One Saturday morning I woke at 6:00 a.m. just so I could go outside to watch and listen as Sabbath Creek woke up. I wanted to greet the new day. In the darkness all I could hear was the sound of the water flowing through the creek bed. The birds were still quiet. I imagined that they were preparing to announce that morning had broken.

Emerson wrote in a letter to Margaret Fuller, “Heaven walks among us ordinarily muffled in such triple or tenfold disguises that the wisest are deceived and no one suspects the days be gods.” (emphasis mine)

After a few minutes, a northern cardinal broke the silent dawn with a song; and then, other birds began singing announcing the arrival of a god, i.e., a new day.

It was only a few minutes later when the chipmunks and squirrels came out, all while cardinals, wrens, and bluebirds were singing. There were moments that morning that I thought the squirrels were moving to the sound of the avian choir. Surely not.

But the life that had been silent and breathing, and now was singing and scurrying surely made up some of Emerson’s disguises of heaven. Other disguises such as the hydrangeas and the flowers drank the night’s dew and now greeted the morning sun. Everything was alive.

So, I thought, this is what goes on while I normally sleep a little later on a weekend morning. And this is what takes place when I rise at 6:00 on a weekday to get ready to go to my office to read, edit, format, correct, and to discuss book sales, marketing plans, and plan conferences and festivals?

So, what is this, really, that takes place each morning?

Eleven years after publishing Walden, Thoreau was still visiting Walden Pond. In his journal for March 23, 1856, he reflected on visiting the pond—animals, plants, water, sunshine—for a few hours and wrote: “I am reassured & reminded that I am the heir of eternal inheritances—which are inalienable…The eternity which I detect in Nature I predicate of my-self also.”

When we connect with nature—being in the peace of wild things (Berry)—we find that we, too, are one of the disguises of heaven and each one of us is an heir of eternal inheritances.
Impoverished high school junior Hazel Smalls and affluent senior Sterling Lovell would never ordinarily meet. But when both are punished with in-school suspension, Sterling finds himself drawn to the gorgeous, studious girl seated nearby, and an unlikely relationship begins. Set in 2012 South Carolina, the novel interlaces the stories of Hazel, living with her homeless family in the rundown Red Rose Motel; Sterling, yearning to break free from the expectations of his wealthy parents; and recently widowed Angela Wilmore, their stern but compassionate English teacher.

Hazel hides her homelessness from Sterling until he discovers her cleaning the motel’s office one morning when he goes with his slumlord father to unfreeze the motel’s pipes. With her secret revealed, their relationship deepens. Angela, who has her own struggles in a budding romance with the divorced principal, offers Hazel the support her family can’t provide.

Navigating between privilege and poverty, vulnerability and strength, all three must confront what they need from themselves and each other as Hazel gains the courage to oppose boundaries and make a bold, life-changing decision at novel’s end.

Gripping and richly drawn, The Girl from the Red Rose Motel explores the complex bonds between adults and teenagers and the power of the families we both inherit and create. Inspired by the author’s experiences teaching in a South Carolina high school, the novel is also an unflinching, authentic look at the challenges faced by America’s public school teachers and the struggles of thousands of homeless children in motels who live, precariously and almost invisibly, amid the nation’s most affluent communities.

“Zurenda’s characters are complex and their story is deeply moving. An excellent novel…bravo!” —Ron Rash, author of The Caretaker

Susan Beckham Zurenda taught English for thirty-three years to college and high school students. Her debut novel, Bells for Eli, has received several awards including first place for Best First Book—Fiction in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards. Zurenda has also published and won numerous awards for her short fiction. A life-long South Carolinian, she lives in Spartanburg. Learn more about her at www.susanzurenda.com.
William Rawlings is a sixth-generation resident of Washington County, Georgia, where he still lives on the family farm. Educated at Emory, Tulane, and Johns Hopkins Universities, he is an avid world traveler, photographer, and prolific writer of Southern stories, including seven novels and six works of nonfiction focusing on Southern history. Learn more about him at www.williamrawlings.com.

John Wesley O’Toole, the disbarred attorney-turned art dealer and protagonist of The Girl with Kaleidoscope Eyes, returns to face another challenge when he is approached by a wealthy cryptocurrency trader wanting to invest heavily in quality works of art. A proposition that seems almost too good to be true turns deadly when the trader's body is discovered, and the digital code keys needed to retrieve his millions are missing.

The situation becomes even more complicated when investigators find the trader’s name was an alias, his background a mystery, and much of the missing fortune appears to belong to domestic terrorist groups. On the possibility that O’Toole had access to the codes before the trader’s murder, he finds himself caught between the FBI, Savannah homicide investigators, and a seductive divorcée, each of whom appear to have their own agenda and none of whom can be trusted to reveal the truth.

Set in the beautiful city of Savannah, Georgia, the tale twists and turns toward a shocking and unexpected conclusion as secrets are revealed and O’Toole discovers he can trust no one.

