



# Bay Writers News

Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

September 2012

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Among the things I like most about Chesapeake Bay Writers are the opportunities for meeting and exchanging ideas and techniques with other writers, being inspired by capable presenters, and learning new things to move my writing forward. Our September 12 CBW meeting, as you'll see on page 2, provides all that and more.

But sometimes, especially when my writing batteries need recharging, instead of just a few hours, I feel I need an entire day or more of total immersion in the writing life. A day or several days that take me completely out of my normal routine and let me focus without distraction on the art and the craft; the practical business side and the complexities of the rapidly changing publishing scene; and not to be disregarded, of appreciating the simple pleasures that flow from learning as much as I can about writing. That's where writers' conferences come in.

There are various categories of writers' conferences. General conferences usually feature presentations from pros in the various aspects of writing including writers, publishers, agents, and self-publishing experts that appeal to a broad spectrum of writers no matter what your focus. Some conferences have a specific focus like romance writing, or science fiction writing, or nonfiction writing. Writing retreats usually focus on craft and involve onsite writing and feedback.

Many conferences also include

writers contests, opportunities to pitch your projects to agents, editors, and publishers, and valuable first page critiques by agents and publishers. To make the conference really work for you, take part in everything. I sold my first book by making a pitch to the editor of a mid-size commercial publisher at the Whidbey Island Writers' Conference in Washington State. And, it didn't hurt that that same editor was in the audience when my name was called as winning one of the writing awards sponsored by the conference.

But you don't have to travel that far to attend a valuable conference. We're fortunate in this area to have three very fine general writers' conferences that take place annually right in our backyard. The Hampton Roads Writers conference is a worthwhile investment and as a bonus it's held in Virginia Beach. This year's conference takes place next month from September 20-22, 2012. And while their related contests and first page submissions are already closed, you'll still find much to enrich your writing life in the formal and informal sessions they hold. You can find out more at <http://www.hamptonroadswriters.org/2012conference.php>.

Another great local conference is the James River Writers' Conference which takes place in Richmond on Saturday, Oct. 20 – Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012, with Pre-Conference Workshops on Friday, Oct. 19. Still another upcoming conference in

our area is Christopher Newport University's 33rd Annual Writers' Conference on Feb. 22-23, 2013, at The Freeman Center.

Hope to see you at our September 12 meeting and maybe at one of the upcoming writers' conferences in our area.

*Frank Milligan*, President

**CALENDAR 2012**  
**September 12**  
**Luncheon Meeting**  
**November 14**  
**All Stars**



**Chesapeake Bay Writers Bylaw Article II Objectives:** To further the craft of writing. To provide members with opportunities for connecting and exchanging ideas with others who share similar interests; to assist and encourage members in their efforts to achieve their writing related goals; to offer educational and informative programs about writing and marketing finished works. Visit our website at: [www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org](http://www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org).



## WHAT'S NEXT? PILOT HOUSE, TOPPING

On **Wednesday, September 12**, join your fellow writers at **The Pilot House Restaurant, 2737 Greys Point Road, Topping**, for lunch and a presentation about, Landscape and Language. Our presenter, Shonda Buchanan is the Editor of *Voices from Leimert Park*, an award-winning poet, fiction writer and narrative nonfiction writer. Along with being a Sundance Institute Writing Arts fellow and a PEN Center Emerging Voices fellow, she has freelanced for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *LA Weekly*, *AWP's The Writer's Chronicle*, and *Indian Country Today*. Currently, Shonda is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Hampton University.

While exploring the topic, Landscape and

Language, Shonda will explain how our hometowns, neighbors, communities, cities and regions, infiltrate our writing. Attendees will also have an opportunity to produce a short poem.

The luncheon will begin with social time at 11:30 a.m. and entrees at 12 p.m. The price includes soft drinks, a house salad, mashed potatoes, gravy, and your choice of either grilled chicken, hot roast beef with gravy or fried baby flounder followed by pie or cake.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. and adjourn around 2 p.m.

The cost for this event is \$10 for CBW members and \$12 for non-members. The price includes tax and gratuity. To sign up, go to [www.chesapeakebaywriters.org](http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org)

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Editor of *Voices from Leimert Park*, Shonda Buchanan, is an award-winning poet, fiction writer and narrative nonfiction writer. Recipient of the Brody Arts Fellowship from the California Community Foundation, the Denise L. Scott and Frank Sullivan Awards, an Eloise Klein-Healy Scholarship, a Big Read grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and several Virginia Foundation for the

Humanities grants, Shonda is a Sundance Institute Writing Arts fellow and a PEN Center Emerging Voices fellow.

