



Appalachian Authors Guild
A chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

TIDINGS

January 2017 AAG Newsletter

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

<http://www.appalachianauthors.com/>
<http://appalachianauthors.wordpress.com>
<http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/>

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Gina McKnight
[Appalachian Authors Blog](#)

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.

From Vicki

Hello AAG Members,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and are ready to begin another successful year of the Appalachian Authors Guild.

Dues can be sent any time. 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 or text/voicemail to 276-492-8314.

The website is still being constructed, so please be patient with that. I will begin updating the authors page and books page as I receive those. I hope you have had the chance to look at the new website. I believe it will serve us well when it is completed. Gina McKnight will be preparing a blog for the website.

Last year, I asked for your suggestions for AAG meetings. There were 3 main answers I received from the survey. First, some asked for location changes so they could attend meetings. Second, some asked for time change since they worked during the day. Finally, some asked for monthly meetings. As a result of those suggestions, we tried all three. The location change went well so we will continue that again this year. The time change did not go well. Even though we did have two meetings in the evening, a very small number came that did not already attend. We could not set up monthly meetings but offered to have a writer's forum before each board meeting. This did not go well either. No one came. We will not be doing that this year but we still welcome anyone that would like to attend the board meetings (each month prior to the general meeting at the Abingdon Library from 1-3 pm). Below is the list of General Meeting dates and locations for 2017. ALL meetings will be from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

March 14, Abingdon Shoney's with Dr. Jesse Graves from ETSU as speaker

May 9 at Southwest Community College in Richlands. Speaker TBA

July 11 at Bristol Golden Corral with Dylan Pratt, marketing, as speaker. This is Scott Pratt's son.

September 12 at Lebanon Bonanza. Speaker TBA

November 14 at Abingdon Shoney's. Installation of officers for 2018

Speaker TBA

Upcoming Writing Events

Appalachian Heritage Writers Symposium

June 9-10, 2017

Information will soon be posted on the
website, check it often

[Appalachian Heritage Writers Symposium](#)

OR

Tennessee Mountain Writers

[Tennessee Mountain Writers Conference](#)

Oak Ridge, TN
April 6-8, 2017
Workshops, contests, etc.

OR

[Book 'Em North Carolina](#)

Feb. 25, 2017
9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Where: Robeson Community College
Lumberton, North Carolina
Free and open to the public!



I hope you can make plans to attend these meetings. We will have speakers for each meeting that will, hopefully, help you in your writing career.

Again this year, I really want to hear from you. You may reach me via the contact information in the fourth paragraph on the previous page. Your input, ideas, and inspiration make this the successful group that it is (and I happen to think it is the best one anywhere around!)

Last year, I chose the 3 Musketeers as our motto. If you attended meetings, you know I gave a 3 Musketeers candy bar to each one as a reminder of that.

Vicki Fletcher, President
Appalachian Authors Guild

All for AAG and AAG for all!



**Appalachian Authors Guild Business Meeting
Washington County Public Library
Abingdon, VA
1:00pm, February 14, 2017**

**March General Meeting
Appalachian Authors Guild
Shoney's Restaurant
Abingdon, VA
March 14, 2017 – 11:30am**

OR

The new year for Appalachian Authors Guild has begun. Don't forget to email Vicki Fletcher your bio updates, picture, book titles, whatever you want to show on your member bio entry when you mail your dues to the post office box at the top left column of this newsletter.

Thanks and happy writing in 2017!

Spotlight Opportunities

AAG member Gina McKnight invites all members to interview for her blog about their writing and books. Her blog is –Riding and Writing

<http://ginamc.blogspot.com/>

Links to books may be posted, etc. She would like a brief bio and links in the initial request, if available, to read so she can ask appropriate questions. She sends the questions and the person responds via email.

<mailto:gmcknight11@gmail.com>

OR

JC Schweingrouber, Appalachian Authors Guild member, and others have formed a nonprofit group, The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement. He invites AAG authors to talk to them about the possibility of being featured on their website as "Artist of the Month." Contact

JC Schweingrouber

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

(Foundation For Appalachian Advancement)

OR

Markets

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

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

Writing Prompts

<http://www.toastedcheese.com/>
<http://www.writermag.com/writing-prompts>

OR

On Writing

<http://www.writersvillage.com/index.php/membership-information>

<http://www.advancedfictionwriting.com/ezone>

Jan-Carol Publishing Believe and Achieve Book Contest Award

One novel will be selected to receive a publishing contract under the Little Creeks Books imprint.

The contract will include:

Book Cover Design

Professional Editing

3-Year Publishing Contract Paperback edition & E-Book edition

Entry Deadline: February 28, 2017. Entry requires a \$20 reading fee.

Contest Rules:

Author must be a U.S. Citizen.

Author must be 21 years old or older.

Manuscripts must be a minimum of 45,000 words and not exceeding 60,000 words.

No entry will be accepted until the reading fee has been paid.

All files must be uploaded in .doc, .docx, or .rtf format.

Entries must follow the JCP Manuscript Guidelines.

Entries must be made via the online form below only.

Entry fees are non-refundable. Once accepted, an author can withdraw from the contest, but the reading fee cannot be refunded.

If an author withdraws, or the manuscript is disqualified, the next place winner will be awarded the contract.

Author must agree to terms and sign contract for the contract to be valid.

By submitting manuscript, author confirms manuscript is original and unpublished.

Current JCP, or RHP authors are ineligible.

Entry Guidelines

Failure to fully adhere to the entry guidelines will adversely affect the score of the entry.

Upload must be one file and contain a cover page, synopsis of 500 words or less, and full manuscript. Manuscripts entries must use the following formats:

Cover Page:

Synopsis of 500 words or less

Submissions :

E-mail to submissions@jancarolpublishing.com with subject line "Believe and Achieve."

Winner will be announced in *Voice Magazine for Women* and by email prior to the printing of the April 2017 issue.

Complete cover page requirements may be found in *Voice Magazine for Women* and on the website –

[Voice Magazine for Women](http://www.voiceforwomen.com)

Promotion Link

<http://www.justkindlebooks.com/authors-corner>