

St. Andrews by the Lake

Alumni Newsletter



November-December 2014

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Ronald H. Bayes is Inducted Into the NC Literary Hall of Fame



On Sunday, October 12, Ronald H. Bayes was inducted into the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame at the Weymouth Center in Southern Pines. Bayes, who is St. Andrews University's Writer-in-Residence and Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Literature and Creative Writing, was introduced at the induction ceremony by Joseph Bathanti, North Carolina's former Poet Laureate. A novelist and Professor of Creative Writing at Appalachian State University, Bathanti is a longtime friend and champion of both Ron and St. Andrews.

Bayes earned B.A. and M.A. degrees from Eastern Oregon College, in addition to his studies at Colorado State College, the University of Pennsylvania (as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in American Literature), the University of British Columbia, and Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. He was stationed in Iceland as a member of a U.S. infantry combat team from 1956 to 1958, during which interval he also lived in Japan. In 1968 he joined the faculty of St. Andrews, where he soon became the founding editor of St. Andrews Press and *St. Andrews Review*, now *CAIRN*.

Inducted into the Hall of Fame that Sunday afternoon along with Ron were three other North Carolina writers: Betty Adcock, Jaki Shelton Green and Shelby Stephenson. They joined 53 other writers inducted since the Hall of Fame was established in 1996.

Several St. Andrews alumni were on hand to honor the teacher who has cheered on hundreds of Creative Writing students over the years. It was a happy occasion to see among the crowd retired Professor Dick Prust, **Rod Riley '93, Laura Molinaro '92, Jody Page '76, Beth Copeland '73, Phil Rech '73, John Robinson '74, Nan Bullock '75, Lee Barnhardt Hatling '78, Tom Patterson '74, and Ellen Thompson '78**, not to mention many of Ron's St. Andrews faculty colleagues from the past 48 years.

Bayes has published 15 books of poetry, three critical works, two plays and seven collaborative works with visual artists. In summer of 2015, St. Andrews Press will publish his sixteenth book of poetry: *The Complete Poems of Ronald H. Bayes*.

Upcoming Events



Open House
November 15, 2014



Biology
Presentations
November 24, 2014



Religion & Science
Roundtables
TBA

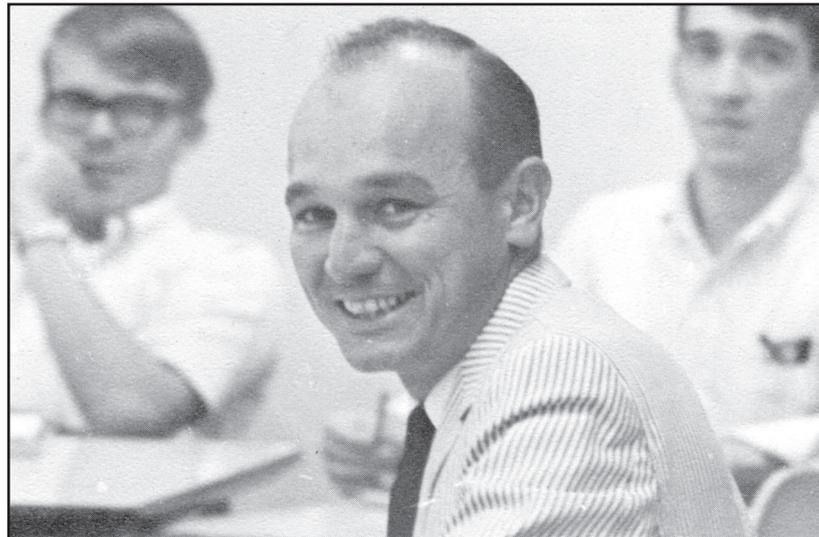
Here are a few of the recent tributes to Ron made by his former students:

“Ron Bayes changed my life. Had it not been for him I would not have attended St. Andrews, and wouldn’t have become the kind of writer I am. Had it not been for Ron, in fact, I might not have become a writer at all. Through his teaching and his example he opened up a whole new world for me, and I’m still exploring it today. Deep Japanese-style bow of eternal gratitude to Ron Bayes, my first literary mentor.”

