

# ***Plotting Success***

Website: [www.SarasotaFictionWriters.com](http://www.SarasotaFictionWriters.com)

## **November 1, 2016**

### **General Meeting**

Selby Library Auditorium

1331 First St., Sarasota

6 pm

**Guest Speaker Dianne Ochiltree** a nationally recognized author of books for young readers, will speak to the Sarasota Fiction Writers on Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. at Selby Library. Ochiltree will present the “Top 10 Kidlit Writing Tips That You Can Use for Any Writing Project.”

Many of the techniques and principles she uses for writing picture books and middlegrade novels apply to writing in any genre or format. Good writing disciplines are universal, Ochiltree said. Many of Ochiltree’s books have appeared on “Best of” reading lists, been featured in book clubs and been translated into foreign language editions. Her picture book “Lull-A-Bye, Little One” has been a selection for the national childhood literacy foundation Imagination Library for over five years.

Her book “Molly, By Golly! The Legend of Molly Williams, America’s First Female firefighter” received the Bronze Medal in the 2012 Florida Book Awards children’s literature category and was included on the Amelia Bloomer List for Feminist Literature by the American Library Association.

In 2013, her book “It’s a Firefly Night” was awarded the Silver Medal in the children’s literature category by the Florida Book Awards. Her new picture book, “It’s a Seashell Day,” is a follow up to “It’s a Firefly Night.”

Ochiltree, who spent many years as a marketing, advertising and public relations writer, shares her enthusiasm for creative writing in workshops and one-on-one coaching.

As a certified yoga instructor, Ochiltree leads zen writing workshops for fellow writers. She also brings her chocolate Labrador Retriever therapy dog, Sally, to visit with school children and nursing home residents.

### **Sarasota Fiction Writers Critique Meeting**

6:00 pm, Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Books-a-Million, Gulf Gate Mall

Bring 5 pages of work to read,

At least ten copies, double-spaced, 12 font.

**Sign up NOW for our Christmas Party.** We need your help to continue creating our awesome event. After many years of wowing us with her hostessing skills, our Grace Bizzaro has chosen to let someone else lead and she will assist. The task was accepted by Patricia Cassidy.

When: Sunday, December 4, at 4:00 p.m.

Where: 302 Blackburn Point Rd. (same place as last year)

Osprey, Fl 34229

Chair: Pat Cassidy 941 412-4384 or [hoppycats@comcast.net](mailto:hoppycats@comcast.net)

Party info: The club provides an entree of turkey and ham, as well as the plates and utensils, and basic sodas and coffee. The rest is up to you folks. Pot-luck, bring your favorite party dish. Let Pat know what it will be, appetizer, side, dessert, or salad.

This is an adult party, no kiddies please. You may bring one friend. A sign-up sheet for the party will be provided at the next meeting or you can reach Pat at [hoppycats@comcast.net](mailto:hoppycats@comcast.net). If you are joining in the book exchange, you need to bring a wrapped book valued at \$15.00 or more.

The short story winners will be announced at the Christmas Party.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Attention ALL MEMBERS**

October 1<sup>st</sup> is the club's New Fiscal year. Please mail in your dues:

Overdue or New Members: Please mail dues to:

Sarasota Fiction Writers

Bob Spitzer

2450 Harbourside Drive, Apt 213

Longboat Key, FL 34228

### **Current SFW Officers:**

**President:** Jerry Keane — [destiny716@comcast.net](mailto:destiny716@comcast.net)

**Co-Vice Presidents:** Fred Weiss — [fweiss@binghamton.edu](mailto:fweiss@binghamton.edu)

**Critique Monitor:** Pat Gray — [patrickgray1@msn.com](mailto:patrickgray1@msn.com)

**Co-Secretary Publicity:** Grier Ferguson

**Co-Secretary Newsletter:** Dona Lee Gould — [DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Bob Spitzer [mbspitzer@gmail.com](mailto:mbspitzer@gmail.com)

**Blogmaster Extraordinaire:** Natalie Brown—[ngbrown.us@gmail.com](mailto:ngbrown.us@gmail.com)

Members please feel free to send a one- or two-sentence synopsis of your published works and a link to sales on Amazon or Barnes and Noble to Natalie. She will grab the cover art to post on the Member Titles pages on our new website. Another place to market – for free.

At the moment our website address is: <http://thequillguild1.wixsite.com/sfwriters>  
We are working to regain the original url, but Go Daddy is not being co-operative

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<b>Index:</b>	<b>Page #</b>
Bits & Pieces (Our member announcements)	4
Other Voices, Other Rooms (Other groups in the area)	15
Events :	
Ringling College Visiting writers	23
NaNoWriMo	25
Contests	
805 Literary Journal	27
Sarasota Fiction Writers	28
Lonestar	29
Midlife	30
Of Writing Interest	
Writers Brunch, Wordier Than Thou Story telling, Sisters in Crime	31
Publishing Opportunities	32
Words of Writing Wisdom:	37

## BITS & PIECES

This is our announcement section of happenings and events in the lives of our members. If you have any info you want to share from the sale of a short story, publication of your book, a book signing, entering a contest, especially winning, or if you have a birth, wedding, or other event in your family you just want to share with your fellow members.... For your announcements, please email me at Dgould497@aol.com or at sfwnewsletter@hotmail.com and I will include your announcement in the letters. If you know of any upcoming contests, workshops, or conferences you plan to attend, or just want to inform the rest of us about one you like, please let me know. I would also like to know about other local writing groups. Sharing information always helps everyone.

**Please consider purchasing books written by your fellow members and support their efforts. Soon it will be your turn! Also, if the books are available on Amazon, write a four or five star review. (If you feel a member's book is lower than a four of five star, please just pass on the review. Amazon considers a three-star and lower as a bad review.)**

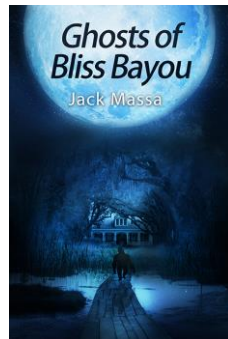
**Good Reviews help sell books on Amazon.**

**Member Bill Carrigan** celebrates his 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday on November 8<sup>th</sup>. He would be most pleased if you would purchase one of his books AND write a review on Amazon to help him celebrate this event. His ad below lists them. Buy one now!

**New Member Jack Massa** writes fantasy and science fiction. His new book *Ghosts of Bliss Bayou*, will be released November 14, description can be found here:

<http://triskelionbooks.com/ghosts-of-bliss-bayou/>

His epic fantasy novel, *Cloak of the Two Winds*, is now available in print and e-Book from Amazon. - <http://tinyurl.com/h2wyb6e>. His website is <http://triskelionbooks.com/>



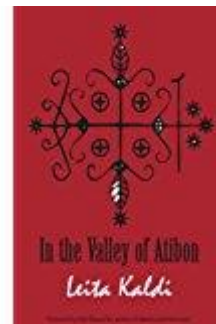
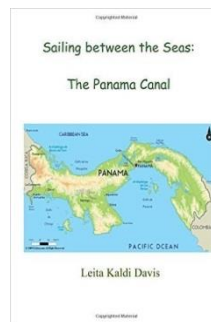
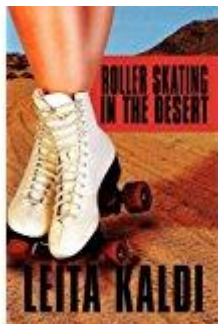
**Member Jo Schmidt** (w/a ANNA SCHMIDT) a Wisconsin Seasonal member will return to SRQ after Turkey Day. Currently she has novellas in two anthologies and the second in her Western series: Last Chance Cowboys--will be out in December. Romantic Times has already praised book 2—THE LAWMAN—as follows: Readers who yearn for a solid Western romance are sure to find Schmidt's second Last Chance Cowboy installment as the perfect read. The realistic second-chance at love story — with its intelligent characters, sensuality and suspense elements — engages readers. 4 Stars.



Anna has three times been a finalist for the coveted RITA award for romance fiction and has twice before been recognized by Romantic Times magazine with their Reviewer's Choice Award. Check out her Amazon Author's Page for more on our award winning author.

[https://www.amazon.com/Anna-Schmidt/e/B001HOMA1A/ref=sr\\_ntt\\_srch\\_lnk\\_2?qid=1477949179&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.com/Anna-Schmidt/e/B001HOMA1A/ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_2?qid=1477949179&sr=1-2)

**New Member Leita Kaldi Davis** worked for the United Nations and UNESCO, for Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Harvard University. She worked with Roma (Gypsies) for fifteen years, became a Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal at the age of 55, then went to work for the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Haiti for five years. She retired in Florida in 2002, and wrote a memoir of Senegal, Roller Skating in the Desert, and of Haiti, In the Valley of Atibon, as well as several travel memoirs available on amazon.com or email her at lkaldi@hotmail.com

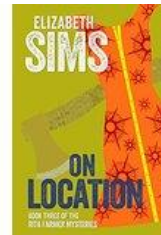
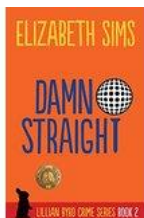
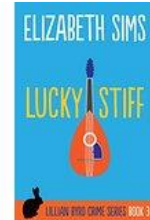
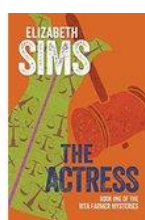
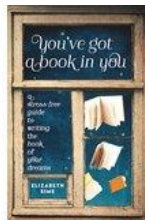


**Member Elizabeth Sims**, will also be presenting two workshops at the FWA conference this fall: “Fearless Writing” and “How to Write Dialogue Like a Pro.” She will present “How to Write a Dynamite Mystery or Thriller that SELLS” **on Saturday, October 8 in Venice, Fla.** during a one-day intensive mini-con event for writers called “Sleuthfest on Saturday”, put on by the Florida chapter of Mystery Writers of America. Elizabeth says she’s honored to be in the company of such name brands as Elaine Viets, Neil Plakcy, and Lisa Black. Special thanks to Randy Rawls (who will also be a presenter) for putting this act together! Link: <http://mwaflorida.org/events/special-events/>.

