

Mark your calendars for these events:

●The March 12 program with author **Susan Blumberg-Kason**. See Pages 3 and 5.

●The April 9 program with a working title "Booking the National Pastime: Writing a Baseball Book." Expected panelists are **Jim Walker**, **Judith Hiltner**, **Stuart Shea** and **Thom Henninger**. Location: Turtles in Bridgeport, 238 W. 33rd St., Chicago.

●The 2024 Midland Authors book awards and banquet on May 21 at the Cliff Dwellers Club in Chicago. See Page 8.

## Biblio File

**Arnie Bernstein** was a talking head for the PBS "American Experience" documentary "Nazi Town, USA." The film told the story of pro-Nazi movements in the mid-20th century United States, which was the subject of Arnie's book *Swastika Nation: Fritz Kuhn and The Rise and Fall of the German-American*



**Arnie Bernstein**

*Bund*. "It was remarkable how much information they packed into just 52 minutes," he says. "I was interviewed for about six hours at a little house studio in Brooklyn. They pulled things out of me I didn't know I had. It was thrilling to see my more introspective moments included at the end of the film." And Arnie has more good news: *Swastika Nation* is now back in print in an updated second edition. "All hail **James Finn Garner** for his help getting that done," Arnie says. "You can stream 'Nazi Town, USA' on the PBS website." ... **Catherine Browder's** story collection *Resurrection City: Stories from the Disaster Zone* (Willow Springs

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**Sylvia Frank Rodrigue**



**Donna Beasley**



**Sharon Woodhouse**

## Authors get tips on navigating the 'crazy' publishing business

BY THOMAS FRISBIE

**O**n Feb. 13, a panel of authors with extensive expertise in publishing presented the Midland Authors' well-attended online program on "Demystifying Publishing."

The program was co-hosted by Midland Authors Board Member **Marlene Targ Brill** and Midland Authors Vice President and Archivist **Walter Podrazik**.

Brill said the program is the first of what is hoped to be many in a "how-to" series that helps authors navigate the "crazy publishing business."

To give a sense of how crazy the business is, Brill read an anecdote from a book titled *Rotten Rejections: A Literary Companion*. In the anecdote, a publisher accepted a book for publication and sent it to an artist for illustration. After the artist finished the illustrations and sent the manuscript back, the manuscript was returned to the artist with a rejection slip.

**Sylvia Frank Rodrigue**, an editor at

Southern Illinois University Press who also has co-authored two history books on Baton Rouge, said that as an editor, "What I am looking for is what [an author's] topic is. ... I want to know the summary of your project. ... Give me your arguments, talk to me a little bit about the sources you have used, your promotional plans, your word count, illustrations, [whether] the manuscript is complete now or, if not, when it will be complete."

**Donna Beasley**, an author and the founder and publisher of Kazoom Kids Books, which specializes in multicultural children's picture books, said authors should keep in mind that publishers "are in the business of sales. We have to sell the book that you create."

"You'd be surprised at the number of authors who tell me things like, 'Anybody can buy my book' or 'It's available to everyone,' or 'I don't want to be pigeonholed in any particular age group or any

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Literary Landscape  
Susan Blumberg-Kason

PAGE 3

Literary Latest  
New Books

PAGES 6-7

## Biblio File

### Continued from Page 1

Books, December, 2022) received the Hefner Heitz Kansas Book Award at the annual Kansas Book Festival at Washburn University in September. A cycle of stories that deals with the Great East Japan Disaster of 2011, the book won the Spokane Prize, was a Thorpe Mann Award finalist and a finalist in Fiction: Short Stories for the BBAs from American Book Fest. ... **Robert Marovich's** essay on songwriter Ted Jarrett and the connections between country music and Black folk music was published by Zocalo Public Square on Jan. 31. Also, Robert was interviewed for, and served as an adviser to, Henry Louis Gates Jr.'s forthcoming Gospel documentary. It airs on PBS in Chicago on WTTW and nationally this month. ... **Scott Turow** was one of the 36 participating writers who contributed to *Fourteen Days* (Harper, Feb. 6, 2024), a novel about the stories of locked-down tenants of a New York City apartment building in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. ... **Linda Nemec Foster** was the featured poet on a special Zoom program on Jan.

