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CARROLLTON CREATIVE WRITERS CLUB—FOUNDED FALL 2005

Our mission: Provide information and critique, and facilitate the art of all forms of written expression.

Meeting times:

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

Contact:

Mary Wilburn
CCWC website
CCWC blog

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www.ccwcblog.blogspot.com

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BUSINESS:

❖ **June 9 Meeting**

Business:

~~ Judi Presnell reported that new copies of the CCWC folder of information may be requested from the Center, but that some changes need to be made. The members present suggested that Judi report back for the group to decide what needs to be changed or added. Judi will report at the next meeting.

~~ Judi Presnell, the Social Secretary, also reported on planning for the Christmas Party. She has made reservations at the Little Hawaiian for December 5 at 7:30 p.m. There would have to be fifty or more participating for us to use the back room. The center section requires twenty to twenty-five people. The members discussed several options including having Little Hawaiian cater the meal at the Cultural Arts Center to facilitate more of a “meet and mingle” atmosphere. Judi will investigate the cost of such a meal and report back.

~~ Joann Dunn, our Facilitator Coordinator, provided the members with a list of facilitators through January 2010. Joann will be giving up this job, and Eleanor Hoomes will be the Facilitator Coordinator for calendar year 2010. The coordinator makes sure that there are members signed up to facilitate and emails reminders. Any member is welcome to consider this opening in the future.

New Members:

~~ Welcome our newest member, Diane Quimby. Diane writes poetry and has a manuscript of healing and hope for patients with Traumatic Brain Injury. Welcome Diane.

Program:

~~ June facilitator, Margaret Dyer, presented a great session on publishing with www.lulu.com. She took the members through a step-by-step look at the process and lead a lively discussion concerning cost-benefits of this method of publishing. Be sure and check lulu.com out when considering printing your latest manuscript.

❖ **June 23 Meeting**

Business:

~~ Pulitzer Prize winning poet, Yusef Komunyakaa, will be speaking at UWG in September. He shared copies of his current book and requested that one go to the local writers' group for us to share and pass around among the members. Eleanor Hoomes

started our circle and she will return the book at the next meeting. Then another of the members will get a chance to read it before his visit in September.

~~We will have a show at the Carrollton Regional Library in January 2010. This will include a reception and reading on Sunday, January 10, 3 to 5 PM. Be sure to make any needed repairs to your display materials before then. Tom Cook reminds us that anyone can set up a "to be released" display as he did in May. The members selected "Resolve to Read" as the title for the show.

~~CCWC needs to provide a promotional article for this event as we did for the Cultural Arts show. The Regional Library will make sure it is listed in the Day Book in the *Times-Georgian* group of newspapers. This will include the *Bremen Gateway*, *Douglas Sentinel*, and others. They will also make sure it is reported on Channel 13 through the UWG station and on radio. More information on the reception will follow. Members may be asked to help out here.

~~Eleanor Hoomes shared another opportunity to tell about our club. The Carrollton Civic Women's Club has requested that we present a program on Wednesday, August 26, to include selected readings and a brief description of our club. Eleanor Hoomes is a member of the Women's Club. They will pay for five luncheon guests from our club for the meeting. Eleanor is looking into other funds if more members might want to attend. Please don't let funding keep you from sharing your writing there. The civic club will want to display some copies of our books in the table centerpieces and will provide a table for selling and signing books.

~~ The members present expressed an interest in booking local author Paul Weathington, recently presented in the *Times-Georgian*, for a presentation to our club. Zan Marie Steadham will email Mr. Weathington and look into that possibility.

~~Be sure to watch your email for info on the Christmas Party. Judi Presnell will send out several options including a full buffet catered by Little Hawaiian. The Cultural Arts Center would set up the Atrium for the meal if we choose this option. Read Judi's email and be prepared to comment and vote at CCWC's next meeting on July 14.

New Members:

~~There were no new members on June 23.

Program:

~~Readings and critiques for works by Eleanor Hoomes, Zan Marie Steadham, Laura Kirk, and Jay Jutis.

❖ **July Meetings:**

~~ David Green will facilitate our July meetings. His program may be on podcasting or another topic. Be sure to come and find out what he has planned for us.

MARKETING:

Upcoming Events: (email Zan Marie Steadham with info for inclusion in the *CCWC Newsletter* when you have scheduled a signing: johnzanmarie@bellsouth.net.)

New Books:

- ❖ Mary Cunningham has announced that Echelon Press is publishing her newest, *Ghost Light*. More info will follow when it is available.
- ❖ Mary Wilburn's new novel, *Blood Remembers*, is out. Congratulations, Mary.
- ❖ Horton's Book Store is sponsoring a signing with Mary Wilburn and Patti Sprinkle on Saturday July 18 from 12 noon till 2 pm.

