

## Gravy Writer Memo

*Gravy* is a quarterly publication of the Southern Foodways Alliance, an institute of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.

The recent expansion and redesign of *Gravy* was made possible by a generous grant from Mountain Valley Spring Water.

*Gravy* welcomes articles dealing with the diverse food cultures of the changing American South.

We're looking for articles with attitude. With verve. With smart perspectives. With skewed perspectives. We're looking for pieces that are smart enough to be published in the *Art of Eating*, and, in some cases, skewed enough to end up in the *Onion*.

We're interested in articles that have a tight focus. Surveys don't work so well. Neither do articles in what our friend Lisa Howorth calls the "Mamaw and Peepaw" style of syrupy recollection.

To get a look at previously published articles, please navigate to the publications section of [www.southernfoodways.org](http://www.southernfoodways.org) and please be aware that, with *Gravy* 33, the format and content are brand new.

Submissions should be in the range of 500-800 words and must be accompanied by a photograph or other graphic suitable for print. All will be published in black and white so please submit images that will reproduce strongly.

The right to use the illustration must accompany submissions. Please submit illustrations at least two weeks ahead of the deadline so that alternatives may be arranged if necessary.

The editors are glad to discuss ideas with writers. Email John T Edge, editor, [johnnt@olemiss.edu](mailto:johnnt@olemiss.edu), or Tom Head, managing editor, [thomashead@thomashead.com](mailto:thomashead@thomashead.com).

Writers will be paid a modest \$100 for each article accepted. (Remember the SFA is a non-profit, the sort of non-profit committed to paying writers, no matter how meager financial circumstances dictate pay to be.)

Payment comes on publication of the article. An invoice and completed W-9 should be e-mailed to Julie Pickett, SFA staffer, at [sfadesk@olemiss.edu](mailto:sfadesk@olemiss.edu).

Deadlines for forthcoming issues are:

October 1, 2009;

January 1, 2010;

April 1, 2010; and

July 1, 2010.

The editors may choose to hold an accepted article for publication in a later issue.

Style Guidelines:

We follow newspaper style in that we avoid gushing or fawning language when referring to people and events.

Our style is always to use a comma before the conjunction in a list of three or more items.

The names of states should be spelled out in full. Never use postal abbreviations.

Generally, regions of the country and their inhabitants are capitalized (the South, Southerners); directions are written in lower case (Jackson is south of Oxford.).

We strive to hone a democratic style, when writing about people and places. We do not utilize titles like executive chef, unless distinguishing between people in the same kitchen. We do not capitalize chef.