



FRIENDS OF
AMERICAN WRITERS
BULLETIN

www.fawchicago.org

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GREETINGS FROM
The PRESIDENT

Dear FAW Members,

'Tis the season' and we enjoyed the start of it with a wonderful time at our November luncheon.

We welcomed the Foundation Fund scholarship recipients as well as the melodic songs of Dean Milano. Memories were recalled as he took us through a musical review of the '60's and '70's in the Chicago area. Thank you to Betty Angelos for stepping in for Angie Higginson, Foundation Chairman.

We can now focus on our Holiday Tea on December 12th, a great success last year. Do join us. Share some holiday joy with friends and guests. I look forward to your presence at another enthusiastic gathering.

Wishing each and every one of you a joyous holiday with good wishes for the coming New Year.

Happy Holidays to All,

Corene Anderson
FAW President



December program

Larger than Life Photos

December 12, 2012

As we welcome the 200th anniversary of the invention of the camera, world-renown photographer **Dennis Manarchy** wants to celebrate by building a huge camera - 35 feet long that will produce 4½ x 6 foot negatives and two-story-tall prints whose details are 1000 times greater than an average digital photograph.

Manarchy will discuss the construction of this camera and his plan to travel 20,000 miles across the country to record the beauty and history of America's vanishing cultures, including Louisiana Cajuns, Tuskegee airmen, aging Medal of Honor winners of World War II, and lepers living out their last days in an isolated Hawaiian colony.

Manarchy has won many awards for photography and commercial film directing. His works can be found at the Museum of Contemporary Photography, the Museum of Modern Art and many more locations.

- Shirley Baugher
Program Chair

A Lincoln reading list

If you enjoyed the movie, *Lincoln*, you might want to try one of these books suggested by Jimmy So of *The Daily Beast*:

THE TEAM OF RIVALS: THE POLITICAL GENIUS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN by **Doris Kearns Goodwin**. The Spielberg movie, written by Tony Kushner, is based on this book. Goodwin introduces Lincoln's cabinet and shows that greatness does not come easily, but from the steady work of human compromise.

LINCOLN by **David Herbert Donald**. This 720-page book is considered the best one-volume take on the 16th president, including Bill Clinton who called it "one of the best biographies on any person in politics."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN by **Carl Sandburg**. Here is a painstaking, biographically detailed prose that comes in six lengthy volumes, ending up "reading like three Wars And Peaces!"

LINCOLN AT GETTYSBURG by **Garry Wills**. This Pulitzer Prize book takes a close look at Lincoln's transcendent speech.

THE FIERY TRIAL: ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND AMERICAN SLAVERY by **Eric Foner**. Foner provides a balanced and fair view of Lincoln's attitude and dealings with the slavery issue.

TRIED BY WAR: ABRAHAM LINCOLN AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF by **James McPherson**. McPherson makes the case that Lincoln's leadership through America's deadliest war saved the Union.

HERNDON'S LINCOLN by **William H. Herndon and Jesse W. Weik**. Herndon was Lincoln's law partner and this book is considered the first serious biography of the president.

MRS. LINCOLN AND MRS. KECKLY: THE REMARKABLE STORY OF THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN A FIRST LADY AND A FORMER SLAVE by **Jennifer Fleischner**. The author depicts Mary Lincoln's unusual friendship with her mulatto dressmaker, Elizabeth Keckly.

LINCOLN: A NOVEL by **Gore Vidal**. Vidal shows Lincoln as a flawed human being. Perhaps not truly accurate but fun to read!

Foundation fund scholarships

Trustees of the Foundation Fund introduced the membership to the two recipients of the 2012 Foundation Fund scholarships at the November luncheon. Honorees from National Louis University and Roosevelt University were each given \$1,000 from the Foundation Funds.

Kendra Harding attends National Louis University. Her focus is children's literature and will self-publish a children's book soon.

Jim Kurlos is studying in the Roosevelt University's MFA program. He is currently writing a mystery set in Ohio.

Advisors from each university program warmly expressed their thanks to FAW for providing these scholarships to their young writers.

