



Boston Authors Club

January 2023 News

Author Spotlight Issue

Publications, News, and Events From BAC Authors

PLUS

-- Featured New Member: Lisa Perron

-- Yesteryear: Lindsey 2 - Bridesmaids as Pallbearers

FEATURED INTERVIEW WITH NEW MEMBER LISA PERRON



Lisa Varchol Perron, winner of the 2021 BAC Discovery Award, writes poetry and books for children. Her poems have been featured in numerous anthologies, journals, and magazines, including *Highlights High Five*, *The Caterpillar*, and *Tyger Tyger*. Lisa's two debut books—*Patterns Everywhere* (Lerner/Millbrook) and *My Love for You* (Little Simon/Simon & Schuster), illustrated by Sheryl Murray, will be released in spring 2023.

When she isn't writing, Lisa works as a psychotherapist. She enjoys going for long walks by the ocean with her two book-loving children and scientist husband.

For more about Lisa, visit her website: lisaperronbooks.com

Q: What aspects of being part of a community of writers and appreciators of literature are most important to you?

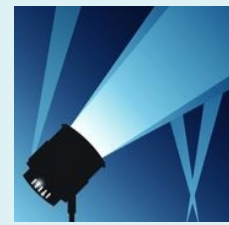
A: Being part of a community of creators makes writing a less solitary experience. I'm so grateful for the advice and encouragement I've received from those who are further along in their writing careers, and I love cheering on others at all stages of their journeys. I've learned so much about both the craft and the business of writing by being in critique groups, taking part in various classes, and attending talks. Launch events are my favorite because they bring together writers and readers to celebrate the end of one journey (creating a book) and the beginning of another (releasing that book into the hands of readers).

Q: What works have shaped you as a reader and/or writer?

A: I think I've been shaped by works that I've read over and over again. As a young child, my nightly request was for *The Bed Book* by Sylvia Plath, illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully. The playful rhymes and illustrations are so memorable! I later read and reread Beverly Cleary and Judy Bloom, along with poetry by Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost and novels by Julia Alvarez and Toni Morrison. There are also several songwriters (too many to name!) who influenced my love of storytelling. I appreciate the musicality of poetry and the poetry in music.

Interview by Lisa Rogers

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT ISSUE



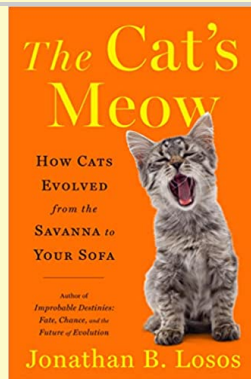
The Black Cat Change-Up from David Kelly

David Kelly reports that *The Black Cat Change-Up*, his latest Ballpark Mysteries book (#23!), was released in November 2022 by Curveball Books. The ghost of a black cat is haunting the NY Mets in this chapter book mystery. This book marks a change for David— while the first 22 books in the series were published by Random House, *The Black Cat Change-Up* is the first of his self-published extension to the series.

For more updates and events from David, visit www.davidakellybooks.com



The Cat's Meow by Jonathan Losos



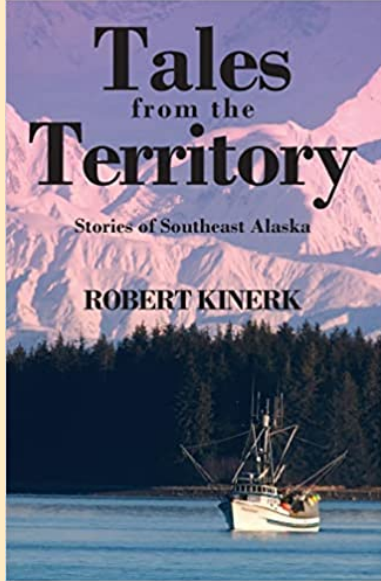
Jonathan B. Losos, winner of the JWH nonfiction prize for his 2017 book *Improbable Destinies*, sends word that *The Cat's Meow: How Cats Evolved from the Savanna to Your Sofa* will be published by Penguin Random House in May 2023. BAC members who participated in the 2018 JWH Awards Event might remember that in his remarks, Jonathan shared that he was embarking on a new book project that would blend history, archeology, evolutionary biology, and cat lover's lore. *The Cat's Meow* is the outcome of that project.



