



January 2020 SCWG Meeting

Saturday, January 28 at 1:00 pm at
Garrett's Run Condo Clubhouse
7900 Greenboro Drive
West Melbourne, FL 32901



As usual, refreshments
will be provided

January Guest Speaker: Jacquelyn Lynn

Jacquelyn's topic is Common Mistakes of Self-publishers.

Jacquelyn is an inspirational author, business writer and ghostwriter whose dynamic books and insightful articles have been inspiring readers and helping business leaders work smarter and more profitably for nearly three decades.

She has written more than 40 books including Choices (the first novel in the Joyful Cup Story series), Finding Joy in the Morning: You can make it through the night, and Words to Work By: 31 devotions for the workplace based on the book of Proverbs. She also is the co-creator of a series of Christian coloring books for adults.

As a self-publishing consultant, Jacquelyn helps people who want to publish their own books produce a quality product without getting ripped off. If you're interested in publishing a book, check out my book, The Simple Facts About Self-Publishing: What indie publishers need to know to produce a great book.

Jacquelyn is a member of Independent Book Publishers Association (IBPA), Christian Indie Publishing Association (CIPA), and Central Florida Christian Chamber of Commerce. Learn more at CreateTeachInspire.com.





Fun Facts About January

January: the first month of the year. The word January derives from the Latin word Janus, the Roman god of doorways and new beginnings, who could see ahead and behind himself simultaneously. It was the Romans who decided that the first month of the year should be named after Janus—January.

This month is special for the following reasons:

- ✓ National Bath Safety Month
- ✓ National Blood Donor Month
- ✓ National Braille Literacy Month
- ✓ National Hobby Month
- ✓ Hot Tea Month
- ✓ National Oatmeal Month
- ✓ National Soup Month

Some notable days include:

- ✓ 1: New Year's Day; National Hangover Day
- ✓ 2: Run up the Flagpole and See if Anyone Salutes Day
- ✓ 3: Festival of Sleep Day (that's my kind of day!)
- ✓ 10: Peculiar People Day (how many of us fit into this category?)
- ✓ 11: Learn Your Name in Morse Code Day (for me, it's —•••— —••••—•••)
- ✓ 12: Feast of Fabulous Wild Men Day
- ✓ 14: Dress Up Your Pet Day
- ✓ 16: National Nothing Day
- ✓ 17: Ditch New Year's Resolution Day
- ✓ 18: Thesaurus Day; Winnie the Pooh Day
- ✓ 19: National Popcorn Day
- ✓ 20: Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (always celebrated on the third Monday)
- ✓ 22: National Blonde Brownie Day
- ✓ 23: National Handwriting Day (does anyone actually do that, anymore?)
- ✓ 24: Beer Can Appreciation Day; Global Belly Laugh Day
- ✓ 25: Chinese New Year; Opposite Day
- ✓ 26: Spouse's Day
- ✓ 27: Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day; Punch the Clock Day (tried that once; bruised my knuckles!)
- ✓ 28: Data Privacy Day
- ✓ 30: National Inane Answering Message Day
- ✓ 31: Backward Day (not to be confused with Opposite Day)



Membership Renewal

Just a reminder that your credit card will automatically be billed for your membership renewal. When Stripe processes your credit card information and finds that it is expired, the number has changed, the account is closed, or is unable to process it for any other reason, the system will send you an email asking you to update your credit card information, with a link for your convenience. Once you've made the changes, you will receive another confirmation email.

The 2020 Florida Writing Workshop

May 16, 2020 in Tampa

After successful 2016, 2018, and 2019 events in Tampa, Writing Day Workshops is excited to announce The 2020 Florida Writing Workshop — a full-day “How to Get Published” writing event in Tampa, FL on May 16, 2020.



This writing event is a wonderful opportunity to get intense instruction over the course of one day, pitch a literary agent or editor (optional), get your questions answered, and more. Note that there are limited seats at the event (200 total). For more information, go to

<https://floridawritingworkshops.com/>





New!

