

GLVWG



Welcome to the monthly
Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group Newsletter
Mostly **September 2022/into October 2022**
The intent of this newsletter is to give information and tips to our authors.



For the month of September, there is a general membership meeting and workshops on Saturday, September 24, 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 am - 12:00 pm Morning Program:

Ginny Shephard - Setting in Literature: Introduction

A "Getting In Touch" Exercise and Two Must Haves in Literature: Setting and Atmosphere with examples. We will explore the function and necessity of emotion.

1:30 pm Afternoon Workshop :

Ginny Shephard - Crafting Settings: What, How, and Relation to Plot

Exercises and Examples include: Locales Reflective of Emotion, Locales with Main Character, Personal Delight/Distress, and Setting-Character-Conflict. We will explore key elements of emotionally nuanced and effective settings, how best to incorporate them, and how to use them to move the plot along.

You must register to attend this afternoon workshop.

[Register HERE](#) - Zoom meeting link and password will be sent when you register.

Members Free.

Non-members, \$15 via Paypal.

To join the morning Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89886354319?pwd=Y1dERktqOUNBTUZ2bnpoTWxUOENFdz09>



GLVWG 2023 Anthology.

For those who have signed up for the anthology, it is now time to submit. Please click [HERE](#) to submit. The deadline is September 30th. Also, join in the Café to get a free critique group.

Also, please be patient with Bernadette as she pieces this all together. And, thank you Bernadette for doing this.



October 15th Pitching Workshop .

OK, we are trying. Really trying to get four agent/editors to take your pitches. We have three but are going for four.

This is what we got so far. For a mere \$30 (Non-member - \$50) you can, via Zoom, attend our “Choose Your Gatekeeper” workshop. Lawrence Knorr of Sunbury Press, Inc., acquisition editor, and long-time friend of our conference, will be the morning presenter. In the afternoon you will have a chance to pitch to an editor or agent. Lawrence will receive pitches; as well as Michelle Lazurek, who will also be a presenter at the LIVE Write Stuff Writers Conference 2023; and Amy Giuffrida of Belcastro Agency.

When we get the much sought-after fourth agent, we will open up registration and let you all know. (Why are agents so hard to get?)



Blog Submissions Welcome.

We are looking to revive our dormant blog as a way to continue promoting GLVWG’s activities and members’ various skills and successes. We welcome posts from our members that focus on any aspect of writing. Or, if you are willing to write a post but aren’t sure what to write about, please contact Sara Karnish, publicity chairperson, for a few ideas.

We will also use our blog as a promotional tool for our October agent and editor event, as well as The Write Stuff conference. Our content will include in-depth interviews with speakers, tips for pitching, Networking for Writers, and more.

Questions? Interested in writing a blog post? Contact Sara Karnish at sgkarnish@gmail.com for more information.



Member Spotlight.

Our member spotlight this month, I am pleased to say, is our own Mitzi Flyte. Here is what she says about herself.

Mitzi Reinbold (w/a Mitzi Flyte) received her first rejection at the age of twelve—many years ago—but that didn't stop her. She kept writing, even through nursing school and her nursing career. While still accumulating rejections, she was published in mystery and horror anthologies. Mitzi also wrote freelance articles for a local newspaper, the Express-Times. The Guardian's Prophecy was her first (so far) indie published paranormal romance.

She wrote to First Lady Hillary Clinton about the weeks she cared for her mother dying of cancer. Mitzi was invited to read her letter at a White House Rose Garden healthcare presentation with the president and vice president.

Retired from nursing, Mitzi continues to write—her nursing memoir and unusual short stories of almost every genre. She has more than two thousand followers on Medium.com where she writes about the life of a cranky crone.

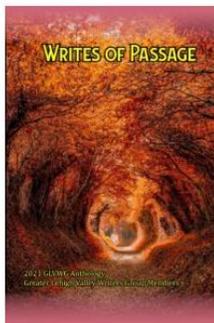
Mitzi has been a member of the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group for many years – serving in almost every board position. Now she tries to Zoom at GLVWG's Writers Café every Wednesday.

Mitzi lives in Berks County with her husband (another writer), her daughter (also a writer and doctoral candidate in English at Lehigh), four cats (harsh critics), and full bookcases.



Patting Ourselves on the Back.

Our 2021 Anthology “Writes of Passage” won a **Spring 2022 BookFest Award, First Place in the Anthology category!** Congratulations to everyone who was part of this book.



Writes of Passage

2021 GLVWG Anthology

Author: Suzanne Mattaboni

Co-Author: Phil Giunta



First Place Award

Fiction > Anthologies



Notices of Contests.

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

[2022 CRAFT Amelia Gray 2K Contest](#)

Guest Judge: Amelia Gray
\$3,600 Awarded

Guest Judge Amelia Gray will select three winning pieces from the shortlist. This contest is now open to microfiction, flash fiction, and prose poetry.

