

Critiquing and Editing Service

Written by Administrator

Monday, 25 February 2008 14:08 - Last Updated Saturday, 28 September 2013 18:04

The North Carolina Writers' Network offers an ongoing critiquing and editing service for its members. Through this program, Network writers have the opportunity to open a dialogue about their work with established writers and editors of varying backgrounds and areas of expertise.

"It was unbelievably helpful . . . I was totally impressed, and it was well worth the price. You have a very satisfied member."

-NCWN member Reid Wilson

"I have been working on my novel for quite some time and really wondered if I was on the right track. Therefore, I decided it would be most helpful to send a few pages just to see what someone thought about it. I must say, I am really glad I did, as Mr. Manchester's words greatly inspired me to continue on."

-NCWN member Jennifer Bower

"I've never been edited as thoroughly and with as much consideration as Linda (Hobson) showed toward my story. Her micro edits were precise, and her macro edits found things inside the story that even I didn't realize were there. She wrote all over every page—an incredible amount of work for what turned out to be a very reasonable fee....I found her edits and critique to be spot-on: demanding more from me as a writer, while also engaging with the story so completely that I felt like she was really invested in its eventual success. That's the very definition of a great editor, isn't it? "

-Anonymous NCWN member

Fees

A base fee of \$30 must be included in the total amount paid to the Network.

- Prose/Poetry/Plays/Screenplays (5-page minimum): 5-50 pages - \$3/page; each page thereafter, \$2/page

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Poems must be single-spaced and only one poem per page is allowed.

- A Manuscript Consultation with your critiquer may be scheduled after the initial critique is complete. The fee for a post-critique consultation is \$50/hour, with no base fee.

Instructions

All manuscripts should be double-spaced, single-sided, with 1-inch margins and in 12-point, Times New Roman font. Poetry must be single-spaced with a limit of only one poem per page, also in 12-point, Times New Roman font.

Manuscripts should NOT be bound when submitted.

Please indicate your first preference plus two back-ups for a critiquer (see list below). Otherwise, we will select an appropriate critiquer based on availability.

Please send your manuscript, along with payment (checks must be made payable to the North Carolina Writers' Network) and a self-addressed envelope with postage sufficient enough for the critiquer to return your manuscript, to:

NCWN Critiquing Service
P.O. Box 21591
Winston-Salem, NC 27120

The critiquer will return the manuscript with comments directly to you.

If you have any questions or wish to schedule a consultation, please call us at 336.293.8844 or e-mail ed@ncwriters.org .

Critiquers

The Network's roster of critiquers is selected in accordance with the highest standards of excellence, including publication requirements and extensive mentoring and editing experience.

Ann Deagon -- *poetry*

Deagon took her doctorate in Classics at UNC Chapel Hill and served as Professor of Humanities and Writer in Residence at Guilford College until her retirement. She was editor of *The Guilford Review*

, director of PoetryCenter Southeast, and was instrumental in establishing the North Carolina Writers' Network. She has received an NEA Fellowship in Literature. Since retirement, she has worked in theater, advertising, and film, while continuing to present readings and sing her original blues.

Linda Hobson -- *fiction, nonfiction*

Hobson, the author of a book on novelist Walker Percy and editor of a second, has a Ph.D in English from the University of Alabama and is a graduate of both Denison and Duke. She is at present an editor and book reviewer. Hobson has edited many published works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry as well as taught writing to adults and to secondary- and university-level students. Her literary interests are southern fiction, American fiction, creative nonfiction, and English/British literature.

Betsy Humphreys -- *nonfiction (journalistic or creative)*

Humphreys has been a weekly columnist for the *Lenoir News-Topic* newspaper; Southeast regional editor of *Highways*

, a national travel magazine; a regional reporter for *State Journal*

; and editorial staffer for *Cost Engineering*

. She has been a freelance writer for twenty-five years. Her articles on travel, business, religion, and family life have been published in the

Charlotte Observer

, *Wonderful West Virginia*

, *North Carolina Literary Review*

, and

Marriage and Family Living

. She has won Charlotte Writers, NC Silver Arts, and *ByLine Magazine* creative non-fiction contests.

Susan Kirby-Smith -- *line editing, fiction, poetry, nonfiction*

While earning an MFA in Fiction at Louisiana State University and an MA in English from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Susan Kirby-Smith served on the editorial staff of *The Southern Review*

, LSU Press,
Cave Wall

,
New Delta Review

, Unmoveable Feast and Carolina Wren Press. In 2012, she was Assistant Director and Contest Coordinator at Carolina Wren Press, overseeing both poetry and fiction submissions. She has been named a finalist in the Wordstock Short Fiction Competition, judged by Aimee Bender, the Faulkner Society's Faulkner-Wisdom novel and poetry competitions, the North Carolina State University Short Fiction Contest, and Wigleaf's Top 50 Stories of the Web. She has taught writing, including fiction writing, at Louisiana State University and Guilford College, among other places. She has an eye for detail within works of fiction of all lengths, poetry, creative nonfiction, and scholarly texts.

