

PAUL RUFFIN VITA-2005

Educational background:

BS--Mississippi State University (1964)

MA--Mississippi State University (1968)

Post-grad courses--University of Southampton, Southampton, England (Summers of 1969 and 1970)

PhD--Center for Writers, University of Southern Mississippi (1974)

Current positions:

Regents Distinguished Professor of English, Sam Houston State University

Director, Creative Writing Program, SHSU

Founding Editor, Editor-in-Chief, The Texas Review

Founder and Director, Texas Review Press

Faculty Advisor, Sam Houston State Review

Professional affiliations:

Member, Texas Institute of Letters

Member, Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters

Member, Academy of American Poets

Member, Conference of College Teachers of English

Member, Conference of Editors of Learned Journals

Member, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers

Member, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers

Member, South-Central Modern Language Association

Honorary listings:

Contemporary Authors

The Contemporary Who's Who

Contemporary Who's Who of Professionals

Directory of American Poets and Writers

The international Authors and Writers Who's Who

Leading Educators of the World

Strathmore's Who's Who

Who's Who in Writers, Editors, and Poets: United States and Canada

Who's Who of North American Poets

Who's Who: Personalities of the South

Who's Who in the South and Southwest

Who's Who in America

Who's Who in the World

Who's Who in American EducaPublications:

Publications:

Books and chapbooks:

- Mississippi Poets* (1976)
The Texas Anthology (1979)
Lighting the Furnace Pilot (Poetry, 1982)
Our Women (Poetry, 1985)
Contemporary New England Poetry: A Sampler (with George Garrett and X. J. Kennedy, two volumes, 1986-1987)
The Storm Cellar (Poetry, 1987)
To Come Up Grinning: A Tribute to George Garrett (with Stuart Wright, 1989)
Contemporary Southern Short Fiction: A Sampler (with George Garrett, 1991)
Images of Texas in the Nation (with Terry Bilhartz, 1991)
That's What I Like (About the South): Southern Fiction for the 1990's (with George Garrett, 1993, Univ. of South Carolina Press)
The Man Who Would Be God (stories, 1993, Southern Methodist Univ. Press)
After The Grapes of Wrath: Essays on John Steinbeck (co-edited with Donald Coers and Robert DeMott, 1995, Ohio Univ. Press)
Circling (poetry, Browder Springs Press, American Regional Book Series, 1996)--Winner of the 1997 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award for Poetry
A Goyen Companion: Appreciations of a Writer's Writer (co-edited with Brooke Horvath and Irving Malin, 1997, Univ. of Texas Press)
So There You Are: The Selected Prose of Glenn Brown, Journalist (Editor, Texas Review Press, 1998)
Islands, Women, and God (short fiction, Browder Springs Press, 2001)
Pompeii Man (novel, Louisiana Literature Press, Southeastern Louisiana University, 2002)
This the Matter Is: The Selected Poetry and Prose of Robert Holland (co-edited with Barbara Criswell Holland, Texas Review Press, 2003)
The Book of Boys and Girls (poetry, Louisiana Literature Press, 2003)
Castle in the Gloom (novel, University Press of Mississippi, 2004)
Here's to Noah, Bless His Ark and Other Musings (essays, Stone River Press, 2005)

Journals and magazine publications (selective listing):

Fiction—Over seventy stories in journals/magazines such as the following:

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| <i>Alabama Literary Review</i> | <i>Alaska Quarterly Review</i> |
| <i>American Literary Review</i> | <i>American Way</i> |
| <i>Arkansas Review</i> | <i>Chariton Review</i> |
| <i>Connecticut Review</i> | <i>Crescent Review</i> |
| <i>Cross Timbers Review</i> | <i>Florida Review</i> |
| <i>Idaho Review</i> | <i>Kansas Quarterly</i> |
| <i>Louisiana Literature</i> | <i>Michigan Quarterly Review</i> |
| <i>New Mexico Humanities Review</i> | <i>The New Review</i> |

North Atlantic Review
Pembroke Magazine
St. Andrews Review
Southern Review

Northeast Review
Ploughshares
Southern Humanities Review
Southwestern American Literature

Poetry--Over 700 poems in such journals and magazines as the following:

Alaska Quarterly Review
Connecticut Poetry Review
Hawaii Review
Kansas Quarterly
Mid-American Review
Mississippi Review
New England Review
New Mexico Humanities R.
North Atlantic Review
Ohio Journal
Poetry
Pennsylvania Review
Quarterly West
Southern Review
Vanderbilt Review
Windsor Review

California Quarterly
Georgia Review
Illinois Quarterly
Michigan Quarterly Review
Midwest Quarterly
Nebraska Review
New Jersey Poetry Journal
New Orleans Review
Northeast Journal
Paris Review
Poetry Northeast
Prairie Schooner
South Carolina Review
Southwestern Review
Wascana Review
Wisconsin Review

