



FROM THE PRESIDENT



"I've never been to a writing workshop where I learned so much in such a congenial atmosphere!"

"Man, I came away from the Conclave ready to write write write."

"Thanks for dispensing with the often time-wasting formalities of a "writer's workshop" and helping me get down to the work at hand. This conference was worth every penny spent."

"I'm telling other writers and aspiring writers to come to the next Alabama Writer's Conclave. It's getting better every year."

Is this the kind of conversation you're hearing about AWC? It's certainly what I'm hearing.

As you know, the Conclave is growing stronger and larger each year, and a first-class teaching faculty is what we all wish for when we take three days out of our lives to try and learn something new.

Give us a try. Come to Conclave 2007 in Auburn, roll up your sleeves, bring an extra pencil or pen, and get ready to have fun and learn much.

See you there.

Jim Reed
President

Inside this issue

Writers' Groups	page 2
Workshop Faculty	page 3
Conference Facilities	page 3
Writing Competition Guidelines and Submission Information	page 4
Scholarship Information Extended Deadline!	page 4
Conference Bookstore Guidelines	page 5
NewsWorthy	page 5
Writer Resources and Opportunities	page 6

Membership Renewal Form Enclosed

If your membership dues are not up to date, sign up for the Conference (see insert) for full details. Or send membership dues of \$25, \$15 for students, to:

Don Johnson, Treasurer
137 Sterling Drive
Hueytown, AL 35023

Please make checks out to Alabama Writers' Conclave and write membership dues on the check.

Writers' Groups

Pell City Pens

Founded in 2004, Pell City Pens is a writers' club for adults with no restriction on skill level. Fees are \$5 per session. Each meeting features critiques, hand-outs on how-to topics, contests and other writing news. The Pens critique all genres of fiction and nonfiction, but no poetry or plays at this time. The Pens hold three meetings every month: first Tuesday, 6:00-9:00PM, short prose and book writers; second Tuesday, noon-3:00PM, short prose only; fourth Tuesday, noon-3:00PM, book writers only.

Smoke City Narrators

Founded in 1998, Smoke City Narrators is a critique group for professional writers based in Birmingham. Focusing on mainstream and literary fiction (with some mystery and creative non-fiction), the group meets in Irondale the third Sunday of every month from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Email SCnarrators@yahoo.com for details.

We are calling for up-to-date information on writers' groups around the state and in neighboring states. Please send information to

Seth Tanner
1953 Shelton Shores Drive
Talladega, AL 35160
sctanner@hotmail.com

Alabama Writers' Conclave Officers

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2007 Writer in Residence and Workshop Faculty

ALL WILL ALSO SERVE AS CRITIQUE GROUP
LEADERS



Hans Watford, Writer in Residence & Keynote Speaker

W. H. Watford is a Cardiologist who practices in Birmingham, Alabama. He is the winner of the Santa Barbara Fiction Writing Award. He has published two novels, *Mortal Strain* and *Lethal Risk*.



Lynn York, Novel

Lynn York was educated at Duke University and the University of Texas. She worked in Washington, DC, in telecommunications until 1995. Then, she returned to North Carolina, settling in Chapel Hill. There, she wrote her first novel, *The Piano Teacher*. Her second novel, *The Sweet Life*, will be published in 2007.



Marlin Barton, Short Fiction

Marlin Barton is from the Black Belt region of Alabama. He has published a novel, *A Broken Thing*, and two collections of short stories, *The Dry Well* and *Dancing by the River*. His stories have appeared in *The Southern Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, and *Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards*. He teaches writing to juvenile offenders in a program called "Writing Our Stories," which was created by the Alabama Writers' Forum.



Rita Quillen, Poetry

Rita Quillen teaches English at Mountain Empire Community College in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. She has also taught for the Appalachian Writers Association and the Appalachian Writers Workshop. Her poetry has been published in a number of journals, including *Appalachian Journal*, *Now and Then*, and *Appalachian Heritage*. She has published two books of poetry and a critical book, *Looking for Native Ground*.



