

Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue X

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

May 16, 2008

Greetings.

And you thought the Idaho literary world would take a breather in the months ahead? Think again, and look below for activities from Moscow to Idaho Falls, Sandpoint to Boise. If your events are not listed, please send me a notice as soon as you can.

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

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. Early bird ends June 15. Visit our Website or call for more information.

The Cabin Expands Idaho Writing Camps

The Cabin, Idaho's log cabin literary center, has expanded its Idaho Writing Camps to include more locations and new camp sessions. Camps will be offered at **True North Creative Learning Center in Eagle** and at **The Center for the Arts in Caldwell**, in addition to its

other locations in the Treasure Valley and in eastern Idaho. One-week creative writing adventures are offered for youth in grades 4-12. The Cabin's camps were chosen by the National Endowment for the Arts as one of ten model summer arts programs in the nation. Children and young adults will work with professional writers and publish their work in The Cabin's annual book of camp writings called *Words Work Wonders*. New this year is the addition of camp "tracks" called Curious City, Words & Pictures, Writing Wild! and 801 OASIS. Scholarships are available. For more information, call **331-8000** or visit www.TheCabinIdaho.org.

The Flicks - Showing films based on literary works:

Then She Found Me (Opened 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. ®**
www.theflicksboise.com

Boise Poetry Slam, May:

Monday, May 19

Hey poetry people -

Congratulations to our Team Finalist winners: Tara Brenner, Janelle Wilson, Kristen Smith, and Cheryl Maddalena! Currently we have the ONLY all-woman team going to the National Poetry Slam in August! This team has been christened "Team Poetry Cake," and will be sure to be bringing you poetry tastiness all summer long.

Meanwhile, here's the news:

1. We had a great last slam at Visual Arts Collective, but we won't be back there because they are going to an over-21 format. Know an all-ages venue you wish we would contact? Tell our slam manager Isaac at igrambo@hotmail.com.
2. Everybody who places 1st-3rd this summer at Neurolux is accruing points to compete at our individual finals for a spot at the Individual World Poetry Slam that will be in Charlotte in December. OMG iWPS.
3. BRING YOUR LIMERICKS ON MONDAY! Summer is traditionally a time of rejuvenation in poetry-land, where we refresh ourselves and our creativity. And what's more refreshing than a limerick? Bring yours,

or write one while you're there, and we'll have a Limerick Showcase in between slam rounds.

4. The \$100 prize is still in effect, poets. Come and get it!

\$100 POETRY \$LAM DELUX

Monday May 19

doors/signup 7:30, show at 8

Neurolux

113 N. 11th St.

\$5

-- Open slam, anyone can compete, anyone can judge!

-- Delicious limericks! Beer! And afterwards a DJ with a really adorable flyer.

-- Judges chosen from the audience.

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.

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

Paula Coomer Reading May 22 at The Cabin. The Cabin will bring author Paula Coomer to read on Thursday, May 22, at 7:00 PM. Ms. Coomer is a 2006 nominee for the Pushcart Prize in both poetry and fiction and a writer-in-residence for Oregon's Fishtrap. She will read from *Summer of Government Cheese*, her new collection of short stories about people from the Pacific Northwest. "Paula Coomer's stories are as sparkling and unexpected as found pennies," says Western writer Mary Blew. Ms. Coomer's work is rich with idiosyncratic characters, lyrical language and a strong sense of place. Her books will be available for sale at the reading. Admission is free. For more information, call The Cabin at 331-8000. www.thecabinidaho.org

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.

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

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.

Poetic Grammar Revisited: Poets exploit grammar more than any other writers.

On-line Class with Ken Rodgers, MFA. **Five sessions: May 31, June 7, 14, 21 and 28**

-Poetry derives great power from poetic grammar: syntax, punctuation, condensation and diction.

-Learn to challenge your reader's expectations.

-We will read poems that show us new grammar, unexpected syntax, and unique usage of punctuation.

Join us in this class brought back by popular demand. We will write, write, write to hone our understanding. \$55. For further details or to register, contact kennetherodgers@msn.com.

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS' Speaker Series. MAKING A LIVING WITH YOUR BOOK: Dave Lakhani is a marketing expert, trainer, and author of *Subliminal Persuasion: Influence and Marketing Secrets They Don't Want You To Know*, and *Persuasion: The Art of Getting What You Want*. Join us as Dave unveils the plan he has used to sell tens of thousands of books in 13 languages worldwide. **Wednesday June 4**, 2008, 6:30-8 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other aspiring writers), Rediscovered Bookshop, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, www.rdbooks.org, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. For more info: cindysalo@hotmail.com.

