

GLVWG



Welcome to the monthly
Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group Newsletter
Mostly July 2022/into August 2022

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



For the month of July, there is **NO** general membership meeting.

However, there is the second **Anthology Critique** session at 11 am for the 2023 GLVWG Anthology. Do you have a draft of a short story, essay, or poem that you would like to submit for the GLVWG 2023 Anthology? If you get your entry critiqued, you can waive the \$10 application fee. One great way to do that is to register for the second Summer Anthology Critique Session on July 23, 11:00AM – 12:30PM.

These workshops are similar in format to the Writers Cafe with one key difference—each writer reads their entire story, essay, or poem. If you register, you will be guaranteed a spot to have your work critiqued. You will have a friendly and experienced audience to provide honest and supportive feedback!

You do need to [register!](#)

No afternoon workshop in July.



Save the date!
Saturday October 15, 2022
All Virtual via Zoom
"Choose Your Gatekeeper"
All Day Workshop & Pitch Sessions
Do you know the difference between
an acquisition editor and an agent?
Stay tuned.

We are still formulating this workshop. Do you have an agent you think would be willing to take pitches from other GLVWG authors? Are you familiar with any acquisition editors?

Please let me know at glvwg.writestuffchair@gmail.com.



A Special Thank You

The board thanks Bernadette Sukley for volunteering to be the new Anthology Chair, and we thank Angyne Smith for all the initial work she did setting up for the 2023 Anthology before, with regret, she had to step down. She will continue to be a Member Representative.

The board also thank Ginny Shephard for volunteering to be our Hospitality Chair.



Member Spot Light (new item!)

The Spot Light this month is on Tom Lubben, the newest member of the Write Stuff Writers Conference Committee. He says:

“As a very newly published author (at 80), I am pleased to formally announce the publication of my first novel “Death Among the Pines”. It was released on February 28 of this year. It has only been on the shelves for some five months and it is hard to track its success. The publisher was Austin Macauley. The book is available from them, it is available at all Barnes and Nobles Stores, and also resides on Amazon.

I have made signing appearances at all three area Barnes and Noble, in addition to the Moravian Book Store. I have also made several appearances at various events in Southern New Jersey (where the story is set). As a “rookie” I am still looking for some “helpers” as I complete the initial book launch. I can be reached at tlubben1957@gmail.com.”

If you too would like to be in the Spot Light, send me around 150 words, and I will see where I can fit you in.



Notices of Contests.

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

[Summer Short Story Award For New Writers](#)

Summer is for Short Stories! The Masters Review’s Short Story Award for New Writers is a bi-annual contest that recognizes the best fiction from today’s emerging writers. Judging this year’s summer contest is Chelsea Bieker, author of GODSHOT and the new collection Heartbroke. The winner receives a \$3,000 prize and agency review, and

their story will be published online in late winter/early spring. Second and third place finalists will be awarded publication, agency review and \$300/\$200 prizes. Participating agents include: Nat Sobel from Sobel Weber, Victoria Cappello from The Bent Agency, Andrea Morrison from Writers House, Sarah Fuentes from Fletcher & Company, and Heather Schroder from Compass Talent. Our mission from day one has been to support emerging writers. We want you to succeed. We want your words to be read.

Entry fee: \$20

Deadline: August 28, 2022

2022 St. Lawrence Book Award (scan down to find contests)

Each year Black Lawrence Press will award The St. Lawrence Book Award for an unpublished first collection of poems or prose. The St. Lawrence Book Award is open to any writer who has not yet published a full-length collection in any genre. The winner of this contest will receive book publication, a \$1,000 cash award, and ten copies of the book. Prizes are awarded on publication.

Entry fee: \$27

Deadline: August 31, 2022

Etched Onyx and the Story Discovery Podcast

Onyx Publications

The Fall Edition Contest is an open, mixed-category contest. In other words, we have no limitations or expectations on which types of works will win awards. Selections are based on originality, voice, and style. Last year's contest had 4 prose winners and 2 poetry winners.

Genres: Crime, Fantasy, Fiction, Flash Fiction, Horror, Humor, Mystery, Non-fiction, Poetry, Science Fiction, Short Story, Thriller. (An early bird entry fee of \$7.50 runs till July 31.)

Top prize \$500

Second Prize \$250 | Third Prize \$100 | 3 Honorable Mentions \$50 each

Entry fee: \$12

Deadline: August 28, 2022



This month's **Featured Publishers.**

Pocket Fiction has an open call for submissions!

They say:

"Writers, have you got a brilliant short story collecting digital dust in the depths of your laptop? We want you to pull them out and get them the readership they deserve!"

We accept short stories, of any genre, between a minimum of 100 words (Drabble) and maximum 5,000 words. If it's engaging, thought provoking, entertaining and can be read in under 20 minutes we want to hear from you.

Email us at: pocketfiction_submissions@writeme.com"

Tales & Feathers Magazine: Cozy Slice-of-Life Fantasy

This is the sister publication of Canadian speculative fiction, Augur. Tales & Feathers will publish cozy slice-of-life fantasy – they want quiet character-driven storytelling, gentle moments, rich fantastical worldbuilding, everyday moments, stories that take place before or between or after the epic conflicts, and stories that offer warmth, comfort, and possibility. "We welcome stories written in any fantasy genre or genres, including stories that blur genre lines. We are especially interested in high fantasy, fairy tales, and myth.

