



Bay Writers News

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The Rappahannock Writers Critique Group is now meeting in person every 2nd Tuesday of each month at Java Jacks. 504 Church Lane, Tappahannock. Lunch at noon with critique to follow.

Email [Denise DeVries](#) or [Pam Crouch](#) for more information.

The Williamsburg Writers Critique Group meets in person every second and fourth Thursday at the James City County Library. 7770 Croaker Rd, Williamsburg.

Email [Peter Stipe](#) for more information.



Write endings that satisfy!

If the opening of the story has a hook, the ending has a release—the feeling the reader has as they put the book down and look around, seeing the world a bit differently, like coming out of a dream. How do we create that sensation, making the reader want to hold the story world in their minds a little longer?

Workshop April 1, 2023

with **Kristen Overman**

1:15 p.m.
Williamsburg Library room B.
515 Scotland Street

[Please register in advance.](#)

Newspaper Sparks April 29, 2023 With Sally Honenberger

3:00 p.m. Hidden arsonist tendencies when you're writing? Here's your chance to try something to fan the flames of creativity. I'll share newspaper scraps and give a few brief sparks of tinder-ready advice, then you can start your own conflagration of characters and challenges. We'll write and read and write some more.

How to Effectively Critique a Manuscript An Interactive Presentation for Readers and Writers May 7, 2023 with Sally Stiles

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
A Joint Presentation with the
Williamsburg Library Stryker Center
412 N Boundary Street

For up-to-date information on
programs, check out
chesapeakebaywriters.org

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: smcgphoto@gmail.com

Edited by Carol J. Bova

President's Message

By Sonja McGiboney

I am moving to Alabama, in June. The decision to leave Virginia, my home for the last twenty-five years, is due to my new role as grandmother. My grandson, and his mom and dad, are moving to Birmingham, Alabama and since my daughter is nearby in Georgia, it makes no sense for me to be so far away.

The good news is that with the age of virtual meetings I can continue my role as president of the CBW, at least until elections in February. I plan to continue writing the newsletter and helping with the website. Our new Vice President, Richard Easton, will be helping with programs.

Even though I will continue to help, I ask you to consider how you can participate more in the club. The positions of treasurer, president, and secretary will be vacant soon. Nominations are being accepted. Please email your interest or the name of an interested party to the CBW email. cbwreply@gmail.com

If you would like to read the CBW By-laws they can be found after the list of directors on the website.

<https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/board-of-directors-contact-us>

“A positive attitude causes a chain of reaction of positive thoughts, events and outcomes. It is a catalyst and it sparks extraordinary results.”

Wade Boggs

119 Book Marketing Ideas to Help Authors Increase Sales

This is an article I found on BookBub. It's a good read and I am highlighting some of the novel ideas that I've found in it.

The entire article is by Diana Urban, March 6, 2020 and can be read online.

<https://insights.bookbub.com/book-marketing-ideas/>

Create a plan to reach a targeted audience. *Do you know your target audience?*

Create a video blog. Upload videos to YouTube and embed each video in a blog post. In these videos, you can answer fan questions, partner with another author to interview each other, list book recommendations, or do a short reading from an upcoming new release.

Cross-promote books in the back matter. Include a list of all your titles in the back matter of each of your books. Update this back matter whenever you launch a new release. If you have the time, create a version of each book for each retailer with retailer-specific links to each book.

Write a killer elevator pitch. *How many of us get asked about our book and flounder with long explanations? Write it down and memorize it and keep it short.*

Upload a PDF sample to your website. *Give your audience a teaser page.*

After emailing your mailing list about a book launch, email the recipients who clicked. The people who opened or clicked on the book launch email are the most engaged people on your list. They will be most likely to make the purchase or even write a review of the book. Reach out and ask if they've read it yet. Let them know you value their opinion and would sincerely appreciate an honest review.

Partner with other authors to run themed promotions.

[See more great ideas on the blog.](#)



The Dark Tryst Accepted into Film Fests with Bradley Harper



During my year-long Masters program in Scotland I was fully engaged in creating works as dictated by my professors. While each short story or chapter in my thesis manuscript was from my brain, it was something I created per another's dictate.

