



The Quill

From the Editor

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2009 Carrie McCray Memorial Literary Awards Update: The Judges

As the 2009 SCWW Annual Conference comes together, so too the 2009 Carrie McCray Memorial Literary Awards. Below is the partial list of this year's judges. Look for

Conference Update!

It's hard to believe, but conference registration is just around the corner -- June 1! For updated information, make sure to visit the Web site often, www.myscww.org/conference. In the meantime, take a moment to learn more about the editors. Their bios and pictures are included below. But first, Co-chair Lateia Elam Sandifer shares a little bit about a new feature of the 2009 conference.

For the first time ever, we will be offering Pitch Sessions at the 2009 SCWW Conference in October. What is a pitch session? It's a one on one meeting with an agent or editor, of best-selling author Steve Berry. You will have five minutes to "pitch" your novel and the faculty member will have five minutes to respond. The faculty member will not have any notes on your work. They will be counting on your verbal pitch to sell them on your writing. Learning to pitch effectively is a very important step in turning your manuscript into a published work. These short meetings give you a chance to share your book with a professional and get feedback on the marketability of your story.

their bios on the SCWW Web site in coming weeks and details for submitting your work.

Poetry

Vera Gomez
Anne Hicks
Ray McManus

Nonfiction

Alex Albright
Jack Trammell
Susan Williams

Short Fiction

Brenda Flanagan
Tony Vallaro

First Chapter/Novel

Joyce Moore
Clarence Nero
William Veselik

The Petigru Review Update

While the deadline for submitting to the 2009 Petigru Review has passed, there's still time to submit photos for the publication. The extended deadline is June 15, 2009. As a reminder, the guidelines are pasted below.

For more informaton on The Petigru Review, visit <http://myscww.org/anthology.htm>.

Guidelines

SCWW seeks black-and-white photographs — taken in either South Carolina or Savannah, Georgia, (the home of our first out-of-state chapter) — for inclusion in *The Petigru Review*. Such photos will be considered by the editors outside of the writing competition and will be used on a discretionary basis. No compensation will be paid for photos. But think of the bragging rights an aspiring photographer will earn if his or her photo is chosen as the cover art! Please submit no more than 10 photos as .jpg attachments (one photo per e-mail, please) to kevin@kevincoyle.net. If possible, please make sure that your photos have a resolution of 300 dots per inch or

An effective pitch session means you need to be professional and prepared. Prepare and polish a two or three sentence summary of your work, Memorize it. Practice your delivery. You don't want to come across as rehearsed, but relaxed and confident about your work. If an agent or editor likes your pitch, they may ask for a partial or a full manuscript. If your story needs a little work, you may get priceless feedback on what elements and/or changes would make it a more marketable story.

Pitch sessions will only cost \$10 and will be available on a first come, first-served basis through conference registration. So, haul out your manuscript and your synopsis and get to work! You never know, this might be your BIG chance.

Please visit the SCWW blog, <http://southcarolinawritersworkshop.blogspot.com>. We will be blogging all summer about All Things Conference. The first post, Pitches: Curveballs, Sliders and the Infamous Wild Pitch, contains more detailed information about effective pitch sessions as well as links to agents and editors and their thoughts on Pitches.

Here are the editors you'll meet at the conference Oct. 23-25, 2009:

Rochelle Bailey is the acquiring editor and director of Quake, the YA division of Echelon Press. Writing as Regan Black, she is also the award winning author of the *Shadows of Justice* series and several short stories geared toward teen and adult readers.



Currently residing in the Lowcountry of South Carolina, she balances editing and writing by managing a household of engineers of all ages and an impressive domestic zoo starring two retired greyhounds, two cats, and three quirky birds.

You can contact by e-mail at quakeeditor@gmail.com or visit her blog www.regansrealm.blogspot.com.

Stacey Barney, an editor at Putnam Books for Young Readers, has held posts in both adult and children's book publishing, beginning her career at Lee & Low Books, a multicultural children's book publisher, and also having worked at the preeminent Farrar, Straus & Giroux; and

better.

Contest Opportunity for Script writers

Fox Broadcasting Company and Procter & Gamble Productions have partnered with the New York Television Festival for the second annual FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest. The contest once again invites aspiring television writers to enter their scripts for original half-hour comedy TV pilots for the opportunity to win \$25,000 and a development deal with FOX. The winning script will automatically receive consideration to be produced by Procter & Gamble Productions. Opening date for script submissions is June 1, 2009.

