



## March 2024

### Upcoming Events – March 2024

Date	Time	Event	Location
Thursday, 3/7	6:30 – 8:30 pm	<b>Wine &amp; Words</b> Karen Lang and Dan Varalli	Riverbend Rec Center
Tuesday, 3/12	11 am – 2:00 pm	<b>All Booked Up Author Signing</b> Curtis Chocolous, Scott Ives, and Alyson Ross	All Booked Up, Colony Plaza
Wednesday, 3/13	9:00 – 11:00 am	<b>WLOV Monthly Meeting</b> .Podcasts – Mark Newhouse and Mike Roth	Laurel Manor Rec Center

“...a writer is someone born with a gift. An athlete can run. A painter can paint. A writer has a facility with words. A good writer can also think. Isn’t that enough to define a writer by?”

Cynthia Ozick

Reprinted from:

*A Writer’s Commonplace Book*, Rosemary Friedman

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Writers,

March is a month of contrasts. In the north, it is customary to say that it comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Although this is not always true, we do recognize that March is a time for transitioning from winter to spring, and hopefully warmer weather. While living in Connecticut, I would begin watching for what I called the 'greening of America.' It was a bit silly of me because this 'greening' that I watched for was something specific to the northern hemisphere. Nevertheless, I was always excited to see the northern world awakening. I would watch for the buds to arrive on the brown scraggly trees. I observed them as they transitioned from a soft blush to bright young green shoots. Suddenly, there was an explosion of bright green! Spring is my favorite time of year and although we do not experience the change here in Florida as greatly as in the north, we do see trees and flowers coming back to life.



March is also associated with renewal and fresh beginnings. It is the perfect time to plumb your creativity and inspiration. If you are considering writing something, now is the time to let those words flow through your pen to a piece of paper. Now is the perfect time to make those thoughts come to life. You can consider stories with themes of hope and renewal, combined with numerous springtime traditions and festivals that will further inspire us. There is so much to think about - joy and love, flowers, sunshine.

Create something fresh – something that you may have never considered before. As nature begins to blossom in March, let your imagination blossom. You never know where those thoughts of Spring will lead you.

Write on!

Jeanne

## SHARING A LITTLE SUNSHINE

Know of a member recuperating from surgery, down with the flu, suffering from the loss of loved one – or facing some other traumatic event? Please contact us at [wlovwriters@gmail.com](mailto:wlovwriters@gmail.com) and share the member's name and situation. We'll forward the information to Our Sunshine Committee chair, Kathy deMaCarty, who will send them a card with a caring message to show WLOV's support.



## WLOV Member Benefit

### BE FEATURED IN VILLAGE NEIGHBORS MAGAZINE

Contact Mark H. Newhouse at [mark@newhouse.net](mailto:mark@newhouse.net) if you would like to be a guest columnist or be featured in a future **Writing Bug** column promoting WLOV authors and their books via mail to more than 30,000 homes.

March issue features Mel Harrison as Guest Columnist with ***"Write What You Know."***

## FACEBOOK ALBUMS

Check out these links for WLOV member newspaper coverage and event pictures.

### DECEMBER FACEBOOK ALBUM

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.764299225737737&type=3>

### JANUARY FACEBOOK ALBUM

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.781768313990828&type=3>

### FEBRUARY FACEBOOK ALBUM

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.803501655150827&type=3>

# COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Rita Boehm

As we start the final month of our first quarter Barnes & Noble featured-author event, I'd like to remind everyone to stop at the store and check out the WLOV local author section (Turn right when you enter the store. The books are on an endcap on your way to the café). There are some phenomenal books being offered across a wide range of genres. Support your fellow authors – check it out – buy some books!

I'll soon be reaching out to twelve members to offer them a spot for our Q2 event which will run from April through June. Our next featured author kick-off event will be in early April, probably on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more details.

Additionally, six of our authors are featured for two-month periods at All Booked Up, with book signings at the store on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Your support of this wonderful independent bookstore – and your fellow authors is important.

New outreach opportunity: We recently donated two baskets of our members' books to local fundraisers, including the Santiago Women's Club annual book sale. The baskets included our WLOV brochures – and information about author availability for speaking engagements. This type of outreach is a great way for folks in The Villages to become aware of the talented authors in the community. We plan to continue this type of win-win outreach.