I found myself losing some of the joy that first drew me to the craft. So, as soon as I completed the course of study, I decided to make an animation of a poem I'd first made into a comic book.

I'd taken a screenwriting workshop, so using the panels in my comic as a storyboard, I contracted a young Slovenian animator to do the animation. The wonderful actor who narrated my first audiobook, Matthew Lloyd Davies, agreed to do the voiceover for free. I then contacted the wonderful gothic musical genius Jill Tracy for permission to use one of her works. The result?

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YWX7ojuAPKmsfOcmvkAd-Mz0I58vNSLX/view>

To date it has been accepted into six of the seven film festivals that have responded, and it won in the Best Super Short Film at the Paris Film Festival and the Silver Award at the Hollywood Gold Film Festival.

This does two things for me: first it reassures me that after a year of various professors evaluating my work, that I can still tell a good story. Secondly, I am in the early phases of pitching an adaptation of my first novel. I think recognition like this will make the producers look at my pitch a bit more seriously as I have now made a mark in their world. A small one, to be sure, but I've shown I am more than a novelist, that I have a good eye for the visual medium as well.

I can dream, but then, I never, ever, stopped.

I wish you well in the pursuit of yours.

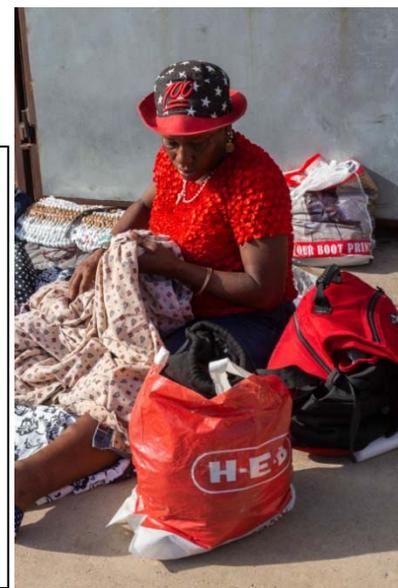
Bradley Harper

<http://WWW.BHarperAuthor.Com>

Story, Photo Prompt

The picture on the left was last month's photo prompt. The picture on the right is this month's photo prompt. I'd love to see some of your creativity. I wrote a story that isn't particularly interesting. The fun is in the trying, right? You can read mine on my blog.

<https://sonjamcgiboney.wixsite.com/sonjamcgiboney/blog>



Dawn Brotherton at Rivah Quilt Guild

Dawn Brotherton spoke at the Rivah Quilt Guild in Kilmarnock where she shared *Eastover Treasures* with them and explained how the creative process works with her writing and quilting.

As well as being a novelist, Dawn coaches authors who want to self-publish or prepare for traditional publishing. She said, "The number one thing I tell ALL authors is to join a writers' group!" You can read more about publishing options at her website: <https://bluedragonpublishing.com/>



Mary Shipko Leads Open Mic

Thanks to Mary Shipko for arranging and moderating a successful open Mic night on March 19th, at the Williamsburg Library Stryker Center. Out of twenty-eight attendees, fourteen read from their works. Thanks to all the members who participated and to those who came to support us.

Readers included: Charles Sutherland, Denise DeVries, Ed Haile, Timothy R. Blair, Patti Procopi, Maureen Wlodarczyk Wadarzik, Joe Lowe, Susan Williamson, Ted Hale, Cindy Freeman, Mary Shipko, Robert Webb, and Pam Crouch.

Keep your eyes peeled for another Open Mic coming this October 15th, from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Yorktown library, 8500 George Washington Memorial Hwy, Yorktown, VA 23692



"The first draft reveals the art; revision reveals the artist."

Michael Lee

CBW Member News

Richard Easton appeared on the [Space Show](#), Broadcast 4000 [Richard Easton](#), Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Topics included: Early naval and AF history regarding satellites, rocket launches, the Vanguard rocket, GPS, why history is important, new GPS evolutionary trends, military and civilian GPS signals, timing and banking plus more.

Richard also appeared on the program [Space and Things](#): STP133 - *Unsung Heroes: Roger Easton - The Man Behind Vanguard 1 and GPS* - with Richard Easton.



