



# Bay Writers News

[www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org](http://www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org)

Volume XXIII • Issue 5 Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club November 2016

## President's Message

October saw the loss of a local community leader and friend in Mathews. Dave Davis was my mentor and advisor on local involvement and influenced my choice to step out of the shadows and work toward positive change in our county. Indirectly, that's influenced my role as a member of the CBW board.

Change is rarely easy. Change in as prestigious an organization as CBW is no exception. We came to depend on the knowledge and experience of early members who knew how things have been done over the years and continued to do those things well. The transition to a renewed website showed us just how much the rest of depended on the foundations laid by early members.

We learned how much we didn't know, made compromises to manage costs, learned more to meet needs, and now have a website that builds on the earlier foundation with a new look and easily accessible features. By the time you read this, a new membership renewal form will be on the website with the option to pay online or mail a check. Dues will remain the same at \$25 for Virginia members, and there is a new membership category for out-of-state members at \$15. (Out of state members will not be eligible for program discounts and certain contests, but are welcome to engage in other membership benefits.)

We look forward to hearing how you might be involved in future positive changes in CBW. Do you have an idea for a program or workshop we can explore? Can you volunteer to maintain one section of the website from home or be involved in another way? Do you have an idea for something not done before? Are you curious about the Board of Directors and might consider becoming a Director?

Let us know and we'll invite you to attend a meeting to see how it all works. Send your comments and ideas to [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com).

Thank you for being members this year. May your holidays be all that you'd wish, and the New Year bring inspiration and writing success!

My best regards to each of you,  
Carol J. Bova

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Nov. 5:** VWC Annual Meeting & Awards, Charlottesville  
[www.virginiawritersclub.org/event-2149457](http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/event-2149457)

**Nov. 14:** Second Monday Radio - Dave Cariens

**Nov. 16:** CBW All Stars Gala Luncheon Two Rivers Country Club, Williamsburg  
[chesapeakebaywriters.org/meeting-announcement](http://chesapeakebaywriters.org/meeting-announcement)

**Nov. 22:** Presentation Skills/Book signing 101, Williamsburg Library  
<http://www.wgvirginia.com/>

**Nov. 30:** Deadline: VWC 100th Anniversary Anthology  
[www.virginiawritersclub.org/100th-Anniversary](http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/100th-Anniversary)

**Dec. 31:** Reminder! Renew 2017 CBW membership.

**January 1: Happy New Year!**

**Feb. 15** Meeting - "Taxes for Writers" Williamsburg



## 2016 All Stars Gala Luncheon



Two Rivers Country Club  
1400 Two Rivers Road,  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185.  
Wednesday, November 16!



Share your work and compete for prizes at our All Stars Gala. Those in attendance will vote for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners who will receive cash prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25, respectively.

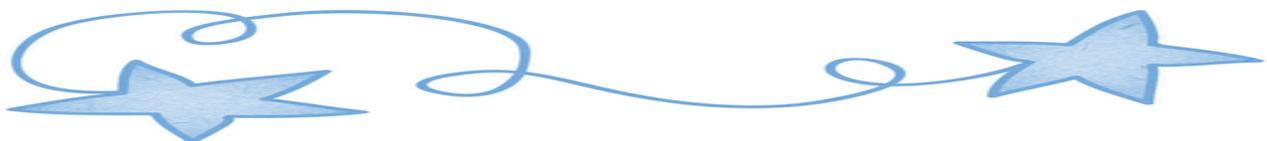
Attendees will also vote for the most humorous entry for the annual Richard Bailey Humor Award and a \$25 prize. You must register for both the luncheon and for the contest to participate.

Sign up at <http://chesapeakebaywriters.org/meeting-announcement> for luncheon reservations and for the All Stars contest form. There's a 90-minute total for all entries. CBW members may read only one piece (fiction, nonfiction or poetry) with an 8-minute maximum. Read your piece out loud and time it. We ask you to enter minutes and seconds so we know how many entries we can schedule. You will read in the order in which you register. Don't miss out!

### Luncheon menu choices are:

Classic Caesar Salad with chicken breast, Reuben Sandwich, or Vegetarian Burger  
Crème Brulee, Coffee or Tea  
\$21 Members, \$26 Nonmembers

11 a.m. Social Hour with Cash Bar; Noon Lunch followed by the readings.





## BOASTS AND GLOATS

### GOLDEN NIB CBW WINNERS

Congratulations to our club level winners!

The winning entries from **Vic Brown** and **Mary Duley Guy** were forwarded to the Virginia Writers Club for the state-wide judging. Those winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the November 5th Annual Meeting in Charlottesville.

Awards for each category: First Place-\$100; Second Place-\$50; Third Place-\$25.  
Good luck to Vic and Mary!



