



# Bay Writers News

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

Spring 2015

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I haven't burnt a pot of spaghetti since I was ten—until tonight. I don't recall which childhood story pulled me in so far I forgot to stir the pasta in the pot, but that oversight cost me years of little-brother taunts about my cooking skills. The latest incident came from getting caught up in the opening chapters of a friend's new manuscript. It was well worth starting dinner over to feel happy for my friend and be reminded how wonderful it is for an author to craft a piece that captures and holds a reader inside the story as so many in the CBW community do.

CBW members come from a number of counties, and the CBW officers and Board wrestle with how to deal with the geography, the timing and the content of programs. In consideration of our far-flung geography, we're adding an additional meeting to have spring meetings in April, May and June, one each for our main population centers of the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and Williamsburg.

Timing is the next challenge. We have members who built CBW and supported it for more than 20 years. A growing number are no longer comfortable driving at night which led to the decision to go to luncheon meetings. The next step is to begin a series of evening and weekend programs for those whose daytime obligations keep them from attending weekday luncheons.

You have the opportunity now to suggest the type of program or workshop you'd like to see. If you have a preference for evenings or weekends, let us know. History says we won't hear from most of you, but I'm an optimist. I'm asking you to share your ideas with the CBW Board, either through the website, by email to [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com) or contacting a board member directly.

I'm looking forward to our February program with Neal Steele and hope to see a number of you then!

*Carol J. Bova, President*

## 2015 CALENDAR

### Luncheons

**February 18,**

**Center Street Grill, Williamsburg**

**April 15, Kilmarnock**

**May 20, Middle Peninsula**

**June 17, Williamsburg**

## DUES ARE DUE!

It's time to send in your CBW dues! As a writer, membership in the CBW organization can be beneficial for a number of reasons. CBW offers:

- ◆ Personal Web Page
- ◆ Monthly Radio Promotion
- ◆ Website listing for promotion of books, author services or speaking engagements.
- ◆ Newsletter
- ◆ All Stars Competition
- ◆ Networking Opportunities

Mail your \$20 dues (*as a separate check*) with the luncheon reservation form in this newsletter.

## OPINIONS? SUGGESTIONS?

*Let the CBW Board know your thoughts  
and feelings at [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com)*

**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](http://www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org).



## NEAL STEELE TO SPEAK

**O**n February 18, 2015, CBW members and guests will have the opportunity to mingle with other writers and welcome our speaker, Neal Steele, the radio host of 99.1 FM.

Since 2008 Neal has provided a monthly opportunity for CBW authors with published books to be interviewed on the radio. This has been an effective way to introduce authors to the community via the airwaves. The interviews are recorded and available on the CBW website.

At our February meeting, Neal will speak about how to prepare for the radio interview, and how to use the exposure on radio media outlets to promote an author's work.

The luncheon meeting will begin with a social hour at 11:30, followed by lunch at noon, at the Center Street Grill, 5101 Center Street, Williamsburg, Virginia 23188. Reservations must be



received by Friday, February 13, 2015. Contact [www.chesapeakebaywriters.org](http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org) to make your reservations.

## BOASTS, BLUSTERS AND GLOATS

**Emeline Bailey** had her short essay about New Year's Eve published in the *Virginia Gazette* in December.

**Rick Bailey** published a short collection of Christmas essays, one for each day from Black Friday to Christmas Day, written by local Williamsburg author, J. Palmer Whipple, under the title *Christmas Chronicles in December*.

**Vanessa Barger** did her first school-wide book talk at St. Clare Walker Middle School in January. She will be doing another school workshop in Luray in February, and a Traveling Pen Workshop with the Hampton Roads Writers in March. Her middle grade fantasy, *Superfreak*, releases this fall from Tantrum Books. She is also organizing, with the Virginia Beach Public Library, the Hampton Roads Teen Book Festival in May. If interested, please contact her at [vebarger@gmail.com](mailto:vebarger@gmail.com).

