



Bay Writers News

February 2022 - Volume 28*Issue 1

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Luncheon Meeting

February 16, 2021

11:30 am at Rocco’s Smokehouse

Join the CBW for wonderful food, friendship and learning at our first meeting of 2022.

Sonja McGiboney, an independent author of 15 children’s picture books, will share her experiences in the world of self-publishing. From writing your story to marketing the finished book, she will help guide you on your way.

Everyone is welcome to attend but advance reservations are required.

Two sets of menu choices:

Members \$15 or \$20,
Nonmembers \$18 or \$23.

Form is at:

www.chesapeakebaywriters.org

Hope to see you there.



It hasn’t been 100 years, but I feel a little like Rip Van Winkle. There is so much to catch up on. This is the first edition of the Bay Writer’s News since October, 2020. The disease that I shall not name, changed so many things.

I want to thank Jeanne Johansen for the wonderful newsletters that she has written. Go to the CBW Website and read about our club and it’s members. Our history is in the newsletters.

The look may be different but the reason is the same. The Bay Writers News is for you. Let’s fill it with content about CBW, about your accomplishments, about new books and about writing.



Write a story about this picture and I’ll publish it in the next newsletter. (500 words or less.)

Book Parade

See page 19 for Information

Chesapeake Bay Writers is a Chapter of The Virginia Writers Club

<https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesBayWriters/>

Produced by Sonja McGiboney and Mary Shipko



From the President



My first published work was a three-line report in the school newspaper when I was six. I wrote for later school newspapers and yearbooks, won prizes for essays and interviews, but no one ever suggested I could choose to be a writer after I left school. No one, that is, until my late husband's cousin suggested I take a romance writing class at UCLA as an escape from grief.

In 2010, I saw a newspaper announcement of a Chesapeake Bay Writers program and emerged from the self-imposed isolation that started with my 2004 move to Mathews. I dared to go and soon joined the club. By 2012, I was an at-large board member assisting with program arrangements and started writing a column in *Chesapeake Style* magazine. I had a short story published in the 2013 CBW Anthology *Harboring Secrets*.

In 2014, I was elected CBW President and published my nonfiction book, *Drowning a County*. My term as president continued through 2018, and I came back to be president again in 2020.

CBW gave me the encouragement, information and advice that led to my first novel *Chestnut Springs*, published in 2017, and its sequel *Breaking the Eighth*, coming out this year. CBW doesn't make us writers—it helps encourage us as writers to follow our muse with advice, knowledge, and social opportunities through programs and critique groups. Not everyone will be published, but everyone can have the satisfaction of expressing themselves in writing with a little encouragement to try.

I am delighted to announce that this year, CBW will almost double its activities with the planned addition of four meetings in non-restaurant venues in addition to our five luncheon meetings with programs. Two events are already on the calendar for Saturdays, and a summer Zoom event will be scheduled so more members who cannot attend weekday programs can take advantage of CBW gatherings. Our February 16 meeting at Rocco's Smokehouse in Williamsburg offers more menu options and the usual cost is lower too. I do hope to see you there. The reservation form with full details is on the website.

Thank you to Ellen Dugan, Jeanne Johansen and Janet Fast who will be leaving the Board in February, and to Tracy Lanum who is stepping down as Radio Show Coordinator. They have been dedicated workers and a solid support to the board and membership. Thank you to Denise DeVries, Ann Skelton, and Sonja McGiboney who will be continuing on the board. And thank you to the members who have already renewed your membership. Your support has allowed us to be confident in making our new plans. For those who haven't renewed yet, we still need your support! The renewal form is at the top of the website Home page.

Thank you all for the privilege of being the president of such a wonderful organization. I have been blessed in knowing so many of you and sharing and learning with you as I moved from an aspiring to a published author. May each of your writing journeys be as satisfying!

With much affection and respect,
Carol J Bova
President

Messages from the Board



Hello Wonderful Writers.
I am Sonja McGiboney your membership director and presidential nominee

Stories never stop running around in my head. I know I have the next best seller in there somewhere (ha ha ha ha) but I have a problem. I get distracted by other stories. I've managed to type out a

few short ones, but my longer novels are still battling for attention.

At this point, I could tell you my life history, just so you get to know who I am, but that is a story best told in a memoir. (For those of you who have written one, kudos. It's hard to look at one's past without coloring it better than it may have been.)

So I sum up my life. I list the following in no specific order, but I have been, at one time a: student, soldier, fork-lift operator, gas station attendant, stuffed squirrel maker, baby-sitter, room mom, substitute teacher, FRG leader, FRG assistant to V Corp in Germany, secretary, newsletter editor, president, piano teacher, pianist, choir member, bell chimer, clerk, volunteer, dog mom, photographer, substitute librarian and author.

This is where I am now, an author and substitute librarian. I want to write for the next 30 or 40 years. I am determined to uphold the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Writers: To help all aspiring and established writers achieve their individual writing needs and goals.

Along the way, let's write, have fun, learn and be helpful to one another.

Sonja McGiboney
2022 President Nominee
Newsletter Editor
Program Director
Membership
Website Editor



As everyone knows, writing is a solitary occupation. No two days are the same. Sometimes it goes well. Sometimes it's like going to the dentist without benefit of Novocain.

Always, it's a contest, a sort of tug-of-war, between you and a page full of words. Verbs, the trickiest. But they're not the only maver-

icks. Often an innocent, law-abiding noun will run amuck and leave you no sentencing choice but death by delete key. Adjectives and adverbs are admittedly easier to fell, but still, there is a degree of distress.

