

NORTH CAROLINA

Miscellany

NCLR Does Take a Village

by Margaret D. Bauer, Editor

Congratulations to Paul D. Reali on his Doris Betts Fiction Prize story, selected by David Joy for the honor. It was such a strong pool of finalists that we are publishing four of the twelve. Look for David's second and third place selections and two other finalists in the fall online issue in October to read those stories. And in the meantime, work on your own fiction to submit. Help us reach our goal of over two hundred fiction submissions – we keep getting close, but have not yet crossed over that target number.

Thank you to the sponsor of the Doris Betts Fiction Prize contest, the North Carolina Writers' Network, which (quoting from their Mission Statement), "creates and nurtures community for those who care about writing, because good writing is vital to our wider community . . . connects, promotes, and serves the writers of this state." We enjoy working with the Network and are privileged to manage their fiction contest, one of several contests they sponsor. I encourage our readers to join the Network. Bring your writing to the next Network conference to workshop it for submitting to a future issue of *NCLR*.

As usual, Art Editor Diane Rodman found just the right images to complement this short story, Frank Hunter's photography (and the rest of the creative writing in this issue), and we thank Diane for continuing to share her vision with *NCLR*, as well as our Art Director Dana Ezzell, who designs the fiction and most of the creative nonfiction. I know the writers and artists join me in expressing appreciation for her talent as well.

Thank you, too, to all the artists who allow us to complement our writing with their visuals. *NCLR* has received funding from the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association since our founding. In recent years, we have directed some of this funding to pay a modest honorarium to the artists for their time providing image files and other information. I remind our readers that membership in the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association (est. 1900) includes a subscription to *NCLR*, as well as the *North Carolina Historical Review*. Find information for joining in the front matter of this issue. ■

- 178** *How to Get Struck By Lightning*
Doris Betts Fiction Prize story by Paul D. Reali
photography by Frank Hunter

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

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an interview and essays
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interviews, essays, poetry, and fiction

