

PAUL RUFFIN VITA (SELECTIVE)--2009

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:

2009 Texas State Poet Laureate
Texas State University System Regents' Professor
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

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

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
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 Education

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.
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)
The Segovia Chronicles (essays, Louisiana Literature Press, 2006)
Jesus in the Mist (stories, University of South Carolina Press, 2007)
Cleaning the Well: Poems Old and New (Ellis Press, 2008)
Ruffin-It: Volume I (Louisiana Literature Press, 2009)
Paul Ruffin: New and Selected Poems (TCU Press, forthcoming, 2010)

Journals and magazines (selective listing):

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

<i>Alabama Literary Review</i>	<i>Alaska Quarterly Review</i>
<i>American Literary Review</i>	<i>American Way</i>
<i>Arkansas Review</i>	<i>Boulevard</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>
<i>North Atlantic Review</i>	<i>Northeast Review</i>
<i>Pembroke Magazine</i>	<i>Ploughshares</i>
<i>St. Andrews Review</i>	<i>Southern Humanities Review</i>
<i>Southern Review</i>	<i>Southwestern American Literature</i>

Poetry--Over 800 poems in such journals and magazines as the following:

<i>Alaska Quarterly Review</i>	<i>Boulevard</i>
<i>California Quarterly</i>	<i>Georgia Review</i>
<i>Hawaii Review</i>	<i>Illinois Quarterly</i>
<i>Kansas Quarterly</i>	<i>Michigan Quarterly Review</i>
<i>Mid-American Review</i>	<i>Midwest Quarterly</i>
<i>Mississippi Review</i>	<i>Nebraska Review</i>
<i>New England Review</i>	<i>New Jersey Poetry Journal</i>
<i>New Mexico Humanities Review</i>	<i>New Orleans Review</i>
<i>North Atlantic Review</i>	<i>Northeast Journal</i>
<i>Ohio Journal</i>	<i>Paris Review</i>
<i>Poetry</i>	<i>Poetry Northeast</i>
<i>Pennsylvania Review</i>	<i>Prairie Schooner</i>
<i>Quarterly West</i>	<i>South Carolina Review</i>
<i>Southern Review</i>	<i>Southwestern Review</i>
<i>Vanderbilt Review</i>	<i>Wascana Review</i>
<i>Windsor Review</i>	<i>Wisconsin Review</i>

Essays: I have published essays in the following:

<i>Dictionary of Literary Biography</i>	<i>Michigan Quarterly Review</i>
<i>Mobile Bay Monthly</i>	<i>Pembroke Magazine</i>
<i>Shenandoah</i>	<i>Southern Humanities Review</i>
<i>Longwood Guide to Writing</i>	<i>Land Line Magazine (2)</i>

Arkansas Review
Louisiana Literature
Connecticut Review
Southwestern American Literature (4)
Alaska Quarterly Review

South Carolina Review
Pleiades
Southern Quarterly (4)
Southern Living
Boulevard

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*, *The Texas Review*, and *Southwestern American Literature*, and *Southeast 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 occasionally in *The Hattiesburg American*, *The Junction Eagle* (TX), and *Mississippi Press*. Furthermore, I write occasional feature stories that appear in several newspapers.

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
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 revised
The Phantom (novel)—under revision
The Hunt (novel)—being researched and written
The Gravel Pit War (novel)—being researched and written

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
Featured Author, Southern Festival of Books, Nashville, TN, October 2007
Featured Author, Southern Kentucky Bookfest, Bowling Green, April 2008
Featured Author, Visiting Writers Series, University of Mississippi, October 2008
Featured Author, Eudora Welty Symposium, Mississippi University for Women,
October 2008

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, national and regional conferences, area high schools, 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)
Binghamton University (New York)
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)
Lone Star College (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 (Texas)
Tarleton State University (Texas)
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 (Columbia)
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 Texas/PanAm
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 More Hallowed Ground*, Rebecca Bailey's *The Only Road There Is*, Steve Sherwood's *Hardwater*, and Joyce Pounds Hardy's *Roads to Forgotten Texas*. Since 2005 I have served as in-house editor of twelve books a year.

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