Contests: Won a writing competition? Achieved Semi-Finalist or Finalist status? We'd like to acknowledge members who have reached various milestones in their contest entries. Please contact me through [wlovwriters@gmail.com](mailto:wlovwriters@gmail.com) to provide this information. If you're interested in entering a competition but unsure about how to do so, please check out my February general meeting presentation which is now on our website: [www.writersleagueofthevillage.com](http://www.writersleagueofthevillage.com).

“A good novelist does not have to describe everything about the sea as long as he knows it.”

Ernest Hemingway

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# **DON'T MISS THESE BOOKS!**

## ***ALL BOOKED UP***

271 Colony Blvd., The Village

“The Stranger Next Door” by Alyson Ross (Fiction – Cozy Mystery)	\$9.00
“The Christmas Slayings” by Phyllis Walters (True Fiction – Suspense Thriller)	\$11.99
“As the Prop Turns” by Penny Thomas (Fiction - Mystery)	\$10.00
“52 Weeks of Leadership” by Curtis Chocoulous (Non-Fiction/Self Help)	\$15.00
“Surviving: A Kent State Memoir” by Paula Tucker (Non-Fiction - Memoir)	\$10.00
“The Adventures of Oohkah Chewkah” by Scott Ives (Children’s Book)	\$15.00

## ***THE VILLAGES MAGAZINE***

### **March Featured Book of the Month**

**“A Year in Middle America”**

**by Manijeh Badiozamani**

**(Non-Fiction / Memoir) \$12.00**

**All authors are members of The Writers League of The Villages**

# MOMENTS FROM FEBRUARY WLOV MEETING



Jeanne Rogers, Paula Howard, and Beverly Ann Meyers



Mary Ann Sinopoli



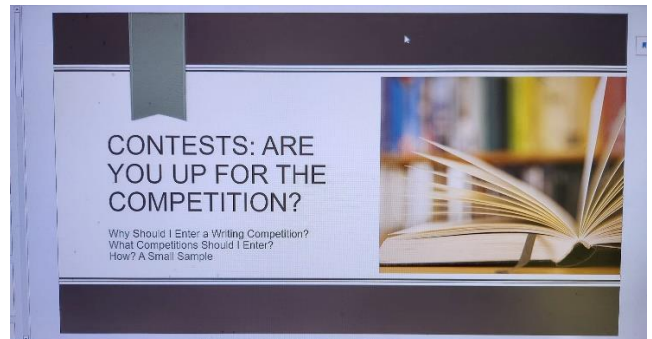
Librarian, Peter Shiann



President, Jeanne Rogers opening the meeting

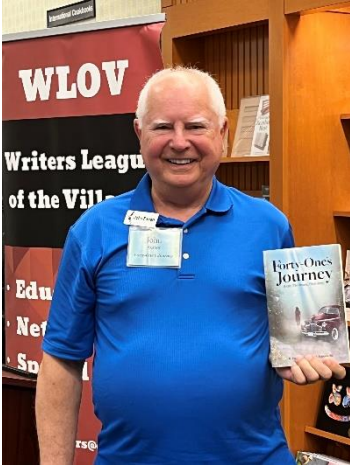


New books being presented



The Presentation by Rita Boehm

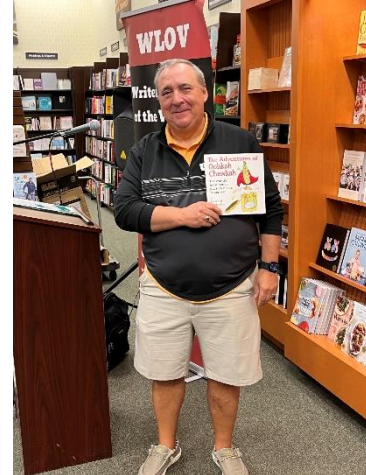
# MOMENTS FROM FEBRUARY BARNES & NOBLE EVENT



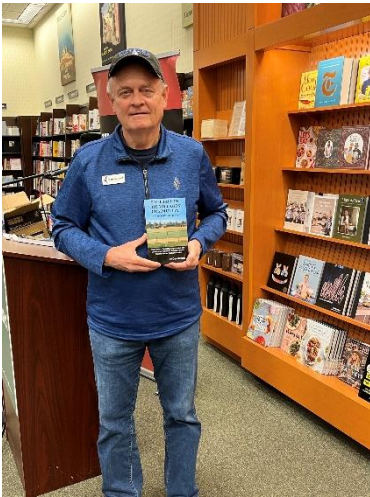
John Farren, *Forty-One's Journey*



Paula Howard, *The Power of One*



Scott Ives, *The Adventures of Oohkah Chewkah*



Dan Kincaid, *Softball in The Villages*



Lisa Vincent Morrison, *Lent Life*



Christine Schimpf, *Nick: The Journey of a Lifetime*

“In real life people do not spend every minute shooting each other, hanging themselves or making declarations of love. They don't spend every minute saying clever things. Rather they eat, drink, flirt, talk nonsense. And that is what should be seen on stage.”

