



Quill de Ville

www.WritersLeagueofTheVillages.com

Writers League of The Villages Newsletter

March 2023

Send me your limerick - See page 2

Fundraiser Photos – see page 5



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Message from Your Newsletter Editor

Larry Martin
drlarry437@gmail.com



There once was a man from Nantucket
Who kept all his cash in a bucket.
But his daughter, named Nan,
Ran away with a man
And as for the bucket, Nantucket.

Interested in writing a limerick and seeing it in the WLOV newsletter?

This month's newsletter contest will span a few issues. First, you're invited to write a limerick to go into the next newsletter (April). Send it to me at drlarry437@gmail.com. I can publish up to a dozen. As a reminder, the limerick style is five lines, in which the first, second, and fifth lines are longer and rhyme, while the third and fourth lines are shorter and share a separate rhyme. It can be about anything. Note that there are also ribald versions of the famous Nantucket limerick. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/There_once_was_a_man_from_Nantucket. For more on writing limericks, check out: <https://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Limerick>

If I receive two or more limericks, readers of the April newsletter will be asked to vote on the best one, and the winner will have his/her limerick featured in the May newsletter, along with promotion for any book. So, to summarize:

- This March newsletter – Contest announced. Send your limerick (only one per member), to drlarry437@gmail.com. Make sure it adheres to the classic limerick style.
- April newsletter – all limericks sent in get published, up to the first twelve submitted; readers will vote on their favorite (via email to me)
- May newsletter – winner will be announced, with republishing of the limerick plus their featured book.

Our two big events are now history, both wildly successful. Expo2023 in January, under the leadership of Rita Boehm, and our annual fundraiser February 26th, under the leadership of Tweet Coleman. Pictures and info from Expo 2023 are in the February newsletter (on our website, www.writersleagueofthevillages.com). See President Frank Lancione's message about our fundraiser on page 3, and pictures from the event on page 5. In addition to Tweet, Frank names all the other volunteers who helped make this a great event.

Upcoming Events

MARCH, 2023

Thursday, March 2, 6:30-8:30 pm – Wine & Words, Riverbend Rec Center. Speakers are Jack Ciotti and Steve Burt

Wednesday, March 8, 9 am-11 am – WLOV General Meeting, Laurel Manor Rec Center. Program is “Seeing Two Sides of Things,” by WLOV member Scott McNight.

Tuesday March 14, 11am - 2pm – Book signing at All Booked Up, Colony Plaza. Authors are Susan Dwyer, Lisa Vincent-Morrison, and Tom LaBaugh.

Saturday, March 18, 11 am-2 pm – Book signing by Gary Koca and Barbara Welsh, Wildwood Antique Mall, 364 Shopping Center Drive, Wildwood.

APRIL, 2023

Thursday, April 6, 6:30-8:30 pm – Wine & Words, Riverbend Rec Center. Speakers are Bill Hurst and Alyson Ross.

Saturday, April 8, 2 pm. Barnes & Noble in Lake Sumter Landing for our next Kick-off gathering.

Tuesday April 11, 11am - 2pm. Book signing at All Booked Up, Colony Plaza. Authors are Doc Honour, Bill Hurst, and Linda Ray Center

Wednesday, April 12, 9-11 am. WLOV General Meeting. Program is “Growing Your Writer’s Brain: Insights and Techniques,” by WLOV member Tweet Coleman.

Saturday, April 15, 11 am-2 pm. Book signing by Marsha Shearer and Susan Dwyer, Wildwood Antique Mall, 364 Shopping Center Drive, Wildwood.

Sunday, April 30, 7 pm – Club member Susan O’Halloran presents a one-woman show at Studio Theater, Tierra Del Sol, titled “Mothers and Other Wild Women.” Her show will be repeated Monday, May 1st, at 2 pm and 7 pm. Tickets are \$20, online at www.TheSharonStudio.com. See page 7 for more information.

WLOV President’s Message

IN PURSUIT OF A WORTHY CAUSE

By Frank A. Lancione, flancione@verizon.net



UNBELIEVABLE! We just had a fantastic WLOV Scholarship fundraiser event on February 26th at Laurel Manor in support of the Take Stock in Children (TSIC) scholarship program for local youth. We sold out this fundraising event and increased both the number and size of the scholarships we will be able to offer this year. Volunteers are the lifeblood of every program that WLOV undertakes. Our scholarship benefit event is no exception. I want to use this month’s President’s Message share with you some of the great work your fellow club members did on your behalf to make this program successful in 2023.

