



Serving the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and Williamsburg areas since 1991



Chesapeake Bay Writers

Bay Writers News

December 2022 - Volume 28*Issue 6

In This Issue

President's Note	2
Downed Pen	3
CBW Member news	4-5
Bylines: <i>Words to Ponder</i>	6
New Books	7-8
Social Media Tips	9
Picture Story Challenge	10
Marketing Opportunities	11-12
Chesapeake Style	
Writers in Style	
Neal Steele Radio	
Lessons from NaNoWriMo	13
CBW Schedule	14

Golden Nib Winners

Congratulations to our CBW members on their awards.

Poetry

First Place: Norma I. Cofresí, Ph.D.

Gossip Central

Second Place: Denise DeVries

Green Room

Third Place: Sharon Canfield Dorsey

We the People

Fiction

First place: Donna-Lin Pratt

The Treasured House

Second Place: Peter Stipe

Happy Jack's

Third Place: Robert L. Webb

The Bloody Altar

Nonfiction

First Place: Diana Farrar Caron

A Field of Dreams Remembered

Second Place: Sharon Canfield Dorsey

The Price of Democracy

Thank you to our judges

Remica Blingham Risher - Poetry

Jason Carney - Fiction

Wilford Kale - Nonfiction



December Story Challenge

Write a story about this picture for the February newsletter. (500 words or less.)



A Downed Pen

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Joyce Davis. Please see more on page 3.

Dewey Decimal System Day

December 10, honors Melvil Dewey and the library classification system he created to efficiently maintain our libraries' inventory of books. With over 1 billion people visiting public libraries every year, it's vital to have an easy-to-read system for us to find the exact location of the books we hope to read.

Chesapeake Bay Writers is a Chapter of The Virginia Writers Club

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

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

Questions or comments can be sent to Sonja McGiboney: smcphoto@gmail.com

Edited by Carol J. Bova



Out With the Old?
by Sonja McGiboney

December is my favorite time of the year but not because of the cold, winter weather. Brrr! It's because, crammed between the bright lights, beautiful decorations, and parties, is time spent with family and friends.

People make an extra effort to get together or to reach out to far away relatives, distant cousins, or high school friends. It's the moment you finally do what you said you needed to do all year. "I should send a card or talk to so and so."

Of course, filling in all those gaps that you missed in the previous months, takes time. Now, with the price of postage, it costs more money too. Instead of a card, consider a phone call or a Zoom meeting. If you don't have a Zoom account, try Google Meet, it's free. Plus, if you use the free accounts, then you have an excuse to cut the call short because you run out of time. (For those folks you must call but really don't wanna talk to.)

This Christmas marks a turning point in my priorities. I used to drag my children, every Holiday, to visit my Pennsylvania family. Now my kids are grown-up. They have their own families. I have to choose between older traditions or making new ones. I choose to make new ones with my kids.

I hate relegating portions of my family and friends to the greeting card, phone call, or Zoom chat box, but life moves on. Though the dynamic of a family may change, remember you can always reach out to them in some small way. Making new traditions is not "Out with the Old." It isn't leaving people behind, it's walking a new path where you don't see them as often. Take time to reach out now and then and tell them you love them.



Imagine the Chesapeake Bay Writers as a lump of clay. Without human interaction, it remains a useless lump.

Imagine each finger is a person. Using only one finger on a spinning

lump of clay will only make a tunnel in the lump.

Imagine many people working together to shape the clay. That's what our writing organization is all about. It's about using our gifts to help ourselves and others become something. Whether that is learning how to write poetry or writing the next greatest novel, depends on the artist.

We need you to become part of the process. We need more people to shape the direction of the CBW. Please consider becoming part of the guiding hands that keep this group active.

I've been molding CBW into teacups. I gather info and people and stir them up in an event. I need help to make something different. I can't seem to do anything but make teacups.

I would like to mentor someone who would step up now as the Vice President. New members, consider diving in and becoming an integral change maker for the CBW.

Our website is often the last thing I get to, can someone help me out with it?

