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Issue 14

September 20, 2009

## The Quill

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### SCWW Board Meeting Summary

### Conference News

#### Faculty Addition Increases One-on-One Opportunities for Attendees

We've been lucky enough to add William Morrow/Harper Collins editor Katherine Nintzel to our faculty for the 2009 conference! Ms. Nintzel will be involved in two panels -- **The Pulse of Publishing: Recession and the Market**, with Joanna Stampfel-Volpe, Jim McCarthy, Janet Reid and **Do I need an Agent?**, with Steve Berry and Pam Ahearn. In addition, Ms. Nintzel will be listening to pitches and perform critiques. If you've already registered for the conference and would like to add a critique or pitch, please contact Carrie McCullough at [conference@myscww.org](mailto:conference@myscww.org) (706-564-7998) or Lateia Sandifer at [lateia.sandifer@gmail.com](mailto:lateia.sandifer@gmail.com).

In addition to pitches and critiques with Ms. Nintzel, there are a handful of other pitches and critiques still available. Contact Carrie or Lateia for more information (or check out the *Quill* Special Edition you received Sept. 19).

Here's a little bit more about Ms. Nintzel:

*President Barbara V. Evers offers insight into the most recent SCWW Board meeting. For information about joining the Board, check out Barbara's notice below.*

The Board of Directors met Saturday, Sept. 12 in Columbia. Due to personal issues, **Phil Arnold** and **Vikki Perry** are no longer serving on the board, so one of the first orders of business was finding persons to handle their duties.

**Valerie Aartun**, of Pumpkintown, S.C., volunteered to step in as grants chairperson. She brings several years of experience in grant-writing and legislative involvement to the table, so she is a welcome addition to our team. Since we had two open board positions, we voted for Valerie to continue Vikki Perry's term, which expires in December 2010. Phil Arnold's term expires this year in December, so the Board decided to not fill that position for such a short duration of time.

Our Bylaws require the Board to select the 2010 Vice President-Conference Chair during the September meeting. **Carrie McCullough** volunteered for this position and the vote was unanimous.

Carrie McCullough and **Lateia Sandifer** shared lots of exciting information about the conference. There is still time to sign up, and you don't want to miss this exciting weekend in October. In an effort to be "green" this year, they bought supplies made from recycled materials, and saved us money at the same time!

During the Board meeting, President **Barbara Evers**, verified which directors will continue their Board term next year, who will run for re-election, and who will finish their term with the Board. (See article concerning nominations for the Board.)

The following Board members will serve the second year of their terms: **Jim McFarlane**, Valerie Aartun, **Kim Blum-Hyclak** and Lateia Sandifer. Barbara Evers, as the current president, will continue for another year as past president ex-officio. Carrie McCullough's Board term ends this year, but she intends to run for re-election. All other Board members indicated a desire to step down from the Board at the end of this year.

Our next Board meeting will be Nov. 21, location to be determined.

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Editor **Katherine Nintzel** has been with Morrow since 2003 and works with a broad range of fiction and nonfiction. She is looking for literary fiction and fiction that straddles the line between literary and commercial; speculative fiction and fantasy; and narrative nonfiction, including memoir. In addition to Morrow and Eos hardcovers, she also does a number of trade paperback originals and trade paperback "reinventions."



Recent and upcoming titles include Laura Kasischke's *In a Perfect World*; Christina Baker Kline's *Bird in Hand*; Diane Hammond's Indie Bound Notable *Hannah's Dream*; Jessica Anya Blau's coming-of-age debut *The Summer of Naked Swim Parties*; Hallie Ephron's solo debut *Never Tell a Lie*; the New York Times bestselling *Sharing Knife* series by Lois McMaster Bujold; and Margaret Ronald's Evie Scelan urban fantasy series.

## Only a Few Days Left to Save Money on Hotel Rooms

To reserve a room at The Hilton, visit our [personalized Hilton Web page](#) or call (800) 876-0010. (This is the Hilton reservations line at the Myrtle Beach Hilton Resort. After 8:30 p.m., it will ring through to the Hilton reservation center in Tampa, FL.) Be sure to mention that you are a part of the SCWW conference in order to get the discounted rate (group code SCW). The Hilton will offer rooms at SCWW conference rates until September 23, 2009.

If you've already made reservations at The Hilton, but didn't use our group code, make sure you call the number above and get our discounted rate.