More from Elizabeth:



**Writer’s Digest Books** honored me by including four chapters by me in their latest book on writing Crafting Dynamic Dialogue: The Complete Guide to Speaking, Conversing, Arguing, and Thinking in Fiction. Because little stuff, if it’s good, can mean a lot! Also, see my piece “Revise Like a Pro” in WD’s current Novel Writing Yearbook. That was an especially fun one, because I excerpted before-and-after material from my own novels.



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We also have some sad news to report. **Member Wayne Barcomb** longtime member and former president of Sarasota Fiction Writers, passed away on October 26, 2016.

Wayne was very active in the Suncoast area writers community, and had set some of his more recent novels in the Sarasota area. He was always willing to help aspiring writers improve their craft. He will be missed.

For friends who wish to do so, donations can be made in his name to the Alzheimer’s Association.

There will be a celebration of life on Friday, November 11, at 1 PM, at the Siesta Key Chapel.



**Member Bohdan O. Szuprowicz** advises in anticipation of the Veteran's Day, he is promoting his special E-Guide designed for veterans to publish their memoirs. This is an E-Guide which explains how any veteran who wants to become a published author can do so whenever he wants to do it, without waiting for literary agents or publishers, and at no cost at all. It is designed for users of mobile devices such as iPad, iPhone, smartphones, tablets, laptops as well as PCs. You can download it to your mobile immediately. Above all the author stresses the need to read and follow all instructions provided by Amazon and software suppliers if you want to write, publish and promote your E-Books yourself at no cost at all. Strict observation of all the rules will ensure successful implementation of the publishing and promotional processes.

The details of our veterans memoir E-Guide and a direct link to obtain a copy can be seen by using the link below:

<http://www.amazon.com/ebook/dp/B00E138WP2>



**Member Susan Klaus** would like those who purchased her , e-book or print book *Shark Fin Soup* to please remember to write a review.

Synopsis: Christian Roberts, a handsome, young Floridian, has retired from horse racing and sets off with his wife, Allie, to cruise the Caribbean on his new sloop. Tragedy strikes, ending the dream vacation, and Christian becomes the prime suspect in a murder. Shattered and guilt ridden, Christian believes his actions caused the death, and suicide lurks in his thoughts, a way to end his pain, but he can't act on the impulse, at least not yet. He must honor a dying request, *Save the sharks*.

Do it for me. Every year, one-hundred million sharks are killed for their fins that are used in a Chinese soup, a symbol of wealth in Asia. Within the next ten years, one-third of all shark species will be extinct, and without these ocean predators, the reefs will decline. Christian embraces the impossible task of stopping the shark slaughter. Under the alias of Captain Nemo, he becomes an eco-terrorist, while a suspicious FBI agent dogs his every move. Will Christian be caught and imprisoned? Will the fin traders kill him? Could despair win out, causing him to take his own life? Or will Christian succeed and save the sharks?



**June's Speaker, Lisa Unger**, a New York Times Best-selling author of thirteen novels, won Creative Loafing's 2015 Best of the Bay Award for **BEST LOCAL FICTION WRITER!**



Congratulations, Lisa! And thank you for a terrific workshop.

**Previous Member Brenda Seabrook** announced the arrival of her newest book: *SCONES AND BONES ON BAKER STREET: SHERLOCK'S (maybe) DOG AND THE DIRT DILEMMA*

by Belanger Books which exclusively publishes Sherlock Holmes books, scholarly books pertaining to the Holmes books, and books by the Baker Street Irregulars which included President Franklin Roosevelt and Sir Winston Churchill.

"This is a fun mystery for young readers with an adorable dog who has a real nose for excitement and clues. The numerous illustrations liven up the pages, while sprinkles of historical information make it a real treat. Teamed up with Sherlock Holmes, Digby is a dog criminals and evil doers need to watch out for." - Tonja Drecker - prized children's book reviewer at Bookworm for Kids



In another genre a short story, "Snow Devils" has been selected for publication in THE BEST NEW ENGLAND CRIME STORIES of 2016.

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**Member John Pearce** announced the publication of his new novel, *Last Stop: Paris*, the sequel to *Treasure of Saint-Lazare*.

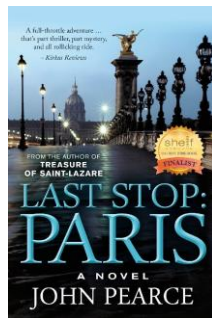
Here's the link to the Amazon page (it's KDP Select), where readers can find the Kindle, paperback and audio editions: <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B017OTZN4W>.

Author page is <http://amazon.com/author/johnpearce>.

He will be attending a Book signing and Political event Saturday November 5, 2016 from noon until 3 pm in the Village of the Arts at 1004 & 1010 Tenth Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205. Stop in and buy a signed copy of either or both books.

*Last Stop* was picked as a 2015 finalist in the best indie book of the year competition sponsored by Shelf Unbound Magazine and Bowker.

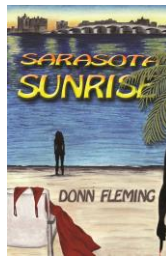
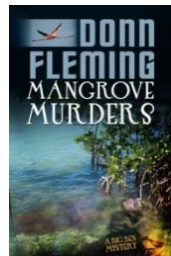
The interview is on his blog, here: <http://wp.me/P2PhOq-OY>



#### **John Pearce**

Author of [Last Stop: Paris](#)  
and [Treasure of Saint-Lazare](#)

**Member Donn Fleming** announced he currently has two books out and available on Amazon and Kindle. He recently attended a book fair and was pleased with the results.



Great covers, Donn.

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**Member Jena Desermia** advised she had open heart surgery in September and then lost her beloved husband in October. She hopes to be back with her fellow writers as soon as possible. We send our heartfelt condolences.

And....

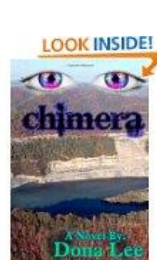
**\*\*\* Member Dona Lee is back at work:**

Season opening at Village Voices begins Friday Night during the Festival of the Skeletons. Anne Greenwald will be signing her novel, *Misbegotten*. There will be a makeup artist on site to help you get in the mood with a skeleton face. Bring a cape and you will fit right in. Visit the Celebrity Altar dedicated to David Bowie as well as the many shrines throughout the Village dedicated to our loved ones who use the night to revisit us. Live music, wine and hors d'oeuvres are available as you stroll the streets visiting any of the 45 galleries and six eateries.

She and Al are partners in a video production company. DNA Productions, LLC produces **book trailers**, music videos, workshops, small business commercials, and even a political parody serial for Youtube. We just filmed a Flash Mob Dance up in Madeira Beach. Filming has begun on *Redneck White House*, a political parody for a web series. If you need a video for your business, your book, your website, or any reason, commercial or personal, contact her for more information. (No weddings, the insurance is too pricey) They have registered commercial drones and can provide 4K and HD aerial videos when desired. You can see DNA Videos on Youtube at Al Musitano or Dona's Redneck White House Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCphTzpNdHdWoe44C50yPDyw>

Her literary business, Plotting Success (named after our newsletter), is the canopy for many of the numerous projects she manages. Her **Author Services company offers editing, manuscript evaluations, and coaching on all aspects of writing**. We have helped numerous writers self publish their novels at a fraction of the cost charged by subsidy publishers AND you retain your rights and royalties. Plotting Success also offers publishing services; formatting your manuscript for both e-book and tree book (paper) publication, including custom-created covers, and help with the upload to Create Space. After you are published, she offers coaching to help you focus your marketing plan directly to your readers. **All at a price far below subsidy and independent publishers**. And when you are done, you receive ALL royalties directly from Amazon's Createspace and Kindle divisions.

Plotting Success released two environmental thrillers, *The Shoo-Fly Man* and *Chimera*, and is working on the marketing plan for both. *It's Raining Mangoes* is her cookbook filled with Mango recipes for every course. Only available at Village Voices Book Gallery. Village Voices & Eclectic Art Emporium in the Village of the Arts, Bradenton is a Florida Author's Only bookstore. If you have published books, contact Dona Lee to discuss placement in the gallery.



Interested in being interviewed about your books? Dona hosts a weekly show on Radioearnetwork.com every Thursday at 2 pm called *Culture Coast*, interviewing musicians and artists of every venue. Check it out online at [www.radioearnetwork.com](http://www.radioearnetwork.com) Please tell your friends and neighbors to listen in and discover what our Culture Coast has to offer. If you know any artists, **authors**, or musicians in the local area who might be interested in talking about their music or art, have them contact [DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com) for an interview. Now that the Author's Connection is no longer taking new interviews, please contact Dona for your new releases and general book interviews.

