



Quill de Ville

www.WritersLeagueofTheVillages.com

Writers League of The Villages Newsletter

June 2026 Newsletter

- **Reminder!!** The General Meeting held on the second Wednesday of each month, is suspended for the months of June and July.
- The next General Meeting will be on August 12, 2026, from 9 am till 11 am at Laurel Manor Recreation Center.
- Take a look at our “Calendar of Events” page and come out to support our authors at these events:
 - Wine and Words
 - Local Author Tuesday Book Signings
- Meet our 2026 Scholarship winners and the people who made it happen.
- Accolades and accomplishments of our fellow writers.
- A June update from WLOV president Bob Peterson.
- Letter from the editor, *“Of Writing Groups and Writers.”*
- Update from Rita Boehm, our Communications Director.

visit our website, www.writersleagueofthevillages.com

June 2026 Upcoming Events Quick Look Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact	Featured Authors
Thursday 6/4	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Wine and Words	Riverbend Rec Center	Frank Lancione 703-626-7514	<i>Rita Boehm, award-winning, multi-genre author</i> <i>Richard Perhacs, “Rogue” and “Cuernavaca”</i>
Tuesday 6/9	11:00 – 2:00 pm	Book signing	All Booked Up Colony Plaza	Donna Hoover duciesmom@aol.com	<i>Tilly Grey, “The Power of Rain”</i> <i>Jeanne Rogers, “My Grandma Lives in Florida”</i> <i>Richard Perhacs, “Rogue”</i>
Tuesday 6/16	12:00 - 4:00 pm	Book signing	Patchington Spanish Springs	Judith Glynn 212-265-7915	<i>Frank Lancione, poet, and author of the “Sunset Series” books</i>

Attention all,

Our next scheduled General Meeting will be on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at Laurel Manor Recreation Center. During that meeting, we will introduce the leadership from the various writing groups here in The Villages. Groups that meet regularly over the shared love of writing. Please attend the meeting if you can, and thank the leadership of these groups who work tirelessly to bring us all together.

If you are new to WLOV and looking for a small writing group, this meeting is a great way to open doors.

Writers League of The Villages Scholarships News

As a writers' league, I know we all stand proud on our commitment to helping those who will follow us. On that note, special thanks to WLOV members Claudia Jacques and Dr. Christine Getz for being the driving force behind these awards becoming a reality.

Thanks to their efforts, and our group's desire to help others, we have just awarded two deserving students \$750 scholarships. The following info was relayed to me from Claudia, and I'd like to present it here in her own words:

“On May 22nd, Dr. Christine Getz and I had the pleasure of awarding Writers League of the Villages Scholarships to Abigail Hawes and Zaria Weaver at a ceremony held at Wildwood High School. The two students had completed an essay about "Which contemporary writer has influenced your writing," and an in-person interview conducted by Dr. Getz and me. They both graduated with intentions of continuing their education. Abigail will attend the College of Central Florida in Ocala, with plans to become a high school English teacher. Zaria will attend Daytona Community College to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice. We also met with their mothers to congratulate them on their children's accomplishments.”



From Left to Right: Claudia Jacques, Zaria Weaver, Abigail Hawes, and Dr. Tina Getz, under the Wildcat banner at the high school.

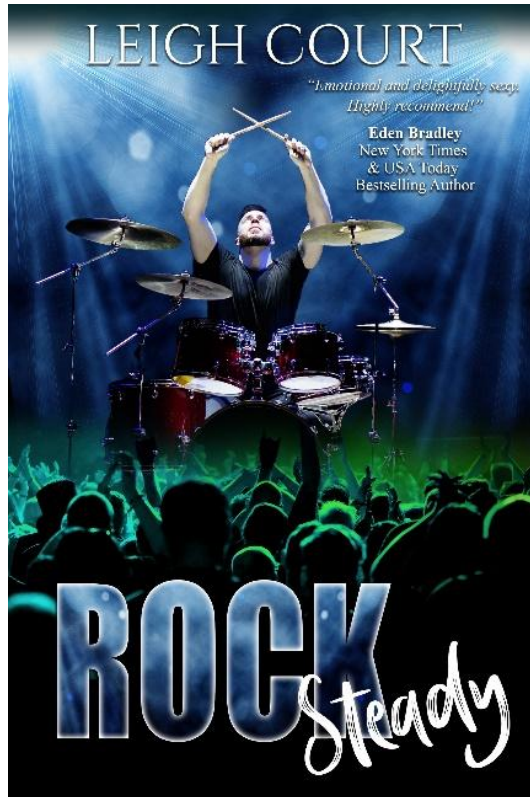
A heartfelt thank you goes out to all those involved in this effort. You define what we're all about.

