



# Quill de Ville

[www.WritersLeagueofTheVillages.com](http://www.WritersLeagueofTheVillages.com)

Writers League of The Villages Newsletter

## November 2022

Facebook page: Writers League of The Villages

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Writers-League-of-The-Villages-162776817086391/>

Members-only FB Group for posting: WLOV Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2456384291302772/>



← **Want an Amazon Review of Your Book? See page 10.**



Customer reviews

★★★★★ 4.7 out of 5

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# Message from Your Newsletter Editor

Larry Martin  
drlarry437@gmail.com



Last month's newsletter trivia contest asked you to identify authors of six 19<sup>th</sup> century novels. For that contest we have four winners; their books are profiled starting on [page 12](#).

There is no newsletter trivia quiz this month. However, we do have a new monthly feature: A way to get Amazon book reviews from club members. [See page 10](#).

As for upcoming writing-related activities, see [page 3](#). Lots to choose from in November and December.

Our new president, Frank Lancione, has his message on [page 4](#). Following that he provides a detailed explanation of WLOV's scholarship program, [page 5](#). If you still have questions about the program, feel free to email him.

We now have a waiting list for Expo23, to be held Sunday, Jan 29, 2023. See [page 7](#) for more info.

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As I was preparing this newsletter, I discovered a new documentary just released about The Villages. The title struck me as odd: Golf, Booze & Guns. Nothing in the title about writing, music, or book clubs. I haven't seen the movie yet, but it is available on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jp0nqJ1yrrg>.

If you have watched this movie, or plan to, and wish to write a review for our members, let me know. If I get one or two, and they are short (@300 words or less), I'll put them in the newsletter.



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Oh, the photo above? Taken this summer on the top of Stone Mountain, Atlanta.

## Upcoming Writing-Related Events

**Tuesday, November 1, 1-2 pm** – Training Session – Making Your Table Stand Out at Book Expo 23 – Churchill Rec Center, 2375 Churchill Downs. In the Triple Crown Room. See [pages 7-8](#).

**Thursday, November 3, 6:30-8:30 pm** – **Wine & Words Canceled**; Riverbend Rec Center will be used for voting. Next W&W meeting is December 1.

**Saturday, November 5, 2:00 – 3 pm**, Barnes & Noble, Sumter Square – Kick-off event. New Q4 featured authors. [See page 7](#).

**Tuesday, November 8, 11 am – 2 pm** – Book signing by WLOV authors at All Booked Up; Store at 271 Colony Blvd. 32162

**Wednesday, November 9, 9-11 am** - General Meeting, Laurel Manor Rec Center. Our program will be “Meet Your Character(s).” Learn from our guest speakers what it’s like to be in their careers, e.g., investigator, airline pilot, funeral director, or radio DJ.

**Saturday, November 19, 11 am – 2 pm.** Wildwood Antique Mall Book Signing by WLOV authors Jeanne Rogers and Bill Pullen; [see page 7](#).

**Thursday, December 1, 6:30-8:30 pm** – Wine & Words, Riverbend Rec Center. Speakers to be announced.

**Wednesday, December 7, 3:30-5 pm** – Expo 23 Training Session – Promoting Your Books Before and After. Laurel Manor Rec Center, Madison Room. [See pages 7-8](#).

**Tuesday, December 13, 11 am – 2 pm** – Book signing by WLOV authors at All Booked Up; Store at 271 Colony Blvd. 32162

**Wednesday, December 14, 9-11 am** – General Meeting, Laurel Manor Rec Center. Enjoy our self-serve continental breakfast, then join our holiday party/game time with Ric Mitchell.

**Sunday, January 29, 2023 -- 11 am-4 pm.** BOOKEXPO 2023! Eisenhower Rec Center. See [page 7](#) for more info.

### MasterClass Videos Thursdays at 4 pm

by Paula Howard



Our Thursday MasterClass movies about Writing Better are now shown at **4 pm**. Simply go to your email before 4 pm on Thursdays, to get the zoom link. Watch from the comfort of your own home. If your computer does not have Zoom yet, the link will ask you to download it automatically. Then, just follow the prompts.



# Message From Your President

By Frank Lancione



What If?

