



Bay Writers News

Volume XXIII • Issue 1 Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

Spring 2016

President's Message

A heartbeat after I cleared a mental space to write this message, a refrain from a Bob Dylan song popped into mind, *For the times, they are a-changin'*. A download from iTunes let me listen to Dylan sing while I read the lyrics on bobdylan.com.

Hearing writers mentioned came as a surprise, but it set me to thinking about what power we wield as writers when we craft our stories, our histories, our mysteries. We preserve the facts of times now and past. We create families and worlds, and together, we are the Chesapeake Bay Writers.

Planning programs for a talented group of writers whose homes are spread over a geographic expanse just about the size of the state of Delaware, makes herding cats look easy. But CBW's officers and directors have been equal to the task throughout its history. The new Board, to be voted in at the February 17th meeting, will continue to work on expanding program opportunities, but will face additional challenges.

The first is our website. Programs which our webmaster **Dave Carr** has used over the past 15 years to create and maintain our website are no longer supported and cannot be transferred to another person. Dave has been handling membership as well as all the website programs, information updates and meeting reservations. He is anxious to move on to a new project and is leaving the Board, but will help us in our transition to a new website.

The Board voted to engage the *Gloucester-Mathews Gazette Journal* to design a new website at a very modest price. The \$5 increase in 2016 dues will cover most of the ongoing hosting and maintenance expense, and the project is underway now.

Mary Ann Carr, a former president of CBW, had been active in arranging programs, and most recently has been our treasurer and the force behind the Open Mic program in Mathews.

We owe Dave and Mary Ann more thanks than we can express for their support and efforts on the behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Writers. Dave and Mary Ann, we thank you for all your years of service to CBW. We

**2016 Calendar
Luncheons
February 17, 2016
Center St. Grill, Williamsburg
CBW Election and
Ran Walker~Short Story Writing**

wish you well in your new pursuits, and look forward to seeing you able to relax and enjoy CBW programs.

Thank you, **Gwen Keane** and **Elizabeth Stokes**, for your excellent work on arranging for our programs, speakers, venues and meals. We will miss having you on the Board.

This issue of the newsletter will be the last **Janet Fast** prepares as our newsletter editor. She is passing her newsletter duties to a new editor, **Brenda Burch**, but staying on the Board of Directors and will handle the membership duties. Thank you, Jan, for all you've done and for taking on your new role. Brenda, welcome aboard as newsletter editor!

Barbara McLennan has done an outstanding job with our publicity, and will be returning this term to the Board. **Ann Skelton** is continuing on the Board as Secretary. Her minutes will be an excellent resource for future Boards. **Frank Milligan's** advice and counsel as Past President is invaluable. Thank you all.

The February 17th meeting, besides the election, features a presentation by Ran Walker about *Writing Short Stories*. I am looking forward to this and hope to see you there.

With best wishes for 2016,

Carol J. Bova, 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.



Welcome Aboard!

Brandy Carpenter, of Gloucester, notes, “married for 23 years, mother to two teenage boys, work for the Middle Peninsula Community Services Board as a family service worker for Three Rivers Healthy Families; love to garden, the outdoors. I write in hope to change people’s perspectives about life and to question hard held beliefs that society has force fed its people.”

Jane Elkin, from Urbanna, currently has a 40-page manuscript about buying waterfront property on the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula which could be separated into magazine articles; a couple of magazine articles published in her youth; a couple of articles published recently in local newspaper; a career 20 years ago in biotechnology patent examining, an MS in microbiology, close to finishing an associate's degree in paralegal studies at J. Sargent Reynolds Community College, which has provided her with good tools and legal knowledge... She in her late 50s, “kids almost out of the house.”

Bill Holland, from Williamsburg, says, “I am an

Boasts, blusters and gloats

Jack Bray has two novels on audio book through audible.com, a subsidiary of Amazon. The titles are: *Flags Of Our Sons*, formerly titled *The Ballad of Johnny Madigan* and *Blue Heat*, formerly *The Confidential*.

Dave Cariens' new textbook, *A Handbook for Intelligence and Crime Analysis*, is slated for publication in early February. His new book on the *Appalachian School Of Law Shootings, Thirteen Years Later*, should be published in February or March, and a second edition of his book on the *Virginia Tech Massacre, Virginia Tech: Make Sure It Doesn't Get Out*, should be out in the Spring. The latter will contain a revised and expanded first chapter. On January 28th, Dave will join **Jeanne Johansen, Gwen Keene, and John Newcomb**, in talking to the Northumberland County Democrats about their writing and their books. On May 9th, Dave will join Neal Steele and talk about his new books.

