



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



Chesapeake Bay Writers

Bay Writers News

October 2022 - Volume 28*Issue 5

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Coloring Outside the Lines



A fiction-writing class led by ward-winning author, Robin Traywick Williams. Robin is the author of *The Key to the Quarter Pole* and *The Last Romantic War*.

This will be a 90-minute discussion of tools for creating memorable characters and writing compelling dialogue.

October 16: 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Stryker Center

412 N. Boundary St, Williamsburg, VA
Please register:
<https://chesapeakebaywriters.wufoo.com/forms/w1o8i94i1e67bmg/>



A Downed Pen

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



October Picture Story Challenge

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

All Stars Gala

Get ready, CBW members, to share your work and compete for prizes! All fiction, nonfiction and poetry entries have an 8 minute time limit. Attendees will vote for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners and the most humorous entry. Cash prizes given! You must register for both the luncheon and for the contest.

There is a surprise. See page 10!

More information on the website.
chesapeakebaywriters.org

National Friends of Libraries Week

Oct. 16-22, 2022.

The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate Friends. Use the time to promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

Are you a friend of the library?

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

From the President Sonja McGiboney

How Do You Sew Your Words?

In preparation for the Williamsburg Book Festival, which has been postponed, I gathered my books and my giveaways into a corner so I wouldn't forget anything. That's when I realized I still hadn't purchased bags for my larger books. I spent several hours researching the purchase of bags in bulk and realized that this poor author couldn't afford it. But a brilliant idea formed. "I could make my own."

With the same determination as Jacques Cousteau finding sea creatures in the deep, I found my sewing machine on a high shelf in the shed, delved deep into drawers for some old material, and found all my sewing accessories.

I discovered that writing is a bit like preparing and then sewing something. First, you have to gather all the ideas which might be pulled out of memories. Characters could be loosely based on friends, family, and other relationships. Secondly, you have to sit down and start writing. Procrastination does not a new story make. As with all things, there are many ways to go about it.

A Planner writes an outline which is like purchasing a pattern. As if they are pinning the pattern to the material, they sketch out the plot and character traits, pinning them to a board. They carefully write details that make sense. Would they use thread that didn't match the material?

The Pantser, a category to which I belong, will start writing as soon as the first idea hits, much like cutting the fabric without using a pattern. The writing has no direction except what comes to mind. This sometimes causes a plot to get stuck in a corner as if the fabric is too uneven and has to be trimmed before sewing the seam. Or even, "gasp," has to be cut anew because the Pantser cut it too small. Pantsters might have to start over from scratch, simply toss the words they sewed, and cut out a new piece of material.

But, even Pantsters might benefit from some ground-

work. A note jotted here and there giving directions for the plot is like ironing the seams before sewing them. There's no measuring and pinning needed, just a quick tap of the iron with a word or two on it. Not a great amount of detail, but enough to keep a Pantser on track.

Both Pantsters and Planners will need to trim when the sewing is done. While the planners may not have as much excess material, they still need to slit corners, trim edges, and turn their words right-side out.

I finished twenty-five bags. Because I eyeballed all the cutting, they are slightly different sizes. Because I ran out of thread, I used different colors. However, once I finished about ten bags, I knew exactly how to proceed and the other fifteen rolled out quickly. In my writing, the words, once written, rearranged and trimmed a few times, finally come together into a finished story.

This is how I sew my words. How do you sew yours?

Courtesy of Professor Charles Says... Learn English!



Charles W. Sutherland

A Downed Pen

Christian Vincent Pascale

In memory
1949-2022



Christian Pascale approached life with a zeal for adventure, learning, and connecting with others. In his first book, *Memories Are The Stories We Tell Ourselves*, he says in the preface, "I believe that writing is a way of communication with the wider world and a means to transmit something of what we have experienced. Each new experience contributes to who we are, and I would not be who I am without having lived and loved and met such a wide variety of characters."

A graduate of Lafayette College and American University, Chris loved to travel. When he was in his twenties, he lived in France where he taught tennis (which he enjoyed playing throughout his life) while working on his Doctorate in contemporary French history at the Sorbonne. Later in life, Chris worked for the government in a career that would take him to foreign countries where there was great unrest.

