

APRIL 2016 ESWA NEWSLETTER

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April 2016 ESWA Newsletter



A Message from ESWA's President

Dear Writers,

Just a few short weeks ago, over two hundred writers gathered at Chesapeake College for the sold-out Bay to Ocean Writers Conference. They came to network, meet new friends and learn how to improve their writing craft.

While I was there, I spoke to a couple who had driven over three hours to attend their fourth consecutive BTO conference. One of them said that they attend a few writers conferences every year and their goal is to learn at least one new thing that they can put into practice right away. So I had to ask... "Have you found that one new thing yet?" The woman responded, "Yes. I learned that I need to focus less on making my writing perfect and more on making my writing honest."

I didn't get to go to any of the BTO sessions this year due to my responsibilities as a presenter and an ESWA officer. But I learned one new thing at the BTO, and I learned it from that couple. That honesty statement haunted me on my two-hour ride home. It got me thinking about how "true" my own writing is (or

two near his home. It got me thinking about how true my own writing is (or isn't), and over the following week I was rewriting several chapters with that in mind. Without that brief encounter, I wouldn't have shifted my focus and shaken a personal boredom I was having with my own writing. It set me in motion again and agitated me out of a stall.

Sometimes, connecting with one writer in a casual conversation can inspire change that moves our writing forward. One moment - one idea offered from one writer to another, can make a difference. And helping you make connections with other writers is ESWA's mission, so we feel especially grateful to have this hard-working group of volunteers put on the annual BTO. Their contribution magnifies our mission.

On behalf of the ESWA Board, I congratulate the BTO Committee under the leadership of Judy Reveal and Rick Barton, for again pulling off one of the most well rounded annual writing events on the peninsula. And thank you to all who attended, shared ideas and offered support to one another. Until the next writer's conference, we hope to see some of you at some of our writers meet-ups and workshops.

Kindest regards,

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2016 Conference Called Great Success!



More than 200 writers from across the region attended the 19th Bay to Ocean Writers Conference held at Chesapeake College in March. Plans are already in the works for next year's event! For a full report and plenty of photos from BTO, please click [here](#) to visit the ESWA website.



Attending the conference were ESWA board members (left to right) Susan Jones, Jo Ebling, Mindie Burgoyne, Charlene Marcum, Judy Reveal, Mala Burt, Bonnie Feldstein, Rick Barton, David Healey. Missing is Denise Clemons.





Charlene Marcum and Bonnie Feldstein were on hand to greet BTO attendees.

ESWA April Meeting to Feature Judith Reveal

On April 23, 2016 the Eastern Shore Writers Association will host a meeting at the Easton Branch of the Talbot County Free Library from 10 – 12. The meeting is free and open to the public. The library is located at 100 W Dover Street, Easton, MD.



Judith Reveal will talk about the importance of editing and what an author should look for and expect from an editor. Editing is a stage that is often put away, especially by new authors who do not recognize the importance of this vital step.

Over the past 10 years Reveal has edited over 100 manuscripts. Her clients include authors of fiction, business nonfiction, memoir, autoethnography dissertations, and more. The author of several novels, her talents also include freelance editing, book indexing, and book reviews for the New York Journal of Books (www.nyjournalofbooks.com).

Reveal recently published a book on creative writing titled *The Four Elements of Fiction: Character, Setting, Situation, and Theme*. The book is designed to

kick-start an author on the road to understanding the techniques every author should have in his or her tool kit.

More information about Reveal as a wordsmith can be found on her website, www.justcreativewriting.com.

Member News



ESWA member Hal Wilson's new release is *A Taste of Salt*. Reconciliation with the past is at the heart of the novel: reconciliation that comes slowly and with difficulty for my characters. And even then accommodation comes only fleetingly. The irony of the story is that the only character free of this struggle is an octoroon slave. She's the only one, as Shakespeare's sonnet says, who is lord and owner of her face. In two parallel narratives time is carried forward in a small chest faced with an archetypal circular design and the date 1810. Its dark contents resonate across the years from the Georgia frontier to a strange diner in small town Maine in 1967. In the chest are ordinary articles that testify to unspeakable events from the past: events that refuse to resign their hold on the present.