Ann Eichenmuller, a member of the Rappatomac Writers Critique Group, had two pieces published in the January/February issue of *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*, one a memoir of her family's first trip to the Bahamas on their sailboat, and the second an article concerning boater behavior and potential anchoring restrictions. She also has piece slated for publication in February's *All at Sea* and in *Motorhome* magazine's March issue—an encouraging start considering she wrote her first freelance article in April 2015.

award winning college professor, business executive and author interested in working with parents and their college age kids to help them enter the professional job market successfully at graduation.”

Daniel Wetta, Jr., from Williamsburg, says, “I am a retired Certified Public Accountant who spent most of my career in the health care field. For twenty years I was the CFO and then CEO of a Virginia hospital and nursing home in a large healthcare company. I wrote short stories as a young man, and at the College of William and Mary I really learned to write. I received my undergraduate degree in History there. Later I went to graduate school at Virginia Commonwealth University, where I got a post baccalaureate certificate in accounting and then my Masters in Business Administration from the University of Dallas. I am a life long lover of Corvettes, Las Vegas, and living on the edge. I am in love with my family, and I am passionate about United States and Mexican history, the Spanish language, and using social media.”

Kathleen Toomey Jabs will be a guest lecturer for three freshman English classes at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland on Thursday, February 4. The classes read Jabs' novel *Black Wings* as part of their exploration of military writing, voice, and plot.

Gail Wilson Kenna won second place in the Virginia Writers' Club Golden Nib Contest for *One Face from the Shadow of Millions*, an essay about illegal immigration. She also won multiple awards in the annual Soul-Keats literary completion in San Francisco: first place in Humor, second place in novel excerpt, and honorable mention in Flash Fiction. This annual contest is sponsored by a branch of PEN women and attracts writers from throughout the United States. Best of all, two of Gail's RILL (Rappahannock Institute for Lifelong Learning) students won awards: **Rosalie Coultrip** took second in the international essay for *The Fish Factory*, and Lucie Olgivie received honorable mention for *Bridges* in the short story category. In the most recent edition of New Millenium Writings (U of Tennessee) Lucie and Gail learned they won honorable mentions in fiction and non-fiction in the NMW's 37th contest in 2015. Gail's next course for RILL will be *The Quiet Genius of Marilyn Robinson: The Gilead Trilogy*, to be held in two locations: the Kilmarnock Campus, and Gloucester Library during May. For information about the course, contact gailkenna@aol.com.



Final tallies of winners for the Predators and Editors Readers Poll 2015 are up, and **Pamela K. Kinney's** nonfiction ghost book and two short horror stories made into the top ten. *Paranormal Petersburg, Virginia, and the Tri-Cities Area* made #3 in the Nonfiction books category. Short horror story, *Silence*, appeared in the *Nightmares and Echoes II: The Return* anthology made #10 in Short Horror Story category. The anthology, *Nightmares and Echoes II* made #10 in Anthologies category. Her erotic horror/paranormal short story, *Pick Up Date* written by her as Sapphire Phelan that appeared in *Shivers and Lace* anthology, made #6 in All Other Short Stories category.

Daniel Wetta Publishing is excited to announce the March 1, release date of M. J. Scott's new book, *Power Steering!* M. J. Scott (USA) is the pen name of Chesapeake Bay Writer's member, **Marilyn J. Shafer-Asprey**, who is a recent Excellence Award recipient from Women of Distinction online.

Power Steering is a series of vignette-style articles illuminating the power of intuitive feelings and insight. In her book, Marilyn makes the reader wonder how our lives would be different if we trusted a higher power to guide us. Throughout the book, the author uses a car analogy to show what happens when we let higher power drive us on life's journey: The power steering fluid is intuition, a beautiful and subtle messaging from God. Our learning to recognize it and trust it allows us to make the choices in life that lead us to our most

CBW Second Monday, Talk Radio Show, XTRA 99.1 FM, Gloucester

If you'd like to be interviewed on air by Talk Radio Show host Neal Steele, 8:05 a.m. monthly there are openings for April 11, and the second Mondays in June through December. Spots fill in quickly, so email Dave carr1600@netscape.net today! **(Please do not call the station; this is the only way you can arrange to be on the show.)**

Show guidelines are available at:

CBW now offers another opportunity to promote your book(s)! We will print your sales brochure as part of the CBW newsletter.

You need to submit copy—**edited, correct spelling, no abbreviations (i.e. Nov.)**.

We will **not** edit your submission.

Limit your copy to 500 words. Submit a high resolution copy of the cover, in .jpg format. File must be separate from the copy; i.e. **Not** embedded in the copy.

