

## **John Bordsen**

After decades of editing, assigning or copy editing the work of other journalists, I decided to return to what got me into the business long ago: writing.

I always wrote on a when-possible basis over the years. But ongoing changes at The Charlotte Observer – where since 1988 I had a hand, at one time or another, in every newsroom section except sports – allowed less time for doing what I wanted.

We parted ways in May 2016 – oddly, a Friday the 13th with a full moon – with my intention of freelancing feature stories.

As the Charlotte Observer’s long-time travel editor, I knew my counterparts at other operations and know what they’re looking for today.

That’s quite an advantage over my earliest years, when I freelanced to weeklies, dailies and magazines back home in the Upper Midwest.

A good deal of my stories I love the most were written before the Internet. And the brand-new, non-electric Corona I used in my “underground press” days in the 1970s has long been gathering dust with those clippings in the attic. That typewriter is about the size of a laptop.

Still works. But there are easier ways to tell stories now.

I’ve rolled up my sleeves to begin anew.