If you have finished or are close to finishing your manuscript, it would behoove you to buy a copy of *Published! A Complete Guide to Nontraditional Publishing.* The book helps writers at every level decide whether to follow the path to traditional publishing, use a subsidy, or self-publish; and if the decision is subsidy or self-publishing, how to choose the best option for your manuscript. It includes sections on editing, formatting, and marketing as well. Foreword by best-seller Dan Poynter.



For more information on any of the above feel free to contact Dona Lee at [DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com) or call 941-748-6865.

We now create live action & computer slide show book trailers. Al Musitano has completed the live action book trailer for the YA novel, *Gothmares*. Check it out on youtube.com, here's the **CORRECTED** link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iklBBPIP\\_8I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iklBBPIP_8I)

If you wish to inquire on having your own book trailer, contact Al Musitano at [eye2eye@inbox.com](mailto:eye2eye@inbox.com). He creates both live action trailers, computer graphics to text and music like Andrew's, or green screen scenarios like Dave's.

We are featuring **Member Dave Pierce's** new website: <http://davidmpearce.wix.com/author> Dave is planning on a traditional path to publication so he has information on what he is working on and excerpts from his first book as well as a book trailer.

This is Andrew's Book Trailer:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7jGQdjWw5I> Please give it a thumbs up. Ivan helped him create it but has asked Plotting Success to take over any future requests for these trailers. If you want us to create a book trailer, please contact me at [DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com).

Andrew would appreciate any comments you might have about the trailer.

Contact **Andrew Parker** at [andycp1999@yahoo.com](mailto:andycp1999@yahoo.com)

Want to advertise your published book? Your company? Your services?  
If you would like to place an ad in our newsletter or know someone else who might like to place an ad, let me know. The cost is \$5.00 a month or \$50.00 a year for three to five lines of text.

Pictures will be extra.

Send requests to [Dgould497@aol.com](mailto:Dgould497@aol.com) write SFW Ad Query in the subject line

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Paid Advertising (Place your Ad here - \$5.00 a month or \$50.00 a year)



Florida Author's Book Gallery

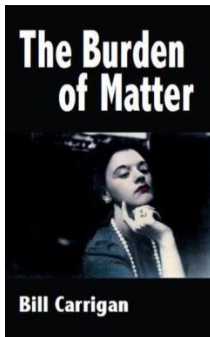


International Online Weekly Radio Show for Creatives  
Literary, painting, musical, culinary, healing, brew masters, and more.

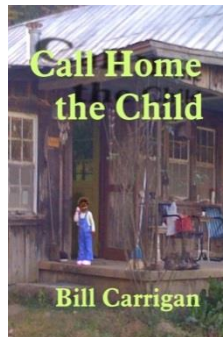


Contact me for help with editing, formatting for self publication, ghost writing, and more.  
Reasonable rates, local references.

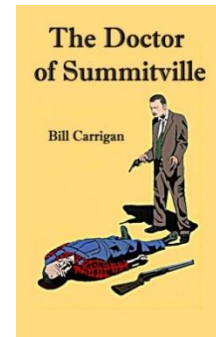
**Read and enjoy the many works of our esteemed Bill Carrigan.** All editions are newly edited and available on Amazon. (Search Books by Bill Carrigan) Read the first three chapters of any book for free. Kindle editions are 2.99 and paperbacks cost around \$10.00. Please review on Amazon after reading.



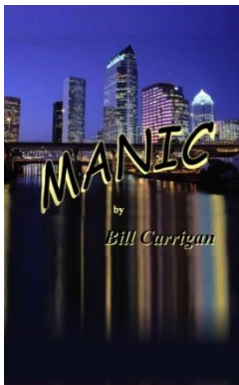
Anatomy of a WWII love affair in Washington D.C.



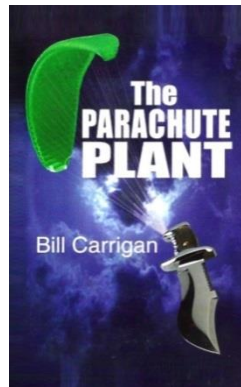
An interracial adoption in 1988 Virginia breaks bad.



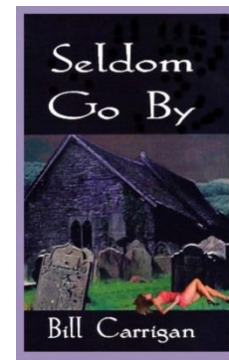
In 1927 a doctor's love affair leads to a death



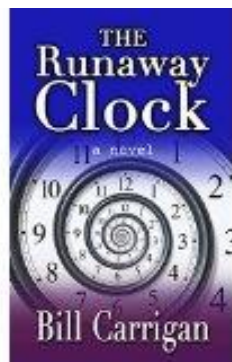
A young Tampa writer joins up with a killer to bring him down.



An Oregon doctor and wife solve gruesome murders.



Murders surround Aunt Esterleen at her mansion, Seldom Go By.

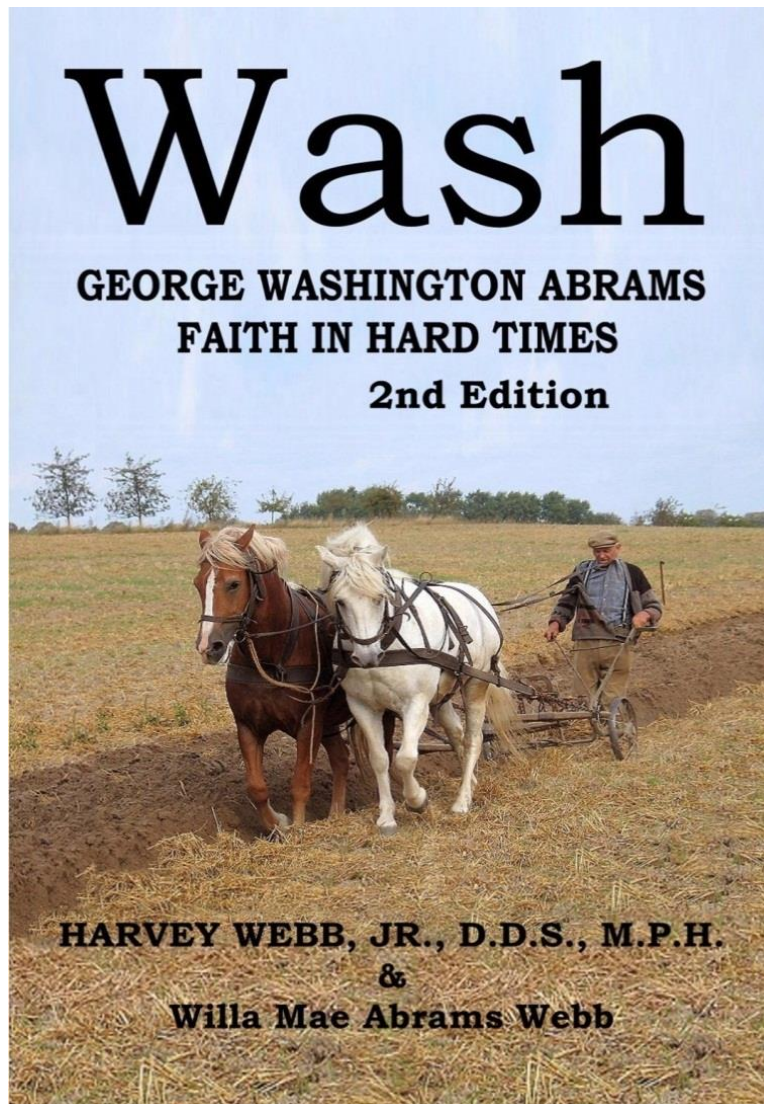


A scientist falls victim to premature aging after proving its cause.



A varied palette of tales and a translation of Poe's "Ulalume."





**Wash**, born a slave in Georgia, is Harvey's maternal grandfather. His life story begins around 1854, during slavery, followed by the hardships, trials, and achievements attained through his beliefs and determination to succeed during the Jim Crow era.

Harvey spent over thirty years researching Wash's experiences in the development of this novel describing the challenges facing a black man's efforts to make a livelihood in the rural south of the 1800's.

Wash may be purchased in hard cover, soft cover, and e-book on amazon.com or ordered at book signings, or any bookstore. Currently autographed copies may be obtained at a reduced price from Harvey for the special price of: \$35.00 - Hard cover; \$25.00 - soft cover; Plus \$5.00 for packaging and postage; you may anticipate a two week turnaround. The Second Edition is Available on Amazon for \$24.99 and on Kindle for \$9.99.



# **Other Voices, Other Rooms**

Local area critique groups and meetings

An online writing blog for Sarasota and Manatee Writers includes all the vast resources available to local writers. The web address has been changed:

[www.FloridaWritersAssociationManatee.com](http://www.FloridaWritersAssociationManatee.com)

I hope you check it out and find it useful. If you know of any other resources please feel free to add them or forward the information to me and I will add them.

There is a similar blog for Pinellas and Hillsborough writing events at:

<http://www.marylouihess.com/enews.html>

## **Florida Writer's Association Manatee**

**Critique group**, bring six to eight copies of up to ten pages double-spaced.

Fiction and Nonfiction, shorts, articles, novellas, memoirs, & Novels

First & Third Saturdays, at 4 pm November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 and November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
First & third Thursdays, at 6:00 pm November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016

All meetings are held at **Village Voices & Eclectic Art Emporium**, 1010 10<sup>th</sup> Ave West, Bradenton. For more information call Dona Lee at 748-6865 or email to [Dgould497@aol.com](mailto:Dgould497@aol.com)

## **Florida Writers Association, Sarasota Branch**

FWA-Sarasota Chapter

FWA Sarasota meets two evenings each month: on the FIRST and THIRD Wednesday. The training room of the Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department is located at the corner of US41 and Pavonia Road. Pavonia Road is the street that has the flashing emergency lights on US 41 south of Matthews-Currie Ford. Pavonia is about a quarter mile south of Albee Road.

