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PWC Monthly Meeting

*Phoenix Writers Club meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday of the month.
Pre-Payment & RSVP Required*

Devonshire Senior Center, 2802 E Devonshire Ave (28th St., north of Indian School Rd. **Saturday, June 21**. Schedule: 10-10:30-social time; 10:30-11-business, intros; 11-12-speaker; 12-12:30 wrap up and social time.

RSVP to phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com. Pay your annual dues of \$40, if you haven't done so, with a check to our treasurer, Navissa Kaiser, payable to Phoenix Writers Club, 5715 E. Alder, Mesa 85206; or

use Zelle which goes into our club account. You are also welcome to pay for several monthly meetings at one time in advance. If you already have a Zelle account and would like to pay this way, add new recipient phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com. **Questions?** Email Cindi Reiss at writeoncindi@gmail.com

June Speaker

Meeting information in the President's column.

PWC Website

phoenixwritersclub.com and facebook link

Send Ilsa Manning or Eric Miller your photo and update your bio for the website—Send your news to Ilsa for a facebook update. This is free publicity for you, another benefit of being a PWC member.

PWC Volunteers

Phoenix Writers Club needs YOU! Our club runs on volunteers who give their time and donations. There is a place for anyone who would like to help in any way, especially with the planning of our centennial events and contests. If you would like to explore these options and find out more, please email Cindi Reiss at writeoncindi@gmail.com

A Note from the PWC President

Join us in June as we announce the winners of our **Formidable Women** contest!

Phoenix Writers Club was founded in 1926 when a group of determined women writers were denied access to the all-male press club. So, naturally, they began their own club, and we're still here 100 years later with women and men. We honor them and all the formidable women we know.

Our contest finalists will share their poetry and essays of the formidable women who prompted their submissions.

Thank you to everyone who entered and/or promoted the contest.

We are forgoing our monthly meeting fee for June, though we always welcome donations.

We will be holding a raffle and each attendee will receive a ticket, no cost. If you would like to contribute to the raffle with a book of your own or another's or any writing-related item (journal, pens, pencils, tea or coffee, candle, etc.) anything that sets the mood for writing, please contact me at writeoncindi@gmail.com Also, if you would like to bring something to add to our spread of refreshments, please let me know.

Celebrate the writing life with us!

One Summer Night *by Arnold Lobel*

One summer night
In early June,
A frog looked upward at the moon.
He said, "I'll jump
Right on that thing
Without the use
Of jet or spring."
He counted three,
Then jumped quite high
And hit the moon
In late July

Write on,
Cindi Reiss



May Meeting Minutes

By D'Anne Pientka

21 attendees.

10:00–10:32 AM Members enjoyed social time.

10:32 AM Cindi Reiss, PWC President, convened the monthly meeting with remarks.

Cindi introduced the Board members. Officers in attendance: Cindi Reiss-President, Navissa Kaiser-Treasurer, D'Anne Pientka-Newsletter Editor

- **2026 is PWC Centennial.** PWC seeks member volunteers for the committee planning Centennial events. PWC also needs members to write Centennial stories from the PWC archives. Please contact Cindi if you can assist.
- **Mar 1–Apr 15, 2025, PWC Formidable Women Essay and Poetry Contest:** Contest ended with a good turnout. Finalists will be notified, and winners will be announced at the June PWC meeting. Cindi thanked all who helped promote the contest. Cindi suggested we hold a raffle. If you would like to donate something (book etc.), please bring it to the June meeting. Everyone will receive a raffle ticket, no charge.
- **PWC Website.** Members are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to submit their photo, short bio, and links to books or websites to Eric Miller at eric@millerphx.com for posting to Our Members Page.
- **PWC Newsletter:** D'Anne is editor. Goal is to publish newsletter by 1st of each month. Send submissions, links to your work, blogs, speaking events, book releases to azdanne@gmail.com.
- **Conscious Creations Art Studio**, in Surprise, opened in November 2024. Karen Izzi, organizer, would like to expand their art classes to include writing. If you're interested, you can visit karenizziphd.org
- **PWC Critique Workshop** is active. They meet the 2nd and 4th Fridays via Zoom, 6:00-8:00. If you're interested in starting your own group, contact Cindi.

AM- ROUND ROBIN Introductions. Everyone introduced themselves and mentioned the writing projects they're working on. The variety of genres fascinated many in the room.

