

# Coeur d'Alene Chapter Idaho Writers' League

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary - 1943-2003

## Lakegazette



January 2004

P.O. BOX 1113, Hayden, Idaho 83835

### HAPPY NEW YEAR

Our February 6-7 seminars have been cancelled. Elizabeth Lyon is currently recovering from severe exhaustion. It has been necessary for her to cancel her commitments for the next few months.

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#### Meetings:

##### January 14 Jewett House

9 till noon

Refreshments: Unknown

Program: How To Give & Receive Critiques.

##### January 15 LDS Church

Maple & Honeysuckle in Hayden.  
6:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Refreshments: Unknown

Program: How To Give & Receive Critiques.

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No Open mike at Borders this month. Patrick would like to start up again the Spring.

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2004 Dues are due. Jenni would be happy to take your cash or check at our next regular meeting.

### President's Corner

*David E. Hibberd, President*

With the New Year, we have a change of leadership and for some of us, a change of responsibilities. For me, that means a switch from editing to writing a President's Corner. If I work on this long enough, I may come up with something that might encourage and inspire our members.

We have been fortunate to have had some excellent leadership, which has led to substantial growth of the chapter over the past two years. We learned various aspects of writing from talented writers both within and outside of the chapter. Keeping an eye on the past we will continue to provide the same quality of programs that we have become accustomed to.

One of our objectives is to provide the members with instructions in those areas that you feel are important to your writing. Thanks to a survey that Mary and Patti put together and that we have expanded on, we are learning more about our members and their writing goals. As a result of the early surveys that we have received, we are already looking to implement some of the suggestions that were given.

Another thing we are looking to accomplish this year is to provide opportunities for members to help with the chapter. At our Christmas party, we passed around sign-up sheets for members to volunteer for different committees. By creating some committees, we can spread the workload so that more people are doing the work and thereby having less work to do.

The areas we are looking at for our committees are Programs, Newsletter, Special Events, Publicity & Public Relations, Welcoming & Hospitality, Historical, Opportunities & Assistance, Chapbook, and Student Writing Contest. Currently we have seventeen positions filled on our committees. Three of our committees need someone to head them. They are the Publicity & Public Relations, Opportunities and Assistance, and Chapbook committees.

The Programs and Special Events committees have adequate help. Our remaining committees can use some more help, especially our Opportunities and Assistance committee that has no volunteers. This is something that can be mainly done via the internet.

(Continued on page 7)

# A Cornucopia of Ideas

By Noah Buntain, 1st Vice-President

All of your new officers are excited about the directions we can go with this chapter and we are looking forward to our meeting in January where we will go over the feedback we received from your surveys (you did send yours in, yes?) and building upon the great successes of our chapter. I know I have a cornucopia of ideas for the directions we can take and for accomplishing the goals of the Idaho Writer's League and I am excited to start working.

One of the main tenants of the IWL, woven through out the stated objectives, is the improvement of our writing talent. Putting in your "room time" is perhaps the best thing a writer can do. But our organization is a community of writers, one aimed at supporting and, ultimately, helping each other improve our writing. One of the main ways we go about doing that is sharing our works at our monthly meetings.

Yet, we've all experienced a time or two where we've worked on our piece, developed it, roughed it out, gave it flesh, or maybe just put our thoughts to paper and felt that there's something in there, something worth uncovering, but where? what is it? So we read at a meeting, rushing through the words here and there, remembering (or not) to breathe once or twice. And then we finish and, at our most vulnerable, we look up at our fellow writers expectantly. That's when it happens.

Silence.

Here we've prepared ourselves for the worst we can imagine in vicious attacks, for applause, for a tear, maybe. Or, at least some helpful pointers, some gentle encouragement. And yet, there it is: No one has anything to say about our work.

How does this happen? After all, in a workshop format, we all must work together to help out our fellow writers—especially those brave enough to share their work at our meetings. We are all readers. We are all writers. We all know when something sounds like it is working and when it is not. So how do we not have something to say? How can a whole room of readers and writers be mute at once?

