



Bay Writers News

www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org

Volume XXV• Issue 1

Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

February 2018

President's Message

More than fifty years ago, Bob Dylan wrote the lyrics to "The Times They Are A-Changin'." Change was in the wind then: social, technical, scientific, political and personal. Like others coming into young adulthood at that time, those changes influenced my life. I never imagined then that I would one day use my writing to influence and change a small part of the world around me after the turn of the century. The Chesapeake Bay Writers, as part of the Virginia Writers Club, gave me the encouragement and resources to do that, as it has for so many other writers.

CBW has changed too, from the club established by the close-knit group of founding members to a diverse group of writers spread out over the Tidewater region of Virginia and beyond. We have two student members in high school now, and the Board has plans to encourage more young writers to join.

CBW has used available technology to take online reservations and membership applications and renewals, while PayPal allows members to use debit and credit cards, as well as PayPal accounts. This has simplified our accounting and record keeping, and it offers members payment alternatives. Checks are still accepted through snail mail to cover all the options.

Perhaps the biggest recent change in CBW is the number of volunteers who signed up through the online membership forms. These volunteers are the key to our future growth and strength. To each volunteer, I send my personal thanks, and a thank you from your Board of Directors.

This is my last newsletter message as President of CBW, which signals the next change ahead: the election of CBW's officers and directors for 2018-2019 at our meeting on Wednesday, February 14. Please make every effort to attend and wish them well!

Dan Duke, entertainment editor of *The Virginian-Pilot*, will speak on "Fake News and Non-Fiction."

I thank each member, founding through our newest, for making Chesapeake Bay Writers the great regional resource it has become. It has been an honor to serve as your President for the past four years. I will follow the example of Frank Milligan in being a mentor and supporter of the Board as Immediate Past President, and I thank Frank for his steadfast support, wise counsel and commonsense solutions. We also thank Charlotte Talcott for her work as Director - Programs. We appreciate her hard work in arranging our programs!

With all best wishes,
Carol J. Bova, President

Save the Dates

Feb 11: Reply Date for Feb meeting.

Feb 14: CBW Luncheon Meeting and Election, Williamsburg; Speaker: Dan Duke on "Fake News and Non-fiction"

NOTE:

Members must be current in 2018 dues to be eligible to vote.

Mar 5: CBW Board Mtg.



ELECTION NOTICE

The Chesapeake Bay Writers Bylaws state that elections will be held at the first meeting of each even-numbered year. A nominating committee chosen by the Board of Directors shall propose a slate of candidates. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the time of the election as long as the person(s) so nominated have agreed to serve. Approval requires a majority vote of voting members present. *Thank you to Ann Skelton and Ellen Dugan for their help in preparing the slate of candidates.*

The Slate of Candidates proposed by the Nominations Committee

President:	Grace M. DeLeesie
Vice President:	Ellen Dugan
Secretary:	Ann Skelton
Treasurer:	Jackie Ingram
Director-Membership	Janet Abbott Fast

Director-Programs	Susan Williamson
Director-Publicity	Sharon Dillon
Director-Library Liaison	Ann C. Eichenmuller
Ex Officio: Newsletter Editor	Joy Brenda Burch
Immediate Past President	Carol J. Bova

Plan to Join Us on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 for Our Luncheon Meeting and Election at Center Street Grill in Williamsburg!

Social Hour at 11, Luncheon Served at Noon with Election and Program to follow

Dan Duke will speak on "Fake News and Non-Fiction."

Dan is entertainment editor at *The Virginian-Pilot*, directing coverage of arts and entertainment, and the Flavor section. In 23 years at The Pilot, he also has worked as a copy editor, copy desk chief and assistant business editor, while staying busy outside the newsroom as, at various times, a Cub Scout den leader, a youth soccer coach, a writing and editing teacher and an amateur musician trying to do right by his 1981 Gibson ES 335.

Menu Choices are:

Cranberry and Walnut Salad Spinach and Arugula tossed with pear white balsamic vinaigrette and topped with dried cranberries, sliced apples, sliced prosciutto, walnuts and feta cheese crumbles.

House Smoked North Carolina BBQ Slow smoked pork BBQ tossed in our North Carolina style BBQ sauce. Served on a sesame Kaiser roll with sides of slaw and French fries.

