

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

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

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

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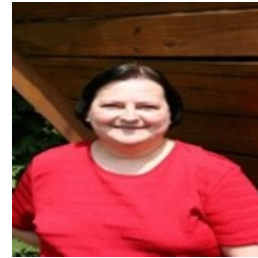
J. C. Schweingrouber
[Appalachian Authors Blog](#)

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.

General Meeting
November 12, 2019
11:30am-1:30pm
Small Business Incubator
Abingdon, VA



Hello AAG,

I just wanted to express my sincere thanks for your support of AAG this year. We have had a wonderful year with great speakers and workshops. We will continue those next year and I am now looking for topics and/or speakers that you would like to hear from in 2020. I will begin contacting people as soon as our year ends with our final meeting on Tuesday, November 12th at the Small Business Incubator (please note unavoidable change and bring a lunch if you like) from 11:30am-1:30pm. We will announce our 2020 officers and board members and then have a fun fellowship grab bag gift time. If you would like to participate, please bring a writing related gift (\$5-\$7) to exchange. It can be nice or naughty. You decide! I think this will be a fun way to end the year and have time just to fellowship with one another. I hope lots of you can be there for this one.

If not, I am wishing you a fabulous holiday season and the most spectacular New Year ever. We will start our meetings back in February so go ahead and 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 with a guest speaker. May has been left out since we will be having our Spring Fling event again and the board decided it was too much to do a meeting and prepare for our event. We truly hope you will put our Spring Fling on your calendar for 2020. It will be on Saturday, May 16th. The details will be on the website in the New Year. Dr. Jesse Graves and Tammy Robinson Smith have already signed up as workshop leaders.

(cont'd next page)



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 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.

NOTE

Please remember, somehow Shoney's Restaurant failed to record our reservation and our final AAG meeting for the year will be held at the Small Business Incubator in Abingdon on November 12, 2019, 11:30am.



From Vicki

We will have two more as well but haven't had confirmation yet. They will be announced as soon as we know. Again, I just want to say how thankful I am to work with such prolific authors who support our writing group in every way possible. I hope I can continue to work as your president and bring you the writing events, meetings, speakers, and workshops that will encourage you, motivate you, and help you continue to grow as the authors you are and can be. Since Joe Tennis told me in 2011 to join AAG, I have been so thankful that I did. I love this group and try to keep it growing. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as your president. Hope to see you at our last meeting. If not, I hope to see you next year.

Until next ,
Victoria Fletcher
AAG 2019 president

P. S.

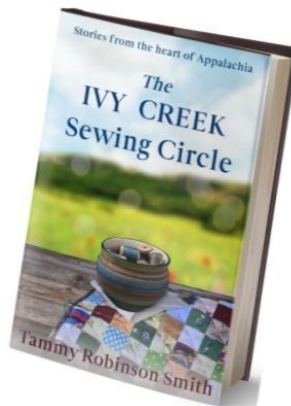
We will be having our January blitz again where dues are just \$20. It will be on the website in December. Just to keep you up to date, we finished the year with 57 members. WOW!!!!



Appalachian Authors Guild member Tammy Robinson Smith has released her novel THE IVY CREEK SEWING CIRCLE. Set in a small Appalachian community, the story centers around the Johnson family of Ivy Creek, VA in the face of a family tragedy. Narrator to the turn of events is nine-year old Emmybeth Johnson, who learns over the course of the book what sisterhood means when her mother's sewing circle friends step up to save the family from certain ruin. (Previously published as EMMYBETH SPEAKS.)

You can find Tammy on Facebook and Instagram and at <http://www.tammyrobinsonsmith.com>. You may contact her at info@tammyrobinsonsmith.com.

THE IVY CREEK SEWING CIRCLE is available for purchase on Amazon or by contacting Tammy at info@tammyrobinsonsmith.com.



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).

The Appalachian Authors Guild and Me

Addie Davis

When the symposium which was held at Southwest Virginia College for nine years could not continue, I was devastated. I had no like-minded people to meet with, to get ideas from, or just to talk about writing and I felt bereft of nurture for my soul and my gift to write.

There is an old saying that 'iron sharpeneth iron' and that is certainly true in my case. I felt old and rusty, but getting back with a group of writers helped to renew and encourage my desire to write. Victoria Fletcher with the help of Linda Hoagland, Jack Rose, and Sylvia Nickels has been responsible for keeping the Appalachian Authors Guild afloat for which I am very thankful.

Ms. Fletcher makes sure we have a guest speaker, an agenda with ideas from the members, and she is constantly looking for new venues for selling our books. Once each month, in the past year, we have been privileged to have a session of mini-workshops that gives new understanding on writing topics in all genres. This keeps the members looking forward each month to meeting new writers or older writers with new ideas. I don't know about other members, but I personally need this rejuvenation which keeps me writing. Oh, sometimes between meetings I again get in the 'sloughs of despair' but the next meeting gets me back in gear.

The guild attempts to reach as many members as possible and has tried to move meetings to various communities, but there wasn't enough participation to warrant the expense incurred. So, no, we are not having a symposium, but we still have a congenial group of writers who enjoy meeting with other writers. We never get too old to learn and personally I have learned something new in almost every meeting I have attended. I thank God that the AAG is still afloat.



In the next two months, when you're out and about at seasonal festivals and events, look for any local authors who might be present and go by their tables to encourage them.



Happy Thanksgiving,
Merry Christmas,
and a
Prosperous New Year

AAG and Tidings editors

