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UA68/6 Newsletter #11

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.

SELECTED MAY DATES

1 Joseph Heller 1923
7 Archibald MacLeish 1892
15 Katherine Anne Porter 1894
24 Bob Dylan 1941
25 Ralph Waldo Emerson 1803; Theodore Roethke 1908
30 Joan of Arc burned at the stake 1431
31 Walt Whitman 1819

ACTIVITIES

RON ECKARD read a paper, "Using Roleplays to Teach Conversation in ESL," and led a discussion on "ESL Teacher Certification" at the Second Annual Midwest TESOL Conference in Indianapolis, April 2-3.

JIM FLYNN was elected president of the Kentucky Association of Departments of English (KADE) at its annual meeting, held in conjunction with the KPA meeting at Georgetown College, March 5-6. KADE is an organization of college and university English Department chairmen in Kentucky.

JEAN MOISAN is scheduled to participate in a panel discussion on "Using Literature for Composition Topics" at the Sixth Annual Mid-America Conference on Composition at Brescia College on April 30.

LIBBY OAKES participated in a juried workshop at the Women Writers' Conference at the University of Kentucky on April 1.

FRANCES PERDUE attended the 27th Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association: Kentucky-Tennessee Chapter, March 26-27, at Fall Creek Falls State Park in Pikeville, TN.

WALKER RUTLEDGE is to be interviewed today by WKU Cable 4 TV about the English Department Honors Program.

Attending the KPA meeting March 5-6 at Georgetown College were Margaret Bruner, Jim Flynn, Will Fridy, Joe Glaser, Wanella Huddleston, and Frances Perdue. WILL, JOE, and WANELLA read papers; WILL also read a paper for CHARMAINE MOSBY, who couldn't attend because she was reading at the Philological Association of the Carolinas the same weekend; MARGARET and FRANCES chaired sessions.

Attending the KCTE Spring Conference in Louisville on March 26-27 were Ann Fields, Jim Flynn, Charles Guthrie, Wanella Huddleston, Anna Jo Johnson, Edna Laman, Carol Lockhart, Nancy Moore, Russell Moore, Gretchen Niva, John Pollock, and Catherine Ward. ANN FIELDS, ANNA JO JOHNSON, AND JOHN POLLOCK gave presentations at the meeting. CAROL LOCKHART is now serving as KCTE treasurer. GRETCHEN NIVA has been the 1981-82 NCTE liaison and membership chairperson and is President-Elect for 1983-84.

next newsletter deadline: Friday, April 16
next publication: Tuesday, April 20
Note: The April 20 newsletter will be the last one for this semester.

Non-Category #1: Distinguished Persons Who Are Not English Teachers Who Regularly Read and Revel in the English Dept. Newsletter:

***JIM JOHNSON***
ENGLISH COMPETITION

On Monday, April 19 the English Department will sponsor the Fifth Annual WKU High School English Competition. About 400 students from approximately 20 high schools in Southcentral Kentucky and Tennessee have registered to compete in the event.

On-site registration for the competition will take place in the Garrett Conference Center from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. The competition will begin at 9:00 a.m. Students may compete in one of three categories: 1) American Literature, 2) British Literature, or 3) Grammar and Expository Writing. In each category, students will take an objective test and write an essay.

An awards ceremony is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., in the Downing University Center. Awards will include a scholarship to WKU and an engraved plaque for first place winners in each of the three categories. Medals will be awarded to second and third place winners. Recognition will also be given at the awards ceremony to those students who perform with distinction on the objective tests; certificates of merit will be mailed to them later.

The 1982 chairperson of the High School Competition Committee is EDNA LAMAN.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH COMPETITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Chairperson</th>
<th>Approximate Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>John Lewter</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Catherine Ward</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Margaret Bruner</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Edna Laman</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS

JEAN MOISAN's son and daughter, Mike and Jill Conway, were the two top overall winners in the Southern Kentucky Regional Science Fair held at WKU on March 27. Mike, a senior at Warren Central, won the top prize by building an electronic frequency synthesizer with a keyboard of only 25 keys that produces all the notes a piano produces. Jill, a freshman at Warren Central, did an experiment on the effects of copper sulfate pollution in water of varying hardness and alkalinity on avoidance learning in goldfish. They both received scholarships to WKU and advance to the International Science and Engineering Fair in Houston. "Men [and women] are what their mothers made them." (Emerson)

AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS, 1982

Gordon Wilson Award (for outstanding graduating English major): LANNA MARTIN

Wood Graduate Award (for outstanding graduate students): BETTYE ALBIN and ROBERT ROWE

Frank L. Atkinson Scholarship (for academically superior undergraduate major): BARBARA HUGHS

Gordon Wilson Scholarship (a new scholarship for academically superior majors established by the Gordon Wilson Award Fund): JOE DRAGOO
AWARDS, continued:

The Nave Scholarship (a new scholarship for academically superior English majors established by Pat and Wallace Nave):

JANET LEWIS

Creative Writing Awards:
   Fiction: MICHAEL HARRIS, DOROTHY SPEAR
   Poetry: DIANE BISON, RUSS HALL

All of the students listed will receive their awards at an Honors Convocation on April 22.

