Department of Creative Writing
News & Accolades – October 2013:

Congratulations to John Jeremiah Sullivan, local author and frequent visiting writer, for his inclusion in *Best American Essays 2013* for his piece, “Where Hope and Human History Don’t Rhyme” from *The New York Times Magazine*. Also, congratulations to the following for their ‘Notables’:

- **David Gessner**: “Clappers,” *Ecotone*, No. 13
- **Philip Gerard**: “Indivisible,” *Our State*, November
- **Diana Hume George**: “On Denying Denial, A Meditation,” *Chautauqua*, No. 9
- **Rochelle Hurt** (MFA ’11): “A Disbeliever in Limbo,” *Image*, No. 74

Congratulations to *Ecotone* and to Andrew Tonkovich for his inclusion in *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2013* for his piece, “Falling” from *Ecotone*, No. 14.

Congratulations as well to *Ecotone* and to the authors for the following notable mentions (also included in Lookout’s *Astoria to Zion* anthology, releasing March 11, 2014):

- Rick Bass: “The Blue Tree,” *Ecotone*, No. 12
- Stephanie Soileau: “The Ranger Queen of Sulphur,” *Ecotone*, No. 11

Congratulations to the following for their notable mentions in *Best American Science and Nature Writing 2013*:

- Beth Ann Fennelly: “Observations From The Jewel Rooms,” *Ecotone*, No. 14
- **David Gessner**: “Spoiling Walden: Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Cape Wind,” www.onearth.org, November 29

Congratulations to the following for their notable mentions in *Best American Short Stories 2013*:

Congratulations to MFA alum (’05) Matt Tullis for his notable mention in *Best American Sports Writing 2013* for his piece, “Feet Of Clay, Hear Of Iron” published by [sbnation.com/longform](http://sbnation.com/longform), October 17, 2012!

Also a notable (for the trifecta!) is David Gessner for his piece, “Ultimate Glory” published by [Billanddavescocktailhour.com](http://Billanddavescocktailhour.com), January 26, 2012.

The short film adapted from Wendy Brenner’s essay "Telegram" featured in *Oxford American* debuted as the inaugural episode of *SoLit: Southern Literature in Motion*, an innovative new online video series by filmmaker Dave Anderson. The 3-minute film features UNCW CRW alumnus Tully Beatty (MFA ’00) and can be viewed here: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vH9mgJfhI4E&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vH9mgJfhI4E&feature=youtu.be)

Congratulations, Wendy & Tully!

The Greenville County library system is celebrating the literature of Clyde Edgerton with a series of programs—based on his works of southern characters and themes—in *Greenville County Reads* events at libraries throughout Greenville County, SC.

Also, *The Night Train* was the reading selection for the *One Book/Many Voices* program at Berry College in Rome, GA.

Congratulations, Clyde!


Congratulations, Robert & Karen!
BFA student Caleb Ward’s first purchased fiction story was published by the audio literature magazine, *Bound Off*, September 15, 2013 in *Issue 92*. (7 minutes and 49 seconds. Starts at 1:00)

Congratulations, Caleb!

MFA student Michelle Crouch’s short story "I Love a Ferris Wheel" appears in issue 9 of *Weave Magazine*.

Congratulations, Michelle!

MFA student Alexa Doran had her poem "Every Poet is a Partition, Every Love is a Sea" published in the Fall Issue of *Ekphrasis*, and her shattering poems "Fuck the Goddess of Fertility" and "A Day at the Beach" were published in the Fall issue of *S/tick* magazine. Her poem "Lesbians Don't Need Luck, Just a Mean Left Hook" is forthcoming in the next issue of *Petrichor Review*.

Congratulations, Alexa!

MFA student Christine Hennessey’s piece "Stalagmites" appears in the Fall 2013 *Summerset Review*.

Congratulations, Chrissy!
MFA student Catherine Shubert’s poem “Childhood is Like a Wedding Reception Dance Floor” appears in the 2013 Breadloaf School of English Journal. Read it at http://www.middlebury.edu/media/view/459553/original/blse_journal_2013_pages.pdf

Congratulations, Cathe!

