

NETWORK NEWS

Quarterly E-newsletter for Members

April 2018 Edition

Network Spotlight

Announcing the Christian Editing Standard Rate Chart

By Christi McGuire,
CEN LLC Co-owner

Christian Editor Network LLC is launching an industry-wide survey to create a Christian Editing Standard Rate Chart. We are asking freelance Christian editors, regardless of experience or type of editing, to provide information about their freelance work and editing rates. We hope to create a new standard for Christian editors to find current rates and industry information in order to stay competitive and remain professional within their level of experience and types of services offered.

CEN is doing this for our members, as well as the entire Christian editing industry. Rate charts that are available online are outdated, so we've seen a need for current data, and we hope to fulfill that need for our editors.

We are finalizing the survey and will begin to collect data in May. Look for announcements on the loop, on the CEN website, and on social media.

Devotion

"Love Matters Most" By Sarah Barnum

"So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

1 John 4:16

I sat on the living room floor surrounded by mountains of paper. From elementary school art projects to college coursework, the seasons of my life lay strewn on the worn brown carpet. I had saved every award I'd ever earned—county fair ribbons, sports trophies, academic medals. From behind the corner of a foil-edged certificate, a pack of notes on goofy, donkey notepaper caught my eye. I smiled. Momma had put a note in my lunchbox each day when she sent me off to school. I pulled one out.

Hello Sunshine,

It brightens my moments to think of the lovely rays shining around me that come from you. You light up my life, lovely daughter.
XOXO
Mommy

One by one, I placed my awards in the purge pile. They didn't matter

anymore. But I kept Momma's notes. And in that, I realized the simple, profound truth that love matters most. It outlasts the things of this world. It's more important than any accomplishment. It wields the most power for influence in someone's life. We are most like Christ not when we perform well, but when we extend love to those around us. Each act of love is a note that others will remember, which points them toward Love Himself—Jesus.

**"It is perfectly okay to
write garbage—
as long as you
edit brilliantly."
—C. J. Cherryh**

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CMOS Highlights

Three Levels of Membership

Bronze Member Benefits

- New Member FAQs
- *The Chicago Manual of Style* [online subscription](#) discount
- Quarterly e-newsletter
- 10% discount at [The PEN Institute](#)
- 5% discount on [PENCON](#) registration
- Eligible to join the PEN-Prayer loop

Silver Member Benefits

- Most Bronze benefits, plus:
- Email loop to communicate with fellow members
- 15% discount at [The PEN Institute](#)
- 10% discount on [PENCON](#) registration
- Member name and website link on the PEN's [Silver Members](#) page
- May purchase [website ads](#)
- May write blog posts for the website and articles for the quarterly e-newsletter
- May list books written by the Silver Member on our [Resources](#) page, with links for purchase
- May apply to teach at [The PEN Institute](#)—paid position

Gold Member* Benefits

- Most Silver benefits, plus:
- 20% discount at [The PEN Institute](#)
- 20% discount on [PENCON](#) registration
- Bio and headshot on the PEN's [Gold Members](#) page
- May offer professional mentoring through the website
- Announced in newsletter when Gold level is achieved

*Must be a [CEC](#) Member

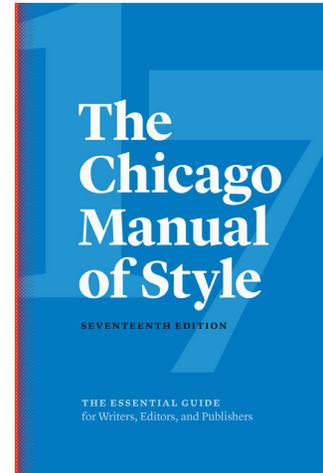
Q In certain scenarios (invitations, ads, etc.), our organization sometimes omits the verb: for example, “Complimentary parking available” (*with* is omitted). If the verb is elided, is it still a sentence requiring a period, or is it a fragment?

A Although it is a fragment, even fragments require periods when they appear in a paragraph. If a fragment appears apart from other text, however (on a line by itself or in a banner or burst on an invitation or flyer or sign or ad), there is often no need for end punctuation.

Q I am inquiring about the use of plural acronyms in parentheses. The writer wrote “A three-person board comprised of Senior Non-Commissioned Officer (SNCO)s.” Their use of “(SNCO)s” just looks strange. I said it should be “Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCOs).”

A You are right. The writer’s solution is wrong. (And we almost never say that!)

Q In “number + noun” of the CMOS hyphenation table, you say “Hyphenated before a noun, otherwise open.” You include the



Note: Our CMOS Q&A is taken directly from their website. Questions are from both 16th and 17th editions.

following examples: “a one-and-a-half-inch hem” and “one and a half inches.” As “inch” is a noun and “one and a half” is a number/quantity, why not “one-and-a-half inches”?

