

Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue VIII

Compiled by Betty Rodgers - bettykrodgers[at]msn.com

To subscribe, email Betty with "subscribe" in the subject line

April 16, 2008

Greetings.

Do you have your poem for tomorrow? April 17 is National Poem in Your Pocket Day, a grassroots celebration of National Poetry Month. Read below what BookPeople in Moscow is doing to participate.

Also, read on to learn about all the terrific activities generated by you and for you in the days ahead. 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

*"Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until
drops of blood form on your forehead." --Gene Fowler*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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.

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

Boise Poetry Slam, April: Thursday, April 17

BSU is having a slam on Thursday, featuring Jared Paul from Providence. Jared is maybe the most eco-positive human-friendly poet on the planet, he is respected worldwide not only for his political views but also for his poetry, which has brought him to acclaim and fame on finals stages all over the place. We don't get too much political poetry in Boise so if you're in the mood to intelligently and ferociously fight the power, get to the Hatch Ballroom in the Student Union Bldg. on Thursday! It's free. There will be an open slam, signups at 6 and slam at 6:30. BSU usually has cash prizes! Whoo-hoo! AND top poets will be the first to accrue points towards our Indy Finals.

Did I say Finals? How 'bout those Team Finals coming on Monday? You want to be there for that!

(From Cheryl Maddalena, poet and do-er of slam things)

Monday April 21

The newest slam tradition--the monthly [Slam@VAC](#), which will be happening on the **first Monday** of every month at the Visual Arts Collective at 3638 Osage Street in Garden City. [Slam@VAC](#) is an all-ages slam, so come one, come all.

Poetry Slam Delux Team Finals and Fundraiser

featuring Jason Bayani

at The Neurolux

113 N. 11th St.

Signups at 7:30, Show at 8

\$8 cover, 21 and up

-- Finalists battle for a chance to represent Boise at the National Poetry Slam in Madison, WI. All proceeds raise funds to send the team to Nationals.

BSU Spring MFA Reading Series 2008:

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.

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, April 23 at 6:30 p.m. at The Cabin. Free.**

The Flicks - Showing films based on literary works:

Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (now playing)

The comic novel of the 1930's by Winifred Watson, which became popular when it was republished in 2000, has been adapted for the screen by David Magee and Simon Beaufoy (who wrote *The Full Monty*). Frances McDormand plays Guinevere Pettigrew, an unemployed governess who gets a position as a social secretary for an American actress (Amy Adams) and begins to live a whirlwind existence. (PG-13)

Persepolis (April 11-17) - **HELD OVER THROUGH APRIL 24**

Award winning graphic novelist Marjane Satrapi joined forces with co-writer Vincent Paronnaud to bring her autobiographical story about coming of age in Iran following the Islamic Revolution to the screen. Actors Sean Penn, Catherine Deneuve, Gena Rowlands and Iggy Pop give her characters their voices. Academy Award Nominee, Best Animated Film, Winner Special Jury Prize 2007 Cannes Film Festival, Academy Award Nominee: Best Animated Film (PG-13). Author Marjane Satrapi appeared at The Egyptian Theatre recently as part of The Cabin's Readings and Conversations Series.

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*

The Rape of Europa (April 18-24)

The Epic Story of the systematic theft, deliberate destruction and miraculous survival of Europe's many art treasures during the Third Reich and World War II is narrated by Joan Allen. For twelve years, the Nazi's looted and destroyed art on an unprecedented scale. Ordinary heroes fought back to save many of the works, including Gustav Klimt's *Gold Portrait*, stolen from Viennese Jews in 1938 and now the most expensive painting ever sold. Written, produced and directed by Richard Berge, Bonni Cohen and Nicole Newnham and based on the authoritative book of the same name by Lynn H. Nicholas. Winner of the Writer's Guild of America 2007 Best Documentary Award.

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 NONFICTION WRITERS' CRITIQUE GROUP meets to share critiques and ideas in a supportive and helpful atmosphere. **Wednesday, April 16, 2008**, 7-8:30 pm, **The Cabin**, 801 S. Capitol. This event is FREE and open to all. For more info: jancarpenter12@hotmail.com

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, 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, or call 939-0385 for information or to register.

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

For more information contact cmartin@boisestate.edu.

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 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."

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 Kremerik, 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.

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:

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)

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. Check out the new library card designs on the Web site, too. They put the "!" in Library!

The Scene in Moscow, ID, and Eastern Washington as reported by BookPeople:

Landscapes, the literary and arts journal of WSU, is coming out soon! The Spring 2008 edition will feature even more of the best student works in art, photography, fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. Keep an eye out!

National Library Week wraps up on **April 18th**. There's a ton of events to attend, but they're easy to remember! **All events** take place on the first floor of the University of Idaho Library. Come enjoy the great literature, free refreshments, celebrate the university, and of course, support fellow Vandals as they read their own works! The lineup:

Thursday, April 17th, 11:30am - Tiffany Midge - *Outlaws, Renegades, and Saints*, and also *Guiding the Stars to Their Campfire, Driving the Salmon to Their Beds*, 12:00 noon - Kim Barnes - *A Country Called Home*, 12:30pm - Robert Wrigley - *New Poetry!*

Friday, April 18th

12:00pm - Brandon Schrand - *The Enders Hotel: A Memoir*

Get Lit, through April 20th! That's right, the 10th Annual **Get Lit literary festival** is coming to Spokane this month! Featuring an excellent and diverse pool of authors, including Diana Abu-Jaber, David James Duncan, Dorianne Laux, Thomas Lynch, Carole Lexa Schaffer, David Wojahn, Naomi Wolf, and Tobias Wolff. For information and registration, visit their website at www.ewu.edu/getlit.

April 17th is Poem In Your Pocket Day. Have a favorite poem? Carry it around with you on April 17th 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!

Buddy Levey, Andrea Mason, Peter Chilson, and Debbie Lee will be having a group reading at the Cafe Silos. The event is **Friday, April 18th** from **6:00 - 7:30pm**. The Cafe Silos are located at 693 Styner Ave in Moscow, Id. For more information, email deblee@wsu.edu

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

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

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.joanepence.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>