

DISPATCHES

MILITARY
WRITERS
SOCIETY OF
AMERICA

Rescuing History One Story at a Time

www.militarywriters.com



Fall 2013

Conference Edition



Del Staecker



Joyce Faulkner



Bob Doerr

Finalists

Author of the Year

2013

Conference Information

Program Schedule

Banquet Program

Finalists - 2013 MWSA Book Awards Program

From the editor

Fall is a season of change, of preparation and process, and vibrancy. To me, that is a great description for our annual MWSA conference. For those who attend, the education, camaraderie and inspiration prepare us for the various stages of writing, publishing and marketing our books.

Although the conference will be in the same location, our new leadership will add a different flavor. Each year we grow in our commitment to promote healing and education.

We will learn how new technology can make our workflow smoother, how communicating with other authors can help us work through issues, how publishing is evolving in this ever-changing world and how we ourselves have grown since the last conference and our last book.

I love the breadth of seminar topics — from *How to Write* and *Photoshop Techniques* to *Research* and *The Soul of Military Writers*.

We try to outbid each other in the Buckaroo Auction but turn around and cheer the book award winners at the banquet.

We learn from professionals in editing, publishing and marketing and in many cases, utilize their services throughout the year.

We are all better for the event. We help each other heal, grow and succeed. The final product — the vibrancy that lights the organization when the colors of our lives and work blend together.

I hope to see many old and new faces in Dayton!

Pat McGrath Avery, Editor



Mike Angley

2012 Awards Ceremony

MASTHEAD

EDITOR

Pat McGrath Avery

LAYOUT/DESIGN

Joyce Faulkner



Barbara Allen and Darlene Iskra

2012 Awards Ceremony

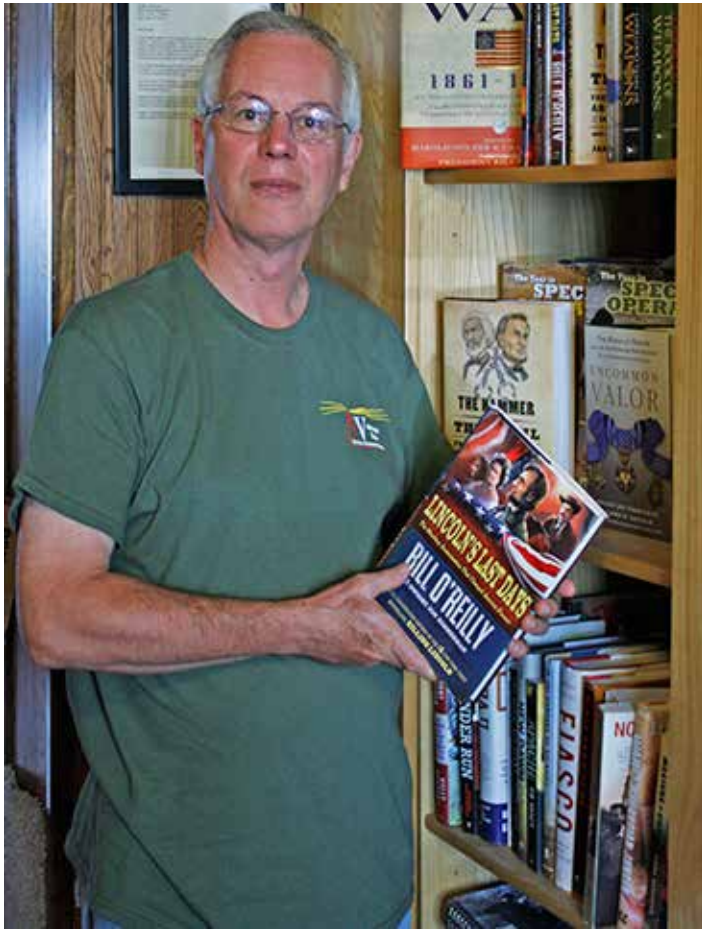
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Dispatches is a Quarterly Publication. A PDF version is available to all members — and will be on the website. It'll also be available on Kindle for \$.99. If you would like a hard copy, beginning the end of February, they will be \$10 or \$30 a year for a subscription. Contact PatAvery@gmail.com

WELCOME TO THE SPECIAL DAYTON CONFERENCE

PROGRAM ISSUE OF DISPATCHES!



I know everyone is eager to see what's on the agenda this year, so I'll simply highlight something I'm really proud to host: the donation on Wednesday September 25 to the Dayton VA hospital of more than 400 books by our members! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed copies of their work. We hope to make this an annual kick-off event for the conference. We'll keep you posted.

I'm not very tech savvy, but I'll have my laptop with me and will try to post quick updates on my blog in the MWSA website, and I encourage all members attending to add their thoughts and observations, both on the website and their Twitter accounts so that those who are unable to attend can still share in the experience.

In addition we'll have members doing announcements on Twitter of our award winners Saturday night at the banquet.

See you in Dayton!

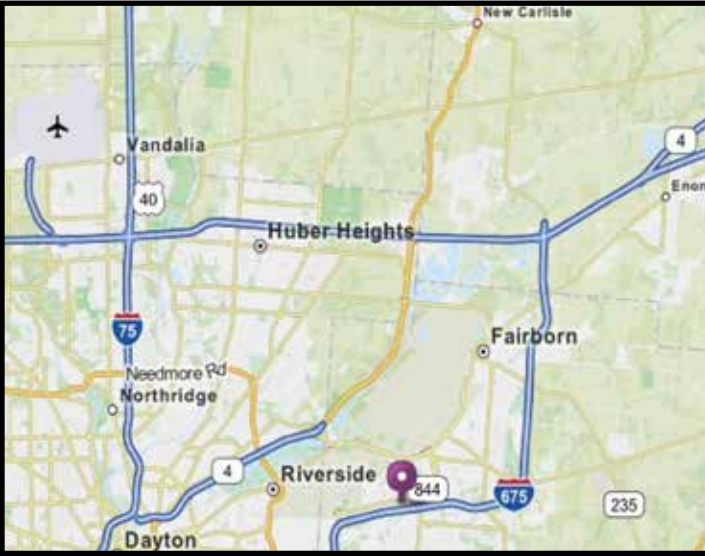
Dwight Jon Zimmerman

NOTE: We need reviewers who have iPads to review ebooks, ibooks, and audio books. If you have the ability and desire, please get in touch with the lead reviewer (leanstofar@aol.com). Joyce Faulkner will be presenting a seminar on iPad interactive books at the conference. This is the new wave of electronic books and more and more titles will be coming out in this form. Interactive books provide authors with additional storytelling tools - audio, video, animation, alternative plotting, etc. This is one seminar you will not want to miss — whether you are a publisher, author, or reviewer.

Also, Pat McGrath Avery, Mike Mullins, and John Denham of John Denham Productions will be discussing how to produce and publish audio books. As more and more MWSA members publish their books in these formats, we want reviewers who have the ability to judge them appropriately — both from literary and technical perspectives.

MAPS OF DAYTON AREA

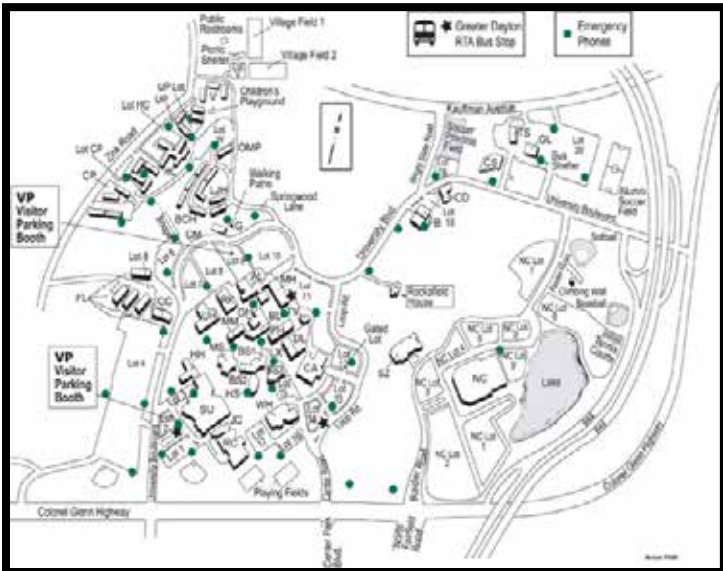
AIRPORT TO FAIRBORN



HOTEL AND FAIRBORN AREA



WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP NEAR HOTEL



Wright State University Archives

Every writer knows that the success of a story is in the details. Whether it's a character or a setting, little tidbits of knowledge entrance the reader and stick in his memory.

If you've never toured library archives, this is your opportunity to learn the ropes and pick up some interesting information for your current or future projects.

There will be a tour of the archives on Friday, September 27, from 9:30 to 10:30. Be sure to sign up early because there is a 12-person limit.

Research and writing go together like peanut butter & jelly, one enhancing the other.

Wright State University Archives holds special collections including the history of flight as well as Ohio, Dayton and university histories.

The Wright Brothers collection is fascinating. When we toured the facility with Gino Pasi, we actually held the diary of the Wright brothers' dad. The photographs and memorabilia are a priceless piece of both American and flight history.

The collection of airplane photographs will thrill anyone looking for documentation on various planes. If you're writing a book or an article that takes place in Dayton or Ohio, the archives should add to your information.



2013 MWSA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday

3:30 - 4:30 – **[AMPHITHEATRE]** MWSA Website — Open discussion on uses and ease of use, changes, and/or improvements you would like to see.

4:40 - 5:20 – **[AMPHITHEATRE]** Non-profit goals/requirements — Open discussion of changes, additions, and/or improvements to MWSA outreach. Writing to Heal ideas as an example.

5:30 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** Dinner Buffet Pizza (Pepperoni or 3 Cheese & Pizza Marguerite), Garden Salad with choice of dressing, drinks and assorted ice cream.

Friday

08:15 - 09:00 **[AMPHITHEATRE]** Orientation with *Dwight Zimmerman*.

08:15 - 09:00 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** Research and Citing History with *Louis Intres*.

09:30 - 10:30 — Wright State Library Archives Tour [Limited to 12 people].

09:40 - 10:30 — **[AMPHITHEATRE]** Writing Children's Books with *Pat McGrath-Avery* from both an author and publisher's point of view.

10:45 - 12:15 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** Posting Reviews with *jim greenwald* is a required seminar for reviewers. The proper approach/method for posting a review to the website will be discussed.

10:45 - 12:15 — **[AMPHITHEATRE]** In Design Book Layout with *Joyce Faulkner*. Introductory conversation about how the software works to create book block layouts that support the overall quality of your manuscript.

12:30 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** Lunch Buffet — Chicken & Rice Soup, Fruit Salad, House Pasta Salad, Chicken Salad on Sourdough Bread, Tuna Salad on Croissant, Brownies & Blondies for dessert and drinks.

01:45 - 02:30 — **[AMPHITHEATRE]** State of the Industry with *Dwight Zimmerman*. A discussion of evolving industry business models and how they impact authors, publishers, and booksellers.

01:45 - 02:30 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** How Do I Design an eBook? with *Joyce Faulkner*. Explanation of the different formats, the various tools available. Also, a demonstration of how to create mobi (Kindle) and ePub from Scrivener, and iBook from iAuthor.

03:00 - 05:30 — **[ANDERSON ROOM]** Scheduled Interviews with *Joanne Quinn-Smith* of *Author, Author Shine Out Loud* and *The Technogranny* Internet Radio and Television Shows. Individuals were notified by email.

02:40 - 03:40 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** Travel Writing For Fun and Profit with *Don Helin*. Whether you're interested in a career in travel writing or only earning some extra money as you write the "Great American Novel," this workshop is for you.

02:40 - 03:40 — **[AMPHITHEATRE]** The Soul of Military Writers with *Ron Camarda*. The presentation will be an exploration of how to include or enrich spirituality and psychology in our writing without sounding trite. The workshop will be interactive.

03:50 - 04:50 — **[LINDBERG ROOM]** Writing Lead Lines With a 26-Letter Alphabet, or Less by *Dwight Jon Zimmerman* This workshop helps you perfect your ability to provide pithy, high-concept, sales-inspiring punch lines known as lead lines.

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Continued from Page 4

03:50 - 04:50 — [AMPHITHEATRE] Research with Evernote with *Joyce Faulkner*. Tips and Tricks for using Evernote to collect information from the web, emails, photos, pdfs, audio, and other media.

05:00 - 06:00 — [AMPHITHEATRE] Research Using Primary Sources with *Gino Pasi*. A discussion of collections available at Wright State University [www.libraries.wright.edu]

05:00 - 06:00 — [LINDBERG ROOM] Publishing Paths with *Jill Swenson*

06:15 — [LINDBERG ROOM] Dinner Buffet Garlic bread, Minestrone Soup, Caesar salad, Vegetable Pasta Primavera, Chicken Parmesan, Spaghetti Bolognese, Tiramisu and drinks

07:00 — [AMPHITHEATRE] Cash Bar and Open Mic with *Betsy Beard*. This is your chance to read a poem or short excerpt from your book, tell a joke, sing a song or tell a story.

08:30 — [AMPHITHEATRE] Buckaroo Auction *jim greenwald*, *Joyce Gilmour*, and *Randy Beard* (Auctioneer).

Saturday

08:30 - 09:30 — [AMPHITHEATRE] The Souljourney of Writers with *Ron Camarda*. A workshop on developing a personal mission statement which will reflect the theme of how we write and why we write. It will follow the path of job to occupation to career and to Vocation.

08:30 - 09:30 — [LINDBERG ROOM] What It Means To Be A Writer with *Del Staecker*. A seminar revealing the ups, downs, ins, outs, successes and (many) failures of one MWSA member. Come and peek at the pain, suffering and (moderate) success of a peer who has been actively writing for a decade.

09:00 - 10:00 — [ANDERSON ROOM] Radio Show Interviews with *Bob Gould*, *Nina G. Diaz* and *Dwight Jon Zimmerman*. A special edition of Veterans Radio Network spotlighting the Military Writers Society of America. Finalist attendees will have an opportunity to talk about their books and themselves. Additional five minute interviews for attendees other than author finalists will be from 10:15-11:30. Interview schedules will be prepared and provided to attendees by email prior to the conference.

09:40-10:40 [AMPHITHEATRE] Creating and publishing Audio Books with *Pat McGrath Avery*, *Mike Mullins*, and *John Denham* of John Denham Productions

09:40-10:40 [LINDBERG ROOM] Photoshop 1 with *Nancy Smith*. Overview Photoshop and how to work with photos.

10:50-11:30 [LINDBERG ROOM] Photoshop 2 with *Nancy Smith*. Using Photoshop to create book covers and other fun stuff.

10:50-11:30 [AMPHITHEATRE] Writing Descriptions with *Jack London*. Describing things, writing thoughts, writings sounds.

11:35-12:15 [LINDBERG ROOM] The Value of Your Time on the Back-End Activities of Your Book with *JoAnn Forrester*.

11:35-12:15 [AMPHITHEATRE] Writing and working with Dialogue with *Jack Woodville London*. Dialogue as story telling: writing conversations to shape the story arc, What is the overall story about? What is the conflict upon which the story hinges? Who are the mirrors of that conflict? The principal characters? Minor characters? How might the words that one person says to another, or to himself, set up conflict?

12:30 - 01:00 — [LINDBERG ROOM] Lunch Buffet — Taco/Fajita bar, Salad bar, Seasoned Chicken and Ground Beef, Sauteed Peppers, Tomatoes, Lettuce, Olives, Cheese, Mexican Rice, Chips and House made Salsa, Guacamole and sour cream. For dessert Cinnamon Crisps and drinks.