I love putting together a newsletter, but it kind of looks like a teacup at times.. ha ha ha. If you understand that, then you must be a decent writer or reader. Maybe you can start compiling the newsletter?

Let me know if you have any interest in being part of the organization of this great club.

Sonja McGiboney
smcgphoto@gmail.com

A Downed Pen



Joyce Anne Dickerson Davis

In memory
1/22/37 - 10/19/22

Dear Friends ...

I am so sorry to know that Joyce has died of pancreatic cancer. I was going to call her when I received the first email about her cancer and I thought I had a little time to get my thoughts together ... but I was wrong and now she has passed on.

Joyce and her husband Hugh Davis were charter members of the critique group. They attended the very first meeting and seldom missed a meeting in the almost 20 years that the group met for twice a month at my home. Joyce and Hugh brought her positive thoughts and frequently offered creative solutions for the stories, essays and poems read at the meetings.

As I write these words I can almost hear the critique group members laugh at the many, many funny essays Joyce wrote for the local paper and I will never forget Hugh's hilarious essay called "The Devil Wears Khakis" about his job interview with Hyman Rickover the head of the nuclear Navy.

They will both be deeply missed by those of us who knew and loved them. When I look back at how many of the critique members have passed on within the last few years it is downright scary. I guess the moral to this story is to make younger friends.

Rick Bailey



"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

Dame Edith Louisa Sitwell

CBW Member News

Open Mic is Back

On October 26, 2022, at the Williamsburg library, **Mary Shipko** hosted our second open mic night. The list of readers included Mary Shipko, Patti Procopi, Mark Green, Pam Crouch, Ann Skelton, Delia Ibanez, Denise DeVries, Nigel Sellars and a guest.

Our next reading event will be on March 19th, 2023, at the Williamsburg, Library. Think about coming out to read or just to listen.

Contact Mary Shipko for more information.
shipkom@msn.com

Events

Patti Procopi appeared on Bryan the Writer's podcast which is called *All Things Writing*. The podcast was Season 3, episode 31 and aired on November 15th. https://www.buzzsprout.com/966997/11678131?fbclid=IwAR2728_v4w2FqkEk3CFWYBpan0iq-Dw_8yIOP-COJyughUnSWtIlgGEZWa8xQ

Caterina Novelliere has been invited to participate in Mars Con in Virginia Beach-Norfolk in January. She will go as an author and an artisan of soutache jewelry.

Cindy Freeman, Patti Procopi and **Caterina Novelliere** will be in a booth at the 2nd Sundays in Williamsburg on December 11, 2022.

Words into Performance

Denise DeVries

Her 15-minute play called *A Close Shave*, which includes characters from her historical fiction series, *Hull Crossing Chronicles*, was performed in a stage reading at the Little Theatre of Norfolk in September. Then it was picked up by a high school drama club that rendered two versions of *A Close Shave*. One set it in the Great Depression and the other set in the "old-timey" 1970s!

All Stars Gala

The Chesapeake Bay Writers All Star Gala took place on November 16, at the Two Rivers Country Club in Williamsburg, Virginia.

After eating a delicious lunch of either autumn salad with salmon, prime rib panini, or chicken salad wrap then eating cheesecake for dessert, we held the All Stars Contest. Contestants read their pieces and the attendees voted for their favorites.

The All Stars winners are:

First Place: Sally Honenberger

Second Place: Ginny Brock

Third Place : Roger Gosden

Rick Bailey Humor Award: Roger Gosden

The following CBW members read stories at the Gala:

Patricia Procopi	<i>Old Joe (Fiction)</i>
Peter Stipe	<i>Guiseppe's (Fiction)</i>
Diana Farrar Caron	<i>Leonard Baskin's Contempt (Poetry)</i>
Ann Skelton	<i>The Ration Book (Fiction)</i>
Ginny Brock	<i>December 21st (Poetry)</i>
Cindy L. Freeman	<i>My Angel Incident (Nonfiction)</i>
Sally Honenberger (Fiction)	<i>Empty Rooms, Crowded Hallways</i>
Mary Shipko	<i>Bewildered (Nonfiction)</i>
Norma Cofresi	<i>Our Daily Bread (Poetry)</i>
Roger Gosden	<i>Rehabilitating Peter (Nonfiction)</i>
Peggy Newcomb	<i>A Night to Forget (Nonfiction)</i>
Sonja McGiboney	<i>A Deadly Love (Fiction)</i>
Susan Williamson	<i>Reptile Peril (Fiction)</i>
Denise DeVries	<i>Green Room (Poetry)</i>
Janice Hoffman	<i>These Are the Hands (Poetry)</i>



CBW Member News

Other News

Narielle Living, President of Blue Fortune Enterprises, LLC, is pleased to announce the acquisition of Fiddler Magazine, a quarterly publication distributed worldwide.

“Fiddler Magazine is such an important resource for fiddlers. The combination of interviews with amazing musicians, advice for players and creative arrangements of sheet music makes this publication a valuable resource in the fiddling community. We are so excited to continue to provide this to the subscribers. This publication has had such a positive impact on so many fiddlers, we want it to be available for years to come.”

In the Fall 2022 issue, publisher Mary Larsen announced to readers that she was retiring from the magazine. Narielle says that after much consideration and research, she felt the time was right for Blue Fortune to take the reins. “Obviously, I love reading. I started playing the fiddle a few years ago, and it has been such a joy to learn this truly difficult instrument,” she says with a laugh. “I think we were destined to be part of this magazine.”

Blue Fortune Enterprises, LLC, is a traditional publisher who publishes fiction and nonfiction. Their four imprints include: Cactus Mystery Press, Lavender Press, Wildflower Press and Aster Press. They can be found at blue-fortune.

Second Sundays in Williamsburg

It's time to sign up for 2nd Sundays. We had a full house of participants for 2022 with a waiting list, so be sure to get your requests in early for 2023. If you don't know what 2nd Sunday is, check out the website: <https://www.2ndsundayswilliamsburg.com/>

I provide everything needed for each event, except your books, promotional materials, and means of accepting payment. The entry fee per author is \$38 per event. Please contact me with your requested month(s), March through December: cindy@cindylfreeman.com.

Cindy Freeman

AWARDS



Dawn Brotherton's company, Blue Dragon Publishing, LLC, was named as Veteran-owned, Small Business of the Year for the Commonwealth of Virginia! The Small Business Development Center presented her the

award just before Thanksgiving.

Edgar Doleman's Novel Arlen's Gun, received several awards, among them are:

Reader's Choice Book Awards - Gold award for Best Adult Book Jul '22

Literary Titan Book Awards - Gold Award Jul '22

New York Book Festival - General Fiction Runner Up, Aug '22

Online Publications

Sputnik's effect on Vanguard, a short article by Richard Easton about satellite programs, is published in The Space Review.

<https://www.thespacereview.com/article/4457/1>

The Champion, a short story by Jeff Schnader, is published in the Arlington Literary Journal: (Oct 2022; Issue 165) 1st Prize Winner of the 2020 Quills Contest (LUW)

<https://www.arlijo.com/post/issue-165>

The Star Chamber- The Question, Chapter 1 from Jeff Schnader's forthcoming novel, is published in advance in Audere Magazine.

<https://audere.chickadeeprince.com/2022/10/09/star-chamber-the-question/>

More on Jeff's website: www.jschnaderauthor.com

The Serpent Papers - Reviewed by Beth Spanier in the Chesapeake Style Magazine

https://www.chesapeakestyle.com/_files/ugd/2b-c64f_57b49f5b33e84a29804e9adf4d074899.pdf

Words to Ponder by Charles W. Sutherland

The days of the week: Why seven? And why the names of different gods?

Why seven?

The Babylonians were the first to create such a calendar. They observed seven celestial bodies: the sun, the moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn.

Although Western culture retained the number '7' for thousands of years, they replaced or altered some of the actual names due to their own creeds and culture.

