Robert J. Higgs—A native of a railroad-farming village in Middle Tennessee of fewer than twenty-five people, Robert J. (Jack) Higgs attended Vanderbilt University and graduated from the United States Naval Academy. He received the Ph.D. in English from the University of Tennessee in 1967. Following a year of teaching at Eastern Kentucky University, he came to East Tennessee State University where for 27 years he taught courses in American, Southern, and Appalachian literature, great books, and the literature of sports. He is author or co-author of several books in these areas and over a hundred articles and reviews, presenting during his career some 400 lectures on regional literature, humor, religion, and sports.
Neil Issacs, Professor emeritus of English at the University of Maryland and sports writer for the *Washington Post*, is a prolific and versatile author of twenty plus books on subjects ranging from Old and Middle English to Southern and modern American literature, film, gambling, contemporary sports, and Harry Potter. *The Package and the Baggage: Help for Couples and Their Counselors* and *The Doaker’s Story*, his two recent novels, illustrate the themes of the Buffalo Mountain Writers Workshop.

Don Johnson is a professor of English and the Poet in Residence at ETSU. He has published three books of poetry: *The Importance of Visible Scars, Watauga Drawdown*, and *Here and Gone: New and Selected Poems*. He served for sixteen years as the general editor for *Aethlon: the Journal of Sport Literature*, and is currently the poetry editor for that journal. He has published poems in numerous national journals and a substantial number of articles on Appalachian Literature, Sport Literature, and contemporary poetry.
Elizabeth Hunter is a freelance writer living in the Bandana community, Bakersville, North Carolina. A graduate of Radcliffe College and East Tennessee State University, she is an award winning columnist, writer and contributing editor for *Blue Ridge Country Magazine*. She and photographer J. Scott Graham have collaborated on one guide- and two coffee table books on the Blue Ridge Parkway. She has taught nature writing and journaling at the John C. Campbell Folk School and Penland School of Crafts, and has been a volunteer writing instructor at a medium security prison for the last five years.

Laura Higgs Kappel is an Instructor of English at the University of New Orleans, where she also received the Excellence in Teaching Composition at the Freshman Level Award in 2006. She has also taught English at The University of South Alabama; Clemson University; Jean Monnet University in St. Etienne, France; and the University of Florida, where she received her M.A. in English as well as Certification in Teaching English as a Second Language. She has her B.A. in English from the University of Tennessee.
Doris Wyatt is currently an adjunct instructor of English at East Tennessee State University. She holds an M.A. in English and an M.A. in counseling. As a teacher at Science Hill High School, she designed and taught nine thematic courses and the highest Challenge Level English courses. In 1982 she was awarded a Master Teacher III designation. She has also taught in the Adult Professional Studies Program at Tusculum College for nine years and at Northeast State Community College. In 2005, she co-edited a freshman textbook Touching All Bases: A Rhetoric of Self-Discovery.

Cathy Whaley is an adjunct professor of English at East Tennessee State University. She holds an M.A. in English, with a concentration in 20th Century American literature, Irish literature, and film from Clemson University and a B.A. in English from ETSU. She has been a course consultant and designed film courses in multiple disciplines. She is the editor of John David Briley’s Career in Crisis: Paul “Bear” Bryant and the 1971 Season of Change, published by Mercer University Press in 2006 and an editor of Twelve and Counting: The Championships of Alabama Football, edited by Kenneth Gaddy, published by the University of Alabama Press published in 2009.
Buffalo Mountain Writers Workshop: Imagination, Thinking, and Writing

Schedule

Tuesday, June 8 -- Tuesday, June 15

Welcome: Darla Dye, Director of Professional Development

Introductions: Doris Wyatt, author and instructor, and Cathy Whaley, instructor

Tuesday, June 8

9:30-11:30 a.m. – Introduction to Touching All Bases: A Rhetoric of Self-Discovery

Dr. Robert J. Higgs, author and guest speaker

1:00-3:00 p.m. -- Sensing: Elizabeth Hunter, guest speaker

Introduction by Doris Wyatt

Wednesday, June 9

9:30-11:30 a.m. – Discussions based on Touching All Bases selections

Instructor: Doris Wyatt

1:00-3:00 p.m. -- Discussions based on Touching All Bases selections

Instructor: Cathy Whaley:

Thursday, June 10

9:30-11:30 a.m – Rational Thinking: Laura Higgs Kappel, author and guest speaker

Introduction by Cathy Whaley

1:00-3:00 p.m. – Instructor: Cathy Whaley

Friday, June 11

9:30-11:30 a.m. – Symbolic Thinking: Dr. Don Johnson, author and guest speaker

Introduction by Doris Wyatt

1:00-3:00 p.m. – Instructor: Doris Wyatt
Monday, June 14

9:30-11:30 a.m. – Portfolio Review and Readings
   Instructors: Wyatt, Whaley, and Kappel

1:00- 3:00 p.m. – Portfolio Review and Readings
   Instructor: Whaley, Kappel, and Wyatt

Tuesday, June 15

7:30 p.m. – Valuing: Dr. Neil Isaacs, guest speaker
   Introduction by Dr. Robert J. Higgs
   Open to the public
   Reception and book signing immediately following