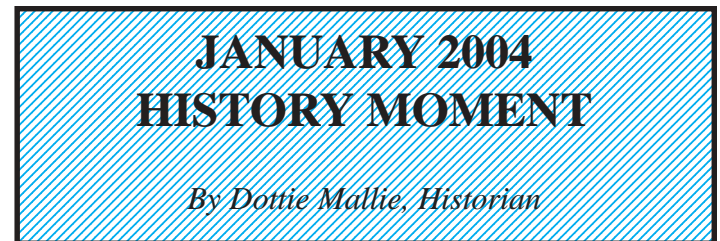
Generally, it is because we either do not know what to say or we do not know how to say it. Luckily,

these two things are easily solved with a few tools and some simple awareness. Some of us may just need a brush up reminder on how to give useful critiques. Some of us may never have been told how to go about it.

So, for our January meetings, get ready to learn about How To Give & Receive Critiques. You'll learn how to listen, what to look for, how to make your observations coherent, and how to present your praise and criticism so that the author will take your words to heart. As an author, you'll learn how to look objectively at your work and what questions to ask of your audience and when to ask them.

We want everyone to receive a good, lively, and above all, helpful response to their writing efforts. After all, that's why we come together in the first place.

I look forward to seeing you all in January!



Check it out. In 1803, Thomas Jefferson, in a secret letter to Congress, asked them to fund an expedition "for the purpose of extending the external corners of the United States." His request was for \$2,500. The ultimate journey of Lewis & Clark took three years.

At that time, two hundred years ago, the United States ended at the Mississippi River. Two thirds of all non-native Americans lived within 50 miles of the Atlantic Ocean. The fastest moving thing was a horse, and roads were few and primitive. Most goods were shipped by riverboats and even Thomas Jefferson, one of the most brilliant men of his time, believed that the mountains of Virginia could be the highest on the continent and the Pacific could be reached by boat.

A mere one hundred and forty years later the Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the Idaho Writers League was born. We didn't have to speculate or make guesses. We had firmly established goals.. One of the first, and foremost of those goals was and is, "To promote and maintain a high standard of literary output and to recognize accomplishments of Idaho writers'."

As we have learned over the past couple of years, the endeavors of the dedicated members of the chapter

have been amazing and exciting.. Workshops on every phase of writing and how to get published were big on the chapter's agenda. In a continuing effort to share the writing talents of the group with the community, Chris Moore, the chapter president in 1900 arranged to have the chapter do a special reading of their own works to raise funds for The Wishing Star Foundation. .

In this year also, Tom Woodward of the Idaho Statesman in Boise became intrigued by the fact that neither the Coeur d'Alene nor Spokane libraries had a copy of *Dark Bridwell*, touted by the New York Times critic as one of the ten best American novels, and written by regional author Vardis Fisher. Vardis Fisher as most of you know is the namesake of the most coveted award given at the state conference. The reasons for the libraries' refusal to carry the books would fill a column. For anyone interested, you can check this out on Google.

Following the pattern of previous years, the chapter this year brought home numerous awards from the State Conference. Out of the twelve they received, Marilyn Wagenius won seven of them. They also took on the responsibility of putting out the quarterly issues of the Leagazette in 1991. It was a big task, but with Nadine Boss as editor and Marion Lillie as assistant, the effort was a big success and garnered many compliments.

Also in 1991, *Sharing The Song*, a collection of poems by Jessica Cameron Alison, was published by her daughters Margaret Petrogallo, and Jean Ice. Mrs. Alison founded the Coeur d'Alene chapter of the Idaho Writers League in 1943. She passed away in 1968

For anyone who might get discouraged in their endeavors, Marge Wiles, who had spent fifteen years writing *The Home Front World War II*, about the naval training station at Farragut, found a publisher, and the book was a big success.

As a gentle reminder for the New Year, "Always put off until tomorrow, what you shouldn't do at all.

