



The Chesapeake Bay Chapter of The Virginia Writers Club



Bay Writers News

Volume XXVI • Issue 3

In This Issue

A Message from the President	2
Networking Opportunities	3
Critique Groups	4-5
Scholarship Opportunity	5
Upcoming Meeting CBW Events	6
The Keating Award Winners	7
Marketing Opportunities	8
<i>Chesapeake Style</i> Book Reviews	
Writers In Style	
Neal Steele Radio Opportunity	
Gold Nib Award Submissions	9
Member News	10-11
Upcoming Events	12
Soul Cookies by Jan Hoffman	13
Open Submissions	14-15

CBW Events in June, 2019

Summer Celebration at the Jellystone Campground Rec Hall at Gloucester Point, 3149 Campground Road, Hayes, VA 23072.

Socialize at 5.
Dinner at 5:30 with program to follow.
\$15 Members/Nonmembers.
Please **reply by June 16.**
<https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org>



Fiction: Frank Milligan,
Williamsburg, Va
"Tit for Tat"



Non-Fiction: Sara Etgen-Baker,
Anna, Texas
"Table for Two"



The Keating Award

First Place Winners



Poetry: Ellen Dugan,
Richmond, Va
"Have You Ever Tried to Meditate?"

Founded in 1991, Chesapeake Bay Writers is a chapter of the Virginia Writers Club. We serve writers from the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and Williamsburg area.

A Message From Our President

Let's Talk About Editing



Greetings from Ohio! I hope everyone had a fantastic Memorial Day.

Why did you become a writer? Did you just wake up one morning and decide “Hey, I’m going to write a book today?” Whether you a writing fiction or nonfiction, you made a decision to write your book.

Mine started as the result of a homework assignment in high school. I was supposed to write a nonfiction paper, but ended up writing a paper of complete fiction. My teacher of course caught the switch and made me rewrite it, but she did ask a question that changed my life: have you ever considered writing a book?

I considered this question for all of a day before I borrowed my dad’s laptop and started writing a Princess and the Pauper-like story, which will never see the light of day. I moved onto a teen spy thriller, which changed so many times I’m not even sure what the original storyline was. Next, I moved onto a love story between a human and lion-human hybrid. My mom was my first fan and editor. Of course, being in my teens, I was so excited to have the freedom of imagination that she says I had far too many

innuendos and curse words within my stories that it took away from the core of the books. All in all, I don’t regret starting out writing so young. I feel it has shaped me to be a better writer. And I owe it all to one teacher who took the time to ask me if I ever thought about writing fiction.

I can’t imagine being where I am today without having a “published author” description as a part of me. Sadly, I am no longer in contact with the teacher who inspired me. I wish I was, so I could thank her.

Who inspires you to write? Was there a single decision or question that was asked, shaking that course of your life? If so, make sure to thank whomever dared to propose that question. The world is a far better place in it with your written words out there for people to read.

Have a great summer and I hope to see everyone at the dinner on June 19th!

Grace

Chesapeake Bay Writers Board of Directors
2018-2019

President, Grace DeLeesie

(804) 832-2182, gracemdeleesie@gmail.com

Vice President, Ellen Dugan

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Director- Library Liaison - Vacant

Director-Membership, Janet Abbott Fast

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Immediate Past President, Carol J. Bova

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Director - Programs, Tim Holland (incoming)

Director - Publicity, Sharon D. Dillon

(757) 876-6185, energywriter@cox.net

Newsletter Email: TheCBWNews@gmail.com



Writers Happy Hour Every Wednesday!

Join us every Wednesday from 5:15-7 p.m. at a different location in Norfolk's Ghent neighborhood for an informal get-together where area writers and Muse teachers, students, and friends enjoy conversation, camaraderie, and drinks. Feel free to let us know you're coming on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheMuseWritersCenter.

We're Open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays!

In addition to being open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Wednesdays from 12:30-5 p.m., we are now open to the public on Thursdays from 1-9 p.m. Come join us and write, read, or learn more about The Muse. The Muse Writers Center is at 2200 Colonial Ave. Suite #3 in Norfolk's Ghent neighborhood (23517)—in the Ghent Market Shops.

Join The Writers Reservoir on Facebook

Visit and connect with other writers and share articles, essays and personal experiences about being a writer in the world today as well as information about places to submit, contests, conferences, and more. The Writers Reservoir is more than a writers' resource, it is a writers' community! It is a place where writers can share, learn, connect and find that often elusive creative spark. The Writers Reservoir is an open Facebook group. All writers are welcome to join and send invitations to join.