Continue on Page 6

Continued from Page 5

01:20 - 2:00 — [AMPHITHEATRE] Writing for Emotional and Spiritual Understanding with *Bill McDonald*. A different approach to writing fiction by tapping into an inner source and making it a major component of the creative process.

01:20 – 02:00 — [LINDBERG ROOM] Presentation of “The Night Sky” with *Maria Sutton*.

02:10 - 3:00 — [LINDBERG ROOM] Character as a Plot Device and vice versa: Techniques to add depth and structure to your novel. Panel Discussion with *Joyce Faulkner, Bob Doerr, Del Staecker, Mike Angley, and Jack London*.

02:10 - 03:00 — [AMPHITHEATRE] You've Landed that Publisher – Now What? with *Don Helin*. This workshop will highlight the importance of developing a quality marketing plan six months before your book is due to come out. Items discussed include: investing in a quality website, Internet marketing, developing press releases and using nonfiction hooks to enhance media relations, guest blogging, and many other issues.

03:10 - 04:00 [AMPHITHEATRE] Marketing Your Book with *Joanne Quinn-Smith*. Attention Writers: All that work in writing your book...Are you making the money you want? Pricing: For the backend PROFIT of your time, effort and book

04:15 [DISCOVERY/CHALLENGER ROOM] Cash Bar Outside Banquet Rooms.

04:45 Banquet Room Opens [DISCOVERY/CHALLENGER ROOM]

Awards Ceremony
Saturday, September 28, 2013
Discovery/Challenger Room
5:00 PM

5:00 - 5:30 pm

Welcome

Dwight Zimmerman - President

Bill McDonald - Founder

Prayer and Pledge

Ron Camarda - Secretary

5:50 - 6:50 pm

Banquet & Cake

7:00 pm

Awards Presentation

Sandra Miller Linhart - Historical Fiction/ Mystery Thriller

Valerie Ormond - Graphical, Children's, Young Adult & Poetry

Bob Doerr - Romance, History & Short Story Collection

Joyce Gilmour - Memoir , Biography, and Reference

Betsy Beard - Humor, Spiritual, How-to , Audio Book

Kathleen Rodgers - Sci-fi , Literary Fiction, Creative Non-Fiction

Dwight Zimmerman - The Presidents Award

Bill McDonald - The Founders Award + (Special – AAA Award)

Mike Angley - The Author of the Year Award

Closing

Dwight Zimmerman

Closing Prayer

Ron Camarda

MWSA Buckaroo Auction

Friday Night, September 27 - 8:30 PM Amphitheater

	DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM	DONOR	VALUE
1	20 ENVELOPES W/BUCKAROOS \$1 TO \$10,000	MWSA	VARIES
2	TWO-NIGHT STAY AT HOTEL	MWSA	222.76
3	1 YEAR MWSA MEMBERSHIP	MWSA	40.00
4	2 YEAR MWSA MEMBERSHIP	MWSA	65.00
5	3 YEAR MWSA MEMBERSHIP	MWSA	90.00
6	2014 CONFERENCE FEE	MWSA	290.00
7	THREE POETRY BOOK – EYES AND STONES, RATTLE, BOXES	JIM GREENWALD	45.00
8	FREE ENTRY INTO 2014 MWSA AWARD CONTEST	MWSA	25.00
9	MWSA LOGO MOUSE PADS (4 OF THEM)	MWSA	12.00
10	ONE NIGHTS HOTEL STAY “FREE”	HOLIDAY INN	111.38
11	½ PAGE AD DISPATCHES (BID + 50.00 CASH)	DISPATCHES	150.00
12	BUSINESS CARD SIZE AD DISPATCHES (BID + 10.00 CASH)	DISPATCHES	40.00
13	¼ PAGE AD DISPATCHES (BID + 20.00 CASH)	DISPATCHES	75.00
14	3 BOOK SET FRUGAL SERIES AUTHOR HELP SERIES	C. HOWARD-JOHNSON	50.00
15	30,000 WORDS OF COPY EDITING	JOYCE GILMOUR	300.00
16	T-SHIRT ANY STYLE NANCY’S ENTERTAINMENT	NANCY SMITH	18.00
16	T-SHIRT ANY STYLE NANCY’S ENTERTAINMENT	NANCY SMITH	18.00
17	FREE ENTRY INTO 2015 BRANSON STARS & FLAGS CONTEST	NANCY SMITH	50.00
17	FREE ENTRY INTO 2015 BRANSON STARS & FLAGS CONTEST	NANCY SMITH	50.00
18	RADIO INTERVIEW “AUTHOR SHINE OUT LOUD”	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	500.00
19	RADIO INTERVIEW “AUTHOR SHINE OUT LOUD”	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	500.00
20	SAMSUNG DIGITAL CAMERA 26X ZOOM	MWSA	150.00
21	FUJI DIGITAL CAMERA 30X ZOOM	MWSA	200.00
22	APPLE IPAD MINI (BUYER AGREES TO REVIEW 5 BOOKS)	MWSA	330.00
23	APPLE IPAD MINI (BUYER AGREES TO REVIEW 5 BOOKS)	MWSA	330.00
24	RADIO INTERVIEW “AUTHOR SHINE OUT LOUD”	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	500.00
25	RADIO INTERVIEW “AUTHOR SHINE OUT LOUD”	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	500.00
26	RADIO INTERVIEW “AUTHOR SHINE OUT LOUD”	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	500.00
27	STAPLES GIFT CARD \$50.00	DWIGHT ZIMMERMAN	50.00
28	10 WWII PHOTOGRAPHS	DWIGHT ZIMMERMAN	250.00
29	12 CIVIL WAR PHOTOGRAPHS	DWIGHT ZIMMERMAN	300.00
30	1 HR PHONE CONSULT	JILL SWENSON	100.00

#	DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM	DONOR	VALUE
31	2 BOOKS DEVIL'S DEN & THY KINGDOM COME	D. HELIN	25.00
32	2 HR. CONSULT ON LIFE ISSUES	BILL McDONALD	300.00
33	2 HR MARKETING/PROMOTION CONSULT	BILL McDONALD	300.00
34	JAPANESE SILK WEDDING OB (HAND EMBROIDERED)	FRANK EVANS	750.00
35	\$50.00 GIFT CARD	JACK LONDON	50.00
36	WINE & BOOK	JEANETTE VAUGHAN	75.00
37	BOOK & E-BOOK COVER CREATION (AUTHOR SUPPLIES ARTWORK)	KATHY ROWE	50.00
38	GINI 7 INCH PICTURE FRAME	BETSY BEARD	36.00
39	GOVERNMENT RED TAPE	DWIGHT ZIMMERMAN	XXXXX
40	AMAZON GIFT CARD	ELLE THORNTON	25.00
41	FOLLY OF MARKETING PLAN IN YOUR HEAD, 101 COMPELLING REASONS TO WRITE ONE (5)	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	\$ 10.00
42	POWER LINKEDIN PROFILE	JOANNE QUINN-SMITH	\$1,000.00
43	WRITERS SURVIVAL BASKET W/30 MIN INTERVIEW W/ EMPRESSOFBIZ	JOANN FORRESTER	500.00
44	DESIGN AN iPad BOOK	JOYCE FAULKNER	500.00
45	1 YEAR OF PREMIUM EVERNOTE	JOYCE FAULKNER	45.00
46	KINDLE DEVICE COVER	DICK GESHKE	20.00
47	PACKAGE OF PHOTO CARDS (LANDSCAPES)	PAT McGRATH AVERY	15.00
48	PACKAGE OF PHOTO CARDS (BIRDS)	PAT McGRATH AVERY	15.00
49	AN 8 X 10 INCH CANVAS PRINT "FOG IN TREES"	PAT McGRATH AVERY	50.00

We start the Auction with Item # 1 - Envelopes in amounts from \$1.00 - \$10,000. Bidding starts at \$100.00 . If you are the successful bidder you will come to the front of the room and pick an envelope from the container. Items that involve a service make certain to obtain contact information.



Daniel Flores & Darlene Iskra



Keith Jones



Carolyn Schriber and Jack London

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

CONGRATULATIONS to all finalists! As is our custom, medal winners will be announced at the banquet on September 28. If you receive a medal, you will have limited time to speak at the podium — Gold Medalists will have three minutes, Silver and Bronze two.

Conference Location — This year's conference is in Dayton, Ohio (September 26-29, 2013).

- ☆ The venue is the Holiday Inn Fairborn, Conference Center I-675, 2800 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324.
- ☆ Details about the conference are posted on the website under "Conferences" and they are also listed on the Conference Application Form.
- ☆ It is your responsibility to read the information. If you are planning on coming, request the application form by emailing LeansToFar@aol.com, fill it out completely, and return it to the same email address.
- ☆ The hotel is not obligated to provide the contract room rate after September 5, 2013. So get those reservations in quickly. Once the reserved block is filled or that date arrives, you will probably need to find alternate accommodations.

MWSA 2013 "Our Voices" Anthology — Each year, we publish an anthology that includes submissions from MWSA members and the reviews of all books that are finalists for an award. One is included in your conference fees and you can buy additional copies at the conference for \$25 or you can order them to be sent to you for \$36. Traditionally, members spend time signing each other's anthologies to have a special reminder of the new friends you meet and a celebration of the old friends you made at earlier events.

Book Sales Table — The book sales table is limited to sixty titles — first come, first served. You may submit a maximum of two books for a fee. Only those signing up in advance will be allowed to place a book(s) on the table.

Anderson Room — Our Media Center is where radio interviews are conducted.

Glenn Room — This room is set aside for use by all members as a gathering place when not attending a seminar. It will provide a place to sit and chat with old and new friends and to get those anthologies signed. It is rude to exchange signatures *during* a seminar.

Officers & Board members — Book Donation Presentation at the Dayton VA Community Living Center (Nursing Home) will be held at 3:00PM on September 25, 2013. We will pack up books and leave the hotel by 2:00 PM so plan accordingly.

Thursday 3-5 Air Force Museum Tour — The bus will pick you up at the hotel at 2:30 pm and return you in time for dinner at the hotel 5:30 pm. There is no cost for members or their guests for the bus ride (limited to 40 passengers) or the tour. You can also take your private cars to the Museum and tour the museum with the others.

Food — A hot breakfast buffet is included if you stay at the hotel. Starting on Thursday evening, the rest of your meals are included in your conference fees and the times, places, and menus are included in the Program Schedule on pages 4 through 6.

Seminars — The MWSA program begins on Thursday evening. Our presenters will be providing you with lots of useful information.

- ☆ The meeting rooms have free wifi so feel free to bring your iPads, Kindles, smart phones, and other electronic devices. As the program unfolds, we encourage you to post audio, video, pictures, and comments to the MWSA Facebook group and/or to Tweet this information. This allows members who can't attend to participate in the activities.
- ☆ For those who can't come to Dayton, be sure to check the Facebook page or Twitter feed to see what's going on — and of course, share the pictures and information with your followers as well.
- ☆ The speakers and panelists will have 40 minutes to present their material so please hold your questions and comments until the 10 minute Q&A period at the end of each seminar.

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MWSA Reviewers — There is a required session for reviewers and potential reviewers on Friday from 10:45 am to 12:15 pm in the Lindberg room. This session will focus on how to post reviews to the MWSA website. If you are not yet a reviewer, and have not contacted Jim Greenwald to become one, you may attend but please listen and give all the time for questions to those that have to do the postings. Be sure to take notes as they will surely help you later. There will be more changes to the system but if you know the present one the changes will be easy to incorporate.

Wright State Archives — MWSA selected Dayton for our conference location because of its role in the history of aviation. Aside from the United States Air Force Museum which is a car ride away, Wright State University is within walking distance of our hotel. The university library is the repository for the Wright Brothers archive plus a vast array of information about flight in general. Check out what is available on their website: www.libraries.wright.edu

- ☆ There will be a tour of the archives on Friday morning at 9:30 am. There will be room for 12 on this tour so either sign up early or take your chances at registration.
- ☆ There are two opportunities for you to take advantage of this during the conference. The curator Gino Pasi will speak about the archives on Friday evening in the Amphitheatre.

Open Mic — New MWSA vice president Betsy Beard will host the Open Mic this year. Bring your book and read an excerpt, sing a song, recite a poem, tell a joke — the microphone is yours for five minutes. If you don't want to perform, come enjoy the show and support your fellow authors. Traditionally, this has been an important bonding event for our members.

Cash Bar — We have arranged for a cash bar on Friday evening during the Open Mic and on Saturday evening before the Awards Banquet. Cash bars require **cash** not credit or debit cards.

Buckaroo Auction — This year, Randy Beard will be our Auctioneer.

- ☆ You earn "buckaroos" by your participation

in MWSA. You get them by paying your dues, submitting books for review, and paying your conference fees.

- ☆ You also earn them by volunteering to help during the conference, reviewing books, being a judge, serving as an officer or board member, presenting a seminar, donating books for the VA, or donating something for the auction.
- ☆ Finally, if you win an award, you will receive buckaroos.
- ☆ The membership secretary and the lead reviewer keep track of your buckaroo total and you can see how much you've earned in your membership profile. You can also earn additional buckaroos during the conference itself.
- ☆ On Friday night, as you go into the Amphitheatre, you will receive an envelope with your buckaroos so that you can bid on the products and services in the auction.
- ☆ This event is a great ice breaker if you are new to MWSA — and a raucous, good-natured brawl if you are an old hand.
- ☆ If you are not coming to the conference and you see an item on the list on pages 8 and 9 that interests you, you can make a pre-bid. First, check how many buckaroos you have on the website, then email LeansToFar@aol.com between September 1 and September 14th to place an on line bid.

Radio Show Interviews — There will be several opportunities for you to appear on either a broadcast radio show or an Internet radio/Television program during the conference.

- ☆ Veterans Radio Network hosts Bob Gould, Nina G. Diaz, and Dwight Jon Zimmerman will conduct a special edition of their radio show spotlighting the Military Writers Society of America on Saturday morning. Finalist attendees will have an opportunity to talk about their books and themselves. Finalists attending the conference will be scheduled for this event and notified by email ahead of time. It is a promotional

Continue on Page 12

Continued from Page 11

opportunity not to be missed because you'll be talking to listeners who are a prime audience for your books.

- ☆ Five Minute Radio Interviews — These will be uploaded to our website for MWSA and member promotions. You will be contacted with your scheduled time.
- ☆ Interviews with Joanne Quinn-Smith of Author, Author, Shine Out Loud will be assigned and members notified of times.

Awards Banquet — The Awards Banquet is the highlight of the MWSA Conference each year. We come together to recognize talent, hard work, and excellence. We also come together to support our mission — to preserve history, promote healing, and to learn from each other. We encourage our members to share the joy of the moment — whether you receive a medal or not.

We have a few traditions that we observe at the banquet

- ☆ We focus on the things we have in common more than the things that separate us.
- ☆ We like to dress up for the occasion — members interpret that in many ways — from formal wear to military uniforms to period costumes.
- ☆ We have assigned seating — to facilitate the awards process, to introduce people with similar interests, and to allow officers and board members a chance to get to know members.
- ☆ We have cake at the banquet — sharing one dish to show our solidarity.
- ☆ When the awards are announced, we applaud the winners, listen intently to their comments, and wait patiently while photos of the moment are taken.
- ☆ We stay until the end of the program.
- ☆ After the program, medalists will have group photos taken.
- ☆ Suggestions are appreciated but save them for emails after the event.



