

## Biblio File

Time magazine named **Aleksandar Hemon's** *The Book of My Lives* one of the best nonfiction books of 2013. ... **Scott Carpenter's** *Theory of Reminders*



**Glennette Tilley Turner**

(see New Members, Page 5) was named one of Kirkus Reviews' Best Books of 2013. ... **Glennette Tilley Turner's** *Billy the Barber: Reflecting on an Untold Lincoln Story* will be launched at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in February.

Glennette has been asked to write a vignette that will be acted out on the occasion. ... The Dec. 15 New York Times Book Review said of 2004 and 2010 SMA Poetry Award winner **Jim Harrison's** new book, *Brown Dog: Novellas* (Grove Press), "What Harrison does on every page of *Brown Dog* is have fun." ... **Charles Blackstone** wrote a Dec. 23 essay in the Chicago Sun-Times about proposing to his wife just 11 weeks after they first met. ... **Laura Caldwell** has finished her latest book, *The Dog Park*, and it will be published this year. Also, *Burning the Map*, her first novel, will be released as an audiobook with Audible on Jan. 14. ... If you want a Midland Authors-themed drink, you can try the **(Nelson) Algren Sling** at Chicago's Billy Sunday bar, the Dec. 29 New York Times reported. It's New Western gin, pineapple, Three Pins herbal liqueur, lemon and Angostura bitters accented with cherries. ... After **Lynn Voedisch's** fantasy *Deadline: Atlantis*



**Lynn Voedisch**

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## How the stories author heard as a child turned into books

BY THOMAS FRISBIE

**J**ames Swanson came from a family of story tellers, and many of the stories he heard growing up eventually turned into books.

"I realize that every book I have written has come from something that I heard about as a child or a story I was told," Swanson said at the Jan. 14 Society of Midland Authors program at the Chicago Public Library's Harold Washington Library Center.

Swanson was born on Lincoln's birthday, Feb. 12, and from an early age had an interest in Lincoln.

"As a boy I would visit the Abraham Lincoln deathbed at the Chicago Historical Society," he said. "When I was 10, my grandmother, true to form, gave me an unusual birthday gift, not a bat or a glove, no, a framed engraving of John Wilkes Booth's derringer pistol that he used to murder Abraham Lincoln."

Framed with that engraving was part of an April 15, 1865, Chicago Tribune clipping from the morning Lincoln died. But the clipping was cut off in mid-sentence.

"When a boy, I must have read it 200 times," Swanson said. "And I remember as a 10-year-old boy thinking, what happened next? I have to know the rest of this story. That was the beginning of my book *Manhunt*."

Similarly, his books about John F.

Kennedy grew out of his memories of the days after Kennedy's assassination, he said.

Other literary memories Swanson has of growing up Chicago include going to the old Chicago Public Library main branch, which now is the Cultural Center.

"The first real author I ever met as a boy was Emmett Dedmon, a great expert on Chicago history," he said. "My book palace when I was a kid was Kroch's [and Brentano's] on Wabash. Remember that neon sign, that little horizontal sign that

would stick out above the sidewalk? ... And Mr. Kroch would sit up in that office and look down on the whole store.

"And how could I not mention my memories of Stuart Brent? The brilliant iconoclast, and the meanest, most arrogant bookseller I have ever met in my life. I couldn't stand Stuart, but he also was a great Chicagoan and of the Chicago tradition of our literary movement."

Swanson grew up with his parents and grandparents on the Northwest Side of Chicago.

"My grandmother was a veteran of the last vestige of the Front Page era. She worked at the Sun, the Times, the Sun-Times, the Daily News.

"She used to tell me wild stories when I was a little boy. When I was seven or eight, she said to me, Jimmy, did you

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**James Swanson**

Q&A  
Victor David Giron

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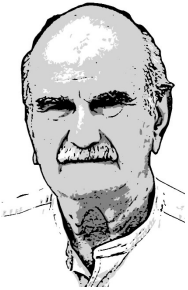
Final  
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became an Amazon Daily Deal, it rose to No. 49 of all e-books on Amazon.com. The boost gave the book a high rating for



Harry Mark Petrakis

several days. Lynn writes to say, "Nice way to earn the distinction of 'Amazon best-seller.' (Wasn't long before a troll or two waddled in to give the book snippy reviews.)" ... **Arthur and Elena George's** new book, *The Mythology of Eden*, will be out in May. ...