## The Petigru Review Winners

Under a Good Hat  
Fiction by **Donna Campbell**

Anything for a Story  
Nonfiction by **Betty Wilson Beamguard**

Wash  
Poetry by **Kathryn Ethers Lovatt**

The Knock  
Fiction by **Kim Catanzarite**

To My Daughters, Who Will Dress Me  
Poetry by **Sally Arango Renata**

A Sudden Man

## SCWW Board Nominations: Join Us to Make a Difference

Have you ever said to yourself, "How can I become more involved with SCWW's writing community?" Or maybe you've looked at *The Quill*, *The Petigru Review*, the conference, or other events related to SCWW and thought, "I'd like to work with that." For those of you outside of a local chapter, you may have wondered how you can plug in to this community of writers at a deeper level.

The answer to all of these questions is by serving as a member of our Board of Directors.

In September and October, the Board accepts nominations for positions on the Board of Directors. This year we have eight open Board seats. In order to run for a Board seat, you will want to send to President Barbara Evers ([eversbve@gmail.com](mailto:eversbve@gmail.com)) a bio and an e-mail indicating your interest and qualifications.

Participating on the Board of Directors provides access to the publishing and writing world through a very different avenue than the chapter level. You have a front row seat to the actual operations and processes involved with operating a more than 500-member non-profit organization. All directors are expected to accept a responsibility, and your diverse options of service will give your writing resume more visibility in the publishing world.

For example, you may know that publicity is your thing, and you would like to help get the SCWW name and conference in the public eye. If you like to encourage people to participate in SCWW, then you might be interested in our membership coordinator position. Below is a list of some of the special opportunities available to you on the Board:

Quill Editor  
Chapter Liaison  
Membership Coordinator  
Literary Journal Editor  
Webmaster  
Contest Chairperson  
Publicity Chairperson  
Grants Chairperson  
Conference Committee

We have five directors returning for a second term, and our former members will remain available to you for

Nonfiction by **Bob Strother**

Plastic Jesus  
Poetry by **Trilby Plants**

Satan's Lingerie  
Fiction by **Valerie Keiser Norris**

Watch Out  
Nonfiction by **Betty Wilson Beamguard**

Riding Double  
Poetry by **Millard R. Howington**

Sailing Yarn  
Poetry by **Robin Lewis**

Miz Audrey Goes to Church  
Fiction by **Valerie Keiser Norris**

Fault Line Sonnet #5  
Poetry by **Michael Hugh Lythgoe**

The Shoebox  
Nonfiction by **S. Jane Gari**

Why the Snake Died  
Poetry by **Betty Wilson Beamguard**

Smoke  
Fiction by **Maureen Sherbondy**

Kitesurfer in New South Wales Hit by Tail  
Poetry by **Maureen Sherbondy**

Quitting  
Fiction by **Kim Catanzarite**

Myrtle Beach Sonnet  
Poetry by **Michael Hugh Lythgoe**

Declaration of Independence  
Nonfiction by **Jim McFarlane**

Home on the Road  
Fiction by **Steve Heckman**

Sudden Death  
Nonfiction by **Missy Nicholson**

Blues  
Poetry by **Donna Campbell**

The Cruise  
Fiction by **Susan Boles**

Reunion  
Poetry by **Millard R. Howington**

questions and information.

Board Members must be a member in good standing, 21 years of age, and willing to contribute their time and interest to the purposes of the organization as stated in the bylaws. We would love for the majority of our chapters to have representation on the board and at least one person to represent those who don't live near a local chapter.

Terms are for two years, and a director can serve three consecutive terms. The Board meets 4-6 times per year, historically in Columbia. Based on the geographical make-up of the Board, the location of this meeting can be changed.

AND we have a good time!

Board nominations are due by October 30. In order to run for a Board seat, you will want to send to President Barbara Evers ([eversbve@gmail.com](mailto:eversbve@gmail.com)) a bio and an e-mail indicating your interest and qualifications. If there are more nominations than open positions, an election will be held in November. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Evers ([eversbve@gmail.com](mailto:eversbve@gmail.com) or 864-414-5693) or one of our current [Board members](#).

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## Board Reflections

*To give members a better idea of what can you can gain from being on the SCWW Board of Directors, a few of the Board directors offered what they learned from their Board's eye view.*

"I'm now finishing my third year on the board. The best part of this adventure has been the people I've met. Associating with a group of fascinating and unique writers from all over South Carolina (and beyond) who are willing to give of their time and talents to advance writing for others has been a terrific experience for me. Every year has been unique. The first year I learned some effective ways to publicize our fabulous writers conference; the second, I served as president of a bunch of dedicated people who worked hard and accomplished great things together; and the third, I was welcomed back ex officio to help a little here and there as my experience was needed. If I had the choice to go back in time and do it all over again, I would!"

