



The Legend

Emerald Coast Writers, Inc.

Member Newsletter

emeraldcoastwritersinc.org

July 2023 Edition

Mark your calendar for the fall Open Mics!

AUGUST 15: Jerry Merritt – local

Genres: Fiction, Science Fiction, Military, several books, some on audio, one book optioned for a movie. Jerry was an Air Force officer, historian, and genealogist. A few of his books are based in the Pensacola area.

SEPTEMBER 19: Lisa Bournelis, British Columbia

Genre: Middle grade nonfiction book about her son with OCD. She's also a change analyst who combines her work and her book in a TED TALK.

OCTOBER 17: Antoinette Truglio Martin, New York

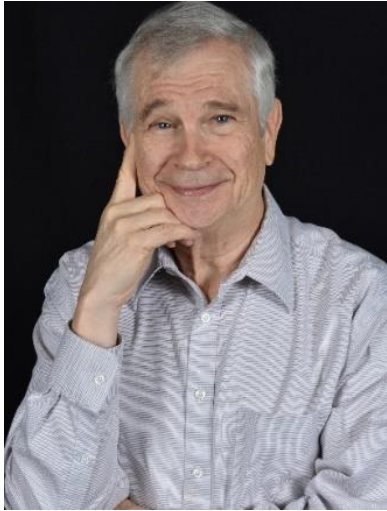
Genres: Middle Grade Historical Fiction Award-winning Author. Writes about NYC in the early 1900s (Henry Street Settlement House, Shirtwaist Factory Fire, etc.)

NOVEMBER 14: Eva Hnizdo, Prague/England

Genre: Multigenerational Trauma of Jewish family during the Holocaust "Why Didn't They Leave?" In 1968, Eva escaped communism and obtained political asylum in the UK. Interviewed on BBC Radio.

DECEMBER: Holiday Party

Message from the President



Greetings to all ECW members. July is a quiet month for ECW as we take a break for vacations and other activities. There is no monthly meeting this month, but we will resume on August 15 with an in-person presentation by Jerry Merritt, who has published several books in the general fiction, science fiction, and military genres. Some of his books take place in Pensacola.

Submissions have closed for the 22nd edition of the Emerald Coast Review. Jessica Temple, editor, and her crew of volunteers are busy reading and judging the submissions. Stay tuned for an announcement of the submissions which have been selected for publication.

Another activity underway is the contest “Every Picture Tells a Story.” The contest, a collaboration with the Wide Angle Photography Club, involves writers

selecting a photo and writing a piece of fiction or non-fiction inspired by the photo. So, if a picture motivates you to write, check out the contest [here](#).

You may note that the above link takes you to our new website. I want to officially announce that our new website – <https://www.emeraldcoastwritersinc.org> – is now launched. The final items to be added are the past series of writings and photos under “The Spill” and “Life in the Time of Corona.” Members are working on porting this to the new site with plans to finish up by the end of July. The old website served us well but will soon be redirected to our new site and then decommissioned on August 31. Our new website is based on the Wix platform.

Enjoy the summer break and remember to join us, either in-person or on Zoom, for our August Monthly Meeting and Open Mic.

–Tom Roberts

Submission Opportunities

“Every Picture Tells a Story” Contest Opens to Members of Emerald Coast Writers

Members of Emerald Coast Writers can choose from 150 photos taken by members of the Wide Angle Photo Club to participate in the Every Picture Tells a Story contest. Writers are invited to select one photo from the album which inspires or prompts a short story, poem, haiku, narrative, flash fiction, or other short work, limited to 400 words.

Interested writers should visit the Wide Angle Photo Club Facebook group and join the group. To view the photos, select the Media tab, then Photos, then Albums, then Every Picture Tells a Story. Writers should mark in the comment section when they claim a photo. Writers must submit their written pieces to Tonya Dahlhaus (connect@linkingperspectives.com) no later than Aug. 11 deadline.



At an event to showcase the creations, photographers whose photos were chosen will have a print made, no smaller than 8x10. The winning writers will make a print of a suitable size based on word count, no smaller than 8x10. The combined works will then be shared at the 6 p.m., Sept. 11 monthly meeting of the Wide Angle Photo Club at Asbury Place, behind Cokesbury Methodist Church, 750 College Blvd., off 9th Ave. in Pensacola.

Prior to the Sept. 11 event, a panel of four judges comprised of two WAPC members and two ECW members, will choose ten pieces for reading at the meeting. The accompanying photo will be digitally displayed on the screen while the author reads the words inspired by the photo. All submissions, however, will be on display at the meeting and will be eligible for entry in the People’s Choice awards selected by attendees. Winning entries and photographs will be featured in the *Emerald Coast Review XXII*, a regional anthology published by Emerald Coast Writers.

More for information contact Dahlhaus at 603-969-9775 or email her at connect@linkingperspectives.com.

