



# TIDINGS

**March 2020 AAG Newsletter**

**Appalachian Authors Guild**  
P. O. Box 803  
Abingdon, VA 24212  
A 501c3 organization

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

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

**Chapter President**  
**Victoria Fletcher**

Newsletter Editor: Sylvia Nickels  
[mscribe@aol.com](mailto:mscribe@aol.com)

Asst. Editor: Mary Ann Artrip  
[maryannartrip@charter.net](mailto:maryannartrip@charter.net)

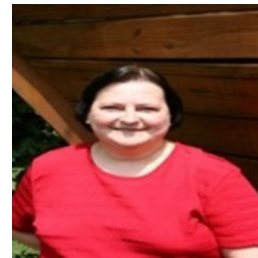
**J. C. Schweingrouber**  
[Appalachian Authors Blog](#)

Some historical blog posts  
<http://appalachianauthors.wordpress.com>

## **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.

**General Meeting**  
**March 10, 2020**  
**11:30pm-1:30pm**  
**Shoney's Restaurant**  
**Abingdon, VA**



**Hello AAG,**

Welcome to our first general meeting of 2020. The program will be a little different.

### **Meet the Authors of AAG.**

Each AAG member attending will have 3-4 minutes to tell about their books, their platform, hand out flyers, etc.

2020 list of meetings again.

Mark your calendars for the second Tuesday of each month. February, April, June, August, and October will be workshops. March, July, and September will be lunch meetings, March meeting with an Authors Showcase, and guest speakers for the others. May is left out since we will be having our Spring Fling event that month.

We truly hope you will put our Spring Fling on your calendar. It will be on Saturday, May 16th. The details will be on the website. Tammy Robinson Smith is signed up as a workshop leader (Content Editing). Also scheduled is a panel discussion by Delilah O'Haynes (Fiction), Oral Frazier (Fantasy), Matt Bolt (Screenwriting), and Jon Bott (Poetry).

At the February Board meeting/Workshop Jahmal Potter led a workshop on the subject, "My Book Got Schooled," giving us information on how he took his children's book into the area schools as well as other marketing tips. J.C. Schweingrouber will lead the April workshop; Rose Klix will lead a poetry workshop in June.

**Victoria Fletcher**  
**AAG 2020 President**



## All for AAG and AAG for all!

Members, please send Vicki your brief bio and picture for the AAG website. She would also like pictures of your books and links where potential readers may find them.

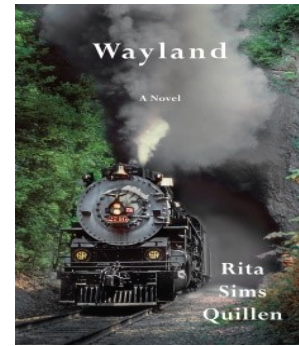
Contact Vicki via text/voicemail at [vfletcher56@gmail.com](mailto:vfletcher56@gmail.com) or text/voicemail to 276-492-8314.

## Board Meetings/Workshop

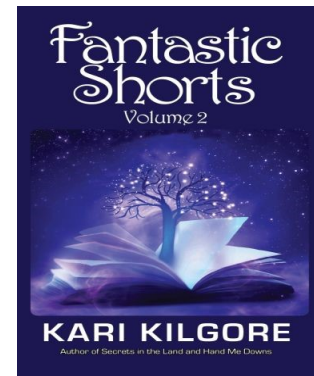
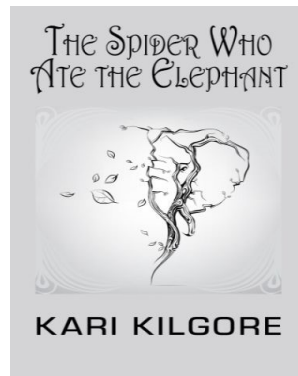
All members are welcome to attend the AAG Board Meetings as well as General Meetings. Member input is very valuable in scheduling guild activities.