The FIRST meeting of the month is dedicated to subgroups of various genres, will be November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. The members of each subgroup bring stories, poems, articles, or novel chapters for reading and critiquing. The SECOND meeting of the month November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 is the general meeting. A few members read to the entire group and then receive comments and suggestions from the group. The rest of the general meeting is dedicated to questions, discussions, progress reports, and general information about writing, publishing and marketing.

A half hour of socializing is encouraged for attendees arriving at 6:00. The regular meetings begin promptly at 6:30 and last until about 9:00. Come join us on the FIRST and/or THIRD Wednesday

. For questions you may email Ernie Ovitz at [egovitz@gmail.com](mailto:egovitz@gmail.com)

## **ALL NEW! Gulf Coast Sisters in Crime**



Back with a bang!

Gulf Gate Library, Meeting Room B  
7112 Curtiss Ave, Sarasota, FL 34231

New SinC benefit available to chapter members only. Check it out!  
<http://www.sistersincrime.org/default.asp?page=OnlineCourses>

Contact the founder *Wendy Dingwall* for more information.

[www.wendydingwall.com](http://www.wendydingwall.com)  
[wendyldwriter@comcast.net](mailto:wendyldwriter@comcast.net)

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### **NEW Memoir Group**

A memoir writing group meets at the Braden River Library on SR 70 the fourth Tuesday from 1 pm - 2:30 pm. This month that will be November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. There is no fee.  
Call 941 727-6079 for more information.

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### **AMI Gulf Coast Writers**

Meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of each month, at 12:45pm at the library in Holmes Beach. This month that will be November 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more information contact Alice Moerk at [amoerk@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:amoerk@tampabay.rr.com) or contact the library. 5701 Marina Dr, Holmes Beach, FL 34217 Phone:(941) 778-6341

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### **FICTION WRITER'S FORUM**

#### **Critique group**

6:30 pm Second Thursday of the month November 10, 2016  
Books-a-Million, Gulf Gate Mall

6:30 pm Fourth Thursday of the month, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Books-a-Million, Gulf Gate Mall

Bring ten to fifteen copies of up to ten pages of your fiction.  
Books-a-Million, Gulf Gate Mall

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## **Sarasota Authors Connection**

Marketing & Publishing for Writers

**When:** Nov 14, 2016

**Where:** Fruitville Library,

100 Coburn Rd. (half mile east of I-75 on the corner of Fruitville and Coburn Rd).

**Guest Speaker** Maryann Burchell

**Subject:**

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**Sarasota Authors Connection Annual Book Fair,**

**Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016**

**Downtown at the Sarasota Farmers Market**

Come join us and check out the new releases by fellow Florida authors. Christmas is approaching and a book is a gift which opens new worlds to the reader. Support local writers. Get a signed book and watch the smiles when you give it to a loved one.

## **FINALLY – A Writer's Group in Lakewood Ranch**

### **Scribes Club**

A writers group! It will be fun! Exercise the mind and develop the cranial muscle. Enjoy the "Smorgasbord for the mind" a potluck that all participants bring. This is the place for camaraderie and exchange of ideas. This offers an opportunity for honing your skills, as a writer. If you can pick up a pen you can write! So give yourself a chance to expand your horizons. Experienced writers please join and help others learn the skills you have acquired.

The club meets at Town Hall on the first and third Saturday of every month 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. To join email [ACHaddha@aol.com](mailto:ACHaddha@aol.com) , Aroon Chaddha.



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## **Manasota Films Group**

November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

A group of local film/video members meet once a month at the Parkwood Theatre the third Wednesday of every month to network with those who are interested in creating films—shorts, documentaries, series, even feature films as well as viewing each other's completed work. Writers, Actors, Actresses, Film Crew, Extras, Directors, Producers, Set Designers, Make-up pros, Costume designers, and anyone else with a desire to be part of our growing film industry is welcome. To join just go to Facebook and search Manasota Films. Request to join and Mark Troy, the founder, will sign you up. It is **free** and currently there are around 1100 members. Donations are welcome to pay for the use of the theatre. Quite a few members have been winning awards at film festivals and there is a new feature film that is true genius. When you get the chance, don't miss "Catching Junior Tate" produced by Karl & Rhonda Wilson. I suggest this group to all writers. Screenplays and scripts are the future. Internet web videos need content. Youtube, as well as many of the other outlets online, need series, shorts, features, and so much more. Join the wave of the future. Our Culture Coast is rapidly coming of age in the film industry.

This month you don't want to miss! They are screening the magnificent Single-Take Challenge films and presenting awards, as well as a screening of Bob Gray's television pilot teaser for Rental! Filmed locally! Produced by Orensis Films!

Free admission to theatre #5, Manasota Film Indie shorts. Donations accepted.

## **Screen Writer's Circle**

The Screen Writer's Circle will meet on November 16, 2016, 2016 at Selby Library 5:30 to 7:30 pm. in the second floor conference room.

Table readings must be scheduled with the moderator, Laurie Stoner. She has a group of producers, directors, actors, and actresses to perform the table readings. They schedule 3 readings running approx. 40 minutes each. There is more information on Facebook:

Sarasota Screenwriters.

Please let Laurie know if you are planning on attending as they are outgrowing the room and only have seats for 30. See website: [www.sarasotascreenwriters.com](http://www.sarasotascreenwriters.com). A LOT of good feedback is coming in due to these professional table readings.

For more information contact Laurie Stoner at [mlstoner52@gmail.com](mailto:mlstoner52@gmail.com)

## **New Screen Writing Group**

### **SARASOTA'S SCREENWRITERS, STORYTELLERS AND CREATIVES**

New screenwriting group, also covers storytelling

Richard Keehn, an award winning screenwriter as well as the producer on the upcoming *Screenplay Show* by Rick Ramage invites you to his writing group no matter your skill level. Just bring your imaginative, curiosity and discipline. The major focus is on the art, craft and – my favorite – the business of screenwriting, but we also will delve into storytelling in general as the need warrants. So welcome. Everyone has a story to tell. It's time to tell yours.

For More Information Contact Richard @ [richard@thescreenplayshow.com](mailto:richard@thescreenplayshow.com)

# The Sarasota Creative Writers

The Sarasota Creative Writers Meetup Group

Tuesdays @ 6:30 PM  
Sarasota Alliance Church  
7221 Bee Ridge Rd  
Sarasota, FL

**November 8** [The Sarasota Creative Writers](#)  
Tuesday, November 8, 2016 6:30 PM ·

**November 22** [The Sarasota Creative Writers](#)  
Tuesday, November 22, 2016 6:30 PM ·

[http://www.meetup.com/The-Sarasota-Creative-Writers-Meetup-Group/events/231753288/?af=event&af\\_eid=231753288&https=off](http://www.meetup.com/The-Sarasota-Creative-Writers-Meetup-Group/events/231753288/?af=event&af_eid=231753288&https=off)

Please do not bring work with graphic sex, violence, or heavy usage of gratuitous profanity.

## And a Poetry group! (Not in Lakewood Ranch)

### Selby Poets

Selby Poets meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month 10:00 AM – noon.

November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (10 am to noon) meeting of **Selby Poets** at the **Banyan Cafe** - located on the grounds of the **Ringling Museum**. 5401 Bay Shore Rd, Sarasota. (941) 359-3183

<http://www.urbanspoon.com/r/30/1282677/restaurant/Tampa-Bay/Banyan-Cafe-Sarasota>

Purchase of a drink (coffee, tea, soda) is expected. It is an informal group that gathers to encourage and ‘gently’ critique each other’s work. Park across the street – no entry fee to go to Cafe – walk or ride shuttle from entrance.

Everyone is welcome.

Bring 8 - 10 copies of one or two original poems to read aloud.

Open to the Public / Free

Contact: Gail Ghai  
GGhai@ArtPoetica.com

## **SRQ Horror, Sci-Fi, and Fantasy Writers.**

SRQ Horror, Sci-Fi, and Fantasy Writers is a meetup writers group in Sarasota for in-depth critiquing.

Please contact Patricia La Barbera for more information.

Join @

<http://www.meetup.com/SRQ-Horror-Sci-Fi-and-Fantasy-Writers/>

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**Florida Writers Foundation**, a 501(c)3 non-profit formed to promote literacy, as well as enhancing the writing skills of children, youth, and adults is stretching out for members and volunteers across the state. Their volunteers and partners have already started to make a difference by visiting elementary schools for reading days, sponsoring poetry contests, donating books to under-privileged schools, and contributing funds to middle school contests.

They have a new chairman, Tom Schwartz, who is working on fundraising including bringing in a nationally known bestselling author for the October Celebrity Workshop. They are establishing \$500.00 scholarships for students enrolled in a Florida College writing program. Please go to their website for more information. [www.floridawritersfoundation.org](http://www.floridawritersfoundation.org)



## ABC - Artisans of Books



### Marketing, PR, and Sales group

**ABC is sponsoring a writing contest. See Contests below for more information.**

**General Meetings:** Our members meeting moved to the Selby Library. They meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 1p – 3p.

They now accept authors of adult books as well as our children's authors

The membership fee is a flat \$25

The main focus is still on marketing and having some great speakers coming to share their information.