The Letter Review Prize is Open for Submissions

LETTER REVIEW

The writing contest is awarded every two months, with a total prize pool of \$3800 USD and publication for winners. The categories are [Short Fiction](#) (up to 5000 words), [Poetry](#) (up to 70 lines), [Nonfiction](#) (up to 5000 words), and [Manuscripts](#) (Novels, Story Collections, Poetry Collections, and Nonfiction).



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Submission Opportunities Through CLMP

UNIQUE GENRE: DEADLINE AUGUST 1.

Unique opportunities from *Cool Beans Lit*, a digital and literary art magazine for the senses founded in 2023. They publish **author interviews, book reviews**, poetry, creative nonfiction, fiction, visual art, and photography. Looking for unpublished work from emerging and established writers. NO FEE! Next deadline AUGUST 1. All rights revert back to author upon publication.

<https://www.coolbeanslit.com/>



PROSE/POETRY CHAPBOOK: DEADLINE JULY 31. 128 LIT INTERNATIONAL CHAPBOOK CONTEST.

\$1200 prize plus publication for either prose or poetry. Prose will include fiction, essayistic pieces, and hybrid/cross-genre works. It's fine if there is a combination of artwork/images and text. Chapbooks printed in black and white. Reading fee \$18. <https://www.128lit.org/>

PROSE/POETRY CHAPBOOK: DEADLINE AUGUST 15.

WTAW (Why There Are Words) Press is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports the artistic development of writers; fosters a thriving literary community; and inspires a passion for literature through publishing books, through producing its national neighborhood of author readings. The Alcove Prize winner gets \$250 and 25 copies of their chapbook. (In 2023 finalists were also published!) Hybrid texts, lyric essays, collections of flash, mini novellas, long stories, braided essays, innovative approaches to memoir, biography, and journalism, experimental fiction, and creative nonfiction: all are welcome. \$15 entry.

<https://www.wtawpress.org/alcove-chapbooks>

EPHEMERA, MARGINALIA & COMICS. DEADLINE OCTOBER 1.

Bridge Journal, Chicago's independent cultural journal, welcomes submissions in poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, visual art, dance, architecture, politics, and hybrid work from established as well as emerging writers and artists. Established 1999. Also publish books and other journals. No fee to submit <https://bridge.submittable.com/submit>

TRUE STORIES OF TRIUMPH: DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 1.

Chicago Story Press is actively seeking true stories of resilience for their next book, "Storytellers' True Stories of Triumph," from individuals who have overcome life's most formidable challenges. Whether you have faced and conquered illness, addiction, financial struggles, loss, or mental health issues, they would love to hear your story. Pays \$25.

<https://chicagostorypress.com/call-for-submissions>

SHORT STORY: DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 1.

\$447.50 for winning short story. Any length, 6 to 10,000 words. Short Story Stack. Online magazine. No Fees. <https://shortstory.substack.com/p/coming-soon>

Announcements

Emerald Coast Writers Launch New Website

The Emerald Coast Writers new website is hosted on the popular Wix web platform and has the new URL of <https://www.emeraldcoastwritersinc.org>. The site was developed by Tom Roberts with input from the ECW Board and others, including Tonya Dalhaus and Diane Skelton. The existing website at wflf.org has been hosted by DigiPro Media for the past five years. However, the Board believes the Wix platform provides more flexibility, better support services, and additional advanced features not available at DigiPro. Take a look at our new site and let us know what you think.



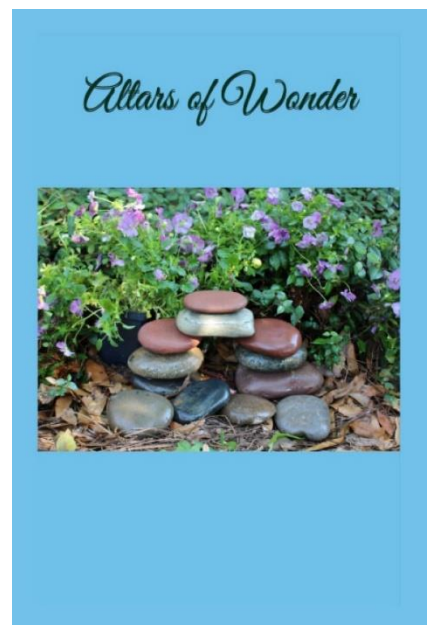
Member Benefit: The Member Directory

Let members know of your writing interests and accomplishments by adding yourself to our Member Directory. Each member has the option to have their own webpage on our website, where you can post biographical information, writing interests, published works, links to an author website, writing excerpts, and a headshot photo. Use this link today to fill out the [member directory form](#).

A Review of *Altars of Wonder* by Andrea Jones Walker

By Karen McAferty Morris, reviewer

The cover of *Altars of Wonder*, Andrea Jones Walker's collection of poetry and lyrical essays, depicts a cairn, a stack of smooth pebbles. Cairns somehow seem to draw one near, to be observed and even added to, like an ever-changing memorial where paths have crossed. The pieces in Walker's new volume intrigue and satisfy in much the same way.