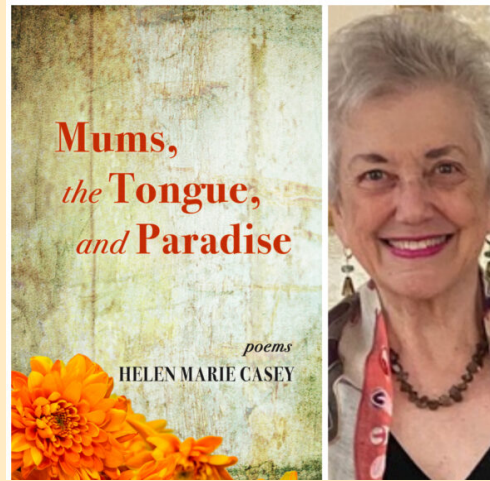
Dr. Losos is an evolutionary biologist at Washington University and the founding director of the Living Earth Collaborative, a unique biodiversity center and partnership between Washington University, the Saint Louis Zoo and the Missouri Botanical Garden. He was previously a professor of biology at Harvard and a curator at the university's Museum of Comparative Zoology. His work has garnered awards from the National Academy of Sciences, the Society for the Study of Evolution, and the American Society of Naturalists.

Helen Marie Casey has a new poetry chapbook out from Finishing Line Press, "Mums, the Tongue, and Paradise!"

The chapbook can also be ordered from Barnes & Noble



Robert Kinerk's collection of short stories, *Tales from the Territory: Stories of Southeast Alaska*, published by Outskirts Press, draws on Kinerk's experiences growing up in Ketchikan, Alaska.

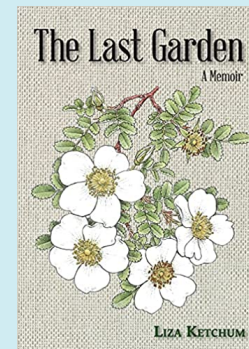


Mums, the Tongue, and Paradise

poems
HELEN MARIE CASEY

Liza Ketchum wishes everyone a Happy New Year and reports that she had two books published in 2022, *Begin with a Bee*, a picture book co-authored with Phyllis Root and Jackie Briggs Martin, illustrated by Claudia McGehee, and her memoir *The Last Garden*, illustrated with beautiful botanical drawings by Bobbi Angell.

Liza is working on another nonfiction picture book with co-authors Jackie Briggs Martin and Phyllis Root, scheduled for publication by University of Minnesota Press in 2024.



COME & JOIN US FOR A

BOOK TALK

by award-winning author




● **Lisa Braxton**

for her debut novel *"The Talking Drum"*

at Brockton Public Library
304 Main St. Brockton, MA

Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6 p.m.
Join us in person or register on Zoom
at bit.ly/thetalkingdrum or scan QR code

For more information contact
Warren Nelson at (508) 894-1427 or
wnelson@cobma.us.

Lisa Braxton will be talking about her novel, *The Talking Drum* at the Brockton



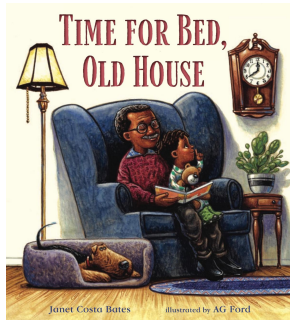
Carol Gordon Ekster announces the publication of her latest children's book, *Trucker Kid* with Capstone, illustrated by Russ Cox. It's a picture book about a young girl whose pride in her father's work as a truck driver wins the hearts and

Public Library on February 6 at 6PM. You can take part in this event in person at the library, or on Zoom.