*What if there was a place where authors who love to write could share their works with people who love to experience great literature being performed? There is. Come join us at Wine and Words.*

Sounds good. Doesn't it? I mean we toil away at our computers for months and months, gathering feedback, revising, polishing, agonizing, until finally, we have a book ready to show to the world. But how do you get to show it to the world? WLOV maintains several external relationships that connect you with readers to help you generate interest in your book and sales. The Wine and Words club is one of them.

I started the Wine and Words Villages Resident Lifestyle club in the fall of 2020. The club meets at Riverbend Recreation Center on the first Thursday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We set up the center's big event room with tables café style. People bring the adult beverages of their choice and snacks. Regulars come at 6:00 pm when we open the doors. There's a lot of socializing, laughing, and hanging around together as we set up for the evening.



For each session, I bring in two authors from The Villages community. One at a time, I interview them and then give them a chance to read from their works. We hold off questions until the end of the session. Then we throw it open to the audience for comments, questions, and a chance for participants to share their own life experiences that match those of the authors and characters discussed. Authors have copies of their books for sale after their talks. The majority of presenters—and audience members—are WLOV authors. **Note: the November W&W has been canceled since Riverbend Rec Center will be used for voting that night.**

Wine and Words is a simple formula, but it's proven to be very effective. It's basically a literary talk show. The long-form interviews delve into the life experiences that led each author to write, the inspiration for their characters and stories, their creative process, and their future projects. Authors personally connect with the audience as they read from their works and answer questions in open discussion.

If you are interested in presenting your work at Wine and Words, there are now signup sheets available at our WLOV general meetings. You can also just contact me directly at [flancione@verizon.net](mailto:flancione@verizon.net). You can get more information on the Wine and Words web page: <https://frankalancione.com/wine-%26-words-club>.

Remember, fortune favors the bold. The next time you're wishing there was a way to get your book out in front of an audience that loves authors and literature: There is. Come join us at Wine and Words.

# Q&A on The WLOV Scholarship Program

By Frank Lancione, WLOV President

***Q. What is the WLOV scholarship program?***

A. WLOV raises money to assist local high school students with demonstrated talent and financial need who are pursuing college majors in journalism. In 2021, WLOV partnered with the Florida-based **Take Stock in Children** non-profit charitable organization. Students from South Sumter High School, Wildwood, High School, and The Villages Charter School who met the financial need and journalism studies requirements were given the opportunity to submit essays on the importance of writing, along with letters of recommendation. Working with Take Stock in Children, WLOV identified two outstanding candidates and awarded a \$500 scholarship to each, to assist them in paying college expenses. The money was paid directly to their colleges.



***Q. Where does the money for the scholarship program come from?***

A. All money for the WLOV scholarship program comes from voluntary contributions. No WLOV dues are involved. Most money is raised from an annual scholarship show. In April 2022, WLOV sponsored a program featuring well-known entertainer, Mark The Mentalist. The event, held at Laurel Manor Recreation Center, was open to the public and attracted nearly two hundred people. Funds from that event supported our 2022 scholarship awards and provided seed funding for our 2023 scholarship campaign. In addition to the annual show, WLOV members can make direct contributions to the scholarship program at any time during the year.

***Q. What WLOV scholarship activities are planned for 2023?***

A. Work is already underway to host a 2023 WLOV scholarship fundraising event in the mid-February to early March timeframe. It takes a great deal of work to put on these events. Presently, we are considering several entertainment options and working with The Villages Recreation to book theatre space. The current plan is to again work with Take Stock in Children to identify worthy 2023 scholarship recipients from our local high schools.

***Q. Are contributions to the WLOV Scholarship program tax deductible?***

A. Yes. WLOV is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501c3 organization. We separately receive, track, and report all contributions and expenditures related to the scholarship program. Contributions to WLOV for the scholarship program are eligible for tax consideration as charitable contributions under Federal tax law.

***Q. Does WLOV participate in any charitable activities other than the scholarship program?***

WLOV partners with the All Booked Up bookstore in Colony Plaza to support the local **Dollars for Scholars** charitable organization. On the second Tuesday of each month, from 11 am to 2 pm, three



WLOV authors do book signings at the store. A portion of their sales is donated to Dollars for

Scholars, and this amount is matched by All Booked Up. The Villages Dollars for Scholars program is a chapter of Scholarship America, and was established here in 2007. Since then, they have raised over \$650,000 and have helped 225 graduating high school students to further their education. Qualified students are selected from the Wildwood Middle High School, The Villages Charter High School, Leesburg High School, and Holy Trinity Episcopal School in Fruitland Park. WLOV also contributes \$250 annually to a local school Take Stock in Children spelling bee.

