

WLOV Newsletter - Sept 2020

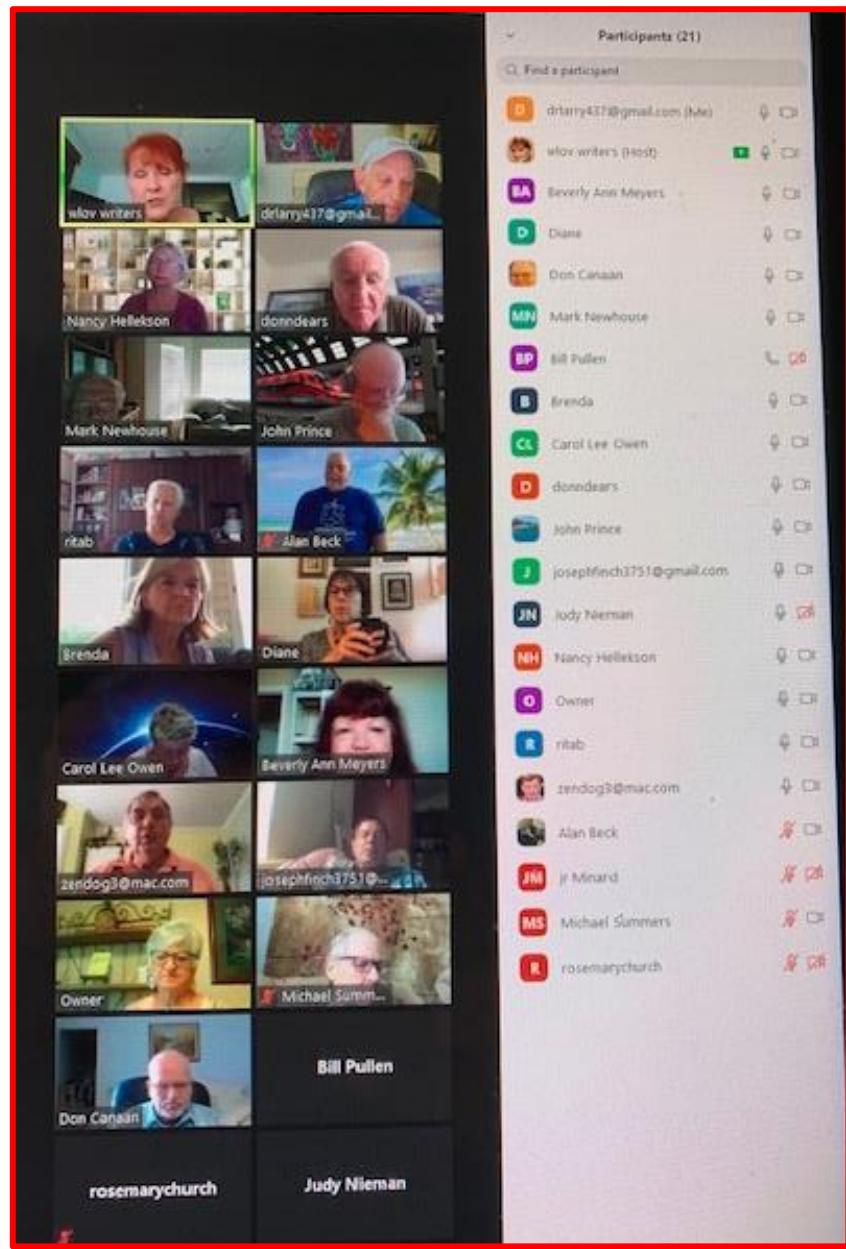
Below: Home page of our new website:

www.writersleagueofthevillages.com

(See President's Message, page 3)



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Message From Your Newsletter Editor

By Larry Martin
drLarry437@gmail.com

Covid-19 is still ruling our lives. We have no planned in-person meetings at this time. Our Expo Book Fair is canceled for January 2021, with the next one scheduled for January 2022. The annual FWA Conference in Altamonte Springs is now a virtual one, to be held Oct 15-18 (see page 6).