The script contest is open to U. S. residents 18 and older who do not have any contractual commitments preventing them from entering into an exclusive development deal with FOX. All scripts not currently under development at a network, studio, or major production company and meeting all other criteria in the Official Rules located at http://nytvf.com/2009_scripts_info.htm are eligible for the competition.

The NYTVF will begin accepting uploaded scripts at noon June 1, 2009. The deadline for submissions is noon June 15, 2009, or when 1,500 submissions are received, whichever comes first. For more information, visit www.newyorktelevisionfestival.com.

HarperCollins, where she published Gilbert Tuhabonye's highly acclaimed memoir *This Voice in My Heart: A Genocide Survivor's Story of Escape, Faith, and Forgiveness* and acquired one of the first Obama biographies, *Obama: From Promise to Power* by David Mendell.

Before joining the Putnam team, she worked at Dafina/Kensington, where she launched a young adult list starting with the popular series *Drama High*, for which she was the original acquiring editor. At Putnam, she's proud to have published such works as *The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had* by Kristin Levine and *Donut Days* by Lara Zielin. Stacey also looks forward to the spring 2010 publication of *Boys, Girls and Other Hazardous Materials* by Rosalind Wiseman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes*, the book that inspired *Mean Girls*.



Jim Casada, who was born January 28, 1942, is a son of the Smokies, and the region has figured prominently in his work as a freelance writer. He grew up in Bryson City, N. C. and says "a corner of my soul still belongs to the high country. His formal education includes a B.A. in history from King College (Bristol, TN), an M.A. in British history from Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA), and a Ph.D. in British imperial history from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN). He taught at Winthrop University from 1971-1996 before taking early retirement to devote all his energies to writing.

While at Winthrop he rose to the rank of full professor, served two terms as chair of the graduate faculty, was recognized as the institution's Distinguished Professor in 1983, and won numerous excellence in teaching award. He is a long-time member of a number of outdoor writers' groups and has served as president of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association, and the South Carolina Outdoor Press Association.

Casada has been honored by all three organizations as recipient of their top service awards. He has won upwards of 150 awards from regional and national organizations for his writing and photography, and has been the recipient of a number of honors including the Federation of Fly Fishers' Arnold Gingrich Memorial Award for contributions to angling literature, the South Carolina Wildlife Federation's Harry Hampton Memorial Award, and the National Wild Turkey Federation's 2007 Communicator of the Year.

Casada is the author of more than a dozen books, the editor of dozens more, and has written forewords, contributed chapters, or provided introductions to more than 100 books. He writes weekly columns for three newspapers and holds masthead positions with several magazines including being Editor-at-Large for *Sporting Classics* and *Turkey & Turkey Hunting*. His work has appeared in virtually every major outdoor-related publication and over the course of his career he has had more than 4000 articles published.

His current major projects include completion of *A Pursuit of Passion: An Insider's Guide to Fly Fishing in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park*, editing and compiling a collection of Archibald Rutledge's stories relating to the Christmas holidays, and research for a biography of Rutledge.

Cindy Davis pursues her many interests in scenic New England. Any given time in her professional life might find her writing, reading, editing or critiquing. She spends her spare time gardening, reading, hiking, raising exotic finches, reading or doing needlework. Lovingly interspersed is time spent with her family and traveling with her husband to research mystery settings. Did she happen to mention she enjoys reading?



In her more humorous moods, her biography reads like this: Cindy Davis, editor, dressed in baggy sweats and floppy slippers is tied to her desk in southern New Hampshire for twelve hours a day. When she's finally set loose, she appears as a writer researching new and different venues and plot ideas for her mysteries. Chances are she's probably wearing jeans and T-shirt, unless it's snowing, again.



Though born in Maine, **Anne Hicks** has spent most of her life in the South—the last 19 years in Charlotte, NC. She strives in life and writing to find a balance close to the Mason Dixon Line.

Anne finds her zen in writing, music, scuba diving, and her pets. A writer of short fiction and poetry, her works have appeared in various publications, including Thrift Poetic Arts Journal, Pearl, and the 2006 Kakalak Anthology of Carolina Poets. She is

founder, publisher, and editor of the flash prose and short fiction journal moonShine review, which will celebrate its five-year anniversary this fall.

