

Coeur d'Alene Chapter Idaho Writers' League

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary - 1943-2003

Lakegazette



October 2005

P.O. BOX 1113, Hayden, Idaho 83835

COEUR d'ALENE IWL MEETINGS:

October 12 Jewett House

9 A.M. till noon

Refreshments: Betty Rohrscheib

Refreshments: Marilyn Wagenius

Program: Revision Presentation

Noah Buntain

October 20 Lutheran Church

4800 Ramsey Rd

6:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Refreshments: Everyone
attending the meeting

Program: Poetry Writing +

Workshop by Lori

Wallin, NIC

October Birthdays:

10/13 Nikki Arana

10/16 Mike Andrews

10/25 Mary Smith

Refreshment Volunteers:

Need volunteer s for the month
of November.

If you would like to help, please
contact Barbara Rostad, our
Hospitality Chair at:

(208) 777-1030. Thanks.

DUES ARE DUE!

October: Revision & Poetry

by Noah Buntain

Let me start by apologizing to everyone that attended last month's evening meeting. Recent distractions in my life led to me making a colossal error and left all of you in the lurch. I don't think that I can adequately express how badly I felt when I realized what had happened.

Since I was away for most of the summer and began school full-time this semester, I've had a lot more on my plate than before. I sincerely regret failing any of my obligations.

I will however, make up the Revision presentation I was scheduled to give at next month's morning meeting. This will be October 12th at 9 a.m. We'll be discussing ways of reworking your story or poem so that it comes out better for the attention. I hope that last month's Generating Content presentation got you thinking and, more importantly, got you writing. Our October day meeting will help you shape that raw matter into an aesthetic form.

For the evening meeting, Thursday, October 20th, North Idaho College instructor Lori Wallin will be doing a workshop on poetry writing for us. Lori has taught creative writing for many years at the college level and serves as the editor for NIC's Trestle Creek Review, an annual literary journal (and a great local place to submit your work). Lori's exercises are modeled on those found in graduate level courses, so they've been tested as effective writing prompts. I can tell you from personal experience that her writing challenges work; I've produced more poetry under her guidance in the last month than in the previous three years combined. Even if you're not a poet, I think you will benefit from the evening presentation.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meetings. Though I've been busy and engaged in activities that have taken my attention from the IWL, it has been a positive time in my life—especially in the writing sense. I hope I can share my bounty with you next month.



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor and Writing Friends,

My first book, *The Winds of Sonoma*, is now available for ordering!! You all can help me by calling your local bookstores, Christian and others, and asking them if they carry the book, and if not, encourage them to. You can tell them the book was written by an award winning author, *The Winds of Sonoma* has been picked as one of the "Top Twenty Fiction Books" by ChristianBook.com, it is rated 4 Stars by Romantic Times, and it was chosen as book of the month by Borders Romance Readers Group. I hope you'll end the conversation by telling them to let you know when your copy is in. (sheepish grin)

After you read the book, please tell others about it. Word of mouth is one of the best ways of creating buzz about a new book. Thank you so much for coming with me on my journey. If you check my website, www.nikkiarana.com, you can see where I will be doing book signings in October and November.

Find out what people are saying about *The Winds of Sonoma*
www.TheWindsOfSonoma.com

The Winds of Sonoma - October 2005

In the Shade of the Jacaranda - March 2006

Final book of the series - September 2006

Nikki Arana

Dear Editor,

I think the following e-pub site should be passed on to the members. (Chippewa Publishing) They also take short stories from 2,000 to 9,999 and pay 20 to 30% royalties. Of course, the stories are cheap to download too. It looks like a good site and one of the gals that write's with the Grande Dames (the group I write with) and is also a NY published author has been accepted by them. I think she's probably been published by them before.

This might be a great place for our short story writers.

Sandy Smith

JADA Press Announces Third Annual "Book of the Year" Awards

JADA Press (www.JadaPress.com) has announced its Third Annual "Book of the Year" Awards celebrating excellence in print-on-demand books. There is no restriction on the year of publication. Books must have ISBN numbers and be printed on demand. All entries will be read and judged by qualified members of the literary field.

The first place winners in the Fiction and Nonfiction categories will each receive \$1,000.00 and a trophy. The two titles selected as First Runner-up will receive a trophy. Authors may enter up to four books for consideration. To enter, simply submit a \$40 entry fee per book and a completed registration form for each title. Registration forms may be obtained on request by e-mailing JadaEntry@aol.com. The deadline to enter the JADA Press 2006 Book of the Year Awards is November 1, 2005.