Essays: I have published essays in the following:

Dictionary of Literary Biography
Mobile Bay Monthly
Shenandoah
Southern Living
Southwestern American Literature (3)
Texas Magazine
Longwood Guide to Writing
Arkansas Review
Louisiana Literature
Connecticut Review
Michigan Quarterly Review
Pembroke Magazine
Southern Humanities Review
Southern Quarterly (4)
Texas Magazine
Land Line Magazine (2)
South Carolina Review
Pleiades

Reviews, interviews, and notes: I have published reviews, interviews, and notes in journals and magazines, including *Texas Books in Review*, *Mississippi Review*, *Literary Magazine Review*, *Literary Review*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, *Novel and Short Story Writers Market*, *Writers Market*, and *Texas Review*.

Newspapers: I write a weekly column, Ruffin-It, which appears regularly in *The Huntsville Item*, *The Commercial Dispatch* (MS), *The Starkville Daily News* (MS), and *The West Alabama Gazette* and has appeared in *The Hattiesburg American*, *The Junction Eagle* (TX), and *Mississippi Press*.

Work in anthologies and texts, etc. (selective):

Fiction:

Best of the West (Gibbs-Smith)
College Handbook of Creative Writing (Harcourt, Brace)
Contemporary Southern Fiction (Ploughshares)
New Growth: Contemporary Short Stories by Texas Writers (Corona)
Texas Short Fiction (Browder Springs)
Alabama Bound: Stories of a State (Livingston University Press)
Introduction to Literature (Norton)
National Public Radio
New Texas Two
Best Texas Writing: 1998
Texas Short Fiction II

Poetry:

Anthology of Magazine Verse and Yearbook of American Poetry (Monitor Books), in ten volumes (years)
Discoveries in Literature (Scott-Foresman)
Going Over to Your Place (Bradbury Press)
Introduction to Literature (Little, Brown)
Introduction to Poetry (Little, Brown)
Mississippi Writers: Recollections from Childhood (University of Miss. Press)
Mississippi Writers: An Anthology (University of Mississippi Press)
Preposterous: Poems of Youth (Bradbury Press)
Strings: A Gathering of Family Poems (Bradbury Press)
Texas in Poetry: A 150-Year Anthology (Univ. of North Texas Press)
Best Poems (Jamestown Publishers)
Texas in Poetry (TCU Press)

Essay: *Longwood Guide to Writing* (Longman)

Works currently in progress:

The Keepers (novel)--being researched and written
Rounded with a Sleep (novel)--being researched and written
Growing Up in Mississippi Poor and White But Not Quite Trash (memoir)--being considered by a publisher
The Phantom (novel)--under revision
The Hunt (novel)--being researched and written
The Gravel Pit War (novel)--being researched and written
Jesus in the Mist (stories)--with publisher
The Segovia Chronicles (essays)--being considered by a publisher

Recent Featured Readings and Appearances:

Featured Author, Texas Book Festival, Austin, TX, November 2001
Lindsey Lecturer, Mississippi College, April 2002
Featured Author, Tennessee Williams Festival (North Shore), Southeastern Louisiana University, March 2002
Featured Author, Eudora Welty Symposium, Mississippi University for Women, October 2002
Featured Author, Tennessee Williams Festival, New Orleans, LA, March 2003
Featured Author, Southern Festival of Books, Memphis, TN, October 2004

Readings, signings, and workshops: I have done readings, signings, and workshops all across the South and Southwest and in New England, the Northwest, and England, including appearances at numerous bookstores, writing conferences and colleges/universities, including the following (selective listing):

Abilene Christian University
Alabama Arts Commission Conference (Perdido Beach)
Angelo State University
Arkansas State University
Baylor University
Bennington College (Vermont)
Bethany College (Kansas)
Blynn College (Texas)
Carroll College (Montana)
Central Missouri State University
Cisco Community College (Texas)
Conference of College Teachers of English (numerous readings)
Delta State University (Mississippi)
Eastfield College (Dallas)
Eudora Welty Symposium (twice a featured author)
The Frost Place (New Hampshire)
George Mason University (Washington, DC)
Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers (many readings)
Gulf Coast Community College (Mississippi)
Hardin-Simmons University
Hays State University (Kansas)
Hollins College (Virginia)
Houston Community College
Kansas State University
Lamar University (Texas)
Longwood College (Virginia)
Louisiana State University (Louisiana)
McMurry University (Texas)
Martha's Vineyard Writers's Conference (Massachusetts)
Memphis State University
Midland College (Texas)

