

Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue IX

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May 1, 2008

Greetings.

This Update is a little early because we'll be away on a literary adventure for a week or so. In the meantime, you can peruse all the adventures listed below, generated by you and for you.

You are welcome to pass this email on to others. If you are reading The Update 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

"The pen is the tongue of the mind." --Miguel de Cervantes

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Refer to the Update anytime online at:

http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers/Idaho_Writers_Update.html

Barnes & Noble in Idaho Falls: In an effort to further address the interests of the writers in our community, we have begun a writer's group workshop at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month. We welcome anyone who would like to participate. Contact Maribeth Ernst, (208) 552-1463, crm2246@bn.com. Also, you can participate in their Poet's Open Mic night on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

News from The Cabin:

Early Bird Tickets for Cabin Members: Readings & Conversations 2008-2009

Our guests will be Michael Pollan, Aimee Bender with Anthony Doerr, Joan Didion, and Alexander McCall Smith. Cabin members receive priority seating during the early bird reservation period. Same-seat requests are due by May 15. Early bird ends June 15. Visit our Website or call for more information.

Award-winning Summer Camps Enrolling Now

Idaho Writings Camps offer creative adventures for youth in grades 4-12, from beginning exploration to advanced writing. Call or visit the Website for this summer's camp information.

Big Read Closing Event May 2: Ice Cream Social

Come celebrate this year's Big Read. Norm Weinstein will present "Music from Willa Cather's Era" as a salute to this year's book, *My Antonia*. Friday, May 2, at 4:00 PM at The Cabin.

BSU Spring MFA Reading Series 2008:

Kevin Kiely, Irish Poet, The Farnsworth Room, Student Union Building, Friday, May 2nd, 7:30-9:00 P.M. This is the final reading of the semester.

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.

The Flicks - Showing films based on literary works:

Snow Angels (Opens May 2)

Writer/director David Gordon Green (*All the Real Girls*) employs a stellar cast including Kate Beckinsale, Sam Rockwell, Michael Angarano, Amy Sedaris, Olivia Thirlby and Griffin Dunne to tell the story of lives in tumult in a small Pennsylvania town. As in the novel by Stewart O'Nan which Green adapted, tragic events are balanced with touches of humor. ® Grand Jury Prize Nominee Sundance Film Festival 2007. "The beautiful outdoor photography extends Green's fascination with nature as a realm of beauty and danger." Justin Chang, *Variety*

Then She Found Me (Opens May 9)

Golden Globe, Emmy and Academy Award winning actress Helen Hunt's directorial debut screened at the most prestigious film festivals before opening in theatres across the country. She co-wrote and produced this adaptation of the novel by Elinor Lipman in which she stars as a schoolteacher whose husband leaves and adoptive mother dies. The tragedies embolden her to pull herself together and find her birth mother. Colin Firth, Bette Midler and Matthew Broderick co-star. ®

Boise Poetry Slam, May:

Monday, May 5

Hey poetry lovers of all ages, we've got our second ever [Smack@VAC](#) coming up on Monday, May 5th! This is our newest poetry slam tradition --fans and poets of any age may attend, and beer and wine will be available for those who are over 21. Smack@VAC will continue to be held on the first Monday of every month at the Visual Arts Collective, so come one come all! Sign-ups 6:30, show at 7, 3638 Osage Street (Garden City, behind Woman of Steel gallery) \$5 entrance fee.

Monday, May 19

\$100 Poetry Slam Delux
doors/signup 7:30, show at 8
Neurolux
113 N 11th St.

-- Open poetry slam with \$100 prize for the winner. Judges chosen from the audience.