Angeline Higginson
Foundation Fund

welcome New Members

Yolanda Adler
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Marianne Kohl
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CORRECTIONS

Please change your yearbook listing email for Jean Law to read:
dalawx2@comcast.net

Change the email listing for Elizabeth Peters to read:
epeters2012@gmail



December tea

WEDNESDAY, December 12

Promptly at NOON

\$35 PER PERSON

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



We're looking forward to the December program and second Holiday Tea. Once again the program will be presented first, promptly at noon. Members will sit at tables and listen to the speaker. Following the program, members can leisurely go to the buffet table and help themselves to the goodies.

There were a few snags last year in the arrangements but hopefully this year will move without problems. Fortnightly Staff will serve the tea and coffee at the tables so that members are not juggling food plates and teacups from the buffet to their seats. There will also be plenty of tables and places to sit – somehow seating was an issue last year. However, the delicious sandwiches and desserts (including finger sandwiches, chocolate-dipped fruit and bite sized pastries) will return in abundance. Just as before, members can return for seconds of their favorite delicacies.

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 Lorraine Campione at 773-275-5118.

REMEMBER:

- **Reservations (and cancellations) are due before 6 p.m. on Sunday, December 9th.**
- Pay by check (\$35) payable to FAW at the door. \$15 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.

Best books of 2012
(According to PUBLISHERS WEEKLY MAGAZINE)

BUILDING STORIES by Chris Ware (Pantheon).

Ware's new work is really 14 individually bound books, ranging from gorgeous hardbacks to thin pamphlets, housed in an oversized box. Read in any order, all the tales within follow the tenants of the same apartment building, including an elderly landlady, a spiteful married couple, and a lonely female amputee.

BRINGING UP THE BODIES by Hilary Mantel (Holt).

Loosely a sequel to *WOLF HALL* and a winner of the Booker Prize, this is a startlingly different book. Thomas Cromwell is older now, with more titles and power, but he nonetheless finds himself again having to wrestle the king out of another heirless marriage, this time to Anne Boleyn.

THE ROUND HOUSE by Louise Erdrich (Harper).

When his mother, a tribal enrollment specialist living on a reservation in North Dakota, slips into an abyss of depression after being brutally attacked, fourteen-year-old Joe Coutz sets out with his three friends to find the person that destroyed his family.

HAPPINESS IS A CHEMICAL IN THE BRAIN by Lucia Perillo (Norton).

A collection of short stories that takes place in the Pacific Northwest includes odd characters such as an addict who becomes obsessed with vacuum cleaners and a suburban housewife who commits armed robberies.

THE DEVIL IN SILVER by Victor LaValle (Spiegel & Grau).

A menacing figure stalks the airless halls of a psychiatric ward; corrupt cops, bored staff, and drugged and deranged patients all think they know what's going on, but no one truly has a handle on reality. LaValle balances the tension with moving and surprisingly intimate portraits of people caught in the gears of a malfunctioning mental health system.

DETROIT CITY IS THE PLACE TO BE: THE AFTERLIFE OF AN AMERICAN

METROPOLIS by Mark Binelli (Metropolitan).

Binelli's nonfiction debut vividly captures Detroit's dramatic reversals of fortune. With empathy for his subjects, endless curiosity about his hometown, and a rare sense of humor, Binelli effectively punctures myths about this supposed urban wasteland and grapples with the city's ever-present socioeconomic and racial struggles.

ALL WE KNOW: THREE LIVES by Lisa Cohen (Farrar, Straus & Giroux).

A triptych biography of three early-20th-century women—Esther Murphy, Mercedes de Acosta, and Madge Garland—successfully renders both these memorable and surprising personalities and the era in which they struggled with questions and expectations regarding career, marriage, and sexuality.

PEOPLE WHO EAT DARKNESS: THE TRUE STORY OF A WOMAN WHO VANISHED

FROM THE STREETS OF TOKYO by Richard Lloyd Parry (Farrar, Straus & Giroux).

A chilling and multilayered account of the murder of Lucie Blackman in Tokyo sheds light on the tragedy of a family, a sexual predator, and Japanese society.

THE BARBAROUS YEARS: THE PEOPLING OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA: THE CONFLICT OF CIVILIZATIONS, 1600 – 1675

by Barnard Bailyn (Knopf).

This is an original study of America's colonial era and the link between the universal need for stability and the resulting violence that ravaged both settlers and natives.

IRON CURTAIN: THE CRUSHING OF EASTERN EUROPE, 1945 -1956 by Anne

Applebaum (Doubleday).

A searing narrative and analysis of a historical watershed—the USSR's brutal takeover of Eastern Europe during and after WWII.