

## Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue V

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March 1, 2008

Greetings.

Welcome to the latest issue of the Idaho Writers' Update, your resource for literary news around the state. Look below for a deadline reminder for today, announcements and Web site links. I invite you to stay in touch. You are welcome to pass this email on to others, and I always appreciate feedback. If you are reading this for the first time and wish to subscribe, please send me your email address. There is no charge for this service.

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 no longer interested in receiving this newsletter, please respond with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Thank you,

Betty Rodgers

*Writing gives you the illusion of control, and then you realize it's just an illusion, that people are going to bring their own stuff into it. --David Sedaris*

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Refer to the Update anytime online at:

[http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers/Idaho\\_Writers\\_Update.html](http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers/Idaho_Writers_Update.html)

**ANNOUNCING:** Boise now has a literary agency. **Northwest Literary Agents** is accepting queries only of novels, creative nonfiction and practical nonfiction. Queries consist of cover letter (including writer's background), outline of book, and first three chapters. Send to P.O. Box 44810, Boise 83711. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Critiques are available for books of both poetry and prose.

**IDAHO CENTER FOR THE BOOK TOURS '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. [www.lili.org/icb](http://www.lili.org/icb)

**The tour schedule includes:**

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)

**CALLING ALL BOOK GROUPS** - Who's reading what? Each spring, **The Cabin** hosts a gathering of book club members throughout the Treasure Valley at an event called **The Ides of March**. To submit your book group reading list, email to [info@TheCabinIdaho.org](mailto:info@TheCabinIdaho.org). The Cabin is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire and celebrate a love of reading, writing and discourse.

**Towne Square Library is closed** - Boise Public Library announced the closing of its small Towne Square Library operation, effective March 1, 2008. The library was removed from sites available to customers for picking up reserved materials at the beginning of February. The last open day for the facility was February 29.

**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>.

**BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS - Rocky Barker**, environmental writer for the *Idaho Statesman* and author of *Saving all the Parts, Reconciling Economics and the Endangered Species Act* and *Scorched Earth: How the Fires in Yellowstone Changed America*, will share advice for aspiring nonfiction writers. **Wednesday, March 5th, 2008**, 6:30 pm, Rediscovered Bookshop, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, <http://www.rdbooks.org>, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. Boise Nonfiction Writers meet on the first and third Wednesdays to learn from guest speakers and from each other. First Wednesdays at Rediscovered Bookshop, [www.rdbooks.org](http://www.rdbooks.org), and third Wednesdays at The Cabin, [www.thecabinidaho.org](http://www.thecabinidaho.org). For more information contact [csalo11@yahoo.com](mailto:csalo11@yahoo.com) or visit [www.sageecosci.com/Writers.html](http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers.html).

**Second Annual International Women's Day Poetry Reading, Friday, March 7 at 7 p.m.** Join us at this celebration where local women of all ages present poetry by writers who have influenced them, then read poems of their own. You will enjoy a diverse range of voices and styles, all joining together to honor women in every season of life. Featured poets are: **Anna Eaton-Merkle, Fran Finkbeiner and her daughter Jenn, Cheryl Maddalena, Trisha Nelson, Susan**

**Richardson, Betty Rodgers, Ruth Salter, Judith Steele, Marti Stephen, and Trudy Woodworth.** Admission is free. Call 938-3011 for information.

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship,  
1520 N. 12th Street, Boise, ID 83702

Sponsored by a group of women who believe poetry is a necessity of life.

## **BSU Spring MFA Reading Series 2008:**

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**March 7, 7:30 PM** **J. Reuben Appelman, Poet and Screenwriter** to read at BSU

Poet and screenwriter J. Reuben Appelman's appearance is free and open to the public\*\*\*Appelman is a poet, novelist and screenwriter who most recently wrote the children's adventure film "The Five," currently in post-production. His book of poetry, "Make Loneliness," was recently published by Otis Books/Seismicity Editions. Appelman is the first graduate of Boise State's MFA in creative writing program to have a book published.

Room 118 of the Interactive Learning Center (BSU)

**Michael FitzGerald**, Novelist

Where: The Farnsworth Room, Student Union Building

When: Friday, March 14th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

**Andrew Joron**, Poet

Where: The Farnsworth Room, Student Union Building

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

**Tony Doerr**, Novelist

Where: The Lookout Room, Student Union Building

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

**Kevin Kiely**, Irish Poet

Where: The Farnsworth Room, Student Union Building

When: Friday, May 2nd, 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.

**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](http://www.idahomagazine.com) for more information.

**Peregrine Fund Community Reading Program - Our Earth Our Ethics**

Time: 10:30 AM to Noon Free, and no pre-registration is necessary.

Series of Book Discussions, Saturdays **Mar. 8, Mar. 22**

Contact: Susan Whaley. Phone: (208) 362-8274. Email: [swhaley@peregrinefund.org](mailto:swhaley@peregrinefund.org)

Attend this community reading program with free Saturday morning discussions of books about the environment.

