

# Minutes

Appalachian Authors Guild  
A Chapter of the Virginia Writer's Club  
Bi-monthly Members Meeting  
Tuesday, May 12, 2015

## Time and Place:

The bi-monthly meeting of the Appalachian Authors Guild met on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at the Shoney's Restaurant in Abingdon, Virginia. The meeting was from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm.

## Attendance:

Speaker Frank Kilgore, President Linda Hoagland, Secretary Vicki Fletcher, Treasurer Jack Rose, Members Sylvia Nickels, Mary Ann Artrip, Dolly McPeek, Chuck Thompson, and Tom Fugate. Visitors were Michael DeStefano and Kari Kilgore.

## Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Hoagland.

## Reports:

- ✓ Secretary's report was printed and given to each member by Vicki Fletcher. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes as given for the March General meeting and the April Board meeting.
- ✓ Jack Rose, treasurer, gave a printed report and it was approved as given. We now have \$491.60 in the budget.
- ✓ Linda reported on the Virginia Highlands Festival. Jack is accepting days and money (\$25 per day) at this time. You can e-mail him your requested days but he will not put you on the calendar until he receives your payment. Remember that you must be a paid 2015 member of AAG to take part in the VHF. If you haven't renewed yet, be sure to get that in to Jack or Linda as soon as possible.
- ✓ Linda reported on the speakers for the rest of this year. They are: July 14- Dr. Rob Merritt; September 8- Joe Tennis; and November 10- Steven James.
- ✓ Website/Communication chair Sylvia Nickels reported continuous hits of the website from people all over the world. We have 14,550 hits as of the meeting. She stated that Google is the most popular search engines and Chrome is the most popular browser.
- ✓ Linda reported 2 new members to AAG: Laura Ferrell and Dana Smith.
- ✓ Linda also gave out the schedules for the Perkins (Dandridge only) and Picadilly Restaurants. If you are on the list, e-mails will be sent as reminders. If you know ahead of time that you cannot make your scheduled time, please let Linda know as early as possible to allow time to get someone else for that time. If you are an AAG member and

would like to schedule Perkins or Picadilly, you can e-mail Linda to see the dates available. Her e-mail is [lhoagland@gmail.com](mailto:lhoagland@gmail.com).

- ✓ Linda has also made available book signings at Zazzy's in Abingdon on Saturday and Chapters Book Store in Galax. You can e-mail Linda with the dates you would like to set up at those places.
- ✓ Linda let the group know that we are planning on an anthology of work from AAG members. The deadline for entries is September 1<sup>st</sup>. Entries can be poetry (no more than 50 lines), fiction and creative non-fiction (no more than 3000 words.)
- ✓ Patty Nichols, Vice President, had to resign her position due to health issues. The group decided to leave the position vacant at this time and pursue it for the next nomination of officers at the end of the year.
- ✓ The Golden NIB and the VWC Short Shorts Contests are underway. The deadlines are June 30<sup>th</sup> for VWC and July 1<sup>st</sup> for NIB. You must be a member of both the AAG and VWC to enter. You can check the website for more details and where to send your entries.
- ✓ Linda said she had put announcements about the meeting in the local newspapers, A! Magazine, Loafer magazine, and the Voice magazine. The AAG was also featured in the Her supplement to the Bristol Herald Courier.
- ✓ A suggestion was made to do a Christmas anthology as a fundraiser for AAG. We will accept stories for this until September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ We also discussed doing another presale event for a fundraiser. At the next board meeting, Vicki will bring the details of purchasing a shirt, a messenger/tote bag, and a pen with the AAG logo on it. If the board agrees, details will be sent out to members and we will determine if enough sales will be available to pursue this venture.
- ✓ Linda announced the next Board meeting for June 9<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 pm at the Abingdon Library. The next general meeting is July 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at Shoney's. Dr. Rob Merritt will be the speaker at the July meeting.

### **Announcements:**

- ✓ The annual Appalachian Heritage Writer's Symposium will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Southwest Virginia Community College. Check out the website to see all that is available at the symposium. It is [appheritagewritersym.wordpress.com](http://appheritagewritersym.wordpress.com)

### **Speaker:**

Linda Hoagland, President and Program Chair, introduced the speaker, Frank Kilgore. He talked about how he did the research on his new book about St. Paul and surrounding counties. This was a very interesting talk. He had books available for purchase after the meeting.

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned by president, Linda Hoagland.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Fletcher, secretary