

Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue III

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February 1, 2008

Greetings.

Welcome to the latest issue of the Idaho Writers' Update, your resource for literary news around the state. Look below for the 2008 Big Read, activities in Moscow, and so much more. Idaho's extraordinary network of news continues to emerge by the day as we continue to receive your announcements, Web site links, and email addresses. I invite you to stay in touch. You are welcome to pass this email on to others, and I always appreciate feedback.

Deadlines are the fifteenth and 30th of every month.

(I generally do not edit submissions, and do not guarantee accuracy of content.)

If you are not interested in receiving this newsletter, please respond with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Thank you,

Betty Rodgers

A novel is like a bow, and the violin that produces the sound is the reader's soul. --Stendhal

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Thanks again to Cindy Salo, local nonfiction writer, who has made the current issue of the *Idaho Writers' Update* available at:

http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers/Idaho_Writers_Update.html Be sure to save it in your favorites.

Read local independent journalist **Nathaniel Judd**

Hoffman's www.PaleoMedia.org, for a daily review of Idaho political news and independent reporting on the Legislature, western and world politics and the annals of raising a little girl in the sagebrush.

THE CABIN TO HOST THE BIG READ IN 2008

The Cabin (Log Cabin Literary Center) has again been chosen as a host site for The Big Read in 2008. It is one of 127 arts and cultural organizations, libraries,

municipalities, and higher education institutions to receive a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts.

The Big Read is an annual community initiative that promotes reading and the literary arts. The Cabin will coordinate community-wide activities, events, and celebrations surrounding the book *My Antonia*, by Willa Cather.

The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. The Big Read in the Pacific Northwest is supported, in part, by a grant from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation and local partners and sponsors who will work together to bring The Big Read to Boise and Idaho.

The latest Big Read grantees represent 38 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The NEA inaugurated the Big Read as a pilot project with ten communities in 2006. By 2009, approximately 400 communities in the U.S. will have hosted a Big Read since the program's launch.

The Cabin (The Log Cabin Literary Center) incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1995. Its mission is to inspire and celebrate a love of reading, writing and discourse throughout Idaho and the region. For more information on The Big Read, including program FAQs and the complete list of Big Read novels, please visit www.TheCabinIdaho.org. or www.neabigread.org.

IDAHO CENTER FOR THE BOOK TO TOUR 'BOOKER'S DOZEN' BIENNIAL EXHIBITION THROUGHOUT IDAHO -The Idaho Center for the Book, housed at Boise State University, is presenting its biennial "Booker's Dozen" exhibition in libraries throughout the state. "Booker's Dozen" is a juried exhibition featuring books that have been designed, written, illustrated and bound by Idahoans. The books were selected by Idaho artists, bookmakers, gallery owners, writers and publishers. A catalog of the exhibition will be available with 3-D glasses from the exhibition sites or from the Idaho Center for the Book office on the Boise State campus.

The tour schedule includes:

February: Moscow Junior High School Library

March: University of Idaho Library (Moscow)

April: Coeur d'Alene Public Library

May: East Bonner County/Sandpoint Library

June: Boise Public Library

July: Ada Community Library (Boise)

August: Marshall Public Library (Pocatello)

September: College of Southern Idaho Library (Twin Falls)

October: Eli Oboler Library/Idaho State University (Pocatello)

November: Idaho Falls Public Library

December: David O'McKay Library/BYU-Idaho (Rexburg)

The Idaho Center for the Book was established at Boise State in 1993 and is affiliated with the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The ICB works to encourage and promote an interest in reading, writing, making, disseminating and collecting books. The center also seeks to preserve and publicize the bibliophilic heritage of the Gem State. For more information, visit www.lili.org/icb.

