

Plotting Success

Website At the moment our website address is:

<http://thequillguild1.wixsite.com/sfwriters>



December 2016

It's Time For Our Christmas Party.

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 hopycats@comcast.net

There is No meeting this month. We meet instead to celebrate at our annual Christmas Party.

The party will be held in the same hall as last year, on Sunday, December 6th, from 4 to 8 PM. The address is 300 Blackburn Road in Osprey. From Stickney Point Road in Sarasota to Blackburn Point Road is about 3 miles. From US 41 turn west onto Blackburn Point Road and it's the third driveway on the right. There will be balloons at the entrance to greet you. Parking is on a circular drive just beyond the entrance.

For those new members, not familiar with our gala. It's an annual fun fest for paid members only and they may bring one guest. It's a little dressy, but definitely not formal. Please, no children allowed at this party.

The menu is 'covered dish', and each member is asked to bring an appetizer, a vegetable, a pasta entree, a salad, or a dessert. The offering must serve at least six. The club will supply turkey, ham, rolls and condiments.

It's a B.Y.O.B. party, which means if you wish to have beer, wine or liquor, you must bring your own. The club will supply soda, ice and mixers. Coffee, tea or iced tea will be served with dessert.

We have a fun book exchange toward the end of the evening. Those who wish to participate are asked to bring a new wrapped book, valued at least fifteen dollars.

The winners of the short story contest will be announced and receive their trophies and cash prizes.

Sarasota Fiction Writers Critique Meeting

6:00 pm, Wednesday November 16th, 2016
 Books-a-Million, Gulf Gate Mall
 Bring 5 pages of work to read,
 At least ten copies, double-spaced, 12 font.

Attention ALL MEMBERS

October 1st 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
Co-Vice Presidents: Fred Weiss — fweiss@binghamton.edu
Critique Monitor: Pat Gray – patrickgray1@msn.com
Co-Secretary Publicity: Grier Ferguson
Co-Secretary Newsletter: Dona Lee Gould – DGould497@aol.com
Treasurer: Bob Spitzer mbspitzer@gmail.com
Blogmaster Extraordinaire: Natalie Brown—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

Index:	Page #
Bits & Pieces (Our member announcements)	4
Other Voices, Other Rooms (Other groups in the area)	13
Events :	21
Marketing Opportunities	22
Contests	
805 Literary Journal	24
Lonestar	25
Midlife	25
Of Writing Interest	
Writers Brunch, Wordier Than Thou Storytelling, Sisters in Crime	26
Publishing Opportunities	28
Words of Writing Wisdom:	33

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 sfwnnewsletter@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.

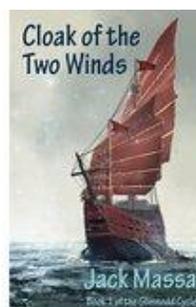
Please consider purchasing books written by your fellow members and support their efforts. Soon it will be your turn! Also, if the books are available on Amazon, write a four or five star review. (If you feel a member's book is lower than a four of five star, please just pass on the review. Amazon considers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

Good Reviews help sell books on Amazon.

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

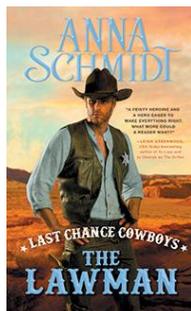
<http://triskelionbooks.com/ghosts-of-bliss-bayou/>

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/>



Past Speaker Helaine Mario announced that her novel, *The Lost Concerto*, won first place at Florida Writers Associations Royal Palm Literary awards in the suspense category.

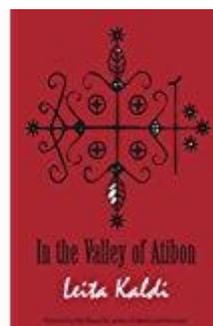
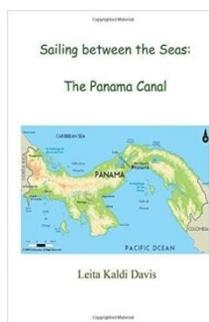
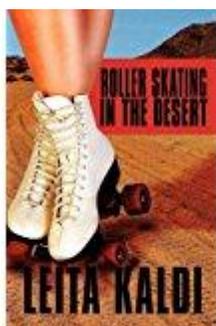
Member Jo Schmidt (w/a ANNA SCHMIDT) a Wisconsin Seasonal member currently has novellas in two anthologies and the second in her Western series: Last Chance Cowboys--will be out in December. Romantic Times has already praised book 2—THE LAWMAN—as follows: Readers who yearn for a solid Western romance 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

