



The Quill

From the Editor

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Board Meeting Update

The focus of our February board meeting was the 2009 budget. Between the struggling economy and the reduction in grant moneys available, we sought to find areas to cut expenses and increase funds.

We have negotiated a 30 percent reduction in contracted minimums for this year's conference, and this will help reduce one of our largest expenses. Some chapters have pledged to sponsor some events, such as

From Our President Publishing Economics

Barbara V. Evers

Turn on your television or radio, and the news bombards you with information about our economy. No matter how you feel about the situation and our government's efforts to improve this country's financial struggles, you can't escape the fallout from the situation. As a fellow writer, I want to encourage each of you to continue to support the publishing industry during these hard times. Independent book stores are closing daily and New York publishing struggles to survive by restructuring and cutting positions. Fewer agents and editors are seeking new submissions because of the backlog of books that have not sold for their current clients. If you seek publication, as many of our membership does, then your own book purchase choices can help or hinder this alarming situation.

I'm not asking each of you to spend money that you don't have. We all must tighten our belts. I am asking you to support the industry when you can. One such opportunity is to attend the [S.C. Book Festival](#) in Columbia on February 28 and March 1. SCWW will have a table in the exhibitor hall, so please come by and say hello. We will have information about our annual conference as

providing coffee throughout the conference. Other areas that we found to help our bottom line include reducing postage needs, seeking no-cost advertising, reducing our printing needs, and “going green” by using remaining items from the past few conference years.

The next meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 21 at Albert's Deli on Parklane Road in Columbia.

Literary Opportunities

SCWW Conference, Oct. 23-25, 2009
It's hard to believe, but the first quarter of 2009 is nearly done. October is just around the corner. And for SCWW, October means Conference!

While registration doesn't begin until June 1, be sure to visit <http://www.myscww.org> early and often. There you'll find updates on faculty, events, critiques and many other opportunities.

For example, you'll find out more about the 2009 keynote speaker, Steve Berry!

SCWW goes to S.C. Book Festival

It is that time of year again – the time of year where authors and book lovers alike descend on the Columbia Convention Center for the South Carolina Book Festival beginning February 27. The South Carolina Writers' Workshop will have a booth at the Exhibitors Hall where we will have a limited number of SCWW T-Shirts, SCWW mugs, and copies of *The Petigru Review* for sale. In addition, we will have information on the upcoming conference that will be held October 23-25, 2009.

Due to limitations in booth size, we are unable to provide space for members' promotional material. We look forward to meeting all the authors and book lovers that are participating in this event.

If you are interested in volunteering at booth during the festival, please contact Vikki Perry at vikkiperry@gmail.com.

Call for Authors and Crafters

Authors, illustrators, and artbook crafters are invited to share their work at the Book Makers

well as fantastic SCWW logo items and copies of *The Petigru Review* for sale. When you stop by the booth, ask about other ways you can become involved in our organization.
Hope to see you there!

Petigru Review Judges Announced

Here's a little bit about the fine folks who will be judging submissions for the 2009 Petigru Review.

FICTION:

Anne C. Barnhill

Anne C. Barnhill's short story collection, *What You Long For*, will be published in May 2009 by Main Street Rag and her work has appeared in a number of literary magazines and anthologies including, most recently, *The Antietam Review* and *Racing Home: New Stories from Award-Winning North Carolina Writers*. Other publications include the story, “Washing Helen's Hair,” from the Grammy-nominated anthology *Grow Old Along With Me*, and “The Swing,” from *Generation to Generation*. She has received an Emerging Artist Grant, a Regional Artist Grant, and a writer's residency at the Syvenna Foundation in Texas. She has been selected as a Blumenthal Reader twice and her stories have won several awards, including the Porter Fleming Fiction Award from the Augusta, Georgia Arts Council.

Barnhill publishes nonfiction with a variety of newspapers and magazines, including *Our State Magazine: Down Home In North Carolina*. Her book reviews have appeared in *The Notre Dame Review*, *Main Street Rag*, *the Winston Salem Journal*, and the *Greensboro News and Record*.