And here is where membership in CBW can come to your rescue. I find it reassuring to connect with other writers. They understand words, how to slice and dice them, turn them into stories, essays, and poems. It's also helpful to share friendships, experiences, and writing goals with people who listen well, critique gently, and encourage you. And finally, belonging to CBW allows you to continue learning. Their well-chosen variety of programs, literary chocolate snacks if you will, broaden your writing horizons and help satisfy your desire to know more – stretching and growing your talent as a writer – now what could be better than that?

Best regards,
Ellen Dugan
Secretary
Chesapeake Bay Writers

The Return of Open Mic

Join us on April 28th, 2022 at the Gloucester Library from 5:30 to 7:50 PM and show us your best!

Messages from the Board



I am Jeff Price, but write under the pseudonym Davidson Lee Price as a tribute to my late father. I am a Georgia boy—GO DAWGS—who now resides in Toano, VA. I am an instructor for the National Search and Rescue School in Yorktown, but would love to be a full-time author one day.

I have always enjoyed reading and telling stories, so I began writing fictional stories as a hobby. I want to learn more about writing and publishing, so I figured networking with members of the CBW club is a good way to learn and help others learn.

Jeff Price
Secretary Nominee



I am a retired international businessman, who has studied in, dwelled in, and visited many countries over a period of 40 years, during which time, I carefully observed the countries and people I met.

Along the way, I wrote many books, attempting to articulate my ideas, as well as discussing ideas, issues, or people whom

I encountered. Having grown up in the farm fields of Nebraska, I was nurtured on reality, but along the way I learned how to express matters in polysyllabic vocabulary, while avoiding obscurantism. Hence, the books were candid, and often humorous, descriptions or analyses.

I would like to assist the CBW and its Members to share more ideas, to stimulate thinking and writing, both on a CBW platform for Members, as well as on the Facebook page which is open to the public.

Charles W Sutherland
Director At Large



I have appreciated the opportunity to work with fellow CBW board members over the past four years. Working as your newsletter editor has been an honor and privilege. Thanks for chance to be of service.

Jeanne Johansen
Newsletter Editor
January 17, 2020



When I moved to the Northern Neck in 2000 with my husband and toddler, I thought I had to leave behind my writing workshops and poetry readings in the DC area. I threw myself into my part time job and responsibilities at home, but still made an occasional foray to writing groups. I remember meeting at RCC in Warsaw with early Rappatamac stalwarts Janet Fast and Susan Christopher. I had been working on a novel for about 10 years under the cloud of a discouraging MFA poetry program. When I finished the book, I didn't write much, other than for work, for nearly another decade.

Four years in Arizona brought a fresh start, and I came back to Virginia to find my writing community and to wholeheartedly support their work. When Covid threatened isolation, writers' groups began meeting on line. Chesapeake Bay Writers found a number of ways to adapt and keep going. Attending online workshops and, later, in-person events was a great way to resume old friendships and make new ones. When I was asked to take over publicity for the group, of course I said yes. I would like for more people to discover the support and inspiration we offer.

Denise DeVries
Director-Publicity

Messages from the Board



What Has Chesapeake Bay Writers Done for Me Lately?

My CBW writer's story began one day eight years ago or was it longer, when I chanced to meet a past president of Chesapeake Bay Writers? Learning that I was attempting to develop a family memory into a story, he encouraged me to keep writing and to join CBW, an active com-

munity of writers. Though I felt that identifying myself as Ann, the Writer was the very definition of hubris, I swallowed twice and signed up.

From the beginning I found the support he described and much more. CBW also provided opportunity for growth through contests and critique groups, through camaraderie provided by like-minded and congenial people, and by creating motivation to improve -- constantly improve. In recent years my efforts, including that original family story and other short fiction as well as poetry has appeared in print.

To paraphrase the trope, what has CBW has done for me? It continues to work for me and repay me ten-fold for my efforts. It continues to challenge me as well as provide new avenues and opportunities to improve my writing.

Ann Skelton
Director At Large
Writer for *Chesapeake Style*



Mary Shipko was born and raised in Fort Lauderdale Florida. Hired in 1976 as an airline pilot she moved to Arizona. She has lived in several states out west, and the mid-west and is according to her neighbor in Georgia a transplanted Yankee.

Mary likes to write about injustices and giving people a voice.

She has written several children's books that are waiting in the wings for an illustrator. Please contact her if interested.

Some of Mary's other happenings include playing violin in a community orchestra in Gloucester, singing with Williamsburg Choral Guild and with her husband teaching safety boating classes. Mary is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and the Chesapeake Bay Writers. Her book, *Aviatrix*, is "a pioneering pilot's story of breaking gender barriers, fighting discrimination, and making peace with her experience...a unique, engaging memoir balancing personal story with broader social themes." Kirkus Reviews

Mary would like our club to be an educational resource for writers, as well as a support and social club. Monthly gatherings and critique groups are ideal but would like to have members attend regional events and organize carpools to attend all.

Contact her for items you want to put in the newsletter.

Mary Shipko
Director At Large

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

Mahatma Gandhi

Spotlight News

CBW Authors Selected to Participate in the 2022 Suffolk Mystery Writers Festival

Susan Williamson and Tim Holland are two of 40 authors selected to be in the exhibit. The Festival will take place on March 5th from 12:30 to 6:00 at the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts, 110 West Finney Ave. Suffolk, Virginia 23434. This one-day free festival showcases 40 best-selling mystery, suspense, thriller, horror, paranormal, historical, romance, and women's fiction authors.