A kind and gentle soul, Chris had a quiet sense of humor and an enduring love of family. His pride in his two sons, Raphael and Michel, was evident whenever he spoke of them, and his love for his wife, Liria, was profound. Chris had three published books: *Memories Are The Stories We Tell Ourselves*, *Windows of Heaven*, and *Poetry of Wonder*. His second book of poetry, *Songs in the Night*, will be published posthumously.

Chris' obituary can be found here:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/vagazette/name/christian-pascale-obituary?id=36566599>

"Christian Pascale was kind, gentle, and unassuming. Although he had a Ph.D., he never introduced himself with his title. He was just Chris. He traveled the world as a foreign diplomat and spoke several languages fluently. His writing, especially his poetry, unapologetically expressed the depth of his faith, and conversations with him invariably included his sons, of whom he was proud, and his loving wife, Liria." Cindy L. Freeman

"I knew Chris from my critique group. He was a poet which was evident in the many colorful descriptions in his manuscripts. He spoke fondly of his family and his travels." Sonja McGiboney

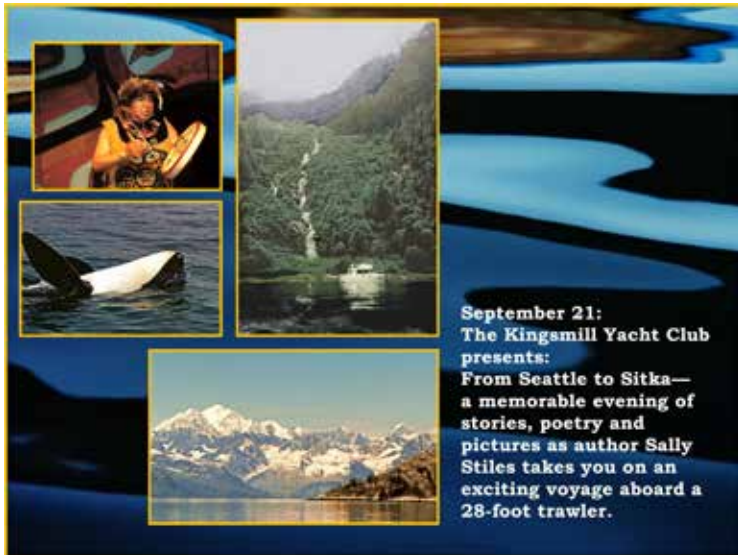


*We are all like birds flying about at the birdfeeder
Trying to find what nourishes us
Losing our perch when another flutters their wings
Always returning, even when it's empty
Hopeful and determined
We gather what falls to the ground and leave prints in the sand
And when one of us is lost, when the wind takes a soul
We are quiet, we pray
We search for peace in our faith
We say farewell
We remember*



CBW in the Community

Sally Stiles Presents



Our Writers Shaking the Community

One of the many marketing tools an author can use is finding speaking engagements or book selling and/or signing opportunities.

Ginny Brock

Stonehouse Virginia Presentation *with* her newest book, *When the Southwind Blows*, and its sequel *The Writer's Cottage* (both historical fiction/mystery/romance novels) VA. 10/5, 3 pm to 5 pm.

Roger Gosden

Roger is reaching out to London, UK with an interview on BBC Radio about his book, *The Boy Who Could Bee*, penned under Rowan Gordon. He will visit a few schools in Randolph, County, WV, and perhaps even Pocahontas County. More to come.

Stan Parson Live at the Library




BOOKS ALIVE!

Featuring Stan Parsons

Join us on October 7th, 2022 at the Northumberland Public Library from 5PM to 7PM for Books Alive, an author event!

Stan Parsons retired from banking in 2014, moved to Ophelia, and frolicked on the water until 2017, when he began writing feverishly. His favorite genres to write are character-driven *coming of age* stories and *historical fiction*. Stan will have his novels and book of short stories for sale. Pick up a copy and get it signed!