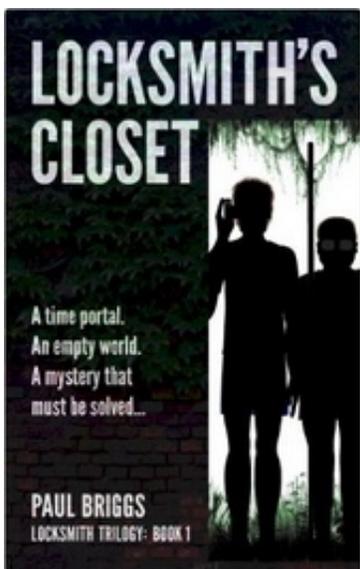
The book also features an excellent introduction by Melissa Reddish that outlines the mythological elements in the novel. She shows how these elements serve to tie the two parallel stories together. Melissa is a professor of English and director of the Honors Program at Wor-Wic Community College in Salisbury, MD. Her latest book is *My Father is an Angry Storm Cloud*.



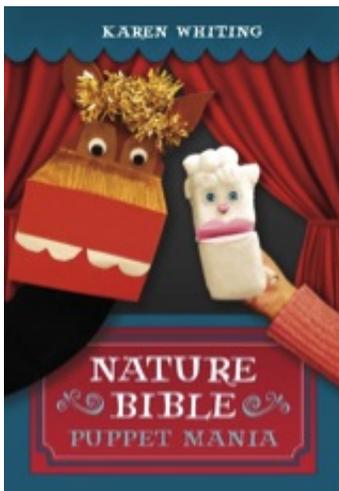
First Time is a collection of ten short stories by **Frank E Hopkins**. While each story has separate characters they are linked by the theme that each story exposes the main character to the first



time they experience an event participated in by all. The stories include anticipation of the happiness they expect; the dismay and wonder they feel during the event; and the surprising ending. *First Time* is available in ebook and paperback format on Amazon.com and in local Delmarva bookstores.



ESWA member Paul Briggs has written a new suspense novel, *Locksmith's Closet*. Available on Amazon.com. Briggs said he created his own book trailer, which can be seen by clicking [here](#). "I did it all myself," he said. "The stills came from PowerPoint. The images of vegetation are brushes from GIMP. I put together the music from tracks and sound effects that came with GarageBand, and I put it all together in iMovie. And I can't forget to give credit to the voice actors. There are times when it really pays to be a member of the local acting community."



In Karen Whiting's new Children's Christian book, the characters on the cover say it all. Karen Whiting (www.karenwhiting.com) is an international speaker, former television host, and award-winning author of twenty books for children, women, and families. She has a heart to help families thrive and build strong bonds. She has written more than six hundred articles for more than sixty publications and loves to let creativity splash over the pages of what she writes. Currently, Karen writes for Leading Hearts, The Kid's Ark, and Molly Green Magazines. Best sellers include *God's Girls* and *The One Year My Princess Devotions*.

Karen lived in many states, almost always near the water. She is a widow, the mother of five, including two rocket scientists (yes, for real) and a grandmother.

She likes adventure and has ridden a camel in the Canary Islands, white water rafted in Australia, ridden horseback in the ocean in Jamaica, and enjoyed scuba diving off the coast of Bermuda. She's spoken in such far- away places as Russia and Malaysia.

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome our new ESWA members. Their full contact information will appear in the next revision of the ESWA Member Directory to be sent in pdf format to all ESWA members.

Jonathan Duval

Queenstown, MD

Novels, Short Fiction

Lisa Ludwig

Salisbury, MD

Nonfiction Articles

Mary McCarthy

Centreville, MD

Novels, Social Media

Laura A. Lord

Denton, MD

Poetry, Editing

Kathryn O'Sullivan

Reston, VA

Novels, Plays, Screenplays

Paul Awad

Reston, VA

Science Fiction, Screenplays

Jean E. Laughery

Easton, MD

Inspirational Poetry/Writings

Karl Braungart

Rehoboth Beach, DE
Novels, Specific Genre

Robert L. (Bob) Rager

Centreville, MD
Songwriting, Technical/Industrial Writing

Alice A. Loxley

Chesapeake City, MD
Novels, Poetry

Kathy Paras

Landenberg, PA
Novels

James Ted Paras

Landenberg, PA
Technical, Nonfiction e-book

Elizabeth Zerai

Easton, MD
Essays, editing

Workshop has been postponed

Please note that the workshop "Crafting a Meal for Your Invented World" slated for April 16 has been postponed. The new date will be announced to members.