#### Fiction

1st Place - Vic Brown  
2nd Place - Gail Wilson Kenna  
3rd Place - Gwen Keane

#### Nonfiction

1st Place - Vic Brown  
2nd Place - Gail Wilson Kenna  
3rd Place - Tracy Lanum

#### Poetry

1st Place - Mary Duley Guy  
2nd Place - Ann Skelton  
3rd Place - Sharon Dorsey

**SHARON DORSEY'S** new poetry book, *Tapestry*, "launched on Amazon, Aug. 14 and two days later, was #2 on their "Hottest New Poetry Releases" list. Her children's book, "Herman, the Hermit Crab and the Mystery of the Big, Black Shiny Thing," launched September 15. Both were published by High Tide Publishing, who will also publish Sharon's memoir, "Daughter of the Mountains," coming out in December.

Sharon's poem, "Labels," has been accepted for publication in the *Writer's Guild of Virginia*, October, 2016 edition of *The Journal*.

**Kathleen Toomey Jabs** will be signing her book, *Black Wings*, at King's Creek Plantation resort in Williamsburg on Monday, November 7 from 6-8 p.m.

**Pamela K. Kinney** will be one of the authors at the Festival of the Written Word Saturday, November 5th, from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Midlothian branch of the Chesterfield County Public Library, 521 Coalfield Road, Midlothian, VA 23114. The event is free. For the panels and workshops to be given, plus all of the authors:

<http://library.chesterfield.gov/events/written-word/>

**Dave Cariens's** new book, *The America We All Want*, was published on September 16th and on September 26th he gave a two-hour presentation on the book at the University of Richmond's Osher Institute. The Shepard's Center for Continuing Education in Richmond has invited Dave to talk about the book and be the featured lunch-time speaker on November 10th. On October 12-13 he taught a two day analytic writing course for the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Center. On November 14th, Dave will be interviewed by Neal Steele on his new textbook, *A Handbook for Intelligence and Crime Analysis*.

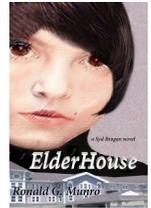


## BOASTS AND GLOATS (cont'd)

**Gail Priest** has published the third novel in her Annie Crow Knoll series set on the Chesapeake Bay. She will be signing books on First Friday, Nov. 4th, at the News Center of Easton and for Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26, at Browseabout Books in Rehoboth. For more information visit, Gail's website at [www.gailpriest.com](http://www.gailpriest.com)

**Carl Shirley's** short story, Shutdown won third place in VWC Summer Shorts Writing Contest. Congratulations!

**Ronald G. Munro** has begun a new crime drama series with *ElderHouse*, a Syd Brogan Crime Drama, Book One. The murder of an unassuming elderly woman exposes a knotted realm of hidden pasts, tortured memories, and a 40-yr old cold case.



### Feather Schwartz Foster

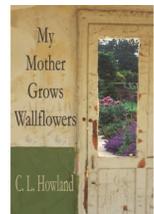
November 11 at the Hampton Woman's Club, Hampton, 2 P.M., Feather will give a presentation on some of the Interesting First Ladies (They were ALL interesting!)

November 30 - 2 PM - James City County Library, Croaker Road, Lightfoot-Williamsburg, Feather will do a presentation on *The Colonial First Ladies* (Martha, Abigail and Dolley!)

Book signings will follow both presentations for *Mary Lincoln's Flannel Pajamas and Other Stories from the First Ladies' Closet...* and *The First Ladies* and also at William & Mary Bookstore (B&N) - Merchants Square, Williamsburg, VA - Saturday November 5 (10-2) and Sunday - November 13 (Noon-4)

Please note: The program at the JCC Library is free of charge - and all are welcome to attend!

**C.L. Howland's** debut novel, *My Mother Grows Wallflowers*, is to be published in November 2016 by High Tide Publications and will be reviewed in *Chesapeake Style Magazine*. For more information, visit Cindy's website at [clhowland.com](http://clhowland.com)



Congratulations to **Frank Milligan!** He won second place in the Hampton Roads Writers Eighth Annual Writers Conference contest for fiction and 3rd place for poetry!





<http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/resources/Documents/VWC%20100th%20Anniversary%20Celebration%20Proposal.pdf>

Dear VWC members,

The Board of Governors has approved an overall plan to celebrate our 100th anniversary. We have collected suggestions for a great number of activities, which will provide benefits both for the club and for its members. A sample are:

1. The anthology
2. State-wide speaker program
3. Website expansion and build-out
4. Marketing swag
5. Communications
6. Raising \$\$\$

*Be a Part of the Celebration of 100 years!*

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### **REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP! Due by December 31!**

There's been a longtime belief that dues can be paid by March 1. (That date is when you get dropped from the roster and mailings so we don't annoy those who choose not to renew.) We plan the coming year's events based on the income we receive in renewals. Late payments can mean fewer programs, so please renew now.