***Q. Who manages charitable activities for WLOV and how can I get involved?***

A. WLOV's Board of Directors oversees the club's charitable activities. The main program effort currently underway is preparing for our 2023 scholarship event early next year. If you would like to help plan that program, contact me at [flancione@verizon.net](mailto:flancione@verizon.net) or just talk to me at our next general meeting. The scholarship program is a great cause and volunteers for the program always have fun working together on the event. We would love to have you join us.



## **Important Updates by our Communications Director**

By Rita Boehm

### **BARNES & NOBLE**

Please join us on Saturday, November 5th at 2 pm for a Q4 Meet the Author event at Barnes & Noble in Lake Sumter. Our kick-off events have grown from an informal smattering of folks sitting in the tiny Barnes & Noble café, to a standing room only crowd of 60 or more listening with rapt attention to our featured authors present information about their writing journeys and their books.

The current book selection will be featured until December 31<sup>st</sup>, providing an excellent opportunity to purchase holiday gifts! We need your support and help in advertising our Barnes & Noble relationship—to keep the momentum going.

If you haven't yet been featured at Barnes & Noble, please send an email to [wlovwriters@gmail.com](mailto:wlovwriters@gmail.com), so we can make sure we have you on the list. Once each of our authors has had an opportunity to be featured, future participants will be chosen via a random drawing at one of our monthly meetings. NOTE: Members who have not yet been featured will be given preference and will automatically be added to the B&N list.

Stop at the store and check out the Local Author Bookshelf which is now directly on your way to the café. Make a right after entering the store. You'll find a fascinating selection of books written by our talented members. See photo bottom of page 9.

## **MORE PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES!**

### **WILDWOOD ANTIQUE MALL BOOK SIGNINGS**

We are always on the lookout for new venues for our members to promote their books. So when the Wildwood Antique Mall reached out, we eagerly responded. We've held two book signings to date. We plan to continue these book signings on a monthly basis.



If you are interested in being featured at future book-signing events at the Antique Mall, please contact us at [wlovwriters@gmail.com](mailto:wlovwriters@gmail.com)

Store location: 364 Shopping Center Dr., Wildwood. The store is in the large shopping center on 301 at the opposite end from the Wildwood Post Office. Other tenants include the Los Magueyes Mexican Restaurant.

### **NEWS ARTICLES ABOUT MEMBERS – FACEBOOK ALBUMS**

WLOV members continue to make news. Here are the links to find news articles written about members over the last 3 months, posted on Facebook.

#### **AUGUST 2022 NEWS ARTICLES POSTED:**

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.5630055337025151&type=3>

#### **SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWS ARTICLES POSTED**

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.5728257643871586&type=3>

#### **OCTOBER 2022 NEWS ARTICLE POSTED**

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.478478794319783&type=3>

## **BOOKEXPO 2023 – UPDATE**

BookExpo 2023 is fully sold out and we now have a waiting list.

**EXHIBITOR TRAINING:** There will be 2 training sessions for exhibitors. Please contact me at [WLOVwriters@gmail.com](mailto:WLOVwriters@gmail.com) to add your name to the list. Don't miss this opportunity!

#### **MAKING YOUR TABLE STAND OUT AT BOOK EXPO.**

**Tuesday, November 1st, Churchill Rec Center, 2375 Churchill Downs. In the Triple Crown Room. 1:00 – 2:00 pm.**

Light, height, and color will help make your BookExpo table stand out and attract buyers. Join John Prince on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> to learn more about creating a book table that brings in readers, invites them to stay for a conversation...and has them leaving with one of your books in hand.

**PROMOTING YOUR BOOKS: BEFORE DURING AND AFTER**

**Wednesday, December 7th, Laurel Manor Rec Center, Madison Room, 3:30 – 5:00**

Mark Newhouse, founding president of Writers League and Expo originator, will share— via a handout and PowerPoint presentation—practical ideas to promote both your books and Expo. You’ll be taught how to launch your own effective personal appearance campaign and create your ‘home run’ elevator book pitch.