Please note: The awards are not open to previous First Place winners; however, First Runner-up and Honorable Mention award winners are eligible for re-entry.

HAVE YOU READ A GOOD BOOK LATELY?

Why not share a book review with us! It doesn't matter if it is a "how to book" on writing, or a book you just couldn't put down. This is a writing group who likes to be made aware of good writing, no matter what form.

Write one and submitted it to the newsletter staff. We would greatly appreciate it. Thanks in advanced.

The next issue of the *Lakegazette* will be the combined November-December. It will be sent out to the membership in the middle of November

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Reporters - Positions open

If you have any stories, poems, articles, or just bits of information, send it to the email address above. Deadline: the 25th of each month.

WHAT IS A POEM?

by Liz Mastin

Learning Poetry: The Importance of Reading and Envelope Verse

In Mary Oliver's "A Poetry Handbook", she says: "to write well it is entirely necessary to read widely and deeply. Good poems are the *best* teachers. Perhaps they are the *only* teachers. I would go so far as to say that, if one must make a choice between reading or taking part in a workshop, one should read." Ask any published poet or consult any book (on writing poetry) and the advice is always the same: "To learn poetry, read poetry." Poets and poetic styles vary greatly: from the old masters to the newest free verse and imagist poets.

Shakespeare, Pablo Neruda, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, as well as the new poet Laureates such as Billy Collins and Ted Kooser are among those that should be included on the reading list as well as many notable others. There are so many fine poets (old and new) all writing differently. As you read and study a variety of poets you may discover a direction in which *your* poetry is leaning. Or — you may find a poet from whom you discover a special *technique*. At that point, the poet may become your *mentor* and your *teacher*. Perhaps you write in a variety of ways and have more than one accomplished poet to teach you.

Reading good poetry by the famous poets and poet laureates has inestimable benefits. One way to *cover* or sample many poets is to buy or borrow (from the public library) a good poetic anthology. While you are enjoying reading good poems you begin to acquire poetic taste and find that you really like some kinds of poetry better than others. This applies to free verse as well and you may like some free verse poets better than others. Study a wide variety of good poetry.

Poetry classes in a college or workshop, of course have great value, but there are many poetry handbooks that will teach you many things about technique, rhyme and meter.

The Internet is an excellent place to locate books on *how to write poetry*.

I happened to buy a book of poetry a few months ago written by a poet I had never heard of. His name is Richard Wilbur. It turns out that he is well known in the literary world and is considered a very distinguished gentleman of letters. The book's back cover notes: "Richard Wilbur has been long recognized as a graceful and technically accomplished poet." He was (at one time) a United States Poet Laureate, and he also won a Pulitzer Prize for the "New And Collected Poems" soft back edition that I bought. In this book I noticed that he uses many different rhyming schemes. I felt I could learn from him and get out of my habit of rhyming all my poems the same way.

One of the rhyming patterns he uses is what is called envelope verse.

In this rhyming scheme, two *rhyming lines* surround *two other rhyming lines*. The rhyming pattern looks like this: note how the first two lines envelope the middle lines.

abba.

An example of this rhyming is found in many of Richard Wilbur's poems and you may notice that using this technique the rhyming is less evident and helps to eliminate the sing-song quality in some poems.

This is a poem Richard Wilbur wrote for a son's wedding.

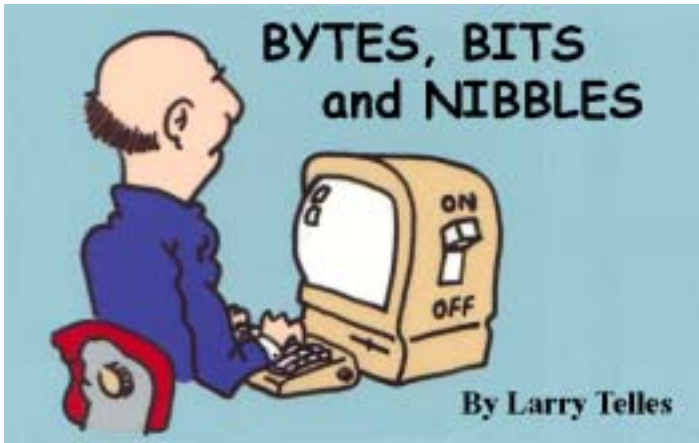
A Wedding Toast

St. John tells how, at Cana's wedding feast, **a**
The water-pots poured wine in such amount **b**
That by his sober count **b**
There were a hundred gallons at the least. **a**

It made no earthly sense, unless to show
How whatsoever love elects to bless
Brimms to a sweet excess
That can without depletion overflow.