Her memoir, *At Home in the Land of Oz: Autism, My Sister and Me*, from Jessica Kingsley Publishers in London, tells the story about what it was like growing up with her autistic sister, Rebecca.

Clyde Edgerton says this about the book:

Anne Barnhill, in *At Home in the Land of Oz*, has written a story that deserves a far brighter and higher billing than the kind of easy, happy, feel-good non-fiction that often tops the best-seller lists. This is because her story deals with those quiet heroics that many families and individuals face while they hide away in pain and misunderstanding. In facing autism full on, Ms. Barnhill has demonstrated how humans can love each other in unspeakable ways, learning languages as well as contours of certain rooms of the heart that some of us are never fortunate enough to know.

And Fred Chappell adds:

. . . A story filled with suspense, humor, empathy, frustration, triumph and heartbreak. Anne Barnhill writes economically, cleanly and frankly and her words will go to the heart of

Festival, April 3-25, 2009, a gathering for everyone who makes books the wonderful objects that they are. The event is hosted by ARTworks, the home of the Arts Council of Beaufort County, in Beaufort SC, 2127 Boundary Street, 29902.

The Book Makers Festival begins with *People & Process*, a show of work by illustrators and artbook crafters opening in ARTworks' gallery on Friday, April 3. The main event is Saturday, April 25, when \$25 tables are available to authors and artists to meet their readers and sign & sell their books, traditionally published, self-published, and handmade.

The Book Makers Festival is instigated by Iodine Literary Projects. For more information, visit <http://www.eatgoodbread.com> or call 843-379-6607.

Telling Stories, A Writer's Workshop

"Telling Stories, A Writer's Workshop"

Taught by **Kathryn Eppers Lovatt**

Sponsored by South Carolina Writers Workshop
Camden Chapter and Kirkwood Books

Saturday, March 7, 2009 10 a.m. to noon

Kirkwood Books

944 Broad St., Camden, SC

Kathryn earned an MFA in Creative Writing at Hollins College, Roanoke, Va. She served as fiction editor for an independent press, and has taught creative writing in the United States and Hong Kong. Her work has appeared in a number of reviews and anthologies. Awards include the Doris Betts prize for short fiction, the Robert Ruark Fiction Prize, and the Carrie McCray short story award.

There is no charge for this workshop, but attendance is limited.

For more information or to register, contact

Paddy Bell (803) 432-8836;

polarbear1@truvista.net.

every reader. From her pages I learned that endurance can be the most important component of courage, and I learned in a most entertaining way.

Ms. Barnhill has been the keynote speaker at meetings of Episcopal Church Women in North Carolina and South Carolina. She has also presented programs about memoir writing at Converse College, the Kernersville Moravian Church, the Kernersville Library Book Club, and other book clubs. She has taught memoir writing and fiction writing in a variety of places, including: Guilford College, Greensboro, NC; University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Guilford Technical Community College; the Phoenix Festival at High Point University; and the Greensboro YMCA for Seniors. She has also taught courses in creativity for the faculty and staff at Guilford College and the Center for Creative Leadership, both in Greensboro. She holds an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from UNC-Wilmington and is currently at work on a novel set in Tudor England.

A.J Hartley

British-born writer A.J. Hartley got his first taste for archaeology touring sites in Greece and Rome as a child with his family. As an English major at Manchester University, he took extra classes in Egyptology and got a job working on a Bronze Age site just outside Jerusalem. Since then, life has taken him to many places around the world—including a couple of years in Japan—and though he always leaned more toward the literary than to the strictly historical, his fascination with the past has continued unabated. He is the *USA Today* and *New York Times* bestselling author of the mystery/thrillers *The Mask of Atreus*, and *On the Fifth Day*, which have been printed in 20 languages worldwide. His third thriller, *What Time Devours*, which centers on a lost Shakespeare play, was released by Penguin/Berkley in January 2009. His first fantasy adventure, *Act of Will*, (starred review in *Publishers Weekly*) will be published by Tor/Macmillan in March 2009.