March 8: *Desert Solitaire*, by Edward Abbey  
World Center for Birds of Prey  
March 22: *The Botany of Desire*, by Michael Pollen  
World Center for Birds of Prey

For more information contact **Ada Community Library**, 362-0180 or visit [www.adalib.org](http://www.adalib.org) and **World Center for Birds of Prey** 362-8687 or visit [www.peregrinefund.org](http://www.peregrinefund.org). "Let's Talk About It" is sponsored by the Idaho Commission for Libraries, with support from US Bank and the Idaho Humanities Commission. The books are available on loan from the Ada Community Library.

### **WRITING THE WINDS OF CHANGE . . . THE NEXT STEP**

Begins **MARCH 11 - MAY 6** . 8 Weeks, No Class on March 25.

Tuesdays. . . 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Early Registration before March 5 - \$295. After March 5 - \$320.

Class Location: 1517 West Jefferson Street, Boise, Idaho. Call 208-385-0888 to register.

We meet to explore life's transitions . . . the highs and the lows of change. Regardless of the nature of your transition, you experience loss while also enjoying new opportunity. This group is designed to help you hear the wisdom of your own words as you navigate toward a brighter tomorrow. As a group member, you will be offered a series of playful and serious journaling prompts. In an ever-supportive-environment, Susan will help silence uncertainty, uncover your most compelling thoughts, and open the door to new beginnings. Join other journaling-explorers as we untangle the confusion, upheaval, and mystery of riding and writing the winds of change. 8 weeks may change your life.

For more information about the Write Path, send email to **Susan Reuling Furness** at [writing@writepath.org](mailto:writing@writepath.org)

**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*. Bring pen and paper and a willingness to explore. Wednesday, **March 12 and 26** at 6:30 p.m. at **The Cabin**. Free.

### **MOUTH & THISTLE, MFA Student-Sponsored Monthly Reading Series at Satchel's Grill:**

Saturday, **March 15** at 7 p.m.

Fiction of **Matthew Haynes & Elizabeth Lester Barnes**

Poetry of **Allison Von Maur**

Satchel's is on W Bannock across from the capitol.

## Boise Poetry Slam March

### Piper Jane Project

March 15th, 6:30 to 9:30

Jordan Ballroom at Boise State University Four talented spoken word artists will share their poetic thoughts. This will be in conjunction with the poetry slam, FREE and open to all students. Sign-ups to participate in the slam will be first come, first serve. Free parking available in the Library and Liberal Arts parking lots.

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

**Rediscovered Bookshop and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators is sponsoring the first annual Children's Literature Festival in Boise.** - Featuring 6 authors/illustrators: Julie Paschkis, Alma Alexander, Toby Bishop, Judy Cox, Christiana Gregory, and Gloria Skurzynski. **Friday, April 4, 7:30 p.m. - Author Dinner, and activities all day Saturday, April 5.** For details, [www.rediscoveredbookshop.com](http://www.rediscoveredbookshop.com), or call (208) 376-4229.

**Literature for Lunch - Spring 2008:** Book discussions are held at Boise Public Library from 12:10 p.m. to 1 p.m. and facilitated by Boise State University English Professor Carol Martin.

**April 4:** *The Gathering*, by Anne Enright.

**April 30:** *Half of a Yellow Sun*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

**For more information contact [cmartin@boisestate.edu](mailto:cmartin@boisestate.edu).**

**Family Reading Series:** Join The Cabin's **Carole Whiteleather** and come 'hear a play'

**April 13:** *Hansel and Gretel* Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Fulton Street Center for the Arts (9th & Fulton)

Single Performance tickets: \$7 Children (12 & under); \$10 Adults; Ages 3 & under FREE (children must be accompanied by an adult). **For more information contact 336-9221.**

**Readings and Conversations** at the Egyptian Theater, sponsored by The Cabin: Tuesday, April 15, 2008



**Marjane Satrapi**

Born on the edge of the Caspian Sea and educated in Tehran, Vienna, and Strasburg, Marjane Satrapi lives in Paris, where she is one of France's "new wave" comic book artists. Her acclaimed *Persepolis* and *Persepolis 2* tell the story of a young girl trying to understand the difficult world around her. The books are based on Ms. Satrapi's youth in Iran during the Islamic Revolution and the war with Iraq. Most recently, she has completed an animated film adaptation of the two-volume graphic novel, to be released in 2008. "You've never seen anything like *Persepolis*," Gloria Steinem says, "the intimacy of a memoir, the irresistibility of a comic book,

and the political depth of the conflict between fundamentalism and democracy." Ms. Satrapi's illustrations appear regularly in French newspapers and magazines. For ticket information, [www.thecabinidaho.org](http://www.thecabinidaho.org).