Communications: Rita Boehm helped us with advertising in the Daily Sun and e-mail blasts to our membership. Paula Howard not only made sure the program was effectively advertised on our website, she made it possible for us to sell tickets online through our website. This was a major factor in our sales volume. Larry Martin kept the event prominently displayed in our newsletters.

Event Day Crew: Instead of sitting comfortably inside chatting with friends before the show, a large group of volunteers staffed the intake processes needed to get people into the event and handle

exceptions and problems. This included: Judy Ciance, Jack Davis, Joe Finch, Dr. Cheryl Klenow, Bill Pullen, Mark Newhouse, Terry Sandefur, and Phyllis Walters.

Design: As attendees walked in they saw beautiful decorations, fun hats and glasses at the photo booth, and beautiful gift baskets that were being raffled off. It's the kind of visual impact that takes artistry and a natural flair for design to pull off. Thank goodness we have Chris Cooper in our club to make us look good!

Finance and Ticketing: The planning and selling of tickets and collection and control of funds has been going on for months. It is a critical process that was masterfully led by Jeanne Rogers and Corrine Sandefur.

Our Driving Force: Everything big, complex, and important requires someone with vision and drive who attracts others to the cause and gets the project across the finish line regardless of the obstacles. Our club is very lucky to have had one of those people working for us on this project – Dr. Tweet Coleman. The crew that worked on this year's event did a wonderful job and had fun doing it. Think about joining us for 2024. If you are interested, contact me and we will get you involved in the planning process for next year.

What is "Take Stock in Children"?

By Frank Lancione, flancione@verizon.net

What if you are recognized by your teachers and advisors as a motivated, deserving kid who could potentially go on to college but is facing some daunting challenges? Maybe you come from a broken home, a low-income background, or have talent but also some black marks on your record. What if there was an adult mentor willing to help you and your family by taking a personal interest in your life? What if they spent time helping you get the kind of experiences that would develop your potential, and help you develop the attitudes, values and personal habits that would lead to success instead of just getting by?

WLOV works with Take Stock in Children for Lake and Sumter counties. TSIC's program managers work with The Villages Charter School, Wildwood HS and South Sumter HS to find kids who could benefit from being paired with mentors. Then they find adults willing to make this investment in these students' lives.

It is not a small commitment. TSIC mentors work with students throughout their high school years. In some cases they connect with them as early as Junior high. This equates to a four-, or even a five- or six-year relationship with these students during some of the most formative years of their lives. WLOV supports TSIC by funding scholarships for kids from these three local schools to help them with the costs of going to college. TSIC program coordinators advertise WLOV's scholarship along with other available programs to seniors and encourage them to apply. The screening process is rigorous and oriented to making sure that the selectees are kids who really deserve to be helped by the funds that WLOV is contributing.

In addition to the normal financial need and personal background screening, applicants for WLOV scholarships have to submit an essay on why writing is an important part of their lives. These are screened by a panel of TSIC and WLOV reviewers and the writing sample score is a major factor in the award decision process. Our fundraiser was the end of February. The call for applications is already out and TSIC is already receiving submissions from students who want to participate in the 2023 WLOV scholarship program.

In 2022, we had 179 paying attendees at our scholarship fundraising event. We were able to award two \$500 scholarships. In 2023 we sold out completely and had well over 200 paying attendees. We expect to be able to award three scholarships this year and are hoping to potentially double the award amounts. The scholarship program is a wonderful opportunity to work with other WLOV club members to do something beneficial for the club and as well as for deserving kids from the community. Think about being a part of the program in the 2024 cycle. If you are interested contact me or Dr. Tweet Coleman, at tweetcoleman@gmail.com.



Pics from WLOV's Scholarship Event, Feb 26th



The Scholarship Event Team
 Top row, L to R: Paul Sanderfer, Terri Sandefer, Corrine Sandefer, Joe Finch, Sandy Swanberg, Fran Szarnicki, Cheryl Klenow, Phyllis Walters, Jack Davis

Bottom row, L to R: Mark Newhouse, Frank Lancione, Chris Cooper, Jeanne Rogers, Tweet Coleman, Linda Newhouse

Pictures below, L to R. Sellout crowd in Laurel Manor; Frank Lancione, speaker Nancy Berk, Diane Lancione, and Bona Hayes; Paula Howard and Joe Finch; Tweet and Patrick Coleman; Nancy Berk on stage; Linda and Mark Newhouse.



Update on All Booked Up, Colony Plaza, The Villages

By Bill Pullen - (352) 430-3006 or billanita@att.net



In 2019, the owners of the independently-owned book store, All Booked Up, graciously agreed to give members of WLOV limited space to expose and sell their work. At the time, this was the first and only retail outlet for our authors in The Villages.

