

WLOV Newsletter

November 2019

**New Table of Contents Feature! Go directly
to the item you want to read.**

1) Hover over the item in T of C; 2) Press Control & Left Click

On tablet or PC, just press the item with your finger

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**Two WLOV members win top
awards in RPLA. Page 6**



Message from Your Newsletter Editor

Larry Martin
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To make the newsletter more “user friendly,” I’ve added a new feature to the Table of Contents. Now you can go directly to the item you want to read. On your computer, just hover over the item with your mouse, then press control and left click the mouse. Voila! You’re there. And on your tablet or smart phone, just press on the T of C item with your finger.

Also, to make it more likely you’ll read or at least skim the Newsletter, I’ve added a Newsletter Trivia Quiz. It’s on page 23. Answer the 10 simple questions and win a prize!
ALL THE ANSWERS ARE IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

I’m sure you’ve heard the news by now, but it’s worth repeating. Two of the top award winners in this year’s Royal Palm Literary Awards competition are not only members of WLOV, but past presidents: Mark Newhouse (the club’s co-founder as well) and Rita Boehm. See their pics and more info about the awards, beginning on page 6.

WLOV Calendar of Upcoming Events

Monday, November 4 - Pinellas Library branch, Sumter County Library, 2-3 pm. Presentation by Jenny Fern on her award-winning novel *Ripple Effect: Because Of The War*.

Wednesday, November 13 - General Meeting, Laurel Manor Rec Center, 9 am – 11 am. **“What Did You Say? Writing Great Dialog”** Speaker: Teresa Carmody, Director of Stetson University’s Masters of Fine Arts program in Creative Writing. The business meeting will include voting on new officers for 2020. For more info, see President’s Message, page 3.

Sunday, November 17 – WLOV Book Signings, Whispering Oaks Winery, Oxford, 1-4 pm.

Wednesday, December 11 - Annual WLOV Breakfast Christmas Party. Laurel Manor Rec Center, 9 - 11 am. Food and fun with **Rik Mitchell, “The Game Showman”** who will entertain us with Trivia Games.

Wednesday, Jan 8, 2020 – General Meeting, Laurel Manor Rec Center, 9 am – 11 am. Presentation to be announced.

Sunday, January 26, 2020 – Central Florida Book & Author Expo, Eisenhower Rec Center, 11 am – 4 pm.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

By Paula Howard
WLOVwriters@gmail.com



Hello Everyone!

First, a huge congratulations to all the winners at **October's Florida Writers Association Conference!** You'll see a list of the Royal Palm Literary Awards winners elsewhere in this newsletter. It's truly a huge accomplishment to win such recognition. Next year's contest guidelines will be posted in January on the FWA website, <https://floridawriters.net/>. There is so much I have to tell you, my Message is divided into 4 sections, each with a green heading: Upcoming Events; Seeking Screenwriter; Nominees for the 2020 WLOV Board, and Guidelines for Professional Photo Shoot.

Upcoming Events.

At our November 13th meeting:

- Meet and vote for your 2020 slate of officers. Their profiles are shown below. I would like to thank our Nominating Committee -- Phil Walker, Nancy Hellekson, and Jan Zahorian -- for assisting me in selecting the nominees. Before the vote, further nominations will be taken from anyone in the general membership present at the meeting. Installation of Officers will take place at our December 11th meeting and Holiday Party.
- Voting on a few housekeeping measures in our Bylaws will take place to bring them up-to-date. A separate email will be sent ahead of time so you will see what changes being requested. It takes 2/3 vote of approval of members attending the meeting to pass the changes.
- Professional Author Photos will be taken in the room by professional photographer Bob Hurley. He charges \$50 for one head and shoulder shot suitable for publication. Suggested guidelines for clothing are listed on page 5.
- After the business meeting, Teresa Carmody, director of the Master in Fine Arts in the Americas program, Stetson University, will speak. The room will be set up classroom style with tables and chairs. PLEASE BRING YOUR LAPTOP and a notebook (or something to write on) for the lesson "What Did You Say? How to Write Dialog".

Mark your calendar for our December 11th Holiday Party, which will offer food and fun with Rik Mitchell, "The Game Showman," who will entertain us with audience participation Trivia Games! So much going on, so much to be thankful for....Happy Thanksgiving, everyone! See you at Laurel Manor Recreation Center on November 13, at 9 am!

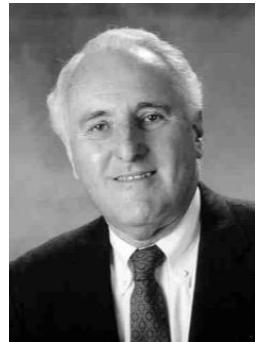
Seeking Screenwriter

Anyone who is a screenwriter among our membership please email me at WLOVwriters@gmail.com. There is a member looking for someone with expertise or experience in this area.

Nominees for the 2020 WLOV Board of Directors

For **Secretary**, replacing Angela Love who has served two years, **Donn Dears**.

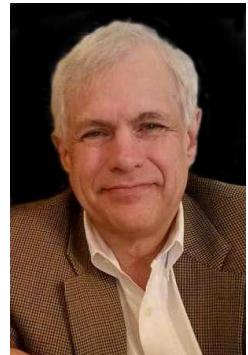
Donn is an energy expert and author of six books on energy, including a novel *Crisis in the Mideast*. He graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, with honors, and is a Korean War veteran. He spent four years establishing companies around the world to service GE power generation and other equipment in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Australia, the Netherlands, the UK, and other locations. These experiences have given him an ability to make complex energy issues easy to understand. His books are available on Amazon.com



Our nomination for **Treasurer** is Phyllis Walters who has served in that position during 2019, and has agreed to serve again in 2020. Phyllis is a retired clinical psychologist from Ohio, where she taught at The University of Dayton and also maintained a private practice. She is a prolific inspirational speaker at churches and numerous groups about quality-of-life topics. Her published books include "Creating Balance & Purpose in your Life" and "Worry, Fret and Fear...No More!" She is nearly ready to publish her first novel based on one case she cannot forget. *The Christmas Slayings* will be available soon on Amazon.com.



Our nomination for **President-Elect** is Paul Bourassa. Paul, a native of Chicago, and then a resident of Memphis for over thirty years, spent a good deal of time writing articles and papers for scientific journals until the mid-1990s, when he began writing non-technical articles for newspapers, magazines, and journals. A contest one season called for the most amusing Christmas story and Paul began writing about the Baby Boom generation with an upbeat, humorous view. His lighthearted style attracted the attention of *New 50*, a magazine published by the Memphis Commercial Appeal, where he became a featured writer. After moving to Florida, Paul extended his collection of Boomer musings into his first book entitled *Boomerang*, which has been compared to work by Garrison Keillor and Andy Rooney and will soon be available on Amazon.com.