Mississippi College
Mississippi State University
Mississippi University for Women
Montgomery College (Texas)
Northeast Harris Community College (Texas)
New Orleans Center for Creative Arts
Northeast Missouri State University
Northwest College (Houston)
Oklahoma State University
Pan-American University (Texas)
Randolph-Macon Woman's College (Virginia)
Richland College (Dallas)
San Antonio College (Texas)
San Jacinto College (Texas)
Samford College (Alabama)
South-Central Modern Language Association (several readings)
South Central University (Oklahoma)
Southeastern Louisiana University
Southern Festival of Books (Memphis, TN)
Southern Methodist University
Stephen F. Austin University
Tennessee Williams Festival (two appearances)
Texas A & M University
Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conferences (several)
Texas Book Festival (Featured Author)
Texas Christian University
Texas Tech University
University of Alabama
University of Houston
University of Kansas
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
University of Mississippi
University of Nevada at Reno
University of South Alabama
University of South Carolina (Aiken)
University of South Carolina (Allendale)
University of South Carolina (Main Campus)
University of South Carolina (Myrtle Beach)
University of Southampton (England)
University of Southern Maine
University of Southern Mississippi
University of Tennessee at Knoxville
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas at Dallas
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
Winthrop College (South Carolina)

Editorial: I edited and published (with assistance from Donald Coers) two books through Texas Review Press in 1992 (Bob Winship's *The Brushlanders*--in hardback--and Kang Xue Pei's *In the Countryside*). In 1993 we published two books of poems in our Texas Review Southern and Southwestern Poets breakthrough series: Rick Lott's *The Apple Pickers' Children* (South) and Roger Jones's *Strata* (Southwestern); in 1994 we published a collection of poems, Gail Peck's *Drop Zone*, and a novel, JoAllen Bradham's *Some Personal Papers* (now in its second printing); in 1995 we published Michael Lieberman's *A History of the Sweetness of the World*, which has received considerable attention. In 1997 we published Brian Clements's *Essays Against Ruin* (poetry) and Don Walker's *A Frontier Texas Mercantile: The History of Gibbs Brothers and Company, Huntsville, 1841-1940* (history). In 1998 we released *At the Bonehouse* (poems by Jack Bedell), *Three Novellas* (Richard Plant, John Walker, and Tom Whalen), *George Garrett: The Elizabethan Trilogy* (Irving Malin and Brooke Horvath), *A Different Kind of Hunger* (poetry chapbook, Beth Ann Fennelly). In 1999: *Small Defeats* (poems by Gordon Weaver), *The Surface of Last Scattering* (poems by Gray Jacobik, winner of the 1998 X. J. Kennedy Poetry Prize), *Tales of Resistance* (short fiction by Peter Leach, winner of the 1998 George Garrett Fiction Prize), *Every Man Also* (novel by Robert Winship, winner of the Texas Review Fiction Prize, 1998), and *Martha Mitchell of Possum Walk Road: Texas Quiltmaker* (Melvin Mason). In 2000: Laurie Kuntz's *Simple Gestures*, Philip Heldrich's *Good Friday*, David Westheimer's *The Great Wounded Bird*, Kevin Stewart's *Margot*, and Ron Rozelle's *Windows of Heaven* and *Into That Good Night*. In 2001: Ron Rozelle's *A Place Apart*, Barbara Lau's *The Long Surprise*, Don Reid's *Have a Seat, Please*, Larry Thomas's *Amazing Grace*, Jack Bedell's *What Passes for Love*, Roger Hart's *Erratics*, and Robin Beeman's *Lost Art of Desire*. In 2002: Robert Phillips's *News About People You Know*, Jorn Ake's *Asleep in the Lightning Fields*, Cleatus Rattan's *The Border*, George Garrett's *Going To See the Elephant*, Robert Winship's *Flannery's Crossing*, Naton Leslie's *Marconi's Dream*, Charles Wyatt's *Falling Stones*, William Notter's *More Space Than Anyone Can Stand*, and Caroline Crimm's *Cabin Fever*. In 2003: Clay Reynolds' *Ars Poetica*, Jan Lee Ande's *Reliquary*, Nancy Naomi Carlson's *Complications of the Heart*, Stephen March's *Armadillo*, Thomas Cobb's *Acts of Contrition*, Ann Killough's *Sinners in the Hands*. In 2004: Daniel Stern's *A Little Street Music*, Lionel Garcia's *Brush Country*, John Cottle's *The Blessings of Hard-Used Angels*, Eric Nelson's *Terrestrials*, John Warren's Smith's *No Holier Spot of Ground*, Rebecca Bailey's *The Only Road There Is*, Steve Sherwood's *Hardwater*, and Joyce Pounds Hardy's *Roads to Forgotten Texas*. In 2005: Jack Myers' *Routine Heaven*, Lee Rudolph's *A Woman and a Man*, *Ice-Fishing*, Mark Connelly's *Fifteen Minutes*; Mark Brazaitis's *An American Affair*, Gail Mount's *Pitching Tents*, Kevin Meaux's *Myths of Electricity*, William Harrison's *Texas Heat*, Lyn Lifshin's *The Licorice Daughter*, William Wright's *Dark Orchard*

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