A.J. has an M.A. and Ph.D. in English literature from Boston University and is currently the Distinguished Professor of Shakespeare in the Department of Theatre at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is the director of the Shakespeare in Action Centre, the editor of the performance journal *Shakespeare Bulletin* published by Johns Hopkins UP, and the author of *The Shakespearean Dramaturg* as well as numerous articles in the field. He is currently writing a performance history of Julius Caesar for Manchester UP.

As well as being a novelist and academic, he is a screenwriter, theatre director, and dramaturg. He makes beer and furniture and has more hobbies than is good for anyone. He is married with a son, and lives in Charlotte.

Derek Nikitas

Derek Nikitas's first novel, *Pyres* (St. Martin's Minotaur, 2007) earned an Edgar Award nomination. His second novel, *The Long Division*, will be released in September 2009 (St. Martin's Minotaur). He has published stories in *The*

Ontario Review, *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, *Chelsea*, *Thuglit*, *The Pedestal Magazine*, and other venues. He was a 2007 Fellow at the Sewanee Writers Conference and has been nominated for a Pushcart award. His MFA in Creative Writing is from UNC-Wilmington and he teaches creative writing in the MFA program at Eastern Kentucky University.

NONFICTION:

Kay B. Day

Independent journalist Kay B. Day writes the “Web Savvy” column for *The Writer* and hosts her own column at *The US Report*. Day has won awards for nonfiction, fiction, and poetry. The author of three books with a fourth about to be published, Day has contributed to a number of anthologies like *The Writer’s Handbook*, *Letters to the World*, and *Faces of Freedom*. She has provided articles and analyses to *Sky News*, *The Florida Times Union*, *United Press International*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Newsmax*, and dozens of other publications and websites. She speaks frequently to writing groups, colleges, and trade associations about her experiences. She has interviewed the person on the street as well as celebrities like Ken Burns and Russell Crowe. Day is a member of the American Society of Journalists and Authors and The Authors Guild. A native of South Carolina, she resides in Jacksonville, Florida.

Sheila R. McKinney

Sheila R. McKinney enjoyed a 25-year career with the *Chronicle-Independent*, a triweekly newspaper in Camden, S.C. Having been “Localife” editor since 1986, she reported on a wide variety of community activities, including arts and entertainment, individual and organizational achievements, and church and civic projects. Among her numerous awards from the South Carolina Press Association were those for feature writing, critical writing, lifestyle section and page design.

Since her retirement from the *Chronicle-Independent* in January 2006, she has written occasional articles for the newspaper, as well as several for various organizations, including three about the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County’s annual spring festival, Jazz at the Center, which have been published in *Just Jazz Guitar* magazine.

As she strives to bring the reader into the scene in a feature story, she also enjoys bringing the written word to life on the stage. Through the years, she has played principal roles with The Actors’ Theatre of South Carolina and the Camden Community Theatre. Since her retirement from the newspaper, she has fulfilled a longtime goal to play Amanda Wingfield in Tennessee Williams’ *The Glass Menagerie*.

Currently, Mrs. McKinney serves on the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County Board of Directors.

Lisa Annelouise Rentz

Lisa Annelouise Rentz lives and works in Beaufort. She is

the editor of *ArtNews* magazine, a print publication of the Arts Council of Beaufort County, and the instigator of Iodine Literary Projects at www.eatgoodbread.com, including the Piccolo Fiction Open in Spoleto. Her work has been published by *Charleston* magazine, *The Lowcountry*, Salon.com, *night rally*, *Skirt*, *Yikes*, and *The Gullah Sentinel*. She is currently collaborating with dancer Caroline Hoadley on *The Carolina Shag: the Spirit of Southern Social Dance*, due out this year. When she works with teachers and students in Beaufort County schools, she defines creative writing as any writing that is not boring.

POETRY:

Darnell Arnoult

Darnell Arnoult's novel *Sufficient Grace* was published both in hardcover (2006) and paperback (2007) by Free Press, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, and was produced in unabridged audio by Recorded Books (2007). A Book Sense annual book club list selection, *Sufficient Grace* was nominated for the 2007 SIBA Fiction Book of the Year and 2006 Weatherford Award nominee.

What Travels With Us: Poems, published by Louisiana State University Press (2005), was named 2006 SIBA Poetry Book of the Year and won the 2005 Weatherford Award in Appalachian Literature, given by Berea College and the Appalachian Studies Association.