And as **President**, with no President-Elect during 2019, I would like to serve as your president again in 2020 (my photo above). In that way, the new programs I started during this past year will continue to strengthen during 2020. Besides, it will be easy to remember your President-Elect and President: Paul and Paula

Guidelines For Your Professional Photo on November 13

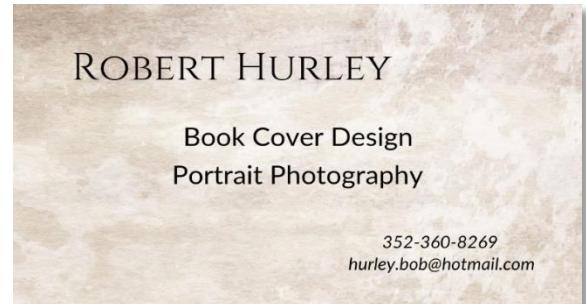
Professional Photographer Bob Hurley will be at our November 13 meeting taking head and shoulder photos for your use in advertising and publicity. At \$50 for your one selected photo, he can also Photoshop away any blemishes so you look perfect! Remember, the focus of your headshot is your face. Clothing should be kept simple:

CHOOSE

- plain fabrics
- mid-tone colors in blue, green, wine, turquoise, purple, chocolate
- a modest V-neck
- simple jewelry
- long sleeves

AVOID

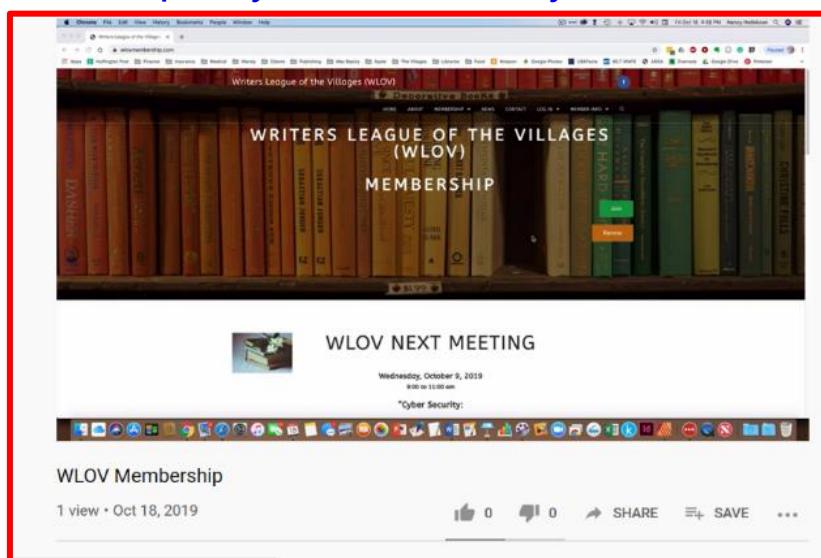
- bold patterns, such as, plaids and stripes
- flesh tones (cream, beige, pastels, peach or yellow)
- white, black, red and orange
- turtlenecks
- chunky jewelry
- short-sleeved and sleeveless tops



Revision of Youtube Video for Membership Signup

Nancy Hellekson has revised the website video, so there is a new URL.

<https://youtu.be/lIYenuym-Uw>



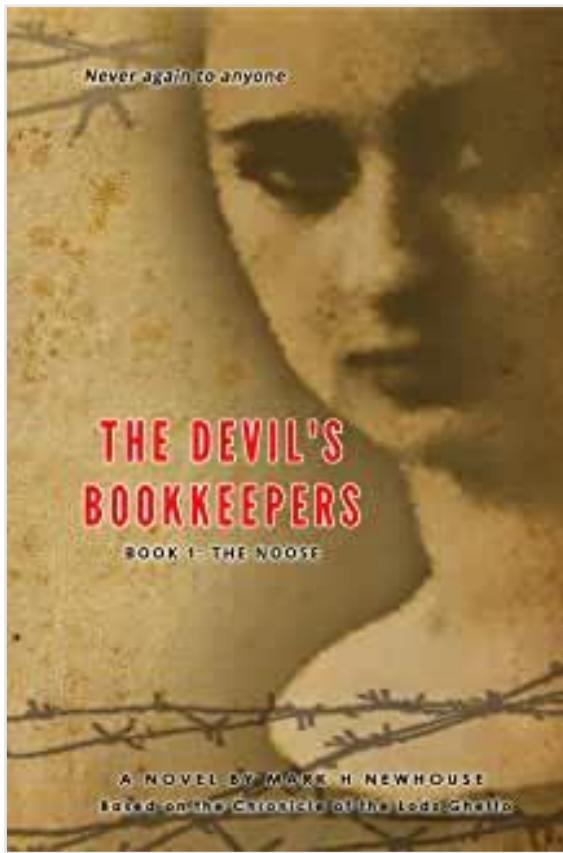
WLOV Members are Winners in the Florida Writers Association's Royal Palm Literary Award Competition.

Award winners were announced at the annual FWA banquet, Saturday, October 19, in Altamonte Springs. Two Villages Writers, both members of WLOV, won top awards in FWA's Royal Palm Literary Awards competition:

- Mark Newhouse for Published Book of the Year, *The Devil's Bookkeepers, Book 1: The Noose*
- Rita Boehm for Best Children's Book of the Year, *Bluebirds in the Garden*.

Each of these books also won Gold in its respective book category: Mark's in Historical Fiction, and Rita's in Children's Picture Books. Below, Mark with FWA's official photographer, dressed in 1950s garb for the occasion. She posed with all the winners. See other photos at

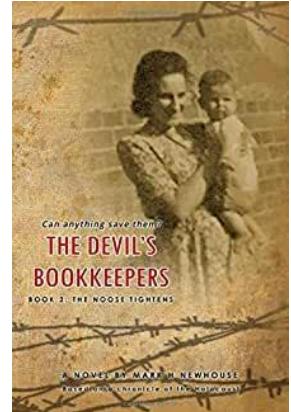
https://www.facebook.com/groups/2456384291302772/?notif_id=1572101380811318¬if_t=groups_more_posts_in_new_group





Left: Mark has just learned he won the top RPLA award of the year. At the podium is Chris Coward, WLOV member and head of the RPLA.