Sandy Tritt, Memoir

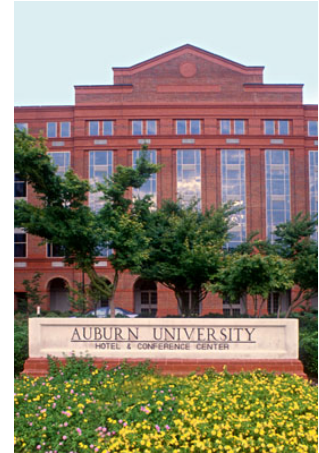
Sandy Tritt, the former fiction editor of *Confluence*, is the founder of Inspiration for Writers, a manuscript critique service for writers. In addition, she has held leadership positions in the West Virginia Writers and the Ohio Valley Literary Group. She has taught writing workshops for the Appalachian Writers Association and elsewhere.

THE ALABAMA WRITERS' CONCLAVE

CONFERENCE

JULY 20-22, 2007

For 2007, the Alabama Writers' Conclave is pleased to announce that our conference will be held at the Dixon Conference Center and Auburn Hotel, on the lovely campus of Auburn University. Please visit www.auhcc.com



to learn more about the facility, including its location.

Room reservations must be made separately. In order to ensure that you receive the AWC discount (\$89 plus tax per room night), you must make your reservation no later than July 6th. After that, expect to pay the standard (much higher) rate. Call 1-800-228-2876, ask for reservations, make sure they understand you will be attending the Alabama Writers' Conclave conference and you want the rate of \$89.

The hotel does offer on-line registration, but to ensure that you get the special Alabama Writers Conclave rate, it is strongly recommended that you call them at (334) 821-8200 or (800) 228-2876 (Toll-Free).

ALABAMA WRITERS' CONCLAVE 2007 WRITING COMPETITION GUIDELINES

*WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT AUBURN
UNIVERSITY, JULY 22, 2007*

Multiple entries accepted, but you may win only one prize per category. Entries must be original, unpublished, and may not have won a money prize in any contest. Sitting AWC voting Board Members not eligible. Deadline is April 30, 2007 (postmark).

Send one copy on standard white paper in standard font to Irene Latham, AWC Contest Chair, 412 Windchase Way, Birmingham, AL 35242. Put title and category on manuscript but no author identification. Enclose a separate cover sheet with title, category, author name, address, e-mail. Please provide a separate cover sheet for each entry.

Entry fees:

\$3.00 per entry for AWC members, \$5.00 per entry for non-members for all contests EXCEPT First Chapter of Novel.

Please note: \$8.00 for members, \$10.00 for nonmembers for First Chapter of Novel contest

Checks must be written to Alabama Writers' Conclave. (Membership and conference fees must be submitted separately to Treasurer.)

Prizes in each category:

First - \$100 Second - \$75 Third - \$50 Fourth - \$25 Up to 4 Honorable Mentions.



Alabama Writers' Conclave Scholarship Award At The University of Montevallo Montevallo, Alabama

December-April Student prepares and submits one entry in the specified format to his or her school's English department.

May 1-Postmark date

The English Department forwards one selected 'best' work entry per category to:

Dr. Glenda Weathers

University of Montevallo

Department of English and Foreign
Languages

Comer Hall, Station 6420

Montevallo, Alabama 35115

May

Alabama Writers' Conclave Scholarship
Committee screens entries.

University of Montevallo Scholarship
Committee selects the winner.

**FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION
VISIT
www.alabamawritersconclave.org**

Writing Competition Categories:

Fiction – maximum 2500 words.

Short Fiction – maximum 1000 words.

Juvenile Fiction (stories for ages 4-12) – maximum 2500 words. MUST LIST GENRE AND TARGETED AGE GROUP (i.e. picture book, 3 & up)

Nonfiction – maximum 2500 words.

Traditional Poem (any “form” poem, i.e. villanelle, sonnet, sestina) – maximum 40 lines.

Free Verse Poem – maximum 60 lines.

Humor (fiction, nonfiction, or poetry) – maximum 2000 words or 50 lines (for poems).

NEW FOR 2007 **First Chapter of Novel** - up to 10 double-spaced pages, first chapter ONLY

NewsWorthy

What our members are doing...



Two Alabama Writers Conclave members, **Deborah Ann Cidboy** and **Jimmy Carl Harris**, announce their joint efforts for two publications.