Northern Neck Open Mic

New opportunity in the Northern Neck!
Third Saturday 1-3 p.m.
Lancaster Community Library
Call Dave Cariens at 804 435 7065



First Tuesday Open Mic Poetry Newport News, VA

Presented by Aromas Coffeehouse and
Word4Word Poets

Join us in this family friendly venue with work
you'd like to share.

Sign-up @ 6:30 pm Poetry@ 7:00 pm
We love, support, and encourage
First Time Readers.

Email for Challenge!
Hosted by: Ann Shalaski ashalaski@msn.com

Aromas Coffeehouse,
706 Town Center Dr
Newport News, VA

Open Mic 2nd Sunday 1-3 p.m. Mathews Memorial Library 251 Main Street, Mathews, VA

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

Rappatomac 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)

- Join us and find out what's happening in Chestnut Springs, when Carol shares a new chapter. Try to figure out who did the crime and why?
- Discover how RuthE updates her novel, Memorial—which takes place in Northumberland County—as she prepares for publication.
- Join Mary Ann as she writes about her near death journey, while working in Silicon Valley. Learn about her progress as she finds and shares ways to heal.
- Allow your funny bone to be tickled by Don's poetry...and prepare to plumb depths of your feelings as well.
- Follow the Marine in Vietnam as Edgar places you in the middle of the action in his new novel.
- Journey back centuries in time when Ann shares chapters from her Joan of Arc novel.
- Pam will transport you back into your childhood when she reads from her coming of age novel.
- Ellen will paint poignant poetic pictures while you listen with rapt attention
- Encourage Randy as he prepares to write about his local ancestor in 2019 issues of Chesapeake Style.
- You will find yourself on board his boat in Joe's profound poetry and stories.
- Since Jerry moved to California he continues to send his acerbic, humorous or thought provoking essays for us to critique. Come, listen, comment and enjoy!
- Put on your commentary, critique, or contribution chapeau and prepare to participate...
- You will find your imagination stimulated and your Muse awakened.
- First Thursday in Lancaster CH, at Lancaster Tavern, 11 to 2 p.m.
- Third Thursday in Tappahannock, at Java Jacks, noon to 3 p.m.
- Contact Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net with any questions.
-

Kilmarnock

Join the Kilmarnock Writers Critique Group at the Lancaster Community Library.

With the right critique group you can learn exponentially, shaving years off the learning curve. Not only do you get some quick and honest feedback on what you've written, but the act of critiquing someone else's manuscript can teach you a great deal about what works and what doesn't.

We meet monthly. Manuscripts are submitted ahead of time so our members have a chance to review them before the group meets.

Contact David Cariens at DCariens@gmail.co or 804 435 706

Williamsburg

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 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



We need your help! Actually, a college freshman or high school senior somewhere in Virginia needs your help. We have been trying unsuccessfully to get applications for the annual \$2,000 scholarship the Virginia Writers Club awards to a graduating high school senior or current college freshman for the 2019-20 school year who plans to study an area related to writing (journalism, creative writing, etc.).

The information on how to apply are posted on the VWC website. It's simple and not that involved. In the past we've had a number of applicants to choose from, but so far we've been unable to drum up anyone who qualifies for the award. We have contacted organizations like Virginia Association of Teachers of English, but haven't had a response. Surely there is a writing student in Virginia who can use \$2,000 for college!

Due to the lack of entries, we have extended the deadline to July 15, but we can't extend it much more because we need time to read the submitted essays and make a decision.

Please share this information with your chapters and anyone else who might want, or know someone who wants, scholarship money for college. If you have questions, please contact Charles Tabb, the Scholarship Committee chair, by phone (366) 407-7732 or by email

Thank you for your assistance as we do our best to give away a couple thousand dollars!

Leslie Truex, President

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

Summer Celebration
Join us on June 19th to hear a great program
and celebrate the winners of the Keating Award.



"Flash Fiction: Small Stories with Big Impact."

As our attention spans are shrinking and the age of online literary magazines and journals are on the rise, flash fiction is in greater demand than ever. Whether you're cheating on your novel, experimenting with something new, or you're just up for a challenge, the flash fiction form of short shorts may be for you. This talk is dedicated to the art of making bite-sized stories feed the minds and imaginations of your reader long after the story's end.