In addition, Mark's *The Devil's Bookkeeper, Book 2: The Noose Tightens*, won a Bronze award in the category of Unpublished Historical Fiction. That book has now been published and is available on Amazon.



The Newhouse awards didn't end there. Mark's son, Keith Newhouse, who lives in Orlando, also won a Silver award for Published Children's Book, *My Tio's Pulse*. As Chris pointed out, this was one of those rare occasions where RPLA had winners from the same immediate family.

Below right, Rita Boehm holding plaques she won for *Bluebirds in the Garden*. The smaller plaque in her right hand is for the gold prize in the category of Published Children's Books. The larger one in her left hand is for winning Published Children's Book of the Year.



Three other WLOV members also won RPLA Awards:

- Peggy Best (photo left), Silver Award, in category Published Autobiography or Memoir: *Dandelion Child: A Soldier's Daughter*
- Larry Martin (photo middle), Bronze Award, in category Published Short Story, "My Deal With The You Know Who"
- Paula Tucker (photo right), Silver Award, in category Unpublished Autobiography or Memoir: *Surviving: A Kent State Memoir*



Below is a picture of all the FWA winners, with identifying names of WLOV members who won an award. More pictures from the event are on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/The-Writers-League-of-The-Villages-162776817086391/>.



Bulwer-Lytton Worst-First-Sentence Winner



At the Oct 9 meeting Millard Johnson (right) announced the runners-up and then the winner of the first WLOV Bulwer Lytton Contest – a contest to see who could write the worst first sentence of a fictional work. After each name was called, Phil Walker read the offending sentence. The winner was...Jan Palmer, for the sentence below.

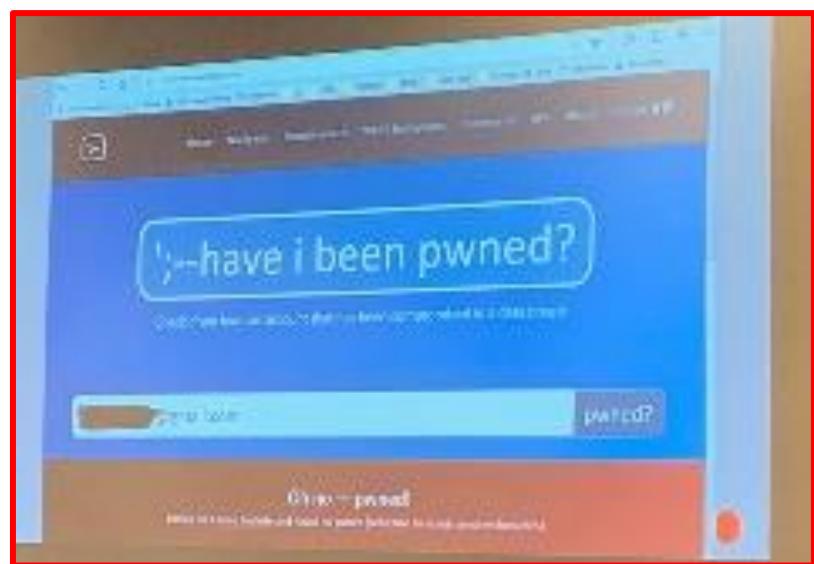
The trees swayed in the breeze beneath a cloud-strewn sky, waiting anxiously for the sun to restock their sagging supply of chlorophyll, each leaf silently screaming, but no one able to hear their impending death cry as they desperately fought against the encroaching, creeping hues of red, orange, and yellow that threatened their true green identity with certain annihilation.



Cyber Security Presentation at Oct Meeting

On Wednesday, Oct 9, Cyber security expert J. Gregory Leibolt spoke on “Cyber Security: Understanding Internet Threats and How to Keep Safe.” His handout is posted on our website at
<http://wlov.weebly.com/speaker-presentations.html>.

As we learned from Mr. Leibolt, you can find out if you have a data breach by entering your email in the website “...have I been pwned?”



<https://haveibeenpwned.com/>

Love Story Submissions Reminder

Millard Johnson
zendog3@mac.com

Don't forget WLOV's third annual Valentine's Love Story Event, a public reading of love stories, poems, and songs, to be held February 14, 2020. Forms for blinded submissions have been sent out via email. Please email me if you need these submission forms. They are simple, and designed to keep your author data separate from your story, and tie the two together with a single number. Deadline for submissions is December 31.

Recent News Items About WLOV Members

Barbara Miller – Profile in villages-news.com, October 20, 2019
<https://www.villages-news.com/2019/10/20/advice-from-villages-keto-advocate-shop-healthy-and-avoid-center-aisles-at-grocery-store/>



Julie Johnson – Profile in villages-news.com, October 26, 2019
<https://www.villages-news.com/2019/10/26/writing-always-a-passion-for-storytelling-villager-who-served-as-parole-officer/>



New Facebook Site for WLOV Members

By Rita Boehm



WLOV has had a Facebook page for a number of years. We use the page to show pictures of past events and publicize future ones like Expo. The one drawback has been that only the FB page administrators can submit posts. Our NEW Facebook page – **Writers of The Villages Group** – now allows all WLOV members to post pictures, start discussions, request information, etc. The more members who join the Group, the more effective it will be as a communication and marketing tool. Posting and commenting are limited to WLOV members. However, the general public may view anything on this FB page.

Writers of The Villages Group is tied to the original WLOV Facebook Page – The Writers League of The Villages. We will continue to promote events and post pictures on The Writers League of the Villages Page. Below is information on how to find and use the two WLOV sites on Facebook.

Writers League of The Villages

Status: Only administrators can enter posts or pictures; anyone can view contents

Purpose: To post pictures from our events, and information about upcoming events

Find one of two ways:

- 1) Enter <https://www.facebook.com/The-Writers-League-of-The-Villages-162776817086391> in your browser's search bar;
- 2) Enter "The Writers League of the Villages" in the search bar of any FB page.



Writers of The Villages Group

Status: Any WLOV Member can join and post.

Purpose: To foster communication among members, and let friends and others know what you're doing in regards to writing.

Join one of three ways:

- 1) On the Writers League of The Villages FB page, click "Groups" to the left; there you will find the opportunity to join Writers of The Villages Group
- 2) Enter "Writers of the Villages Group" in the FB search bar, and when you get to the FB site, ask to join.
- 3) Enter: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2456384291302772/> into your browser's search line, and when you get to the FB site, ask to join.

