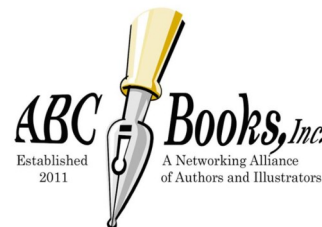


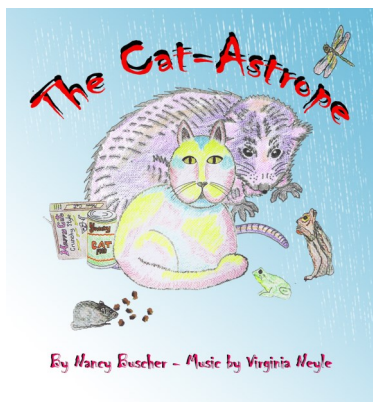
NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022



A PLEASANT SURPRISE

Nancy Tancey Buscher—as most of you know—the co-founder and past officer of ABC moved recently back to South Carolina. She had relocated from there to Florida in 1998. Twenty-four years is a long time to be away. Back then her children's musical had been produced for Charleston's annual cultural festival Piccolo-Spoletto at the James Dean Theatre in Summerville. This was quite an achievement as it was the only children's play on the docket that year.



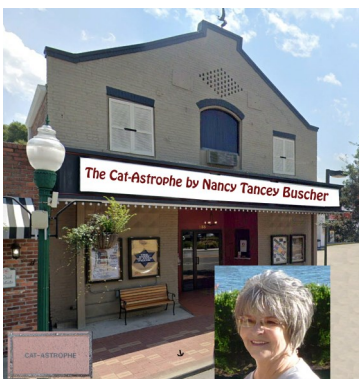
The Cat-Astrophe is a simple story about a group of cats who have planned a birthday party for friend. While out playing the opossum steals all the gifts. The cats, putting their fear aside, resolve to do what it takes to get them

back.

This had recently won 2nd place in the National League of American Pen Women c o u n t r y - w i d e competition for a 1-act play. Virginia Neyle asked to read the script and called a few days later saying she had composed some music to go with it.

That summer Nancy wrote the lyrics for eleven of the twelve musical pieces and rewrote it as a 3-act musical.

The Cat-Astrophe played to a full house for every performance. It was directed by Ruby Judy and the costumer/make up artist borrowed the look of Andy Lloyd Webber's



Cats. He was so meticulous that he hunted until he found an Opossum by the roadside to be sure the costume for the six-foot villain was accurate.

During the years that followed the theatre bricked the sidewalk and entry to the theatre. Names of the donors and some of the performances appear on the bricks. Sure enough, A brick engraved **The Cat-Astrophe** is among the collection on the sidewalk.

<http://nancytanceybuscher.weebly.com>
Buscher511@gmail.com -0-

MARKETING THAT PAYS OFF

Writers mostly just want to write. But if you are the author of books you cannot just sit before your computer and dream up clever prose. It's amazing how many of our own members do not take the time to update the free ABC website.

Lucky Beebe Tobias does slide shows about "Florida Gardens Gone Wild", her book that digs in and gets the dirty lowdown on gardening in Florida, and "Undiscovered Florida" with great photographs from around the state from her book "50 Great Walks in Florida". Both are excellent for newcomers and longtime residents eager to discover new things.

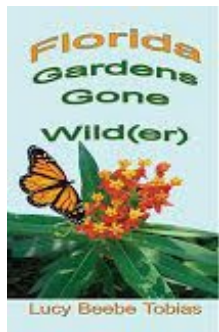
Here is a recent comment received after she

Continued on page 2



IN THIS ISSUE...

Audiobooks	2
Contests	2
From Our Bookshop	3
International Awards	4
Member Appearances	4
Upcoming Events-Live	4



went out and spoke to a group about her books.

“Thank you, and congratulations, on being our very first gardening author, for the “*Florida Gardens Gone Wild*”.

One of our ladies told me she started to read your book and it reminded her of things her mother used to say to her and

she got teary-eyed. Proof your book touches the heart!”

...Genny Fulmer, Program Chair,
The Garden Club at Spruce Creek Golf &
Country Club, Summerfield.

Since this appeared Lucy has revised it making it bigger and better. Check it out!

<http://www.lucytobias.com>
www.greatwalks@gmail.com

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CONTESTS

Call for Entries:

Writer's Digest Self-Published Book Awards
For 30 years Writer's Digest has been honoring self-publishing writers with the Self-Published Book Awards. This is your chance to get in on the action.

Here's the scoop: Submit your self-published, printed and bound book in one of eight categories (mainstream/literary fiction, genre fiction, nonfiction/reference, inspirational/self-help, memoirs/life stories, early reader/children's picture books, middle-grade/young adult, poetry chapbooks) for a chance at:

- A Grand Prize package that includes \$10,000, a trip to New York City for the Annual Writer's Digest Conference and a feature article about you and your book in the March/April 2023 issue of *Writer's Digest*.

- One of eight First Place prize packages that include \$1,000 in each respective category and promotion in the March/April 2023 issue of *Writer's Digest*.

Entrants will also receive a brief commen-

tary from one of our qualified readers. All have experience in their respective categories and/or the publishing world.

Ready to earn the recognition you deserve? Send us your book, which must have been published between 2017 and now, and we'll take care of the rest. You'll be well on your way!

The best deal on entering will expire on April 1, 2022. Enter now!