Abigail Putnam is an MFA graduate from Arcadia University just outside of Philly. She is the editor and chief of *Penultimate Peanut Magazine*, a small online literary magazine. She currently resides in Suffolk, VA and she teaches fiction and flash fiction at the Muse Writers Center in Norfolk. Her fiction is out with *Maudlin House*, *Dreaming Robot Press*, *Five on the Fifth*, *the Dirty Pool*, and more.

Summer Celebration at the
Jellystone Campground Rec Hall
at Gloucester Point, 3149 Campground Road, Hayes, VA 23072.
Socialize at 5. Dinner at 5:30 with program to follow.
\$15 Members/Nonmembers. Please reply by June 16.
Register at <https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org>

The CBW Chapter of The Virginia Writers Club: The CBW Chapter is an organization of writers, poets, screenwriters, playwrights, journalists, essayists, and publishing professionals. Its mission is to support and stimulate the art, craft and business of writing, as well as advocate the literary arts. Chesapeake Bay Writers has not filed for formal nonprofit status, so contributions may or may not deductible depending on individual circumstances.

The Virginia Writers Club: VWC Membership is independent of CBW Chapter Membership and requires a separate application and dues payment. If you wish to join the Virginia Writers Club (VWC), go to: <http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/page-946497>.

You must be a member in good standing to be eligible to enter contests sponsored by the VWC.

The Keating Award Winners

Fiction

First Place:

Frank Milligan, Williamsburg, Va “Tit for Tat”

Second Place:

Patricia Procopi, Hayes, Va “Please...Tell Me More”

Third Place:

Tim Holland, Williamsburg, Va “Changing Trains”

Non-Fiction

First Place:

Sara Etgen-Baker, Anna, Texas “Table for Two”

Second Place:

Frank Milligan, Williamsburg, Va “The Last Retreat”

Third Place:

Corey Stewart Hassman, Kilmarnock, Va “Revelation in the Wreckage”

Honorable Mention:

Sara Etgen-Baker, Anna, Texas “Running with My Words”

Poetry

First Place:

Ellen Dugan, Richmond, Va “Have You Ever Tried to Meditate?”

Second Place:

Kortni Austin, Elizabeth City, NC. Collection –

Third Place:

Ellen Dugan Collection – “Are the Bullets Real?” “Leaving,” “Fragile People.”

Poetry Honorable Mentions:

Craig MacQueen, Lancaster, Va “Night Heron”

Ellen Dugan “Stormy Weather” (part of a collection)

Laura Forster, North Chesterfield, Va “Exceeding the Chandrasekhar Limit” (part of a collection)

Gloria Wang, Fairfax, Va “Home is Far From Where I Stand” (part of a collection)



The Keating Award

**For complete biographies on the winners and judges,
please go to the Chesapeake Bay Writers webpage at:
<https://chesapeakebaywriters.org/2019-keating-award>**

Fiction Judges Tamara Beard and Steve Mitchell

Non-Fiction Judge Gary Kessler

Poetry Judge Liz Cooper

CHESAPEAKE *Style* MAGAZINE

Would you like to see a review of *your book* printed and distributed in 10,000 copies, to 300 locations in the Chesapeake Bay Region?

Chesapeake Style offers *Books in Style* reviews for any Virginia author. Preference is given to members of CBW and the critique groups.

Email **chestyle@hughes.net** for Guidelines and Deadlines if you wrote a book and want it reviewed.

Then, ask someone to write a 500-word review according to the guidelines. Send the review with a graphic of the cover to *Chesapeake Style* for publication.

You will be glad you did!

Radio Interview Opportunities

Neal Steele interviews a CBW author for his XTRA 99.1 FM CBW Second Monday Radio Show at about 8:05 a.m. Email Tracy (tracygl@cox.net) to express interest in booking an interview. Provide your name, email, phone number, book title, and first choice for interview month. For additional information, and to see the complete checklist, please visit the Chesapeake Bay Writers website at :

<https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/cbw-radio-show-guide>



IN SEARCH OF WRITERS IN *Style*

Chesapeake Style magazine launched a new column, Writers in Style, with 500-word articles contributed by board members of the Chesapeake Bay Writers. The opportunity is being extended to members of CBW and associated critique groups to submit articles for 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:

Chesapeake Style is published eight times a year, and 10,000 copies are distributed in April, May, June, July, August, September, and October, with 15,000 copies 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

VWC/CBW Golden Nib DeadLine Set for July15, 2019

The Virginia Writers Club Golden Nib contest is now open for entries! This is a two-tier contest, first at the chapter level, and then first-place winners go on to the state competition. There are a lot of rules and failing to follow any one of them will disqualify your entry, so please, read them carefully! If you have a question, send it to CBWreply@gmail.com. Good luck!