**Cynthia Hodell Dyer, Myrtle Beach poetry group**

Paradise Found?  
Fiction by **Lynne M. Hinkey**

A Toast to the Dead  
Nonfiction by **Brenda Bevan Remmes**

Stephen Post Queen, February 26, 1894  
Poetry by **Brittany Vandeputte**

Long Silky Black Hair  
Fiction by **Donna Higgins**

Biscuits  
Poetry by **Brenda Bevan Remmes**

Coming Home  
Nonfiction by **Kimberlyn Blum-Hyclak**

From Match.com to Reelfoot  
Fiction by **Betty Wilson Beamguard**

Jesus on a Bicycle  
Poetry by **Bob Strother**

A Tender Age  
Poetry by **Bob Strother**

The Very Sick Passenger  
Nonfiction by **Kim Catanzarite**

The Fire Ants  
Poetry by **Robin Lewis**

The Last Word  
Fiction by **Grace W. Looper**

You Are the Boy With the Sunlit Hair  
Poetry by **Kathryn Jeffcoat**

In the Garden  
Fiction by **Dick Brook**

Christmas Gift  
Nonfiction by **Elsie Holcombe**

The Naughty Lady of Shady Lane  
Fiction by **Janet Sheppard Kelleher**

Last Mother  
Poetry by **Nan Lundeen**

Eulogy  
Nonfiction by **Trilby Plants**

Private Horrors  
Fiction by **Steve Gordy**

The Lost  
Poetry by **Robin Lewis**

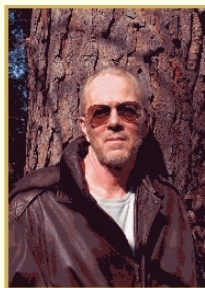
"Have you ever wondered what make an organization work? It takes great members of course, but it also takes a little 'glue' to hold it together and keep it going forward. I found that the Board of Directors and the officers of SCWW are the 'glue' that binds this organization together. As compared to another non-profit organization of which I was a member and part of key committees, SCWW directors and officers work to get things done rather than trying to preserve their positions and making themselves look good! As Barbara Evers tells us, we're a working board, each with a role that needs to be fulfilled in order to benefit the members. It's been a great two years working on the board because of the people involved and the members we serve. I encourage any of you who have a little time to spare and want to help SCWW to consider serving on the board or a committee. It's a great job!"



**Marshall Turner, SCWW Webmaster**

"Being on the SCWW board for the past four years has been a revelation. It takes a lot of work from a lot of people to keep our organization running. But it has been well worth the effort. I've met other writers from across the state and around the country that I'm sure I would otherwise not have had the pleasure of meeting. I've made friends that I value deeply, and I've learned a tremendous amount about the publishing industry."

**Susan Boyer, Greenville Chapter**



It has been almost four years since I was elected to the SCWW Board and named Chapter Liaison. The time I have spent working with chapter leaders across the state (and in Savannah) has been especially rewarding. Your enthusiasm, participation, and cooperation has made my job a true pleasure.

During the last four years, we have seen our membership grow significantly—and with that, our chapter locations. Last year, we established our first out of state chapter in Savannah, Georgia, and our numbers climbed to as high as seventeen.

There are still areas out there where we have members eager for critique group participation but no active chapter. I hope that over the next few years, we can meet those challenges and have chapter coverage so that no one goes wanting.

My term on the board, and as Chapter Liaison, will end in December of this year. Hopefully one of you will step up and help further the SCWW mission by offering for

Elvis Lite  
Nonfiction by **Bob Strother**

The Winter Before the Flood, He Crawled into Himself  
Poetry by **Sally Arango Renata**

Food as Religion  
Fiction by **Paddy M. Bell**

Pass Christian, Mississippi Mission Trip  
Nonfiction by **Martha T. Robinson**

He Belongs to Mexico  
Fiction by **Billie Bierer**

The Good Husband  
Poetry by **Marilyn N. Smith**

No Time to Write  
Nonfiction by **Melinda Cotton**

How to Succeed in Sales  
Poetry by **Maureen Sherbondy**

Walls  
Poetry by **Michael Hugh Lythgoe**

The Clown  
Fiction by **Richard Lutman**

The Nature of Things  
Poetry by **Marilyn N. Smith**

The World's-Gone-Crazy Cotillion  
Fiction by **Bob Strother**

Kudzu  
Poetry by **Will Jones**

Brave Front  
Poetry by **Betty Wilson Beamguard**

Blood Kin  
Poetry by **Elsie Holcombe**

Herbert Slago's Revenge  
Fiction by **Gene Hines**

October  
Poetry by **Marilyn N. Smith**

Check Your Battleship  
Nonfiction by **Robin O'Bryant**

Flood Tide  
Fiction by **David F. Westernen**

Freak Potential

Board of Directors service. If so, I'm quite sure you will find it to be as rewarding and fulfilling as I have—especially if you volunteer to work as Chapter Liaison. To the Chapter Leaders, I'd like to say "thank you" for making my job easy, and for all your hard work."