CONGRATULATIONS

Pass the Salt Doc by Mike Mullins and Jim Greenwald has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. This short collection of poetry and essays reflects the everyday frustrations of two Vietnam veterans who are long past the war but still dealing with its impact. Filled with anxiety, anger, and sadness, their twin journeys touch readers from all walks of life. Unfortunately, trauma is an all too familiar visitor in all cultures.

We hope you can join us at the MWSA Conference in Dayton, September 26-29, 2013. However, if you can't make it, you can participate through Social Media. On Saturday, September 29 the MWSA Book Award WINNERS will be tweeted and posted on Facebook as they are announced during the Awards Ceremony.

IN THE RANKS...

"Moderation in war
is imbecility."
Admiral John
Fisher



c. bailey

AYE, AYE,
SIR.



"NAVY"

IN THE RANKS...

ONCE A
MARINE,



c. bailey

ALWAYS A
MARINE.



"MARINES"

IN THE RANKS...

SO, WHAT'S
ON YOUR
MIND?



c. bailey

AYE, AYE,
SIR.



"ARMY"

IN THE RANKS...

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY,
USCG.



c. bailey

223!

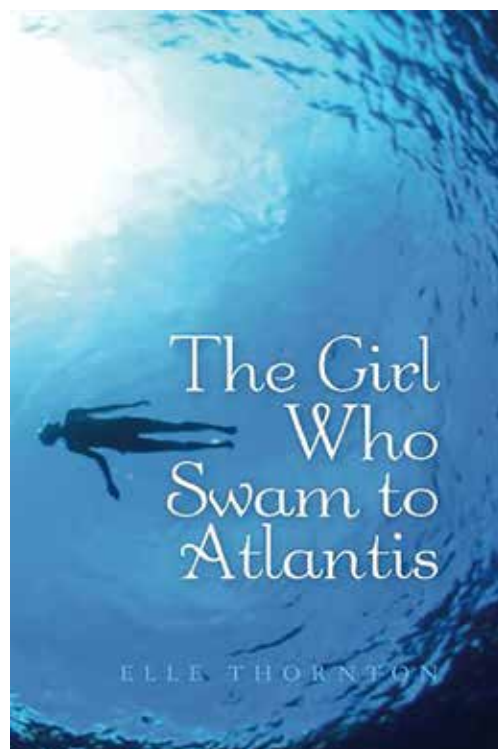


"COAST GUARD"

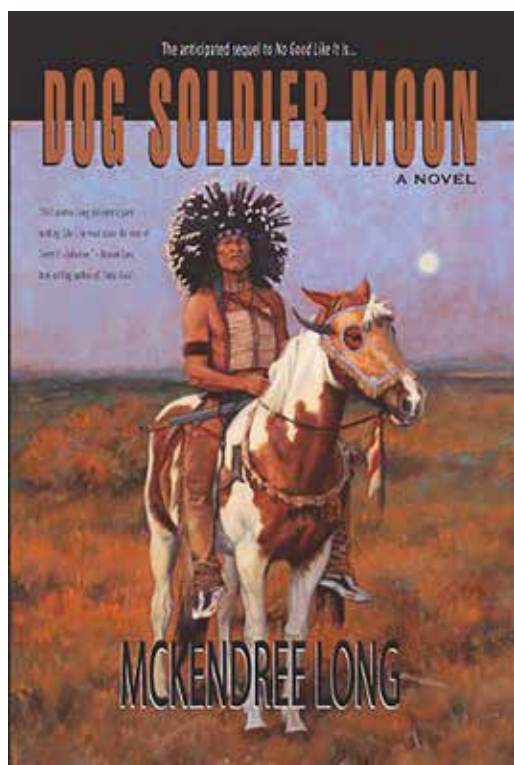
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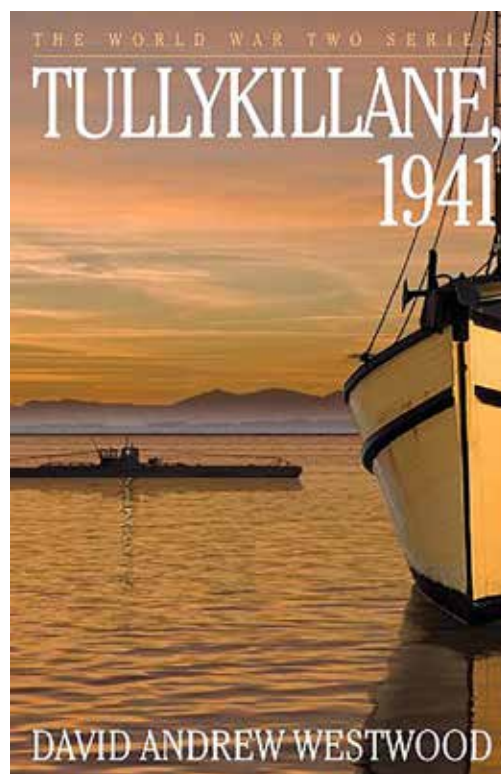
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Chosin File by Dale Dye



Historical Fiction
The Girl Who Swam to Atlantis by Elle Thornton

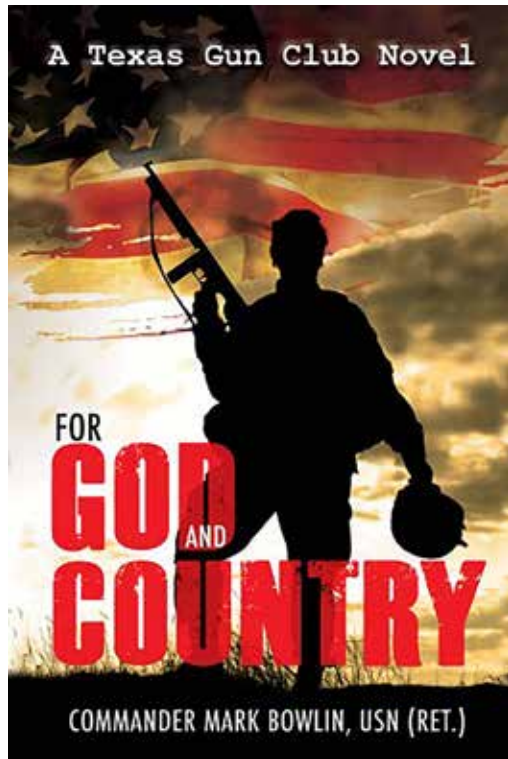


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Dog Soldier Moon by McKendree Long

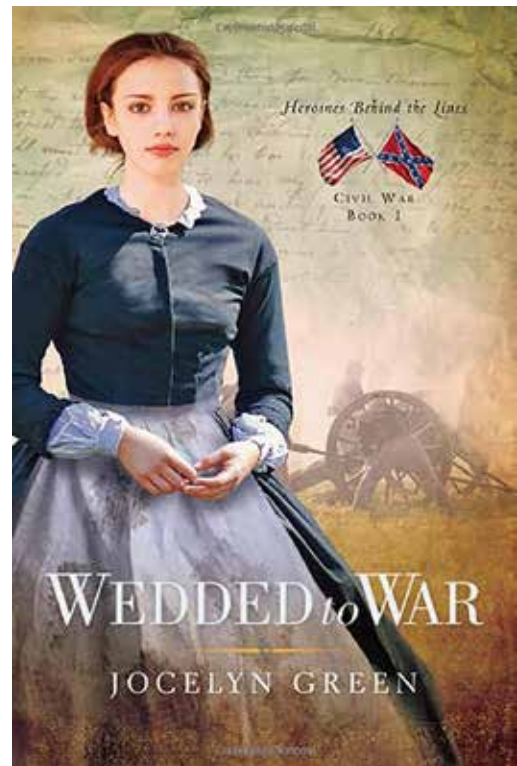


Historical Fiction
Tullykillane, 1941 by David Andrew Westwood

FINALISTS FOR 2013 Book Awards



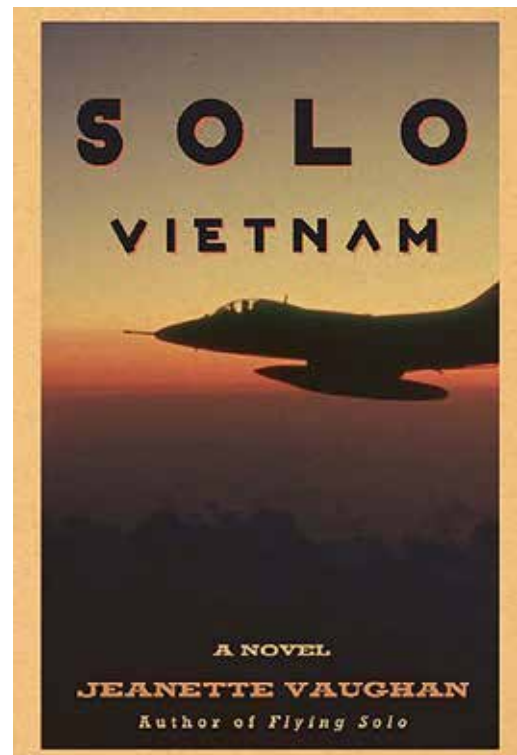
Historical Fiction
For God and Country by Mark Bowlin



Historical Fiction
Wedded to War by Jocelyn Green

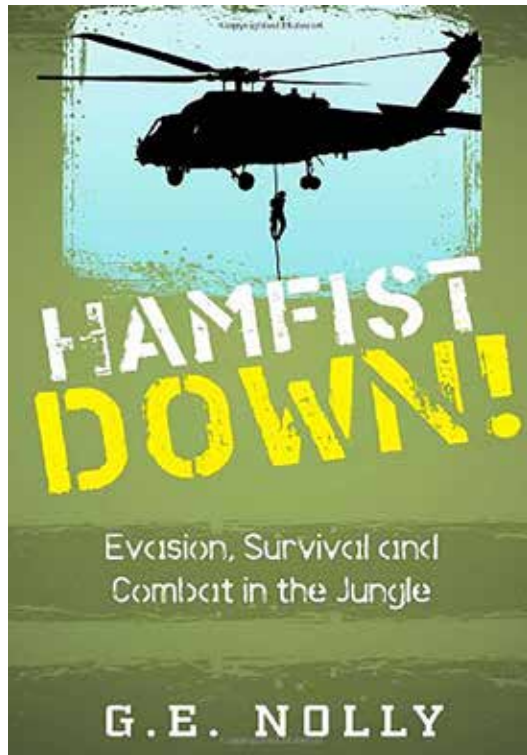


Historical Fiction
Pass in Review: Honor by Brian Utermahlen



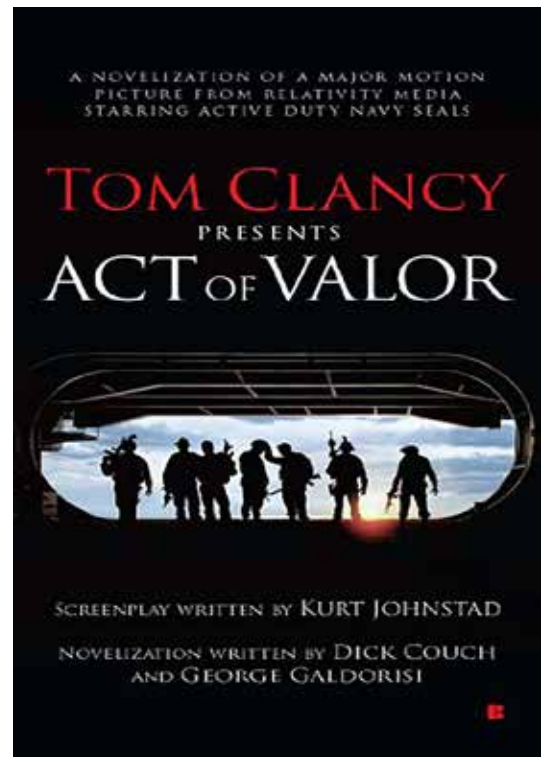
Historical Fiction
SOLO Vietnam by Jeanette Vaughan