Due to the size of the store, our exposure is limited to one shelf accommodating 7 books for rotating 2-month periods. Six of these are genres split between fiction (3), non-fiction (2) and children's books (1). The seventh space is reserved for the book featured in The Villages monthly magazine, providing this book is authored by one of our members. Each month, three authors have a book signing at the store. The authors shown for the February 14 book signing are, L to R, Ron Miller, Liz Perkins, and Carolee Owen.

To date, close to 100 authors have participated in this program, so only 36 of our members can be accommodated in any one year. If you have signed up, please be patient.

From October 2019 through December 2022 a total of 372 books have been sold. Of important note: it is up to each featured author to promote and market their books, and the store, among their friends, neighbors, golfing groups and clubs while their books are being featured.

We are always looking for other businesses which would be willing to display our books on a similar basis, i.e., retention of 40% of the sales price. This relationship could be an added profit center, requiring minimum space and effort. Please be alert to these possibilities at local businesses where you shop, especially at independently-owned stores.

Please refer any questions you have, either about All Booked Up or possible new opportunities, to me at 'billanita@att.net' or (352) 430-3006.



WLOV Books for March in All Booked Up

- "Strangers Saints and Sinners" by Susan Dwyer (Young Adult/Adult Fiction)
- "Marooned in 1799" by Bill Hurst (Historical Fiction)
- "Not Like Us" by Doc Honour (Science Fiction)
- "Make A Powerful, Positive Impact" by Tom LaBaugh (Non-Fiction / Self Improvement)
- "Lent Life" by Lisa Vincent-Morrison (Non-Fiction/Inspirational)
- "Crystal Discovers The Glow" by Linda Ray Center (Fantasy Children's Book - Inspirational)
- THE VILLAGES MAGAZINE for March: Featured Book of the Month "Take Off" by Peter Shianna (Historical Fiction)

Writing Medical Scenes – Article in OCWW

By Larry Martin
drlarry437@gmail.com

Last summer, while in Chicago, I joined Off Campus Writers Workshop, a venerable writers' group that serves the metropolitan area. The website is <https://ocww.info/>. With about 370 members, OCWW offers online workshops and lectures by established writers. The website has a section "About Write" that publishes short articles on writing. In February they published my article "Writing Medical Scenes: A Doctor's Advice." You can read it here.

<https://ocww.info/About-Write?p=writing-medical-scenes-a-doctors-advice>



Susan O'Halloran on her one-woman show "Mothers and Other Wild Women"

Studio Theater, Tierra Del Sol
Sunday, April 30, 7 pm
Monday, May 1st, at 2 pm and 7 pm.
Tickets are \$20, online at www.TheSharonStudio.com.



Mothers and Other Wild Women is a rollicking journey through life's comedies for men who love women and women who applaud men. Whether Sue is "dishing" about wayward sons or chain-smoking grandmas, you'll find this one-woman show to be an uplifting celebration of the many roles women play and the friendships that sustain them.

It's a one-woman show of **Personal Stories for Adults**. I think it may be of special interest to WLOV members because it can give writers an idea of how it is different to write for oral speech and performing vs. writing for the page.

I'm always working to make my Memoir stories come alive and hit universal themes.

PRINT ITEMS ABOUT MEMBERS – FACEBOOK ALBUMS

Below are the links to news articles written about members over the last three months.

DECEMBER 2022 FACEBOOK NEWS ARTICLES POSTED

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.524598176374511&type=3>

JANUARY 2023 FACEBOOK NEWS ARTICLES POSTED

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.551846676982994&type=3>

FEBRUARY 2023 FACEBOOK NEWS ARTICLES POSTED

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.575057707995224&type=3>





Barnes & Noble Update

By Rita Boehm

TWO YEARS AND COUNTING!

It's been a little over two years since I first approached the management of Barnes & Noble with a proposal. Would they consider selling books by local, independently-published authors if the Writers League took care of two of their primary concerns – inventory control and return of unsold stock? I explained that the Writers League would both provide and manage the inventory and would take back whatever books didn't sell. After a couple of meetings and discussions with the manager, corporate management agreed to a pilot program: 4 authors for 2 weeks, starting in April 2021.

Our pilot program was a huge success.

From those shaky beginnings two years ago, we've established a more solid and significant relationship—and Barnes & Noble has become more welcoming of local authors. Twelve WLOV authors are now featured in the store for three month periods, initiated by kick-off events introducing the featured authors. These events are usually well attended by standing-room only crowds. We've come a long way!