Writers of The Villages Group

Writers League of The Villages

www.WLOV.org

If you are a WLOV member, you will be approved to join and then can actively engage with others in the Group. WLOV members are invited to post information about books, awards, book signings, and other writing or author related topics which might be of interest to the Group. (Please note: The Writers of The Villages Group administrator reserves the right to remove anything that is deemed offensive, inappropriate, or unrelated to the intended purpose stated above.) We look forward to meeting you there! If you have any questions, please email me at ritab1423@gmail.com.

Indie Author Day – Marketing Opportunities at our Public Library

By Rita Boehm

On October 12, a number of WLOV members attended Indie Author Day at the Pinellas Public Library. The two-hour presentation included a variety of videos about the tools the library offers for indie authors. This was a national program, shown simultaneously in many other public libraries.

The new initiative is called the ‘Indie Author Project’ and has three separate areas of focus: create, share, discover. The presentations focused on creating books via Pressbooks, sharing ebook(s) with the library via SELF-e, and discovering new books on Biblioboard. This is similar to a library presentation I attended about two years ago. I can only hope that this time the library will be more aggressive in its actual support of indie authors.

Create: Pressbooks (www.pressbooks.com) is a tool available free of charge on the internet, and a format the library recommends. It can create, format, design, and produce professional quality e-books and print-ready files.

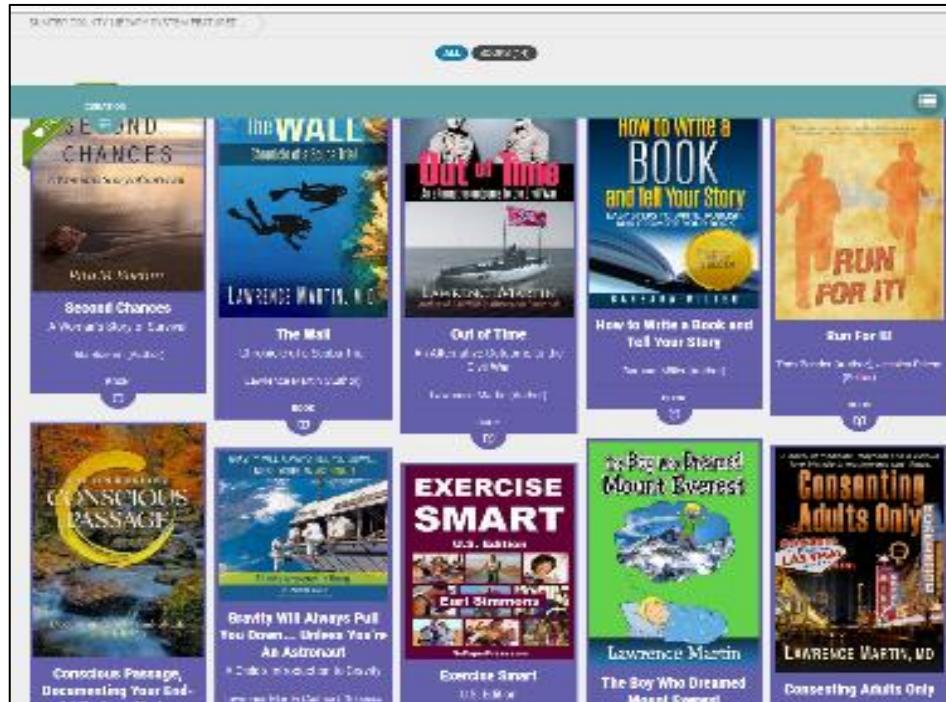
Share and Discover: To many WLOV members, SELF-e and Biblioboard might be of more interest than the create tool. SELF-e allows you to upload your eBooks to a site run by the Library Journal. Once uploaded, Library Journal staff will review the book and determine if it will remain accessible only to Florida readers (which is automatic), or if it meets their criteria to be curated as part of a national collection.

If you are interested in uploading your book(s) for inclusion in the Florida collection, and potential inclusion in a national curation, go to:

<https://indieauthorproject.librariesshare.com/indieauthor/>.

Click on **Submit Your Book** and follow the prompts. You can upload a pdf file of your book and a jpeg of the cover.

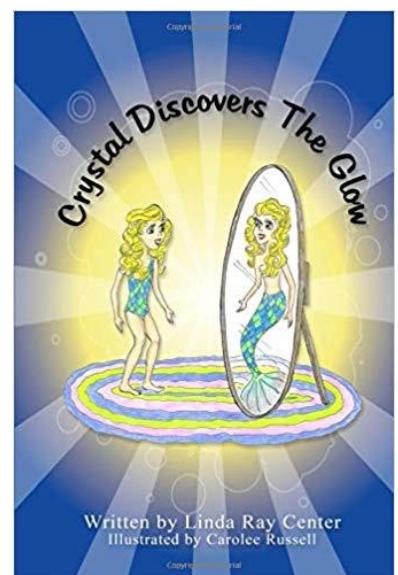
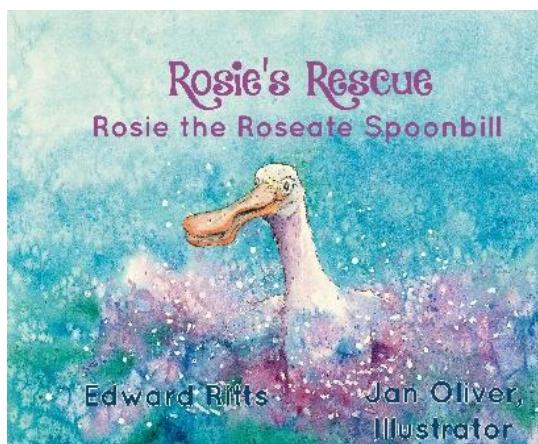
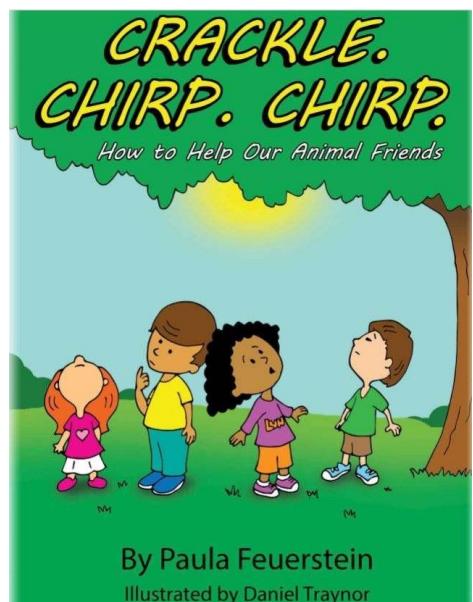
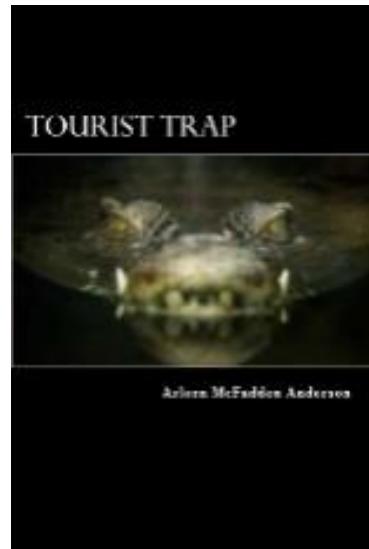
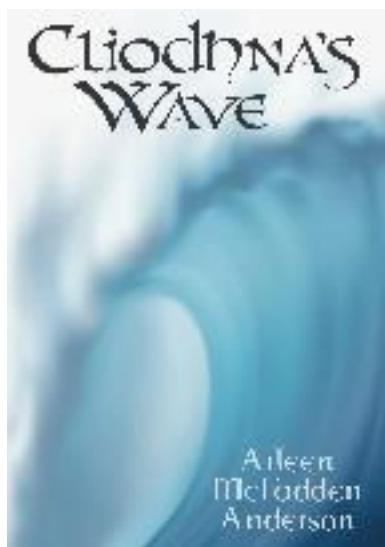
If you’d like to read other indie authors’ eBooks available through the library, or to check on the status of your own book, you can do that via Biblioboard. <https://library.biblioboard.com/>. Unfortunately, the site is not all that easy to navigate. It took some time to find the Sumter County Library’s page which shows some of the books that WLOV authors have uploaded (see figure below).

