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## PWC Monthly Meeting

*Phoenix Writers Club meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday of the month.*

*Pre-Payment & RSVP Required*

Reminder: There is no monthly meeting for July or August. We start back up in September.

**Devonshire Senior Center**, 2802 E Devonshire Ave (28th St., north of Indian School Rd. **Saturday, September 20**. Schedule: 10-10:30-social time; 10:30-11-business, intros; 11-12-speaker; 12-12:30 wrap up and social time.

\$10 fee for members, \$15 for guests.

RSVP to [phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com).

Pay your meeting fee or 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](mailto:phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com). **Questions?** Email Cindi Reiss at [writeoncindi@gmail.com](mailto:writeoncindi@gmail.com)

## Membership Annual Dues

This is a friendly reminder that annual dues of \$40 are coming due in September. You may send Navissa a check or pay via Zelle, instructions listed above.

## PWC Website

Website: [phoenixwritersclub.com](http://phoenixwritersclub.com) and

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/phxwritersclub/>

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](mailto:writeoncindi@gmail.com)

## A Note from the PWC President

I hope you're all enjoying your summer. There's lots ahead for PWC this year as we celebrate our Centennial! You are invited to attend our board/centennial committee meeting and see how you can get involved. We will be meeting via Zoom on Monday, August 11, at 6:30pm. We need everyone's talents as we continue into the next hundred years.

Please email me with any questions, comments, ideas and if you can attend.

**PWC elections** will be held in October. We vote on the following positions: president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

We are especially looking for a vice-president. This role can take many forms. Besides the usual role of the VP standing in for the president when needed, they work together to fulfill the goals and responsibilities of the club. I would love to chat with anyone who may be interested in joining us in this capacity.

Our Phoenix summers invite us to laze and take the days with short bursts of energy. The perfect time to write a haiku!

I invite you to capture a moment of the season by writing a haiku or two or three or more. Haiku originated in Japan and traditionally are short poems that follow a specific three-line format, where the first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and the last line has five syllables again.

Here are a few haiku that I wrote. Send me yours and share in the joy of saying a lot in the least words, as our summer heat can keep us from wanting to exert more energy than we need to!

monsoon winds pierce night  
moonlight spills in through the blinds  
desert shapes my sleep

cooing mourning doves  
alight upon sunbaked fence  
morning has broken

palm trees sway in stones  
overshadowing yucca  
my yard is complete



Write on,  
*Cindi Reiss*

## Formidable Women Contest Winners

Congratulations to our *Formidable Women* contest winners! The entries are posted on our website at <https://phoenixwritersclub.com/contests/> and a separate *2025 PWC Formidable Women* collection will be sent to our members.

### Essays

1<sup>st</sup> place- “Writing My Life” -Deborah Partington

2<sup>nd</sup> place-“Survivor”-Penny Orloff

3<sup>rd</sup> place-“Formidable Women of Wisdom and Inspiration”-Kixx Goldman

Honorable mention-“Little Italy”-Jane Koeplinger

Honorable mention-“Born Thrice”-Felicia Penza

### Poetry

1<sup>st</sup> place-“Feminine Unfettered”-Colleen Picard

2<sup>nd</sup> place-“The Formidable Woman”-Robin Ferguson

3<sup>rd</sup> place-“26/26 prelude”-artist-te

Honorable mention-“I Am This Woman”-Dot Sagnis

Honorable mention-“Wednesdays with Cora”-Linda Davis Watters

## Fall Speakers

September- Book Shepherd/Editor/Author Ann Videan, <https://anvidean.com/>

October-Author/Book Coach/ Self-publishing Expert Andreaa Billig <https://selfpublishingmastery.com/about-us/>

November-Writer/Actress/Documentary filmmaker Penny Peyser

December-Annual Holiday Salon and Party!

## 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](mailto:writeoncindi@gmail.com)

## You Think You Know English

17 Phrases That Used to Mean One Thing But Now Mean Something Completely Different

By Brad Lawson

<https://tinyurl.com/3mpvrrcp>

Ernest Hemingway's Writing Wisdom in 13 Rules

By Vishal Wagh

<https://tinyurl.com/5xcvfka6>

## 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 D'Anne Pientka at [dannewriteson@gmail.com](mailto:dannewriteson@gmail.com) for information (note the new email).