February Events at the Rediscovered Bookshop, 7079 Overland Road, Boise, ID 83709 376-4229

- . Monday, February 4 Mystery Readers at 6:30
In store book club reading First Drop by Zoe Sharp
- . Wednesday, February 6 at 6:30 Non-fiction Writers Group
Susan Stacy, speaker
- . Thursday, January 7, 6-8 pm KNIT NIGHT
Knitting circle open to the public
- . Monday, February 11 at 6:30 pm Science Fiction Club
In store book club reading books by John Wright
- . Monday, February 18 at 6:30 pm Manga Book Club
In store book club discussing the best of Manga
- . Thursday, February 21, Poetry Night 7 p.m.
In store book group reading aloud from favorite poets
- . Monday, February 25 at 6:30 p.m. ECLECTIC READER
In store book group reading The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie
- . Thursday, February 28 at 4:00 p.m G.A.S.P (Girls are superior people) teen girls book club reading Assassin by Grace Cavendish
Thanks for supporting our bookshop-Laura DeLaney

Don't miss poet Jimmy Santiago Baca, Tues., Feb 5, College of Idaho, Langroise Recital Hall, 7 pm, free and open to the public. www.jimmysantiagobaca.com

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS. Susan Stacy, contract historian and author of Tom and Julia Davis: *Some Good Place*, will give tips for aspiring writers at the introductory meeting of **Boise Nonfiction Writers**. Wednesday, **February 6th**, 2008, 6:30 pm, **Rediscovered Bookshop**, 7079 Overland Rd., www.rdbooks.org, 208.376.4229. For more information on Boise Nonfiction Writers, contact Cindy Salo, csalo11@hotmail.com, 208.850.3313.

BSU Spring MFA Reading Series 2008 -

Dan Beachy-Quick, Poetry

Where: TBA

When: Friday, February 8th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Melanie Rae Thon, Fiction

Where: The Lookout Room, SUB

When: Thursday, February 21st, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

J. Reuben Appelman, Poetry

Where: TBA

When: Friday, March 7th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Michael FitzGerald, Fiction

Where: The Lookout Room, SUB

When: Friday, March 28th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Andrew Joron, Poetry

Where: TBA

When: Friday, April 11th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Tony Doerr, Fiction

Where: The Lookout Room (tentative), SUB

When: Friday, April 18th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Free and open to the public, the Boise State University MFA Reading Series brings nationally recognized authors and poets to the Boise State Campus and surrounding areas. Recent works by the author will be available for purchase through the University Bookstore at each reading.

Fiction Workshop in Eagle, Starting Monday, Feb. 11:

Innovations in Fiction, a ten-week series with Ken Rodgers, MFA. Monday nights at 7 p.m. Cost: \$185. True North Creative Learning Center, www.truenorthclc.com, 939-0385.

--Does your fiction seem too predictable? Does your plot arc and die before the climax? Are your characters predictable, stale? Does the story's energy wane before you want--or worse, never start? Then come learn what the innovate authors Kundera and Bartheleme and Beckett and Barth and Puig and Alfau and Marquez and Stein, among others, have to reveal about the art of composing fiction.

--Learn about multiple points of view. Alternate strategies for plotting. Different ways to characterize. Unusual settings. Different takes on conflict. Unusual ways to camouflage your theme.

--We will read the masters and we will write, write, write. Participants need to begin reading Milan Kundera's novel, *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* prior to the first night of class. www.kennethrodgers.com.

February - Richard Shelton to give readings. Richard Shelton, who grew up in Boise, is Regents Professor of English at University of Arizona, author of 10 books of poetry and 6 chapbooks, recipient of two NEA Fellowships, author of the memoir *Going Back to Bisbee* (winner of the Western States Book Award), and recipient of the Arizona Governor's Award in the Arts. He has spent over 30 years as a volunteer, teaching writing to men and women in Arizona prisons.

Shelton will read on **Tuesday, February 12** at the Langroise Recital Hall at the College of Idaho, Caldwell, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. He will read at The Cabin, Jean Wilson Room, on **Wednesday, February 13**, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Both readings are free to the public and sponsored by the TumbleWords program of the **Idaho Commission on the Arts**.

DROP-IN WRITING WORKSHOP AT THE CABIN--With Norman Weinstein.

All are welcome to attend this informal community workshop for writers at all levels. Mr. Weinstein is a poet and critic writing about poetry, music, architecture and design. He is the author of a book about jazz, another on Gertrude Stein's writing, and six books of poetry. He currently reviews jazz for *The Christian Science Monitor* and the literature of architecture and design for *Architectural Record*. **Wednesday, February 13 & 27 at 6:30 p.m. at The Cabin.** Free.