FINALISTS FOR 2013 Book Awards



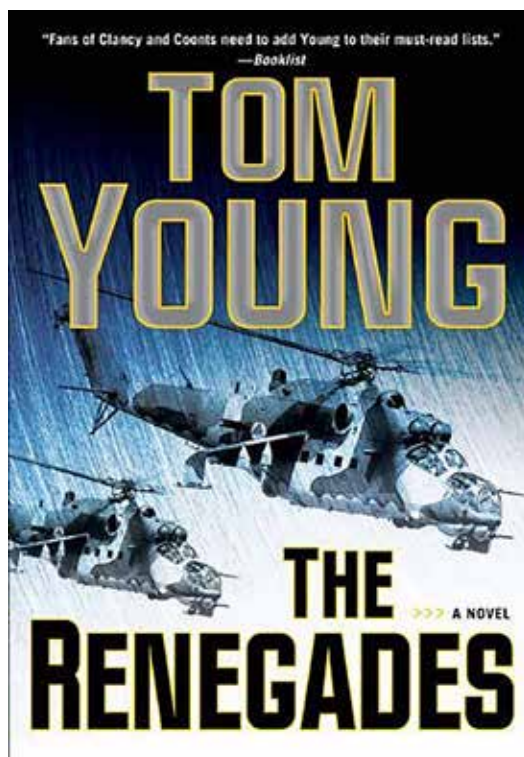
Historical Fiction

Hamfist Down! by G.E. Nolly



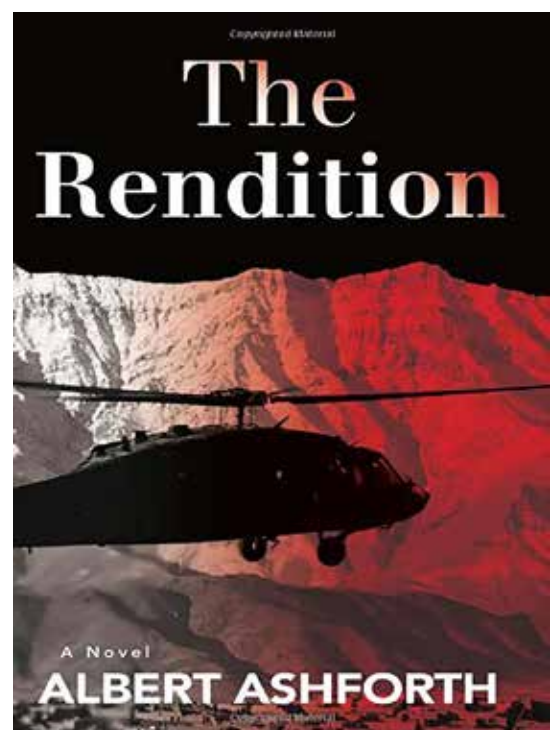
Mystery-Thriller

Act of Valor by Dick Couch and George Galdorisi



Mystery-Thriller

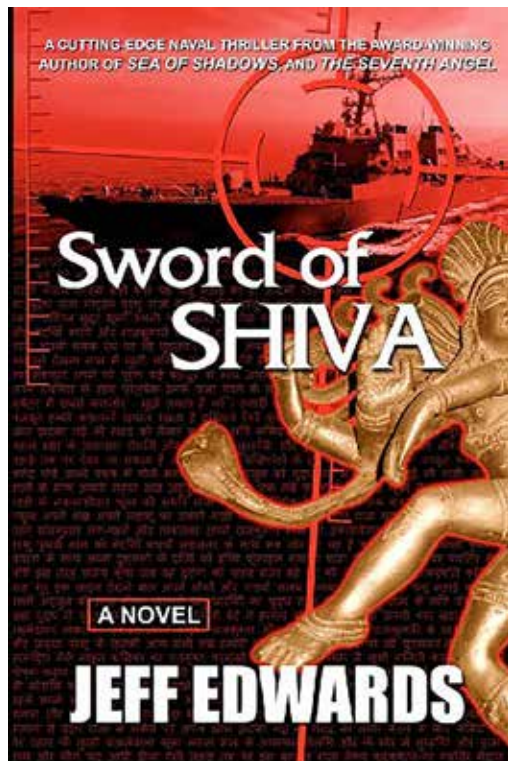
The Renegades by Tom Young



Mystery-Thriller

The Rendition by Albert Ashforth

FINALISTS FOR 2013 Book Awards



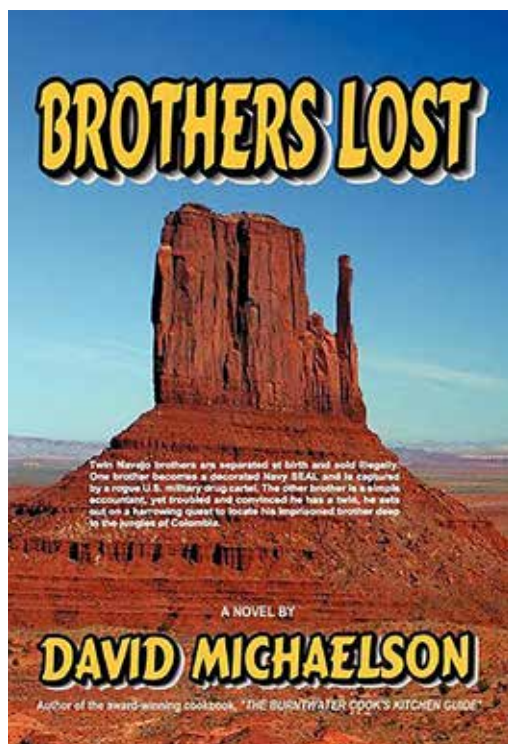
Mystery-Thriller

Sword of Shiva by Jeff Edwards



Mystery-Thriller

Mistletoe, Merriment, and Murder by Sara Rosett



Mystery-Thriller

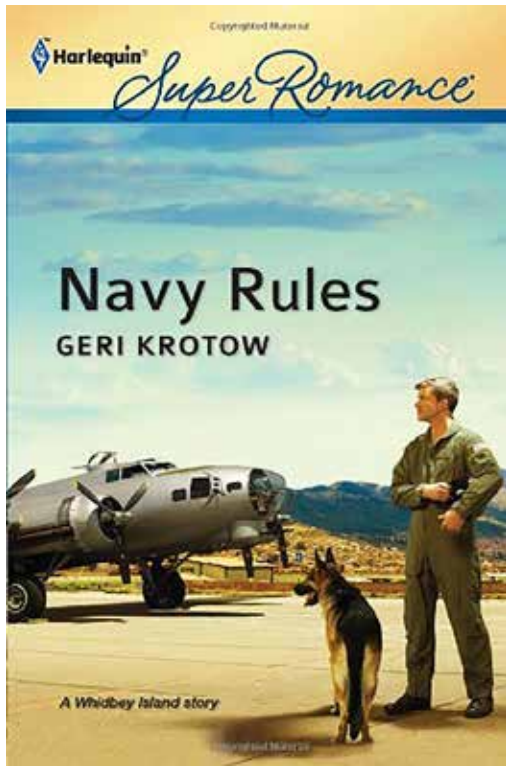
Brothers Lost by David Michaelson



Sci-Fi

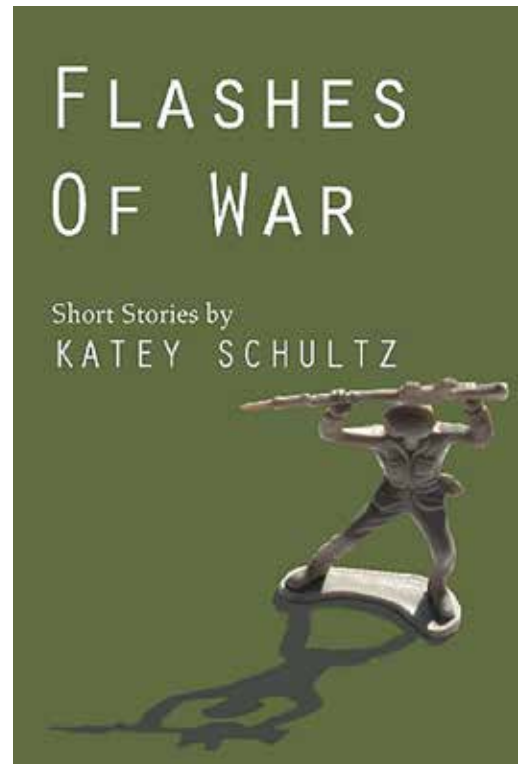
The Donors by Jeffrey Wilson

FINALISTS FOR 2013 Book Awards



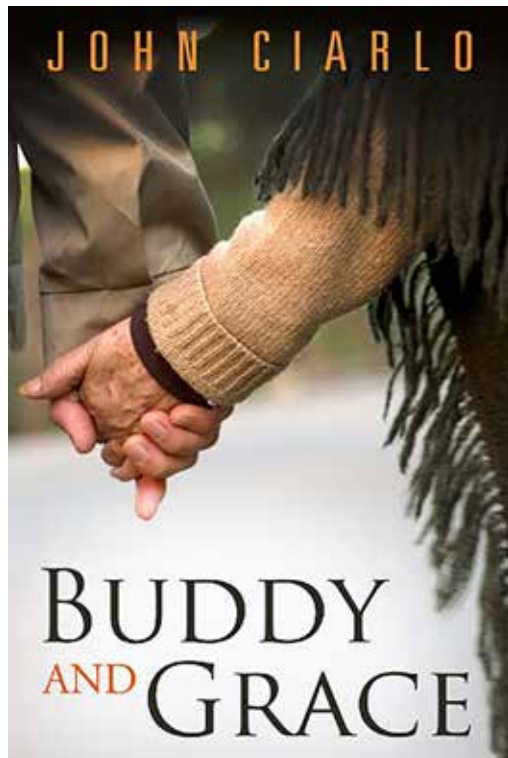
Romance

Navy Rules by Geri Krotow



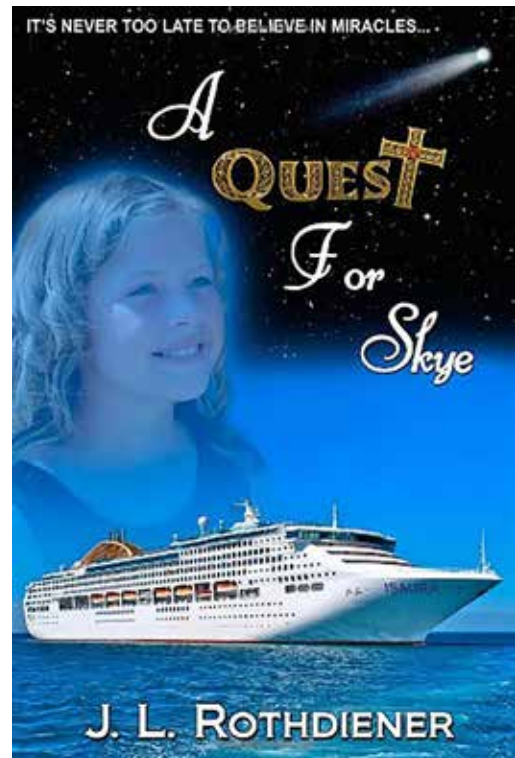
Literary Fiction

Flashes of War by Katey Schultz



Literary Fiction

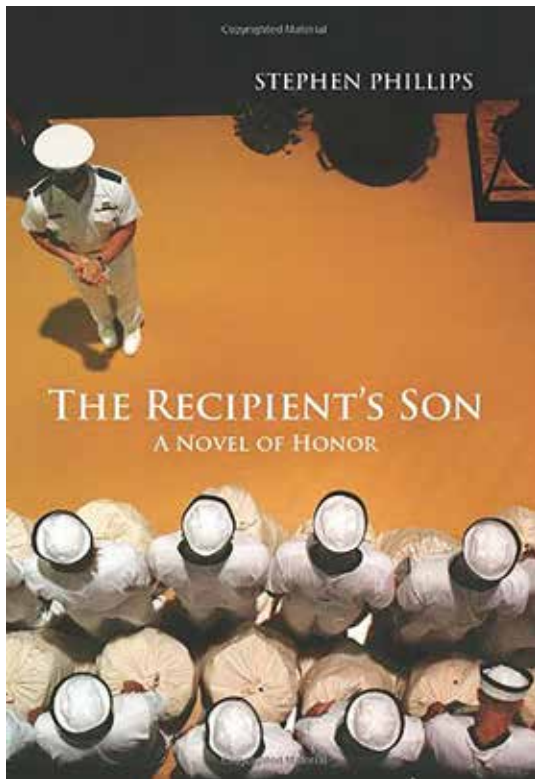
Buddy and Grace by John Ciarlo



Literary Fiction

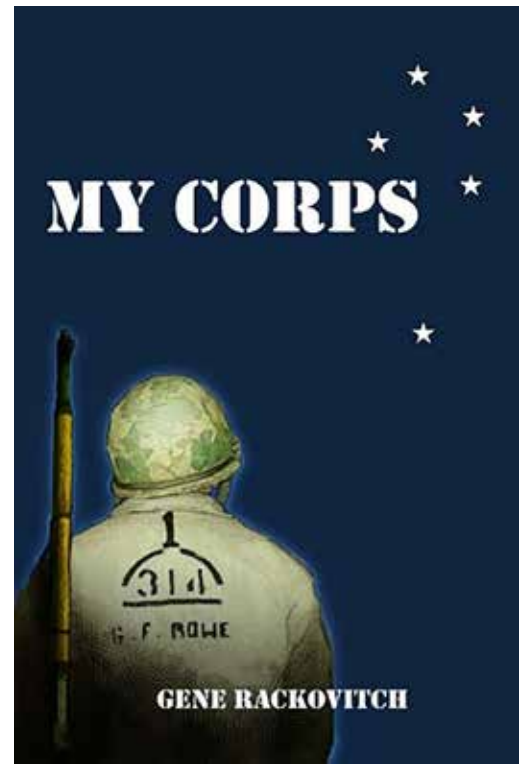
A Quest for Skye by John Rothdiener

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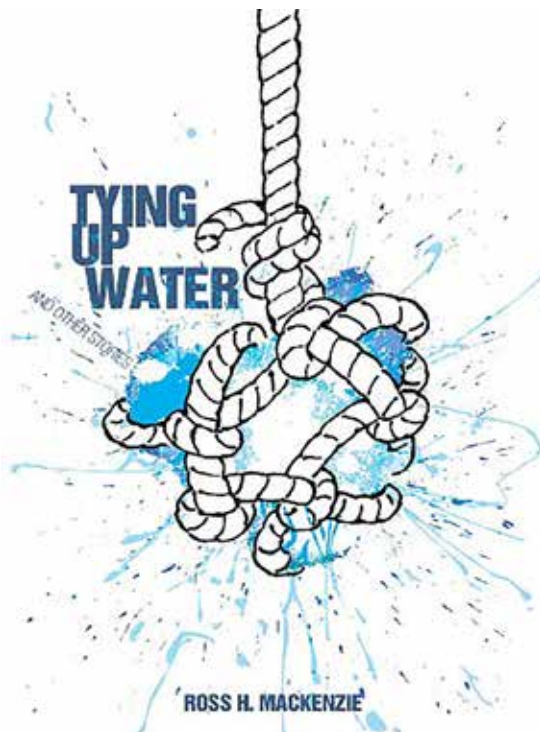
Literary Fiction

The Recipient's Son by Stephen Phillips



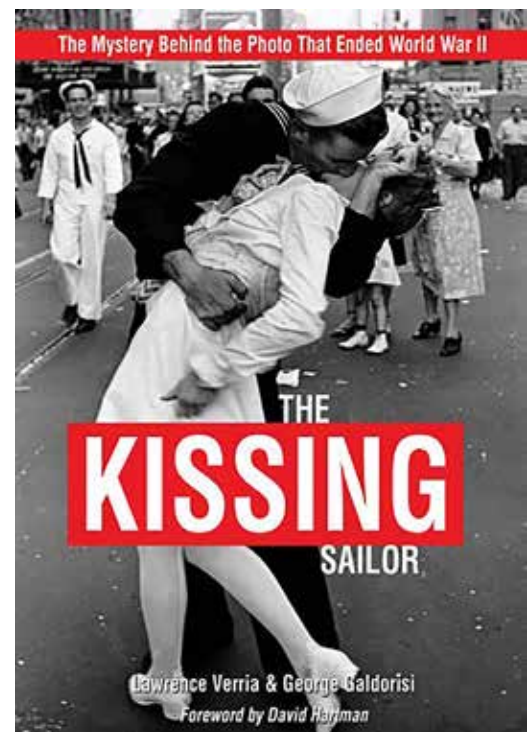
Short Fiction Anthology

My Corps by Gene Rackovitch



Short Fiction Anthology

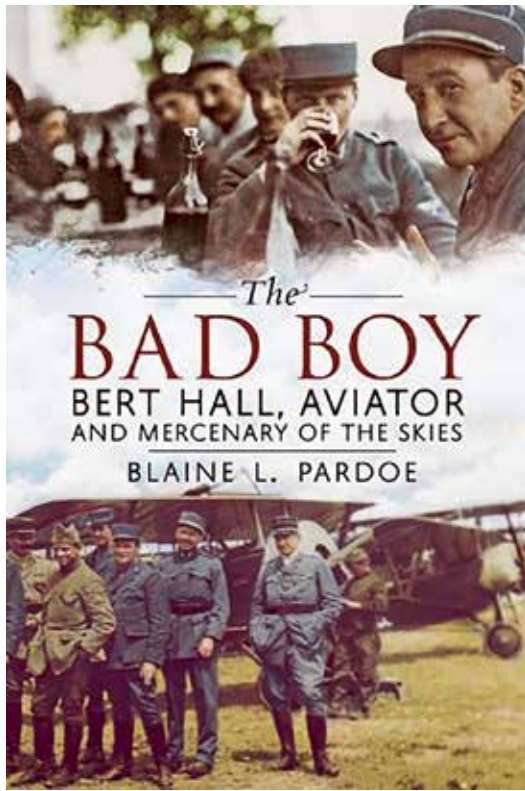
Tying Up Water by Ross H. MacKenzie



History

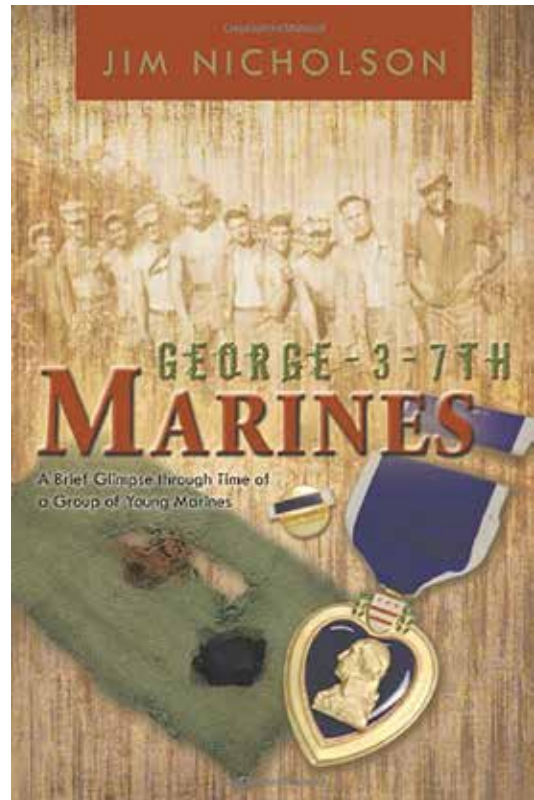
The Kissing Sailor by L. Verria, G. Galdorisi, D. Hartman

