and in Glasgow, Scotland, while working full time as an accountant and HR Director. With poetry as a central passion, she has been a member and volunteer with the Arizona State Poetry Society since 1996, was a volunteer with the Tucson Poetry Festival, and e-publishes a monthly Poetry Missive about poetry in Arizona. Christy is currently the Outreach Director for ASPS. She has edited poetry books, fiction and non-fiction books, and articles for *Ramciel* and *Idyllwild Life*.

April 2024 Board Meeting

After the club meeting April 20th, the board will meet to start planning for the 2026 Centennial Celebration of the Phoenix Writers Club. Please join us. We'd love to hear your ideas.

A Note from the PWC President



April marks our eighth meeting at Gallagher’s since PWC has gotten back to in-person meetings. We offered a Zoom option during this time as we value both our out-of-state members and those who cannot attend in-person. Unfortunately the difficulties with WIFI, tech problems, etc. have made this an unviable option at this time. We will attempt to record the meetings and make them available to members as an alternative and will keep you posted if anything changes.

We appreciate those who have given their time to make this work and all of the board for making this past year a good one. We welcome any members who would like to find out how they can get involved, especially as we begin plans to celebrate our centennial in 2026.

Following our April general meeting, we will hold a board meeting. You are welcome to attend and discover how you can be a part of keeping the wheels turning. As always, please email me with any questions.

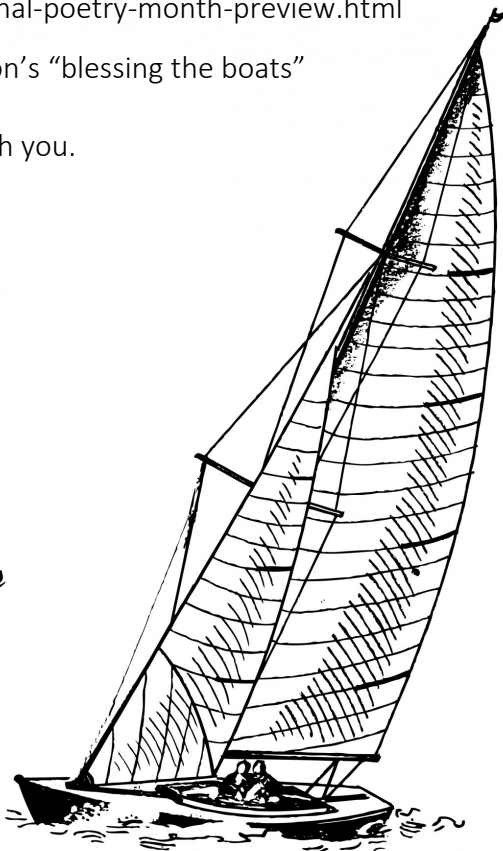
April is also National Poetry Month and there are many ways that you can participate to get your poetry fix. <https://poets.org/national-poetry-month>

The national organization and publisher of contemporary poetry, along with *Scholastic*, has announced author-illustrator Jack Wong as the artist for its annual Poetry Month poster, featuring lines from Lucille Clifton’s poem “blessing the boats”. <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/childrens/childrenstry-news/article/94173-2024-national-poetry-month-preview.html>

I leave you with the last lines of Lucille Clifton’s “blessing the boats”
<https://poets.org/poem/blessing-boats>,
and may the resilience of her words stay with you.

...may you
open your eyes to water
water waving forever
and may you in your innocence
sail through this to that

Write on,
Cindi Reiss



PWC March 2024 Meeting Minutes

By *Bernadette Inclan*

Cindi Reiss, President, opened the meeting at 12:36 pm.

Fourteen people were in attendance including several guests. From Berlin, Germany, Wladimir Waiser who came with Elena Thorton, Lois Kiely, Katherine Palmer, and Jeff Callan, who is a new member.

Zoom wouldn't connect so we were unable to share the meeting.

Cindi introduced the Board and made announcements.

- Writers community opportunity to write with the incarcerated. Based in Tucson.
- The Arizona Consortium for the Arts is a non-profit arts organization that will serve as artistic homes for multiple arts organizations.
- Donna Rebadow announced her book *Wednesdays With Sadie, The Miracle Dog*.
- Bernadette and Joe announced they have three manual typewriters donated by Frank and Sherry Maguire, <https://www.eyef4art.net/>. PWC will raffle the typewriters in celebration of our 100-year anniversary in 2026.
- The Arizona Professional Writers 2024 conference is in May. The link will take you to the details. <https://arizonaprofessionalwriters.org/2024-state-conference/?fbclid=IwAR1fU1czJq2T2vapD0wlhGue23nd-vSM2gygx9k6LorSVDTyj-hS7fiiSwa>



Cindi also asked for volunteers to assist with our centennial celebration coming up in 2026.