Which is to say that what love sees is true;
That the world's fullness is not made but found.
Life hungers to abound
And pour its plenty out for such as you.

Now, if your loves will lend an ear to mine,
I toast you both, good son and dear new daughter.
May you not lack for water,
And may that water smack of Cana's wine.



On the last weekend in September I was attending the IWL State Conference in Pocatello and I had a wonderful time. I found that we in the north have something in common, other than being writers in the IWL. We all have problems with our word processor, namely Microsoft Word. Over the past several months I have answered many questions from our frustrated members about Word. Down in Pocatello I did likewise. On the eight hour ride home I decided to do something about that problem once and for all.

Over twenty years ago I started writing curriculum on a Wang. When the desktop gained in popularity we converted over to Multimate. When I migrated to Silicon Valley in the late 80's they used WordPerfect. Version 5.1 was made for writers and a dream to operate. Then the new kid on the block showed up, Word. It was explained to us that Word would convert a WordPerfect document to its format. Yes it did, but not 100%. I still have WP 5.1 on my computer, just in case. There are three different versions of Word on my five computers and I have "words" daily with all of them. I guess I was sending out the right vibes as I drove up highway 15. In the mail the next day I received the October 18th issue of PC Magazine which supplied the answer.

The PC Magazine article contained alternatives to Microsoft Office. The best part, they are free of any charge. I will spend the greater portion of this column explaining each of the programs I have chose: Images, graphics, word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, and database.

Creature House Expression 3 is offered as a free download while the company is doing testing. (www.microsoft.com/products/expression/previous/expression3_home.aspx). Expression is fundamentally a vector graphics program (like Adobe Illustrator), that create graphics and illustrations. It has a freehand tool, pen tool, Bezier tools, brushes, etc. It can import, export to, or open most standard vector and bitmapped graphic formats, including EPS, WMF, EMF, Illustrator 8, and earlier, PSD, TIFF, JPEG, GIF, PNG, and BMP. If you are going to instal and use

Expression 3, visit www.studio3.com and work the free lessons on that site.

If you just want to brighten, resize, or get rid of red eye in your photographs, then this software is for you. Adobe Photoshop runs about \$650, Photoshop Elements \$49 to \$99. PhotoPlus 6 resembles a simplified version of Adobe Photoshop. (www.freerisefsoftware.com). This program contains most of the tools necessary to do basic manipulation of photos. It does not support vector graphics however. It works on simple jobs and it's free.

OpenOffice version 2 is fast, smooth, and compatible with Microsoft Office. There is a bonus in this software. It has features you can't find in MS Office. (www.openoffice.org). The 76Mb download expands into five applications: the Writer word processor, Calc spreadsheet, Impress presentations program, Base database program, and Math equation editor. The only feature that doesn't work in OpenOffice is MS Word macros. (They don't work in Word either). The formatted Word page will open in OpenOffice including tracked changes, drawing objects, and other Word features. Writer adds a PDF-export feature that Word doesn't have, a find/replace feature that uses wildcards and regular expressions, and a scripting feature. Okay, what can't OpenOffice do? There's no online collaboration or Smart Tags, no grammar checking, or smart-table formatting, and no tech support. But, the website has a forum where you can get answers fast. Remember this is free.

This last bit of software was not in the PC Magazine article. I got it several years ago at a computer show in San Francisco. A scantily clad lady from Sun Microsystems was handing out free copies of Star Office 5.1 at the main entrance. It contains the same compatible programs as does OpenOffice. (www.sun.com/staroffice).

If some of you are brave enough to try any of these programs, I can help. I have downloaded the PC version of the above software onto a CD. Anyone who wants a copy (free of charge) can send me an email and I will bring it to the day and night meeting in October. If you have a Mac, you can download OpenOffice at their website. If you need Photoshop 7 (\$99) or Illustrator 10 (\$99), go to www.buysusa.com for those two Mac programs. They also have most Adobe software at a very reduced price.

If you find this material not to your liking, that's okay too. I just wanted you to know that there are choices you can make to break away from Word.

Contest Department: Writer's Digest is having a 5 category contest with a November 1, 2005 deadline. Idaho Magazine

has a contest going. ByLine Magazine also is involved in contests. Why not give them a try.

Speaking of Contests: Congradulations to Larry Godwin for an Honorable Mention with his short humor story, “Disharmony at Dry Creek.”