Chicken Salad Croissant Oven Roasted chicken breast diced and mixed with a lemon dressing, smoked gouda, pecans, onions, and celery. Served on a warm brioche with a side of fruit.

French Dip Thinly sliced steak served on a baguette and topped with sautéed onions and provolone cheese. Served with french fries and a mushroom jus for dipping.

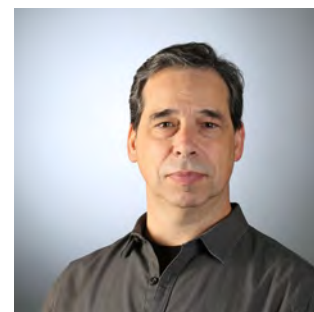
All menu choices include soft drinks, coffee or tea and Chocolate Mousse for dessert. Members \$21, Guests \$26.

Reply by Feb. 11 Please! **The reservation form is online at:** <http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org>.

We look forward to seeing you then!

Center Street Grill is at 5101 Center Street, Williamsburg, 23188.

Their directions page is here: http://www.centerstreetgrill.com/location_contact.html





Welcome Aboard New Members!

Paige Brotherton

Paige Brotherton is a sophomore at Bruton High School. When not rowing with the Williamsburg Boat Club or running track for the Bruton Panthers, Paige can be found writing in her journals or working on her art. She loves to read, but she loves creating even more. Her first book, *Avery Accepts Herself*, will be released in March 2018 by Blue Dragon Publishing, LLC.

Patricia Duggan

I've had four articles published in trade journals. The first was in 1988; the most recent was in June 2017. I've also been keeping a blog for the past two years. Now that I'm not working full-time, I am spending more time writing and looking forward to growing as an author.

Craig Shirley

Presidential historian and a *New York Times* bestselling author of six books, including four critically acclaimed works on Ronald Reagan, as well as the only authorized biography of former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. Currently writing additional books on Reagan's career and life, as well as working on a book on the life of Mary Ball Washington, George Washington's father. Craig is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling book *December 1941*. He is a frequent guest on Fox News, C-SPAN, Newsmax, One America News and national radio, and is the visiting Reagan Lecturer of Eureka College (Reagan's alma mater), and lectures frequently at the Reagan Library and the Reagan Ranch. He is a widely sought-after commentator, and was noted in *American Conservative* as having a "prodigious output" of books. He and his wife, Zorine, reside at Ben Lomond, a 300-year old Georgian mansion, and at Trickle Down Point on the Corrotoman River. They are the parents of four children: Matthew, Andrew, Taylor, and Mitchell.

John Tyner

I have recently published my first book *Figment* and I am currently working on my second manuscript, *Broke*. Both of these books are romance novels, however I plan on writing a murder mystery *Out of Time* and, for my daughter, a young adult sci-fi story *The Day the Music Died*. I am originally from the Boston area and moved to Virginia about 25 years ago where I attended Christopher Newport University. I never considered myself to be a strong reader or writer, however with a superior professor, I have been motivated to be an author. I now hope to encourage others with my stories.



Writing Advice

Avoid clichés like the plague. (They're old hat.)



MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

Dawn Brotherton launched "Author Academy" with classes on "How to Go From Writer to Published Author." www.blue-dragon-publishing.com/author-academy.

Grace M. DeLeesie published her new book, *The Healer Book IV, The Day 12 Witches Burned*. Available at www.gracemdeleesie.com.

Sharon Dillon's second book, *Gemstones and Dimes*, is now available. This book contains fiction short stories, memoir pieces, flash fiction and more. You can find it at Amazon and other online sources for \$16. If you want an autographed copy, please contact me at energywriter@cox.net.

Roger Gosden published *A Biologist in Paradise*, a celebration of science and nature by someone who loves them in 40 essays and memoirs. Available at Amazon.com. Any profit goes to a local literacy charity. A print book will follow.

Mary Montague Sikes will be Neal Steele's radio show guest on the CBW segment, Feb. 12. She will be talking about her new children's book, *An Artful Animal Alphabet*, that she wrote and illustrated.

Carol J. Bova, Dawn Brotherton, Greg Lilly, and Mary Montague Sikes participated in the NaNoWriMo kick-off in November at the James City County Library.



2017 Virginia Writers Club Golden Nib Contest

Congratulations to Ann Eichenmuller, who won Second Place in Fiction in the state-wide contest!