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 Bohdan O. Szuprowicz developed a special E-Story on Amazon Kindle designed to cheer up lonely people during the Christmas Holidays. Click on link below and select the cover shown for full details

[http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_1?url=node%3D154606011&field-keywords=Szuprowicz](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_1?url=node%3D154606011&field-keywords=Szuprowicz)



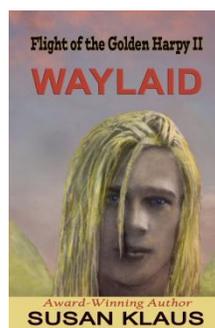
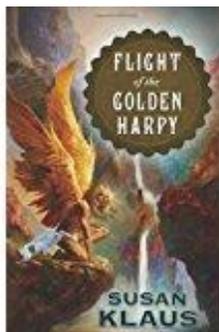
Author of E-Books published on Amazon Kindle. Click on link to find out details of E-Titles

[http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_1?url=node%3D154606011&field-keywords=szuprowicz](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_1?url=node%3D154606011&field-keywords=szuprowicz)

~~~~~

Member Susan Klaus introduces her new novel, *Flight of the Golden Harpy II, Waylaid*, the second fantasy in the Golden Harpy series. Already receiving 5 Star reviews, it is a bestseller in Amazon Top 100 Bestsellers in Epic Fantasy. It's the continuing journey of Shail and his fight to save his harpy flock from mankind. <http://amzn.to/2fVdXQX>

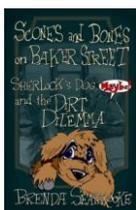
Thanks to those who purchased her book this week, Susan cracked the top 100 on Amazon's Best Seller List for BOTH her science fictions. Update: Both of Susan Klaus's fantasy books made it on an Amazon Bestseller list. *Flight of the Golden Harpy* was ranked #6. *Flight of the Golden Harpy II, Waylaid* was #75. Susan Klaus and her new book, *Flight of the Golden Harpy II, Waylaid* will be in the Dec. issue of Living on the Suncoast Magazine.