We don't know when The Villages rec centers will re-open for large meetings. Will it be before or after a vaccine becomes available? No one knows.

Thankfully, the internet and Zoom have allowed us to connect and communicate. Several critique groups are using Zoom for their weekly meetings, and the feedback among writers seems to be just as good as when the meetings were live. Much missed, however, are the post-meeting lunches.

This screen shot is from our August 14 WLOV general meeting. After a short business session, we were entertained by 3 videos from the Great Courses, on fiction writing. The meeting was hosted by our president, Paula Howard. The next few general meetings will likely also be held via Zoom. Paula will send the sign-on link to all members well before the meetings.

As a quick perusal of this Newsletter shows, there's still a lot going on with WLOV's members. Seven of our members are finalists in Florida Writers Association's RPLA competition (page 7); WLOV's Facebook groups remain active (p. 8); members' books are being sold at All Booked Up in Colony Plaza (p. 10); and our members are frequently featured in the local media (p. 11). Make sure you read Paula's president's message (pp. 3-6), and also the items under Member Notices (pp. 9-11), to get all the latest information.

It's a tough time for all, but one day this pandemic will end and we'll be back to meeting and greeting—in person. In the meantime, keep writing!

WLOV Calendar of Upcoming Events

All events are online until further notice.

Members will be sent an email link prior to the meetings.

- Wednesday, Sept 9, 2020, 9-11 am – Publish, Promote, or Perish – Panel Discussion via Zoom, moderated by Diane Dean. Panel participants: Bona Hayes, Brenda Hiatt, Rita Boehm, John Prince
- Wednesday, October 14, 9-11 am - Meet the 2021 Nominees for Office/ Internet Security: Survival Guide for Writers, with Mark Pryor
- Wednesday, November 11, 9-11 am - Voting for 2021 Officers/Thanksgiving Program
- November 15-22 – WLOV Online Holiday Book Bonanza (see page 9)
- Wednesday, December 16, 9-11 am – Installation of Officers/Holiday Program

Message From Your President



Hello Everyone,

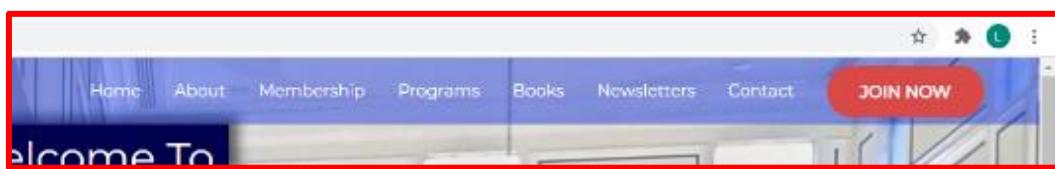
Well, it's September, 2020. We haven't "seen" each other in person since March because of that "novel" virus. Since then, we've all found ways to cope. Right now, I'm stress eating. How about you?

By now, you have probably heard the news that our January 2021 **WLOV BOOK EXPO** has been postponed a year. It is now scheduled for Sunday,

January 30, 2022. The delay is due to Covid-19. The Planning Committee recommended postponing it because of not being able to gather and work, and not knowing if recreation centers would even be allowing meetings again by January 2021. The certain thing is: Nobody Knows!

Among the good things I want to tell about are the following:

NEW WLOV WEBSITE – It's launched! Find it at www.writersleagueofthevillages.com No one should have a difficult time remembering the URL since it's the ENTIRE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION, plus ".com". We are in the process of transferring all information over from the old web site (www.wlov.weebly.com). This will include our WLOV book catalogue, parts of which are already on the new web site. When all the information is brought over, the old website will be deactivated. The new site also incorporates our Membership page for joining and renewing online. Take a tour! Check out all the tabs in the banner at the top of the home page, as shown below. Your comments and suggestions for the website are most welcome. Send them to WLOVwriters@gmail.com.



