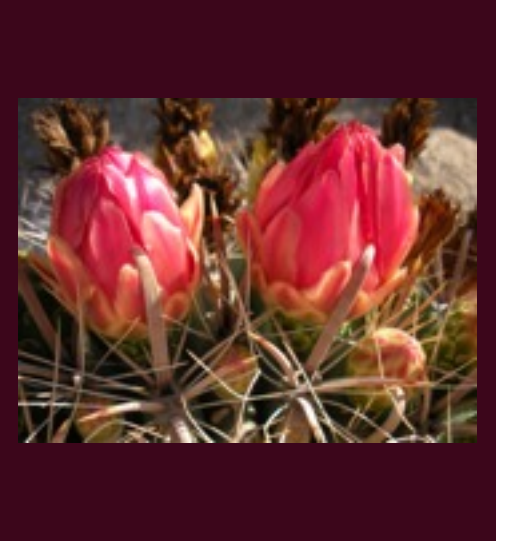


WISE WOMEN WRITE™

Fall 2010

Local author and Wise Woman Write founder Diane Amento Owens brings women together to write, share, and grow.

Join Wise Women Write on [facebook!](#)



Blooming Among Friends by author Diane Amento Owens

As writers, we are in the story business. Story tells, story sells. Story entertains, story educates. Story heals, story feels.

Recently I've become interested in story through the lens of my camera. I have a great lack of talent with paint, color and design, but with my metallic blue Nikon, I can reproduce what the Great Artist has already created—if I allow myself to walk in the world with eyes wide open.

After taking several random or posed pictures of family and pets, I read a little tip about photography that has changed how I look at things: look for the light. This has allowed me to capture—if I do say so myself—some incredible outdoor photography in the light of early morning or late afternoon. If I look for the light falling on an ordinary cactus, miracles happen. I point and shoot, and my camera does the work: the sun's spotlight turns the ordinary into the spectacular.

As writers, we are like photographers using the light to really see and know something. We shine a light and freeze-frame a moment. Wise Women Write™ is a place to look for the light of your story. Each group meeting helps spark memories, ignites creativity, and jump-starts the writing process. Then when a writer returns to the group with her work, she may hear "That's a great story!" or other reactions like laughter or tears. Often when the light of another woman's story touches me, I get all goose-bumpy.

As this little community I created has grown from the initial group of nine writers in early 2007, many more women have been able to illumine and share their stories as new groups have formed and others have continued. Last fall through Trish Dolasinski's skillful facilitation, I added more groups and have additional new facilitators lined up to accommodate even more women.

My vision is to expand Wise Women Write™ from individual writing groups into a gathering and connecting place for writing women. A place to share success, find encouragement after too many rejection letters, hear fabulous speakers, and have fun with a group of amazing, wise women. This newsletter was a first step in that expansion; the Wise Women Write Facebook page is another. I am pleased to announce the inaugural Wise Women Write at Night event on Tuesday, October 5th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Join us at Chompies at PV Mall for networking, sharing, food and fun. Editor and freelance writer Mary Holden will be our speaker. Watch your inbox for further details.

Whether we write fiction or nonfiction or poetry, we're all in the story business. We're all artists with words. And we need each other.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Suzanne Berndt Williams has her first two creative writing bylines coming this fall. First, Suzanne's story, "If You're Happy And You Know It," will appear in the October edition of *Long Story Short Magazine*. Suzanne also has an essay being published in the upcoming edition of *Motherhood Muse Literary Magazine*. Her essay, "Synapses and Silk," has been described by the editor as "thought-provoking, emotional, and unique." Congratulations, Suzanne!

In addition to facilitating local writing groups and editing non-fiction manuscripts, Wise Women Write™ founder **Diane Amento Owens** will be involved in the production of Barrett-Jackson's 40th anniversary coffee table book this fall. Diane is in her second year as copy editor for the Barrett-Jackson event magazine and handles various writing assignments for each issue, which means transforming from Wise Woman Writer to knowledgeable "car gal."



Award-winning poet and long-time Wise Women Write member **Lauren Dixon** has eight new poems featured in the Summer 2010 edition of [*The Blue Guitar Magazine*](#) beginning on page 21. We look forward to Lauren's return to Arizona in October.

Multi-published Wise Woman **Maryann McCullough** continues her success this year. Her essay "Is There Any Reason To Get Up Tomorrow?" was published in the July edition of *Underwired Magazine*, and another essay, "The Guest in My Mother's Home," will be featured in the upcoming book *Dream of Things to Be*, set to publish this October.





Wise Women Write facilitator **Trish Dolasinski, Ed.D.** will be teaching in the online doctoral program at Grand Canyon University this fall. Look for her article about Character Education and kids taking action in this month's *Raising Arizona Kids Magazine* titled, "Lemons and Aide in the Shade."

