

AUTHOR BIO

When asked what expertise he brought to the table that enabled him to write *Bungee Jumping & Cocoons*, author John D. Kenworthy replied, "I've watched a lot of cartoons." The answer is not as flip as it may sound. Raised, as many of us have been, in a world of pop-culture sensibility, Kenworthy has filtered his observations of e-commerce, the Internet, business models and industry through the culture that surrounds them. As Market Communications Manager for WAGO Corporation, Kenworthy often gives presentations to engineers, sales personnel and distribution. From those presentations and subsequent discussions, a couple of theories began to emerge and solidify. Filtered through Kenworthy's pop-culture sensibility, the result is the book you have in your hands, which is the culmination of a life dosed in pop culture.

After a collegiate career that included a Theatre Arts major at Graceland College (Lamoni, Iowa), Art Education major at the University of Colorado (Boulder, Colorado) and a Liberal Arts degree from the University of the State of New York (Albany, NY), Kenworthy's writing has appeared in such diverse venues and styles as fiction in *Easyrider's Magazine*, *Biker*, and *V-Twin Magazine* ("Biker's Funeral," "V-Twin Peaks"), political writing for former Senator Gary W. Hart in the 1984 Presidential Campaign ("The Existentials of Gary Hart") and non-fiction articles in the comprehensive Disney history periodical, *Persistence of Vision* ("The Disney Circus Wagons," "The Mickey Mouse Club Circus.")

In 2001, Kenworthy co-authored *The Hand Behind the Mouse: an intimate biography of Ub Iwerks* with Leslie Iwerks (Disney Editions, ISBN: 0786853204) which detailed the story of one of the greatest innovators of the 20th Century. Culled from over 250 interviews with animation/entertainment legends such as Chuck Jones, Ward Kimball, Jane Withers among others, *The Hand Behind the Mouse* won the prestigious E.G. Lutz Award for best book about animation in 2001.

Kenworthy lives in the Village of Kewaskum, Wisconsin ("The Gateway to the Kettle Moraine Forest") with his wife, Denise and his three sons, Nathan, Dylan and Ian. Between soccer games and full-time duties as Market Communications Manager for electrical connector manufacturer, WAGO Corporation, he has recently retired from serving as President of the Village Board of Kewaskum after having served three previous terms as Village Trustee. Sundays find Kenworthy teaching Sunday School for the 6th Graders of Trinity Lutheran Church in West Bend where he also serves as a Stephen Minister.