**EVENT PUBLICITY:** As in past years, we will distribute **Bookmarks and Golf Cart/Advertising signs** at our November 9th and December 14<sup>th</sup> General Meetings.

To make BookExpo 2023 a success—**WE NEED YOUR HELP**—to visit our local merchants and businesses during the December/January timeframe to hand out signs and book marks.

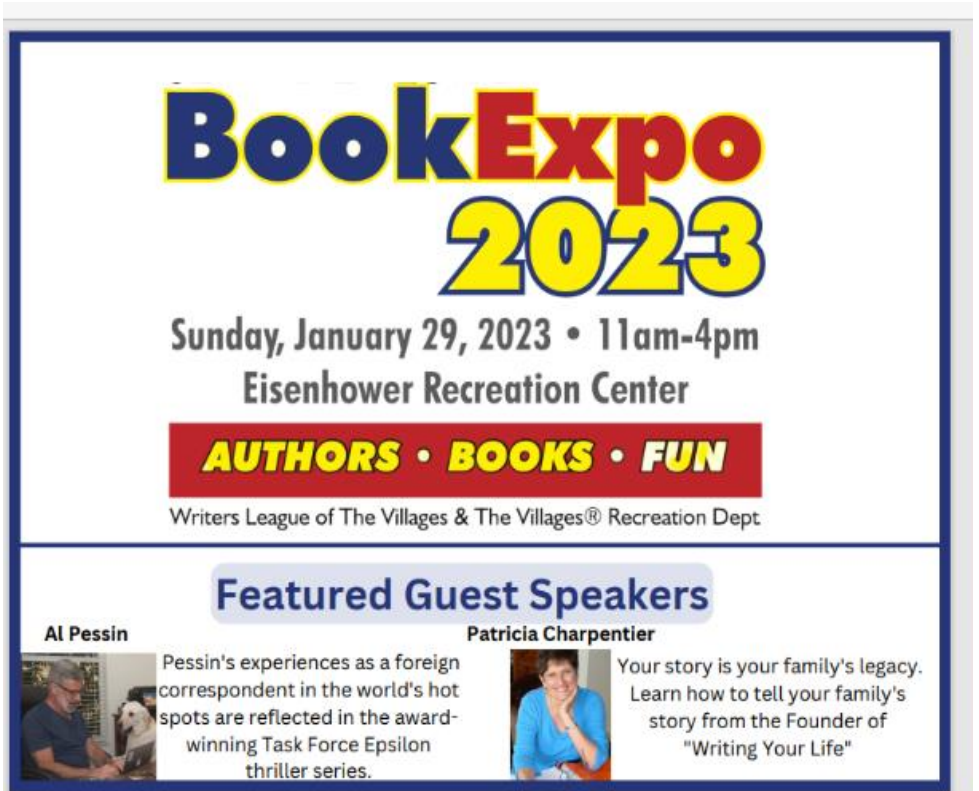
PLEASE EMAIL ME AT [WLOVWRITERS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WLOVWRITERS@GMAIL.COM) to sign up.

We will have plenty of bookmarks for you to give to your friends and neighbors, as well as signs to add to your cars and golf carts. If you can’t attend our next two monthly meetings, contact me and we’ll arrange for an alternate pickup location.

Other publicity: We will be purchasing ads, encouraging the *Daily Sun* and Villages-News.com to provide pre-event publicity, and reaching out for radio spots. If you have contacts at other magazines and news outlets, please share the information.



**FEATURED SPEAKERS**

As a further draw to bring people to BookExpo 2023, we have booked two excellent speakers: Al Pessin and Patricia Charpentier.



