



Vol. XXIII, No. 6

MARKINGS

June 2009

The Tallahassee Writers Association Newsletter

For information on the included items and more, please visit our website:

www.twaonline.org

President's Message

By Donna Meredith

I will be teaching a free workshop Saturday, July 18, on "The Heroine's Journey" at the Leon County Public Library from 1-4 p.m.

Many writers are familiar with Carl Jung's concept of archetypes and know Joseph Campbell's work with the hero's journey. For years I taught the initiation theme in literature to my high school students. When I started writing fiction myself, I noticed female characters often face different dragons from those slain by her male counterparts, and the heroine often chooses different weapons to fight her battles. There is also considerable difference between the journeys embarked upon by traditional heroines and more modern ones.

These are some of the issues I plan to address in the workshop. We'll look at female characters in several novels and then participants will map out a journey for a female character of their creation.

On Saturday, August 8, Anne Holt will offer a free workshop on "From Manuscript Preparation to Publication," so put the date on your calendar. Anne is going to tell you how to make every aspect of your manuscript formatting appear professional and she'll talk about query letters that get noticed by publishers or agents. Everything you need to know to get your manuscript into the hands of the public – don't miss it. The workshop will be held at the Leon County Library from 1-4 p.m.

Program Notes

By Marsha Lyons

June 18: Erin Belieu

Erin Belieu became the director of Florida State University's Creative Writing Program after teaching English and creative writing at Florida State and several other universities. She has participated as a guest faculty member/reader at conferences such as the Port Townsend Writers Conference in Washington, The University of Stirling Conference in Stirling, Scotland, John Hopkins University, Boston University and many others. She was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for her book of poetry, *Black Box*, and has published three other books of her collections. Her book, *Infanta*, was selected for the National Poetry Series and chosen by the National Book Critics Circle, *The Washington Post Book World* and the *Library Journal* as one of the best books of poetry published in 1995. Ms. Belieu was also an editor and publisher in Boston before pursuing her teaching career. She will speak about "Finding the Poetry in Prose."

July 16: David Kirby

Dr. David Kirby, a Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, came to Florida State University after getting his degree from John Hopkins University. He has published twenty-two books, hundreds of articles and numerous individual poems. He typically publishes thirty to forty book reviews, many in the *New York Times*. Dr. Kirby sits on the Board of Directors of the National Book

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 2

Critics Circle and helps select its prestigious prize winners. One of his books is *What is a Book?* He will speak on the art of writing from beginning to end to engage the reader.

August 20: Workshop Night

TWA members will lead mini-workshops in various genres including poetry, children's literature, true crime, novels, freelancing and others. More details will be announced.

Student showcase a big success

By Marci Elliott

Students in the Big Bend Writers' Guild and their friends once again presented a Showcase of Talent that will leave TWA members and guests talking about them for a long time. On May 21, the Writers' Guild put on its second annual Showcase of Talent as the TWA's program for the month at the American Legion Hall. Eighteen students did 20 readings of poetry, fiction and other forms of prose.

Michael Dorsey and Colin Wulff, two of our charter BBWG members, acted as masters of ceremonies and entertained the crowd of about 70 with humor, juggling and other surprises. Michael, now a freshman at Tallahassee Community College, has agreed to be our student consultant and Colin, who just graduated, has agreed to be one, too. Colin is active in local community theater and is an actor, singer and musician as well as a writer. Michael has completed a book and is looking for a publisher now. Both of these amazing young men have a bright, shining future ahead of them.

Ted Simmons, co-founder (with Sterling Mullett) and co-coordinator (with Marci Elliott) of the BBWG went far beyond the call of duty in not only helping to organize the showcase, but to obtain donations of food for the event. Thanks to Ted and

donors like Winn-Dixie, there was plenty to serve during the intermission. Some TWA members and partners also contributed to the refreshments. Leon County Commissioner Mark Mustian, Leon County Schools administrator Connie Pfaender, community theater Director Chuck Olson and our BBWG teacher-sponsors, Susan Womble of Godby High and Laurel Matthews of Lincoln High, were in the audience. TV reporter Rebecca Baer and her cameraman did interviews and stayed to shoot some footage. The stars of the evening were the BBWG students and their friends, who showed why we're so proud of them and why we want to continue this showcase as an annual event. Thanks to every one of them and everyone else who made this a big success.