Contest Rules: Entries will be accepted on any subject the author or poet chooses in the categories of Fiction, Nonfiction and Poetry.

For the Chesapeake Bay Writers Tier of the Contest: Only Virginia resident members of Chesapeake Bay Writers are eligible to compete at the chapter level. Non-members who are Virginia residents may join at full CBW dues of \$25 to participate. CBW First-place winners must also be members of the Virginia Writers Club to compete at the state level. If not currently a member, a VWC membership application and check can accompany winning entries.

The CBW Entry Deadline is July 15th Submissions shall be in e-mail format only (a change from last year). Email entry and cover sheet files shall be submitted to CBWreply@gmail.com, by July 15th,

Any identifying information on the entry itself is an automatic disqualification. Submissions not in accord with format and other rules will be disqualified.

Manuscripts must be the original, unpublished work of the entrant, and must not have won a prize at any level in any other competition. The VWC State competition will now allow entries published in your personal blogs. Writing published in blogs other than your own or on social network sites or in an online publication are ineligible and should not be submitted. Entrants may submit only one entry per category of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Fiction and non-fiction entries must be no longer than 3,500 words. Poetry entries must be no longer than 50 lines. Fiction should conform to the Chicago Manual of Style; nonfiction can be either Chicago Style or Associated Press Style.

Gold Nib Formattting Requirements:

Detachable cover sheet including author's name, address, telephone number, email address (if available), category (fiction, non-fiction, poetry) and title.

All other pages must show contest category, title and page number in the header. If the author's name appears on any page of the manuscript other than the cover sheet, the entry will be disqualified.

Prose (fiction and non-fiction): Manuscripts must be printed in a plain, legible font, such as Times New Roman in 12-to 13- pitch. Manuscripts must be printed on 8 ½ by 11-inch white paper, double-spaced, with one-inch margins top, bottom and left, and a ragged right margin.

Poetry manuscripts: Poetry Manuscripts must be printed in a plain, legible font, such as Times New Roman in 12- to 13-pitch. Poetry submissions must be single-spaced and printed on 8 ½ by 11-inch white paper with one-inch margins top, bottom and left.

Award Information: The first-place winners for fiction, non-fiction and poetry for the CBW tier of the contest will each receive \$25, and their work will be submitted to the state competition.

State winning entries in each category may be published in Portable Data File (*.pdf) format, on the VWC Web site. All other rights remain the property of the author. Manuscripts will not be returned.

There are ten VWC Chapters in the state. Only first-place winners from the ten VWC Chapters will be eligible for the state contest. That means only 30 entries will be forwarded for the State competition -- ten entries total per category (fiction, nonfiction, poetry).

Winners of the State VWC Contest will be announced and awards presented at the VWC Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony in November.

State Awards for each category: First Place-\$100; Second Place-\$50; Third Place-\$25.

Member News

Welcome New Members:

New Member Lon Crow - Lottsburg, Virginia - Lon is an aspiring writer who writes non-fiction. He is an advocate and his website at <http://www.MariamsWish.com> tells about his journey. Lon's Facebook address is <https://www.facebook.com/lon.r.crow> "I actually have drafted my one and only book. Friends have told me that effort is 5 percent creation and 95 percent editing. I am in the latter mode."

New Member Patti Procopi - Patti Procopi is a former army brat who lived all over the world before settling in Gloucester County. Moving constantly can be a lonely life for a child but Patti soon realized that she could find friends and adventure in the books at the Post Library. An avid reader from an early age, Patti decided that she wanted to be a writer when she grew up. After retiring, Patti decided it was time to pursue her childhood dream. While working at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Museum gift shops she edited and produced several editions of the guide books for both of the Museums as well as creating a series of children's story books. Patti wrote one of the books in the series, *Mukambu of Ndongo* about a young girl who was among the first Africans to arrive in English America in 1619. She has also written a Middle Grade Historical Fiction book about the Battle of Yorktown. Please ... Tell Me More is her first Women's Fiction work. Patti is currently working on a sequel and lives in the Coke area of Gloucester with her husband of forty years, Greg, and their two dogs.