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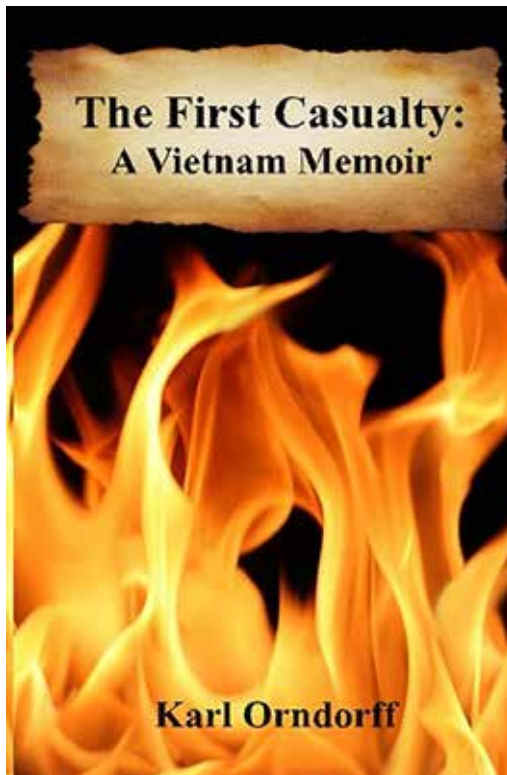
History

The Bad Boy Bert Hall by Blaine Pardoe



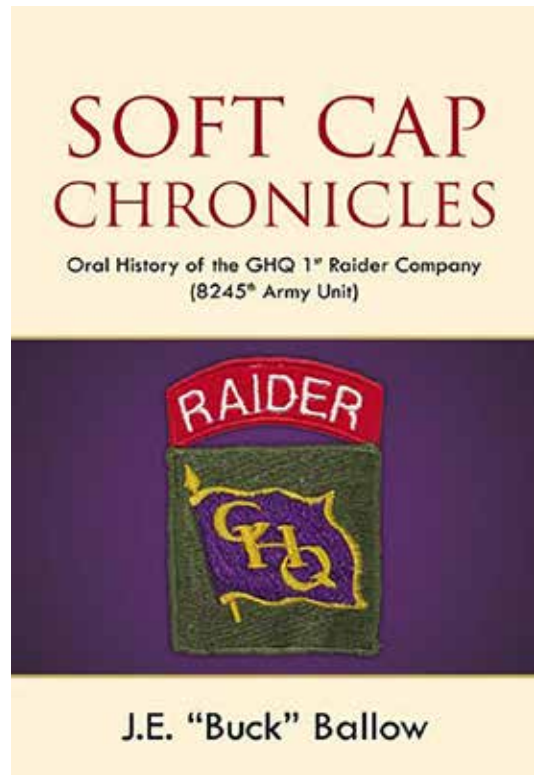
History

George 3-7th Marines by James Nicholson



History

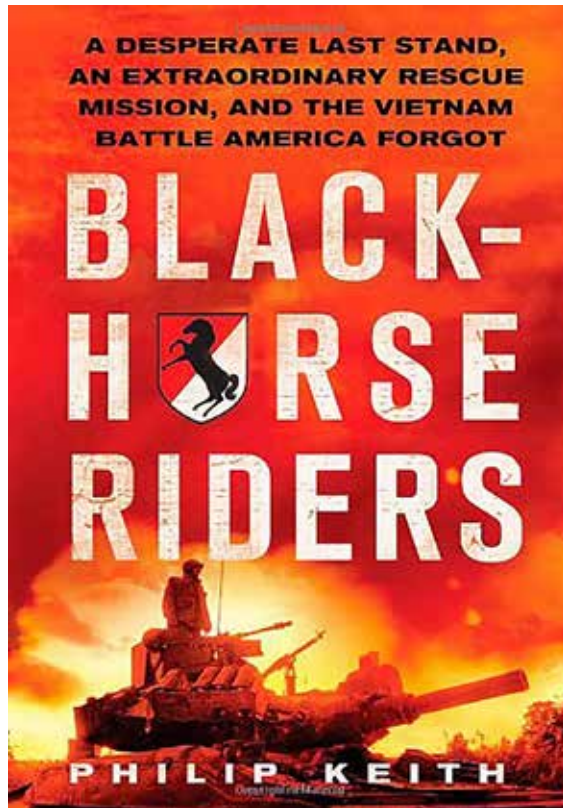
The First Casualty by Karl Orndorff



History

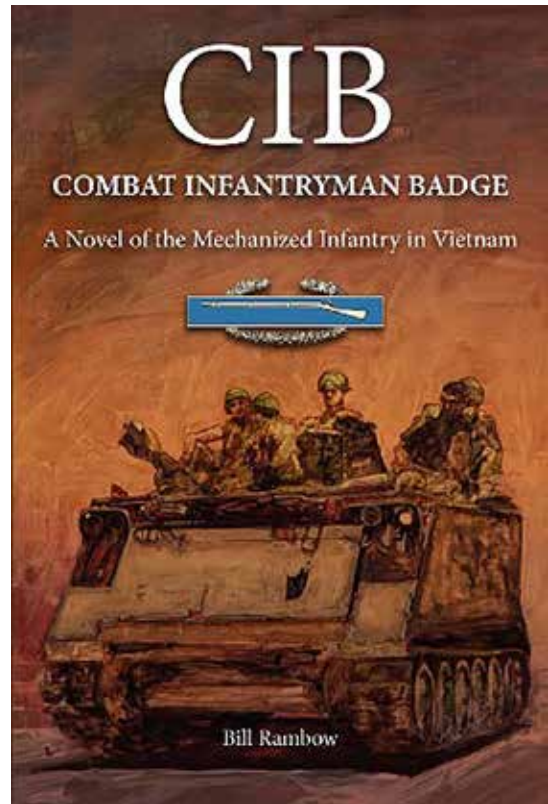
Soft Cap Chronicles by J.E. "Buck" Ballow

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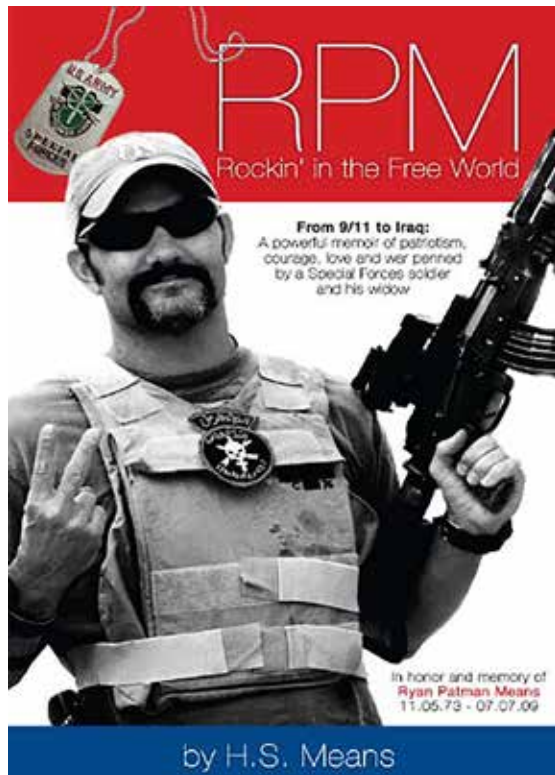
History

Black Horse Riders by Philip Keith



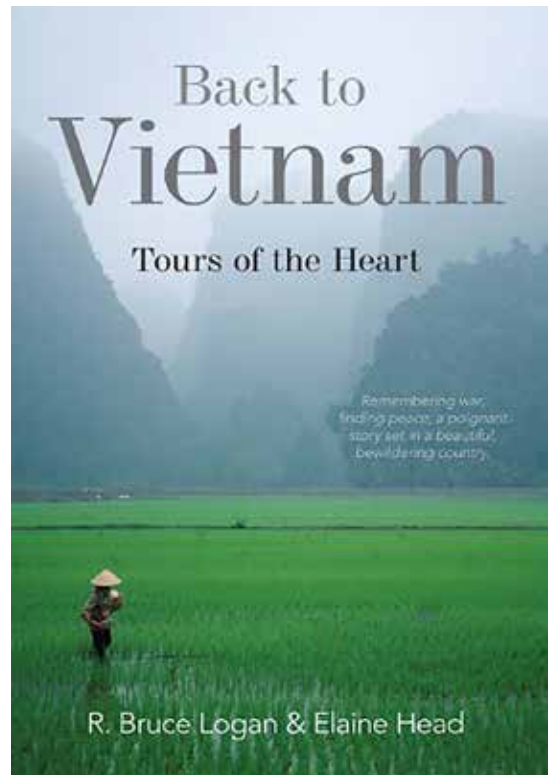
History

CIB-Combat Infantryman Badge by Bill Rambow



Memoir

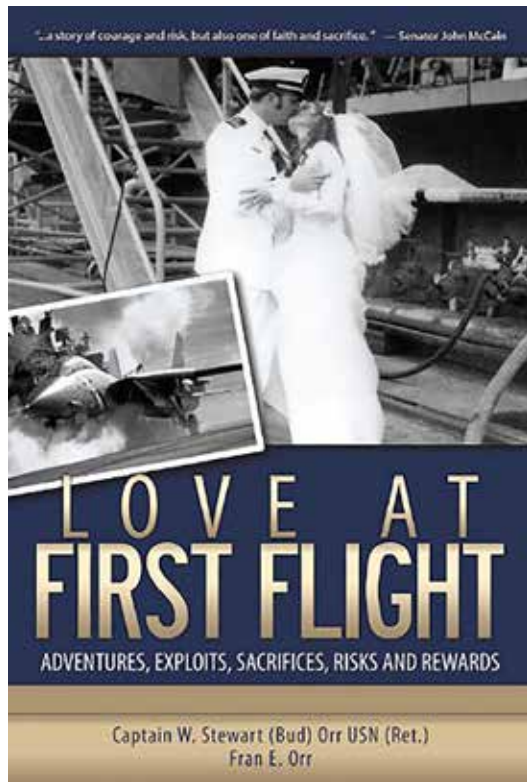
RPM by H.S. Means



Memoir

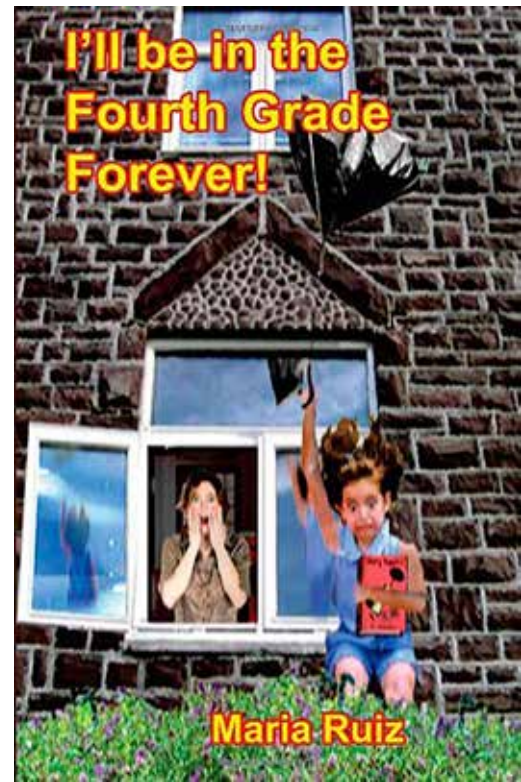
Back to Vietnam by Bruce Logan and Elaine Heart

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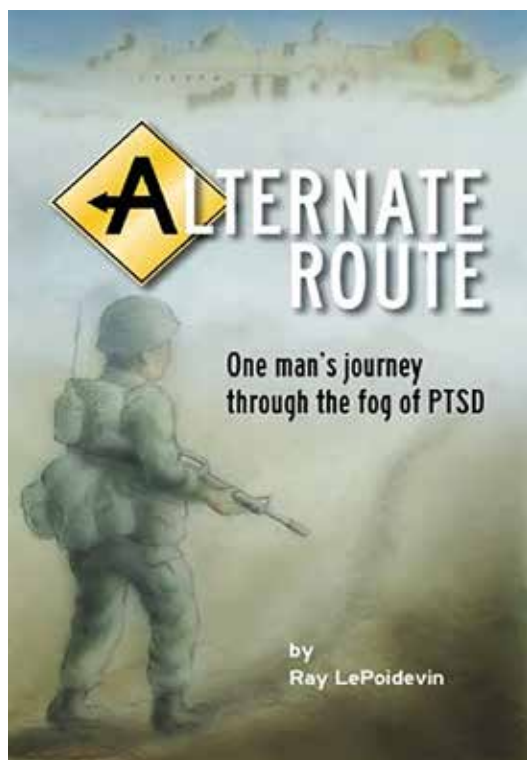
Memori

LoveatFirstFlightbyCapt.W.StewartOrrandFranOrr



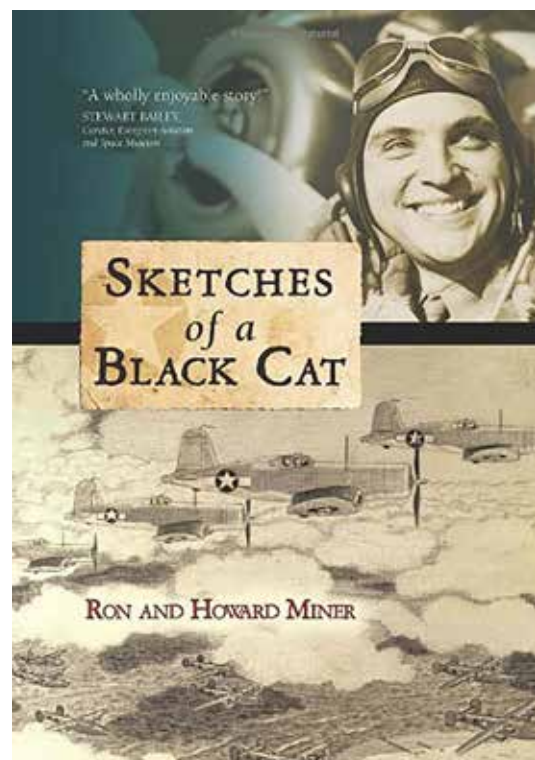
Memoir

I'll be in the Fourth Grad Forever! By Maria Ruiz



Memoir

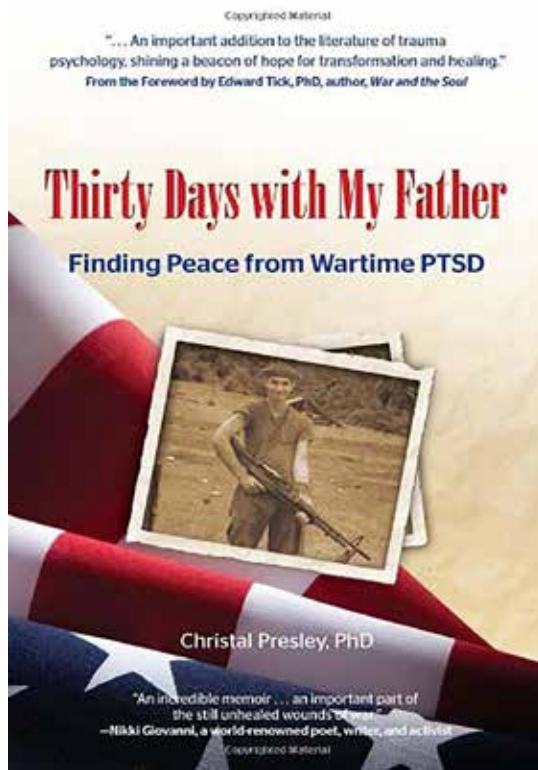
Alternate Route By Ray LePoidevin



Memoir

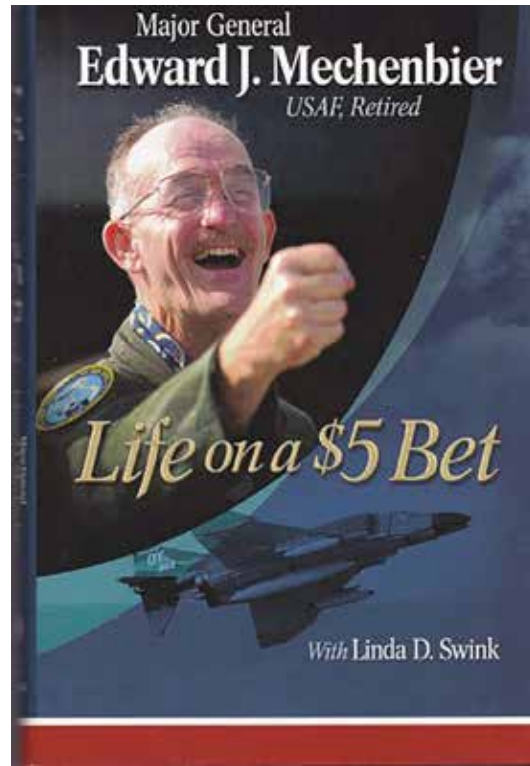
Sketches of a Black Cat by Ron and Howard Miner

