

Virginia English Bulletin

Publication of the Virginia Association of Teachers of English

Editor

Robert Williams
Department of English
Radford University
Radford, Virginia
Voice: (540) 831-6372
Fax: (540) 831-6800
E-mail: rohwilli@radford.edu

Editorial Assistant and Production Coordinator

Patricia Branch Davis

Cover Design

Tucker Conley

Poetry Editor

B. Chelsea Adams, Radford University

Editorial Board

Pam White, Roanoke City Public Schools
Paul Lankford, Cape Henry Collegiate School
Huntington Lyman, The Hill School
Janice Suppa-Friedman, Prince William Country
Public Schools

Manuscripts

The editorial Board of the *Virginia English Bulletin* welcomes contributions related to the teaching of language arts and English at all school levels, especially manuscripts of 3-12 pages on announced themes. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced, and submitted in duplicate. When possible, authors should also submit manuscripts on disk, preferably in Microsoft Word; however, other formats and word processing programs are acceptable. **Note to MAC users—submit your copy in ASCII form, E-mail, or send as an attached document to an e-mail.** To have your article considered for publication, please comply with the following: (1) Carefully label your disk, providing the following information: your name, full address, telephone number and E-mail address, file name, computer program used, and version of program. (2) Attach a cover letter with a short biographical sketch including the name of your school, position, courses taught and a brief statement about your professional life. (3) Run Spell check on BOTH your hard copy and your disk copy. (4) Make sure the spelling of the names of the author(s) in the reference section agree with the spelling in the text and that the copyright dates concur in both sections. Provide full reference data, complying with either APA or MLA style. When making a direct quote, please include quotation marks and specific reference data--if APA, last name of author(s), copyright year, page numbers; if MLA, author(s) and page numbers. (5) Reread your printed, spell-checked hard copy AND disk copy of your manuscript BEFORE submitting your publication, checking for omissions, correct publication information, and spelling/grammatical errors. (6) Include a self-addressed, return envelope; clip stamps to the envelope, but do not paste them. **Send copies to Robert Williams, Radford University, P.O. Box 6935, Radford, Virginia 24142.** Deadlines for copy are April 1 and September 15 unless otherwise advertised. The editor reserves the right to modify manuscripts to fit length and language considerations. E-mail address: rohwilli@radford.edu

Subscriptions and Advertising:

Subscription is included in the annual membership dues of \$15.00. Student dues are \$4.00. For single copy cost, contact the editor. Membership is for the calendar year. For advertising rates, contact the editor. *Virginia English Bulletin* is published twice annually by the Virginia Association of Teachers of English Language Arts, a nonprofit affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English and a department of the Virginia Education Association. The views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of VATE.

Reproduction of material from this publication is hereby authorized if (a) reproduction is for educational use in not-for-profit institutions; (b) copies are made available without charge beyond the cost of reproductions; and (c) each copy includes full citation of the source.

ISSN 0504-426X

Copyright 2000

by the Virginia Association of Teachers of English
Member of NCTE Information Exchange Agreement

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
Founded 1914

2006 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President**C. Hood Frazier**, Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia 23909
President Elect**Carolyn Perry**, Loudoun County Public Schools, Leesbury, Virginia 20176
Vice President**Chris Woods**, RVJDC, Roanoke, Virginia 24012
Secretary.....**Jewel Paige**, C. Alton Lindsay Middle School, Hampton, Virginia 23661
Executive Secretary ..**Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
Treasurer.....**Leila Christenbury**, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond Virginia 23284-2020

Members-at-Large: College Member-at-Large--**Deborah Frazier Carrington**, Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia; College Member-at-Large Elect--**Vacant**; High School Member-at-Large--**Sandra Whitaker**, Albemarle County Public Schools, Charlottesville, Virginia; High School Member-at-Large Elect--**Elizabeth Simons**, Alexandria City Public Schools, Alexandria, Virginia; Middle School Member-at-Large--**Pat Seward**, Newport News Public Schools, Newport News, Virginia; Middle School Member-at-Large Elect--**Vacant**; Elementary Member-at-Large--**Nancy Webb**, Belle Heth School, Radford, Virginia; Elementary Member-at-Large Elect--**Vacant**