Kudos to Our CBW level contest Golden Nib Winners:

Poetry

1st Place: Ellen Dugan Second Place: Paul Stimson 3rd Place: Sharon Dorsey

Fiction

1st Place: Ann Eichenmuller 2nd Place: Vic Brown 3rd Place: Sharon Dorsey

Non-Fiction

1st Place: Cindy Freeman 2nd Place: Carol J. Bova 3rd Place: Paul Stimson

Thank you to our local contest judges!

Alice Cooper, Director, Lancaster Community Library
Diane Rebertus, Director, Gloucester County Public Library
Kevin Smith, Director, York County Public Library.



Ann Eichenmuller





MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES (cont'd)

All Stars Gala Contest

Thirteen members read for the All Stars Gala Contest, and all the entries were so good, the results were close! Thank you to those who participated:

Susan Williamson, Gail Kenna, Sharon Dorsey, Mary Duly Guy, Cindy Freeman, Roger Gosden, Sharon Dillon, Tracy Lanum, Sarah Honenberger, Ellen Dugan, Peter Stipe, Frank Milligan, Peggy Newcomb

And our winners were:

Roger Gosden, First Place

Sally Honenberger, Second Place

Frank Milligan, Third Place



Sharon Dillon Winner of Rick Bailey Humor Award with CBW President Carol J. Bova






Elizabeth Goesel's book, *How to Create a Family Museum*, is now being offered on Kickstarters "Make 100" Project. This is the link:

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/2031404744/how-to-create-a-family-museum?ref=discovery>

I made the first announcement about my book in the November 2017 Newsletter, which at that time the book was available on Amazon. It is now on the publishers website: www.HeritageBooks.com

Liz Goesel, Family Museum Curator

John Bray will conduct two fiction writing workshops at the Christopher Newport University Writers Conference in May



Author Academy

WHERE
3204 Ironbound Road, Suite D
(Offices of BMG Safe)
 Williamsburg, Virginia
 Five Forks area, across the street from Chesapeake Bank on the church-side of Ironbound. Turn on Ingram Rd, then turn left into the parking lot.


The Author's World; Creative Writers; Editing;
 Realistic Expectations on Road to Publishing;
 Publishing Options and Pointers; Branding and
 Selling Yourself as an Author; Social Media;
 Marketing; and more!

**WWW.BLUE-DRAGON-PUBLISHING.COM/
 AUTHOR-ACADEMY**


INFO@BLUE-DRAGON-PUBLISHING.COM

**LEARN HOW TO
 GO FROM
 WRITER TO
 PUBLISHED
 AUTHOR**

**2018
 ACADEMY DATES**
 Tuesdays from 6-9pm
 Feb 6, 20
 Mar 6, 20
 Apr 10, 24
 May 8, 22



Blue Dragon
Publishing



Duggan Difference LLC



BAY TO OCEAN WRITERS CONFERENCE

Bay to Ocean Writers Conference

March 10, 2018



March 10, 2018 at Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, Maryland

For more information: <https://www.easternshorewriters.org>

Sponsored by the

ESWA
EASTERN SHORE WRITERS ASSOCIATION

CBW Second Monday Radio Show with Neal Steele on XTRA 99.1 FM

For those of you who missed the Neal Steele interview on January 8th, here is a quick review. Susan Williamson was the recent author being interviewed. She received a BS in Animal Science at the University of Kentucky, and a MS at the University of California, Davis. She is an avid reader and writer. Susan currently resides in Williamsburg with her husband. She is a former board member of Winston-Salem Writers and a member of Chesapeake Bay Writers. Her most recent novel is *Turkman Captives*. Her main character is Madelaine Jones who is reeling from her husband's death in Afghanistan when her house explodes and a mysterious letter indicates her husband might not have been a war casualty. Her desire to learn the truth involves her in international intrigue on three continents as she and an Irish intelligence officer search for answers. Curiously Susan used the name Madelaine after her best long-time friend who was visiting at the time and answered a few questions asked by Neal as well.

Mary Montague Sikes (Monti) will be the February 12th interviewee. *An Artful Animal Alphabet* featuring her paintings of favorite animals, will be discussed. Old Pompey, the last alligator that lived in the lobby of the Jefferson Hotel is featured in the beginning of her book.