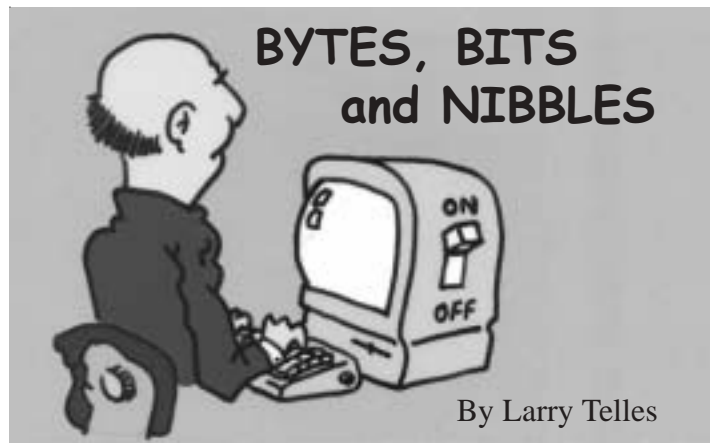
### **CdA Chapter, Idaho Writers' League**

#### **Birthday List - 2004**

1/15 Christine Moore

1/28 Yvonne Dietz

1/29 Martha Potter



GOT SPAM?

Yes! Most people fall into one of three categories: Those that buy software to combat unsolicited mail, those who program their browser to eliminate the SPAM, or those who fight the intrusion with all of their might.

Is all computer junk mail SPAM! The short answer is no. Only unsolicited email without the "opt out" link in the message is considered SPAM.

Software SPAM elimination are about 50 to 75% effective. If you set the threshold too high it will eliminate good messages. If you set it too low, the opposite will occur.

Most browsers allow you to set limits on your incoming email. Again the options may do more harm than good. You can set your options to only accept email from people in your address book. That means someone new in the area will never be able to contact you. Some browsers allow you to reject any email that contains a link. Another common feature is words in the subject field. You can type in all the words that will cause an email to be rejected: Viagra, enlargement, etc.

The final method is the long hard struggle. Simply report each SPAM email to the Federal Trade Commission. Just forward a copy of the unwanted or deceptive messages to [uce@ftc.gov](mailto:uce@ftc.gov). Then delete the message from your hard drive. From December 14<sup>th</sup> through January 5<sup>th</sup> I have forwarded 167 messages to the government data base. The FTC will use the unsolicited emails stored in this database to pursue law enforcement actions against people who send deceptive spam email.

# POET'S CORNER

## All That Glitters

by  
Tomia Browning

All that glitters is not gold  
I do agree with that saying of old  
I'll tell you why. You'll see my claim.  
Christmas Cheer I call to blame!

While walking home one winter's eve  
I pulled at my hat, tugged at my sleeves.  
The bitter cold kept creeping in,  
As the powdery snow gathered 'round my chin.

That blasted blizzard blew in, blew hard  
I quickened my step. I went forward  
Then what should appear on the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup>  
And Brooklyn lane. You might think this absurd.

A group of dear carolers all singing their songs  
I nodded, then smiled and got right along.  
'Cept one merry woman stepped out of her way  
To notice my coat pin, how it sparkled such a way.

A moon beam shone down on the valuable stone  
I stopped; then she touched it and let out a groan.  
"This is just like my husband's. He passed on last  
year."  
Her fingers on the diamond, she started to tear.

Was it that I felt sorry or foolishness to blame  
That I gave her the coat pin that bore my own name?  
She thanked me and sang me a beautiful song.  
Then I had to get home and her group moved along.

I'd two days forgotten the whole charming scene,  
When Monday at breakfast, the telephone did ring.  
T'was the woman whom I gave my engraved diamond  
pin.  
She looked up my number, wanting to see me again.

I told her, "I'm married. That wouldn't be right"  
"I was just being kind on a cold winter's night."  
She started to cry, so I told her "Okay."  
"But my wife will come with me, to hear what you  
say."

My wife sighed and glared, as we had to drive  
To meet the sad lady- Local diner at five.  
My dear couldn't believe that I gave her my pin.  
What I thought was a good deed may end up a sin.

Sipping coffee, I squirmed, when the woman sat  
down.  
She smiled at my wife; introductions went 'round.  
Unfolding the story about her husband of late,  
Describing our meeting and how it was fate.

One glittering diamond in my coat pin that night,  
Looked just like her husband's and gave her some  
light.  
My wife looked so sorry and reached out her hand.  
To comfort the woman who lost her dear man.

