

GLVWG



Welcome to the monthly
Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group Newsletter

Mostly February 2024 into March 2024

The intent of this newsletter is to give information and tips to our authors.



For the month of February, there is a general membership meeting and workshops on **Saturday, 24th**, starting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be hybrid, that is to say over Zoom and at the Palmer Library. The workshop will be live and zoomed. Check our website for the morning Zoom link or see below.

11:00 - 12:00 Morning Program: Dianna Sinovic

Revisions: Your Plan of Action

Revising a full-length manuscript can seem overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. Mapping out a plan of action will make the revision process more manageable—and effective.

Dianna Sinovic, a certified book coach and dev editor, will share strategies and tips that will help you zero in on where and how to start revising.

1:30 - 3:00 Afternoon Workshop: Dianna Sinovic

Putting Your Revision Plan in Motion

The afternoon workshop will build on the morning presentation. We'll work through the initial steps of planning your revision, with hands-on exercises, and take time to share and assess (depending on attendance) what you've come up with.

You must register to attend this Workshop. Click [Here](#)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88537661906?pwd=bkJZeXphR3VSYmZDQzJOOS85MEM4QT09>

Meeting ID: 885 3766 1906

Passcode: 162588



This month's **Member Spotlight : Ann Stolinsky**

Ann's most phenomenal publishing credit is a story published in March 2020 in Klarissa Dreams Redux, a charity anthology that had been selected to go to the moon in a time capsule with an organization called Writers on the Moon (<https://www.writersonthemoon.com/how-it-works>). Unfortunately, the capsule rounded the moon but didn't land, instead, it burned up on reentry to the Earth. But this was an incredible honor.

Ann placed third in The Write Stuff conference's short fiction category in 2023. Ann's short stories and poems have appeared in approximately 30 anthologies and magazines, and a few online websites. Several of her short stories appear in Clarendon House anthologies, and have been published by Gallery of Curiosities, Tales from the Canyons of the Dead, and Night to Dawn magazine, among others. A poem was published in the Fall 2015 issue of Space & Time Magazine. Ann is a member of the GLVWG writer's cafe.

Ann Stolinsky is a partner in Gemini Wordsmiths LLC, a full-service copyediting and content creating company. www.geminiwordsmiths.com

Gemini Wordsmiths formed a publishing imprint, Celestial Echo Press, www.celestialechopress.com, in May 2019. Their first anthology, The Twofer Compendium, was published in December 2019. Their second, The Trench Coat Chronicles, was published in December 2020. In 2021, Celestial Echo Press published TIME Blinked, a novel written by George W. Young. In 2022, they published DracuLAND, a novel also written by George W. Young. In 2023, they published Chasing Ashes, written by Joanne McLaughlin. They plan to publish more anthologies this year.



Write Stuff Conference News

OK, so this article is kind of technical, but there are features of the conference I want to make sure you can access: The Flash Lit Contest, advertising in the handout program, and the Saturday Book Fair.

Let's take the Flash Lit Contest first. There are three categories: fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. You can enter all three categories. Only registered Write Stuff attendees may submit. If you win, you get a \$10 gift certificate to the book fair happening around you when we announce the winners. There are door prizes for second and third places. Each entry must be 100 words or less. The details and the link to upload your entries is [HERE](#).

Next, let me talk about advertising in the handout program. Our ad sizes and prices are as follows:

Three ad sizes available:

1.5" x 4" \$30

2.5" x 4" - \$45

4" x 4" - \$60

Copy to be provided by advertiser in .jpg, or png graphic format, 300 dpi minimum resolution for clarity. Ad can be printed in color!

Also, we have one-liner advertisements. The one-line ad is another way of showing your support of the conference and letting people know of your service. The cost is \$10. The format is: Name Service Website/Contact Information (How to reach you.) Or you can use the one-liner to congratulate someone.

To take advantage of this offer, go [HERE](#).

Last, and certainly not least, is the book fair. The 2024 Book Fair will be held on Saturday, April 13th, in the Lehigh Room, 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. During this time, authors can sell their books directly, or through consignment with Book & Puppet. Your Book Fair Chairperson for 2024 is yours truly and you can reach me via email at glvwg.bookfair@gmail.com.

At this year's conference, Book & Puppet Co. will be set up in the Lehigh Room to make consignment sales. Authors who are part of the Book & Puppet GLVWG display in their store are automatically part of the book fair.

If you are a member of GLVWG and are not part of the Book & Puppet display, here is your chance. Send a request to me at glvwg.bookfair@gmail.com for a consignment form. Return the filled out consignment form, then bring two or three copies of your book(s) to the Lehigh Room between 11:30am and 2:00pm. Andy Laties of Book & Puppet will be there to receive your titles.

If you plan to sell on consignment: Book and Puppet will take a 30% commission. The advantage of this method is that since Book and Puppet will be conducting the sales, they can take credit cards, and you will be free to walk around the Book Fair and check out everyone else's books. All books in the book fair will be available at a 10% discount from list price. However, you will get 70% based on the list price of your book.

If you plan on selling your books without consignment, you must reserve a spot. Email Charles Kiernan glvwg.bookfair@gmail.com. you are responsible for taking any unsold copies when leaving. Neither the Conference Committee nor the hotel is responsible for your books. If notification is not given, you will not be able to sell books.