Arnoult's short fiction and poetry have appeared in a variety of journals including *Nantahala Review*, *Southern Cultures*, *Southwest Review*, *Southern Exposure*, *Asheville Poetry Review*, *Sandhills Review*, *Brightleaf*, *Now and Then Magazine*, and *Appalachian Heritage*. Her poetry has been featured by Garrison Keillor on *Writer's Almanac*.

With more than seventeen years of teaching experience in creative writing and creative practice, Arnoult is a regular faculty member of the Duke Writers Workshop, Tennessee Young Writers Workshop, John C. Campbell Folk School, and Learning Events. She teaches fiction and poetry at conferences all over the Southeast. In 2007, Arnoult was named Tennessee Writer of the Year by the Tennessee Writers Alliance, and she is the 2009 recipient of the Mary Frances Hobson Prize in Arts and Letters.

Arnoult holds a BA in American Studies with a concentration in Southern Folklore from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and MA in English and Creative Writing from North Carolina State University. She is currently at work on her second novel and a new collection of poems while she completes her MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Memphis.

Mike Smith

Mike Smith is the author of three chapbooks and the full-length collection, *How to Make a Mummy* (2008). He is a graduate of UNC-Greensboro, Hollins College and the

University of Notre Dame, and has published poetry in the *Carolina Quarterly*, *Measure*, *Moment Magazine*, the *North American Review*, and the *Notre Dame Review*. Last year, the *Iowa Review* featured his long poem "Byron in Baghdad" in their spring issue.

Patricia Smith

Patricia Smith is the author of five books of poetry, including *Blood Dazzler*, chronicling the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, which was a finalist for the 2008 National Book Award and one of NPR's top five books of 2008; and *Teahouse of the Almighty*, a National Poetry Series selection, winner of the Hurston-Wright Legacy Award and About.com's Best Poetry Book of 2006. She also authored the groundbreaking history *Africans in America* and the award-winning children's book *Janna and the Kings*. Her work has appeared in *Poetry*, *The Paris Review*, *TriQuarterly* and many other journals, and has been performed around the world, including Carnegie Hall, the Poets Stage in Stockholm, Rotterdam's Poetry International, the Aran Islands International Poetry and Prose Festival, the Bahia Festival, the Schomburg Center, and on tour in Germany, Austria, and Holland. She is a Pushcart Prize winner, a Cave Canem faculty member and a four-time individual champion of the National Poetry Slam, the most successful poet in the competition's history. She is on the faculty of the Stonecoast MFA program at the University of Southern Maine.

Chapter Chatter

Greenville

Bob Strother's short story "Green Zone" has been accepted for inclusion in the Winter 2009 edition of *The MacGuffin*, a national literary magazine published by Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan.

Another **Phil Arnold** feature has appeared in *Elvis... The Magazine*. The Birthday Tribute 2009 issue contains Phil's four-page article titled "OPENING NIGHT - Vegas 1969" about Elvis' return to live concerts after eight years of just making movies. Phil supplied nine color photos from his collection to illustrate his articles.

Check out Phil's elvisblog (www.elvisblog.net), which has now been translated into Chinese, and is available in at least 22 other countries as well!

Florence

Dr. Paul Causey has recently sold his non-fiction book, *Snakes of South Carolina and Antivenum for Emergency Physicians* to Index Publishing in Greenville.

Charleston

Cree Forman had a book signing at the Time Well Spent Tea Room in Summerville, SC on Feb. 21.

Several members of the Charleston Chapter took the challenge of the National Novel Writing Month in January. We started on Jan. 1 and wrote through the month to a total of 50,000 words or more. **Judith Allen** and **Mary Ogden Fersner** completed the challenge. Way to go, ladies! For those who started, but didn't finish, there's always next time. Just attempting such a brain-rattling and time consuming project is a victory in itself.

Member-at-Large

Courtney J. Foster wrote a chapter, "One State's Perspective on the Appropriate Inclusion of Deaf Students in Large-Scale Assessment," in **Testing Deaf Students in an Age of Accountability**, which was published by Gallaudet University Press.

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