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## Former high school teacher writes, helps other authors

By CAROLYN DRYER  
EDITOR

Kristin Tualla began writing "on a whim" in 2006, when her children were grown. No more toddlers gathering 'round the knees, and time on her hands. A former teacher at Apollo High School, Tualla met her husband, Paul, in 1975 on the school campus. They married in 1977 and started their family.

Until recently, she said she had been "muddling through the process." But now, she is actively writing and researching. Still, it has not been easy, and she understands the difficulties many would-be authors experience in their own quest to be published.

"A lot of publishing is going digital," she said. "Authors are taking their work straight to customers. Everybody is trying to find their feet in this market.

"So, authors really have to become their own advocates and create their own publishing machine, even if they're traditionally

published."

There was a niche to fill, and Tualla found something that fit. Her primer was the result of a talk at a seminar. It was so well-received, she said, "I turned it into a blog."

The blog was so well-received, "I turned it into a book," she added.

In her primer, she has links to different writing groups.

Tualla's publishing label is Goodnight Publishing, a conduit for authors interested in independently publishing their work.

"I'm going to allow authors who send me a proof of their self-published books," she said. "If it's good enough, then, I'll give permission for them to use the logo and all books will be on the website with links to self-help publishing."

Tualla will not collect any royalties or fees for the service, and she will not be taking the authors' rights.

"It's a way for self-published authors to link arms and give a face of authenticity to readers,"

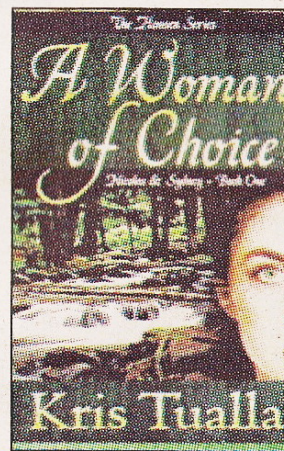


**Former Apollo High School teacher Kris Tualla is a prolific writer who also has a website to help other aspiring authors.**

she said.

But teaching other writers how to get published is just one step along the way for Tualla. She writes in other genres as well.

"A Woman of Choice" is a historical fiction that is being released Sept. 13 at a party hosted at Firebirds Wood Fired Grill, 16067 N. Arrowhead Fountains Center Drive, south of Bell Road off 83rd Avenue. The party runs from 6 to 8 p.m. with a no-host happy hour. Everyone is welcome. At



**"A Woman of Choice," is about a woman who is betrayed and abandoned by her unfaithful husband. The book will be sold at \$9.99 per copy.**

the release party only, "A Woman of Choice" will be sold at a reduced price of \$9.99 per copy.

The story is set in 1819 Missouri Territory. As her publicity relates, "A woman is viciously betrayed and abandoned by her unfaithful husband. She is rescued by a widower uninterested in love. In desperation, she becomes engaged to his best friend. One woman, three very different men. Life is about choices."

What has been one of her most prized successes was a cover quote from best-selling author Diana Gabaldon, whose Outlander series is now a classic.

Gabaldon wrote in a cover quote about "A Woman of Choice," that it was "a charming love story gracefully told in a fresh and engaging setting."

But Tualla is not satisfied with one historical novel. "A Prince of Norway" is being released in November.

"I love history, people history, not dates," she said. "I started 'A Woman of Choice' with a character in my head for 10 years. The woman wakes up battered, doesn't remember who she is, where she's from, how she ended up beaten up. That was my starting point. So, who found her and where?"

A fourth book, "A Matter of Principle," is another historical romance that takes place in Scotland and Regency England, during the Jane Austen era.

"I decided to go a different way, unique," Tualla

said. "I gave them a nod."

It is the year 1354 following the Black Plague. The hero is trying to get from the dying Greenland settlement back to see if he has anything, and he crashes on the northern coast of Scotland, where the heroine rescues him. She's 26, has already buried three fiancés and lost her claim to the family estate. The nod has to get to Norway, and she has to decide to stay or go with him. The book now sits on a publisher's desk.

There's more. A fifth novel is percolating. It is set in Christianea, Oslo, Norway, in the year 1684. The protagonist is a deaf private investigator; tall, dark, handsome. That, too, is waiting for the OK from the publisher.

In the meantime, Tualla is not sitting back on her heels. She is busy writing and helping other authors reach audiences of readers.

To learn more, visit [www.KrisTualla.com](http://www.KrisTualla.com).

Reach the reporter at 623-847-4600.