May Salon

Thank you to those who shared their writings

Penny Orloff read from *Chicken Soup for the Soul - Thanks Mom*, titled "Little Trooper"

Leslie Cox – "The Work of my Hands"

Jeffrey Callan – *The Intrigants*, Chapter 3 (people engaged in intrigue and spycraft)

Minutes (cont)

Dot Sagnis – *Houses and Homes*, a memoir

Diane Shotton – *Motty's Vow*, a chapter from her recently published novel

Patti Meis – “Dinner Party”, a humorous essay

D'Anne Pientka – “r u ok”, a poem dedicated to Joe

Round Table - Group discussion on how to get published. Now that the writing is over, what next?

Suggestions included the following (not listed in any order):

- A traditional publisher is old school. A lot of us are self-published.
- Personal appearances can help. Book stores might accept your book signing offer as customers might purchase other items.
- The Authors Show (<https://wnbnetworkwest.com/>) – give an interview
- Find your niche and market to people who might want to read your story.
- Send 30 pages of your story to niche group for feedback.
- Send a chapter to a contest. If you win, you can include the feedback on your cover.
- 150K words is two books. For a memoir, keep it between 70K-100K words.
- Alpha and/or beta readers are your friends. (alpha-early drafts, beta-polished drafts)
- Submit your story – Chicken Soup for the Soul was recommended as they publish often.
- Submittable.com – you can pay for extra feedback on some submissions.
- Find new publishers starting out. They are hungry.
- Find a Developmental Editor you can trust.
- Some writers recommend Reedsy.com
- Writer's Digest lists editors
- Writer Beware (<https://writerbeware.blog/>) lists unreliable editors. However, note that once they know their name is on the list, they'll change their name.

Good luck.

You Think You Know English

How, when, and why to use “You know.”

<https://english.stackexchange.com/questions/7297/how-to-use-you-know>

So, you think you know English Pronunciation ... by Guilia Penni

<https://giulia-penni5.medium.com/you-think-you-know-english-pronunciation-42fdf47f634d>

(Cindi—this is a poem)

PWC Critique Writing Group

Our critique workshop meets via Zoom every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, from 6:00-8:00. Enjoy one of the great benefits of being a PWC member. Email Chris Wheeler at mrchris.wheeler@gmail.com for information.

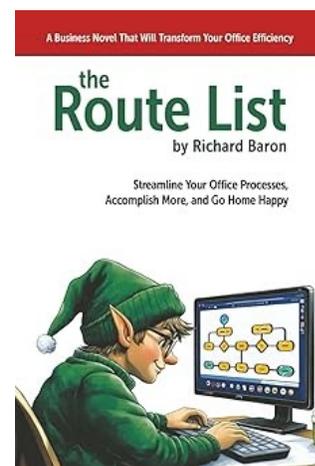
Local Writing Clubs

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

- 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/>. Check out their website this month. They have several fun writing activities planned.
- Arizona Authors Association— www.arizonaauthors.org.
- Arizona Professional Writers - (formerly Arizona Press Women) <https://arizonaprofessionalwriters.org/>
- Poetry Center—<https://poetry.arizona.edu/> - a volunteer group focused on working with incarcerated writers throughout the country.
- SouthWest Writers (SWW)—<https://www.southwestwriters.com/>
- The Studio—Story Slams—<https://www.thestudiophx.org/sos>
- Medium—<https://medium.com/> - a website with tools and advice for writers
- Author-preneurship: [From Pen to Profit: Meet Arizona's Thriving Author-preneurs - Blog](#)

PWC Members Are Busy

- Richard Baron's new book, *the Route List*, is now available on Amazon.
- D'Anne Pientka's short story, *One Final Pleasure*, was selected for a December anthology.



ASU Virginia G. Piper
Center for Creative Writing
Arizona State University

ICONIC STORIES
TODAY & TOMORROW

Desert Nights Rising Stars

•WRITERS CONFERENCE•

Registration Open!

[PIPER.ASU.EDU/CONFERENCE/REGISTER](https://piper.asu.edu/conference/register)

Oct 9-11, 2025. Sandra Cisneros is the keynote and she is teaching a workshop! Sandra is the author of the acclaimed *The House on Mango Street* and many other books. <https://www.sandracisneros.com/>

Other featured writers are bestselling novelist Amanda Eyre Ward ("*The Jetsetters*") and poets like Kimberly Blaeser and Brian Turner who wrote the National Book Award-winning *Here, Bullet* about his service in Iraq.