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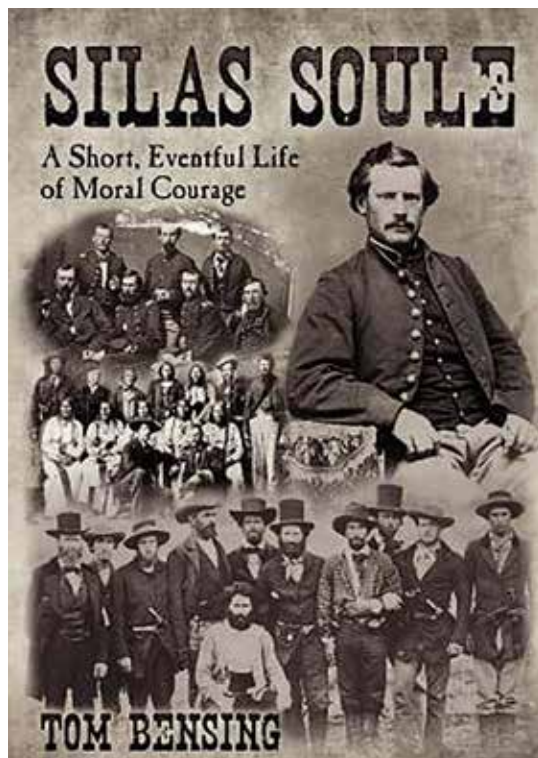
Memoir

Thirty Days with My Father by Christal Presley



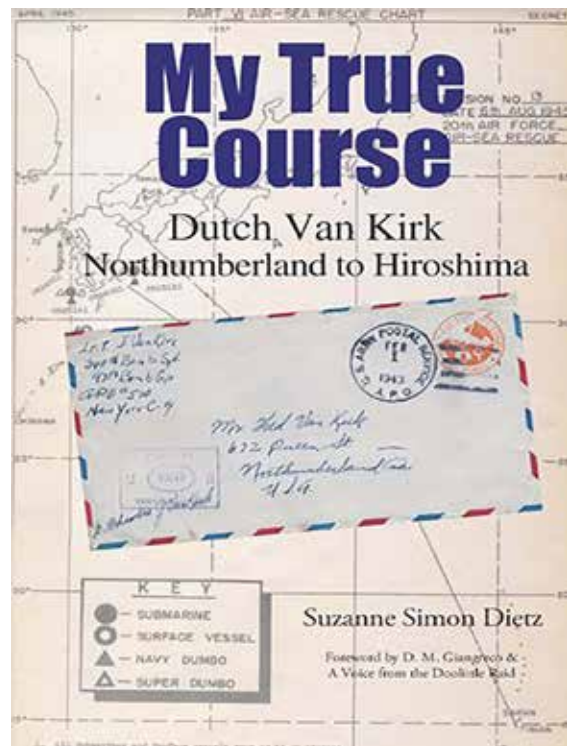
Biography

Life on a \$5 Bet by Mechenbier & Swink



Biography

Silas Soule by Tom Bensing



Biography

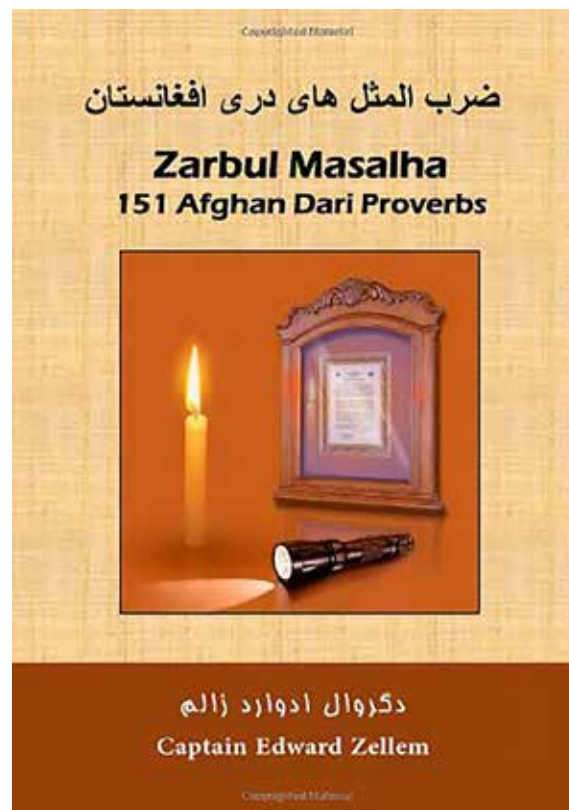
My True Course by Suzanne Simon Dietz

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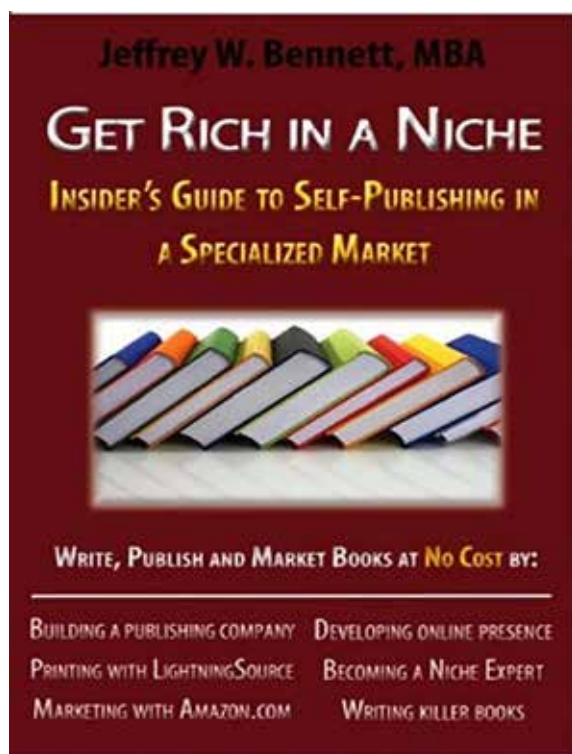
Biography

Still Having Fun by Candace George Thompson



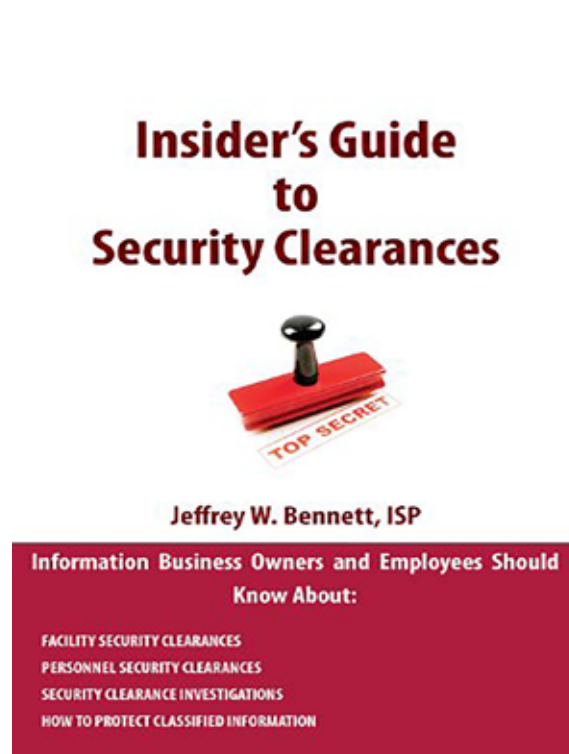
Reference

Zarbul Masalha by Edward Zellem



Business/How To

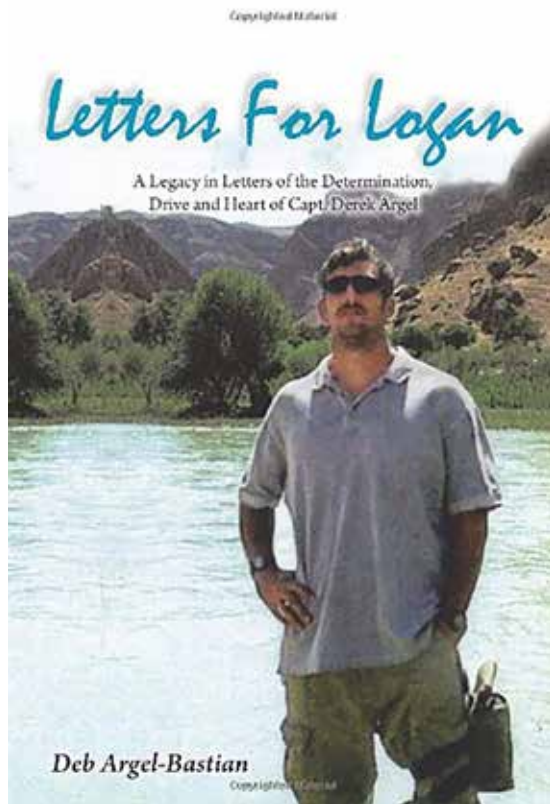
Get Rich in a Niche by Jeffrey W. Bennett



Business / How To

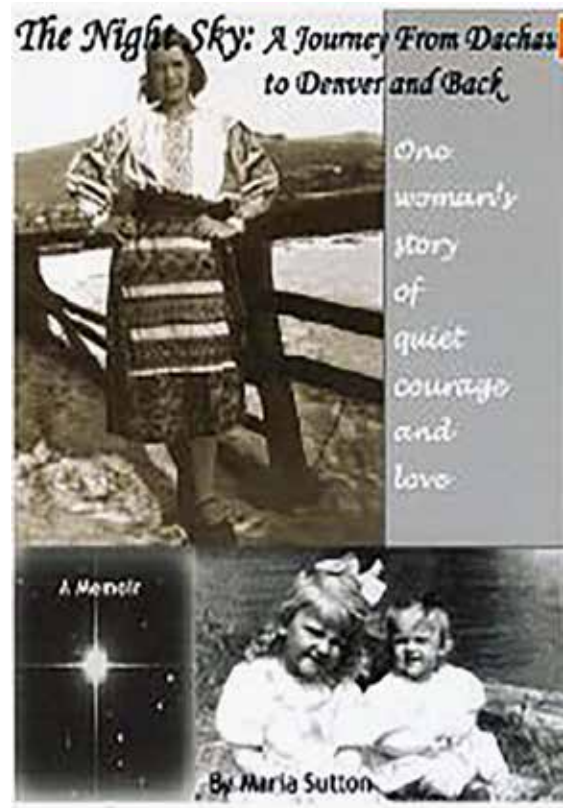
Insider'sGuidetoSecurityClearancesbyJeffreyW.Bennett

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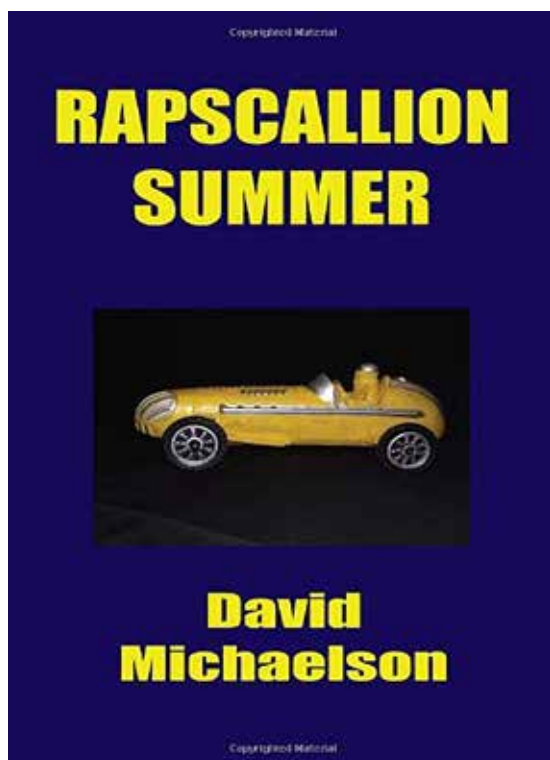
Creative Nonfiction

