

THE POTOMAC SHORES SERIES

Carolyn McBride

The Summer of the *The Cicada Spring*



**Welcome to my first author
newsletter!**

There will *never* be another newsletter like this for me - MY VERY FIRST ONE! And you are one of my first readers and subscribers! I can't thank you enough for taking a chance on [The Cicada Spring](#) and my passion project, [The Potomac Shores Series](#), attending a book signing or book talk, and getting to know Katie, Deke, Belle, and the Beach Bonfire Babes. Maybe you even sampled a Potomac Punch or a Beach Bonfire Martini!

[Check Out My Website](#)

Thank YOU for being a part of this with me.

The best moments have been connecting with readers and sharing hugs and stories about the Potomac, boating, and milestones in our life similar to Katie's coming-of-*middle*-age experiences.

- In Colonial Beach, I met one of my mentors, **Sherryl Woods** (top right photo), author of more than a hundred books including the Chesapeake Shores series.
 - I shared a book with **Jean Meltzer** (middle photo) who writes rom-coms with deep meaning and motivated me to keep going when I was writing the first draft in the Fall of 2022.
 - And I reconnected with my high school English teacher at Falls Church High School, **Betsy Harris** (bottom right photo), who I recognized in the dedication.
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A whirlwind three months!



I launched my debut novel in Virginia at **Occoquan Riverfest** in June, held a launch party at **Army Navy Country Club**, gave readings at libraries and book clubs, sponsored the Health of Our Waterways gala at the **Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center** (where the "marsh man" works), and went on book tours in the **Northern Neck of Virginia** and the **Gulf Coast of Florida**.

[Watch My Instagram Reels](#)

And there's more!
**The *cover reveal* of the next
book in the series...**



Santa Overboard: A Potomac Shores Holiday **coming September 24th!**

Merry early *Cruisemas!* Here's your first look at the sequel to *The Cicada Spring*! Katie and Deke, Belle and Chaya, are back, along with a few new crew members on a boat bound for fun-loving midlife mishap.

This is the perfect stocking stuffer you can read in one sitting. It's technically a novella (a bit shorter) but packed with humor, romance, small-town charm, the beauty of the Potomac and Occoquan Rivers, and even some yummy recipes for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Hanukkah!!

[Santa Overboard](#) will be available very soon in paperback, ebook, and audiobook (yes, the same amazing narrator, Maria Marquis). Here's where you can get your hands on it first:

- **TODAY, Sept. 4:** pre-orders for the ebook on Amazon
- **Starting Sept. 24:** paperback, ebook, and audiobook online from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Audible, iTunes, Spotify, and GooglePlay
- **Week of Sept. 23:**
 - [Puzzle Palooza](#) in the little town of Occoquan, VA
 - [The Spot at Belmont Bay](#) in Woodbridge, VA
- **Sept. 28-29:** [Occoquan Arts & Crafts Show](#)
- **Your book club anytime!** Contact me to schedule an event.

Note: The ebook and audiobook should make their way into library apps (Libby, Hoopla) within a few months.

Reach Out to Me

What's Next?

You must be tired of all my exclamation points, but it's clearly been a year of firsts. And I've saved some of the best for last! I hope to see you at one of my upcoming events, including the *Santa Overboard* launch party (more details in the next newsletter).



Enjoying my grandson!

I took off the month of May to fall in love with the perfect face of Onyx. My grandson is now three months old, and I'm loving being a first-



Working on my MFA!

I started a Master of Fine Arts degree in Fiction Writing at Lindenwood University. Class of 2025! My thesis will be the third book in the series, so we'll

time "Grammy."
He's already
doubled in size,
and he's got the
biggest smiles.

have to wait until
Fall 2025 for more
adventures on the
Potomac Shores.



Occoquan Arts & Crafts Show

Sept. 28-29



Barnes & Noble Book Signing - Fair Lakes

Oct. 6



Fredericksburg Independent Book



Miami Book

Festival

Oct. 12

Fair

Nov. 22-24



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