Sponsored by the Friends of the Northumberland Public Library

Sonja McGiboney

Murfreesboro, NC, public library: 9/6
 Pamlico Haunted Film Festival: Washington, NC 09-24
 Second Sundays: 10/09
 Kingsmill - Reading and activity: 11/19, 11 am

Caterina Novelliere

Fall Harvest Festival: 9/17
 Yorktown Art Stroll: 9/25
 Newport News Author Showcase - Main Street Library: 11/5 10 am to 3 pm
 Second Sundays: 12/1
 AuthorCon 2023: 3/31- 4/2
 On a waitlist for MarsCon and RavenCon in 2023

Patti Gaustad Procopi

Cascades Library Potomac Falls, VA - Eat Local Read Local: 10/15, 11 am to 2 pm
 Book Launch for my new book "I'll Get By" - Random Words Bookstore, Gloucester, Va: 10/22, 12 pm to 4 pm
 "Speaking the Unspeakable: Writing about difficult, traumatic or potentially explosive topics," a panel discussion-Grissom Library, Newport News: 11/3, 6 pm to 7 pm
 Newport News Author Showcase - Main Street Library: 11/5 10 am to 3 pm

CBW in the Community

Buckroe Beach Arts in the Park Festival Success for CBW writers

Have you ever tried to wrestle a ten-foot canopy into place while fighting a strong wind? It's nearly impossible by yourself, so I was happy to have help from a couple of our fellow authors while setting up for the Buckroe Beach Arts in the Park Festival. I understand now why the weights for the canopies are mandatory.

This event is held every year on the Saturday following Labor Day as a fundraiser for the Buckroe Improvement League. Nearly a hundred artists and craftspeople were displaying their wares in booths across the field while a lively DJ spun tunes on the stage.

The weather was still good enough to attract beach lovers for a last weekend of summer, and the wind provided a respite from the heat. CBW funded a booth this year, which was manned by Ted Hale, Jeff Schnader, and Cindy Freeman. There was enough of a crowd to keep us busy most of the day, talking to avid readers and selling enough books to make the day worthwhile.

We also distributed club flyers and may have recruited a few new members. Several prospective authors asked questions about how to get published and put their work out there. We offered the views of both independent and traditionally published authors.

Fellow CBW members, Caterina Novelliere and Davidson Lee Price, were also in attendance in their own booths and reported doing well. Caterina said it was the best she had done in book sales out of the various one day events she attended in 2022. Davidson Lee Price said that he sold more books this year than last year.

We originally had six authors signed up for the booth, but that fell to only three by the day of the festival, which was a good thing. A ten-foot booth can barely hold three authors and their displays. If there is interest next year, CBW may consider buying space for two booths.

By Ted Hale
<https://tedbhale.com>



Another Opportunity for 2023

How would you like to be on the radio discussing your latest book?

Hone your interview skills by appearing on the Neal Steele Radio show.

Neal has been interviewing CBW writers for years! Sign up now for 2023 slots by contacting Patti Procopi at Patti.pro@cox.net

Interviews are done the second Monday of each month. January is booked but the rest of the year is wide open.

Patti Gaustad Procopi
Pattiproauthor.com



More information on the web.
<https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org>

Williamsburg Book Festival Postponed

CBW Authors listed to participate in the Williamsburg Book Festival.

The CBW is a sponsor of the Williamsburg Book Festival but not only that, many of our members will participate. Sadly, due to weather concerns, it has been postponed. More information will be shared as soon as it is posted.

Bob Archibald

Roundabout Revenge
Guilty Until Proven Innocent
Crime Might Pay
Who Dung It

Carol J. Bova

Drowning a County
Breaking the Eighth
Chestnut Springs

Ginny Brock

When the South Wind Blows
The Writers Cottage

David Cariens

A Question of Accountability
The Murder of Angela Dales
Escaping Madness

Sharon Dorsey

Children's books
Poetry
Twenty-Four Months that
Changed the World

Richard Easton

GPS Declassified: From Smart
Bombs to Smartphones

Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda

Poets Laureate reading
River Country
These Flecks of Color
Catena Poetica

Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda (cont)

