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MARCH 2021 | ISSUE 4

# Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer

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## SPRING TRAINING!

It's March and people in the baseball world are looking forward to Spring Training. In my novel, **Joe Harris, the Moon**, there is a story about one of Joe's spring training trips. Joe's teammates reminisce with him about the time that Babe Ruth hit a homer over the fence into the Alligator Farm across the street. One hundred years ago, Whittington Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas was the only place for spring training. Babe Ruth was playing for the Boston Red Sox. The Red Sox's regular first baseman was late to camp, so the manager played Babe Ruth in his place against the Brooklyn Robins. His second time at bat he hit the ball so far over the right field fence that even the Brooklyn fans cheered for him. The ball went 500 feet and plopped into the alligator pond. It was the beginning of many home runs for the 6 foot 2 inch slugger!

A few of my writing friends and I are in a kind of spring training of our own. We meet once a week on a Zoom call and keep each other motivated. You might like to check out what they're working on. Lynn Stout writes paranormal thrillers and gives good advice delivered poorly. She just published her second book, **Unheard**. It is the second book in her Ghost Girl series. You can find out more about her books on <https://www.lynnstout.com>. Ami Hicken King has written the first book in her series of four historical fiction novels set in the Arizona Territory shortly after the Civil War. **The Reluctant Bandit** follows Charlie Stapleton's story, and all is not as it seems. More about her books on <https://www.amihickenking.com>. Nancy Bluhm is working on her first novel, **Whispers for Terra**. It will be available sometime this year so watch her website for it, <https://www.nancyhouserbluhm.com>.

A GLIMPSE OF  
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

**Joe Harris**  
**Snugwords Puzzle**

On March 5th, I'll be doing a "Meet the Author" talk with bookstagrammer, Maggie the Reader. @maggiethereader It will be on Instagram Live TV at 7pm EST. If you watch it, drop me a line and let me know what you think! After my talk with the Mercury on 64 Kiwanis Club last month, I donated a Joe Harris book to each of the Hampton high school libraries in honor of the Kiwanis. If you would like me to talk to your group, please send me an email.

As the bonus for the March newsletter, I'm enclosing a **Joe Harris, the Moon** Snugwords puzzle. What is a Snugwords puzzle? It's a cross between a crossword puzzle and a jigsaw puzzle. The goal is to arrange the lettered tiles into the puzzle grid to form correct answers on each row. The solution is on the third sheet--so don't look at that until you've tried to solve it on your own. Snugwords are the brainchild of my cousin, Bob Harris. The same man who inspired me to write **Joe Harris, the Moon!**

I live in the Church Hill section of Richmond, VA with my husband and my retired racing greyhound. Before I started writing, I worked for 30 years at a nuclear physics research laboratory.

## Show up and shine!



JOYCE A. MILLER, WRITER

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## JOE HARRIS, THE MOON

Arrange the tiles, found on the second page, onto the puzzle grid to form answers to the provided clues.

Great War:	
Babe _____:	
Joe's wife/June birthstone:	
Swing and a miss:	
Trib of Monongahela River:	
First baseball commissioner:	
Pittsburgh Pirates:	
Cleveland catcher:	
Franklin newspaperman:	
Olde Town team:	
_____ City, MI:	
One half of the Two Team League:	
Cork center covered with cowhide:	
City of Progress and Prosperity:	
First baseman:	
Baseball stadium in Boston:	
Baseball stadium in Pittsburgh:	
Baseball home of Washington Senators:	
Title of Joyce Miller's debut novel:	
Baseball stadium in Toronto:	
Baseball field in Chattanooga:	
Baseball field in Bay City:	
Baseball stadium in Cleveland:	
City of Three Rivers:	
Medical transport vehicle:	
A base:	
Baseball park:	
High towering fly ball home run:	
Baseball scout:	
Bird dog:	
Mountain in TN:	
Independent baseball league:	
The Big Serb:	
A bat:	
Home plate:	
Turn _____, Double play:	

AD	AM	AP	BA	BE	BU	AG	AG	AN	CO
D	B	N	F	F	O	A	T	C	L
DI	DS	DR	EL	FI	FO	EI	EL	FI	IN
M	Y	A	E	N	G	L	I	R	L
GH	HA	HF	IF	JO	LC	IS	IT	KL	ND
D	L	I	U	M	I	S	B	A	O
LE	LO	MI	MO	ND	NW	NE	NT	OK	PA
P	O	S	N	A	R	A	O	L	I
OO	OO	RA	RM	SH	SH	RI	RK	RK	RL
E	I	A	Y	H	O	E	H	U	F
ST	TI	UT	WS	WW	YO			SF	UT
F	I	W	S	R	L			T	L

B	J								G
AN	CK								CE
A	B	R	U	D	N	D	O	T	L
CL	CL	EA	EA	EL	ER	EM	EP	ER	LA
C	L	N	A	K	B	E	E	N	H
FE	ND	OR	OX	PO	RE	OR	PA	SE	ST
L	N	I	A	D	P	S	N	A	B
RK	RK	TH	US	TW	WH	UL	UM	UR	VE

