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Contact: Miki Klocke
805-551-1779
miki@mikiklocke.com

Local Resident Joins Authors Around the World to Support Caregivers

Ojai, CA-Miki Klocke is the author of *Alzheimer's: Beyond Caregiving*, is one of over 150 authors from around the world who will be represented at the Alzheimer's Association - Western Carolina Chapter's Dementia Education conference in Charlotte, N.C., this August. Klocke and over 25 other AlzAuthors have donated copies of their books, which will be given away in a raffle to conference attendees.

"I wanted to support the cause because I was a caregiver for 17 years for my Mom who had Alzheimer's. It is a difficult and lonely journey and I want to help others still on this heart wrenching path", said Klocke, a member of AlzAuthors. AlzAuthors.com is a nonprofit website that shares information on books and blogs about Alzheimer's and dementia.

AlzAuthors started in 2015, when Founders Jean Lee from Ohio, Vicki Tapia from Montana and Marianne Sciucco from New York, who had also written books about Alzheimer's, met in cyberspace. They discussed the growing need for resources about dementia. A year later, after Shannon Wierbitzky joined the team, the group started a website and published posts from 60 authors. In 2017, Canadian Kathryn Harrison and Ann Campanella from North Carolina joined the administrative team.

Since that time AlzAuthors has published weekly posts, sharing resources about books and blogs that focus on Alzheimer's and other dementias. The site has grown to include over 150 Alzauthors from around the world and has a bookstore with a vast collection of top books for individuals, doctor's offices assisted living facilities and other eldercare services. AlzAuthors also has a thriving presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest. AlzAuthors Jean Lee and Ann Campanella, whose memoirs were recently named to Book Authority's Best Alzheimer's Books of All Time List, will share "The Story Behind the Stories" of AlzAuthors at the conference.

"Together We Can," the Dementia Education Conference held by the Alzheimer's Association – Western Carolina Chapter, will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 29, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 3400 Beatties Ford Road in Charlotte, N.C. The event is geared for healthcare professionals, caregivers, people living with Alzheimer's or related dementia and members of the general public. Attendees will learn more about research, caregiving practices and tools to assist in the journey with Alzheimer's. For more information, visit ALZ.org/NorthCarolina or call 800-272-3900.

For more information about AlzAuthors. visit their website: <https://alzauthors.com/>.

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