Entry fee: \$20

Deadline: October 31st

[Halloween Horror Contest \(Booksie\)](#)

The spooky season is almost upon us. We're looking for your creepiest horror stories. The ones that make us lay awake in bed at night gnashing our teeth, wondering about the sound coming from under the bed.

The story can be a maximum of 5,000 words. There is no minimum.

Entry fee: \$4.99

Deadline: November 11th



This month's **Featured Publishers.**

[C&R Press](#)

Publisher of: Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry

Founded in 2006, North-Carolina based C&R Press champions well-crafted, imaginative work — often by emerging talents who don't fit into the commercial publishing world. Though this indie press's roots lay in poetry, they've started building out a roster of prose titles too, from playful, genre-bending novels to unpretentiously erudite essay collections. No matter what their genre, a C&R book is thought-provoking and uncompromisingly quirky.

[Catapult](#)

Catapult publishes literary fiction and artful narrative nonfiction that is alive, insightful, illuminating, and surprising, by vital voices—emerging and established—that honor the craft of writing and provide fresh points of view on essential conversations.



The Author's **Resource Well.**

Story Origin

Full disclosure: I have recently joined Story Origin. It's \$10 a month and [here](#) is why. I have not been part of this group long enough to evaluate its effectiveness, but I see it as an opportunity to get reviews from that part of their service. There are numerous opportunities (a lot of cross-promotion with other authors.)

Easton Book Festival 2022 (OCT. 21 to Oct. 30)

They are starting to organize GLVWG programming for the 2022 edition of the Easton Book Festival. Here is an abstract schedule for this year.

EBF abstract schedule

1. The EBF will be held at the end of October (21st to 30th)
2. Friday, Saturday, and Sundays will focus on live events.
3. Weekdays will focus on virtual presentations.
4. The prime times for programs will be late mornings (10:00 am) and early afternoons (stop at 4:00 pm).
5. Popular items include panel discussions, readings, signings, interviews.
6. The Program committee will consider other ideas yet to be developed.
7. Grand Opening of the GLVWG Local Authors Shelf at Book and Puppet.
8. Children's literature events will be centered at the library.

- The above will be fleshed out with details and specifics as we progress, but for now, it is important to sign up to be a part of this exciting event. Below, you will find a link to a Google Spreadsheet. You will be asked to supply the following information:

In the spaces provided, add your **Last Name, First Name, Email Address,** and **Phone Number.**

This is contact information I will need to keep you informed as things develop.

The next few spaces represent **dates** you will be available **21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30.** Place an **X** in any date(s) you can be available. If you don't know, you can always return to the sheet to edit those dates.

The next space is for your **genre.** Fill in the space with **Poetry, Short Story, Children, Fiction, Non-fiction, Drama, Memoir, etc.** This will not limit your participation if you fit multiple genres.

The remaining spaces are your preferences for how you wish to participate: **Panelist, Moderator, Interview (host or subject), Solo**

Presenter, Book Expo, Satellite Signing, Live Events, Virtual Events, Readings, and Other. These can also be edited as programs get added or approved.

Here are some programs that are being considered:

- a. Local Authors' Book club: a round table discussion of the books they are reading.
- b. Local authors' Book Club: readers discuss books written by local authors.
- c. GLVWG Anthologies: Authors reading their entries.
- d. Book Expo: (authors tables, books, sales).
- e. Satellite Book signings:

- Individual author tables located in participating businesses/venues. This gives more authors an opportunity for one-on-one interaction with the public. Two-hour shifts would also increase slot openings.

- f. A video loop compilation of local authors each giving a nugget of writer's wisdom. Ex. "Show—don't tell" with a brief explanation.
- g. "Banned Book Club" Panel discussion of books under attack.
- h. "Author Dialogue" Two authors discussing some element of the writing process: submission experiences, character development, plotting techniques, etc. in an informative casual conversation.
- i. "Author interview" Formal Q&A type interviews.
- j. Panel Discussions (topics TBA).
- k. Solo presentations by our authors (topics TBA).

Google Spread Sheet:

Please, restrict yourself to your own data. Do not edit someone else's information. (Like I had to tell you that!)

When you are done, **close the page**. The information will be saved automatically.

[EBF SIGNUP](#)

If you have a presentation or a program idea, we'd love to hear it.

And, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

John Evans

GLVWG Author Advocacy Chair

Contact me at

johnnevanswriter@yahoo.com



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!



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



Crimes Against Grammar: Literary Devices From A—Z, Chapter 3

By Pattie Giordani

As you might remember, a few months ago I decided to write about some terms I had written on a sticky note and stuck in my grammar columns folder. Those terms were metaphor, alliteration, imagery, onomatopoeia, simile, and hyperbole. While researching, I found a website that lists a lot of literary devices in alphabetical order. It's literarydevices.net if you want to look up a term I'm not covering. Here is the latest installment.