Chesapeake City Author Joins Board

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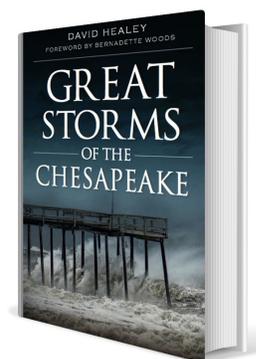


David Healey is our newest ESWA board member and serves as the communications chair. He got involved to become part of the larger community of writers in the region.

His goal in this new role is to see more writers sharing their own accomplishments, knowledge, and opportunities for growth as writers. The ESWA website and newsletter are good places for doing just that.

“I’ve heard writers described as recluses addicted to hot drinks, which pretty much describes me, so it’s important to get out from behind the keyboard from time to time to connect with other writers,” he said.

For much the same reasons, he also became involved as an author member of the International Thriller Writers, taking part in panels at the annual Thrillerfest in New York and interviewing other writers for The Big Thrill ezine.



He has written historical novels and nonfiction books published by Penguin Putnam, Bellarosa, and The History Press. A graduate of Washington College and the Stonecoast MFA program, he teaches college writing fulltime at Kaplan University.

“When it comes to writing, I am really drawn to history,” he said. “The past is full of amazing stories waiting to be told, especially right here on the Delmarva Peninsula.”

David lives with his family on the C&D Canal in Chesapeake City. His website is www.davidhealeyauthor.com



Contact Person: Bill Peak, telephone: 410-822-1626, e-mail: mcpeak@tcfl.org

Note: **All library programming is free and open to the public.**

Literary Events at the Library this Month



Three Episodes in Taxation in Nineteenth Century Maryland

Thursday, April 14, 6:30 p.m. Easton stamp collector **Ron Leshner** explores three episodes in the history of taxes in Maryland: the Supreme Court eliminated one, the people hated the second, and the third led Maryland to declare lotteries unconstitutional.

Book Discussion: *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande

Monday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.

ST. MICHAELS LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Book Arts for Adults

Monday, April 11, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Explore the fascinating process of creating a personal journal with beautiful hand-decorated pages.

Tuesday Movies @ noon (bring your lunch or a snack and watch a movie)

April 26: *Sacred Planet*

***How to Publish Now* Workshop Planned**

Learn how to navigate the maze of electronic and Print On Demand publishing from the first-hand experience of Neal P. Gillen.

Neal knows his stuff! He is a long-time Washington attorney, Navy veteran, and author of 8 novels, 2 memoirs, short stories, and most recently, *How to Publish Now*. In his complete and comprehensive workshop, Neal reviews the fast-growing world of self-publishing. He explains and compares the leading digital and Print on Demand (POD) publishers. You will get guidance on selecting a publisher who will do right by you at a fair price. You will learn the real costs and benefits of their printing packages, particularly certain costly and unproven marketing packages — some costing upwards of \$14,000!

Whether you create novels, poetry, family history, photography, cook books or other non-fiction, there is a publisher for you. Neal will show you how to find a reputable one and get your book on Amazon at minimal cost. The *How to Publish Now* Workshop includes:

- * How to prepare a manuscript for publication.
- * How to publish efficiently at minimal cost.
- * Review of over 25 digital publishers that specialize in self-published books.
- * Review of the costs of editing, proof reading, cover design, and publication.
- * How to select a suitable publisher based on services offered for the price.
- * Comparison of costs and benefits of available services.
- * Alerts on specific services to avoid.
- * Suggestions of publishers who would be appropriate for your book.
- * How to market using social media and the Internet.

To top that off, you will receive a free copy of Neal's book, *How to Publish Now*.

This workshop will be held May 21, 2016 from 9:30 to noon at Third Haven Friends Common Room, 405 S. Washington St., Easton MD 21601. The cost is \$35 for ESWA members, \$45 for non-members. Reserve your space today by calling Suzanne at 410-820-7115.

*** SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS WRITING SEMINAR ***



Spring Writing Intensive

Saturday, May 21, 2016

The Second Annual Writing Intensive

Organized by Laura Oliver and Lynn Auld Schwartz

Mellon Hall

Saturday, May 21, 2016

9:15 a.m. - 6 p.m.

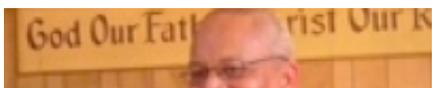
Tuition: \$175

Link to: <http://www.sjc.edu/programs-and-events/annapolis/community-programs/continuing-education/spring-writing-intensive/>

In this one-day writing intensive, participants will have the opportunity to join other writers for a day devoted to writing instruction, discovery, and inspiration. Working under the guidance of award-winning authors, attendees may select four workshops from seven choices. By choosing from a menu of craft options that will include memoir, fiction, nonfiction, and publishing advice, participants will select the subjects that address their most challenging writing issues and will leave armed with new skills, understanding, and motivation. All levels are welcome.

These concentrated writing workshops are complemented by an extraordinary setting—the idyllic campus of St. John’s College and charming, historic Annapolis. Come for the day or spend the weekend.

Introducing Cameron McCoy



At left, Cameron McCoy and Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford



Cameron McCoy was a guest to BTO this past March. He is a Senior in Easton High School and the state winner in poetry for Black History month. He is an incredible young man who has many talents and academic credentials too many to mention. He will be working with poet Sue Ellen Thompson over the summer and then will leave for Atlanta to attend Morehouse College.

It was your editor's privilege to be a mentor to this young man who touched my life and the lives of many who had the good fortune to meet him at the conference. Below is one of his featured poems about a man who is dear to my heart, as well as Cameron and many, many others who have come to respect this life served well. He is buried in my home town of Rochester, NY. Yes, it is Frederick Douglass, a great statesman and personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, an outstanding testimony to two men at a time when friendships such as that were just not to be.

A Man You Know

By Cameron McCoy

A man cascaded by ever-raining bigots,
Born into a Slave land,
Severed from the word "Freedom,"
A man you know all too well.

A man enameled by a life from restrictions,
Living within a Slave land,
Motivated within the confines of the Southern nomenclature,
A man you know all too well.

A man swifted by actions for necessary rights,
Fighting for freedom from the Slave land,
A pen perpetuates his dire circumstances,
A man you know all too well.

A man you know all too well.

A man who sufficed so much for the enrichment of others,
Living free from the Slave land,
Indicative to his times, speculative of the future,
A man you know all too well.

A man pursued by the menaces of past enslavement,
Embodiment of the essence of Black pride,
His ability cascades the mental arena we stand in today,
A man you know all too well.

Innuendoes and eloquence surface through his trails,
Passing through indifferent walls of persecution,
A man opposed by many, but followed by more,
A man you know all too well.

Never complacent, free of his past rejections,
Conveyed through the souls of all free men,
A man only fueled by freedom's fumes,
A man you know all too well.

A composer, an artist of slavery's heartbreaks,
A father, a founder of many free minds,
A "Doug" down man, "less" contempt with brotherly bloodshed,
Wait! You know this man, don't you? Did you get it?

Frederick, torn by past enslavement and ruthless tribulations,
Frederick, deadly to the oppressor, but heavenly to the free man,
Frederick, a cancer to bigotry, but a cure to suffering restrictions,
Frederick, levier of sorrow, destructor of deemed restrictions,
Frederick, a leader, impervious to lassitude,
Frederick, death to the slaver, life to the slavee,
Frederick, scarred from the lashes of Justice, but empowered by this day,
today,
Frederick Douglass, a man you know all too well.

ESWA History Update

Interesting Add On History from our Vice President, Susan Jones.

Editor's note: Thanks for sending this in, Susan, and may it encourage everyone out there who might be hanging on to some interesting history of ESWA, please get it to Susan. Thanks!