You Heard it Here First: The 2006 IWL State Conference will be held on September 28-30, 2006 at the Boise Airport Holiday Inn. Caldwell chapter will host with Twin Falls chapter. The theme is “Flying into Writing.” Start saving your money and writing those contest stories.

8 Leg Turkey

By Joan S. Hust

Have you ever seen a turkey with eight legs? Well, I have never seen one, but at the Thanksgiving dinner at my Grandparents house their turkey had eight legs. How do I know that? There were eight of us grandchildren sitting on the benches at the Thanksgiving dinner table. Grandpa who sat at the head of the table always served everyone the main dish. Grandma sat at the other end. Grandpa said the blessing. It was always long because there were so many of us, and he mentioned everyone in his prayer. When he finished he would stand, and Grandma would pass our plates to him. He cut and served the meat. He would ask what piece of meat you preferred, and our folks would answer light, dark or it didn't matter. All of us grandchildren would say the leg. He and Grandma would just smile. I just hoped, and held my breath that one of the two legs would be mine. I only wanted a leg because all of us wanted one, and we all knew there were only two. I actually liked the white meat the best.

I never understood why you had to wait till everyone was served before you could eat, but that was the way it was, and none us started before the other. Now all the adults had been served, and they seemed so content to smile, and wink at each other. Here I was jittery as a jitterbug waiting for Grandpa to serve the rest of us. Grandma then told us that the mashed potatoes were not quite ready yet. My cousin next to me whispered in my ear that he didn't care about the mashed potatoes. All that he cared about was the leg of the turkey. I thought the same way, but we did not say anything. Grandma passed the rest of the plates up to Grandpa. He put four plates on one side of him, and four plates on the other side of him. He took his time, and smiled at us with a twinkle in his eye. Then he talked to us about fairness, and how we had to accept in life every thing that came our way. Then he went on and on how we could not always be the winner. Someone had to lose. He said that there can be joy in losing even though we don't feel joy at first when we lose, but down

the road when we look back everything that happens to us works out for the best. My cousin on each side of me kept nudging me under the table. Here I am trying to keep a straight face, and not budge as I really wanted to get back to them with a twisted pinch that would make them cry out for mercy. But no, I was going to be a good girl so my parents would be proud of me. It got to be ridiculous as everyone was looking at the eight of us and smiling, and even winking at us. I began to wonder where are those two legs of the turkey. I thought by this time there weren't any legs at all. Maybe they had been badly bruised, and Grandpa didn't have the two legs. Now Grandpa looked at our four plates on each side, and counted them to make sure that he had enough plates. I was wondering what he would put on the six plates that were left after he put a leg on two of the plates.

To make the whole situation worse one of my Uncles started singing *Come Ye Thankful People Come*. Everyone joined him including Grandpa.

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE COME

William Alford 1844

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;

All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.

God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;

Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield;

Wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take His harvest home;

From His field shall in that day all offenses purge away,

Giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast;

But the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring Thy final harvest home;

Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,

There, forever purified, in Thy garner to abide;

Come, with all Thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.

(Continued next page)

Grandpa now made the announcement that we should put our heads down on the table, close our eyes, and leave enough room for our plate to set down. When he said *LEG TIME* everyone could open his or her eyes. We all looked at each other but did as we were told. You could hear the plate in front of you being set down. I was dying to open my eyes, but I waited patiently to hear Grandpa say *LEG TIME*. He finally said the words *LEG TIME* and it was music to my ears.

Guess what? All eight of us had a turkey leg on our plate. Everyone clapped their hands, and laughed uncontrollably. Oh, what a fun experience. I'll never forget Grandpa, and Grandma's eight-leg turkey.

CRAZY: One Goddess's Journey

by Catherine Gabriel

A Novella

Hi Everyone! My book is coming!

CRAZY: One Goddess's Journey will be released on (or about) October 15, 2005. It will be available through me directly, and it will be also be available (by the end of October) through Amazon.com, as well as other online book sources, such as AbeBooks, Alibris, Books in Print, and BookSurge.com.

SCAVENGER HUNT

The *Lakegazette* newsletter is looking for the following. If you know anyone that has one of more of these, please have them contact the editor of this newsletter right away.

Member Bio
Book Review
Short Story
Long Story
Good Poetry
Bad Poetry
How to . . .
Letter to the Editor
Clever Quotation
A New Writer's Website

Thank you in advance!

2005 IWL WRITING CONTEST CdA WINNERS

by David E. Hibberd

Nine members from Coeur d'Alene and three from Sandpoint received twenty-three awards out of eighty-two given at this year's conference. These included eight of the seventeen total first place prizes. \$455.00 was awarded to eight of the twelve members from the North Region who entered the writing contests. Forty-two of the 163 entries to the contests came from our region.