Deb was the cover artist for Jimmy Carl's new collection of short fiction, *Wounds That Bind* (Iris Press, 2007). In addition, Jimmy Carl wrote the story and Deb painted the accompanying illustration for "Smoking at the Savoy," in the April, 2007 *Birmingham Arts Journal*.



Joe Wingard's sonnet and scholarly essay on Southern writer William Gilmore Simms were recently published in *Simms Review*.

Renate Harder won third prize in the essay category in the Pell City Writing Contest. She also received second honorable mention for the short story category.



Sherry Kughn's *Heart Tree for Empty Nesters*, an inspirational trade paperback, will be published by Lambert Book House Inc., of Florence, on April 7. Kughn, who is from Anniston, has a new website:

www.hearttreebooks.com.

Betty Spence's poem "Persimmon Delight" won first place in the Baldwin Writers' Group Fall 2006 Writing Contest.



Gordon Gerick's second novel, *A Silent Adoption*, was released February '07. A small southern town is the setting for a family fraught with turmoil in the early eighties. Patricia

and her daughter search for healing as they face questions, doubt, and second guesses. For an excerpt see www.gordongerick.com.

Conclave Booksellers Guidelines

The AWC bookstore operator for Conclave 2007 will be Marie Peerson, of Jonathan Benton Booksellers, located in Mountain Brook, AL. All book sales must be handled by Marie. She will ensure that faculty and professional books are available for purchase. She will also consider books authored by conference attendees. Any author who is registered for and will attend the conference may contact Marie, by July 1st, at jbbookseller@gmail.com or at (205) 870-8840. Please note: no book sales will be permitted at the conference, other than those handled by Marie Peerson, our official bookseller.



Submission Information

- ♦ **Newsworthy.** Anything newly published since the last newsletter? Anyone win any prizes? Let us know.
- ♦ **GroupWords.** Share meeting times of a writers' groups in your area.
- ♦ **Photographs.** Digitized preferred.

SEND TO: SETH TANNER

sctanner@hotmail.com

1953 Shelton Shores Drive
Talladega, AL 35160

Please submit via email as MS-Word attachment or in the body of the text. You can also send via mail to the above address.

DEADLINE FOR SPRING ISSUE IS JUNE 1, 2007. The earlier the better!



Quarterly Newsletter of the
Alabama Writers' Conclave • Founded 1923

Seth Tanner
1953 Shelton Shores Drive
Talladega, AL 35160

Address Correction Requested

To:

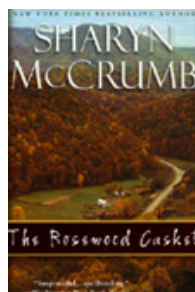
Writer Resources and Opportunities

Grove Hill Writers' Club is sponsoring a workshop free to all interested writers. and will be held on **Saturday, June 16, at 9 A.M.** at the Grove Hill United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. It will be directed by Steve Owen, professor of English Composition and Creative Writing at Meridian Community College, retired. He also teaches as adjunct English instructor for Mississippi State University. Beginning at 9 A.M. he will direct a session on writing compelling fiction. Then at 10:30 he will speak on putting together memoirs. We will have a limited enrollment critique session at 2 P.M. A fee of \$10 will be charged for those participants.

For more information, writers may contact Jim Herod at jherod@tds.net or Annell Gordon at agordon113@yahoo.com.

Fall Writers Seminar with Sharyn McCrumb

The 14th annual Fall Writers Seminar, hosted by Council For



The Written Word, will be held Saturday, September 15, 2007 just outside Nashville, TN. The all-day event will be lead by *New York Times* best selling writer Sharyn McCrumb. Author of numerous novels including *The Rosewood Casket*, *She Walks These Hills*, and *St. Dale*, McCrumb blends legends and ballads of the mountain South to reveal not only a story, but a deeper truth about the culture of the region. Cost is \$55, including lunch. Group rates are available. For more information and to register, visit www.asouthernjournal.com.



THE FIRST EVER
DOWN EAST WRITERS' CONFERENCE
ON DEER ISLE, MAINE
info@downeastwriters.com
Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16, 2007
To run concurrently with the celebrated Lupine Festival.
(Click [here](#) to learn more about the Lupine Festival)

Stephen York, Director • Mr. York's Book Shoppe • POB 460 • Stonington, Maine 04681 • Phone 207.669.4431