Karyn Marcus is an editor at Thomas Dunne Books, an imprint of St. Martin's Press. She began working in publishing at a literary agency, but after a few years switched to the editorial side.



She has worked with such authors as Tina Brown, Jeffrey Toobin, Tim Weiner, and Madeleine Wickham. She edits both fiction and nonfiction.



By day, **Chuck Sambuchino** is an editor for Writer's Digest Books (an imprint of F+W Media). He is the editor of two annual resource books: *Guide to Literary Agents*, as well as *Screenwriter's & Playwright's Market*. He also assists in editing *Writer's Market* (www.writersmarket.com). He is currently preparing the third edition of *Formatting & Submitting Your Manuscript* (a WD trade book) for a 2009 release. Chuck is a former staffer of several newspapers and magazines - most notably *Writer's Digest*. During his tenure as a newspaper staffer, he won awards from both the Kentucky Press Association and the Cincinnati Society of Professional Journalists.

By night, Chuck is a writer and freelance editor. He is a produced playwright, with both original and commissioned works produced. He is a magazine freelancer, with recent articles appearing in *Watercolor Artist*, *Pennsylvania Magazine*, *The Pastel Journal*, *Cincinnati Magazine* and *New Mexico Magazine*. During the past decade, more than 500 of his articles have appeared in newspapers, magazines and books. Chuck also teaches online instructional courses through Writers Online Workshops, www.writersonlineworkshops.com. Sorche Fairbank of Fairbank Literary Representation (fairbankliterary.com) is Chuck's literary agent. To read his blog, visit www.guidetoliteraryagents.com/blog.

Spartanburg Chapter Meeting

The SCWW Spartanburg Chapter is currently reforming. The first meeting will be from 1 to 3 p.m. June 6, 2009, at the Spartanburg County

Library Headquarters, in the Irwin Room.

For more information, contact Cindy Witherspoon at cindy.witherspoon@okstate.edu or 864-582-5643.

Rock Hill Chapter Workshop

The Rock Hill Chapter of the South Carolina Writers Workshop presents its 3rd annual Writers Workshop on Saturday, July 18, 2009, at Grace Lutheran Church.

The keynote speaker is Dannye Romine Powell.

Featured workshop leaders are Kaye McSpadden and Luis Rodriguez. The workshop will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. There is no cost to the public and the lunch is gratis compliments of Jersey Mike's of Rock Hill.

Dannye Romine Powell has been a news columnist for the *Charlotte Observer* for more than 17 years. She has published three editions of poetry, her latest *A Necklace of Bees*, University of Arkansas Press, 2008. Her work has appeared in numerous anthologies over the years as well as magazines such as the *Atlanta Review*, *The Paris Review*, and *The New Republic*. A collection of her articles interviewing southern writers, *Parting the Curtains; Interviews With Southern Writers* was published in 1994 by John F. Blair; and then again by Double Day Bantam in 1995.

The featured topics of the workshop are "The Twelve Commandments of Writing," "Writing Effective and Engaging Short Stories" and "Fantasy Writing: Magical Wording."

Registration is required, as seating is limited. Please contact Connie Miller at connie@medgastraining.com or 980-253-7261.

Grace Lutheran Church is located at 426 Oakland Ave.

Chapter Chatter/Member Chatter

Charleston

Cree Forman was honored with a reception and a book signing May 2 during the Historic Founders Day Weekend in Selma, N.C. The event took place in the home that was once The French Country Inn, the subject of her two books, *Phil and the French Country Inn* and *The French—Captured Completely*.

Julie McLaughlin's latest children's picture book, *Mr. Gator Hits the Beach*, was recently published by Legacy Publications in Greensboro, N.C. Her first two books were *Hungry Mr. Gator* and *Mr. Gator's Up the Creek*. The books are appropriate for pre-school through third grade.

Jason Deierlein recently released a professionally made YouTube video for his book *Return From a Comatose Mind*. Check it out at <http://www.youtube.com/jasondeierlein>.

Betty Belekis, writing as **Elizabeth Jean Allen** had a book signing for her humorous mystery, *My Mother's Shoes*, on Sunday, May 17 at the North Charleston Barnes and Noble.

Greenville

Bob Strother's short story, "Swee' Daddy's Big Sanyo" has been accepted as a reprint for the Gulf Coast Writers' Association's May, 2009 anthology, *Sweet Tea and Afternoon Tales*. "Swee' Daddy" was originally published in the 2008 Spring/Summer edition of *moonShine review*.

