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**NEW!** Writing prompts.

Well, "writing prompts" itself is not new. What's new is that we're including them in the newsletter. If you need something to write about - or a challenge - we're giving it you.

See below for the prompt and submission rules.

Ready...Set...Write!

"We are all apprentices in a craft where no one ever becomes a master."  
— Ernest Hemingway

Write on!  
Sandra Almonte  
Newsletter Chair  
Email: [glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com)



September, 2018



Donna Brennan, Anthology Chair

If you wish to be included in the 2019 GLVWG anthology, here is information for formatting your file, submitting your work, and what to expect next.

Only electronic submissions will be accepted (.doc or .docx). Work may be submitted from September 1 through September 30.

More information will be coming soon. Watch for email and check the member section of the GLVWG website. Information will also be added to the GLVWG Blog on an ongoing basis.

Email Questions to [glvwg.anthology@gmail.com](mailto:glvwg.anthology@gmail.com)



Dawn M. Sooy, *Conference Chair*

August has arrived and visions of conference  
Dance in my mind, September slowly creeping.  
Alas, and to my chagrin, a co-chair is still in absence.  
Has everyone heard my plea, or are there some sleeping?

Committee members are busy with tasks,  
Preparing grants, seeking volunteers, agents, odds and ends.  
Myself included, presenters, budget, (a hidden flask)  
Hard work, yes, but worth the many dividends.

So for the year 2020, it's time to raise your hands.  
Volunteers are needed, necessary, and so very true.  
Don't let 2019 be the last one planned.  
GLVWG's legacy, dust in the wind, adieu.



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Peggy Adamczyk

Welcome to the 2018-19 GLVWG New Year. I hope all of you had an enjoyable and productive summer.

Last year Keith Keffer reviewed and started to realign the bylaws to match procedural changes that have occurred over the years. Once the board approves the changes, they will be published in the Newsletter for member review.

Dawn, our resident workaholic, is well ahead of her schedule for the conference. Donna Brennan and her Committee are working hard on the anthology. Phyllis Palamaro has fantastic fall lineup of speakers that are sure to inspire.

Dan Krippene could use your help with Facebook. He may be in charge of the site, but he needs your help with content. Those of you who have websites can utilities our tie in your site with our Facebook. Talk to Dan he is full of great ideas.

Lastly, we are in need of Publicity Chair. If you're interested, contact any board member. Have great day.



## From the Desk of our Vice President

Christopher D. Ochs

### Enough Words? Count On It!

We writers have often been told in one form or another that we must "Write Something Every Day!" But how much is enough?

[Erle Stanley Gardner](#), [Anne Rice](#), [Frederick Forsyth](#), and [Arthur Conan Doyle](#) all recorded they had personal goals of 3000 words a day. Ouch – my Inadequacy Meter is spiking.

[Stephen King](#), in his seminal work "[On Writing](#)," claims he works toward 2000 words a day. For beginning writers, the master recommends a saner milestone, on the order of 1000.

[Ernest Hemingway](#) had a goal of 500. Since he was a notorious minimalist, one wonders how his goal would apply to more prosaic authors?

Speaking of loquaciousness, the word-count prize goes to the granddaddy of verbosity, [Anthony Trollope](#). He claimed a goal of 250 words every quarter hour. That's 8000 words for a typical 9-to-5'er. Yikes!

Add to the mix these numbers do not consider the *quality* of writing. Is that 1000 words of literary gold, or gibbering drivel? [Arthur Hailey](#) confessed his aim was 600 "finished words, not 'almost right 'words.'" Again, [King](#) in "[On Writing](#)" openly admits that his goals are for first drafts, which are honed down after rounds of solid editing. But that's fine -- the primary point is to simply write.

More modern tech-savvy authors, like [Kristen Lamb](#), advise that it's valid to include your blog in your daily word count. She points to the craft of blogging as an excellent tool to hone one's writing skills.

So there's hope for me yet. Why, this blog already gets me to 250!



## 2018 GLVWG General Meetings

September 22, October 27, November 24

10:00AM - 12noon

Held at the Palmer Library (1 Weller Place, Easton, PA 18045)

For more information, go [here](#). If you want to see information about past presenters, just scroll down to the "Past Events" section.