Anton Chekhov

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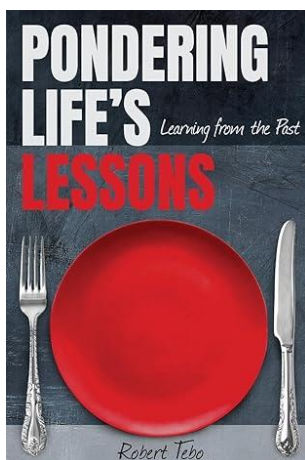
# FUTURE BOOK PROMOTIONS

**Quill de Ville would like to promote your book.**

We'll do it by a lottery system. At every WLOV monthly meeting, Penny Thomas will be there with a box. You will put in that box a card containing your book title, your name, and email address. This can be on a 3" x 5" index card, your social/business card, or your promotional bookmark. Every month, Penny will pull out a few cards (she promises to close her eyes as she dips into the box). Penny will then contact you for a photo of the book cover, the back cover blurb, and purchase info to put in the next *Quill de Ville*.

**You have to be at the WLOV monthly meeting to put your card in the box.**

## MARCH BOOK PROMOTIONS



**Pondering Life's Lessons – Learning from the Past**  
by Robert Tebo

*I've set the red plate at the table and I'm going to leave it there. It's a bit worn, but it shows how special it is. I've added the appropriate silverware on either side. I'll use it once a week as a personal reminder that life is worth celebrating. If you stop by, I may let you use it as well.*

### **Author Bio**

Robert Tebo thought about writing a book for a very long time. Thinking and doing are two different things. Rather than write a book, he started a blog in the fall of 2017.

*Pondering Life's Lessons* is a compilation of several blogs written over the past five plus years. The first section focuses on his marriage to Ruth and the beginning of his family. The second includes his extended family and friends. The final section tells his story after Ruth's unexpected death.

He never anticipated writing the stories in the final section, but life doesn't go as we expect. We get what we get and learn to live through it as best we can.

We all have a story. We live it in bits and pieces each day. If we keep it to ourselves, it dies with us. Life's lessons are too important to let that happen. If his stories remind you of yours, please share them with those you love.

Bob's stories can be found at [ihaveastoryforyou.net](http://ihaveastoryforyou.net).





**The Enchanted Box**  
**A Gift for Marriages in Every Season**  
by Sue O'Halloran

Can you discover the secret that keeps love alive? In this fairytale for adults, three couples set out to discover “riches that will multiply day after day.” An old beggar woman’s mysterious words melt the couples’ cold hearts as love returns through the simple act of giving thanks.

Sue O'Halloran is the author of several books including *Avoiding Cross-Cultural Mistakes at Home and Abroad* and *Compelling Stories, Compelling Causes: Nonprofit Marketing Success*. Since 1969, Sue has performed her original stories nationally and internationally and has led thousands of seminars in corporate and nonprofit settings.

In addition, Sue has produced and performed in award-winning multicultural performances including *White, Black, and Brown: Tribes & Bridges at the Steppenwolf Theatre* and *More Alike Than Not: Stories of Three Americans – Christian, Jewish, and Muslim*. She was the producer/director of the first online story festival in 2012 that reached fifty-two countries. Her Racebridges website showcased 260 video stories by professional story artists telling America’s untold stories and received over half a million visitors each year.

The media has covered her seminars, performances, and keynote addresses in such outlets as PBS’s *People and Causes*, ABC *Nightline*, and in *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *The Chicago Tribune*. About her own storytelling skills, *The Chicago Reader’s Critic Choice* said, “O’Halloran has mastered the Irish art of telling stories that are funny and heart-wrenching at the same time.” [www.SusanOHalloran.com](http://www.SusanOHalloran.com)