NEW BUSINESS CARDS – Reflecting the name of our new website, new business cards are available. You may not realize we have a P.O. Box for snail mail. It's in the main Lady Lake post office at 850 Teague Trail. The address is P.O. Box 1067, Lady Lake, FL 32158. If you want some business cards, email us at WLOVwriters@gmail.com.



Writers League of The Villages®
*Information, education,
and networking for writers*
Laurel Manor Recreation Center
1985 Laurel Manor Drive, The Villages, FL
2nd Wednesday of the Month
9:00 - 11:00 AM
Email: wlovwriters@gmail.com
www.WritersLeagueofTheVillages.com

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – It's time to ask for members to step up and take on duties to keep our organization vibrant. A nominating committee chaired by the president (per our bylaws) has met and is accepting nominations for the following positions: president, president-elect, secretary, and treasurer. You can nominate someone — or yourself — by sending an email to NOMINATING COMMITTEE at WLOVwriters@gmail.com. If you want to discuss a nomination, feel free to contact any of committee members.

Beverly Ann Meyers	215-704-7701	bgcookies@gmail.com
Brenda Shea	978-886-0258	bleeshea@yahoo.com
Geralyn Vilar	352-584-6809	geralynvilar@gmail.com
Paula Howard (chair)	407-432-9931	pffhoward777@gmail.com

HOLIDAY BOOK BONANZA – A new program is just around the corner. During Nov. 15-22, WLOV will promote members' books in our book catalog. The catalog is accessible on our new website www.WritersLeagueoftheVillages.com under the "Books" tab.

The WLOV book catalog will be promoted and advertised on social media and print sources. Direct links to Amazon.com will allow the public to order your book.

To be included you do need to be a member of WLOV and have at least one book in our online book catalogue. If you have a book for sale not in the catalogue (published since 2016), please send the information (cover image, blurb and Amazon link) to Nancy.Hellekson@gmail.com.

If you are not a member of WLOV, you may join by going to the membership tab on our new website, www.writersleagueofthevillages.com. Payment can be made via Paypal or credit card. To join and have your book included in the November Bonanza, please sign up by September 10. Also email Nancy if you have any problem signing up as a new member.

IN MEMORIAM



Paul Bourassa



Christie Seiler Boeke



Ben Greenberg

Many of you know we have lost three WLOV members this year, including our President-Elect Paul Bourassa. Cathy Jozwiak, a dear friend of Paul's, sent a letter to us about him. She wanted me to quote some of it, to let you know Paul cared for all of you in the WLOV community.

"My name is Cathy and I am a friend of Paul Bourassa. We have known each other for 56 years and Paul's death is a great loss. I am sure that none of what follows is a surprise to any of you, however, I am compelled to write to you to share what I know about Paul's love for your very special, creative group as a whole, and the high esteem, admiration and appreciation he felt for you individually, all the while developing friendships in the process..."

WLOV sympathy cards were also sent to the families of Christie Seiler Boeke and Ben Greenberg. A statement about Ben was in the April Newsletter, authored by his brother and WLOV member Rick Greenberg. Like Ben, Christie was a member of WLOV and Wannabes Critique group. She was known for her unabashedly flowery prose and southern mysteries.

We will miss them all dearly.

THE LAST WORD – SCAMS!

We are all beset by scams, via phone and email. My email was recently hacked, and several WLOV members received the following email

[From] Paula Howard <john@4dprintinc.com>

Thu, Aug 27, 9:43 AM

I need your assistance, are you available? I'm out of town, I need you to handle this for Writers League of The Villages. We need some gift cards for donation to Veterans at Hospice Care and welfare with patients and units for preventive items from Corona Virus Pandemic (COVID-19) I have decided to make it a personal duty. I will be responsible for the reimbursement.

Paula Howard
President, WLOV

The tell-tale sign of a scam like this is the sender's email address: obviously not mine. And of course, I would never send out a solicitation for money to some organization. For icing on the [fraud] cake, at the time this scam email went out, I was home preparing for another presentation of our writing videos – not out of town!

Also beware phone scams. You may receive a call saying there is a problem with your social security check, and you need to call a phone number to straighten it out. DO NOT CALL THE NUMBER...IT IS A SCAM!

