Quarried: Three decades of Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel Literary Journal

Abstract: A project of the Southern Appalachian Writers Cooperative, Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel has given voice to a wide range of Appalachian writers since the mid-1980s. It has no institutional support, but rather is a grassroots effort of writers, editors and activists from the region. Quarried is collection of poetry, fiction and nonfiction spanning more than thirty years of literature from Appalachia's 13-state sprawl. It is edited by Weatherford award-winner Richard Hague and includes writing by Jim Wayne Miller, Lee Howard, Bob Snyder, Silas House, George Ella Lyon, Chris Holbrook, Ed McClanahan and Jane Hicks, among many other well-known and emerging Appalachian writers from across the region. Current and past editors of the journal (Pauletta Hansel, moderator; Richard Hague, Scott Goebel, Gurney Norman and Jim Webb) will be joined by contributors for a lively and enlivening reading and conversation about the history and future of this literary journal with grit.

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Biographical Information

Pauletta Hansel (Moderator) is managing editor of Pine Mountain Sand and Gravel. Her poems and prose are widely published regionally and beyond. She is the author of five books of poetry, most recently Tangle (Dos Madres Press, 2015). She has been active in both rural and urban Appalachian community movements since the 1970s.

Richard Hague is editor of Quarried. His 15 collections include During the Recent Extinctions: New & Selected Poems 1984-2012, which won the Weatherford Award for Poetry in 2012, and Alive in Hard Country which was named 2003 Poetry Book of the Year by the Appalachian Writers Association. He was the featured writer at the Emory & Henry Literary Festival in Virginia in 2013 and serves as writer in residence at Thomas More College.

Scott Goebel lives in Campbell County, Kentucky and is active with the Southern Appalachian Writers Cooperative. He is past editor of Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel (2003-2004) and of Jim Webb’s poetry collection, Get In, Jesus. Scott’s work has appeared in Cold Mountain Review, Wind Magazine and Appalachian Journal.

Gurney Norman is a founding member of the Southern Appalachian Writers Cooperative and served as co-editor for Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel in 1987 and 1988. Director of the University Kentucky’s Creative Writing Program, he serves as Senior Writer-in-Residence at Hindman Settlement School's Appalachian Writers Workshop. Norman served as the 2009-2010 Poet Laureate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Berea College.

Jim Webb is founding editor of Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel. He is author of Get In, Jesus: New and Selected Poems (Wind Publications 2013) He is an outspoken advocate for environmental and social justice issues through his writings, action and his radio program at Appalshop’s WMMT, Whitesburg, KY.