Young Authors/Big Impressions

By Marci Elliott

Several TWA members volunteered to take part in two Young Authors events, Sealey Elementary School on May 18 and Hawks Rise Elementary on May 19. Most of the TWA volunteers went to both events, but all participants raved about the wonderful time they had – especially visiting with the children and witnessing the books they had designed, written and produced themselves.

Media Director Lenita Joe, who organized the Sealey event, and Literacy Coach/teacher Susan Koehler, who organized the one at Hawks Rise, marveled at the camaraderie between the young authors and the professional ones, who shared their experiences with them. Mrs. Koehler asked her participating fourth- and fifth-graders to write comments on what they gained from Young Authors Day, and below are some of their remarks.

“What I liked about today is that you got to meet more authors and learned that authors don't

Continued on page 4

ABOUT TWA

The Tallahassee Writers Association is a diverse, dynamic group of writers, published and unpublished, who reside in the greater Tallahassee area. The purpose of the Tallahassee Writers Association is to provide education, connection, and encouragement for professional and novice writers.

MARKINGS **Volume XXIII, Number 6** **June 2009**

MARKINGS is a monthly publication of the Tallahassee Writers Association.

President Donna Meredith

Vice-President Marci Elliott

Secretary Laura Garrison

Treasurer Ted Simmons

Executive Director Anne Holt

Board Members at Large:

Sandra Sherrard

Mike Whitehead

Bonny Armstrong

Poetry Chair Mark Fletcher

Playwrite Chair Sandra Sherrard

Seven Hills Coordinator Donna Meredith

Membership Chair Sylvia Livingston

Conference Chair Terry Crowley

Publicity Chair Michael Whitehead

Program Chair Marsha L. Lyons

Student Relations Chair Marci Elliott

Newsletter Chair Marci Elliott

Website Chair Sterling Mullett

DUES

Annual dues are \$30.00; student membership is half of regular membership, and a family membership is \$45.00. Make checks out to Tallahassee Writers Association and mail payments to: TWA, ATTN: Treasurer, P.O. Box 3428, Tallahassee FL 32315-3428

Program Meeting Calendar for 2009

MONTHLY PROGRAM NOTES

Program Meetings begin at 6:30 and run until 8:00 p.m. From 8:00-9:00 p.m., various workshops, writing exercises and critique sessions will be held. This will balance the professional development segment and the hands-on help writers have requested. Note: On nights events are planned off-site, the option of group critique or writing workshops may be held at usual meeting time and place. Watch *Markings* for notice.

Markings is a monthly publication of the Tallahassee Writers Association. Published material is copyrighted by the author and represents the views of the author, not the opinion of the Board or the editor, unless otherwise indicated. All material for and about writers and writing will be considered for publication. Material may be submitted electronically via email, on disk, or SD Media. These will be returned with SASE or by other arrangement.

Classified advertising: Free classified advertisements, **from members only**, will be accepted for publication on a space-available basis to be determined by the editor. Content of all advertisements is the responsibility of the advertiser and is limited to business card size.

Deadline for submission of all material is the Monday following the first weekend of the month of publication. Submissions should be sent to: Copy Editor - TWA Markings, P.O. Box 3428, Tallahassee, FL, 32315-3428 or email to newsletter@tallahasseewriters.net.

TWA provides a complimentary copy of *Markings* to visitors to our monthly meetings. If you would like to continue to receive *Markings*, please contact one of the Board members listed in the preceding column for information on becoming a member of TWA.

Continued from page 2

get to pick what their books look like, that they have to revise their books llooooootts and that when authors sell their books they only get a small percentage of the money. This was a wonderful experience. Thank you.”

“Today I got to meet local authors. The books I got to see and examine were very interesting. This has been a great experience.”

“Someone told me to write a novel or another expository I already wrote. I’m definitely going to add more techniques in writing.”

“I learned about what books the authors write and what they like to read. Also that I can think of things that were actual experiences, like my grandpa being too lazy to shovel all the snow in Canada that covered the whole door and my dad had to shovel it himself. I also learned a lot about the authors. Thank you.”

“The authors were very kind and they gave us nice compliments. They listened to our stories and they wrote down notes. They told us what they liked and that was very kind.”

“I learned that it is fun to meet authors (even though I already knew that). I loved doing this. It was an amazing experience. I love meeting famous people.”

“I learned that writing is amazing and I might want to do it when I get older.”

“This was valuable to me because I got to meet people that share the same passion as me. They feel strongly about writing and are dedicated to it.”