We are a vulnerable population because we grew up trusting people. But the world is not the same as when we were young, so don't fall for any tricks. Amazon will not call you, Social Security will not call you, your bank will not call you (they'll send a letter). Don't fall for scams! But do wash your hands.

See you at the September 9 online meeting via Zoom. You will receive an invitation to join the meeting just before 9 am that day. See you soon – Zoom, Zoom!

Paula ☺

Annual FWA Conference Oct 15-18

Will be held remotely. To register, go to
<https://floridawriters.net/conferences/2020conference/>
\$57 for FWA members



The screenshot shows the Florida Writers Association website with a red border around the main content area. At the top, there's a logo of a quill pen writing on a scroll against a sun and water background, followed by the text "Florida Writers Association" and "Writers Helping Writers". Below the logo is a navigation bar with links: Home, About, Blog & Podcast, Competitions & Awards, Conferences & Events, Membership & Benefits, Shop, and Contact. A breadcrumb trail indicates the current page is "Home > Conferences & Events > 19th Annual Florida Writers Conference". The main title "19th Annual Florida Writers Remote Conference" is displayed in a large, stylized purple font. Below the title, a paragraph invites visitors to join remotely from October 15th - 18th for workshops, agent query panels, raffle prizes, and a writers' lounge. It highlights the convenience of attending from home for \$57. A bulleted list details the benefits of attending, including learning from agents, experiencing writing techniques, and connecting with professionals. It also notes that sessions are available for one month after the listed date. A "REGISTER" button is visible on the right. At the bottom, there are sections for "REMOTE CONFERENCE", "FACULTY & SESSIONS", "SPONSORS", and "FAQ", along with "WHEN", "WHERE", and "FEE" information.

Florida Writers Association
Writers Helping Writers

Home About Blog & Podcast Competitions & Awards Conferences & Events Membership & Benefits Shop Contact

Home > Conferences & Events > 19th Annual Florida Writers Conference

19th Annual Florida Writers Remote Conference

Join us remotely on October 15th - 18th for a variety of valuable workshops, a "send me submissions" agent query panel, raffle prizes, and a writers' lounge you won't find anywhere else!

The best part?

You get a four-day conference from the comfort of your home for only \$57!

- Learn about queries that worked, and get the inside info from agents themselves
- Experience new and advanced writing techniques to boost your prose
- Get cutting-edge marketing strategies from successful authors
- Make new connections with writers, editors, and industry professionals in the lounge
- And so much more!

Can't attend on these exact dates? No problem! Sessions will be available for one month after the listed date.

Don't miss out on an energizing, enlightening experience that will boost your writing career for a bargain!

REMOTE CONFERENCE

FACULTY & SESSIONS

SPONSORS

FAQ

WHEN
October 15 - 18, 2020

WHERE
Online!
Log-in will be emailed to you

FEE
\$57 All Inclusive
Members Only

REGISTER

7 WLOV Members Are Finalists in FWA's RPLA Competition



Finalists are eligible to win one of the Royal Palm Literary Awards for the genre of their entry (gold, silver or bronze). The awards ceremony is virtual this year, and will be held at the end of Florida Writers Association's Remote Conference (see page 6). Below are the finalists and their entries. (Thanks to RPLA Chair and WLOV member Chris Coward for providing this list.) For a 10-minute video montage of ALL RPLA finalists, click on this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsa4iJKvM8w&feature=youtu.be/>



BD



JH



JM



LM



MN



BR



PS

- **Betsy Donohue**
 - Perspective -- unpublished Poetry
 - The Bee Keeper -- unpublished Short Story
- **Jack Hayes**
 - *Say It Ain't So, Joe* - published Informational Nonfiction.
- **John Mallon**
 - *The Invincible Fortress* -- published Historical Fiction
- **Lawrence Martin**
 - An Ordinary Patient -- published Short Story
 - In Sickness and in Health -- unpublished Creative Nonfiction
 - Pour Out Your Words. Then Revise, Rewrite -- published Blog
- **Mark Newhouse**
 - *The Devil's Bookkeepers 3: The Noose Closes* -- published Historical Fiction
- **Barbara Rein**
 - The Detour -- unpublished Short Story
- **Peter Shianna**
 - *Flawed Justice* -- published Crime Fiction



