THE WKU ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER #1 (September 28, 1981)

This newsletter is an internal biweekly publication to help keep everyone informed about activities related to English teachers and English teaching at WKU.

DATES
October 6 - 7 101 Exam
October 15 - November 19 "Crisis in Northern Ireland as Seen in History, Literature, and Song"—presented by BOB and CATHERINE WARD at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays at the B.G. Public Library
October 23 Composition Workshop
November 16 - 17 102 Exam
November 20 - 25 NCTE meeting, Boston
February 24 - 27 Conference on Twentieth Century Literature, University of Louisville
March 18 - 20 Conference on College Composition and Communication, San Francisco
March 26 - 27 KCTE meeting, Louisville Inn, Louisville

WRITER'S HOTLINE
The Writer's Hotline is operating again for the third year. ANNA JO JOHNSON is coordinating this public service activity this year. Hotline hours are 9:00 - 11:00 M - F.

UNITED WAY
The United Way Campaign is under way, and pledge cards will be in the mailboxes Monday, September 28. Last year thirteen members of the English Department made contributions to this effort which supports many valuable community services. University-wide about 500 faculty and staff members contributed about $20,000 toward a goal of $25,000. This was an average of about $40 for each contributor. The average contribution from the English Department was larger than the university average ($601 total).

Over 90% of the money collected goes to the support of the fourteen organizations listed in the brochure accompanying the pledge card. Avoiding the expense and bother of fourteen solicitations should be worth something. An expression of a decent regard for the well-being of the community would seem to call for a larger number of English Department contributors than last year.

To avoid the waste of time and possibility of embarrassment of a second approach to those who have already made a decision, the committee requests that English Department pledge cards be returned to Professor Jim Wayne Miller even if the person whose name is on the card does not want to make a contribution.

ACTIVITIES
DONNA BUNCH was inducted as the President of Kentucky TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) at the annual fall meeting of that organization at the University of Louisville on September 19. Program presentations were made by RON ECKARD and DIANE EISON, among others. Eckard presented a paper on "Teaching Conversation Skills in ESL," and Eison introduced and
showed a videotape on "Integrated Strategies for Teaching ESL." The videotape, narrated by JIM HELDMAN, involved Eison teaching a group of students from the Refugee English Program. The tape, approximately thirty minutes long, is available at WKU's ETV center.

RON ECKARD presented a seminar on September 21 at the First Presbyterian Church in B.G. for community volunteers who work with refugees in the Volunteer English Program. Since the contract for the Refugee English Program was terminated on July 31, a number of community volunteers have kept the program going by teaching and tutoring at the First Presbyterian Church for two hours on Monday and Wednesday mornings and for two hours on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Ten volunteers are involved in teaching approximately thirty Cambodians, Laotians, and Vietnamese. During the seminar Eckard presented a brief description of Asian languages and provided tips for teaching English pronunciation to Asians. He also introduced the volunteers to some basic teaching materials.

ANNA JO JOHNSON reviewed (for Prentice-Hall) the grammar and usage section of the Prentice-Hall Workbook, Third Edition during the summer. She is now serving as the English adviser to the Learning Assistance Center.

FLYNN'S FORAYS

Where is Dr. Flynn? Recently, he has just returned from the semi-annual schedule preparation retreat. He was also on the program of a meeting for high school counselors which is held on campus each fall. From Wednesday, September 23 through Friday, September 25, he attended the American Council on Education Leadership Seminars at Columbus, Ohio, where (it is devoutly hoped by all) he learned something about education or leadership or both.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE REWARDED

CAROL BURFORD's son Chris, a senior at B.G.H.S., has been named a National Merit Semi-finalist.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

JOE GLASER recommends John Gardner's Freddie's Book, Thomas Berger's Little Big Man, and the mysteries of Edmund Crispin (now being reissued in paperback). According to Joe, "Crispin is the most relentlessly literate and flashy detective writer anyone's ever likely to come across."

A BIG DEPARTMENT

This newsletter is being distributed to almost 100 persons directly associated with the WKU English Department, including the following retired members: MRS. EDITH CURRY, MRS. FRANCES DIXON, DR. ADDIE SUGGS HILLIARD, MISS ADDIE HOCHSTRASSER, MISS GLEE HUME, MRS. WILMA RABOLD, MISS FRANCES RICHARDS, and DR. WILLSON E. WOOD.

RECOMMENDATION??

"I recommend that we have a faculty senate--even one that attacks a real issue, such as salaries."--WALKER RUTLEDGE
SIGMA TAU DELTA CONTEST

Sigma Tau Delta announces a Critical Essay Contest this semester. The guidelines are as follows:

1. The essay must be written in standard essay form, with footnotes and bibliography (if outside sources are used).
2. The essay must be limited to five typewritten or eight handwritten pages (on WKU theme paper).
3. The essay may be the result of a class assignment, or it may be written independently.
4. If the essay is an assignment, STD asks that instructors submit no more than three essays, regardless of the number of sections. If instructors have more than three exceptional papers, they may submit more than three.
5. The deadline for the essays to be turned in is November 6, 1981. They may be deposited in the STD mailbox in the Freshman English office. The box is located in the row beneath the Graduate Assistants' boxes.
6. There will be a prize.

(For additional information, see Brenda Settle)

ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Professor Walter Minot in "Nutrostylistics" (Change, July/August 1981, pp. 38-39) theorizes on relationships between the eating habits and the writing styles of college students. His syllogism: If "the style is the man" and if "man is what he eats," then the style is what a man eats.

QUESTIONS (What are your estimates?)

How many elementary and secondary students are there in the U.S.? How many public school teachers? How many college teachers? How many college administrators?

DEFINITION AND REMINDER

Happening twice a week; semiweekly." (The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language)

next deadline for submitting material: Friday, October 9 (noon)
next publication: Monday, October 12

THANKS

I appreciate the cooperation I have received in birthing this newsletter. Please continue to be generous with your information. Also, if anyone is interested in proposing a jazzier name for the newsletter, let me know your thoughts. RM (Russell Moore)