

## NEWFOUNDLAND WRITERS' GUILD



P.O. Box 1133 – St. John's  
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# THE PAGE

May 2004

### MEMBERS' NEWS

Congratulations to **Janet McNaughton** for winning the Bruneau Family Children's Literature Award at the Newfoundland and Labrador Book Awards sponsored by WANL. The award is for her novel "An Earthly Knight." Janet also directed a workshop on character development in the education building at MUN on Saturday, April 17. All the proceeds from the workshop (\$910.00) will be donated to the Canadian Children's Book Centre. Similar workshops will be held in other parts of Canada. Long-time Guild member **Eleanor McKim** is recovering from a stroke. The Guild would like to wish her a speedy and full recovery. The October 2003 issue of The Page featured a Crown of Sonnets written at Eastport in September by **Trudy Mogan-Cole**. The sonnets were in praise of seven Guild members: **Helen Porter, Fran Innes, Bernice Morgan, Lillian Bouzane, Geraldine Rubia, Eileen Dicks, and Roberta Buchanan**. To honour Trudy the local "group of seven" held a luncheon at The Battery, where each writer read the sonnet Trudy had written for her. The event was chaired by Lillian Bouzane, who, along with the others, had words of praise for Trudy. **Annie Ferncase** contributed another in her series of profiles for WORD. Her article on **Trudy Morgan-Cole** was published in the March/April issue. **Lillian**

**Bouzane** and **Helen Porter**, as well as other local writers Paul Bowdring and Don Austin, have been honoured by the transit system in Alberta. The city of Edmonton is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup>. anniversary and contacted WANL regarding the poetry on the busses in St. John's. The poems will appear on busses in Edmonton, St. Albert, Sherwood Park, Fort McMurray, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. **Helen Porter** spent a month in Spain attending a retreat for creative people – writers, musicians, and visual artists. Helen spent most of her time there working on her “eternal novel.” She says participants are completely looked after, food is provided, cooking, cleaning and laundry are all done for you. The address and e-mail was published in the last issue, but Helen says she would be happy to talk to anyone about it. Her number is 739-1393. **Kathleen Knowles** has had two items chosen for the Globe and Mail Challenge recently.

**The Coalition of Mad Artists**, COMA, is an ad-hoc group formed specifically to take action to address the postponement of the opening of the Rooms. The group is involved in meetings with government in an attempt to reverse the decision that would see the museum, art gallery, and archives endure a year of temporary limbo until the building opens. In the meantime access to items of Newfoundland heritage and culture will be severely limited. To sign an on-line petition go to: [www.PetitionOnline.com/therooms](http://www.PetitionOnline.com/therooms). For more information contact Jim Maunder or Elayne Greeley at 726-7828, or Andria Hickey at 753-5359.

### READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

**Lillian Bouzane** has suggested “The Story of Jack McClelland” by James King. Jack McClelland really wanted to be a writer, but he inherited a publishing house. The book gives a very good picture of what was going on in that publishing house for the

forty years he ran it. "There are some great letters in this book, worth reading for those alone." Send your suggestions for future issues of The Page.

## EVENTS

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 2-4 p.m. the Retired Citizens' Club is presenting an afternoon of memories of earlier times written by students of Helen Porter's writing class for seniors. Special guests will be Helen Porter and Gerri Rubia, reading from selected work. This is an activity of the Food Security Network, a group creating awareness and solutions to the issues of food insecurity. Cost is \$5.00 for seniors and people on fixed incomes, \$10.00 for others. Tickets at the door. Retired Citizens' Club, Bennett Rd. For further information contact Melba Rabinowitz, 895-2884.

The annual brunch honouring the winner of the rejection slip contest will be held on **Sunday, May 16** at Pasta Plus, 223 Duckworth Street. The time is **12 noon**, and following brunch we will have a regular workshop at Fran Innes' condominium, 7 Tiffany Lane. We will be using the group activity room in the building. The winner of the contest is **Laura Morry Williams**, who received 7 slips between the AGMs in 2002 and 2003.

If you are attending the brunch please let Hilda Murray know so she can book the numbers. 368-5105. [themurrays\\_nf@yahoo.com](mailto:themurrays_nf@yahoo.com)

If you are attending the workshop please let Fran know. 576-6411, [fran.innes@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:fran.innes@nf.sympatico.ca)

## **REMINDERS**

Some members have not paid their fees for the year. If you fall into that category please contact Laura Morry Williams (432-2877) and make arrangements to pay.

Those people hosting workshops have asked that members remember to let them know if they plan to attend. As they provide food it is necessary for them to have an idea of the number of people to expect.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Sunday, May 16, 2- 5

Regular workshop – common room of Fran Innes’ condo, 7 Tiffany Lane

June 18- 21 Eastport Retreat

Sunday, July 18 Daylong workshop Kathy Knowles104 Middle Cove Rd.

Sunday, Aug 15 or 22 Daylong workshop MelbaRabinowitz Portugal Cove

September (Weekend after Labour Day) Eastport Retreat (Laura will book)

### From the Editor

The feedback from last issue indicates that The Page will remain a brief notice of members’ news, events, and upcoming workshops. We will distribute electronically to those who have the capability, others will receive hard copy. I have compiled an information sheet about the Guild’s activities, primarily for new members, but I will attach a copy with this issue for everyone to see. Please let me know if there are errors or omissions. If you have news that you wish to have printed in The Page be sure to let me know about it. Some things I hear and pick up along the way, but there are probably people who have news that doesn’t get mentioned.

Kathy Knowles 437-6265 kknowles@stemnet.nf.ca

The Newfoundland Writers' Guild was established to help writers develop their writing skills in a workshop setting. It is open to writers at all levels. The guild holds monthly workshops and two annual writing retreats. For further information contact president, Hilda Chaulk Murray: [themurrays\\_nf@yahoo.com](mailto:themurrays_nf@yahoo.com); 368-5105