

# Idaho Writers League Coeur d'Alene Chapter

# News & Views

November 2002

## Inside this Issue

- 1 The President's Column  
Novel Workshop in a  
Bottle
- 2 November and  
December Plans  
Continued
- 3 New Members  
Great News  
History Moment
- 4 Annual Christmas  
Luncheon  
Installation of Officers
- 5 Current Officers  
Next Years Contest  
Assigned Titles, etc.  
Registration Form  
For 2003  
Upcoming Events

Questions or Suggestions?  
Email the Editor at  
[cdwriters@hotmail.com](mailto:cdwriters@hotmail.com)

Look for the IWL online at  
[www.idahowritersleague.com](http://www.idahowritersleague.com)

## The President's Column

*Mary Smith, Chapter President*

It is the end of the first year of new (now old) officers and harvest time. What a beautiful fall we're having. My husband and I returned from our "honeymoon" trip, coming home from the east. We made the turn on I-90 at the bottom of Fourth of July pass and our beautiful city spread before us. In full autumn regalia, it was more artistic than the loveliest Oriental rug and I fell in love with my hometown all over again.

And speaking of harvesting, we in the Coeur d'Alene chapter harvested a substantial

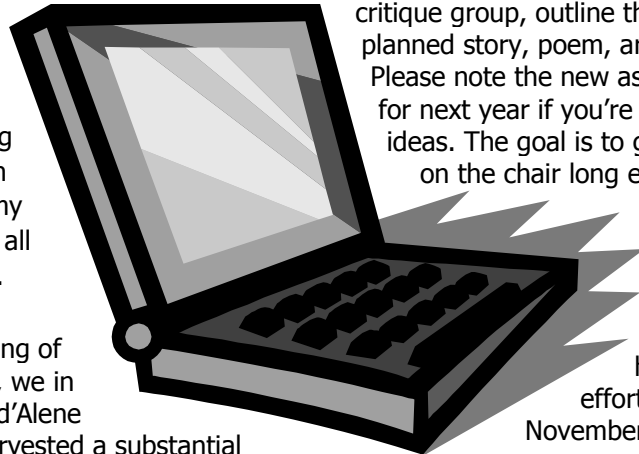
State Convention. Congratulations to all who entered. In my book you are

We have also planted many new seeds this year and are feeling the results of those, which have taken root and grown. Our newsletter is outstanding thanks to Kristin Howard who designed it and Jan See who has published it this year. A huge round of applause to her for a superb job. To Patti Dickinson, Judith Farrey, David Hibberd, Dottie Maley, Nikki Arana, Barbara Rostad,

Nadine Boss, Michael Marsden for accepting obligations and magnifying the outcomes far beyond expectations. What a privilege to work with such professionals.

Please look to friends, relatives, and neighbors for people interested in joining our writing family. We don't want to grow too large, but it is important that we stay large enough to accomplish those things, which we have committed to do.

This is also a time to plant new seeds—take a writing class, begin a critique group, outline that planned story, poem, article. Please note the new assignments for next year if you're short on ideas. The goal is to get the body on the chair long enough to write something each day. We look forward to hearing your efforts at a November meeting.



## Bottle

By Patti Dickinson, Program Co-Chairman

Work with me here! Of course I don't mean a *literal* bottle. Picture one of those bottles lying on its side with a complete ship built inside—that's what I mean. Petrushka Pavlovich's workshop on The Classic Three Act Story Structure IS the equivalent of that complete ship within a

bottle. Attend this workshop and you'll learn the elements of structuring y something every novelist needs to know.

When I approached Petrushka to speak to us, I told her that so far this year, we learned about the 4 Ds to fully develop our characters from Brandilyn Collins; we had a workshop on the elements of a good hook or beginning; Larry Telles gave us The First Steps in Writing a Novel. "Now what, Petrushka, what comes next?" I asked.

Her answer? "Structuring the story. The classic 3-act structure—a beginning, middle, and an end—is a tried, tested, and true method. [It is a given] that the "front-loaded novel" is the one, which gets published. Of course you can break out of the box but you need to know the structure in order to do it effectively." She added: "knowing it [the 3 act structure] sets the novelist free for artistic expression."