To date, close to 100 WLOV members have been offered an opportunity to participate in our Barnes & Noble events. Through December 2022, over 400 books have been sold. Our members' books—most of them self-published—have been featured in a major retail outlet, and our authors have had an opportunity to stand at a podium and tell folks about their writing journeys. Many of these talks have been truly inspiring.



To celebrate the upcoming two-year milestone anniversary in April, we'll be inviting the first group of authors back. This time, instead of two weeks, they'll have an opportunity to have their books featured for a full three months. The remaining spots will be filled by members whose books have not yet been featured in the store.

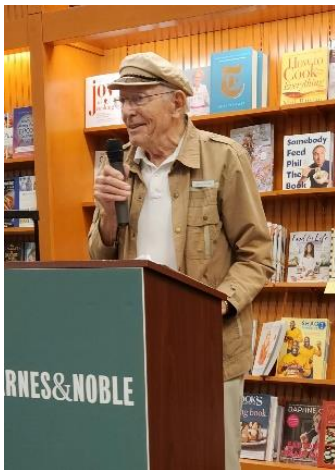
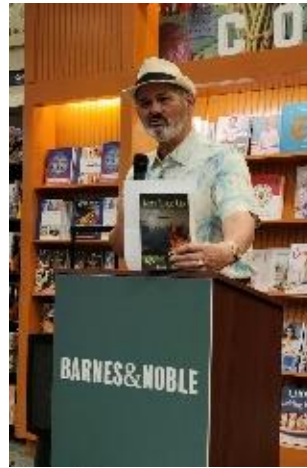
Starting with our Q3 event in July, we'll begin a selection process which includes a random selection of authors whose books have already been featured, while giving preference to members who have not yet been given an opportunity of a Barnes & Noble experience.

Please join us on Saturday, April 8th at 2:00 at Barnes & Noble in Lake Sumter Landing for our next Kick-off gathering.

Pics from Barnes & Noble Kick-off Feb 11, 2023



Top Row, L to R: Authors posing with happy customers; Eric Honour *Not Like US*; Tina Scott, *The Forbidden Fruit*;
Middle Row, L to R: Manny Sousa, *Passing Through*; Mary Gordon Westcott, *Living in Light*; Judith Glynn, *The Street or Me*
Bottom Row: Rose Deneen, *Baking with Vegetables*; Her delicious desserts baked with vegetables.



Geralyn Vilar and Barbara Rein

Two Winners of February Newsletter Contest, in which you were asked to identify source of these 5 famous quotes.

- “I will stop the motor of the world.”
Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand
- “All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.”
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy
- “And so we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.”
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- “It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest I go to than I have ever known.”
A Tale Of Two Cities by Charles Dickens
- “It is a truth universally that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.”
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen



One Spring Day, by Geralyn Vilar

<https://www.amazon.com/One-Spring-Day-Geralyn-Vilar/dp/B085RQRKZJ/>

This is a story of Love, Family, Friends, Bitterness and deceit. A true page turner that keeps you engaged. The readers of this book asked for a sequel which is also available on Amazon. The title of the sequel is *Life After Melanie*.

One Spring Day is available as a paperback, kindle book and audio book.

Tales from the Eerie Canal, by Barbara Rein

Below is excerpt from “THE DETOUR”—one of the book’s 22 delightfully dark and creepy tales

“Best Book of the Year 2021”—Florida Writers Association

<https://bit.ly/TalesFromtheEerieCanal>

The day we went missing, folks thought the river took us. It’d been running wild from a summer of heavy rains and twisters. Carlene and me got lured down to its rocky edge on a morning the sun came out and stayed out. We were gone eight days.

Not a week after we made it back home, another storm blew in. We were tucked in bed together, still clinging to each other after what we’d been through, when Carlene threw off the covers and bolted upright.

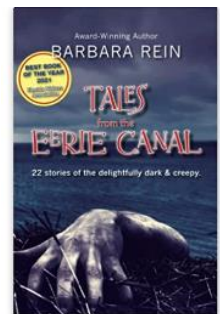
“Listen, Emma Rae. Hear that? Hush.”

I went quiet, then I caught it too. It carried on the wind—the crying of young girls. I knew that sound like my own heartbeat. My hands flew to my mouth.

“That’s us, Carlene. That’s us wailing away!”

We screamed for Mama. She came running, rocking us in her arms and telling us not to fret. We were safe. It was only the wind howling through the trees. But we knew for sure that sound was us crying and not even Mama could make us think otherwise.

It’s been twenty years but we hear the crying wind still, whenever a storm blows. Mama told us to forget. The wind won’t ever let us.