CORRECTION

Newsletter #10 (March 23) included "A Short Course in Human Relations" in which "the one MOST important word" was listed as "I". "I" should have been listed as the LEAST important word.

ANSWERS (to word questions in previous newsletter)

ABSTEMIOUSLY and FACETIOUSLY contain the 6 vowels in proper order.
SHORT can be made SHORTER by adding a syllable to it.
NOON reads the same forward, backward, and upside down.
STRAIGHTS and STRENGTHS are the longest monosyllabic English words.
Words beginning with a doubled letter include the following:
Aaron, aardvark, eel, eerie, e'er, llama, llano, Lloyd, ooze, oomph, oops, oolite, oolong, and eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeek.

PRESumptuous STATEMENT OF THE YEAR

In the Herald of April 1, M. A. Baker, candidate for the presidency of Associated Student Government and the student position on the WKU Board of Regents, was quoted as saying that if elected he would look into some of the "incompetent" teachers at WKU and work toward "eliminating" them. Whether Mr. Baker's intent is to fire teachers or to kill them was not made clear.

CAMBRIDGE

The Humanities Institute and Johns Hopkins University will sponsor four seminars at Cambridge, England, during the summer of 1982. Seminars may be audited or taken for credit. A brochure is on the workroom bulletin board. John Pollock, who spent last summer in Cambridge, says that the experience should interest anyone "who would like to spend several weeks in a beautiful spot (Cambridge) with congenial people, for little money. The seminars are in session Monday-Thursday mornings. Thus there is plenty of time for travel on weekends."

HONORS PROGRAM IN ENGLISH

The Honors Program in English is designed to challenge and reward superior students majoring or minoring in English. The program provides students opportunities for discussion and instruction in small classes as well as for independent study and writing. Other benefits are the development of a sense of community among superior students and the facilitating of graduate school admission and job placement for participants. Upon graduation, each student who has successfully completed the designated requirements will have inscribed on the official university transcript that he or she is an "Honor Graduate in English."
Honors continued:

English majors and minors who have a GPA of 3.0 in English and in all other course work may apply for admission to the Honors Program after completing English 101 and 102 or their equivalent. Enrollment in honors sections of 101 and 102 is recommended but not required.

The Honors Program was approved in 1980, and Honors 202 (Sophomore Seminar) was first offered in the spring, 1981. Other English Honors courses include 101H, 102H, 283H, 385H, and Honors 302 (Special Topic Course). Information provided by Walker Rutledge, Director

NEW NEWSLETTER DEPARTMENT: CREATIVE COUNSELING

Dear Mister Creative Councillor, Sir:

I've been having trouble with my divorces, my jobs, my families, my colleagues, my students, my superiors, my bankers, my lawyers, my hobbies, and a number of other things, etc. Please advise.

Wallowing in Quicksand with a Fistful of Footnotes (jwr)

Dear Wallower:

Better you than me.

In this modern world in which we live in today, problems are a very controversial topic. They are indeed a problem. T.B. or not T.B.--that is consumption. Basically, there are 3 types of problems and you have all 8 of them. The purpose of this reply is to discuss each and every one of these, in the following paragraphs.

Firstly, there is the money problem. What you need is more of it. Secondly, regarding the job problem, its only insomnia. Many people must have it. Nada. And so it goes. Forthly, the secret of success in life is knowing what to kiss and when. Many on the Hill have it. You might consider this profound truth in coping with all of your other problems. I am running out of time. In conclusion, as you will clearly see, these 8 recommendations are, in my opinion, sufficient to handle alot of you're problems. Remember: as Hamlet said, what is rotten in Denmark may be you. (Send $1.00 and a SASE for a free copy of my brochure entitled "Is It Hamlet or Is It Hormones?")

MAY VOCABULARY WORDS

peculate, lenity, chiaroscuro, chignon, enfranchise, surrogate, broody, darte, matripotestal, scaphoid, roorback, deprecate, iracund, munificent, osmosis, natatorial, chuff, stipple, penetralia, tractable, embosk, imbricate, grisette, atrophy, moire, plexus, agape, seminal, raconteur, verbiage, truckle

SELECTED DEFINITIONS

adolescence: the age between puberty and adultery
bigamist: a fog over Italy
college: a fountain of knowledge where many go to drink
debate: what lures de fish
egotist: one who suffers from I strain
hangover: wrath of grapes
monastery: home for unwed fathers

There are at least 16 punctuation marks in English grammar. How many can you name?