Cindy L. Freeman cordially invites all CBW members to attend her first online book launch sponsored by Writers Guild of Virginia, when she will launch her childhood memoir, *Farm Girl*.

Sunday, April 23, 3:00 - 5:00 pm For the link, send an email request to: wgvirginiamail@gmail.com

There will be **prizes and giveaways**, and attendees can purchase a signed copy of *Farm Girl* at the introductory cost of \$10. Her other books will also be discounted only for the event.

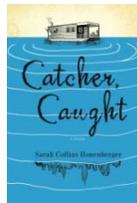
Caterina Novelliere's book, *War Rising*, is a finalist in the Heart Awards. The award is given annually and run internationally for romance books or books with romantic subplots. It is held by the Oklahoma Romance Writers Guild.

CATEGORY 8: NON-ROMANCE W/ROMANTIC SUBPLOT

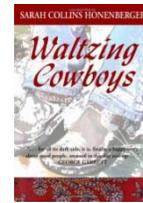
War Rising by Caterina Novelliere
When Stars Brush Earth by Laurel Thomas
Dark Venom by Dianne McCartney

You can read more about it on the website.

<https://www.oklahomaromancewritersguild.com/heartfinalists>



Sarah Honenberger Speaks in Bonita Springs



Sarah Collins Honenberger was invited by the Friends of the Library in Bonita Springs to be their luncheon speaker. This was one of two fundraiser luncheons they have in January and February of each year. Tickets sold for \$50. Seventy people signed up to hear Sarah speak.

Though the Friends committee had read her books, *Catcher, Caught* and *Waltzing Cowboys* before the invite, interest was sparked by a chance meeting in the library sale room. Sarah often visits Friends of the Library sale rooms because of her association as past President of the Orange, Virginia Friends. A volunteer found out that Sarah was an author and spotted one of Sarah's books on the sale shelf. Serendipity?

Another cool thing that happened was with public relations. The February luncheon speaker was Jeff Deaver (American crime writer and award winner.) so the media included both Sarah and Jeff in the same articles.

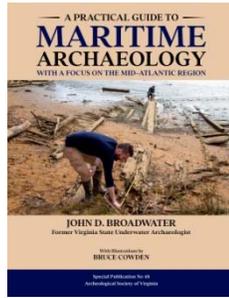
The library sold all the books that Sarah brought including her new Christmas children's book, illustrated by a Tappahannock artist, that will be officially released at its release party in November 2023.

Sarah spoke about process, inspiration, career, and read passages from *Catcher, Caught*. They loved her stories about the famous authors she has met and known. Sarah was tickled that she could wear her 'twirly dress' from Chester, England-A dress she last wore last June when she danced at Queen Elizabeth's jubilee.

New Books

A Practical Guide to Maritime Archaeology: with a Focus on the Mid-Atlantic Region (Special Publication 48)

By John D Broadwater, with illustrations by Bruce Cowden, February 8, 2023



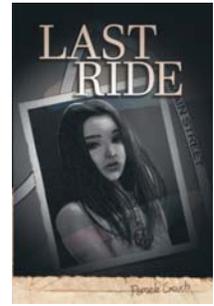
Shipwrecks! Pirates! Sunken Treasure! The public never seems to get enough tales of swashbuckling sailors, their ships, and their adventures at sea. While many sea stories spring from the fertile imagination of fiction writers, many others—often rivaling or exceeding fictional accounts for excitement and adventure—are based on facts. Maritime historians and archaeologists scour archives, shorelines, and submerged lands in search of new details about our maritime past. This book introduces readers to the terminology, tools, and techniques used by maritime archaeologists in their quest for new sites that may add important details to the ever-expanding story of humans and their interaction with the seas, bays, and tributaries that link almost all the people of Earth. While the book focuses on New World sites, more specifically the Mid-Atlantic Region of the United States, much of the information is relevant to maritime research anywhere. The guide is essentially a textbook on maritime and underwater archaeology for nonprofessionals.

The author, John Broadwater, has been conducting maritime archaeology projects for more than fifty years, much of it in the murky waters of the Mid-Atlantic where special methodologies are required to cope with the near-zero visibility. John was Virginia's first State Underwater Archaeologist, directing a ten-year shipwreck project in the York River.