Contact Brenda Spalding:

[www.brendaspalding@abcbooks4children.com](mailto:www.brendaspalding@abcbooks4children.com)

[www.brendaspalding.com](http://www.brendaspalding.com) or Nancy Buscher for more information:

[nancybuscher@yahoo.com](mailto:nancybuscher@yahoo.com)

**Applications are on the website:**

[ABCBooks4Children.com](http://ABCBooks4Children.com)

#209 1532 US 41 Highway BP S

Venice FL 34293-1032

*ABC– Artisans of Books* is made up of book authors & illustrators, and mainstream authors. Our mission is to form a networking alliance of independently published, self-marketing, and aspiring artisans to exchange knowledge, share experiences, assist in marketing, and promote literacy wherever possible.

## For our writers to the north...

The SCBWI (Society of Children's Book Writer's & Illustrator's), critique group is led by Karen Hamade, (a FWA affiliated group). They are just in the process of setting up their meeting day & location. Any interested parties may contact her at [www.brandonwriters.com](http://www.brandonwriters.com) and she will be happy to email the next meeting information. They are a children's book author critique group in Brandon, Florida, who primarily critique Picture and Chapter Books, Middle Grade, and YA. For meeting information, please use online 'contact' form at: [www.brandonwriters.com](http://www.brandonwriters.com)

## For those writers to our south....

### Peace River Writers (a FWA affiliated group)

Group Leader: Douglas Houck

Type: Critique and Discussion

Meets: First Saturday of every Month at 9:00 am

New Location: Wyvern Hotel

101 E. Retta Esplanade

Punta Gorda, Florida

# Events



## Ringling College of Art + Design Debuts the Visiting Writers Forum

To support the new degree in Creative Writing, Ringling College of Art + Design has launched the Visiting Writers Forum. Each event will feature authors sharing their work, followed by a robust Q&A session with audience members.

Every Visiting Writers Forum event is **free and open to the public**. All events will take place on the Ringling College of Art + Design campus.

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### Rob Sanders

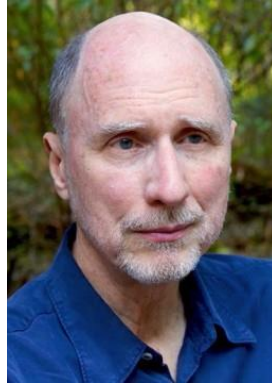
Tampa author Rod Sanders is “a writer who teaches and a teacher who writes.” This lifelong educator is the author of numerous picture books, including **Outer Space Bedtime Race**, **Cowboy Christmas**, **Ruby Rose: Off to School She Goes**, and **Ruby Rose: Big Bravos**. His picture book **Rodzilla** is forthcoming in 2017 and **Pride: The Story of the Rainbow Flag** will be published in 2018.

Tuesday, November 1

7:00 - 8:15 pm

Academic Center--Room 209

The Robert Olen Butler reading will be free, BUT it will be a ticketed event. Call to reserve your tickets Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> to hear Pulitzer-winner Robert Olen Butler close out the fall Visiting Writers Forum on November 17! Or email [rvcleave@c.ringling.edu](mailto:rvcleave@c.ringling.edu)



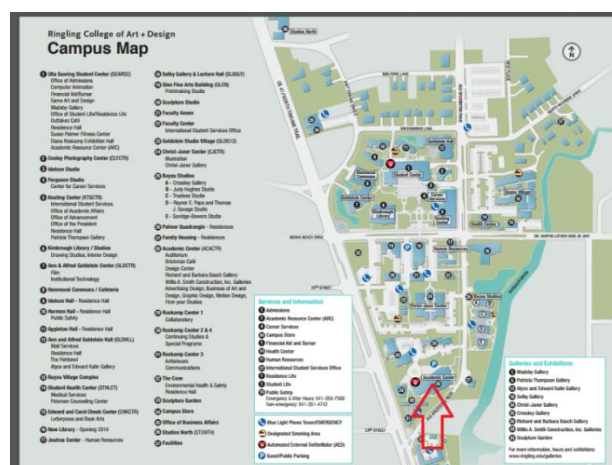
Robert Olen Butler is one of the finest American fiction writers working today. The author of twelve novels, six short story collections, and many screenplays written for Hollywood's major studios, he's also the recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Endowment of the Arts grant, and multiple National Magazine Awards. His book on writing, **From Where You Dream: The Process of Writing Fiction**, is a popular text for many creative writing classes. He serves as the Francis Eppes Professor of English at Florida State University.

Thursday, November 17

7:00 - 8:15 pm

Academic Center--Main Auditorium

**Where do I park?** All of the events take place at the Academic Center (#28 on the map below). Parking is a breeze--anywhere you find an open spot is a valid option. Handicapped parking right in front of the building is also available if you have appropriate signage.



## National Novel Writing Month

**Reminder to all writers, November is NaNoWriMo** and offers an opportunity to sit butt in chair and write. The rules are simple: On November 1, participants begin working towards the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 PM on November 30.

All participants who sign up at the beginning of the month and validate 50,000 words by the end of the month win a badge. The nonprofit organization offers support along the way as well as tips from other writers. It is a fun way to approach writing. Of course you have the next eleven months to edit the novel.

Valuing enthusiasm, determination, and a deadline, NaNoWriMo is for anyone who has ever thought about writing a novel.

Go to their website for more information or to register: [nanowrimo.org](http://nanowrimo.org)

NaNoWriMo is an annual (November) novel writing project that brings together professional and amateur writers from all over the world.

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Brenda Spalding of ABC Books has provided us with a list of upcoming events in the local area where authors can market their books. Some are very affordable and some are way over-priced for ROI.

### **Preview of coming attractions**

**Bradenton Women's Club** – Nov. 5 1705 Manatee Ave. W. Bradenton, 34205  
Fran Kain 401-683-8203, [mrsfmk@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:mrsfmk@tampabay.rr.com), Fee \$25 per table. Inside table provided.

**Arcadia Heritage Festival** – Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, Main St Arcadia, \$30 for 10x10 space, outside. You will need tent table and chairs.

**NBP Rowing Festival** – November 5 & 6, Nathan Benderson Park, near UTC mall.  
[www.NBPRowingFestival.org](http://www.NBPRowingFestival.org), for more information and application.

**St. Petersburg Times Book Festival** – Nov. 12 and 13, Self-published package \$195, one author per space. Contact Lara Shelton 727-892-2933. E-mail - [lshelton@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:lshelton@tampabay.rr.com)

**Peridia Fine Arts and Crafts** -Bradenton SR 70, Nov. 12, 9am – 3pm Spaces are \$35 and you can share. [PeridiaArtShow@gmail.com](mailto:PeridiaArtShow@gmail.com), Fran Murry 941-755-5554, inside and outside spaces.

**Christmas Arts and Craft Fair** – December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Venice community Center. We have booked a whole square contact [bpspalding@msn.com](mailto:bpspalding@msn.com)

**Englewood Arts and craft fairs** – Dec. 10, Jan 21, Mar. 18, 1300 S. River Rd., Englewood. Inside, the fee is \$20 per table, you can share. I have applications.



# Contests

## 805 Literary Arts Journal Flash Fiction Contest

Manatee County Public Library is hosting a Flash Fiction Contest open to all Manatee County Library Card Holders. The winner will win a ticket to The Library Foundation's Evening with Nicholas Sparks.

- Entrants must own a valid Manatee County Public Library card.
- Only one entry may be submitted per person.
- Entries are limited to 500 words, must be in English, and cannot be previously published.
- Manatee County Government employees and their families are ineligible to enter.
- Entrants must be 16 or over.
- Submissions may be researched for plagiaristic content.
- Judges reserve the right to disqualify entries that contain profanity or offensive content.
- The Library and Foundation reserve the right to use submitted entries in promotional and literary compilations without compensation.
- **Deadline for entry is Friday, December 2nd, 2016. Mailed entries must be postmarked by that date.**
- Selections will be announced on Friday, December 16th, 2016. One winner will receive one ticket to the author event on Tuesday, February 7th, 2017.
- Entries may be submitted in person at any library facility, by email or by regular mail.
- Entries submitted in person or sent by regular mail should include on a single sheet of paper the submitted entry followed by the entrant's name, address, phone number, library card barcode number, and email address if applicable. Please ensure entry is legible if written by hand.
- Email entries should be in the body of the message, not in an attachment. Please use a readable font such as Arial 12. Please include entrant name, address, phone number, library card barcode number, and email address.
- Send e-mailed entries to: [librarycontest@mymanatee.org](mailto:librarycontest@mymanatee.org)
- Entrants will receive an automatic free subscription to 805.
- Submit mailed entries to:

Flash Fiction Contest Committee  
Manatee County Public Library System  
1301 Barcarrota Blvd.  
Bradenton, FL 34205

# Sarasota Fiction Writers Annual Short Story Contest

## Sarasota Fiction Writers

### Rules and Guidelines — 2016 Sarasota Fiction Writers Contest

(Prizes: \$100; \$50; \$25; Hon Mention)

