

Gail Mencini



PROFILE

Gail Mencini spent her childhood years in the rural community of DeWitt, Nebraska (population 500), where she learned such interesting skills as detasseling corn, working the assembly line in the local Vise-Grip wrench factory, and baking kolaches. In DeWitt, Gail's imagination became her best friend and her story-telling days began.

Despite hearing the siren call of the creative arts as a little girl, Gail Mencini bent to her practical side and trained in tax planning, accounting, and economics. She spent the first fifteen years of her career in the left-brain field of public accounting, structuring imaginative tax solutions and mergers and acquisitions for her clients. During these years, Gail was a frequent speaker in national continuing education seminars, taught at two Universities on creative transaction structuring, and was a featured speaker in a real estate conference in the Caribbean. She published technical articles on accounting and tax planning in professional accounting journals. Her only foray back into the business world occurred when she assisted a company during a transitional period, serving as Interim Director of Marketing.

In 1990, Gail became an "instant mother" to three boys, ages 3, 8, and 10. Her choice to be a full-time nurturing influence in the lives of her four sons—these three, plus the newest Mencini boy born two years later, allowed her passion for the creative arts to once again take a prominent position. These child-rearing years provided the base for her writing life, allowing attendance at writers' conferences and training sessions, a self-study writing education, and time to write adult fiction and tell stories to her sons. Gail's passion for travel, as well as her interest and talents in gourmet food and cooking, add creativity, a depth of knowledge, and experience to her writing.

Now, with a large family of recipe-testers on hand and half of a lifetime feeding her imagination, Gail's mind swirls with an abundance of stories to share. She lives, writes, and cooks for her husband, family, and friends in Colorado.

EXPERIENCE

Interim Director of Marketing, Wine Master Cellars, Denver, CO — 2006

Contributing Editor, Buzz in the 'burbs, Centennial, Colorado — 2004-2005

Author of "Buzz Cooks"

Photo Journalist, Buzz in the 'burbs, Centennial, Colorado — 2004-2005

Shareholder, Shenkin, Kurtz, & Baker, PC, Greenwood Village, Colorado — 1985-1990

Adjunct Professor, University of Denver College of Law, Denver, Colorado — 1985-1989

Adjunct Professor, University of Colorado and Metro State College, Denver, Colorado — 1984-1985

Tax Manager, Grant Thornton (Alexander Grant), Denver, Colorado and Des Moines, Iowa — 1976-1985

EDUCATION

University of Denver College of Law, Denver, Colorado — 1984

Master of Laws of Taxation

Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa — 1976

Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude, Co-Valedictorian

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND QUALIFICATIONS

Pikes Peak Writers Conference Fiction Award, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Mainstream Novel Length Fiction — First Place

Mystery Novel Length Fiction — Third Place

Beverly Hills International Book Award

1st Place Winner — Chick-Lit Fiction

Sons of Italy Magazine National Book Club selection

Winter 2014

International Book Awards

Finalist 2014 — Fiction: Women's Lit/Chick Lit

USA Best Book Awards

Finalist 2014 – Chick-Lit Fiction

Next Generation Indie Book Awards

Finalist 2014 – Chick-Lit Fiction

5280 Magazine

2014 Top of the Town Readers' Choice Author

Denver Post

#1 Local Paperback Bestseller (2014)

Colorado Authors' League Writing Awards

Finalist 2014 — Adult Fiction: Mainstream

Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers, Denver, Colorado — 1996-present

Pikes Peak Writers, Colorado Springs, Colorado — 2000-present

Colorado Authors' League, Denver, Colorado — 2014-present

Certified Public Accountant, (retired) Iowa and Colorado