[Available on Amazon](#)

LAST RIDE

by Pamela Crouch
March 1, 2023



Inspired by a 1975 cold case, *Last Ride* is a coming of age, dramatized fiction of love, obsession, betrayal, and murder.

Vicky was only seven when forced to leave two loving grandparents and move into her stepfather's house with a mother she barely knew. Neglected, and by the age of thirteen, she's unwanted, vulnerable, and betrayed by a body that matured too soon. Trapped in a world she doesn't understand, she finds comfort in drugs, alcohol, and a budding relationship with the boy across the street. But what chance could they possibly have when the cop chosen to protect her is determined to keep them apart?

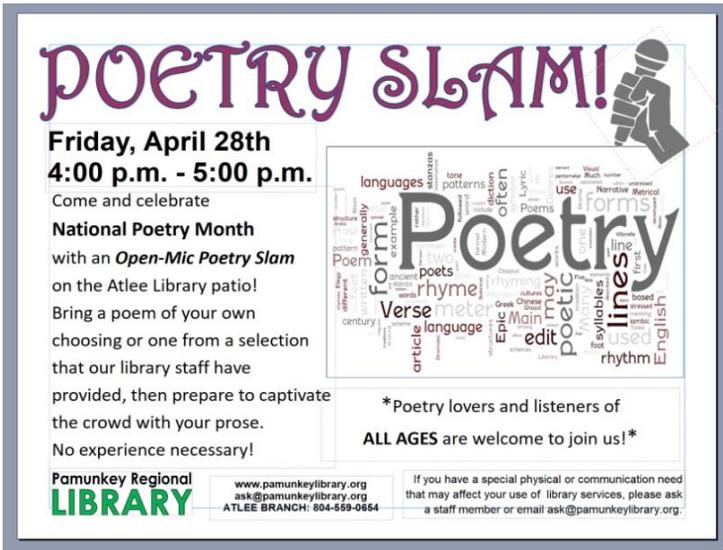
[Available on Amazon](#)

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Conferences and workshops.

Not CBW sponsored. Please check details on the websites.



POETRY SLAM!

Friday, April 28th
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Come and celebrate
National Poetry Month
with an *Open-Mic Poetry Slam*
on the Atlee Library patio!
Bring a poem of your own
choosing or one from a selection
that our library staff have
provided, then prepare to captivate
the crowd with your prose.
No experience necessary!

Pamunkey Regional LIBRARY

www.pamunkeylibrary.org
ask@pamunkeylibrary.org
ATLEE BRANCH: 804-559-0654

If you have a special physical or communication need
that may affect your use of library services, please ask
a staff member or email ask@pamunkeylibrary.org.

Poetry

*Poetry lovers and listeners of
ALL AGES are welcome to join us!*

<https://pamunkeylibrary.libcal.com/event/9743616>

April 14 -IN-GALLERY | Writing Workshop Inspired by Early 20th Century Portraiture-National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution 800 G Street Northwest Washington, DC 20001 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/in-gallery-writing-workshop-inspired-by-early-20th-century-portraiture-tickets-547943051417?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

April 21 – April 22 - Spring Board-A Weekend to Jump Start Your Writing- Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden | 1800 Lakeside Ave, Henrico, VA 23228 \$349 Members | \$399 Non-members <https://jamesriverwriters.org/springboard/>

We are seeking submissions for the 5th volume of Heroines Anthology. It would be greatly appreciated if you could share our submissions callout with your network and members. Social media materials are also attached.

Heroines Anthology - Volume 5: Call For Submissions

Heroines Anthology Volume 5 is a GLOBAL POETRY EDITION. Women poets are invited to submit poetry that reimagines women in myth, fairy tale, folklore or legend, or poems that tell women's lost histories, or untold stories from across the globe.