Seasons of Sharing
The Embrace
River Country: Tidewater
Greatest Hits: 1981-2001
Deat Comes Riding
Gathering Light
Contrary Visions
Several Anthologies

Cindy Freeman

After Rain
I want To Go home
The Dark Room
Unrevealed

Roger Gosden

The Boy Who Could Bee by
Rowan Gordon

Tim Holland

The Rising Tide
What the Mirror Doesn't See
The Murder of Amos Dunn
Deception

Reed Johnson

A Horse Named Ray-Ray

E Compton Lee

Native
My Name is Sloan
The Heartbreak of Josie Whitt

Sonja McGiboney

Jazzy's Books
Life in Haiku

Caterina Novelliere

War Rising
Tale of Rouen
When the Moon Bleeds
The First Encounter
Mark of the Night
Patti Gaustad Procopi
Please... Tell Me More
I'll Get By

Mary Shipko

Aviatrix
Daring Mary

Sofia Starnes

Participating in a Poets Laureate reading

Peter Stipe

Finding our way
The Art of Love
Remember Me
The Fairy Garden
Bennett Falls.

Sally Stiles

Like a Mask Dancing
Plunge!
Crazeman in the Bottle
The Haiku Guide to Williamsburg
The Haiku Guide to Cruising

James Tobin

When We Were Wolves

Lynn Underwood

High Rise
The First Stone
DeWalt Residential Construction Codes
Plan and Build your Dream House: A Workbook

Susan Williamson

Dead on the Trail
Dead in the Loft
Desert Tail
Tangled Tail
Buying Your First Horse
How to Write Family Stories

How to Write Your Own Book Launch Press Release

Writers who have been raised not to “blow their own horn” may find it difficult to promote their work. Sending a press release to the local newspaper for a book launch feels too much like bragging. Unfortunately, Grandma is not going to do it for you, so here’s what you need to know.

First, what are your local newspapers? The best way to find out is to check the grocery store newsstands. Searching online is less reliable, because some traditional local newspapers don’t have an online presence. When I searched for papers near Kilmarnock, VA, I found the Rappahannock Record and newsontheneck.com, which contained archives and news for three newspapers. I couldn’t tell from the website whether they are still in print. Information on how to submit news is usually found at the bottom of the website home page or in the front section of the printed newspaper.

Once you have found your newspaper, you can create your press release. Pretend that Grandma is writing it and use third person (he or she). Remember the 5 Ws: Who, What, When Where, and Why.

According to blurb.com, a traditional book press release is between 300 to 500 words and is ideally one page. Here’s a sample outline:

Contact Info: Include your name, address, phone number, email, and website.

Publication Date: Use “For release on [date]” or simply note “For immediate release.”

Headline: Keep it short and factual. The editor may change it.

CITY, STATE, Date: The city and state should be in all caps.

Body content by paragraph:

1. Introduce yourself and your book in a compelling way. The first sentence should contain launch event details (date, time, location, contact info).
2. Briefly describe the book and its audience.
3. Include an endorsement of the book if you have one.
4. List where to buy the book and repeat launch event details.
5. Closing/Bio: Finish with a short author bio.

Cover Photo: blurb.com suggests adding a high-resolution photo of the book cover. In my experience, small local papers are more likely to publish an informal photo of you holding your book or doing something interesting.

Depending on the host for your launch, you may also be responsible for posting the event date on various online calendars. But that’s another story.

By Denise DeVries

<https://denisedevriesauthor.wordpress.com>

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.

So, You Want to Go Social

by Sonja McGiboney

I subscribe to a lot of online newsletters. Most of the time, I don't read much except the headlines. This one caught my eye. It is very useful.

Social Media Ads

What to Write and How to Write It

Gena Suarez

Publisher of The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine

publisher@theoldschoolhouse.com

More info at: <https://tosmediakit.com/>

To make an impact with your text, make the most of the limited word count and attention spans on social media. Follow these six text-writing tips to get the click-through rate that will grow your business and connect you with customers who are looking for what you offer.

