

The truth is...we gather on the Third Monday of each month to practice our writing skills. We listen and share in each other's work. We are small in number and our commitment is strictly to produce and foster creativity among our members.

We started in July 1999 and consist of adults that enjoy writing memoirs, commentaries, essays, poems, and/or prose. Our simple method each month is to use a pre-selected word or phrase as the basis of a story, an idea, an opinion, a derivative of, or an implied essence of and write a 1 to 1 ½ page document. We share our stories, comment, and in that way build up our writing skills through practice and presentation. The atmosphere is friendly and supportive, and the feedback is gentle.

Curious? Always wanted to try writing for fun, entertainment, or even profit? Come visit with us at any of our open meetings. Bring a sample of your work. Sit in and see what we do. If you like it, join us every month and become a member.

Original Works by Members of the Pen & Ink Writers' Group
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November 2016 selection – Masterpiece

Masterpieces
By Elvira K. Castillo

Mystery and Detective Stories
Are my favorite
Series to watch on
Television
Recurring ones
Presented on Channels 11 and 20
I became a fan first on radio
Early on there were radio shows like The Shadow, Mr. District Attorney, etc.
Christopher Foyle on Foyle's War
Engages a detective in WW II in England
Sending me back in time to radio days my favorite stories.

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Agree to Disagree
By: Susan J Wilfong

I thought about a "Masterpiece"
As it pertains to art.
But there are so many "Masterpieces"
I didn't know where to start.

There's Whistler's Mother and Mona Lisa
And the portraits by Van Gogh.
The curvaceous women of Rubens
And the ceiling by Michelangelo.

Because no two people
Are exactly the same,
Art is subjective
This, anyone would claim.

Then I thought about a puzzle
And all of those little pieces.
And the fun I had
Putting them together with my nieces.

How we searched long and hard
For a piece that would fit.
And when we found the "Master piece",
We didn't want to quit.

There always seemed to be
That piece that was so hard to find,
That we just had to walk away
And try to clear our mind.

Then when we returned to our puzzle
That "Master piece" suddenly appeared.
We would look at each other
And think, "Now that's really weird".

Then there are the programs
That we watch on TV.
"Family Classics" and "Lost in Space"
Are Masterpieces to me.

Because, as I mentioned earlier,
No two people are exactly the same.
What I see as a "Masterpiece"
You might think is quite lame.

I see the world through the eyes that I have,
And you see the world through your own.
It's alright if we view things differently,
We can be friends so we're never alone.

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A Political Masterpiece
By N. Stewart

What a masterpiece of political mumbo-jumble this presidential race and election was. Media predicting the outcome of the political race months before anyone could even vote; stirring up the populace with specifically selected sound bites and appalling, ugly pictures, half-truths and vague innuendos; and fabricating stories to "tantalize" and "enrich" the listener experience.

The election fodder became a matter of bygone moral judgments and ethical issues of the seeking candidates and not about his or her potential ability and innate wisdom to guide our country. The election rhetoric became limited to personal attacks with little or no discussion of important items. Leaders need an overall vision of what will be required and need to adopt a plan to insure completion. I didn't hear any of that addressed by either candidate. What I heard was that one should be an accused criminal or be in jail and that the other was a sleaze bag. What a choice for voters and what an image portrayed to the rest of the world.

Protesting in the streets of our cities after the elections results were in. Really? Why? Did you, protester, receive a social media message to join up at a certain place and like sheep without any forethought blindly followed? Were you a paid participant in the disturbance? Is the act of protest the whim of the spoiled few that didn't get their way? What is that you say...you didn't cast your vote in this election? What right do you have to protest then? And, why didn't you vote? Those that voted made their statement. That's how things change. Soon the marching in the streets will be passé, ordinary, common, just a momentary annoyance and real life will shine.

What's with the media spot-lighting attention on the transition team and the selection of candidates for the various cabinet offices? Why are they scrutinizing and negatively commenting on every movement the President Elect takes? Are they trying to recover their loss of face from the mishandling of the election outcome? Instead of fact-finders and securers of truth are they manipulators and influence peddlers for their own agenda? The press is not in charge. It's the President Elect's decision and not theirs about who he thinks can help him run the country.

It's over. The people have spoken. In the spirit of sportsmanship, let's all move on.

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