2-9-1982

UA68/6 Newsletter #8

WKU English

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

DATE
April 30, 1982 The Sixth Mid-America Conference on Composition, at Brescia College. Theme is "Combining Composition and Literature." Deadline for proposals for papers or presentations is March 19.

ACTIVITIES
ANN FIELDS, ANNA JO JOHNSON, and JOHN POLLOCK are scheduled to be on the program of the KCTE Spring Conference on March 26-27 at the Louisville Inn. Ann's topic is "Co-op Career Opportunities for the English Major," Anna Jo's topic is "Public Service and the English Department," and John (along with Jon Frederick) will present "Growth in Language Use? Be Specific."

RETROSPECTIVE: Fall 1971 WKU English Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allen</th>
<th>Kearny</th>
<th>Schwarzkopf</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allmon</td>
<td>Laman</td>
<td>Searcy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atkinson</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Sharp</td>
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<td>Belasco</td>
<td>Lewter</td>
<td>Spurlock</td>
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<td>Boggs</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>St. Clair</td>
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<td>Bond</td>
<td>Lockhart</td>
<td>Steele, F.</td>
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<td>Bowling</td>
<td>McCelvey</td>
<td>Steele, P.</td>
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<td>Bruner</td>
<td>McCombs</td>
<td>Survant</td>
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<td>Clark</td>
<td>McMahon, D.</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
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<td>Clarke, K.</td>
<td>McMahon, W.</td>
<td>Thomason</td>
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<td>Clarke, M.</td>
<td>Malik</td>
<td>Utley</td>
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<td>Conway</td>
<td>Martin</td>
<td>Walz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crady</td>
<td>Miller, M.</td>
<td>Ward, C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Miller, R.</td>
<td>Ward, R.</td>
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<td>Curry</td>
<td>Montell</td>
<td>Wood</td>
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<td>Davis</td>
<td>Moore, N.</td>
<td>Wurster</td>
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<td>Dinwiddie</td>
<td>Moore, R.</td>
<td>Total = 74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fields</td>
<td>Muffett</td>
<td>Dept. Head: Willson Wood</td>
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<td>Fridy</td>
<td>Nicolson</td>
<td>Dean, Potter College: Paul Hatcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gatlin</td>
<td>Niva</td>
<td>Vice-President: Raymond Cravens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glaser</td>
<td>Phillips</td>
<td>President: Dero Downing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gorton</td>
<td>Pogoni</td>
<td>(Thanks to Pat Nave for supplying some of this information)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Griffin</td>
<td>Pollock</td>
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<td>Guthrie</td>
<td>Power</td>
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<td>Hilliard</td>
<td>Rabold</td>
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<td>Huddleston</td>
<td>Reiss</td>
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<td>Jobe</td>
<td>Robertson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones, B.</td>
<td>Rowland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones, T.</td>
<td>Rutledge</td>
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To carry nostalgia a bit further, some of the office assignments for the spring semester, 1972 were the following:

Rock House 107: Moore, Rutledge
" 203: B. Jones, T. Jones
" 208: Huddleston, Schwarzkopf
" 206: Fields, Rowland
" 204: Allmon, Bruner
" 201: Griffin, M. Miller

Those were the days.
20 NOVEL OPENINGS

1 It was a feature peculiar to the Colonial wars, of North America, that the toils and dangers of the wilderness were to be encountered before the adverse hosts could meet.

2 A throng of bearded men, in sad-colored garments, and gray, steeple-crowned hats, intermixed with women, some wearing hoods, and others bareheaded, were assembled in front of a wooden edifice, the door of which was heavily timbered with oak, and studded with iron spikes.

3 Call me Ishmael.

4 Late in the afternoon of a chilly day in February, two gentlemen were sitting alone over their wine, in a well-furnished dining parlor, in the town of P---, in Kentucky.

5 You don't know about me, without you have read a book by the name of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, but that ain't no matter.

6 Under certain circumstances there are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as the afternoon tea.

7 The cold passed reluctantly from the earth, and the retiring fogs revealed an army stretched out on the hills, resting.

8 Dusk---of a summer night.

9 In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since.

10 In the late summer of that year we lived in a house in a village that looked across the river and the plain to the mountains.

11 Through the fence between the curling flower spaces, I could see them hitting.

12 It was Wang Lung's marriage day.

13 To the red country and part of the gray country of Oklahoma, the last rains came gently and they did not cut the scarred earth.

14 Gil and I crossed the eastern divide about two by the sun.

15 Nobody could sleep.

16 If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my lousy childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Copperfield kind of crap, but I don't feel like going into it, if you want to know the truth.

17 He was an old man who fished alone in a skiff in the Gulf Stream and he had gone eighty-four days now without taking a fish.