ESWA's History – An Ongoing Project

WHO? She was **Mona Van Duyn**, a small-town Midwesterner. She graduated from Iowa State Teachers College, after having to plead with her father to let her go to college. Married for more than 60 years, she and her husband both taught at Washington University in St. Louis.

She was a poet. Awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1991 for her poem, "Near Changes," she was named Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry in 1992, the first woman to hold that post.

Her obituary (December 4, 2004) in the *Washington Post*, described someone "whose lyrics of love, everyday life and the transcendent power of art made her one of the nation's most honored poets . . . "

WHY? Why have I shared the above? Because I need to right a wrong, to fill in a blank. Our 30-year history booklet, *I Vaguely Recall*, mentions that ESWA's monthly meetings have included several noteworthy speakers, including two (state) Poets Laureates. Subsequent research has disclosed that we have had **three** Poets Laureates as monthly meeting guests. **Mona Van Duyn** was the guest speaker at ESWA's January 9, 1993 meeting.

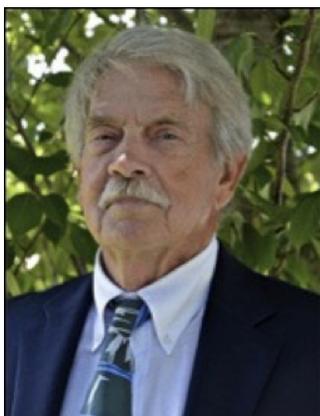
WHAT? The point I'm trying to make is that ESWA's history project is ongoing. The subtitle of our booklet, "A short, incomplete history of the Eastern Shore Writers Association," reinforces the truth that we're still looking for memories, for old newsletters, old directories. In fact, I'd like to know if anyone reading this recalls that meeting. Can you share with us – for future newsletters – what she spoke about? Did she read selections? Or . . . ?

SHE SPOKE ABOUT? DID SHE READ SELECTIONS? Or . . . ?

Also, I'd like to hear from readers of our booklet who those two **state** Poets Laureates were. Prizes await the first two correct answers.

Be a part of our ongoing history project. If you haven't already done so, please send me an e-mail (susan@wordsworthverse.com) and request your copy of *Vaguely Recall*. Read it. Can you add some facts? Correct some mistakes? The five-dollar cost, by the way, goes to the EEF, the **Eswa Education Fund** (so if you make out a check, that's the preferred recipient). And, if you have some ESWA history information, I'd love to hear from you.

Mona Van Duyn wrote, *The world's perverse, / but it could be worse.*
I'd add, *Our memories are perversely lax. / Please share with us your hist'ry facts.*



Hal's Radio Days

Last Friday morning of the month at 9 a.m. on WSDL
90.7

Streaming at: www.delmarvapublicradio.net

Hal Wilson's guest for the April 2016 edition of **Delmarva Today: Writer's Edition** will be Bruce Riedel. We'll discuss his latest book, *JFK's Forgotten Crisis: Tibet, the CIA, and the Sino-Indian War*.

Bruce Riedel is senior fellow and director of the [Brookings Intelligence Project](#), which is part of Brookings Institution's new [Center for 21st Century Security and Intelligence](#). He also serves as a senior fellow in the [Saban Center for Middle East Policy](#). Bruce has also been a senior advisor to the last four U.S. presidents on South Asia and the Middle East while working as a senior member of the National Security Council.

WSDL Radio 90.7

Streaming at [Delmarva Public Radio](#)

*****Connect with Hal and his works on his website:**

www.haroldowilson.com and connect with his monthly radio show **Delmarva Today: Writer's Edition** at: www.delmarvapublicradio.net. On channel **WSCL 90.7**. The Radio Theatre is on **WSCL 89.5**

Outside the Delmarva Public Radio WSCL 89.5 listening area, you can hear the program streaming on the station's website at www.delmarvapublicradio.net. In addition, the program will be podcast and available on the same website soon following the broadcast. A link to the podcast will be placed on my website www.haroldowilson.com and will go live following the broadcast. In addition to the drama, each program includes a short interview with the author. This is old time radio drama. You don't want to miss it.

