



Bay Writers News

www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org

Volume XXIV • Issue 4 Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

September 2017

President's Message

Chesapeake Bay Writers tries to balance keeping in touch with our members with not overloading their email-boxes. Persnickety email services interfere at times by declaring our messages as spam. Sometimes, CBW mail goes right to a spam filter, and we don't find out until a member wants to know why we didn't let them know of an activity. We don't have an easy solution, but you can check the CBW website, chesapeakebaywriters.org for calendar notes, events and reservation forms. I hope you'll read through this newsletter to see what's planned and what your fellow members have shared. But if you miss something, we do keep an archive of newsletters on the website.

We had good participation in the club-level Golden Nib Contest this year. Our three first-prize winners in Fiction, Non-Fiction and Poetry will go on to compete in the state-level contest. We're pleased that three of our local library directors agreed to be our judges: Alice Cooper from Lancaster Community Library, Diane Rebertus, Gloucester County Public Library, and Kevin Smith, York County Public Library. We'll announce all the CBW winners, local and hopefully state, at our All Stars Gala Luncheon on November 15.

Watch your email and check the website in October to sign up to compete in the All Stars contest. Members read their work (up to eight minutes) and those attending vote for first, second and third place, and the Rick Bailey Humor Award. It's always fun, and we'll return to the Two Rivers Country Club this year for the luncheon.

The Board of Directors decided in August that the Chesapeake Bay Writers will add a sixth meeting to our planned calendar for 2018. We'll continue to have three meetings with a meal at a restaurant, and the other three will be non-meal meetings at libraries. To maintain the social component of our meetings, we're going to look for restaurants close to the libraries where members can gather before or after, as their schedules allow. We hope it will allow more members to participate in meetings.

If you have ideas for programs, or want to share your preferences for time, day, or location, please let me or another Board member know. Our contact information is always listed in the newsletter.

I hope to see many of you at our September meeting in Williamsburg! Details are on the next page and the reservation form and information is online.

Carol J. Bova, President

Save the Date

Sep 14-16: Hampton Roads Writers Conference

Sept 17: Deadline for CBW Luncheon Meeting Reservations

Sept 20: CBW Luncheon Meeting at Center Street Grill, Williamsburg with Eric Carlson on Screenwriting.

Oct 7: Williamsburg Book Festival 10-4 pm

Nov 15: CBW All Stars Gala Luncheon - Two Rivers Country Club Williamsburg





Next CBW Luncheon Meeting Wednesday, September 20th

Join us at the Center Street Grill in Williamsburg on Wednesday, September 20th. Eric Carlson, Director of the Virginia Screenwriters Forum is speaking on "From Script to Screen," about moving a screenplay from inception to production through the Hollywood maze. Reservations are required by September 17 on our website at chesapeakebaywriters.org. Members \$21, guests \$26. More information: 804-725-6163.

Eric Carlson is a Virginia based screenwriter with a strong passion for creating captivating stories. He currently has two projects in development with production companies (including one with an Academy Award winning actor attached), and his screenplays have won or finished in the top tier in numerous prestigious competitions including Nicholls, the Virginia Film Festival (three times), the Austin Film Festival, Creative World Awards, the G.I. Film Festival, the Nashville Film Festival, the Richmond International Film Festival, and the International Family Film Festival (three times). He also serves as the Director of the Virginia Screenwriters Forum, a Richmond-based group of 25 screenwriters who meet monthly to critique member scripts, study the film industry, and share their love and knowledge of screenwriting.



HRW
Hampton Roads Writers
Where Characters Connect

**9th ANNUAL
WRITERS CONFERENCE**

Thursday – Saturday
SEPTEMBER 14-16
2017

John DeDakis Austin Camacho

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

For more information: www.hamptonroadswriters.org



Welcome Aboard New Members!



