Rebecca Elswick and Cyndi Newlon joined members from other Virginia writing projects in Washington, DC to tell our legislators about the important work of the National Writing Project and the AWP. The Thursday-morning kickoff meeting was held at the Dirksen Senate Office Building, where Senator Thad Cochran, who is an unwavering supporter of the NWP, addressed attendees.

Thursday afternoon, Becky and Cyndi met with Sarah Ayers, Rick Boucher’s Legislative Assistant. Don Gallehr lead the Virginia writing project group in meetings with Aryana Khalid, Mark Warner’s Legislative Assistant and Maribel Ramos, Jim Webb’s Legislative Assistant.

The Tenth Annual Summer Institute is all set! Hope Cloud and Leah Mullins are looking forward to Cohort 10!

Join our list serve at https://list.uvawise.edu/mailman/listinfo/awp
Rebecca Elswick was the visiting author for Riverview Middle School's celebration of Dr. Seuss Read Across America Day where she read her story "Adopted" from A Cup of Comfort for Dog Lovers and "What's Yours is Mine" published in Bewildering Stories.

Robin Charles will receive an award for third place poem in the adult category of the Mountain Empire Community College Foundation’s 2010 Lonesome Pine Poetry Contest.

After several years of blissful contemplation, I am doing some of the things I have always wanted to do. Among them is beginning a small business. My love of scrapbooking and stamping, along with my husband's encouragement, has spurred me to open a booth in L. Couture called Memories a la Carte. L. Couture is a new boutique, owned by Mily Lusk, located in the former Tri-State Rug building beside the Post Office in Big Stone Gap. It offers unique gifts, designer handbags, costume jewelry, prom jewelry, prom dresses, glitter makeup, crafts, and now scrapbooking. Although I carry scrapbook items for the scrapper, my focus is pre-made pages on various themes for those who do not have the time to scrap their memories. Pre-made pages offer time saving advantages, which allow the extra time to focus on taking pictures and journaling. My plans are to offer classes in various aspects of crafting ranging from star books to paper-bag memory books. Another feature is to provide scrapbooking and stamping as a central theme for parties such as birthday, bridal, and baby showers in which the attendees create pages for the person’s scrapbook. In addition, Memories a la Carte will carry gift items. Drop by when you are in town. I am excited!!!!!!” Hope Hart

We’re on the Web!
See us at:
http://www2.uvawise.edu/awp/

Interested in mentoring a new recruit?
Contact Amy Clark at aclark@virginia.edu.

Interested in writing and publishing?
http://www.nanowrimo.org/

Contact Information:

The Honorable Rick Boucher
2187 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3861

The Honorable Jim Webb
248 Russell Building
Washington Dc 20510
(202) 224-4024

The Honorable Mark Warner
459a Russell Building
Washington Dc 20510
(202) 224-2023

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