



FRIENDS OF
AMERICAN WRITERS
BULLETIN

www.fawchicago.org

DECEMBER

2011 - 2012 No. 4

GREETINGS FROM
The PRESIDENT

Holiday joy to all and many happy surprises and celebrations.

The November program was great. Thank you for coming and sharing in Bill Hinchliff's informative presentation on Chicago statues. He enjoys his topics and is always welcome at FAW.

This December 14th we have another special presentation from the Art Institute of Chicago by Henry Kupjack on the Thorne Rooms. I was introduced to them many years ago and visit them every so often as they are an historical exhibit. I look forward to learning about creating Thorne Rooms.

The program will be presented before the Holiday Tea. All come and celebrate with FAW. Do bring a guest and enjoy the miniature world of the Thorne Rooms.

Happy Holidays to All,

Corene Anderson
FAW President



December program

Creating Thorne Rooms

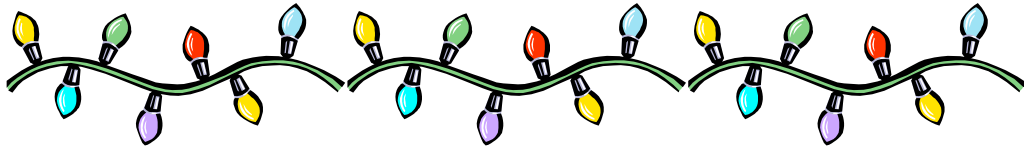
December 14, 2011
Fortnightly Club

Henry Kupjack creates tiny, fascinating worlds, complete in every detail. Many of his rooms can be seen in permanent collections of such museums as the Wintherthur, the Forbes Museum, the Boston Library and the Illinois State Museum. Many of his commissions also come from private collectors.

Henry Kupjack is the son of Eugene Kupjack who was commissioned by Mrs. James Ward Thorne in the 1930's to create the 30 American rooms at the Art Institute. Apprenticed by his father, Henry later worked alongside him and has taken over the business (with his brother Jay) upon Eugene Kupjack's death in 1991.

Kupjack will present a slide presentation of his work, talking about the creation of a miniature room, from the practical to the imaginative to the historical points of view. He will discuss the Thorne Rooms displayed at the Art Institute. He will also bring an example of his work to see up close.

Program Committee

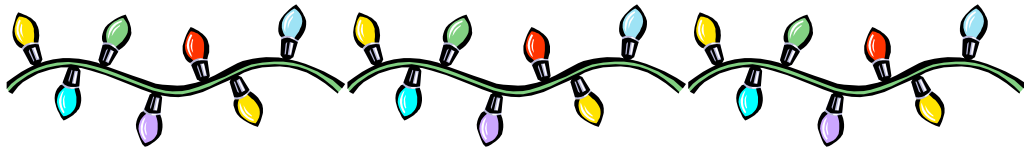


December tea

WEDNESDAY, December 14 at NOON

\$35 PER PERSON

The fortnightly club of Chicago
120 Bellevue Place, Chicago, IL



We're absolutely looking forward to our December program and Holiday Tea. However, there seems to be some confusion as to how this is going to work. Everything will go along as it usually does. You will come into the beautifully decorated Fortnightly at noon, pay for your meal and find a seat at a table. The program will be presented and afterwards, you will be treated to a lovely tea. The tea will be served buffet style. On the table will be a variety of sweets and savories, including finger sandwiches, chocolate-dipped fruit and bite sized pasties. Staff will help those who have problems maneuvering buffet tables.

If you wish to browse, there will be tables of books for sale by the Literary Awards and the Juvenile Literary Awards Committees. Proceeds from these sales go to the committees' funds for the author awards in the spring.

You are also encouraged to visit the various rooms and floors of the Fortnightly and see the splendid collection of holiday decorations. A great deal of thought goes into the planning for the holidays at the club. Don't miss the chance to enjoy the fruits of their labor!

To make reservations, call Pat Adelberg at 847-588-0911 or Ruth Ann Brinkman at 773-271-9604. Vegetarian meals may be requested at the time you make your reservation.

REMEMBER:

- **Reservations (and cancellations) are due before 6 p.m. on Sunday, December 11th.**
- Pay by check (\$35) payable to FAW at the door.
- \$14 parking is available two doors west of the Fortnightly at 100 Bellevue Place.
- 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 tea.
- 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.

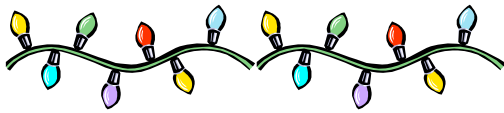
Foundation Fund Scholarships

Welcome New Members

Shirley Baugher
1710 N. Crilly Ct.
Chicago, IL 60614-5700
312-787-7025

Ruth Robbins
155 N. Harbor Dr. #508
Chicago, IL 60601-7389
312-329-1190

Please welcome these new members and make them feel at home at our luncheons.