The Heart of the Matter: Creative Writing - Creative Living:

Rediscover your creative edge. Susan Reuling Furness offers playful and thoughtful assignments to help beginning or experienced writers blast through doubt and uncertainty. All ages. Wednesdays, February 13 - March 12. 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm 5 weeks for \$150/ \$135 additional family members **True North Creative Learning Center, Eagle, ID** Call 939-0385 or 385-0888 to register.

Open Mic Night - Feb. 15

In an effort to continue to foster the arts in the local area, the first and third Friday night of every month, the microphone will be open in the main meeting space of **Rembrandt's** in Eagle. This gives an opportunity for musicians, poets, orators, comedians, writers, and any others to practice their craft and present their art. We ask that those who contribute to the evening would remember that Rembrandt's is a family environment, and so please refrain from using profanity and adult content. For more information or to reserve a time slot, please call Aaron at (208) 841-9588.

Boise Poetry Slam February

Monday, February 18

The Spoken Word Reading and Workshop Series presents D Silence! Bring your own poetry to workshop at 5:00 at BSU, then come to the slam to see the full feature.

-- Workshop with D Silence!

BSU Student Union Building (Cataldo room)

5 PM, free

-- BOISE POETRY SLAM with D Silence!

Neurolux on 11th Street

Signups 7:30, Show at 8, \$5

-- Feature by D Silence and open slam!

THE CABIN HOSTS LUIS ALBERTO URREA

The Cabin will present Luis Alberto Urrea at the Egyptian Theatre on Tuesday, February 19 at 7:30 PM. Mr. Urrea is the second of four authors to appear as a part of READINGS & CONVERSATIONS, The Cabin's annual series bringing nationally-acclaimed literary figures to Boise.

Mr. Urrea's books, *The Devil's Highway* (a Pulitzer Prize finalist) and *The Hummingbird's Daughter*, are national bestsellers. He writes about politics and corruption, religion and spirituality, love and heartbreak, and the clash of cultures in his 12 books of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, essays and short stories. His prose brims with detail of personal experience in the borderlands. He has been inducted into the Latino Literary Hall of Fame.

Upcoming guests for READINGS & CONVERSATIONS include Marjane Satrapi, April 15, 2008, and Mary Oliver, September 23, 2008.

Ticket prices range from \$12 for students to \$30. Seating is limited. For tickets or more information, call The Cabin 331-8000

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS. Join successful and aspiring nonfiction writers as we learn from each other through discussion and critique. Wednesday, **February 20th**, 2008, 6:30 pm, The Cabin Literary Center, 801 S. Capitol, www.thecabinidaho.org, 208.331.8000. \$1 Cabin members, \$2 nonmembers. For more information on Boise Nonfiction Writers: www.sagecosci.com/Writers.html or cindysalo@hotmail.com.

Call for Submission: March 1, 2008 - The 2008 Murder In The Grove Contest sponsored by the Popular Fiction Association of Idaho. All participants will receive *detailed* scoring sheets on aspects of their submission such as characterization, dialogue, setting, plot and synopsis. **Details at:** <http://www.murderinthegrove.com/contest>.

Friday, March 7 - The Second Annual International Women's Day Poetry Reading. 7 p.m. in Hyde-Park. Mark your calendar and come hear some of your favorite local poets. Free admission. More details to follow.

Saturday, March 8 - Idaho Magazine will host a reception and readings honoring the winners of this year's fiction contest. The event will be at the Barnes & Noble in Boise at 1:30 p.m. Winners will be announced, awards will be presented, and a few of the winning stories will be read. Everyone is welcome, and there is no cost to attend the reception. There also will be a fundraiser wherein a school, yet to be announced, will get a portion of the proceeds from all sales made through our event. See www.idahomagazine.com for more information.

At Boise State University - March 15, 2008. Piper Jane Project.

Four talented spoken word artists will share their poetic thoughts. This will be in conjunction with a Poetry Slam, FREE and open to all students. Sign ups to participate in the slam will be first come, first serve. Jordan Ballroom/SUB, 6:30. Free parking available in the Library and Liberal Arts parking lots.

Boise Poetry Slam March

Monday, March 17

The Spoken Word Reading and Workshop Series presents Iyeoka! Bring your own poetry to workshop at 5:00 at BSU, then come to the slam to see the full feature.

