



Chattanooga Writers' Guild

News & Updates

Greetings, fellow writers! With the foreseeable forecast being nothing but rain, rain, storms, and rain, I think I'll take some time to reflect upon all the things in life that bring me joy. Things like:

When my feet stick to the tub when I first get in the shower, and then I lift them up one by one and feel the warm water rush under my soles.

When I get into a friend's car and they have to move a bunch of stuff around to the back seat to fit me in. They're literally making space for me in their lives, and it makes me feel welcome.

When I fall asleep on the couch at night and my husband says, "I'll come back for you," then gives me a few more minutes to sleep before waking me up again. It's like hitting snooze so I can muster up the energy to get up and brush my teeth.

Leaving the windows open at night.

Bike rides on the Greenway.

How the Walking Bridge overflows with pedestrians on warm winter days.

Frisbee players in Coolidge Park.

Watching movies and popping popcorn with my kids on rainy days. Especially if it's a movie that I loved when I was their age.

Getting together with old friends.

When the animals at the zoo take an interest in *you*.

Watching videos of lions, leopards, and other big cats playing with toys, purring, and otherwise acting like their smaller, domesticated cousins.

Visits home to Houston and eating nothing but BBQ and Tex-Mex all week.

Live music of any shape or size.

When other people are excited about something and want to tell me about it. I don't always share their enthusiasm for the subject, but I love watching people light up as they talk about their passion.

Lying in a hammock in the shade.

I'm Kate Landers and today has been a pretty good day. Tell me what's on your "Raindrops on Roses/Whiskers on Kittens" list at newsletter@chattanoogawritersguild.org.

Thank you, Ray Zimmerman, for a fantastic and educational nature writing and photography program last Tuesday!

Humorous Poetry Contest:

Now in its 19th year, the Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest contest seeks today's best humor poems. No fee to enter. Submit published or

unpublished work. \$2,250 in prizes. Click [HERE](#) for details. Last day to submit is April 1st, so don't delay!

It's time to start thinking about your 2020-2021 CWG Board!

If you are looking for a way to be more involved in the writing community, meet friends, increase your volunteerism, and help your local writers' guild, consider running for an officer position this fall! The CWG Board of Directors is seeking new members for an exciting upcoming year. We have ongoing projects that we need help with and we need to prepare for the transition of officers.

We are seeking new members for the following positions:

Office of Treasurer. Bookkeeping skills are a great asset but not required.

Office of Secretary

Office of Vice President

Other needs are: special event planning, newsletter, the annual writing contest, the anthology, promotional helpers that like tending a table at an event, and more. Interested members should contact Mark at:

chattanoogawritersguild@gmail.com

Word to Know: *macrosmatic*, adj.

possessing an excellent sense of smell

Captain Marvelous lamented his macrosmatic super powers when the villain darted into the pig-rendering plant.

Mad Blab

How to play: Say the following nonsensical sentences aloud and try to guess the name of the famous literary work you're saying. Answers at the bottom.

**Thee lore dove their rinks
Hunk cult alms cap pen
Lame his her rob**



Member Spotlight with Ann Long

What was your first job? One of my first jobs was at Ball State Library's Teaching Materials Service. We provided visuals, games and information for teachers and student teachers. I put displays in the second floor showcases to highlight our collections. My favorite was from Egypt and Israel with ancient artifacts from a pharaoh's tomb and a vial of water from the Jordan River. I loved that job!



What does your writing area look like? Ha! I just had all the floors in my house redone, so I am writing in the center of stacked furniture and clothes. Total chaos. I have one comfy chair with an ottoman and my laptop. I do my best writing at home when everything is quiet and maybe some classical music playing. No vocals.

What object in your life have you had the longest and why do you hang

on to it? I'm tempted to talk about underwear so the kids will roll their eyes. :-)
I have several old items passed down in my family that I treasure: my great-great grandmother's mirror, her oil lamp with an etched glass globe, a chalk "painting" from 1919, my baby bracelet. I can't believe a hospital nursery put a beaded bracelet on a newborn! Maybe I swallowed some letters and that started my love of language.

Who is your favorite literary character? My favorite literary character is Queen Esther. Second would be Rebecca Davitch (*Back When We Were Grownups* by Anne Tyler). Third: Harry Potter.

Tell us about a book or poem that had an impact on your life. The poem "In Blackwater Woods" by Mary Oliver, comforts and guides me.

Where is your favorite place to go in Chattanooga? I live 2 ½ hours from Chattanooga, so I don't go there except for meetings but I liked the aquarium area the last time I was there--which was 19 years ago! I want to see Lookout Mountain.

What's the best vacation you've ever taken? "Road Trip" is my favorite phrase, so all vacations are incredible. Going on my senior trip to Washington, DC, and New York City opened the world to me, and I would walk, if I had to, to get to the beach.

How did you get involved in the CWG? I got involved with CWG after being invited by John Mannone. CWG is my favorite writers group. The members are friendly and eager to help each other.

Tell us about your muse or source of motivation. I was born a writer, and my brother was, too. I had to do other things to make a living but I've written most days of my life. If I say "I *have* to write," I think y'all know exactly what I mean.

What are your writing goals for the next 12 months? This year I want to get a poetry collection submitted for publication and focus on short story submissions, and continue work on my novel. I [would] like to move all my furniture back where it belongs and find the refrigerator.

Etymology of: *Religion*

From Latin *religiō*, meaning "obligation" or "bond." Began to be used for "monastic life" in the 5th century, and developed its modern meaning in the 16th century. Related to *ligament* and *rely*.

Mad Blab answers: The Lord of the Rings; Uncle Tom's Cabin; Les Miserables

STAY CONNECTED



