



TIDINGS

May 2020 AAG Newsletter

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

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

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

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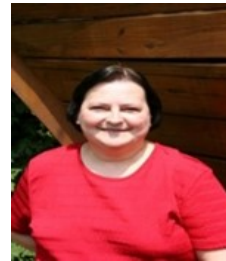
J. C. Schweingrouber
[Appalachian Authors Blog](#)

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.

**Next Meeting
Tentatively
July 14, 2020, 11:30am
Shoney's
Abingdon, VA**



**The Social Distancing Poem
By Victoria Fletcher**

Oh woe is me, dear AAG,
Your sweet faces I long to see
But now we're on quarantine
When it will end remains to be seen.

No school for the rest of the year
Have parents in a state of fear.
No gathering together with more than ten
Just you and your family until who knows when.

The CDC is trying to alert us
Of the ways we can fight this virus.
Wash your hands, cough in your elbow,
And stay at home till it's safe to go (out).

If you're not essential, stay in
The quicker we comply, the quicker it ends.
I'm sure it's hard confined to your home
We're used to working and allowed to roam.

Even worse is not knowing when it'll end
But they're sending us money we can spend.
Not sure where since we can't go out
Unless it's for essentials we can't live without.



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 vlfletcher56@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.

All meetings will be resumed as soon as normal activities are allowed.

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Some of those have been scooped up, oh my.
Not sure about the toilet paper and rush to buy (it).
But the cleaning supplies made sense a little more
Bless those truck drivers trying to stock the stores,

The health workers, groceries and food for you,
The pharmacists, and first responders too.
The essential jobs that keep us going
Put their lives on the line to keep US moving.

I know some of this poem is kinda silly
But you need to laugh so you won't go willy-nilly.
I sure do hope to see you soon
But for now we have to give each other room.

At least 6 feet is the social distance length
Oh my goodness, just give me strength.
I hope you all stay safe and well
Boy, won't we have some stories to tell.

When we kick this bug to the curb
Someone will write a book, "The Year of the Absurd."

Dear AAG,

I am looking forward to us being able to meet again. I hope to make that happen as soon as we're given the go-ahead for meetings. We are planning our Writers Day for the fall. Keep checking the website and Facebook page for updates. Tentatively, our July meeting at Shoney's is still on. Unless they extend the quarantine, we will plan to meet then. But stay tuned to the website and Facebook. I will also send updates when I know them. Until we meet again,
All 4 AAG & AAG 4 all,
Vicki



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. 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*.



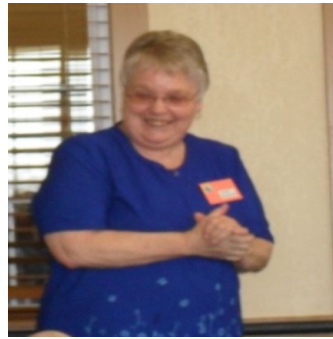
J. C. Schweingrouber



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
editor, TIDINGS

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Sharing What I Learned

Linda Hoagland

I am a regional writer who is 71 years old in Southwest Virginia. I wanted to share the knowledge I have accumulated over the thirteen years that I have become a published author.

I decided to contact the local community college to volunteer to teach creative writing to any one, any age, who was interested in putting words to paper.

In my first year I was lucky enough to acquire seven students ranging in age from the forties to the eighties, some of whom were published, and some were total beginners. My second year saw the return of some of those who had attended the first year plus a couple of newbies.

When I said teach, I meant encourage because I did not want to turn away would be or could be writers for any reason. Writers have to learn to be thick skinned and beginners can be totally destroyed with criticism so much that they may never attempt to write again.

I hope to teach (encourage) again in the fall and I am looking forward to the fun.

Some of Linda's recent writing credits:

Short Story "That Was Close" published in Bluestone Review.

Poems published in Star Poets: "The Noisemaker" won First Place in Poetry Contest; "Missing"; "Reflections"; "The Last Time"

Poems published in Northern Stars: "Instant Replay"; "Saved By a Minute"



Click the link to download guidelines for Chautauqua Writing Contest sponsored by Wythe-Arts Council Ltd., Wytheville Community College, Wytheville, VA.

<https://www.wythe-arts.org/festival-activities-forms>