1. Open to paid SFW members only. (Membership is \$25.00 annually)
2. This year's theme is a departure from earlier contests: They will be selecting at least two but no more than five pictures from a group of 20 on the website and then using them as prompts connecting them together into a short story with a solid plot structure.
3. **Contest deadline via email attachment: November 15**, which is our business meeting in November. Prizes will be awarded at our Christmas party in December.
4. The story must be fiction (*very* creative non-fiction is allowed).
5. Must be a short story, not a travel piece, memoir, etc.
  - a. Can be frightening, dramatic, romantic, thrilling, humorous, etc.
  - b. Any genre is acceptable as long as it is not pornographic.
  - c. Have some fun with this!
6. Must not exceed 2500 words.
7. Must be reasonably well edited.
8. Submitting the manuscript:
  - a. If submitting in *paper form*: it must be submitted **no later than our November meeting (Nov 1)**. Bring it to the November meeting (Selby Library, 6PM), or mail it to [Patrick Gray, 2935 Bravura Lake Drive, Sarasota, FL, 34240].
  - b. If submitting *electronically*, send it as an attachment (**no later than Nov 15**) to [PatrickGray1@msn.com](mailto:PatrickGray1@msn.com). [**\*.doc; \*.docx, or PDF**]
9. Formatting:
  - a. As with most contests which will be judged independently, the story needs a cover sheet with the author's name, story title, and contact information. Also at the bottom of cover sheet, tell us which photographs you used as your prompts.
  - b. The author's name should *not* be present on any of the story pages—only on the cover sheet.
  - c. Do not staple (if paper submission) the cover sheet to the rest of the story; simply place it in the same envelope with the story. If submitting via email, put the cover sheet in a separate attachment (you would have two attachments—one for the cover sheet, and one for the story).
  - d. Place the story title (or some recognizable part of it) and page numbers in the top right hand corner of each page of the story itself. (E.g., pages 2, 3, and 4 of Poe's *The Raven* would have *The Raven/2; The Raven/3; The Raven/4* in their respective upper right-hand corners.)
  - e. Use one of the common fonts (such as Courier New, Times New Roman, Georgia, or Bookman Old Style).
  - f. Use 12 point, double spaced and with 1-inch margins on all sides.

# Lone Star Contest

Northwest Houston RWA© is proud to announce  
The 23rd Annual Lone Star Writing Competition 2016  
We'll begin accepting entries on April 1, 2016, so be sure to check the website.

**A place to find a few more Book Contests**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM BOOK AWARDS CENTRAL**

**IF YOU HAVE NEWLY PUBLISHED TITLES TO PROMOTE, WE HAVE AN AWARDS  
CONTEST FOR YOU**



Independent Publisher Book Awards - Axiom Business Book Awards - Living  
Now Book Awards  
Moonbeam Children's Book Awards - eLit Awards

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Do you have an Award-worthy book that deserves more attention? Book Awards are an efficient, affordable marketing tool that can make a huge impact on your marketing campaign. Each year, medals go to both established mid-sized publishers and first-time self-publishers. We reward those who exhibit the courage, innovation, and creativity to bring about change in the world of publishing. This spirit and expertise comes from publishers of all sizes and budgets, and books are judged with that in mind.

Get more attention. Get a shiny sticker for your cover. Get the recognition your book deserves!

Need entry information about any of these book awards contests? See details and links about each contest below, or email me to request guidelines or to deliver questions or comments: **Jim Barnes, Awards Director** - [jimb@bookpublishing.com](mailto:jimb@bookpublishing.com)

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**Midlife Collage** sponsors a weekly contest of midlife short stories. U.S. citizens and legal residents age 40 and older may enter. The Editor selects five stories for publication on their website each week. Readers leave comments and Facebook thumbs-up likes urging the panel of Judges to choose a contest winner. Readers also send the Judges their opinion of the best story on our Closing Arguments page. The contest period is Monday through Sunday noon PT. The first-place story enters the Winner's Circle and receives a cash prize of \$50. Winners of a \$50 cash prize are eligible for a \$100 contest, which we run quarterly. ANYONE, worldwide, age 18 or older can comment on the stories in a contest.

Updated web site address for submissions: You should be able to post a submission at the following link: <http://www.writermag.com/writing-resources/update-my-contest/?id=6863&title=Midlife%20Collage%20Contests>

**[www.MidlifeCollage.com](http://www.MidlifeCollage.com)**

**\*yes, the spelling is collage not college.**

# Of Writing Interest

## Writers Brunch

We meet monthly on the third Sunday of the month to enjoy the company of others with a common interest in writing while we relax, mingle, network, and brunch. It is open to any writers and aspiring writers who want to just chat. Nothing to join, we just meet at Pier 22 at 11:30 on the patio, usually around the fire pit, if it is available. We have coffee, mimosas, bloody marys, and a lite snack or brunch or lunch, separate checks. Bring your S.O. if you like, and join us as we chat about anything we have in common, advice we've picked up, and suggestions all amid the beautiful surroundings of Manatee River, yachts, good food, and good company. If you are thinking of joining us, please shoot me a short email so I can try to get a large enough area (from 6 to 20 so far). [DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com) This month it will be on November 20, 2016

FWA member, Wendy Dingwall, also a member of the national **Sisters in Crime** organization, has agreed to start a Florida Gulf Coast chapter. **Sisters in Crime** has 3600 members' world-wide, offering support to women crime writers. Members consist of authors, readers, librarians, publishers, booksellers and agents. **Sisters in Crime** was founded by Sara Paretsky and a group of women at the 1986 Bouchercon in Baltimore. Their mission is to promote the ongoing advancement, recognition and professional development of women crime writers. Wendy is actively seeking members for the new chapter. If you are interested, please contact her at [wendyldwriter@comcast.net](mailto:wendyldwriter@comcast.net).

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## Wordier Than Thou

Open Mic for Writers of Prose

Short fiction read to other writers in the back room of Sarasota Brewing Company.

No critique, just sign up at the front around 6:30.

Starts at 7 pm. Food and drink available for purchase.

Usually the third Wednesday of each month.

Check Facebook for verification

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**\*NEW\*** A new rich source for poets has been recommended by Pat Gray. For those of you who enjoy reading and writing poetry, please enjoy:

<https://archive.org/details/naropa?&sort=-downloads&page=2>

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## Paid Publishing Opportunity.

Authors accepted for publication are paid. Thank you so much.

- The first issue of *Today & Yesterday*, an online international literary journal published by Laughing Fire Press, is available at [todayandyesterday.co](http://todayandyesterday.co). (.co NOT .com)
- Featured in this issue are short stories, poems, a memoir, and an author interview from contributors either living in or from the US, Germany, Nigeria, Turkey, the Philippines, and Iran.
- Laughing Fire Press invites submissions for the next issue of the journal. Short stories, poems, essays, interviews, memoirs, and photographs that examine contemporary or historical socially-relevant subject matter are desired. Areas of interest include the arts, politics, popular culture, economics, science and technology, human rights, psychology, philosophy, and the environment.

Jed Lewis  
Publisher and Editor-In-Chief  
Laughing Fire Press  
[www.laughingfire.com](http://www.laughingfire.com)  
[www.facebook.com/LaughingFirePress](https://www.facebook.com/LaughingFirePress)  
@LaughingFire

### *Romance Wanted!*

Do you love writing romance as much as you love reading it? If you've written a full-length romance, Crimson Romance wants to consider it for publication! We're looking for romances in all the popular categories (contemporary, historical, romantic suspense and more!) Have an idea for a romance collection? Drop us a line and we'll consider it. Please submit your full story to [editorcrimson@gmail.com](mailto:editorcrimson@gmail.com) with "Short Story Submission – [intended collection]" in the subject line. If we get enough submissions to publish more than one title in each category, we will.

- See more at:

[http://www.crimsonromance.com/submissions/?et\\_mid=624366&rid=235541304#sthash.x3f1PFYf.dpuf](http://www.crimsonromance.com/submissions/?et_mid=624366&rid=235541304#sthash.x3f1PFYf.dpuf)

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## Agents

A recommended source for finding literary agents:  
<http://www.ebookcrossroads.com/agents.html>

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Local author and publisher E. P. "Ned" Burke is hosting a Web site, **Sarasota Authors Showcase**, [Sarasota.Authors.Showcase@gmail.com](mailto:Sarasota.Authors.Showcase@gmail.com), on which local authors can post info about their books. The service is free. Send bio information along with the title of your book (s) and the book's URL sales page address on Amazon.com or another location to [authorepburke@gmail.com](mailto:authorepburke@gmail.com).

Burke also invites submissions and free subscriptions to his online magazines: [www.theperspiringwriter.com](http://www.theperspiringwriter.com) and [www.yesterdaysmagazette.com](http://www.yesterdaysmagazette.com). See guidelines on site.

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Leodegraunce (<http://www.leodegraunce.com>), founded in 2010, is a site for quality flash fiction funded entirely by its owner, author and editor Jolie du Pre. Every author is paid for their work. Jolie also has an associate editor on staff who she pays once a month. Jolie is hoping to keep Leodegraunce online. All donations are greatly appreciated to keep Jolie's labor of love up and running.

\* \* \* \* \*



## New Imprint Seeking Romance Stories with Heat

Untreed Reads is pleased to announce a brand-new imprint to expand our catalog of offerings. Untreed After Dark is our new line for romance stories that take the heat level up a few notches from our sweet stories. Even though there is a lot of romance on the market today, we feel that there are still niches to fill. That's the ultimate goal of our new line.