**Barbara Miner's** *Lessons from the Heartland: A Turbulent Half-Century of Public Education in an Iconic American City* (New Press, January 2013) finished fourth in 2013 nonfiction sales at Milwaukee's Boswell and Books store. ... The Jan. 6 New Yorker devoted six pages to a discussion of **Joel Greenberg's** new book about passenger pigeons, *A Feathered River Across the Sky*. ... **Harry**

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## Literary License

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## Stories

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know that during the 1893 World's Fair there was an insane doctor who murdered 100 girls and then dissolved their bodies in acid?

"My mother said, well, no, he didn't know that. Until you decided to tell him."

One day, Swanson's father, when they drove past past Lane Tech High School, told him that one of the students who had attended Lane Tech with his father was Herbert Hans Haupt, one of eight Nazi saboteurs later landed by U-boat on the shores of New Jersey in World War II. Haupt eventually was executed.

"And then my grandfather was on the Chicago Police force from the Al Capone era through the civil rights era through the Vietnam War protest era," Swanson said. "And I remember one time he came home and I heard him tell my mom and my grandmother, don't let Jimmy read the newspapers.

"So what's the first thing I did when they left the room? It probably got me into a terrible habit that I have today. I am a newspaper addict. I read seven newspapers a day and four on Saturday.

"I opened the Sun-Times. Do I have to say any more than the name Richard Speck?

"So this is the milieu that I grew up with. I'm not even 10 years old and I am reading about multiple knife murders."

Swanson said his next book will be a children's book about Martin Luther King.

"I realized a few months ago why I chose that," he said. "When I was a boy, my dad [who ran a cookie factory on Harlem Avenue] came home from work early. ... A lot of his employees had come to him and asked if they could leave early because their neighborhoods were on fire."

The fires were the aftermath of the assassination of Dr. King.

"I remember that like it was yesterday," Swanson said. "I am sure that is what led me to do this book I am now working on for young people about Martin Luther King.

"To me, history is very much places, stories, objects, relics, original newspapers, original photographs," Swanson said. "I try to tell all my stories that way, in a very novelistic style, but with every-

thing being true, based on original testimony, letters, memoirs and documents."

Swanson's current books are *End of Days: The Assassination of John F. Kennedy* (William Morrow) and the young adult book *The President Has Been Shot! The Assassination of John F. Kennedy* (Scholastic).

"So much has been mischaracterized, misstated, falsified," he said. "... I begin the book with this statement: 'He had been planning the assassination even before he bought the rifle.'"

That description refers to Lee Harvey Oswald's earlier attempt to assassinate a general in the spring of 1963.



### Upcoming programs

**Tuesday, Feb. 11**, 6 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. panel discussion, at Cliff Dwellers Club, 200 S. Michigan Ave., 22nd floor, Chicago: Independent publishers (See Page 3). The Chicago area has a thriving scene of small companies publishing books. Representatives of four local presses will talk about their craft and their business: **Victor David Giron** of Curbside Splendor, **Emily Victorson** of Allium Press, **Sharon Woodhouse** of Everything Goes Media and **Ian Morris** of Fifth Star Press. The discussion will begin at 7 p.m. A social hour, with complimentary snacks and a cash bar, begins at 6 p.m. Admission is free, and no reservation is required.

**Tuesday, March 11**, 6 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. panel discussion, at Cliff Dwellers Club, 200 S. Michigan Ave., 22nd floor, Chicago: A tribute to **Leon Forrest**. Chicago novelist Chicago Leon Forrest (1937-1997) is one of the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame's newest inductees. He served as president of the Society of Midland Authors. The Chicago Literary Hall of Fame's Donald Evans will present a panel discussion about Forrest's life and literature.

Details on the speakers taking part in this event will be announced later. The discussion will begin at 7 p.m. A social hour, with complimentary snacks and a cash bar, begins at 6 p.m.

Admission is free, and no reservation is required.

# 'I see the books we publish as a means to express myself'

**V**ictor David Giron, one of four independent publishers who will present the Feb. 11 program, is the author of *Sophomoric Philosophy* and the publisher of Curbside Splendor. He also is part owner of Beauty Bar on Chicago Avenue, where you can hear readings.

Here's what he tells Literary License.