CRYPTO
A John Wesley O’Toole Novel
William Rawlings

Also available in e-book format

AUGUST 2023
Fiction

TITLES OF INTEREST

The Girl with Kaleidoscope Eyes
A Novel
William Rawlings
Paperback | $18.00 | 5587
978-0-88146-713-0
e-book | $12.00
978-0-88146-727-7

Easter Weekend
A Novel
David Bottoms
Paperback | $17.00 | 5563
978-0-88146-654-6

Kiss of the Jewel Bird
A Novel
Dale Cramer
Paperback | $18.00 | 5594
978-0-88146-525-9
e-book | $12.00
978-0-88146-533-4

The King Who Made Paper Flowers
A Novel
Terry Kay
Paperback | $18.00 | 5615
978-0-88146-772-7
e-book | $12.00
978-0-88146-580-8

Whose Woods These Are
A Novel
John Lane
Hardback | $24.00 | 9993
978-0-88146-761-1
e-book | $12.00
978-0-88146-762-8

Fate Moreland’s Widow
A Novel
John Lane
Paperback | $18.00 | 5630
978-0-88146-800-7

A twisted tale of intrigue set in historic Savannah, Georgia

John Wesley O’Toole, the disbarred attorney-turned art dealer and protagonist of The Girl with Kaleidoscope Eyes, returns to face another challenge when he is approached by a wealthy cryptocurrency trader wanting to invest heavily in quality works of art. A proposition that seems almost too good to be true turns deadly when the trader’s body is discovered, and the digital code keys needed to retrieve his millions are missing.

The situation becomes even more complicated when investigators find the trader’s name was an alias, his background a mystery, and much of the missing fortune appears to belong to domestic terrorist groups. On the possibility that O’Toole had access to the codes before the trader’s murder, he finds himself caught between the FBI, Savannah homicide investigators, and a seductive divorcée, each of whom appear to have their own agenda and none of whom can be trusted to reveal the truth.

Set in the beautiful city of Savannah, Georgia, the tale twists and turns toward a shocking and unexpected conclusion as secrets are revealed and O’Toole discovers he can trust no one.
Stella Bankwell has suddenly found herself in a “heap of trouble” in the words of her mountain people. Ten years ago, the charming redhead was a sports marketing executive when she married unforeseen trouble—Asher Bankwell—who is descended from old Atlanta money and prestige.

After public humiliation in front of Atlanta’s snootiest at a black-tie gala, Stella is banished from high society. Running away to her childhood mountain home and her Mama’s consoling, she soon heads for St. Simons Island where the sea and her best friend, Marlo, offer peace and calm.

But there on her beloved island, Stella finds herself embroiled in a mystery that includes murder and money laundering. Simply trying to escape her scandalous embarrassment and an unhappy marriage, she’s now facing real trouble: Possible federal indictments leading to a murder and serious danger for Stella.

With the help of her best friend, Chatty (Chatham Balsam Colquitt IV, the only good that came from her marriage to Asher), who has followed her to his second home on adjoining Sea Island; former Governor McCager Burnett (Chatty’s Sea Island neighbor); and U.S. Marshal Jackson (Pepper) Culpepper, they set out to solve a mystery that, most surely, will send a deep rattling through the columned, brick mansions of Atlanta’s exclusive Buckhead.

“Ronda Rich’s newest novel is one for the beach! Read and enjoy!”
—Karen Kingsbury, #1 New York Times bestselling author

Stella Bankwell has suddenly found herself in a “heap of trouble” in the words of her mountain people. Ten years ago, the charming redhead was a sports marketing executive when she married unforeseen trouble—Asher Bankwell—who is descended from old Atlanta money and prestige.

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“Ronda Rich was born with the divine gift of storytelling. If this is your first time reading Ronda, grab a cup of coffee and a comfortable chair. You can thank me later.”
—Jeff Foxworthy, New York Times bestselling author

“What a firecracker of a read! Ronda Rich invites you to enjoy an exciting mix of Southern-upper-class-pride and honor-abiding-people-of-the-hills. Pure enjoyment.”
—Janette Oke, New York Times bestselling author

A Stella Bankwell Mystery
Ronda Rich

Also available in e-book format

AUGUST 2023
Fiction

Ronda Rich, whose Georgia roots were planted around 1750, is the bestselling author of several books including What Southern Women Know (That Every Woman Should) and The Town That Came A-Courting, also a television movie. Her weekly syndicated column about Southern life appears in forty-seven newspapers across the Southeast. Learn more about her at www.rondarich.com.
Essays/Poetry

Lost Places: On Losing and Finding Home  
Cathryn Hankla  
4558 | $20.00 | 9780881466485  
e-book | $12.00 | 9780881465839

Coming into Animal Presence  
John Lane  
P660 | $20.00 | 9780881468717  
e-book | $20.00 | 9780881468724

Said-Songs: Essays on Poetry and Place  
Jesse Graves  
P628 | $20.00 | 9780881467987

Down by the Eno, Down by the Haw: A Wonder Almanac  
Thorpe Meeckel  
P590 | $16.00 | 9780881467215