Susan Williamson is a lifelong writer, prolific reader and horsewoman. So, it's not surprising that her books involve horses. Her cozy mystery series, *Dead on the Trail* and *Dead in the Loft* are set on horse farms. Additional books in each series are underway. Visit Susan at <http://susanwilliamsonauthor.com>

Tim Holland is the author of three novels, including *The Rising Tide*, *What the Mirror Doesn't See*, and *The Murder of Amos Dunn*; his fourth novel, *Deception*, will be released in 2022 by Black Opal Books. He recently received a Keating award for his short fiction. Visit Tim at <https://www.tim-holland.com/>

Gala All Stars Contest Winners

It was a beautiful day to share a good meal, friendship, and stories with fellow authors. What a talented group of writers. Attendees voted for the winning entries. The winners of the 2021 Gala were:

1st Place: Sarah Honenberger
2nd Place: Sonja McGiboney
3rd Place: Robert Webb
Rick Bailey Humor Award, there was a tie: Denise DeVries and Cindy Freeman

CBW 2021 Golden Nib Winners

CBW president Carol J. Bova recognized the club chapter winners at CBW's Annual All Star Gala Luncheon

Fiction

First: *Treasure of the Wooded Forest* by Ronald Munro
Second: *Survivor's Guilt* by Ann Eichenmuller
Third: *The Best Disaster Ever* by Andrew Ball

Nonfiction

First: *Thomas* by Terry Cox-Joseph
Second: *My Life -My Blog* by Dayna Hutson
Third: *Fake News* by Ellen Dugan

Poetry

First: *What Do I Know* by Andrew Ball
Second: *Gypsum Dunes* by Christian Pascale
Third: *My Family* by Peggy Newcomb

VWC 2021 Golden Nib State Winners

Fiction:

First place: *Death and Peanuts* by Sandy Roslan; Hanover Writers Club
Second Place: *Day the Lights Went Out* by Damean Mathews; Appalachian Authors Guild
Third place: *Treasure of the Wooded Forest* by Ronald Munro; Chesapeake Bay Writers

Poetry:

First Place: *Kayak* by Katherine Gotthardt; Write By the Rails
Second Place: *Sojourners* by Ray Griffin; Blue Ridge Writers
Third Place: *Crows* by James W. Reynolds; Valley Writers

Non-Fiction:

First place: *The Last Caterpillar* by Abbey Pachter; Virginia Beach Writers
Second place: *Running Out of Time* by Sharon L. Hostler; Blue Ridge Writers
Third place: *Crossing Halstead Street* by June Forte; Write By the Rails

Words to Ponder

by Charles Sutherland

Sunday

The day of the eternal sun!

Sunday is one of the three days of the weekly Julian calendar (created for the Western world) which are named after celestial deities, i.e., Sunday (the sun god), Monday (the moon god), and Saturday (the god Saturn). It became a religious holyday by a decree of the ancient pagan Roman emperor Constantine, on March 7, 321 —to close businesses and become the official day of rest in the Roman Empire, to celebrate the Roman sun god ('Sol Invictus', 'The Invincible Sun'), so devotees of Sol Invictus, and the other major sun religion of Rome (Mithraism), could all abstain from work and pray on the same day. This enabled the Christians (who celebrated the Jewish Sabbath) to assemble people into their own buildings, to pray, to donate, and to create converts. As Christianity steadily spread, since stores and shops were officially closed, the Christians gradually adopted Sunday as their own day of rest, and, eventually, a holy day.

Writing

The word 'writing', in the English tradition, is from Old English 'writan', meaning 'to scratch' or 'to draw a figure'. The egocentric Western world long regarded writing as a unique part of the Western tradition, inherited from the Sumerian civilization of Sumer, in Mesopotamia, around 3400-3100 BCE, to where much ancient literature is traced, including, to many scholars, portions of the Old Testament. Writing was initially used for livestock and commodities, then for commercial transactions, and gradually for religious and social representations and depictions. However, scripts were also recently discovered in Egypt (from c. 3250 BCE), and China (from c. 1250 BCE), which had no known literary contacts with these ancient civilizations. This has also given an impetus to the anthropological idea of polygenesis, that human life originated in several places, not solely in Africa.



"Substitute 'damn' every time you're inclined to write 'very;' your editor will delete it and the writing will be just as it should be."

Mark Twain



So, You Want to Go Social

by Caterina Novelliere

As there is a lot of interest in how to market your book to a broader audience and more effectively reach folks online, we are launching a newsletter section to share tips and tricks on using social media, websites, video, etc... We'll briefly cover anything from the terminology of the online community to what reporting tools are out there to help you better understand your readers. If there is a specific topic or question you'd like to see answered, please email it to Sonja McGiboney smcphoto@gmail.com and Caterina Novelliere novelliere@me.com.

What Is A Hashtag?

This question came up in our January 6th brainstorming session. A hashtag is a word with # before it. By combining these two elements, a metadata tag is created that allows content to be pulled up by topic. Hashtags are a unique data point as they are user-generated and allow users to locate things that specifically interest them. This makes them an important tool in your marketing campaigns. Additionally, hashtags enable tech companies to easily track what topics are popular from a user perspective. If you hear of something or someone trending on a social media platform, odds are hashtags helped identify that trend.

Hashtags do work better on some platforms than others. Twitter, Pinterest, LinkedIn, and Instagram are perfect places to use a hashtag. Facebook isn't the best place for them as Facebook's hashtag search functionality is limited.