Sunday was officially adopted by the Roman emperor Constantine, to consolidate the three creeds of Rome: Sol Invictus ("The Invincible Sun"), Mithra (another Roman sun-God religion), and Christianity (to get the new creed to fall in line with the commercial holyday/holiday schedules of the sun religions).

Monday continued to worship the moon, but became the Anglo-Saxon monandaeg, 'the moon's day, to celebrate the moon goddess (of which there were many competing for that title).

Tuesday was named after Tyr, the Norse god of war and bloodshed.

Wednesday was named after Odin and Woden (different pronunciation depending upon the region) who was the supreme Norse god, and the god of victory.

Thursday is Thor's Day, the Norse god of thunder, storms, and strength.

Friday is named after Frigg, the Norse goddess of marriage, prophesy, and clairvoyance.

Saturday is named after Saturn, originally the planet, then the god of agriculture.

Interestingly, when the Christians became dominant in Rome, they spent centuries eradicating the 'pagan'

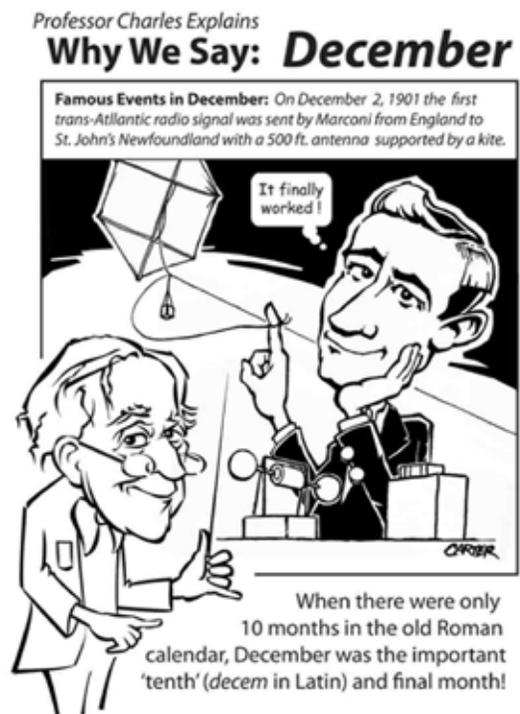
cultures, including destroying tens of thousands of statues, temples, shrines, and buildings; and they burned an unquantifiable number of writings, parchments, documents, and paintings (and people).

Yet they allowed the days of the weeks, and the months, to retain the names of the pagan deities. They even adopted and endorsed the modifications along the way which changed the names from the planets to various Norwegian gods.

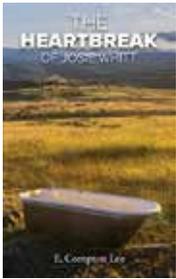
What's also interesting is that the predominant number of deities (4) are Scandinavian, not even Roman.

Why?

Human history is like using a telescope to look through fog.



New Books



The Heartbreak of Josie Whitt

by E. Compton Lee
September 15, 2022

Foster kids and best friends Shadaisy and Tristan live in New York City. The problem is, they just shot their social worker, a man who performed heinous acts every week. Now they are fleeing, with a tenuous plan in place for their future. But the clock is ticking, and they need to hide.

Josie Whitt and her dog have escaped to a run-down farmhouse in upstate New York. Josie is despondent, barely able to function. Her twin, Jaylene, is dead. It is all Josie can do to simply get through each day without disappearing into herself.

When Shadaisy and Tristan stumble into Josie Whitt's life, their journey changes to understanding. *The Heartbreak of Josie Whitt* examines the complexities of life, family, and love in a haunting novel that will remain in the hearts of readers long after the last page is turned.



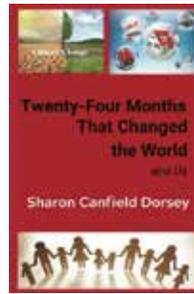
Truth Has No Agenda

by Dawn Brotherton
December, 2022
Book 3 in the Jackie Austin mysteries.

The military takes a hard stand against sexual assault and harassment, but what happens when politics are involved? Jackie Austin is getting her life together as a single woman. She's been promoted, works at the Pentagon, and spends her free time helping coach youth soccer. Generally, everything is good. Until her house is broken into. And someone tries to kill her.

