

The Written Word

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www.uppaa.org

UPPAA Launches YouTube Channel

Writers and publishers in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula have found a new place to connect with their audience – their own YouTube channel, affectionately known as “UPPAA-tube.” The Upper Peninsula Publishers & Authors Association (UPPAA) launched its YouTube channel in September to serve as the digital video platform for authors and publishers of the Upper Peninsula. In addition, because the videos are accessible to everyone, they will be a valuable resource for teaching English Composition at the high school or college level.

The name behind the UPPAA YouTube channel is Brandy Thomas, of Thomas Editing, a professionally trained audio/video editor. “She first suggested that we might build out our stream of informal YouTube recordings into a branded and polished presence,” says Victor R. Volkman, President of UPPAA and Senior Editor at Modern History Press of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Brandy provides the editing expertise to turn a raw recording into a watchable and entertaining episode. The show host is Evelyn Gathu, Director of the Crystal Falls District Public Library. It was her initiative that led to the U.P. Notable Books Club, so she played a critical role in launching the UPPAA Channel. Victor Volkman manages public relations, booking guests, and emcees for the non-Book Club presentations.

The UPPAA channel has posted all the recorded episodes of First Season of the U.P. Notable Book Club, a series of 6 videos, each episode typically 60 minutes in length, consisting of a 20 to 30 minute author presentation, followed by a lively Q&A with residents across the U.P. The series comprises the following episodes:

S1: E1: UP Notable Book Club Phil Bellfy | *Three Fires Unity: The Anishnaabeg of the Lake Huron Borderlands*

S1: E2: UP Notable Books Club: James H. McCommons | *Camera Hunter: George Shiras III and the Birth of Wildlife Photography*

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“
*I kept always 2 books
in my pocket: one to read,
one to write in.*

”
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON



S1: E3: UP Notable Books Club: Michael Carrier
| *Murder on Sugar Island / Jack Handler Book 1*

S1: E4: UP Notable Books Club: Ann Dallman
| *Cady and the Bear Necklace*

S1: E5: UP Notable Books Club: Mikel Classen
| *Lake Superior Tales: Stories of Humor and Adventure
in Michigan's Upper Peninsula,*

S1: E6: UP Notable Books Club: Susan Purvis | *Go
Find! My Journey to Find the Lost — and Myself.*

This is just the first series to drop on the UPPAA Channel. Coming this fall are past online conferences sessions from 2020 and 2021 featuring a wide variety of authors and publishing experts to help guide your writing experience.

UPPAA's channel is free to watch online at <http://video.uppaa.org>

UP Book Review's Latest Books

Recently posted and/or planned reviews on the UP Book Review site include:

Extraordinary Endurance: A Training Plan for the Marathon of Life by Chandra Ziegler (9/1/2021)

Sunshine Blues by Bob Calverly (9/10/2021)

Julia Island: A Novel by James Charles Harwood (9/20/2021)

Gichigami Hearts by Linda LeGarde Grover (10/1/2021)

Tin Camp Road by Ellen Airgood (10/10/2021)

U.P. Colony: The Story of Resource Exploitation in Upper Michigan by Phil Bellfy — 10/20/2021

Tales from the Jan Van: Lessons on Life and Camping by Jan Kellis — 12/01/2021

Dissecting Anatomy of a Murder by Eugene H. Milihizer — 01/01/2022

As always, books with a copyright date of 2018, 2019, 2020, or 2021 are eligible to be considered for review. A select few books will be featured in *Marquette Monthly* with a full-page review.

Send two copies to

U.P. Book Review
5145 Pontiac Trail
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Village Gift Store Features Regional Books

The Village Gift Store, which is located on Main Street in L'Anse, Michigan, has begun featuring regional books. Author Terri Martin added her three books to the collection and solicited others from UPPAA members. The owner of the store has created a book niche on a prominent wall in the store where our books are displayed. This endeavor is in a very early stage, and we believe that it will gain momentum. Thanks to those of you who have sent your books. Terri has also included copies of the UP Reader.

We could certainly expand our variety, so if you'd like to participate, please let Terri know. She will be purchasing books wholesale at 50% of the retail, rounded up to the next dollar. The author will pay shipping to Terri. Terri pays rent to the store plus commission. She'll also handle the sales tax. There is not room for much backstock, but eventually when things begin to move, we'll request multiple copies. Right now, one or two copies of each title is all we can handle. While this might represent a marginal profit for us, getting exposure is always a positive thing along with supporting a business that has faith in the crafters, artists, and now authors of the U.P.





Fall Picnic

UPPAA members had a great time at the fall picnic social on September 11 at one of the pavilions in Presque Isle Park in Marquette. Many more members attended than in previous years, and a good time was had by all. Members brought their own picnic lunches, but UPPAA provided drinks, plates, forks, etc. Lots of conversation floated around as members had a chance to get to know each other and could hug each other for the first time in almost two years. People came from both ends of the U.P.—from the Soo to the Keweenaw. While the weather wasn't the best, it did NOT rain, as had been predicted. Members will be looking forward to future picnics!