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## Literary License

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P.O. Box 10419, Chicago IL 60610

Editor: Thomas Frisbie  
tomfrisbie@aol.com

Copy Editors: Marlene Targ Brill,  
Dorothea Frisbie

[www.midlandauthors.org](http://www.midlandauthors.org)

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Society of Midland Authors members can pay their membership dues, buy tickets to the annual dinner and make donations on our website with PayPal. To make a donation, visit our home page at [www.midlandauthors.org](http://www.midlandauthors.org) and click on the "Donate" button in the upper right corner.

## ■ Tips Continued from Page 1

particular genre," Beasley said.

That, Beasley said, translates into authors who are not really interested in selling their work.

"As an industry, we are an industry of genres and age groups and target markets, so you've got to think about who the book is for."

When it comes to fiction, **Sharon Woodhouse** said in most cases, "authors have to turn in books they think are finished, and that typically means hiring your own editor."

Woodhouse was a traditional independent publisher for 25 years and now runs an agency, Conspire Creative, that provides product management, author coaching, author management and consulting.

Even though the publisher will also hire an editor, "You should not have this idea that you will get this editor who will hold

““ *I don't want to see a first draft, as an acquisitions editor.* ””

your hand and fix your manuscript and bring you along and nurture you. That doesn't exist," Woodhouse said.

Beasley agreed, saying she always hires an editor before submitting a book to a publisher.

Rodrigue said, "I don't want to see a first draft, as an acquisitions editor."

Beasley added, "We don't want to wait around for a novel you may never finish. You know how authors are."

It's common for agents to accept just the first 10 chapters, but publishers don't do that, she said.

Woodhouse said many publishers only work with agents and don't accept direct submissions from authors.

““ *We don't want to wait around for a novel you may never finish. You know how authors are.* ””

Because an author may not be particularly adept at marketing books, Rodrigue suggested such authors hire someone who knows how to do it.

Beasley said, "The life of a book is more than the two months a publishing company might be promoting a book. ... Marketing is part of the author's responsibility as well because the publisher is only going to go so far. They are going to move on to the next book and the next author."

Woodhouse said, "No author should expect a publisher to do the marketing they want them to. ... The publisher's job is to keep their company in business. ... Marketing the book is truly the author's job. ... I would even say [authors] should not hire marketers or publicists for their books because they will never, ever make back that money."

Instead, taking classes or hiring an author coach helps an author become a marketer, she said

"You have to make a commitment to learn it and do it yourself," she said.

Woodhouse said almost any publisher outside of New York is considered an independent publisher that is not part of a conglomerate.

Rodrigue said, "Many of the authors that we publish at university presses are books that are published primarily to procure something for the author, whether it is tenure or a promotion at a university. They often have to have a book out in order to jump to the next level."

Watch the entire program here: <http://tinyurl.com/yayksvv5>

## Literary Largess

Dues cover mailings and other organizational expenses, but the Society always needs additional money for programs

such as the awards at the annual May book awards banquet. Thanks to **Timothy Gilfoyle & Mary Rose Alexander** and **Betty O'Shaughnessy**, who made recent contributions.

# How new book grew from reading about 1930s China

**S**usan Blumberg-Kason, the author of two books and co-editor of an anthology, will present the Midland Authors' March 12 program. Here is what she tells Literary License:

**Literary License:** *What inspired you to write Bernardine's Shanghai Salon: The Story of the Doyenne of Old China?*

**Susan Blumberg-Kason:** Thank you for this interview! I started reading about 1930s Shanghai 30 years ago when I picked up *Shanghai '37* by Vicki Baum and learned so much about the history of the city, which until World War II had been carved into different foreign concessions.

As I read more nonfiction books set back then, Bernardine would pop up here and there as a side character. I learned that she connected well-known figures of Old Shanghai, both Chinese and foreign, and I started to wonder about her background. When I found out she was from Peoria, I really wanted to know more!