--Tom Patterson '74

“When I enrolled at St. Andrews as a freshman in the fall of 1969, I knew I wanted to be a poet. What I didn’t know was that Ron Bayes shared my fascination with Japan, the country where I was born and lived as a young child. Finding a sensei who understood my interest in Japanese poetry and Asian culture was an unexpected bonus. When I met Ron, I felt as if I had returned to my homeland. Ron recognized and nurtured the developing poet within me and helped me apply for a graduate program at Bowling Green State University where I earned my MFA degree. With Ron’s encouragement, I found my voice and my passion for poetry.”

--Beth Copeland '73



“Ron’s importance in my life has been more than I can express. Our friendship began in his first class at St. Andrews and continues as strong after 46 years. He has been my most important mentor, supporter and guide of my writing. His patience and encouragement have strengthened me every day since we met. Hail, hail this amazing man.”

--E. Waverly Land '71

“Without Ron Bayes there would have been no chapbook for me, no Brunnenburg. No T.S. Eliot intensive or Writers’ Forum. There’s so much that I owe to him, so many ways in which he’s influenced me. But the biggest thing I’ll take away from being his student is his growled-out mantra, “Never apologize, never explain.” Meaning, don’t be a wussy when it comes to your work, of course, but also to me it meant I had to let the work do the work. If it can’t stand on its own, clearly, then it’s not there yet. That applies to every piece I’ve done with him, and since.”

--Terra Elan McVoy '96



MLK Celebration
January 19, 2015



Alumni Council
Meeting
February 20-21,
2015



Alumni Weekend
April 17-19, 2015

45 Years of the Writers' Forum at St. Andrews

Since its founding by Ron Bayes in 1969, the St. Andrews Press has published over 200 volumes of poetry, fiction and non-fiction. The press's publications includes works by such distinguished authors as Joel Oppenheimer, Sam Ragan, Charlene Swansea, Guy Owen and Ann Deagon, among many others.

The Writers' Forum series also had its inception in 1969, and its first decade featured both well-known and rising writers, among them Carolyn Kizer, Jonathan Williams, Robert Creeley and Diane Wakowski. Over the years, writers Reynolds Price, Romulus Linney, Clyde Edgerton, Tom Wolfe and James Dickey made repeat appearances at St. Andrews—a tribute to the vitality of the vast literary network Ron Bayes created and nurtured from the time he arrived on our campus until his retirement in 2012.

The main lounge of Orange Hall became the Writers' Forum "forever home" when friends of the Creative Writing Program and alumni **Debi Hobbs '73** and **Wayne Hobbs '71** renovated the space. During Alumni Weekend 2013 it was renamed the Ronald H. Bayes Writers' Forum Lounge.

For the past five decades, legions of St. Andrews alumni have been readers at Writers' Forum. They include a host of graduates from the 1970s: **Todd Davis '71**, **Craig Smith '71**, **John Lawson '71**, **E. Waverly Land '71**, **Ames Arnold '72**, **Beth Copeland '73**, **Jomo Williamson '74**, **Tom Patterson '74**, and **Ben Irvin '75**,—most of whom became familiar participants in Writers' Forums throughout the years and during Alumni Weekends.

The '80s and '90s saw another generation of readers, including **Kim Becknell Williams '83**, **Michael Snider '82**, **Grady Mullis '82**, along with **Dan Auman '92**, **Colin Christopher '93** and **Will Ray '94**. Mary DeRachelwitz, daughter of Ezra Pound, was present at several readings, and students who studied at Brunnenburg have shared their poetry and prose on numerous "Brunnenburg Nights" in the spring since 2000.