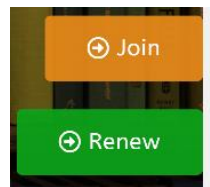
Nathaniel Niemi Presentation at our Feb 8 general meeting

More than 80 members attended our Feb 8 General meeting, where they were entertained by master storyteller Nathaniel Niemi. Niemi is the Resident Director at The Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol and Education Director for the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center. Read more about him at <https://www.nathanielniemi.com/>.



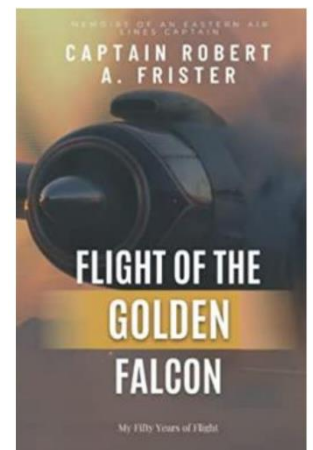
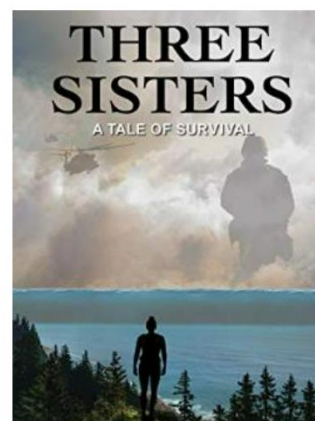
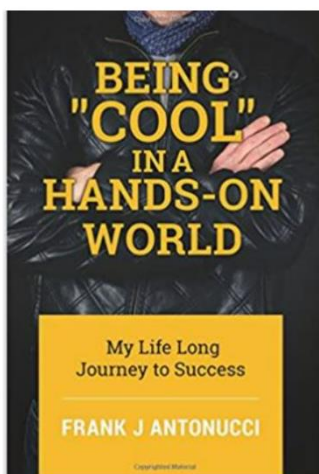
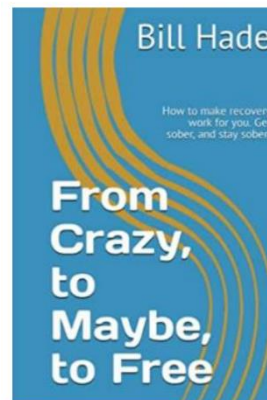
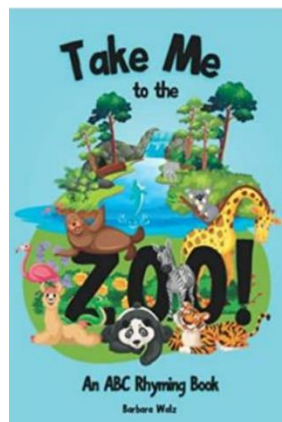
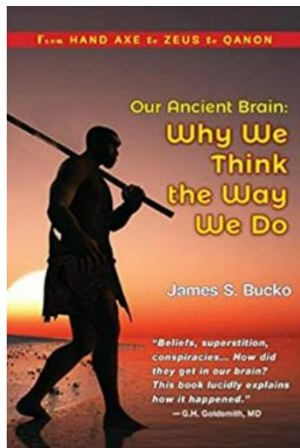
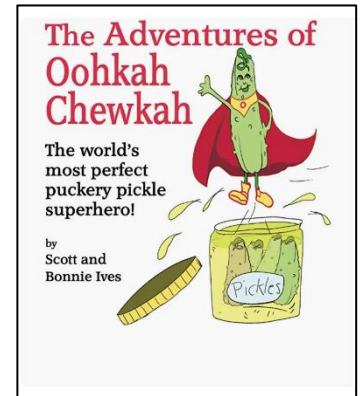
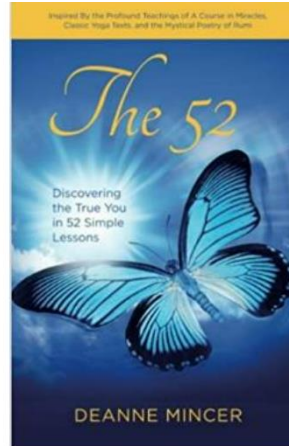
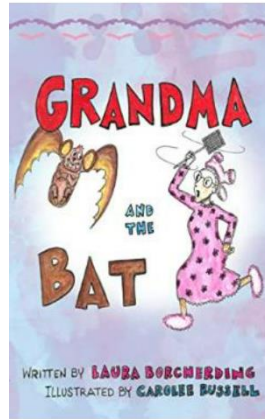
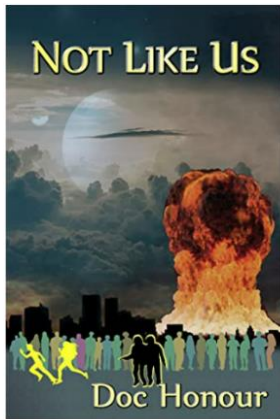
Recurring Items of Interest

