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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:

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BUSINESS:

❖ **August 11 Meeting**

Business:

~~Beverly Bruemmer will fill a vacancy on the Carrollton Cultural Center Arts Alliance Board. Bev will give our club a voice and presence in the community's cultural arts scene. She will also need to open board meetings with writings from our group. Be sure to share with Bev so our voice is heard. Way to go Bev.

~~Judi Presnell reported on the Christmas Party plans. With the input of the members present, she will look into a Saturday lunch as well since most dates for the evenings are already full. The group also voted to invite Spencer Crawford of the *Times-Georgian* to thank him for the coverage he has been giving to the club's activities.

New Members:

~~No new members, but we did have a visitor. Ken Denney writes Civil War nonfiction.

Program:

~~Mitch Lits introduced the group to podcasting and its effective use for publicizing our works. He covered many aspects of the process, including technical equipment and software, content, and sources of information. The meeting culminated in the playing of his first podcast installment for *Circles of Fate*.

❖ **August 25 Meeting**

Business:

~~Eleanor Hoomes led the discussion concerning the reading at the Carrollton Civic Woman's Club Luncheon on Wednesday, August 26. Bev Bruemmer will begin with a brief description of our club. Nine of our writers will read short, light, and humorous pieces at the luncheon. The Woman's Club wants to display copies of our books in the table centerpieces, and they will provide a separate table for selling and signing books. Our participating members will meet at Sunset Hill Country Club at 11:00 AM on August 26. We can also display our framed displays from the Cultural Arts Center show last May. Eleanor Hoomes and Mary Wilburn are members of the Woman's Club.

~~Spencer Crawford will speak at the January meeting. Spencer is a reporter from the *Times-Georgian*.

New Members:

~~No new members, but we did have a visitor. David Crowe writes memoir and poetry. He shared his poem, "Still the Same," with the group.

Program:

~~In addition to David Crowe, members Richard Anderson, Eleanor Hoomes, Judi Presnell, and Jay Jones read selections for critique.

❖ **September Meetings:**

~~ Tom Cook will facilitate our September meetings. The first meeting will be the critique meeting. Our guest speaker will be from Doggie In The Window Publishing at the second meeting.

~~Phoebe Swatek will be taking our group photo on the steps to the auditorium immediately after the meeting on September 8. Tom suggests we dress in dressy casual, but no tiaras or ball gowns.

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.

Readings for August 28:

- ❖ **Richard Anderson** read his poems, "Transparency" and "Estate Sale."

Reader's Comments: "I appreciate every comment I receive. The critique session is an extremely valuable resource for me to assess my work with the added benefit of hearing what others are writing!"

- ❖ **Jay Jones** read "The Pearl of the Tri-Pasture Area."

Reader's Comments: "I learned that some themes are universal, if reaction and reminiscence to 'The Pearl of the Tri-Pasture Area' is any indication. I did not get any corrections to the text as I thought I might, which is good, but it makes me wonder. Did reaction overcome any possible mechanical problems? I worked that piece over like a champion surfboard, but I feared I would still have problems in it. I did get some more ideas on things to explore further about Southern living. And, the reaction told me I am onto something here, and that *A Chatterstrip at the End of Civilization* needs to be moved to the front burner!"

- ❖ **Eleanor Hoomes** read her poem, "The Numbers Game or How To Transform the Question of How to Count Lovers into a Mathematical Enigma and a Statistical Conundrum Instead of an Ethical-Moral Morass."

Reader's Comments: "The laughter during and after my reading 'The Numbers Game' helped me in deciding to include the poem in *In The Eye of the Beholder*."

- ❖ **Judi Presnell** read her poem, "Principal's Prayer."

Reader's Comments: "Sometimes when we venture into a genre that is new to us, we don't have the confidence that we can do it justice. With such talent in our club, it can feel a bit daunting to share an original first or second attempt. Thank you so much for your encouragement and for *liking* the piece! Yea! I'm encouraged to keep trying! I appreciate all criticisms too, for I feel that is what enables me to grow! Thank you bunches!"

MARKETING:

Upcoming Events: (email Zan Marie Steadham about upcoming signings and programs for inclusion in the *CCWC Newsletter*. johnzanmarie@bellsouth.net.)

New Books:

~~Mary Cunningham's newest *Cynthia's Attic—The Magician's Castle* is in line edits and is due for publication on December 1. Great news, Mary!

New Websites and Other Media:

- ❖ Joann Dunn shared a source of legal information. Check out the following website for more information. www.plol.org/Pages/Search.aspx
- ❖ Zan Marie Steadham shared information of the availability of free clipart and photos for users of Microsoft Office Products. The best way to access the site is to Google: Microsoft Clipart. Take the first listing and check out the offerings.
- ❖ Writer's Digest Poetry Contest: The deadline is December 15, 2009. There are cash prizes and winners will be printed in August 2010 *Writer's Digest*. Check it out at www.writersdigest.com
- ❖ From Diana Black: "I'm very excited to announce the school bus safety program co-developed with Bev Bruemmer & A. D. Pickle is featured in Sunday's Times-Georgian Enjoy, and feel free to forward to friends, family and your local school transportation department." Check out TPW Resources at www.tpwresources.com

Editors Note: Diana Black did the fine illustrations for the excellent book that Bev and Amber co-authored with her for the safety program.

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

FACILITATORS:

- ❖ Contact Joann Dunn (planter360@aol.com) if there are any changes in the schedule for 2009.
- ❖ Contact Eleanor Hoomes (hoomes2@gmail.com) if there are any changes in the schedule or to sign up for a month for 2010. She will be contacting possible facilitators soon.
- ❖ Contact Zan Marie Steadham (johnzanmarie@bellsouth.net) when you know the topic or speaker for your session.

2009

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	Spencer Crawford of <i>The Times Georgian</i>
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:

- ❖ Decatur Book Festival—September 5-6, 2009. Contact george@atlantawritersclub.org for information on book displays. Our own Mary Cunningham will be there on Saturday and Sunday