Elysabeth Eldering had one of her recent blog articles published in this month's Writer's in the Sky newsletter, an e-zine whose goal is to connect the writing and publishing community through networking. Her article is "Writing Across the Curriculum - Creating Teacher's Guides to Turn a One-subject-related Book into a Multi-curricula Teaching Aid for Supplementing All Subjects."

Paula Richey has just published her article, "Free Resources for Freelance Writers: How to Get Started When You Don't Have Anything to Start With," in the Funds for Writers Small Markets newsletter. Another article was accepted at *You & Me - America's Medical Magazine*, but isn't published yet.

Quill Contest Winners

Each month, we're printing a first-place winning piece in *The Quill*. Last month we shared the winning fiction story by Cynthia Boiter. This month, enjoy the first place non-fiction entry from Patricia Webster Stewart, *Magical Boxes*.

Magical Boxes

By Patricia Webster Stewart

Looking at all those boxes of Kellogg's Pep cereal on the shelf at the Safeway store, Jackie found the box he wanted. It showed one of his favorites, the Grumman Hellcat WWII fighter plane. In 1943 those boxes were magical. The back panel held the treasures of WWII airplanes for the taking. When the box was empty, Jackie got out his mother's scissors and cut out the planes. (He had to do this while she was at work. These were her sewing scissors and were not to be used on paper.) He painstakingly folded the pieces and put tab A into slot A to place the wing into the fuselage. He put all the pieces in the proper slots to make P-51 Mustang fighters, British Spitfires, Grumman Wildcats, Lockheed P-38 Lightnings, and Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses. Over time he hoped to find all the magnificent planes that were winning the war. It meant a careful watch on what cereal boxes mom brought home.

As he looked at those cardboard planes, he could hear the roar of the mighty engines cranking up to take off. He could smell the fuel as the plane taxied down the runway. He could just see the Boeing B-29 Superfortress thundering away with its payload of bombs. These beauties would be his, once he ate all that cereal. This was serious business, in the midst of war. Jackie decided that his contribution to the war effort was to be a plane spotter. He watched the skies over his small Missouri town for both American and enemy planes. He was ready to alert authorities if a Japanese Zero or Germany's Focke-Wulf flew over.

The Safeway store was just a few blocks from home and he checked the cereal boxes every week to see when a new plane appeared on them. When the P-51 Mustang fighter plane appeared he begged, "Mom, get that box of Pep."

"I will, but you first have to finish the one that's open," said his Mom.

That box had yielded the Japanese Zero. It was just as important to be able to spot the enemy planes as the American ones. Jackie studied the cereal boxes as he ate bowl of Pep. He needed to be able to identify both the silhouettes of friendly and enemy planes from his position on the ground. If he saw a Japanese Zero or German Stuka dive bomber over his Missouri neighborhood, he was ready to contact the block warden.

"Wouldn't that be great, to be able to let the authorities know that an enemy plane was up there?"

In this small town, any plane overhead was enough to bring out the kids and neighbors. Rosecrans Air Field was not a busy airport, so any plane got Jackie's immediate attention.

"Was that a Messerschmitt?"

He knew its profile and was happy to see it was a Corsair, one of ours.

As his collection grew, the kitchen became a staging area for dogfights between enemy planes. The Vought Corsair, carrier-based fighter, his very best favorite, was always the winner in kitchen battles. It could handle the Zeroes and Luftwaffe-Messerschmitt.

Eventually, Jackie got the complete set of American and enemy planes. By the time the war ended, he had used every U.S. plane to shoot down German and Japanese planes. It was August 1945 when Japan surrendered. Jackie read about it in the paper and listened to the radio. Of course he was glad that America was no longer at war, but he did miss the excitement of watching the sky for the silhouettes of those planes he cut out from boxes of cereal. Now he could go for a different breakfast cereal, one that boasted a secret message on the back of the box. With three box tops and 25 cents, he could get the decoding ring and read the message.

As an adult he still reads the back of cereal boxes, only now he's concerned with the fat calories and fiber content. But he could still identify a Vought Corsair or B-17 if one flew over. Those magical boxes made a lifelong impression on that young boy. But he hasn't eaten a spoonful of Kellogg's Pep cereal for the last 60 years, and he doesn't plan to start now!

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