Among the alumni who have participated in the Thursday evening event in the past 15 years are **Marlon Carey '00**, **Gilbert Abraham '04**, **Margaret Mason Tate McIntyre '08**, **Caitlin Johnson '09** and **Emily Threlkeld '10**. Professor Ted Wojtasik currently oversees the program.

As Neal Bushoven commented recently, "At one point, Ron Bayes had over half of the campus writing poetry." That may be a slight exaggeration—or maybe not. Ron has been the champion of so many Creative Writing students who he has encouraged and cheered on over the years. It was fitting that he was the Writers' Forum reader on October 16, just a few days after his induction into the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame.

St. Andrews Pipe Band at Stone Mountain, Georgia



The SAU Pipe Band traveled to Stone Mountain, Georgia to compete in the 42nd Annual Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival. The SAU band was one of 29 pipe bands from throughout the Eastern U.S. who participated in October.

The SAU band won first place in the Grade III Pipe Band Competition – the highest level of competition available in the

South at present. The band bested the Atlanta Pipe Band (2nd) and the Grandfather Mountain Highlanders (3rd) in what has for many years been the “Southern Championship” for all grades of competition offered. Since the band’s upgrade to Grade III in 1999 they have won this prize (and the accompanying “Band of the Games” trophy) no less than 8 times out of 14 attempts!

As the SAU Pipe Band is only active during the academic year, this finishes the 2014 calendar year of competition. The band ended the season with three first place finishes (Loch Norman in April, Scotland County earlier in October, and Stone Mountain), and a tie for first place which was broken by the ensemble score resulting in a 2nd place finish at the Charleston Scottish Games in September. As of the Stone Mountain competition, this SAU band had only been together for 7 weeks, since the beginning of this semester – whereas its fellow competitors play together year-round. SAU band members also excelled in solo competitions entered.

The band is approaching a major anniversary in 2016 – the 25th anniversary of the band’s first public performance, which was for Scottish Heritage Weekend in 1991. They have come a long way since that first performance with band members in street clothes, as funds had not yet been raised to purchase uniforms. Many great students and musicians have come through the band since then – and many are still contributing to the Scottish arts throughout the United States.

Check out the Pipe Band’s facebook page here:
<https://www.facebook.com/St.AndrewsUniversityPipeBand>



Save the Date!
Alumni Weekend
April 17-19, 2015

St. Andrews Celebrates at the Annual Tower Club Reception

The University recognized its top alumni donors and Laurinburg area campaign leaders at an event held in Belk Main Lounge on October 2.

Laurinburg Area Campaign Co-Chairs Jim and Frances Willis led the campaign and coordinated volunteers with the assistance of division leaders **Richard Massey '77**, **Susan Rice Covington '87**, Mac Doubles, Frank Buie, Mike Coughenour and John Clark. The fundraising effort raised over \$506,000 for the University. The Laurinburg community has met its goal of raising over \$500,000 for the past 19 years.



In addition to the social gathering, the event included a moderated discussion with U.S. Senator Richard Burr. During the session that evening, Burr spoke on issues related to the economy, rural economic development, healthcare and education.

A Garden Party for Elise



Oct. 3 was a perfect day for the Flora Macdonald Class of 1958 to gather by the Flora Macdonald Garden Neuk to dedicate a tea olive in honor of **Elise Williams Blackwell**.

The small garden beside the Library, originally dedicated in 1990, includes original plaques from buildings at Flora Macdonald College. Newly planted pansies, hydrangeas, and lirioppe join the tea olives and saucer magnolia. Elise has been a driving force in establishing the garden and maintaining it, doing much of the weeding and planting. Elise and her husband, Bill, have worked tirelessly and given generously to St. Andrews for many years, and their FMC friends were determined to surprise her with a celebration. Classmates **Hazel McLean Hubbard** and **Barbara Wingate**



Choate were instrumental in planning the surprise for Elise and inviting a host of friends to share in the special day. Following the dedication, including a poem by **Joy Stalvey Barefoot**, guests enjoyed a lovely salad luncheon beside the lake.