**Literary License:** *How did you research your book?*

**Susan Blumberg-Kason:** Bernardine was all but unknown, so I started from scratch. I did several internet searches before I found that the Newberry Library in Chicago has letters to and from Bernardine.

I also found more letters in the archives at Yale. But I hit the jackpot when I located Bernardine's granddaughter online, and from her I received the names of two of Bernardine's cousins in California who had hundreds of pages of Bernardine's unpublished papers.

**Literary License:** *You've co-edited an anthology: Hong Kong Noir. Do you have any advice for someone who'd like to propose an anthology?*

**Susan Blumberg-Kason:** I think it's important to have connections to other

**March 12, 2024, program**

**Cliff Dwellers Club  
200 S. Michigan Avenue  
22nd floor**

**6 p.m. - Social Hour**

**7 p.m. - Program**

**Free - donations accepted**

writers who are experts in their subjects. For *Hong Kong Noir*, I was fortunate to have gotten to know authors from Hong Kong or with Hong Kong connections. Some presses have an existing anthology

series, like Akashic Books' noir series. So if there's already an established series, the press will want to publish more of the same.

**Literary License:** *As a former trustee of a west Chicago suburban library, do you think the current political environment has complicated*

*librarians' jobs around the country?*

**Susan Blumberg-Kason:** I was a trustee of the Hinsdale (Illinois) Public Library from 2017-2021, and the pandemic was our most pressing issue. I worry most about self-censorship now and that library boards could take measures to try to prevent conflict, but in effect will keep books from the public.

This puts librarians in a very tough position.

**Literary License:** *What is your next book?*

**Susan Blumberg-Kason:** I have a book out in September from the University of Illinois Press about Chicago's Chinese American Service League (CASL) and its longtime executive director, Bernarda "Bernie" Wong.

There's lots of Chicago history and politics in the book, and all the author proceeds will go to a senior citizen program at CASL!

*Literary  
Landscape*

**Susan  
Blumberg-Kason**



## Biblio File

Continued from Page 2

25. The program was a unique reading that highlighted the art, music, photography, animation and film that have inspired her work. Linda tells Biblio File, "The organizers told me afterward that my program was one of the best the series ever presented. Most of the poems read were from my new book, *Bone Country* (Cornerstone Press), which has been nominated for 20 book awards including the Pulitzer Prize. The last piece I read, 'When We Talk About the Movie, Casablanca...' won first prize in the 2023 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Contest. On Feb. 3, I'll be attending the awards ceremony and reading at The Poetry



**Carrie Pearson**

Center in Paterson, New Jersey, sponsored by the Paterson Literary Review." ... **Carrie Pearson** writes to say, "The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators is hosting a conference for children's writers

and illustrators in Davenport, Iowa, April 12-14. It is a large conference that only happens every three years and is a prime opportunity for people to interface with editors, agents, art directors and colleagues. **Jill Esbaum**, Midland Authors Children's Reading Round Table Award for Children's Nonfiction Honoree 2023 and current Midland Authors awards judge, is on our faculty." ...

**Marlene Targ Brill's**

*Dolores Huerta Stands Strong* was among "10 Biographies of Influential Hispanic Women" listed on Oct. 9 by Early Bird Books. ... **Rita Woods** won the 2023 Chicago Writers Association Award in the Traditional Fiction category, and **Gary Wilson** won the Indie Fiction award.

**Steve Fox** and **David W. Berner** were finalists in the Indie Fiction category. ... The Feb. 7 (Chicago) Daily Herald quot-



