



FRIENDS OF
AMERICAN WRITERS
CHICAGO

www.fawchicago.org

OCTOBER

2009-2010 NO. 2

GREETINGS FROM
THE PRESIDENT

Let's all be Green, Green, Green!
Everyone can do a little to help our
environment. Stop excepting plastic
bags from stores when you shop.
Bring your own canvas bag. Recycle
your cans, paper and plastic con-
tainers where you live and encourage
your neighbors and friends to do the
same. When you do have to use
paper, you should use it wisely and
try to reuse it if possible. This is just
a start. There'll more ideas and
suggestions to follow.

Betty O'Toole
President



NOVEMBER PROGRAM

CHICAGO'S
TUNNEL
RAILROAD

Fortnightly of Chicago
November 10, 2010

Our program on November 10th introduces
Bruce Moffat, the author of *The Chicago
Tunnel Story: Exploring the Railroad "Forty
Feet Below"* (Central Electric Railfans'
Association, 2002, 232 pages). He will give
us the history of this railroad system operating
beneath the streets of downtown Chicago for
over 50 years and forgotten until 1982 when a
piling from the Chicago River caused a leak
flooding the tunnels and most of downtown
Chicago.

Bruce Moffat is a lifelong Chicago resident
and graduate of Illinois State University. He
received a Master's Degree in Urban Planning
and Policy from the University of Illinois at
Chicago. He is presently the manager of the
Chicago Transit Authority's Signage and
Wayfinding Department.



TWO FOUNDATION FUND SCHOLARS HONORED

Trustees of the Foundation Fund are again awarding two students this year \$1,000 scholarships. Faculty at both National Lewis University and Roosevelt University were asked to nominate a candidate to receive this award. The two students chosen will be honored at the November luncheon along with their faculty sponsors.

Debra Jennings is the 2010 recipient from National-Louis University. Sarah Brick, the Director of Alumni Outreach and Programming writes, “Deby rediscovered her love for writing while completing her Bachelor’s degree. She is now hip-deep in the Written Communications program and is enjoying its many challenges. She is thrilled to be recognized for her writing by the Friends of American Writers and is thankful that you care enough to sponsor such a unique scholarship.”

Timothy Moore is the 2010 Roosevelt University beneficiary. Born to an army family, he has traveled all across the United States. When he was six years old, his father gave him a Batman comic book, and he’s been writing ever since. He received his undergraduate degree in screenwriting from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and moved in late summer to Chicago to pursue an MFA in Creative Writing at Roosevelt University. Though he still loves Batman, he has added short stories to his daily reading.

Angeline Higginson
Corrinne Silver
Eleanor Simmons



A pair of reading glasses was found last month in the Ladies Washroom at the Casino Club. If they belong to you, please contact the Casino Club at (312) 787-2100 to claim them.

COMMENTS ABOUT THE CASINO CLUB

FAW will be going to the Casino Club two more times this year – April and May. The Board wants to make sure that we have a successful experience there. Please let us know there were any problems or concerns with last’s month’s visit.

The feedback so far has been wonderful. Members enjoyed the ambiance of the club. They loved the food, especially the cookies and crème brulee. And most of all, members commented on the tremendously attentive staff who gave directions, graciously served the food and escorted people up the stairs. The location of the club was easy to find and conveniently close to the Fortnightly.

Although members prefer the Fortnightly for our meetings, the Board feels that the Casino Club worked out well as a substitute.

How do you feel? Were you happy with this arrangement? Will you return for the Awards Luncheon in April and Barbara Rinella in May? Please let us know.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Tanya Klasser
55 W. Delaware Place
Chicago, IL 60610
312-337-9648
brujota1@aol.com

April Nauman
1179 Wenonah Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60304
708-445-2997
adn1110@netzero.com

HANDICAPPED ENTRANCE TO THE FORTNIGHTLY

Do you have trouble climbing the front stairs?
Have you stopped attending the meetings because
of the front staircase?

