

Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue VI

Compiled by Betty Rodgers

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March 16, 2008

Greetings.

Once again, welcome to the latest issue of the Idaho Writers' Update, your resource for literary news around the state.

Judy Steele reminded me that April 17 is National Poem in Your Pocket Day, so please read below about how the folks in Moscow, Idaho, plan to celebrate. Also, let me know what you plan to do, and we'll include other ideas in the next issue on April 1. No foolin'.

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

If food is poetry, is not poetry also food? --Joyce Carol Oates

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Refer to the Update anytime online at:

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. Email contact is tdmlundy@juno.com. Critiques are available for books of both poetry and prose.

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.

Ides Of March Kicks Off The Big Read

The Cabin will host a gathering of representatives from book clubs throughout the Treasure Valley called The Ides of March to kick off The Big Read for 2008. Guest speaker Dr. Tara Penry of Boise State University and Stacey Guill will speak about this year's book selection, *My Antonia* by Willa Cather. The Cabin 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 to host The Big Read. It is an annual community initiative that promotes reading and the literary arts. The Cabin will coordinate community-wide activities, events, and celebrations. The Ides of March book club celebration and Big Read kickoff is **Saturday, March 15, from 2 p.m.- 4 p.m.** at The Cabin on Capitol Boulevard. A publication of book selections from each book group will be available. The event is free and the public is invited. For further information, contact The Cabin at 331-8000. **New web site!**
www.thecabinidaho.org

Rediscovered Bookshop, "Where books and people meet," 7079 Overland Road, Boise, 376-4229, www.rdbooks.org

- Monday, **March 17** at 6:30 pm Manga Book Club
- Thursday, **March 20**, Poetry Night 7 p.m.
- Monday, **March 24** at 6:30 p.m. Eclectic Reader Book Club reading Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
- Thursday, **March 27** at 4:00 p.m G.A.S.P (Girls Are Splendid People) Book club for girls in 6th -8th grade reading - The Looking Glass Wars by Frank Beddor

Terrific Tales Storytime, Tuesdays at 6:30 and Friday's at 10:30

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.

Writing group meets Wednesday, **March 19, 2008**, 7:00-8:30 pm, The Log Cabin Literary Center, 801 S. Capitol, <http://www.thecabinidaho.org>, 208.331.8000. The event is FREE and open to everyone.

Jill Kuraitis, journalist with the Boise edition of **NewWest.net**, will share advice for aspiring journalists and nonfiction writers. Wednesday, **April 2, 2008**, 6:30-8:00 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other writers!), **Rediscovered Bookshop**, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, <http://www.rdbooks.org>, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone.

5-Week On-line Poetry Class--Imagery--Literal and Figurative: How we conceptualize experience. Imagery scrounges from the senses...is an invented tangibility...something dreamed into concrete.

March 22, 29, and April 5, 12, 19, 2008 with Ken Rodgers, MFA. *The poet, Aaron Shurin, says, "Poetry doesn't seek to be transparent. It is cognitive and sensuous at the same time. Poetry is an intellectual and emotional complexity in an instant of time."* Poems need to be concrete. How do we capture the concrete? How does a poem show you what it sounds like, or the visual complexity of its sky? We will study this through imagery-literal and figurative, through simile, metaphor, metonymy, and some William Carlos Williams nothing-but-the-image imagery.

Cost: \$55.00. Enroll at www.kennethrodgers.com.

Peregrine Fund Community Reading Program - Our Earth Our Ethics

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

Book Discussion, Saturday, **Mar. 22**

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

Attend this community reading program with free Saturday morning discussions

of books about the environment.

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 and **World Center for Birds of Prey** 362-8687 or visit 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.

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 26** at 6:30 p.m. at **The Cabin**. Free.

Boise Poetry Slam, March & April:

Monday March 17

Spoken Word Workshop with Iyeoka Okoawo of Boston

5:00 pm at Boise State University

Cataldo Room

Student Union Building

1910 University Drive.

Starts at 5pm

free! all-ages

Monday March 17

Poetry Slam Delux featuring Iyeoka Okoawo

at The Neurolux

113 N. 11th St.

Signups at 7:30, Show at 8

\$5 cover, 21 and up

\$100 prize to the winner!

Monday April 21

Spoken Word Workshop with Jason Bayani

5:00 pm at Boise State University

Cataldo Room
Student Union Building
1910 University Drive.

Starts at 5pm

free! all-ages

Monday April 21

Poetry Slam Delux Team Finals and Fundraiser

featuring Jason Bayani

at The Neurolux

113 N. 11th St.

Signups at 7:30, Show at 8

\$10 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.

Barnes & Noble in Idaho Falls: In an effort to further address the interests of the writers in our community, we will begin holding a writer's group workshop at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, **April 2**, and will continue to hold them at the same time 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.

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, 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.

BSU Spring MFA Reading Series 2008:

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

Family Reading Series: Join The Cabin's **Carole Whiteleather** and come 'hear a play' with some of Boise's finest actors.

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.

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.

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.

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).

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:

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)



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.

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: 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 !

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 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!**

There's an excellent article in the new Argonaut about **Mary Clearman Blew's** new book! Check it out, you'll be glad you did; you'll learn a lot about Blew, her writing style, the origins of her interest in writing, and *Jackalope Dreams*. The full article is available at <http://www.uiargonaut.com/content/view/5589/47/>

Also in stock at BookPeople: **Bandon Schrand's** *The Enders Hotel: a Memoir*. A stunningly good book, Kim Barnes described it as "gorgeously written and generous in its telling", and Mary Clearman Blew praises it for "its fresh new depiction of a small town's pain and its dignity as it endures through change, setbacks, and the perplexities of love". We're very pleased to welcome Brandon Schrand to the pantheon of literary giants from Moscow, whose books we proudly carry. Come check it out!

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.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>