**Bob Strother, Greenville Chapter**

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## **Chapter/Member/Sponsor Chatter**

### **Greenville**

SCWW sponsor **Fiction Addiction** bookstore ([www.fiction-addiction.com](http://www.fiction-addiction.com)) reports its first Book Your Lunch event was a resounding success with 35 attendees listening to Amanda Gables discuss her first novel, *The Confederate General Rides North*, an utterly original and richly imagined novel about mothers and daughters and the ache of growing up too soon.

Future events at Fiction Addiction include:

- Sept 24, noon to 2 p.m.: Batt Humphreys signs *Dead Weight*, based upon a 1910 Charleston murder.
- Oct. 2, Book Your Lunch (noon to 2 p.m.) with Brian Ray followed by signing of *Through the Pale Door*, winner of the S.C. First Novel Prize (2:30 to 3:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 6, Book Your Lunch (noon to 2 p.m.) with Ron Rash followed by signing of *Serena*, the winner of the 2009 SIBA Fiction Award (2:30 to 3:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 10, 2 to 4 p.m.: Sam Howie, who teaches at Converse College, signs his first book, *Rapture Practice: Stories*
- Nov. 2, Vicki Lane -- *In a Dark Season*, a North Carolina mystery.
- Nov. 3, David Weber -- *Torch of Freedom*, the newest book in his bestselling Honorverse series.
- Nov. 11 Karen White -- *Girl on Legare Street*, set in Charleston.
- Dec. 1 Nicole Seitz -- *Saving Cicadas*, her fourth book, a weaving together of her Christian faith and love of South Carolina.
- Dec. 8 Melinda Long -- *Pirates Don't Change Diapers* and *How I Became a Pirate*, best-selling children's picture books.

**Bob Strother** has been selected as the Gulf Coast Writers' Association Featured Writer for September. A reprint of Bob's short story, "Love Hurts," is featured on the GCWA Web site, <http://www.gcwriters.org>, and will be included in the fall edition of *Magnolia Quarterly*. "Love Hurts" was originally published in the 2005

Poetry by **Bob Strother**

Ships in the Night  
Fiction by **Charles P. Reeve**

Tyrants  
Poetry by **Tim Harkins**

Sun Patch  
Poetry by **Brittany Vandeputte**

Squirrel Friends  
Nonfiction by **Brittany Vandeputte**

Harley and the Mare  
Fiction by **Steve Heckman**

Half Full  
Poetry by **S. Jane Gari**

Strange Elvis Searches on Google  
Nonfiction by **Phil Arnold**

A Moment of Silence  
Poetry by **Sally Arango Renata**

The Country Road  
Fiction by **Lisa Wright-Dixon**

## **Quill Contest announcements**

### **Who Am I?**

The 19th Annual SCWW Conference is on the horizon but all your work for that should be finished. Some of you submitted manuscripts for the Carrie McCray Memorial Literary Awards. Many of you have sent in your pages for the critiques sessions. Now what to do? How about something fun and relaxing . . . like the Autumn Quill Writing Contest. We had 30 submissions for the last contest. Let's see if we can meet or top that this time.

Remember, if you received a 1st Place in the most recent contest, you can't enter in that same category this time, but you can enter the other two.



Theme: **Who Am I?** Look at the picture and tell us who

edition of *Catfish Stew*.

### Members-at-Large

**Richard Lutman's** story "The Pineapple Princess" will be appearing the Fall edition of *The Green Silk Journal*.

**Chris Roerden** won the 2009 Benjamin Franklin Award for Literary Criticism for her eleventh book, *Don't Sabotage Your Submission*, the revised edition for all genres of the Agatha Award winner *Don't Murder Your Mystery*.

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### Contest Opportunity

FundsforWriters.com and VIPAuthors.com present an annual essay contest. Submit 750 words or less on the theme: Invisible Writing. Interpret it as you like. Enter the \$5 entry fee category and vie for \$200 or the NO entry fee category and compete for \$50.

