

Calendar of events

Thursday, August 21
HRW Open Mic Night
6:00 – 8:30pm
Chez Papillote
Portsmouth

Wednesday, August 27
HRW Open Mic Night
6:00 – 8:30pm
Pretlow/Ocean View Library
Norfolk

Friday, September 12
HRW—An Evening with
Lenore Hart & David Poyer
6:00 – 9:00pm
Barry Robinson Theater and
Fine Arts Center
Virginia Beach

Tuesday, September 23
HRW Open Mic Night
6:00 – 8:30pm
Central Library
Virginia Beach

Tuesday, October 7
HRW Open Mic Night
6:00 – 8:30pm
Central Library
Virginia Beach

Tuesday, November 4
HRW Open Mic Night
6:00 – 8:30pm
Central Library
Virginia Beach

Tuesday, December 2
HRW Open Mic Night
6:00 – 8:30pm
Central Library
Virginia Beach

For additional information,
go to our website at
www.hamptonroadswriters.org

Best-selling authors' tips on getting published to headline September HRW event

The Barry Robinson Theatre and Fine Arts Center is the site for *An Evening with Lenore Hart and David Poyer* on Friday, September 12. These best-selling authors are residents of Virginia's Eastern Shore and will share their tips for successfully moving through the fiercely competitive publishing world.

Lenore Hart is the author of *Becky—The Life and Loves of Becky Thatcher, Waterwoman, and Ordinary Springs*.

Her husband, David Poyer, is the author of *The Threat, The Anvil of Our Souls: A novel of the Monitor and the Merrimack, Korea Strait*, and other best-sellers.

They have each been featured on the "Writer to Writer" television series on PBS and have been guests on Voice of America. They participate in writing programs at several colleges and universities and are frequent guests at a number of literary festivals.

Advance tickets are \$35 and tickets at the door will be \$45. The event starts at 6:00pm. HRW members attending the event may attend a wine and cheese reception with the couple beginning at 5:30pm.

Tickets for the event are available by contacting any member of the board of directors or by going to www.hamptonroadswriters.org.

HRW moves from dream to reality

Lauran Strait, president of the Board of Directors of the Hampton Roads Writers announced in June that the organization had incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia as a nonprofit organization and had applied for 501(c)(3) status with the IRS.

"Having 501(c)(3) status will help us in becoming eligible for grant funding from a number of sources," Strait said. Outside funding is essential for the group to fulfill its objectives of creating and supporting literary events and literacy programs in the Hampton Roads area.

"We've had very successful Open Mic events in Virginia Beach and we have Open Mic nights scheduled in Norfolk and Portsmouth for August," Strait added. "We completed a Flash- and Micro-Fiction workshop in July and our *Evening with Lenore Hart and David Poyer* is coming up in September, so we're well on our way to achieving a great first year."

HRW secretary Sherrie Pilkington said, "We have 51 writers in the group at this point and grow at each event, which is wonderful because we have volunteer opportunities available for everybody."

"As more people join us, we'll be able to expand the areas we serve and the programs we offer," Strait concluded.

Contact Us

www.hamptonroadswriters.org
hrwriters@cox.net
3334-24 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach VA 23452

Connect

Hampton Roads Writers
www.hamptonroadswriters.org

Chesapeake Bay Poets
chesbaypoets.org

Kinship Of Authors
Contact Ann Davis at
bbdabd@aol.com

Norfolk Writers'
Meetup Group
writers.meetup.com/29/

Virginia Beach Writers'
Meetup Group
writers.meetup.com/777/

Newport News Writers'
Meetup Group
writers.meetup.com/518/

Richmond Christians
Who Write
rcww.blogspot.com

Virginia Romance Writers
virginiabeachromancewriters.com

Mystery by the Sea
groups/hamptonroads.com/MBS/

Sisters in Crime Writers' Group
www.chessiechapter.org

Pungo-Blackwater
Library Writers' Group
call 757.426.5194

HRW partners with Amazon.com

Summer's not over yet! There's still time for you to get your hands on something fun to read, or if you prefer, something instructional that will push your writing to the next level. Whether it is the latest bestseller just released in paperback, the monthly editor's pick, or a style guide, you can find all of your literary needs on the Hampton Roads Writers website. HRW has partnered with Amazon.com because of its support for literacy programs. Having the Amazon link on our website provides a convenient way to acquire all your reading and writing needs plus, without any additional cost to you, Amazon provides a cash contribution to HRW for every purchase made through our website.

Can't wait for delivery to read something, try the Amazon Shorts. No matter the word length, 49 cents gets you a pdf.file sent to your email address immediately. Print it on some nice paper or put it in a binder and you've got yourself a fun, quick read.

When it comes to Amazon, think outside the box because they not only have books, movies, and music, they also carry computers, computer games, office supplies, electronics, home and garden products, toys for kids and babies, apparel such as shoes and jewelry, sporting goods, along with auto and industrial tools.

You can have these items in hand without ever leaving your house and it's quick and easy. On the home page of the HRW website, scroll over to the menu on the left side of the page. Click on *Books*. Scroll down to the *Search Amazon* box at the bottom of the page. If you have a title or ISBN enter that info in the available spot and click the yellow *Go* tab. If you don't have any of that info, or you just want to access the Amazon website for other products, click the *Go* button and you will be taken immediately into Amazon.com where you can search for what you need.

We appreciate you making the conscious effort to purchase your Amazon products via the HRW website. Every penny pitched into the pile is a valuable resource in our efforts to promote literacy.

Sherrie Pilkington contributed this story

Online games for writers

In addition to her roles as a writer, editor, and HRW President, Lauran Strait also serves as the organization's webmaster and has created a game links page that can be accessed through the Writer's Resource page at hamptonroadswriters.org/games.php.

"Writers can be expert procrastinators," Strait said, "and these are some great procrastination tools, but they can also put your language skills to work so you can at least feel a little better about wasting your time and not writing."

One game, popular among many people and not just writers, is the *FreeRice Vocabulary Test*. FreeRice is a sister site of the world poverty site, Poverty.com. FreeRice has two goals. The first is to provide English vocabulary to everyone for free. The second is to help end world hunger by providing rice to hungry people for free. The food is donated through the UN World Food Program to help end hunger. The FreeRice site is made possible by the generosity of its advertising sponsors.

Hampton Roads Writers

Officers, Board of Directors members, and Advisors

Lauran Strait, president
Stephanie Brannick, vice president
Sherrie Pilkington, secretary
Lynn Johnson, treasurer

Jeff Andrews
Marty Basden
Nancy Blumenberg
Tom Cheezum

Nora Firestone
Suzanne Ganschinetz
Suzanne Goldblatt
Browning Lloyd

Kimberly Medlin
Sharon Poch
Valerie Wilkinson