

Special
points of
interest:

- Happy New Year!
- The Write Stuff Writers Conference in 2016
- The GLVWG Anthology is printed and for sale!
- Upcoming Workshops: January 23 and February 27
- What is Writers Advocacy?

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Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2016

The *Write* Stuff Writers Conference

By Charles Kiernan

The time has come to think about what you want to accomplish in 2016. As a writer, this plan ought to include attending *The Write Stuff Writers Conference*.

Many of you have been to the conference, but have you thought about *immersing* yourself in the conference? Consider leaving the real world

and entering the conference *bubble*.

Start on Thursday, April 7th with an all-



April
7, 8, 9 2016

23rd Annual Writers Conference

day workshop, "From Mind to Manuscript: The Making of Your

Masterpiece," with Robert Liparulo.

Wade into Friday with half-day workshops followed by "Page Cut" or Catherine McLean's workshop, *Becoming a Storyteller - Not Just a Writer*, in the evening.

The evening also includes a **social gathering** of fellow writers, conference presenters, agents, and editors. Everyone will be there, including Mark Twain (really). (pg 3)

Other Upcoming Events: *Workshop Chair*

By Brenda Havens

GLVWG balances workshop sessions with the craft of writing, the business of writing, and specialty writing.

Upcoming events:
January 23: AM session - Don Lafferty to speak on **The**

Essential Elements of Every Author's Online Marketing Strategy.

Afternoon session: Understanding the dynamics and components of an effective online branding and marketing strategy.

February 27: Author Website Panel: 5 members to show websites: D. Sooy (WIX), K. Keffer (Google Blogger), L. Stear (WordPress), C. Ochs (WordPress/Facebook).
Afternoon session: more specifics on design and Q&A.

See details GLVWG Website.

A Word from Our President



Annual GLVWC Writers Conference:
April 7, 8, 9, 2016

“Nature is a haunted house—but Art—is a house that tries to be haunted.”
Emily Dickinson

By Peggy Adamczyk

I hope the New Year finds your minds keen and your fingers nimble.

This past July, a new **Pennsylvania law** came into effect requiring background checks for all adults who work with minors.

The board is in the process of eliciting a clear interpretation of the new law with an understanding of how it will shape our model of operation.

Until then, we voted to cancel all actives involving minors and to withhold their entry into all GLVWG functions. The board regrets needing to take this action, but we have an obligation to protect GLVWG and the membership from potential liabilities.

For the good news, **Spot Light** is back with a few changes.

Three times a year, instead of the original eight, a member can volunteer to read for five minutes from their writ-

ing projects between the General Meeting and the Speaker. Please contact a board member if you are interested. Volunteers are needed.

The start of the New Year is the time for planning, so why not start by becoming more hands-on with GLVWG.

Volunteer at the conference or volunteer for next year's GLVWG board. Set your goals now by outlining your year.

GLVWG Anthology

By Chris Ochs

The 2016 GLVWG Anthology "**Write Here, Write Now**" is chugging along fine, and is still on target for print availability in time for our April "Write Stuff" conference.

Developmental and line edits are complete (thanks to Dave A. Miller II and

Steve Sora), and our copy editors (Pattie Giordani, Brenda Havens and Diana Sinovic) are slaving away at this writing.

I am gratified by the level of passion and enthusiasm of all 39 contributors.

And, with 28 short stories, 9 essays and 12 poems, we're setting a positive

trend of bigger and better.

Now to set to work on contracts, cover art, and formatting!

A Note from the Editor

By Lynda A. Stear

The Board of GLVWG wishes all of our members a year full of wonderful writing endeavors as you use your natural gift of writing and its craft

to enrich our world.

This issue introduces some of the projects that GLVWG is creating and promoting as it strives to meet writers' needs and aspirations in the Greater Lehigh Valley. We need contributors for the News-

letter, so please contact Lynda Stear at glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com. It will be a quarterly Newsletter, and the next deadline for contributions is March 15. Contact me for some general **Guidelines** and word count.



A New Year
A New
Beginning

Our Vice President *Writes*



By Keith Keffer

Are you getting everything you can out of your GLVWG membership?

One of the great things about GLVWG is that it is a volunteer

Volunteers needed for GLVWG

organization. Any one can step up and **volunteer** to help, whether it is to take part in one of the library presentations, helping with the Write Stuff Writers Conference or assisting with the monthly workshops.

Volunteering may be the single most important thing that you can do to get the most out of your membership. By helping others, you find yourself

examining your own approach, you'll improve your own methods, and you'll establish relationships with your fellow writers.

You don't need to be an expert to help. Few of us are. In fact you'll probably get more out of it if you offer to help in an area where you aren't an expert.

You don't have to wait either. If there is something that you are interested in, let us know. Your interest may be the spark to start something new.

Photo: Morguefile-Prawney

It is perfectly okay to write garbage—as long as you edit brilliantly.

C. J. Cherryh

Retrieved from: <http://www.writersdigest.com/writing-quotes>

The *Write*Stuff Writers Conference

(Cont'd from pg 1)

By Charles Kiernan

Saturday will be *awash* with **workshops** on subjects from ghost writing, to book promotion, to writing dialogue, to working with Hollywood.

The **keynote speaker** after lunch is Robert Liparulo, talk-

ing to us about "Believe in Yourself, Believe in Your Story."

The conference *ebbs* away about 4:00PM—but wait, there is the **Book Fair**, another chance to meet with and support our published authors.

I haven't even explained the

flash writing contest, nor the **agent/editor pitch session!**

Go to **GLVWG.ORG** for details and to register.

Charles Kiernan is the conference chairman for The Write Stuff Writers Conference.

*Writers*Advocacy

By John Evans:

What in the Heck is GLVWG's Author Advocate?

The *Author Advocate* is not the guy standing next to you in a court of law during an intellectual property dispute, nor is he a talent scout or a literary agent. Originally, the AA was

supposed to make the membership aware of opportunities for writers to publish and promote their wares.

Today, the Author Advocate has taken a more proactive approach by creating programs through which GLVWG members can promote their writing and themselves. Library Talks,

Dark and Stormy Nights, and the Battle of the Books are a few programs available to members. Check out our website at www.glvwg.org to learn more and to get involved.



If Best Sellers were created on the typewriter—you can do it with a computer! Sit down and WRITE!



GLVWG Newsletter© 2016

By Mail:

GLVWG

1700 Sullivan Trail, PMB#138
Easton, PA 18040

**GLVWG Membership \$40.00/Renewal
\$30.00/per year. Free Workshop fee or
\$15 non-member fee: go to Website
and click on Join GLVWG**

Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group

GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

**4th Saturday - 10:00AM to Noon; workshops at
1:00PM—NO meetings in Mar, Jul, Aug, & Dec.**

Palmer Branch of Easton Area Public Library
1 Weller Place
Easton, PA 18045

THE WRITERS CAFÉ

2nd Thursday of the Month (7:00-9:00 PM)

1 Weller Place
Easton, PA 18045
(610) 258-7492

Website:

[http://
greaterlehighvalleywritersgroup.wildapricot.org/](http://greaterlehighvalleywritersgroup.wildapricot.org/)

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/Greater-Lehigh-Valley-
Writers-Group-GLVWG-165117371531/](https://www.facebook.com/Greater-Lehigh-Valley-Writers-Group-GLVWG-165117371531/)