A good general practice is to choose 3-5 hashtags that are relevant to your post and add them at the end of your post copy. Some folks integrate them into their copy, but this can make a post or tweet cluttered. When selecting potential search terms, you want to choose those that your audience finds relevant. For example, if I post about a new release #readersofinstagram or #bookstagram will help me find potential new readers faster than #iamwriting or #writersofinstagram. If you want to thoroughly cover your bases, then you can include hashtags for both readers and writers. Try to keep the

number of hashtags on one post under 30.

Your chosen hashtags should include commonly searched terms related to your post. Platforms will often suggest terms as you type them in. For example, Instagram will recommend potential tags that include a count or frequency range of how often that hashtag is used. Pick a few of those recommendations with larger usage counts then integrate lesser-known ones or any unique hashtag you're starting related to yourself or your writing.

Lastly, some platforms do have guidelines on what hashtags work better than others to prevent spammy content from regularly surfacing or they have banned certain hashtags that surface content that doesn't align with the network's community standards. You'll want to review those guidelines to ensure whatever hashtags you are using reach your intended audience.



New Books in 2021 and Jan/Feb 22

Look at all the books our members have published in the last year!



By Sonja McGiboney

January 2022 and a few in 2021

This has been a productive year for Sonja. Once she figured out the self-publishing platform, she couldn't stop. Here are the books she put out in 2021 and in January, 2022.

Jan 2022 *Hide and Seek-Jazzy's Alphabet Adventure* is a rhyming picture book for children ages 3-5.

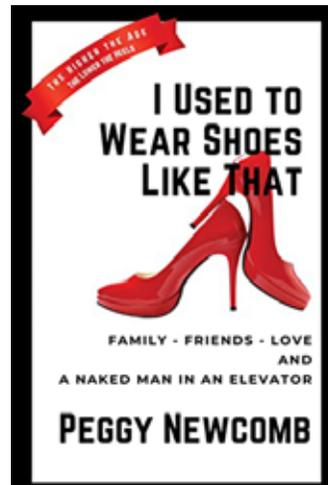
Jan 2022 - *Jazzy Colors* is a re-release of a book about colors and the months of the year.

September 2021 *Jazzy's Twelve Days of Christmas* is a fun look at the traditional song through a dog's eyes.

August 2021 *Jazzy's Halloween* is based on a song written by Sonja. It's a fun way to introduce kids to the monsters of Halloween.

July 2021 *Princess Jazzy* is a look at self worth. You don't have to be a "real" princess to feel like one.

Jan 2021 *Jazzy and Friends* is about friendship and accepting differences without judgments.



I Used to Wear Shoes Like That

By Peggy Newcomb
December 18, 2021

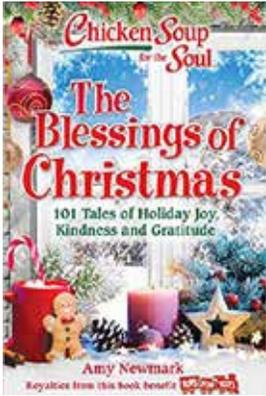
A thwarted moose attack. Hurricane Isabel. Dodging elk in Montana. COVID-19. Summertime at Girl Scout Camp. Growing up in the country. Oh, and don't forget the naked man in an elevator. A joy from start to finish, this book tells of a

less challenging time growing up in rural Virginia. Later years adventures with friends and family, including the sudden loss of the love of her life. A beautiful book of poetry add to the recipe. Cyrus Cormier

I Used To Wear Shoes Like That is warm walk down memory lane with an author, Peggy Newcomb, who loves her family, appreciates life, and finds humor in every-day situations. Her colorful stories about growing up in the country are reminders of a less-complicated time. Her love story with husband, John, and their three adopted daughters, is filled with the usual joys and challenges we all experience, spiced with the humor of a woman who is at peace with herself and her life but also, always ready for a new adventure. Her travel stories make us wish we'd been there for all the fun.

So, pour a cup of tea, put your feet up and enjoy this lovely ride! Sharon Canfield Dorsey

New Books



What Santa has Taught Me

By Bradley Harper
October 12, 2021

Published in the collection:
*Chicken Soup for the Soul:
The Blessings of Christmas:
101 Tales of Holiday Joy,
Kindness and Gratitude*

Bradley tells about his experiences as a professional Santa in this

short story.

About the collection.

Prepare to be inspired by these magical tales of giving, gratitude, and kindness. You'll laugh out loud at some stories; others will make you tear up a little. These heart-warming, fun and inspirational stories will leave you with a smile and enthusiasm for the season that will last all year long.

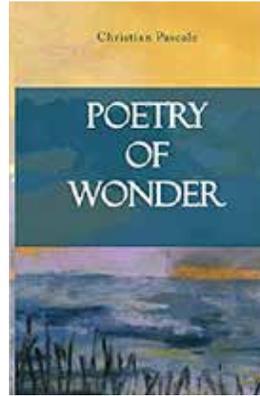
And we didn't forget that you can find blessings in the rest of the holiday season, with stories about Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and New Year's. There's something for everyone in these joy-filled pages.

Chicken Soup for the Soul books are 100% made in the USA. Each book includes stories from as diverse a group of writers as possible. *Chicken Soup for the Soul* solicits and publishes stories from the LGBTQ community and from people of all ethnicities, nationalities, and religions.

The IPL (Internet Public Library)

Writing Help for Academic Essays and Research Papers
Explore IPL's repository of 500,000+ essays across thousands of topics to help you finish your homework.

<https://www.ipl.org>



Poetry of Wonder

By Christian Pascale
September 29, 2021

In his long-awaited debut book of poetry, Christian Pascale highlights both the internal and external intricacies of life, focusing on the macrocosm of our world.

