

writers' block

CARROLLTON CREATIVE WRITERS CLUB

June 2011



Carrollton Creative Writers Club

Founded Fall 2005

www.CarrolltonCreativeWritersClub.com
www.ccwcblog.blogspot.com

Mission:

Provide information and critique and facilitate the art of all forms of written expression.

Meetings:

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 10:00 am - noon

Carrollton Cultural Arts Center
251 Alabama Street, Carrollton, GA
30117
(770) 838-1083

Contact

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Just Peachy by Jay Michael Jones

CCWC New Business

- MeccaFest 2011 club events coordinator Jay Michael Jones asks for volunteers to help him with set up, execution and clean up for the event. Anyone wishing to volunteer please contact Jay so he can put your name down on the list and organize and delegate responsibilities.
- Authors planning to read at MeccaFest 2011 as part of the Local Voices program, please see Jay Michael Jones for this also. Please refer to his emails concerning reading requirements.
- The 2011 official membership roster has been completed and distributed. If you still need a copy, please see Tom Cook.
- You are invited to attend the opening of "East Meets West" on Friday, July 8th at the Roush Gallery from 5-7 pm. This gala event will be showcasing a collection of Midwestern oil paintings by Mary Rogers.

Readings

Zan-Marie Steadham - "Tea with My Inner Editor".

Ann Brown - "Rising from the Wreckage".

Eleanor Hoopes - Poem called, "Eternity".

Mary Cunningham - "For the Life of Claire".

Joann Dunn - "I Was a Good Mother, Wasn't I?"

Dawn Goodwin - "Ignoring the View".

Chuck Wanager - "Flat Lands".

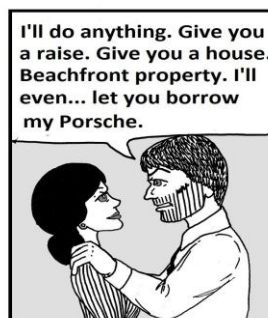
Visitors/Guests

The Carrollton Creative Writer's Club would like to extend a warm welcome/thanks to our visitors this month which included:

Elisa Dimitria Bowman - producer at Cinigi Lighthouse Productions.

John Bell - publisher at Vabella Publishing. John has visited before, but it's always nice to see his face at one of our events.

Maggie Lisiecki - of Villa Rica.



June Program:

T.L. Gray facilitated this month's program featuring guest speaker and movie producer Elisa Dimitria Bowman of Cinigi Lighthouse Productions. Fruit, doughnuts and coffee were served in the choir room.

Ms. Bowman presented an excellent program discussing the role of writing for movies and television. She led the group through a detailed journey from the conception of an idea, writing, screenplay adaption, filming, and post-production processes, expressing the importance writers play in the production of a movie or television series.

As well as screenwriting and film production, Ms. Bowman spoke about her experiences in this industry, including her journey from the studios of Los Angeles to her subsequent move to Atlanta, the new home of entertainment on the East coast. She spoke of her vision for Cinigi Lighthouse as well as her desire to pool talent from local writers by offering screenwriting workshops. The first of these coveted events is scheduled for August 2011.

The second meeting on June 28th was a reading/critiquing session. Afterward, lunch was enjoyed by many members at the Grapevine.

Member Spotlight:

Congratulations to Joann Dunn of the LitChix for the publication of "Darn Good Food that Doesn't Take Long to Fix" released June 2011 by Vabella Publishing.

Diana Black & Mary Cunningham had the privilege of speaking to the Pulpwood Queens Book Club, Monday, June 20th as the featured book of the month "WOOF-Women Only Over Fifty" Beauty and the Book bonus selection.

Congratulations to Shelly Murphy for her superb article on daylilies in this past issue of West Georgia Living magazine and in the June 14th edition of the Times-Georgian.

Congratulations to Joanne Dunn for her appearance and reading at The Little Shop of Art and Antiques on Saturday, June 18th in Lilburn. She read from "The Implied NOW" series.

Eleanor Hoomes participated in a poetry reading on Monday, June 27th in Tallapoosa. We're sure it was awesome.

June 24th -25th - Frank Rogers and his wife Mary, along with a handful of writers, took a two day wine trip through Georgia and Tennessee.

T.L. Gray's "Keezy's 10 Awesome Rules for Teenaged Dating" screenplay adaption is officially started at Cinigi Lighthouse Productions!

July Meeting:

Amber Pickle was scheduled to facilitate the July club meetings, but instead it will be conducted by Donna Spivey. The first session will be July 12th and Donna plans to bring a special speaker (TBA).

The second meeting of the month, July 26th will be a reading/critique session. If you plan to read, please email T.L. Gray to be put on the list.

Up-Coming Events:

Here is the Facilitator List for the 2011 calendar year:

- July- Donna Spivey
- August - Diane Quimby
- September - Frank Rogers
- October - Beverly Smith
- November - Anita Buice
- December - Anita Buice

September 13th -

Frank Rogers has invited Actor /Stuntman - Jim Dunham to speak about turning novels into movies.

You don't want to miss this meeting!

Reading and Critiquing guidelines:

Before the meeting:

Notify the facilitator of:

- » What you are going to read, i.e.: genre, chapter, poem, short story
- » The word count or number of pages.
- » Which draft your work is: rough, second, close to final or final, etc.

» If you are unable to notify beforehand, tell the facilitator upon arrival at the meeting.

» Provide copies of your work by email or hard copy; some members will make notes on their copy and give it back to you. It's a good idea to contact the facilitator to see how many will be attending/reading. Ten copies are usually sufficient.

During the meeting:

»When reading your piece, give one minute or less of back story if you feel it's vital to your presentation.

» You can have someone else read for you, but please make this arrangement in advance so your reader has a chance to familiarize himself with your work.

When you're finished reading:

» Sit back and accept your medicine gracefully; being defensive helps no one. Make notes of the verbal critiques given you for later reference. Should you disagree with someone's critique, just

accept it and go on. If you have a question regarding someone's critique, ask for clarification, and then move on.

» Be gracious and let everyone move on to the next reader.

For those critiquing:

» Remember the reader is looking for constructive criticism. Take care to point out one thing you liked for each thing that bothered you. This is called sandwiching your comments.

» Be specific about what did or didn't work for you. It's not helpful to hear "I didn't like that" but it may be better to hear "I would like to see more of the surroundings in this scene, I couldn't visualize very clearly," or "I'd like to know more about your character and why he would do this," or "I felt that word made me stumble, possibly another word would help it flow better, such as ...".

» Be honest and direct in a polite and caring way.

» The rough draft is probably the most sensitive to critique. It's really still in the idea stage, so punctuation is unimportant in this phase of the work. Look for the idea; is the plot being laid out? Is the scene being set? Are the characters being rounded out and becoming real?

» Be encouraging, this is a new creation that needs sculpting.