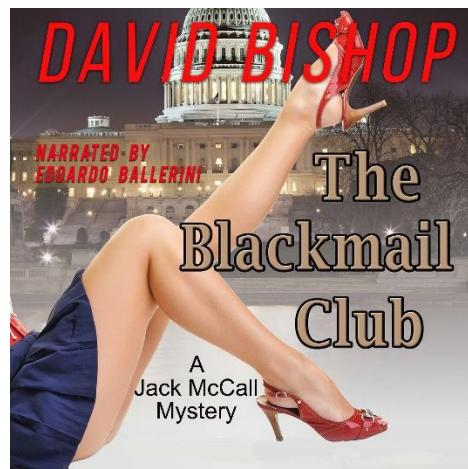
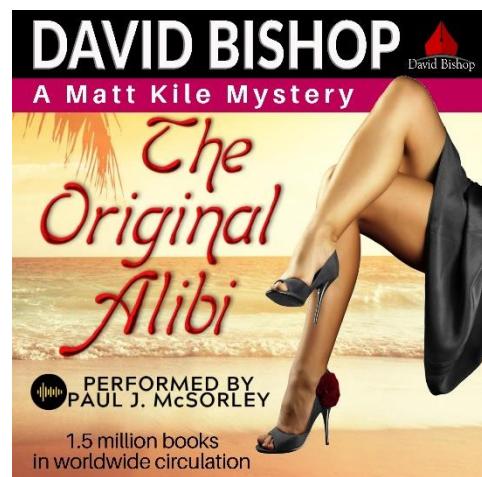
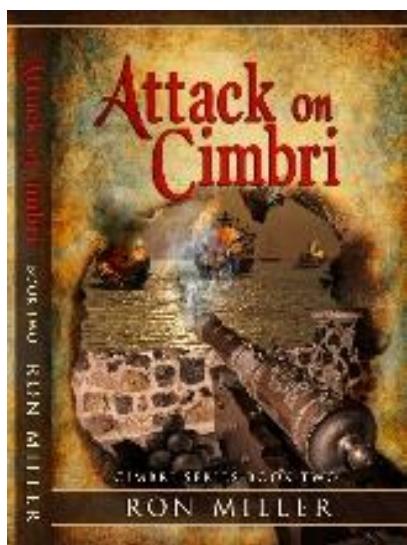
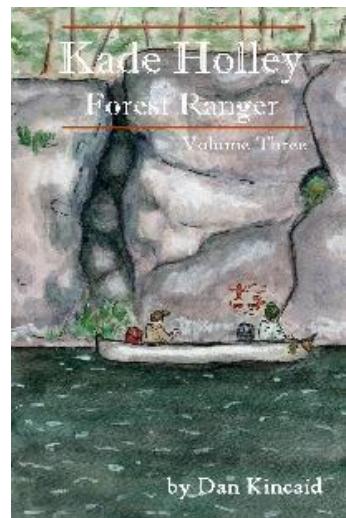
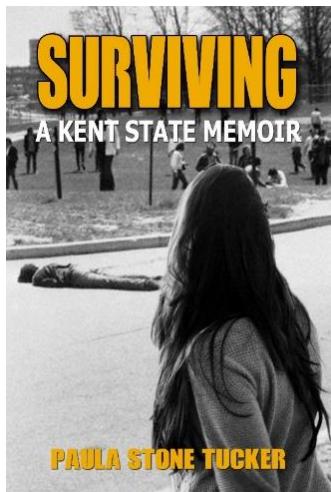


In summary, the Indie Author Project is the approach public libraries are taking to include indie authors in their library’s eBook offerings. It’s a good first step. I hope the library system follows through in embracing Indie authors.

New Books by WLOV Members

Check the WLOV book catalogue for blurbs and Amazon links. To find the latest edition of our catalogue, go to www.wlov.org and click on Villages Book Catalogues.





Don Canaan, Journalist and Multi-Genre Author

Interview by Larry Martin



WLOV member Don Canaan's career spans two countries (U.S. and Israel) and many aspects of journalism, including television, print, and the internet. He has a Masters degree from Ohio State's School of Journalism, and an award from the State of Ohio Bar Association for his work on "Jews in Ohio's Prisons." He is also a prolific writer of fiction, with 6 fiction works currently in our

WLOV Book Catalogue.

LM: How did you come to live in the villages and what year did you move here?

DC: In 2000 I was living in Miami, and heard about The Villages from my sister who'd visited the place. I came up with my friend Fran for a 3-day life style package, and we decided it was right for us. I bought a house in the historic section in 2004.

LM: When did you join WLOV?

DC: In 2013, just 2 years after the club was founded by Mark Newhouse and Ken Kincaid.

LM: Your website is modestly titled "The Best Little Book Store for readers located anywhere on Earth." Do you have books other than your own on the site? If so, do you get paid if people order them through your website?