Speaker

Cindi introduced our speaker, Elena Thorton, who donated two copies of her book, *The Freedom to Journey On*. You can read her biography in the previous *Stimulus*, but the following link provides access to a number



of James and Elena websites you may be interested in: <https://shoutoutarizona.com/meet-james-and-elena-thornton-founders-arizona-consortium-for-the-arts-owners-photos-by-elena-and-jim/>

For seventeen years, James and Elena have been involved in the all-volunteer Arizona Consortium for the Arts. They serve artists from the community. Link to newsletter <http://hosted-p0.vresp.com/722427/1d67a90f0d/ARCHIVE>, lists upcoming submission info. Link for Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/artizona/>

The Blue Guitar literary and arts magazine <https://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/3.html>, literary submissions for the Fall 2024 Edition Sept 1 through October 4. Submissions are sought in all genres — fiction, poetry, plays, creative nonfiction. Writers must submit original work and must live part- or full-time in Arizona. Simultaneous submissions will be accepted, but the writer must notify the magazine as soon as possible if the work is accepted elsewhere. It is free to submit, and submissions may be made in multiple genres. Please include your name and the best way to contact you on your submission. Submissions must be in the best shape possible and publication ready. Please attach Word documents of your works or paste

them within the body of the email; please do not send PDFs. To submit or for further information, e-mail (from prior page) Editor Rebecca Dyer at rebeccadyer@theblueguitarmagazine.org. For more information, visit www.theblueguitarmagazine.org.

Elena read a poem she wrote in honor of her Dad, who also makes caps Elena brought for those in attendance. After the question-and-answer period, she encouraged all to continue creating.

D’Anne Pientka and Deborah Partington won the book drawings.

The meeting closed at 2 pm.

March Gathering

Thank you Joe Maguire, our photographer.



So You Think You Know English

The Supreme Court recently weighed in on the true meaning of the word 'and'. Don't they have bigger issues to attend to?

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/the-word-and-could-land-criminal-defendants-with-longer-sentences-thanks-to-supreme-court-ruling/ar-BB1jXG6L?ocid=hpmnsn&cvid=49d5ba00e9ee45e788513794739cb1aa&ei=21>

Bernadette provided a link for an online quiz on Relative Pronouns. How will you do?

https://www.dictionary.com/games/quizzes/relative-pronouns-quiz?lctg=5d438f9b20122e6f2a0011e2&email=e1ac6763bef5c1650bc71cc6a0d8661e&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=WEDNESDAY%20Editorial%20Quiz%202019%202023-10-11&utm_term=Quizzes%20Combo%202019

Local Writing Clubs

PWC may be the longest running local writing club; however, there are others in the area you might like.

- Shut up and Write—Shut Up & Write hosts free in-person and online writing events for writers all over the world. Updated calendar may be viewed here: <https://www.meetup.com/shutupandwritephoenixaz/events/calendar/>
- Tempe Science Fiction Writing Meetup—Thursday Evening South Tempe. Come write and talk about writing craft with other local writers. All skill levels welcome
- Scottsdale Society of Women Writers—<https://brooksgoldmannpublishing.com/scottsdale-society-of-women-writers/>
- Phoenix Oasis Press (POP) - <https://www.phoenixoasispress.com/>
- Arizona Authors Association— www.arizonaauthors.org. They are accepting submissions Jan 1—June 1 for their writing contest.
- Arizona Professional Writers - (formerly Arizona Press Women) 2024 State Conference May 4, 10:00—2:30. <https://arizonaprofessionalwriters.org/>
- Poetry Center—<https://poetry.arizona.edu/> - a volunteer group focused on the following:
 - ◆ Work with incarcerated writers throughout the country.
 - ◆ Support the literary work of these individuals, whether it be fiction, non-fiction or poetry.
 - ◆ Act as coaches for their writing
 - ◆ Educate themselves on the issues around criminal justice reform, bail reform or prison reform through guest speaker presentations at their monthly meetings
 - ◆ They are actively looking for additional mentors. If anyone is interested, fill out the form on the Poetry Center's website: <https://poetry.arizona.edu/opportunities/get-involved/free-time-writers-inside-and-out> The page also has the group's core values including their preference that anyone who joins will commit to participate for at least one year.
 - ◆ They will hold *a training session for new volunteers on Saturday, April 16 at 10am followed by their monthly Free Time meeting after it 11.*

Member News

Bert Haagenstad has a new link from which you may purchase his books:

https://www.amazon.com/First-Easter-Egg-Bert-Haagenstad-ebook/dp/B0CTFTDY6R/ref=sr_1_4?keywords=THE+FIRST+EASTER+EGG&qid=1707505430&sr=8-4

He also received the following message of appreciation from a fellow author on a shared book site:

“Dear fellow author, I would like to congratulate you on your accomplishments. I admire your dedication and hard work, and I know it takes a lot of effort to write a book. Your achievements are truly inspiring. I hope you continue to write and share your stories with the world. You are a true inspiration to me and other authors. Thank you for being such an amazing role model. Sincerely, your fellow author.”