**BookExpo 2023**  
 Sunday, January 29, 2023 • 11am-4pm  
 Eisenhower Recreation Center  
**AUTHORS • BOOKS • FUN**  
 Writers League of The Villages & The Villages® Recreation Dept

**Featured Guest Speakers**

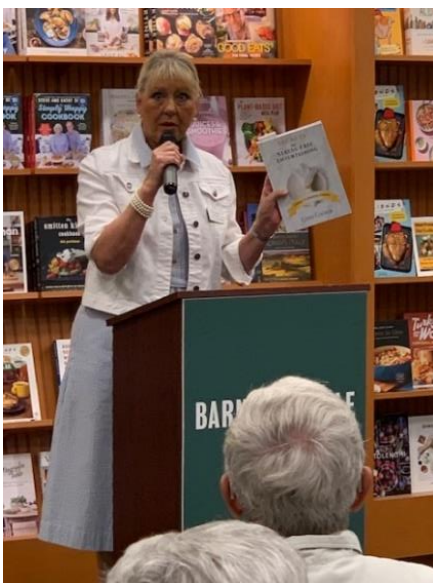
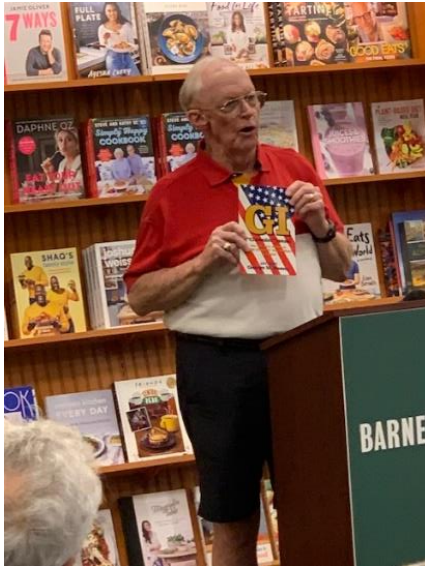
<p><b>Al Pessin</b></p> 	<p>Pessin's experiences as a foreign correspondent in the world's hot spots are reflected in the award-winning Task Force Epsilon thriller series.</p>	<p><b>Patricia Charpentier</b></p> 	<p>Your story is your family's legacy. Learn how to tell your family's story from the Founder of "Writing Your Life"</p>
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**FRIENDLY REMINDER: ORDER BOOKS** - Don’t forget to order books! Amazon can take up to 3 weeks or more to deliver author copies.



# Barnes and Noble Kick-off Event Oct 1, 2022

Left to Right: George Massey, Marti Green, Rita Boehm, Chris Cooper, Rebecca Rock, and the “Local Authors” book display, which is now directly on the way to the cafe. Make a right hand turn after entering the store.



## WLOV Authors in All Booked Up – for Nov-Dec 2022

Store at 271 Colony Blvd. 32162

For info contact: Bill Pullen, (352) 430-3006 or billanita@att.net

Last year we sold a total of 88 books during the November/December rotation and, thanks to Mark Newhouse's suggestion to use Christmas/holiday themed books for these months, it is a good idea again this year.

Mark Newhouse - "Dreidel Dog"

Dan Kincaid - "A Gift to the Nation"

Steve Burt - "New England Christmas Sampler"

Peggy Best - "The Reason for the Season"

Judy Nieman - "Big Book of Christmas Activities"

Tom Hannon - "Stocking Stuffers - Christmas Gifts from the Heart"

There will be two book signing events on Tuesday November 8th and Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup>, from 11am to 2 pm at All Booked Up.



## Want an Amazon Review? Offer Your Book in the WLOV Newsletter.

By Larry Martin

If you want to offer a free copy of your book (e-book and/or print) to a WLOV member in exchange for an Amazon review, your offer can go in the newsletter. Send the following information to me, at [drlarry437@gmail.com](mailto:drlarry437@gmail.com).

- Your name and Email (phone number optional)
- Book Title and Amazon link
- What you are offering free (e-book and/or print), and how many of each
- A one or two-sentence statement about the book, no more.
- No need to send the cover; I will download it from Amazon.

See next page for initial postings and format used. Your free offering comes with the expectation that the reader will post an Amazon review if the book is to their liking. Below is a sample entry.

### NOTE:

- Kindle e-books can be easily gifted on your book's Amazon page ("Buy for Others" on the home page); print books can be sent to any address you choose.
- Details can be worked out between you and the potential reviewer via email. For example, you might ask not to post any review less than 4 stars. Or, if a print book is being offered, you might arrange to mail a copy, give it to the reviewer personally, or have Amazon send it directly. Details up to you.
- No more than one title per author per month. However, a different book by the same author can be posted in another issue.