Is this because of what she's unearthed related to the cases she's been assigned? If so, the list of suspects is long.

Jackie always battles to help the victim—no matter who they are. But this time someone is doing whatever they can to stop her. Who is it and how far are they willing to go?

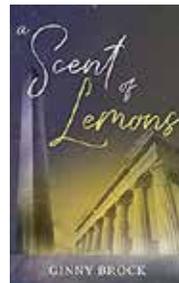


Twenty-Four Months That Changed the World: and Us

by Sharon Canfield Dorsey
June 30, 2022

Sharon Canfield Dorsey's most powerful book yet. It chronicles the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021 with honesty, compassion, and her signature humor. Topics range from the serious to the sublime—from politics and global warming to closet cleaning and a nationwide shortage of toilet paper.

Whatever your own experiences were during those two dramatic years, you'll probably find them represented somewhere in this book. She isn't afraid to speak truth to power, but her stories also stress the importance of listening to each other in order to uncover our similarities and remembering that we are all stronger for our rich diversity. You won't want to put down this illuminating, inspiring, and entertaining new book.



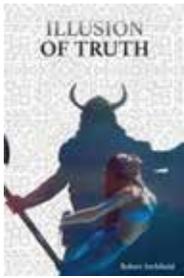
A Scent of Lemons

by Ginny Brock
September 29, 2022

The mystery reappeared, without warning, on a Florida beach in 1950. No one knew exactly when, but those it touched knew it was back. It was nothing deadly or even outwardly threatening. Quite the opposite. It materialized in the form of living dreams, tinged with antiquity, filtered through the ages, bringing to Nick and Lily Jo a veiled and startling recognition of events that happened millenniums ago.

A Scent of Lemons is a love story between a man and a woman, destined to be embraced and explored. A tale of forbidden love, it will not be denied, surviving separation and loss that can only be assuaged by a revelation that defies all reason. As the old lady, Anna St. John, said, "Goodbyes are never what they seem."

New Books



Illusion of Truth

by Robert Archibald

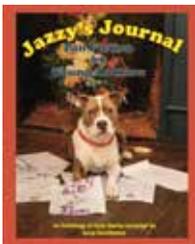
11/22/2022

When is truth nothing more than an illusion?

Dwight returns to his hometown after a divorce, determined to pick up the pieces of his life and finish writing his second book. After all, the first one was a bestseller. Instead, he gets pulled into a bizarre conspiracy involving a shadowy group trying to spread misinformation through a series of videos detailing odd stories of Vikings, mermaids, and space aliens. Who are these people, and why do so many actually believe the lies they are spreading?

When it becomes clear that Dwight must try to do something before the group spreads their lies further, he and his girlfriend team up with a reporter to uncover the truth about who is pulling the strings. From watching the videos online to attending rallies filled with thousands of supporters, it soon becomes clear that many people believe the Vikings and mermaids stories. Dwight knows some of their plans and the kind of future they are trying to encourage, a future that can turn out to be very dangerous for anyone who disagrees.

Can one former college professor and his girlfriend stop this group, or will the body count continue to rise?



Jazzy's Journal - Fan Fiction by Young Authors

Compiled by Sonja McGiboney

11-28-2022

Jazzy fans write new stories. This is a collection of original manuscripts written by children. My intent with this project is to prompt children of all ages to write. Being creative does not always come naturally, but encouraging it helps improve cognitive function, makes people happy, and provides an outlet for self-expression. Writing helps reading and reading helps writing. It's a win-win project!



Food as Gifts

Books with recipes for gifts in a jar are the best. The recipe below is from *Creative Kitchen Gifts* published by Fundcraft Publishing (1978). The cookbook was written as a fundraiser, but nowhere does it say for what it was raising money. The only names in it are Allen and Wendy Jeffers and a dedication to their children. I give them credit for over 400 recipes that are all easily packaged and given as gifts. It was the best yardsale find ever!