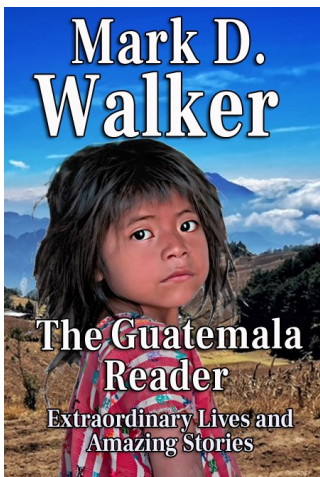
Bernadette Inclan has a new website to promote her new book, *The Perils of Beginnings*:

<https://bernadetteinclan.com/>. She also participated in her first Story Slam Presentation March 30th at Arizona Storytellers at Tempe Center for the Arts. Way to go, Bernadette.

The next Story Slam is April 30, 7:00-9:00.

<https://www.tempe.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/77334/>

Mark Walker shared a YouTube presentation (<https://youtu.be/xo2QCeQx10E>). This is about how one travel writer adapted to the changing landscape of publishing and established his own author’s platform. It’s fairly comprehensive—an hour long with some good questions from the audience at the end.



He also provided a copy of the cover for his forthcoming book, *The Guatemala Reader: Extraordinary Lives & Amazing Stories*. He’s working on a Kickstarter crowd-raising campaign to allow the proper promotion of the book and to broaden the potential audience.

Good luck, Mark.

Donna Rebadow announced her book *Wednesdays With Sadie, The Miracle Dog*. She’d like advice on how to create an audio book. If any of you can help, please contact D’Anne Pientka for her contact information.

PWC Critique Writing Group

Our critique workshop meets via Zoom every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, from 6:00-8:00. Email Bernadette Inclan at bsbincoin@aol.com for information.

Writing Event

Arizona Authors Association (AAA) Welcomes Patricia L. Brooks

Award-winning Memoir Author with her workshop
Write the Memoir You're Afraid to Write

- WHO:** All Aspiring Writers and Authors
- WHAT:** ZOOM Workshop – requires RSVP
- WHEN:** Saturday, June 8, 2024, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
- WHERE:** Please RSVP for the Zoom meeting details, the PC and ID
patricia@plbrooks.com or text 480-250-5556
- WHY:** To take your memoir to fruition!
- SPEAKER:** Patricia L. Brooks, MAOM Award-winning Author, Publishing Consultant, Advocate and Educator



Presentation Description: In an encouraging and insightful presentation, Patricia will help you capture the essence of your untold story, share with you how to produce a memoir to your own satisfaction, face your fears and conquer the story's emotional beats. With techniques from writing her own daring memoirs, and those she has helped others write, Patricia will inspire you to learn the necessary steps to bring your work to fruition. The workshop includes a question-and-answer session and an activity following the presentation. Her memoirs are for sale on www.amazon.com

Author Bio: Patricia is president/founder of Brooks Goldmann Publishing Company, LLC, and Scottsdale Society of Women Writers. She has managed both since 2005. Patricia is a sought-after workshop/keynote speaker while authoring a non-fiction book on writing memoirs and teaching memoir writing at ASU's Piper Writing Center.

Patricia L. Brooks is enthusiastic about storytelling in her award-winning memoirs. *Sick as My Secrets* is a powerful memoir told by a strong woman who overcame her desperate need for alcohol to handle stress in her young life. *Three Husbands and a Thousand Boyfriends* is her poignant story of a dangerous journey through love addiction and domestic violence. Her first memoir, *Gifts of Sisterhood - journey from grief to gratitude* is a tribute to her sister who died from lung cancer. All three memoirs and other information is available at www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com



PWC Contacts

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|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
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| Phoenix Facebook | https://www.facebook.com/phxwritersclub/ | |
| Phoenix Writers Club website | phoenixwritersclub.com | |

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.
<https://www.changinghands.com/upcoming-events>

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

Eventbrite: Use the link below and add the filter “writing”. The upcoming events appear. They have a few workshops scheduled for April.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/d/az--phoenix/writing/>

Phoenix Writers Network: phoenixwritersnetwork.com

The **Tucson Arts Poetry Series (TAPS)** was started Feb. 2023 by Katie Sarah Zale, Bonnie Wehle, and Janet Rives. Each 4th Saturday of the month, at 3:30 pm, two Arizona poets are highlighted reading published work. The event takes place in 25,000 square feet of breathtaking art and artifacts. TAPS is sponsored, in part, by the **Arizona State Poetry Society (ASPS)**. This reading is supported by a grant from **Poets & Writers**, made possible by **Tucson Poetry Society (TPS)**

LOCATION: Tucson Desert Art [Museum](#), 7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd and Sabino Canyon