



**Charline R. McCord**, a resident of Clinton, Mississippi, was born in Hattiesburg and grew up in Laurel, Mississippi, and Jackson, Tennessee. She holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Southern Mississippi, where she focused on the work of contemporary southern women writers, and bachelor's and master's degrees in English from Mississippi College, where she won the Bellamann Award for Creative Writing and edited the literary magazine. Her love of writing began early with letter writing; she sometimes penned as many as fifteen letters a week to family and friends. "I started writing so young I just never had any fear about putting words and thoughts on paper," Charline recalls. "I was writing to a very forgiving audience. When I began teaching English it was a revelation to me to see kids so undone and paralyzed by the idea of having to compose a simple, five paragraph

essay. The blank page just ate them alive and I had always been in love with it." She notes that to this day there is nothing she'd rather do than sit down with a cup of coffee and write a long letter to a friend. Charline has taught English courses at area colleges and served as Vice-President of Publishing for a Mississippi-based regional health promotion and educational publishing company. She frequently edits and provides feedback on manuscripts for other writers. Charline was a founding member and first President of the Clinton Community Theatre and the Arts Council of Clinton, Inc. You can e-mail her at: [crmccord9@msn.com](mailto:crmccord9@msn.com).

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- ***Christmas Stories from the South's Best Writers*** (Pelican, 2008). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Growing Up in Mississippi*** (University Press of Mississippi, 2007). Essays by outstanding Mississippians.
- ***From the Sleeping Porch*** (Queen's Hill Press, 2006). Contributed two short stories.
- ***A Dixie Christmas*** (Algonquin, 2005). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Christmas in the South*** (Algonquin, 2004). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***A Very Southern Christmas*** (Algonquin, 2003). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Christmas Stories from Mississippi*** (University Press of Mississippi, 2001). A collection of holiday short stories.
- **"Interview with Lee Smith,"** collected in *Conversations with Lee Smith* (University Press of Mississippi, 2001).
- **"Interview with Ellen Douglas,"** collected in *Conversations with Ellen Douglas* (University Press of Mississippi, 2000).
- **"Interview with Valerie Sayers,"** in *The Southern Quarterly*, Vol. XXXVIII, No. 2.
- **"Interview with Jill McCorkle,"** in *The Southern Quarterly*, Vol. XXXVI, No. 3.
- **"Interview with Carolyn Haines,"** in *The Southern Quarterly*, Vol. XXXVI, No. 4.
- ***Winning Entries in the Eudora Welty Film & Fiction Festival***, editor (Mississippi Writers' Association, 1996).



#### **OTHER CREDITS:**

McCord has published poetry, short fiction, book reviews, feature articles, and editorials. She has taught English in various colleges, made presentations at writing conferences and workshops, judged writing competitions, and delivered conference papers on various literary topics.