

Published Writers of Rossmoor (PWR) to Learn About the Importance of Professional Copy Editing

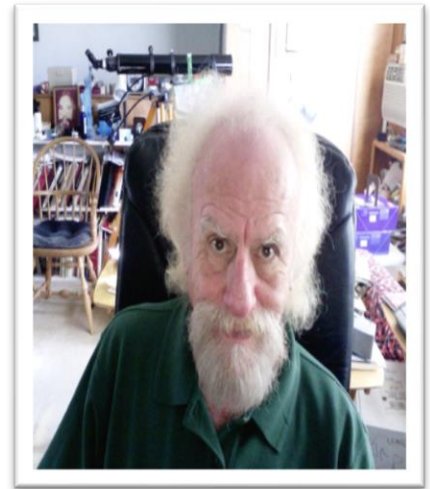
Press Release Written by Barbara Kirbach, PWR Publicity Board Member



Mary Lou Schram



Julie Blade



Dr. Paul Weisser

Published Writers of Rossmoor (PWR) club members will learn the importance of professional copy editing in creating clear, precise wording at their May 7th, 2016 meeting, from 10 am to noon, in the Fairway Room at Creekside, Rossmoor. All Rossmoor writers interested in the editing process are welcome to attend.

"There was a time when self-published books were scorned for their carelessness in editing, as many of their authors had not undergone the rigors in editing for usage and style that traditional publishers insist upon," PWR Program Chair Mary Lou Schram points out. "Errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling or meaning can annoy a reader or suggest that if the writer is inaccurate in details, the text may also be faulty," she added.

PWR Membership Chairperson Julie Blade and "PWR Newsletter" Editor Dr. Paul Weisser will lead the discussion. Julie has more than 20 years as a free-lance instructional designer, writer and editor. Now, as a personal historian, and principal of Lifetime Chronicles, she interviews and ghostwrites clients' life

stories/memoirs and turns them into books. She also works with people who have written their own memoirs and who request her editorial skills to organize their manuscripts into a cohesive flow, as well as to incorporate pictures and captions that enhance their stories.

Paul formerly edited books for academic and commercial publishers including the University of California Press, Stanford University Press, Oxford University Press, Sierra Club Books, Harper Collins and others. Today he helps authors with novels, non-fiction books, memoirs, screenplays, TV scripts and concepts, speeches, dissertations, newsletters, and poetry - even an occasional love letter! In addition to editorial and writing assistance, Paul provides desktop publishing services, guides authors through every step of self-publishing, or refers them to an appropriate publisher, producer or literary agent.

Julie said they will discuss the value of working with an experienced editor, along with the pitfalls of not hiring one. She and Paul will also cover the different types of editing, including developmental editing, line or copy editing or simply reading or proof reading the manuscript. Paul said they will explain the differences between creative and academic editing along with fiction vs. nonfiction editing. In addition, they will address the difference between editors who work solely with manuscripts, as opposed to editors who work with writers on their manuscripts. Based on industry practices, they will estimate what an author can expect to pay an editor for specific services and will explain what a writer can do to manage the cost of editing.

Of special interest to readers of the "PWR Newsletter," Paul will provide a behind-the-scenes view of how it is edited.

PWR President Duke Robinson said that Jill Plummer and Julie Sullivan, two copy editors from Big Hat Press in Lafayette, will also be on hand to join Paul and Julie Blade for a Q & A session. Hand-outs from the speakers will be available during the meeting.