



## August 2021 Guild Meeting

Saturday, August 20, 2021  
1:00 PM  
Eau Gallie Public Library  
1521 Pineapple Ave  
Melbourne, FL 32935



### Guest Speaker: Dan Walsh

One of the biggest challenges an indie author faces is how to get the reader to finish the first chapter and continue on to finish the book. We need to learn ***How to Hook Your Reader***, and our presenter, Dan Walsh, is uniquely qualified to tell us. And tell us he will, on August 21.

Dan is a retired, ordained minister who, after 25 years in the ministry and having three books published by a major publishing house, retired to write full time.

Dan's novels have received popular and critical acclaim, earning rave reviews from USA Today and magazines like Publisher's Weekly, Library Journal, BookList and RT Book Reviews. His very first, *The Unfinished Gift*, won 2 ACFW Carol Awards. It's still in print 10 years later and has sold over 80,000 copies. Several of his 23 other books have won numerous awards and appeared on several national bestseller lists. Over 1 million of them are in print or have been downloaded.



It seems that SCWG members had a grand time writing their short stories for the latest anthology, *Mischief!* The Guild decided to mix it up a bit this time and combine the short story contest with the anthology. Well, the anthology is almost compiled, and the contest entries have all been scored. Past president Cindy Foley has graciously agreed to host this month's meeting, and will announce the short story contest winners. Was it you? Only one way to find out!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Well, it's August, the dog days of Summer, and we're stuck in the doldrums. (Google it! 😊) We all get writer's block once in a while. We sit at our desk, staring at our computer screen, and guess what! It just stares back at us! So, what do do? Get away from the desk for a while. Maybe a couple hours, maybe a day, maybe a week. Go to the beach. Take a bike ride. Go to the gym. Take a day trip somewhere. But then... get back to work! Our stories aren't going to write themselves!

Happy writing!

Sincerely,  
*Joanne Fisher*  
President, SCWG

## There's a new VP in town!

Kit Adams has decided to step down from the vice-presidency and revert to being a director-at-large. Therefore, the Board of Directors met by teleconference and elected Director-at-Large Dan Fisher as vice-president. Let's congratulate Dan on his appointment.

Betty Whitaker Jackson has recently published her twenty-seventh book, *Seashell Saga*. This is a coming-of-age novel from the point of view of Kaley Grace Wentworth, an almost-fifteen-year-old who lives on the coast of Florida. Through her journals, poetry, screenwriting, and narratives she practices her passion, creative writing. She has won awards in the Spring Creative Writing Competition sponsored by the Brevard County Teachers of English. One of her prizes is a two-week summer seminar to learn and practice the writing techniques she displays in the story.

She has also just been chosen for the lead role in *Singin' in the Rain*, the Summer Performing Arts musical. She will play Kathy Seldon opposite leading man, Darren Bablanski who—is she ready for this?—kisses her four times in the play.

These two events could have filled her summer. But wait... there's more! This is a family story. The Seashell Café, a close-knit group of neighbors. Kite-flying, beachcombing, and surfing would be anyone's tale of paradise. But for Cherise and Sam Wentworth, whose parents are philanthropists and entrepreneurs, Kaley's horizons expand to make 2018 a remarkable time to follow Flannery O'Connor's advice: "Write to discover what you know." This is a family with big dreams and the ambition to make them all come true. And Kaley, in the style of Jo in Little Women, weaves the summer events into the remarkable Seashell Saga. Available in paperback and eBook on Amazon. Visit [www.bettyjackson.net](http://www.bettyjackson.net).