**Marlene  
Targ Brill**

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## Biblio File

Continued from Page 3

ed **Walter Podrazik** in an article head-lined “Sixty years ago, The Beatles brought a musical revolution to America.” ... **June Sawyers** reviewed *The Lost Subways of North America: A Cartographic Guide to the Past, Present, and What Might Have Been* for the Jan. 26 Third Coast Review. Also, she had several reviews appear in the Third Coast Review, the online cultural magazine. And June wrote a book review of *The Lost Subways of North America*, a theater review of “Lunch with Sonia,” part of the International Puppet Theater, and a theater review of ‘Girl from the North Country. In the Times Literary Supplement, she wrote a review of *Johnny Cash: The Life in Lyrics*. ... On Jan. 29, NPR called **Kaveh Akbar’s** novel *Martyr!* (See Literary Latest August/September 2023) an “outstanding debut. ... gripping and multilayered.” ... **Mark Guarino** wrote “New clubs, bigger acts: Could the western suburbs be Chicago’s next big music destination?” for WBEZ radio’s website on Dec. 4. ... **Connie Goddard** reports her next book, *Learning to Work*, is in production at the University of Illinois Press and will be published next summer. ... **Robert Loerzel** wrote “Is Chicago becoming the



Connie Goddard

## Midland Authors members invited to talk books

**F**ormer Midland Authors President **Rich Lindberg** writes to say, “The Norwood Park Historical Society invites SMA nonfiction authors to schedule a speaking appearance with us to discuss your current or earlier book at a future monthly meeting. NPHS prefers subject matter related to history, current events and Chicago, but will consider any other nonfiction topic that would be of general interest to our members.

NPHS meets on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. at the historic Noble-Seymour-Crippen House at 5624 N. Newark Ave. in the 41st Ward. It is Chicago’s oldest residential home. Speakers will be paid a \$150 honorarium. If you are interested please email [store@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:store@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org) with a brief description of your program and contact information. We will respond promptly.”

best city for magic?” for the WBEZ radio (Chicago) website on Jan. 4. ... Former Midland Authors President **Rich Lindberg** recently submitted his latest manuscript to Southern Illinois University Press and is awaiting peer review acceptance. The book is tentatively titled *Citadels of Sin: Chicago Vice Under the Gaslight*, focusing on the era of segregated vice districts, when the failed concept of vice tolerance was considered by many Progressives to be the best antidote to curbing the spread of prostitution. It is, in a larger sense, a probing examination of the evolution of organized crime spanning the years 1840 through Al Capone’s arrival in 1919. ... In November, **Sofia Samatar** won the 2023

College of Arts and Letters Madison Scholar Award at James Madison University. ... KGNU radio interviewed **Tracy Clark** on Feb. 2. ... **Charles Billington** discussed his new book *The 1963 Chicago Bears* (See Literary License, February, 2024) on WGN-TV on Feb. 2. ... **David Radavich** writes to say: “Cervena Barva Press has just posted a gorgeous book trailer for my new book, *Here’s Plenty*. I can’t resist sharing it” at <http://tinyurl.com/yrfk6vym>. ... 2019 Midland Authors book awards honoree **Art Cullen** wrote “They were my friends for years. Trump tore us apart” for the Feb. 8 New York Times. ... **Dan Dinello** published a featured essay on the website Informed Comment titled “America’s Theater of the Absurd Election: Trump, Fascism, Reality and ... Rhinoceros.”

## Final Chapters

### *Joan Gibb Engel 1936–2022*

**Joan Gibb Engel**, an author, essayist and poet and a longtime member of the Midland Authors, was the author or co-author of several books.

Ms. Engel died on March 2, 2022, of pancreatic cancer.

Ms. Engel was author of *The Indiana Dunes Story: How Nature and People Made a Park* (Shirley Heinze Environmental, 1997) and the chapbook *Where Things Are* (Finishing Line Press, 1997).

She was co-author with Midland

Authors member **J. Ronald Engel** of *Ethics of Environment and Development: Global Challenge, International Response* (University of Arizona Press, 1991), and she was co-author with J. Ronald Engel and James R. Dabbert of *The Indiana Dunes Revealed: The Art of Frank V. Dudley* (University of Illinois Press, 2006). She was a contributing author to *Ecological Integrity, Law and Governance* (Routledge, 2018).

She also contributed personal essays and poetry to a variety of publications and edited several other works that dealt with environmental ethics.



Joan Gibb Engel

Ms. Engel, who was born in Baltimore, earned a Ph.D. in creative writing from the University of Illinois and taught art, science and English at the elementary and college levels. She was a leader of the Shirley Heinze Land Trust, which works to protect habitats and ecosystems in the Indiana Dunes, and she worked with the Center for Humans and Nature in Chicago.

