



Bay Writers News

Volume XXI • Issue 2

Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

April 2014

MEETING LINDBERGH

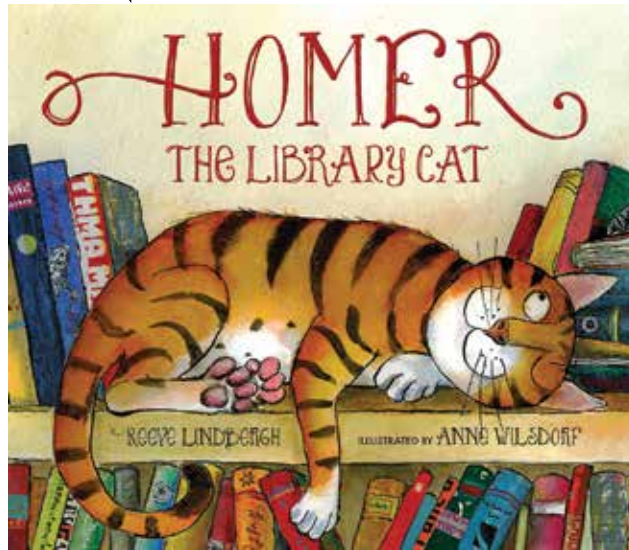
By Dr Jane Park Cutler

It never happened. It was a wish unfulfilled. As a teenager in the mid-60's I wanted to meet Charles Lindbergh. I don't even remember why it was so important to me. Maybe because he was so courageous and did what no one had ever done before. Maybe because he symbolized my hope for my own future. Maybe I too could do what no one, at least in my family, had ever done. My dreams were not of flying across the ocean. I simply wanted to go to college.

I did go to college but I never met Charles Lindbergh. But neither did I forget that I had wanted to. Little did I know that one day I would meet his daughter—a daughter I never knew he and Anne Morrow Lindbergh had. Truth be told, I didn't know they had any more children after their first son was kidnapped and killed.

Fast forward thirty years to the late 90's. The school my children attended in Indianapolis needed money. No surprise there! Instead of a bake sale or auction, I decided to create an educational event. No one thought money could be made that way but I was determined to make it happen. Maybe we could draw a crowd if Walter Cronkite or Jimmy Carter would speak. I quickly learned that was a pipe dream. Do you have any idea how much those guys charged to do such a thing? I crossed their names off my list!

I explained to a New York booking agent what I wanted to do. Apparently my idea intrigued her and she asked why it appealed to me. I don't know why it was relevant to our conversation, but I revealed to her my unfulfilled dream of meeting Charles Lindbergh. Her reply surprised me, "You can't meet him but how would you like to meet his daughter Reeve?" She went on to



explain that the Lindbergh's had four more children after the kidnapping. Reeve was their youngest daughter. She met the criteria of what I needed for my event. She would appeal to the older generation who grew up with her parents' generation. She had written books for both adults and children and would appeal to younger generations. And, unlike many authors, she was a terrific speaker. Furthermore, her fee was in my price range. The deal was sealed!

We created quite a buzz and scheduled various

events for Reeve Lindbergh's visit to Indianapolis. We even had a full page ad in the *Indianapolis Monthly*. Then I got the phone call that you just don't want to get: Reeve had to cancel because her mother's health was failing. What a nightmare! The press releases were already issued. Hundreds of her books we were to sell had already been ordered. The venues and caterers were reserved. A flurry of phone calls ensued as I watched my great idea collapse.

At the same time, I had nothing but respect for Reeve. I thought her priorities were exactly right. Her place was with her mother. I knew all too well what it was like to watch your mother die. Within a couple of days, it was no longer Reeve's agent talking to my agent. Reeve herself contacted me. She so appreciated my understanding of her situation. She promised that she would reschedule her visit to Indianapolis; that we would be the first public appearance she would make when her life settled down; And, she would waive her fee, knowing that we could not recoup some of the deposits we had made for the cancelled event. How do you not love a woman like that!

Anne Morrow Lindbergh did survive that winter and Reeve Lindbergh did come to Indianapolis. She

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.



that book to my own children in the late 80's.

