

LOCAL AUTHOR HUGO HASELHUHN SHARES LOVE OF WRITING WITH GRANDSON LUKE

Writing duo finds success with **Lucas Lightfoot** book series

By Meagan Friberg

Between school presentations and book signings with his co-author and grandson, Luke Cowdell, local author Hugo Haselhuhn keeps busy as he brings his positive message and outlook to readers of all ages.

Hugo and his wife, Lydia – parents to five and grandparents to 14 – moved to Paso Robles in 2002. Engineering has been his career, but Hugo has been writing stories and poetry for many years. In the spring of 2013, at the age of seven, grandson Luke asked for Hugo's help with writing a chapter book. Their collaboration brought forth characters and a story; by December the dynamic grandfather and grandson duo had self-published *Lucas Lightfoot and the Fire Crystal*.

"We started right into the second book and, by December of 2014, we self-published *Lucas Lightfoot and the Water Tomb*," Hugo said.

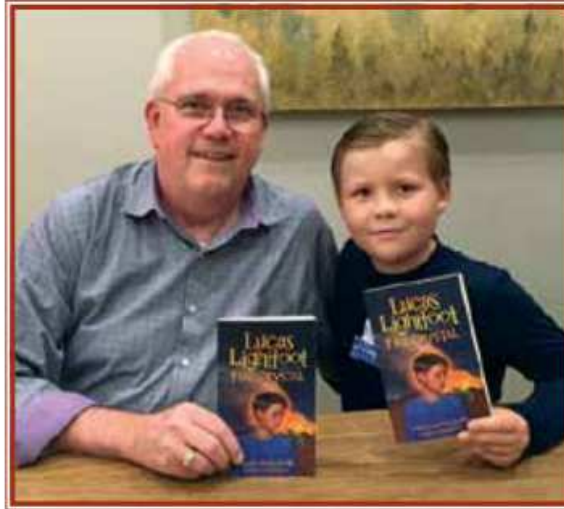
In May of 2015, the two authors signed with publisher Morgan James for their first undertaking, *Fire Crystal*, which was released this past July. They hope to have *Water Tomb* published by Morgan James later this year. The duo is currently writing *Lucas Lightfoot and the Sun Stone* and has plans to compose at least two additional books in the series.

"Luke is working on another book where he is the primary author and I am his mentor," Hugo said. "This has been so much fun and Luke is such a bright young man; being able to work together is

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to continue to read and write. The two met at a writing group Patricia oversees weekly at her home in Paso Robles; she has edited the first two Lucas Lightfoot books.

"Hugo develops the story and does the first rewrite based on what the group says," Patricia



Hugo Haselhuhn with his grandson Luke...caption

exciting because of Luke's enthusiasm and energy as well as helping him to achieve a goal."

A fifth-grader, Luke is 11, lives in Tustin and, when he's not writing about the next Lucas Lightfoot adventure, enjoys BMX racing, riding his motorcycle in the desert, and playing Minecraft and Terrenia. He is a self-proclaimed avid reader with an active imagination. Over the summer, Hugo and Luke conducted successful book signings at several Barnes and Noble stores throughout California including Irvine, SLO, San Jose and Citrus Heights.

said. "His focus and dedication is amazing; he's tireless. Anything he hasn't known about writing or publishing, he learns. Hugo is persistent and Luke is just marvelous."

Meet Hugo on Tuesday, Nov. 8 when he gives a presentation on writing and publishing, geared towards adult authors, at the NightWriters general

Bring on the M.A.G.I.C.

When he's not writing, Hugo visits various school sites where he brings encouragement to young people. During those visits, including recent appearances at Pat Butler and Vineyard elementary schools in Paso Robles and Templeton, Hugo captivates his young audience members with a presentation titled M.A.G.I.C. – an acronym for his talking points on Mind, Attitude, Goals, Integrity and Choice.

"Since magic is part of the adventure in the Lucas Lightfoot stories, I created a presentation around that acronym," he said.

With the beginning of the 2016-17 school year underway, Hugo continues to focus on setting up the M.A.G.I.C. presentation. Teachers from various schools have been in contact with him about presenting at their sites including the Natomas District in Sacramento, the Irvine District in Orange County, the Alpine District in Orem, Utah, and the Jordan District in Jordan, Utah.

Dedicated, tireless, focused

Hugo's editor, Patricia Alexander, joined him at a presentation recently. An author, editor, and motivational speaker, she spoke with students about writing, the editing process, and encouraged them

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meeting in SLO; find more info at slonightwriters.com. For more information on the authors, check out the Lucas Lightfoot website at www.lucaslightfoot.com.