18 They're out there--black boys in white suits up before me to commit sex acts in the hall and get it mopped up before I can catch them.

19 She was so deeply imbedded in my consciousness that for the first year of school I seem to have believed that each of my teachers was my mother in disguise.

20 What can you say about a twenty-five-year-old girl who died?
A MIRACLE

Pat Nave shared the following birth announcement from Matt Hennecke (a 1977 Gordon Wilson Award winner):

A BABY IS GOD'S OPINION THAT THE WORLD SHOULD GO ON. --Carl Sandburg

Matt and Sherry Hennecke are the happy parents of Alyson Janell

She was born on January 11, 1982

at 2:30 a.m. At birth she weighed 8 lbs 12 ozs.
and was 19 inches long.

Her eyes are blue. Her hair is auburn.
Her parents are ecstatic!

SCHEDULE (by rm)

Optimist that I am, I have established a schedule for the newsletter for the rest of this semester:

Deadline Date (noon) Publication Date
Friday, February 26 Tuesday, March 2
" , March 19 " , March 23
" , April 2 " , April 6
" , April 16 " , April 20

WRITING SPURS

The following information was submitted by anonymous:

When student apathy is high and inspiration low, here are a few of the quips I use to try to spur the students on. When they feel like writers instead of students, it sometimes helps.

"I hear and I forget; I see and I remember; I write and I understand." (Chinese proverb)

"If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are gone, either write things worth reading or do things worth writing." Ben Franklin

"Writing is not apart from living. Writing is a kind of double living."
(Catherine Drinker Bowen)

"In a very real sense, the writer writes in order to teach himself, to understand himself, to satisfy himself." Alfred Kazin

"Writers have an island, a center of refuge, within themselves. It is the mind's anchorage, the soul's Great Good Place." Wright Morris

"Define the universe and give three examples." Anonymous Graffito

"Writing is more than life; writing is consciousness of life." (Anne Morrow Lindbergh)

And of great comfort to 101 and 102 students is the thought:
"No one knows what is relevant until long after he has been through it."

Heard in the Halls of Cherry: POW = Prisoner of Western
English Newsletter, February 9, 1982

IN THE MAIL

Jim Flynn shared the following communication, received January 20. He had NOT inquired about an alternative to the Guaranteed Student Loan Program.

English Department Chairman, Western Kentucky University

Thank you for your recent letter inquiring as to a suitable alternative to the Guaranteed Student Loan Program. As a modest proposal, I suggest the creation of a Student MX Missile Loan Program, i.e., students would receive loans based on the number of hours spent monthly driving MX missiles from one rocket launching site to another.

Very truly yours,
Sidney Simon, Special White House Advisor
2134 Homocrest Ave. (C-8)
Brooklyn, NY 11229
Tel. 376-0460

Does anybody out there know SidneySimon, or could anyone assist Jim in drafting a reply?

ADVERTISEMENT FOR READING

In the Herald of January 28, 1982, Robert W. Pillow, Managing Editor, had a marvelous "Commentary" on reading, parts of which follow:

My name is Robert: I am a bookoholic.
I started reading for pleasure when I was home from school--sick.
I didn't know it then, but I was one of those people whose genetic code was such that I could easily become addicted to books.
I read Mad books, all of Kurt Vonnegut's books, Ian Fleming's James Bond series, science fiction by Arthur C. Clarke, Larry Niven, the Despain Joe series, and anything else I could get my hands on.
I had it bad.
In 1978, after reading several Joseph Wambaugh novels, I quit reading--for awhile.
But I got off the wagon in the summer of 1979, probably for good.
It happened when I went home to Owensboro. I was bored with the town and started reading again.
My roommate told me..."Robert, you have a reading problem."
He tried to discourage me from going to B.F. Dalton's and Walden's in the Greenwood Mall. It didn't do any good; I still bought books.
It's hopeless.
I'm going to read the rest of my life. I can't quit because I'm so weak.
I don't care any more. It's my life. If I want to read myself to death, I will.

BRAVO

FEBRUARY VOCABULARY WORDS

pythonic, hummock, querulous, amenity, vacillate, postiche, spoor, unctuous, accumbent, oligopsony, stymic, archetype, squamous, osculate, mythopoetic, titular, nescience, assestion, behove, iridescence, choleric, groundling, epiphany, sackcloth, rarefy, spelunker, vagarious, chologic

Everything that coruscates with effulgence is not aurous.
An addlepated bonehead and his specie divaricate with startling prematurity.
That prudent avis which mutinously deserts the cosiness of its abode will ensnare a vermiculate creature.

The cost of printing this publication by Western Kentucky University was paid from state funds KRS 57.375.