From the pull of the Spirit to the complexities of grief, this collection crystallizes daily life into a transcendent experience. Providing both the tangible understanding of place and time coupled with the visceral perception of the divine, we are reminded of possibility and promise.

Articles by CBW members

The Bay Writers News welcomes short articles written by CBW members. I invite you to share projects, stories, information about the craft of writing, and any other musings with us. We learn by doing and what better way to make yourself write something.

Take what you write and submit it to both the *Bay Writers News* and *Chesapeake Style* magazine.

If you post things on blog pages and have an article you wish to share, send it to us. Not only will I put your contribution in the newsletter, I'll add a link to your blog, website and any other contact info you want to spread around.

RULES

Please limit your submissions to 500 words.
Please be respectful.

New Books



A History Not Past

by Nan Harvey
July 23, 2021

Reverend David Lindsay, widowed and driven from his Scottish ancestral home in 1651 during the English Civil War. Puritans control the church. He travels to royalist

Bristol with his daughter Ellie, his orphaned half-nephew Robert, and their “governess,” Susanna.

David is offered the rector position of small Wicomico Church, Virginia at the edge of Indian territory, but first must survive the treacherous Atlantic crossing.

Enchanting Susanna turns his head, and they marry, but David finds his new life to be a fight for his very soul as his wife’s scandalous affair turns an ugly tide against him.

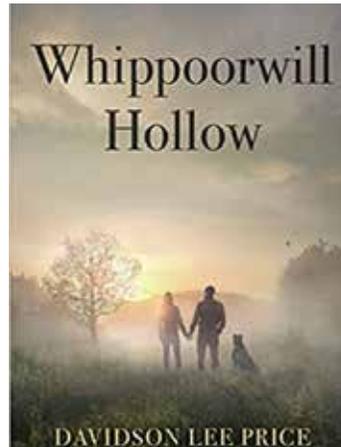
From a time as dynamic as our own, and based on Northumberland County court records, *A History Not Past* is told through the eyes of young Robbie, giving the reader a rare chance to experience the common man’s “New World.” Robbie learns Susanna’s secret but an underlying mystery still exists.

Kurt Vonnegut The Shapes of Stories

“Almost all stories follow one of two basic shapes. Then there’s a third, which you probably know already ...”

Check out the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5BhQiny700>



Whippoorwill Hollow

by Davidson Lee Price
May 21, 2021

Having served two tours in Afghanistan, Hudson Lee returns home to Georgia mentally traumatized after the death of his good friend, who sacrificed himself to save Hudson in battle. Deeply distraught and unable to see a way

out of his depression, Hudson makes plans to end his life at the family farm, Whippoorwill Hollow. Just when he’s about to follow through, however, he encounters an abandoned dog that’s been bitten by a snake and in dire need of help. Hudson’s protective instincts kick in, and he and the mistreated red-nose terrier, named Hank after Hudson’s deceased friend, form an extraordinary bond.

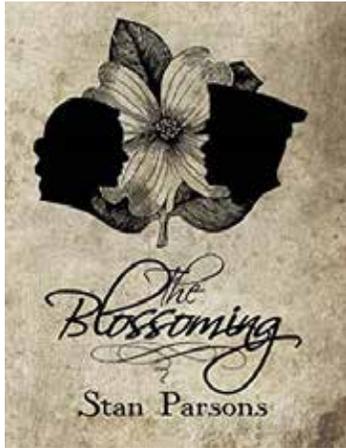
Across town, Katie Carter is increasingly despondent about the prospect of ever escaping her abusive fiancé, Sean. When Hank guides Hudson and Katie together, she, too, has nearly lost her will to live. No matter where she goes or what she does, Sean always seems to find her.

But love, family, and forgiveness are powerful, and with Hank’s help, Hudson and Katie stand a chance of outrunning the demons of their past and facing a future together. Davidson Lee Price’s debut novel is a tender and moving story of what happens when unspeakable pain is finally shared and how a community can come together to heal it.

Writing Tip

Short sentences can be powerful.

New Books

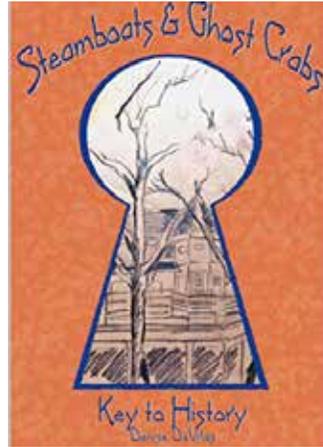


The Blossoming: Book III of the Gannaby Family Series

By Stan Parsons
May 12, 2021

The Gannabys have lived in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia one delightful year. They settled in Buena Vista, an enchanting town near Lexington and Washington & Lee College, where Ed

completes his undergraduate work and then law school. Andy excels as a Staunton Military Academy cadet. He falls in love with Thel, a charming Buena Vista girl; his life seems perfect until he tumbles headlong from grace - - can it be repaired? What can a loving father do when his son suddenly withdraws? His best friend, "Stretch," who's always been there for him, learns that his Boston family life is an imploding sham. Can Andy support him? Ed's cousin and nemesis, Al Gannaby, has vanished. Unknown to Ed, he has started anew near Elizabeth City, NC with a friend whose influence changes him; until disaster strikes. Myra's no-count father rears his ugly head and must be dealt with. Such a dizzying roller coaster of ecstasy and despair has destroyed many families and individuals for centuries, strengthened others. How will the Gannabys fare?