Reeve and I stayed in touch the next several years. We both had to deal with some unexpected twists of fate. There was the news of Charles Lindbergh's secret families in Germany. I called to commiserate. Sure, she was furious for a while, but rapidly moved on to embrace her half-siblings and came to new insights about her father. When my sister died in 2007, Reeve was especially sympathetic, having lost her own sister in 1993.

thrilled every audience from kindergarten children and their parents to the kindly, elderly gentleman who reminisced about seeing Charles Lindbergh in 1927 when he had toured the country after his famous flight. Reeve graciously autographed people's personal souvenirs and memories were shared. Every event was a huge success. I was enthralled with Reeve Lindbergh.

While she was in town, I had arranged for Reeve to visit the Columbia Club which had hosted her father during his celebratory tour of 1927. They had a display case of memorabilia of the event, including the menu of that dinner. In short order, Reeve offered to return to Indianapolis, to this Club to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Lindbergh's flight to Paris.

Before that visit, Reeve and I shared the sadness of death. This time her mother did not survive, dying in February 2001, shortly after my mother-in-law's death that January. We mourned together. We became friends.

True to her word, Reeve returned to Indianapolis in 2002 after the National Air and Space Museum's celebration of the anniversary of her father's flight. The Columbia Club hosted the seven-course meal that was served in 1927, though the chef was quite miffed to put carrots and celery stuffed with pimento cheese on the table! We turned the event into a fundraiser for the Club's charities and my personal choice of a center for grieving children where I volunteered. Again, the capacity crowd was captivated. My admiration for Reeve grew.

Reeve was interested in the charity I had chosen. She shared with me about her son Johnny's death when he was 20 months old. With some trepidation, I asked her if she would meet with the families and sponsors of our Center and tell them about how she coped with Johnny's death. Ever so gracious, Reeve agreed and the next year came back to Indianapolis. I will never forget her talking about that awful experience of finding Johnny dead in his crib. That very night, finding solace in writing, she penned a lullaby to her son. That rhyme became *Midnight Farm*. Completely unaware that Reeve was the daughter of the man I had longed to meet, I had read

About that time, while my husband and I were deciding to retire early and move to Deltaville, Reeve and her husband were dealing with the diagnosis of her brain tumor. She writes about these and other life events in her memoir *Forward From Here* published in 2008.

While I was busy settling into our new home, Reeve and her family were compiling letters and journal entries of her mother from 1947 - 1986 that would become *Against Wind and Tide*. I couldn't wait to get Reeve to Deltaville; she didn't need much persuasion to include us on the tour for that book in 2012. Her itinerary: New York, Deltaville, Washington, DC, and Los Angeles. Sweet! People crowded into the libraries in Deltaville and Mathews to hear her. Reeve did not disappoint. Mary Lib Hoinkes wrote a glowing account for the *Southside Sentinel* of "the remarkable glimpse into this part of our history."

Ever since the tragic fire that destroyed the Deltaville Maritime Museum, I've wanted to help rebuild that local treasure. Happily, Reeve will help do just that by appearing at the unveiling of new building on Thursday, April 24. She'll share with us about the Lindbergh Foundation's commitment to balancing technology and preserving nature, and take questions from the audience. There will be a reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m., with an autographed book and reserved seating included in these \$50 tickets. The lecture at 6:30 can be attended for \$15, sold only at-the-door that evening if space permits. Books will also be available for purchase at the Deltaville Maritime Museum.

Come, meet my friend Reeve Lindbergh!

Reprinted with permission from the Spring 2014 issue of Chesapeake Style.

Photos courtesy Dr. Jane Cutler.

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Reeve Lindbergh will be our CBW speaker on Wednesday, April 23, in Gloucester. Her topic will be "My writing process, the writing industry, and how it has changed over the years."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Looking for a Writer and Looking for Input

I believe that some events are meant to happen, and others are purely random, but two back-to-back unexpected happenings get my attention. The one that triggered this column came from outside our membership area.

"I have a publisher waiting for my material to take Text shape. She will edit. She and I are very excited about the Project I have been honing for the past 10 years. The trouble is—I am not a writer."