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=km#inbox/FMfcgzGmtXGvSqzVBKFVcxktTZWMFLrV>

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AUDIOBOOKS

Your Book In Audio Distribution Companies

- ♦ Audible/ACX
- ♦ Findaway Voices
- ♦ Author's republic
- ♦ Listen Up Audiobooks

ACX

Production: yes

Distribution: yes

Costs: \$100-\$300

Royalties: 40% or 25%

Control: no

Support: email

Findaway Voices

Production: yes

Distribution: yes

Costs: \$150+

Royalties: 80%

Control: yes

Support: email, chat,
phone

ACX

Part of Amazon

Produces Audible and iTunes

No price control

Price fluctuation on different platforms

Royalties – 25% non-exclusive, 40% exclusive

Allows inexperienced narrators

Some SAG-AFTRA union narrators

Extended distribution to nine countries

3 distributors

Free giveaway codes

Findaway Voices

Not part of Amazon

Price control

Continued on page 3

AUDIOBOOKS: Continued from page 2

Offer sales

Royalties 80%

SAG-AFTA narrators

Distribution to 170 countries

40+ distributors

More free giveaway codes

What Does It Take

- Log in or Open an Account – Includes entering your name, address, how you want to get paid, etc.
- Create an audition script – This is a sample from your manuscript.
- Listen to narrator auditions – Either select narrators to audition or wait for narrators to find you.
- Select a narrator – Select the narrator you feel is appropriate for your audiobook and negotiate a pay rate.
- Wait for the 15-minute check point – This is where the narrator will submit the first 15-minutes of the audiobook for your approval.
- Approve the audio files – Listen carefully to the narrator's work and make sure there are no errors.
- Wait for the audiobook review – This review is done by the distributor and includes checking that each audiobook file has been edited and mastered properly.
- Distributor will automatically send audiobook to partner stores – Wait for confirmation that the audiobook is released.

Cost

An average audiobook created with Findaway Voices has about 50,000 words and costs between \$1,000 and \$2,000. We can estimate the cost of your audiobook by multiplying a per finished hour narrator rate with the estimated length of your finished recording. The longer the book, the higher the estimate will be.

Words: 35,000 + narrator cost per finished hour: \$250; estimate: \$1300-\$17-00.

Recommended

Do your research, chose *your* best option

- ♦ <https://naturallyvoice.com/how-to-market-an-audiobook>
- ♦ <https://findawayvoices.com>
- ♦ <https://www.acx.com>
- ♦ <https://kindlepreneur.com/acx-vs-findaway-voices>

Presented by

Brenda M. Spalding: spaldingathor@gmail.com

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FROM OUR BOOKSHOP



The Island Bookshop
Online Store Coming Soon.



The Island Bookshop was born from the visions of Aimee Carol Odette and Michael Garnet Rank who recognized the need for a bookstore in Venice, Florida. To them, a bookstore is an extension of home, the anchor of a community.

Both University professors, with a love for books and building community, their idea was a long-standing dream. The Island Bookshop became possible and will launch during the summer of 2021 in the downtown historic district of Venice Island with enthusiastic support from the community.

We are sellers of new books and other reading related products to include art and photography from local residents. As a small community-oriented book shop, we provide literary and art experiences for our customers of all ages, children to adults. As residents of Venice Island, we are especially proud to showcase the work of various local writers in the community, our home.

The Island Bookshop caters to the reading wants, needs, and desires of our customers. Writing and reading classes, writer's groups, children's groups, local author's events, and community outreach define the Bookshop's mission. With gratitude, Aimee and Michael look forward to fulfilling the literary needs of the community as well as a lifelong dream.



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FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022
Fruitville Library 12:15 pm—2:15 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6, 2022

Venice Gardens Craft Fair 11am-3pm
 406 Shamrock Blvd, Venice
 \$35 inside
 Contact— Susan Bucanis, 732-687-0643
 Email: govtlady@aol.com

March 19, 2022

Englewood Spring Craft Fair
 Englewood Sports Center 9am-2pm
 River Road, Englewood
 \$25 for whole 8' table, \$12.50 for half
 ABC members only deal
 Contact Robert Coons
 rjcoons204@gmail.com

March 26, 2022

Venice Reading Festival 9am-2pm
 Blalock Park, Venice
 \$150 for tent, one 8' table and chair.
 Can share: 2 authors max.
 Ask for application

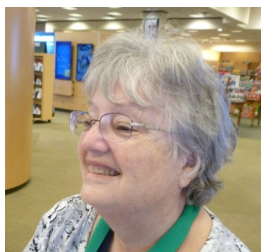
April 30, 2022

Bradenton Children's Book Fair 9am-2pm
 Downtown Bradenton, no tent required
 Must have a children's book to attend
 More details to follow

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INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Eyeland's Book Awards is an international contest in Athens, Greece. 2021 winner in the Kids Category for a published book is **Brenda M. Spalding/USA** for *Sailing Away To Nod*. -0-



MEMBER APPEARANCES



Lucy Beebe Tobias
 will be at the
 Venice Island Bookshop
 Saturday, January 29th,
 4 - 5 pm



Brenda Spalding
 will be
 Guest Speaker at
 Alligator Advocates
 Tuesday, February 25
 in Bradenton, FL.

Brenda Spalding
 will be speaking
 at the
 Venice Island Bookshop
 206 W Miami Avenue, Venice
 on
 Saturday, February 26th - 4 pm- 5 pm



The Island Bookshop
 Online Store Coming Soon.

If you are interested in doing a book signing at the Venice Island Bookshop contact them to make arrangements: 941-416-5511.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Brenda Spalding	President
RJ Coons	Vice-President
Faye Henderson	Treasurer
Brenda Martin	Recording Secretary
Nancy Buscher	Corresponding Secretary
RJ Coons	Library Liaison
Jo Ann Glim	Newsletter
Ann Greenwood	Membership Chairman
Jeanelle Havlin	Facebook/Twitter (Social Media Consultant)
Brenda Spalding	Sarasota Comm. Foundation Website
	Crowd Events
	ZOOM Events - Hosting