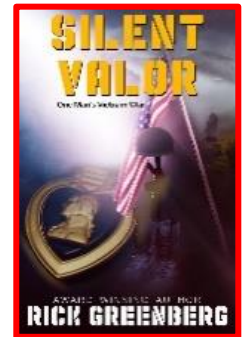
## Free Books Offered for Amazon Reviews

**Rick Greenberg**

***Silent Valor, One Man's Vietnam War***

<https://www.amazon.com/Silent-Valor-One-Mans-Vietnam-ebook/dp/B09SP664H4/>

A young Marine deployed to Vietnam finds terror, danger, and death, but also courage, loyalty, and brotherhood. *Silent Valor* recreates what happened to Lance Corporal Don Talbot and the squad members of Echo Two in their attempt to save fellow Marines surrounded by the North Vietnamese Army. Free print book to the first person who responds. Email: [greenzilla@gmail.com](mailto:greenzilla@gmail.com)



**Lawrence Martin**

***Would You Go? First Journey to Mars***

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BHZDXXP7/>

In the year 2035, three married couples are the first humans to travel to Mars. Before long, one crew member contracts a mysterious illness and a meteor shower knocks out the ship's antenna, cutting off communication to Earth. Interpersonal dynamics in the small vessel soon turn nightmarish. Will any of the crew make it to Mars—and more importantly, will they ever return home?

Free Kindle download to first three responders. Email: [drlarry437@gmail.com](mailto:drlarry437@gmail.com)



**Rita Boehm**

***The Price of Revenge***

<https://www.amazon.com/Price-Revenge-She-cant-enough-ebook/dp/B0BJ7MZQPH/>

A riveting domestic thriller...Predators come in many guises. The ones who wear uniforms are the most dangerous of all. Offering 3 free Kindle downloads and 1 free print book for Amazon review. Please state which you prefer. Email:

[ritab1423@gmail.com](mailto:ritab1423@gmail.com)



**Mark Pryor**

***Noble Phoenix***

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07465QGCV>

A powerful grand master unleashes assassins and terrorists across Europe, threatening a third world war. One exceptional man fights back, even while he, his family, and the woman he loves fight for their own survival.

The relentless action and frightening technologies leap from today's and tomorrow's headlines.

Free Kindle download to first three responders. Email: [markpryor@centurylink.net](mailto:markpryor@centurylink.net)



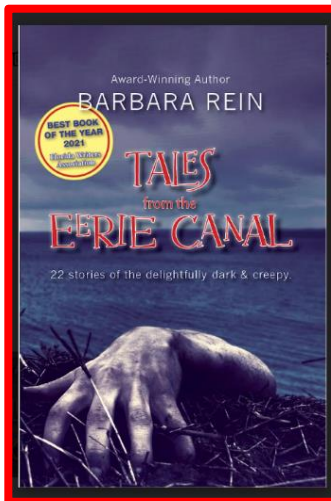
# October Newsletter Contest Winners

We have four winners for the October Newsletter Contest. They all sent in correct answers shortly after the newsletter went out, identifying the authors of these 19<sup>th</sup> century books.

Moby Dick--Hermann Melville  
Uncle Tom's Cabin--Harriet Beecher Stowe  
The Scarlet Letter--Nathaniel Hawthorne  
The Innocents Abroad--Mark Twain  
Frankenstein--Mary Shelly  
The Pickwick Papers--Charles Dickens

## The four winners and their books:

### Barbara Rein: *Tales from the Eerie Canal*



*Stories of the Delightfully Dark and Creepy.*  
<https://www.amazon.com/Tales-Eerie-Canal-Stories-Delightfully/dp/173493557X/>

**NAMED “2021 BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR”  
BY FLORIDA WRITERS ASSOCIATION**

**Murder by toilet plunger. Revenge by pie. A birthday gift of a trip to Hell.**

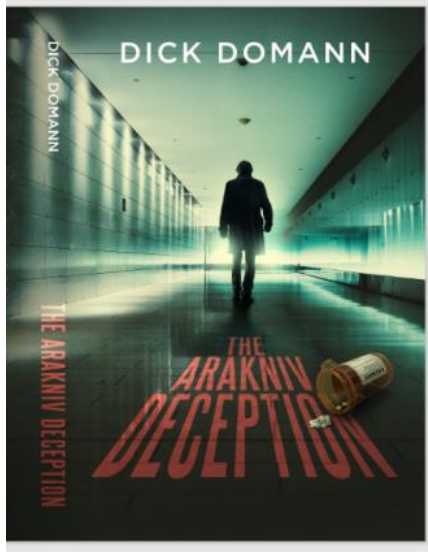
A collection of “horror lite” short stories (more goosebumps than gore) filled with delightfully creepy twists. *Tales from the Eerie Canal* weaves the sinister mystery of Edgar Allan Poe with the dark humor of Edward Gorey. Bites of psychological horror stirred with bits of the absurd. A Twilight Zone of the deliciously disturbing sprinkled with a kick of wit. Twenty-two morsels of fantasy, horror, sci-fi, and romance. Take a taste:

- \*They’re famous, wealthy, and living it up. And they’re dead.
  - \*They offered her a dream job—but for just one body part.
  - \*Not everyone gets invited to the resort. Not everyone gets to go home.
  - \*She thought she’d die peacefully. Then the witch came.
  - \*He was just a kid in a candy shop. With a killer of a sweet tooth.
  - \*Eternal life has a whole new meaning for a vampire bitten by love.
- And more...



## Dick Domann: *The Arakniv Deception*

<https://www.amazon.com/Arakniv-Deception-Pharmaceutical-Thriller/dp/B09HFSMLFC/>

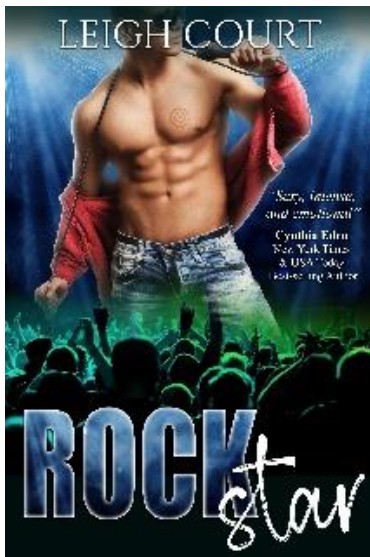


**"Medicines are supposed to heal, not harm."**

Geoffrey Winters, Head of Security for Valhalla Pharmaceuticals, discovers an insidious link between their breakthrough arthritis drug, Arakniv, and a global plot designed to create a stranglehold on patients. The unexpected death of Valhalla's CEO forces Winters and his colleagues down a path of deadly intrigue as they unravel the knot that is the Arakniv Deception. If you have been captivated by *Dopesick* or *Dangerous Doses* this is the novel for you. Drawn from forty years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry this thriller will grab you and drive you to the questions....what are these drugs really designed to do?



## Leigh Court: *Rock Star*



<https://www.amazon.com/Rock-Star-Leigh-Court-ebook/dp/B08R6C4MFD/>

He's a rock star with stage fright. She's a therapist with a dangerous secret...

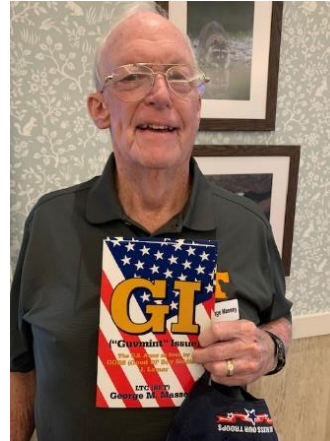
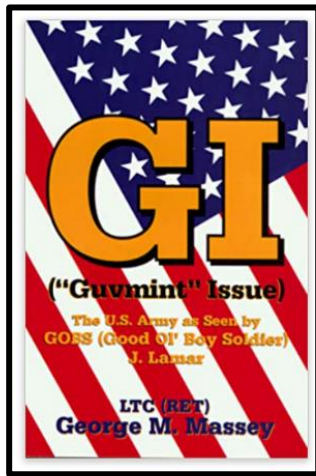
Sebastian Roe was shot onstage during a concert five years ago, sending him into a creative tailspin and leaving him with a deep fear of performing. But his love of music is too strong to keep him off a stage forever, despite the fact the police never caught the gunman. He just needs a little help getting back in front of an audience, and figures announcing a U.S. tour will force him back onstage. Unfortunately, it's bringing up his worst nightmare and puts his sold-out comeback tour in jeopardy.