Joan Gibb Engel and J. Ronald Engel were high school sweethearts and enjoyed a 64-year romance. They lived in Chicago and the nearby Indiana Dunes and later in Tucson, Arizona.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024: From Peoria to Shanghai

### Talk and Slideshow with Susan Blumberg-Kason, author Bernardine's Shanghai Salon: The Story of the Doyenne of Old China

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 12, 2023; cocktails 6-7 p.m. and program 7-8 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Cliff Dwellers, 200 S Michigan Ave., 22nd floor penthouse

**COST:** Free & open to all; \$5 donation suggested



Books will be available for purchase and signing after the program.

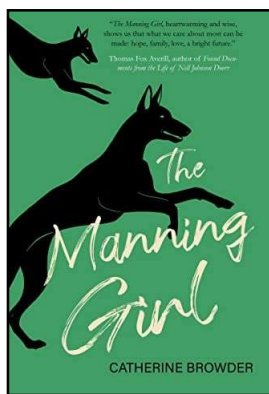
Bernardine Szold Fritz was born and raised in Peoria, Illinois. At the age of 19, she acted in the Chicago Little Theatre, housed in the Fine Arts Building. She went on to work as a journalist alongside Carl Sandburg and Ernest Hemingway before moving to New York and Paris in the 1920s. In 1929 she moved to Shanghai to marry a silver broker from North Dakota. It was in Shanghai that she started a literary salon and became the first person to bring together Chinese and expat writers, actors, musicians, and dancers. Susan Blumberg-Kason will speak about her new book, *Bernardine's Shanghai Salon*, and will show how Bernardine's Midwestern roots went on to influence her work in Shanghai.

Susan Blumberg-Kason is the author of *Bernardine's Shanghai Salon: The Story of the Doyenne of Old China* and *Good Chinese Wife: A Love Affair with China Gone Wrong*. She is also the co-editor of *Hong Kong Noir*. Susan is a regular contributor to the *Asian Review of Books* and *World Literature Today*. Born, raised, and now based in the Chicago suburbs, Susan has a forthcoming book out this September, *When Friends Come From Afar: The Remarkable Story of Bernie Wong and Chicago's Chinese American Service League*.

To learn more, contact Mary Wisniewski: [wiz1166@yahoo.com](mailto:wiz1166@yahoo.com) or Sharon Woodhouse: [sharon@conspirecreative.com](mailto:sharon@conspirecreative.com).



## Literary Latest



### FIRST PUBLISHED NOVEL

**Catherine Browder** writes: “I’ve proven to be a book-a-decade person, until recently. Fielding two books in a year presented a new challenge. And they are such totally different projects. The



**Catherine Browder**

*Manning Girl* (Regal House Publishing, November, 2023) is actually my first published novel. I’ve been a ‘short form’ person – at least these are the ones that get published.

“*The Manning Girl* is inspired by George

Eliot’s small fable of 1861, *Silas Marner*.

“In the original, the abandoned toddler doesn’t arrive until Page 100. My ‘orphan’ arrives on Page 2. A necessary concession to modern sensibilities!

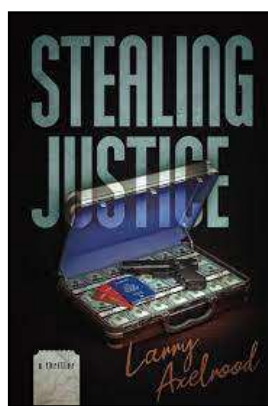
“The novel makes no attempt to imitate or duplicate its predecessor. I was enchanted by the ‘abandoned baby on the doorstep’ theme.

“It is also about public school teachers, something I’m familiar with, and Eastern Kansas, where I once lived. But it’s mostly about building a family under unusual circumstance, and a community.

“There is the inevitable backstory, with sibling rivalry, danger, betrayal and, most importantly in my view, gain. This is a novel that evolved over years and was put

aside for two other books, including the book published in 2022, which is a cycle of stories about loss and disaster. That’s been my year in fiction: themes of loss and gain.