WLOV on FACEBOOK

By Rita Boehm, WLOV Past President

FACEBOOK PAGE: Writers League of The Villages

WLOV has a Facebook page that is managed by WLOV Facebook Administrators and is primarily used to make announcements about meetings, provide reports on meetings, show pictures of events, provide information of general interest to members, and applaud members who have achieved recognition. The FB page can be reached by typing **Writers League of The Villages** into the Facebook search bar, or at: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Writers-League-of-The-Villages-162776817086391/>.



FACEBOOK GROUP: **Writers of The Villages Group**

The **Facebook Group** (a subset of our Facebook Page) was set up to facilitate interaction among WLOV members. All members are encouraged to join. The

more members the Group has, the more everyone will benefit from dialogue and discussion on the site. The FB Group can be reached by typing “Writers of The Villages Group” into the Facebook search bar, by clicking “Group” on the left side of the WLOV Facebook page, or by the following URL.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2456384291302772/?ref=bookmarks>

WLOV Member Notices

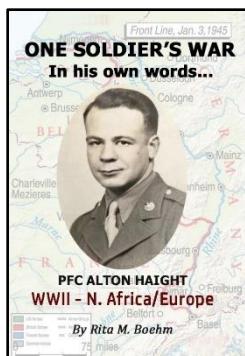
Nancy Hellekson, Membership Chair



We have 155 WLOV members for 2020. In November, we will begin accepting dues for 2021. The WLOV 2021 dues will be \$20/year, as approved by the Board. You can sign up and pay on the website, using Paypal or a credit card. Go to: www.writersleagueofthevillages.com and click on Join Now, upper right. Any problems with signing up, email me at Nancy.Hellekson@gmail.com.

Regarding our WLOV Book Catalogue: The old book catalogue will soon be phased out. In its place will be a new format, on the new website. If you'd like your book(s) profiled on website, please send a picture of your front cover (jpg or png), a short description of the book, a purchase link (usually Amazon).

Rita Boehm, WLOV Past President



Want to help a fellow author? If you're a World War II history buff or U.S. Army veteran, I'd like to talk to you about the book I'm writing. **One Soldier's War** tells the story (in words and pictures) of the three years my father-in-law spent in North Africa and Europe during WWII. He was part of an anti-aircraft artillery battery and also an aircraft plotter.

Although I've immersed myself in the details of the war for the last couple of months, I have some general questions about Army organization and terminology, and more specific questions about WWII troop movements.

Please contact me if you'd be willing to help me put the finishing touches on this tribute to all of our WWII soldiers. Contact me at ritab1423@gmail.com or at 240-751-3978

Mark Newhouse, Founding President, WLOV



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE FEATURED IN VILLAGE NEIGHBORS MAGAZINE?

I am eager to promote WLOV authors in my monthly Writing Bug column. Please email me at mark@newhouse.net and I will be happy to share your accomplishments or expertise. Also, let me know if you'd like to be a guest columnist.

(The handsome young man on the June cover with me is my son, also an award winner at last year's FWA Conference, for his book *Tio's Pulse.*)



**Millard Johnson, WLOV Communications
Director, zendog3@mac.com**

Subject: Submittable

Writers considering submitting their work to contests, or magazines should be aware of Submittable. <https://discover.submittable.com>

Once you join Submittable, you will be able to search the list of hundreds of magazines and contests that are accepting submissions. Details of the publisher, including website vary. Fees for submission also vary.

After you register, Submittable maintains for your inspection: a short list of all your submissions under review, a depressingly long list of all your submissions rejected, and a VERY short list of all your submissions accepted.

Submittable protects your privacy and does not sell your email to spammers.

