



# The Writer's Access

Sept. - Oct., 2002

News from the Lane Literary Guild

[www.laneliteraryguild.org](http://www.laneliteraryguild.org)

## Reading Series Continues to Celebrate Written Word

September means the days grow shorter, the spiders spin overtime, and apples start to ripen. It also means the Windfall Reading Series begins again, giving Guild members and friends a chance to gather, listen, and gab over cookies and cider. This is the nineteenth year of the series, and it continues to be full of great experiences and surprises for local audiences.

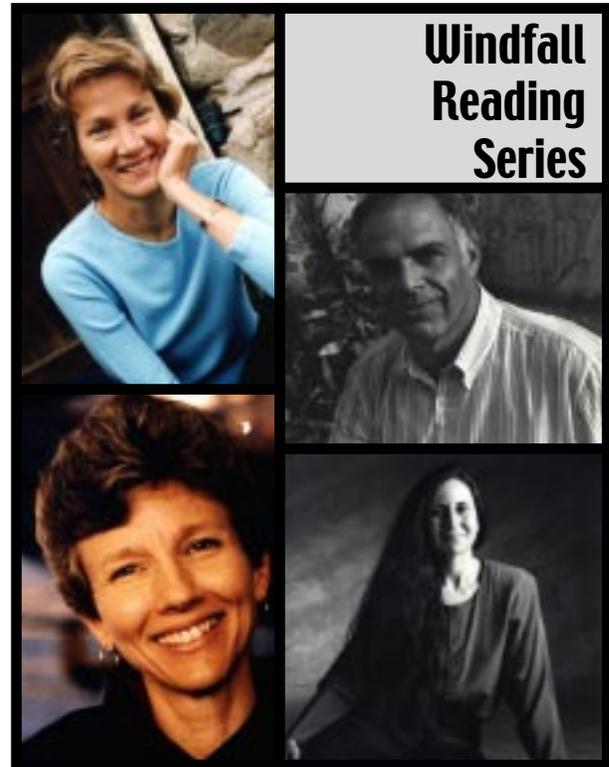
On September 17, **Molly Best Tinsley** and **Nance Van Winckel** will kick off the series at 7:00 pm in the Eugene Public Library's reading room.

**Molly Best Tinsley** has received two NEA fellowships for her fiction. Her short story collection *Throwing Knives* was the winner of the 2001 Oregon Book Award. Dorothy Allison, who judged the competition, commented: "It has been years since I have read a collection that so strengthened my own resolve about the ability of the most desperate of us to confront and surmount the awful choices of our lives. This is a powerful writer working at the limits of her talent—great talent and great work."

Tinsley also wrote the novel *My Life with Darwin* and several plays. She lives in Ashland, where she pursues playwriting full-time and teaches an ongoing workshop called "Writing from Life" at Southern Oregon University's Extended Campus Program. She is a professor emerita of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

**Nance Van Winckel** is the author of three collections of poems: *Bad Girl, With Hawk*; *The Dirt*; and *After a Spell*. Her collections of short stories are *Limited Lifetime Warranty*, *Quake*, and *Curtain Creek Farm*. She is now working on a novel. Van Winckel is the recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts awards in poetry and a 1998 Washington State Artists Trust Award in fiction. Her poems and stories have appeared in *The Nation*, *The Paris Review*, *The American Poetry Review*, *Ploughshares*, *The Georgia Review*, *Ohio Review*, *Paris Review*, and *Field*.

Van Winckel, who teaches in the graduate creative writing program at Eastern Washington University, describes a good poem as serving as "a bridge between one's most private inner life and something outside oneself: another inner life, the natural world, the mysteries of society, culture, politics." Li-Young Lee says, "There is so much unpredictability and surprise in Nance Van Winckel's poems that they seem to hover, sometimes tremble, slightly



Clockwise from top left: Nance Van Winckel, Joseph Soldati, Lauren Kessler, Molly Best Tinsley

ahead of the reader and writer, yet all the while rewarding anyone who cares to follow."