In 2010, she won the poem of the year award from Long Story Short Ezine. She has freelanced for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *LA Weekly*, *AWP's The Writer's Chronicle*, *Indian Country Today*, and *The International Review of African American Art*. Shonda has published in *Phati'tude*

*Literary Magazine*, *Red Ink*, *Strange Cargo: An Emerging Voices Anthology*, *Step into a World: A Global Anthology of New Black Literature*, *Arise! Magazine*, *DefJam Poetry's Bum Rush the Page*, *Geography of Rage: Remembering the Los Angeles Riots of 1992* and *Rivendell*. Shonda served as judge of the North Carolina Arts Council Poetry Fellowship, the Virginia Commission for the

Arts Fiction Contest, the Metrorail Public Art Project Poetry Contest, the 2012 Poetry Society of Virginia Student Poetry Contest, and the Creative Writing Youth Contest for the College Language Association. Shonda received her B.A. and M.A. from Loyola Marymount University in English and her M.F.A. from Antioch University.

Board member of the Poetry Society of Virginia and Hampton Roads Writers, and poetry coordinator at the Peninsula Fine Arts Museum, Shonda is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Hampton University, teaching Creative Writing and Composition. For more information, to schedule a reading, lecture or workshop, visit [www.shondabuchanan.com](http://www.shondabuchanan.com), [www.pw.org/content/shonda\\_buchanan](http://www.pw.org/content/shonda_buchanan) or email [info@shondabuchanan.com](mailto:info@shondabuchanan.com).

## WELCOME ABOARD!

**Guy M. Beaver** from Yorktown, is the Author of novel *Government Beers*. Co-Author of: *Lean-Agile Software Development: Achieving Enterprise Agility*. Guy

is a Technology executive, husband, father of three. He says, "To stay in touch with writers to improve my writing skills and learn more about the book business."



# CONGRATS!

**Jack Bray's** short story *The Sergeants' Club* published in *The Lost Coast Review Magazine* was awarded third prize for published short stories in the Public Service Writers Association writing contest at their annual July conference in Las Vegas.

**Jeanne Johansen** is one of the authors invited to Middlesex County Woman's Club in Urbanna, A Celebration with Local Authors. Sat, Sept. 15, 1-3 p.m.

*Deadly Memories*, the latest romantic suspense novel by **Kathleen Mix**, was released July 13th by The Wild Rose Press. The book is available in both digital and print formats. She will be signing *Deadly Memories* and her other novels at the West Point Library on September 23rd. She has also signed with Corvisiero Literary Agency. Her website is [www.kathleenmix.com](http://www.kathleenmix.com).

**Kathleen Toomey Jabs'** book *Black Wings* has been nominated for a Military Society of America award in the Mystery/Thriller genre. She will be doing a book signing at the Officer Women's Leadership Symposium on Sat., Sept. 22 at the Women in Military Service to America memorial in Arlington. As part of George Mason University's Fall for the Book Festival, she will appear on a Political Thriller Panel at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29 at the Richard Byrd Library in Springfield.

**Pamela K. Kinney's** fourth nonfiction ghost book, *Haunted Richmond II*, released August 2012 from Schiffer Publishing. It is available for sale through the publisher, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Books A Million online only, and other bookstores and online sites. She will be speaking and signing her nonfiction ghost books at Paracon, a paranormal conference, The Exchange Hotel Museum, Gordonsville, September 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. She will be a writer guest at Monster Fest October 13, a 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Chesapeake Central Library, selling and signing her books, also doing a panel; "How dark can a writer make their monster or villain?" [www.monsterfestva.com](http://www.monsterfestva.com). She has a book signing at Barnes and Noble at Chesterfield Towne Center, on October 6, from 2 to 4 p.m.

**Catherine C. Brooks** will be selling and signing her four books at Mathews Memorial Library on Main St., Saturday, September 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Feather Schwartz Foster**, has book signings, Saturday, September 1, 10 -2, and also on Saturday, September 15, 2 - 6 both at William & Mary Bookstore, Merchants Square, Williamsburg,

**Carol Bova's** article, *The Ditches of Mathews County* appeared in the September issue of *Chesapeake Style*.

## 2012—2013 Officers & Board

Frank Milligan, President  
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David J. Carr, Director, Website, Membership  
P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138  
804-725-9843, [carr1600@netscape.net](mailto:carr1600@netscape.net)

Jack Bray, Past President, Golden  
Nib Contest Coordinator



# CALLING ALL MEMBERS, ALL-STARS GALA

**November 14th 2012**

Sign up **NOW** for the annual All Stars Annual Writing Competition

Get ready to step up to the mike and read your favorite piece of poetry or prose at our annual All-Stars Luncheon. By popular demand, this year's gala again will be held at RiverWalk Restaurant in Yorktown on Wednesday, November 14 at 11:30 a.m.