\* \* \* \* \*

January blitz was again good with a number of members renewing. Dues were just \$20 until February 11, now \$25. We finished the 2019 year with 57 members.



Rita Quillen's new novel **WAYLAND**, a sequel to *Hiding Ezra*, was published in fall, 2019, and her new poetry collection *Some Notes You Hold* is due out in 2020.. Her full-length poetry collection, *The Mad Farmer's Wife*, was published in 2016 and was a finalist for the Weatherford Award in Appalachian Literature from Berea College. Her novel *Hiding Ezra*, released by Little Creek Books, was a finalist for the 2005 DANA Awards. She received three Pushcart nominations, and a Best of the Net nomination in 2012. Read more at [www.ritasimsquillen.com](http://www.ritasimsquillen.com).



Kari Kilgore released *Fantastic Shorts: Volume 2* in January of 2020. This short story collection includes her modern myth *The Spider Who Ate the Elephant*, winner of 2nd place in Fiction for the 2019 Virginia Writers Club Golden Nib contest. It also includes two Appalachian tales. *Odds and Endings* introduces the fictional town of Lightning Gap, Virginia, and its magical bookstore. Several more Lightning Gap stories are on the way, especially in the Romance genre. The second is *The Earworms*, about an entire town infested with those songs that get stuck in your head and drive you crazy. It's set in Kari's hometown of St. Paul, very thinly disguised as Estonoa, Virginia.

To learn more about *Fantastic Shorts: Volume 2* and the rest of Kari's fiction, including several of her other Appalachian stories, visit [karikilgore.com](http://karikilgore.com) or <https://www.karikilgore.com/book-tag/appalachian-stories/>.

## Podcast Opportunity

The Foundation for Appalachian Advancement has started a podcast to promote our region and local artists. The FAA has already interviewed guild president Victoria Fletcher and author Dan Swanson, but is hoping to interview more local authors in the next weeks and months. If you are interested in being a guest on the podcast, Appalachian Shine, please touch base with J.C. Schweingrouber at [jc@supportappalachia.org](mailto:jc@supportappalachia.org). The podcast is available online at <https://appalachianshine.podbean.com/> and also on iTunes. You can listen to it on your iPhone by clicking the "podcast" app and searching for *Appalachian Shine*.



J. C. Schweingrouber



Members who would like to have their new works announced in Tidings should send the info and cover thumbnail, if desired, to the editor's email address.

[Mscribe@aol.com](mailto:Mscribe@aol.com)

Sylvia, editor, TIDINGS  
Mary Ann, assistant editor

## CONVERSATION

Two friends meet for lunch at a diner in town.

"I saw Rick Hubbard today."

"Oh!"

"He said he'd met a new girl."

"Where'd he meet her?"

"Here in town."

"Oh! Where in town?"

"At the Quik Snip Salon on Fourth Street."

"Was he getting a haircut?"

"Yeah and a neck massage."

"What was the girl's name?"

"I didn't ask him."

"What did she look like?"

"She must have been some looker."

"Why? What did he say?"

"You know how expressive he is with his hands. He said long blonde hair, big blue eyes, and curves. You know Rick?"

"Yeah, I do know Rick. I guess he's got a date then."

"Not today, he hasn't."

"Why not?"

"He said, she has to do something else today, but he'll see her tomorrow."

"What did she have to do?"

"I don't know, but after the way he described her she's probably shopping."

"Shopping! Why do you think that?"

"Well, if she's as top heavy as he says she is, she won't find her size around here."

"What! So he said things like that about her, did he?"

"I'm just telling you what he said. You did ask, you know."

"All right, all right I did ask. So long, see you next time."

"Where you going? You haven't finished your lunch."

"I'm going to the gym. I need to work out."

"Why?"

"I'm going to black both of Rick Hubbard's eyes."

"Hmm. Long blonde hair, blue eyes, and big boobs. Oh my! Waiter! Check please. I'm going to go get my camera. I wouldn't miss this for the world."

By Addie Davis

