

# melia Island Writers



September 22 has two things in common. It's our usual (before COVID-19) fourth Tuesday meeting date, and a special Hobbit birthday during Tolkien week. We won't be meeting in person, but we have good reason to celebrate our intended local author guests and eat, sing, watch, read, and write in Elvish. On our timeline, "Lord of the

Rings" Bilbo Baggins was born 1290, and Frodo, 1368. Tea, coffee and scones are favorites, as well as beer, wine, mince pie, and **cabbages and potatoes** -



Just the thing for a celebration, Bubble and Squeak from The Wee Cookbook, found in a recent move. It does squeak in the skillet! 3 T butter, 1 small onion - diced, 2 C shredded cooked **cabbage**, 2 C mashed **potatoes**. Saute onions in butter till tender. Combine cabbage and potatoes. Add to skillet and press with fork to form a cake. Cook over moderate heat till well browned. Loosen potato cake with spatula and flip, cook till browned. Cut into wedges, add cheese, sour cream or other addition....

Nancy Blanton and J.R. Sharp had planned to talk with us on the 22nd about writing in centuries past, and what goes into historical research for accurate storytelling.

In lieu of gathering in person, find Nancy and J.R. online with their latest blog posts and podcasts. Located on their websites are links along with details of their award winning novel series.

Nancy's novels are set in Ireland during the 17th Century. It's difficult enough to write a novel set in current times; to reach back and draw us into rich history is a complex undertaking. <http://www.nancyblanton.com>

J.R. bases his 20th Century novels, in part, on his own family stories from northern Italy during

WWII. <http://www.jrsharpauthor.com>



## - CONGRATULATIONS -

Florida Authors and Publishers Association has announced its annual awards for book publishing excellence and creativity in design, content, and production. In the Business category, local author and business executive Deb Boelkes was awarded with both a **Silver** and **Bronze** medal. Silver for "Heartfelt Leadership: How to Capture the Top Spot and Keep on Soaring. Bronze for "The Wow Factor Workplace: How to Create a Best Place to Work Culture."



A **Gold** medal in the Business category was awarded to Samuel Staley. Sam was our guest in 2018. His presentation covered the writing of historical fiction that sizzles and sells. A Florida State University professor, Sam is one of those rare types who writes successfully in several genres. Congratulations to Sam, winning Gold for "The Beatles and Economics: Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and the Making of a Cultural Revolution."

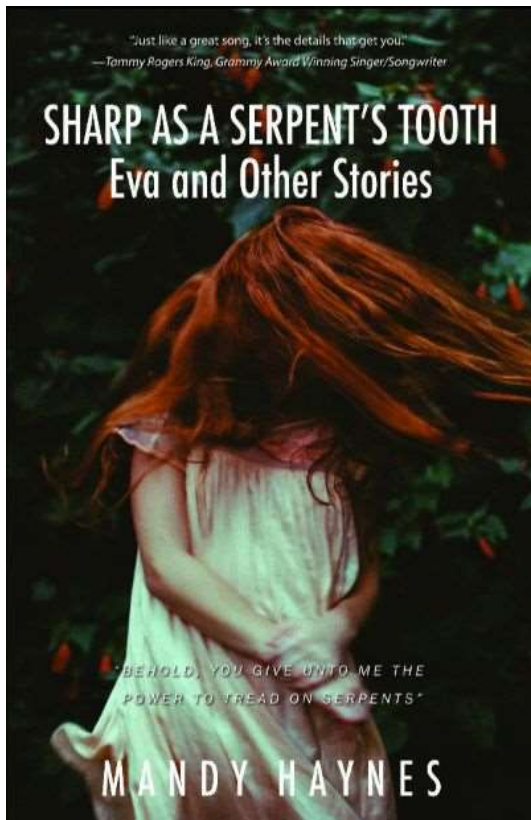
Link to Sam's Fernandina Beach presentation:

[https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/65334d48-1dbe-43c1-bb2d-34533bfe052d/downloads/1ciqlmbtt\\_38916.pdf?ver=1597524409297](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/65334d48-1dbe-43c1-bb2d-34533bfe052d/downloads/1ciqlmbtt_38916.pdf?ver=1597524409297)

Information about Florida Authors and Publishers (FAPA):

<http://www.myfapa.org>

---



Island life has certainly agreed with Mandy Haynes. Since arriving here from Nashville a couple of years ago, she has written and launched the highly acclaimed "Walking the Wrong Way Home" debut collection of southern stories.

And set to release on Sept. 28 is her newest collection. Wow, check this out: "Mandy Haynes' writing voice is as smooth as fabled Tennessee whiskey. Mandy knows good stories, and this one, like her first, proves her top shelf skill as a writer and gives readers more than they came for." - Sonny Brewer, author of "The Poet of Tolstoy Park" and other novels.

Endorsed by the editor of Southern Writers on Writing, more raves and information at: <http://www.mandyhaynes.com>

Available at our *local* bookstores and wherever books are sold.

---

**Story and Song Bookstore Virtual Program -**

**"Everything Sad is Untrue" Thurs., Sept. 3,  
7 pm**

**Welcome new subscribers. Some of you aspire to write children's books. Some are suffering the blues, writer's block, the blahs. What do these things have in common? An uplifting, learning opportunity through Story and Song Bookstore. Daniel Nayeri is publisher of Odd Dot, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group. His blockbuster new book is "Everything Sad is Untrue." Be uplifted and inspired by this gentleman via Zoom platform, Thursday, Sept. 3 at 7 pm. Register for this free**

program here: <http://www.storyandsongbookstore.com/ongoing-series>

---

### Local Author Book Signings, September at The Book Loft -

- Sat., Sept. 5, 1-4 pm "Lions in the Water," by Jack Wyatt.
- Sat., Sept. 26, 1-4 pm "Crooked Creek," by Harold Voyles.

Come out and enjoy conversation and good books with these gentlemen. "Lions in the Water" involves a 300 year old legend and exciting, mysterious adventures from the Caribbean to the Cape. "Crooked Creek" continues Harold's fascinating exploration into life and work in Appalachia.

---



Florida Writers announces its 19th annual October conference. Normally the third weekend in Orlando, the organizers have worked diligently to offer a quality, low-cost remote conference this year. Workshops, programs, and conference features here: <http://www.floridawriters.net>

Share your book news, writing accomplishments, events, and we will celebrate with you. Send care of Marla: [divinemissmm@yahoo.com](mailto:divinemissmm@yahoo.com), or Michael: [mstokes@fernandinabeachlife.com](mailto:mstokes@fernandinabeachlife.com)

Find back issues of this newsletter, businesses in support of publishing, local authors and their books, blogs, and more: <http://www.ameliaislandwriters.org>