Sidetracked: Two Women, Two Cameras, and Lunches on Sherman’s Trail  
Mimi McGow Probst and Jazlyn Weldon White  
P531 | $17.00 | 9780881465754

A Second Blooming: Becoming the Women We Are Meant to Be  
Susan Gubman, editor  
P542 | $18.00 | 9780881466126  
e-book | $11.00 | 9780881465037

Sifting Artifacts: Essays  
Kathy A. Broady  
P662 | $20.00 | 9780881468342  
e-book | $12.00 | 9780881468359

Wondering Toward Center: Essays  
Kathy A. Broady  
P527 | $20.00 | 9780881465679  
e-book | $12.00 | 9780881465622

Galaxies: Poems  
Cathryn Hankla  
P545 | $16.00 | 9780881466164

John Milton, Paradise Lost: The Biblically Annotated Edition  
Matthew Statland, editor  
P410 | $24.00 | 9780881462685

Current and recent backlist titles can also be found on pages 26 & 27

THE LOST THING: POEMS  
Sarah Gordon  
P638 | $17.00 | 978088146304

TROUBLE CAN BE SO BEAUTIFUL AT THE BEGINNING: POEMS  
Stuly Xochitl Cawood  
P616 | $16.00 | 9780881467765

LET GO OF THE HANDS YOU HOLD: POEMS  
Marissa Glover  
P621 | $17.00 | 9780881466256

SWIFT HOUR: POEMS  
Megan Sexton  
P478 | $18.00 | 9780881464702

COLOR ALL MAPS NEW: POEMS  
Jack B. Bedell  
P617 | $16.00 | 9780881467772

I HAVE TOLD YOU AND TOLD YOU: POEMS  
Elizabeth Cox  
P622 | $18.00 | 9780881466350

THE PAINTED CLOCK AND OTHER POEMS  
Stephen Bluestone  
P564 | $16.00 | 9780881466553

ANTHROPOCENE BLUES: POEMS  
I Have Told You and Told You: Poems

THING: POEMS  
Jack B. Bedell  
P618 | $16.00 | 9780881466751

THE THRONE OF PSYCHE: POEMS  
Marissa Glover  
P622 | $18.00 | 9780881462326

ARM IN ARM: POEMS  
Catharine Savage Brasman  
P639 | $19.00 | 9780881468311

ON THE OLD PLAZA: POEMS  
Catharine Savage Brasman  
H998 | $25.00 | 9780881465143  
P491 | $18.00 | 9780881469626

ON THE NORTH SLOPE: POEMS  
Catharine Savage Brasman  
P444 | $17.00 | 9780881462239

A MEMORY OF MANS: POEMS  
Catharine Savage Brasman  
P551 | $17.00 | 9780881466300

MEMORY & COMPILATION: POEMS  
Eve Hoffman  
P567 | $20.00 | 9780881466591

SUMMONING SHADY: POEMS  
R.T. Smith  
P579 | $18.00 | 9780881467000

CONCERTINA: POEMS  
Joseph Bathanti  
P480 | $18.00 | 9780881464702

EDEN’S LAST HORIZON: POEMS OF THE EARTH  
Philip Lee Williams  
P640 | $24.00 | 9780881468335

THE COLOR OF ALL THINGS: 99 LOVE POEMS  
Catharine Savage Brasman  
P631 | $18.00 | 9780881468328

THE FLOWER SEEKER: AN EPIC POEM OF WILLIAM BARTRAM  
Philip Lee Williams  
P610 | $27.00 | 9780881466210

LISTENING FOR GOD: MALAMUD, O’CONNOR, UPDIKE, & MORRISON  
Peter C. Brown  
H999 | $35.00 | 9780881467680

BETTER TO SEE YOU WITH: PERSPECTIVES ON FLANNERY O’CONNOR, SELECTED AND NEW  
Marshall Bruce Gentry  
H1010 | $35.00 | 9780881468250

UNDERSTANDING THE SHORT FICTION OF CARSON MCCULLERS  
Alison Graham-Bertolini and Casey Kayser, editors  
H996 | $35.00 | 9780881467420

BECOMING HUMAN: KIERKEGAARDIAN REFLECTIONS ON ETHICAL MODELS IN LITERATURE  
Jamie Larentzen  
P515 | $35.00 | 9780881468342

SYMBOL & EXISTENCE: A STUDY IN MEANING: EXPLORATIONS OF HUMAN NATURE  
Walker Percy, Kenneth L. Ketner, et al., editors  
H975 | $29.00 | 9780881467086

UNTOLD STORIES, UNHEARD VOICES: TRUMAN CAPOTE AND IN COLD BLOOD  
Jan Whit  
H974 | $35.00 | 9780881467048

WHEN FICTION AND PHILOSOPHY MEET: A CONVERSATION WITH FLANNERY O’CONNOR AND SIMONE WEIL  
E. Jane Deering and Ruthann K. Johansen  
H971 | $35.00 | 9780881466966