GRACE M. DELEESIE specializes in writing fantasy and paranormal romance, and she is currently writing YA romance. She has three books out in *Vj g'Fc{ '34'Y kex guDwt pgf* series. The fourth comes out soon. She's published three other books out, plus an anthology. You can find her on Facebook at facebook.com/gracemdeleesie, and for more information, her website is <http://gracemdeleesie.com>.



JEFFREY K. WALKER is a Midwesterner, born in what was once the Glass Container Capital of the World. A retired military officer, he served in Bosnia and Afghanistan, planned the Kosovo air campaign and ran a State Department program in Baghdad. He's been shelled, rocketed and sniped by various groups, all with bad aim. He's lived in ten states and three foreign countries, managing to get degrees from Harvard and Georgetown along the way. An attorney and professor, he taught legal history at Georgetown, law of war at William & Mary and criminal and international law while an assistant dean at St. John's. He's been a contributor on NPR and a speaker at federal judicial conferences. He dotes on his wife, with whom he lives in Virginia, and his children, who are spread across the United States. Jeff has never been beaten at Whack-a-Mole. Connect with Jeff on Twitter at [@jkwalkerAuthor](https://twitter.com/jkwalkerAuthor), on his Facebook fan page at www.facebook.com/jeffreykwalker or on his website at jeffreykwalker.com.



SUSAN WILLIAMSON is a former educator, journalist and small town newspaper editor. She has two novels, a thriller and a cozy mystery published by Indigo Sea Press. Former board member and program chair for Winston-Salem Writers. Susan is currently writing a sequel to her first novel, and she's had short stories published in *Flying South* anthology and non-fiction published in *New South* e-zine. Susan published an ebook with High Tide Publications in August. Her website is at <http://susanwilliamsonauthor.com> and you can contact her at susanswilliamsonnc@gmail.com.





MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

Mary Jo Beswick's new book, *Messy Magic Birthday*, was published in May. This is her second children's picture book. It is a romping rhyming birthday story for kids 4-8 years old about a boy's birthday party gone happy right, or wrong, depending on how you like magic fairies and tornado rides. Beswick's first children's book, *Lonely Lola Ladybug*, won the 2016 Vinnie Ream Award from the National League of American Pen Women. Beswick's books are available locally at the RAL Art Center, Kilmarnock and The Tides Inn, Irvington, as well as on line at Amazon.com, Barnes andNoble.com and her website www.maryjobeswick.com.



Carol J. Bova will publish *Chestnut Springs: A Novel of Second Chances* through Random Tangent Press in September, 2017. *Chestnut Springs* will be available at Amazon.com. She will be participating in the Williamsburg Book Festival on October 7th.

John Bray's new book *Echo Of Darkness* has been released on Amazon in both Kindle and paperback. Published by Endeavour Press of London, England, it is a mystery thriller and the third book in the Dante trilogy. He is now a private eye and disrupts an international conspiracy to infiltrate the New York crime scene.

Dawn Brotherton: Blue Dragon Publishing, LLC announces the upcoming release of *Nicole's New Friend* by Dawn Brotherton. Dawn created the Lady Tigers book series to fill what she saw as a void in books for middle grade girls. Brotherton's charming, wholesome, and engaging series caters to young girls who like sports. LitPick has already awarded *Nicole's New Friend* 5-stars. The third release in Brotherton's acclaimed Lady Tigers' series, *Nicole's New Friend*, will be available wherever fine books are sold on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Join her for the book launch at Sweet Frog in Williamsburg New Town (4907 Courthouse St, Williamsburg) from 12:30-3:30. There will be giveaways, raffles, coupons, and more. Come celebrate with the author!

Steve Crabill's book *Wipe That Smile Off Your Face* has been listed for sale with his beloved 11th Armored Cav's "Quartermaster Store" in their Quarterly newsletter. He will be doing a book signing during their four day reunion in Orlando Florida this September. "Good times with old soldiers," he said. [Editor's Note: Take a look at Steve's website to find out how this book came to be written. <http://www.stevocrabill.com/about-the-book.html>]

Sharon Canfield Dorsey was recently elected Eastern Region Vice President of the Poetry Society of Virginia. Fifteen of her poems will be included in a new anthology by the James City Poets, titled *Ecrwtg O qo gvu*, published by High Tide Publications and due for release in September, 2017.