1. Outline your text ad first by writing out some keywords and phrases that your ideal audience relates to. No need to get specific on what you name your products or what your company offers. Use the words that your customer would use to describe the reason they spend money on your products.
2. Make your first 4—5 words about the solution or positive experience you provide. This may be the perfect spot to put your Unique Selling Proposition (USP).
3. Fill up the word count with benefit-driven words. How do your products and services benefit your customers? Work in those words and phrases your target market would relate to.
4. Be very concise with your wording. Make your sentences simple so others grasp the concept of your message quickly and easily.
5. Use direct command words to tell the viewer what to do when they get to the landing page from the ad: browse, download, sign up, explore, review, etc.
6. The message shared in your ad should be consistent with the message viewers will get when they go to the link provided. The landing page is where you want to expand on the message in the text ad, share a few highlights about your products, and ideally offer them something for free in exchange for their email address. There's nothing wrong with offering them a good price on your products either when that fits with the message of your ad.

Your web landing page

This page, which is the first impression the majority of visitors will have of your company, should be designed:

1. to be aesthetically pleasing to your target audience
2. to have very little in the way of sidebars and other distractions
3. to be optimized for search engines;
4. to include brief, compelling highlights of other parts of your website

More info at: <https://tosmediakit.com/>

Words to Ponder

“Antidisestablishmentarianism”: (the longest word in the English language)

Opposition to the disestablishment of the Church of England

It was an organized effort in 19 th century Britain to advocate that a state Church (the “established church”) should continue to receive government subsidies and patronage, rather than be ‘disestablished’. The Liberal Party wanted to remove the Church of England as the official Church of England, Ireland, and Wales.

The effort failed in England. However, in Ireland the Church was ‘disestablished’ in 1871 and replaced with the Anglican Church of Ireland. In Wales, four Church of England dioceses were ‘disestablished’ in 1920 and became the Church of Wales. In Colonial America the Church of England was ‘disestablished’ in 6 colonies in the 1780s and the ministers became Episcopalians.

“a” (One of the two shortest words in the English language. It is a shortened form of ‘an’ in mid-14 th century England, to make it easier to produce words when the next word begins with a consonant.

“I” (the other shortest word in the English language) In mid-12 th century northern England, it became a shortened form of the Old Frisian *ik* and German *ich*.

by Charles W. Sutherland

https://www.amazon.com/Charles-W-Sutherland/e/B001KIUZHY/ref=aufs_dp_fta_dsk

Book Reviews in Chesapeake *Style*

The purpose of a good book review is to inform the potential book reader of what the book is about so that they can decide whether to buy the book. When you find someone to read and review your book, please share this page with them. Books in *Style* reviews must be original to Chesapeake *Style*.

Characteristics of a good review

Convey the content of the book, not chapter by chapter so much as the entire book.

Provide a description of the way the author approaches the book's topic.

Add flavor to the review by including pungent or revealing quotations from the book or notable facts or findings.

If the book is a collection of essays, or chapters, give some idea of the overall theme and content, but be free to focus on specific chapters the reviewer considers significant or worthwhile.

Be specific. Give details. Try not to be too abstract or vague (e.g., avoid writing "interesting observations," "lots of arresting data," or "a strange view of campus design" unless you complement this with specific examples).

Write the review about the book and its contribution to the subject, not about your feelings on having read the book.

Do not tell the author what book you feel they should have written. Your appraisal is valuable, but this should be quite secondary. The finest reviews are extraordinarily understanding and moderately generous, (but not uncritical), and they are enlightening little 500-word essays in their own right.

There is no substitute for a careful reading of the book itself.

Please keep the review to @ 500 words. We need a clear high resolution copy of the front cover.

Include contact info: location of the writer, phone number(s), email, Facebook, website. Is the book available online, if so, where? Brevity is a virtue.

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We reserve the right to refuse any articles for any reason whatsoever. We also reserve the right to edit articles, but we do so carefully and attempt to preserve the tone and character of the author. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us via email at cj980@mac.com or call 804-725-6163.

Send your review and cover photo to Carol J. Bova at cj980@mac.com.