We will add a separate page to the newsletter, for your

blessed destinations. Through a collection of poetic-narrative meditations and anecdotes in *Power Steering*, M. J. Scott shows us the panorama of her own life's enrichment when she lets intuition take the wheel.

Mary Montague Sikes will be the CBW guest author on the Neal Steele radio show, Monday, February 8 at 8:05 a.m., discussing her novel, *Evening of the Dragonfly*, set in the fictitious Virginia town of Jefferson City. On February 16, Sikes will be the guest of Barbara Hodges of Santa Maria, California, host of *No Limits* on Blog Talk Radio, also discussing *Evening of the Dragonfly*.

Ann Skelton received first place for fiction in the statewide Virginia Writers' Club Golden Nib Contest in November 2015. Her historical fiction, *Handsome Maides of Good Repute*, grew out of a fascination with the Virginia Company's decision to send ships with eligible women to Jamestown as brides for the settlers. With so much left to explore, Ann plans a sequel dealing with the life that Sarah and her companions found.

Marshall Thomas says, "I've been pretty busy lately. My six-book sci-fi series *Soldier of the Legion* sold a spectacular number of Kindle e-books in 2011. The series continues selling, at a lower volume...in 2012 I published the first book in my second sci-fi series, the *Prophet of ConFree* series...I've been writing a book a year since then...I have created a website and am seeking more publicity for my books and website, to raise sales...The website is www.soldierofthelegion.com..."

<http://chesapeakebaywriters.org/>

Radio_Files/Radio%20Guidelines.pdf

Online at the CBW website now: **Gwen**

Keane, author of *Local Color*.

Upcoming interviews:

February 8 - Mary Montague Sikes

March 14 - Imelda Cummins-DeMelkon

May 9 - David Cariens

Promote Your Book!

book promotion. Be sure to include locations where the book can be purchased.

Send your information to cbwnews@gmail.com

Include CBW in the subject line, please!

See Page 6 in this issue, as an example of what is needed. It's your

book! Promote it at every opportunity!





All Stars Writing Competition



Winners of All Stars Writing Competition at a gala Luncheon held on November 18th at the Two Rivers Country Club in Williamsburg. Members and guests were entertained by writers reading their original work, after which the winning entries were selected.

In the 2015 winners' circle were (from top l) **Mary Ann Carr** (1st Place), **Vic Brown** (2nd Place), **Frank**

Milligan (3rd Place) and **Tom Neiger** (Mathews), who won the Richard V. Bailey Award for the most humorous piece entered. **Martha Anne King** photos.

All winning entries are available for viewing on the Chesapeake Bay Writers' website at Chesapeakebaywriters.org.

*Thank you for renewing
your dues on time!*

If you forgot renewals are due **January 1st**, you can use a credit card or PayPal account now at:
<http://chesapeakebaywriters.org/RenewDues.htm> Or you can mail a \$25 check payable to:
Chesapeake Bay Writers to CBW Treasurer,
P. O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138.

Election of Officers

On the Agenda for the February meeting:
According to our By-Laws:

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.



Tips for Writing Short Stories



Ran Walker will be the Chesapeake Bay Writing Club luncheon guest speaker on February 17, 2016 at the Center Street Grill, 5101 Center Street, Williamsburg.

Mr. Walker is the author of five novels, two novellas, a short story collection, and a collaborative book with Sabin Prentis. His short stories and poetry have appeared in a variety of anthologies.

Ran is a graduate of Morehouse College (BA),

Pace University (MS), and George Washington University Law School (JD) and is the recipient of both a 2005 Mississippi Arts Commission/NEA artist grant and a 2006 artist mini-grant. He has also served as an Artist-in-Residence with the Commission. In addition, he is a past participant in the Hurston-Wright Writers Week Workshop and is the recipient of a fellowship from the Callaloo Writers Workshop.

Mr. Walker is an Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing at Hampton University and lives in Virginia with his wife Lauren and their daughter Zoe. He will present Tips for Short Story Writing.

Open to the public. Advance reservations are required and can be made on line at www.chesapeakebaywriters.org. Social hour and cash bar will open at 11 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon. For more information, call 804-725-9843.

Interested In Romance Writing?

By Narielle Living

The York County Libraries are screening a documentary about romance writing that includes interviews with authors, publishers and reviewers. Author interviews include Nora Roberts, Brenda Jackson and Jayne Ann Krentz.

The movie is *Love Between the Covers* www.lovebetweenthecovers.com and it's gotten a lot of great reviews. They will be screening it at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11, at the Yorktown Library and at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Tabb Library. If anyone has any questions, they can call the reference desk at 757-890-5120.

A feature-length documentary film that takes viewers into the remarkable worldwide community of women who create, consume, and love romance novels.