Sarah Collins Honenberger served as Fiction Judge for Blue Ridge Writers Chapter of VWC, and for 2018 Skyline Anthology. By invitation, the anthology will include vy q Honenberger short stories, release date in early 2018 before the Vki kpk Book Festival.

Gwen Keane was a panel speaker at the recent Virginia Writer's Club Symposium in Charlottesville. Her topic was "Successful Booksigning 101."





MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES (cont'd)

Gail Wilson Kenna: In the upcoming weeks, HighTide Publications, Inc. will publish Gail Wilson Kenna's first book for children, *Vj g'Egppwo cekqwu'Ecv*. The book, dedicated to military children, humorously depicts the effects of moving and deployments on a dual-military Army family, through an unruly Persian cat's disruptive behavior. "Charming, hilarious, and wonderfully sensitive," one ESL teacher in Arizona says. "A sweet resolution amidst the complications of deployment," states a teacher in California. The book includes a vocabulary of 30 words, presented playfully for young readers.

Gail is the new judge for this one for the 26th Soul Making Keats literary competition in San Francisco. Mark your calendars! The deadline is November 30th. Hard copies only, and \$5.00 fee per entry in eleven categories for adults. Go to the web to find the home page: SoulMakingContest.us And check out the category of Creative Nonfiction.

Barbara McLennan's historical novel trilogy (*The Wealth of Jamestown, The Wealth of Virginia and Blackbeard's Legacy*) was formally published on August 21. She had a book signing for all three books on Aug. 26 at the William & Mary Bookstore in Williamsburg.

Feather Schwartz Foster, author of *Mary Lincoln's Flannel Pajamas and Other Stories from the First Ladies Closet*, and *The First Ladies*, will be speaking at the York County Historical Society on Sunday, September 24, 3 PM at York Hall, in Yorktown. The title of her program is: "Dolley Madison: The Quaker Fashionista."

Jeffrey K. Walker gave quite an interesting presentation at the Stryker Center on August 23rd titled, "Into the Modern Era: WWI's Effect on Art, Technology, and Literature." Jeff spoke about the changes during and after WWI which shattered confident and comfortable 19th-century notions of the inevitability of progress and the beneficence of scientific advancement, upending accepted ideas about art and literature.

Jeff was also interviewed by Heather Barrett for her show on CBC Radio One, "Weekend AM," which aired on August 20th and delved into why Jeff, an American, chose to set his novel, *None of Us the Same*, in Newfoundland.

Susan Williamson's new ebook, *How to Buy Your First Horse*, was published in August by High Tides Publication, Inc. and is available at Amazon.com

Folks,

I'm working with Williamsburg Library to set up the schedule for National Novel Writing Month in November. We are having the kick off on Saturday, November 4th at the James City County Library from 10-4.

I would like to invite a rep from the CBW to set up a table at the event and hand out materials. I'm a member and will be in attendance, but will have my hands full with overseeing the whole day.

Please let me know if you're interested.

Thanks, Dawn

Dawn Brotherton, Publisher <http://www.blue-dragon-publishing.com> twitter @dmbrotherton

757-941-5007

**Dear Chesapeake Bay Writers:**

I'm a science fiction author and long-time member. The latest I have is that I have just completed writing the sixth and final volume of *Prophet of ConFree*, my second military science fiction series. The first was the six-book *Soldier of the Legion* series. This latest book will be published in a few more months. Meanwhile, I have some free time and am doing what I should have been doing all along: seeking more publicity (and sales) for the second series. That's the subject of this note – publicity and sales.