Freelance writer and editor **Mary L. Holden** is an active member of Wise Women Write Books. In addition to her novel work and editing projects, Mary landed a feature article in the July/August issue of [*Progressive Engineer Magazine*](#). Read "Light Rail Rules in the Desert" to learn about Phoenix's new Metro Light Rail system.



Wise Woman **Diana Bollman's** story, "Rotation," will be published in the November edition of *Long Story Short Magazine*. Diana is a freelance writer, traveler, and business owner. She is also working on her first novel.

Great news: Award-winning author **Susan Pohlman's** memoir, *Halfway to Each Other*, is now available in paperback!

Look for these articles about Susan and *Halfway to Each Other* coming soon:

*The September issue of *Arizona Parenting Magazine*

*The September 19th issue of *The Arizona Republic*, Sunday Arizona Living section

*The October edition of *SoScottsdale Magazine*



Small Publishing in a Big Way

a feature article by Mary L. Holden

MiniBük™



The social media you can hold.™

Chances are you have not heard or read about MiniBüks or CardBüks yet. It's a new way to self-publish, and the founders of the concept are here in Arizona.

David and Kathy Seid own Access Laserpress in Phoenix. For years they've provided high-quality print services to customers across the Valley and nation. They grew their business and their family—two sons and a daughter. Last year, their oldest son, Andrew (who now lives in China), told his father about an idea for a small, easy-to-carry, social-media-on-paper, cost-effective book.

They decided Andrew's idea would be a good way for authors to get specific messages to the public in a non-electronic format. Andrew came up the name MiniBük---“mini” for size, and “bük,” pronounced like “book” but with an umlaut over the “u” as a nod to Gutenberg, the Father of Publishing.

MiniBüks are perfect for authors who want to write and publish nonfiction on a

certain topic of expertise. They are also a nice fit for short fiction or poetry.

Each MiniBük is perfect bound like a real book with a readable spine. It starts at 64 pages and goes up to 200+ pages. These books can be customized with art. A stable of freelance writers and editors who are familiar with MiniBük and CardBük format can be recommended to help anyone interested in publishing quality content.

Another product, the CardBük, is ideal for companies that want to tell their story *and* attach a business card on the inside cover. They are also a great way for authors to promote eBooks with printed excerpts. CardBük is saddle-stitched and can be printed in 8-page increments up to 48 pages in length.

Writers can gain credibility and capture attention with these pocket-size books. For information on this efficient and economical way to self-publish, take a look at www.minibuk.com or call 1-800-900-2499.



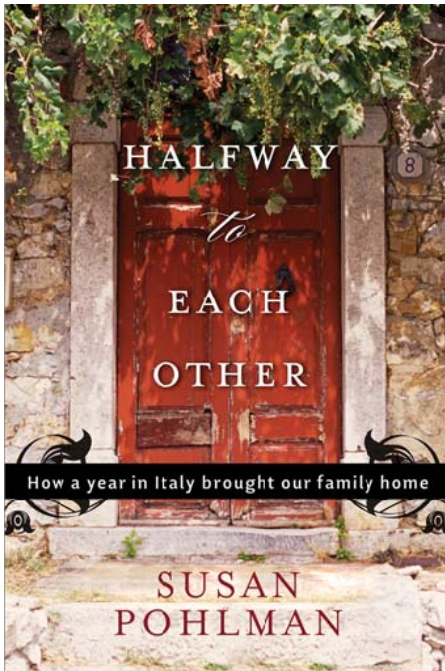
Mary L. Holden, of Phoenix, is the assistant editor of *Raising Arizona Kids Magazine* and also works as a freelance editor and writer. You can contact Mary at marylholdeneditor.com.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gallery 2345

**Author Susan Pohlman kicks off
Gallery 2345's
Afternoon with the Author Series**
in an Italian celebration of art and inspiration.

September 26 - Sunday, 1:00PM-4:00PM



Halfway to Each Other
How a year in Italy
Brought our Family Home

Fueled by faith and a desperate desire to keep their family together, Susan and her husband Tim made an unexpected decision to leave their busy lives in Los Angeles behind and move their two children to a small town on the Italian Riviera.

Susan will share her family's amazing story of renewal, which offers hope to others who yearn to simplify their lives and embrace adventure.

Other featured artists include:

- **Diane Amento Owens** – founder of Wise Women Write™, will speak about the power of sharing our stories—extraordinary ones such as Susan's as well as those ordinary moments of our lives.
- **Rita Romano** – local Italian Chef will greet guests and share her Italian-inspired recipes in the Cafe Bistro.
- **John Erwin** – Arizona award-winning painter will present his "Tuscany" series and perform live demonstrations.
- **Pamela Root** – Accomplished local artist and designer will exhibit her scenic photography from Italy.