We are very fortunate to get this busy lady. Petrushka has twenty years of experience as a writer and teacher. She holds her Masters Degree in Screenwriting and Screen Research from London University. She has been a reader for publishing houses—*Only Women Press & Bantam*, among others—as well as for production companies. These days she is busy teaching workshops. Information on how to sign up for one will be available at the meeting. She also works as a coach/advisor with individual writers as well as groups. This is exciting stuff, fellow writers, and I URGE you not to miss her workshops! (She will present the same one for the November evening meeting).

the November evening meeting).

**\*\*Day meeting format change:** In order to give Petrushka as much time as possible, we're going to start Wednesday's meeting promptly at 9:00 a.m. with a S.B. (Super-Brief) ☺ business meeting, then break into groups and read /receive TLF (time limit 10 minutes each) and afterward have our break. **The workshop will run from 10:30 a.m. until noon, Wednesday, Nov. 13th at the Jewett House.**

Not to lament, Thursday night people! You will also get to learn the Classic Three Act Story Structure on Thursday, **Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> at the LDS Church on Hanley, west of Ramsey** .The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and we will start Petrushka's workshop right away, so don't be late.



**December Meeting—  
“Party, Presents, Poetry  
& Prose!”**

Since this is the combined November & December newsletter, here's what we have lined up for our December meeting at the Jewett House on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (We have only the day meeting in December, so hopefully you night folks will find a way to join us). **Food galore**—don't eat

before you come because everyone is invited to bring your favorite casserole dish, cake, cookies, whatever culinary creation you would like to share. Leave worries about calories behind because we have wonderful cooks in our chapter!

**Presents**—\$5.00 limit—see how creative you can be with five bucks—part of the fun. Writerly type stuff, Christmas things, whatever strikes your fancy including hand made items and homemade goodies. **Poetry and Prose**—since is the Season of Giving/Sharing, what better time to write some poetry or prose for children. **The Children's Village** right here in Coeur d' Alene would love to have some short stories and poetry to read to the children during the holidays.

**Tinka Shaffer**, one of C.V.'s Directors said, "Especially some personalized stories set here in CDA or in the area." What a wonderful opportunity for IWL members to make the holidays brighter for the children of our community. And speaking of brightening the holidays for them, each child who arrives at C. V. is given a teddy bear and a blanket= instant comfort for a frightened child. **This is strictly voluntary**, but if you wish to also bring a Teddy Bear or child's blanket, they will be donated to the Children's Village from the CdA Chapter of the Idaho Writers League — makes me smile just to think about it.

Happy Thanksgiving, and Best wishes for a Healthy, Joy-filled Holiday to everyone from Patti & Patty, your Program-Planning People. ☺

## New Members

Bruce Blinzler  
2204 W. St. Emilion Dr.  
Hayden 83835-8444  
772-2129 [blinzler@nidlink.com](mailto:blinzler@nidlink.com)

Robin L. Valaitis-Heflin  
14886 E. Alder Creek Rd.  
CdA 83814-7547  
664-5212 [valaitish@aol.com](mailto:valaitish@aol.com)

Larry Telles  
1323 E. Deerhaven Ave.  
Dalton Gardens 83815-9593  
762-2548 [ltelles@icehouse.net](mailto:ltelles@icehouse.net)

Jo Ann B. Byler  
1523 E. Woodlawn Dr.  
CdA 83815-9514  
772-7442 [jjbyler@aol.com](mailto:jjbyler@aol.com)

Also, one change:

Diane Mizell  
PO Box 866  
Rathdrum 83858-0866  
687-1122 (same e-mail)