Deadline October 31, 2009. Winners announced December 1, 2009.

For more information, visit [www.fundsforwriters.com/annualcontest.htm](http://www.fundsforwriters.com/annualcontest.htm).

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**For more information on the South Carolina Writers' Workshop and its upcoming conference, please visit the SCWW blog, <http://southcarolinawritersworkshop.blogspot.com>.**

this is. Who does it remind you of? A relative? You in a past life? Someone you see on the street? Give us the person's story.

Here are the guidelines:

Poetry - 40-line limit

Nonfiction and Fiction - 1,500-word limit

Deadline - **October 31**

Winners will be announced in the December *Quill*.

Please send your entries as an attachment via e-mail to Kim Blum-Hyclak at [rhyclak@comporium.net](mailto:rhyclak@comporium.net). In the body of the e-mail please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail address and title.

OR

Send two copies and a cover sheet with the above information to

**Kim Blum-Hyclak**  
**1315 Treetop Dr.**  
**Lancaster, SC 29720**

Your name should not appear on the manuscript.

### Third Contest Winners

#### Poetry

First Place

*Litter* by Anne Woodman

Second Place (tie)

*Suicide Note* by Angie Green

*A Picture* by S. Jane Gari

#### Fiction

First Place

*The Wicked Witch of the Big Easy* by Billie Bierer

Second Place

*Ironing in '58* by Betty Beamguard

#### Nonfiction

First Place

*A Door Opens Slowly* by Angie Green

Second Place

*Take Me to the River* by Betty Beamguard

The winning works will be printed in upcoming issues of *The Quill*.

### Judges for Summer Contest

We recently completed our third Quill Writing Contest and it garnered the most entries so far - 30! That's wonderful and we thank you for all the submissions. Here are the bios for the judges who had the difficult task of choosing this contest's winners.

**Poetry - Sally Arango Renata**, a Northern California

transplant and Pushcart Prize nominee, has been a coast-dwelling Carolinian for the past 15 years, happily drawing peace and inspiration from the rich tapestry of the lowcountry.

Her poetry, short stories and magazine articles have appeared in the pages of many publications including *Petigru Review*, *The Shine Journal*, *Joyful*, *ken\*again* and *FM Aware*. Renata also edited *Best of Writers: An Anthology of Poetry and Prose 2005* (The Town Press). In 2007, Renata received a Horry County Arts Council (ACE) Grant for her book in progress on South Carolina visionary artist William Thomas Thompson. She was named by the South Carolina Arts Commission as a Fellow in 2008 and she was one of the judges for the Poetry Out Loud Competition, sponsored by the National Endowment of the Arts.

Renata is a member of the South Carolina Writer's Workshop and the Poetry Society of South Carolina. Several of her poems have placed or won honorable mention in the highly competitive Interboard Poetry Competition.

An accomplished folk artist, Renata's work shows annually at the House of Blues Folk Art Festival and is exhibited each year at the Franklin G. Burroughs-Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum's celebration of The Day of the Dead. You can read Renata's work at [www.southernartistry.org](http://www.southernartistry.org).

**Nonfiction** - For thirty years, **Jim McFarlane** has worked at the same manufacturing plant in Greer under American, German and Japanese ownership and will retire in a few years with a pension - what an oddity these days. Whereas most of his colleagues labor to enter data into computers, Jim's mission is to make it retrievable. Thus, most of his creative writing has been in Fortran and Visual Basic.

Jim's parents graduated from Mississippi colleges in 1933 with teaching degrees. At first Jim followed after his mother's interest in math and science, earning a Ph.D in chemistry. Later he picked up his father's interest in literature and history. A fascination with genealogy morphed into writing novels of historical fiction about distant ancestors who lived, as the Chinese curse threatens, in interesting times.

Most writers have trouble getting honest feedback from family members, but Jim is 'blessed' with a daughter who was an assistant editor at St. Martin's Press for a few years and now owns a bookstore in Greenville. His second daughter clearly marks the boring parts that she skips over. His third daughter's book club read copied pages of his novel, offered plot advice and wanted to know what happened to some of the minor characters.

**Fiction** - **Bob Strother**, a recent Pushcart nominee, has written creatively for just over five years, and has over three dozen publishing credits. He has completed four

novels, one of which has been published. He took top honors in fiction and poetry in the 2008 issue of *The Petigru Review*, and has received other awards from Green River (Kentucky) Writers' Association and the Carrie McCray Memorial Literary Awards. Bob's Web site is [www.bobstrother.net](http://www.bobstrother.net).

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