Thank you for being part of *Style*!

by Carol J. Bova
<http://caroljbova.com>

New Books



I'll Get By

By Patti Gaustad Procopi
September 6, 2022

When Jane's life falls apart in a most spectacular fashion, she questions how she got to this point. How did she manage to choose a best friend who would do the most clichéd thing ever and run off with her husband? What blinded her to the abuse her husband, Frank, heaped upon her over decades of marriage?

The answers to her life's questions might be found in the generations before her. From her grandmother, Mamere, who threw away her family heritage to marry a baseball player, to her mother, Evangeline, who knew within moments of meeting John during WWII that he was the love of her life.

The choices the women in her family made alter Jane's outlook on love and life, but she learns that ultimately, strong women survive and love is cultivated in unexpected places.



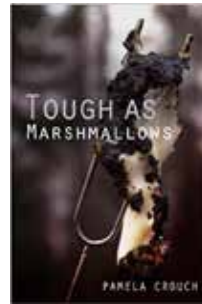
Life in Haiku

by Sonja McGiboney
July 28, 2022

In this collection of Haiku, author Sonja McGiboney combines beautiful black and white photography with verse. She writes about love, friendship, children, school, and other milestones in a person's life.

Loosely formatted to follow the stages of life from birth to death, readers empathize with many of the verses. Some will make you sad and some will make you smile.

The photos in this collection are collected from moments in the author's life as a mother and a professional photographer.



Tough as Marshmallows

By Pamela Crouch
July 25, 2022

Marsha thinks time is on her side.

He knows it isn't.

A young widow, she discovers her heritage and gains a renewed sense of purpose while restoring her estranged grandparent's house.

But he is watching.

Can she escape her dark fate? Or, will hers be the next body found?



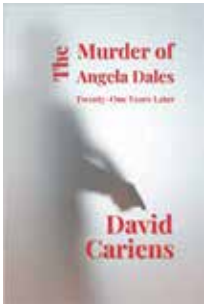
Surprise
Let's have some fun!

We all love a good book so the board decided it would be fun to exchange books at the Gala on November 16th. While the writing contest is for members only, all guests can participate in the book exchange.

It will be a blind exchange. If you wish to participate, bring a favorite book. Wrap it but do not put identifying information on the outside. (That means no paper bags. It must be concealed.) You can write a note inside saying why you chose this book or keep it anonymous.

As you arrive, you will be assigned a number. After the stories are read and while the votes are being counted, we will call you up by your number to pick a package. You may not pick your own number.

New Books



The Murder of Angela Dales: Twenty-One Years Later

By David Cariens

August 9, 2022

When the mother of my oldest grandchild was murdered over twenty years ago, I never, in my wildest dreams, thought our

tragedy would be the beginning of a series of national tragedies—an epidemic of gun violence. I never envisioned that Virginia would be the site of this country's worst school shooting on April 16, 2007, leaving thirty-two dead and at least seventeen wounded.

I never imagined that I would be sitting on the Governor's Commission to Investigate the Virginia Beach Mass Shooting of May 31, 2019, that left twelve dead and four wounded, or that, during my time on the panel, there would be other school shootings: one at Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Virginia and the other at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas.

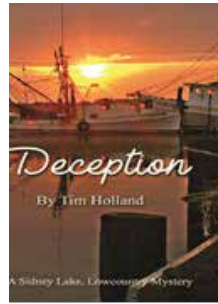
I wrote the first edition of this book, thinking perhaps my words could help prevent other families from experiencing the anguish and pain my family had experienced.

I was wrong, sadly, terribly wrong.



"Double, double toil and trouble;
fire burn and cauldron bubble."

William Shakespeare – *Macbeth*



Deception: A Sidney Lake Lowcountry Mystery

By Tim Holland

June 22, 2022

When Sidney Lake learned the author's copy of Anne Brontë's novel *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* had been stolen, he firmly believed

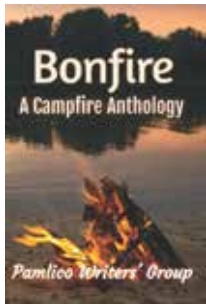
he would never see it again, much less hold it in his hands. But there it was. In the hands of an appraiser at the National Arts And Crafts Show. Could it be the same three-volume first edition of the book? He had to find out.