New Member Rick Collins - Rick is a new out of state member from Cary NC.. He recently published a collection of poetry, "Bit o' Woods."



CBW members **David Cariens, Ann Eichenmuller, Susan Williamson, Sharon Canfield Dorsey, Gwen Keane, Peggy Newcomb, Mary Montague Sikes, Cindy L. Freeman, and Janice Hoffman** are participating in the *Author Expo '19* at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmerock Virginia on Saturday, June 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The program this year includes an Open Mic beginning at 10:30 a.m. It features poets, authors, and audience members who will have the opportunity to read their work.

Presentations Include:

Living the Successful Life (10:30 a.m.) - Jim Gordon has over 30 years of public speaking background and has trained executives, medical professionals, attorneys, therapists, and sales specialists. He has developed custom audio visualization trainings which have produced fantastic results for all walks of life and will share his insights on how all of us can enrich our lives.

Set in the Neck (11:30 a.m.) - Ever thought you recognized a character or a place in a novel? Award-winning writer Ann Eichenmuller will talk about where ideas come from, why tidewater towns are her settings of choice, and how much of a writer's fiction is derived from "real life." A great workshop for aspiring writers and curious readers, with plenty of opportunity for Q & A.

The Christian Fiction Author (12:30 p.m.) - J.L. Canfield, whose debut mystery *What Hides Within* won the Pencraft award for Best Christian Fiction 2019, will talk about how she develops her own ideas for stories, as well as the rewards and challenges of writing Christian fiction in today's market.

Giving Back (1:30 p.m.) - Local author Gwen Keane and the Northern Neck Partnership for Pets will talk about how we can all use our creativity and talents to support organizations in our community.

Keynote Speaker Craig Shirley 2:30 p.m. - Mr. Shirley is an American author, lecturer, historian and public affairs consultant. He has written four bestsellers on Ronald Reagan.

A copy of the complete program can be downloaded on <http://writersguildva.com> who is sponsoring the event. The Writers Guild of Virginia is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to writers at all stages of their career.

Susan Williamson was a presenter at the Virginia Horse Festival, held May 3-5 at the Meadow Event Center. Williamson hosted “Storytime for Children”, using stories about Buttons, a pony featured in Williamson’s book, *The Riding Lesson* (High Tide Publications). Williamson also conducted sessions on “How to Select a Riding Instructor” and “Buying Your First Horse”.

Stan Parsons: I published “God Sent A Tramp” on Lulu.com and the other online bookstores in hardback and Ebook formats; and audible.com accepted my first author-read audio book, “The Stovepipe Chess Club.”

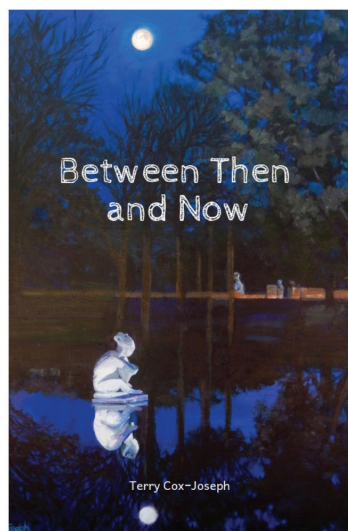
Sharon Dorsey’s poem, “Summer Leaves the Hills” was recently selected for publication on the website of the National League of American Pen Women. Sharon was awarded First Place in Poetry for her poem, “Warrior”; Second Place in Non-Fiction for her article, “Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History”; and Third Place in Juvenile Fiction, for her story, “Lost,” at the recent CNU Writer’s Conference in Newport News.

Mary Montague Sikes has a book signing Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the William & Mary Barnes & Noble on Duke of Gloucester St. in Williamsburg, featuring her new book, *Hearts Across Forever*, and her hardcover book, *An Artful Animal Alphabet*. She also had paintings accepted for three juried art shows that hung during April and May. “On the Edge of Xanadu”, watercolor on canvas, was in the Art Speaks, Seventh Annual Juried Show featuring Virginia artists, Janly Jaggard, juror. Her watercolor painting, “Searching for Xanadu”, was selected for the March-May Juried All-Media Show at Crossroads Art Center in Richmond, Virginia. Ellyn Parker, Exhibitions Manager at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, was juror for the show. “Point of Entry”, a watercolor, was chosen for the Gloucester Arts on Main Regional Juried Show by Juror Jennifer Morningstar, Gallery Manager of the Charles Taylor Visual Arts Center, and won second prize.