The North Region makes up 51.7% of the total IWL membership. Only 11.5% of our members entered any of the contests. We accounted for 25.7% of the total entries submitted, 28.0% of the awards received, and 34.0% of the cash awarded.

Compare that to Idaho Falls. They have 14.9% of the total IWL membership. 40% of their members entered the contests and provided 42.9% of the entries. 52.4% of the awards went to them along with 51.7% of the cash.

Next year there are more categories, more contests, and more money to be awarded. If you are going to write and if you are going to write well, our contests are great ways to receive recognition for your writing and make some money at the same time. This year, four IWL members received \$100.00 or more in contest winnings. Perhaps next year you can be one of those people. There are no guarantees that you will win anything if you enter, but I guarantee you that you will receive nothing if you don't.

Our Assigned Titles for next year are "A Cloud of Dust," and "A Handful of Stars."

The Assigned Themes are "Nostalgia" and "Revenge."

There is no need to wait until the contest begins in February to get started. I have already started working on my first entry for the Assigned contest. We have nine months before the contests end. I hope to hear more winners from Coeur d'Alene next year.

The following are the winners from the Coeur d'Alene chapter. I hope that we can print some of the winning entries in the November-December issue of the CdA *Lakegazette*.

Assigned	Essay		
VFN	It Will Never Happen Again	First	David E. Hibberd, CdA
	Class 'A' Bag Lady	Second	Barbara Rostad, CdA
	What's In A Name	3rd HM	Mary Claudson, CdA
	Short Humor		
VFN	Washed Out Epiphany	First	J. A. Jeske, CdA
	Light Verse		
	Born Dry	Third	Barbara Rostad, CdA
	Serious Verse		
	It Will Never Happen Again	1st HM	Larry Godwin, CdA
Open	Essay		
VFN	Driving Out To The Drive-in	First	David E. Hibberd, CdA
	Nonfiction		
	Fire & Ice: Mt. St. Helens	Third	Barbara Rostad, CdA
	My Parent's Wedding Anniversary	2nd HM	Joan Hust, CdA
	Adult Fiction		
	3 Tickets On The Roller Coaster	Third	Larry Godwin, CdA
	Juvenile Fiction		
	Adventures Of Sammy The Sock	First	David E. Hibberd, CdA
	Science Fiction		
	TD-2100	First	David E. Hibberd, CdA
	Short Humor		
	Wash Day Blues	First	J. A. Jeske, CdA
VFN	Disharmony At Dry Creek	Second	Larry Godwin, CdA
	Light Verse		
	Tisn't Blarney I Speak	3rd HM	Sherry Ramsey, CdA/Sandpoint
	Serious Verse		
	Two White Horses	First	Nancy Barnes, CdA
	Novel		
	Secret Of Baker's Woods	First	Sherry Ramsey, CdA/Sandpoint
	When She Wasn't Looking	1st HM	Angela Breidenbach, CdA
	Sam d' Bear	1st HM	Michael Marsden, CdA



2005 IDAHO WRITER'S LEAGUE STATE CONFERENCE - POCAATELLO, IDAHO



Mary Smith (left), Sandy Smith (center) with Larry Smith are about to sit down for lunch on the first day of the conference. Congratulations to Sandy Smith on winning the “Lifetime Service Award” at this year’s conference.



Angela Breidenbach (left) found an opportunity to talk to Rachel Gibson (right) Romance Writer, after her talk during lunch on Saturday.



Larry Godwin (right) and Karen Breneman (left) sit and chat during a break between speakers. Karen is from Houston, Texas and was stranded in town because her airplane flight was cancelled because of Hurricane Rita. She attended the complete conference and had a wonderful time meeting writers from the Idaho Writer’s League.



Sandy Smith (left) receives a welcome from Ladean Messenger, host of the conference and president of the Pocatello Chapter.



Angela Breidenbach (left) is receiving congratulations on her novel's honorable mention in the contest from Mary Smith.



Amy McClellan (left), President of the Idaho Falls Chapter and winner of the 2005 Vardis Fisher award. She is reading the winning entry while David E. Hibberd, (right) newly elected State President of the Idaho Writer's League holds the microphone.

We will be having a "Bring a Refreshment" (potluck) at the October NIGHT MEETING. Those attending can bring their favorite desert or something healthy. A winning combination: Good program and good refreshments.

Coeur d'Alene Chapter
Idaho Writers League
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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Publicity

Position Open

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.