To register, visit bit.ly/thetalkingdrum

minds of her classmates.

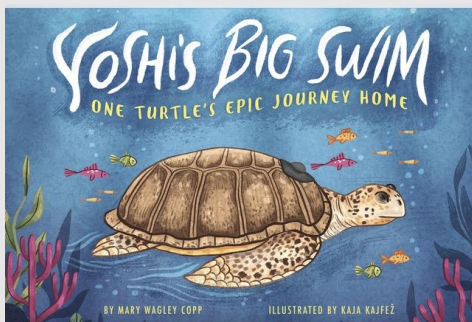
Carol will be reading from her work at story time at LaLa Books in Lowell at 2:00 p.m. on Jan. 28th.



Lisa Rogers, Janet Costa Bates, and Nancy Tupper Ling are the featured authors at Hummingbird Books in Chestnut Hill, at 11 am on Sunday, Jan. 22. They will be reading from their recent books: Lisa's rhyming picture book, *Hound Won't Go*; Janet's *Time for Bed, Old House*; and Nancy Ling's poetry anthology, *For Every Little Thing*, co-edited with June Cotner.



Lisa Rogers also shares the exciting news that Carolyn Yoder at Astra/Calkins Creek has acquired world rights to her latest work, *Woody's Words: Woodrow Wilson Rawls and "Where the Red Fern Grows,"* a picture book biography of the author of the 1961 classic story of a boy and his hounds. Written by Lisa Rogers and illustrated by Susan Reagan, it's scheduled for publication in fall 2025.

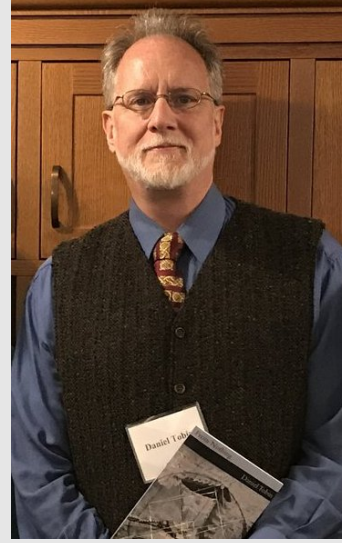


Mary Wagley Copp shares that her nonfiction picture book, *Yoshi's Big Swim: One Turtle's Epic Journey Home* (Capstone), will be released June 1st, 2023. Yoshi's Big Swim chronicles the story of Yoshi, a loggerhead turtle who was rescued by fishermen, then rehabilitated and cared for by scientists for many years, and then swam more than 22,000 miles to get back home.

Daniel Tobin, winner of the JWH Prize for *From Nothing*, will be reading from his poetry at Middlesex Community College, Lowell Campus, on March 1st at 2:00pm.

Daniel's latest work, *The Mansions*, a trilogy of three book-length poems, will appear in Fall 2023 from Four Way Books.

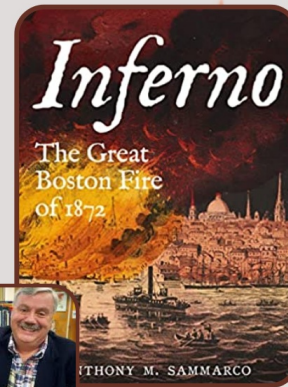
ALSO, on June 18th, 2023, her picture book, *Wherever I Go*, (Atheneum/S&S, 2020), will receive the PictureBook/Early Reader Award from the Mass Center for the Book.