LITERARY AGENTS COME TO BOISE TO MEET AUTHORS-IN-WAITING

Do you dream of becoming the next John Grisham, Michael Connelly, or Mary Higgins Clark? Plan to write a mystery or thriller and make enough money to live off your royalties? Wonder how to go about it? All well known, best-selling authors have an agent to negotiate those killer deals for them. But how do you pique an agent's interest in you and your writing? Three top agents will be coming to Boise in June to meet aspiring novelists during this year's Murder in the Grove:

Alice Volpe has held the positions of book publicist, staff writer, editor and publisher. She opened the Northwest Literary Agency in the 1980's to help bridge the chasm between lone author and remote, corporate publisher. Her clients include J.A. Jance, Carola Dunn, Judith Smith-Levin, J. Carson Black, Lee Lofland, Jeffrey Layton among others.

Sorche Fairbank established the Fairbank Literary Representation in 2002, and represents best-selling authors, Pulitzer Prize finalists and winner, Edgar recipients, award-winning journalists, and her favorite kind of client: the first-time author. She is seeking select new fiction voices.

Spencer Ellsworth is a new agent, and searching for clients. He works for the well-established Lori Perkins Agency, and attends Western Washington University as a graduate student in English. Along with mysteries and thrillers, especially those set in an historical period, he is looking for fantasy of all types, "soft" science fiction, history of any period, satire, and travel stories.

If you have a novel, either completed or in progress, and you'd like to meet face-to-face with one of these agents to get their opinion on your work, you'll need to register for the Murder in the Grove "writer's package". The writer's package includes not only an appointment with an agent but also the Master Class "Writing the Thriller" taught by acclaimed writing instructor and bestselling author, David Morrell as well as all conference activities.

By *Thursday* May 1st, you'll need to submit the pages of your manuscript for an agent's evaluation. The appointments, which will take place during the conference on June 7, are limited and will be given on a first-registered, first-served basis. For more information, please go to www.murderinthegrove.com, or call 208-409-8805.

SELF PUBLISHING YOUR BOOK: **Kate Riley**, writing coach and author of *The Green Velvet Journals*, *A Mother and Daughter Journey*, will share information on self publishing. **Wednesday May 7th, 2008**, 6:30-8:00 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other aspiring writers), Rediscovered Bookshop, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, <http://www.rdbooks.org>, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. For more info: cindysalo@hotmail.com. Sponsored by Boise Nonfiction Writers.

<http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers.html> "Join successful and aspiring nonfiction writers as we learn from guest speakers and from each other through discussion and critique."

Mouth & Thistle Reading scheduled for **May 10th** at Satchel's Grill on Bannock downtown, starting at 7pm. **Alvin Greenberg** will be reading his fiction/nonfiction, and **Brandon Follett** will be reading his poetry/fiction. Music will be provided by Golden Spun feat. the Just Desperation Singers.

Groups at Rediscovered Books: **Monday, May 12** Science Fiction Club 6:30 pm. **Tamora Pierce** is May's author. She has a loyal following and we wanted to see what was going on. All

of Tamora Pierce's books are **10% off** until the meeting. If you love science fiction and fantasy this is a group you won't want to miss.

Thursday, May 15 Speculative Fiction Writers. If your writing style tends to science fiction and fantasy, then this is the group for you. Come and find out more about writing in this genre and what the current trends are.

Thursday, May 22 Christian Fiction Writers 6:30. Christian Fiction writers meet to talk about writing and working with Christian Fiction.

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. **Wednesdays, May 14 & 28 at 6:30 p.m. at The Cabin.** Free

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.

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS' Writing Group meets to share critiques and ideas in a supportive and helpful atmosphere. **Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 7-8:30 pm.** Contact jancarpenter12@hotmail.com for location.

Presidential Historian Robert Dallek to Speak in Idaho Falls, May 22.

Award-winning presidential historian and biographer Robert Dallek will present a public lecture exploring the question "Is an Ethical Presidency Possible?" at the Idaho Humanities Council's first Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture, scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2008, 7 p.m., at the Colonial Theater in Idaho Falls. The lecture is made possible with support from the Bank of Idaho, the Idaho Falls Post Register, and a gift from Anne Voillequé.