This will be the Heroines Anthology's fifth edition. Before submission, we strongly advise writers to read a previous volume of Heroines Anthology to get a feel for what the editors are looking for and to check what stories and myths have already been covered. Anthology copies can be ordered at a 10% discount with the code SUBMIT2023

here: <https://www.theneoperennialpress.com/store/heroines-anthology-volume-4>

Submissions will close on the 28TH OCTOBER 2023. Find out more & submit your poetry

here: <https://www.theneoperennialpress.com/heroinesanthologysubmissions>

Dr Sarah Nicholson

Director

Heroines Festival

Submission fee per poem of \$ 15 (*If you have financial issues & cannot pay this fee. Please contact us.*)

“If you see the world and yourself through a lens smudged by negativity, then you’ll find much misery. If you look outwards and inwards through lens brightened by positivity you’ll find much to be happy and appreciative about.”

Henrik Edberg

Conferences and workshops.

Not CBW sponsored. Please check details on the websites.

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Christopher Newport University's 41st Annual Writers Conference: Virginia is for Writers

REGISTRATION OPENS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023!

Visit our website <https://cnu.edu/writers/>

or follow the event on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1217080292225831?ref=newsfeed>

April through Fall: 4 Event Planning- Nancy runs the Buckroe Beach Festival but she has smaller bazaars and markets that you could attend for small fees. Go to the website to see what is happening and sign up if you want. <http://4eventplanning.com/events.shtml>

May 5-6 Atlanta Writers Conference - <https://atlantawritersconference.com/2022/11/29/now-open-for-registrations-may-5-6-2023-atlanta-writers-conference/>

May 20th, 2023 - Smithfield Arts Festival -

<https://www.genuinesmithfieldva.com/events/detail/113/smithfield-arts-festival/88446> \$125.00 per table

Email Constance H. Chapman cchapman@isleofwightus.net for more information.

Tremont Writers Conference - https://writers.gsmit.org/?gclid=CjwKCAjwolqhBhAGEiwArXT7KzkhuulkYzLn4-wyjfyHBZVxe4CFUmenol8pznISIV_v1rCgeYI8aBoCo-oQAvD_BwE

More conferences listed on The Write Life webpage - <https://thewritelife.com/writers-conferences/>

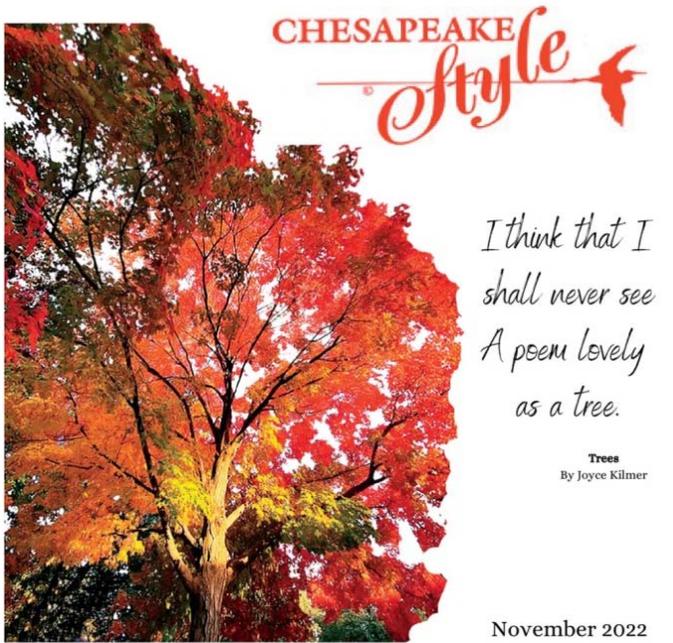
Various Dates - Hedgebrook (for female writers) We offer writing residencies, Radical Craft Retreats, and salons at our retreat on Whidbey Island, and public programs that connect writers with readers and audiences around the world. <https://www.hedgebrook.org/about-us-overview>

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.

The Muse Writers Center <https://the-muse.org/>

The Muse Writers Center is Hampton Roads' very own literary center, and since the early 2000s, we have grown into one of the top-10 writers centers nationally, with a vibrant space in central Ghent featuring five classrooms, a semi-private writers room, a recording studio, a library, and an auditorium for readings and special literary events as well as art exhibits.

Chesapeake Style Announcement



We serve and celebrate the Chesapeake Bay Region and its people ~ past, present and future.