**Dawn Brotherton**, is a publisher and, more passionately, an author. Dawn recently wrote and published *Wind the Clock* and is currently working on her next book. *Wind the Clock* is the second novel in Dawn's three-part, *Jackie Austin Mystery Series*. *Wind the Clock* can now be purchased as an e-book for all devices, as well as a paperback through Amazon or the Blue Dragon Publishing website.

All three novels in the Jackie Austin Mystery Series—*It's the Right Thing to Do*, *Wind the Clock*, and *Truth*

*has No Agenda* (coming soon)—encompass a unique perspective that combines Dawn's 26 years of military service as an officer in the Air Force with the fictional, Jackie Austin character who is faced with navigating her career, love-life, loss, and mysterious twists and turns along the way. Dawn owns Blue Dragon Publishing. In addition to publishing and writing, Dawn is a colonel in the United States Air Force. On February 9 she will become the Reserve Advisor to Secretary of the Air Force Legislative Liaison. Dawn is looking forward to her new position in the Pentagon and the inspiration it will bring to her Jackie Austin stories.

The Shepard's Center in Richmond has invited **Dave Cariens** to give a presentation on his *Virginia Tech* over two days, February 22nd and March 2nd. He is proofing the galleys for his new book, *Intelligence and Crime Terminology: A Glossary of Terms and Acronyms*. Dave is also working with VCU to set up a date and time for a lecture and signing for this *Virginia Tech* book.

**Vicky Garner** is very pleased to announce that her first romance novel *A Real Love at Last* has been published by Xlibris and is currently available as print on demand from Xlibris.com or Amazon.com. It is the first in a series she hopes to write, called the *Bella Roses Williamsburg Romance Series*. She is almost finished with the sequel *A Forever Love*



*Finally.* Her pen name is Victoria Leigh Gabriella.

**BN (Brent) Heard** gave a presentation about Music and Math and told a story to the Jamestown High School Music Appreciation class on December 12th. He also told a story at Balliceaux in Richmond on January 12th as part of Secretly Y'all's bimonthly storytelling show. Additionally, he gave a presentation to NASA's GROW Mentoring Program about Growing Knowledge through Storytelling. He will be appearing as part of the monthly Better Said Than Done storytelling show at The Auld Shebeen Restaurant on January 31st and February 28th in Fairfax.

**Gail Kenna** received news that her submission for the Tara L. Masih Intercultural Essay in the annual San Francisco Soul-Keats Literary Competition, won one of three honorable mentions. Gail received a first place in 2012, a second place in 2013. The honorable mention wasn't good news until she saw that one of her students, Dr. Pirkko Graves, had won third place in the same category. Gail's essay for the contest, *Three Artists in Arrested Time*, will be the subject of a presentation for the regional PEN women in May. And in spring for the Rappahannock Institute of Adult Learning (RILL), Gail will teach a class in two locations on *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, in honor of Gabriel Garcia Marquez who died last year. Contact [sdrotleff@rappahannock.edu](mailto:sdrotleff@rappahannock.edu) for information.

**Pamela K. Kinney's** upcoming new nonfiction ghost book, *Paranormal Petersburg, Virginia*, and the Tri-Cities Area releases August 2015, and is also available for preorder at her publisher, Schiffer Publishing and Amazon. She will be a guest at Mysticon at the Holiday Inn-Tanglewood, in Roanoke, February 27 -March 1 and will be selling and signing her books and doing a panel at Galacticon to be held March 7th at the Meyera E. Oberndorf Central Library, Virginia Beach.

**Dr. John H. Harding, Jr.** has published the second edition of *Shortchanged*. John O. Marsh, Jr. (Former Secretary of the Army, National Security Advisor to President Form, and a former member of Congress) has called the book "...a compelling novel. It draws on the realism of the Great Depression and a combat incident on Congress, a mountain top in Korea more than a half century ago. The book

raises nagging questions about soldiers who are not only shortchanged in war, but who never had a fair deal before they wore the uniform. This is a story readers will not easily forget." The book is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and in all eBook formats.