Anthony Sammaraco - Inferno Talk on 1/10/23

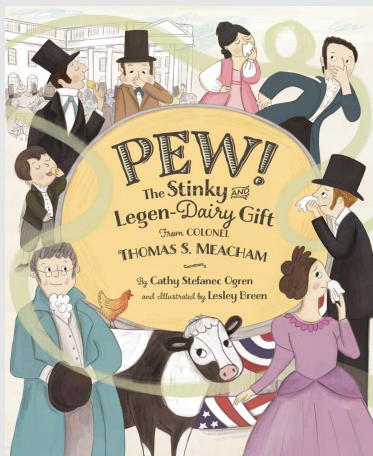


**INFERNO:
THE GREAT BOSTON
FIRE OF 1872**
AUTHOR TALK WITH
ANTHONY M. SAMMARACO
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10TH
AT 6:00PM



REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED BUT
WALK-INS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
EMAIL CHRISTY AT
YOUTH.ADULT@STURGISLIBRARY.ORG

STURGIS LIBRARY 3090 MAIN ST. BARNSTABLE, MA



Cathy Ogren announces that her latest nonfiction book will be published in March by Sleeping Bear Press. *PEW! The Stinky and Legen-dairy Gift from Colonel Thomas S. Meacham* tells the story of Meachem's 1835 gift of a colossal cheese wheel weighing 1,400 pounds to the US president, and its olfactory aftermath.

Later this spring, Cathy will be speaking about PEW! at The Silver Unicorn Bookstore in Acton on Saturday, May 6 at 11AM.

Yesteryear at the BAC: Bridesmaids as Pallbearers

In our last exciting installment (Yesteryear, December 2022), we met William Lindsey, who served for twelve years as the vice president of the Boston Authors Club, from 1905-1917. After making millions as an inventor, designer of military fashions, and successful transatlantic manufacturer. Lindsey went on to make a name for himself as an early twentieth century novelist, poet, playwright, and composer,

The father of three children, Lindsey retired from business in 1904, returned to Boston, and had settled into a leisurely life of letters when tragedy came calling. On April 21, 1915, he escorted his eldest daughter, Leslie Hawthorne, down the aisle of Boston's Emmanuel Church to a marry an English gentleman, Stewart Mason. Stewart had become friends with Leslie's brother, Kenneth who spent time in England tending to his father's business. The newlyweds planned to return to England and decided to honeymoon on a luxurious sea cruise as the best way to get there. Unfortunately, the luxury liner they chose was the doomed RMS Lusitania. Leslie was returned to Boston on May 31, 1915, as body #152.



Leslie's funeral was held in the church in which she was so recently married. Her bridesmaids were her pallbearers. Grief-stricken, William Lindsey and his wife Anne offered to build a Lady Chapel for Emmanuel Church in honor of Leslie. The offer was accepted, a plot of land on Newbury Street was purchased, and the cornerstone of the chapel laid in early 1920. It was said that Lindsey visited the construction site daily but, alas, he did not live to witness its dedication.

An extensive description of the Lindsey chapel can be found here.

<https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-lindsey-chapel/architecture/> Of particular note for BAC Newsletter readers are the stained-glass windows. The face of one of the saints is that of Leslie herself and the theme of one the other windows echoes the story line one of Lindsey's novels, *The Severed Mantle*.

The chapel is by no means the only lasting monument to the memory of William Lindsey in and about Boston. He donated a large collection of musical instruments to the MFA which is cataloged as the Lindsey Mason Collection. Notably, the Tudor Revival mansion that he built for his family on Bay State Road, called The Castle has been preserved as a Boston University property, serving as the home of BU's presidents until 1967 and more recently as a student Pub, wedding venue, and alumni center.

I suppose every writer harbors a secret hope that their books will be on the shelf—some shelf, somewhere—long after they're gone but nothing beats a beautiful stained glass window or good old castle for persistence in public awareness.

By Scott B. Guthery

authors!
AUTHORS!

The BAC newsletter is published the first week of every month except for the summer months. Please send news about your upcoming events, awards, and new books to bostonauthorsclub@gmail.com by 1/28/23 for publication in February.

Happy New Year!
Your BAC Membership for 2023

BAC membership dues are \$50 annually for the calendar year. You can join and renew online by [clicking here](#). If you would rather pay by check, please make your check out to Boston Authors Club and mail it to the following address:

**Nancy Tupper Ling
Boston Authors Club
1600 Providence Highway #247**

Walpole MA 02081

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