Lloyd Little -- *fiction*

Little is the author of three published novels to date, including the Pen-Hemingway winner *Partisan Shot*

, which was published by Viking Press and later by additional publishers in paperback editions. A graduate of the University of North Carolina, he has taught creative writing at UNC-Chapel Hill and in the state's community college system and has lectured at various literary events. He is working on another novel and has edited numerous works of fiction. His literary interests are contemporary American and Southern fiction and he enjoys working with writers who have a variety of experiences.

Susan Stafford Kelly -- *line editing, fiction*

Susan Stafford Kelly attended St. Catherine's School, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and earned a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Warren Wilson College. She has twice been a fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and has taught creative writing for Woodberry Forest School, Salem College, UNCG, and the North Carolina Writers' Network. Her novel, *How Close We Come*, won the Carolina Novel Award in 1997, was reissued nationally in 1998 by Warner Books, was an Alternate Selection in the Book-of-the-Month Club, and was published in Russian and German. In 2001, Warner

published her second novel,
Books published her novels,
T

Even Now. Pegasus

he Last of Something

in 2006,

Now You Know

in 2007, and in May 2010, her fifth novel,

By Accident

, which has been awarded the 2010 Sir Walter Raleigh Award.

Steven Manchester -- *line editing, fiction*

Manchester is the published author of twelve books including *The Unexpected Storm - The Gulf War Legacy*, *Jacob Evans*,
A Father's Love

,
Warp II

and

At The Stroke of Midnight

, as well as several books under the pseudonym, Steven Herberts. He is an accomplished speaker and currently teaches the popular workshops, "Publish: See Your Work In Print and Writing Fiction That Sells" for UMASS - Dartmouth, Southcoast Learning Network in Massachusetts, as well as the Learning Connection of Rhode Island. As a professional editor, he provides line-by-line editing for spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure, as well as critical commentary on plot, character development, scene setting, and dialogue. As a well-published author, Manchester understands the polish needed to approach potential agents and publishers and will review cover letters and synopses. He has also written

The Author's Toolbox

, assisting other writers in their quest to be published. See:

www.stevenmanchester.com

Ruth Moose -- *fiction, poetry*

Moose teaches creative writing at UNC Chapel Hill. She is the author of two collections of short stories. She is also the author of four collections of poetry, most recently *Making the Bed* and *S mith Grove*

. Her stories have appeared in
Atlantic Monthly

,
Redbook

, and

Ladies Home Journal

, as well as in many university and college publications. She has received the Robert Ruark

Foundation prize, three PEN Syndicated Awards for short story, a NC Literary Fellowship, and a MacDowell Fellowship.

Elizabeth Oliver -- *flash fiction, short fiction, nonfiction, line editing*

Oliver is the founding managing editor of *The Rambler*, a national literary magazine. She has extensive experience critiquing and editing across genres, from flash fiction to long memoir pieces. She is passionate about the preservation of personal voice in stories and has worked with writers with a variety of experience, from beginners to accomplished authors. Oliver holds a BA in journalism and an MFA in creative writing; her work has appeared in various publications and the flash fiction anthology

Story Short

(UNC Press).

Long

Alice Osborn -- *speculative fiction, fiction, memoir, poetry*

Alice Osborn, MA, is the author of two books of poetry, *Unfinished Projects* (Main Street Rag, 2010) and

Lane Ends

(Catawba, 2006); she is a manuscript editor, freelance writer, and storyteller. A former Raleigh Charter High School English teacher, Alice has served as a Writer-in-Residence in the Artists in the Schools program since 2009 and has taught creativity, memoir, and business workshops to Triangle residents for five years. Her work appears in Raleigh's

News and Observer

,
The Pedestal Magazine

, and in numerous journals and anthologies. Website:

www.aliceosborn.com

A.D. Reed -- *nonfiction, fiction*

Reed has been a professional writer and editor for more than thirty years, in journalism, commercial writing, and book editing and publishing. Prior to returning to North Carolina in 1993, he worked as a writer, copywriter, and marketing executive with NBC Television in New York, while moonlighting as a freelance editor for *ArtNews* and *Antiques World Books*. He has edited Asheville's monthly

Urban News

since its founding in 2005, previously wrote a regular column for

The Asheville Citizen-Times

, and edited its monthly neighborhood edition,

West Asheville News

. Since 2004 he has worked with five writers on six books: two nonfiction volumes by Prof.

Mallory McDuff of Warren Wilson College,

Natural Saints

(Oxford University Press, USA, 2010), and

Sacred Acts

(New Society Publishers, 2012); the forthcoming novel

Trang Sen

by Sarah-Ann Smith; two autobiographies, and the 2011 philosophical memoir

Unbelievable: Faith, Reason, & the Search for Truth

, by Joseph R. Haun. Reed is also the founder and owner of Pisgah Press in Asheville.