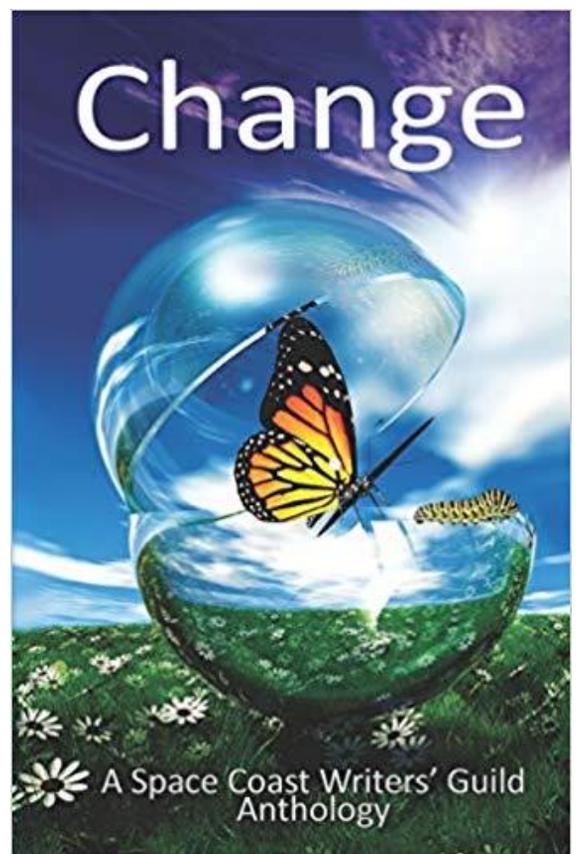
NOW OUT IN PAPERBACK!

“The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without hanging our thinking” –Albert Einstein.

Bing defines *change* as “the act of making or becoming different; convert, transform, adapt, modify, rebuild, reconstruct, refashion....”

Good writing requires authors to think outside of themselves, to adapt to different situations, and to convert preconceived perceptions to those that may be revealed on the other side of the coin. Otherwise, their words may be nothing more than petty cash.

The Space Coast Writers' Guild anthology for 2019 is finally out in paperback! *Change* is a collection of poetry, inspirational and fictional stories, and memoirs about life, romance, family, and perceptions, and how inevitable unpredictability occurring in most instances can bring about *Change*.



The Space Coast Writers' Guild (SCWG) is a network of writers dedicated to the same goal: helping authors realize their writing ambitions. Since 1982, the SCWG has provided activities to educate, develop, and promote its members. Visit scwg.org for more information.



Hot!

Guild member Betty Whitaker Jackson recently published four new books, making a total of 23 published since 2012 when she retired from teaching.

Apple Tree Lane and its sequel *At Home on Apple Tree Lane*, her NaNoWriMo book-in-a-month submission from November, are set in Columbia County, New York where she grew up. They include a young couple's interest in the history of the land, including Mohican and early Dutch influences. They develop the land to use for the community: an old icehouse which was part of ice-harvesting on the Hudson River, becomes a venue for concerts, weddings, etc. Community gardens and a playground, petting zoo, and nature conservancy are important to them. And of course, there is an apple orchard used for making cider and apple delicacies, and The Corland Inn being built to entertain guests.

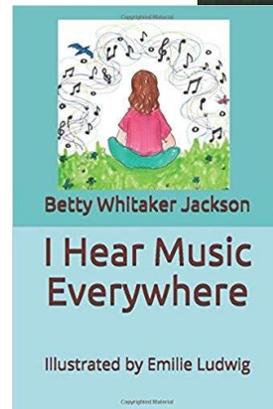
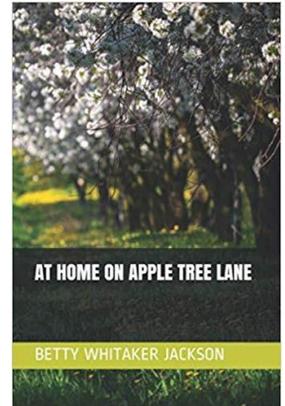
I Hear Music Everywhere is a fundraiser for the Space Coast Symphony Orchestra. The book, featuring her grandchildren, Kaley and Emily, teaches music terms and music awareness.

My fourth new book, *Led by the Spirit*, joins other devotional guides and books of original psalms. It is part of Covenant church, Palm Bay's Call to Artists on the topic of Life in the Spirit. It is a collection of poetry, stories, original Psalms, prayer prompts, and scripture."

Betty Whitaker Jackson, an active Guild member, writes fiction, memoir, poetry, nonfiction, devotional guides, and anthology pieces. Although she has written for years, retirement from a forty-year career as a secondary language arts teacher has given her the required time to devote to her craft.

She has won First Place in the Reader's Digest Life Rich Memoir Writing Contest, and has published with WestBow Press, Life Rich Publishing, and CreateSpace.