He's got the facts, stories, maps, art and charts. He needs a non-fiction writer to help him turn these into a book about a tug his family built in 1906 that is now a National Landmark--in time for the September Bicentennial celebrations at Ft. McHenry. If you are interested, contact Bob Pratt, eller.pratt@yahoo.com.

Now for why this connects to my President's Message.

I just inherited some grey boxes, a well-used paper shopping bag and a magazine holder, all filled with the history of the Chesapeake Bay Writers. I've only peeked here and there so far. Other demands and deadlines take precedence over curiosity. But I can't wait to see what might be housed in these humble containers. Something inspiring? Or simply accounting files?

Probably there's a little of both, but beyond enjoying the exploration of CBW's history, I'm hoping to find clues to help the Board focus on what our members want and need. For such a talented group

WELCOME ABOARD!

Steven T Crabill, from, Diggs, says, "I have had some success in writing, but now wish to pursue publication. I know what I want to write about, but need support, advice, critique and guidance from more experienced writers. I am the oldest of five siblings. Wonderful magic childhood, very supportive extended family, encouraged to use imagination, explore woods and all environment. Camping catch and release everything. Enlisted in Army, experienced hard side...combat arms Germany, Vietnam, lots of funerals, lots of sadness, joy and danger in life."

AMAZON SMILE

From **John Broadwater**

In case you haven't heard, Amazon has initiated a new way of selling that allows you to help your favorite charity. Essentially, Amazon has created a new portal into their massive online store. Instead of logging onto Amazon.com you instead log onto smile.amazon.com. The site will look identical to the one you're familiar

of writers, you collectively do not communicate well when we ask what you want or don't want.

If a person who's not a writer can find us and tell us what he needs, why don't our members? Perhaps that's a sign we're doing just fine, but sometimes, like the robot in that '80's movie, I want to tell you all, "Input, need input!"

CBWreply@gmail.com gets a message directly to the CBW Board. (To those who have contacted us, thank you. We do appreciate it.)

Look forward to seeing you at the April dinner meeting or hearing from you online!

Carol J. Bova, President

2014 CALENDAR

April 23

Dinner, Hayes/Gloucester

Reeve Lindbergh

June 18

Dinner, Tappahannock

Dr. Ivor Van Heerden

September 17

Lunch Meeting, TBA

November 19

All Stars Luncheon

Joe Sties, from Midlothian, says, "I have always loved to write, but have had little time until now to seriously pursue the craft of writing, whether for pleasure or pay.

Primary residence in Richmond area, but second home in Mathews where we spend a lot of time. I write poetry and over the last two years have written over 200 pieces, most of which have been copyrighted. A few have been published in the *Mathews/Gloucester Gazette*. My subject matter is varied with an emphasis on the natural environment."

with, except that it says Amazon Smile in the upper left hand corner. You simply log in, select your favorite charity, and if you remember to always log into smile.amazon.com, the company will donate a half percent of your eligible purchases to your charity. Please take advantage of this offer—you've got nothing to lose!



BOASTS, BLUSTERS AND GLOATS

Emeline Bailey had her essay *Decorating 2014* published in the *Virginia Gazette* on March 8.

John Bray's free verse poem *The Price Of Vengeance* has been accepted for publication by *Lost Coast Review* magazine for their spring issue.

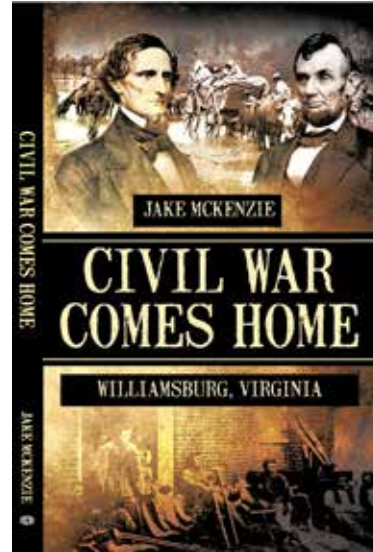
John Broadwater founded *Spritsail Press* in 2010, with the intent of publishing books in multiple genre, with a focus on maritime history and archaeology. On March 23, he released the first book: *Flights of Fancy*, by Harry Fancy, on Amazon.com. This collection of quirky short stories by an English colleague is available in print form, with a Kindle version to follow. Contact John at john.d.broadwater@gmail.com for more information.