New Websites and Other Media:

- ❖ If you are an alumnus of the University of West Georgia, the *West Georgia Perspective*, the alumni magazine, will include a notice of the publication of your book. Email Josh Sewell, coordinator of advancement publications at jsewell@westga.edu to be included in the next *Perspective*.
- ❖ Forrest Schultz writes reviews for SSA (<http://www.southsideartsagenda.com/>) and is open to submissions from our group. Diana Black passed the following information from Schultz. "I am especially concerned about books published in 2007. By the end of this year, these books will be considered too old and the new criterion of "recent" will then be 2008, 2009, 2010. I also want to remind everyone that if no reviews can be found or no one to review them, that I will be glad to do the review myself if the book is sent to me. I have already done this for several of the reviews in SSA. If anyone wishes to do that, have him or her send the book to me at:
Forrest Schultz
703 West Grantville Road
Grantville, GA 30220."
email: schultz_forrest@yahoo.com
- ❖ This is a good opportunity for all members of our group. Keep this on file as a great place to get a review. Please contact Forrest when you publish, if this is of interest to you.
- ❖ Lauretta Hannon will be offering a Writers' Seminar in Powder Springs through the Down Home Writing School. The seminar is July 18 from 11 am until 4 pm. The cost includes lunch. CCWC members have been offered a special discounted rate of \$89. Be sure to mention your membership when signing up at hannonlauretta@gmail.com

READINGS:

Don't forget to refer to our guidelines when preparing your reading. Avoid a lengthy oration prior to reading. Be sure to send "reader's comments" to johnzanmarie@bellsouth.net after your reading to be included in the next newsletter. Remember that a maximum of fifteen minutes is allotted to each piece read. This includes reading and comments.

For critique help on the internet, try:

<http://www.community.compuserv.com/ws-books> --recommended by Zan Marie Steadham
<http://www.critiquecircle.com> –recommended by Frank Rogers

Readings for: June 23

- ❖ **Eleanor Hoomes** read a humorous anecdote titled, "My Husband Is."
~Reader's Comments: "I loved the reaction. The comments were very useful."
- ❖ **Zan Marie Steadham** read "Gardening Butt" from *Mother's Day*.
~Reader's Comments: "Thanks once again for helping me refine a scene. It's why we read."
- ❖ **Laura Kirk** read "From Whence Glory Comes" from her fantasy novel, *The Secret Kingdom*.
~Reader's Comments: "Thanks to all who listened, and gave each punctilious instruction. I feel each correction helped to make the first seven pages of my book *The Secret Kingdom* far more agent-polished."
- ❖ **Jay Justis** read "Chapter 1: Departure" from his novel, *Lost: The Sunlight of the Spirit*.
~Reader's Comments: "First of all, I really want to thank the members of the club who helped critique my reading. It was enlightening to highlight dozens of grammatical, punctuation, and structure errors that flawed the work. It proves to me that, I become blinded to flaws in editing my own work after working through it over and over again. It

validates the power of the editing process, especially as a dozen trained eyes are able to uncover errors that can be hidden to the author, largely because his over familiarity with the work. I have made more than 20 changes/corrections from your feedback. Thanks for your help.”

FACILITATORS:

- ❖ Contact Joann Dunn (planter360@aol.com) if there are any changes in the schedule form 2009.
- ❖ Contact Eleanor Hoomes (hoomes2@gmail.com) if there are any changes in the schedule or to sign up for a month.
- ❖ Contact Zan Marie Steadham (johnzanmarie@bellsouth.net) when you know the topic or speaker for your session.

2009

July 2009	David Green	Possibly “Pocasting”
August 2009	Mitch Lits	
September 2009	Tom Cook	Small Press Publisher: Doggie in the Window
October 2009	Shelly Murphy	Speaker: Laretta Hannon
November 2009	Judi Presnell	
December 2009	Zan Marie Steadham	Possibly “Tension on Every Page—Keep ‘Em Reading

2010

January 2010	Mary Wilburn	
February 2010		
March 2010		
April 2010	Joann Dunn	Poetry
May 2010		
June 2010		
July 2010		
August 2010		
September 2010	Eleanor Hoomes	
October 2010		
November 2010		
December 2010		

PERSONALS and GENERAL INFORMATION:

- ❖ Congratulations to member Frank Rogers for a contract offer from Hearts Afire.
- ❖ Tom Cook reports on the following interesting programs:
 - ~~ **The Dixie Darlin's** (aka Patricia Sprinkle, Jackie Miles, Karin Gillespie and Julie Cannon) will appear at the West Georgia Technical College LaGrange campus July 11.
 - ~~ **Joshilyn Jackson** (*Gods in Alabama*) will attend a tea July 18th at the Coweta County Central Library in Newnan.
 - ~~ If any of you are interested, contact Tom Cook for more info **or** go to the library and get one of their free Summer Reading Program brochures.
- ❖ Congratulations, Mary Cunningham, for being selected a part of the blog tour for the second book in actress Julianne Moore’s *Freckleface Strawberry* series. The tour is planned for June.
- ❖ Decatur Book Festival—September 5-6, 2009. Contact george@atlantawritersclub.org for info on book displays.

