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UA68/6 Newsletter #6

WKU English

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The newsletter is an internal publication to help keep everyone informed about activities related to English teachers and English teaching at Western Kentucky University.

Activities

Ron Eckard and Mary Ann Kearny are the co-authors of a new reference book for teachers of English as a Second Language (ESL). The book, Teaching Conversation Skills in ESL, was published in October by the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, D.C. It offers a number of approaches, activities, and the underlying philosophical justification for using classroom conversations to teach a foreign language, especially English.

Bob Wurster was the guest speaker at the Bowling Green Jaycees' meeting on December 8. He spoke on one of his latest interests, Hospice of Bowling Green. Bob is a member of the Hospice Training Committee as well as the Chairman of the Lay Volunteers. He has recently researched and compiled the materials for the Volunteer Manual which will be printed and distributed to all lay volunteers being trained to work with Hospice in the Bowling Green area.

Wurster was also the guest speaker for the fall graduating class of the Medical Tech School in Madison, TN, on December 11. The Medical Tech School is owned by two graduates of WKU and is directed by Abdulla Malek, a graduate of WKU.

Zephyrus

The Spring 1982 issue will mark the tenth year Zephyrus has been published. It first appeared in 1969 as a fine arts magazine--its pages filled with literature, art work and photography through 1972. But high printing costs halted its production from 1973 through 1975. When Zephyrus reappeared in 1976, it was as a literary magazine and had the financial backing of the university.

For about four years, the Kentucky Arts Commission conducted a competition for all independent and college magazines published in the state. Fortunately for Zephyrus, the three times it competed were rewarding. It was named the outstanding undergraduate magazine twice, in 1978 and 1979. Prizes amounting to $500 cash and three Writers-in-Residence, whose stipends amounted to $2250, were awarded by the KAC to Zephyrus. The writers brought to WKU were poet Raphael Rudnik, poet Diane Wakoski, and novelist Sylvia Wilkinson. (The magazine competition sponsored by the KAC ended in 1979)--information supplied by Wanda Gatlin, the inspiring force and guiding light of Zephyrus since its inception.

Names from the Past (And the Present)

Wayne Lanham, our Gordon Wilson Award and Danforth Scholarship winner of a couple of years ago, writes to say that he received his M.A. with honors from Columbia and has been accepted into the Ph.D. program there. He also expressed his appreciation to the department for "the help you've given me."

His address is P.O. Box 134, New Egypt, NJ 08533

Robert Obojski, a member of the WKU English faculty from fall 1962 to summer 1964, is now a noted expert on stamps and coins. He at one time was a stamp and coin columnist for The Christian Science Monitor and has regularly published articles on stamps and coins in Aramco World Magazine. His most recent article is in the Sept.-Oct. 1981 issue.--information supplied by Dr. Willson Wood and Bob Wurster
LANNA MARTIN will have a second paper to appear in the forthcoming Student Honors Bulletin. Her paper entitled "An Historical Approach to the Understanding of Civil Disobedience" was chosen the best term paper in the Bowling Green College of Business Administration for Brian Sullivan's "Introduction to Law" class. Also, Lanna's paper on Melville mentioned in the last newsletter was written when she was a junior (not a sophomore).

ZEPHYRUS CREATIVE WRITING AWARDS (prizes contributed by Patience and Wallace Nave, Bob Wurster, Will Fridy, and The Browning Literary Club of Bowling Green)

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Poetry</th>
<th>Prose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Denise Newbolt</td>
<td>Frank A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Denise Newbolt</td>
<td>Gail Yarbrough</td>
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<td>1978</td>
<td>David Surface</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Sheila Riley</td>
<td>Ann Travelstead</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Tip Shanklin &amp;</td>
<td>Michael L. Harris &amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diane Eison</td>
<td>Dorothy Spear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Dorothy Spear &amp;</td>
<td>Michael L. Harris &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diane Eison</td>
<td>Chris Allen</td>
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</tbody>
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CORRECTION

In the last newsletter the list of recipients for the Gordon Wilson Award omitted the name of Scott Massey. Scott was the 1974 winner.

102 ACHIEVEMENT ESSAY TOPICS?

The following tentative theme topics for the 102 Achievement Essay are inspired by Steve Martin's Cruel Shoes, a wild, zany book which, according to Steve Martin, is destined to become a classic of American humor. (G.P. Putnam's Sons, N.Y., 1979)

1. How to Fold Soup
2. The Morning I Got Out of Bed
3. The Vengeful Curtain Rod
4. Cows in Trouble
5. Dogs in My Nose
6. Poodles . . . Great Eating!
7. The Children Called Him Big Nose
8. Women Without Bones
9. The Day the Dopes Came Over
10. Cruel Shoes

RECOMMENDED BOOK

Maurice Sagoff's Shrinklits (Bantam, 1970) offers greatly condensed, rhymed versions of 50 classics. Example:

Raven lurches
In, perches
Over door.
Poet's bleary
Query--
"Where's Lenore?"
Creepy bird
Knows one word:
"Nevermore."

next deadline for material: Friday, January 22 (noon)
next publication: Monday, January 25
HOW TO KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLDER

Once again one of our spiciest spouses, Lovely Lana Flynn, has contributed something to share with the readers of the newsletter. The following "How to Know You're Getting Older" statements are dedicated to all of us, as we grow old together.

1. Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
2. The gleam in your eyes is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
3. You feel like the night before and you haven't been anywhere.
4. Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D.
5. You get winded playing chess.
6. Your children begin to look middle-aged.
7. You join a health club and don't go.
8. You begin to outlive enthusiasm.
9. Your mind makes contracts your body can't meet.
10. You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.
11. You look forward to a dull evening.
12. Your favorite part of the newspaper is "25 Years Ago Today."
13. You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
14. Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
15. You regret all those mistakes resisting temptation.
16. You're 17 around the neck and 42 around the waist.
17. You stop looking forward to your next birthday.
18. Dialing long distance wears you out.
19. Your back goes out more than you do.
20. A fortune teller offers to tell your face.
21. You turn out the light for economic reasons rather than romantic ones.
22. You remember today that yesterday was your wedding anniversary.
23. You are startled the first time you are addressed as "Old Timer."
24. You burn the midnight oil after 9:00 p.m.
25. You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.
26. Your pacemaker makes the garage door go up when you see a pretty girl walk by.
27. You get your exercise acting as a pallbearer for your friends who exercise.
28. You get too much room in the house and not enough room in the medicine cabinet.
29. The best part of your day is over when the alarm clock goes off.

WHAT IF . . . ?

... you had to select the accomplishment of your life, what would you pick?
... you could select one and only one book to read, what would you choose?
... you could spend one hour with anyone in the world today, who would that be?
... you could spend two hours with any author of any time, who would you choose?
... a wave of your hand could forever banish one word from the language, what word would you choose?
... you had to select only one adjective that describes you, what would that be?
... you had one more thrill in store for yourself, what would you choose?
... you could have any job in the world, what would you choose?
... you were about to be reborn--in the year and place you choose--would you want to be born male or female?
... heaven could hold only 10 people and you could select them, who would you have join you in heaven and why?
The following item appeared in major Virginia newspapers in the spring of 1981. Highland County is in the mountains of western Virginia, near Kentucky. (furnished by Joe Survant)

**WANTED:**

**Requirements**
* Four years of college (minimum, Master's Degree preferred)  
* Available evenings and weekends  
* Four or five years successful experience  
* Take six hours college credit every five years  
* Clerical skills  
* Love of children and seeing young minds develop into a life of promise

**Benefits**
* Pay raises less than ½ the cost of living  
* No overtime pay  
* No paid vacation  
* Supervise students during lunch  
* Unemployed in July and August, though you may take seasonal work if you can find it (you must compete with your students)  
* No planning time during the day as required for accreditation if teaching high school  
* Teaching in storage rooms, exit halls, or with another teacher due to the lack of available rooms  
* Limited housing, entertainment, and shopping facilities

**Expectations:** You Will (Whether You Want To Or Not)
* Attend athletic events, plays, PTA meeting, concerts, etc.  
* Sponsor the National Honor Society, Yearbook, Future Homemakers, and other clubs at less than the minimum wage  
* Chaperone dances, field trips, senior trip, band trips and other weekend activities  
* Cook and serve meals during the Maple Festival  
* Plan, supervise, and participate in class fund-raising activities (playing basketball, selling door-to-door, picking up trash, etc.)  
* and any other activities "deemed necessary by the school board for the efficient and successful operation of the school system."

**Salary**
* Not negotiable  
* Lowest average salary among teachers in Virginia

**Applications:** If interested apply to the Highland County Public Schools

**PAID FOR BY THE HIGHLAND COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

**POTPOURRI**
A student, describing the business the Baker family of "Come Blow Your Horn" runs, wrote "The family runs a business composed of fruits."

Latin is a dead language, and now they're killing English. He is a college graduate with an eighth-grade education. Quotation of the year 1981: "I don't know why a professor would need two hours to prepare for one hour of class." John Y., 3/11/81

**CHRISTMAS THOUGHT**
The invitation in the last newsletter to let me know what you thought your department should give you—or anyone else in the department—for Christmas "If Justice reigned" drew one response, by anonymous:

"IF JUSTICE REIGNED, THE DEPARTMENT (COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY) WOULD GIVE TENURE-TRACK POSITIONS TO OUR CONTINGENCY PEOPLE."

peace rm