Event Program:

- 1:00 – 2:00** Gallery Tour/Refreshments
- 2:00 – 3:00** Susan Pohlman/Diane Owens
- 3:00 – 4:00** Meet the Author, Book Signing, Networking

Admission is free with a canned food donation for St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry.

Gallery 2345 is located at 2345 E. University Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85034.

For more information contact:
Sheila Martin-Castillo
Gallery 2345 Curator
602-300-2682

Spinning a Good Yarn

a book review by Trish Dolasinski, Ed. D.

This month's book:

[THE SHY WRITER: AN INTROVERT'S GUIDE TO WRITING SUCCESS](#)

by C. Hope Clark

"This book was written to help us deal with shyness in the writing world—you can be both shy and self-assured at the same time," says C. Hope Clark, author, speaker, mentor and online newsletter guru. Through defining the type of success she craves, the writer can map the path to get there, building confidence and achieving success by following a variety of suggestions to ease promotional pressures.

Undoubtedly, writers must be comfortable with solitude as a part of the creative journey. This quality meshes nicely with the introspective personality. It is a *writerly* asset to enjoy solitary pursuits. However, once the writing is complete, the writer must morph into an extrovert, with personality plus and the marketing acumen that will promote and sell her work. Although there are varying degrees of the extrovert style, many writers evolve into "phony extroverts, who make

an effort to escape the bashful world," Clark says.

Clark doesn't believe that one needs a personality change to become a successful writer. She reminds introvert types that they don't need to have a dual personality, nor sacrifice their natural personality to be successful in the field of writing. When writers are aware of the multitude of choices available they ". . . can call the shots . . . control the audience . . . and find a comfort zone" that suits their style.

The author puts all writers, regardless of personality style, at ease with creative and innovative ways in which they can promote their own work. Whether you tend to be on the shy side of the writing craft, or lean more toward the on-stage performance side, this book is a must. You will walk away with a toolbox of strategies to map your path and achieve your goals.

To learn more about Clark's book and the other amazing writer's resources she offers, please visit [Funds for Writers](#). Clark's site has been recognized for 10 years as one of Writers Digest 101 Best Sites for Writers.

Be sure to stop by the cozy corner of [Trish's journal writing page](#) and become inspired to Spin a Good Yarn.

Join the conversation by leaving Dr. Trish a comment!



JUST RELEASED

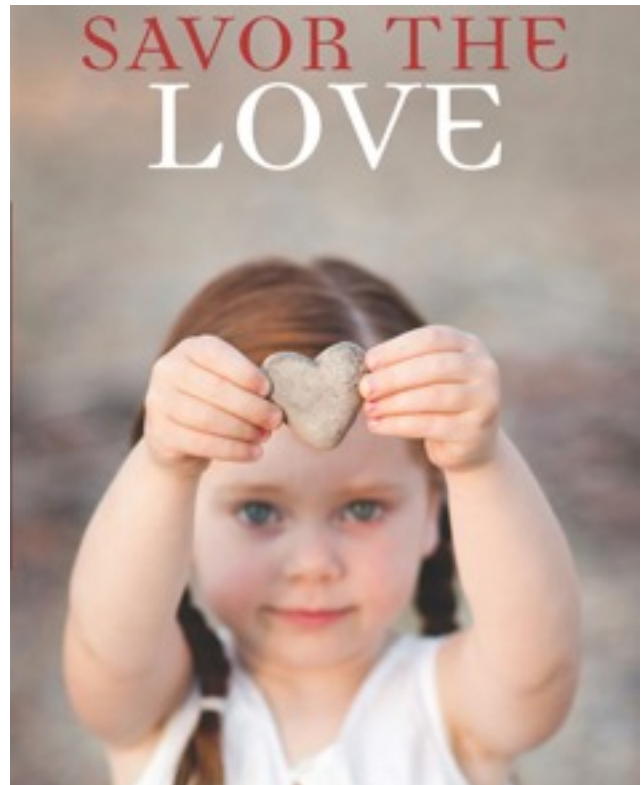
Just released:

[SAVOR THE LOVE](#)

by

Jennifer Fabiano

*A unique keepsake journal for
mothers everywhere.*



AN EXCERPT FROM *SAVOR THE LOVE*:

“What special, funny, or touching thing did your child say or do today? You swear you'll remember each small moment forever, but they fade--just as childhood will.