## *CRITIQUE GROUPS AND NETWORKING*

The groups listed are all inclusive and meant for writers at every stage in their career. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the contact person listed. Come join our community of talent!

### *Williamsburg Groups*

**Williamsburg Writers Critique Group** - 2nd and 4th Thursdays 1 p.m.

The group meets at the home of Elizabeth Brown. Members email their work to all members around three or four days in advance to give others time to review it. The average length is six to ten pages. The other members review and critique the work and come prepared to give oral feedback to the writer. Some bring a hard copy to support their thoughts and others send emails with their remarks. Each writer has a turn getting feedback and critiquing all the others. The average time we meet is two and a half hours. If you don't have any work to submit that week, that is fine. We all have down times. All remarks are meant to be helpful and to support the writers in their quest to improve their art. If you have any questions or you would like to attend, please contact Elizabeth by email [ecomptonlee@yahoo.com](mailto:ecomptonlee@yahoo.com) or phone 804-654-1117.

**The Williamsburg Writers Gathering** - 3rd Tuesday, 10-noon

This group of writers--published and working to be published-- offers encouragement, support, and shares information in our rapidly changing world of writing. WWG meets the third Tuesday of each month from 10 to noon at the Williamsburg Regional Library in Room B. There is no sign up, membership, or dues. We get together to discuss the Art and Business of writing and are never quite sure what direction our conversation will take us. All are welcome. Contact: Lou Hamilton. [louhamwrites@gmail.com](mailto:louhamwrites@gmail.com)

### *Mathews Open Mic*

**Open Mic at the Mathews Memorial Library** - 2nd Sunday 1-3 p.m. (251 Main Street, Mathews, VA 23109)

Do you enjoy books on tape? Or, love a great short story or an inspiring or humorous poem? If so, come to Open Mic at the Library and hear local writers read their original work. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served. The events are free and open to the public. The Library invites all writers in the area to participate in the Open Mic. Arrive on time to sign up to be included on the program. Readers will be limited to one of the following: prose up to 2,500 words, five poems of no more than 50 lines each, or five haiku. No book chapters please, unless they stand alone as independent stories. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy the works written by the many talented writers living in this community. (804) 725-5747.

### *Northern Neck*

**Rappatamac Writers Critique Group**

Lancaster Courthouse - 1st Thursday, eat at 11 a.m., share until 2 p.m. (Lancaster Tavern, Route 3 in Lancaster Courthouse)

Tappahannock - 3rd Thursday, eat at noon, meet 1-3 p.m. (Java Jacks Cafe, Route 360/17 in Tappahannock)

Do you have stories to share? Would you like to write your memories for your children and grandchildren? Does a spectacular sunset move you to poetry? Come, join the Rappatamac Writers Critique group where you will find enthusiastic support and gentle critiques to help you on your way—along with fun and laughter to make your journey a pleasant one. If you like to write or listen, have a song in your heart or a poem in your soul, join us once or twice a month, at either or both locations.

**The Rappatamac Writers**—where the science of writing meets the art of persuasion—is part of the Chesapeake Bay Writers Club, a chapter of Virginia Writers Club. The meetings are free, priceless.

Contact: Janet Fast, [chestyle@hughes.net](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net)



**TALK RADIO SHOW XTRA 99.1 FM, Gloucester**  
**8:05 AM Second Monday of Every Month**

On October 10, 2016 we were delighted to listen to Neal Steele interview Sharon Dillon regarding her first publication of *Echoes of Your Choices*. Her publisher, Daniel Wetta, states it very succinctly - "For several years, Sharon has delighted her followers through her posts on her [WordPress.com](#) blogsite entitled, "Laugh Your Way to Peace, Love and Joy." In her first book, the author curates the best articles from these postings and arranges them in thematic chapters. Sharon's mission from the beginning has been to write to bring peace, joy and laughter to all who seek to find a true and destined path in their hectic lives. Drawing from the pain and joy of her own life experiences, Sharon teaches practical methods for living a peaceful, happy and balanced life. The markers along the path that she sets for the reader, compassion and love, are the same as those she has established on her own path. Life, Sharon believes, must be fun as well as serious and spiritual as well as practical."

**COMING SOON**

We shall hear once again from David Cariens on November 14 regarding his most recent publication of *A Handbook for Intelligence and Crime Analysis*. Now this should be most interesting!

No newly published authors have signed up for the December 12<sup>th</sup> Neal Steele interview or for any shows in 2017. This is a great opportunity to let the community know of your hard work and literary endeavors.