COOKIES, BROWNIES, CANDIES & BARS

♥ OH SO SPECIAL BROWNIES IN A JAR ♥

1 c. all-purpose flour	1 c. white chocolate chips
1 tsp. baking soda	1 c. semi sweet chocolate chips
1 tsp. salt	1/2 c. chopped nuts
1/2 tsp. vanilla powder	2/3 c. sugar
2/3 c. brown sugar, packed	
1/3 c. baking cocoa	

Combine first 4 ingredients and press into a one quart wide mouth jar. Layer remaining ingredients in order listed, packing each layer gently before adding the next. Secure lid and attach a gift tag with the below cooking directions.

Oh So Special Brownies:

1 jar Oh So Special Brownies	2/3 c. oil
3 eggs	

Place mix in a large mixing bowl and toss gently. Add 3 eggs and 2/3 cup oil and mix well. Spread into a greased 9 X 9 inch baking pan. Bake at 350 °F for 35 to 40 minutes. Cool and cut into squares to serve. Makes 15 to 18 brownies.

♥ CHEESE DANISH ♥

16 oz. cream cheese softened	1 stick butter (melted)
2 can crescent rolls	1 Tbsp. cinnamon
1 1/4 c. sugar	

Open and press 1 can crescent rolls in a 9 X 13 inch baking pan. Mix cream cheese and 1 cup of sugar. Spread over rolls. Open and put 1 can of crescent rolls over top. Pour melted butter over top. Mix cinnamon and 1/4 cup of sugar and sprinkle over butter. Bake at 350 °F for 30 to 45 minutes.

A Free Gift



Social Media Tips

Give the Gift of Support to Authors

Follow/Like Their Social Media Accounts: Join the CBW Facebook page. Link with other authors on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Comment, Share, or Like a Post on Social Media: Make comments and share their posts.

Post Your Pics and Tag the Business: If you are at an event and see someone with their book, take a picture, post it to your timeline and say something like, “Hey, check out my author friend.”

Leave a Review: You can review books on Goodreads and Amazon. You can post a review on Facebook and Instagram. You can tweet your great review.

Subscribe to Their Newsletter: I know getting thousands of emails can be daunting, but when authors do things, they often write it on their blog. They may be doing something so original that you might want to try it too. You’ll never know what it is, unless you subscribe.

Share Your Experience with Friends and Family: Share, share, and share some more.

Use the business hashtag when sharing: For example, I have #sonjatheauthor and #jazzysbooks

Let the author know how much you love them by sending them a message: Tell your author friends what they are doing that inspires you. If you read their book, tell them what you think. (Positive vibes here.)

Recommend books to friends: Don’t just read their book, find someone else who might enjoy it.

Free Ways to Promote Your Business

Think of your book as a business and google how to promote your business. You’ll be surprised how it can be applied to marketing your books.

Create a free Yelp page. <https://business.yelp.com>

Create a Google Profile for your brand. <https://www.google.com/business>

Speak at an association or local event. Search for events that are relevant to your book or your goals.

Use blogging platforms (taken directly from site)
<https://www.searchenginewatch.com/2018/03/05/30-ways-to-market-your-online-business-for-free/>

“As beautiful as your website’s blog might be, it can be frustrating if your lovingly crafted content is not getting the exposure you think it deserves. Especially if you are only just starting out, it can be crushing to spend hours working on a stellar article, only for two people to read it (probably your mum and your best mate).

This is where blogging platforms, like Medium, can help increase your exposure. Just make sure that you follow the best practices for republishing content on these platforms.”

<https://medium.com>

Invite other authors as guests to your blog. Seek out other authors in your genre and do interviews, or ask them if they want to share anything.

Host a Webinar. Create an online, interactive, class and use giveaways or your supreme knowledge about a subject, to entice attendees.