The first series was very successful circa 2011 with spectacular sales of the Kindle versions, and it continues to sell at moderate rates. The new series, however, could do a lot better and I'd like to improve sales. That starts with familiarizing more readers with the product. I've got a great website soldierofthelegion.com but that doesn't help if nobody knows it's there. I'm looking at social media with the help of my two sons. I've updated my pages in the Author's Den and Goodreads. Both of these reach a large number of active readers. My youngest son is updating my Facebook page for both series. I hate Facebook but I guess everybody else loves it. The idea there is that everyone on Facebook has hundreds of contacts and if they 'like' your site, some of those contacts may get interested too.

I'm also going to be updating my Kindle, B&W Nook, Kobo and iTunes webpages. There is no magic formula for stimulating sales, at least nothing I have discovered so far. The great success of my first series was word of mouth reader advertising as far as I could tell. As I continue looking into this subject I'll periodically report back to CBW with any developments. And if anybody has already discovered the magic formula, please let me know.

Regards, Marshall S Thomas

How to Join the Virginia Writers Club

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

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

CRITIQUE GROUPS AND NETWORKING

The groups listed are all inclusive and meant for writers at every stage in their career. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the contact person listed. Come join our community of talent!

Williamsburg Groups

Williamsburg Writers Critique Group - 2nd and 4th Thursdays 1 p.m.

The group meets at the home of Elizabeth Brown. Members email their work to all members around three or four days in advance to give others time to review it. The average length is six to ten pages. The other members review and critique the work and come prepared to give oral feedback to the writer. Some bring a hard copy to support their thoughts and others send emails with their remarks. Each writer has a turn getting feedback and critiquing all the others. The average time we meet is two and a half hours. If you don't have any work to submit that week, that is fine. We all have down times. All remarks are meant to be helpful and to support the writers in their quest to improve their art. If you have any questions or you would like to attend, please contact Elizabeth by email ecomptonlee@yahoo.com or phone 804-654-1117.

The Williamsburg Writers Gathering - 3rd Tuesday, 10-noon

This group of writers--published and working to be published-- offers encouragement, support, and shares information in our rapidly changing world of writing. WWG meets the third Tuesday of each month from 10 to noon at the Williamsburg Regional Library in Room B. There is no sign up, membership, or dues. We get together to discuss the Art and Business of writing and are never quite sure what direction our conversation will take us. All are welcome. Contact: Lou Hamilton. louhamwrites@gmail.com

Mathews Open Mic

Open Mic at the Mathews Memorial Library - 2nd Sunday 1-3 p.m. (251 Main Street, Mathews, VA 23109)

Do you enjoy books on tape? Or, love a great short story or an inspiring or humorous poem? If so, come to Open Mic at the Library and hear local writers read their original work. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served. The events are free and open to the public. The Library invites all writers in the area to participate in the Open Mic. Arrive on time to sign up to be included on the program. Readers will be limited to one of the following: prose up to 2,500 words, five poems of no more than 50 lines each, or five haiku. No book chapters please, unless they stand alone as independent stories. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy the works written by the many talented writers living in this community. (804) 725-5747.

Northern Neck

Rappatamac Writers Critique Group—Lancaster Courthouse - 1st Thursday, eat at 11 a.m., share until 2 p.m. at Historic Lancaster Tavern, Route 3 in Lancaster Courthouse.

Tappahannock - 3rd Thursday, eat at noon, meet 1-3 p.m. at Java Jacks Cafe, Route 360/17 in Tappahannock.

Do you have stories to share? Would you like to write your memories for your children and grandchildren? Does a spectacular sunset move you to poetry? Come, join the Rappatamac Writers Critique group where you will find enthusiastic support and gentle critiques to help you on your way—along with fun and laughter to make your journey a pleasant one. If you like to write or listen, have a song in your heart or a poem in your soul, join us once or twice a month, at either or both locations.

The Rappatamac Writers—where the science of writing meets the art of persuasion—is part of the Chesapeake Bay Writers Club, a chapter of Virginia Writers Club. The meetings are free, priceless.

