**History: THE ALAMO WOMEN’S CLUB AUTHORS’ FAIRE**

The Alamo Women’s Club Authors’ Faire began as a “dream”. A few of our members had attended the Stanford East Bay Book Fair and thought it would be a wonderful idea for Alamo Women’s Club to sponsor such an event. With many members in our book club sections they thought support would be there to plan such an event. Jerilyn Strong, one of the newer AWC members at that time (and surely the bravest!), decided to take on the challenge in March, 2015. She proposed the venue should be larger than our Clubhouse and would attract more people and to consider Roundhill Country Club. She also had an acquaintance, Danville author, Penny Warner, who she contacted and who volunteered to moderate the event. Penny was also instrumental in suggesting those first authors who would participate in our panel.

The first Authors’ Faire was held at Roundhill Country Club on March, 2015 with Penny Warner moderating. Our guest authors were Simon Wood, Catriona McPherson, Terry Shames, Susan Shea, Laila Ibrahim and Teresa O’Kane. We welcomed over 125 guests – a huge success for a new event. Until Covid, our attendance increased each year to over 250 attendees in 2019, our last pre-Covid faire.

Each event has six or seven authors present plus the emcee. After the authors speak about their individual writing career and journeys, they meet the guests and sell/sign their books. Venues have included Round Hill Country Club, twice, Crow Canyon Country Club and Diablo Country Club. A buffet breakfast is included in the price of admission. Each author donates books for drawing prizes and beautiful baskets have also been given as prizes at the events.

In addition to raising funds for AWC and our philanthropies, we also attract new members to our Club who appreciate our philanthropic mission and our support of authors, books and reading. It has become well known among authors as well as book clubs and local readers, and is fun to attend.

As we re-open our Author’s Faire is already planned for 2021. Kudos to the co-chairs Sandi McKae and Jerilyn Strong who have rescheduled three times since the start of Covid and have remained in contact with the authors as well as the venue so as to keep this successful event going.

**Mark your calendars for October 20th at Roundhill Country Club.** Six best-selling authors are lined up and this promises to be our best Authors’ Faire ever. **Robert Dugoni will be the moderator** (his books have sold over 6 million copies). Our authors will be: **Rhys Bowen, Tim Tigner, Lee Goldberg, Simon Wood and Pamela Mayer**.

More information will follow from the co-chairs but now you know ‘the rest of the story’ and a more recent piece of Alamo Women’s Club history.

Vicki Koc

Historian 6/2021