



FRIENDS OF AMERICAN WRITERS

CHICAGO

www.fawchicago.org

SEPTEMBER

2009-2010 NO. 1

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to another year of FAW! On Wednesday, September 9th, we begin our monthly luncheons and presentations, again this year at The Fortnightly. Comments from members have made it clear that this is our favored place for the monthly gatherings.

New Board and Chairpersons are busily at work. Lorraine Campione is chairing the Juvenile Literary Committee and Roberta Gates heads the Adult Literary Committee. Both committees are formed and are ready to start considering books for the April award. Sean Eshaghy, Vice President for Programs, has planned excellent speakers this year.

Please note that the April Awards Luncheon is scheduled one week later than usual – April 21. It was necessary to make this change in order to have our meeting at the Union League Club.

I encourage all of our members to consider how they might play a role in the administration of FAW. We need new people on the Board and on committees. Please let me, or any Board member, know that you are willing to serve on any of the committees that you see listed in your Yearbook. It's fun and rewarding to be an active part of FAW.

I look forward to seeing you in September. Bring some friends!

Marion Faldet
President

SEPTEMBER 9TH PROGRAM

A Million Girls Would Die For This Job: Behind the Scenes with a Chicago Magazine Editor



Amalie Drury, CS Editor-At-Large

What is magazine publishing all about? Are there nasty women like Meryl Streep in *The Devil Wears Prada* or skirt-chasing men like Hugh Grant in *Bridget Jones's Diary*?

Since 2001, **Amalie Drury** has been a staff editor with *Modern Luxury Magazines*, publishers of the regional lifestyle titles *CS (Chicago Social)*, *Angelino*, *Rivera*, *Dallas*, *Houston*, *DC* and *Front Desk*. She writes and edits stories on a range of topics, from beauty and social to home design and the arts.

Join us for the FAW luncheon on September 9th for a breezy look at Chicago publishing!

LONGTIME FAW MEMBER DIES

Jane Lederer, FAW past president, past Literary Awards Chairman, and a loyal FAW supporter died this summer. She was a member for 31 years and actively served on committees and the Board for over 25 years. A former teacher in Park Ridge, Jane had a passion for superior writing and took pride knowing that Jane Smiley and Toni Morrison won FAW prizes while she served on the literary committee.

The Foundation Fund was officially established during her presidency in 1984 and she later served as a Foundation Trustee several times. Along with other Foundation Trustees Jane established annual two-day writing workshops at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1986. Noted authors such as Garry Wills, William Gass and Larry Heinemann worked with writing students at UIC (and later at Roosevelt University) and presented a lecture on writing to FAW members and the general public.

Jane was so much fun. She had a great laugh. She loved to “talk books” and I got many reading suggestions from her. She read good stuff from all genres, from a Paretzky murder to an Anne Tyler family story to a Teddy Roosevelt biography.

Jane will be missed!

LITERARY COMMITTEE MEMBER NEEDED

Readers for the Adult Literary Awards Committee are needed. FAW members who are willing to read and evaluate literature are asked to sign up. Why join?

- Help the career (and finances) of emerging authors
- Meet new friends
- Get the news about what the board is doing
- Spend time talking about books
- Read many interesting and unusual new titles

The Adult Literary Awards Committee usually meets at 10 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month from September through February at the Fortnightly Club of Chicago.

Interested? Contact Roberta Gates at 708-447-8471 or gates366@yahoo.com

IN MEMORIAM

Jane Lederer 1978 – 2009
Clare Miller 2008 – 2009
Virginia Rasmussen 2004 – 2009

DUES

If you have not paid your dues for the 2009/10 season, please send your payment to:

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

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



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.

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9 AT NOON
\$35 PER PERSON
THE FORTNIGHTLY CLUB OF CHICAGO
120 BELLEVUE PLACE, CHICAGO, IL

THERE ARE NO STANDING RESERVATIONS IN SEPTEMBER - EVERYONE MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS, EITHER FOR SEPTEMBER ONLY OR FOR ALL YEAR.

To make reservations, call **Pat Adelberg at 847-588-0911** or **Rosemary Crowley at 312-856-0009**. Vegetarian meals may be requested at the time you make your reservation.

REMEMBER:

- **Reservations (and cancellations) are due before 6 p.m. on Sunday, September 6th.**
- Pay by check (\$35) payable to FAW at the door.
- \$14 parking is available two doors west of the Fortnightly.
- The seating arrangements in the room will be round tables seating eight people. If you wish to sit with your friends and/or guests, please arrive early.
- Complimentary coffee and tea service are available in the parlor prior to the lunch.
- If you make a reservation but cannot come, you must call to cancel. Otherwise you will be charged the \$35. If this happens, send your check to Eileen McNulty, 4450 North Kostner, Chicago, IL 60630-4102.



www.fawchicago.org

FAW is proud to announce its website, www.fawchicago.org. Take a look. It contains lots of information about the organization – program details for each month, membership forms, online bulletins, lists of past author winners, those who have received scholarships, and much more.

The website gives FAW authenticity and a quick reference point. When the literary chairmen request books, the publishing staff can check our site to see that we are

a valid organization. When authors want to submit books to be reviewed, they can find the rules online. When guests want to join FAW, they can find a membership application on the site.

Karen Baker designed and is producing the website. She has volunteered to update it on a monthly basis. If you notice errors or have suggestions for new material, contact Vivian Mortensen at 847-827-8339 or vmortens@comcast.net who will coordinate your ideas with Karen.

WHAT'S NEW FROM FAW ADULT LITERARY AWARD-WINNERS

Ansary, A. Manette – 1995 Second Place Winner
GOOD THINGS I WISH YOU (Harper, 2009, 272 pages) Battling to reassemble her life with her young daughter after a divorce, Jeanette struggles to write a novel based on the relationship between pianist Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms.

Flynn, Gillian – 2007 Second Place Winner
DARK PLACES (Shaye Areheart Books, 2009, 368 pages) Twenty-five years after testifying that her brother murdered her family, a woman begins to question what she saw. This *New York Times* bestseller is full of twists, turns and gruesome fun.

Fuller, Jack – 1985 First Place Winner
ABBEVILLE (Unbridled Books, 2008, 272 pages) A multigenerational family novel that parallels the lives of George Bailey, a current day financier whose fortune is lost in the dot.com world, and his grandfather, a Central Illinois business whose fortune was lost in the depression.

Kokoris, Jim – 2002 First Place Winner
THE PURSUIT OF OTHER INTERESTS (St. Martin's Press, October 2009, 352 pages) When a 50 year-old-workaholic loses his job, his life is transformed from corporate titan to just another out of work American. Kokoris takes a serious, timely topic and puts a humorous but poignant spin on it.

Paretsky, Sara – 1985 Second Place Winner
HARDBALL (Putnam, September 2009, 464 pages) In the newest V. I. Warshawski mystery, Warshawski is hired to track down a man who has been missing for forty years, and inadvertently unearths old skeletons from Chicago's history and her own family.

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THE BULLETIN WELCOMES NEWS!

Send FAW news, information about members, authors, literary events, etc. to:
Vivian Mortensen
506 Rose Ave.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-827-8339
vmortens@comcast.net



PLEASE NOTE

All gifts and bequests to Friends of American Writers shall go directly to the general fund of Friends of American Writers unless designated for another purpose by the donor.

Article VI
Dues and Finance
FAW Bylaws