

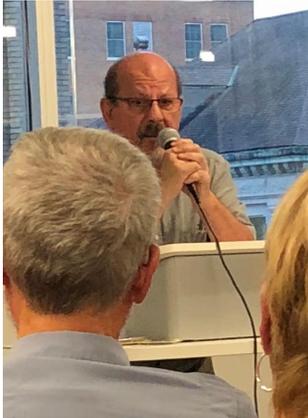
 Chattanooga  
**Writers' Guild**

## Your monthly news & updates

Greetings, fellow writers! Our annual meeting and board election was held September 11 at the Edney Innovation Center downtown, and our first board meeting was held the week after. You can expect to see some changes in the Chattanooga Writers' Guild soon, as our new board members bring their fresh ideas and expertise to the table. Perhaps most noticeably - our website is getting a face-lift! It will soon be up-to-date and easier to navigate. Also, the newsletter has been handed over to me, Kate, so I'll be having fun and trying out new things here. Please let me know what you think by sending your questions and comments to [NoogaNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:NoogaNewsletter@gmail.com).

### Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting was held at the Edney Innovation Center on Tuesday, September 11, which was the CWG's 17-year anniversary. After a delicious potluck dinner, President John Mannone gave a State of the CWG Address and presented the 2017 Anthology. We then said "Farewell" to departing board members Michelle Young, Finn Bille, and Karen Phillips, and "Hello" to new board members Michael Kobernus, Peggy Roblyer, Lee Ann Gillen, and Fran Randall. We finished the night with the always-popular Open-Mic Session.



John Mannone



Ray Zimmerman



Peggy Roblyer



Fran Randall and Sherry Poff



Mark Anderson

### Meet the New Board

Standing, left to right: Michael Kobernus, John Mannone, Lee Ann Gillen, Susan Spurgeon

Seated, left to right: Fran Randall, Peggy Roblyer, Sherry Poff, Kate Landers

(Not Pictured: Mark Anderson)



## Mad Blab

Here's how to play: Speak the following nonsensical sentences aloud and try to guess the name of the famous novel you're saying. Answers at the bottom.

Cash heron there eye  
Pry den pore red chewed hiss  
Air reap ought tear

## Member Spotlight with John Mannone

- 1. What was your first job?** I think it was a newspaper route when I was around 14, but that didn't last long enough to call it a job. So I think it was when I was 15 and flipping burgers at Mr. G's in Baltimore.
- 2. What is your biggest time-waster?** Though I try to keep it under control, spending time on social media has to be high on the list. I don't have a TV (it's been many years now) so that likely candidate cannot extort any more time from me.
- 3. What was the best concert you've ever been to?** I suppose you mean rock concert, in which case there are two of them tied. It was the early to mid 70s if my memory is right. I think both were in Columbia, MD, or maybe one of them in Washington, DC The first one is Pink Floyd. They played their Wish You Were Here album and much of Dark Side of the Moon. The other remarkable concert was Jethro Tull (Ian Anderson's flute solo was incredible). They were backed up by the up-and-coming Black Sabbath.
- 4. Tell us about your muse or source of motivation:** Nature is a natural muse for me, but just about anything I observe provides a stimulus. I see a poem in the ordinary because that's where the remarkable hides. Also, science news lets my speculative mind run rampant with ideas. Poems (and stories) are all around me. One of the best places of inspiration (pun intended) is the Holy Bible. There, like physics, prods me to think about the big questions about life, purpose, and my creator.
- 5. What does your writing area look like? I don't have a definite writing area.** Many of my ideas are born while I drive (I thank God for junk mail since I can scribble a line or a thought before they vaporize, of course, my eyes are on the road and later have to read glyphs as if a foreign language; if I have to, I will pull over.) When I compose my first draft, it will likely be on paper in long hand, but I've used the computer too. This may be at a coffee shop or a microbrewery. But most of my revisions are on my computer at my kitchen table.
- 6. What are your writing goals for the next 12 months?** I have extensive writing goals that I formulate in January. Goals should be challenging, but doable. I implement STARt by writing a plan (strategy) and planning my write (time budget): Specific Trackable Achievable in reasonable Time. Some of my annual goals are to write 150 new poems/stories/essays (my 4-year average is 137) and to submit to 150 venues (my 4-year average is 360 pieces to 139 venues). I have workshop attendance goals, marketing goals, completing/submitting full-length collection goals, et al.
- 7. Who is your favorite character from a novel?** I tend to read shorter works, especially poetry collections and not too many novels. However, I have fond memories of the MC (Tim Hammer), in *Lucifer's Hammer* by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle.
- 8. Where is your favorite place to go in Chattanooga?** I live between Knoxville and Chattanooga so I don't get to visit Chattanooga as much as I like. There is no favorite place. So many things



depend on my mood. I enjoy KB's Open Mics at B&N on last Fridays and the socializing afterward at Big River Grille (though there are several other places that have superior beer). I like Blue Orleans for its Crawfish Étouffée.

9. **Who do you nominate for next month?** VP Sherry Poff

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## Calling all members for a collaborative story!

Please join me in creating a collaborative flash fiction story, written by **you**, the members of the Chattanooga Writers' Guild! Write an opening paragraph of 3-7 sentences, of any genre you choose. Send your submission to [NoogaNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:NoogaNewsletter@gmail.com) by September 29. We'll choose one story to run with and it will be published in the next newsletter. Then it will be up to the readers to finish it, one paragraph at a time. The finished product will be about 8 paragraphs long. Hurry! Send in your submission today!

**Word to Know: *Maladroit*, adj.**

Bungling. Clumsy. *The maladroit mechanic nearly ruined my car.*

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## Writing Competitions & Local News

The **Southern Lit Alliance** presents **YA-hoo Fest**: A Celebration of Young Adult and Middle Grades Literature. Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018 from 930 AM to 500 PM at Chattanooga State Community College. For more information go to [www.yahoofest.org](http://www.yahoofest.org).

**Craft Elements Contest**: Submit your fiction story that really shines in one of the following categories: Setting, Dialogue, and Character. Deadline is September 30. Details [here](#).

**The Songs of Eretz Poetry Award Contest** is accepting submissions until October 15. Every poem receives a personal response! Visit [www.songsoferetz.com](http://www.songsoferetz.com) for contest guidelines.

Mad Blab answers: *Catcher in the Rye*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Harry Potter*

STAY CONNECTED