Mia Merrill was in the audience the night of Sebastian's fateful concert. She loves his music and wants to help him overcome his PTSD and get him back onstage, but there's another reason she's determined to become his therapist. She's the reason he was shot. Driven by guilt and a need to atone, Mia takes Sebastian on as a patient. But no sooner do they start to make progress on Sebastian's stage fright than the gunman announces he's back to finish the job.

**George Massey: GI ("Guvmint" Issue)**

<https://www.amazon.com/GI-Guvmint-issue-Soldier-Lamar/dp/1577360435/>



**("Guvmint" Issue)**

J. LAMAR ISN'T THE SHARPEST BEAR IN THE WOODS. He did, however, learn a few things as the army changed him from a slow-talking, tobacco-chewing plowboy to a slow-talking, tobacco-chewing soldier. In this collection of short, true sketches of military life, J. Lamar rises from a lowly ROTC cadet to a lieutenant colonel in the Special Forces. The author recounts the most memorable incidents of Lamar's career and lets readers in on the military's best-kept secrets, such as how to speak Vietnamese with a Tennessee twang and how to maximize the use of artillery to fight off an attack of baby ducks. Only the names are changed to protect the guilty.

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**Submit a Story: Member Recommends this Podcast**

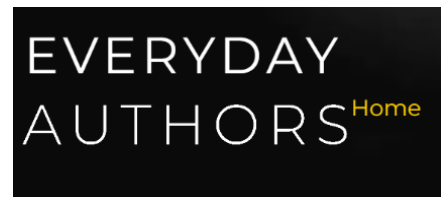
Donnis Lansdale hosts a widely-aired short story podcast. He's always looking for great writing. Check out his website <https://www.everydayauthors.com/> Have a listen, submit a story, and maybe he'll air yours.

Barbara Rein

*"Best Book of the Year 2021"—Florida Writers Association*

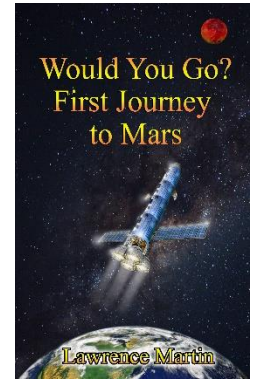
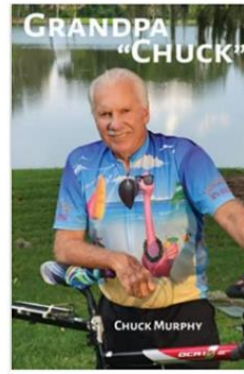
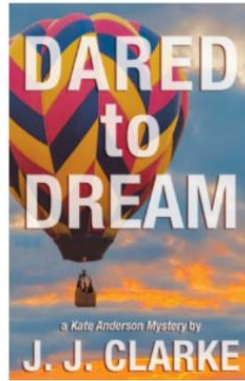
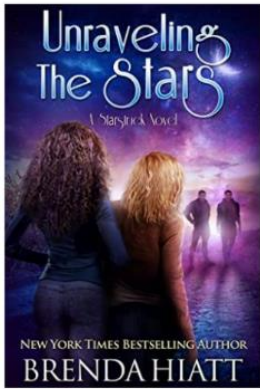
*TALES FROM THE EERIE CANAL: 22 Stories of the Delightfully Dark and Creepy.*

<https://bit.ly/TalesfromtheEerieCanal>



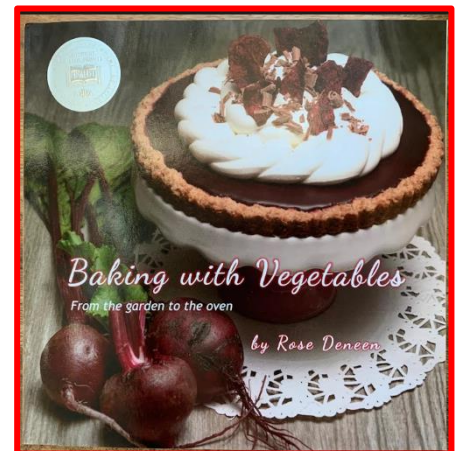
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## Wine and Words Oct 6, 2022

WLOV book presenters were: Frank Lancione, WLOV president and creator of Wine & Words (center); Larry Martin, WLOV Newsletter editor; and Rose Deneen, author of award-winning cookbook *Baking with Vegetables*.




# Cartoons



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