Catherine C. Brooks will be signing books at Dilly Dally Emporium, Mathews, on Saturday, May 3, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Walk with Me* is history of post offices with details of Mathews County's 44 offices, *Didn't Know We Were Poor* tells about rural life during the Great Depression, *War Brought Trials and Anxiety* shows what life at home was like and many events during World War II, *Photographic Memories of Mathews County* shows photos from 1890s to the 1980s with stories accompanying a few, and *Celebrating Restorations* tells about life after World War II at home and a few foreign countries.

The week of April 28th NBC TV Bristol, Virginia and NBC TV Bluefield, W. Va. will interview **David Cariens** about his book *Virginia Tech: Make Sure It Doesn't Get Out*. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* is going to write a story about it for the Sunday April 13 edition. Cariens will hold a book signing at the Winchester Book Gallery on May 10th and the *Winchester Star* is going to run a story/review of the book at that time. Los Angeles-based *Deadline Hollywood* plans on reviewing the book in conjunction with the upcoming 7th anniversary of the rampage on April 16th.

A quarterly veterans magazine, *Thunder Run* has published **Steve Crabill's** submitted Viet Nam related short story, *Ode to Da Pineapple*. he says, "I've been enjoying reading stories with others, during Open Mike Sundays at Bay School of the Arts. Last Sunday of each month. Attendance is growing, it is really a fun event, so...ya'll come, ya heah?"

Jeff Drifmeyer's sales of *Civil War Comes Home* were strong during Black history month, reflecting growing interest in better understanding not only the significant history associated with Fort Monroe, but more importantly, the role the contrabands played in placing the abolition of slavery on the national political



agenda. Civil War history buffs will soon encamp throughout the Peninsula, marking the May 5 anniversary of the Battle of Williamsburg, after which casualties from both sides filled every public space and many private homes in town. Stories of hardship and determination paint a realistic picture of what life was like for townspeople, slaves, and students of the

College of William & Mary during these difficult years. *Civil War Comes Home*, by **Jake McKenzie**, (pen name) ISBN 978-1-4772-6523-9 by CBW member **Jeff Drifmeyer** is available at the College of William and Mary book store or e-book at Amazon.com.

Feather Schwartz Foster has book signings for *The First Ladies*: William & Mary Bookstore, Saturday, April 19 and Saturday, April 26. Check out her story about *Abigail Adams* on *Angie's Diary*, and international e-zine! tinyurl.com/pk7k22g. And *Potus-Flotus-Nifty People* blogs at www.featherfoster.wordpress.com.

From **Elizabeth Goesel**. *How to Create a Family Museum*. Stop Throwing Or Giving Your Memories Away And Start Creating A Family Museum today. www.howtocreateafamilymuseum.blogspot.com/ It is about having fun selecting, displaying and honoring your family's history by creating a special place in your home that celebrates these items, giving a new meaning and value for you today and the future. The past has value. It teaches us who we are and where we came from. Creating a Family Museum is edifying, educational and most of all fun!

Roger Gosden presented his book about the New York surgeon Robert Morris at the Virginia Festival of the Book in March in the session about men whose work shaped modern America. He also published *The Connecticut Chestnut Crowd* in the *Journal of the American Chestnut Foundation* Jan/ Feb 2014 (remuneration was paid with nuts!).

The fourth novel from **Sarah Collins Honenberger** was released in late February, another river story set in a fictional Tappahannock, *Minding Henry Lewis*. When



eleven-year-old Henry Lewis drowns one fine April day, his teenage sister watches helplessly. Meeka doesn't know if she's angrier at herself or the white woman who also watches, unable to save him. As one family's tragedy becomes a quest for forgiveness and redemption for Meeka and Celie, the two become unlikely allies.

Sarah Collins Honenberger's review of **Rena Shipp's** third novel *Can't Hurry Love* was published in the March issue of *Chesapeake Style*.