To make this long story as short as can be.  
I'll tell you what happened to my wife and me.  
Our widow woman friend makes calls to our home.  
She drives by quite often, won't leave us alone.

It's not that I'm grumpy. I truly feel bad.  
But this poor old woman is driving me mad.  
Each day for a week she brought cobbler and pie,  
Insisting she visit to warm up and dry.

She asks "What's for dinner?" when it's already done.  
Brings over a movie when the news has begun.  
She fetches my paper, matches my socks,  
I'm really considering changing my locks.

My kids call her auntie. My mom says she's great.  
Even the dog's eating right off her plate.  
Now that it's Christmas, she's cooking a ham.  
I much prefer Turkey with Cranberry Jam.

Results of my act of good will just won't end  
My wife thinks it's funny. They've become quite  
good friends.

They sit and crochet and gossip a bit.  
I'll try to be patient and not throw a fit.

I think that you understand why I have said,  
"All that Glitters isn't Gold." It's probably Pyrite  
instead.

Pyrite- that's fool's gold for a fool just like me  
Who's added a new member to our family tree.

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## MEMBER PROFILE:

Jenni Hearne

I was born in Benghazi, Libya to Erna and Everett Headrick in 1960 (before Kaddafi). My father, originally from Troy, Idaho, was an agriculturist for the US Agency for International Development. We lived in Kaduna, Nigeria; Kinshasa, Zaire; Washington DC; and Islamabad, Pakistan, where I graduated from high school in 1978. I came back to a year at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, then joined my family in Manila while going to the University of the Philippines for a year. I came to Moscow, Idaho in 1980 and graduated from U of I in 1984 with an English degree. I married and moved to Alaska the following week. I had two children: Alex, now 16 and Andrea, 12. After my first marriage ended, I married an English citizen and moved to England for three years. The second marriage did not last, and I moved here with my children and to be closer to my parents in July, 2001.

In Anchorage, I worked as a paralegal, mediator, small business consultant, and freelance writer. I worked with Alaska's most notorious criminal defense attorney for several years, becoming self-employed after the birth of my second child. I worked with numerous small businesses establishing office systems, training staff and assisting with trial preparation. My favorite work was in mediation. I did family mediation privately and also worked with a victim/offender mediation program, serving as interim Director for a community justice center and writing several grants for funding. My observations of the criminal justice system and experience in mediation led me to believe in restorative (or holistic) justice, as opposed to retributive (trail 'em, nail 'em, jail 'em) justice, and in peaceful resolutions to

conflict. Currently, I work as a paralegal for Paine Hamblen Coffin Brooke & Miller law firm in Coeur d'Alene, and I hope to begin volunteering with the Kootenai County Juvenile Probation Office's victim/offender program this spring.

I am politically active, and assisted with JoAnn Harvey's campaign for Senate as her database manager last year. I have also spoken publicly several times about my experience during the first Russian-backed coup in Kabul, Afghanistan in 1978. Our war in Iraq led me to reconnect with several of my high school friends, many of whom went through the Kabul coup with me, and who now live all over the world. I initiated a Yahoo site with over 100 members, all students, parents or teachers from the International School of Islamabad, checking in daily for intense debate about war and politics.

My published work includes several business articles for Alaska Business Monthly Magazine, a holiday feature for the Coeur d'Alene Magazine, and letters to the editor. Most recently, I contributed a poem to [Kaleidoscope](#). I am working on compiling several stories from my childhood and hope to write about my father's professional experiences, especially in Africa. Ultimately, I would like to write a novel based on my childhood. My life experiences provide a wealth of material, including wars, riots, robberies, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, crocodiles, snakes, scorpions, and army ants.

I am thrilled to be part of the Idaho Writer's League and was honored to be asked to serve as treasurer. I look forward to another successful year in this supportive writing community.

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### CDA MEMBERS WEB SITES

Next time you are on the web, take a few minutes and check out the following sites.