A free newsletter that includes an eclectic collection of short blog-type items mostly related to art, writing, performance, and workshops. <http://www.submittable.com/newsletter>

Bill Pullen



WLOV Members' Books For Sale at All Booked Up, Colony Plaza

The WLOV authors whose books are available during the months of September and October, 2020, include:

Ann Heathman – “Liv to Tell”

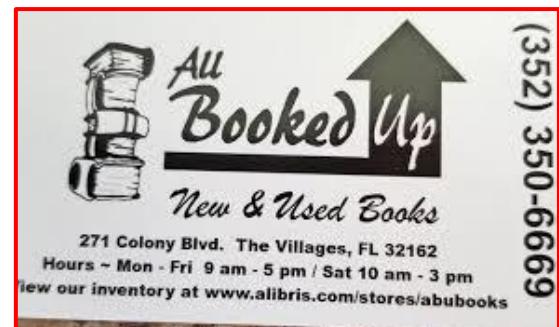
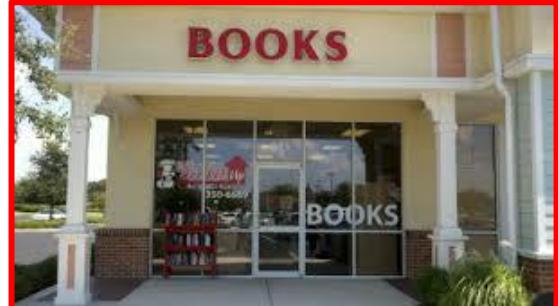
Carolee Owen – “Murder in the Haunted House”

Beverly Ann Meyers – “Go to the Wish Monger”

Dan Kincaid – “West Virginia Romances: Tales of Young Love in the Mountain State”

Bill Pullen – “It Started at The Savoy”

Linda Ray Center – “The Relationship Dance”



Don Canaan



That's me, behind the mask. BTW, the mask is a great way to advertise your book! However, I really want to call your attention to an email I recently sent to Bonita Burton, Executive Editor of *The Villages Daily Sun*. Since the newspaper runs poetry every day, I suggested that WLOV writers, as well as other Village scribblers, should also have the opportunity to present their work to the paper's readers. This is what the Boston Globe does; see article at this link:

<https://www.editorandpublisher.com/stories/boston-globe-runs-serialized-novella-giving-readers-an-escape-from-pandemic-headlines,167561>

I would like to ask that other WLOV write to Ms. Burton, at bonita.burton@thevillagesmedia.com, and advocate for the Daily Sun to serialize local novels. If you want to discuss this further, please email me at dcanaan4@gmail.com

News Items from Summer 2020

Online: *Barbara Rein always had a ‘crooked’ Sense of Humor*

By John Prince, July 25, 2020

<https://www.villages-news.com/2020/07/25/villager-barbara-rein-always-had-a-crooked-sense-of-humor/>



In Print

Thanks to club historian Diane Dean for collecting and photographing recent print items about our authors. The items are online in a separate file, in alphabetical order by author. Click on the following link:

<https://writersleagueofthevillages.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/WLOV-News-Items-Summer-2020.pdf>

Manijeh Badiozamani
Paul Garneau Clark
Diane Dean
Paula DeLuca
Jack Grubbs
Claudia Harbaugh
Mel Harrison

Ann Heathman
Steven Howard
Julie Johnson
Dan Kinkaid
Barbara Miller
Mark Newhouse
Carolee Owen

Janet Karr Palmer
Kay Conner Pliszka
Barbara Rein
Phil Walker
Working Writers
Workshop