“Stepping back from all my fiction, I suspect this is probably the book with the broadest appeal.”



### VAST CONSPIRACY

*Stealing Justice* (Post Hill Press, Sept. 5, 2023) is **Larry Axelrood’s** latest book.

Axelrood tells Literary Latest, “*Stealing Justice* is my fourth published novel. The inspiration for the story came from my over 30 years of experience in Cook County criminal court as a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge. Observing



**Larry Axelrood**

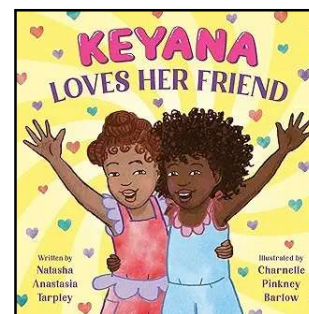
the drama, comedy, tragedy, heartbreak and humanity on a daily basis motivated me to try to capture the complexities of seeking justice in a deeply flawed system. This book allowed me to develop authentic characters with depth and nuance that sought my vision of what justice should really look like.”

From the publisher: “From a single courtroom, one prosecutor’s courageous stand threatens to expose a vast conspira-

cy and take down some of the city’s most powerful people.

“Prosecutor Marisol Cuellar is ordered to facilitate the exoneration of a man wrongfully convicted of murder. Terry Jackson – known as T.J. – has spent nine years in prison for the murder of a young girl, and an exoneration is a key step toward his ability to recover millions of dollars for the wrongful conviction.

“This exoneration case seems straightforward, but Cuellar makes a startling discovery: The evidence is overwhelming that T.J. is indeed guilty. Armed with this information, Cuellar shocks everyone at the hearing by calling key witnesses and bringing forward evidence of corruption at the top of her own office and beyond.”



### ‘SWEET PICTURE BOOK’

Here’s what Literary Latest hears from **Natasha Tarpley** about her new book *Keyana Loves Her Friend* (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, Dec. 12, 2023).



**Natasha Tarpley**

“The Keyana Loves ... series was inspired by my classic picture book, *I Love My Hair!*, which features a little girl named Keyana who loves her hair. I was always very curious about what that little girl’s life was like outside

**Turn to Page 7**

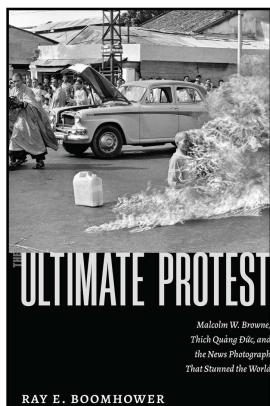


## Literary Latest

Continued from Page 6

of her hair, and so I created a series that highlights the creativity of the original protagonist and explores Keyana's adventures with her friends and family.

"The publisher wanted the series to have a fresh new look to reach a new generation of readers, so the new characters and books look very different from the original publication. *Keyana Loves Her Friend* is the second book in the series. I was thinking a lot about friendship when I came up with the story, and how our friendships change over time. When you're young, change can be scary. I think it's important for kids to know early on that as we grow, if there is a strong bond, our friendships can (and should) expand and grow, too."



### NINETEENTH BOOK

*The Ultimate Protest: Malcolm W. Browne, Thich Quang Duc, and the News Photograph That Stunned the World*

(High Road Books) is **Ray Boomhower's** latest book.



**Ray Boomhower**

Boomhower tells Literary Latest: "While finishing the final chapters for my biography of World War II correspondent Richard Tregaskis,

published in 2021, I wrote about the uncharitable opinion the veteran reporter held for the younger journalists reporting on the early days of America's involve-

ment in the Vietnam conflict, who often clashed with U.S. officials there.

Tregaskis went as far as to tell David Halberstam of the New York Times, 'If I were doing what you are doing, I'd be ashamed of myself.'

Tregaskis, in a review he wrote for the Chicago Tribune panning Halberstam's 1965 book *The Making of a Quagmire*, had a higher opinion of the work of another reporter in Vietnam – the Associated Press' Saigon bureau chief, Malcolm W. Browne. This brief mention of Browne and his work intrigued me, and I vowed to learn more about his career.