**Barbara McLennan** has been invited to participate in the Hampton History Museum's special exhibit on *The Truth about Women: Myth and Reality*, on July 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The lecture will be preceded by a book signing for two books, *The Wealth of Jamestown* and *The Wealth of Virginia*. *The Wealth of Virginia* will be available by the end of June. Book signings for *The Wealth of Jamestown* will be held at the William and Mary College Book Store on February 14 (2-6 p.m.) and February 21 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.).

**Jerry Peill's** *The Curious Case of the Conjure Woman* is out. The Richmond Times Dispatch Virginia Book Notes of 1/11/15 describe his book as "part farce, part detective story and part anthropological exploration into the folkways of a culture and way of life that is slipping away." Set in 1968, it follows an alienated young British folklorist's culture clash with the hard-headed folk in the Virginia Appalachian holler of fictional Caney Forks, and the non-stop battle of wits that ensues. He will be interviewed Monday, February 9 with Neal Steele on XTRA 99.1 FM. Book readings/signings: Friday February 20 from 5-6.30 p.m. at Essex Public Library, Tappahannock, Tuesday February 24 at 7 p.m., Northumberland County Library, Heathsville, and Tuesday March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) at 2 p.m., Lancaster Community Library, School St., Kilmarnock.

*Evening of the Dragonfly*, a romance novel by **Mary Montague Sikes**, was just released by Oak Tree Press and is now available on Amazon <http://tinyurl.com/kvu8ovm>. The cover is a watercolor painting by Sikes. Her book is a *Timeless Love* imprint. Her first novel, *Hearts Across Forever*, was Oak Tree's first *Timeless Love* book. Sikes would like to have some CBW members to review her book. If you are interested, please contact her for a pdf. copy at [monti7olen@verizon.net](mailto:monti7olen@verizon.net).

Look for **Ann Skelton's** piece in the upcoming edition of *Chesapeake Style*. Among the hordes of advice-to-writers books, Ann reviewed and commented on several of her favorites.

## ANOTHER BOOK SIGNING VENUE!

Books, Beads & More, in the Bell Creek Shopping Center (8324 Bell Creek Road Ste 100, Mechanicsville, off Pole Green Road.)

Owner is Erin Schilling, contact her at 804-730-2663 or [erinatkins@gmail.com](mailto:erinatkins@gmail.com). She only works

with Virginia authors. Check out her Facebook page and her website, <http://booksbeadsmore.com>.

If you are interested in participating in a signing with a group of local authors, contact **Jeanne Johansen**, [firebelliedfrog@gmail.com](mailto:firebelliedfrog@gmail.com), (804) 776-8478.





# WELCOME ABOARD!

**Gary J. Barker**, from Dutton, says, "I write poetry (free verse mostly) and short stories and have lived in Mathews for almost two years."

**Aminta Colon** of Newport News, says, "I am a mother and wife, would like help with proofreading."

**Tracy G. Lanum**, from Gloucester, says, "My background includes 16 years as a social worker in child abuse cases, as well as adult abuse in the states of Pennsylvania, Wyoming and California. I have also been in real estate sales. Recently I was given the opportunity to write articles for *Glo-Quips* and found journalism to be rewarding, as well as thoroughly satisfying. For years I have been working on a Memoir but recently find myself stuck, for lack of a better word."

**John Newcomb**, from Gloucester Point, says, "I am retired from NASA. I am in the process of publishing my first book on my experiences while working on the Lunar Orbiter Project and the Viking Project."

**Peggy Newcomb**, from Gloucester Point, is a poet and artist, past school teacher, chemistry, York High School, president of NLAPW Chesapeake Bay branch and president of Poquoson Art League.

**Arthur Jerry Peill** from Morattico, says, "Since

I let my membership lapse to write my first book; *Q & A a Morattico Murder Mystery*, I have written and just published a second; *The Curious Case of the Conjure Woman*. Thus I am more than ready to mix it up again with all the new marketing ideas CBW brings to members and the public. I am also prepared to share the promotional programs implemented by my new book promoter."