~~~~~

**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. Belanger 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.

~~~~~

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>.

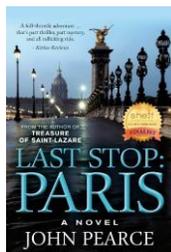
He will be attending a Book signing and Political event Saturday November 5, 2016 from noon until 3 pm in the Village of the Arts at 1004 & 1010 Tenth Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205. Stop in and buy a signed copy of either or both books.

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](#)



And....

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

Village Voices opens the Christmas Artwalk Friday Night. Our Author of the evening is Ruth Fishel who will be signing any of her many Inspirational and Meditation books & CD's. The Village of the Arts will have a roving Barbershop Quartet and the Southeast High School Choral group singing Christmas Carols throughout the evening. There will be hot chocolate, egg nog fudge, chestnuts roasting, and more. Come celebrate Ye Olde Village Christmas in the Village of the Arts. Live music, wine and hors d'oeuvres are available as you stroll the streets visiting any of the 45 galleries and six eateries.

Dona 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. If you need a video for your business, your book, your website, or any reason, commercial or personal, contact Dona 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. References are available.

Interested in being interviewed about your books? For over three years Dona has hosted 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 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, books, or art, have them contact 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 self-publishing guru Dan Poynter.



For more information on any of the above feel free to contact Dona Lee at 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 link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iklBBPIP_8I
If you wish to inquire on having your own live action or slide show book trailer, contact Al Musitano at eye2eye@inbox.com or 941-896-0031. 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. Andrew would appreciate any comments you might have about the trailer.

Contact **Andrew Parker** at andycp1999@yahoo.com

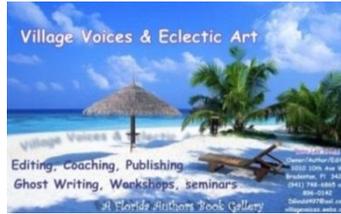
Want to advertise your published book? Your company? Your services?

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 write SFW Ad Query in the subject line

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



Florida Author's Book Gallery

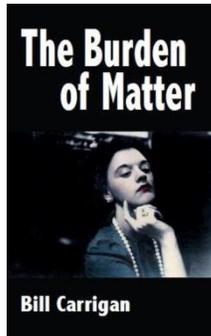


International Online Weekly Radio Show for Creatives
Literary, painting, musical, culinary, healing, brew masters, and more.

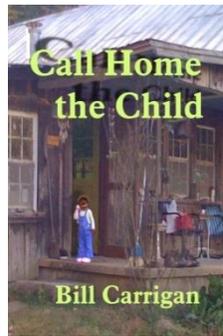


Contact me for help with editing, formatting for self publication, ghost writing, and more.
Reasonable rates, local references.

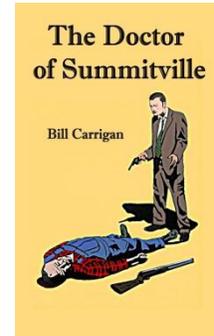
Read and enjoy the many works of our esteemed Bill Carrigan. All editions are newly edited and available on Amazon. (Search Books by Bill Carrigan) Read the first three chapters of any book for free. Kindle editions are 2.99 and paperbacks cost around \$10.00. Please review on Amazon after reading.



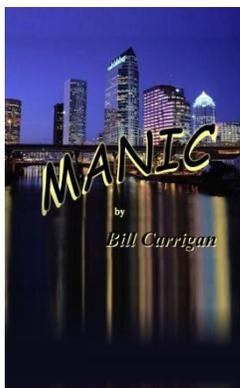
Anatomy of a WWII love affair in Washington D.C.



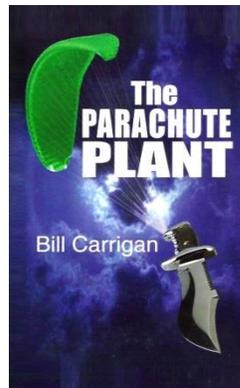
An interracial adoption in 1988 Virginia breaks bad.



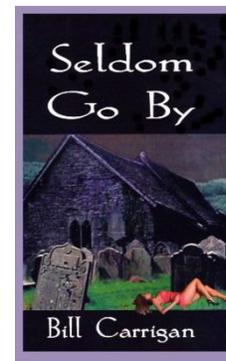
In 1927 a doctor's love affair leads to a death



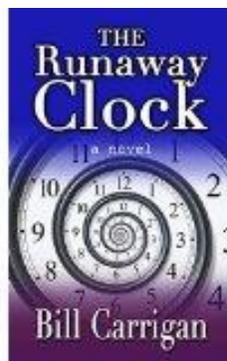
A young Tampa writer joins up with a killer to bring him down.



An Oregon doctor and wife solve gruesome murders.



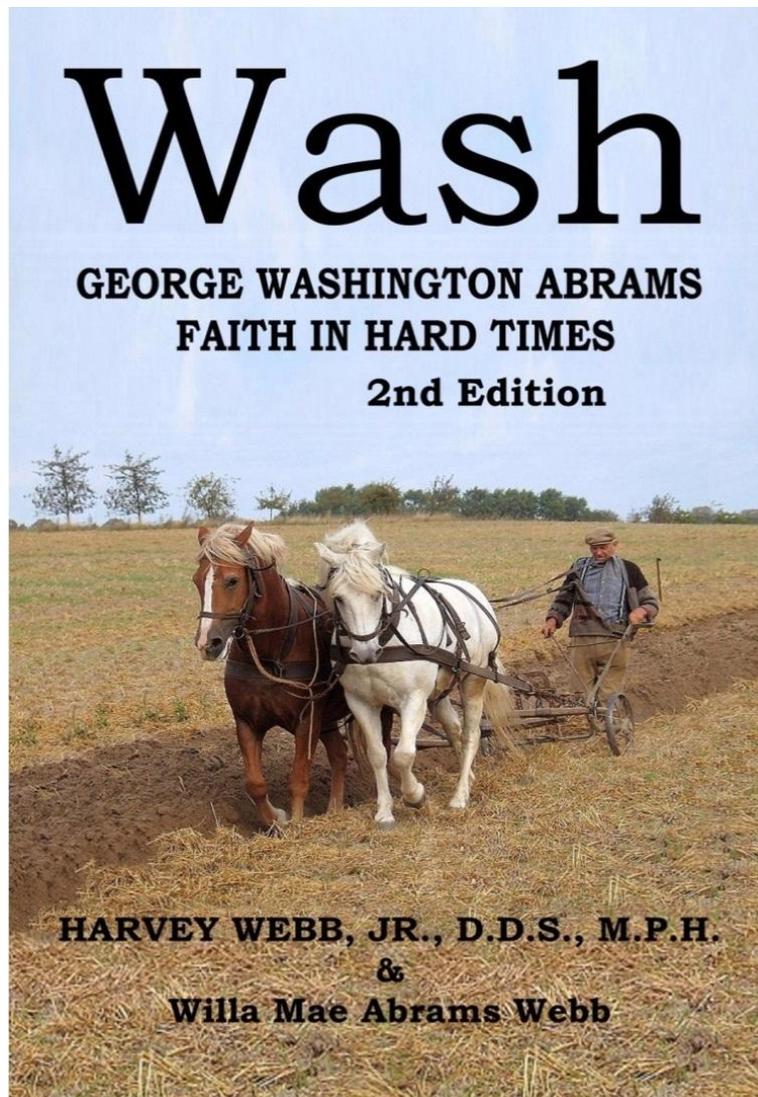
