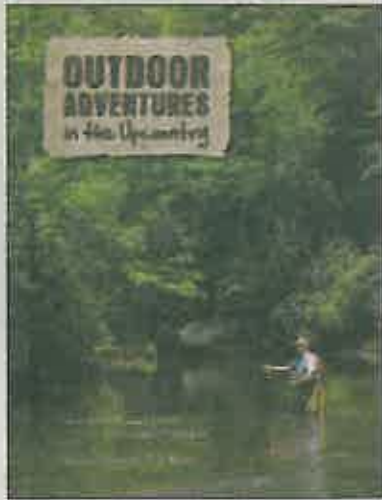


Upcountry 'Adventures'



Hub City Press' new book is a literary perspective on the region's outdoor culture.

Book details outdoors culture

Last year, Hub City Press, long the bastion for locally sourced literary work, branched outside. For the first time in the publishing house's 15-year history, it has expanded its sense of place with a book that steps outside of Spartanburg County and into the rest of the Upstate.

The result is "Outdoor Adventures in the Upcountry," a collection of essays and musings on the outdoors in this

part of the state.

"This is a reader's book, not a guide," says Betsy Teter, executive director of Hub City Press. "It's not going to tell you where the best place to shoot a deer is, but it's going to talk about the experience of shooting a deer."

In Rob Brown's essay, he decides not to shoot the deer. In Drew Lanham's essay, he does shoot the deer.

"It's part of the experience of being in the Upstate, and we're coming at it from a literary

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YOU CAN GO

■ **What:** "Outdoor Adventures in the Upcountry" reading and book signing.

■ **When:** 6-8 p.m. Wednesday.

■ **Where:** FYI Center, 612-B S. Main St.

■ **Cost:** Free

■ **Details:** This event is co-hosted by Upstate Forever, a membership-based non-profit organization that promotes sensible growth and protects special places in the Upstate. Hub City will donate 20 percent of book sales on this night to Upstate Forever.

BOOK

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direction," Teter says.

Hub City put out a call for entries from local writers last year and received more than 60. Each was judged on its subject matter (they didn't want eight pieces on mountain biking), the style of writing (the book is meant to appeal to a broad audience) and the authors themselves (Hub City tries to give opportunities to emerging writers).

The final 34 essays are from a wide array of local writers — award-winning poet Scott Gould, writer and journalist Jeanne Malmgren, and author and professor Ron Rash. Each piece weaves a part of Upstate history and outdoor culture from fly-fishing on Lake Jocassee to exploring Paris Mountain State Park.

"Outdoor Adventures" is a step outside the norm for Hub City, admits Teter, both in its more whole-region approach and in its content, but it has also allowed a new and exciting dynamic.

"It's a book that someone who hunts might buy," Teter says. "We don't have a lot of books like that in our catalog."

Not that you should expect a shift to hunting books from the independent press, says Teter, but Hub City is playing around with doing more regional, multi-sourced books. And the original mission of providing an outlet for local writers is unwavering.

"We're about building writers here and providing them a platform to move out into the wider writing and reading world," Teter says. "That's why we did this."

Get a taste of "Outdoor Adventures" at a book signing Wednesday, which will include readings from some of the authors.