

GLVWG



Welcome to the monthly
Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group Newsletter

Mostly January 2022/into February 2022

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



For the month of January, there is a general membership meeting and workshops on Saturday, January 22, starting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be hybrid, that is to say over Zoom and at the Palmer Library. The workshops will be live and zoomed. Check our website for the morning Zoom link and sign up for the afternoon Zoom session.

The workshop presenter will be Laurel Wenson:

Morning Workshop 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada):
How to Write for younger audiences

An overview of the characteristics of Elementary fiction, Middle Grade Fiction, Young Adult fiction, and New Adult fiction.

Afternoon Workshop 1:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada):
So if Young Adult isn't a genre, what the heck is it?

An in depth look at the characteristics of young adult fiction, including audience ages, point of view, characterization, dialogue, themes, and more. We'll review examples from popular works today. We'll then create some characters and general plot ideas using the characteristics given.

All registrants are invited to submit an example of their own manuscripts to explore along with the popular works already included.

You Must Register to Attend the Afternoon Workshop

Member: Free

Non-member: \$15

Click [here](#) to find the registration page for the afternoon workshop.
Zoom meeting link and password will be sent when you register.



Regularly, GLVWG receives emails or researches **Notices of Contests, Calls for Submission**, etc. GLVWG does not endorse any of these following events -- they are supplied to our members solely for informational purposes.

[Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition](#)

A prize of \$1,500 and publication on the competition website is given annually. Stories must be original unpublished fiction, typed and double-spaced, and may not exceed 3,500 words in length. There are no theme or genre restrictions. Copyright remains the property of the author.

The literary competition is open to all U.S. and international writers whose fiction has not appeared in a nationally distributed publication with a circulation of 5,000 or more. Writers who have been published by an online magazine or who have self-published will be considered on an individual basis.

Entry Fee: \$15

Deadline: February 15, 2022

[2021-2022 Winter Short Story Award for New Writers](#)

An annual contest that recognizes the best fiction from today's emerging writers. Judging this year's contest is Ye Chun, author of *Hao*, a collection of stories recently longlisted for the 2022 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence. The winning story will be awarded \$3000 and publication online. Second and third place stories will be awarded publication and \$300 and \$200 respectively. All winning stories and any notable Honorable Mentions will receive agency review.

Entry Fee: \$20

Deadline: January 31st, 2022



This month's **Featured Publishers.**

[Feral House](#)

Feral House is a small independent publisher based in Port Townsend, Washington state. They publish unique and unusual nonfiction and they are particularly interested in documenting cultural movements. They publish memoirs, biographies, and many other works of nonfiction including history not found in textbooks, nonfiction for children, and work focused on mysticism and the occult. They are, at present, open to queries.

[Severed Press](#)

They are open for submissions and want to hear from talented writers of horror and science fiction looking to have their work published. They give full consideration to any submission that offers a well-presented story while adhering to our guidelines. Fiction can be serious, downbeat, comedic, and satirical, or maybe just scary as hell. Be

creative and mix it up! A good story that's well told is what matters to them They are at present open to queries.

Short Story

Short Story is an online magazine based on Substack that hopes to provide amazing short stories to subscribers, and to pay authors well. They only publish one story a month, but the published author receives \$100 plus 50% of the subscription revenue.

Short Story is only available to read through a paid monthly subscription. The idea is that subscribers support the authors published in Short Story and help to keep the craft of story writing alive.

Authors of short stories may submit fiction of almost any length (6 to 10,000 words). They accept short stories in any genre. They also accept reprints.



The Author's **Resource Well.**

Medieval Weapons

a nice and extensive overview of blade weapons, bludgeons, polearms, ranged weapons, etc. Plus menu links off to other aspects of medieval interest (see top of page).

6 ways you might be sabotaging yourself

a guide to evaluating publishing contracts at Writer Beware.



Our **CaféZoom!** sessions continue. The Café is every Wednesday via Zoom. Details will be on the web site 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!



Here is our **Monthly Column** by **Pattie Giordani**.



Crimes Against Grammar: Grammar Games, Round 4

By Pattie Giordani

And it's time for another round of the Grammar Games, or "which word or phrase should you use to convey which meaning?" Hope you're all writing the winter away, whether fiction or nonfiction, poetry or prose, children's or rated R. Keep in mind there are rules—and you can break them (sometimes)—but you should know what they are first!

References include *Writer's Digest*, *The Associated Press Stylebook (55th Edition)*, and *Webster's New World College Dictionary (Fourth Edition)*.

Its vs. it's. "It's" is a contraction of "it is" or "it has". "Its" is the possessive pronoun of the neuter pronoun "it".

Ketchup vs. catsup. They both describe the same condiment, although "ketchup" is currently the more commonly used term.

Lay vs. lie (vs. laid). "Lay" is an action word and takes a direct object. "Laid" is the form for its past tense and its past participle. Its present participle is "laying".

When "lie" means to make an untrue statement, the verb forms are "lie", "lied", "lying".

"Lie" has other meanings, including to recline, to be situated, or to exist. It does not take a direct object. Its past tense is "lay". Its past participle is "lain" and its present participle is "lying".

Lead vs, lead vs. led. As a noun, "lead" is a type of metal. As a verb, the past tense of "lead" is "led."

Leaped vs. leapt vs. leapt. "Leaped" and "leapt" are both acceptable past tense versions of "leap." "Leapt" is an alternate spelling of "leapt".

Leave alone vs. let alone. Leave alone means to leave a person alone, while let alone means to quit bugging a person. However, it's becoming more common for people to use leave alone in both instances.

Lets vs. let's. Let's is a contraction of the words "let" and "us" and lets is the present tense form of the verb "let."

Lose vs. loose vs. loosen. Lose means to cease to retain something and/or to be unable to find something. Loose, as a verb, means to set free or, as an adjective, to describe something that is not fixed. Loosen is a verb that means to make less right.

Writers: Do you have a grammar, usage, or style question? Send it to me at pattiegiordani@gmail.com.

Pattie Giordani is a writer and editor. She was a staff editor for a national nonprofit association and for a daily newspaper. Her freelance articles have appeared in various newspapers and magazines, and she taught noncredit courses at Northampton Community College. She frequently presents at writers group meetings and conferences.



We hope to be helpful!

Charles B. Kiernan