

April 2018 AAG Newsletter

**Appalachian Authors Guild**  
P. O. Box 803  
Abingdon, VA 24212

<http://www.appalachianauthors.com/>

<http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/>

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## AAG Mission Statement

The mission of the Appalachian Authors Guild, a Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club, is to support and promote literary art throughout the Appalachian region, to encourage writers and authors to both preserve and build upon the literary history and heritage of the Appalachian region and to provide opportunities for readers to experience the joy of meeting our people, visiting our beautiful region and understanding the wealth of our culture through literary art.

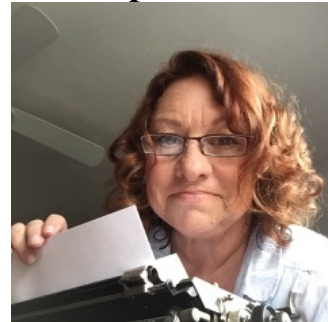
**Appalachian Authors Guild**  
**General Meeting**

**May 8, 2018**

**11:30am-1:30pm**

**Southwest Virginia Community College**  
**Richlands, VA**

**Speaker**



**Linda Dobkins**

Jo Allison (Linda Dobkins) has published five books in her Julia Nye Mystery Series, set in 1911 St. Louis, MO. Activist Julia Nye tries to balance her marriage and her career in the face of a new Chief of Detectives who is looking for an excuse to fire the only woman in the police department—and the only one who is likely to solve the murder of her friend, a women's union activist. In the fifth book of the series, *Train Song*, Julia's honeymoon is marred by attempts on her new husband's life. Descriptions of all books are available on the Old Underwood Publishing Company website. *Heaven Will Protect the Working Girl*, 3rd book in the series, was judged Best Self-Published Novel in 2016 by the James River Writers for Virginia novelists.

Allison has also published a book of short stories and vignettes entitled *In-Between Murders: Stories that LINK and ILLUMINATE* the novels of the Julia Nye Mystery Series. That book is available free as an e-book; the link is available on the Old Underwood site. Both books are available in paperback and e-book on Amazon. All books in the series are available at the Emory & Henry College Bookstore in Emory, VA.



### **All for AAG and AAG for all!**

Dues for AAG's 2018 year are due before March --. They are \$25. They can be sent to AAG PO Box 803 Abingdon, VA 24212.

As you are sending your dues, please also send me your brief bio and picture for our new website. I would also like pictures of your books and links for where people can find them. Please contact me via text/voicemail at [vfletcher56@gmail.com](mailto:vfletcher56@gmail.com) or text/voicemail to 276-492-8314.

### **2018 AAG Meetings**

All members are welcome who would like to attend the AAG board meetings. Member input is very valuable in scheduling guild activities.

Note in President Vicki's message that the next board meeting is June 26th, 12-1pm at the Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator in Abingdon, VA. The new writers workshop will follow from 1-3pm. Vicki will be doing a presentation on how to format Word documents for book size. Discussion time will follow if time allows.



Also note booksigning and sales opportunities in Vicki's remarks for VHF and Mistletoe Market.

## **From President Vicki**



As always, I am honored to be serving as your AAG president this year. I am striving to make this group more effective for our authors. Along with the board, we try to make opportunities for growth happen each year. We can only do so much. We need YOUR input and ideas. Please email me with your ideas and when/where/what time you would be able to come to meetings. I realize some of our members live out of the area and cannot attend meetings but many of you that are in the area do not attend and I need to know why. I would also like to know your thoughts on speakers and workshop topics for the new year. Working together, we can make AAG the best of the best. I already feel that we are but would like more of our group to attend meetings and workshops and take advantage of events we make available. PLEASE email me. I do want to know.

Our general meeting will be on Tuesday, May 8th from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at Southwest Virginia Community College. Lunches are being catered. They are \$12. You need to either email Vicki ([vfletcher56@gmail.com](mailto:vfletcher56@gmail.com)) to tell her you are planning on attending and will pay for your lunch at the meeting OR mail her the check (made payable to AAG) to PO Box 222 Damascus, VA 24236. This must be received by May 4th so orders can be placed for the lunches.

Our next board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 26th from 12-1 pm. Notice the change of dates due to election day on the second Tuesday of the month. The NEW writer's workshop will follow from 1-3 pm. Vicki will be doing a presentation on how to format Word for your book size. More discussion time will follow if time allows. This is held at the Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator in Abingdon, VA. Email Vicki with any questions or concerns you have.

Time is running out to sign up for a space at Anthony's Desserts during the Virginia Highlands Festival, July 27-Aug 5. On the website ([appalachianauthors.com](http://appalachianauthors.com)), you can click on events, click on the list link to see the spaces available. These need to be filled by May 1st. There is NO CHARGE for this space.

May 1st is also the deadline to pay for your space at the Mistletoe Market, Nov. 2-Nov. 4. The spaces are \$50 but this is a highly trafficked event and should be a good venue for book sales. Only one booth will be purchased if no one else takes advantage. All spaces are filled if only one booth will be purchased. Some were asking about Bubba's book event in Kingsport and if it was the same weekend. It is NOT. Bubba's Christmas Connection will be the following weekend, November 9-11.

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The Small Business Incubator in Abingdon is just beyond the Higher Ed. Center in Abingdon on the left. Email me if you need directions.

If you plan to attend, please email me so I can be sure I have the correct size conference room reserved for our meeting.

<mailto:vfletcher56@gmail.com>

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We have a store at Cafe Press to help us raise money for our AAG treasury. Hope you will visit the store and support us.

[AAGStuff](#) at Cafe Press

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Please remember that road work by VDOT is still ongoing on Interstate 81 in Abingdon and be alert.

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### Author Talk at Gray Library

AAG member, Tom Fugate, will be the featured author at the Gray Library, Gray, TN, for their monthly Author Talk on Tuesday, May 1st at 6pm.

### Vicki

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No one is taking advantage of the restaurants in place for book sales either. Linda Hoagland ([lhhoagland@gmail.com](mailto:lhhoagland@gmail.com)) is coordinating this for us. If you are interested in selling books at one of the restaurants we have in place, please email her with the restaurant/day/time you want to be there. We will not pursue any other places (of which we have several) if no one signs up. This is a FREE opportunity to sell your books as well. Please take advantage of this.

Officers for the 2019 year are being sought after at this time. If you have a desire to serve in an office, please contact Vicki and let her know. Officers must be able to attend the board meetings and general meetings.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Our secretary, Jami McDonald, has had to resign her duties effective immediately due to a change in work schedule and personal commitments. If anyone is interested in taking on this position for the remainder of 2018, please contact Vicki. You must be able to attend the board meetings and general meetings. Thank you for considering this.

All 4 AAG & AAG 4 all,  
Victoria Fletcher, 2018 President

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### Needed: AAG Officers for 2019

Interested in a more active role in 'taking care of business' for Appalachian Author's Guild? Now is the time to step up and volunteer.

In addition, as noted in Vicki's remarks, the guild secretary had to resign for job and personal reasons. A volunteer is very much needed to fill in until new officers are elected.

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Members of Appalachian Author's Guild, as well as the many area writers who knew her, were saddened by the recent death of member Jean Snader. Jean loved poetry, essays and inspirational writing. She collected these pieces and created small books by hand for her grandchildren when they were young.