An acclaimed historian of the American presidency, Dallek's most recent work is *Nixon and Kissinger: Partners in Power* (Harper Collins, 2007), a groundbreaking story of two powerful men and how their partnership changed the course of history. This book focuses on the relationship between the two men, and the ways in which their personal traits - their drive, their fears, and their hunger for power and control - affected their performance in office and informed their foreign policy decisions.

Dallek is the author of eight other books, including a two-volume biography of Lyndon Johnson, *Flawed Giant* and *Lone Star Rising*; *Franklin D. Roosevelt and American Foreign Policy*, which won the prestigious Bancroft Prize; *Ronald Reagan: The Politics of Symbolism*; *Hail to the Chief: The Making and Unmaking of American Presidents*; and the bestselling *An Unfinished Life* which explores the life and times of President John F. Kennedy. His writing has appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*. He is also a frequent commentator on radio and television concerning the presidency and current events.

The recurring theme in Dallek's books could not be timelier: the nature of leadership in a world beset by dire problems of the utmost importance. He stands in the front ranks of contemporary historians, having produced a body of work that explores critical issues rich in relevance to our current domestic and international crises

Tickets will go on sale April 1 at the Colonial Theater, or by calling the Theater at (208) 522-0471. General admission tickets for the lecture only will be \$15. Benefactor tickets--which include admission to a catered reception with Robert Dallek in a private home prior to the lecture and preferred seating in the Colonial Theater--will be \$50. Early

ticket reservation is strongly recommended. Visit www.idahohumanities.org or call (888) 345-5346.

The Rediscovered Bookshop is proud to present Claire Dean, a new local author, reading and signing her new book, *Girlwood* on Saturday, May 31st at 2 p.m. Her book is about connections between people and the places we thrive. This book speaks to Boiseans and is an excellent read for mothers and daughters together.

About the Book: Polly Greene has always been considered strange, a girl who can see a person's true colors, a thirteen-year-old more comfortable foraging in the woods with her eccentric grandmother than hanging out with friends. But all that is about to change when Polly's older sister, Bree, vanishes into the woods. Polly, the only one who thinks Bree can survive, begins to leave food in the woods for her sister and finds a hidden grove where she believes Bree is burning a fire each night. Along with an odd but endearing group of friends, Polly clings to the hope that she can see her sister through the harsh, snowy winter. And in the process she discovers the cruelty, bounty, and magic of the woods.

Claire Dean writes from a bright green house behind an ever-growing garden in Idaho. She was inspired to write *Girlwood* for her daughter, who asked for a story about good stuff. "When I asked her what that meant, she said, 'You know, about hope and magic and fairies and girls.' Good stuff, indeed." Next up is a story for the author's son. To learn more about *Girlwood* and to find out what color aura you have, visit Claire Dean at www.clairedean.net.

The Rediscovered Bookshop is also proud to present Yancy Mailes and Gary Keith, respected local historians, reading and signing their new book, *Gowen Field: Images of Aviation* on Saturday, May 31st at 5 p.m. 7079 Overland Rd., Boise. This book has collected images of Gowen field that show the rich history of the Boise Air Force Base.

Book Description: Gowen Field, located south of Boise's air terminal, is home to Idaho's adjutant general, the state's Army and Air National Guard, and to U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Marine Corps reserve units in the Boise area. Named in honor of Lt. Paul R. Gowen, a Caldwell native who died in an aircraft crash in 1938, Gowen Field was opened in the spring of 1941. Throughout World War II, the Army Air Forces used the field to train B-17 and B-24 aircrews for duty in both the European and Pacific theaters of war. Following World War II, the field was offered to the state of Idaho for use by the Air National Guard. Since that time, the Idaho Air Guard has operated numerous aircraft, including, but not limited to, the F-51, F-86, F-102, RF-4C, and the F-4G. Today the Idaho Air Guard operates the A-10 and C-130.

Author and military historian Yancy Mailes has penned several books, including one on the development of the F-117A Stealth Fighter and Arcadia Publishing's Mountain

Home Air Force Base. Author Gary Keith, a native Idahoan, is the curator of the Idaho Military Historical Society and a graduate of Boise State University. His grandfather served as a Gowen Field meat cutter during World War II.