And there are early bird and senior discounts available so register today!
<https://piper.asu.edu/conference/register>

Speakers

Our club thrives on camaraderie and having speakers from various genres each month. If you have a speaker that you feel is good for the club, please email me for the speaker guidelines. We all have different connections in the writing community, and our club depends on the involvement of our members. Cindi Reiss. writeoncindi@gmail.com

And check out our website! Eric Miller has added our previous newsletters and more pages of our members. Get your member profile to him today!

Phoenix Writers Club Centennial

Phoenix Writers Club was formed in 1926 when a group of formidable women were denied access to the all-male press club, so this Centennial in honor of them and all of the formidable women we know!



We have been exploring our history as we approach our centennial in 2026. We have notebooks of pictures, newsletters, articles and more that were meticulously organized by Bernadette, one more thing that she did for PWC.

We are beginning a history page on our website, and our newsletter occasionally contains summaries of some of the decades and features on individuals in PWC history. And we need more; we have 100 years of history to showcase. Your ideas and input are needed. Email me at writeoncindi@gmail.com and become part of our history!

Next Generation Indie Book Awards

The Next Generation Indie Book Awards, the most exciting and rewarding book awards program open to independent publishers and authors worldwide, is NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES for 2026 contest, written in English and released in 2024, 2025 or 2026 or with a 2024, 2025 or 2026 copyright date.

This awards program is open to all indie book authors and publishers including independent publishers (small, medium or otherwise), university presses, self-published authors, e-book authors, seasoned authors and even first-time authors in the U.S., Canada, or internationally who have a book, a manuscript, or a galley proof written in English.

Enter now to take advantage of this exciting opportunity to have your book considered for cash prizes, awards, exposure, possible representation by a leading literary agent, and recognition as one of the top independently published books of the year.

The final entry deadline date for the 2026 awards program is **February 12, 2026**.

All Finalists and Winners will be notified by late June 2026. We wish you much success with your book.

Next Generation Indie Book Awards

Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group

<http://www.IndieBookAwards.com>

Prefer short stories? See <https://shortstoryawards.com> for our short story awards program.

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- 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/>. Check out their website this month. They have several fun writing activities planned.
- Arizona Authors Association— www.arizonaauthors.org.
- Arizona Professional Writers - (formerly Arizona Press Women) <https://arizonaprofessionalwriters.org/>
- Poetry Center—<https://poetry.arizona.edu/> - a volunteer group focused on working with incarcerated writers throughout the country.
- 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.
- SouthWest Writers (SWW)—<https://www.southwestwriters.com/>
- The Studio—Story Slams—<https://www.thestudiophx.org/sos>
- Medium—<https://medium.com/> - a website with tools and advice for writers. Heard about this from another writer who raves about the value of the site.

Blue Guitar Festival

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, November 3rd for the Blue Guitar Festival at Desert Ridge Marketplace. PWC is delighted to partner with the Arizona Consortium for the Arts <https://www.artizona.org/> and *Blue Guitar Magazine* <https://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/> for this annual festival. This will be an opportunity to share our writing with fellow writers and family and friends. More info will be forthcoming. To submit to *Blue Guitar Magazine*, check out this link <https://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/3.html>

Several PWC members have had poems and stories published in former issues.

PWC Contacts

President	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Vice President	Open	
Secretary	beth Liechti Johnson	eljohnson707@gmail.com
Treasurer	Navissa Kaiser	navissak@hotmail.com
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Membership Chair	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Writers Critique Workshop	Chris Wheeler	mrchris.wheeler@gmail.com
PWC Centennial Chair	Open	
Phoenix Writers Club 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=mzccOalgDI-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 . <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/az--phoenix/writing/>

Phoenix Writers Network: phoenixwritersnetwork.com

The **Tucson Arts Poetry Series (TAPS)** 4th Saturday of the month, at 3:30 pm, two Arizona poets are highlighted reading published work. **Poets & Writers**, made possible by **Tucson Poetry Society (TPS)**

LOCATION: Tucson Desert Art Museum, 7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd and Sabino Canyon

Writers Inspiration Group (WIG) meets on Zoom on the first and third Tuesday of the Month from 3-4:40 PM. The sessions include prompts that they write about and share with the group. Contact Cindi Reiss if interested, writeoncindi@gmail.com.