DONATIONS for the FOUNDATION FUND

The trustees of the Foundation Fund thank the following members for their donation to the Foundation Fund. This fund, separate from the general budget, endows the scholarships and special projects of FAW. Their names will appear with past contributors in the annual yearbook:

Corene Anderson
Edith Riley
Roberta Schaffner

Angeline Higginson
Foundation Fund



YEAR END BOOK SALE

Bargains galore are waiting for your purchase! The two literary award committees are setting out a selection of adult and juvenile books at the December luncheon. It's helpful if you bring some change and a bag for your purchases.

Trustees of the Foundation Fund introduced the membership to the two recipients of the 2011 Foundation Fund scholarships at the November luncheon. Honorees from National Louis University and Roosevelt University were each given \$1,000 from the Foundation Funds.

Tara Sparks will graduate with a Master's degree from National Louis University this month. She has focused on comedy writing and co-wrote, produced and directed the sketch comedy revue, *Let's Call It Ralph*, which ran at Donny's Skybox in the summer of 2009. Her play, *Belly Dance* was selected by the Chicago's Writer's Bloc for presentation in their 2011 Festival of New Plays at the Wit Theater.

Jake Wrenn is studying creative writing at Roosevelt University. His fiction appeared in *Palooka*, a literary magazine and won an award from *Glimmer Train*, a nationally distributed literary journal. Born and raised in the Chicago area, he currently lives with his family in Downers Grove.

Advisors from each university program were also at the luncheon. They expressed their thanks to FAW for providing these scholarships to young writers. Both the cash award and the honor are much appreciated.



The sixty-eight rooms

This month's program was inspired by one of the Juvenile Award books from last year, *The Sixty-Eight Rooms* by Marianne Malone (Turtleback, 288 pages). Two children are able to magically shrink to explore the Thorne Rooms at the Art Institute afterhours. If you haven't read this enchanting story, it's worth an afternoon's visit.

Best Books of 2011
(According to PUBLISHERS WEEKLY MAGAZINE)

THE MARRIAGE PLOT by Jeffrey Eugenides (Farrar, Straus and Giroux).

Brown University student Madeleine Hanna breaks out of her straight-and-narrow mold when she enrolls in a semiotics course and falls in love with charismatic loner Leonard Morten, at a time complicated by the resurfacing of a old boyfriend obsessed with the idea that Madeleine is his destiny.

THE DEVIL ALL THE TIME BY Donald Ray Pollock (Doubleday).

Take a man from Ohio who's worked blue collar, send him for an M.F.A. and set him loose. There's a wide assortment of characters tied together with violence, sin, and gorgeous prose into a mesmerizing slice of Americana.

STATE OF WONDER by Ann Patchett (Harper)

A researcher at a pharmaceutical company, Marina Singh journeys into the heart of the Amazonian delta to check on a field team that has been silent for two years—a dangerous assignment that forces Marina to confront the ghosts of her past.

AFTER THE APOCALYPSE: STORIES by Maureen McHugh (Small Beer).

Incisive, contemporary and always surprising, McHugh's second collection confronts near-future life with an ironic and particular eye. Her characters live with zombies, struggle to make ends meet and cope with China's descent into capitalism.

BOSSYPANTS by Tina Fey (Little Brown/Reagan Arthur).

From her youthful days as a vicious nerd to her tour of duty on Saturday Night Live; from her passionately halfhearted pursuit of physical beauty to her life as a mother eating things off the floor; from her one-sided college romance to her nearly fatal honeymoon, comedian Tina Fey reveals all, and proves that you're no one until someone calls you bossy.

CATHERINE THE GREAT by Robert K. Massie (Random House).

Pulitzer Prize biographer Massie presents the eighteenth-century empress's life covering her efforts to engage Russia in the cultural life of Europe, her creation of the Hermitage, and her numerous affairs.

THERE BUT FOR THE by Ali Smith (Pantheon).

When Miles Garth locks himself in an upstairs room during a dinner party and communicates only through notes slipped under the door, his involuntary hosts beg help from childhood friend Anna, who is unwittingly thrust into the family's surreal world.

HEMINGWAY'S BOAT by Paul Hendrickson (Knopf).

An assessment of the decades before Ernest Hemingway's suicide reveals the key life moments that occurred on board his beloved boat, "Pilar," from celebrations with friends and romantic liaisons to the dissolutions of marriages and withdrawals from society.

ONE DAY I WILL WRITE ABOUT THIS PLACE by Binyavanga Wainaina (Graywolf).

A founding editor of *Kwani* and winner of the Caine Prize traces the story of his middle-class youth in Kenya, marked by his mother's religious period, family trips and his love of reading before a writing award compelled his literary career.

ARGUABLY: ESSAYS by Christopher Hitchens (Hachette/Twelve).

A collection of the noted author's essays includes his early writings on civil rights, Vietnam, and international incidents, as well as columns on the Clintons, the Catholic Church, Mother Theresa, radical Islam, and an array of reflections on politics.