DC: The website is a central location for my books. It also contains links to an index of my Israel News Faxx newsletter. In the beginning, I included books by other authors, but except for those initial listings, I have decided not to accept any future books. Amazon Associates' rules and regulations are a pain to work with in return for the few cents commissions that I would receive.

LM: Who designed your website?

DC: The website, after I made some modifications to suit my audience, was part of a series of site templates sold by a British firm Store-Buildr.com. The full URL address can be found in my list of websites used for publications. [Editor's note: see page 21.]

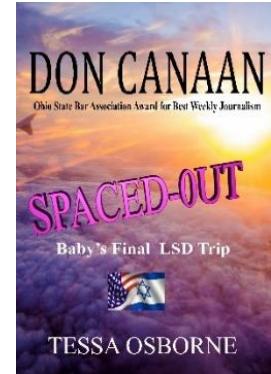


LM: How many books do you currently have for sale on Amazon?

Here is the breakdown, with an example from each area.

- 8 Amazon soft cover books
- 24 Kindle ebooks
- 7 Audible.com Audio books
- 8 Draft2Digital.com books
- 2 Authors Republic audio books

A 4-book series built around
“Pretty Little Girl”
“Conceived in Liberty”
“Spaced-Out: Baby’s Final LSD Trip”
“Trump’s Fatal Attraction”
“Entangled”



LM: What are Draft2digital and Authors Republic?

DC: They are alternative channels of publishing and distributing e-books, soft-cover and audio books. Draft2Digital publishes both e-books and paperbacks. They provide free design templates for the book's cover and interior. They are a pleasure to work with, especially when a live person answers the phone. Authors Republic is an alternative to Amazon's ACX audio platform. Both D2D and AR provide better royalty rates than Amazon. If you pay for your own narrator on ACX, you can also sell the recording on Authors Republic

LM: Do you use Facebook or other social media for marketing?

DC: No, mainly because I do not have the time. But I do plan to try Twitter and Pinterest in the near future.

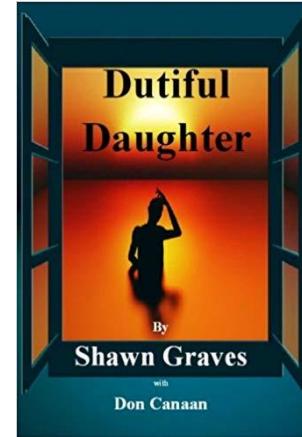
LM: Our WLOV catalogue, which includes WLOV members' books from 2016 onward, lists 8 of your books. Two of the books are categorized as non-fiction and six as fiction. What genre do you consider your fiction to be in?

DC: I consider myself a man for all seasons and all genres. I've written journalistic reports for newspapers, wire services and magazines, non-fiction, true crime as well as fiction, including mysteries. The only genre I have not tackled is romance but I don't think I will go that route.

What was the first full length work of fiction you wrote that was also posted for sale on Amazon, and what made you write that particular book when you did?

Dutiful Daughter, which came out in 2012. On that book I was the co-author with Shawn Graves. I revised it into *Pretty Little Girl*, which came out in 2016, where Shawn Graves is also co-author. Where does the idea come from? Since its inception I've been a fan of television's various Law and Order incarnations. The first Law & Order premiered about 1990 and I suppose during the period from 1990 to 2011 there must have been something that stuck in my mind regarding incest and retaliation.

[Editor's Note: *Dutiful Daughter* is still listed on Amazon, but the web page states it is "Out of Print."]



LM: How did you end up in Israel?

DC: I majored in documentary film production at the City University of New York's Institute of Film Techniques. I worked at NBC News, NY for 14 years. During that stint I spent time in the South, covering the Civil Rights Movement. Editors that had previously been in the South told us to always carry a plastic bag with a wet towel, in case we were gassed by the KKK. One morning, in Selma, Alabama, a sheriff's deputy tapped me on the shoulder, told me my name and what I did for NBC...but he used the N-word followed by Broadcasting Company. That was really scary.

In 1974, I moved with a group to Israel to help pioneer Yamit, a new city in the Sinai desert. I was planning to make aliyah (immigration) and live among the sand dunes and cacti but after the Sinai was returned to Egypt I returned to the states and unsuccessfully searched for film editing gigs.

LM: Do you have both Israeli and US passports?

DC: No. I was considered an A1 "aleph echad" resident, a temporary resident. I lived in Be'er Sheva and studied Hebrew at the Ulpan, a 40-hour-per-week school to help A1s and new immigrants learn Hebrew. I later moved to Arad, a city overlooking Masada and the Dead Sea, and commuted 40 km to the Ben-Gurion University in Be'er Sheva where I worked as a TV producer. In 1977, when the government subsidy for that position was eliminated, I returned to the United States and entered the master's program at the Ohio State's School of Journalism.

LM: Why journalism?

DC: Upon my return to the States, I found that film in news had become an anachronism and that it was impossible to get into the video tape unions. [I ran into the same problem after receiving my degree: a father-and-son attitude for entry into the video unions.] Instead, I worked for



Bendix at the Goddard Space Flight Center's TV facility as a producer of public service announcements and a weekly closed-circuit magazine show. The government didn't renew Bendix's contract and that led me to apply for a master's degree at the Ohio State University's Graduate School of Journalism. I remained in Ohio 28 years, working for the Downtowner newspaper, the American Israelite newspaper, United Press International, and LexisNexis.

LM: What projects did you work on in Ohio?

DC: I was involved in an investigation of a double murder in Hocking County Ohio, working with OSU's photography department. I edited a video documentary entitled Reasonable Doubt, the story of a stepfather accused of murdering and dismembering his daughter and her fiancé. After the film won first prize for documentaries from the Cincinnati Blue Chip Committee, I decided to write "Horror in Hocking County." This was before the era of word processing. It was difficult putting it together, pasting up pages and inserting halftone photographs, and finally publishing it on a Xerox machine.

While reporting news for the American Israelite in Cincinnati I also moonlighted for various magazines including Cincinnati magazine, CitiScene, HealthNews and Ohio Business. My Israelite series, "Jews in Ohio Prisons," is available from Kindle. It received first place recognition from the Ohio State Bar Association for Best Weekly Reporting. <https://www.amazon.com/Jews-Prison-Don-Canaan-ebook/dp/B0057Q222G/>.



LM: There is only a single, unflattering review of *Jews in Prison* on Amazon, which states "Pretty sure this is published by or for an inmate to pay legal fees." Is that true?