Picture Story Challenge



The Singing Pig **by Sonja McGiboney**

Miss Mouse was a pig who was wrongly named,
And old Granny Constance was the one to be blamed.
Upon their first meeting, the small piglet squeaked,
And old Granny Constance let out a shriek
“A mouse, A mouse, Ack! It’s a mouse.
Get that fat rodent out of the house!”
Poor little piglet turned tail and ran.
She hid her pink body behind an afghan.
When her grandson came in, Granny pointed her hand
“It’s there in the blanket by the baby grand.”
He lifted the corner and quietly peeked,
But all he saw was a piglet that squeaked.
“So you’re the big mouse that has granny a-twitter.
I wonder how you got away from your litter.”
He picked up the piglet holding her tight.
“Well, Miss Mouse, you’ve been named tonight.”
He wrapped her up and walked to the piano,
Then played a few keys while Miss Mouse squeaked soprano.
When other pigs heard this, they laughed at her name.
Teasing her harshly became their new game.
Poor Miss Mouse sang alone every day,
But one by one other pigs went away.
One winter day full of horrible weather,
The grandson came out and gave her a sweater.
He carried her in and set her down by a tree,
Walked to the piano and struck a high key.
Miss Mouse couldn’t help it, she started to hum.
Her toes started tapping like a big bass drum.
She squealed and she squeaked a rhythmical song.
And soon Granny Constance was singing along.
“You see!” Said the grandson smiling with pride,
“Miss Mouse is amazing. Let’s keep her inside!”
With a nod and a wink, Granny looked at the pig,
“Do you think we can teach Miss Mouse how to jig?”

The Pig in My Life **by Cynthia Fridgen**

Well the pig in my life is named London and I don’t expect he will ever see the top of a dinner table. Although he does not have the ability to carry a tune. His claim to fame is to roll over on his back and not move until one scratches his belly.

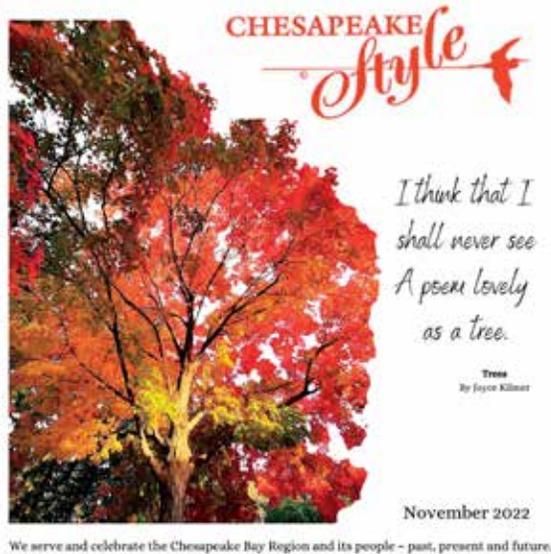
“Let’s be naughty and save Santa the trip.”

Gary Allan



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 Carol J. Bova at cj980@mac.com for Guidelines and Deadlines.

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

Photo cover credit: Amanda Cooper Preto

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 in the April/May, June/July, August/September issues and 15,000 copies in the October/November issue. They are found throughout the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and at the Williamsburg General Store.

Please email submissions with a subject of
Writers in Style to:
Carol J. Bova caroljean981@mac.com

Chesapeake Style Spotlight interview assignments

If you're interested in writing *Chesapeake Style* Spotlights, contact Carol J. Bova at cj980@mac.com or call her at (804) 725-6163.

Writers are assigned to interview a business owner and write a 750-word human interest story about the owner or their business. Interviews may be in-person or by telephone. There is a small payment for these assignments!

Marketing and Writing Ops cont.

CBW Second 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.

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>

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.

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 or website.

RULES: Please limit your submissions to 500 words.

Local Events for Selling Books

4 Event Planning coordinates new information and shows in Hampton Roads Area. Go to 4eventplanning.com for help in planning your event or becoming a vendor.