The luncheon reservation form for the Gala will be posted in October.

To make our **All Stars** event the best ever, we need **Great Stars** to read... and guess what?...**That's You!** So find that favorite poem, short story or essay that you have written and share it with the Club. **Members Only are eligible to read!** Length should be no more than **Eight Minutes** reading time. Only

one entry per member. Your work does not have to be submitted in advance. If you would like to enter, [Click Here](#) to do so. Please include your best estimate of the time you will need to read your piece to help us maximize the number of readers while keeping the program to 90 minutes or less.

All those in attendance will vote for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners who will receive cash prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25, respectively. Attendees will also vote for the most humorous entry, the winner of which will receive the annual *Richard Bailey Humor Award* and a \$25 prize. Winning entries will be recognized in the February newsletter and posted on the CBW website.

*Please sign up as soon as possible. In past years, the number of members wishing to read have exceeded the number that time would permit.*

## HAMPTON ROADS WRITERS CONFERENCE

Sept.20 - 22, 2012, Doubletree Hotel, 1900 Pavilion Drive, Hampton Roads

One evening plus two full days of workshops, two best-selling keynoters, two first ten-lines critique sessions, 29 workshops/breakout sessions, ten-minute agent pitches, and cash prize contests for short fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Workshops will cover fiction, screenplay writing, juvenile fiction, journalism/freelancing, humor writing, poetry, and the business of getting published. There will be a book shop, signings, networking opportunities. Keynoters are award-winning authors, thriller writer Rick Mofina and juvenile fiction writer, Patricia Hermes; other presenters include fiction writers C.L. Bevill, Alma Katsu, John DeDakis, journalists Kerry Dougherty, Dr. Bill Ruehlmann, agents Molly Jaffa, Rachael Dugas, Brooks Sherman, poets Shonda Buchanan, Annmarie Lockhart and Professor of Screenwriting Dr. Dennis Bounds.

Cost: \$150 members, \$190 non-members (includes two lunches)

[www.hamptonroadswriters.org/2012conference.php](http://www.hamptonroadswriters.org/2012conference.php)



## HAVE NEWS?

Email to:  
[cbwnews@gmail.com](mailto:cbwnews@gmail.com)

## CHESAPEAKE *Style* MAGAZINE

is offering *Books in Style* reviews for members of CBW. These are reviews of books by authors who are members of CBW or members of the critique groups.

About Book Reviews for *Chesapeake Style*:

- You wrote a book. → The person reviews the book and submits it (and a graphic of the cover) to *Chesapeake Style* for publication, according to Guidelines and Deadlines.
- You want it reviewed.
- Ask someone to review your book. (This may be a member of CBW or a member of a critique group)
- Send an email requesting Guidelines and Deadlines.
- Now it's your turn to review a book for someone else.

For Guidelines & Deadlines, email [chestyle@hughes.net](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net)

***It is your responsibility to find a reviewer.***

When your review is published, *Chesapeake Style* distributes 10,000 copies, eight months of the year, in the Northern Neck, Middle Peninsula and to the General Store in Williamsburg.

If you want to advertise your book in *Chesapeake Style*, ask for rates. Buying an ad is ***Not a prerequisite for your book review to be published.***

Reviews will be printed on a first come, first serve basis.

[www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/CSBookReviews.htm](http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/CSBookReviews.htm)



## The Pilot House, 2737 Greys Point Rd., Topping, 804-758-2262



**Directions: From Lancaster or Kilmarnock:**

Head east on VA-3E/Mary Ball Rd, Destination on the right: 2737 Greys Point Rd.

**From Gloucester Courthouse & Mathews:**

- From 14 - John Clayton Memorial Hwy
1. Turn left onto VA-3W/Windsor Rd 2.1 mi
  2. Turn right at T-intersection onto VA-198 E/VA-3 W/Buckley Hall Rd 1.6 mi
  3. Turn left (gas station on left) onto VA-3W 4.6 mi
  4. Turn left at T-intersection onto VA-3W/VA-33 W/General Puller Hwy 3.5 mi
  5. Turn right onto VA-3 W/Greys Point Rd (sign to Kilmarnock/Irvington)

**From Hampton Roads:**

1. Head northwest on I-64
2. Take exit 250 B toward VA-105 E 0.2 mi
3. Turn left onto Jefferson Ave 466 ft
4. Turn right onto VA-105 E/Fort Eustis Blvd 3.6 mi
5. Turn left onto US-17N/

**George Washington Memorial Hwy**

Over George P. Coleman Bridge (Toll \$.85 E-ZPass left lane; \$2.00 without, northbound only) 15.9 mi