Steamboats and Ghost Crabs Key to History

by Denise Devries
March 26, 2021

As long as she has plenty to read, nine-year-old Olivia Brown doesn't mind spending the summer at Aunt Lila's rural home. An hour into the drive from Arlington, though, she's already tired of hearing

complaints from her brother Aiden, who's 11 and easily bored. She's also concerned about getting along with her twelve-year-old cousin Virginia Temple and her brother Jacob, age 10, who will be joining them from Florida.

Shortly after their arrival at the old house on the Rappahannock River, Aunt Lila gives Olivia a key that will lead the four cousins to adventure, making their visit to Hull Crossing and the nearby Northern Neck much more interesting.

Flash Fiction Tuesday

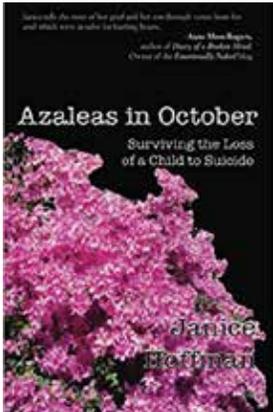
February 1, 6:30 – 8:30pm ZOOM

I love to write stories on the fly. The first summer of Covid, a group of children's authors had fun writing quick stories. When the world began turning again, we went our separate ways, but I missed that "spurt" of writing activity. Some of those 10 or 15 minute splashes of words, are now my short stories.

To keep the fun going, I will host a Flash Fiction Tuesday. Here is how it works. Depending upon how many people join us, we define the time limits for writing. Afterwards we share what we wrote. Besides learning how differently everyone thinks, you learn about your own writing. I learned that I needed to work on describing my characters. I'm too used to looking at pictures and though I see them, nobody else does, yet. Invites will be sent out to CBW the day before. Please invite friends along.

Sonja McGiboney

New Books



Azaleas in October

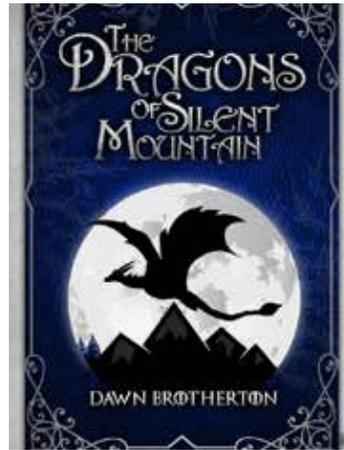
By Janice Hoffman
February 23, 2021

The year our son died, our azaleas bloomed again in October. Those are the very words I heard in my head as I stared out the front window of our home the week of October 2011, and I knew at that moment that I would be writing about his death in the days to

come. I didn't know anything beyond that moment. Our brilliant, handsome, accomplished son had died by suicide, and we were broken beyond repair—devastated, to say the very least.

That was now ten years ago.

The poems in this chapbook were born out of that grief, out of necessity, out of my attempts to survive his loss by recording my thoughts and emotions. Since then, we have discovered how this epidemic is ravaging our land, and we have met others who are struggling to survive, as well. As a result, these pages are dedicated to the families and friends who have lost loved ones to suicide and to parents who have lost children by any means. This work's purpose is to educate those who are still untouched by tragedy, to empathize with those still in the throes of anguish, and to encourage those who wonder if they will ever smile again.



The Dragons of Silent Mountain

by Dawn Brotherton
February 5, 2022

Change has come to Silent Mountain.

Ashton grew up with enchanting stories of when dragons filled the sky. When the mountain rumbles and people start

disappearing, Ashton is compelled to discover if the tales are true. She may be labeled as crazy as her grandfather, but she has to unravel the mystery of her birthright.

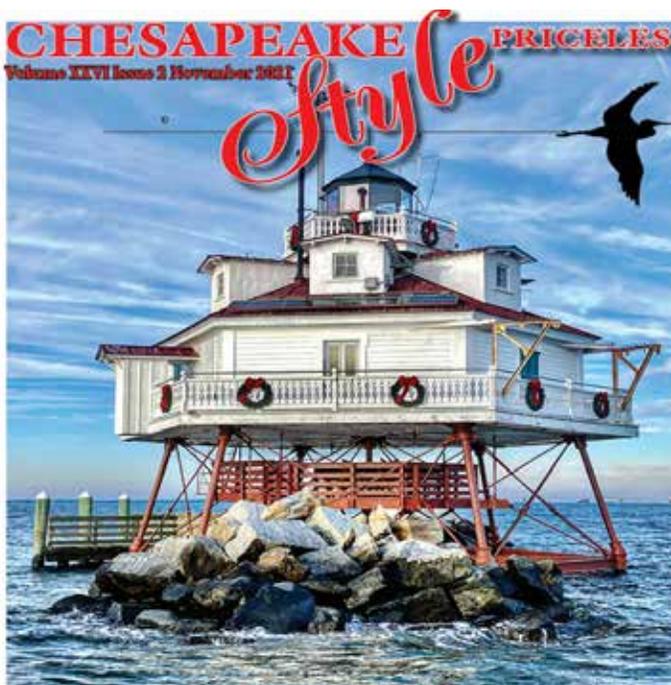
While trying to help the dragon queen, Ashton finds herself at odds with Lukas, her childhood friend, and captain of the soldiers. Bucking the ruling family, she places herself between the needs of the dragons and the troops Lukas commands. When tempers flare and blood is shed, Ashton races to fulfill her grandmother's wishes while blocking the evil actions of the power-hungry village ruler.

Can Ashton win Lukas to her side to save the dragons and the village from a fight that could destroy them all?

