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CARROLLTON CREATIVE WRITERS CLUB—FOUNDED FALL 2005

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

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

Contact:

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BUSINESS:

❖ **March 10 Meeting**

- Facilitator Beverly Bruemmer led a great meeting with Fran Stewart, author of the *Biscuit McKee* mystery series. Fran told us the story of her books that include, beside the mysteries, *From the Tip of My Pen: a manual for writers* and *Resolution*, a book of poetry. Fran's publisher, Doggie in the Window Publications, is located in Duluth. Thanks to Diana Black for the wonderful photo of Fran.



Fran Stewart, mystery series author

- Phoebe Swatek, Visual Director, at the Cultural Arts Center has offered to mail invitations to the May 1 reception for *The Art of the Printed Word*. She encourages us to also make contact ourselves by cards or email. In addition, the Center will not keep our lists to reuse, so our contacts will not receive a flurry of Arts Center bulletins for other programs. She needs the names and addresses as soon as possible. Everyone should take advantage of this offer.
- Penny Lewis, Director of the Cultural Arts Center, asked us to consider creating a Board of Directors and electing officers to bring us in line with the other groups under the Arts Center umbrella. This was tabled until the March 24 meeting.
- We discussed the need to purchase another tent for our marketing efforts, since our present tent is too small for more than three or four to use at events like the upcoming MayFest. Keep this expense in mind, since it will come out of our dues account. The tents will be available for all members to use when marketing their books.
- New member, Gail Nelms from Douglasville, joined and told us that she found us from our website.
- Tom Cook will take CCWC brochures to the Regional Library and will look into placing them at the UWG Sullivan Library as well.
- We discussed the May 1 Gallery showing of our books. Joann Dunn took frame orders from members and will share Michael's final price with them before placing the order. If all goes well, we plan to have the frames to hand out by the next meeting.
- We discussed the possibility of storing the frames at the Center for use in later displays.

❖ **March 24 Meeting**

Business:

The members present discussed the forming on a board of directors and electing officers for CCWC, as Penny Lewis had requested. We also discussed the disbursement of club dues to pay for a tent and frames for the May 1 showing. One suggestion was that our board could be made up of all the members of the club. We would select a single liaison for communicating with Penny concerning official CCWC business. The selection of the liaison was tabled until the next meeting, April 14 after the members asked Beverly Bruemmer and Tom Cook to consider the position. Our use of monthly program facilitators will continue. After an exhaustive discussion of the structure of CCWC, a secret ballot was held. A majority of those present constituted a quorum for this purpose.

- Here are the vote totals from today's meeting.
 1. CCWC shall have a board of directors: 8 yes, 5 no--carried.

David Green volunteered to look into how the other groups at the center have set up their boards. We discussed making the board include all members and officially voting on all actions of the group as a whole.
 2. CCWC shall elect officers—5 yes, 8 no--rejected.

We will need to select a liaison to the Cultural Arts Center as per Penny Lewis's request. We will discuss this and vote at our next meeting after Bev Bruemmer and Tom Cook have decided whether either of them would take on the position.
 3. CCWC shall disburse from current dues fund monies (approximately \$300) to purchase frames/shadowboxes for the May 1 event. 13 yes, 1 no--carried.

This info will be emailed to Penny Lewis so that there will be no question about this purchase.
 4. CCWC shall disburse from current dues fund monies to purchase a canopy-tent

(approximately \$150) for members' use at various events. 13 yes, 1 no—carried. This info will be emailed to Penny Lewis so that there will be no questions about this purchase.

- The cost of the frames and shadow boxes is approximately \$300.
- The cost of the 10 x 10 tent with flaps is approximately \$150.
- Tom Cook reported that he was able to place CCWC brochures at the Carrollton Regional Library, but unable to do so at UWG's Sullivan Library.

Penny Lewis thanked Judi Presnell, Mary Wilburn, and Zan Marie Steadham for helping select finalists for the High School Creative Writing Contest sponsored by the Cultural Arts Center and the Optimist Club. The following photo is of the winners. It's great to have new up and coming authors.



L-R Sherri Kling (Guest Author), Scott Wright (1st Place Poetry), Wayne Gay (CPRCAD Director), Tatiana Ward (2nd Place Poetry), Sara Zelaya (3rd Place Poetry), Zan Marie Steadham (Carrollton Creative Writing Club), Amelia Hasbun (1st Place Short Story), Georgia Shoemake (2nd Place Short Story), Deloris Covell (CPRCAD Asst. Dir.), Rachel Ishoy (3rd Place Short Story), Jimmy Drew (Carrollton Optimist Club President)

MARKETING:

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

- ❖ April 25-26—Nineteenth Annual Bluegrass Springfest at Villa Rica Gold Dust Park: Contact Courtney Power at 770-459-7011 for further information
- ❖ May 1—Reception at Cultural Arts Center in connection with *Art of the Printed Word*
- ❖ May 2—Market Square at MayFest in downtown Carrollton: Several of our members participated in this event last year and we plan to again. Beverly Bruemmer will be coordinating our application.
- ❖ May 2009—Cultural Arts Center Gallery display of our books: *Art of the Printed Word*

Reports On Past Events: None

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.

Readings for: March 24

- ❖ **Tom Cook** read "A Hunting We Will Go" from his novel, *Coming Out of Winter*.
Reader's Comments: "Once again you all have bolstered me as I work through this novel, and given me very helpful suggestions for when I get to the rewrite. Thank you!"
- ❖ **Richard Anderson** read "Grandmothers and Grandfathers" from his family history, *Evanescent Reminiscence*.
Reader's Comments: "One's motivation in writing family history is preservation for posterity of the lives and times of ancestors. Balancing this is the persistent question of whether anyone other than one self will be interested. Thus, I am grateful to have received expressions of real interest when I read an introduction to the stories of my grandparents at our March critique session. This validation is further incentive to complete the telling of their stories, and I am applying my efforts immediately to that end. The favorable comments on my approach to the writing and the members' insightful critiques that let me know where I succeeded and where I can improve are also much appreciated."
- ❖ **Eleanor Hoomes** read a humorous story, "Modern Business, the American Way, or Keep the Consumer Confused."
Reader's Comments: "Thank you for the laughter and positive feedback."
- ❖ **Zan Marie Steadham** read a scene, *Whippet*, from her novel, *Mother's Day*.
Reader's Comments: "Thank you once again for your support and encouragement. The comment on how polished the work is getting will be treasured."

FACILITATORS:

- ❖ Contact Joann Dunn (planter360@aol.com) if there are any changes in the schedule.
- ❖ Contact Zan Marie Steadham (johnzanmarie@bellsouth.net) when you know the topic or speaker for your session.

April 2009	Joe Byrd	Comparison of Frost and Sandburg's Poetry
May 2009	Mary Cunningham	Speaker: Sandra Novack
June 2009	Margaret Dyer	
July 2009	David Green	
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"
January 2010	Lily Ward	
February 2010	Mary Wilburn	

PERSONALS and GENERAL INFORMATION:

- ❖ Congratulations Jerre Shoemake! Jerre's story, "Christmas Moon," is available on the *New Mystery Reader* website at <http://www.newmysteryreader.com/> Be sure to check it out. Jerre's story is the second entry in the column on the right.
- ❖ Congratulations to Joann Dunn for her nomination for Georgia Author of the Year.