Noah Buntain - [www.noahbuntain.com](http://www.noahbuntain.com)

Patti Dickinson - [www.readthewest/pdickinson.htm](http://www.readthewest/pdickinson.htm)

Michael Marsden - [www.michaelmarsden.com](http://www.michaelmarsden.com)

Nikki Arana - [www.writingwithfire.com](http://www.writingwithfire.com)

Pamela Bauer Mueller - [www.kiskalore.com](http://www.kiskalore.com)

# Idaho Magazine Fundraiser

IWL members may not be aware of a wonderful magazine that examines the State of Idaho. Each month it features a spotlight city. From Ashton to Yellow Pine, Idaho Magazine has covered the people, the places, and the history of Idaho since the magazine's inception in October of 2001. Idaho Magazine provides our IWL writers with an opportunity to share our talents with its readers. It also conducts writing contests each year. For those who are not aware of this informative magazine, we have an opportunity for you to subscribe to it and make a little money for the league at the same time.

For a minimum of ten new subscriptions, Idaho Magazine will pay \$3.00 for each new subscription up to twenty-five subscriptions. From twenty-six to ninety-nine they will pay \$6.00. 100 or more subscriptions will bring in \$10.00 per subscription. The total cost for one year is \$31.75, which includes the Idaho sales tax. This is a savings of over \$12.00 off the newsstand price.

If you would like to become a new subscriber and help bring the league some extra money, send a check made out to Idaho Magazine for \$31.75 to:

**Idaho Magazine Subscription**  
**P.O. Box 1113**  
**Hayden, ID 83835-1113**

Include your name, mailing address, phone number, and email address if available. If you have family, friends, co-workers, etc. that might be interested in the magazine, they too can send in their new subscriptions through the IWL and help add some money to our funds. For the IWL to receive proper credit for our new subscriptions, they must be sent to the above P.O. Box and not to Idaho Magazine. Subscribing online will not give the league credit for the fundraiser.

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## OF INTEREST ON THE WEB

By Judith A. Farrey

By now, most of you realize that the websites I recommend tend to serve as great diversions from writing. Call me head of the class in Avoidance 101. Anyway, Powell's Books has come through for me by offering on-line texts of interviews with dozens of authors ranging from Anne Lamont to Mary Higgins Clark to Deepak Chopra to Ha Jin to Rick Moody. What joy to wile hours seeking insight and inspiration from those who have "made it" as well as gaining that something extra by "listening" to the author speak about a book I'm currently reading. Readers and writers alike will find something of interest here whether seeking to learn more about a particular genre from an acknowledged pro or just satisfying curiosity about more of those creatures like us, the writers of the world. [www.powells.com/authors](http://www.powells.com/authors). Another Powell's site

features short answers by authors to the question, "What are you working on?" See [www.powells.com/features/believer.html](http://www.powells.com/features/believer.html). If nothing else, maybe the fact that so many authors are actually working will inspire us to keep going (or for some of us, to get going). Happy New Year and good writing.

### LOOKING FOR A LAPTOP?

Toshiba, 17" non-glare screen, Microsoft Office 2000 system with either 6 or 8 GB hard drive, CD/DVD drive & more goodies. Asking only \$600.

Penny Eveland: daytime phone # is 676-0434.  
Her cell is 964-3858.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Jan,

I miss y'all and beautiful Idaho. I am blessed to be living on the Central Coast of Calif. - 10 miles from the ocean. I have finally found a writer's group here - Night Writers! Please say hi to everyone and maybe I'll see y'all at a conference. Be well.

Stephanie Rainbow Lightning Elk.

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## President's Corner (continue from page 1)

Our Special Events committee is hard at work on the 2004 State Conference/Writer's Fair. We have an opportunity to present a top-notch conference this year and have some talented people on board for this. The committee is also putting together a workshop for February. Sharon Ostrom is working on obtaining grants for funding some of our activities. One of these will be for another Student Writing Contest for the 2004-2005 school years.

We have much to look forward to in 2004. Let's continue to build on our past successes and learn from those things that didn't work.

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### **Message from the State First Vice President:**

Because of the 2004 State Conference being held in May, the calendar for 2004 has been moved up. As a result, the writing contest deadline is March 1, 2004. The assigned titles for the 2004 contest are "Have You Been Through The Silver Valley" and "Know Thyself." The assigned themes are "Mystery Writing" and "Writing With Your Heart." With only two months remaining, now is the time to be working on our contest submissions. Get the details for the contest at <http://www.idahowritersleague.com/Contests.html>.