Now you can record the precious moments of childhood using *Savor the Love*. Through prompts and short essays, this unique journal encourages and inspires you to capture those strange questions, silly comments, and remarkable things that define your child's unique personality.”

Author **Jennifer Fabiano** has honed her writing skills through the communication arts for the past twenty-five years. As co-owner of Fabiano Communications, a national marketing firm, Jennifer brings years of experience to her true passion: creative nonfiction. Her work has been published recently in *The Blue Guitar* and *Raising Arizona Kids* magazines. *Savor the Love* is her first book. She lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, with her husband and two teenagers. Visit her at www.savorthelove.com



Returning the Favor

by author Susan Pohlman

Join award-winning author Susan Pohlman as she walks us through what it takes to make it in the publishing industry today. The saga continues...

PART SEVEN:

“WHERE HAVE ALL THE EDITORS GONE?”

With the first round of publishing house submissions (and rejections) behind me, I was back at my desk, editing. After a few months of rewriting, we were ready for round two.

We crossed our fingers and started, once more, to send the memoir to publishers. Though the manuscript was stronger than ever, I knew that this would be more difficult. One rarely gets an editor to take a second look after he or she has passed.

My agent had to find editors outside of her usual contacts. She warned me that it would take patience.

She wasn't kidding.

Nothing happened. Week after week. Month after month. I called my agent in despair.

“Judith, is there any interest at all?”

“Not yet.”
“Are you showing it to people?”
“Of course I am. You're going to have to relax. Work on something else.”
“It's been months.”
“This is how it is sometimes. Editors move houses, new ones come along, the stars realign. Just when you feel like giving up, someone makes an offer. It is not something I can always control.”
“Fine.”

I filed the whole project in the back of my mind and concentrated on other things. A cloud of melancholy followed me through time like the billows of dust after Linus.

And then, one day. One sunny day in May at a family reunion for my brother Todd's 50th birthday, my cell phone rang. It was Judith.

“We have interest in the manuscript!”

Oh yes, it was worth the wait.

Visit Susan at www.susanpohlman.com to check her upcoming event schedule and learn more about her memoir, *Halfway to Each Other*.

Susan was recently invited as a guest columnist for Writers Digest. Read her article about travel writing in Chuck Sambuchin's “Guide to Literary Agents” blog [here](#).



Great News!

Halfway to Each Other is now available in paperback.

[Get your copy today!](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS

AUTHOR EVENT: NY Times bestselling author Lee Woodruff will speak and sign books the evening of October 12 at Xavier Prep's Piper Performing Arts Center. Lee is appearing in a benefit for ReMIND, husband Bob Woodruff's national nonprofit organization that supplies resources and support for injured service members, veterans and their families. The \$35 fee for the 7 p.m. event includes a copy of *Lee's Perfectly Imperfect: A Life in Progress* and also benefits a former Xavier student who suffered a traumatic brain injury. Bob and Lee co-authored *In an Instant*, the story of Bob's own traumatic brain injury in 2006 while covering the war in Iraq as an ABC reporter and evening news anchor.

Don't miss this chance to hear the woman that columnist Liz Smith refers to as "Nora Ephron + Nora Ephron." In addition to being very down to earth and fabulously funny, Lee is a huge proponent of the power of writing. Tickets available for purchase [here](#).

"Writing connects all of us through words, feelings and thoughts. It has the power to inspire, instill and heal so many things. It can make us chuckle, mist up, or bring about an 'aha' moment." From LeeWoodruff.com

The Scottsdale branch of [The National League of American Pen Women](#) will begin this season's regular meetings on October 13th. The League promotes and conducts literary, educational, and charitable activities in the fields of Letters, Art, and Music. If you are interested in learning more about this amazing organization or being a guest at a meeting this fall, please contact League member [Windy Lynn Harris](#).

[The Arizona Consortium for the Arts](#) unites, advances, collaborates, partners, and supports individuals and organizations in all aspects of arts, performing arts, literary arts and cultures in Arizona. Visit their website for information about how to become a free consortium member.

[The Blue Guitar Magazine](#) seeks submissions in all genres — fiction, poetry, plays, and creative nonfiction. Writers must submit original work and must live in Arizona. Please include your name and the best way to contact you on your submission. Submissions will be accepted from September 1, 2010, through October 15, 2010. Manuscripts and photos that are mailed to the magazine cannot be returned.

Send submissions to:

Rebecca Dyer at: rebeccadyer@theblueguitarmagazine.org or the Arizona Consortium for the Arts at info@artizona.org or mail to:

The Arizona Consortium for the Arts 14608 N. 40th Way Phoenix, AZ 85032

If you've got news to share or would like to write a guest column for this newsletter, please contact Wise Women Write Monthly editor [Windy Lynn Harris](#).