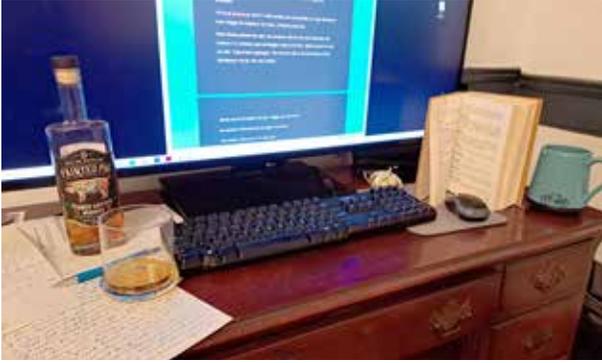
Tidewater community Writing Center

<http://www.tidewatercommunitywritingcenter.org/events.html> -

Every first Monday of the month, Monthly Resume Workshop at Hampton Public Library

Second Sundays from 2pm - 4pm Tidewater Community Writing Center Book Club

More information about the events above can be found on the Tidewater community Writing Center Website.



Lessons from NaNoWriMo*

A party is not about who you invite, it's who shows up

by Denise DeVries

I planned for National Novel Writing Month the way I'd plan a party or a gallery open house. I had a guest list, a food list, and a general outline of activities. My guest of honor was to be Ralph (Bunny) Blake, a retired military barber looking for a new hometown. He had made a brief appearance in my short short play "A Close Shave," along with Uncle Arthur, whose walk-on role was eliminated halfway through.

I invited both Arthur and Bunny, but Arthur came alone and led me down a rabbit hole. Despite the warnings, whenever I see a rabbit hole or any other metaphorical side path, I dive right in.

It all started when Arthur revealed that he was a hoarder. How does this happen? I had to research it. (By the way, did you know that Hoarding Disorder worsens around black Friday?)

Now, Arthur, who I'd seen as a loner, suddenly started showing up at the party with friends. He brought his sister, with whom he fought over toys. (This illustrates "psychological ownership" or attachment to possessions in a way that is linked to identity.) His parents had come out of the Great Depression with a "waste not, want not" attitude that they passed on to him. Then there was his honorary uncle Cecil, who was a packrat and a frequent visitor to the salvage yard. (Have you ever said, "That may come in handy later?")

Then there was Arthur's babysitter, who was a holocaust survivor, and her son whose favorite game was "hiding from Nazis." Arthur collected items to put in their hiding place. "But is that enough to make someone a hoarder?" my daughter asked.

No, poor Arthur had to experience loss (his friend moved away), a need for control, and concern for his safety. So Rocky the school bully followed him home and they began an uneasy friendship. Rocky brought pilfered gifts and Arthur put them in his closet with his booby traps.

When Arthur grew older, he fell into adult anthropomorphism, the belief that his stuff needed him. Many hoarders believe that their possessions will be hurt if they are rejected. (You may have said, "I have a pile of unread books staring at me accusingly.")

Anyway, back to NaNoWriMo. I started the month planning a nice, orderly event, and by the last week of November, unexpected guests had arrived, ignoring the dress code. I thought it would be a white-glove tea party with nice hats, and instead it was a hobo hoedown. But isn't that kind of party the most fun?

*National Novel Writing Month is an annual, international creative writing event in which participants attempt to write a 50,000-word manuscript during the month of November.

Schedule

December 12, 2022, CBW Second Monday Radio Show, 8:05 a.m.

Roger Gosden interview with Neal Steele on 99.1 FM on his children's book, *The Boy Who Could Bee*.

That's it for 2022!

Looking ahead to 2023

February 1, (Tentative) Luncheon with Scott Ellis about creating audio books.

April 30, 2023, Sarah Honenberger will conduct a fun writing workshop based on impromptu prompts. Sunday at 3:00. Location to be determined.

May 7th, 2023, 2:00 to 3:30: How to Effectively Critique a Manuscript—An Interactive Presentation for Readers and Writers. A Joint Presentation with the Williamsburg, Library

Presented by Sally Stiles at the Stryker Center, 412 N Boundary St, Williamsburg, VA 23185

If you have any suggestions for events let us know.



Jazzy and I wish you the
best this Holiday!
(No Santa's were injured making this photo.)

Yours,
Sonja McGiboney
President

"The worst gift is a fruitcake. There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other."
Johnny Carson