Catherine Brooks sends greetings and thanks you for a gift made in the name of CBW. Along with gifts from other friends, it brought Catherine a Christmas surprise of a practically new lift recliner for her room at Riverside Convalescent Center in Mathews.

She said, "I have had comfort instead of pain while reading, writing, watching TV." Catherine's health has improved after a 12 week struggle with a MERSA infection following surgery on her leg.

Catherine doesn't have an internet connection yet, but she would be glad to hear from you. Her new mailing address is P.O. Box 370, Mathews, Va 23109. Her phone number is 804-699-8910. She enjoys visitors in person too and sends wishes for everyone to have a blessed 2016.



The Center Street Grill, 5101 Center Street, Williamsburg.



From Route 199, east or west bound: take the Monticello Avenue exit and turn onto 321 East towards Williamsburg. Turn left onto Newtown Road or Courthouse Road off of Monticello Avenue into New Town to the corner of Center Street and Courthouse Road.

To get to VA-199:

From Richmond or the Northern Neck:

Go to I-64 East.

Take Exit 234 to VA-199 East toward Lightfoot

Follow directions from Route 199.

From the South via I-64 West:

Take exit 242A to merge onto VA-199 West toward Williamsburg/Jamestown Follow directions from Route 199.

From Middlesex, Gloucester, Mathews:

Route 17 to Coleman Bridge to Colonial Parkway Turn right at Cheatham Annex sign to Sanda Ave (641).

Turn left, becomes VA-199.

CBW Luncheon Meeting, Wednesday, February 17

Social hour begins at 11 a.m., Lunch and program follow.

1. Monterey Chicken Sandwich (grilled chicken breast with Monterey Jack cheese, lettuce, tomato, and avocado. Served on a croissant with fresh fruit.)

2. French Dip (thinly sliced steak on a baguette and topped with sautéed onions and provolone cheese. Served with French fries and a mushroom jus for dipping.)

3. Portabella Sandwich (grilled Portabella mushroom topped with Carmelized onions, roasted red peppers, sautéed spinach and smoked Gouda cheese. Served on a toasted ciabatta and accompanied by sweet potato wedges.)

Desert: Apple Cobbler

Soft drinks, coffee and tea, tax, gratuity included. Cash bar available. -

Advance Reservations Required, \$24 per person (No member discount for this meeting)

Mail check to Treasurer CBW, P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, VA 23138

www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/PressRoom.htm#sthash.nMD5cNQ3.dpuf

www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org



Recurring Events, Monthly, Bi-Monthly

CBW Author Interview with Neal Steele XTRA 99.1

FM, Gloucester, Second Monday 8:05-8:30 a.m.

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

The Greater Peninsula Writers Critique Group,

Third Saturday of every month at Tabb Library in York County

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Contact Carl Shirley at 757-947-8211.

Rappatamac Critiques: Lancaster CH at Lancaster Tavern, Route 3

First Thursday of the month, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Contact Janet Fast, chestyle@hughes.net

Tappahannock at Java Jacks Cafe, Rt 360/17, at Virginia St.

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* or the *Fourth Thursday* meeting, contact Elizabeth Brown at 804-654-1117 or ecomptonlee@yahoo.com or akendall@atlanticbb.net

Open Mic at the Mathews Memorial Library

251 Main Street, Mathews, Second Sunday at 1 p.m.



The **Williamsburg Writers Gathering** is a group of published and working to be published writers offering encouragement, support, and a sharing of 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. WWG contact: Lou Hamilton, louhamwrites@gmail.com.

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

Carol Bova, President

PO Box 716, Mathews, Va 23109

804-725-6163, cjbova@mindspring.com

Barbara McLennan, Director, Publicity, Special Events

1620 Harbor Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185

757 345-0471, barb.mcl@cox.net

Gwen Keane, Vice President, Programs, Speakers

P.O. Box 1902, Kilmarnock, Va 22482

804-435-2618, isadorariver@verizon.net

Janet Abbott Fast, Director, Newsletter, NN Outreach

423 Rose Hill Dr. Warsaw, Va 22572

804-333-0628, cbwnews@gmail.com

Ann Skelton, Secretary

2821 Bennetts Pond Rd, Williamsburg, Va 23185

757-903-2896, ann.skelton39@gmail.com

Elizabeth Stokes, Director at Large

505 Captain's Way, Reedville Va 22539

(804) 453-3488 meatmumma2@yahoo.com

Mary Ann Carr, Treasurer

P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138

804-725-9843, macarr385@aim.com

David J. Carr, Director, Website, Membership

P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138

804-725-9843, carr1600@netscape.net

Frank Milligan, Past President