DC: In 1989-1990, there were only 18 Jews out of Ohio's 18,000 inmates, including a rabbi who murdered his former-father-on-law because he would not allow the rabbi to see his child. I interviewed 30% of the Jewish inmates. Nobody, except for my newspaper editor, offered me any remuneration.

LM: Are all your books self-published? If so, what platform, now that CreateSpace has merged with KDP?

DC: Initially all my books were Kindle e-books. Then I started publishing regular soft cover books with CreateSpace. Now that CS has merged with KDP, I occasionally have trouble with KDP's cover specs. I solved that problem by using Fiverr.com; for a modest fee I can get covers and dimensions that fit the KDP specs. I also use Draft2Digital.com because they are more user friendly than KDP.

LM: You have several audiobooks. Do you do the audio yourself? DC: I go through the list of narrators that ACX has available. ACX is an Amazon subsidiary that specializes in the production and distribution of audio books through Audible.com and Amazon. There are two ways to pay for an audio book:

- 1) Pay a per hour fee ranging anywhere from \$25 to umpteen dollars per finished hour
- 2) Do a royalty share arrangement with the narrator. The problem with royalty share is that ACX hits you with a 7-year contract and you cannot sell your book anywhere else.

On some of my early books I did use royalty share but I have since gone to pay per finished hour. Since I cannot afford the umpteenth dollars that some of the top narrators charge, I try to find beginning narrators who want credits for their audio reels. I have been fortunate to find excellent narrators for \$25-\$50 per finished hour.

LM: You also have several videos for your books posted on YouTube, some with background music. Do you do this work yourself?

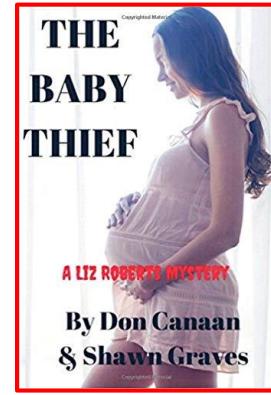
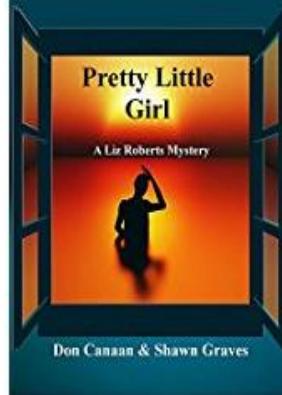
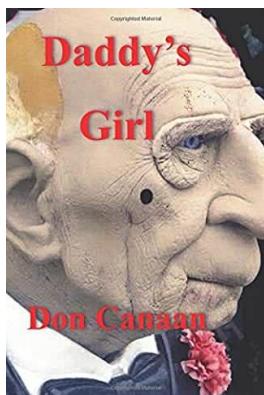
DC: My background is in film and video. I've tried various scenarios for my book videos. Music comes from free non-copyright libraries that are available on the internet, especially from composers who have posted their work as a creative copyright. As for the audio narration, I have used my NY voice and I record them using the AVS suite of audio programs. Editing is done with the Filmora program.

LM: How successful are your overall marketing efforts? I notice very few Amazon reviews for your books.

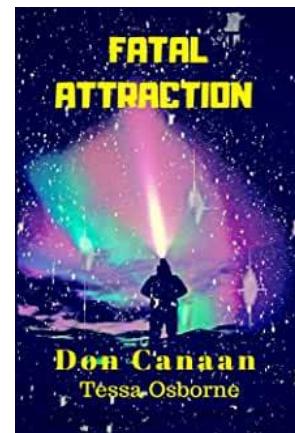
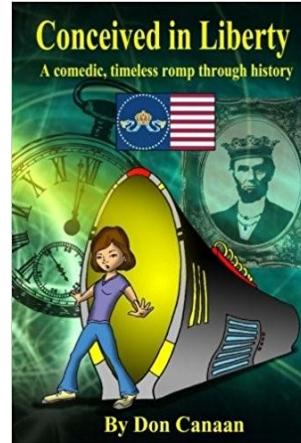
DC: Marketing is the one thing I dread. I need reviews but cannot get them. Success can only be ascertained by the numbers of people buying my books. I'm not out to make money, but I do want people to read my books. Yes, my marketing efforts have been unsuccessful, but let's look at it from another angle. My descendants will hopefully be able to access my work from that great Internet in the Sky. Sure, money is great, but satisfaction also plays a role.

LM: What are the major themes of your fiction?

DC: In my writing, I try use topics ripped from real life. One of my subjects is incest. This is the theme of the collection that includes *Daddy's Girl*, *Pretty Little Girl*, *The Baby Thief* and *Entangled*. It's the type of abuse usually ignored by most media outlets.



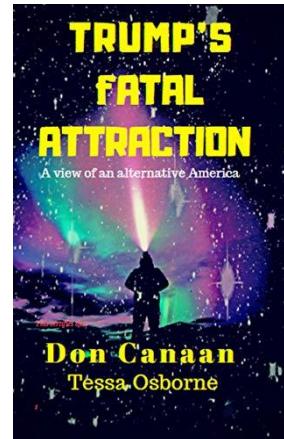
I also have a political, comedic series that describes an alternative America that exists on a parallel Earth and the effect that a time traveling female protagonist has on the nation's development. The first book in this series, "Conceived in Liberty," tells how the Union of Royal American States was formed and how Benedict Arnold defeated George Washington. By doing so, Arnold started this nation but was subsequently overthrown by our protagonist's son, Mobius,



The second book in the series, originally "Fatal Attraction," has been renamed "Trump's Fatal Attraction," and is available on Amazon under both titles. Because of the current political situation, as well as the possibility that the existing immigrant camps might be enlarged in the future, I decided to rename the book and redesign the cover so that my buyer universe is enlarged. My planned sequel will expand on this theme. I sent the book's original edition to the White House in the hope that the president would tweet it negatively, but they just sent me an autographed thank you card, one that I will use in the book's promotional efforts.

LM: What is *Trump's Fatal Attraction* about?

DC: It tells how Donald Trump, in this alternative America, declares a monarchy, becomes king, and later changes the name of the country to the Trump States of America. He declares himself emperor and forms an alliance with undocumented aliens from outer space who have breached his skywall. Trump's executive orders remove the rights that women have gained since the time of King Abraham Lincoln. He also institutes camps where dissidents are interned. Our time traveling female protagonist saves the day and all returns to normal...or does it?



LM: You have co-authors on some of your books. Who are Tessa Osborne and Shawn Graves, and how did you end up working with them?

