



## **Newsletter of the**

## **Carrollton** Creative Writers' Club

**Issue Number 7**

**Date: May 2008**

**Publishers ADPLDG**

***The Carrollton Creative Writers Club is a support group of writers for writers.***

***Our mission: To provide information and critique, and to facilitate the art of all forms of written expression.***

### ***Meeting times:***

10:00 am - 12:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays      Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays      Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

### ***Contact:***

Mary Wilburn      (770) 832-0575      Mnsaxon@aol.com

## **BUSINESS:**

The Main Street May Fest may have been rained upon; however, sunny opportunities opened doors for a few of our authors. It proves that getting out there and showing our talents to the public is invaluable. Our best wishes to those of you who were noticed.

Joann Dunn brought her idea for some fun business. (Well, it could be

funny business too.) Her creative mind has conjured up a calendar that features as many of us who want to participate. Hats, shades, and fans obscure our identities. Our pictures will be featured in different months on our calendar. Cool idea? We think so, let's all get on board with this fun and unique project, and be prepared to be photographed. Joann will supply the props, or you can bring your own.

The last post on the CCWC message board occurred April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008. I'm sure this means we are all so busy on project deadlines that none of us can even think of having the time to visit and chat. However, it is a tool we have given ourselves to communicate, improve and share our wins, losses and knowledge. Let's utilize this valuable vehicle. Diana Black has been doing a fine job of keeping our home page up to date with recent guest speakers and other information. Well done and thank you Diana.

*As we grow, things will change! Some will be organizationally driven, while others will be driven by time and format. If you ever have concerns about proposed changes, please remember the true intention of this group. We are very much like a family; complete with the little squabbles from time to time, but the peanut butter that holds our bread together is really love for bettering our writing, and our growing love for one another. It is probably a good idea to critique our comments on suggestions very much like we critique our writing. Give much consideration to what you say, how you say it, and to whom you say it. The best place is always before the entire group! - ADP+LDG*

## **FACILITATOR:**

**Joann Dunn** facilitated our May AM meetings. Guest speaker Maria Boling, orchestrated by Mary Wilburn, gave us enlightening exercises with a taste of the material she uses for her writing class. We had fun free writing then reading our exercises, and then tried our hands at mapping by association. We all came away flexing our freshly enlivened writing muscles.

Delightful, entertaining, and very helpfully instructive, we all came away with ammunition for honing our craft. Thanks to Ms. Boling's knowledge and her ease of sharing it productively, it was a wonderful meeting.

**Zan Marie Steadham** facilitates the June AM Meetings. She gave us all an assignment to name our favorite character and then give the

reasons their creator hooked us on this particular character. We all look forward to this month's meetings as Zan Marie always proves to be prepared and creatively inventive.

***No PM meetings were held in May due to commitments of the regularly attending two members. Unfortunately, a potential member did show up to one of the meetings and was alone. We now have in place a procedure so this will not happen again. –DG***

## **READINGS:**

***Note from the editors: Don't forget to refer to your guidelines when preparing for your reading. Please be sure to encapsulate your writing so as to avoid a lengthy oration prior to reading.***

- ❖ **Zan Marie** shared more of her latest project **MOTHER'S DAY**. She is obviously making progress as her characters take form and her story unfolds.

**READER'S COMMENTS:** Thanks once again for all your help and comments. I think Mother's Day has a good chance to become something special, but I need the input to accomplish that. The comment that I need to get more emotional was great! How refreshing!

- ❖ **Dave Green**, after approximately 3,456 rewrites, reread his first chapter of his Mek-chicks story, renamed **UNDER THE GRAY SKY**.

**READER'S COMMENTS:** The group gave me the support I needed in this new beginning. I was pleased to receive such thoughtful comments, as always I found myself driven to hurry home and continue working on this story! Thanks.

(\*NOTE: I have misplaced my notes from the meeting... I feel as though someone else also read, but I could not remember who it was. When I find my notes, I will add this information to the newsletter. If anyone can confirm this, please let me know who it was.)

## CHECK YOUR CALENDARS:

The Harriet Austin conference is coming July 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, for more information visit [www.harrietteaustin.org](http://www.harrietteaustin.org). A number of our members are planning to attend. Enjoy it everyone and please bring some enlightening nuggets back to share with the less fortunate.

## PERSONALS:

**Mary Wilburn** is home, out of the woods and making vacation plans. She has sent her gracious thanks for all our prayers and well wishes for her recovery. Wonderful way to rally Mary.

**Patricia Houser** is having a challenging time with her treatments. Our prayers and good thoughts are with you and Chris in this trying time Patricia. We all send blessings for those helping you through new techniques.

**Diana Black & Mary Cunningham** will have their co-writing project, **WOOF** published this summer. We look forward to seeing the real thing in the flesh and watch it take off to be a wonderfully big hit

**Mary Cunningham**, making up for not being featured in last month's personals section, has helped herself to two and one half spots in this one. We are lumping together two raving reviews for **CYNTHIA'S ATTIC: CURSE OF THE BAYOO**. Will Babe never stop?

*Mayra Calvani* of many, many publications for review: "I have read all of Cunningham's books so far and I have to say this is the best."  
*Misty Conger* of Georgia Library Quarterly: "The ending could have one believe that Cynthia and Gus have many more adventures awaiting them. As a reader, you will hope they do! Highly recommended!"

**Joann Dunn** is readying the second book of **IDA'S ROAD** for the printer. This is all done as she is in the middle of her three book, publisher accepted, project with **Lit Chix**. Their southern murder mystery trilogy is something we all look forward to.

Helpful links:

<http://www.usu.edu/journalism/faculty/sweeney/resources/ap.htm>  
[http://www.bu.edu/com/writingprgm/ap\\_styleguide1.pdf](http://www.bu.edu/com/writingprgm/ap_styleguide1.pdf)

[www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com)

## **S.T.R.A.P.**

	Submissions	Take a Look	Rejections	Acceptances	Pledge
Amber	1				10
Dave					10
Richard				1	
ZanMarie	7			4	

Anyone who would like to participate please submit your name and your pledge. If we don't submit . . . well, none of these others will happen. The more no's we get, the closer we are to publishing. So let us know. How many submissions do you pledge to make in the next month, quarter, year, whatever.

***WRITE, WRITE, WRITE . . . SUBMIT, SUBMIT, SUBMIT.***

Happy writing fellow scribes. See you next month.

Please be kind enough to bring any incorrect data, mistakes, or omissions to our attention via [amber\\_pickle@msn.com](mailto:amber_pickle@msn.com)

Or

[davidgreen@carrollcountyschools.com](mailto:davidgreen@carrollcountyschools.com).

Thank you for your patience if they exist in this issue.

*ADP/LDG*