SIGN LANGUAGE: READING FLANNERY O’CONNOR’S GRAPHIC NARRATIVE  
Ruth Reinche  
H984 | $35.00 | 9780881467406

COSMIC DEFAINCE: UPDIKE’S KIERKEGAARD AND THE MAPLES STORIES  
David Crowe  
H891 | $35.00 | 9780881465165

FRODO’S WOUND: WHY THE LORD OF THE RINGS IS A GREAT BOOK  
Krishnan Venkatesh  
P631 | $24.00 | 9780881468014

Current and recent backlist titles can also be found on pages 26 & 27
Clifford Brooks is a poet, teacher, and founder of The Southern Collective Experience, a cooperative of writers, musicians, and visual artists. Author of *The Draw of Broken Eyes & Whirling Metaphysics* and *Athena Departs*, he is the editor of *The Blue Mountain Review* and host of NPR's show, *Dante's Old South*. Learn more at www.cliffbrooks.com and www.southerncollectiveexperience.com.

**Old Gods**
Poems
Clifford Brooks

“Through the redemptive power of words, *Old Gods* confronts personal battles of addiction, autism, heartbreak, otherness, anxiety, and escapism through journey poems.

Bolstered by faith, family, friends, and vocation, the poet’s telling is ordered and meticulous. Here, readers will find that seeping wounds can be healed only by facing life head-on, not getting in its way.

Offering no subterfuge or cryptic turns, Brooks has found quiet after writing this book’s last line—a quiet that previous writings never managed.

“If Rainer Maria Rilke shared a notebook with Frank Stanford, something like Clifford Brooks’s lyric would climb to the surface. This whirling motion carved from places and worn spaces is as sensitive as it is raw.” —Alina Stefanescu, author of *Dor* and *Ribald*

“If Clifford Brooks is a poet of awe, of what the Greeks termed agape—to be open-mouthed with wonder. These observant, powerfully imaged poems are also open-hearted and embracing of the physical and familial realms, the wild and the domestic, and the possibilities for metaphysical and spiritual transformation.” —Stuart Dischell, award-winning author of *Good Hope Road*

“If Clifford Brooks is a poet who just can’t help it: poems fly out of him like weightless jewels, like the hummingbirds he writes of so cannily. The poetry in *Old Gods* says essential things in new ways, while remaining tied to individual human vision, in a voice confident and shy, audacious, and tender. It is a joy to read.” —Jeffrey Skinner, author of *6.5 Practices of Moderately Successful Poets*

**September 2023**
Poetry

**TITLES OF INTEREST**

*The Evangelist*
Poems
David Armand
Paperback | $18.00t | P649
978-0-88146-855-7

*Going Farther into the Woods than the Woods Go*
Poems
Seaborn Jones
Paperback | $15.00t | P443
978-0-88146-272-2

*Grass Chapels*
New & Selected Poems
William Wright
Paperback | $20.00t | P629
978-0-88146-799-4

*Tree Heresies*
Poems
William Wright
Paperback | $18.00t | P501
978-0-88146-520-4

*Not Xanadu*
Poems
Cathryn Hanka
Hardback | $22.00t | H102
978-0-88146-832-8

*The Disappearing Act*
Poems
Sarah Pirkle Hughes
Paperback | $16.00t | P561
978-0-88146-455-2

*This is poetry full of music and light... Piercing and free. Revelation songs. What a voice.” —Lee Herrick, Poet Laureate of California*

**SEPTEMBER 2023 | POETRY**
6 x 9 | 100 pp. | Paperback, $20.00t | 978-0-88146-906-6 | P678


“Full of the messy good stuff that makes us human, these poems urge us to sing our truest songs.” —Gloria Muñoz, author of Danzirly

**Happy Neighborhood**

*Essays and Poems*

Thomas Hallock

October 2023

**Essays/Poetry**

**Happy Neighborhood** explores through poetry and prose the cultivation of contented place. How must men in particular sift through the rewards—and belabored grudges—of their own childhoods in order to move productively forward? These thoughtful, carefully crafted meditations seek to define happiness at home.

The poems begin with daily walks, often with a dog, to the waterfront park near the author’s house in St. Petersburg, Florida. The essays, in dialog with the verse, explore the personal, literary, cultural, and historical questions that prompted the poems. Hallock’s influences and reading are wide ranging, though he draws especially from seventeenth-century devotional traditions, in which the reflective writing serves to bring the soul to a proper space of rest. There is poetry about infidelity and marriage, fatherhood, insomnia, a front porch hammock, political corruption, holy communion, and homemade biscuits.

Although seemingly content in title, *Happy Neighborhood* candidly confronts the challenges the author has faced as a father, spouse, and son. Hallock grapples with finding peace in Florida, his adopted home state and not where he ever chose to live. In becoming a father, he must unpack painful emotions that he still carries, and not pass onto his own child. And as a writer, he wrestles with artistic self-indulgence and the need for poetry that can accomplish honest emotional work.

**Thomas Hallock** is professor of English at the University of South Florida’s St. Petersburg campus. His publications include *A Road Course in American Literature: Travel and Teaching from Atzlán to Amherst; From the Fallen Tree: Frontier Narratives, Environmental Politics, and the Roots of a National Pastoral*; and *William Bartram, the Search for Nature’s Design: Selected Art, Letters, and Unpublished Writings*. 