A That part of the table is explaining what to do when a “number + noun” modifies another noun. In “one and a half inches,” inches is not modified by a “number + noun” phrase; it is merely modified by a number: one and a half. Therefore no hyphens. After all, we don’t hyphenate phrases like “a hem of two inches.” In phrases like “a one-and-a-half-inch hem,” the noun hem is modified by a “number + noun” phrase: “one-and-a-half-inch,” which is therefore hyphenated, as we would hyphenate “two-inch hem.”

The image is a promotional banner for PENCON 2018. It features a green circular logo on the left with the word 'PENCON' and a pen nib. The background shows a laptop keyboard and a green coffee cup. The text reads: 'PENCON 2018' in bold black letters, 'Last chance to register!' in red cursive script, 'May 3-5 | Grand Rapids, MI' in green bold letters, and 'The only conference for editors in the Christian market.' in black. The website 'PENCONeditors.com' is written in green on the laptop keyboard.

Featured Editor—Sally Hanan

As an editor, what do you specialize in?

Copy editing nonfiction with the *CWMS* and the *CMOS*. I also coach authors who want to self-publish, bringing them from finished manuscript to a published eBook and print version.

What training have you completed on your journey to becoming an editor? Do you have any training in your specialization?

I'm self-taught, but I went through one of the PEN [now The PEN Institute] courses on setting up my business, which helped a lot. I also find myself learning a lot from the PEN loop.

What are some of your favorite resources when editing or writing?

The rule books are the best, but I also look up many words not found in Merriam-Webster's to see how most regarded publications spell and punctuate them. I love the online *CMOS* site that gives rule numbers, because then I can look them up in the book.

What advice would you give to a beginning editor?

The absolute best advice I could give would be to edit a few short pieces and then pay a qualified editor to go over your edits. Sadly, a lot of editors aren't all that good—they follow what seems right rather than what is right, so it would be important to choose someone who has gained a high score on an editing test, at least. That said, I have no idea what my score would be.

Do you participate in any organizations or groups other than the PEN?

I love being a contributing part of certain writing groups like Twitter's #ontheporch and Facebook's WFWA.

How has God gifted you to succeed in this business?

I get a lot of work through word-of-mouth referrals, and I find that the longer I'm in this business, the more



mouths I have to refer me. I'm also extremely fortunate that my husband helps me with all tech-related problems, so if anything fails, he has it back up and running quite quickly.

What is your favorite Scripture and why?

Genesis 12:22: I will make you a blessing to others. That's my summary of it. The actual verse is "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing" (ESV). We're Irish immigrants, and God very specifically told us to move to Texas back in 1994. A few months later we won two lottery visas and moved with a three-year-old and a five-month-old. I believe he wants us here to be a blessing to everyone we encounter and do life with.

What's one unique thing about you?

I have a way with words and am about to publish my fifth book.

Where are you located?

Austin, TX

Where can we find you online?

Editing and books: <http://www.inksnatcher.com>

Narration: <https://www.acx.com/narrator?p=A2GNWP9A4HY9VZ>

Life coaching and counseling: <http://www.pickyourlife.com>

BirdWatching magazine,

April 2018:

P. 9: "They **road** all-terrain vehicles along moist-soil wetland impoundments."

P. 24: "[A merganser duck in courting display] often shakes his head with his crest raised. After drawing attention to himself with this head shaking, he then throws his **bead** backward until it is lying against his back."

Member News

After 24 years of writing regularly for *Charisma*, Ken Walker got a plug from CEO Steve Strang in his [blog](#) recently.

Would you like to be connected with clients based on their needs and your specialty?



Christian Editor Connection

Connecting authors, agents, and publishers with established, professional freelance editors.

Join the CEC at ChristianEditor.com.

New Gold Members



The Christian PEN welcomes the following [Gold Members](#) to this professional level of membership.

Jennifer Vanderklipp
Barbara Curtis

Gold Members must be current members of the Christian Editor Connection and have been a Silver Member of the PEN or a member of the Christian Editor Connection for at least one year.

Apply for the [Christian Editor Connection](#) today. If you are already a member, you may be eligible for Gold membership.

Would you like to advertise your freelance services online?

Visit thechristianpen.com/find-an-editor/ to see our current ads.

Check out the details and purchase an ad at thechristianpen.com/websiteadvertisements/.

This benefit is for Gold and Silver members.

“Edit your author as you would be edited.”
—Barbara Sjöholm

Seven Steps for Serving Our Bosses and God Faithfully

By Joanna Sanders

We all know Abraham. In Genesis 24 we see an awesome picture of faithfulness in Abraham’s servant as he ventures out to find a wife for Isaac.

If we break down this narrative, we see several steps emerge, and it becomes a model for us for faithful service in our own workplaces.

Step 1: He gets his instructions and makes sure he’s got them straight. He’s a good steward of his position (Gen. 24: 1–9).

Do you fully understand what your client or your boss is asking of you? Ask questions and seek understanding of not just the requirements of the task but also of the purpose of the task.