MFA alum ('00) Claudette Cohen’s poem "Mole Crab" has been accepted into Press 53’s Prime Number Magazine. Also, her poetry made the semifinalist round for the James Applewhite Prize. In early August, she read at the Poetry Scope event at the NC Natural Science Museum in Raleigh. On the fiction side, her short story "Three Pieces of Ice" has been awarded First Prize in the Fiction category of the On the Same Page Writers Competition. She has been invited to read from the story that won the Page Crafters Prize at Ashe County's Literary Festival held in September. Look for her blurb in the upcoming NCWN Fall newsletter on “What makes the Cape Fear Coast a unique place to be a writer.”

Congratulations, Claudette!

MFA alumn Samantha Deal ('13) was a semi-finalist in the River Styx international poetry contest.

Congratulations, Sam!


Congratulations, Daren!

Congratulations, Ben!

MFA alum ('11) Rochelle Hurt’s story “Dirty Girl,” which appeared in *Passages North, No. 34* as a recipient of an honorable mention in the ‘Just Desserts Short-Short Fiction Contest,’ was recently reviewed on *NewPages* literary magazine reviews.

Congratulations, Rochelle!


Congratulations, Corinne!

MFA alum ('07) Rebecca Petruck’s novel *Steering Toward Normal* (formerly, her MFA thesis) has been selected by the American Booksellers Association as a top ten children’s debut for their New Voices promotion. Every publisher submitted two titles for consideration, and a group of bookseller panelists read hundreds of manuscripts to determine the final ten titles. The ABA will promote these titles at all of the upcoming Fall Regional Trade shows, create a presentation centered on the chosen books at Winter Institute in January, and videotape authors so those videos can be shared with booksellers. They also will create marketing DIY for booksellers as well as gather and circulate bookseller blurbs about the books. The novel will be released by Abrams/Amulet May 2014.

Congratulations, Rebecca!
On Sunday, October 13, at 2 pm, Old Books on Front Street will host a launch for MFA alum ('99) Anne Russell's new novel *Tropical Depression*, published by Bradley Creek Press and set at Wrightsville Beach. This novel took form as Anne's MFA in Creative Writing thesis, advised by Michael Wentworth, Clyde Edgerton, and Wendy Brenner. Last year, Anne co-authored with Melton McLaurin the nonfiction novel *The Wayward Girls of Samarcand*.

Congratulations, Anne!

MFA alum Anthony Sams ('10) shares with us exciting news:

- I have a poem, "Extrapolation," in the *Found Poetry Review* special edition honoring David Foster Wallace;
- My piece "*Toto's 'Africa,' by Ernest Hemingway*" in *The Best of McSweeney's Internet Tendency* volume will appear in early 2014;
- I'm now the chair of English at Ivy Tech Community College in Southern Indiana;
- I'll be presenting on teaching creative writing digitally at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in Indianapolis in March 2014; and,
- Noah James was born September 17, 2013.

Many congratulations, Tony!

MFA alum ('13) Anna Sutton’s poem "Clever Girl" will appear in *Weave Magazine* this winter. Also, she shares that, “this summer, I was offered a freelance job writing for Barefoot Books. The children's book publisher has a great app for Apple products, the Barefoot World Atlas, and I was lucky enough to get a job writing their North American expansion pack, which should be released soon. I am about to start on a worldwide expansion pack. The Barefoot World Atlas was just named one of the Ten Best Apps by the iTunes store for their 5-year anniversary.”

Congratulations, Anna!

The October issue of Wilmington’s *Salt* magazine features a wealth of Creative Writing folks as regular columnists: faculty members Clyde Edgerton, Philip Gerard, and Virginia Holman; and MFA alums Jason Frye (‘05), Dana Sachs (‘00), and Daniel Nathan Terry (‘10).

A link to the digital magazine is here: [http://issuu.com/saltmagazinenc/docs/october_2013_salt](http://issuu.com/saltmagazinenc/docs/october_2013_salt)
Phil Furia hosts the daily segment ‘The Great American Songbook’ on WHQR 1:30-2:00pm, and during the Morning Edition on Fridays at 6:00am.

Philip Gerard is a regular commentator on WHQR—listen to his broadcast segments every other Thursday at 7:35a, 8:50a, or 5:45p, or online in the WHQR Thursday Commentaries at http://www.whqr.org/people/philip-gerard.

Philip Gerard is featured this month in Our State magazine with his next installment of the series “The Civil War: Life in North Carolina.” This rich and complex story will continue monthly through May 2015 and can be read at ourstate.com/civil-war. Listen to an interview about the series here.

“The war magnified the best and the worst of the human spirit and bequeathed us a legacy that, a century and a half later, we still ponder.”