Cartoons

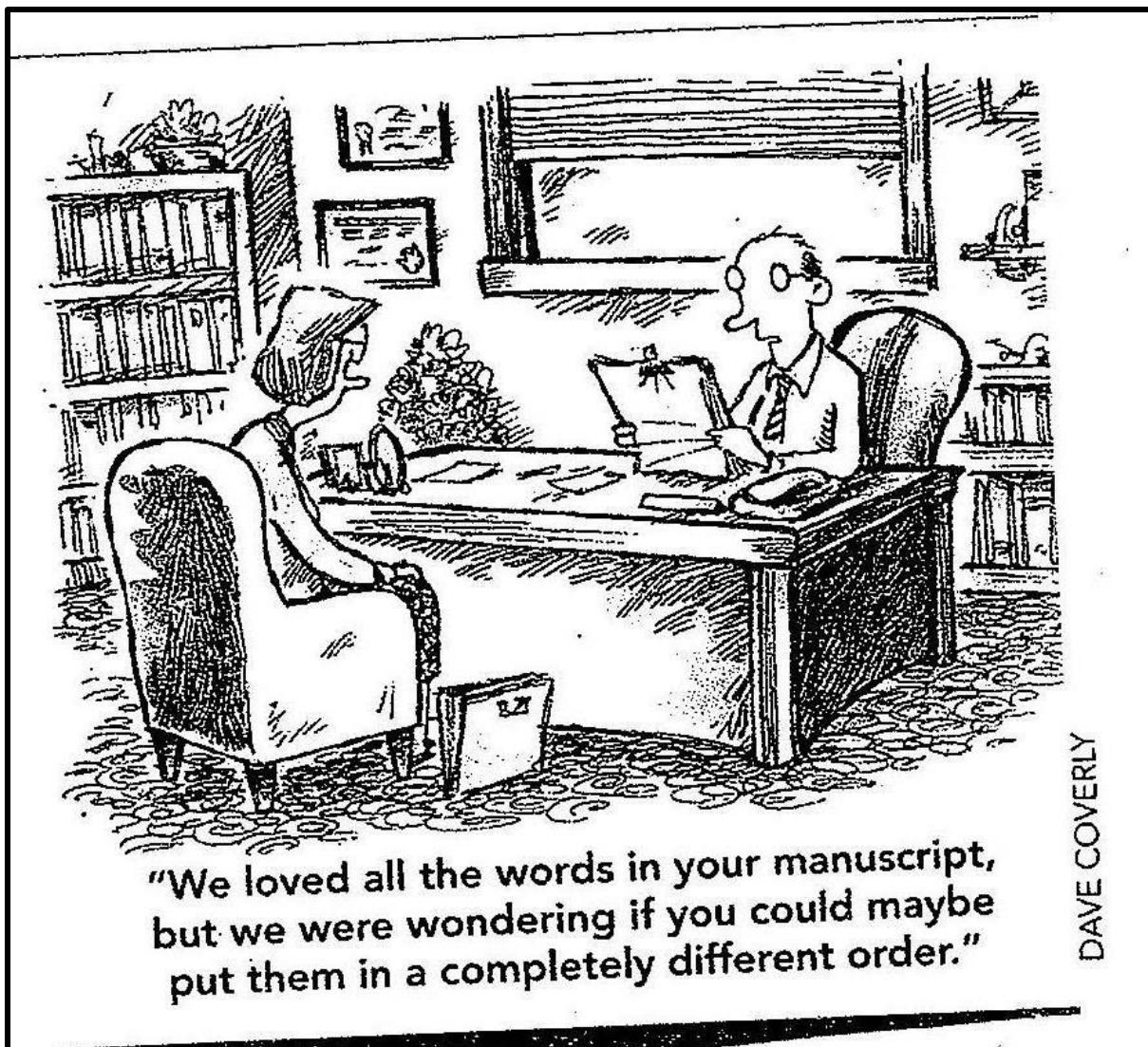


What Is the Hardest Part of Writing?

Below is the first drawing from a panel of drawings, ending with the answer to the question. To see the whole panel, and the cartoonist's answer to the question, go to:

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/10/books/what-is-the-hardest-part-of-writing.html?action=click&algo=top_conversion&block=trending_recirc&fellback=false&imp_id=257338560&impression_id=395485547&index=3&pgtype=Article®ion=footer&req_id=858968723&surface=most-popular





"We loved all the words in your manuscript,
but we were wondering if you could maybe
put them in a completely different order."