**Literary License:** *With just a few big publishers dominating sales and many small publishers competing for the rest, how does a new small publisher carve out a niche?*

**Victor David Giron:** By having a sound mission statement, sticking to it, and operating like a big publisher would.

Meaning, if you're going to be taken seriously, then you need to adhere to production and publication schedules, and produce work that is of high quality from a design and editing perspective, and be true to what you're branding yourself as.

**Literary License:** *On the other end of the spectrum, how does a small publisher stand out from the sea of self-published books?*

**Victor David Giron:** The biggest difference between working with a publisher versus self-publishing is distribution. As of this last year, we're now represented by Consortium Book Sales & Distribution, one of the leading distributors of independent publishers. Through them we have access to major wholesale routes.

One of our titles from this past fall, *Meaty: Essays* by Samantha Irby, won a spot on Barnes & Noble's Discover Great New Writers Program and was thus prominently displayed at all B&N stores, a spot coveted by the major publishers. You can't get that by self-publishing.

**Literary License:** *How does an author such as yourself find time to be an independent publisher, too?*

**Victor David Giron:** Ha, well, I really don't. I started Curbside Splendor a few

Feb. 11, 2014, program

Cliff Dwellers  
200 S. Michigan Avenue  
22nd floor

6 p.m. - Social Hour  
7 p.m. - Program

Free - donations accepted

years ago to self-publish my novel *Sophomoric Philosophy*. Coming from a business background, I decided to have fun and create a brand, a faux publishing company, versus just flat-out self-publishing. I didn't intend to get into publishing. But I enjoyed the whole production side

of things that I decided to continue publishing, and now it's consumed all my free time and quenched my desire to write for the time being. I see the books we publish as a means to express myself creatively.

**Literary License:** *Even though you are a small publisher, you have launched several separate imprints. What is the strategy behind that?*

**Victor David Giron:** Simply for branding purposes. We are evolving from a small press to a thriving indie trade publisher, and so we venture into different areas, it makes to create imprints to clearly differentiate our areas of focus.

**Literary License:** *How do you rate Chicago as a center of independent publishing?*

**Victor David Giron:** To be completely honest I'm not so sure how to respond to this sort of question. I'm very new to publishing, have only been doing this for less than three years, and I have no idea how other cities fare when it comes to publishing. I do admire the other publishers here, for sure, and the great literary talent that exists here, so as far as I'm concerned this is a great place to be in publishing or to be an author looking for a publisher.

Literary  
Landscape:

Victor  
David Giron



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**Mark Petrakis** wrote a Dec. 31 online essay in the Chicago Sun-Times about holiday seasons in the 1930s and 1940s in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood. ...

**Dick Simpson** and co-author Tom Gradel this month submitted the final manuscript



Dick Simpson

for *Corrupt Illinois*, which examines 1,913 corruption felonies investigated by the feds. "We try to fathom why we are such a corrupt place and what we can do about it," Dick told Biblio File. Essentially, the first settlers brought

an individualistic political culture that said it's OK to do whatever you need to do to profit, and that was institutionalized in political machines. "We have a history of corruption that goes back to the 19th century," he said. ... The Jan. 6 New York Times praised PBS' "American Experience" installment based on **Deborah Blum's** *The Poisoner's Handbook* and said her book is "illuminating." Deborah reports the program pushed her book to No. 1 in three Amazon categories. ... **Bob Remer** writes to say the historical society in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood has started an Edgewater Authors project "to document authors who lived in Edgewater or wrote about it." ... **Patrick Reardon** wrote a Jan. 3 essay for the Chicago Tribune on the joys of shoveling snow. ... Call it the "Law of Dozens": During this 12th anniversary year of the publication of *Paul McComas'* debut novel *Unplugged* (2002, John Daniel & Co.) – about a young alt-rock musician and rape survivor, and her journey out of depression – Paul and Chicago singer/musician Maya Kuper are presenting 12 free shows nationwide,



Deborah Blum

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# Society is part of new Cliff Dwellers book club

BY ROBERT LOERZEL

The Society of Midland Authors is participating in the new Cliff Dwellers Book Club, which will meet at the Cliff Dwellers Club, 200 S. Michigan Ave., 22nd floor, Chicago, once a month — usually on the fourth Saturday of the month, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a break for lunch. Advance reservations should be made by email to [reservations@cliff-chicago.org](mailto:reservations@cliff-chicago.org).

The Book Club is open to members, friends and those who love to read and discuss books. A special invitation to participate has been extended to those

involved with the Society of Midland Authors and the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame. Cliff Dwellers member Richard Reeder has agreed to moderate the discussions and will serve as the keeper of the membership roll. Living authors will be invited to attend when their book is discussed.

