

Library to host Free Creative Writing Class

Estill County Public Library is pleased to offer a new adult education class this fall, free to the public. Memoir Writing for Adults, taught by local writer Donna M. Crow will be held each Tuesday morning from 10:00-11:30 AM beginning October 11, 2016 and running through November 15, 2015.

"Memoir is not autobiography," Crow said. "It's not your whole life story. It's all the many little stories of your life, like short stories. You can have one or many. Memoir is what you do on the front porch when your friends visit."

The collaboration between Crow and Estill County Public Library was fated. When Crow approached librarian Kathy Watson about offering a writing course, Watson said she'd already been discussing the possibility of offering a memoir class but had been speaking to someone

in Louisville who may be interested in teaching the course. Crow, who received her MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University, Louisville has studied fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction from many well-established authors and has received publication and awards in all three genres but writes mostly memoir.

"It seemed like the timing was perfect. We were both on the same page," Crow said. "Being from Estill County, I know how many good story tellers there are here. Memoir is a way to build community, to pass stories from one generation to the next, to build pride, to heal from past hurts, or to learn something new about yourself. It's a growing genre and one that naturally fits what we already do. Tell stories."

Crow, formerly Donna McClanahan,

recently wrote a play for the River City Players' Save the Mack campaign wherein she told many stories of her own and others' set at the Mack. She said gathering those stories showed her how many people want to tell their stories and have good stories to tell. Offering a class, sponsored by the Estill County Public Library is a way she can help people learn how to write their own stories, free of charge. The library not only provides the teacher, they provide all the writing materials needed for the course.

All skill levels welcome. Don't be afraid to try something new. Crow says the class will be taught in such a way that beginners and more experienced writers alike can take something away from the course. Call the library to register. (606)-723-3030.



Donna Crow



ECHS Class of 1966 Reunion

Left to right, front: Vina Winkler Bruner, Christine Fike Smyth, Joyce Muncy Tipton, Fredia Benton Blackwell, Linda Lambert Black, Ladene Walters Foster, Ruby Barnes Napier, Doris Gross Chaney, Kathy Stone Puckett, and Linda Boian Parsons. Second row: Randall Osborne, Eddie Smyth, Larry Osborne, Michael Barnes, Burma Wolfbarger Castlebury, Phyllis Spicer Rucker, Joyce Horn Clemmons, Sue Benton Curtis, Kay Metcalf Case, Diana Horn Fowler, Gary Stacy, John Gilbert, and Charles Briscoe. Third row: Larry Miller, Robert Puckett, Jimmy Richardson, Tim Jones, Clyde Young, Wilton Flynn, Mike Smyth, Harold Hall, Kenneth Abshear, Mike "Fig" Newton, Dennis Case and Dale Calmes.

Estill Class of 1966 Teachers

AT LEFT, left to right: Gene Arvin, Jim Kiser, Pat Kiser, Ann Hardy, Sara Noland, Geraldine Cain, not pictured Audra Smallwood. (Photo courtesy of Fredia Blackwell)



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