Please email me at [tracygl@cox.net](mailto:tracygl@cox.net) or call 804-815-9954. I will forward to you the show guidelines. FYI - this is the only way you can arrange to be on the show. Please do not call the station. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Tracy Lanum

## *In Search of Writers in Style*

In 2014, *Chesapeake Style* magazine launched a new column, Writers in Style, with 500-word articles contributed by board members and members of CBW and associated critique of the Chesapeake Bay Writers. The opportunity is being extended for this year's upcoming issues.

The theme of the column is writing, and previous articles have been eclectic. They can be viewed in the *Chesapeake Style* archives at [www.chesapeakestyle.com](http://www.chesapeakestyle.com):

*Chesapeake Style* is published eight times a year, and 10,000 copies are distributed in March, May, June, July, August, September, and October, with 14,000 copies for the Winter issue in November at locations throughout the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck and at the Williamsburg General Store. Please email submissions with a subject of Writers in Style to: Janet A Fast [chestyle@hughes.net](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net)

Thank you,



## ***NaNoWriMo -- National Novel Writing Month is here!***

Are you giving it a try this year? Looking for others in CBW who are? Post a note on our Facebook page. Check out the forums at: [nanowrimo.org/forums](http://nanowrimo.org/forums). You might try:

<http://nanowrimo.org/regions/usa-virginia-elsewhere>

or

<http://nanowrimo.org/regions/usa-virginia-hampton-roads>

and see if there's anyone else from the CBW regions lurking. Happy Writing!



### **Members Bookstore**

To participate, you must be a member in good standing, send a high resolution image of the front cover of your book, a blurb letting readers know what the book is about, and a link for sales or to contact you. Ebooks are eligible. Send to [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com).

### **Members Index**

To be included, send a head shot and an email or website link to [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com).





## *VWC 2017 Centennial Anthology 1918-2018*

The first element of our *Virginia Writers Club Centennial Celebration* is the anthology. Check the requirements and send us your very best writing. Yes, it can have been published before, as long as you have reprint permission. Yes, it can be part of a larger work, for those novelists out there. Pick a representative excerpt. Yes, there are length restrictions and the inevitable style guidelines.

Details are posted at: <http://virginiawritersclub.org/Anniversary-Anthology>

**November 30th is the deadline for submission.**

Not everything will make it into the final edition, but rest assured the selection committee will pick the best of the best. I urge you to sort through your writings and send them in. The anthology will be professionally published, so it will be something you'll be proud to give to your friends and family for holiday presents in 2017.

### *Handy Writing Hints*

- \* Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement
- \* Understatement is always best
- \* Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake
- \* Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
- \* Contractions aren't necessary
- \* Be more or less specific
- \* Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary
- \* It is wrong to ever split an infinitive



And then...

How many mystery writers does it take to change a light bulb? Two. One to screw the bulb almost all the way in, and one to give a surprising twist at the end.

### Spotlight on our CBW Board of Directors

As a member of the CBW Board, **Charlene Talcott** works on programs and events. Look for something new and exciting for next spring if you like rivers, boats and poetry.



Before becoming Student Activity Coordinator at Rappahannock Community College, Charlene spent over twenty years in outdoor education, including nine years as a ranger with Virginia State Parks overseeing park programming, marketing, and volunteers. She has been recognized by Virginia as an Environmental Education Leader and serves on the executive board of the Virginia Association for Environmental Education. She is also active with the Northern Neck Chapter of Virginia Master Naturalists.

Since leaving state service, she has been putting her history degree to good use volunteering with local historic sites, assisting with research, collections management, programming and exhibits. She has a regular column in Chesapeake Style magazine, "Nature in Style."

As part of CBW's community outreach, Charlene recently arranged for CBW to sponsor two speakers for students interested in writing at RCC.

### 2016—2017 Officers & Board

Carol Bova, President

PO Box 716, Mathews, VA 23109

804-725-6163, cjbova@mindspring.com

Ellen Dugan, Vice President,

901 Oak Hill Road, Lancaster VA 22503

(804)716-9824, ellens.ink@comcast.net

Ann Skelton, Secretary

2821 Bennetts Pond Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23185

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Jacqueline Ingram, Treasurer

1034 Kingston Lane, North, VA 23128

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Barbara McLennan, Director, Publicity, Special Events

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Janet Abbott Fast, Director, NN Outreach

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Charlene Talcott, Director at Large

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(804)462-0227 ctalcott@nnwifi.com

Joy Brenda Burch, Newsletter

9310 Lyndonway Dr, Richmond, VA 23229

(804)935-8979, cbwnews@gmail.com

Frank Milligan—Past President

**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).**

Chesapeake Bay Writers, P.O. Box 324, North, VA 23128