Accomplishments and Notables

Congratulations are going out to **Leigh Court** and her novel titled “**Rock Steady**”.

Leigh’s new “rock star” romance novel has made it all the way to the **finals of the prestigious Holt Medallion Contest**. This organization has a long tradition of honoring outstanding literary talent.

The winners will be announced on June 6, 2026, and while we’re all rooting for Leigh, we can also say you’ve come a long way. and it’s an accomplishment to be standing where you are at this point. Nicely done.



Also, Leigh’s latest romance novel is titled “**Conqueror Vanquished.**”

The setting for this new work is Roman-era “Gaul” during the time of Julius Caesar. It’s the first book of a new series.

To all of Our Members,

Our authors deserve recognition for their accomplishments, and this newsletter is a good place to do so. If you know of anyone in our group doing interesting new things, share it with me. I’d like to hear from you, and I’ll make sure we get the word out. Tell me what’s happening out there.

Thanks, Tom Bruce, authortombruce@gmail.com

Message from the WLOV President



Hi WLOV Writers,

June is here, and the outside temperatures are still set to “preheat.” It’s a good time to visit the pool, take an unplanned pop-up shower, or watch visitors from the North regret their decision to visit Florida in June!

Better yet, stay indoors and do some writing. But if you start going stir-crazy in your lonely writer’s world, then come on out and support your fellow authors by attending one of our three listed monthly events highlighting WLOV authors.

Please remember that asphalt gets very hot by mid-morning. If it’s too hot for you to touch, it’s too hot for sensitive dog paws. If you do decide to do the touch-test, you better have a plan for how to get back up! Seriously, though, the heat on the pavement is no joke here in June. I always enjoy an early morning walk.

Just a reminder, **we don’t have our regular monthly general meetings in June or July.** The next meeting will be August 12th, and we’ll be back at Laurel Manor, at our normal time. Vice President, Casel Burnett, will preside. The August meeting will focus on our local writing groups and how you can reach out to them. The leadership from each group will attend the August meeting to highlight their group. It’s a great opportunity to meet fellow writers, find new groups, and get good feedback on your writing

Bob Peterson

Letter from the Editor



Of Writing Groups and Writers,

I came to my first meeting with the “Creative Writers Group” carrying with me a notebook full of poetry, a few short essays, and words in my head, strings and strings of words, bombarding me from every direction. As a writer, I was then, and still am, a rudderless ship, zigzagging here, there, and anywhere a strong current takes me. But, Mike and Denise Doyle, the proprietors of the CWG, and the rest of the group, took me under their wings anyway. I could write this whole essay about Mike and Denise, and how they’ve bonded our tight knit group together. Over my years with the CWG we’ve grown, but new members today are still welcomed wholeheartedly, just as I was when I first walked into the unknown way back when.

Before I came to the group, my words laid silent, written on unnumbered and untitled pages. Misfit words, full of unfinished run on sentences that wandered around aimlessly in notebooks and on scraps of paper. Words with no rock to cling to.

Shortly before joining the group, I had started writing short essays related to some of my early poetry. In my early readings for the group I began sharing these short essays. The first thing I learned is many people believe poems should stand alone, and not include essays from the poet to “prop them up.” Fair enough, I thought. It wasn’t said in a cruel way, or in any way I took offence to, but it taught me something very valuable. I learned that day I wasn’t really writing the essays for my poems, I was writing them for me. I wrote them to reflect on my personal journey since relocating to The Villages about six years ago. If you were to read my essays, with or without the poetry, you’ll find bits and pieces of me scattered around in the pages, like shells on a beach. I use my essays to take me places I want to go, regardless of the poetry. That lesson was freeing for me.