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### Writers Café

#### Craft Discussion with Read & Critique

*Usually every second Thursday of the month*

Held at the Palmer Library from 7PM - 9PM

### Writers Café West

#### Craft discussion with Read & Critique

*Usually every third Sunday of the month*

Held at Wanamakers General Store from 1PM - 3PM

8888 Kings Hwy, Kempton, PA

*Both are open to the public and free.*

Get more details about the *Writers Café* and *Writers Café West* [here](#).



### Writing Prompt

The board members decided to add something fun to the newsletter. A writing prompt. There will be one in every newsletter. It could be a title, a sentence, 3-4 words, 3-4 pictures, a mix of words and pictures, etc. Here are the rules:

- For members only.
- Submissions are due on the 15th of February, May, August, and November.
- Submissions are to be no more than 1000 words.
- No inappropriate language or descriptions that would not be suitable for a young reader.
- We reserve the right to exclude any writing submissions that are not appropriate for any reason.

Depending on how many submissions we get, we will publish 1-2 in the newsletter. As a bonus, we will also publish your writing on our blog.

Submissions can be emailed to [glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com)

Here's your first writing prompt!



If you're a published author and member of the group, we're looking for articles. You can contact me at my email, [dtkrippene@gmail.com](mailto:dtkrippene@gmail.com) if you're interested. Check out the author profiles on the blog site for what's required, which is the article (of course), any picture or art you wish to use as a header graphic, your author bio with headshot, website links and social media links.

GLVWG Member Webpage: <https://greaterlehighvalleywritersgroup.wildapricot.org/>

GLVWG Blog Site: <https://glvwgwritestuffblog.wordpress.com/>

GLVWG Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Greater-Lehigh-Valley-Writers-Group-GLVWG-165117371531/>

GLVWG Yahoo Group Page: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/glvwg/info>(Members Only)



## FROM ONE OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS...

Phyllis Palamaro

### Helping a Young Writer

Last January I attended a Women's Retreat at Tuscarora Inn, in PA. At dinner, I mentioned the writing/publishing process of my children's books to Michelle, a friend. That conversation led to a yearlong project. Bart and I helped Katy, (Michelle's daughter), with her senior high school project. Katy had been writing poetry for many years. She was seventeen going on thirty. Since she didn't have her driver's license, her mom, dad or grandfather would drive her to our home on Sunday afternoons. We always began our sessions with a simple lunch. Michelle provided dessert; Bart and I made the main meal.

Katy's poems were about life, love, war, peace and faith. She was open to our editing suggestions, and critiques of her poems. Slowly she found her voice, and was able to tell us what she wanted edited. Each of her thirty poems has a picture chosen by Katy in the background. She also painted the cover picture. The book is entitled, *Look to the Horizon: Poetry for Mediation and Inspiration*. It is available on Amazon. The proceeds will go to the Rita fund at Beth el Gibor. This will help to buy trees for the grounds.

Katy presented her book, along with a slide presentation, to her teachers. They enjoyed it.

Katy's thank you note says it all:

"I have had an awesome time talking to you guys and visiting your house. I look forward to continuing my literary journey with you."

What a joy to see Katy's dream come true!



Want to be in the  
**SPOTLIGHT?**

Charles Kiernan

We are looking for members to give very short presentations at the end of the general business meeting and before our main presentation, which we call The Spotlight. Use it to introduce your new work, talk about a past achievement, or a current experience. All our members would like to get to know each other a little better. Here is the way.

If you are interested please contact Charles Kiernan at [cikiernan01@gmail.com](mailto:cikiernan01@gmail.com).



Dawn M. Sooy

At every GLVWG meeting, people are encouraged to share their recent successes and/or failures. No meeting in August.

**Successes:**

No meeting in August.

**Failure Stories:**

No meeting in August.



**Greetings New Members, Visitors, and Guests**

Dawn M. Sooy

**Visitors:**

No meeting in August.

**New Members:**

No meeting in August.

## Want to submit a writing piece to be included in a GLVWG newsletter? You can!

All submissions for the GLVWG newsletter are to be no more than 250 words. Please note that we reserve the right to exclude any writing submissions that are not appropriate for any reason.

You can submit your writing piece at any time. If accepted, it will go into the upcoming issue.

Submissions can be emailed to [glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:glvwg.newsletter@gmail.com).

**NOTE:** The GLVWG newsletter goes out four times a year - March, June, September, and December. Submissions are due 15 days before the month the publication is going out or it will be included in the next issue.



From time to time there will be human errors. Below are corrections, if any.  
WOOHOO! No errors to report in this issue.

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