Carol J. Bova: After an international BookBub promotion, *Chestnut Springs* hit #1 Best Seller in Amazon Australia, Contemporary Literature & Fiction, and in Amazon Canada, #1 in Contemporary Women’s Fiction and #1 in Literature & Fiction.

Thomas Nelson Community College held their Annual Employee Awards Ceremony on April 26 with local television news anchor Don Roberts as guest host. The Human Resources team congratulates all award recipients and honorees and wants to hear from you about the event. Among program highlights was the Outstanding Employee of the Year Award. Recipiensts included CBW member **Janice Hoffman**.

Jan also 2nd place in one of the categories for the Poetry Society of Virginia with my sestina about Mary Todd Lincoln. “I’m happy about that because, having lost a son, I can’t imagine how she functioned after losing 3 of her sons, plus her husband’s being murdered.”



Terry Cox-Joseph is pleased to announce that her first poetry chapbook, “Between Then and Now,” was published by Finishing Line Press in November. Her painting, “Selene, the Moon Goddess,” was used for the cover art.

She is a member of the Poetry Society of Virginia, Chesapeake Bay Writers, and the National League of Penwomen, and is a former newspaper reporter and editor. From 1994-2004 she was the coordinator for the annual Christopher Newport University Writers’ Conference and Contest. She has been published in *Northern Virginia Review*, *Allegro* and *Chiron Review* among others. Her first book of nonfiction, *ADJUSTMENTS, The Making of a Chiropractor*, was published by Hampton Roads Publishing in 1993. Her short stories and articles have appeared in *Virginia Builder*, *Entrepreneur*, *Green’s Magazine*, *Virginia Adversaria*, *Brain Child* and numerous other markets. A graduate of Minneapolis College of Art and Design with a BFA in illustration, she displays and sells her watercolors and acrylics across Virginia at galleries, shops and outdoor shows.

Upcoming Events

Chesapeake Writers' Conference

The eighth annual Chesapeake Writers' Conference will be held from June 23 to June 29, 2019, on the St. Mary's College campus in St. Mary's City, Maryland. The conference features lectures, craft talks, readings, and panel discussions, as well as daily workshops in poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, songwriting, and translation. The faculty includes poet Liz Arnold, fiction writers Matt Burgess and Patricia Henley, creative nonfiction writer Angela Pelster, songwriter and poet, Crystal Brandt, screenwriter Richard Wiebe, and poet and translator Heather Green. Participating publishing professionals include editors Lea Beresford (Bloomsbury) and Mark Drew (Gettysburg Review) and agent Susanna Einstein (Einstein Literary Management). The cost of tuition is \$800; the cost of tuition with college course credit is \$1,200. An optional meal plan is available for \$170, and lodging is available on campus for \$240. Scholarships are available for St. Mary's College students and alumni. Using the online submission manager, submit a workshop application and a writing sample of four to six poems or up to 15 pages of prose. There is no application fee. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis; registration is first come, first served. Visit the website for an application and complete guidelines.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Jerry Gabriel, Conference Director
Chesapeake Writers' Conference,
St. Mary's College, Montgomery Hall,
47645 College Drive,

St. Mary's City, MD 20686.

(240) 895-2017

chesapeakewritersconference@smcm.edu

Web: <http://go.smcm.edu/cwc>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/chesapeakewritersconference/>

Mon June 10 8:05 AM CBW Second Monday Radio Show. Neal Steele interview with Jan Hoffman on her poetry book, *Soul Cookies*. FM 99.1.

Mon July 8, 8:05 AM CBW Second Monday Radio Show. Neal Steele interview with Ann Eichenmuller on her new mystery novel, *The Lies Beneath*. FM 99.1.

Hampton Roads Writers 11th Annual Conference



Click [here](http://www.hamptonroadswriters.org/2019conference.php) to be taken to the registration form.