**Poetry Workshop in Downtown Eagle - Beginning April 28. The Conjunction of Sense and Sound...The Cognitive Joins the Energy of Noise.** Six-session workshop and lecture with Ken Rodgers, MFA, ([www.kennethrodgers.com](http://www.kennethrodgers.com)) at True North Creative Learning Center, 150 E Aikens, Eagle. Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. Discover and explore phanopoeia, melopoeia, logopoeia, rhythmic patterns and sensual details meeting sound properties, the alphabet--hither T and whence C, and onomatopoeia. \$110.00. [www.truenorthclc.com](http://www.truenorthclc.com), or call 939-0385 for information or to register.

**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](mailto:losthorsepress@mindspring.com) or check online at [www.losthorsepress.org](http://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](http://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 Winterhawk Press, PO Box 44810, Boise, Idaho, 83711.  
**Deadline: June 30, 2008.**

Winterhawk is also offering a \$200 prize for cover artwork that meets their 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 PO Box listed above (and self-addressed stamped envelope if wanting a reply).

**Readings and Conversations** at the Egyptian Theater, sponsored by The Cabin: **Tuesday, September 23, 2008**



### **Mary Oliver**

"Poetry isn't a profession; it's a way of life. It's an empty basket; you put your life into it and make something out of that," says Mary Oliver. Her first volume, *No Voyage*, was published in 1963. Her third book, *American Primitive*, won the Pulitzer Prize, and her *New and Selected Poems* (1992) won the National Book Award. Mary Oliver is among our very finest poets. Her work, celebrated for its precise imagery and evocation, conveys a deep connection with the natural world. Her poems are "...an excellent antidote

for the excesses of civilization, for too much flurry and inattention. She is a poet of wisdom and generosity whose vision allows us to look intimately at a world not of our making" (*Harvard Review*). For tickets, [www.thecabinidaho.org](http://www.thecabinidaho.org).

**Shakespeare on Sundays:** Join Boise State University English Professor **Matthew Hansen**, students, and community members in collaborative read-throughs of Shakespeare's most famous plays. Bring a copy of the play and be ready to take part in a fun, fast table-reading of the play. These events are free and open to the public. For dates and times contact [MatthewHansen@boisestate.edu](mailto:MatthewHansen@boisestate.edu).

**IDAHO Magazine** [www.idahomagazine.com](http://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](mailto:kfleisch@idahomagazine.com). Then be sure to let me know when your story is published so we can announce it here.

**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. For the calendar of events, click here: <http://www.thecabinidaho.org/whatwedo/the-big-read.htm>. **The Cabin** is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire and celebrate a love of reading, writing and discourse.

**Boise Public Library** invites avid readers to sign up for their e-mail book review service at [www.boisepubliclibrary.org](http://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:**

**Stefan Sagmeister**, one of the most influential graphic designers in the world, will be at the University of Idaho on **Monday, March 3rd!** He will be talking about his new book, *Things I Have Learned In My Life So Far*. He will be at the **Agriculture Science Building** at the **University of Idaho**, starting at **7:00pm**.

**Tony D'Souza** will be reading from his new book, **The Konkans**, on **Thursday, March 6th at 7:00pm**, at the **Museum of Art** at **Washington State University**. D'Souza is here as

part of the visiting writer series presented by Washington State University's English Department **Visiting Writer Series**. If you like, there will also be a conversation with the writer at 1:30pm on March 6th, which will be in the Bundy Reading Room.

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: 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](http://www.MirrorTheater.org) !

Attention members of bookclubs, past, present, or future, and all bibliophiles in general: BookPeople of Moscow, in partnership with Friends of the Library, is proud to announce the **Readers and Writers Roundtable** - come get fresh ideas for your bookclub, or just for yourself! This event will feature several local writers with broad national appeal. Refreshments provided, as are Advance Reader Copies of promising new titles. Sponsored by BookPeople of Moscow and the Friends of the Library. **Friday, March 21st 6:00-8:00pm** at the **1912 Center**, come see **Kim Barnes, Pete Chilson, Joan Opyr, and Daniel Orozco**.

**A Thousand Miles of Dreams** sounds like a long way, but you won't have to go far to come to the booksigning! *A Thousand Miles of Dreams*, by Sasha Su-Ling Welland, tells the story of two Chinese sisters, and has been wildly well-received. Come see what it's all about, at the **1912 Center in Moscow**, on **Sunday April 13th at 2:30pm**. Sponsored by the Palouse Asian-American Association.

**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!

**Gary Snyder** came to mind twice today at BookPeople. First, a student came in to look at Snyder's work, to see why his use of "chop wood, carry water", a reference to a Chinese Zen phrase\*, could turn Mark Solomon into an environmental activist. Later the same day came news from Oregon, that Snyder had taped Allen Ginsberg's *Howl* before Ginsberg performed it in San Francisco in '56. There are apparently many differences between the two versions, enough to keep English PhDs employed and busy for decades! Of course, Pacifica Radio in Berkeley said that under today's FCC rules, *Howl* in 2007 *still* can't be played on the radio, even today, 51 years after Ginsberg's arrest for reading his poetry and his vindication in court.

## 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.joannepence.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>