Contact: Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net



Mathews Open Mic

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Do you enjoy books on tape? Or, love a great short story or an inspiring or humorous poem? If so, come to Open Mic at the Library and hear local writers read their original work. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served. The events are free and open to the public. The Library invites all writers in the area to participate in the Open Mic. Arrive on time to sign up to be included on the program. Readers will be limited to one of the following: prose up to 2,500 words, five poems of no more than 50 lines each, or five haiku. No book chapters please, unless they stand alone as independent stories. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy the works written by the many talented writers living in this community. (804) 725-5747.

Aromas Coffeehouse

and Word4Word Poets
present



Sign-up @ 6:30 pm Poetry@ 7:00 pm

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

First Tuesday Open Mic Poetry

We love, support, and encourage First Time Readers.
Email for Challenge! Hosted by: Ann Shalaski / ashalaski@msn.com

WAYS CBW HELPS YOU WITH PROMOTION

Promotion Page in the Newsletter

CBW will print your sales brochure as part of the CBW newsletter. You need to submit copy--edited, correct spelling, no abbreviations. We will *not* edit your submission. Limit your copy to 500 words. Submit a high-resolution copy of the cover in jpg format. This file must be separate and not embedded in the copy. Be sure to include locations where the book can be purchased. Send your information to CBWreply@gmail.com, and we will add a separate page to the newsletter for your book promotion!

Are you sharing your news?

Send a short note about what you've been doing: recent publications, classes you've taught, literary conferences you've attended, awards you've received. See the Member News and Notes for some great examples of what you can share. CBWreply@gmail.com.

Have you joined our Facebook page?

You can post announcements of all kinds: book signings, special events, classes and programs. Anything you want others to know about...especially when you publish something! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesBayWriters/>

How to be Interviewed on the Chesapeake Bay Writers Second Monday Talk Radio Show

We invite authors of recently published books to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to be interviewed by Neal Steele on XTRA 99.1 FM. Neal is a skillful interviewer who helps authors feel right at home talking to him. Listeners will be delighted to hear the inside story of your most recent book. Podcasts are uploaded to the CBW website so you can use the link on your own website or in publicity to let people hear about your book after the interview.

Please email me at tracygl@cox.net or call 804-815-9954. I will forward to you the show guidelines. Please do not call the station – this is the only way you can arrange to be on the show. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Tracy Lanum



Williamsburg BOOK FESTIVAL

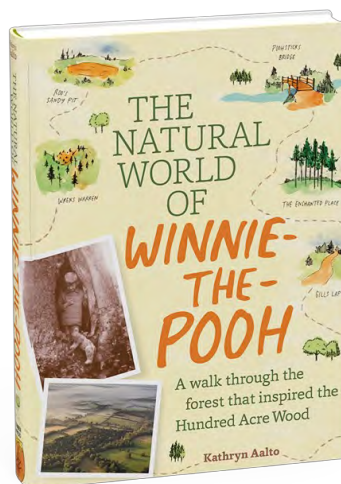
**Saturday, October 7 at the Stryker Center
412 North Boundary Street, Williamsburg**

<http://www.williamsburgbookfestival.com/>

Book Fair, Workshops, Presentations, and Panels, and an Evening with Kathryn Aalto,
Exploring Creativity, Writing, Gardening, and the Inspiration for Pooh's Hundred Acre Wood

Headliner:

**New York Times Bestselling
Author Kathryn Aalto**



The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh

A Walk through the Forest that Inspired the Hundred Acre Wood



Chesapeake Style magazine “Serves and Celebrates the Chesapeake Bay Region and its People, Past, Present and Future” and provides a local venue for new and experienced writers. Chesapeake Bay Writers have long had a strong presence in the magazine.

Ellie Bavuso had artwork and these CBW members had articles in the magazine recently: Carol J. Bova, Tracy Lanum, Charlene Talcott.