Kathleen Toomey Jabs will be speaking to US Naval Academy English classes about writing and professional communication, 17 April. She will also discuss her novel, *Black Wings*, and its ties to her Academy experiences and her former professor and advisor.

Jeanne Johansen's, High Tide Publications is sponsoring a Late Bloomer book tour. Entitled *It's Never Too Late*, the participating authors are local writers who grew into published authors after mid-life. CBW authors **Julie Leverenz**, **Gloria Savage-Early**, **Paul Stimson** and **Narielle Living** will be part of the eight authors discussing their work. The first stop on the tour is the Meyera Oberndorf Central Library at Virginia Beach on June 14, at 1 p.m. The second stop is the Williamsburg Library on July 12, at 1 p.m. Both will end at 4 p.m. and are open free of charge to the public. Additional information is available at www.HighTidePublications.com.

Pamela K. Kinney has a new short story, *Let Demon Dogs Lie* in the just released anthology, *Southern Haunts: Devils in the Darkness*. It is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble. She will be a guest at Paracon at Boxwood Inn, April 19. She will also be a writer guest at Ravencon April 25-27 in Chesterfield.

Greg Lilly moderates the panel *The Art of Murder* at Malice Domestic in Bethesda, Maryland, May 2 – 4. The panel highlights authors who write art-related mysteries. Malice Domestic is an annual fan convention focused on the traditional mystery genre.

Barbara McLennan's new book, *The Wealth of Jamestown*, was featured on Family Literacy Night at Berkeley Middle School on February 27. The school district has distributed *The Wealth of Jamestown* to all middle and high school libraries in Williamsburg and James City County. Book signings are scheduled for March 29 at the William and Mary book store, at the Jamestown Settlement main gift shop on April 5, and at Barnes and Noble (Newtown) on April 12. *The Wealth of Jamestown* can be purchased at the Jamestown Settlement gift shop, from Amazon, and through www.WealthOfJamestown.com.

Kathleen Mix has sold a single title, romantic

suspense novel, *Sins of Her Father*, to Entangled Publishing. It will be released in both digital and print formats by Entangled's Edge imprint later this year.

Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Arlington, conducted their Annual African American Read-In on February 27. The featured writer this year was **Rena Roberts Shipp**. Her presentations were interactive, including questions and answers about the author and



her books. She also read excerpts from *Can't Hurry Love*. A former student of Rena's is a teacher at the school.

Mary Montague Sikes was guest speaker along with Gloucester author Roger Loring for the York River Circle King's Daughters luncheon on March 21 which had 200 attendees. Sikes talked about the Power of Words. She will discuss one of her novels at the meeting of a Williamsburg book club in May.

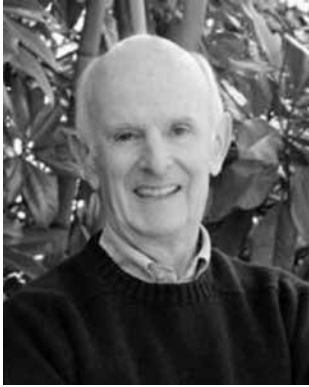
Paul Stimson had been invited to write for *Forward Movement Publications*, the publishing house of the Episcopal Church.

Jeff Toalson will be at Bennett Place Historic Site in Durham, NC on Saturday, April 26th signing copies of all three of his works.

E.S. (Ed) von Gehren has completed his most recent book of poetry, *Gathering Patterns*. This delightful collection of poetry and artistic design has chapters titled: For Children; Tender Thoughts; All in Perspective; Miscellaneous Musings; The Natural World; Seasons... and includes a beginning section with a few poems by his mother, to whom he attributes his interest in writing. Some of these poems will make you smile, some will make you laugh, some may stir your emotions, and some may make you think. But all will make you appreciate the skill and passion of this poetry and the poet who penned them. The book will be available for sale mid-April by contacting GehrenHausPress@cox.net.



DOWNED PEN



After a brief illness, **David George Ball**, noted local author, died peacefully March 21, 2014, surrounded by his family. He was 77. He was born Nov. 16, 1936, in Gloucester, England.