I was surprised to learn that Browne, who shared the 1964 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting with Halberstam, was also the person responsible for capturing one of the iconic images of the Vietnam War, the self-immolation in June 1963 of a Buddhist monk, Thich Quang Duc, protesting the policies of Ngo Dinh Diem's South Vietnamese government. I decided to investigate Browne's life. The result is the publication of my 19th book, *The Ultimate Protest*.

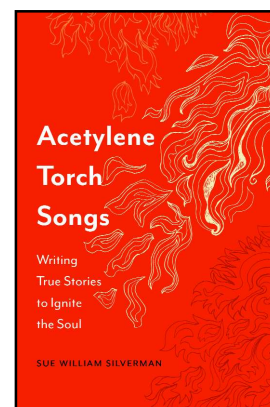
From the publisher: "*Ultimate Protest* examines how the most unlikely of war correspondents, Malcolm W. Browne, became the only Western reporter to capture Buddhist monk Thich Quang Duc's horrific self-immolation on June 11, 1963.

"Biographer Ray E. Boomhower's *The Ultimate Protest* explores the background of the Buddhist crisis in South Vietnam in the spring of 1963 that led to Quang Duc's self-sacrifice, as well as the worldwide reaction to Browne's photograph, how it affected American policy toward Diem's government, and the role the image played in the violent coup on Nov. 1, 1963 that deposed Diem and led to his assassination."

### 'ABIDING LOVE OF CREATIVE NONFICTION'

**Sue William Silverman** writes to say, "I wrote *Acetylene Torch Songs: Writing True Stories to Ignite the Soul* (University of Nebraska Press, Jan. 1, 2024) for several reasons.

"One is my abiding love of creative nonfiction and the importance of personal



narrative. I hope *Acetylene* will encourage others to write their narratives and will help all writers – beginning and more advanced – who might be 'stuck.'



**Sue William Silverman**

"I also wrote *Acetylene* because creative nonfiction is an important yet frequently misunderstood genre. Memoirists and personal essayists, for example, are frequently accused of 'navel gazing' by critics who claim creative nonfiction isn't as artful as fiction and poetry.

"In *Acetylene*, I want to help set the record straight! I show how it's a genre for seemingly ordinary people, which, nevertheless, affords us the opportunity to present our lives in extraordinary and metaphoric ways – ways that speak, universally, to others. *Acetylene Torch Songs* shows, through craft and example, how to turn your life into art.

From the publisher: "At times writers – from the unpublished to jaded lifers – need a fire lit under them to pursue the complex work of self-exploration. *Acetylene Torch Songs* provides that spark for memoirists and essayists seeking mentor-based instruction and inspiration.

"Drawing on 25 years of teaching and mentoring writers, Sue William Silverman stresses practice over theory. She encourages craftiness as well as craft and urges writers to embark on emotional quests in pursuit of their art. *Acetylene Torch Songs* illustrates how the writer's imaginative spirit comes alive on the page through metaphor, literary masks, sensory memories, voice, obsessions, and more."

# *Society of Midland Authors*

## *Dinner Registration Form*

The Society of Midland Authors annual awards banquet will be held May 21 at the Cliff Dwellers Club, 22nd floor, 200 S. Michigan, Chicago.

The reception with a cash bar will start at 6 p.m. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m.  
Emcee: TBA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of medallions of pork tenderloin dinners at \$80 each. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Number of vegetarian (Grilled Vegetables, Portabella Mushroom Mediterranean couscou) dinners at \$80. \_\_\_\_\_

Number of grilled filet of swordfish dinners at \$80 each. \_\_\_\_\_

Donation. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Dinner Sponsorship (includes two dinner tickets and a mention in the awards dinner program). \$250. \_\_\_\_\_

Total . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip above form and mail to: Dinner Reservation, Society of Midland Authors, P.O. Box 10419, Chicago IL 60610  
You may also download a similar form at our website, [www.midlandauthors.org](http://www.midlandauthors.org) or pay via PayPal.

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