**Peter G. Stiper**, from Williamsburg, says, "I am recently retired and relocated to Virginia from New England. I have been writing for years, but now have time to commit to the development of my work. I am in the early stages of preparing a collection of short stories for publication and am working with a local independent publisher to make this happen."

**James F. Wright**, from Deltaville, says, "After a career in engineering, I have begun to take an interest in writing. I have a novel (love/hate, sin/redemption, triumph/despair) in the works—about 60,000 words so far. I have done a couple of workshops at The Muse in Norfolk. A New Year's resolution to get out of my cave and interact a bit more leads me to the CBW."

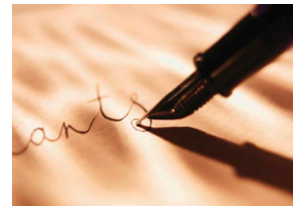
"I believe the road to hell is paved with adverbs, and I will shout it from the rooftops. To put it another way, they're like dandelions. If you have one on your lawn, it looks pretty and unique. If you fail to root it out, however, you find five the next day... fifty the day after that... and then, my brothers and sisters, your lawn is totally, completely, and profligately covered with dandelions. By then you see them for the weeds they really are, but by then it's—GASP!!—too late."

Stephen King

## HAVE NEWS?

Email to:

cbwnews@gmail.com



**CHESAPEAKE**  
*Style*



# MAGAZINE

**W**ould 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](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net) or go to [www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/CSBookReviews.htm](http://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.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL STARS WINNERS!



The Chesapeake Bay Writers, held its 21st annual All-Star Gala Luncheon and Writing Competition in November at the Piankatank Golf Club's Steamboat Restaurant in Hartfield.

The winners of the annual All Stars Writing Competition:

**Steve Crabill**, first place; **Mary Ann Carr**, second place; and **Gail Kenna**, third. The Richard Bailey Award for Most Humorous story went to **Thomas Neiger**.  
**Martha Anne King photos**

## PROMOTE YOUR BOOK!

**C**BW 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 book promotion.

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

Send your information to [cbwnews@gmail.com](mailto:cbwnews@gmail.com)

**Include CBW in the subject line, please!**

## WRITERS IN STYLE

Last year, *Chesapeake Style* magazine launched a new column, Writers in Style, with 500-word articles contributed by board members of the Chesapeake Bay Writers. The opportunity is being extended to members of CBW and associated critique groups to submit articles 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](http://www.chesapeakestyle.com):