Letters for Logan by Debra Bastian



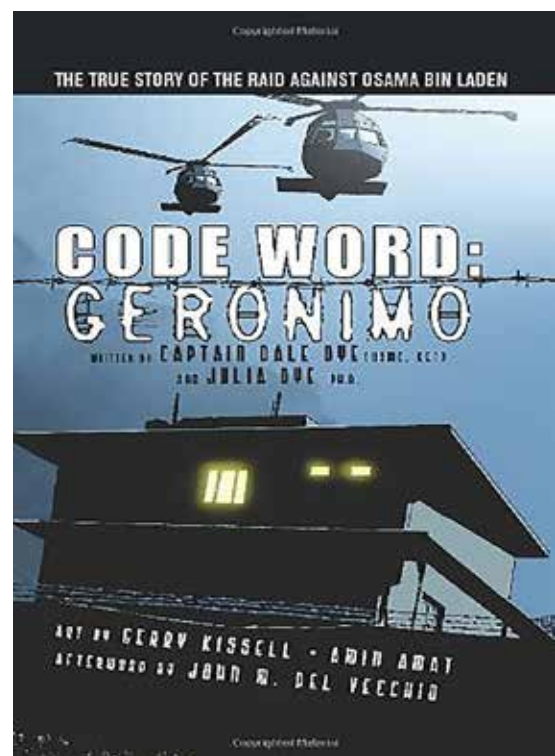
Creative Nonfiction

The Night Sky by Maria Sutton



Humor

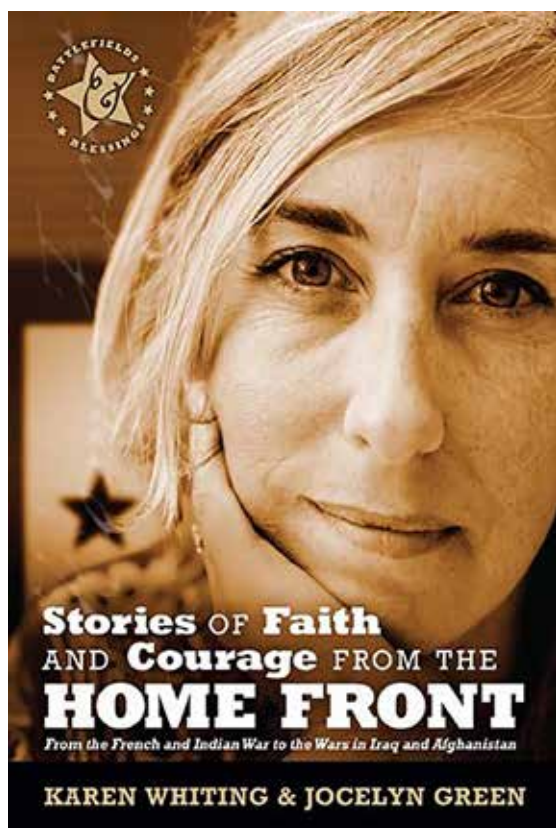
Rapscallion Summer by David Michaelson



Graphical

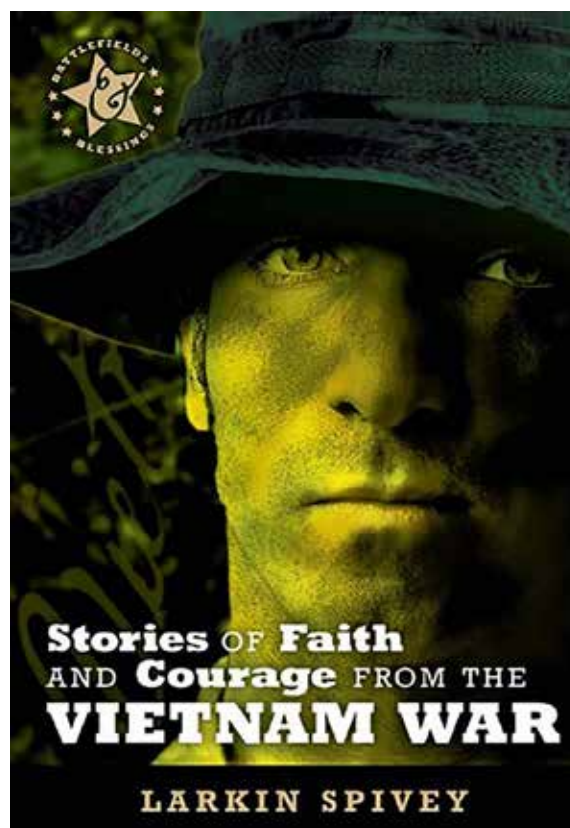
CodeWord:GeronimobyDaleDye,JuliaDye&GerryKissell

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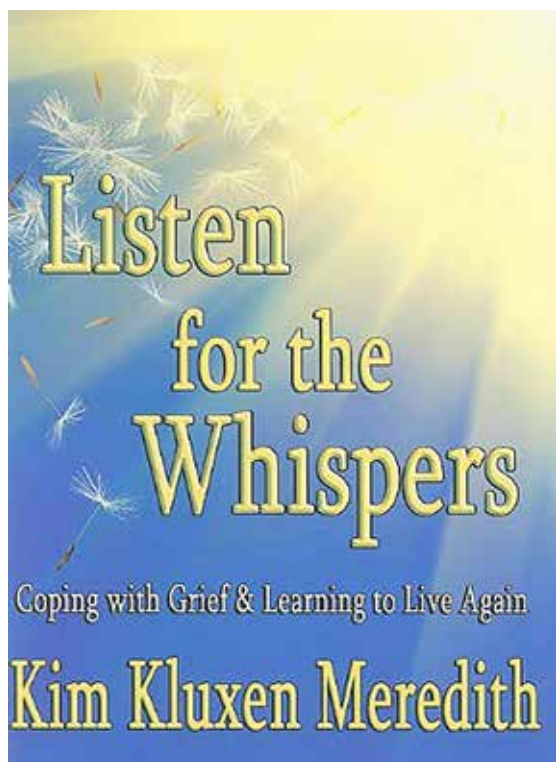
Spiritual/Religious

Stories of Faith and Courage from the Home Front



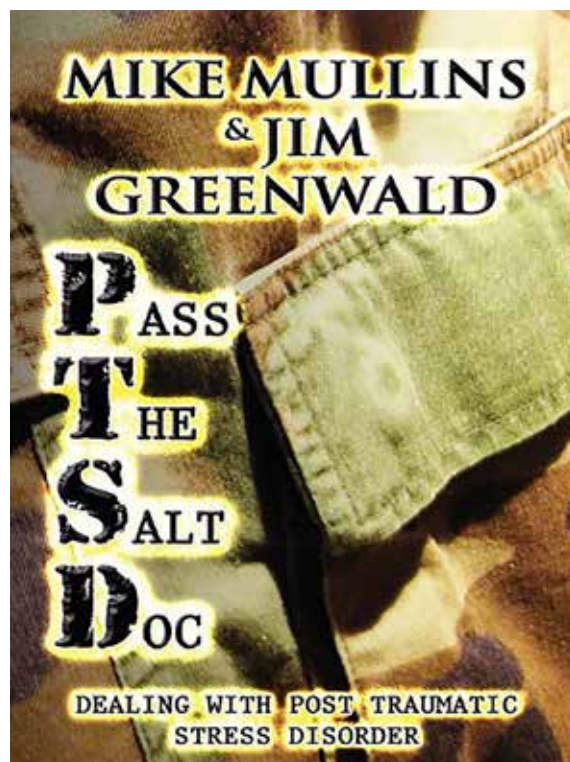
Spiritual/Religious

Stories of Faith and Courage from the Vietnam War



Spiritual/Religious

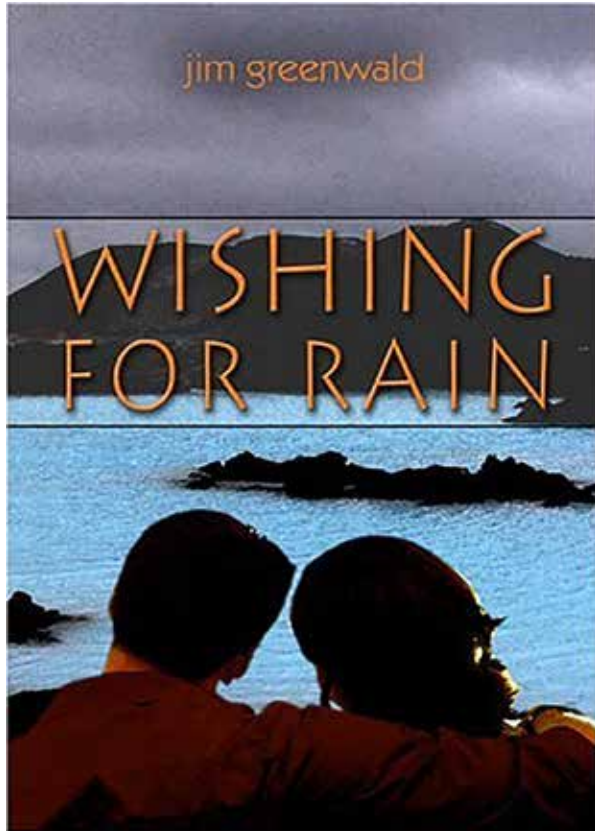
Listen for the Whispers by Kim Kluxen Meredith



Poetry

Pass the Salt, Doc by Mike Mullins and Jim Greenwald

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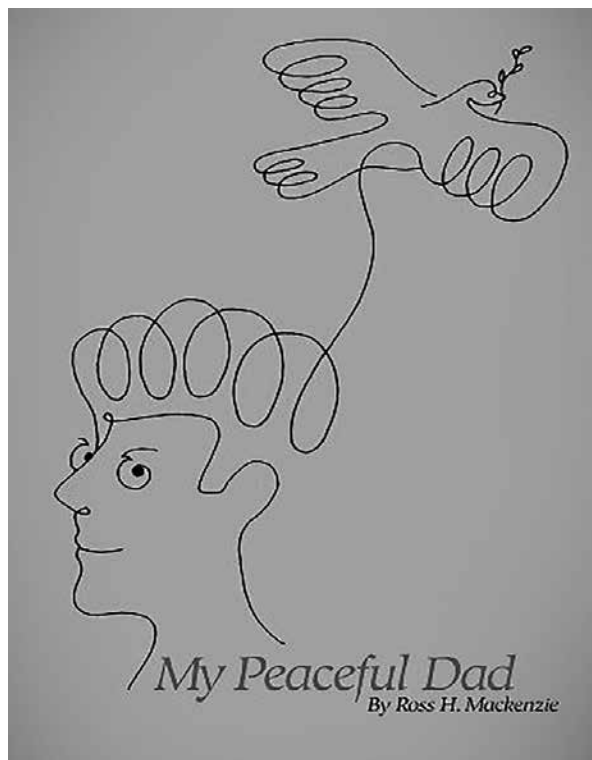
Poetry

Wishing for Rain by Jim Greenwald



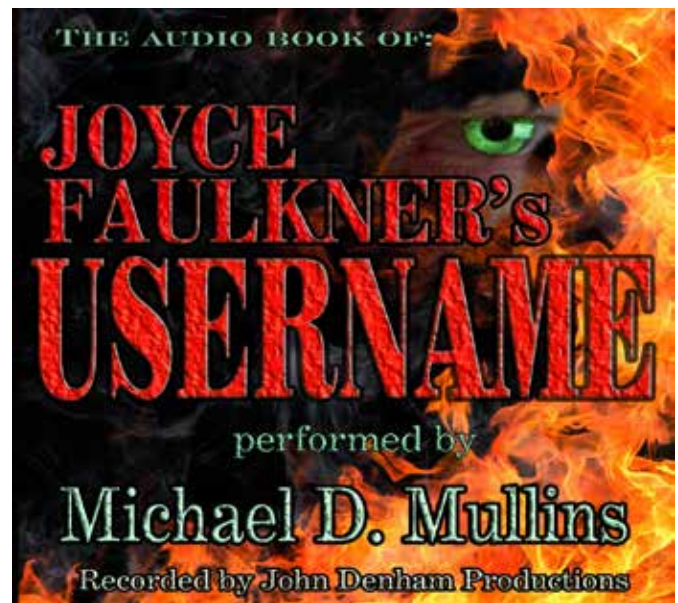
Jim Greenwald

Mitakuye Oyasin



Poetry

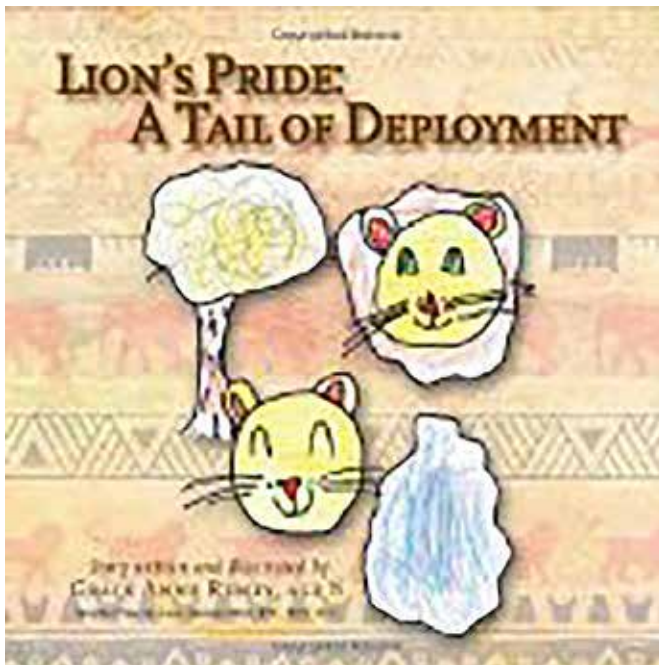
My Peaceful Dad by Ross H, MacKenzie



Audio Book

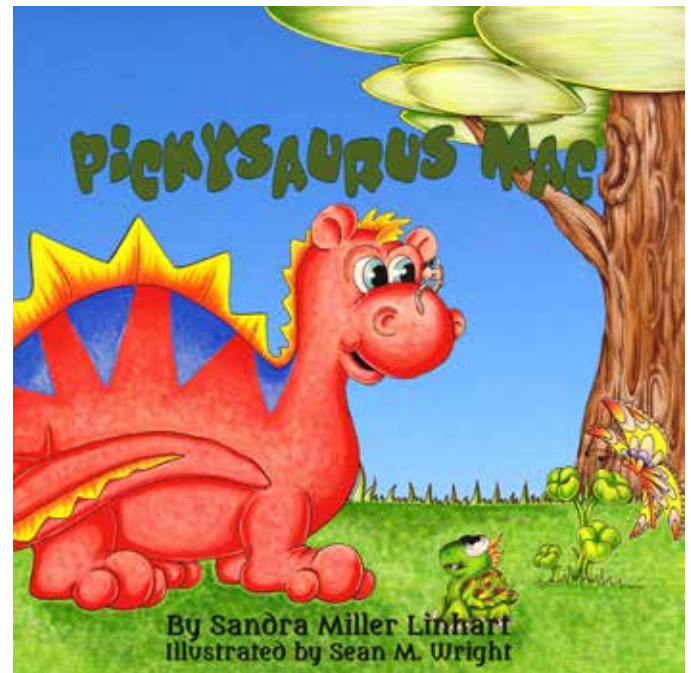
USERNAME by Faulkner, Performed by Mullins

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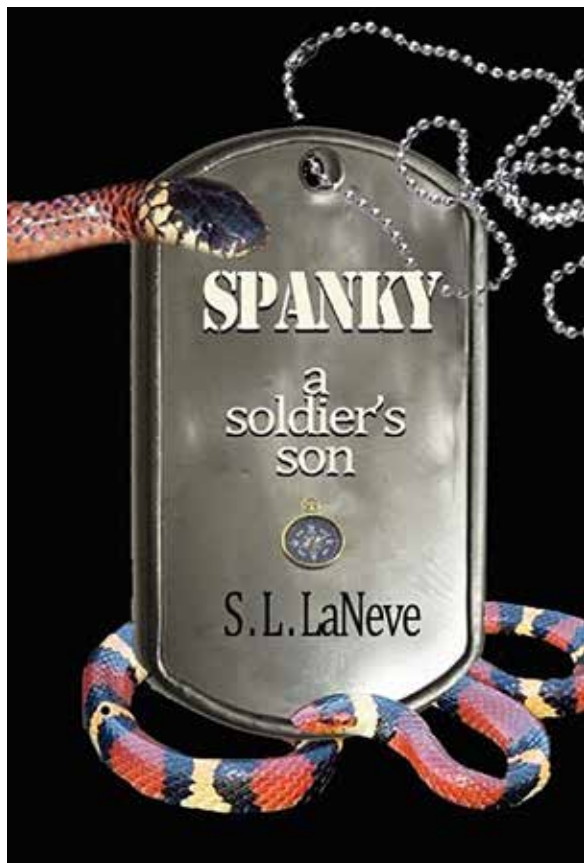
Children Under 12