Amy Rogers -- *fiction and nonfiction*

Amy Rogers was a founder and the Publisher of Novello Festival Press, the award-winning independent press that put more than 300 writers into print since its founding in 2000. Rogers' books include *Hungry for Home: Stories of Food from Across the Carolinas* and *Red Pepper Fudge and Blue Ribbon Biscuits*

. Her work was included in

Cornbread Nation 1: The Best of Southern Food Writing

. Rogers is a frequent food and culture commentator for NPR station WFAE. Her work has appeared in numerous publications, including the design magazine

American Bungalow

, the literary magazine the

Oxford American,

and the

Charlotte Observer

. She has been Writer in Residence at the Wildacres Center and a program presenter at dozens of events, festivals, arts centers, schools, and other venues.

Ellen Shepard -- *plays, screenplays*

Ellen Shepard, a native of Los Angeles, is a professional screenwriter and playwright. A member of the WGA, she has developed screenplays for Universal Pictures, Blake Edwards Entertainment, and Par Par Productions. Shepard is a noted playwright and director, with plays having been produced in Los Angeles and North Carolina. She studied writing with Pulitzer prize-winning playwright Paul Zindel at the Actors Studio West, who said this of her work, "At no time since I've been here (at the Actor's Studio) through all our sessions, did my mind ever have to shift into any critical mode... You just have total confidence in what you're doing here." She is on the faculty of St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, where she developed their BA degree in Film. Her classes include Intro to Screenwriting, Feature Screenwriting I & II, Character Development, and Playwriting.

Michael A. Shinn -- *mystery, nonfiction*

Shinn teaches and tutors English and composition at Central Piedmont Community College and UNC Charlotte. His book reviews have appeared in *The Chapel Hill Newspaper*, the *Southern Pines Pilot*

, and

The Winston-Salem Journal

. The National Humanities Center and

Pembroke Magazine

have published his work on murder mysteries and NC literature. In 1999, Theatre Charlotte produced his playlet,

Miss Hilda Hunts

. He has also recently had plays read at the Converse College New Play Festival and at UNCC.

Carin Siegfried -- *fiction, nonfiction*

Siegfried has been in the book business for twenty years, since starting work in the Davidson College library. She was an editor for Thomas Dunne Books at St. Martin's Press in New York for five years, acquiring twenty-five books, including a *New York Times* bestseller, a Kelly Ripa Book Club selection, and a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection. In addition, she worked on more than 100 books on behalf of Tom Dunne, including numerous bestsellers and award winners. More recently she was the New England independent bookstore sales rep, and then a national account manager, for book wholesaler Baker & Taylor. In 2009 she founded the Charlotte chapter of the Women's National Book Association and served as its first President. She currently is a reporter for

Courthouse News Service

and runs her own editorial service, where she enjoys helping writers make their books the very best.

Eleanora E. Tate -- *children's fiction, nonfiction*

Eleanora E. Tate is the author of eleven books for children and young adults. She has been a featured author at conferences such as the International Reading Association, the East Carolina University Literary Homecoming, the North Carolina Writers' Network Fall Conference, the Novello Festival, the Sand Hills Writers Conference, and the Dallas (TX) Children's Literary Festival. She won the 1999 NABS Zora Neale Hurston Award, the 2000 Dr. Annette Lewis Phinazee Award, and a Bread Loaf Writers Conference Fellowship. Two of her books have won Parents' Choice Awards; two others were American Booksellers Association "Pick of the Lists"; two were made into audio books, and another was made into an award-winning television film. She's been an author in schools and libraries across the country for nearly 30 years. Her newest book is *Celeste's Harlem Renaissance*, which won the AAUW North Carolina Book Award for Juvenile Literature, and an International Reading Association Teacher's Choice Award.

<http://www.eleanoraetate.com> .

Robert Wallace -- *fiction, nonfiction, line editing*

Wallace has received an Emerging Artist grant from the Durham Arts Council, a Writer's Fellowship from the NC Arts Council, and has been a Blumenthal reader. He has had fiction and nonfiction published in various journals and newspapers, including *the Bryant Literary Review*, *Wellspring*

,
Aethlon

,
the
O. Henry Festival Stories

, and the
Raleigh News & Observer

. His work has also been in several anthologies, including
Racing Home: New Short Stories by Award Winning North Carolina Writers

. Wallace's first novel was published in 2007.

A Hold On Time

was published by Paper Journey Press.

Tamra Wilson -- *fiction, nonfiction*

Wilson is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and earned her MFA at Stonecoast. She has been a fellow at the Virginia Center for Creative Arts, a Blumenthal reader, and the recipient of an artist project grant funded by the N.C. Arts Council. All but two of twenty-one stories in her collection *Dining with Robert Redford* were previously published in such journals as *The MacGuffin*,
Emrys Journal

,
Epiphany

and
North Carolina Literary Review

. She has written three first-place entries in the Charlotte Writers Club Children's Story Contest and won the Jesse Stuart Prize for Young Adult Fiction in 2009. She was recently named a Road Scholar for the N.C. Humanities Council with special interest in southern fiction and child narrators.