Assembling his experienced team of investigators, they begin searching for the appraiser, who is believed to be from Savannah, Georgia, in the hope of being led to the young man who claimed to be the owner of the book. But before they get fully underway, Tillie James, his Gullah companion, and confidant drops out of the group as a ninety-year-old Gullah woman is threatened with losing her home at a delinquent tax sale. The woman had been deceptively tricked by a real estate attorney into not paying the tax claiming he had a way around it. Could there be a connection between rare book thefts and attempts to steal land from Gullah residents of the Pirate Islands?

Sidney and his associates decide to pursue both the tax fraud deception and the possible Brontë book forgery at the same time and keep running into coincidences. But are they?

The Lowcountry of South Carolina takes center stage as Sidney Lake and Tillie James pursue the answers to questions not everyone wants asked.

New Books



Bonfire ***A Campfire Anthology***

Sonja McGiboney's story
Renovating for Revenge
is included in the Bonfire Anthology.

Stories and poems filled with the essence of autumn, from falling leaves to the cool crisp air. Here are tales you can share around the campfire or snuggled up in front of a fire-place. Just beware of things that go bump in the night.

Sonja's story is about a man's impulsive and innovative revenge. After catching his girlfriend cheating with his boss, Daryl decides to leave the job and the area. But before he goes, he writes a message in melted wax figures in the wax museum.

This anthology has something for everyone from the spooky to the slightly kooky, to the beautiful and the haunting. With winners from past Haunted Pamlico Writing Competitions and chosen members of the Pamlico Writers' Group.



Picture Story Challenge



Waiting

She promised she'd be back.
I said I'd wait.
I'm still waiting.

by Sonja McGiboney

Deep into the darkness peering, long I stood there, wondering, fearing,
Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream before.

Edgar Allan Poe, *The Raven*

Edgar Allan Poe

Who doesn't think of Edgar's poems during this season. His beautiful writing, most often with a twisted or horrific tone, is legendary. He wrote many short stories but I found a website by Robert Giordano, that has a list of his poems. It's very interesting to read them and takes no time at all. <https://poestories.com/poetry.php>

#OctPoWriMo

Does writing 50,000 words in November sound too difficult? How about writing a poem a day in October? I began participating in #OctPoWriMo in 2019 as a warm-up for my second year of National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). Unlike NaPoWriMo, #OctPoWriMo is an informal movement identified only by a hashtag.

According to Oxford English Dictionary, a hashtag as “a word or phrase with the symbol # in front of it, used on social media websites and apps to search for all messages with the same subject.”

I like the idea of a poem a day because it can be short. However, I take much longer writing and perfecting a poem than I would with fiction of the same length. Still, if I establish the habit of writing daily in October, it gives me a head start for November. In case I can't think of a topic, here are many lists of prompts available online.

When thinking of short poetry, people usually begin with Japanese forms such as Haiku (3 lines) and Tanka (5 lines). The website “owlcation.com” mentions 14 others. One is the Italian Rispetto, two rhyme quatrains (4 lines) with strict meter of iambic tetrameter (a line of four beats, alternating unstressed with stressed syllables). The rhyme scheme is abab ccdd. I probably wouldn't attempt this one because I find both meter and rhyme difficult.

The Triolet is an eight-line stanza having just two rhymes and repeating the first line as the fourth and seventh lines, and the second line as the eighth. Again, this one is too complicated for me.

I recently wrote a Pantoum, but only because I found an online generator that organized it. This Malaysian verse form has 4-line stanzas and a repeating pattern.

There is also a generator for writing a Villanelle, a French form. “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night” by Dylan Thomas is an example. It has five 3-line stanzas. The first and third lines of the first stanza repeat alternately in the following stanzas and form the final couplet in the last quatrain.

The 9-line Nonet poem is more my speed. The first line has 9 syllables, decreasing with each line until the last 1-syllable line. I used to count syllables on my fingers, but now I use syllablecounter.net.