- **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/>
- Master Class Writing Videos: Thursdays at 4 pm. WLOV members will receive an email notice from Paula Howard prior to these videos; if you don't get one, email her at pfhoward777@gmail.com.
- To review past WLOV newsletters, go to <https://writersleagueofthevillages.com/> and click on Newsletters in the top banner.
- Pay 2023 dues online, \$20. You can pay via credit card or Paypal. To join or renew, go to www.writersleagueofthevillages.com. Click on "Join Now" then choose Join or Renew. If you encounter any problems email WLOVwriters@gmail.com.
- Village Neighbors Magazine
If you'd like to be featured in Mark Newhouse's monthly Writing Bug column in Village Neighbors Magazine, email him at mark@newhouse.net.

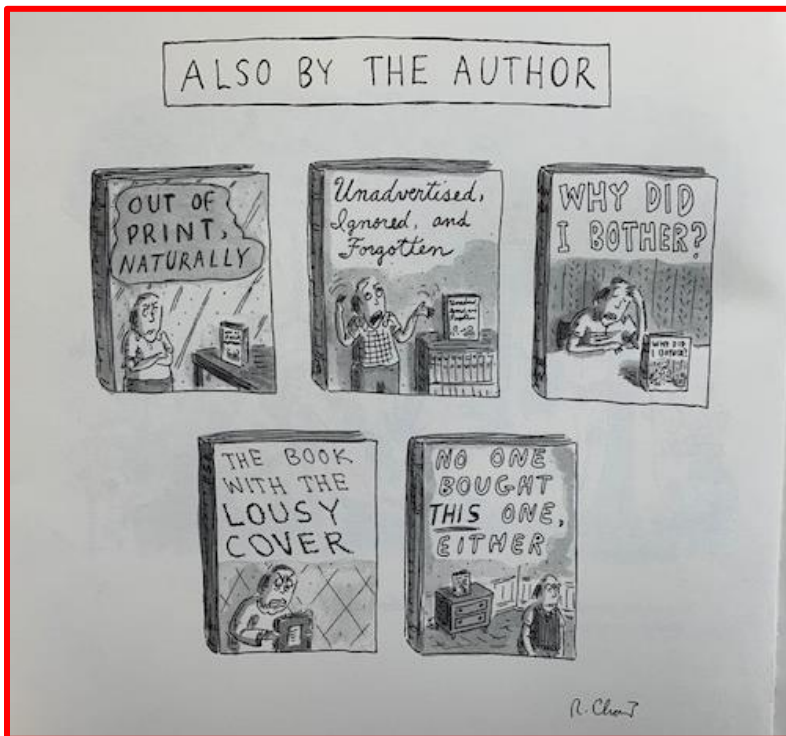
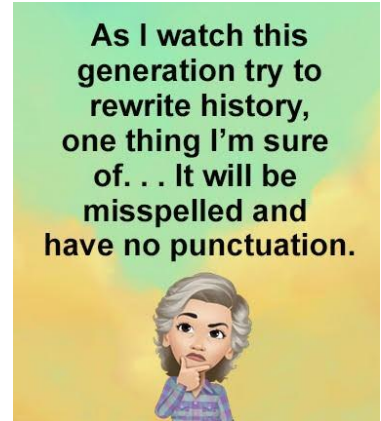
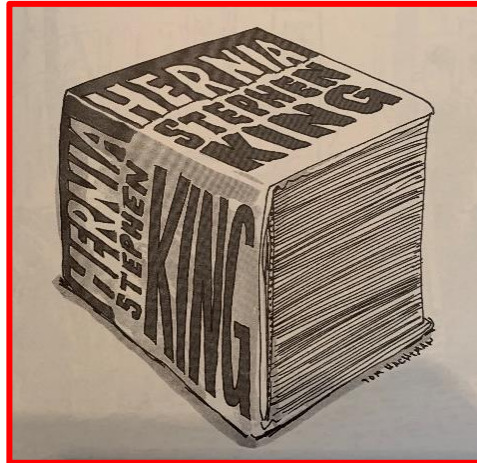
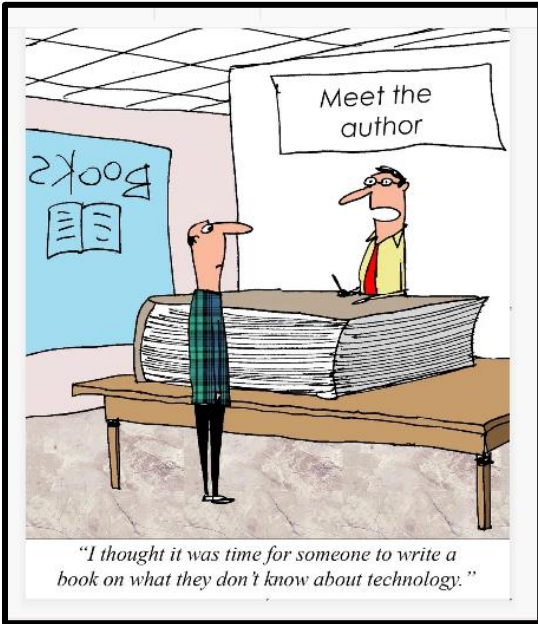