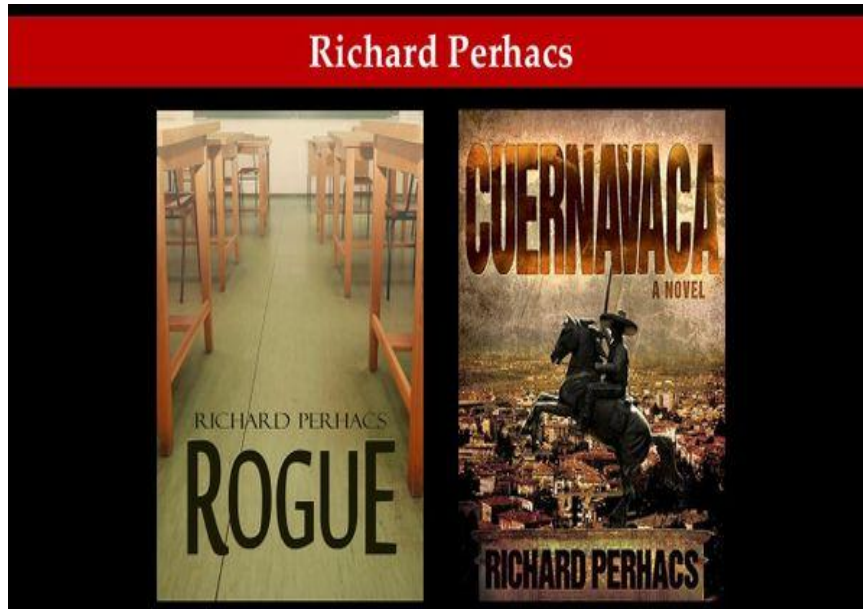
The long time leader of the CWG, Mike Doyle, has been around words his whole life. He is a retired English teacher, a retired coach, a mentor, and a friend to all of us in his group. In one of my early readings, Mike pointed out to me an eighty-three-word-long sentence in my essay. He said that in his thirty plus years as an educator, he’d never seen anything quite like it. I always loved that sentence, I told him. “*Well, you probably shouldn’t change it then,*” he replied, and so I never changed it. That essay was recently published statewide and thanks to Mike, the endless sentence appeared intact. What I learned that day was sometimes being unconventional is just part of your writing, and you need to keep those things alive and burning inside if you want to stay true to your own writing voice. The writing groups are capable of seeing things in your work that live in your writing blind spots. Things you can’t see, no matter how many times they are staring you right in the face. As a writer, how you process the feedback from your group is always up to you.

I relay to you these tales of my time with CWG, with tongue in cheek. The truth is, my writing group, at times, has been my sole motivation to move forward as a writer. They have become a family of choice to me.

Our **August General Meeting** will focus on these writing groups and the amazing way people connect with each other through these groups. So plan on attending and hearing from the leadership of those groups. All of the writing groups are welcoming to new members. They will help you discover things about your own writing, and you’ll be better for it.

Tom Bruce

**Live event! Wine and Words, Thursday, June 4th
Riverbend Recreation Center, 6:30 pm till 8:30 pm
Created and Hosted by Frank Lancione**



Come out and support this popular event on our calendar. This month's featured authors will be Rita Boehm and Richard Perhjacs. I, for one, plan to arrive early. The atmosphere at Frank's event is like sharing a glass of wine among friends.

Local Author Tuesday Book Signings



*All Booked Up Bookstore at Colony Plaza,
Tuesday, June 9th,
11 am until 2 pm
Featured Authors*

Tilly Grey, "The Power of Rain"

Jeanne Rogers, "My Grandma Lives in Florida"

*Richard Perhacs, "Rogue" and
"Cuernavaca"*

*Patchington
Spanish Springs Town Square,
Tuesday, June 16th
12pm until 4pm
Featured Author
Frank Lancione, poet and author of
the "Sunset Series" books*

Our relationship with these businesses exposes our writers to a wider audience in two wonderful and unique environments. Please stop by, say hello to our authors, and hear about the inspiration behind their books.

PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES - Rita Boehm, Communications Director

THE VILLAGES MAGAZINE: Monthly Author Spotlight

If you haven't been spotlighted in THE VILLAGES MAGAZINE in the last 18 months, email us at WLOVwriters@gmail.com with "Villages Magazine" in the Subject line, and we'll forward the required questionnaire.

THE DAILY SUN: Weekly Author Spotlight

After a lengthy hiatus, the Daily Sun is again featuring local authors in its Sunday edition. If you've published a book within the last 12 months and would like to be featured, send an email with "Daily Sun" in the Subject line, along with a hi-res copy of the book cover to us at WLOVwriters@gmail.com, and we'll add you to the list.

Other opportunities:

We are always looking to expand promotional opportunities for our members. If you know of any business willing to support local authors, contact us at wlovwriters@gmail.com.