Dawn Brotherton's middle grade book, *Nicole's New Friend*, and Gail Priest's *Annie Crow Knoll Trilogy* were reviewed in *Books in Style*.

These CBW Members have regularly appearing columns: Carol J. Bova, Joy Burch, Ellen Dugan, Ann Eichenmuller, and Charlene Talcott. (Look for Joy Brenda Burch's photo of Athena every issue on page two.)

CBW member Janet Abbott Fast is CBW's Director of Membership and *Chesapeake Style's* Editor, Publisher, Chief Cook & Bottle Washer.

CHESAPEAKE *Style* MAGAZINE

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

Chesapeake Style offers *Books in Style* reviews for members of CBW. Reviews are books by authors who are members of CBW or of the critique groups.

Right now, Email chestyle@hughes.net or go to www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/CSBookReviews.htm and ask for Guidelines and Deadlines.

You will be glad you did!

- You wrote a book.
- You want it reviewed.
- Ask someone to review your book.
- Send an email requesting

Guidelines and Deadlines.

- The person reviews the book and submits it (and a graphic of the cover) to *Chesapeake Style* for publication, according to Guidelines.



Get the latest in the Lady Tigers' Series

Nicole's New Friend



Meet the author
Dawn Brotherton

Book Launch Party!

Saturday, September 16

12:30-3:30

Sweet Frog

Williamsburg New Town

4907 Courthouse St,

Williamsburg, VA 23188

**RAFFLES
GIVEAWAYS**

www.LadyTigersFastpitch.com

Other books in the series:



From author
Dawn Brotherton

www.LadyTigersFastpitch.com



In Search of Writers in Style

In 2014, *Chesapeake Style* magazine launched a new column, Writers in Style, with 500-word articles contributed by board members and members of CBW and associated critique of the Chesapeake Bay Writers. The opportunity is being extended for this year's upcoming issues.

The theme of the column is writing, and previous articles have been eclectic. They can be viewed in the *Chesapeake Style* archives at www.chesapeakestyle.com:

Chesapeake Style is published eight times a year, and 10,000 copies are distributed in April, May, June, July, August, September, and October, with 15,000 copies for the Winter issue in November at locations throughout the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck and at the Williamsburg General Store. Please email submissions with a subject of Writers in Style to: Janet A Fast chesapeakestyle@hughes.net.

Thank you,



2016—2017 Officers & Board

Carol Bova, President
PO Box 716, Mathews, VA 23109
804-725-6163, cjbova@mindspring.com

Ellen Dugan, Vice President,
901 Oak Hill Road, Lancaster VA 22503
(804)716-9824, ellens.ink@comcast.net

Ann Skelton, Secretary
2821 Bennetts Pond Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23185
757-903-2896, ann.skelton39@gmail.com

Jacqueline Ingram, Treasurer
1034 Kingston Lane, North, VA 23128
(804)357-3421, jackieingram@mpwifi.com

Sharon Dillon, Directory Publicity
5008 Liza Lane, Williamsburg, VA 23188
(757) 876-6185, energywriter.cox.net

Janet Abbott Fast, Director Membership
423 Rose Hill Dr. Warsaw, VA 22572
804-333-0628, cbwmembership@gmail.com

Charlene Talcott, Director Programs
41 Lookout Point Lane, Lancaster, VA 22503
(804)462-0227 andychar90@gmail.com

Joy Brenda Burch, Newsletter
9310 Lyndonway Dr, Richmond, VA 23229
(804)935-8979, cbwnews@gmail.com

To contact the Board: CBWreply@gmail.com

Frank Milligan—Past President

Chesapeake Bay Writers Bylaw Article II Objectives: To further the craft of writing. To provide members with opportunities for connecting and exchanging ideas with others who share similar interests; to assist and encourage members in their efforts to achieve their writing related goals; to offer educational and informative programs about writing and marketing finished works. **Visit our website at: www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org.**

Chesapeake Bay Writers, P.O. Box 324, North, VA 23128