She resides in Palm Bay. Visit her website at www.bettyjackson.net.





The Death of Apostrophe's

Happy New Year!

I received many comments on the article "The Death of Apostrophe's." The winning editor was Marion Coste. Below are the edited (my version) and original copies of the note I sent.

There were numerous grammatical errors, syntax mishaps, and even a few style violations. Even the subject line, "The Death of Apostrophe's," was incorrect! Plural? Yes. Possessive? No. And from a style perspective, I never address people as "Hey" -- only my past students did that.

Keep your yellow highlighters handy and keep fighting for grammatical correctness!
Scott Tilley, PhD

ORIGINAL

December 11, 2019

Hey Scott -

Is the death of apostrophe's imminent? Are we witnessing, the slow declination of properly grammar? Is punctuation giving way to emojis and cryptic text messages;

John Richards, the flounder of the Apostrophe Protection Society in 2001, has thrown in the trowel. He said he's lost the bottle for correct English: including the apostrophe, which he characterized as 'much abussed'.

If you've have red the book Eats Shoots and Leafs you can appreciate the importance of correct spelling, proper grammar and unambiguoused syntax. The modern, world seems satisfied with acronyms & shorthand instead of full, words. English has always evolved -- but is this somethang more depressinger?!?

Many municipalities; are removing all apostrophes' from their signage. Its a simple solution, but won that makes purists blood boiled. It makes copy editor's mad to ~ are writers' becoming lazyer?

EDITED

December 11, 2019

Hi Scott,

Is the death of apostrophes imminent? Are we witnessing the slow decline of proper grammar? Is punctuation giving way to emojis and cryptic text messages?

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~ **AUTHORS FOR AUTHORS** ~

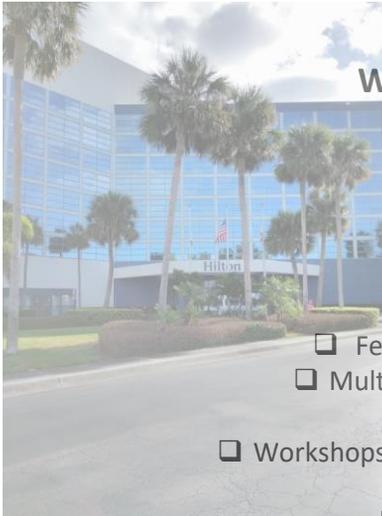
Writers' Conference: Write, Publish, Sell!

April 26, 2020, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Hilton Rialto Airport Melbourne
200 Rialto Place, Melbourne, FL 32901

~ ~ **Registration** ~ ~

- Fee = \$50.00 (Late and on-site registrations Fee= \$60.00)
- Multiple breakout sessions, discussion groups, book displays, vendors, and keynote speaker.
- Workshops focus on how to write, edit, format, publish, market, and sell!
- Meet the presenters and authors.
- Network with aspiring and experience writers.
- Browse the book displays!



~ ~ **SPEAKERS** ~ ~

Dr. Valerie Allen
Lee Boyland
Jill Clark
Jaimie Engle
Chrys Fey
Joanne Fisher
Cindy Foley
DL Havlin
Joe Lafferty
Judy Lindquist
Wanda Luthman
Maritza M Mejia
Jim Nelson
Brian Steinberger, Esq.
Gene Luke Vlahovic
Dr. Martha Watts
Karen Whiting
Dr. Gayle Woolson
Linda Zern





Children's Writers Wanted

Leslie Guevara is an instructional coach at Odyssey Preparatory Academy in Palm Bay. Odyssey is celebrating Literacy week from January 27 through 31 and are looking for a local author to read one of their books to our elementary students, Kindergarten through Sixth Grade.

Their thought is to focus on the lower grades, but they also could accommodate someone to speak with the intermediate grades. If you're interested, please contact Joanne.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Even if you had the most demanding job that took up most of your waking hours, you would always find time to pen something down. Even if you lost everything in this world, one of the first things you would get would be a pen and paper. How about when you sleep? Writing material is always at arm's length. Something could pop out while you sleep...so why not write it down.

Doubting your ability to write is completely normal. Even Stephen King once felt he was a terrible writer. Yet he wrote some of the best novels—and is still writing! You're not alone. And you're not like everyone else either. You're unique. You're special. You're a writer! So, stop reading and get writing!

Sincerely,
Joanne Fisher
President, SCWG

