



**FRIENDS OF
AMERICAN WRITERS
CHICAGO
BULLETIN**

SEPTEMBER

2008 NO. 1

**GREETINGS FROM THE
PRESIDENT**

Dear Friends,

Welcome back to FAW. I hope that you had an enjoyable summer, but that you thought about FAW now and again and missed it just a little bit.

The Board members have planned a great new term this year. They have contracted for the luncheons, booked the programs, made arrangements for you to receive the monthly bulletins, printed the Yearbook, geared the Award Committees members for action, started planning the awards Luncheon, checked all the lists and then checked them again. We think that everything is in order for another great year.

Now what we need is YOU.

We need YOU, the members, to attend the monthly meetings, read the Bulletins, make use of the information in the Yearbook, support the Awards Committees with your participation and contributions, attend and bring guests to the Awards Luncheon and make suggestions and very helpful comments about your ideas and preferences.

Please make your calendars again for FAW on the second Wednesday, September thru May. Bring a friend with you to share the enjoyment of the day.

Glad you're back and I'm looking forward to being together September 10.

Your President,
Vivian Mortensen

**SEPTEMBER 10
PROGRAM**

***ADVENTURES
OF A DESERT
QUEEN***

***A MEETING WITH
GERTRUDE BELL***

Adapted and Performed by

BETSEY MEANS

Directed by
EILEEN VORBACH

*"I love Iraq almost as much as I
love my own country. I am Iraqi!
I want to see the people of Iraq
achieve their freedom and
independence..."*

Gertrude Bell

ABOUT THE AUTHOR BETSEY MEANS

Betsey Means is a professional actress with over 25 years experience. She is currently the Artistic Director of WomanLore: *performing women in history*. She has performed with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre and Shakespeare on the Green. Favorite roles include the Nurse in Romeo and Juliet, Maria in Twelfth Night; Queen Margaret and the Duchess of York in Richard III, Witch III in Macbeth and Lady Falconbridge in King John. She was seen as Mrs. Reed, Mary Ingram and Diane Rivers in Lifeline Theatre's award winning production of Jane Eyre. She is the Storyteller at The Four Season's "Storytelling Tea" in Chicago and DuPage Children's Museum. Performing on many commercial and industrial voiceovers, she can be heard on Midwest Airlines, Aleve, Ace Hardware and St. John's Mercy Medical Center.

NEEDED ... WANTED

Readers for the Adult Literary Awards Committee ... Contact Corinne Morrissey at 312-987-2357 or at 6MORRISS@JMLS.edu

Reasons to join the Adult Literary Awards Committee

- Help the career of an emerging author
 - Meet new friends
- Get the news about what the board is doing
- Be proud to have helped select a winning book, like ***Water for Elephants***
 - Spend time talking about books
 - Keep on Learning
- Read many interesting and unusual new titles recommended by the literary wise, including yourself

The Adult Literary Awards Committee usually meets on the third or fourth Wednesday morning from September through February; schedule is flexible; read, read, read ... That is key.

**SEPTEMBER 10
LUNCHEON
RESERVATIONS**

Please join us September 10th for the first luncheon of the 2008-2009 season. It will be so nice to see all our members after the summer hiatus.

To reserve your seating at the September luncheon, call: Pat Adelberg at 847-588-0911 or Rosemary Crowley at 312-856-0009. Permanent reservations are not available at this time.

Pat and / or Rosemary can answer any questions as well as take your reservations. **Please note: reservations as well as cancellations are due before 6:00 pm on the Sunday prior to the luncheon, September 7.** Luncheons ordered but not served must be paid in full. Checks may be sent to Eileen McNulty, 4450 North Kostner, Chicago, IL 60630, phone 773-283-3369.

Our September meeting will be held at the Fortnightly of Chicago, 120 Bellevue Place, Chicago. The seating arrangements in the room will be round tables seating eight people.

Rosemary Crowley



**FAW 2009 AWARDS
LUNCHEON**

Mark your calendars for the Friends of American Writers Annual Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at the Union League of Chicago

**LONGTIME FAW
MEMBER DIES**

Dorothy Gwynn, FAW past president, Literary Awards Chairman, historian and loyal supporter died this summer. Dorothy is best known for writing and printing the club's history that was distributed on FAW's 75th anniversary. Dorothy was always interested in FAW, even after she was unable to attend meetings. She annually supported the Patron's Fund contributing just two months before she died.

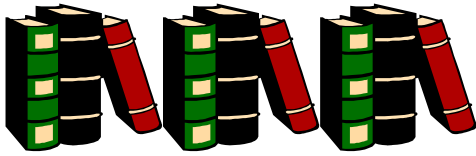
Most of us who knew her remember her as a strict disciplinarian, always following the club by-laws. But she also enjoyed fun times and lively conversations. She trained several of us on the Board – she taught me the ropes of being president and literary awards chairman.

She will be missed.

Vivian Mortensen

YEARBOOKS

FAW Yearbooks will be distributed at the September meeting. When you receive your copy, look at your information. If there is a mistake, please notify Pat Adelberg at 847-588-0911. We will list all corrections in the upcoming newsletters.



READ MORE ABOUT GERTRUDE BELL

For more information on the woman featured in today's program, try one of these books from your library or bookstore. Both are available in paperback.

Howell, Georgina. **Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations** (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2008). A well written, well researched thorough biography of the woman called the "female Lawrence of Arabia."

Wallach, Janet. **Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell: Adventurer, Adviser to Kings, Ally of Lawrence of Arabia** (Anchor, 2005). Relying heavily on letters and diaries of MS Bell, the author portrays a "hard traveler, hack for Empire, cosmopolite, iconoclast, anti-suffragist – a complex, absorbing character.

DUES

If you have not paid your dues for the 2008/9 season, please send your payment to:

Eileen McNulty
4450 North Kostner
Chicago, Illinois 60630-4102
773-283-3369.

\$40 regular / \$20 non-resident
\$20 sustaining club

FAW 2008 – 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Yearbook, Pat Adelberg

THE BULLETIN WELCOMES NEWS!

Send FAW news, information about members, authors, literary events, etc. to:

Christine Bern
1028 South Butternut Circle
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-469-7166
cjbern@aol.com