Step 2: He set out. You’ve got to take action to be a servant (Gen. 24:10).

Jesus requires action of us, not just feeling. God will guide your footsteps, but He will not take them for you. Set out, one step at a time. Get something done today, even if you haven’t clarified the bigger spiritual connection to it yet.

Step 3: He prayed. He acknowledged who was in control and asked for success and a blessing for his master (Gen. 24:12).

If we took the time to pray Psalm 20:4, not just over our personal life, but over our bosses, what impact might we have? As we pray, the Holy Spirit will work in our hearts to bring our desires into accordance

with God’s own desires for us.

Step 4: Trust that God will answer your prayer.

Though the text acknowledges that God answered his prayer before he was done praying (Gen 24:15, 45), the servant doesn’t question God’s timing. This requires discernment, a gift from the Holy

Spirit. God’s timing is exact and purposeful, and our thoughts and ways are not his (Is. 55:8–9).

Step 5: He watched what was happening to confirm God’s hand; he practiced discernment in action (Gen 24:21).

To discern God’s will, pray and seek the Word. Align your circumstances with Scripture. Praying for wisdom and discernment in all aspects of our life is imperative for godly action.

Step 6: He worships God and gives God the glory in the victory (Gen 24:26–48).

In a society that loves distinction, we are called to be bold enough to graciously receive the accolades, but give the glory to God.

Step 7: Success is perceived, but he still continues to let God handle the result (Gen 24:49).

Even in our most “victorious” moments, we are to ask for His will to be done unconditionally. The opposite is also true; in our perceived “failures,” we should be quick to humble ourselves, ask what we can learn from the situation, and give God the glory.

(cont’d on next page)

EIE Awards

We have much to learn from the unnamed servant. As Hugh Whelchel has said, “When we live out a life of excellence at work, our witness takes on a whole new meaning.”

From:

<https://tifwe.org/serving-bosses-god-faithfully/>

Joanna Sanders is a Christian writer and the founder of Colossians46.com. She is a graduate of Villanova University and Moody Theological Seminary. Most importantly, she is wife to Geoff and mom to three godly men-in-training.

It takes a team to produce a well-written and well-edited book! And because the Christian Editor Connection wants to honor the teams behind such books, we are proud to announce our fourth annual Excellence in Editing Award.

This award celebrates newly released books that are superbly written, well edited, and published by a CBA publisher or self-published by a Christian author.

The CEC Excellence in Editing Award is open to all books published in hardcover or paperback in

2018. Books must be written in English, have been released in North America, and contain a Christian worldview.

The publication teams (authors, editors, publishers) behind the EIE award-winning books will be honored for their dedication and work and may mention this honor in their marketing, promotion, and publicity.

Visit <https://christianeditor.com/eie/> for more information or to submit a book that you’ve authored or edited.



The PEN Institute offers dozens of courses in three formats.

Lesson Pack—This option includes the lesson material in pdf format. Purchase and download anytime.

Group Instruction—This option includes the lesson material, optional homework, additional instructor handouts, a group forum to learn from other students, and direct feedback from the instructor. Group courses are scheduled throughout the year and administered via private forums.

Individual Mentoring—This option includes the lesson material, homework assignments, additional instructor handouts, and one-on-one mentoring from the instructor. This option is available throughout the year and scheduled directly with the instructor.

The following courses are open for registration. All PEN members receive discounts. For more information and to register, visit [The PEN Institute](http://ThePENInstitute.com).

E-book Formatting for Editors 101

Instructor: Susan K. Stewart

Dates: April 9–June 18

Description: Your clients are writing books specifically for e-book distribution. You may wonder what that has to do with you as an editor. You can help them by knowing the process and being able to answer their questions. E-book Formatting for Editors 101 covers the basics about e-publishing, including types of e-books, formatting details, pricing, distribution, marketing, and more.

In this course, we will prepare a manuscript to upload to Kindle Direct Publishing. While learning the steps to making an e-book, you will also learn how a manuscript for an e-book is different from a print book. Plus, tips to edit manuscripts to help your client e-publish with ease.

Registration: <https://peninstitute.com/product/e-book-formatting-for-editors-101/>

Editing Devotionals 101

Instructor: Denise Look

Dates: April 16–May 28

Description: God calls us to excellence. He doesn’t take a slapdash approach to any endeavor he undertakes, as illustrated in the detailed plans for the tabernacle (Exodus 25–28) and the temple (1 Kings 6). In this course, we’ll build a strong foundation for editing devotionals, construct a solid content framework, and then work on the details that add finesse to a manuscript.

This course has been crafted for those who desire to offer content (substantive) and line-by-line editing services to authors who write devotionals. It focuses on editing the content of a manuscript.

Registration: <https://peninstitute.com/product/editing-devotionals-101-group-course/>
[Contact us](#) if you have any questions.

