

Appalachian Authors Guild
P. O. Box 803
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<http://www.appalachianauthors.com/>

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

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[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.

Appalachian Authors Guild
General Meeting
Sept 12, 2017
11:30am-1:30pm
Bonanza Restaurant
Lebanon, VA

Speaker
Rita Sims Quillen



Rita Quillen's new full-length poetry collection, **THE MAD FARMER'S WIFE**, is from Texas Review Press, a member of the Texas A&M Consortium of Presses. Her novel **HIDING EZRA**, published in March 2014 by Little Creek Books and was a finalist in the 2005 DANA Awards competition. A chapter of the book is included in the scholarly study of Appalachian dialect, **TALKING APPALACHIAN**, published by the University of Kentucky Press. She has served on staff for many creative writing workshops across the South and as a visiting writer at many high schools and colleges, including Bluefield College, Roanoke College, and University of the Cumberlands. One of six semi-finalists for the 2012-14 Poet Laureate of Virginia, she received a Pushcart nomination in both 2012 and 2015 and a Best of the Net nomination in 2012. Her previous poetry collections are **COUNTING THE SUMS** and **HER SECRET DREAM**, which received the Book of the Year award from the Appalachian Writers Association. Currently, she's working on turning her poems into songs.

Rita Quillen's novel **Hiding Ezra** was released by Little Creek Books. It, and a chapter of the novel is included in the new scholarly study of Appalachian dialect just published by the University of Kentucky Press entitled **Talking Appalachian**.



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.

September 12, Lebanon Bonanza. Speaker, Rita Quillen.

November 14, Abingdon Shoney's. Installation of officers for 2018. Speaker, Leigh Ann Hoover.

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

I can't believe we are more than half way through 2017. Our September meeting will be on the 12th at the Bonanza in Lebanon from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Rita Quillen will be our guest speaker. You don't want to miss this one. If you plan to attend, please email me at vfletcher56@gmail.com or text me at 276-492-8314 by Friday, September 8th. The room only holds 24 so if we need more space (wouldn't that be wonderful), I will need to make other arrangements.

The board is working to add some book selling venues for the rest of this year and beginning fully in 2018. More details will follow about those as soon as we get the vendor applications approved and times/dates set up for you to sign up. If you would be interested in coordinating any of these, please let me know. It is great to have places to sell our books, but it is hard to find someone who can get the schedule together and send reminders out to the person who is there each week.

The results of the survey for the AAG meetings in 2018 are as follows:

Location: Abingdon, Lebanon, and Richlands were all tied so we will continue to try to offer at least one meeting in each of these locations. Bristol was also chosen by several so we might want to consider this one again too.

Time: Most chosen was 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Also, 1-3 pm was second runner up. I may send out one more request to see how many could attend each of these times and we will go with the one that is best for the majority.

Occurrence: All those returning the survey would like the monthly meetings with each bi-monthly remaining with a guest speaker and the other months would be a writer's workshop or something to help the writer with their ongoing work.

Suggestions: Continue to have Appalachian authors as speakers, have workshops to help writers, have members conduct meetings with topics of interest, where can we sell books, best way to promote our books.

Serving: I only had one to mark that they would like to serve either on a committee or on the board, but due to their work, they probably cannot commit to attending board meetings.

(cont'd, pg 3)

Vicki

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>

Listed in the right hand column and also on the AAG website are winners of the AAG Chapter Golden Nib contest. First place winners have been forwarded to VWC Golden Nib coordinator to compete with other chapter winners in the statewide contest.

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

If you did not get to send your input, please send it now. We will be working on this at our final board meeting in October to get prepared for the new year. Your input makes a difference. If you would like to attend meetings, let me know when and where you could.

Until next time.

All 4 AAG & AAG 4 All,
Victoria Fletcher, 2017 president

Congratulations to all Golden Nib winners and good luck to 1st place winners in the statewide contest.

Poetry:

First: "Challenge" by Lynn Young

Second: "Heart of Appalachia" by Vicki Fletcher

Third: "Dad" by Linda Hudson Hoagland

Fiction:

First: "Connie the Cat Lady" by Linda Hudson Hoagland

Second: "Zen Highway" by Cyrus Alderwood

Third: "Life with the Grants" by Vicki Fletcher

Non-fiction:

First: "Crazy Heals—Sometimes" by Linda Hudson Hoagland

Second: "Okies" by Dan Swanson

Third: "3 Day Adventure" by Vicki Fletcher

If you haven't submitted your writing/book(s) information to be on the AAG Blog, and would like to be on it, just do it! The AAG Blog is available for AAG Members to....

- 1) Guest Post - write about writing, reading, life in general; include your bio and links
- 2) Interview about your books and writing; include your bio and links
- 3) Announce new books; email your Amazon book link and website

Choose your option (or all three!) and email Gina at <mailto:gmcknight11@gmail.com> with your submission