-- Workshop with Iyeoka!

BSU Student Union Building (Alexander room)

5 PM, free

-- BOISE POETRY SLAM with Iyeoka!

Neurolux on 11th Street

Show at 8, \$8

-- Feature by Iyeoka and open slam!

April

Monday, April 21

The Spoken Word Reading and Workshop Series presents Jason Bayani! Bring your own poetry to workshop at 5:00 at BSU, then come to the slam to see the full feature.

-- Workshop with Jason Bayani!

BSU Student Union Building (Alexander room)

5 PM, free

-- BOISE POETRY SLAM with Jason Bayani!

Neurolux on 11th St.

Show at 8, \$8

-- Feature by Jason Bayani and open slam

Lost Horse Press is now taking submissions for **The Idaho Prize for Poetry 2008**, a national competition offering \$1000 plus publication by Lost Horse Press for a book-length poetry manuscript. All U.S. poets are eligible. Entries must be postmarked by **15 May 2008**. The winner and finalists will be announced on 15 August 2008. The final judge for the fifth annual poetry book contest sponsored by Lost Horse Press will be announced at a later date. A reading fee of \$25-check or money order only, please-and a SASE (for notification of winners only; manuscripts will be recycled) must be included with the manuscript. For guidelines or additional information about the Idaho Prize for poetry, please contact Lost Horse Press at 208.255.4410, email losthorsepress@mindspring.com or check online at www.losthorsepress.org

Lost Horse Press also proudly announces the publication of 4 new poetry titles for 2008:

Lost Horse Press New Poets Series: New Poets | Short Books Volume II

poems by Tim Krcmarik, Patricia Staton & Victor Camillo | edited by Marvin Bell

FRIENDLY FIRE | poems by Katrina Roberts

THE BASEBALL FIELD AT NIGHT | last poems by Patricia Goedicke

Edited by Christopher Howell

THE RADIUM WATCH DIAL PAINTERS | poems by D.S. Butterworth

See www.losthorsepress.org for details.

Call for Manuscripts--Anthologies: Winterhawk Press (formerly Calypso) has titled the anthology *Zeus Seduces the Wicked Stepmother in the Saloon of the Gingerbread House: Myth, Fairy Tale, and Legend Dragged, Kicking and Screaming, Into the 21st Century*. They're looking for contemporary poetry and fiction, unrhymed poetry, articles and plays, but no children's stories or poems. They are especially interested in works that suggest solutions to today's problems. Send manuscripts with SASE to Susan Richardson, Winterhawk Press, PO Box 44810, Boise, Idaho, 83711.

Richardson is also offering a \$200 prize for cover artwork that meets her criteria:

A gingerbread house with a saloon door on its front. The house should be surrounded by a few Greek columns and backed, at a distance, by a forest. In color. Size of picture on finished cover will be about 4 x 4 inches. **DUE DATE: April 30.** Send pictures with name and address to her PO Box listed above (and self-addressed stamped envelope if wanting reply).

IDAHO Magazine www.idahomagazine.com is interested in your non-fiction stories on Idaho topics. They offer one-time rights to buy those stories. Send queries with specific details in the "Subject" line to Kitty Fleischman, publisher/editor at kfleisch@idahomagazine.com. Then be sure to let me know when your story is published so we can announce it here.

Boise Public Library invites avid readers to sign up for their e-mail book review service at www.boisepubliclibrary.org This free monthly newsletter reviews the latest books in a variety of categories. Check out the new library card designs on the Web site, too. They put the "!" in Library!

The Scene in Moscow as reported by BookPeople:

The Mirror Theater presents **Shakespeare Sundays!** You, the audience, will do the acting for these performances. Come sign in at 1:15 for the part you're dying to play. No preference is given for race, gender, or age, and scripts are provided! If you're musically inclined, then come accompany the acts on your instrument of choice! The schedule:

Hamlet: February 10th, 24th and March 16th

The Tempest: May 4th and 18th.

A two-dollar contribution is required to participate. The plays will be based on the Oxford Shakespeare, second edition, but as noted above, scripts will be provided! For more information, visit www.MirrorTheater.org !