The Fortnightly has a handicapped entrance on the east end of the building that leads you to an elevator to access the first floor. If you wish to use this special entry, call ahead to the Fortnightly (312-944-1330) and staff will give you instructions. They will be ready to answer the doorbell when you come and show you to the Lounge.

FAW WINNING BOOK CHOSEN FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

ON VINEY'S MOUNTAIN (Holiday House, 2009) by Joan Donaldson, winner last year for an FAW Juvenile prize, was chosen to represent the state of Tennessee at the National Book Festival in Washington, D. C., in September.



NOVEMBER LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, AT NOON \$35 PER PERSON THE FORTNIGHTLY OF CHICAGO 120 BELLEVUE PLACE, CHICAGO, IL

To make reservations, call **Pat Adelberg at 847-588-0911** or **Ruth Ann Brinkman at 773-271-9604**.

REMEMBER:

- **Reservations (and cancellations) are due before 6 p.m. on Sunday, November 7th.**
- Pay by check (\$35) payable to FAW at the door.
- Vegetarian meals may be requested at the time you make your reservation.
- \$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.

WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR PAST AWARD AUTHORS?

Michael Byers (2004 Winner)

PERCIVAL'S PLANET (Holt, August 2010) is a novel of ambition and obsession centered on the race to discover Pluto in 1930, pitting an untrained Kansas farm boy against the greatest minds of Harvard at the run-down Lowell Observatory in Arizona.

Deborah Eisenberg (1993)

THE COLLECTED STORIES OF DEBORAH EISENBERG (Picador, March 2010) is a collection of short stories that portray contemporary American life.

Sara Gruen (2007)

THE APE HOUSE (Spiegel & Grau, September 2010) features a group of apes are kidnapped from a language laboratory and subsequently cast on a reality television show that calls into question scientific assumptions about common DNA that is shared by apes and people.

Erin Hart (2004)

FALSE MERMAID (Scribner, March 2010) is the third book in her award-winning mystery series. Convinced that her brother-in-law killed her sister, Nora returns to Minnesota before he can marry again and cause more havoc to the family.

James Hynes (1991)

Flying to a secret job interview in Texas in the wake of an unsatisfying relationship and career, Kevin Quinn in the novel NEXT (Little, Brown & Co, March 2010) falls for a fellow passenger while obsessively worrying about terrorism threats in Europe.

William Kent Krueger (1999)

In VERMILION DRIFT (Simon & Schuster, September 2010) Cork O'Connor, assigned to protect security at a mine, finds protestors trying to prevent the storage of nuclear waste and the bodies of five long-missing people and a recently murdered sixth victim who was killed with Cork's own gun.

Toni Morrison (1978)

Morrison's most recent book, A MERCY (Vintage, 2009), has been selected for the Fall 2010 *One Book, One Chicago* program at the Chicago Public Library. This haunting novel set in the 1600's involves a slave girl given to an Anglo-Dutch trader in exchange for a debt who desperately searches for love from those around her.

Sara Paretsky (1985)

The fourteenth entry in the V. I. Warshawski series, BODY WORK (Putnam, August 2010) finds the smart-mouthed Chicago PI approaching 50 but unafraid of mixing it up with some thuggish Ukrainian mobsters. When Vic's young cousin begins working at the edgy Club Gouge, Vic attends a performance there by the Body Artist, who allows audience members to use her naked body as a canvas.

Mona Simpson (1988)

MY HOLLYWOOD (Knopf, August 2010) portrays two women whose lives become intertwined as Claire, a young Hollywood wife overwhelmed with caring for her baby hires a Filipino woman who has secrets of her own.

Jane Smiley (1982)

Smiley has two books published this year. PRIVATE LIFE (Knopf, May 2010) is a novel set on the eve of World War II in which a woman is forced to confront her marriage as her husband's obsessions with science take an evil twist leading to destructive behavior.

THE MAN WHO INVENTED THE COMPUTER: THE BIOGRAPHY OF JOHN ATANASOFF, DIGITAL PIONEER (Doubleday, October 2010) is a nonfiction work which traces physics professor John Vincent Atanasoff's role in the invention of the computer.