Call for Submissions to *Beach Reads*



The popular Rehoboth Beach Reads Short Story Contest opened for submissions on March 1. Writers are invited to submit short (500-3,500 word) "beach reads," the kinds of stories people enjoy reading while on vacation. Each story must incorporate the year's theme and also have a connection to Rehoboth Beach (**the writer does not have to live in Rehoboth**). This year's theme is "Beach Nights."

Browseabout Books in Rehoboth Beach is the sponsor for the contest, which offers a \$500 cash prize for first place, \$250 for second place, and \$100 for third place. The top 25 or so stories chosen by a panel of judges will be included in the book *Beach Nights*, which will be published by Cat & Mouse Press by the end of the year. "It's a wide-open theme that could evoke romance, mystery, humor, family intrigue, or just about anything."

Judges this year are:

Denise Camacho is the president of Intrigue Publishing, LLC., in Upper

Marlboro, MD.

Laurel Marshfield a professional writer, ghostwriter, developmental editor, and book coach who assists authors of nonfiction, fiction, memoir, and biography in preparing their book manuscripts for publication.

John A. Nieves is an Assistant Professor of English at Salisbury University

Mary-Margaret Pauer received her MFA in creative writing in 2010 from Stonecoast, at the University of Southern Maine.

Judith Reveal is a freelance editor, book indexer, book reviewer, and author

Billie Travalini, a recipient of a 2014 Governor's Award for the Arts, has received Delaware Division of the Arts Fellowships, professional, in fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.

The contest deadline is July 1. The fee to enter is \$10,
**Contest guidelines and entry information are available at
www.catandmousepress.com.

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RehobothBeachReads.

Music for a Writer's Ears

Mark it on your calendar – Thursday 4/21 at the Creamery Cafe Bistro from 6–8 – THIRD THURSDAY! Queen Anne's County's newest social event returns with musical guest, the incomparable Guthrie Matthews (<https://www.facebook.com/The-Guthrie-Matthews-Method-76958.../>), along with local authors [Peggy Jaegly](#) and [Kenton Kilgore](#)! Emceed by the always entertaining [Steve Hazzard](#)! Details will be shared as well about the Chesapeake Storytelling Festival at Chesapeake College on April 29th and 30th! A great small plates menu and bar service will be available!



My Turn

The lovely month of April is upon us and such a lovely month it is. It's the harbinger of warm months and summer fun to come. But not quite yet. We still have many fun things ahead. First off, if you attended the Bay to Ocean Writers Conference, you were blessed with a really wonderful day. The speakers were excellent as always and the writers gleaned so much information and made many new friends. Thank you to all our volunteers, where would we be without them? If you have that desire to help for next year, please let yourself be known to us by writing me and I will make sure you are contacted.

While we are on the subject of volunteers, I am looking for someone who is willing to work with me for the newsletter. It's all volunteer, a time commitment is involved, a keen eye and a desire to learn. Please send me your background and we will talk.

I hope you take advantage of all the programs included in this and future newsletters. June will be here and then I take a break until September, so in the few months ahead, please pick some opportunities and get involved in the programs, monthly meeting, and say yes to be a member and volunteer. Going forward ESWA will offer new member benefits to enjoy, so you don't want to miss out and if you're a writer, you're going to write anyway, so let's learn how to be better, together.

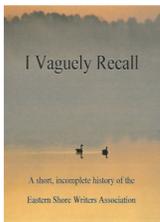
Let me know your thoughts: eswaeditor@gmail.com. I read every one of them.

See you next month!

Bonnie Feldstein, editor ESWA online news

David Healey, communications & newsletter Design

[Bonnie Feldstein](#), editor, ESWA online news!



Copies of *I Vaguely Recall: A short, incomplete history of the Eastern Shore Writers Association*, by ESWA Vice President, Susan Jones are now available for a \$5 donation. Contact Susan Jones at Susan@wordsworthverse.com to get your copy. Copies will also be available at the Regional Writer Connections meetings.



Are you an ESWA member? Please consider joining the Eastern Shore Writers Association if you are not currently a member. Annual membership is just \$35. Members received the ESWA membership directory, discounted prices on some events, invitations to member-only events, a free copy of the *Delmarva Review* and the opportunity to support the literary arts on the Eastern Shore. Find out more and register online at the [ESWA website](#).



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Visit the ESWA online at www.easternshorewriters.org

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