From 1989 to 1993 Mr. Ball served as Assistant Secretary of Labor for pensions and welfare benefits in the

George H.W. Bush administration. In that position, he was able to work towards extending the 401(k)

program to workers who did not have pensions and making this savings plan portable for millions of Americans. The regulation appeared in the Federal Register under his signature in October 1992.

A familiar figure around Colonial Williamsburg, Mr. Ball could often be seen in front of the Bruton Parish Shop on Duke of Gloucester Street, wearing his straw hat, greeting tourists and welcoming them to visit the shop where they could purchase an autographed copy of his book, *A Marked Heart*. He directed all of the proceeds from the sale of his book toward outreach through Bruton Parish Church, where he loved to attend services and read the lesson.

VIRGINIA WRITERS CLUB 2014 GOLDEN NIB STATEWIDE WRITING CONTEST

We're waiting for the official information from VWC for this year's contest to post on the CBW website, but here's a head-start based on last year's VWC rules.

There are three categories, Fiction, Nonfiction and Poetry. You may enter one piece per category: Fiction and Nonfiction up to 3,500 words; Poetry not longer than 50 lines.

VWC has very specific formatting rules and will disqualify any entry that doesn't follow their instructions, so watch for the details on the website and in the next newsletter. Contest rules require two copies by snail mail and one by email, so plan ahead to allow time for mailing.

There are ten VWC Chapters in the state. First-place winners from each Chapter are eligible for the state-wide contest—that means only 30 entries in the State competition—ten per category (fiction, nonfiction, poetry). Statewide Awards for each category: First Place-\$100; Second Place-\$50; Third Place-\$25.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

The Chesapeake Bay Writers Board voted at the March meeting to recommend **Elizabeth Stokes** to fill the vacancy as Director At Large on the board.

A confirmation vote will be held at the April meeting.

HAVE NEWS?

Email to:

cbwnews@gmail.com



Chesapeake Bay Writers contestants must be members in good-standing of CBW, as well as a member of the state organization.

Deadline for submission to CBW is June 30th (receipt Date)

First place winners in each category will receive a Chapter prize of \$25, to be presented at our September 2014 lunch meeting.

Manuscripts must be the original, unpublished work of the entrant, and must not have won a prize at any level in any other competition. The VWC State competition will allow entries published in your personal blogs. Writing published in blogs other than your own or on social network sites or in an online publication are ineligible and should not be submitted.

State winning entries in each category will be published in PDF format, on the VWC Web site. All other rights remain the property of the author.

Manuscripts submitted will not be returned.

CHESAPEAKE
style **MAGAZINE**

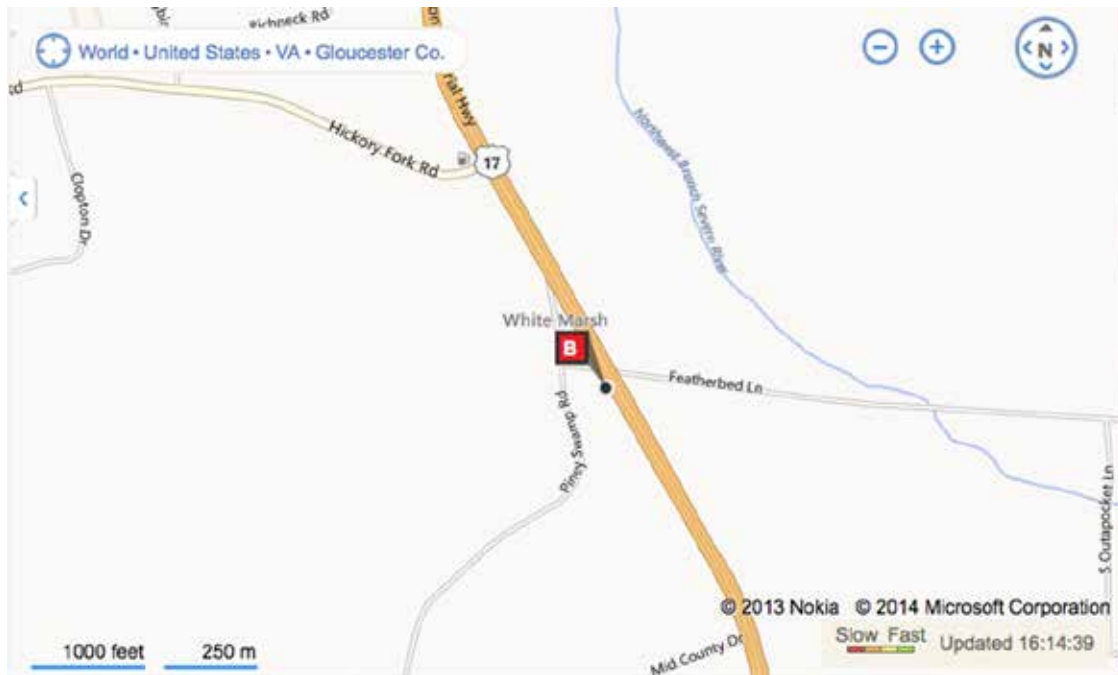
Would you like to see a review of *your book* printed and distributed in 10,000 copies, to 300 locations in the Chesapeake Bay Region?