Kinesthesia

This is a type of imagery that is used as a poetic device—giving a feeling of natural or physical bodily movement or action. It can also refer to tension that goes with the movement. Categories included in kinetic imagery are:

Touch: Like running fingers on silk fabric.

Physical movement: Gives feelings of an activity, like walking on grass.

Temperature: This might involve sunlight falling over the body.

Feelings: Internal feelings, such as being angry, sad, happy, peaceful, calm.

Example from literature:

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud by William Wordsworth

“Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They **stretched** in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.”

The daffodils and their movement are described as dancing. Kinesthesia is used in the words stretched, tossing their heads, and sprightly dance—to explain how they grow and their physical movement.

Litotes

This figure of speech is a phrase using negative wording or terms to express a positive statement. Obviously, the meaning is not literal but intended to be a form of understatement. Litotes is a common literary device used in speech, rhetoric, and nonfiction.

For example, saying “I don’t hate it,” actually means “I like it.” However, since the speaker doesn’t directly say “I like it,” the affirmation is downplayed.

Examples from literature:

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

“Mindful of John Wesley’s strictures on the use of many words in buying and selling, Simon made a pile practicing medicine, but in this pursuit he was unhappy lest he be tempted into doing what he knew was not for the glory of God, as the putting on of gold and costly apparel.” (p. 5)

“Jem was not one to dwell on past defeats: it seemed the only message he got from Atticus was insight into the art of cross examination. “Scout, we ain’t gonna do anything, we’re just goin’ to the street light and back.” (p. 49)

“It’s not like he’d never speak to you again or somethin’.... I’m gonna wake him up, Jem, I swear I am—” (p. 54)

“It’s not necessary to tell all you know. It’s not ladylike—in the second place, folks don’t like to have somebody around knowin’ more than they do. It aggravates ‘em. You’re not gonna change any of them by talkin’ right, they’ve got to want to learn themselves, and when they don’t want to learn there’s nothing you can do but keep your mouth shut or talk their language.” (p. 115)

In all the above examples, even if a negative has been used, the irony is clear due to the use of understatements. The first and second examples show this. The third example is clearly ironic as it uses a double negative. The last one is full of negatives with full use of ironic understatement.

Metaphor

A metaphor makes a comparison between two non-similar things. As a literary device, metaphor creates implicit comparisons without the use of “like” or “as.” Using metaphor asserts that two things are identical rather than just similar. Metaphor in literature uses specific images or concepts to state abstract truths.

Example from literature:

One of the most famous metaphors in literature is featured in William Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*.

“What light through yonder window breaks? It is the East, and Juliet, the sun!”

Juliet is not only compared to the sun, this figure of speech claims that Juliet *is* the sun. But the reader understands that Romeo does not believe Juliet is literally the sun. The comparison shows that Romeo equates Juliet with the beauty, awe, and life-giving force of the sun.

Differences between metaphor and simile

Both metaphor and simile are designed to create comparisons. In fact, simile is a subset of metaphor. And they are distinguished by the use of “like” or “as.” Similes feature either “like” or “as” in making a comparison. Metaphors create direct comparisons without using either of these words.

Non Sequitur

Non sequitur is a literary device that includes statements, sayings, and conclusions that do not follow the fundamental principles of logic and reason. Non sequitur is frequently used in theater to create comedic effect. Non sequitur is a Latin phrase that means “it doesn’t follow.”

The best examples of non sequitur can be found in the Theatre of the Absurd:

Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett

Vladimir: “Consult his family...”

Estragon: (anxious) “And we?”

Estragon: “And why would he shout?”

Vladimir: “At his horse. Silence.”

Estragon: (violently) “I’m hungry!”

Vladimir: “Do you want a carrot...”

Vladimir: “I might have some turnips...”

Vladimir: “Oh pardon! I could have sworn it was a carrot...”

Estragon: (chewing) “I asked you a question.”

Vladimir: “Ah.”

Estragon: “Did you reply?”

Vladimir: “How’s the carrot?”

Estragon: “It’s a carrot.”

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is a word that sounds like what it refers to or describes. The letter sounds combined in the word imitate the natural sound of the object or action, such as hiccup. This device is used by writers and poets to create a heightened experience for the reader. Onomatopoeic words are descriptive and provide a sensory effect and vivid imagery in terms of sight and sound.

Examples in literature:

The Tempest by William Shakespeare

“Hark, hark!

Bow-wow.

The watch-dogs bark!

Bow-wow.

Hark, hark! I hear

The strain of strutting chanticleer

Cry, ‘cock-a-diddle-dow!’ “

For Whom the Bell Tolls by Ernest Hemingway

“He saw nothing and heard nothing but he could feel his heart pounding and then he heard the clack on stone and the leaping, dropping clicks of a small rock falling.”

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