

PWC Monthly Meetings

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Phoenix Writers Club meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday

Join us Saturday, May 18, 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

May 2024 Speaker

In May, we welcome Randy "Sherpa" Brown.



Randy "Sherpa" Brown embedded with his former Iowa Army National Guard unit as a civilian journalist in Afghanistan, May–June 2011. He served in uniform for 20 years, with one overseas deployment in 2003. He subsequently authored the award-winning poetry collection *Welcome to FOB Haiku: War Poems from Inside the Wire*. He is a former editor of community and metro newspapers, as well as national trade and consumer newsstand magazines, and is now a freelance writer, editor, and independent publisher. His essays, journalism, and poetry have appeared

widely both on-line and in print. His on-cover book credits include co-editing the anthologies *Why We Write: Craft Essays on Writing War* and *Things We Carry Still: Poems & Micro-Stories about Military Gear*. Brown is a three-time poetry finalist in the annual Col. Darron L. Wright Memorial Writing Awards, administered by the Chicago-based literary magazine *Line of Advance*. On May 15 2024, he will be a featured speaker at the launch event for the second edition of *Issued: Stories of Service*, an annual literary journal published at Arizona State University. Learn more about the event at: issuedjournal.com/ and more about Brown at linktr.ee/randyshepabrown

Brown will be speaking on topics related to 21st century war poetry—and how many of us can write about experiences with the military, even if from the perspectives of family members, voters, and taxpayers. He also promises to offer editorial insights on "how-to craft effective bio-blurbs"—short statements of writerly experiences and personality.

A Note from the PWC President

May is here with the beginning of summer breezes! Our board is busy planning PWC's 100th Anniversary in 2026. Whether you are new to PWC or have been a member for some time, we invite you to get involved and join us in planning our celebration.

Ilsa Manning is in the process of making a flyer/poster that we will have available to publicize the event. Many of you are involved in other writing/creative groups and we are reaching out to include them in our celebration. Sharing our writing community is essential as we strive to feed each other's creative pursuits. Check out the board minutes included in the newsletter to see what else is in the works.

We want to include current and past members/speakers to share their history of the club with us. We are compiling stories, newspaper clippings, PWC event news, etc. to add to the mix.

If you have insight you would like to share and/or ideas you would like to pursue, please contact me. We only turn 100 once!



"Flowers don't worry about how they're going to bloom. They just open up and turn toward the light and that makes them beautiful." — Jim Carrey

Let your creativity bloom without disparaging self-critique. All of our stories have a place in this world and I want to hear yours!

Write on,
Cindi Reiss

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 Inlan at bsbincoin@aol.com for information.

PWC April 2024 Meeting Minutes

By *Bernadette Inclan*

Cindi Reiss, President called the meeting to order at 12:38 PM.

Board News

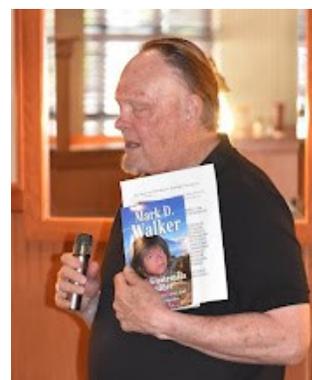
Ilsa Manning, Websites/Social Media: Ilsa and her husband established our current website in 2020. She advised members to send her their events, info for posting on both our website and Facebook pages. Members receive their own page as part of our website and this is another opportunity to promote your writing. Ilsa and Cindi include our meeting info and PWC news on the various websites such as the following: *Arizona Republic Newspaper*, *North Central News*, Gallagher's website and POP.

Navissa Kaiser, Treasurer: PWC has an account balance of \$1932.

Member News

Cindi introduced a new member, **Jeff Callan**. Welcome, Jeff.

Mark Walker, a Board Member of *Arizona Authors Association*, spoke about Kickstarter, <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/guatemala/the-guatemala-reader>. His book, *The Guatemala Reader* is not available yet, but Mark's pitching a vision for his project for a designated period of time to develop a marketing outlook. With Kickstarter, he directly contacts the audience. Go to the Kickstarter website if you wish to support this effort.



Beth Johnson has participated since Jan as a community editor in ASU's ENG 484: Literary Journal Editing Internship class, led by Rosemarie Dombrowski, PhD. Beth invites you to attend May 15, 6 pm at Changing Hands Bookstore which is launching Randy "Sherpa" Brown's (PWC's May speaker) book *Issued: Stories of Service*. See the attached flyer for more information.