Happy 50th Birthday DeTamble Library 1964-2014

Oct. 3, 2014 marked exactly 50 years since DeTamble Library's opening dedication in 1964. Students, staff, and faculty stopped by to enjoy our celebration cake and to check out our new Information Desk designed by former trustee Larry Horne with generous financial support from Alumni **Curtis Leonard '80**. In addition to outside contractors, our own staff, Tom Waage and **Billy Gehringer '13**, provided much of the construction work.



Did you know?

- The original Library was housed in the lower level of the Liberal Arts Building from 1961-1964
- The library was named for Fred and Elise DeTamble of Winston-Salem
- Before construction began, 245 treated posts were driven into the ground beside the lake to create a strong foundation



- Students moved the 30,000 books to the new Library in 8 hours in a "book brigade"
- A contest was held to see which class had the most participation with the sophomores winning a \$40 prize (88% of the class volunteered!)

After fifty years, the Library still strives to be accessible, friendly, and comfortable, while providing excellent services and resources – the same principles that were important in 1964.

Congratulations!
To the entire DeTamble Library staff

Mary McDonald, '79
Tom Waage
Diane Hanke
Louise Mabry
Lori Weaver
Billy Gehringer, '13



"The large void that exists... is the site of the library. In a fine, central location on the academic side of the campus, the library building will be a landmark, overlooking the beautiful lake to the north and closing off the quadrangle on the south. It will be of contemporary architecture and the construction will include concrete, glass and aggregate panel materials."

-Fundraising Publication 1963

Class Notes

Howard Hadley '68 is currently Director of Research for NYC & Co, the marketing and tourism arm of New York City. He also has three historical novels in various phases of completion, one with the Civil War and Reconstruction as its background.

Carol Lynn White Wood '69, Tom Wood '69, Dan Beerman '69, Ellen Clarke '69 and George Sherrill '69 enjoyed a mini class reunion in Asheville in late September. They are pictured below.



Jim Brooks '70 retired after 39 years as an NC educator. He was the recipient of the 2014 North Carolina Association for the Gifted and Talented Distinguished Service Award. This is given for lifetime contributions to the field of Gifted Education. Jim taught in the Education department at St. Andrews from 1983-1985. He is the owner and operator of A Touch of Class Mobile Entertainment, and says he still loves to shag and play beach music.

Bill Delp '71 left private practice as a physician and is an Assistant Professor at the Georgia campus of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He enjoys teaching and says he may never retire.

Rysa Walker is the pen name of **Cheryl Harrison Walniuk '89**, pictured right. *Timebound*, the first book in the CHRONOS File series, was the Young Adult and Grand Prize Winner in the 2013 Amazon Breakthrough Novel Awards. A CHRONOS Files novella, *Time's Echo*, is now available exclusively on Kindle and Audible. *Time's Edge*, the second book in the series, was scheduled for release in October, 2014.

Erin Harkes '00 will be on a music tour in North Carolina, South Carolina, New York and Tennessee this fall. For more information visit www.erinharkes.com.

Katy Sellers '09 was recently hired by Adirondack Arc as a Residential Direct Support Caregiver.



In Memoriam

Sandra Hughes Sweet '58 died September 1, 2014 in Spartanburg, SC.

Henry F. Britt '62 died September 8, 2014 at his home in Statesville, NC.

Ed McDonald '76 died in Sumter, SC on August 20, 2014.

Kevin Korobko '95 died on Cape Cod, MA on September 18, 2014.

THE MBA PROGRAM

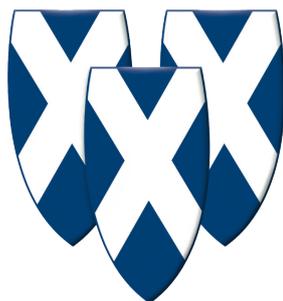
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Jenna Hughes '15
MBA Student



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