DC: They are freelancers I found on the internet. My writing approach has evolved from my background in collaborative film video and journalism. I believe in this collaborative approach. I solicit people to work with me in return for a co-authorship credit and for a work to list on their resume. They receive a modest stipend from me for their contribution, as well as for being a sounding board for my crazy and way-out ideas. The newbies can be obtained by posting a request at www.upwork.com

LM: What is *Tijuana Bibles* about and why did you use the pseudonym Don Howard for that book?

DC: My birth name, before I changed it in Israel, was Donald Howard Swerdlow, so Don Howard

seems to be an appropriate pen name for books that might conflict with my other books. Years ago, pornographic eight-pagers, called Tijuana Bibles, involved popular cartoon characters in various situations that appealed to young men. I had an essay commissioned by an academic to introduce these cartoons and I've published the book on Kindle. While not too many people have purchased this book, many have downloaded it. And for each person reading it online, I receive a small royalty. The cartoons are not copyrighted, and there are other e-books that contain these 8-pagers, but none of them have the academic overview that I commissioned. In addition, my price beats them all.

<https://www.amazon.com/Tijuana-Bibles-Phenomenom-Donald-Howard-ebook/dp/B079K7H2B5/>

LM: Your novel *Entangled* is also translated into Spanish and Portuguese. Why those languages and who does your translations?

DC: Several of my books have been translated into Spanish and Portuguese, for Spain, Latin America, Portugal and Brazil markets. One book is now being translated into Dutch.

I seek translators using the site <http://wwwbabelcube.com>. Translators either accept or reject the project. The problem using this website is that many people start their translations but never finish. We each receive a percentage of the royalty that the foreign editions earn.

LM: Who edits your books? Do you have them professionally edited?

DC: Because of the costs to hire an editor, I edit my own books using Grammarly and Hemingway.

Websites Don Canaan uses to produce his books

For marketing his books:

[www.bestlittlebookstore.ccom](http://wwwbestlittlebookstoreccom)

For publishing ebooks and print:

[www.kdp.com](http://wwwkdpcom)

[www.draft2digital.com/](http://wwwdraft2digitalcom/)

For publishing audio:

[www.authorsrepublic.com/](http://wwwauthorsrepubliccom/)

<https://www.acx.com/>

For translation into foreign language:

wwwbabelcube.com.

For cover design and formatting:

[www.fiverr.com](http://wwwfiverrcom)

For website design:

[https://www.store-buildr.com](https://wwwstore-buildrcom)

For computer-aided text editing:

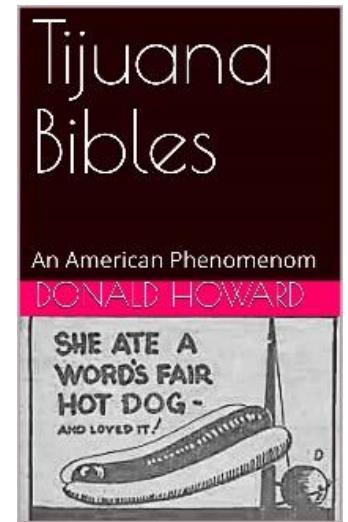
[https://www.grammarly.com/](https://wwwgrammarlycom)

[http://www.hemingwayapp.com/](http://wwwhemingwayappcom/)

For film Editing:

[www.avs4you.com](http://wwwavs4youcom)

<https://filmora.wondershare.net/>



LM: Do you use Smashwords as a platform for your books?

DC: I do have books on that site, but because of their rigid formatting rules I decided to use www.Draft2Digital.com, a user-friendlier site.

LM: Your Amazon bio states “every evening Canaan compiles and edits Israel News Faxx.”

What is that newsletter about?

DC: I started Israel News Faxx in 1993 and since then it has been published daily, Sunday through Thursday evenings. I'm now up to Volume 27. Everything that has been published is available on my websites, www.israelfaxx.com or www.bestlittlebookstore.com; there is also a search mechanism on both sites. If you put in a keyword and want to find out what happened on August 14, 1997, you can do so.

I also send the newsletter to various databases. They sell the information to university libraries etc. A second database is PressReader, a digital distribution outlet with headquarters in Vancouver. They sell Israel News Faxx to hotels worldwide. I also send my weekly editions to the American Jewish archives in Cincinnati, where they are indexed.

LM: With dozens of publications, in various media, it seems you have a modest publishing empire. Yet the paucity of Amazon reviews goes with your marketing frustration, and suggests this is not a financially successful endeavor. What are your future plans in this area?

DC: You're absolutely correct...*the money ain't there*. The books are my legacy for future generations.

LM: What are you currently working on?

DC: I am just starting a third book in the Fatal Attraction series with Tessa Osborne. In this sequel the emperor, whose head now resides in a bell jar, is wired to a massive computer in a building on Jerusalem's Temple Mount. The book's tentative title is *Trump's Messiah Complex*. I think it will be an exciting book.

LM: Good luck, Don!

Newsletter Trivia Quiz

Larry Martin
drlarry437@gmail.com

In an unabashed attempt to entice you to skim/review/read our club's newsletter, we are offering a Newsletter Trivia Quiz with prizes. **All the answers are in this month's newsletter. Send me your answers via email.**

Your WLOV Board considered several prizes for the winners, including a new golf cart, an all-expense paid trip to Paris, and coverage of your property tax bill for the next three years. Not everyone could agree on the most appropriate prizes, so I made the final decision. None of the above. The first 3 WLOV members who send in the correct answers will win the opportunity to have one of their book covers and an Amazon link featured prominently in next month's newsletter.

Speed of response isn't a fair criterion, you say? You didn't open up the Newsletter pdf file for two weeks? Or it went to your Spam folder like all the other newsletters? Sorry, but there has to be a time limit – we can only show the covers for 3 winners.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. Who won the Bulwer Lytton worst first sentence contest?
2. Who won Book of the Year Award at last month's Florida Writers Association Convention?
3. Who did John Prince interview for the Oct 20, 2019 edition of Village-News.com?
4. What is the name of Don Canaan's sequel to *Fatal Attraction*?
5. What is the title of Rita Boehm's award-winning children's book?
6. What is the full title of Don Canaan's web site (11 words)?
7. Who wrote *Crackle, Chirp, Chirp*?
8. Who is the name of WLOV's new Facebook site (5 words)?
9. Who wrote *Attack on Cimbri*?
10. Who is running for WLOV President-elect for 2020?

Cartoons (top left, from the internet; other two from The New Yorker)