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**TITLES OF INTEREST**

- **Tamp**
  - Poems
  - Denton Loving
  - Paperback | $20.00t | P661
  - 978-0-88146-873-1

- **Death, and the Day’s Light**
  - Poems
  - James Dickey†
  - edited by Gordon Von Ness
  - Hardback | $25.00t | H899
  - 978-0-88146-519-8

- **Weathering**
  - Poems and Recollections
  - David Hiai
  - Paperback | $20.00t | P600
  - 978-0-88146-734-5

- **Your Autobiography**
  - Poems
  - Kelly Cherry†
  - Paperback | $18.00t | P580
  - 978-0-88146-701-7

- **This Gladdening Light**
  - An Ecology of Fatherhood and Faith
  - Christopher Martin
  - Paperback | $18.00t | P554
  - 978-0-88146-615-7

- **The Burdens of Aeneas**
  - A Son’s Memoir of Duty and Love
  - James C. Abbot Jr.
  - Hardback | $28.00t | H951
  - 978-0-88146-657-7
Gordon Johnston is professor of Creative Writing at Mercer University. A former journalist, he is the award-winning author of *Seven Islands of the Ocmulgee*, *Scaring the Bears*, and *Durable Goods*. With Matthew Jennings, he is the coauthor of *Ocmulgee National Monument: A Brief History with Field Notes*.

In the title poem of Gordon Johnston’s second collection, a canoer with his keel in a quick current is too caught up in the flow of water, sunlight, and sycamore leaves to say precisely where he is on the river. He is constantly both arriving and departing, negotiating his passage through a riverscape that is as ancient as it is newborn, that is mapped and familiar but always in flux.

These poems engage the losses and renewals of this flux—encounters with the “trash fish,” turtles, otters, and other lives in Southern rivers and woods as well as in the wilds of West Virginia, Wyoming, and Oklahoma. In these poems, mountains, plains, and creeks—even clay, birch bark, and shelf lichens—speak.

“Where Here Is Hard to Say” also applies in this collection to crossing into new, difficult human territories—“Lonely Middles” of confronting the mortality of friends and parents, letting sons and daughters grow up and away from the home, wrestling with depression, and trying to find stable footing in mid-life as the ecstatic alternates with the awful. The poems invent prayers and weapons against the doubts. Telling stories, writing letters, cutting back brush, carving canoes, listening to Wilco—the poems find fellowship in each of these acts.

By turns wryly funny, rueful, awed, and nostalgic, the voice in these poems may have trouble saying exactly where it is, but it makes the reader glad to be there, too, listening.

There is a hard-won wisdom in these poems, but they are never didactic or preachy. They express their insights through humble, often funny, speakers and through precise images that honor the mysteries of faith and experience. This is a book with stories to tell, visions to impart, and music to convey them memorably.
The poems in Bill King’s first full-length collection, *Bloodroot*, articulate a life grounded in the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountains. We see memories of his youth in southwestern Virginia's Back Creek Valley, as well as poems of adult years in—and exploring the Monongahela Forest that surrounds—the mountain town of Elkins, West Virginia.

These poems follow the root of a life nourished by and inseparable from garden soil, mountain rivers, and the hearths and kitchen table of home back to its origins. “Grown Boy” recalls a solitary childhood spent exploring creeks and two-lanes. In “Black Kite,” a mature father’s sense of home and family take on depth and gratitude after a cancer diagnosis and chronic illness. Poems like “This World Should Be Enough” look beyond personal mortality to honor the mystery and beauty of wild landscapes long threatened by the violence of the extraction industry. Finally, “To Have and To Hold” pledges fealty to love in all of its forms—a stance that makes the book’s meditations on mortality and acceptance, especially “Fifty Gardens In,” as hopeful as they are honest.

By turns narrative and lyrical, these accessible poems find metaphor in native landscapes: “the pink and purple riddles” of joe pye and ironweed, a “cicada, / like a pressure canner thrumming on a stove,” the red-tail hawks that “carry the wounded skyward,” the bloodroot “whose petals fall just as soon / as the flower begins to bloom.” King’s poems offer a language for how to love a world we must, ultimately, leave.

“*Bloodroot* gifts us sober hope and natural medicine for surviving, and loving, our world as it is now.” —Ann Pancake, author of *Strange as This Weather Has Been*
David Schaeffer practiced law in Atlanta, Georgia, for thirty-eight years and served as president of the Atlanta Bar Association. He graduated from Duke University and University of Virginia School of Law. Author of Five Big Mountains and Another Five Big Mountains and Treks, Schaeffer currently lives on Kiawah Island, South Carolina.

The “Greatest Generation” was filled with war heroes and love stories, during and shortly after World War II. Love of God, country, and family were the priorities of young men and women facing and surviving military service at the time. Many of their love stories were told in letters written home from overseas. Hidden in dusty boxes in attics or locked away in storage chests, these treasures are occasionally found and their stories finally uncovered.