## Success Story: Nikki Arana

*By Mary Smith*

Nikki Arana came to her first Idaho Writer's League chapter meeting in June of 2001. Her dream was to learn the craft of writing so she could be published. That first year, she rarely missed a meeting; she always had something new to read; she purchased and studied books on writing. She studied her markets and with Betty Rohrscheib's coaching, Nikki submitted her poems, short pieces, articles and they were all accepted for publication or received awards—Ideals Magazine, Writer's Digest, a Canadian anthology to name a few. She worked hard to be good enough for the top markets. In between all this, Nikki sold over six million dollars in real estate and attended writer's conferences where she networked and made herself know to publishers, other authors, editors and agents.

At the beginning of her second year she underwent major surgery and began her novel to be marketed as Inspirational Woman's Fiction. We didn't see her as often because she still sold high-end real estate and wrote every morning beginning at 4:00 a.m. Nikki did carve out time to serve as the exhibitor chairman for the 2003 Writer's Fair and set the standard for the way the job should be done.

As she begins her third year with IWL, she works with a freelance editor, is a client of Natasha Kern, one of the biggest agents in the business, and is considering a three book deal that Baker Books/Bethany House has offered her—the novel she has completed will be the first in the series.

Nikki is a Christian and says the foundation of her work ethic is, "Pray with all your heart, but work with all your might." God seems to have honored that and opened the doors of Heaven and poured out His blessings. From the IWL Coeur d'Alene Chapter, we send Nikki our congratulations on her earned success. She has once again set the standard for achieving success.

We are looking for stories, poems and articles from the members. Just email Janet See your article, poem or story.

Her email is [jan19522@hotmail.com](mailto:jan19522@hotmail.com).

# First of a Series: What Writing Means to Me

## Reflections on Writers, Writing, & the Issue of Sanity

By Patti Dickinson

*Upfront caveat—opinions & beliefs expressed in this column belong solely to the author & do not necessarily reflect those of IWL or The Lakegazette*

In the soon-to-be-10 years since I decided to make writing my profession, I have experienced pretty much the gamut of feelings built into the motherboard of our human psyche. I spent a few minutes in the *heights of ecstasy* department; it was great. But I've spent a lot more time hanging around the *depths of despair* basement; I don't need to tell you it's the pits. That I am still in this business is testament to my belief that 1) we are all part of a Divine Plan 2) each of us has a destiny on this earth to fulfill, and 3) our purpose, while here taking up space, is to discover what that destiny is and fulfill it, i.e. that "one thing" that *Curly* [Jack Palance] in *City Slickers* told *Mitch Robbins* [Billy Crystal] that he must discover in order to "find himself." Mitch did, and it turned his life around. Oh, were it that simple.

After a lifetime of searching, I believe my destiny is to write. To inspire readers with true stories about heroes or to entertain somehow with words spun into a story that I feel inspired to write. I hope that doesn't sound pompous. It most definitely is not meant to be for I consider my writing career a work in progress—emphasis on the word *work*. If not my destiny for goodness sake, then why else would I put myself through all this? The jury may still be out on that issue.☺ I believe your destiny must also be to write, to share what's in your mind and heart or you wouldn't be where you are right now and reading this column.

Are we off our collective rockers or are we visionaries working to fulfill our destiny? Possibly a little of both. ☺ Who else lives in a world peopled with imaginary characters with whom we converse, spend an immense amount of time with, know better than we know most of our friends, and miss (!) when the book is done. What other professional papers his/her bathroom with computer-generated rejection letters for a manuscript in which we've invested years of hard work?

The flip side of the question, "are we whacko" is to think of the void in a world with no Scarlett O'Hara or Rhett Butler, without *Gatsby*, or Hemingway's old Cuban fisherman, or the crusty former Texas Rangers who galloped through our imagination when we lost ourselves in *Lonesome Dove*. Personally, my world is richer for having spent my youth with Nancy Drew. Now eons later, I loved getting to know the likes of Don Corleone, Mitchell McDeere, and Jack Ryan, thanks to Mario Puzo, John Grisham, & Tom Clancy.