October's slate of readers promises to be equally entertaining and eye-opening. October 15 will be your chance to hear **Lauren Kessler** and **Joseph Soldati**.

**Lauren Kessler** is the author of nine books, including *Los Angeles Times* best-seller and Oregon Book Award finalist *The Happy Bottom Riding Club*, the biography of pioneering aviatrix Pancho Barnes. Kessler's other books include a season-in-the-life narrative about women's sports, *Full Court Press*, *Stubborn Twig*, which won the Frances Fuller Victor Award for literary nonfiction, and *After All These Years*, portraits of 60s radicals.

Kessler's essays have appeared in *Salon*, *The Nation*, and *Oregon Quarterly*. She writes regularly about the craft of writing for *Writer's Digest* and has published articles in a variety of magazines. The founder and editor of *Etude*, an online magazine devoted to new and emerging voices in literary nonfiction, she directs the graduate program in literary nonfiction at the University of Oregon. Kessler is also working on her next book, *Queen Spy*, which she de-

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## Windfall Reading Series – continued from page 1

scribes as being “a spy story, a love story, and a true story.”

**Joseph Soldati** is a retired English professor (Western Oregon University) who lives in Portland. He received two Fulbright Fellowships, which took him to Egypt and Cote d’Ivoire. His poems and essays have been published in *Line Drives: 100 Contemporary Baseball Poems*, *Knowing Stones: Poems of Exotic Places*, and *Flying Machines*. He is also the author of a scholarly book, *Configurations of Faust*, and a poetry collection, *Making My Name*. Working with Eduardo Gonzalez-Viana, Soldati co-edited a bilingual book of poems by Peruvian and Oregonian poets. A book of essays, *English Lessons: Thoughts and Reflections on Literature*, is forthcoming.

The Windfall Reading Series is sponsored by the Lane Literary Guild and is made possible by support from the Lane Arts Council’s Cultural Services Division and the Friends of the Eugene Public Library.

## Publications and Workshops by Members

**Jo-Brew**’s first novel, *Preserving Cleo*, published by Publish America, is now available at Tsunami or online sources. It’s about a contemporary rural family’s struggles as they adjust to cultural and financial changes on the family farm.

**JoJo Jensen**’s first book, *Dirt Farmer Wisdom*, published by Red Wheel/Weiser, is full of family photos and rich with tales of homespun common sense.

A new publisher, **Traprock Books**, announces its first titles for 2002: *Timber* by Robert A. Davies and *Passage* by David Laing. *Timber* is a long poem of lyrics and meditations on a small Oregon lumber town. *Passage* contains poem sequences of sharp observation and insight drawn from

## Tour of Eugene’s Own lone goose press Benefits LLG

Fine writing deserves fine printing, for reading, remembrance, and treasuring. Working in close collaboration with both writers and artists, and using age-old printing techniques, Sandy Tilcock’s lone goose press produces handsome, hand-crafted settings for poetry and other literary works. “Book art” works from lone goose can be found in many important collections around the country. Tilcock also oversees the production of one book and four broadsides annually as director of the University of Oregon Knight Library Press.

Thanks to Quinton Hallett, who arranged a tour of lone goose press as a benefit for the Guild, a number of members and guests visited the press early in August. We looked, listened, questioned,



Sandy Tilcock at her press

walks along the Willamette River and Farmer Creek. Contact Traprock Books by calling editor Erik Muller at 541-344-1053, or buy the books at Tsunami.

**Howard Robertson** has a book forthcoming from another new publisher, Clear Cut Press in Astoria, Oregon. To order Howard’s book, *Ode to Certain Interstates and Other Poems*, visit <www.clearcutpress.com>.

**Melissa Hart** is offering a 10-week course to give feedback, help, and information about how and where to publish and get paid for it. Learn techniques for writing, critique, and publication in a safe, nurturing, and fun environment.