This is the true story of Bill, a twenty-eight-year-old Gettysburg seminarian and Purple Heart veteran, who was still single, disenchanted with women, and unsure of his future in the ministry. Mary was a twenty-two-year-old, highly educated, pragmatic young woman starting a public health program from scratch in Greenville, South Carolina. After meeting, they quickly fell in love and became engaged on the same day Bill left for an eighteen-month post-graduate religious and academic study program in Sweden in January 1947.

Based on hundreds of handwritten letters during and after the war, this nonfiction historical romance explores how, with God’s help, one couple’s love, commitment, faith, and trust was sustained and grew across an ocean of separation.

A true post-World War II love story—from letters, newspaper articles, brief autobiographies, obituaries, and church archives

Letters from Sweden
David Schaeffer

October 2023
Letters/Biography

TITLES OF INTEREST

Five Big Mountains
A Regular’s Guys Guide to Climbing Orizaba, Elbrus, Kilimanjaro, Aconcagua, and Vinson
David Schaeffer
Paperback | $25.00t | 978-0-88146-641-6
e-book | $12.00 | 978-0-88146-632-4

Another Five Big Mountains and Treks
A Regular’s Guys Guide to Climbing Mt. Rainer, Everest Base Camp, Mt. Fuji, The Inca Trail/Machu Picchu, and Cho Oyu
David Schaeffer
Hardback | $30.00t | 978-0-88146-673-7
e-book | $12.00 | 978-0-88146-674-4

And Half the Seed of Europe
A Genealogy of the Great War, 1914–1918
Christopher Blake
Hardback | $25.00t | H945
978-0-88146-635-5

Reckless Misfortune
The Century We Inherited from the First World War
Christopher Blake
Hardback | $30.00t | H1009
978-0-88146-804-5

OCTOBER 2023 | LETTERS/BIOGRAPHY
6 x 9 | 288 pp. | Paperback, $28.00t | 978-0-88146-899-1 | P674 | Photographs
Jackie K. Cooper has spent the last three decades of his life gathering his memories of growing up in the South. He has studied the various seasons of his life and having reached the winter season, he offers reflections on lessons learned, the people who have influenced him, the role of God’s hand in his journey, and the good fortune with which he has been blessed.

These stories are presented in a narrative format and are as easy to absorb as a conversation between two friends spending an afternoon on the porch on a breezy summery day. The tea is sweet, and the stories are a mixture of the funny and the sad—but still heartwarming.

Cooper’s collection of his “wisdom of winter” is here to be shared, so open this book and let your mind be free to rest and relax, to listen and learn, to anticipate and appreciate.

“Jackie Cooper is utterly charming, optimistic, and gracious—his newest memoir is the balm for the religious soul.”

—Karin Slaughter, New York Times and internationally bestselling author

“A deeply heartfelt, emotive, and wise memoir, filled with humour and honesty.

I adored it.”

—Chris Whitaker, New York Times bestselling author of We Begin at the End

“This is a delightful memoir of a life filled with faith, family, friends, and food, written with the insight that only eight decades can give. Bravo, Jackie!”

—Lisa Scottoline, New York Times bestselling author of Loyalty
Selected Backlist—Memoir, Biography, Music, Food, & Craft

Current and recent backlist titles can also be found on pages 26 & 27
Allman Joy: Keeping the Beat with Duane and Gregg
Bill Connell with John Lynskey
foreword by Chuck Leavell

August 2023
Memoir

“The wonderful, fun, and interesting journey of a talented young drummer from Tuscaloosa, Alabama.” —Chuck Leavell

Allman Joy: Keeping the Beat with Duane and Gregg is Bill Connell’s insightful account of the mid-1960s musical journey he went on as the drummer for The Allman Joys, a group that was a precursor to The Allman Brothers Band. A native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Connell began drumming as a teenager, and worked his way through the burgeoning Tuscaloosa music scene.

A passing encounter with the brothers Allman in 1966 led to Connell being offered the drummer’s chair in The Allman Joys. The day after high school graduation at age seventeen, he found himself headed to New York City’s Greenwich Village to join the band. His experiences touring with the group over the next several years make for captivating stories and offer tremendous insight into a little-known chapter in the development of The Allman Brothers Band.

Connell’s time in the band was cut short by the draft, but he remained in contact with both Allmans, and he resumed his musical career after his service in the U.S. Navy was completed.

Bill Connell’s love for Duane and Gregg shines brightly throughout the book. This memoir is loaded with touching personal thoughts and hilarious tales from the road, making it a must-read for music fans of all ages.

—Due to the untimely passing of Bill Connell on March 31, 2023, this book is being posthumously published.

Navy veteran Bill Connell (1948–2023) was a native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He was best known as a professional live and studio drummer, music publisher, music and video producer, and director for public television.