New Books in WLOV Book Catalog

To view the catalog, go to www.writersleagueofthevillages.com and click on "Books." To place your new book in the catalog, send the cover, a blurb and Amazon link to WLOVwriters@gmail.com

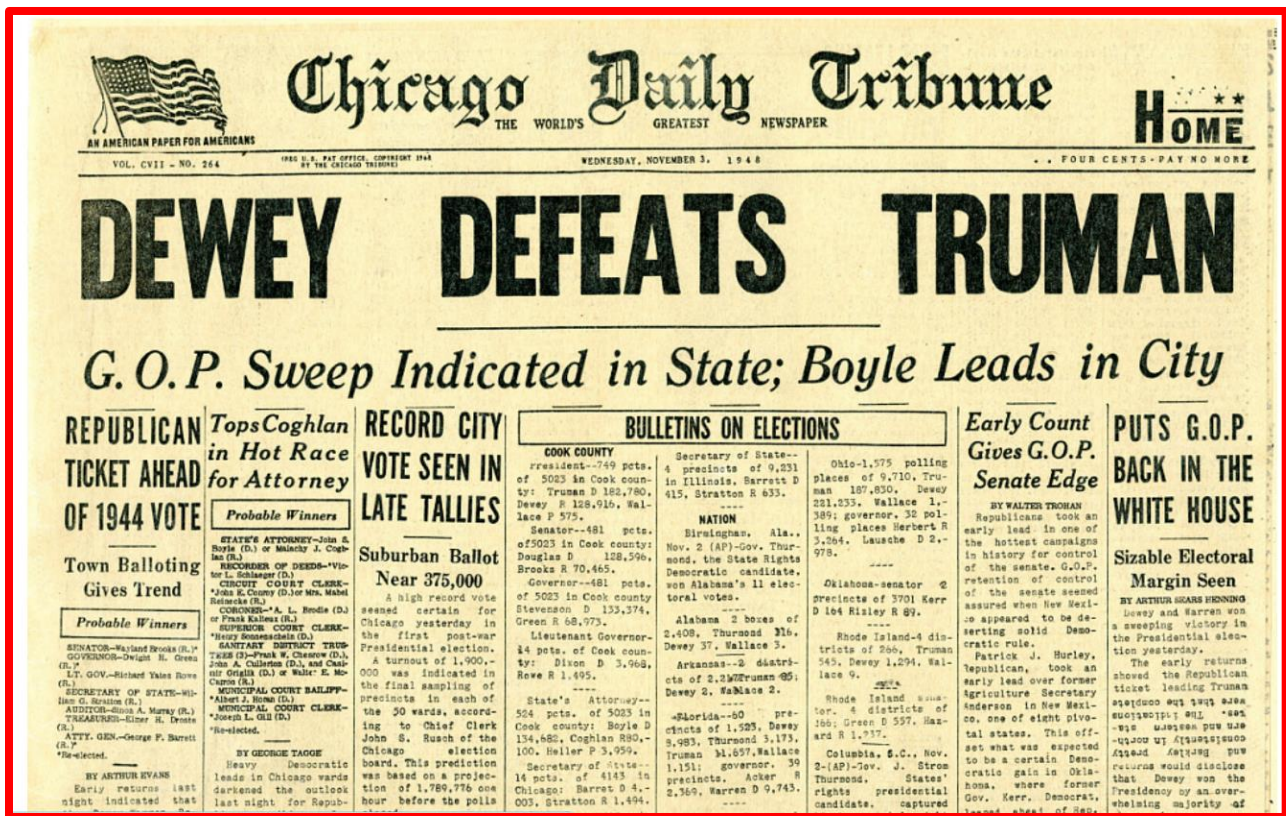
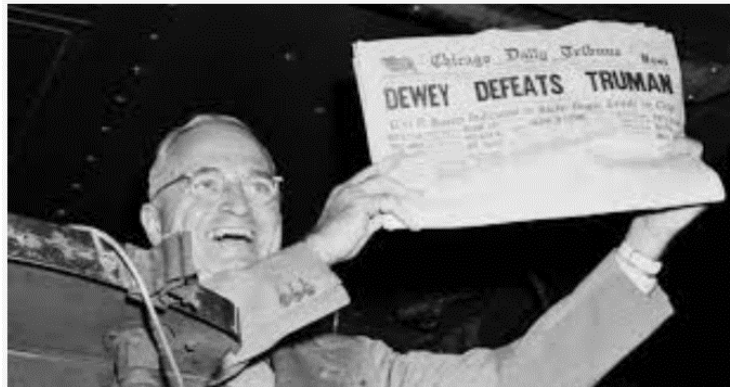