We also welcome stories that have been translated into English and stories that engage with non-Western fantasy genre traditions."

Writers can send up to three stories each.

Deadline: 31 July 2022

Length: Up to 2,500 words

Pay: CAD0.11/word



The Author's **Resource Well**.

Common Mistakes Writers Make With Their Opening Lines

By Ashley Taylor Clark

Short but useful article.

22 Magazines that Publish Writing by Children and Teens

Written by Emily Harstone

Do you have children, teens, or grand-such with the same bug as you have? Here are some oppurtunties for them.



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: Literary Devices From A—Z, Chapter 1

By Pattie Giordani

I decided to write about some random literary terms I had written on a sticky note and stuck in my grammar columns folder. Those terms are metaphor, alliteration, imagery, onomatopoeia, simile, and hyperbole. But during my research, I found a website that lists a lot of literary devices in alphabetical order.

So, then I decided to cover one term for each letter of the alphabet (except X and Y) in this column and the next few columns. If you're interested in many more, check out literarydevices.net.

Alliteration

Literarydevices.net says alliteration “reflects repetition in two or more nearby words of initial consonant sounds. Alliteration does not refer to the repetition of consonant letters that begin words, but rather the repetition of the consonant sound at the beginning of words. For example, ‘kids’ coats’ is alliterative.” Even though the words begin with different consonant letters, the sounds are the same. “Phony people” is not alliterative because the initial sounds are different. Examples of alliteration include rocky road, quick question, and picture perfect.

Alliteration is commonly used in advertising and marketing: Coca Cola, Polly Pocket, and Weight Watchers. Writers use the device in naming fictional characters, including Lois Lane, Peter Parker, Mickey Mouse, Bugs Bunny, and Phineas and Ferb.

Many examples of alliteration in literature are in poetic forms. For instance, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare.

“From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star-crossed lovers take their life;
Whose misadventured piteous overthrows
Doth with their death bury their parents’ strife.”

Shakespeare uses “fatal” and “foes” to foreshadow events of the play. He also pairs certain words to emphasize the story’s themes. “fatal” with “foes,” “lovers” with “life,” and “doth” with “death.”

Bathos

Literarydevices.net defines bathos as when “a writer or poet falls into inconsequential or absurd metaphors, descriptions, or ideas in an effort to be increasingly emotional or passionate. The most commonly used bathos involves a sequence of items that descend from worthiness to silliness.”

The “Chuckles Bites the Dust” episode of the Mary Tyler Moore show illustrates the use of bathos. Chuckles is a clown with a show on the channel where Mary works. As the grand marshal of a circus parade, Chuckles is dressed like the character Peter Peanut, and unfortunately, is trampled to death by an elephant. Everyone in the newsroom keeps making jokes about it, much to Mary’s disapproval. Later, at the funeral, she admonishes everyone to be somber. The jokes stop before the services begin, but as the minister tells stories about Chuckles and his many characters and routines, Mary begins to smile, giggle, and laugh out loud. A descent into silliness indeed!

Cacophony

In literature, cacophony “is the use of words with sharp, harsh, and unmelodious sounds—primarily those of consonants—to achieve desired results—dreadful or distasteful situations.” Let’s look at *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*, by Lewis Carroll. Carroll uses cacophonous words throughout his nonsense poem *Jabberwocky*, included in the book.

“ ‘Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves, an
And the mome raths outgrabe.

“Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!”

The collection of nonsense words are definitely unmelodious. Alice, the novel’s main character, says, “Somehow it seems to fill my head with ideas—only I don’t exactly

know what they are! However, somebody killed something: that's clear, at any rate." Seems that the poem achieved its purpose.

Double Entendre

A double entendre "is a phrase or figure of speech that might have multiple senses, interpretations, or two different meanings, or which be understood in two different ways. Oxford Dictionary says that 'it conveys an indelicate meaning.' The first meaning of a double entendre is usually straightforward, while the second meaning is ironic, risqué, or inappropriate."

Literarydevices.net lists a line from Mae West as a good—and succinct—example. "Marriage is a fine institution, but I'm not ready for an institution."

Euphemism

This is a figure of speech used to replace a word or phrase that is related to a concept might make others uncomfortable. "Euphemism refers to figurative language designed to replace phrasing that would otherwise be considered harsh, impolite, or unpleasant."

The website goes on to say that "euphemisms are often used for certain abstractions such as death, sex, aging, getting fired, bodily functions, and others.

A Great example is in Disney's *The Emperor's New Groove*. Kuzco is firing his advisor Yzma. He says directly that she is fired. But when Yzma questions him, he replies with a string of euphemisms.

"Um, how else can I say it? You're being let go. Your department's being downsized. You're part of an outplacement program. We're going in a different direction. We're not picking up your option. Take your pick. I got more."

See literarydevices.net for a list of humorous euphemisms, including "number one" and number two."

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 writing courses at Northampton Community College. She frequently presents at writers group meetings and conferences.



We hope to be helpful!

Charles B. Kiernan