John Lynskey has been involved with The Allman Brothers Band since 1995, first serving as editor-in-chief of Hittin’ the Note, the group’s music magazine. He coauthored My Cross to Bear, Gregg Allman’s best-selling autobiography, and currently serves as resident historian at The Allman Brothers Band Museum at the Big House in Macon, Georgia.
Evan A. Kutzler is associate professor of U.S. and Public History at Western Michigan University. He is the author or editor of many books, including *Ossabaw Island: A Sense of Place and Prison Pens: Gender, Memory, and Imprisonment in the Writings of Mollie Scollay and Wash Nelson, 1863–1866*.

When the Lane cake, named after Emma Rylander Lane (1856–1904), appeared in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960), the boozy Southern dessert was at peak popularity. Yet the culinary artist behind the cake had fallen into obscurity. *From Biscuits to Lane Cake* recovers Lane’s biography, as well as the recipes she published in *Some Good Things to Eat* (1898) and the *Columbus Enquirer-Sun*.

Born in Americus, Georgia, and left fatherless in the American Civil War, Lane spent most of her life living, studying, and managing a household in Southwest Georgia. While in Clayton, Alabama, and Columbus, Georgia, she drew on the diverse culinary heritage of the U.S. South as she won cooking demonstration competitions, published a cookbook, and taught cooking classes. The family’s move from the U.S. South to Mexico, alongside a tragedy there, cut short her fame.

By recovering the life story of Emma Rylander Lane, *From Biscuits to Lane Cake* reveals the Georgia backstory of Alabama’s official state dessert. Lane’s recipes—from biscuits, wafers, and loaf cakes to salads, cordials, and holiday favorites—show that her expertise went far beyond the bourbon-infused dessert that bears her married name.
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Selected Backlist—Civil War Era History
Here’s a Letter from Thy Dear Son
Letters of a Georgia Family during the Civil War Era
edited by Edward H. Pulliam

December 2023
Civil War History/Letters

The absorbing story of the David family of North Georgia—
as told through the intimacy of their letters

Here’s a Letter from Thy Dear Son provides a personal,
primary-source exploration of the Civil War era from several different
perspectives in an unusually full and informative narrative.

Through the intimacy of letters, it tells the compelling story of young
men and women of a North Georgia farming family of modest means as they
seek places in their quiet communities in the 1850s, live the trauma of the
Civil War on the battlefield and at home, and for those who survive, strive to
regain peace in a changed world and begin life anew.

We begin in 1847, as a seventeen-year-old Simeon David leaves home to
teach school in a nearby county and continues as he, his younger brothers
Tom and Horatio, sister Lona, and their friend Manning Alexander confront
questions familiar to young people today: Where shall I live? Whom shall I
marry? What will be my life’s work?

The arrival of the Civil War sweeps them up, transforms the young men into
soldiers—private, lieutenant, regimental surgeon, company commander—and
transports them to previously little-known places: Chancellorsville,
Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and the Wilderness. At home, the family women face
their own disruptions and hardships. For one, it is more than she can bear.

Throughout, their lives were filled with joy, struggle, fatalism, triumph,
and sadness. Their writing concerns Baptist camp meetings, courting rituals,
war-rousing speeches, dashes across battlefields, Tories on the home front,
and night riders of the Klu Klux Klan.

“... This is a marvelously edifying work of historical scholarship. An engrossing account
of life in the American South during its most momentous era.” — Kirkus Reviews

Edward H. Pulliam is a graduate of Davidson College and Columbia
University Law School. A freelance editor and writer, his articles have appeared
in national history magazines, the Washington Post, and other publications.
He is the author of Historic Alexandria: An Illustrated History. Pulliam, a member of
the Generals Barton-Stovall Association, lives in Alexandria, Virginia.
The modern world began with a critique of ancient philosophy as unscientific and in a decisive attempt to progress beyond it. Over time, however, the promises of the early modern philosophers have become increasingly suspect, while the ancients have come to enjoy greater appeal. Defending Socrates articulates Plato’s implicit response to the early modern attack through a holistic interpretation of Plato’s trilogy of dialogues on the question of knowledge—Theaetetus, Sophist, and Statesman.

In Theaetetus, Socrates attempts to define knowledge with two mathematicians, the young Theaetetus and his teacher Theodorus, but ultimately fails. This failure leads Theodorus, on the following day, to bring along a stranger from the city of Elea to correct Socrates’s manner of philosophizing. The Eleatic stranger presents us with a scientific alternative to Socrates in Sophist and Statesman. By the end of these dialogues, however, it becomes clear that the obstacles and inconsistencies confronting the stranger’s alternative are insurmountable.

Socratic philosophy turns out to be the only tenable mode. Plato thus directs us back to Theaetetus, which took place the day before but was written afterwards, that is, in full awareness of the stranger’s alternative. There we find a defense of the unscientific aspects of Socratic philosophy that might provide us guidance amid the broken promises of modernity.

Alex Priou is a teaching assistant professor in the Herbst Program for Engineering, Ethics, & Society at the University of Colorado Boulder. He is the author of three books on Platonic political philosophy, as well as numerous articles and essays on the history of philosophy. Priou is also the cohost of a political philosophy podcast, The New Thinkery. Learn more about him at alexpriou.com.
Chris Birkett is visiting lecturer in Journalism at City, University of London. He holds a BA in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from the University of Oxford, and an MA in American Studies and PhD in US History from King’s College London. Birkett has had a distinguished career as a journalist in the broadcast news industry, covering six US presidential elections and the impeachment of Bill Clinton. His baseball travels have taken him to all thirty MLB franchises.

