

Hi, Fellow Writer.

In the area around Charlotte Harbor, stretching from Venice down to Sanibel, there are many individuals who write stories, poems and lyrics. There also many different groups to which these writers belong.

Unfortunately, there is very little communication between these groups and even less between individuals. So often we only learn of a missed opportunity when one of our friends tells us how good it was, and what a shame it was that we missed it. It is also very disappointing when one devotes time and effort to creating an event and hardly anybody turns up to enjoy it.

Three years ago, there was the same problem amongst local environmental groups. We solved that problem by creating a Yahoo list/group which has since become Eco-Voice and is read daily by over 2,000 people. (www.Eco-voice.org)

So I propose that we do the same thing for those of us who write simply because we enjoy it, those of us who want to get better, need advice, or simply would like somebody to read to.

I have therefore created a Yahoo list/group called the 'Charlotte Harbor Writers.'

This is not a new group and it is not a threat to any existing group, it is simply a way for existing groups and their members to communicate; a writer's portal!

It is simply a way for existing groups and their members to communicate! It is also a way for the outside world to communicate with us.

Joining the Yahoo list is extremely simple, you simply have to send me an [email](#) and in the 'Subject' line write, 'Please add me to the list', and I will do just that. You can also send me the e-mail addresses of anyone else that you think would be interested in being part of this exciting new venture and I will invite them to become members.

Then whenever a local group or individual is organizing an event for local writers/readers, you will receive an e-mail with information. You will only receive one e-mail a day and then only on days when there is information that you need to see.

On the other hand, if you are the organizer of a meeting or other event, then by simply sending the information as an e-mail to: CharlotteHarborWriters@yahoogroups.com it will be distributed to everyone who has subscribed to the list. So the sooner we get everyone on the list the faster it will become effective.

Simply go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CharlotteHarborWriters> to see how it works.

Obviously to make the list effective it is important that as many local writers as possible learn of its existence and decide to join.

So please forward this message to any friends that you know who happen to be local writers, or simply interested in listening to local writers read their own work.

If you are involved in any one of the local writing groups then please, forward this message to all of your members. It will not weaken your group it will make it much stronger, and you may be pleasantly surprised when more people turn up at your 'open mics' and other events. (Teachers and others seeking writers to share their work with

other groups, such as 'Read Out Loud', can also use the list to make their needs known. I would suggest that those not directly interested in everything that is going on, should subscribe, and select 'No Mail', then they can still post messages when they need to, whilst not receiving the Daily Digest every day.

Other uses for the list will emerge as time goes by, more people subscribe, and more groups post activities on the list.

There is no charge for this service, either to post information or to receive it and you can unsubscribe with one click if you decide that the information is not for you

If you do not wish to be bothered by e-mails, you can when you subscribe, choose to receive 'no mail'. Then whenever you wish, you simply visit the web address <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CharlotteHarborWriters> and read any messages that have been posted since your last visit.

So why not give it a try and become a member of Charlotte Harbor Writers.

Paul Holmes, local writer.

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