## A Gem from the Web

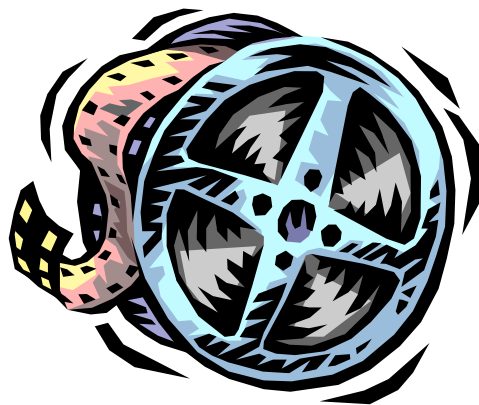
**Judith Farrey**

Are there children in your life who are interested in writing or whom you are trying to encourage to write? If so, you might like to take a look at

[www.kidnews.com](http://www.kidnews.com) which is promoted as being "100% kid-driven and contains writing from kids for kids." The homepage is horribly slow to load, but probably with a little experience could be bypassed. Kidnews provides a safe and friendly place on the web for kids to be published and includes archives of news, features, advice & opinions, creative, pen pals, reviews and sports. There is also a parents & teachers section. I found out about the website when I made a Writers Digest Book Club purchase of "Kids Rule the World, an Interactive Internet Writing Kit," a book and CD by Susan Todd. It turns out the book/CD are also for sale on the website. If anyone wants to see the book, please let me know.

## Great News!

Here is the scoop. Michael Marsden has signed a contract with Publish America. They will publish his novel *The House in Harrison*. There is much to do but he hopes to see it in print next year.



In regards to the election of officers for the year 2003, the nomination committee has completed a slate of candidates for Chapter officers for 2003. We will present it to the members at the Morning Meeting in November. We will then vote in the

new officers. They will be installed at the meeting in December.

Kristen Howard gave birth to a baby boy, Porter, born October 18<sup>th</sup> weighing 8lbs, 22 inches long. Newborns sometimes look 'generic', but this little Howard is very much a man! Rumor has it he was born with cowboy boots on.

Nikki Arana won Honorable Mention in the Byline 1st Chapter contest, announced in the November issue of the magazine. Fantastic!

## History Moment

By Dottie Maley, Historian

The time, 1973. Mary Dunbar, president of the local chapter of the Idaho Writers League announced that that the State conference would once again be hosted by the Coeur d'Alene Chapter. It was to be held in October, at the North Shore Hotel Convention Center and its featured speaker was to be Rowland Bond, a Spokane Daily Chronicle reporter for 27 years. Other speakers were Nita Frazier, member of the Spokane Writers League and author of 14 published children's books, and James R. McLeod, an NIC instructor and author of three books, who would be speaking on "manuscript publishing".

Dinner for the event was to be in the hotel's beautiful new rooftop banquet room with a view of the lake. Luncheon facilities were also being provided at the hotel, making a convenient location for attendees at events and

workshops. All this was included in the 15.00 registration fee.

Room rates for the conference ran, single, starting at 11.50, double, at 14.50 and suites were available starting at 22.50. In their Portal motel, you could get 2 rooms for four persons at 18.50.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch events were bustling along with, once again, the annual High School Writing Contest. Sixteen prizes were awarded in various categories. In June, in conjunction with Work Shop in the Arts, the chapter once again, conducted a writing workshop for youth. Instructors were Betty Rohrscheib, Grace Roffey Pratt and Josephine Moore. The chapter also contributed to the Cataldo Mission Fund Drive and had a booth at the Arts & Crafts Outdoor festival held on the NIC campus.

Grace Roffey Pratt of Coeur d'Alene won the Writer of The Year Award at the October Conference for her many contributions to historical magazines. Mary Dunbar, became Publisher of her own magazine entitled, "The Irish Mists." Her purpose in doing so was to produce a quality publication that would give unpublished and unknown writers an opportunity to get their material into print and to find markets for there work. Her motto was "Acceptance, Not Rejection".

In 1974 Betty Rohrscheib was again elected president and presided over another busy and successful year. The chapter also observed the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League's existence. At this time there were still three charter members living. One of those was Mrs. A. L. (Margaret Wilson) Gibson, author of the book, "Emma Smith, The Elect Lady", published

in 1954 while she still lived in Coeur d'Alene. It is a historical story of the wife of Joseph Smith and the Church of Latter-Day Saints. Also in that year a tribute was paid to Walter Jardine who was known as The Lumberjack Poet. Mr. Jardine died in December of 1973. He had been an active member since 1948. The chapter sent a memorial in his memory to the Youth Ranch at Rupert, Idaho.