How the mythology of baseball shaped White House responses to some of the most controversial social and political debates of the era

Bill Clinton at the Church of Baseball
The Presidency, Civil Religion, and the National Pastime in the 1990s
Chris Birkett

November 2023
Civil Religion
James P. Byrd is professor of American Religious History, Cal Turner Chancellor’s Chair of Wesleyan Studies, and associate dean for Graduate Education and Research at Vanderbilt University Divinity School. His publications include “A Holy Baptism of Fire and Blood”: The Bible and the American Civil War (2021) and Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution (2013).

Baptists in Early North America—
An Abridgment of the Church History of New-England from 1602 to 1804
Volume X
Issac Backus; edited by James P. Byrd
October 2023
Baptist History

Exploring the work of Issac Backus (1724–1806)—a champion of religious liberty and defender of Baptists and their faith

No figure was more important to early American Baptist history than Issac Backus. A convert of the “Great Awakening,” Backus left the state-supported churches of New England and joined the Baptist movement. Tireless in his advocacy of Baptist issues, Backus opposed church-state establishments and recorded the history of Baptists—all while pastoring a Baptist church in Revolutionary America. His historical work, so influential on future historians, reached its zenith in this 1804 edition of An Abridgment of the Church History of New-England from 1602 to 1804.

This book, which has been out of print for decades, reflects Backus’s most mature interpretation of New England church history and makes up Volume X of the Baptists in Early North America Series.

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October 2023
Baptist History
Baptists and Gender
edited by Melody Maxwell and T. Laine Scales
foreword by David Bebbington

November 2023
Religion/Baptist History

Papers for the Ninth International Conference on Baptist Studies

What does it mean to be a gendered person within a specific cultural context? This book analyzes global Baptists’ responses to this question in historical perspective. In some twentieth-century contexts, for example, Baptist women were expected to cover their heads during worship services led by men; in others, Baptist women led worship with heads uncovered while men listened.

The chapters in this book explore the fascinating ways global Baptists have constructed gender roles over the past four centuries. They fill a gap in scholarship, as few resources have examined Baptists’ views of femininity and masculinity (and beyond) in historical and global perspectives.

As a compilation of twenty-three papers prepared for the Ninth International Conference on Baptist Studies, this volume is broad in scope. Although the conference was not held due to COVID-19, this book presents the findings prepared for it, with chapters from Baptists in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and Oceania. It thus augments scholarly perspectives on Christianity and gender, including insights on exemplary Baptist women leaders, the diversity of global Baptist gender roles, and Baptist constructions of masculinity.

This book provides a more comprehensive study of Baptists and gender than any other work to date.

Melody Maxwell serves as associate professor of Christian History at Acadia Divinity College in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and is director of the Acadia Centre for Baptist and Anabaptist Studies.

T. Laine Scales is professor of Social Work in the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University. She also serves as codirector of the Baptist Scholars International Roundtable.

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C. DOUGLAS WEAVER
**Frederick J. Parrella** is professor emeritus of Theology at Santa Clara University. He received his AB in Classical Languages and PhD in Systematic Theology from Fordham University. His dissertation explored Paul Tillich’s ecumenical contributions to a Catholic understanding of the church. An editor and contributor to four books, Parrella has presented papers on Tillich’s theology in the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America.

**The Idea of the Church**  
*Historical and Theological Perspectives*  
Frederick J. Parrella

*An historical sketch of how the Church has defined itself in its two millennia*

**After World War I, a German bishop described the twentieth century as the “century of the Church.”** In this twenty-first century, the truth of his words have resonated with both Protestants and Catholics wrestling with the meaning and mission of the Christian community. In order to comprehend the Church, one must explore its own self-understanding throughout the centuries: from its foundation in the preaching of Jesus, the Fathers of the Church, the Medieval Period, the Reformation, and the emergence of the modern and postmodern technological world of today.

The *Idea of the Church* is not Church history, but an historical sketch of how the Church defined itself in its two millennia. These self-definitions—in Augustine, Aquinas, Luther, Calvin, the medieval and modern papacy, and the twentieth century—are as diverse as its history. Popes Innocent III, Pius IX, and Francis are microcosms of different ecclesiologies. Likewise, the Protestant Church’s self-understanding in the writings of Calvin and Zwingli varies significantly from that of Barth and Tillich. The Catholic Church’s ecclesiology at the Council of Trent—the “perfect society”—and at the Second Vatican Council—“people of God”—are dissimilar in both style and substance.

The Church has a rich tradition of theologies: of God, Jesus Christ, sin and grace, and ethics. In the “century of the Church,” ecclesiology finally dominated the theological enterprise, becoming, in the words of Henri de Lubac, the “meeting place of all mysteries.”

This book will give this enterprise an historical context and prepare the Christian community for future self-reflection.
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