*"If my doctor told me I had only six minutes to live, I wouldn't brood.
I'd type a little faster."*

Isaac Asimov

Marketing and Writing Opportunities



Book Reviews

Chesapeake Style is an award-winning, colorful classy magazine serving folks in the Chesapeake Bay Region. It began in 1998 and is still going strong. It is published online and magazines are distributed around the region.

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

All you have to do is have someone else read your book and write a 500-word review of it in accordance with the guidelines.

Email chestyle@hughes.net for Guidelines and Deadlines.

Copy of cover taken from the Chesapeake Style Web edition: <http://www.chesapeakestyle.com/>

Writing opportunities through *Chesapeake Style Magazine* *Writers in Style*

Writers in Style is an invitation to CBW members to write 500-word 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 publishes and distributes 10,000 copies each month from April through October and 15,000 copies in November. They are found throughout the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and at the Williamsburg General Store.

CBW members who recently published articles, columns or poetry in Chesapeake Style: Carol J. Bova, Joy Brenda Burch, Denise Devries, Ellen Dugan, Ann Eichenmuller, Nan Harvey, Jeanne Johansen, Tracy Lanum, and Joe Phillips.

Please email submissions with a subject of Writers in Style to:
Janet A Fast chestyle@hughes.net

Chesapeake Style spotlight interview assignments

Contact Janet Fast if you'd like to discuss becoming a writer for Chesapeake Style spotlight interview assignments. Email: Janet Fast <chesapeakestyle2@hughes.net>

Marketing and Writing Ops cont.

Monday Radio Interviews with Neal Steele on XTRA 99.1 FM



Neal Steele interviews an author for his XTRA 99.1 FM CBW Second Monday Radio Show. The interview takes place at the station in Gloucester (just past Short Lane Ice Cream) and starts at about 8:05 a.m. Neal is a champ at making people comfortable. He asks intelligent questions and his genuine interest in an author's work comes through during the interview.

If you cannot make it to Gloucester, he can do the interview over the phone.

This is a wonderful time to spread the word about your book and also to practice talking about your book. How many of you have been asked, "What's your book about?" and you have trouble saying it without stuttering and wondering how much to give away.



All bookings must be made through CBW's coordinator, Patti Procopi. patti.pro@cox.net

CBW Members have priority for upcoming shows but published VWC members statewide, past speakers at CBW meetings, and non-member authors living within CBW's Service area are also eligible.

Check out Neal on Facebook and on the Radio's website
<https://www.facebook.com/nealnwmrkt>
<https://xtra99.com/on-air/neal-steele>

Who is on the Radio?

January 10, 2022: Nan Harvey and her book: *A History Not Past*. The book is based on the genealogical data Nan's father gathered on their ancestor Robert Lindsay, "the immigrant," the founding member of the Lindsay clan in the colony. She continued her father's research as she settled into her new home, then traveled to The Mount in Fife, Scotland to become familiar with the Lindsays' origins. Using court records and historical accounts, she was able to recreate this common man's life weaving in her experiences of sailing on the Chesapeake Bay and hands-on barn construction during a Northern Neck summer.

February 14, 2022: Peggy Newcomb and her book: *I Used to Wear Shoes Like That: Family - Friends - Love - and A Naked Man in an Elevator*. The book is a walk down memory lane. It is about growing up in rural Virginia in a less complicated time. It includes true stories and poetry about adventures with Peggy's adopted daughters, her pets and the loss of the love of her life.

"Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead."

Gene Fowler

Schedule

Feb 16, 2022, 11:30 a.m.

General Meeting & Luncheon, voting on new officers and presentation on “Self Publishing-From Story to Print and Beyond” by Sonja McGiboney

11:30 am. Location Rocco’s Smokehouse Grill

Everyone is welcome to attend, but advance reservations are required– Two sets of menu choices: Members \$15 or \$20, Nonmembers \$18 or \$23. Form is at www.chesapeakebaywriters.org

March 26, 2022

Saturday activity - Book Parade - Here is your chance to show your books and share what publishing path you took.

221 Monticello Ave. Williamsburg VA 23185

See more about the Book Parade on page 20.

Sign up today: <https://chesapeakebaywriters.wufoo.com/forms/so6xokg13w0zh8/>

April 20, 2022

General Meeting & Luncheon Nathan Richardson Guest

“The Oral Tradition of Poetry” Poetry session part 1 (More info to follow)

APRIL 28, 2022

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Thursday, 5:30 TO 7:50 PM Gloucester Library Community Room

Come join in the fun. Bring a short bit of writing to read. It can be a short story, a poem, flash fiction, or part of a larger work. Please stay under ten minutes.

If you have any questions please contact Mary Shipko 757-570-2478

May 14, 2022

Saturday 1:30 to 5:00

Workshop: Nathan Richardson, “Ekphrastic Writing” Poetry session part 2

James City County Library Grace & Stanley Kitzinger Community Room

7770 Croaker Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23188

June, 2022: Specific dates and times TBD

Zoom Program on Marketing

Flash Ekphrastic writing at the Muscarelle Museum of Art

General Meeting and Luncheon

July, 2022

Zoom Social with Bradley Harper: Reflections on his studies in Scotland



Classes, Conferences, and Festivals

I scoured the web to find interesting things to do. It's up to you to research if something is for you or not.