“I learned that I am a good writer. Also, I learned that writing is awesome. Go writers!”

“I learned about the authors and their books. Each author had their own personality. One even collected alligator things. We each got to meet two writers. I learned to use good vocabulary words and color words. Thank you!”

“I liked today because I go to meet some actual authors and share my poetry. I also learned how to get books published.”

“The valuable time I spent here was meeting authors I never knew.”

“I loved the tips I learned from the authors and meeting them was a treat.”

“I learned many things today, and all authors write different things such as magazines, newspapers, books, and Florida books. But they all love reading and so do I. I’m happy to learn about all their stories – fact and fiction – and I’m happy that they came to tell us about their writing.”

“I think that this experience was amazing because I was lucky enough to be in the presence of two amazing authors and to be able to meet ten local authors!”

“I think this experience was valuable because I received constructive criticism and got an important opinion about the work I did. I am very happy and lucky to have met and talked with some local authors. They have inspired me thoroughly.”

“I learned that it is hard and fun to be an author. Plus I learned a couple of new words.”

Deadline Reminder

Don’t forget the deadline to submit articles, notices, announcements and other items to the *Markings* newsletter is the Monday after the first Thursday of each month. Please submit material directly to copy-editor Marci Elliott at marci2elliott@aol.com. If you have any questions, send them in an e-mail or call Marci at (850) 877-3657.

Did You Know ?

Business Membership in TWA includes free card size advertisement in *Markings*—on a space available basis. Join today!

BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS

Toya O'Hora
Community Relations Manager
2415 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 383-0578 Fax (850) 383-0660
crm2849@bn.com

Music Center

RUN BY MUSICIANS FOR MUSICIANS
Guitars & Lessons
BUY • SELL • TRADE

We buy used musical equipment
1221 East Lafayette Street Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 942-0626

Anne H. Holt, Ph.D
Writer/Speaker

www.ahholt.com

2636 W. Mission #146 Phone: 850-576-0721
Tallahassee, FL 32304 Email: ahholt@ahholt.com

WW II
A Navy Nurse Remembers



Elizabeth Kinzer O'Farrell
LT (NC) USN (RET)

WW II... A Navy Nurse Remembers
ISBN: 978-0-9776958-6-7
120 pages, \$12.95
Publication Date: November 2007

Elizabeth Kinzer O'Farrell
LT (NC) USN (RET)
c/o CyPress Publications
P.O. Box 2636
Tallahassee FL 32316-2636
<http://cypress-starpublications.com>
NAVYNURSEBETTY@AOL.COM



Edited By Liz
Liz Jameson
2424 Monaco Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32308
Home: 850-309-1270
Cell: 850-264-3080

www.bxnted.com



TED SIMMONS
AUTHOR OF
Sandstorm

Books * Presentations * Seminars

4667 HIGHGROVE ROAD TALLAHASSEE, FL 32309
(850) 894-6181 TED@TXNTED.COM



Stories about women facing
the other side of 50.

Michèle Beaudin
Photographer, Author, Artist

Available on Line or
call the author for your
signed copy.

Reviewed, Capital Culture Fall 2008 - ISBN 978-0-4151-7157-9
2314 Edenfield Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32308

Phone: 850-877-1006 Cell: 850-322-6400
michele@immiges.com
www.immigesandwords.com / www.immiges.com

An online writing community for the bard in all of us.

New Bards Press

LLC www.newbardspress.com

*Messages
from Babylon*



Michael Whitehead

**MESSAGES FROM
BABYLON**
BY MICHAEL
WHITEHEAD

AVAILABLE AT:
WWW.TheLionOfBabylon.com
michael.whitehead@us.army.mil

MARKINGS—JUNE 2009

TWA
P.O. BOX 3428
Tallahassee, FL, 32315-3428

Return Service Requested



June Meeting

MEETING DATE: *Third Thursday of each month. This month, “Finding the Poetry in Prose,” with Erin Belieu, director of Florida State University’s Creative Writing Program. 6:30 p.m., June 18. Following Program Meeting, various workshops, writing exercises and critique sessions will be held.*

MEETING PLACE: *American Legion Hall, 229 Lake Ella Drive.*

Visit TWA online at: <http://twaonline.org>
or do a search for *Tallahassee writers.*

Edited by Liz

Affordable, professional editing services

Liz Jameson, CPCC

Editor/Certified Professional Co-Active Life Coach
2424 Monaco Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32308

850-309-1270

E-mail: lcjameson@yahoo.com