Murders surround Aunt Esterleen at her mansion, Seldom Go By.



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

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 Thursdays, at 4 pm December 1st, 2016 and December 15th, 2016
First & third Saturdays, at 6:00 pm December 3rd, 2016 and December 17th, 2016

All meetings are held at **Village Voices & Eclectic Art Emporium**, 1010 10th Ave West, Bradenton. For more information call Dona Lee at 748-6865 or email to 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 December 7th, 2016. The members of each subgroup bring stories, poems, articles, or novel chapters for reading and critiquing. The SECOND meeting of the month December 21st, 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

ALL NEW! Gulf Coast Sisters in Crime



HO! HO! HOMICIDE

Book Event

@ Books-A-Million in Gulf Gate Sarasota 10:30am to 5:00pm, Saturday, December 17th.
Buy those Christmas gifts signed by the authors.

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

wendyldwriter@comcast.net

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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 December 27th, 2016. There is no fee.

Call 941 727-6079 for more information.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

AMI Gulf Coast Writers

Meet the 1st Wed. of each month, at 12:45pm at the library in Holmes Beach. This month that will be December 7th. For more information contact Alice Moerk at amoerk@tampabay.rr.com or contact the library. 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, FL 34217 Phone:(941) 778-6341

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

NEW YOUTH WRITERS GROUP FORMING

Pinnacle Academy will host our first Youth Writers Group in the area starting in January 2017. The group will be monitored by creative writing teachers but is comprised only of youth 18 and under. It is an open group, membership to Florida Writers Association Youth Writers (\$15.00 annually). Stay tuned for more information and if you know any young writers, let them know.

FICTION WRITER'S FORUM

Critique group

6:30 pm Second Thursday of the month December 8th, 2016
Books-a-Million, Gulf Gate Mall

6:30 pm Fourth Thursday of the month, December 22nd, 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

Sarasota Authors Connection

Marketing & Publishing for Writers
There is no meeting this month. It is Party!

Date: Sunday, Dec. 11 from 4 to 8 PM

Place: Matrix Ranch
32150 Claygulley Rd.
Myakka City, Fl. 34251

Directions: Travel east on Fruitville Rd. to the end and take a right on Myakka Rd. going southeast for 12 miles. At Myakka State Park, Myakka Rd becomes Claygulley and you enter Manatee County. The Matrix is about 3 more miles and on the right. Board fencing with yellow house and barn with green roofs.

Italian Theme:

Serving Lasagna, french bread pizza, salad, and providing Sangria, mixers, iced tea, and coffee. BYOB (bring your own booze) and a cover dish of either an appetizer, side dish, or desert to share

Adult Party: no kids or pets, but bring a friend

Activities:

Wander the farm and see the horses, gators, and wildlife. And of course, Al, the iguana, will be in attendance.

Raffle at 7:30 PM and a small gift of appreciation for those who bought Susan Klaus's new Bestselling Epic Fantasy, *Flight of the Golden Harpy II*, *Waylaid* and bring it to the party for signing

New this Year: MYAKKA CITY'S OWN BURNING MAN

Rid yourself of past regrets or make a wish for the coming year. Bonfire burning will take place between 6 and 6:30 PM

RSVP not necessary. Expecting a great time, as usual. Susan Klaus, ph. 322-1867 email: furryklaus@aol.com

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 , Aroon Chaddha.