Cartoons



Appendix: "Dewey Defeats Truman"

By Larry Martin, Newsletter Editor



https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_499884

Harry Truman holding up the *Chicago Daily Tribune* headline, after his re-election in 1948, is certainly one of the most famous of all presidential campaign photos. Less well known is that the entire front page of the *Tribune* – not just the erroneous headline – was a total mess. For a year prior to the election, the paper’s linotype operators had been on strike, so articles were typed, then photographed and engraved onto printing plates. This method required going to press earlier than usual, before the election was actually called.

The Republican-leaning newspaper's Washington correspondent was certain that Dewey would win. His assumption was based on telephone polls, but in 1948 most people who had phones were Republicans! Truman, as it turned out, won the electoral vote with a 303-189-39 majority over Dewey and Dixiecrat candidate Strom Thurmond.

The *Tribune* printed 150,000 copies of the wrong headline before the editors realized that Truman had, in fact, won. A close look at the paper shows what a mess it was.

Upside Down Paragraph!

What a Mess – Nothing is Straight!

**PUTS G.O.P.
BACK IN THE
WHITE HOUSE**

**Sizable Electoral
Margin Seen**

BY ARTHUR SICARS HENNING

Dewey and Warren won a sweeping victory in the Presidential election yesterday.

The early returns showed the Republican ticket leading Truman here. The indications were that the complete returns from the eastern and western states consistently in north and Berkeley pretty returns would disclose that Dewey won the Presidency by an overwhelming majority of electoral votes.

BULLETINS ON ELECTIONS

COOK COUNTY
President--749 pcts. of 5023 in Cook county: Truman D 182,780, Dewey R 128,916, Wallace P 575.
Senator--481 pcts. of 5023 in Cook county: Douglas D 128,596, Brooks R 70,465.
Governor--481 pcts. of 5023 in Cook county: Stevenson D 133,374, Green R 68,973.
Lieutenant Governor--14 pcts. of Cook county: Dixon D 3,968, Rowe R 1,495.
State's Attorney--524 pcts. of 5023 in Cook county: Boyle D 134,682, Coghlan R 80,100, Heller P 3,959.
Secretary of State--14 pcts. of 4143 in Chicago: Barret D 4,003, Stratton R 1,494.

Secretary of State--4 precincts of 9,231 in Illinois, Barrett D 415, Stratton R 633.

NATION
Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 2 (AP)--Gov. Thurmond, the State Rights Democratic candidate, won Alabama's 11 electoral votes.
Alabama 2 boxes of 2,408, Thurmond 116, Dewey 37, Wallace 3.
Arkansas--2 districts of 2,237: Truman 85, Dewey 2, Wallace 2.
Florida--60 precincts of 1,523, Dewey 9,983, Thurmond 3,173, Truman 11,657, Wallace 1,151; governor, 39 precincts, Acker R 2,369, Warren D 9,743.

Ohio--1,575 polling places of 9,710, Truman 187,830, Dewey 221,233, Wallace 1,389; governor, 32 polling places Herbert R 3,264, Lausche D 2,978.

Oklahoma--senator 2 precincts of 3701 Kerr D 164 Risley R 89.

Rhode Island--4 districts of 266, Truman 545, Dewey 1,294, Wallace 9.

Rhode Island senator, 4 districts of 166; Green D 557, Hazard R 1,237.

Columbia, S.C., Nov. 2--(AP)--Gov. J. Strom Thurmond, States' rights presidential candidate, captured

Lesson: PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD. AND DON'T RUSH.