I've cast aside all doubt in my mind as to our collective sanity—we're sane. But to those who might still cling to the notion we *are* off our rockers, so be it. We're in some darned lofty company!

The writing world with all its warts, rewards, & crazy notions is why we should embrace this time of year. January 1st represents a new beginning, twelve whole months full of hope and promise. A time to forget what *didn't* take place in the last twelve—I *should have finished that manuscript*. Or to delete from our memory bank some of the things that *did* happen—I *can't believe St. Martin's rejected my novel. I reworked it until it was perfect*. Well, zip that "should have," zap that "I can't believe it," in other words: *Let go or be dragged*. Mull that saying over, those five words pack a ton of wisdom in their message.

Think of 2004 as a clean slate; view it as our very own section of life's blackboard without any of the highs, lows, and endless in-betweens we've experienced—they're all gone. A fresh start and here we stand with the chalk in our hand. We can write anything—*Dream without boundaries*. We've got the power and a whole year of infinite possibilities. So start your creative engines, fellow writers, let's each fulfill our destiny. Let's get writing!

## SEARCH AND RESCUE

*By Marilyn Wagenius*

It is one p.m. when I learn we will have company coming to dinner. I begin to search for just the right menu as I leaf through the stack of cookbooks on the shelves.

Betty Crocker, Good Housekeeping, Crisco, Better Homes, Pillsbury, Eagle Brand, Hershey's, Gold Medal, and more. There are books on Quick Cooking, Slow Cooking, Instant Cooking, Deep Frying, or Pressure Cooking.

Help! There should be a recipe for something that is both delicious AND quick! I look through Mom's reliable recipes, Grandma's old favorites and my neighbor's special-but-complicated company selections. Nothing clicks. Well, I still have three hours to fix dinner.

I dust off the shoe box full of newspaper clippings with fabulous, never-fail plans for meals. Ooh! There's only two hours left—gotta hurry!

Still in my quest for company fare, I read club recipes, lodge recipes, town and country recipes. Books on casseroles, books on salads, books on desserts. Even vegetable collections and pasta compilations. One hour and thirty minutes remain before dinner. Why can't I make a decision? I read faster. No, not this. Not that, either. Here are specialties made with microwave, crock pot, Cuisinart, convection oven or gas barbecue. Ugh! Only a half hour now, until dinner.

I make another trip through the Quick and Easy Main Dish Book. There are things steamed, stewed, fried or frozen. Nothing sounds just right. What to do? I panic! And that's when I remember my 'old reliable'. Saved at last, I turn on a burner, the can opener hums. I rattle pans, set the table, dispose of cans.

Two minutes more. I wipe my sweaty palms on my apron—apply fresh lipstick near my mouth. Dinner is ready!

I stand in the doorway and sublimely announce, "Soup's on!"

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## CHRISTMAS 2003 IWL MEETING

### **Several Members Got Mugged!!!**

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The gift exchange was a coffee (chocolate) mug filled with something useful. Cups were stuffed with things from pencils to candy to a dish rag and even a complete breakfast.

Coeur d'Alene Chapter  
Idaho Writers League  
P.O. Box 1113  
Hayden, Idaho 83835 USA

## **ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

## **2004 Officers**

David E. Hibberd: President  
509 928-5528

Noah Buntain: 1st VP & Co-Program Director  
667-8912

Larry Telles: 2nd VP & Newsletter Co-Editor  
762-2548

Jenni Hearne: Treasurer  
772-1766

Dottie Maley: Historian  
762-2247

Char Wyatt-Thompson: Hospitality Chair  
509 922-2826

Sandy Smith: Publicity, Immediate Past IWL President  
263-7207

Liz Mastin: Secretary  
664-2785

Jan See: Newsletter Co-Editor  
772-7646

Judith A. Farrey: Special Events Treasurer  
623-2123

Mary L. Smith: 2004 Writers Fair Co-Chair  
762-4081

Patti Dickinson: 2004 Writers Fair Co-Chair  
667-8912

## ***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.