

# Minutes

Appalachian Authors Guild  
A Chapter of the Virginia Writer's Club  
Bi-monthly Members Meeting  
Tuesday, July 11, 2017

## Time and Place:

The bi-monthly meeting of the Appalachian Authors Guild was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at Shoney's Restaurant in Bristol, Virginia. The meeting took place from 11:30am – 1:30pm.

## Attendance:

Speaker Lynn Young, her husband Larry Rubendall, President Vicki Fletcher, Vice President JC Schweingrouber, Members Sylvia Nickels, Linda Dobkins, Linda Hoagland, Hazel Fleming, Addie Davis, Jean Snader, Ed Clark, Tom Fugate, and visitor Dan Swanson.

## Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Vicki Fletcher.

## Business:

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes of the board meeting on June 13, 2017, and the minutes of the general meeting on May 9, 2017, as written by secretary Jami McDonald.
- ✓ Jack Rose, treasurer, reported:
  - The Virginia Highlands Festival, in Abingdon, Virginia, is July 27 – August 6, 2017. Jack is still taking table reservations for the festival. If you are interested in participating, please let Jack know as soon as possible. Tables are \$30 for one author or \$15 if two authors would like to share a table. Space availability is now limited, so please contact Jack if you are interested in acquiring a spot.
  - Checks were written in June for \$1,391.20 (Vicki Fletcher – Anthology Order) and \$102.00 (USPS for PO Box Rental). As of July 11, 2017, our checking account balance was \$598.03. Jack noted that his balance disagrees with the bank by \$50.04 and he plans to research where the error has occurred.
- ✓ The Virginia Writers' Club will be hosting its annual Golden Nib writing contest, this year. You must be a member of both the AAG and the VWC to participate in this prestigious contest. The deadline for entries is August 1<sup>st</sup>. Winners from the AAG will be sent to the VWC for the state winners' contest. Please send your entries to Linda Dobkins, who is our contest coordinator this year. Her email is [lhdobkins@gmail.com](mailto:lhdobkins@gmail.com). Please see the VWC website for rules regarding the contest. Please do not send your entries to Linda in a PDF format. \*Linda also informed the group that the Summer Shorts Contest has been changed to Winter Briefs and will be taking place later in the year\*.

- ✓ Linda Hoagland announced that she will be teaching Creative Writing through Workforce at Southwest Virginia Community College during the fall session.
- ✓ The following dates/times/locations are for our remaining meetings in 2017. Lunch will accompany the general meetings that are underlined, so please let Vicki know if you plan to attend. This will help the restaurants prepare for the appropriate number of guests.
  - August 8<sup>th</sup> – Abingdon Library, 1 pm – 3 pm, Board Meeting
  - September 12<sup>th</sup> – Lebanon Bonanza, 11:30am-1:30pm, with guest speaker Rita Quillen.
  - October 10<sup>th</sup> – Abingdon Library, 1 pm – 3 pm, Board Meeting
  - November 14<sup>th</sup> – Abingdon Shoney’s, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, with guest speaker Leigh Ann Hoover. At this meeting, we will announce the 2018 officers.
- ✓ Vicki would like for members to know that we now have a Café Press site set up for fundraising purposes. The link, listed below, is also available on our website and our Facebook page. Please let Vicki know of any other items you would like to see available in the store. <http://www.cafepress.com/aagstuff>.

### **Speaker:**

Vicki Fletcher, President and Program Chair, introduced the speaker, Lynn Young. Lynn writes poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and memoir (including fact-based). Lynn is a past president, secretary, and newsletter editor of the Blue Ridge Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club. She is also a member of the Appalachian Authors Guild and the James River Writers (also chapters of the VWC, where Lynn holds a membership). Her prose and poems have been published in various places, including *The College Paper* at Piedmont Virginia Community College, *Skyline*, *Blue Ridge Anthology*, *The Nearest Poem Anthology*, and *Shelter in the Storm*. In 1990, Lynn received the “Who’s Who in Poetry Honors” for “Outstanding Achievement in Poetry,” for winning the “Golden Poet Award for 1989” (poem title: “Metempsychosis,” World of Poetry, Sacramento, California). Most of Lynn’s work career was spent working in the legal field and also at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center (which includes the hospital and medical school). She resides in Palmyra, Virginia, with her husband Larry Rubendall.

Lynn gave members handouts with valuable information that writers of all genres can use including the benefits of Self-Publishing, a guide to literary agents for poets, her favorite self-help books, and books that will aid writers. Thanks so much to Lynn for speaking to our group.

### **Adjournment:**

President Vicki Fletcher adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Jami McDonald, secretary