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

"A book is made from a tree. It is an assemblage of flat, flexible parts (still called "leaves") imprinted with dark pigmented squiggles. One glance at it and you hear the voice of another person, perhaps someone dead for thousands of years. Across the millennia, the author is speaking, clearly and silently, inside your head, directly to you. Writing is perhaps the greatest of human inventions, binding together people, citizens of distant epochs, who never knew one another. Books break the shackles of time--proof that humans can work magic."

Carl Sagan

Over the years, many CBW members have known and worked with Janet Fast. After an amazing 25 years of publication, we will publish an issue of Chesapeake Style online to celebrate Janet's creation of the magazine and announce her retirement.

We'd like to invite you to submit an article about your connection to Style, how you were involved with being part of its existence, your relationship to Janet, or the ways in which Style was special for you.

We want to celebrate the accomplishments of the magazine and of Janet, so we will not have the regular columns, but hope the columnists, writers and advertisers will choose to participate and share their thoughts.

Because this will be a digital edition, we won't be limited in the number of pages. The issue will be promoted on Facebook and other websites to reach as many people as possible, and it will be a permanent feature of the website.

Please send your article or questions to Carol J. Bova at cj980@mac.com who will be the editor for this issue. (We welcome your photos in .jpg format at 300 dpi.) Our publication date will be scheduled for later this year to allow the widest possible participation, but we would appreciate your submissions as soon as possible.

Looking forward to your participation!

Carol

Carol J. Bova
Editor, Celebration Issue
Chesapeake Style magazine

Marketing Opportunities

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

Remember, this is a forum for promoting the art of writing and publishing. It's a positive place to share your writing needs and goals.

"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."

Benjamin Franklin

Schedule

April 1, 2023, 1:15 p.m.

Kristen Overman will be talking about writing endings for novels and memoirs. **This is a different format.** Kristin will begin her presentation at approximately 1:15 in room B of the Williamsburg Library. 515 Scotland St, Williamsburg, VA 23185. **Afterward, we will go to Aromas Coffee house for our "luncheon" [There is room for only 20 people so you must sign up to attend.](#)**

For more information about Kristen, check out her website: <https://www.goodstoryediting.com/kristen>

April 10, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews

John Broadwater about his book *A Practical Guide to Maritime Archaeology with a Focus on the Mid-Atlantic Region*

April 29, 2023, Saturday (Changed from Sunday) Newspaper Sparks with Sally Honenberger.

3:00 p.m. Hidden arsonist tendencies when you're writing? Here's your chance to try something to fan the flames of creativity. I'll share newspaper scraps and give a few brief sparks of tinder-ready advice, then you can start your own conflagration of characters and challenges. We'll write and read and write some more. This is not show off but show down time. We'll read anonymously, poke the embers a bit with polite critique, and then try another newspaper spark. This will be intense fun, coals under your feet, but no pain. A chance to blaze away and send sparks across the galaxies. **Location:** Settlement at Powhatan Creek, Community Center.

GPS: Coordinates get you close - use 4000 River Moor Road. However, after you turn off Monticello road, pass the pond, and get to the intersection of Saunders Bridge and River Moor, turn right at the traffic circle and turn right into the parking lot.

May 7, 2023, How to Effectively Critique a Manuscript—An Interactive Presentation for Readers and Writers

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Presented by Sally Stiles. A Joint Presentation with the Williamsburg, Library at the Stryker Center
412 N Boundary St, Williamsburg, VA 23185

May 8, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews **France Altman** about her book *Destiny's Daughter*

June 7th at 11:00 am. Writing Your Story Presented by Patti Procopi

Midtown Row Club House 1260 Richmond Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23185 - Watch for reservation form on the CBW website.

June 12, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews

Caterina Novelliere about her book *House of Arseneux*.

July 10, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews **Cindy Freeman** about her book *Farm Girl A Memoir*

August 14, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews **Peggy Newcomb** about her book *The Curtis Letters*

September 11, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews **Charles W. Sutherland** about his book *Reminiscences of a Cynical Idealist-Global Experiences of a Naive Farm Boy*

October 9, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews **Richard Easton** about his book *GPS Declassified: From Smart Bombs to Smart Phones*

November 13, 2023, Second Monday Radio Show on Xtra 99.1 FM at 8:05 AM. Neal Steele interviews **Sarah Collins Honenberger** about her book *The Mouse in the House*.