

The Quill

Petigru Review 2010 Guidelines Announced

From the Editor

1. [President's Report](#)
 2. [Good Question!](#)
 3. [The Petigru Review guidelines](#)
 4. [Grant Info Request](#)
 5. [Member Chatter](#)
 6. [From the Round Table](#)
-

President's Report

From Lateia Sandifer, SCWW president:

The South Carolina Writers Workshop Board of Directors met on Saturday, February 20 at the Lexington Main Library in Lexington.



The board was able to approve both a general operating budget and a conference budget.

Guidelines for the Carrie McCray Literary Awards were updated. Kim Blum-Hyclak, Contests Chair, has created a new entry packet that will be used in the 2010 contest.

Tibby Plants, editor of The Petigru Review, reported that the deadline for 2010 submissions will be April 31, 2010. More information about how to submit will be posted on the website soon.

The Board has been working on an information

The South Carolina Writers Workshop is pleased to announce the opening of the competition for inclusion in the fourth issue of its literary journal. The Petigru Review will feature the best writing of SCWW members in three categories: fiction, nonfiction and poetry.

The competition is open to SCWW members who have paid their dues by April 30, 2010. There is no other entry fee. Please feel free to contact Jim McFarlane, membership coordinator, at jimmcfarlane@juno.com, if you have any questions about your membership status. New members are always welcome.

Each member may submit up to 4,000 words of fiction, and/or up to 2,000 words of nonfiction, and/or 80 lines of poetry. Each member is free to divide up the total word- or line-count in each category among multiple submissions so long as these length limits are observed when all such submissions are added together. Submissions that exceed the length limit in any category will be disqualified.

For example, a hypothetical member might submit two short stories of 2,000 words each, four nonfiction pieces of 500 words each, and eight 10-line poems. But if that same hypothetical member were to exceed the poetry line-count by submitting an extra poem, all of his or her submissions would be disqualified.

With the exception of work previously published in The Quill, only unpublished work is eligible. Simultaneous submissions are permitted as long as the author immediately notifies the editors of The Petigru Review when a particular piece has been accepted elsewhere.

Formatting:

1. All submissions must be typed on one side of 8.5-inch

The Board has been working on an information packet for chapters who wish to host a workshop or seminar. A rough draft of the packet was presented to board members. The board hopes to finalize the packet by mid-March so it can be distributed to chapters.

Ginny Padgett, who was just appointed Publicity Chair, reported the organization was on track for Book Fest 2010. The event takes place February 26-28 in Columbia. SCWW will sponsor a booth.

Barbara Evers, President ex officio, gave a status report on the review of our bylaws. The Board will look at the recommendations of the ad hoc committee at the next meeting.

Our next meeting will take place on May 15, 2010.

Blog Address

We have a new blog address! For more information on the South Carolina Writers' Workshop and its upcoming conference, please visit the SCWW blog, <http://scwwblog.blogspot.com>.

Quill Deadline Reminder

Do you have something you'd like included in the next *Quill*? Please be sure to submit it via e-mail, no later than the 15th of the month, to thequill@myscww.org.

That's a Good Question!

Welcome to a new column, That's a Good Question! In this space we'll answer questions and address comments that come to the Board's attention through our survey, our chapter leaders or directly to a director. In addition to passing along information, we hope this will give you insight into the workings of the South Carolina Writers Workshop and its Board of Directors.



Please keep in mind that some comments we received cannot be answered because the SCWW membership is a creative, diverse bunch. So while one person might have complained and wondered why the food at the conference was lousy, there will be the opposite comment that someone loved the food. Actually, most attendees liked the food this year. The same goes for the response to the faculty. The person one member learned a lot from may be the same agent or editor another member thought was disorganized.

x 11-inch white paper. Pages should not be stapled or bound. They should, however, be secured, and copies separated, with binder clips, paperclips, or rubber bands.

2. All entries should be formatted with one-inch margins on all four sides of the page. All text must be black, and the font must be 12 point Courier or 12 point Times New Roman. Prose entries must be double-spaced. Poetry should be formatted as the poet wishes it to appear in print.

3. The title and page number must appear on every page of a submission. The author's name must not appear anywhere on the manuscript(s), including in the body of the work.

4. Four paper copies of each manuscript must be submitted. Each submission must include a cover sheet containing the following information: author's name, address, telephone number(s), e-mail address(es), title of manuscript, category, and word count for prose or line count for poetry.

5. Do not include a SASE because manuscripts will not be returned. Results will be announced electronically (see our Web site: www.myscww.org).