September 19 - 21, 2019

**Holiday Inn
Virginia Beach - Norfolk Hotel & Conference Center
5655 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462**

Early bird tuition, (until June 7) \$200 HRW members, \$235 nonmembers

From June 8 to September 8, \$240 HRW members, \$275 nonmembers

September 9 through the start of the conference - \$280 members and nonmembers alike

Information: <http://www.hamptonroadswriters.org/2019conference.php>

May - June 2019



About the Author

JANICE HOFFMAN holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana University and has taught creative writing, and literature in Indiana and Kentucky. Currently, she teaches at the Historic Triangle Campus of Thomas Nelson Community College in Virginia where she also co-hosts a monthly poetry reading. She is a member of several local writing groups, as well as the Poetry Society of Virginia for whom she edits *A Commonwealth of Poetry*, its newsletter. She is also a member of the Poetry Society of Indiana and Chesapeake Bay Writers.

Her work appears in sundry literary journals (*Snowy Egret*, *POEM*, *The Northern Virginia Review*, *Women Who Write*, and others) and has won awards and/or also appears in the anthologies for the poetry societies of Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Texas, South Dakota, Oregon, and Virginia. In 1995, she won first place in *The Canadian Writers' Journal's* international poetry contest, and in 2017, she was runner-up for Poet Laureate of Hampton Roads. She lives in Williamsburg, Virginia, with her husband, grandson, and two Chocolate Labs. Her book is available via Amazon.com, Barnesandnoble.com, and IndieBound.org.

Advance Reviews

The melodious and emotionally riveting poems in Janice Hoffman's *Soul Cookies* recount familial victories and challenges while also revealing the poet's reverence for literary and historical figures, as well as her astute comprehension of art. Her meticulous imagery and attention to detail vivify an array of characters in poems that personalize the author's view of humanity. Admirable is Hoffman's decision to remain positive despite life's obstacles and instead to "chase the gloom of darkness far away."

Dr. Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda
Virginia Poet Laureate Emerita

Peering through history's fog-edged windows, Janice Hoffman plumbs her fertile imagination to reimagine characters from paintings, the Bible, and ancestors from her own family tree. The poems in her debut collection sweep the emotional arc from playful romps through gardens and visions of fairies to somber reflections of loved ones now gone. Throughout, scent and color serve as touchstones of memory, as in the poem of her son's suicide, where "Every October, my heart converts to dull brown, and once again, I dry and descend with the leaves." *Soul Cookies* is earnest and accessible, its pages brimming with country wisdom and heart.

Bill Glose

F. Scott Fitzgerald Short Story Award winner
Author of *Virginia Walkabout*, *Personal Geography*,
Half a Man, and *The Human Touch*

Genre: Poetry

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Facebook at janhoffpoetry; <https://sites.google.com/view/janicehoffmanpoetry/home>.

Open Submissions

**All are paying submissions...
the best kind!**

**Let us know if you submit and
are accepted!**

Thanks!

Cohesion Press: SNAFU – Last Stand

They are looking for military action-based last-stand horror stories – the genres accepted are fantasy, horror, or science fiction. Some of their previous SNAFU stories have been adapted for Netflix’s animated anthology series, *Love, Death + Robots*. For this anthology, their guidelines say, “Think 300, the Alamo, the Battle of Mirbat, the First Battle of Mogadishu, the Battle of Hel, or Custer’s Last Stand (but with unnatural monsters)... anything that can be called a high-action potentially-last stand monster story. For level of unnatural creature we will give priority to, think Dog Soldiers or Aliens. We want lots of monster goodness.

We will also be looking for soldiers, mercenaries, police, private security/paramilitary. ... Just ensure the last stand aspect is both overt and unique, and don’t forget monsters!”

Deadline: 30 June 2019

Length: 2,000-10,000 words

Pay: AUD0.05/word

Details here. <https://cohesionpress.com/snafu-submissions/>

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Four topics

They want inspirational, true stories and poems about ordinary people having extraordinary experiences. The anecdotes should be told in the first person, and have a beginning, middle, and end. They have several upcoming themes: — The Golden Years or Second Wind – They want humorous or serious stories of life after 60. Some of the suggested topics are: time for a new career, trying new things, bucket lists and adventure, the wisdom of age, new passions, and raising grandchildren... or still raising grown children! The deadline for this is 30 June 2019.

—Stories about Miracles – Their guidelines say, “Miracles do happen each and every day. Everyone has experienced events in their lives that cause wonder and astonishment and give them hope for a better future. Why did these things happen? Is there an explanation? Or did these things seem to happen for no reason at all?” They want true stories for this multi-faith book about amazing events and unexplained happenings. Some of the suggested topics are: everyday miracles, dreams and premonitions, miraculous healings or recoveries, and amazing coincidences. The deadline is 30 June 2019.