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!



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From Williamsburg and points south:

Make your way to Route 17 North

Cross Coleman Bridge Go 8.4 miles

When you see Shell Station on right and White Marsh shopping center on left, take 1st left onto 614/ Brother Sam Rd. and get back onto US 17 south and right into White Marsh Shopping Center.

If you miss it, go to light at WaWa intersection and carefully make a U-turn back.

From Kilmarnock

VA3 to VA 33. Turn left 3.4 mi

Turn right onto VA3E/Twigg's Ferry Rd 4.6 mi

Turn right onto VA 198 (Buckley Hall Rd)

to VA3 E (Windsor Rd) 1.6 mi

Turn left on Main St 1.2 mi

Turn left on US 17/Geo

Washington Memorial Hwy 4.6 mi

Turn right into White Marsh Shopping Center

From Tappahannock

17 South to White Marsh Shopping Center on Right

CBW DINNER MEETING, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

1. Chicken Distinction (Grilled Chicken w/ Sun Dried Tomatoes, Mushrooms & Onions) with Rice Pilaf and Vegetable Medley; or

2. Pasta Primavera with Stuffed Portabella Mushrooms Florentine.

Entree comes with Salad: Fancy Field Greens Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette, and includes Bread, Butter, Iced Tea, Coffee and Dessert (Mini-Cheese Cakes with 2 Brownie Bites Raspberry Sauce & Whipped Cream.)

Members: \$21 per person; Non-member guests: \$26, includes tax and gratuity. 5 p.m., Cash Bar. Dinner 6 p.m. Program 7 p.m.

Advance reservations required by April 16th. Refunds are only given when notice of cancellation is received at least two (2) business days in advance of the date of the meeting.

Reservations can be made online at:

www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/reservcheck/reservations_view.php, or by completing this form and mailing it. Online reservations preferred. Reservations and payment must be Postmarked by April 16. Make Check payable to "CBW", Mail to: CBW Treasurer, P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138.

www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org



RECURRING EVENTS, MONTHLY, BI-MONTHLY



CBW Author Interview with Neal XTRA 99.1 FM,
Gloucester, Second Monday 8:05-8:30 a.m.

Contact Dave Carr 804-725-9843 or carr1600@netscape.net

James York Critique: Tabb Library, Yorktown, Third
Saturday of the month, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Contact Narielle Living, narielleliving@gmail.com

Rappatamac Critiques: Lively at The Oaks, Route 3
First Thursday of the month, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Contact Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net

Tappahannock at Roma Ristorante Italiano-Tappahannock
Third Thursday of the month, Eat at noon, Meet 1-3 p.m.

Contact Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net

Williamsburg Critiques:

For information about the *Second Thursday* meeting, contact
Sharon Dillon at (757) 876-6185 or energywriter@cox.net

For information on the *Fourth Thursday* meeting, contact
Jack Bray at (757) 345-0405 or jbray6@cox.net .

Our critique groups listed above are all inclusive and meant for writers of every stage in their career. Whether you are just starting out and want to see what a critique group is like or you are a multi-published author, there is a critique home for you. If you have any questions please feel free to call the contact person listed. Come join our community of talent!

2014—2015 Officers & Board

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