Hart has published two books and numerous essays in magazines and has been a writing teacher for over a decade. Classes are on Tuesdays, September 24 through November 26. Cost is \$200. Call 541-431-6922 or e-mail Melissa at <lissahart@yahoo.com>.

**Nan Phifer**’s “Writing Spiritual Memoirs” workshops will begin a seven-week series on September 25. Classes focus on writing about the experiences, people, and places that shape and give meaning to your life. Meetings are on Wednesdays from 6:45-8:45 pm in Sacred Heart Medical Center at 13th and Hilyard. These workshops are sponsored by LLG, the UO Oregon Writing Project, and The Center for Mission and Renewal at Peacehealth.

Enrollment is limited to 20. A \$10 fee covers handouts. For information, contact Nan at <nanphifer@mac.com> or 686-8821. To register, call Cindy Clair, HCC Coordinator, at 335-2512. Nan’s guide to writing about your inner life, *Memoirs of the Soul: Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography*, was published by Writer’s Digest Books.

**Guild members:** mail news about your publications to the address on our masthead or send an e-mail to <newsletter@laneliteraryguild.org>.

and even tried our hands at printing. It’s impossible to convey the amount of fascinating information learned about the history, tools, practice, and current status of fine printing. Equally fascinating was hearing about the valued relationships that develop among printer, writer, and artist in the planning and production of a book or broadside. The consensus: lucky Tilcock students and interns!

Thanks, Sandy, for so generously hosting and instructing the group. Readers, be sure to see the press exhibit in the cases at the front of the Knight Library, right by the doors to the Browsing Room.

Each tour member got the hands-on experience of printing this bit of text in graceful blue type on textured paper:

Well-printed books are just as scarce as well-written ones; and every author should remember that the most costly books in the world derive their value from the craft of the printer, and not from the genius of the author.

– George Bernard Shaw

## Meeting and Picnic Both a Success

Mt. Pisgah Arboretum was once again the perfect spot for the Guild's annual potluck and general meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup>. There were about 30 folks in attendance, both old friends and new. The food was great and the highlight of the day had to be Phyl Kerns' homemade ice cream. The wild turkeys were seen down the by river, although none of them actually attended the potluck.

Thanks to all who helped move tables and benches, then helped move them again (and again!). The after-eating open mike was delightful, with poems, bits of fiction, memoir, and translation read by various members. It was most gratifying to see so many new faces—welcome to the Guild, all of you!



Hannah Wilson at Mt. Pisgah

## New and Renewing Members

Welcome and welcome back to everyone.

### New members:

Tom Titus  
Alice Tallmadge  
Tina Singleton  
Ty Adams  
Suzanne Murray  
Richard Ramsey  
Mary Braun

Sandra Jensen  
Marc and Sherry  
Paulsen (family membership)

### Renewing members

Erik Muller  
Toni Van Deusen  
Peter Helzer



## Sept.-Oct. Readings & Events

### SEPTEMBER

- 12 Michael Spurlin reads at Cozmic Pizza, 7:30 pm.
- 17 Windfall hosts Nance Van Winckel and Molly Best Tinsley, Eugene Public Library, 7:00 pm.
- 19 Portland author Chris Chester reads from *Providence of a Sparrow*, UO Bookstore, 7:00 pm.  
Scott Lubbock reads at Cozmic Pizza, 7:30 pm.
- 26 Charles Thielman reads at Cozmic Pizza, 7:30 pm.

### OCTOBER

- 9 Tim Palmer reads from *Pacific High*, Knight Law Center, 7:00 pm.
- 10 Poet Kim Stafford reads from *Early Morning: Remembering My Father*, Knight Library Browsing Room, 7:30 pm.
- 15 Windfall features Lauren Kessler and Joseph Soldati, Eugene Public Library, 7:00 pm.
- 17 David Sherry reads from *Chicken: Self-Portrait of a Young Man for Rent*, UO Bookstore, 7:00 pm.
- 20 Heidi Shayla, Tsunami, 4:00 pm.
- 24 Jay Blakesberg, *Between the Dark and Light: the Grateful Dead Photographs*, UO Bookstore, 7:00 pm.
- 25 Oregon Book Awards Authors. A group of finalists for the 2002 Awards read at Tsunami, 7:30 pm.
- 26 LLG craft workshop with poet Judith Montgomery. To register, see article on back page.