According to the blog “Radio, Rhythm and Rhyme,” Dr. N Gopi, one of India's foremost poets, created a relatively new form called Naani. This 4-line poem usually contains a total of 20-25 syllables and addresses emotions, relationships, and the human condition. I think I could probably write one of those.

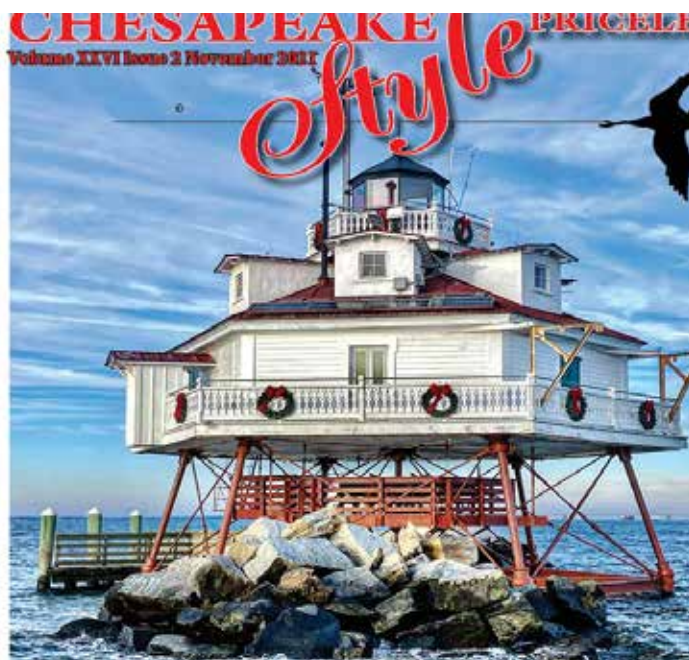
If all of these poetic forms still seem too complicated, you may want to imitate the shortest poem ever written. Strickland Gillilan composed “Lines on the Antiquity of Microbes,” also known as “Fleas,” in the early 20th century. The poem reads in full:

Adam
Had 'em.

Do you plan to participate in #OctPoWriMo? If so, join me for prompts and experiments on my blog (<https://bilocalalia.wordpress.com/>).

By Denise DeVries
<https://denisedevriesauthor.wordpress.com>

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: <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 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.

Open Mic

Open Mic is a wonderful opportunity to share our work with other writers.

October 27, 2022, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Williamsburg Library

515 Scotland St, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Schedule

October 1, 2022, Williamsburg Book Festival

1 - 10 AM to 4 PM

Stryker Center and Williamsburg Community Building <https://williamsburgbookfestival.org>

Come see the CBW authors that are participating!

October 10, 2022, CBW Second Monday Radio Show, 8:05 a.m.

Cynthia Fridgen interview with Neal Steele on 99.1 FM on Choices

October 16, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

Robin T Williams will teach a workshop on character and dialog. It will be about 1 1/2 hours of prep, practice, and teaching.

Stryker Center: 412 N. Boundary St, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Please Register to Attend.

October 20, 2022, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday evening with Stephen McGuire.

The zoom meeting link will be sent out the day prior.

More info on Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/3vYX588jx>

You must sign up to attend. <https://chesapeakebaywriters.wufoo.com/forms/s1hju5440zshybh/>

October 27, 2022, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Open Mic at the Williamsburg Library

515 Scotland St, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Please contact Mary Shipko for more info: shipkom@msn.com

November 14, 2022, CBW Second Monday Radio Show, 8:05 a.m.

James Tobin interview with Neal Steele on 99.1 FM on When We Were Wolves.

Wednesday, November 16th All Stars Gala, 11:30 am

Two Rivers Country Club in Williamsburg.

Contest Entry: (members only) You read your entry to the attendees. The maximum time is 8 minutes. (Anything longer will be disqualified.) Fiction, nonfiction and poetry are eligible, but only one piece per member.

Those attending vote for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and a humor award which all receive cash prizes.

Blind book exchange for all guests.

Registration coming soon.

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.

The Muse Writing Center Fall Classes are out.

https://the-muse.org/classes-at-a-glance/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Fall+Classes+Publishing+2