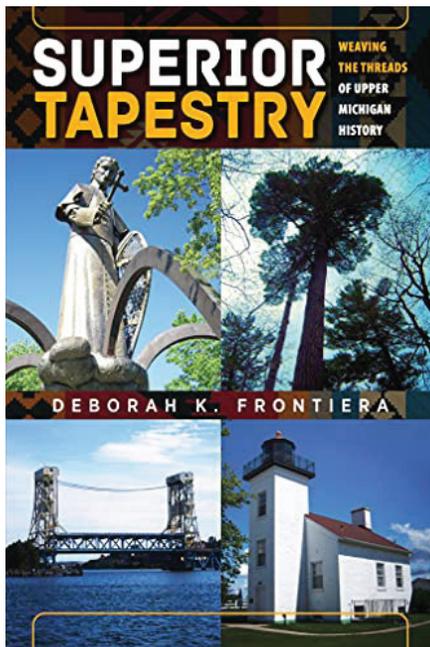
Pictures courtesy of Deb Frontiera and Edd Tury





Member News

Debbie Frontiera is happy to be back writing articles for the Marquette Monthly. Articles held from Covid cancellation were updated and published in the September and October issues and more are upcoming. Deb had a busy summer at festivals and bookstores promoting her new book, *Superior Tapestry: Weaving the Threads of Upper Michigan History*. Sales have been great so far and she's been pleased with the launch.



Thanks to pandemic restrictions finally easing up, **T. Marie Bertineau** and The Mason House have a busy fall schedule with in-person and virtual events around the state. Bertineau will also join the cast as guest storyteller on the Red Jacket Jamboree, a live radio show production of Real People Media scheduled to air Oct. 31 on public radio.

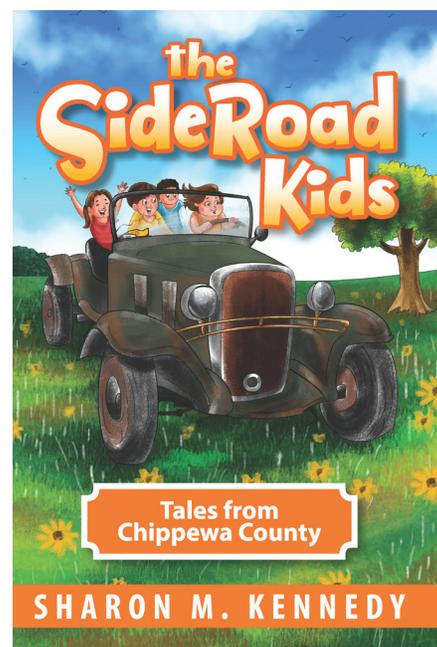
Sue Harrison's newest novel—*The Midwife's Secret*—will be released by Shanty Cove Books in the spring of 2022. Sue says, "I loved writing this novel! And I especially loved doing the research necessary to put it all together! *The Midwife's Secret* weaves a saga founded on Ozark superstitions, folk medicine, Cherokee traditions, wilderness survival, 19th century obstetrical practices, 19th century mental institutions, and the elite lifestyles that characterized the Gilded Age in New York City."

During the next few months, she will detail the general commotion, frustrations, and joys involved in publishing a novel. If you are interested in following her journey, feel free to email sue@sueharrison.com or pop in at Sue Harrison Author on Facebook.

About the book: *The Missouri Ozarks, 1852*: The daughter of a destitute backwoods family inherits a curse so powerful that the one who wins her heart could someday rule the world. Named for a broken china plate, China Creed grows up in a family torn apart by her curse—she has inherited the ability to grant wishes. China and her widowed mother do all they can to keep her "gift" a secret, but its unpredictability makes it difficult to hide. When her mother apprentices her to a Cherokee midwife, China eventually earns a respected place in their small Ozark community. However, a romantic relationship with the town doctor eventually draws her

into the exotic world of New York City's Gilded Age. Betrayed by people she trusts, China must rely on her backcountry survival skills and her gift of wishes to escape those who would enslave her.

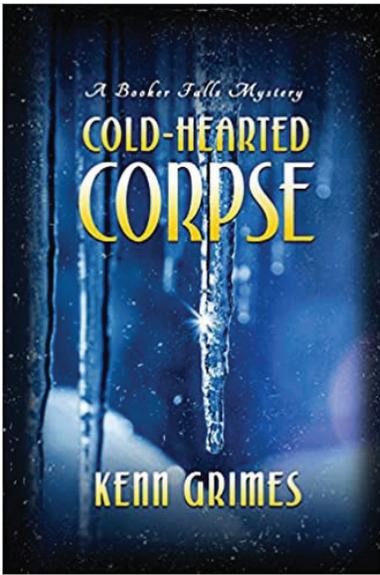
Sharon Kennedy's second book *The SideRoad Kids: Tales from Chippewa County*, published by Modern History Press, is now available for sale. *The SideRoad Kids* follows a group of boys and girls as they enter the sixth grade in a small town in Michigan's Upper Peninsula during the 1957-58 academic year. This meandering collection of 33 loosely-connected short stories is often humorous, poignant, and sometimes mysterious. Laugh as the kids argue over Halloween treats handed out in Brimley. Recall Dorothy's Hamburgers in Sault Ste. Marie. Follow a Sugar Island snowshoe trail as the kids look for Christmas trees. Wonder what strange blue smoke at Dollar Settlement signifies. Discover the magic hidden in





April snowflakes. Although told by the kids, adults will remember their own childhood as they read about Flint, Candy, Squeaky, Katie, and their friends.