6. Please mail four paper copies of each manuscript with cover sheets flat, in a manila or other large-sized envelope, to: Trilby Plants, 4304 Lotus Ct Unit D, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576.

7. Send a copy of each manuscript as a Microsoft Word attachment (with a ".doc" suffix, not ".docx") in a separate e-mail to TrilbyMPlants@gmail.com. In the body of the e-mail include an author biography of up to 100 words.

8. All envelopes must be postmarked and all e-mails with attachments must be sent no later than April 30, 2010.

9. Submissions that do not adhere to the guidelines will be disqualified and the entrant notified.

All authors whose writing is selected for publication in The Petigru Review will receive two contributor's copies of the issue in which their work appears. SCWW retains first-time publication rights until the literary journal is published, at which time rights revert to the author. Naturally, SCWW reserves the right to edit submissions at the editors' sole discretion.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: 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, except the photographer whose photo is chosen for the cover art will receive two contributor's copies of the issue in which his/her work appears.

Please submit no more than 10 black-and-white photos as .jpg attachments (one photo per e-mail, please) to TrilbyMPlants@gmail.com. Your photos must be original size and have a resolution of 300 dots per inch or better.

The Board of the South Carolina Writers Workshop strives to provide the encouraging and supportive environment all writers need. If we miss the mark once in a while, please politely let us know.

Here's the first question, based on feedback from the 2009 member survey.

Q. Why is there so much emphasis on the conference? There's more than just the conference.

A. You're absolutely right! While the conference is obviously the big event of the year, there's definitely more to the SCWW. As a point of information, holding an annual conference is required by our by-laws so it will always be a big part of what we do. What are we supposed to do? Whenever I've been part of a board of directors, I like to make sure I know the organization's Mission Statement. This gives me a touchstone for decisions and activities associated with the group. How many SCWW members know what ours is?

"Established in 1990, The South Carolina Writers Workshop is a literary arts organization serving both new and established writers. Nearly every type of writing is represented from poetry to mainstream novels to short stories to non-fiction. SCWW offers a supportive environment for people to become better writers. SCWW membership is open to all writers, providing a wide range of opportunities to improve one's writing, network with others and gain practical 'How to' information about getting published."

Other than the conference, what are we doing? Since I'm writing this column on the day I received the first batch of entries for our High School Junior and Senior Writing Competition, I'll start there. For ten years or so the SCWW has sponsored a writing competition open to any high school junior or senior in any SC public or private high school or homeschool. That's over 300 institutions. We don't hear from all of them but we invite all of them. Last year we had 30 participating schools and 130 entries. The packet I received today was from a new school. The feedback I've gotten from every teacher who has participated has been thanks for providing this opportunity for their students. Board members or other SCWW members present the awards in person and that is rewarding for both the student and the SCWW member. Last year one of the teachers asked the SCWW member to come and speak to her class this school year.

The chapters are the local branches that carry out our mission statement. How are they doing that? Each Chapter does it differently. One sends out a newsletter after each meeting to update everyone and pass along writing tips. One issues a monthly challenge to stretch the members' writing. One is hosting two small events in addition to its annual one-day workshop.

Of the eighteen chapters across the state, four have organized and hosted a one day workshop open to all SCWW members and the general public.

Good luck to all.

Grant Info Request

Any SCWW Chapter or Chapter Member who applied for a WalMart grant (due February 1, 2010), please contact the SCWW Grants Chair, Valerie Aartun, at valerieaartun@yahoo.com. She will need to know which SCWW Chapter you represent, the number of grants for which your chapter applied, and if you've received the grant(s) or not.

Please remember that when Chapters apply for grants, they are doing so on behalf of the SCWW. Grants received are deposited by the SCWW treasurer. Chapters may apply for funding used to promote writing in their community through the SCWW Board. Questions? Contact the SCWW Grants Chair valerieaartun@yahoo.com.

Chapter/Member/Sponsor Chatter

Aiken

Aiken now has two exciting opportunities for aspiring writers to gather to have their work critiqued and enjoy the benefit of educational opportunities. In addition to its original chapter which meets the second Tuesday in each month at the Aiken County Library, (**Amy Blunt**, President), a new chapter has been formed. An organizational meeting was held February 11 at the Red Pepper Café. It was decided that The Whiskey Road Chapter of SCWW will meet the second Thursday in each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2724 Whiskey Road. **Linda Shaffer** will serve as Chapter President and **Phyllis McClay** as local chapter contact. Members may attend one or both chapter meetings.