~~~~~

### 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](http://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.

## **Manasota Films Group**

December 21<sup>st</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.

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

## **Screen Writer's Circle**

The Screen Writer's Circle meets at Selby Library 5:30 to 7:30 pm. in the second floor conference room. Date to be announced. Contact Laurie Stoner for December date.

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

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

**December 20** [The Sarasota Creative Writers](#)   
Tuesday, December 20, 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.

December 15<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/>

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**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)

## 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). 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)

There are also Florida Writers Association Groups in Pinellas, Hillsborough (4), and Polk Counties. Check the website for details at [www.floridawriters.net](http://www.floridawriters.net)

## 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

There are also Florida Writers Association Groups in Englewood and Peace River. Check the website for details at [www.floridawriters.net](http://www.floridawriters.net)

# Events

~~~~~

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

Christmas Arts and Craft Fair – December 3rd, Venice community Center. We have booked a whole square contact 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.

Marketing Opportunities

Marketing Opportunity

1st Annual Car Show & Craft Fair

Saturday, February 4, 2017

9-1

Pre-registration for cars is \$10.

Registration day of show is \$15.

Craft Vendors per table \$25.



- + Breakfast
- + Silent Auction
- + Music by DJ Tommy's Tuned



Preregistration Dead line is January 23rd

WAIVER: I agree to release Charlotte County Public Schools and all affiliates from any and all liability for any damage, injury, lost or stolen merchandise during or resulting from this event.

Name: _____ Email _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Send remittance to: Charlotte Technical College 18150 Murdock Port Charlotte, FL 33948 Attention Cathy B.

North Port Free Radio Time

If authors would like to read poems or short stories, they can take advantage of a new opportunity on Monday nights at 97.5 radio station, which is in a strip mall south of Warm Mineral Springs in North Port. Readers meet at 7:00 and are taped at 7:30 at the Common Grounds Meeting Hall next door to the 97.5 radio station.

Because the project is getting off the ground, there's no problem for an author to find a reading slot. On Sunday at 3:00, people from all over the world can hear the authors on the INTERNET. By December, 97.5 expects to have the capability to be heard on the RADIO from Ft. Myers to Sarasota. This heightened media range was made possible by a large donation from a community member for a large tower.

For more information contact Dobie Pasco at sonnypasco59@yahoo.com

To pull this station up on the INTERNET, go to: KDWradio.com

The station is ALL volunteer.

KDW Radio is located at 12737 Tamiami Trail, North Port, FL

Station Manager: RJ Malloy 941 564-8737

~~~~~

# 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

## 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

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)

~~~~

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

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

Of Writing Interest

Author Websites Priced on a Sliding Scale

Just in time for the holidays, WordsandWriters.com is giving the gift of a custom author website for all authors, the cost based on a sliding scale. This is the first time we have offered this special pricing and there is no better time to roll it out than at the holidays. Here is how it works: the already-low normal price for one of our websites is \$295. Below is the sliding scale. You pick the right choice for your budget. Just please be honest with what you can pay comfortably.

- Pay \$295, which is a great bargain for the custom site.
- Pay \$250 if you need just a little break.
- Pay \$200 if you need almost \$100 off.
- Pay \$150 for almost 1/2 off!
- Pay \$100 if your budget is very tight.
- Pay \$50 if this is the most you can pay, but still want to get your site built.

This is a one-time only fee, but remember, there is the ongoing hosting/maintenance fee of \$9.95/month or \$20.95/quarter for more savings. No long-term contracts. Cancel at any time.

Call Joe Jacobson at 941-587-4530 (or email info@wordsandwriters.com) for more information.

NOTE TO WRITERS: I have received a number of highly complimentary reviews of Joe's websites. Joe is one of the truly good guys — Dona Lee

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 This month it will be on December 18, 2016



Writer's Retreat

Jamaica Writers' Retreat March 19-26.

Writers will enjoy staying in a large rental house, some tours will be included. This is a supportive, nurturing group--and they have two spaces (out of fifteen) left open. If anyone wants to write for a week in Jamaica, contact quickly before they are gone.

Jordan @ jordan.w.hartt@gmail.com

To see more information visit: <http://kahini.org/the-2017-jamaica-writers-retreat/>.

Sisters In Crime

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.

~~~~~

## 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

~~~~~

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>

~~~~~

## 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](http://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)

~~~~~

Agents

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

* * * * *

Local author and publisher E. P. "Ned" Burke is hosting a Web site, **Sarasota Authors Showcase**, 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.

Burke also invites submissions and free subscriptions to his online magazines: www.theperspiringwriter.com and www.yesterdaymagazine.com. See guidelines on site.

* * * * *

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
 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 .

~ ~ ~

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 1st.

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. 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

~~~~~

I am taking a break this month. I plan to see you at the Christmas parties and hope you have a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, or for the rest, a Wonderful Holiday Season.

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

Dona Lee  
"Plotting Success"

~~~~~