— I Can’t Stop Laughing! Their guidelines say, “We are looking for stories about something that happened to you in your life – in your relationship with a partner or spouse, a parent or child, a family member or friend, at work or at home – that made you and the people around you laugh out loud. Did you mean for it to be funny? Did the other person mean to make you laugh? Did a situation just get out of control? Did a misunderstanding turn into a comedy of errors?” Some of the suggested topics are: obsessions, annoying habits, embarrassing moments, and family foibles. The deadline is 31 July 2019.

— Stories About Christmas – They are collecting stories for their Holiday 2020 book and we are looking for stories about the entire December holiday season, including Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, and New Year’s festivities. Their guidelines say, “We want to hear about your holiday memories and traditions. The rituals of the holiday season give a rhythm to the years and create a foundation for our lives, as we gather with family, with our communities at church, at school, and even at the mall, to share the special spirit of the season, brightening those long winter days. Please share your special stories about the holiday season with us. Be sure that they are “Santa safe” so that we don’t spoil the magic for precocious readers!” Some of the suggested topics are: holiday traditions, holiday humor, memories of the holiday season, and the love of family. The deadline is 30 January 2020.

Deadlines: Various Details: <https://www.chickensoup.com/story-submissions/possible-book-topics> Length: Up to 1,200 words

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We will also be looking for soldiers, mercs, police, private security/paramilitary. ... Just ensure the last stand aspect is both overt and unique, and don't forget monsters!"

Deadline: 30 June 2019

Length: 2,000-10,000 words

Pay: AUD0.05/word

Details here. <https://cohesionpress.com/snafu-submissions/>

Stormy Island Publishing: Romantic Fantasy

Stories should be in the Romantic Fantasy genre for this anthology. Romantic fantasy is a sub-genre of fantasy fiction, depicting a fantasy story while using many of the elements and conventions of the chivalric romance genre. Happy endings are not required, but still encouraged. They accept up to two submissions by the same author. Also scroll down the guidelines page to see their sea and/or love themed poetry anthology call (unpaid).

Deadline: 12 July 2019

Length: 1,000-8,000 words

Pay: \$20

Details here.

Pole to Pole Publishing: Not Far From Roswell

This anthology will contain dark stories of aliens, alien abduction, alien experimentation, cows, paranormal investigation and more. They may also include one or two humorous pieces as long as the material is dark. See guidelines for details on the tropes that will be hard sells, and the kind of material that is unacceptable.

Deadline: 30 July 2019, or until filled

Length: 3,000-5,000 words

Pay: \$0.02/word

Details here. <http://www.stormyislandpublishing.com/submissions/>

Less Than Three Press: Collection call – Creature Feature

This LGBTQ+ romance publisher wants "your most scintillating, subversive, and scary monster stories for consideration as part of our CREATURE FEATURE collection." Their guidelines also say, "This collection is an homage to movie monsters of yore and the popularity of paranormal fiction. We're happy to see stories queered and subverted about classic monsters or those of your own creation—and we suggest authors using classic movie or pulp monsters make sure their creature is in the public domain." Stories must have a happily ever after (HEA) or happy for now (HFN) end. The primary genre is by nature speculative, but can contain any sub-genre or genre mashup: mystery, historical, contemporary, space opera, cyberpunk, etc.

Deadline: 31 July 2019

Length: 20,000-60,000 words

Pay: Royalties

Details here. <https://www.lessthanthreepress.com/collection-calls/>

Jolly Horror Press: Accursed

They want horror or horror/comedy stories prominently featuring a cursed item.

Deadline: 30 June 2019; may close early, but no earlier than 31 May 2019

Length: 2,500-6,000 (query for shorter/longer)

Pay: \$25

Details here. <https://www.jollyhorror.com/opencall.html>

Across the Universe – Beatles Spec Fic Anthology

The theme of the anthology is 'Beatles – What if?' Their guidelines say, "What if Brian Epstein hadn't managed the band? What if George Harrison hated sitar music? What if Ringo had been the true star of the band all along? What if the Beatles had been aliens? Or magic users? Or zombies? Or American?" They list certain ideas that writers should avoid, on their website.

Deadline: 14 June 2019

Length: 1,000-4,000 (prefer 2,000-4,000)

Pay: \$200

Details here. <http://www.randeedawn.com/>