The Book Club's first meeting is Jan. 25, when Henry Blake Fuller's *The Cliff Dwellers* will be discussed.

Society of Midland Authors board member **Mark Eleveld** and Chicago Literary Hall of Fame founder Don Evans suggested the books for subsequent

months. Books that will be read and discussed in the coming months include:

February 22: **Patricia McNair's** *Temple of Air*.

March 22: **Ring Lardner's** *You Know Me, Al*.

April 26: William Hazelgrove's *The Pitcher*

May – No Meeting Due to Memorial Day Weekend

June 21: **Richard Babcock's** *Are You Happy Now*

All of these books can be purchased on Amazon and some can be downloaded to your Kindle.

## New Books

### THE COUNTRIES WE LIVE IN

**David Radavich's** new collection of poems is *The Countries We Live In*, published by Main Street Rag Publishing.

Anthony Abbott says of this book, "What a wonderful title. Of course it means geographical places like America with its materialism, its politics, its inequalities. But it also means the human body, that country we inhabit for better or worse, that aging country. It also means

the people we know and love, those whose countries we live in or who live in ours. I love both the theme and the range of this book, its multitude of countries all of which are crucial to our lives."

### SALOME: THE IMAGE OF A WOMAN WHO NEVER WAS

Although the root of the Hebrew name Salome is "peaceful," the image of the most famous woman to carry that name

has been anything but. She has long been linked to the beheading of John the Baptist.

**Rosina Neginsky's** history of the myth Salome (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, May, 2013) describes the process by which that myth was created, the roles that art, literature, theology and music played in that creation, and how Salome's image as evil changed from one period to another according to the prevailing cultural myths surrounding women – the beautiful Salome of the Renaissance, and the seducer-destroyer she becomes in Oscar Wilde.

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each comprising 12 scenes and songs from the book, including the following upcoming

Midwestern events:

– Wed. March 25,  
7 pm, Center for  
Peacemaking,  
Marquette  
University,  
Milwaukee

– Sat. March 29,  
7:45 pm, Uncharted  
Books, 2630 N.  
Milwaukee Ave.,  
Chicago

– Fri. May 2, 7 pm, Shake Rag Alley,



Jonathan Eig

Mineral Point, Wis.

Throughout the tour, all proceeds from sales of the book, and of its companion CD, will benefit the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, on whose National Leadership Council and Speakers Bureau Paul serves. The Chicago Reader called *Unplugged* an "original, passionate, witty work." ...

**Jonathan Eig's** next book, *The Birth of the Pill*, scheduled to be released in September by W.W. Norton, tells the story of the men and women behind the invention of the birth control pill. ...

**Edward Gordon** reports the first printing of *Future Jobs: Solving the Employment & Skill Crises* has sold out. ... **Patrick Reardon** wrote a Jan.18 essay for the Chicago Sun-Times head-

lined "Lincoln's flaws add depth to great legacy." ... The Homes for Kids project by the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless was inspired by **Blue**

**Balliett's** *Hold Fast*. ... The Dec. 21

Danville Commercial-News called Stan Banash's *Roadside History of Illinois* "enjoyable." ... In November,

FutureBooks named **Dominique Raccah** Most Inspiring Digital Publishing Person of 2013.



Blue Balliett

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## New Members

**Scott Carpenter**, author of the story collection *This Jealous Earth: Stories* (MG Press, 2013), the novel *Theory of Reminders* (Winter Goose Publishing, 2013) and a number of scholarly books, teaches French literature at Carleton College in Minnesota.



**Scott Carpenter**

When he's not writing or teaching, he is often bicycling along some country road.

Carpenter was selected as a Midwest Connections "Pick" by the Midwest Independent Booksellers' Association and was named a "Bound to Please" title by Reach Magazine.

**Leslie Stella** is the author of four novels: *Fat Bald Jeff* (Grove Press, 2001), *The Easy Hour* (Three Rivers Press, 2003), *Unimaginable Zero Summer* (Three Rivers Press, 2005), and the young adult novel *Permanent Record* (Skyscape, 2013).

She was a founding editor of the legendary Chicago-based politics and satire magazine Lumpen, and her work has been published in *The Mississippi Review*, *The Adirondack Review*, *Bust*, *Easy Listener*, and anthologized in *The Book of Zines: Readings from the Fringe*.