All Booked Up, Colony Plaza – If you are interested in having your books featured at this great independent Villages bookstore (1 title for 2 months with an opportunity for a book signing on the 2nd Tuesday of the month), contact Donna Hoover at duciesmom@aol.com or sign up at our next WLOV meeting.

Patchington, Spanish Springs - Contact Judith Glynn at Judith@judithglynn.com if you are interested in doing a book signing on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 12 – 4 at this wonderful women's clothing store.

Publishing Services Directory:

Pleased with the publishing services you received from an individual or company? Share the info with your fellow WLOV members by submitting the service provider's contact info to WLOVwriters@gmail.com. We'll add them to our Services Directory.

BOOKEXPO 2027 – Sunday, January 24th, 2027

Save the date!

Registration for BookExpo 2027 opens for members in July. Registration forms will be emailed to the membership at the end of June and posted on the website. The event opens to the public on September 1 and is usually sold out by early October. So, plan accordingly.

Expo committee: If you want to be a part of planning and executing this exciting annual event, contact Rita Boehm at WLOVwriters@gmail.com. Our first committee meeting will be held in June.



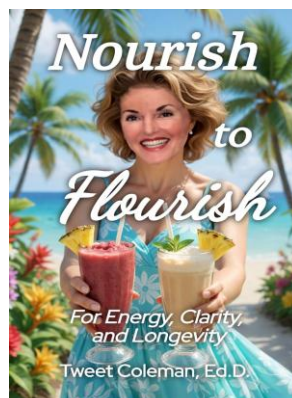
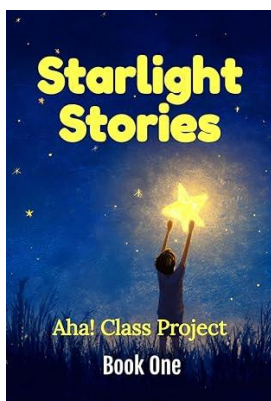
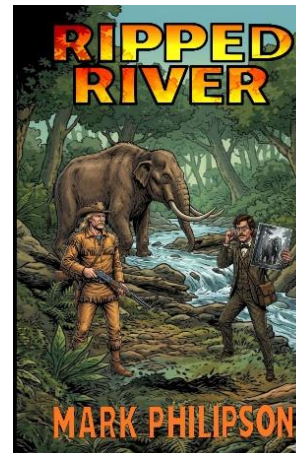
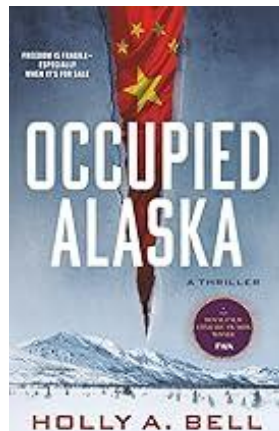
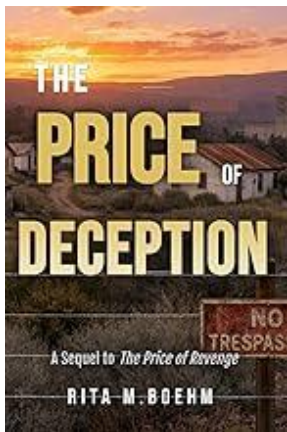
Know of a member recuperating from surgery, down with the flu, suffering from the loss of a loved one, or facing some other traumatic event? Please contact us at wlovwriters@gmail.com and share the member's name and situation. Or, come to the Membership Services table at a General Meeting and let one of us know.

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.

News from Our May General Meeting

Newly Published Work Announced

- **Rita Boehm** has just released *The Price of Deception*, a sequel to *The Price of Revenge*. Both of these books are riveting nonstop thrillers.
- **Holly Bell**, a former resident of Alaska, has published *Occupied Alaska*, a story taking place at the intersection of economics and national security.
- **Phil Peruzzi**, pen name Mark Phillipson, writes science fiction. His newest book is *Ripped River*, featuring time-travel characters H.G. Wells and William F. Cody.
- **Paula Howard** introduced an anthology by several writers who are graduates of her recent writing course. The anthology is *Starlight Stories: Book One*.
- **Tweet Coleman's** new book is *Nourish to Flourish: For Energy, Clarity, and Longevity*. With health and fitness tips, this book informs about plant-based nutrition.



New Members Introduced

- **Jean Thomas** is currently writing a story about her life, tentatively titled *The Dump Man's Daughter*. In 2005, writing under the pen name Jean Wood, she published *Hanna's House*, a historical romance novel.