6. Turn right onto Main St (after Comfort Inn and Wendy's, exit curves right) 1.3 mi
7. Turn right at light onto VA-14 E/VA-3 W 6.4 mi

**Pick up directions From Gloucester Courthouse:**

**From: Williamsburg:**

1. VA-199W/Humelsine Pky W to I-64 W
2. Take Exit 220, merge onto VA-33E (Eltham Rd toward West Point) Continue to follow VA-33E 18.9 miles
3. Turn left on US 17N 2.4 miles
4. Turn right onto US-17 BUS N/VA-33E 236 ft
5. Turn left onto US-17 BUS N/VA-33E/Gloucester Rd 0.8 mi
6. Turn right onto VA-33E/General Puller Hwy 6.9 miles
7. Turn left onto VA-33 W/Greys Point Rd 2.7 miles to 2737 Greys Point Road on left

## CBW LUNCHEON MEETING, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2012

Reservations can be made online at [www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/PressRoom.htm](http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/PressRoom.htm), or by completing this form and mailing it. *Online reservations preferred.* Reservations and payment must be mailed by 7. Make Check payable to "CBW", Mail to: CBW Treasurer, P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138. Cost is \$10 per person, CBW members, or \$12 per person, non-members. Social Hour: 11:30, Lunch at noon, Program at 1 p.m., Adjourn about 2 p.m.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your choice and number of entrees.

Choice of:

✓ Price includes soft drinks, a house salad, mashed potatoes, gravy, and your *choice of either* grilled chicken, hot roast beef with gravy or fried baby flounder followed by pie or cake.

Total in Party \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 (CBW members) \$12 (non-members) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please be sure member's name(s) appears on the check. Refunds are only given when notice of cancellation is received at least two (2) business days in advance of the date of the meeting.



# RECURRING EVENTS, MONTHLY, BI-MONTHLY



## CBW Author Interview with Neal XTRA 99.1 FM,

Gloucester, Second Monday 8:05-8:30 a.m.

Contact Dave Carr 804-725-9843 or carr1600@netscape.net

## Gloucester Evening Critique: Location TBD, Last Saturday of the month, 7 p.m.

Contact Gary Herring 804-694-5646 or docargent@cox.net

## James York Critique: Tabb Library, Yorktown, Third

Saturday of the month, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Contact Narielle Living, narielleliving@gmail.com

## Rappatamac Critiques: *Lively at The Oaks*, Route 3

First Thursday of the month, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Contact Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net

## Tappahannock at Ferebees (*This will change in October. Check website for update*)

Third Thursday of the month, Eat at 1, Meet 2-4 p.m.

Contact Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net

## Williamsburg Critiques:

Bailey Residence, 6244 N. Mayfair Circle

Second Thursday of the month, 1-3 p.m.

Contact Rick Bailey 757-564-7118 or rvbailey@verizon.net

Bray Residence, 261 Zelkova Road

Fourth Thursday of the month, 1—3 p.m.

Contact Jack Bray 757-345-0405 or jbray6@cox.net

Our critique groups listed above are all inclusive and meant for writers of every stage in their career. Whether you are just starting out and want to see what a critique group is like or you are a multi-published author, there is a critique home for you. If you have any questions please feel free to call the contact person listed. Come join our community of talent!

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

### New~Member Discounts at General Meetings

One of the Benefit of membership in CBW, is the eligibility to enter the Virginia Writers Club "Golden Nib" annual writing contest. But there are many other benefits for member writers. Your Board of Directors has reviewed and updated those benefits and has taken steps to ensure their implementation.

One recent benefit members will notice is that the cost of meals for meetings is discounted for CBW Members. The member-only discount for future general meetings may vary based on actual cost to the organization, but there will be a discount. Other CBW-sponsored events such as workshops or Book Fairs will also carry sharp discounts for members, if not offered free of charge. Non-members will be charged full cost.

Members and non-members alike are encouraged to review the full list of benefits of membership on the CBW website at [www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/](http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/)

[benefits\\_of\\_club\\_membership.htm](#). Member comments and suggestions regarding the benefits are encouraged. Email them to [comments@chesapeakebaywriters.org](mailto:comments@chesapeakebaywriters.org).

## SOCIAL MEDIA

The Chesapeake Bay Writers can be found on Facebook and Twitter. Our Twitter address is @baywriters. Facebook and Twitter are easy to use, fun and informative, and a great way to meet your peers and others in the publishing industry. If you have questions about these social media sites, contact Narielle Living at [narielleliving@gmail.com](mailto:narielleliving@gmail.com).

The QR code can be scanned by a Smartphone to go to the CBW website.

Click on the Facebook logo and go to the CBW Facebook page.