Steve Gordy's manuscript "Henry Gorlitz Is Dead" was named a Finalist (3rd place finisher) in the Fiction-Suspense category by the online review site ReadersFavorite.com.

Jim Bergstad's collection of short stories, *Screwing the Pooch*, has just received the Readers Favorite 2010 gold medal for best in general fiction.

Greenville

A reprint of **Bob Strother's** short story, "Barefoot Healing" was included in the Winter Issue of *Magnolia Quarterly*, a publication of the Gulf Coast Writers' Association.

Columbia II

McKendree R. Long III's (Columbia II) novel, *No Good*

Our new Chapter Liaison, Steve Gordy, hopes to visit each Chapter and see how each one works and bring their ideas/comments/concerns back to the Board.

Members have been successful getting their work published, as seen in Chapter Chatter of the Quill. If someone has good news to share, make sure Carrie knows so it can be announced.

SCWW was a presence at the S.C. Book Festival and this year a member of the Rock Hill Chapter sat on one of the panels.

In our continuing efforts to support writers, improve their writing and provide practical information, the SCWW takes advantage of electronic communication. The Quill keeps membership informed of activities within the organization and, in addition to its own quarterly contest, announces other writing opportunities. The SCWW website has links to other members' blogs and information about their books. Last summer we launched our own blog with helpful tips, guest postings from authors, agents and editors and some posts just for fun and encouragement.

Can we do more? Possibly. If there's something you would like the Board to consider, please drop one of the directors an e-mail. If you are a member of a Chapter, are there activities your Chapter can do to help fulfill the organization's goal?

As a Board member I have to say I'm proud the South Carolina Writers Workshop is living up to its mission statement. And with your help we will continue to do so for another twenty years.

Like It Is is now available on Kindle (soft cover version should be out in a month)- go to www.kindle.com and type in the title to order, or just view the cover art.

From the Round Table

Welcome to a new feature of The Quill. Each month you'll meet a different SCWW board member, learn a little about their duties, and get to know them as individuals. We kick off this column with a look at our president.

Lateia Sandifer SCWW President



Everyone has a canned biography. When I was asked to write a short piece about myself, I briefly considered inserting aforementioned canned version into the e-mail and clicking reply. Then I remembered I'm supposed to be a writer. I SHOULD write something. Since I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you at conferences and chapter meetings, I thought it would be nice to tell you a few things you probably don't know about me. I collect quilts. My grandmother is a well-known quilter in Appalachian circles. Growing up, I watched her cut, piece and sew on her quilting frame. I love the colors and patterns and the feeling of worn cotton. My house, a semi-renovated relic of another time, is filled with the work of dozens of quilters. I have pieces sewn by four generations of the women in my family.

Books are obviously my first passion, but music is a close second. There's no telling what you might hear if you borrow my iPod. I love everything from bluegrass to classical. It's hard to pick a favorite but if I had to listen to one artist everyday for the rest of my life, I'd chose Taj Mahal, a blues musician who's experimented with everything from Afro-Caribbean style to electric blues. I admire his flexibility and willingness to try new things. I spend a lot of time in my gardens—vegetable and flower—throughout the year. (My undergraduate degree is in Horticulture .) When I buy seeds, I feel this overwhelming sense of possibility. One of my greatest joys is sharing fresh produce with friends and neighbors. In the summer, I can and freeze quite a bit of what my family eats in any given year. So don't be surprised if you get a gift of apple butter or a basket of figs.

My husband and I have done much of the restoration of our house with our own hands. There's something uniquely satisfying about using your hands and your muscles to uncover the beauty of the past. And there's something fulfilling about bringing a much-loved house back from the brink of ruin. All the small projects—and a few large ones—have built my confidence and shown me what I can do with a little time, considerable elbow grease and a plan. It's not that different from writing a book.

I spend a lot of time reading and writing. I'm not married to any one genre, and I'm not a literary snob. I'll read anything, including the mayonnaise label, when I don't have a book at hand. My favorite writers are Diana

Gabaldon, George R.R. Martin, Eloisa James, Robert Morgan and Anne Tyler. I'm not sure what the common thread is other than they each have honed their voice until it radiates off the page.

My perfect day would be spent in the hammock under my pecan tree with a new, thick, intricately-plotted book, a large glass of iced tea with mint leaves, and the sounds of my son chasing the dogs in the background. Simple? Maybe. But still perfect.

Copyright 2010 South Carolina Writers Workshop

This project was funded by the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.