Saturday, February 2nd, 11:00am - 1:00pm - Come to BookPeople and see **Daniel Miller**, author of *Little Patch of Idaho, a History of the Craig Mountain Region*. There will be a reading and signing, with refreshments provided, so come check it out!

What's in a book? Make one and find out! I shamelessly stole that tagline from the flier for this event, but if you think their writing is clover, wait until you see their bookmaking! **Tuesday afternoons at BookPeople**, from **1:00pm - 3:00pm**, come learn how to make books! Topics include making pages, writing text, getting ideas, being artistic, bindings, covers, titles, and more! There are five classes; the first is on **February 5th**, and the last **March 4th**. Space is limited, so come by BookPeople and reserve your spot today! The cost of attendance is \$45, and a \$20 deposit reserves your spot.

Mike Finkel's True Story - come see Mike Finkel, former contributing editor for the *New York Times Magazine* and current freelance writer, as he reads from his 2005 book *True Story: Murder, Memoir, Mea Culpa*, and discusses writing and journalistic ethics. The event is **Wednesday, February 6th at 7:30pm**, and takes place in **the University of Idaho Teaching Learning Center, room 040**.

The **Winter Fishtrap** is coming up! This year's theme is "**Living Right: Empathy, Charity, and Responsibility**". This year's presenters are: Debra Dean, the author of a (best-selling!) novel about art and Alzheimer's, 'The Madonnas of Leningrad'. Michael Rohd, the founding artistic director of Sojourn Theatre in Portland, Oregon. The event takes place from **February 22nd to February 24th**. For more information, or to register, visit <http://www.fishtrap.org/winter.shtml> - remember, last year's Winter Fishtrap sold out, and was a smashing success! So don't wait to register, get your spot today!

It's 2008, and you know what that means! The **Moscow Renaissance Fair Poster Contest** is here again! Pick up an entry form at BookPeople, we have tons. The prizes are: 1st place - \$200 with artwork appearing on the annual poster; 2nd place - \$100 with artwork appearing on the program cover. **All entries must be received by 12:00 noon on Saturday, February 23rd**. Entries can be submitted at BookPeople of Moscow. Public judging of finalists will begin at **2:00pm, Saturday February 23rd at BookPeople of Moscow**, and winners will be notified that very day! Contact Jennifer Whitney at jenwhitney@gmail.com / 208-882-1942 with any questions.

April 25th is Poem In Your Pocket Day. Have a favorite poem? Carry it around with you on April 25th of this year, and share it with others you may meet. Poetry is a vital part of any culture, and to be perfectly honest, Americans need to appreciate it more! Help them out by helping them to appreciate a favorite verse of yours. Share the love - spread Poetry!

Literary Links:

General--

<http://www.americanlifeinpoetry.org/>
<http://www.boisepoetry.com/>
<http://www.cowboypoetry.com/>
<http://www.fishtrap.org/>
<http://www.arts.idaho.gov/> Idaho Commission on the Arts>Literature
<http://www.idahostatesman.com/>
<http://www.idahowritersleague.com/index.html>
<http://www.thecabinidaho.org/>
<http://www.loc.gov/poetry/>
<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/>
<http://www.copyright.gov/>
<http://www.pw.org/>
<http://www.awpwriter.org>
<http://www.poets.org/audio.php>
<http://www.partnersincrimeboise.com/>
<http://www.murderinthegrove.com>
<http://www.wgeo.org/> Writers Guild of Eastern Oregon
<http://www.paleomedia.org/> Reporting on the West and the World

Idaho Authors--

<http://www.anthonydoerr.com/>
<http://www.humanophone.com/>
<http://www.joanpence.com>
<http://www.kennethrodgers.com/>
<http://www.lanceolsen.com/>
<http://www.dianeraptosh.com/>

Idaho Publishers--

<http://ahsahtapress.boisestate.edu/>
<http://www.caxtonpress.com/>

<http://cold.drill.googlepages.com/home>

<http://www.idahomagazine.com>

<http://www.limberlostpress.com/>

<http://www.losthorsepress.org/>

<http://www.NewWest.Net/Boise>

Idaho Booksellers--

<http://www.bookpeople.net/>

<http://www.rediscoveredbookshop.com>

<http://vistabookgallery.booksense.com>