The Popular Fiction Assn. of Idaho announces the annual **Murder on the Grove** June 6 and 7. See their website at www.murderonthegrove.com for complete details.

Writer's workshop with Ken Rodgers, MFA: Lyric Essay, Where the wild meets the personal. Six weeks, June 30, July 7, 14,21, August 11 and 18. 7:00 P.M. Cost: \$110.00. **True North Creative Learning Center, Eagle.** Embrace the personal and the lyrical where personal essay meets the music and the imagery of poetry. In six weeks of two-hour meetings on Monday evenings we will create and discuss fresh new essays in a fresh new genre that will appear on the page like nothing you have ever created--a melding of the essay and the poem--a different sense, something more than the words of how and why, but words compelled by supercharged language and imagery. We will break limits, examine associative leaps, experiment. And we will **write, write, write**. Register at www.truenorthclc.com or call **939-0385**.

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS' Speaker Series. GRAMMAR FOR CREATIVE WRITERS: Steve Flick, English teacher and writer, will share his secrets for making good grammar fun and easy. **Wednesday July 2, 2008**, 6:30-8 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other aspiring writers), **Rediscovered Bookshop**, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, www.rdbooks.org, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. For more info: cindysalo@hotmail.com

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS' Speaker Series. LANDING A PUBLISHING HOUSE, LAUNCHING A CAREER: Jana Kemp, author, facilitator, and conference speaker, will share her stories of publishing five books, making speaking and writing pay, and succeeding in the ongoing quest to appear in print. **Wednesday August 6, 2008**, 6:30-8 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other aspiring writers), **Rediscovered Bookshop**, 7079 Overland

Rd., Boise, www.rdbooks.org, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. For more info: cindysalo@hotmail.com.

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)

Albertsons Boise Open Tickets Benefit The Cabin. The popular golf event will be held **September 8-14**. 100% of proceeds from tickets sales go to The Cabin when you select The Cabin as your designated charity! For tickets, visit www.albertsonsboiseopen.com.

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.

Barnes & Noble in Idaho Falls: In an effort to further address the interests of the writers in our community, we host 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.

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 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!

Come on down to the Socrates Cafe, an event at BookPeople! When was the last time you could discuss your thoughts openly and honestly with others? Have you ever questioned society and its assumptions, or your own? Do you like to have a good discussion without fear of being attacked for having an opinion that is different? Then Socrates Cafe is here for you! The time is 6:00 pm, and the Cafe will meet every first and third Sunday of the month. Future meetings: **May 18th, June 1st, June 15th, July 6th, July 20th**. For more information, find them on the web at www.philosopher.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

It's time once again (in fact, 104th again!) for the Moscow **Bloomsday!** celebration, now at recurrence number 104. On **Monday, June 26** meet at the **1912 Center** in Moscow from **6:30-10:30 pm**. There will be both rehearsed and impromptu audience readings from James Joyce's *Ulysses*, which takes place on a single day: June 16, 1904. Anyone named **James, Augustine, Joyce, Nora, Barnacle, Stephen, Dedalus, Leopold, Marian, Molly, Tweedy, or Bloom** or anyone **born or married on June 16th** will get **FREE BEVERAGES** all night. So there's only a couple months left to get down to the Latah County Courthouse and have your name legally changed to Tweedy for those free drinks! Inquire at Bookpeople or e-mail Mirrortheater@roadrunner.com. The event is sponsored by Bookpeople and the Mirror Theater.

The Third Annual Writer's Edge conference is being held in downtown Portland, Oregon from **July 25-27**. Writers will learn about edge, and its application in their writing, through five workshops on writing innovative fiction, two panels, a faculty reading, an open mic, and "myriad conversations about experimental prose." For more information or to apply to the conference, visit <http://fc2.org/edge/edge.htm>. Anyone with more questions about the conference please contact Idaho's own **Lance Olsen**, co-organizer of the conference at writersedge2008@gmail.com. Olsen, who taught at the University of Idaho for 12 years and directed the University of Idaho's Masters of Fine Arts program for two years, will be teaching a workshop entitled "The Mosaic Mind: Fiction as Collage."

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 (Balliwick 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>