



Newsletter of the

Carrollton Creative Writers' Club

Issue Number 7

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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, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

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

Contact:

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

BUSINESS:

The Main Street May Fest is nearing and the brochure is on its way to completion.

Beverly Bruemmer has been very busy breaking everyone arms and cramping everyone's fingers. She has forced us all to sign one and one half gazillion cards for birthday and get well wishes, along with

thank you notes. Said cards are from the art studio of our talented Diana Black. We would say thanks to Diana, but we're still in pain.

Members are very actively viewing our message board. Only a few brave souls have ventured comments, started threads or made replies. We would like to encourage everyone's participation. This could prove a very useful tool to all of us as we aren't afforded the time at meetings or lunches to ask for or share our views on different aspects of our craft. So when you're visiting the board, sitting on your laurels, thinking to yourself, *I could reply with such and such. Oh well, I'll leave it to someone else.* Just remember, those who wrote what you are reading are still sitting there on the board with their faces hanging out. Have heart, take the leap, and put those thoughts on cyberspace for us all to see.

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 (TLA)

FACILITATOR:

Mary Cunningham facilitated our April a.m. meetings. April 8th was our reading/critique meeting inclusive of a small talk on blogging by Mary. She expressed the productivity of blogging and the opportunities it opens for us. Take a look at this site describing how a blog was turned into a lucrative book deal. Thank you Joann, for finding this, and thank you Mary C. for passing it along.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/30/fashion/30web.html?ref=style>

Mary treated us with an award winning author for her guest. Here are some highlights for those of you who did not have the opportunity of attending:

Children's author and storyteller, Diane Z. Shore says her favorite thing about writing for children is meeting the kids. She writes picture books, early reader chapter books, poetry, short stories, and non-fiction. *This is the Dream* – is about Martin

Luther's King's dream and how he inspired a country to change. She received a soaring Kirkus Review for this work.

Publication and persistence were Ms. Shore's main focus for our group. Both knowledge and inspiration were jewels taken away from this experience.

Mary also brought Ronald S. Reigner, Ph.D., Director: Developmental and Diagnostic Reading Clinic, Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, University of West Georgia. Dr. Reigner is very knowledgeable on functions that our group may have interest in for future endeavors. What a wonderful contact Mary. If David had just behaved himself properly.

May is on it's way and **Mary Wilburn** will facilitate our a.m. meetings. She has lined up guest speaker, **Maria Boling**, from Jasper, Georgia. Ms. Boling's editorials have appeared in The Atlanta Journal, The Marietta Journal, Story Digest, Georgia Magazine, The Vinings Gazette and numerous local newspapers.

She will speak to us on a variety of subjects to include tips on writing humor and memoir. She will also tell us about her writing course for new writers.

The p.m. group did not meet this month due to conflicts mainly with one of it two members, he could not figure out which soccer field they were supposed to meet on. Sorry Lily!

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.

- ❖ **Beverly Bruemmer** read a chapter from her work in progress **DOUBLEWIDE DIVAS**. Hilarious and fast paced, this work had us all in stitches, including the reader.
- ❖ **READER'S COMMENTS:** (She didn't write nothin' cause she was too busy signin' cards!)

- ❖ **Zan Marie Steadham** shared her progression on ***MOTHER'S DAY***. Her rough draft is starting to take its shape.

READER'S COMMENTS: Thank you all once again!! I have always known that dialogue was my strength, but your confirmation of that was sweet. I will work on the other suggestions to include some more info in bits and pieces to let you know more about who Laura Grace is more quickly, without slowing down the pace too much. Again, thank you CCWC, for the input.

- ❖ **Mary Cunningham** read chapter two of ***CYNTHIA'S ATTIC: THE MAGICIAN'S CASTLE***. Her story's strength holds true to the rest of her series, however, we all wished Olivia could have been there for her.

READER'S COMMENTS: Although extra copies of Chapter two lay in the printer tray, everyone gave me valuable critiques and motivational feedback. I also got some interesting ideas to explore "in the attic." I always feel compelled to write when I get home from a meeting!

- ❖ **Diana Black** shared her children's picture book ***WENDEL***. The little bookworm that has to go find all the books Big Buzzard stole was only two days old when we met him. But as all good boys that eat their dictionaries, Wendel proved to be a very fast grower.

READER'S COMMENTS: Hello, lady scribes...I really, REALLY appreciated all your comments after my reading on Tuesday. You had great suggestions, and I couldn't wait to get home and apply them. As always, I welcome feedback!

CHECK YOUR CALENDARS:

Carrollton Mayfest is May 3rd. Our authors and artists will be among many of Carrollton's talent. This is a good time to browse, have fun, sample wares, rub elbows and subtly let everyone know that CCWC rocks.

PERSONALS:

Mitch Lits is recovering from surgery. Making progress, he is taking it easy, and still pumping out the chapters. Our prayers are with your healing progress Mitch. Feel better and write a little something while you are lounging around!

Mary Wilburn is awaiting word from a surgeon as to how her ailments will be dealt with. Our hearts are with you Mary.

Diana Black's film short was featured in the Ranburne, AL. high school. **SUE A. SIDAL** was a big hit with the teenagers. Their health class project focused on teen suicide, and Diana's film perfectly fit the criteria. One of the teen's comments to the artiste was, "Thank you for taking such a difficult subject and making it easy to watch. I know of kids that have either attempted, or are thinking about committing suicide. Your film shows them that this is not the way to handle things." Hats off to Diana for such effective, on target, and caring work.

Joann Dunn, moving forward as usual, has created a new blog. Georgia Adams, the pen name for LitChix, would appreciate your visit, and if you are so inclined, a comment.

www.georgiaadamsblog.blogspot.com

Mary Cunningham will not be featured in this section of the newsletter for April. Finally. (Comment which LDG (a.k.a. Olivia) sought to have repealed from this newsletter, but the evil ADP threatened him with gi-normous amounts of pain. – Sorry Babe.)

Helpful links:

<http://www.usu.edu/journalism/faculty/sweeney/resources/ap.htm>
http://www.bu.edu/com/writingprgm/ap_styleguide1.pdf

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

Or

david.green@carrollcountyschools.com

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

ADP/LDG