The conference is once again having door prizes for those folks who fill out a Conference Evaluation form. Any books you've authored are welcome for the drawing. Please provide the copies to me. If I am unavailable, they can be dropped off at the registration desk.

Any questions, please contact me at glvwg.bookfair@gmail.com.

Charles Kiernan – WS Chair



What's Write Is Wrong

GLVWG's next anthology theme is "Writing a Wrong." That could mean a short story about a character who atones for acting as a bully in high school. Or an essay about your life as a bank robber. Or a poem about the wrong way to write a poem. The point is, the theme can be interpreted in many ways. We want to see what you come up with!

Start thinking about your anthology submission now. If you intend to submit—even if you haven't yet written a word—fill out the form here so we can get an idea of how many people are interested in participating.

Over the summer, we'll host several write-ins at which you can get feedback on your story/essay/poem. Have your final version in hand by September. You can submit up to one piece for each category. The submission window for the 2025 anthology will run from September 1-30, 2024.



GLVWG TALKS WITH JONATHAN MABERRY—LIVE!

Soooo, our first attempt at this did not go well. But who are we but undaunted writers facing the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune. Not to mention Jonathan being very agreeable to rescheduling. Rather than Facebook, we are going to do this again through Zoom.

It will take place on Tuesday, February 27 at 7:00 pm. You must [register](#) for this free event.

By the way, there are a number of interviews with conference presenters on our [facebook](#) page.



Our Notices of Contests

GLVWG does not endorse any of these following events—they are supplied to our members solely for informational purposes.

Bournemouth Writing Festival

Together with local publishers Dithering Chaps and Arts University Bournemouth, the Bournemouth Writing Festival is looking for poetry and flash fiction submissions for its first publication!

The competition's theme is "Lines in the Sand", and winners will be published in the resulting anthology. There are two categories of entries: Poetry with a maximum of 30 lines (excluding the title) and Flash fiction under 400 words (excluding the title). There will be up to 40 winners.

Top prizes: Publication

Fee: £5

Deadline: February 29, 2024

Inception 2024: Sunspot Literary Journal (plus other contests)

\$500 for Best Opening

Beginnings have the power to spark passion or curiosity. They might immediately connect a specific place and time with an emotional tone. The best openings offer a feeling, atmosphere, action, or image that is gripping, and hints at more to come. Meaning, thoughtfulness, emotions, or tone draw audiences into the moment. For Sunspot Lit's Inception contest, send your best opening. There are no restrictions on theme, category, or the length of the piece or collection from which the excerpt comes.

Top prize: \$500

Additional prizes: Publication

Fee: \$12.50

Deadline: March 31, 2024



This month's **Featured Publishers**

MIT Press

They publish in the areas of Art, Architecture, Math & Science, Academic, Business, Education & Reference, Environmental, Health & Wellbeing, Law, Nonfiction. They also publish journal articles.

Location - Cambridge, US

Size - Mid size

Formats - Physical Books, Ebooks, Audiobooks

Stone Pier Press

They are looking for good books about good food. Books that inspire support for climate-friendly, agriculturally sustainable, and good-for-us eating. They tilt toward stories that feature solutions and problem-solvers. Their focus is on helping people make sounder choices around the way we grow, eat, and dispose of food.

They are accepting books in the following categories: narrative nonfiction, memoirs, guidebooks, biographies, young adult fiction, and literary fiction. They will consider cookbooks as well.

Location - San Francisco, US

Size - Small press

Formats - Physical Books

Submission format - Book proposals



The Author's **Resource Well**

Ten Reasons to Write Short Stories. By Simon Kewin

For most authors, writing a novel – or many novels – is the ultimate aim of a writing career. It's fair to say that most people read only novels and it's certainly true that most publishing houses and agents are interested only in novel manuscripts. So, why write short stories or flash stories?

etymonline.com

An online etymological dictionary. Very complete, in-depth word origin dictionary. Goes back to the original source and meaning of individual words, how they have changed over the centuries. Includes usage graphs and archaic meanings with dates. Great research facility.



Our **CaféZoom!** sessions continue. The Café is every Wednesday via Zoom. Details will be on the website on the previous Friday. You must register to read and/or attend. However, they fill up pretty fast, so pay attention to the event listings on our website and signup for the next one.

Here is the link for more information and to register for The Writers Café. There is a waitlist for those who can't register in case someone doesn't show up.

<https://greaterlehighvalleywritersgroup.wildapricot.org>

We are now allowing up to 20 participants to be readers. The Writers Café format has two parallel sessions (breakout rooms) with 10 readers in each. You can still join the meeting, but only the first 20 to register will be able to read their work. There will be a waitlist for readers, so have something available to read in case someone doesn't show up.

Total registration will be limited to 25 people, any more would be unmanageable.

We will be using Zoom, and those who have registered will get an invitation via email and be notified again on the day of the Café. The meeting will start at 6:55 pm, with no particular end time. If you have signed up, be prompt!



Our **Monthly Column** takes a rest this month.



We hope to be helpful!

Charles B. Kiernan

P.S.

From our fast friend Jon Gibbs.

**Check out
the store**



bit.ly/iareawriter



**Check out
the promo**



bit.ly/3QVlmOu

**Fun gifts and great products for creative people
(who don't take themselves too seriously)**

**FREE SHIPPING UNTIL
MARCH 31st 2024**