She was nominated for a 2004 Pushcart Prize in short fiction. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, she lives in the Chicago suburbs with her family.

**Janice Deal** is author of the story collection *The Decline of Pigeons* (Queen's Ferry Press, 2013), and a finalist in the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction.

Six of the nine stories have appeared in literary magazines, including *The Sun*, *CutBank*, *the Ontario Review*, *The Carolina Quarterly*, *StoryQuarterly* and *New Letters*.

She also is the recipient of an Illinois Arts Council Artists Fellowship Award for prose. She lives with her husband and daughter in the Chicago suburbs.

**Laura Krughoff** is author of *My Brother's Keeper* (Scarletta Press).

Her stories have been published in *Threepenny Review*, *The Seattle Review*, *Washington Square Review*, the *Chicago Tribune's Printers Row Journal*, and the Canadian magazine *Room of One's Own* (now known as *Room Magazine*).

She is a recipient of the Washington Square Prize for Fiction for her story "This Is One Way," a Pushcart Prize for her story "Halley's Comet," and a runner-up for a Nelson Algren Award from *Chicago Tribune* for her story "The Beekeeper's Son."

In 2011, she was a finalist for the University of Georgia Press Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction.

She also writes and performs nonfiction with the story-telling performance collaborative *Second Story*.

She lives in Chicago.

**Brian Kimberling** is author of *Snapper* (Pantheon, May, 2013), which won the inaugural Janklow & Nesbit Bath Spa Prize.

He grew up in Evansville, Ind., and graduated from Indiana University.

The *New York Times* wrote, "Mr. Kimberling grew up in the Hoosier state, and [*Snapper*] captures the place with wry humor, affection for its woodlands and exasperation with its provincialism."

**Marianne Malone** is author of *The Sixty-Eight Rooms* (Random House Books for Young Readers, February, 2010), *Stealing Magic* (Random House Books for Young Readers, January, 2012) and *The Pirates Coin* (Random House Books for Young Readers, May, 2013).

She is the mother of three grown children, a former art teacher and the co-founder of the Campus School Middle School for Girls in Urbana, Ill.

*The Sixty-Eight Rooms* was a 2011 E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor Book and a Chicago Public Library Best of the Best book for 2011.

The fourth book in the series, *The Secret of the Key*, will be out in July.

**Davis Schneiderman's** works include the DEAD/BOOKS trilogy (*Jaded Ibis*), including the blank novel, *Blank: a novel* (Fall 2013), and *INK*. (forthcoming); along with the novels *Drain* (Northwestern 2010), *DIS* (BlazeVox Books, 2008) *Abecedarium* (with Carlos Hernandez, Chiasmus, 2007) and *Multifesto: A Henri d'Mescan Reader* (Spuyten Duyvil Press, 2006, Remix edition 2013).

He co-edited the collections *Retaking the Universe: Williams S. Burroughs in the Age of Globalization* (Pluto 2004); *The Exquisite Corpse: Chance and Collaboration in Surrealism's Parlor Game* (Nebraska, 2009); and *The &NOW AWARDS: The Best Innovative Writing* (vols. 1 and 2).

His work has appeared in numerous publications including Fiction International, Harpers.org, and The Chicago Tribune; he blogs for The Huffington Post.

He is the Associate Dean of the Faculty and Director of the Center for Chicago Programs, as well as Director of Lake Forest College Press/ &NOW Books (and former Chair of the English Department) at Lake Forest College.

**Rob Christopher**, author of *Queue Tips: Discovering Your Next Great Movie* (Huron Street Press (ALA Editions, 2012), blogs for Chicagoist and has written for Reel Chicago, the Chicago Reader and CINE-FILE.

He works in the publishing department at the American Library Association.

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## SMA Support

Dues cover mailings and other organizational expenses, but the Society always needs additional money for programs such as the awards at the annual May banquet.

Thanks to these members who made contributions since the last newsletter:

**Carol Felsenthal and Bob Remer.**

## Final Chapters

### *Berniece Rabe Tryand, 1928-2013*

BY THOMAS FRISBIE

While growing up in a large sharecropping family near Parma, Mo., during the Depression, **Berniece Rabe Tryand** practiced telling stories to herself. When she was 40, a teacher at Elgin Community College inspired her to use those storytelling skills to become an author, leading her to write 17 books, several of which won awards.