2nd Sundays, Williamsburg

Cindy Freeman is organizing a booth at 2nd Sundays, Williamsburg for interested CBW authors. She will provide the necessary equipment: canopy, table, table cover, chairs, etc. Authors only need to bring their books and display items and help with setup and break-down. The cost per author per Sunday is \$35, payable to Cindy. If you are interested in participating in one or more 2nd Sunday events (March through December, 2022) or would like more information, please contact cindy@cindylfreeman.com.

February 23, 2022-2pm - 3pm

Exploring Orphan Narratives in American Literature -Stryker Center in Williamsburg

<https://events.wm.edu/event/view/asgradstudies/125751>

March 5, 2022

Suffolk Mystery Authors Festival - Suffolk Center for the Cultural Arts

<https://www.suffolkmysteryauthorsfestival.com/> (with our two members)

May 7, 2022 YCPL Children's & Teen's Book Festival: Application Deadline of March 4th.

Interested local creators of children and teen books are invited to submit an application to participate in the festival, planned from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, May, 7, at Tabb Library. Have questions, call Tabb Library Youth Services at 757-890-5110

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov/FormCenter/Library-10/2022-YCPL-Childrens-Teens-Book-Festival--145>

March 16-20, 2022

Virginia Festival of the Book - Attend virtually or go to the website and watch past programs under the "Watch" tab. <https://www.vabook.org/get-involved/>

March 26, 2022

BOOK PARADE- 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

CBW Members -Midtown Row, 221 Monticello Ave. Williamsburg VA 23185

Contact Sonja McGiboney smcphoto@gmail.com

Fri, Jun 3, 2022, 5:00 PM –

Sun, Jun 5, 2022, 11:00 AM EDT

The Write Away: A Books & Bottles Retreat - Norfolk Waterside Marriott

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-write-away-a-books-bottles-retreat-tickets-231327325257> (\$379)

Check out more on-line.

<https://thejohnfox.com/2020/02/30-writers-conferences/>

https://www.awpwriter.org/awp_conference/

Subscriptions / Blogs That Teach!

My email box fills every day. Updates from many locations vying for my attention. I could unsubscribe, but then I might miss a good article, a learning opportunity, or writing opportunity. The delete key is easy to use and I touch it with confidence, after I've read the headlines. Often, though, I click a link and read on.

These are some of the online resources which I have found helpful.

Advice To Writers-Writerly Wisdom of the Ages/ Collected by Jon Winokur <https://advice towriters.com/>

Writer's Digest: From writing courses (some free, but most not free), contests, fun writing games, to articles on writing and publishing, I find this email update full of useful information.

Victoria Strauss- Has great advice for authors. <https://victoriastrauss.com/advice/>

The Children's Book Insider: WriteForKids.org They have Kidlit Socials that are free to watch and cover all kinds of publishing topics for children's books.

Jane Friedman: She was a speaker at the VWC symposium. Her newsletters are full of the "craft" of writing and publishing. <https://www.janefriedman.com/>

Nathan Bransford: He's an editor that has a super blog with edits of real query letters he gets. If you want to write a query letter, take a look at some of his examples. <https://nathanbransford.com/>

Authors Publish: They send info on workshops etc. <https://authorspublish.com/>

Useful Rhetorical devices: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/words-at-play/rhetorical-devices-list-examples>

Places That Accept Writing

(I find them, you have to check them out for yourself)

34 Orchard A literary journal that takes you dark places: <https://34orchard.com/guidelines/>

Authors Publish Magazine: <https://authorspublish.com/submit-to-authors-publish-magazine/>

<https://literallystories2014.com/submission-guidelines/>

Check out the lists on these blogs:

<https://carminemastropierro.com/magazines-looking-for-freelance-writers/>

<https://curiosityneverkilledthewriter.com/14-new-literary-magazines-accepting-submissions-now-paying-markets-9d614f4abea7>

<https://www.theworkathomewoman.com/magazines-accepting-freelance-submissions/>

Book Parade

Saturday, March 26, 2022

10:00 to 4:00 Set up starts at 9:00

Midtown Row Clubhouse

221 Monticello Ave, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Registration is required. <https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/>

Yes, you can double up, even triple up.

Member Tables = FREE Non-Member Tables (Join Us for \$30.00)

The original idea for the book parade was to get together as members and display our books for each other, to share our publishing stories and to network.

I found a venue that is totally FREE and will allow us to sell books (you are responsible for your own tax liability.)

Hence, the event has morphed into a festival of sorts.

I cannot promise there will be customers, remember, it really is an event to showcase our work and share our personal publication stories. The fact that it's open to the public and we are allowed to sell is a bonus.

I have posted the event on the following online resources:

Daily Press Online Calendar *(by default also Virginia Gazette, Tidewater Review, Beacon, Bridges, Clipper, Compass, Pilot Online)*

The Central Virginian online event portal

Williamsburg Families online calendar <https://www.williamsburgfamilies.com/williamsburg-va-event-calendar/>

Happening Next Calendar

The Book Parade is listed on the Midtown Row Event's page. <http://midtownrowwilliamsburg.com/events/>

Please copy either of these two URL's and share the event on your social media and websites.

Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/book-parade-tickets-257612996407?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendee-share&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Facebook

Events <https://fb.me/e/16XqWA7iQ>

HappeningNext

https://happeningnext.com/event/book-parade-eid4snue4memn1?ref=ep_sharer

Please help get the word out about our event.

There are a few tables at the venue and I have two 8-foot tables I will bring. (I only need 4-feet so I'll share 1 1/2.) But if you have one, please bring it.

There are places across the street to eat and other restaurants close by. You and your neighbor can take turns watching each other's tables. If you need me to come watch yours, I will.

Sonja McGiboney

All Visitors are Welcome!