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

The tour schedule includes:

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)

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.

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.

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.

IDAHO HUMANITIES COUNCIL - Read the latest "What I've Been Reading" book reviews on the Council's website:
http://www.idahohumanities.org/news/what_read_08_01.php.

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.

The Scene in Moscow, ID, and Eastern Washington 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 last remaining play is **The Tempest** which will be performed on **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!

Do you like books? Ever wanted to make one the old-fashioned way? The way the professionals of yesteryear did? Then we have some *great* news for you! **Jim Croft of Oldways** is hosting some classes on bookmaking! And let us tell you, Jim Croft knows his bookmaking; he's one of the very best! The classes:

Wooden Boards and Clasps - June 6th through 16th - Wherein you make two books, 9 days total.

Tool Intensive - June 24th through 25th - Wherein you learn all about making tools, knives, bones, awls, scrapers and more.

Or, for those of you who want to know everything there is to know:

Oldways of Making Books from Raw Materials - June 26th through July 11th. This gets you everything: tool making and sharpening, lessons on fibers hempen and flaxen, traditional hand papermaking and loft-drying, gelatin sizing and burnishing, and making a book with wooden boards and clasps. Space is limited, so inquire today! For more information, for dates and times, or to register, contact Jim Croft and Melody Eckroth at oldway@imbris.com, or call 208-245-3043, or visit www.geocities.com/oldways_id

There's a party coming up at **Mikey's Gyros! Bloomsday, the 104th Recurrence!** Featuring audience and rehearsed readings from James Joyce's *Ulysses*, as well as good deals on Mikey's food (\$1.00 off an item of your choice). If you were born or married on June 16th, or if one of your names is James, Augustine, Joyce, Nora, Barnacle, Stephen, Dedalus, Leopold, Marian, Molly, Tweedy, or Bloom, then you get a free sandwich and drink! The event takes place **Monday, June 16th** from **6:30 - 10:30pm** at **Mikey's Gyros**.

For those of you who missed **Michele F. Cooper's** reading at BookPeople, Madame Lisa of KRFP 91.7 recorded the reading, and streamed it on her show "Madame Lisa Scenic Exploration". So, if you would like to hear the reading, we can get you a copy! Michele F. Cooper was the winner of Poetry Canada's Rhymed Poetry Competition.

WRITERS GUILD OF EASTERN OREGON - There's a lot of literary life just across the border. Click on www.wgeo.org to learn more.

Boise Native Releases Books About

Women, Children During War Years

True stories from World War II have been preserved in two new books by historical fiction author and Boise native Teresa R. Funke.

Dancing in Combat Boots (Bailiwick Press, \$12.95) tells eleven stories based on the lives of real women whose WWII experiences were at once typical and extraordinary. One woman piloted military planes as a WASP, while another bucked rivets in an aircraft factory. One survived the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, while another spent three years under guard in a Japanese internment camp.

One of the stories in *Dancing in Combat Boots* recounts the experiences of longtime Boise resident Clarine Riordan Johnson, whose husband, Oreal, was a WWII civilian POW. Like a number of Boise's young men, Oreal was working on tiny Wake Island in the Pacific Ocean when it was stormed and captured by the Japanese. Oreal spent four long years in Japanese prison camps while Clarine supported herself and her two young daughters back home.

The second book, *Doing My Part* (Bailiwick Press, \$6.95) is a children's novel for ages 8 and up. It recounts the true story of a 14-year-old girl who worked in an Illinois war factory in 1944 to support her family. *Doing My Part* is the first title in the Home-Front Heroes series, which will focus on various children's experiences during WWII.

"The World War II generation is leaving us," said Teresa, "and I think it's so important to preserve their stories before it's too late."

Teresa R. Funke is the author of *Remember Wake*, a popular, award-winning novel that fully explores the Boise Wake Island connection during WWII. Teresa and her family now make their home in Colorado. www.teresafunke.com

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

<http://www.idahohumanities.org> Idaho Humanities Council

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>