Ms. Tryand, a former Society of Midland Authors board member, died in her sleep Dec. 28 at her home in Plano, Texas. She was 85.

A common theme in her books, most of which were written for children or young adults, was surviving hard times and overcoming handicaps, rejection and harsh situations.

"Often there is love and humor interwoven, and my characters not only survive, they live with hope and confidence," Ms. Tryand wrote in her autobiography.

"While it stung terribly at first, rejection only made her work harder," said **Jennifer Bartoli-Kalina**, also a former SMA board member. "Her perseverance was an inspiration to all her writer

friends. In a sense, writing for her was problem-solving. The resolution might take years, but she loved it. Her maternal instincts were great, and she lent them to her own creations. She would not give up."

Ms. Tryand's 1978 book *The Orphans* (Dutton Juvenile) won the Society of Midland Authors award for best children's non-fiction. Ms. Tryand, who wrote under the name Berniece Rabe, also was nominated for the American Library Association's Newbery Medal and won the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators' Golden Kite award, the National Children's Choice Award and other awards.

Ms. Tryand met her first husband, Walter Henry Rabe, in Panama during World War II while she was modeling a line of fashions and he was in the Army. They were married in 1946 and organized the first Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints congregation in Elgin. Walter Rabe died in 2005 after a 59-year-marriage, and Ms. Tryand married James Tryand of Plano in 2009.

Former SMA President **Stella Pevsner**



**Berniece Rabe  
Tryand**

said Ms. Tryand lived for many years in northwest suburban Sleepy Hollow and often invited friends for an annual re-enactment of Washington Irving's tale of the headless horseman.

"Berniece had a difficult childhood, yet her sauciness and determination not only helped her survive, it also helped her triumph," Pevsner said. "Her vivid characters, often based on people she had met during her early years in Southeast Missouri, seemed remarkably real. Readers rooted for them, even when their stubbornness seemed to work against them.

"Her stories, rich in detail, described the intricacies of life as she once knew it, seasoned with little details that were new to most of us. For example, she measured distance by ditches ('They lived five ditches from us').

"Berniece was unique. She carried within her a rich patois of her past, and thankfully, shared a portion of it with her readers. She never pretended sophistication. She knew what she knew, and shared. Her voice may be stilled, but her stories remain with us, a lasting record of a life thoroughly lived."

Ms. Tryand also served on the boards of the Off Campus Writers' Workshop in Winnetka, and the Fox Valley Writers and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

### *Jon Anderson, 1936-2014*

**Jon Anderson**, whose book *City Watch: Discovering the Uncommon Chicago* (University of Iowa Press) won the 2002 Society of Midland Authors Award for Adult Nonfiction, died Jan. 15 of multiple myeloma complications at age 77.

Mr. Anderson, a longtime member of the Society, also was a newspaper columnist who had an eye for capturing the lives people he ran across on city streets.

"Every life is interesting if you leave enough out," Mr. Anderson said while presenting a Society of Midland Authors program on March 12, 2002.

Before he retired in 2006, Mr. Anderson worked for the Chicago Tribune, Time magazine, the Chicago Daily News and the Chicago Sun-Times. At the Daily News, he wrote the Jon and Abra column

with his wife at the time, Abra Prentice Wilkin, and the pair later started The Chicagoan magazine.

According to the Tribune, the late SMA member **Studs Terkel** praised the writing in *City Watch*, saying, "His manner is deceptively simple, and in that simplicity is something that reaches out and touches you ... that understanding of what makes a human being tick."

SMA member **Rick Kogan**, Mr. Anderson's editor at the Tribune, told the Tribune: "For all of his very sophisticated demeanor, Jon Anderson was ever interested in Chicago's gritty underbelly, and the people who populated it. He could write about the most rarefied events, and also about what's happening in the neighborhood street corner."

Mr. Anderson, a native of Canada, came to Chicago as an employee of Time, but quit after he was sent to cover Richard Speck's murder of eight Chicago student nurses.

"Jon stood out. Not because he was loud, manic and swearing, but the opposite," reporter Ellen Warren told the Tribune. "He was so refined amid a band of easily inflamed reporters."

He had been thinking about writing his memoirs, his daughter, author Ashley Prentice Norton, said, but abandoned it in a last act of trust.

"He thought it was better for us to remember him in our own way," she told the Tribune. "He typed it out in a memo to me: 'In the motto of my native Quebec: Je me souviens. Go and do likewise.'"