## Member News

- **Penny Orloff:** Interview with **The Authors Show** on her book *Jewish Thighs on Broadway*.  
<https://wnbnetworkwest.com/featured-author/Penny%20Orloff>
- **beth Liechti Johnson:** poem *Beyond Welcome Home* published Jan 13, 2025 by **Line of Advance**  
<https://www.lineofadvance.org/blog/2025/1/13/beyond-welcome-home>
- **Brad Graber:** Blog—<https://www.bradgraber.com/there-i-said-it/>
- **Mark D Walker:** Blog—<https://millionmilewalker.com/blog/>
- **Bert Haagenstad:** His books are available at [https://www.amazon.com/First-Easter-Egg-Bert-Haagenstad-ebook/dp/BOCTFTDY6R/ref=sr\\_1\\_4?keywords=THE+FIRST+EASTER+EGG&qid=1707505430&sr=8-4](https://www.amazon.com/First-Easter-Egg-Bert-Haagenstad-ebook/dp/BOCTFTDY6R/ref=sr_1_4?keywords=THE+FIRST+EASTER+EGG&qid=1707505430&sr=8-4)
- **Bernadette Inclan:** *The Perils of Beginnings*: <https://bernadetteinclan.com/> . Check out her interview with Logan Crawford: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvGjRbef2gM>
- **Kixx Goldman:** Blog—<https://www.drkixxgoldman.com/blog/>
- **Louise J Privette:** website—<https://louiseprivette.com/>
- **Cindi Reiss:** *The Blue Guitar Jr.* magazine.  
[https://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/resources/Blue+Guitar+Jr.+2025\\_ENJOY.pdf](https://www.theblueguitarmagazine.org/resources/Blue+Guitar+Jr.+2025_ENJOY.pdf)
- **Nick Bratcher:** podcast— Greenwood & Company, [jamisongreenwoodpodcast.com](http://jamisongreenwoodpodcast.com)
- **Eric Miller:** <https://emillerphx.substack.com/>
- **Carolyn Golden:** website-[www.aworkinprocess.us](http://www.aworkinprocess.us)
- **Trudy Wells-Meyer:** website—[www.trudywells-meyer.com](http://www.trudywells-meyer.com)

If you have a blog or website you'd like included in the newsletter, please send D'Anne the link. 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!



The Desert Nights, Rising Stars conference at The Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing at ASU is Oct 9-11, 2025, Thurs-Sat. <https://piper.asu.edu/conference#about>

This year's keynote speaker is legendary author Sandra Cisneros, author of *The House on Mango Street*.

PWC will have a table to promote our club and also sell books, Thurs & Fri-9-5. We need people to man the table and you do not have to be attending the conference to do so. If you are selling your books, you must be at the table at that time and have your own forms of accepting payments. If you would like to assist at the table, please email Cindi at [writeoncindi@gmail.com](mailto:writeoncindi@gmail.com).

## Blue Guitar Festival

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 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>

## Call for Authors

Phoenix Public Library has a call out for local authors. Submissions accepted April 1—August 11. To provide quality experiences for customers and local authors, the library will host an annual Call for Authors. For six weeks, beginning April 1, the library will invite local authors to submit their work and, if selected, be placed on an approved author list. Authors on this list will be invited to the Local Author Fair in November and August be invited to take part in additional programming throughout the year. Visit their website for more information: <https://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/services/unique/local-authors>

## 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](mailto: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 August 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.

## Desert Scribblers

Born from the Phoenix region for NaNoWriMo, this poetry group has expanded their "First Draft Frenzy" Challenge to both October and November each year. Check it out—perhaps you'd like to participate.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/129741080414743>

Discord Channel: <https://discord.gg/dAQae8W3ng>

Contact Erin Lorandos if you have questions: [erin@lorandos.com](mailto:erin@lorandos.com)

## Local Writing Clubs

PWC August 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 August 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](http://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. Heard about this from another writer who raves about the value of the site.
- Author-preneurship: [From Pen to Profit: Meet Arizona's Thriving Author-preneurs - Blog](#)

## ARC Readers Wanted



Member Diane Shotton is looking for Advance Readers for her latest book, *The Dictograph Case*. This is an opportunity to not only help your fellow writer but get the skinny on her new book before it is released to the public! Check out the info below and get in on the action.

Do you love a good historical mystery?

*The Dictograph Case* is a gripping story of legacy, betrayal, and the price of silence—set in 1937 Ellington. When a brutal attack rocks the town, a journalist and a schoolteacher uncover buried history that threatens to expose the real reason behind the violence and the powerful men who would rather it stay in the past. I'm looking for a few early readers who enjoy Historical Fiction / Mystery / Thrillers to read and review before the book launches on September 30.

The Advanced Reader Copies will be available by August 20. Interested? Fill out the form here: <https://forms.gle/VMKY4zt42kZNN9bu7>

Your support helps indie books thrive. Thank you!

Diane Wahn Shotton





## PWC Contacts

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<b>Vice President</b>	Open	
<b>Secretary</b>	beth Liechti Johnson	eljohnson707@gmail.com
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<b>Writers Critique Workshop</b>	D'Anne Pientka	dannewriteson@gmail.com
<b>PWC Centennial Chair</b>	Open	
<b>Phoenix Writers Club Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/phxwritersclub/">https://www.facebook.com/phxwritersclub/</a>	
<b>Phoenix Writers Club website</b>	<a href="http://phoenixwritersclub.com">phoenixwritersclub.com</a>	

## Local Writing Activities

**Central Phoenix Writing Workshop** – check their website—they have several workshops scheduled [https://www.meetup.com/CentralPhoenixWritingWorkshop/?\\_cookie-check=mzccOalgDI-tuB9n](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](http://phoenixwritersnetwork.com)

The **Tucson Arts Poetry Series (TAPS)** 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:writeoncindi@gmail.com).