Past President: **Janice Suppa-Friedman**, Stanardsville, Virginia 22973

Liaison Officers: NCTE Liaison--**Vacant**; VCEE--**Robert Williams**, Radford University; SLATE & Committee Against Censorship Chair--**Robert Small**, Radford University; NCTE Achievement in Writing Awards--**Erica Jacobs**, Vienna, Virginia; NCTE Promising Young Writers Awards--**Roark Mulligan**, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia; VETEC Liaison--**Chad Sansing**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia; Multicultural--**Mary T. Davis**, Petersburg City Schools; Department of Education Liaisons--**Tracy Robertson**, Virginia Department of Education, Richmond, Virginia; NCTE Program to Recognize Excellence in Literary Magazines--**Theresa Street**; NCTE Affiliate Member Services--**Millie Davis**, Urbana, Illinois; VSRA Liaison--**Silvia Babcock**, Parkway Elementary, Virginia Beach, Virginia; Policy and Practice Committee Chair--**Nancy Moskway-Vadersen**, Ocean Lakes High School, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Publications: Publications Chair--**Patricia P. Kelly**, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0313; VIRGINIA ENGLISH BULLETIN, **Robert Williams**, Radford University, Radford, Virginia 24142; NEEDLE'S EYE Editor, **Lisa Kenny**, Loudoun County, Virginia; Special Publications Editors--**Vacant**; Web Master--**Linda MacCleave**, Public Relations, **Vacant**

Affiliate Presidents

CATE **Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
ChesaVATE **James K. Richardson**, Chesapeake, Virginia 23321
CNU-VATE **Adrienne Horan**, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia 23606
DATE **Becky Danello**
DETA **Mary T. Davis**, Peabody Middle School, Petersburg, Virginia 23804
EATE **Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
ETA-NV **William E. McCabe**, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Burke, Virginia 22015
FATE **Heather McCormick**, Lynchburg, Virginia
GATE **Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
IATE **Bill Phelps**, Bluff City, Tennessee 37618
JATE **Karen Hayden**, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
LATE **Deborah Frazier**, Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia 23909
NATE **Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
NorVATE **Vacant**
NRVATE **Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
OATE **Pamela Gilman**, Pound High School, Pound, Virginia 24279
PATE **Chris Woods**
PenVATE **Roark Mulligan**, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia 23606
QATE **Chuck Miller**, J.T. Henley Middle School, Crozet, Virginia 22932
RU-VATE **Kathryn Kelly**, Radford University, Radford, Virginia 24142
S-LATE **C. Hood Frazier**, Longwood College, Farmville, Virginia 23909
VBATE **Angie Evans**
WATE **Sharon Bull**, Eastville, Virginia 23347

Table of Contents

<p>From the Editor's Desk 1 <i>by Robert Williams</i></p> <p>Allowing Students behind the Curtain: Denaturalizing the Discipline 3 <i>by Robert Petrone, Alisa Orrin, Anna Herring & Tara McMurtrie</i></p> <p>Teaching the Past or Missing the Point: A Response to Sharon M. Bailey 27 <i>by Daniel R. Woods</i></p> <p>Computers are Just Tools 34 <i>by Peter Laws</i></p> <p>Penmanship – Poem..... 38 <i>by Jeff Saperstein</i></p> <p>Monday Morning... – Poem 39 <i>by Brian Wood</i></p> <p>The Gentle Art of Saying “No” – Poem 40 <i>by Vivian F. Daughtry</i></p> <p>Writing Scales – Poem..... 41 <i>by Rita Sizemore Riddle</i></p>	<p>The Saga of Sea Glass – Poem..... 42 <i>by Mary Ratliff</i></p> <p>A Pre-Reading Activity for Zora Neale Hurston's <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> 43 <i>by Pat McAbee</i></p> <p>Responding Across Cultures: Reader Responses, Personal Narratives and Nikki Grimes' Novel <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> 53 <i>by Sean Ruday</i></p> <p>From Traditional Textbook Lessons to Student-Centered Reading Program..... 59 <i>by Angela W. Williams and William P. Williams</i></p> <p>That Literary Tradition: Education or Training? 65 <i>by Brian Wood</i></p> <p>*Great Teaching Ideas Henrico County's English Treasure Chest..... 71 <i>by Linda MacCleave</i></p> <p><i>*Regularly featured columns.</i></p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

VIRGINIA ENGLISH BULLETIN

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 1

FALL 2005

VIRGINIA ENGLISH BULLETIN

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 1

FALL 2005

VIRGINIA ENGLISH BULLETIN

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 1

FALL 2005

VOLUME 56 **NUMBER 1**
Traditions: Reflection,
Re-evaluation, Renewal