Whether Walker is observing kelp beds near Catalina Island, driving in the pre-dawn darkness to watch the sun rise over a Florida bay, encountering creatures like bats and lizards on a walk at dusk, or sitting by her bedroom window contemplating seasonal winds, she is never far from nature, from whom she learns about herself and the universe, and through her intelligent, fresh outlook, we too expand our appreciation and learning . . . both immediately while we're reading the lines, or at a distant time, when something recalls them to us – which will happen, as her observations are timeless and memorable.

In Walker's volume, human interactions are as fully explored as those with nature. In the brief poem "Fences of Isolation," she contrasts how, after a hurricane blew down privacy fences, we spoke with neighbors we'd been separated from . . . and how, our fences rebuilt, during Corona Days we were isolated again in different circumstances. In the heart-touching essay "Much More Than Breakfast," Walker describes a small but momentous kindness bestowed by a stranger. In the unforgettable poem "Communion," she recounts the simple yet sustaining gesture of a friend when Walker was undergoing chemo.

"Altars of Wonder" both grounds and uplifts. It's simply not possible to read or re-read one of its poems or essays without feeling more in tune with life, and fortified by her wisdom and delight in each examined experience, set down here in finely turned phrases, among which her lovely photographs are embedded. In *Altars of Wonder* there is complex thought cast in clear and graceful language, with an undercurrent of humble gratitude for opportunities to appreciate what the world offers us. *Available on Amazon.*

Publishing and Member News

Richard Craig Hurt is happy to announce that one of his stories, "The Magnificent Golden Pocket Watch," has been selected as one of twelve to be published in Mensa's monthly national magazine. There were over four hundred submissions. It is an especially tough arena in which to compete. This will be the third story Richard has had published in a Mensa magazine. The previous ones are, "It is a Fine Day, is it not?", and "Vital Statistics.." The monthly Mensa magazine circulation is 55,000.

Claire Massey's story, "The Night the River Sang," was longlisted for a 2023 *Letter Review Prize in Flash Fiction*. This was an international competition, judged by creative writing editor Ol James, who is a guest lecturer at New South Wales University in Sydney, Australia. Claire's story highlighted the plight of abused women. The *Letter Review* website offers a wealth of articles and resources for writers, in addition to information about future contests.

Lori Zavada's poem, "Bygone Season," was accepted for publication by *WayWords* a quarterly literary journal that seeks to publish writers from around the world. *WayWords* invites writers to explore a different theme for each issue. The theme of this issues is "seasons." The journey will be available on Amazon in July, or at <https://www.writersworkout.net/waywords>.

Ongoing Workshops

MONDAY'S WORD WEAVERS (POETRY, PROSE, MICRO-WRITING FORMS) –

The goal of this workshop is to assist you to further develop writing skills, learn to critique, and grow in confidence as you polish your authentic voice and achieve the next level of your personal writing goals. Join us virtually on the first Monday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, please contact Debra Stogner at debrastogner@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO and EXCHANGE SOCIETY –

A lively critique group meets every Wednesday, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., on Zoom. The group is looking for writers of any genre — memoir, poetry, fiction, nonfiction — who want to work on completing a project in 12 months. Since the group formed, several members have published books. Participants exchange writing tips, websites, and general trivia. For more information, please reach out to Diane Skelton at dianeskelton@att.net.

Please contact Diane regarding meetings during this time.

Emerald Coast Writers Board of Directors

President: Tom Roberts
Vice President: Charline Barger
Secretary: Katie Rankin
Treasurer: Scott Finelli
Director: Pat Black Gould
Director: Lori O’Gara
Director: Jennifer Powell
Director: Carolyn Tokson
Poet Laureate: Katherine Nelson-Born
Legend Editor: Katie Rankin

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Community of Literary
Magazines & Presses.

PROUD MEMBER



COMMUNITY OF LITERARY MAGAZINES & PRESSES
W W W . C L M P . O R G

- Check out our website at <https://www.emeraldcoastwritersinc.org/>.
- “Like” us on Facebook, (under) West Florida Literary Federation, at: <https://www.facebook.com/West-Florida-Literary-Federation-WFLF-255101747857712>.
- “Follow” us on Twitter @WSTFLLITFED

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Join ECW or Renew Your Membership

Memberships are good for one calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31. Individual membership is \$35/year, two-year \$60. Couple one-year \$60, two-year \$115. New members joining after July 15 pay \$20 or may pay \$45 which also pays for the following year. Subsequent years are due annually by January 1. Student membership is \$15.

I would like to sponsor: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check one please: New _____ Renewal _____

Date: _____

Circle the items you **do not** want published in the Emerald Coast Writers members only directory:

Address

Phone

Email

If no item is circled, we will include all your information in the next published directory.

How to join or renew your membership:

Pay your membership dues online with a credit card at <https://emeraldcoastwritersinc.org/plans-pricing> or email this form to info@emeraldcoastwritersinc.org

or

Mail your check and this form to:
Emerald Coast Writers
400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212
Pensacola, FL 32502