

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
Nov. 14, 2017
11:30am-1:30pm
Shoney's Restaurant
Cummings Street
Abingdon, VA

Speaker
Leigh Ann Hoover



Leigh Anne W. Hoover is a native of South Carolina and a graduate of Clemson University. With a Bachelor of Arts degree in secondary education/English and a minor in general communications, Hoover has worked for over 30 years in the media. She has extensive writing and public relations experience in the region.

She is the author of the well-known children's book *The Santa Train Tradition*. Other books are *Festus and His Fun Fest Favorites*, as well as two adult books, *Reading with Ralph – A Journey in Christian Compassion* is a Christian book about her adult literacy student. *For Better or Worse...Unless Annulment Comes First* is Hoover's second adult Christian book.

Notable features include one-on-one interviews with actress Andie MacDowell, artists Bob Timberlake and P. Buckley Moss, author Jan Karon, Grammy-winner, singer/songwriter Kenny Loggins and the 14th president of Clemson University, James F. Barker.



From President Vicki



All for AAG and AAG for all!

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.

2017 AAG Meetings

We welcome anyone who would like to attend the board meetings at Abingdon Library, 1pm to 3pm, 2nd Tuesday in each month prior to the general meeting.

ALL General Meetings will be from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

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

Speaker, Leigh Ann Hoover.

We have items available in Cafe Press to earn funds for our treasury. please check out our shop at <http://www.cafepress.com/aagstuff>

At the final 2017 general meeting of AAG on Tuesday, November 14th at 11:30 am at the Abingdon Shoney's, we will have Leigh Anne Hoover as our guest speaker. We will also install the officers for 2018. They are: President- Victoria Fletcher, Vice President- JC Schweingrouber, Secretary- Jami McDonald, Treasurer- Jack Rose, Communications- Sylvia Nickels, Festivals/Events/Restaurants Coordinator- Linda Hoagland, Publicity- Linda Dobkins, Website Blog- JC Schweingrouber, and Website/Membership- Victoria Fletcher.

Please see the list of restaurants with days/times/beginning dates. If you are interested in scheduling a time to sell your books at any of these locations, be sure to contact Linda Hoagland at lhoagland@gmail.com. Put restaurants in the subject line of your email. PLEASE DO NOT contact any of these locations on your own unless you are unable to attend your scheduled time. We lost several restaurants before because of this and we want to keep them this time. Linda will send reminders to you of your scheduled times and locations. We hope this will be a great incentive to renew your membership for 2018 as we will be adding a few more as the new year begins.

Speaking of renewals or new members, there is a PayPal button on the website now to allow you to pay your renewals or membership fees as well as donate to AAG (receiving an anthology for a \$10 or more donation). There will soon be one to register for the Virginia Highlands Festival since those times to sign up have changed due to the change in the VHF policies.

If you renew or join by March 13, 2018 (our first general meeting), the dues remain at \$25. After that, they will increase to \$30. This is to help get the funds in the treasury to be able to pay for VHF registration fees and to pay for the guest speakers we will be having for the year.

GREAT NEWS!!!! We are now a 501(c)(3) non-profit status organization. Your dues and fees for events will be tax deductible now.

Speaking of our meetings, you will be hearing more about the meetings scheduled in 2018 when I send the updates for the year in January. Keep the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January) on your calendars open.

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J. C Schweingrouber, Appalachian Authors Guild member, and others have formed a nonprofit group, The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement. They feature on their website an "Artist of the Month." If interested, contact JC Schweingrouber <http://www.supportappalachia.org/>

The AAG Blog is available for AAG Members to....
Guest Post about writing, reading, or life in general
or
Interview about your books
or
Announce new books/
Choose your option (or all three!) and email Gina at <mailto:gmcknight11@gmail.com> with your submission. Include bio, book and website links.

AAG member and former President Linda Hoagland will be teaching Creative Writing through Workforce at Southwest Virginia Community College during the fall session.



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

Vicki

We will continue our bimonthly meetings in March, May, July, September, and November with our guest speakers. For the other months, we will be having special workshops geared to helping you as writers with topics like self-publishing vs other publishing methods, writing dialogue, writing memoirs, learning to critique, and writing prompts to get the juices flowing. If you have other topics of interest to you, please email those to me. I will include as many as possible for 2018. I hope you will plan to come to these meetings since they are for you. They will probably be at the Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator conference room but more will follow about the details. They will be from 1-3 pm. I realize some of you work and cannot attend during the day but there is not a good time for everyone so we decided to go with the majority of the ones that had said they would attend.

Virginia Highlands Festival changes: To secure a table, you must register by February 1st. I know this is a long way off from the end of July when it takes place. However, to be able to register with VHF, we have to receive the money in order to pay them for our space. It is due the second week of February. Moving back to the Barter Green this year had its pros and cons. The biggest pro was a great number of books were sold. This continues to be a good event for AAG so hopefully all will continue to take part. If registering by February 1st, the table fee will remain at \$25 per day. You will be able to register/pay on the website if you choose or you can send your check to AAG PO Box 803 Abingdon, VA 24212 (postmarked February 1st). If spaces remain, we will accept registration closer to the event but the price per day per table will be \$40. We hope this is an incentive to have registrations by the deadline so we can be assured of having the funds needed to reserve our space. If paying on the website, you will need to email Linda Hoagland (lhoagland@gmail.com) with your preferred days. Unless notified differently, the festival is scheduled for Friday, July 27th- Sunday, August 5th. That decision is still pending approval of the VHF committee and could be subject to change to Friday, August 3rd-Sunday, August 12th. We should know that by the time I send the January updates to you.

As always, thank you for supporting AAG. I hope you have enjoyed the year and all we have done to make this writing group the best it can be for the wonderful writers we have as members. Let's work together to make 2018 an even better year.

I would like to say a special thank you to all the board members for their hard work, encouragement, and willingness to make AAG the best it can be. **YOU ARE APPRECIATED!!!**

Until next time.
Your 2017 President,
Victoria Fletcher