Lion's Tail: A Tail of Deployment



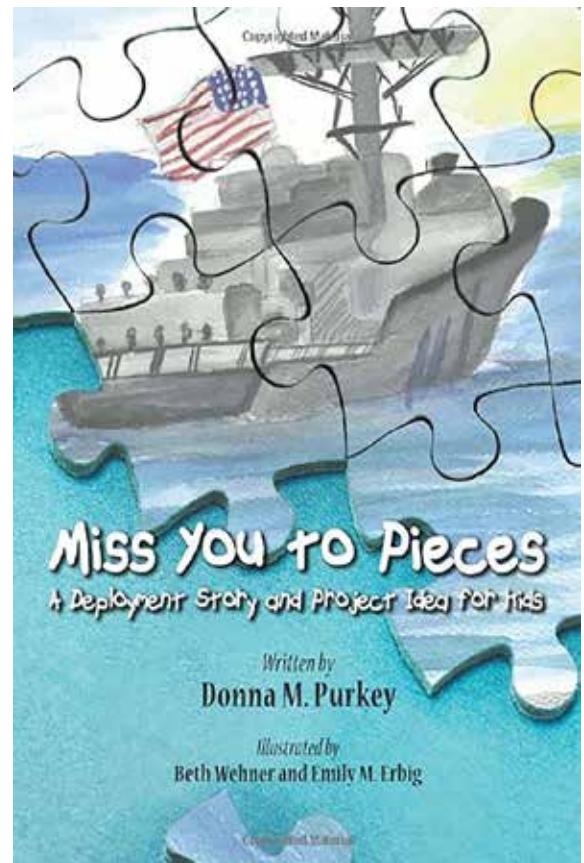
Children's Under 12

Pickysaurus Mac



Children Under 12

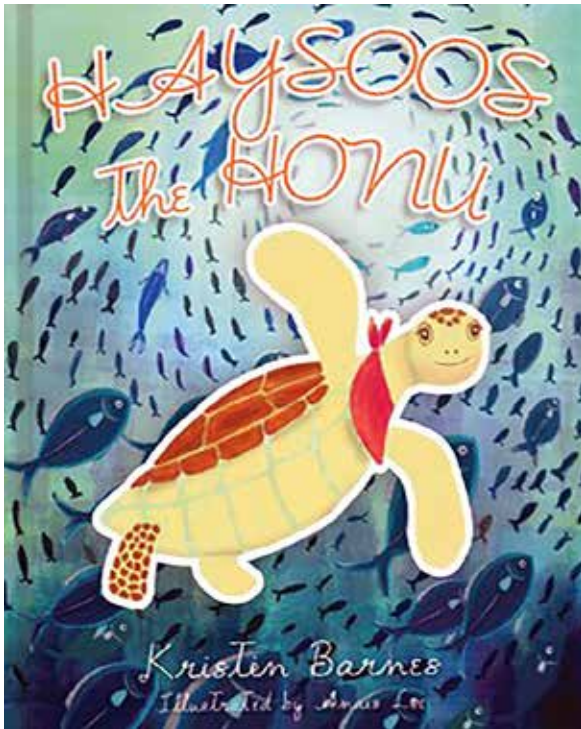
Spanky, a soldier's son



Children Under 12

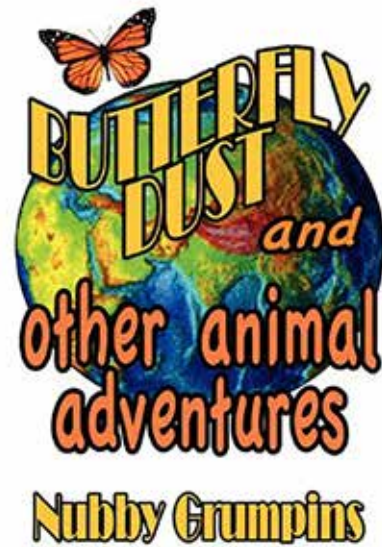
Miss You To Pieces by Donna M. Purkey

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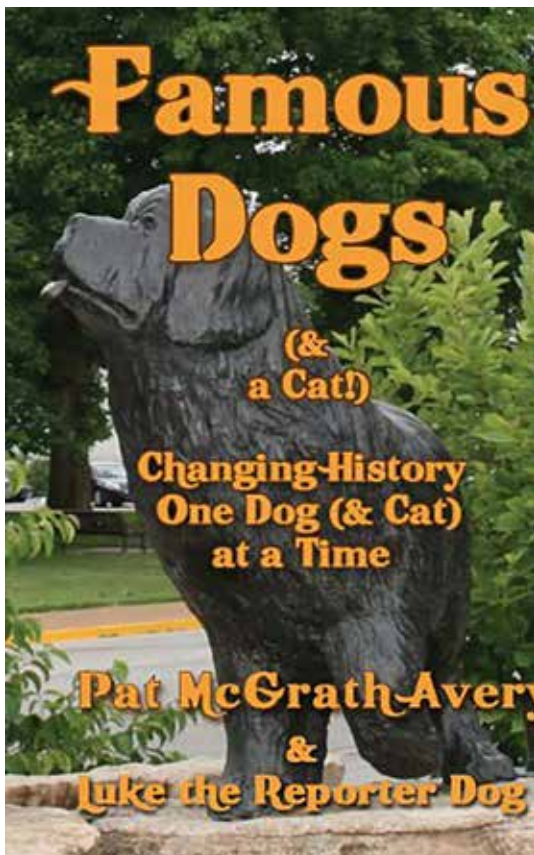
Children Under 12

Haysoos the Honu



Young Adult

Butterfly Dust by Nubby Grumpins



Young Adult

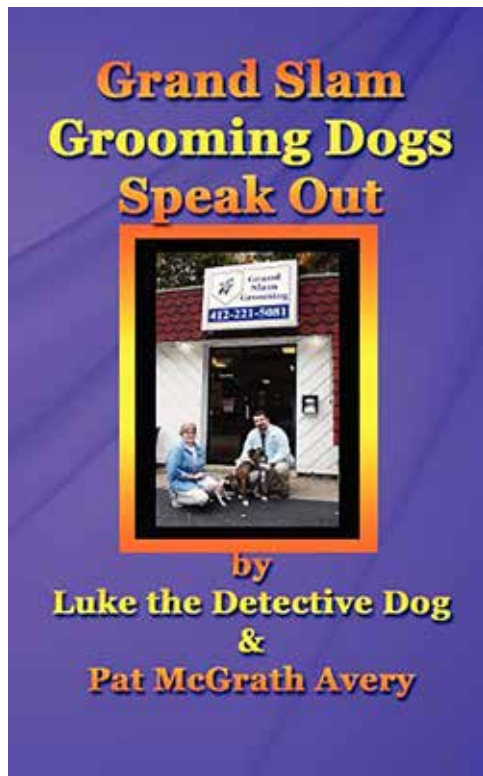
Famous Dogs by Pat McGrath-Avery



Young Adult

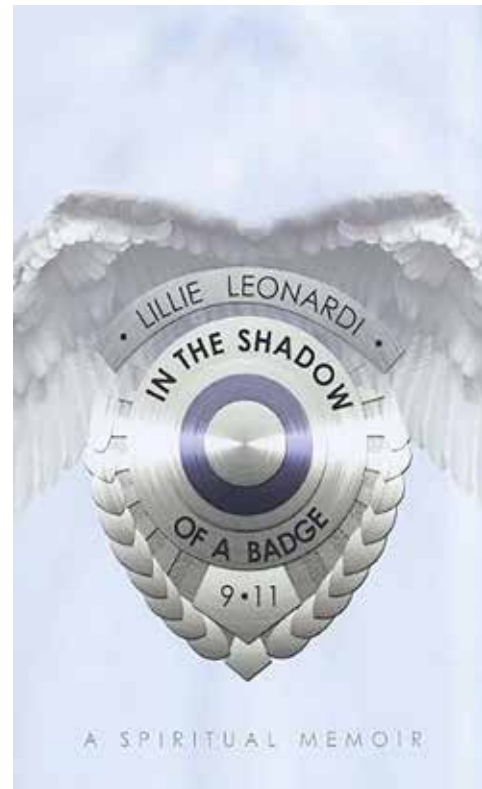
Backcountry Fury

FINALISTS FOR 2013 Book Awards



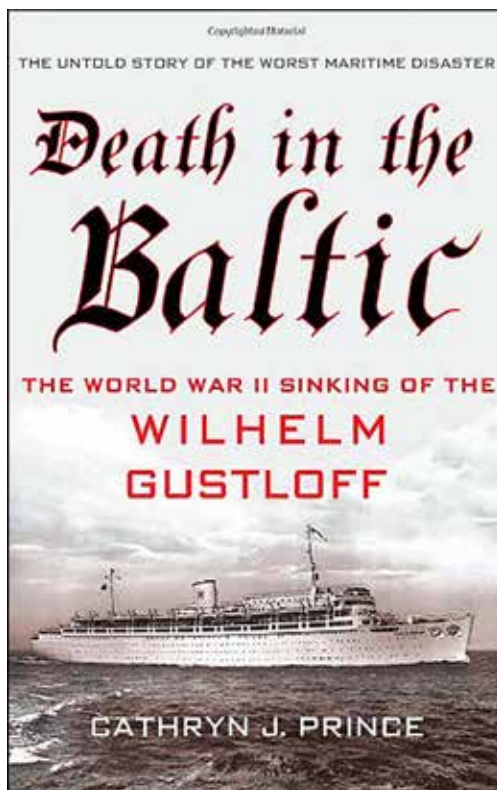
Young Adult

Grand Slam Grooming Dogs



Founder's Award

In the Shadow of a Badge by Lillie Leonardi



Founder's Award

Death in the Baltic by Cathryn J. Prince



2012 Awards Banquet

Dale Throneberry and Bonnie Latino

EMPATHY, ETIQUETTE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Pat McGrath Avery

“Why are we here?” is the most important question a human being has to face... We must make every minute rich and enriching, not for oneself, but for someone else, and thereby create a bridge between beings that limits the domain of nothingness. Life is a gift and meaning is its reward. The meaning of life is to be found in every encounter. Every moment is a moment of grace. (Elie Wiesel)

With so much to learn about writing, editing, and publishing, it can be hard for the writer to take his career and personal growth to the next level. The three Es — empathy, etiquette, and encouragement — are goals to which every writer — and every person — should aspire.

How do the Es fit into MWSA? Easy shmeasy — they set the standard for an organization that focuses on healing, education, and outreach.

Everything about our conference is planned to promote the three Es. The seminars expand our knowledge and open new doors. The open mic and auction offer shared entertainment. The banquet brings us together — from the seating assignments and the cake to the celebration of the finalists’ hard work and passion.

In any group, camaraderie makes membership meaningful. Life’s old lesson, “We get out of it what we put into it,” is especially true for the healing and educational focus of MWSA. Empathy can, and will, set us apart from folks who lack it — as human beings and as storytellers.

According to the dictionary, empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. For example, am I impatient when someone talks a little too much about his book? Or do I appreciate its value to him? Who should know more than another author that he put his heart and soul into it? Because I’ve been where he is now, do I listen and applaud? Do I share his joy when he hits a certain number on Amazon or gets a great review or wins an award?

Does empathy include etiquette and encouragement? I think it does. It sets a standard of success for all of

us. It is that focus and kindness that sets MWSA apart. Bill McDonald founded this organization to recognize writing for healing — and as a vehicle where those who are writing about military experiences or situations can come together and help each other. We pursue his dream when we share our knowledge and our hearts. It will be our good fortune this year to have him join us and share his life journey with us. His focus on the spiritual within each of us has enriched the lives of those of us who know him.

Can I carry that vision on with others I meet? Can I truly find meaning in every encounter? Do I have the empathy to sit next to an author at an event and applaud her sales when mine are disappointing? Can I wish her well when she receives the award I thought I deserved? Can I read a bad review of my work without an angry response?

Wow, that’s asking a lot of me! Can I empathize with others enough to rise above my own ego? I think I can if I strive to achieve Bill’s goals.

If I express comments or complaints, am I creating the bridge that Wiesel speaks about or am I digging a canyon that separates us? Do I couch criticisms with positive energy? If I complain, do I become part of the solution or part of the problem?

I’m constantly amazed at the talent and diversity of our membership. I feel privileged to meet and associate with people who inspire and energize me, who make me see the world through their eyes and who willingly share their acquired knowledge.

Think of the friends you’ve made through MWSA. Think about their differences in experience, age, personality, education and writing styles! As a child I read only one genre, my view of the world encompassed my neighborhood and I struggled with extreme shyness. As an adult my vision and my reading tastes have expanded. I still struggle with shyness, but I am a work in progress. Meeting other writers offers me a constant source of enrichment. I know I’ve become a better writer and a better person — because of them.

As we venture out to other venues to speak, learn or sell

our books, we should take MWSA's goals with us. We should share with our fellow writers as well as with our readers. Encouragement helps others and rewards us.

How can we do this in everyday life? Think of our on-line lives. Do you share Facebook posts when another writer talks about her book? Do you tweet someone else's announcement of a new title or an event? If you write a blog, do you review someone's new book or share information about others?

In doing these seemingly small activities for each other, we are moving toward Wiesel's meaning of life and experiencing grace in every moment.



2012 Awards Banquet

Louis Intres, Neil & Constance Thompson



2012 Awards Ceremony

Margaret Brown and Marcia Sargent

Book donations VA Hospital

I want to thank all that have participated in this effort. The names of donors are below. THANK YOU!

Dwight Zimmerman, Joyce Faulkner, Pat Avery, Richard Bessette, Fran & Bud Orr, Weymouth Symmes, jim greenwald, Frank Evans, Jack London, Terry Gould, Ken Farmer, Elizabeth Foster, Bill Hammond, Francis Hamit, Bob Doerr, Bonnie Latino, Kristin Barnes, Leila Levinson, Joe Epley, Kristen Tsetsi, Robert Mueller, Lillie Leonardi, Candace Thompson, Alvin Cotler, Bob Stockton, David Taylor, Thomas Young, Phil Keith, Claudia Pemberton, Richard Barager, John Lanza, D.H. Brown, Clyde Hoch, John Zerr, Larkin Spivey, Barbara Casey, Sandra O'Connell, Richelle Rodgers, George Nolly, Del Staecker, Richard Barone, Mark Bowlin, Michael Moffett, Doug Norton, Brinn Colenda, Tim Soyars, T. Clement Robison, Denise Boulet, Julie Burget Schrock, Lance Johnson, Fran McGraw, S.D. Sawyer, Earl J. Gorman, Rob Ballister, Barbara Peacock, Marjorie Parker, Karl Orndorff, Mary Lee, Gene Rackovitch, Mike McKendree Long, Dale Dye, Julia Dye, D. Burzynski, John Del Vecchio, Carolyn Schriber, Jack Flynn, Valerie Ormond, Betsy Beard, Lee Boyland, Donna Purkey, Jedd Hess, Tom Bensing, Juris Jurjevics, Donna Mull, M. Hikiji, Joyce Gilmour, Harry Gilleland, Margaret Brown, Barbara Brown, Darlene Iskra, Joyce Gilmour, Gail Chatfield, Jeanette Vaughan.

A "Shout Out" Thank You To the **American Authors Association** who donated books for the VA Hospital in Dayton. Special thanks to Maria Edwards.

JUNE

AOM – Life on a \$5 Bet: Major General Edward J. Mechenbier By Edward J. Mechenbier & Linda Swink
AOM – Stories of Faith & Courage on the Home Front
 by Jocelyn Green

BOM - Flashes of War by Katey Schultz

JULY

AOM – Back to Vietnam by Bruce Logan
BOM - Wings of Love & War by Patrick E. Taylor

**MWSA Conference
September 26-29, 2013
Holiday Inn Fairborn
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2800 Presidential Drive,
Fairborn, Ohio 45324**

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