We do have some rules for this new line:

1. Every sexual orientation is welcome.
  2. We would especially love to see romance stories about people of various ethnic backgrounds, people in their fifties or older, people with disabilities, 19th and 20th century historical (1800-2000), etc.
- If you have looked around and said, "I don't see another story out there remotely like mine," you're probably what we're looking for.
3. Works need to be believable and real. No genies, werewolves, vampires, body-switchers, witches, aliens, etc. Need real people in real relationships/situations.
  4. Sorry, but no works that take place before 1800. We feel that market has plenty of material already.
  5. Only works 25,000 words or more will be considered. Short story collections, however, would be fine.
  6. Cross-genre stories are especially welcome (romantic mysteries, for example).
  7. As we are not specifically looking for erotica, the heat level is currently limited to "NC-17." Sex doesn't have to be in the story, but if it's appropriate for the work, that's fine.
  8. The overall story is infinitely more important to us than a couple of hot scenes. We prefer to think of this as "literary romance/literary erotica." We want engaging characters with real romantic struggles and successes.
  9. HEA (Happily Ever After) is NOT a requirement. Sometimes romance doesn't end with the two people ending up together, and that's perfectly OK. That's real.
  10. Absolutely, positively NO: rape, bestiality, sex with underage people, or all the other things you would expect to be forbidden.
  11. Previously published works are definitely acceptable, providing electronic rights have reverted to the author.
  12. Works that have been published through a self-publishing venture (i.e.: Smashwords, Kindle Direct/Kindle Prime) will not be accepted.
  13. Agents and current Untreed Reads authors may submit directly to: Jay Hartman. All others need to send works to [submissions@untreedreads.com](mailto:submissions@untreedreads.com)
  14. All submissions need to be sent in their entirety in RTF, DOC or ODP formats, Times New Roman, 12 pt. This rule does not necessarily apply to current Untreed Reads authors or agents. If you are unsure if a work would be appropriate for us, please do feel free to query Jay Hartman at [jhartman@untreedreads.com](mailto:jhartman@untreedreads.com).

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# Saw Palm – A Literary Magazine published by USF Tampa

Saw Palm is a literary magazine devoted exclusively to creative work from and about Florida. For more information, please see our website: <http://www.sawpalm.org/>

**Prepare Your Submissions for Saw Palm 2014, submissions are accepted between July 1 and October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Saw Palm is a Florida-themed journal, however we welcome writers and artists from across the country and the globe as long as the work is connected to Florida (via images, people, themes, et cetera). We also welcome creative works from Floridians that are not obviously about someplace else. Please check out past issues, available for download as free PDFs. We publish one issue per year in the spring.

Saw Palm does not accept work that was previously published either online or in print. We welcome simultaneous submissions as long as you immediately notify Saw Palm of acceptance elsewhere. Response time varies between 1 to 6 months. Our general reading period is between July 1st and October 1st, however submissions for Places to Stand in Florida are accepted year-round.

All submissions must be made electronically through our online submissions manager. Please upload prose and poetry files in .doc or .docx formats only. Art, photography, and comics should be uploaded in .jpeg / .jpg format only. Paper submissions sent via snail mail will be recycled unread. Click here to submit.

## **Poetry**

We accept up to five poems per submission period at a maximum of 10 pages. Please send all poems in one document.

## **Fiction**

We ask that fiction submissions be no longer than 6000 words. Please send only one story per reading period.

## **Flash Fiction**

We accept up to three works of flash fiction (750 words or less) per submission period. Please send all stories in one document.

## **Creative Nonfiction**

We ask that submissions of memoir and essays be no longer than 6000 words. Please send only one piece per reading period.

## **Art & Photography**

We accept up to five submissions of art or photography per reading period. Please send files in .jpeg / .jpg format only. You may also include a URL if a portfolio of your work is online.

## **Comics**

We welcome submissions of graphic fiction and nonfiction of up to seven pages, whether in black & white, greyscale, or full color. Submit in .jpeg / .jpg format only. Keep in mind that the journal's dimensions are smaller (5"x7") than the average literary journal and so comics with small panels filled with intricate art are not well-suited.

## **Interviews**

We are especially interested in interviews of Florida writers and artists, although we're open to almost any Florida-related subject. Please query us about the interview subject first, via email.

## **Reviews** (appear on sawpalm.org)

We are interested in reviews of any Florida-related subject: author, book, film, tourist attraction, CD, website, beach, park, toll roads, snack stands, local landmarks—anything! These reviews will appear on [www.sawpalm.org](http://www.sawpalm.org). Unlike submissions of creative work, current or recent USF students and faculty are welcome to submit reviews. Size limit: 6000 words.

## **Places to Stand in Florida** (appears on sawpalm.org)

Please tell us what it's like to stand at a specific place in Florida at a specific time of day in 500 words or less. While we enjoy the unusual, locations should be public and accessible (so not your bathroom!) Please include GPS coordinates.

Unlike other categories, current or recent USF students and faculty are welcome to submit pieces for the Places to Stand series.

Poems submitted as part of the Places to Stand series are welcome but should be justified left and otherwise not have complex formatting and spacing. This is due to technical limitations in Google Earth.

## **Update March 2016:**

Sawpalm just released their 10th Anniversary Issue with the special theme—Florida-Cuba Connection.

They plan to return to the Florida theme for future issues. While submissions for the journal won't open until July 1st, they take submissions for the online literary map, "Places to Stand," year round. For this category, they accept short (500 word max) submissions of nonfiction and poetry that show what it's like to stand at a particular spot in Florida at a particular moment in time.

# Words of Wisdom

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This month I am bringing you an article from Jane Freidman, the retired editor of Writers Digest and currently a writing Professor. She has written an article on POV.

**Note from Jane:** This post is an excerpt from [\*Writing Your Novel from Start to Finish: A Guidebook for the Journey\*](#) by [Joseph Bates](#), just released by Writer's Digest Books.

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Point of view, or POV, has to do with the narrator's relationship to what's being said:

- Is the narrator a participant in the events being told, an observer of those events, or someone reconstructing the events from a distance?
- Does the narrator announce its presence openly or try to remain invisible?
- Is the narrator seemingly dispassionate and detached, or does the narrator have a clear opinion of, or stake in, the story?
- Is the narrator qualified to tell the story in terms of access to information and the ability to provide that information to us? And do we trust what's being said?

All are questions you have to ask yourself of POV, as each kind opens up and allows certain freedoms in telling a story while limiting or denying others. The goal in selecting a point of view is not simply finding a way to convey information but being able to tell it the right way, making the world you create understandable and believable.

The following is a brief rundown of the basic forms of POV available to you and a description of how they work.

## First-Person Singular

Characterized by the use of "I," this POV reveals an individual's experience directly through the narration. This is the most common form of first person, with a single character telling a personal story and what it means or meant, how it feels or felt, to him or her. The information given is limited to the first-person narrator's direct experience (what she sees, hears, does, feels, says, etc.) and a certain degree of indirect experience (hearsay, conjecture, deduction, emotions, and anything else that has to do with interpreting or inventing information rather than witnessing it).

The payoff of first person is a sense of reader immediacy with what the character experiences—particularly useful in genres that truck in suspense—as well as a sense of intimacy and connection with the character’s mindset, emotional state, and subjective reading of the events described.

Consider the closeness the reader feels to character, action, the physical setting, and emotion all within the first paragraph of Suzanne Collins’s *The Hunger Games* via Katniss’s first-person narration (an immediacy furthered by the use of present tense):

*When I wake up, the other side of the bed is cold. My fingers stretch out, seeking Prim’s warmth but finding only the rough canvas cover of the mattress. She must have had bad dreams and climbed in with our mother. Of course, she did. This is the day of the reaping.*

Other examples of classic first-person singular novels include *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway, *The Big Sleep* by Raymond Chandler, and *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger (though this last might fall just as easily into the unreliable narrator category).

**Pros:** The first-person singular can make for an intimate and effective narrative voice—almost as if the narrator is speaking directly to the reader, sharing something private. This is a good choice for a novel that is primarily character-driven, where the character’s personal state of mind and development are the main interests of the book. It can also be an effective choice for novels wherein suspense plays a role in the basic plot, such as detective or mystery novels, so the reader shares in the protagonist or narrator’s level of tension.

**Cons:** Because the POV is limited to the narrator’s own knowledge and experiences, any events that take place outside the narrator’s observation have to come to her attention in order to be used in the story. A novel with a large cast of characters, or several crucial characters all doing and experiencing their own equally important things in different places, might be difficult to convey in a first-person novel unless the narrator happens to be a voyeur, or a spy, or a psychic who can observe different people in different locations at once. (This is a joke. Please don’t have a psychic first-person narrator who gets around this problem by saying, “I psychically intuited Bob was across town getting a haircut.”)

## First-Person Plural

Characterized by the use of “we,” this POV uses a collective of individuals narrating as one. This is far less common than the first-person singular, but it can be powerful in that it combines the personality and intimacy of first person with some of the abilities of omniscient third person. This is a POV you might use when a community endures some common experience and begins relating it, trying to understand it as a group. The ready example is William Faulkner’s short story “A Rose for Emily” in which the fictional town of Jefferson, Mississippi, comes to terms with the eccentric life,

death, and secrets of its most unusual citizen, Miss Emily Grierson, a holdover from an Old South that no longer exists. Note the communal, even gossipy, feel of the opening line of the story, fueled by the town's morbid curiosity about the reclusive old woman:

*When Miss Emily Grierson died, our whole town went to her funeral: the men through a sort of respectful affection for a fallen monument, the women mostly out of curiosity to see the inside of her house, which no one save an old man-servant—a combined gardener and cook—had seen in at least ten years.*

Some contemporary examples include *The Virgin Suicides* by Jeffrey Eugenides and *Then We Came to the End* by Joshua Ferris. The latter novel begins with the collective POV of office workers. *We were fractious and overpaid. Our mornings lacked promise. At least those of us who smoked had something to look forward to at ten-fifteen.*

**Pros:** Behaves like first-person singular in its personality and subjectivity but also like third-person omniscient in that it's made up of not one person but many, able to witness more than a single person could. Individuals pop out of the "we" to provide needed information and then recede back into the collective.