Sharon says, “Although some of the places mentioned such as Castle Rock, Point Iroquois Lighthouse, and the Soo Locks are real, the stories are fiction. Each one is told in first person by one of the kids. Other than the Russian’s ‘Sputnik’ in 1957, there’s no particular reason why I chose this school year other than it’s the last year the kids will spend in the elementary school. The sixth grade is the grade I remember the most as a rather difficult one for me. There’s an honesty to my stories that transcends the popular world of wizards, witches, warlocks, magicians, and digitally enhanced characters. Traditional values like obedience to parents and teachers is also paramount. There’s also an innocence to the kids. There’s no foul language, immoral scenes, delinquent behavior, back talk, violence, or any other negative actions within this group. There’s a strong feeling of camaraderie, inclusion, and respect among the kids including for Daisy who has a club foot and Larry who is Native American.”



Kenn Grimes is pleased to announce the release of three new titles! Myrtle is back again in the fourth book of the Booker Falls Mystery series. This new book is *Cold-Hearted Corpse*, a cozy mystery set in 1922 in the Keweenaw Peninsula in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. The other two books are different genres: *To Save Us All from Satan’s Power* is a political conspiracy thriller set in present time, while *The Whipping Post* is a family saga set in Kentucky just prior to and during the Civil War.

BOOK COVER MISTAKE #1

Notes from Guerrilla Publishing author, Derek Murphy, PhD

*The first job of your book cover is to get people to read the blurb, not sell the book. Design your cover to attract the genre you are aiming for. Readers expect covers from a certain genre to look a certain way. If you design your cover to look different than other covers in the same genre, you risk not fitting in. The more creative and unique your cover is, the harder it will be for your audience to realize it is the type of book they enjoy reading. Yours can still be better, but it **must not** be different.*

Research your genre to get the cover elements right.



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CALL FOR ENTRIES: U.P. Reader Volume #6

The U.P. Reader is an annual publication that represents the cross-section of writers that are the membership of the Upper Peninsula Publishers and Authors Association. Each issue is released in paperback, hardcover, and eBook editions at the Spring membership meeting. Copies of the U.P. Reader will be made available to booksellers, UPPAA members, libraries, and news services. We hope the U.P. Reader will be a great place for you to showcase original short works.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

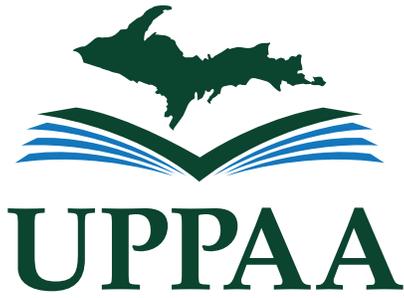
Don't wait until the last minute! Submit your entries to the 2022 UP Reader now.
Submission Guidelines:

- Must be a current member of the UPPAA to submit.
- Submissions must be original with no prior appearance in web or print. Submissions will be accepted for up to 5,000 words. Writers who submit work which has previously appeared in blog posts, web pages, eBooks, or in print will be disqualified.
- Submissions can be genre, Fiction, nonfiction (memoirs, history, essays, feature articles, interviews, opinions) and poetry.
- All submissions will be reviewed through a jury and the submissions will be chosen through this process.
- We prefer Microsoft Word Document (.DOC) files only or plain text files (.TXT). Do not submit PDF files. If you have some other type of text file, please inquire.
- Authors may only submit photos as part of a written submission with the understanding that they will be converted to black-and-white. We reserve the right to limit the number of photos per story that will be used. Photos should be at least 300 DPI and no smaller than 2 inches on a sided (i.e. 600px minimum). If the Author is not the photographer, we may ask for a simple one-page release form to be sent in. Contact us in advance if you think you need more than 3 photos for your story. Author headshots are neither required nor used.
- No more than 3 submissions will be accepted from one person. If more than 3 are received, the jury may choose to disregard all of them. We are looking for quality, not quantity.
- The U.P. Reader will require FIRST time rights in print and digital. After one year, ALL rights will return to the author. UPPAA retains the right to use it in perpetuity. For Example, we anticipate a "Best of U.P. Reader" to be issued for the 10th anniversary.

DEADLINE: November 15, 2021. See the UPPAA website for complete details.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

- Submission deadline: Nov. 15th, 2021
- Dec 21, 2021 Jury / peer-review process begins
- Jan 15th, 2022 announcement of selected submissions
- April 1st, 2022 official on-sale date
- Spring Conference 2022: Launch party, location to be determined.



**Upper Peninsula Publishers
and Authors Association**

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Send announcements, news and marketing ideas to your new editor, Jenifer Brady, with "UPPAA News" in the subject line. editor@uppaa.org