Speaker

For National Poetry Month we welcomed speaker, Christy White, who began composing poetry in her early years and published her first poem at age twelve. She is Arizona State Poetry Society's Branch President of Scottsdale Mustang Poets. Christy 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*, and read three poems to the members. Christy earned her Master's 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 events in Arizona. Christy is currently the Outreach Director for ASPS. She invites members to use resources to write more poetry: Poetry Foundation, ArizonaPoetry.com/calendar, Poetry Heals, Poetry Slam, and, of course, joining ASPS (Arizona State Poetry Society). See more at www.azpoetry.net.



After questions and answers, Cindi closed the meeting at 2:03. A Board Meeting followed.

Board Meeting

Discussion topics on PWC centennial celebration in 2026 included:

- Venue (will seek locations for a venue that'll allow for activities) **Joe Maguire**
- PWC's 100-year history boxes: **Bernadette Inlan & Joe Maguire** will begin the sorting
- Promotion Flyer announcement to publicize the event & post on social media: **Ilsa Manning**
- Join with another writers groups to assist: **Mark Walker** will report to AAA board about the 100-year event in hopes AAA can promote more collaborative activities. e.g., have tables where authors can sell their books
- Continue to reach out to community writing groups, newspapers, etc. to promote our club; contact former members and speakers for involvement: **Cindi Reiss**
- **Volunteers needed:**
 1. *Women's History Month Essay and Poetry Contest* to honor the founding year: Open January 1st – February 1st with a theme of *strong women*, with a max word count of 1926 for essays and line count of 19-26 for poetry. Rhyming not required.
 2. Fundraising
 3. Activities coordinator
 - Raffles (have 3 vintage typewriters—thank you Bernadette and Joe)
 - Approach businesses for possible gift cards/donations to our event

The Blue Guitar

The Spring 2024 Issue is now available for your free downloading pleasure at: https://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/resources/Blue+Guitar+Spring+2024_ENJOY.pdf or at our website, which also offers a free download: <http://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/>. The Spring 2024 Issue of The Blue Guitar literary and arts magazine spotlights the work of Arizona writers, poets and artists: Abraham Aruguete * Paula Ashley * Duann Black * Andrés Caballero * David Chorlton * Roxanne Doty * Richard Fenton Sederstrom * Alfred Fournier * Meleny Gradillas .

See the attached flyer for more information.

ASU's Author-Preneurship: Writer's Meet Up

Calling all aspiring authors and creative minds! Join us for the Author-preneurship: Writer's Meet Up, a must-attend event for writers! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/author-preneurship-writers-meet-up-tickets-848792038837>

Structure: A program for aspiring, new, and experienced writers. Includes a business chat followed by time for writing and/or community connections.

Mission: Monthly, in-person event where writers can connect, learn, and grow.

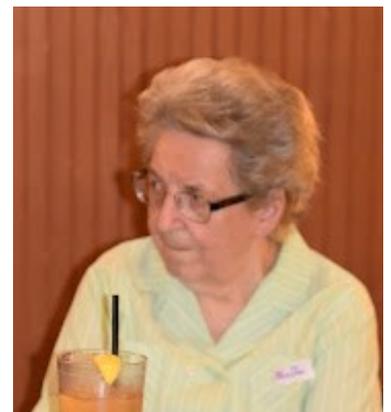
Dues: N/A, monthly event is free

Misc: Monthly meetings are held in different locations

Find the Entrepreneur in you: <https://entrepreneurship.asu.edu/training-and-development-resources/>

April Gathering

Thank you Joe Maguire, our photographer.



So You Think You Know English

I challenge you ... do you know, and use, these actual words? Don't be embarrassed if you don't. My spellchecker didn't recognize them (and I've never used them, yet). I didn't know most of them.

Pettifogger	Winklepicker
Sozzled	Argle-bargle
Inkle	Doonsack
Skirl	Nudiustertian
Impignorate	Gardyloo
Tlittynope	Snickersnee

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, May 16 at 10am followed by their monthly Free Time meeting after it 11.*

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

President	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Ex-officio President	Uta Behrens	602-441-3888
Vice President	Jenny Bilskie-Smith	jenny12366577@gmail.com
Secretary	Bernadette Inclan	bsbincoin@aol.com
Treasurer	Navissa Kaiser	navissak@hotmail.com
Website/Social Media	Ilsa Manning	ilsamanningwrites@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	D'Anne Pientka	azdanne@gmail.com
Membership Chair	D'Anne Pientka	phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com
Writers Critique Workshop	Bernadette Inclan	bsbincoin@aol.com
Photographer	Joe Maguire	bsbincoin@aol.com

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 May.
<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