**Cons:** Still a first-person voice and thus limited to the direct experiences of the members of the collective. It can also become tedious with the constant collective presence, so the author should take care to utilize both the intimate and public aspects, even letting the reader occasionally forget that the story is first person and not the more expansive third.

## Second Person

The second person takes as its main character "you," telling us what you do or who you are ("You walk to the sink and brush your teeth.") or sometimes coming in the form of commands or instructions ("Walk to the sink. Brush your teeth."). You'll more frequently see this POV used in short stories, where there's less room for error and redundancy; it can be especially difficult to sustain in a longer work for two (related) reasons: The novelty might be distracting for a reader in the long run, and the reader might rebel against being part of the narrative in the way the POV suggests, thinking to himself as the narrative orders him around *No I don't. No I won't. No I'm not.*

Nevertheless, the second person can create an unusual relationship between reader and text: On the one hand, the "you" character is always a distinct personality unto itself, with traits, motivations, and an identity all its own, but on the other hand, the reader slowly begins identifying with, and feeling close or even equal to, that persona. The character is separate from us but also the same. This can be particularly effective when we're faced with a character who is in some way flawed and who we

might be inclined to dismiss in the first person or the third. It's more difficult to dismiss such a character in the second person because the character is, to some degree, you.

An example is Italo Calvino's novel *If on a winter's night a traveler*, which places the reader in the position of the main character:

*You are about to begin reading Italo Calvino's new novel If on a winter's night a traveler. Relax. Concentrate. Dispel every other thought. Let the world around you fade. Best to close the door; the TV is always on in the next room.*

Other examples of second-person POV include the novels *Bright Lights, Big City* by Jay McInerney and *Half Asleep in Frog Pajamas* by Tom Robbins, as well as the short story collection *Self-Help* by Lorrie Moore.

**Pros:** This POV creates a close bond between reader and character, with the second-person character both its own autonomous entity, separate from us, and at the same time an entity we identify with and feel equal to. This unusual relationship between reader and character—and the novelty of the voice and how it functions—can be interesting and engaging when it works.

**Cons:** The novelty of the voice alone isn't enough to sustain a full novel. The second person must also be purposeful, bringing us in close to a character or situation that we might not automatically feel close to or identify with in other POVs; we believe it in the second person because it happens to us.

## Third-Person Limited

This POV is characterized by the use of “he” or “she” and the character's name, as in, “John hated math. He hated it immensely.” Unlike third-person omniscient, the third limited spends the entirety of the story in only one character's perspective, sometimes as if looking over that character's shoulder and sometimes going inside the character's mind, and the events are filtered through that character's perception (though less directly than first-person singular).

Thus, third-person limited has some of the closeness of first singular, letting us know a particular character's thoughts, feelings, and attitudes on the events being narrated, while also having the ability to pull back from the character to offer a wider perspective or view not bound by the protagonist's opinions or biases, thus being capable of calling out and revealing those biases (in often subtle ways) and showing the reader a clearer way of reading the character than the character himself would allow. Third-person limited is also useful in a novel where the protagonist is in a state of not-knowing regarding some aspect of plot, such as we see in mystery and suspense novels, and the tension that



comes from the protagonist's trying to piece things together, from his limited view, becomes the reader's.

Saul Bellow's *Herzog* offers a great example of the balance in third-person limited between closeness to a character's mind-set and the ability of the narrator to nevertheless maintain a level of removal. The novel's protagonist, Moses Herzog, has fallen on hard times personally and professionally and has perhaps begun to lose his grip on reality, as the novel's famous opening line tells us. Using third-person limited allows Bellow to clearly convey Herzog's state of mind, and to make us feel close to him, while employing narrative distance to order the prose and give us perspective on the character.

*If I am out of my mind, it's all right with me, thought Moses Herzog.*

*Some people thought he was cracked and for a time he himself had doubted that he was all there. But now, though he still behaved oddly, he felt confident, cheerful, clairvoyant, and strong. He had fallen under a spell and was writing letters to everyone under the sun. He was so stirred by these letters that from the end of June he moved from place to place with a valise full of papers. He had carried this valise from New York to Martha's Vineyard, but returned from the Vineyard immediately; two days later he flew to Chicago, and from Chicago he went to a village in western Massachusetts. Hidden in the country, he wrote endlessly, fanatically, to the newspapers, to people in public life, to friends and relatives and at last to the dead, his own obscure dead, and finally the famous dead.*

Some other useful examples of third-person limited narration include *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway, and the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling (though Rowling sparingly enters omniscient mode to cover all of the events and significant backstory of the books, even if the novels are primarily presented through Harry's perspective via the third limited).

**Pros:** It offers the closeness of first person while maintaining the distance and authority of third and allows the author to explore a character's perceptions while providing perspective on the character or events that the character himself doesn't have. It also allows the author to tell an individual's story closely without being bound to that person's voice and its limitations.

**Cons:** Since all of the events narrated are filtered through a single character's perceptions, only what that character experiences directly or indirectly can be used in the story (as is the case with first-person singular).

## Third-Person Omniscient

Characterized by the use of “he” or “she,” and further characterized by having the powers of God, this POV is able to go into any character’s perspective or consciousness and reveal his or her thoughts; able to go to any time, place, or setting; privy to information the characters themselves don’t have; and able to comment on events that have happened, are happening, or will happen. The third-person omniscient voice is really a narrating personality unto itself, a kind of disembodied character in its own right—though the degree to which the narrator wants to be seen as a distinct personality, or wants to seem objective or impartial (and thus somewhat invisible as a separate personality), is up to your particular needs and style.

The third-person omniscient is a popular choice for novelists who have big casts and complex plots, as it allows the author to move about in time, space, and character as needed, though this is also a potential drawback of the voice: Too much freedom can lead to a lack of focus, spending too many brief moments in too many characters’ heads so that we never feel grounded in any one particular experience, perspective, or arc.

Here’s a good guiding principle: As a general rule, each chapter—and perhaps even each individual scene—should primarily focus on one particular character and perspective. Imagine how exhausting it would be to read a scene with five characters sitting around a table, each with something to hide, and the narrative moving line by line into each character’s shifty mind: “I wonder if Johnny knows about Bob?” “Kay is looking at me funny. I wonder if she knows what Johnny knows.” “If only Johnny knew that I know about Bob and Kay.” “I’m Kay and I’m not sure why everyone is looking at me and Bob.” Yikes. So you want to use the powers of the POV selectively and for a reason, without abusing those powers. In other words, don’t use the freedom of omniscience as a substitute for, or as a shortcut to, real tension, drama, and revelation.

An example is the novel *Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell* by Susanna Clarke, which uses an omniscient narrator to manage a large cast. Here you’ll note some hallmarks of omniscient narration, notably a wide view of a particular time and place, freed from coming through solely one character’s perspective, and it certainly evidences a strong aspect of storytelling voice, the “narrating personality” of third omniscient that acts almost as another character in the book (and will help maintain book cohesion across a number of characters and events):

*SOME YEARS AGO there was in the city of York a society of magicians. They met upon the third Wednesday of every month and read each other long, dull papers upon the history of English magic.*

Other examples include *The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, and *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith.

**Pros:** You have the storytelling powers of God, able to go anywhere and dip into anyone’s mind-set or consciousness. This is particularly useful for novels with large casts and where the events or characters are spread out over, and separated by, time or space. A narrative personality emerges from third-person omniscience with the narration becoming a kind of character in its own right, able to offer information and perspective not available to the main characters of the book.

**Cons:** Jumping from consciousness to consciousness—especially as a shortcut to dramatic tension and revelation—can lead to a story that is forever shifting in focus and perspective, like a mind reader on the fritz. To avoid this, consider each scene as having a particular character and question as its focal point and consider how the personality that comes through the third-person omniscient narrative voice helps unify the disparate action.

## Making the Right Choice for Your Story and Genre

To a certain degree we don’t really choose a POV for our project; our project chooses POV for us. If we were writing a sprawling epic, for example, we wouldn’t choose a first-person singular POV, with our main character constantly wondering what everyone back on Darvon-5 is doing. If we were writing a whodunit, we wouldn’t choose an omniscient narrator who jumps into the butler’s head in chapter one and has him think *I dunnit*. Our story tells us how it should be told, and once we find the right POV and approach, we realize our story couldn’t have been told any other way.

That’s all for this month. Hope you enjoyed it.

Dona Lee  
“Plotting Success”

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Our Monthly Brunchs are a LOT of Fun. Join us anytime, you don't have to be a member. But please let me know if you are planning on attending so I can ask for enough table space. Third Sunday of every month at Pier 22, Bradenton waterfront, preferably around the firepit, but if we aren't there, ask the hostess and she will bring you to us.

[DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com) or 941 -748-6865.

Joanne Glim took a new photo with the two of us. (Before she fell) Get better soon, Joanne.



And here is the September Gathering...



Some photos of the first brunch of 2016.



Our lovely location:



And of course: Al & me.



Mr. and Mrs. Musitano!

We meet the third Sunday of every month at Pier 22 on the Manatee River. Please contact me if you are planning on joining us in order to request enough chairs.

[DGould497@aol.com](mailto:DGould497@aol.com) or 941 -748-6865