



The Clemson University
Environmental Seminar Series
and
The Annual George B. Hartzog
Lecture



Presented by

Sharyn McCrumb

**"The Serpentine Chain:
A Novelist Looks at the Appalachians"**

Thursday, September 27, 2001

Strom Thurmond Institute

2:00 p.m.

Sharyn McCrumb is a *New York Times* Best Selling author whose award-winning novels celebrating the history and folklore of Appalachia have received both scholarly and popular acclaim. Her books have contributed to a heightened awareness of the history and culture of Appalachia. She is the author of seventeen novels and a short story collection, including the "Ballad Books": *If Ever I Return*, *Pretty Peggy-O*, *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter*, the New York Times Best Sellers, *She Walks These Hills*, *The Rosewood Casket*, and *The Ballad of Frankie Silver*, and her newest novel *The Songcatcher*.

Her novels, studied in universities throughout the world, are translated into 10 different languages, as well as being U.S. national best sellers. She has won many writing awards including: the Sherwood Anderson Short Story contest, Appalachian Writer of the Year Award (1999) from Shepherd College, the Flora McDonald Award from St. Andrews University (1999), Morehead State University's Chaffin Award (1998) and the Plattner Award from Berea College (1998). Her work has twice received the A W A 's Best Appalachian Novel Award. She was named Kentucky Colonel by Kentucky's Governor Paul E. Patton (1999) and she has served as writer in residence at King College in Bristol, Tennessee.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina, Sharyn holds an MA in English from Virginia Tech. She has lectured on her work at Oxford University, the Smithsonian Institution, the University of Bonn, Germany; and at universities and libraries throughout the country. She lives and writes on an estate near the Appalachian Trail in the Virginia Blue Ridge.

The *New York Times* writes: "McCrumb writes with a quiet fire and maybe a little mountain magic ...Like every good storyteller, she has the Sight."

Awards McCrumb has received: *New York Times* Best Seller List - *She Walks These Hills* (1995); *Los Angeles Times* Notable Book - *She Walks These Hills* (1994), *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter* (1992); *New York Times* Notable Book - *If Ever I Return Pretty Peggy-O* (1990), *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter* (1992), and *The Ballad of Frankie Silver* (1998).