On March 12th, we will hear from Gail Wilson Kenna, who published a book in September titled *The Contumacious Cat*. Her intentions for the book are entirely charitable. Locally she is donating proceeds of each book to the campaign to build an animal shelter in Lancaster Country and also to the Boys and Girls Club.

And be sure to call me so I can put you in the limelight for further Neal Steele interviews. The months of June through December 2018 are available thus far. Do not miss this golden opportunity. It is great fun!

Tracy Lanum, Second Monday Radio Show Coordinator (804-815-9954)



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. (Lancaster Tavern, Route 3 in Lancaster Courthouse)

Tappahannock - 3rd Thursday, eat at noon, meet 1-3 p.m. (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

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First Tuesday Open Mic Poetry (Newport News) Presented by Aromas Coffeehouse and Word4Word Poets



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

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

We love, support, and encourage First Time Readers. Email for Challenge! Hosted by: Ann Shalaski / ashalaski@msn.com
Aromas Coffeehouse, 706 Town Center Dr, Newport News, 23606

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.



From The Muse Writers Center www.the-muse.org

Writers Happy Hour Every Wednesday!

Join us **every Wednesday from 5:15-7 p.m. at a different location** in Norfolk's Ghent for an informal get-together where area writers and Muse teachers, students, and friends enjoy conversation, camaraderie, and drinks. Feel free to let us know you're coming on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheMuseWritersCenter.

The Word: Literary Open Mic

Thursday, February 22, 7:30 p.m., at Zeiders American Dream Theater (24573 Bank St, Town Center, Virginia Beach, 23462, 499-0317)

A collaboration between **Zeiders American Dream Theater, The Muse Writers Center, Hampton Roads Writers, and Tidewater Writers, The Word** welcomes diverse voices and fans of poetry, spoken word, and all forms of creative writing. We encourage all ages and backgrounds to come together and share in the mutual adoration of words in a comfortable, laid-back, and encouraging atmosphere. This is your chance to take the mic! Read your own work or share a favorite. Admission is a suggested \$5 donation. Those looking to speak/perform may sign up at the door. Limited spots! Let us know you're coming on Facebook: www.facebook.com/events/2070003423219567.

We're Open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays!

In addition to being open **Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Wednesdays from 12:30-5 p.m.**, we are **now open to the public on Thursdays from 6-9 p.m.** Come join us and write, read, or learn more about The Muse. The Muse Writers Center is at 2200 Colonial Ave. Suite #3 in Norfolk's Ghent neighborhood (23517)—in the Ghent Market Shops.

Join The Writers Reservoir on Facebook

Visit www.facebook.com/groups/WritersReservoir and **connect with other writers** and share articles, essays and personal experiences about **being a writer in the world** today as well as information about **places to submit, contests, conferences**, and more. The Writers Reservoir is more than a writers' resource, it is a writers' community! It is a place where writers can share, learn, connect and find that often elusive creative spark. The Writers Reservoir is an open Facebook group. **All writers are welcome to join and send invitations to join.**

Words of Wisdom from Famous Authors

Oscar Wilde. Be unpredictable. Wilde suggested that "consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative."