Winter 2014: Ellen Dugan,  
*Coffee, a Desk Companion*

Oct 2014: Barbara McLennan, *Writing for Fun*

Aug 2014: Mary Ann Carr, *Family*

*Stories—A Gift for Your Children*

July 2014: Ann Skelton, *When the Muse is Hiding*

June 2014: Jim Ducibella, *Paying it Forward*

May 2014: Gwen Keane, *CBW—Where*

*Aspiring and Seasoned Writers Meet*

Spring 2014: Carol J. Bova, *Chesapeake Bay Writers, Solitary and Social*

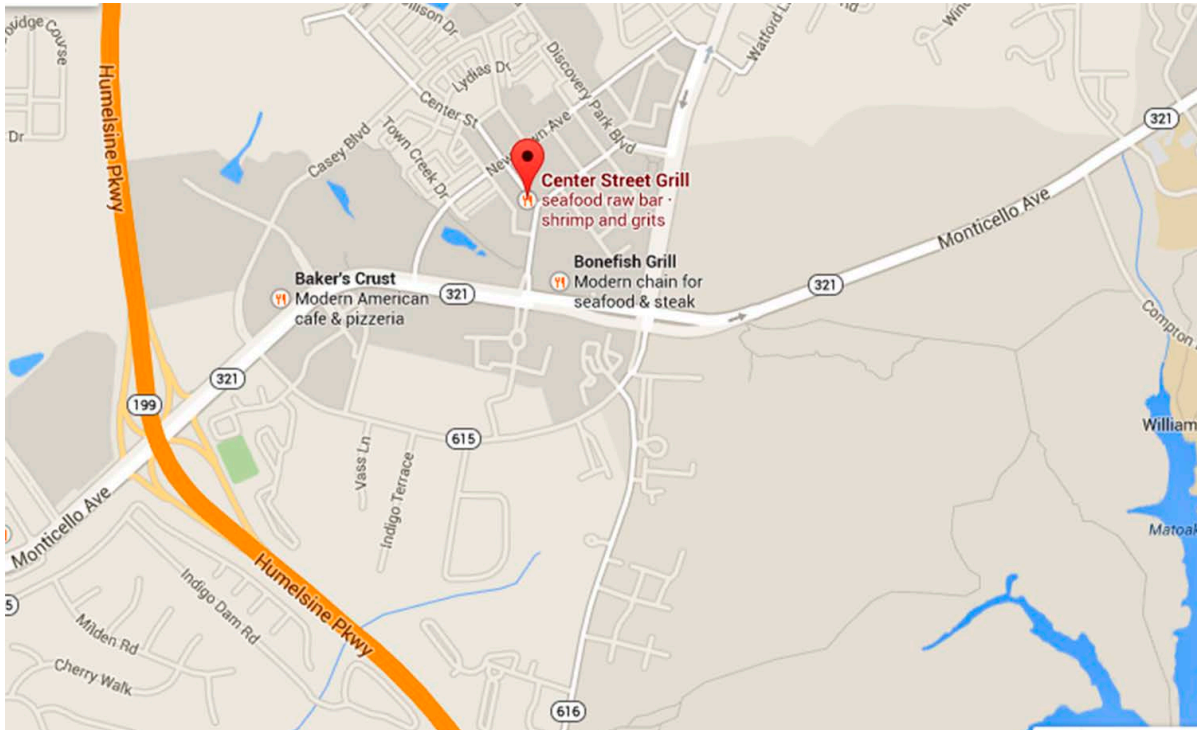
*Chesapeake Style* is published eight times a year, and 10,000 copies are distributed in March, May, June, July, August, September, and October, with 13,000 copies for the Winter issue in November at locations throughout the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck and at the Williamsburg General Store. Please email submissions with a subject of Writers in Style to: Janet A Fast [chestyle@hughes.net](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net)

Thank you,  
Carol

Carol J. Bova, President  
Chesapeake Bay Writers  
[cjbova@mindspring.com](mailto:cjbova@mindspring.com)



## 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 18

Entree Choices include: **Monterey Chicken Sandwich**, Grilled chicken breast topped with Monterey jack cheese, lettuce, tomato, and avocado. Served on a croissant with fresh 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.

**Portabella Sandwich**, Grilled Portabella mushroom topped with caramelized onions, roasted red peppers, sautéed spinach and smoked Gouda cheese. Served on a toasted ciabatta and accompanied by sweet potato wedges.

Dessert, Apple Cobbler

Social starts at 11 a.m. Lunch at Noon, Program at 1 p.m. Advance reservations required by **Friday, February 13**. 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: <http://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org/PressRoom.htm> or by completing this form and mailing it. Total in Party X \$21 (Members) = \$ .X \$26 (NonMembers) = \$ .

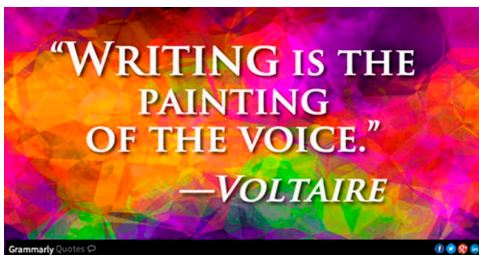
Please be sure member's name(s) appears on the check. Online reservations preferred. Reservations and payment must be postmarked by **February 13**. Make Check payable to CBW, Mail to: CBW Treasurer, P.O. Box 385, Port Haywood, Va 23138.

[www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org](http://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

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

Contact Narielle Living, narielleliving@gmail.com

**Rappatomac 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 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* 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

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

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Frank Milligan, Past President