Eat your heart out folks. The following Haiku's were written by 9 year old Angela Fairchild at the 1973 summer writing class sponsored by the chapter.

I like Flowers  
Blue flowers are like showers  
I like blue flowers

Sky a lovely orange  
At evening a yellow pink  
Drift into darkness



## Annual Christmas Luncheon

The Sandpoint chapter of Idaho Writers' League invites you to a Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 10, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.

this year, there will be plenty of entertainment and yummy door p  
listed below. For reservations, please ca chanan:  
265-9461 or  
maryb\_97 ote that

there is an underscore between the b and 9 in Mary's email address - it doesn't seem to show up here) or Hel at [blueskys@sandpoint.net](mailto:blueskys@sandpoint.net).

When placing your reservation, pl e  
so  
of how much to prepare. See you the  
food! Lots of fun!

Menu:  
Caesar Salad or Soup du Jour

Chicken Parmesan  
Chicken breast smothered with  
tan h  
grated with  
linguini and fresh  
vegetables.

Seafood Alfredo  
Shrimp, salmon, cod tossed with  
linguini in a rich  
creamy Alfredo sauce.

Four Cheese Lasagna  
Mozzare e, and  
Ricotta cheeses nd  
laye  
fresh vegetables.

Veal Marsala  
with a savory Marsala  
and mush  
vegetables and  
Parmesan dusted  
li

Chocolate Mousse

Choice of coffee, tea, ice tea, soda

Price per person \$11.95  
. Price does not include a 15%  
. Pric tate  
sales tax.

## 2002 Officers

**Mary Smith**, President  
762.4081

**Patti Dickinson**, First VP &  
Program Director  
667.8912

**Patty May**, Co-Program Director  
**667.3537**

**Kristin Howard**, Second VP  
667.8243

**Judith Farrey**, Treasurer  
623.2123

**Secretary**  
(Position Available)

**Nikki Arana**, Publicity  
773.9525

**Jan See**, Newsletter Editor  
772.7646

**Dottie Maley**, Historian  
762.2247

COEUR D'ALENE CHAPTER, IDAHO  
WRITERS' LEAGUE

2003 ANNUAL DUES AND  
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Any Changes or Corrections for the  
Chapter or State Roster?

1. Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. E-Mail:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Do we know your birthday and  
month? \_\_\_\_\_

Please remit **\$25.00** annual dues  
(payable to IWL) by **November 15** to:  
Judith A. Farrey, P.O. Box  
516, Athol, ID 83801-0516

*For Treasurer's use only:*

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check No:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount if not \$25.00** \_\_\_\_\_

### Happy Birthday to:

Rosemary Henrickson  
11/15

Marilyn Wagenius 11/16

Patty May 11/18

David Hebbard 11/21

Patti Dickinson 11/28

## It's not too late to get started on your contest entries for next year.

The assigned titles are "Caught in  
the Act" and "Second Fiddle." The  
themes are "Shadows" and  
"Crossroads."

Remember, in order to enter the  
contests, you must be a paid-up  
member of IWL. Dues are upcoming  
soon and we'll get the news out to  
you as soon as  
we confirm how much they will be  
this year. A revision in the state by-  
laws make dues due earlier in the  
year so the roster can be compiled in  
time for the January "Leagazette."  
More on that later.

November 2002

Coeur d'Alene Chapter  
Idaho Writers League  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
USA

## *Who is the Idaho Writers League?*

### **Purpose of the Organization**

The Idaho Writers League is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, for the promotion of social welfare, including:

- a. To promote and maintain a high standard of literary output and to recognize accomplishments of Idaho writers;
- b. To stimulate public respect and support for the art and profession of writing;
- c. To provide a unified organization for writers and those with serious interest in writing and literary skills;
- d. To encourage new writing talent; to exchange ideas through the League publication and local and state meetings;
- e. To stimulate writing by means of contests and recognition awards;
- f. To encourage regional activity among neighboring chapters.