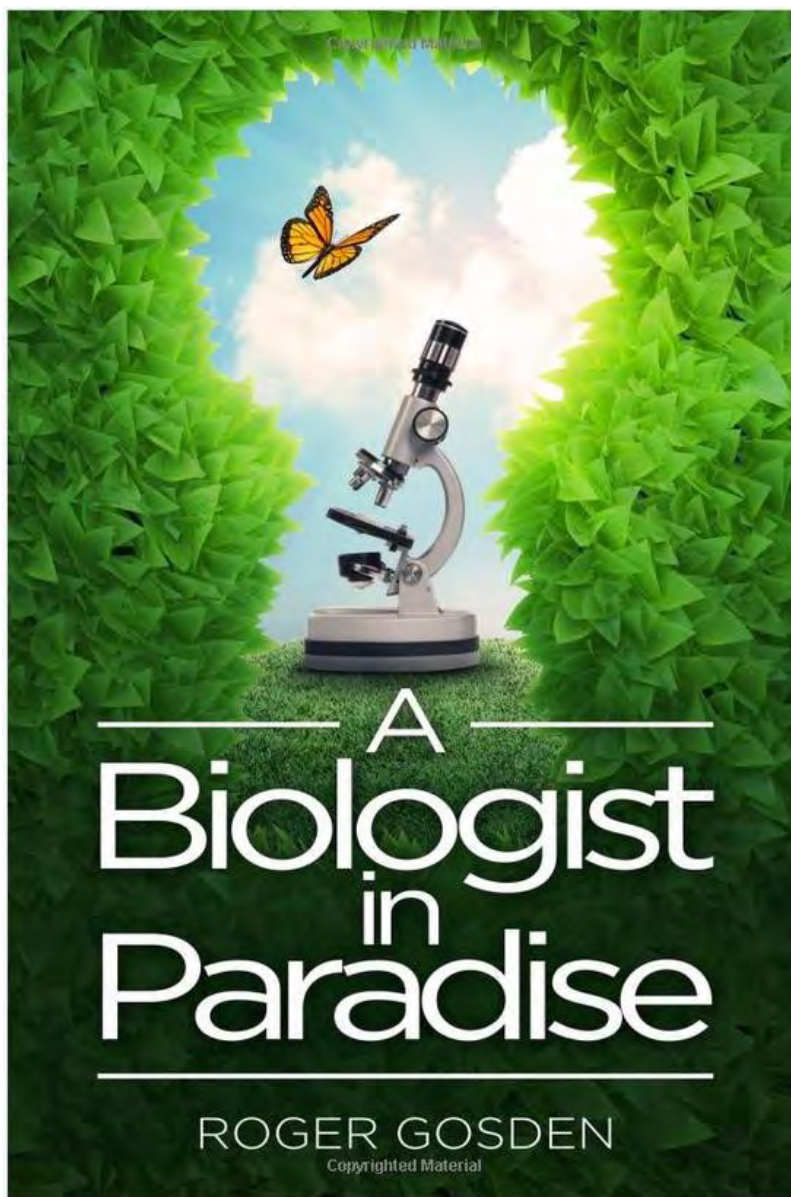
A Biologist in Paradise. Musings on Nature and Science by Roger Gosden

This collection of 40 essays and memoirs celebrates the author's love of nature and science. They reflect a deep curiosity about biology, including our fellow creatures, and his concern for planetary and human health. Not a science book for scientists nor a nature book for naturalists, it is a book for browsing and offered to everyone who shares those cares, and not only for information but also contemplation. Stories are seasoned with humor and quotations from favorite writers and poets. The straightjacket of academia was cast off for the freedom of writing in a hopeful tone for an anxious age.

Available from Amazon at \$2.99 for Ebook and \$13.99 for print edition (currently \$12.65). Profits from sales

at Jamestowne Bookworks are donated to Literacy for Life.

The author trained in reproductive science and embryology at Cambridge University under Nobel laureate Robert Edwards, and has been a research director at Edinburgh, McGill, and Cornell Universities. He is now a writer, master naturalist and Visiting Scholar at the College of William & Mary.





THE HEALER

BOOK IV

THE DAY 12 WITCHES BURNED

Grace M. DeLeesie

www.gracemdeleesie.com



**"The Situation & The Story" at The Muse Writers Center
A Creative Nonfiction Writing Workshop for Veterans, Service
Members, Military Family Members, & Caregivers
Saturdays 1-3:30 p.m. 6 sessions begin March 17. Register by February 18, 2018.**

This free class for veterans, service members, military family members, and caregivers, will dive into specific scenes and situations of your own lives and excavate the deeper story within. You will write in short bursts each week, adding layer upon layer to your story, with the goal of having a solid personal essay or memoir chapter by the end of the class. You will focus not only on what you write, but how and why you write. The wonderful nonfiction works of both veteran and civilian authors will serve as inspiration and guidance. Each class will consist of a workshop session, a writing exercise, and instruction time, and the course will culminate with a public reading for friends, family, and the community. Open to: veterans, military service members, military family members, & caregivers of all levels and experience. Advanced registration/application required through The Armed Services Arts Partnership at <http://goo.gl/forms/Ohn0qvgS4wsPq2bq1> to register by Feb. 18. For more information: www.themuse.org/workshops.html#veteran

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.



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 March, May, June, July, August, September, and October, with 14,000 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 chestyle@hughes.net

Thank you,



2016—2017 Officers & Board

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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