

## FLASHBACKS: *Echoes of Past Issues*

### 'Tis the Season

by Margaret D. Bauer, Editor

Election season is a good time to share the "A Modern Poem" (1777) with an introduction by E. Thomson Shields, Jr. We believe you'll agree with him that "[t]he Censor's satire of Revolutionary War-era politics hits home in the political climate of the twenty-first-century United States." Note how the poem's original editor says he had not planned to publish it but, worried about the complacency of the electorate, changed his mind. And so this piece harkens back to our "in the news" theme of 2018, as does the next piece in this section: an essay in which a journalist ponders his relationship with his career choice.

Read another short story by Ronald Jackson, this one David Joy's selection for second place in the 2023 Doris Betts Fiction Prize contest. This is Ron's second NCLR story, and it also calls to mind our 2014 issue featuring War in North Carolina Literature – as well as anticipates our 2026 call for submissions for a special feature section on writing by veterans, active military, and their families.

Next you will find two reviews of Young Adult novels (in 2006, we featured children's and YA writers), then two reviews and a poem adding to the Appalachian literature we featured in 2010. In addition to her Appalachia-inspired poem, we have a second poem by Maria Roupail to add to our literature and the other arts theme (2017), as it was inspired by a work of art by the poet's son.

Finally, Robert G. Anthony reports on the 75<sup>th</sup> gathering of the North Carolina Writers Conference, held in Black Mountain. Such gatherings of writers were often covered in the early issues of NCLR.

If the feature topics echoed in all of this writing appeal to you, remember that all of these back issues – indeed, all of our back issues – are available for purchase. We have a full storage closet that will need to hold next year's issues when they come in and a revenue advance we must meet with sales to access our full spending budget. So please, peruse our virtual bookstore [here](#), credit card in hand. We have something for everyone, so how about starting your holiday shopping early? ■

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