## Radio Show "Publishes" Spoken Word

The "Mixed Voices" program is put on by KLCC and the Young Writers Association. Featuring writers of all ages, the five-minute show airs at 4 pm on the last Monday of each month on KLCC's Northwest Passage, 89.7 FM. Louisa Lindsey-Sprouse of YWA asked if the Guild could help find one adult each month to read for 90 seconds. Toni Van Deusen offered to help find readers. To learn more, visit <ywalane.org/> or call Toni at 685-1087 or Louisa at 485-2259.

## LANE LITERARY GUILD INFORMATION

### Contacts

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Deborah Narin-Wells

Membership: membership@laneliteraryguild.org  
Toni Van Deusen, Treasurer

Newsletter: newsletter@laneliteraryguild.org  
Cecelia Hagen



### Ongoing Workshops:

Creative Nonfiction	Deborah Merskin	485-7246
Fiction	Steve Higgins	689-8306
Poetry 1	Hannah Wilson	343-5386
Poetry 2	Michael Hanner	895-2236
Writing Practice	Toni Van Deusen	685-1087
	tonipoet@cmc.org	

  
**ABOUT THE WRITER'S ACCESS**  
  
*The Writer's Access* is published bimonthly by the Lane Literary Guild.

Please send member news, calendar events, or other announcements to:  
 <newsletter@laneliteraryguild.org>  
 The LLC website  
 <www.laneliteraryguild.org>  
 is updated regularly. Log on to find links to Windfall readers and the latest information about the Guild.

Is it  
 time  
 to  
 renew?  


  
**Lane Literary Guild**  
 P.O. Box 11035  
 Eugene, OR 97440

## Guild Offers Craft Workshop with Judith Montgomery

### Poetry Re/Vision Workshop: Nuts and Bolts and Stanza Breaks

Saturday, October 26, 10:00-3:00  
 Location to be announced



*"... all of us have this little bell built into our brains, a detector that rings when things are false or wrong.... No matter how faint it is, we hear it ringing and we keep working until the damn thing stops." - Peter Carey, author of Jack Maggs; The History of the Kelly Gang (winner of the 2001 Booker Prize)*

When to revise? How to revise? How can a poet learn to hear and identify that bell?

This five-hour workshop is limited to 12 participants. In the morning, Montgomery will consider poems by Charles Simic, Maurya Simon, and Michael Bujega to tune participants' ears and prepare for hands-on revision in the afternoon. Going up the steps of revision – tense, order, openings and endings – she will then use her own work to walk participants through the choices made in the repeated process of revising a poem. In the afternoon, the workshop will consider a poem by each participant, with an eye to identifying bell(s) and proposing approaches that the poet might take to move the poem toward a final draft.

Judith H. Montgomery lives in Bend and teaches poetry workshops in the Pacific Northwest. Her poems have received the National Writers Union and Red Rock poetry prizes; three have been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. In 1996, she was awarded a Literary Arts emerging poet fellowship; the chapbook that resulted, *Passion*, was awarded the 1999 Defined Providence Chapbook Prize and the Hazel Hall Award for Poetry (2000 Oregon Book Award). With the help of a Caldera residency, she's finishing a full-length manuscript, *Flight*.

To register, send \$50 to Lane Literary Guild, P.O. Box 11035, Eugene OR 97440. If your name and address are not on your check, please add that information. An e-mail address is helpful.

The workshop is open only to members of the Lane Literary Guild. To join, add \$25 (\$15 for low income) to the workshop fee. Since space is limited and Judith will be reading poems that participants mail to her in advance, be sure to register as soon as possible.