



## Mendocino Coast Writers Conference News & Updates

**February 2008**

### **MCWC WEB SITE UPDATED**

Check out our spiffy new web site at [www.mcwc.org](http://www.mcwc.org). As well as better navigation and lots more information, it has all the details on the July 31 -- August 3, 2008 conference.

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM CHANGES**

#### **More conference for your money**

The 2008 Mendocino Coast Writers Conference will run 3 ½ days, Thursday through Sunday morning, for the same price as last year's 3-day option. We no longer offer the 2-day option.

#### **Local discounts**

All conference participants living on the Mendocino coast or in Anderson Valley are eligible for discounts. Check the web site for details.

#### **Three mornings of workshops**

Instead of the optional all-day Thursday workshops (or "Intensives"), you will sign up for three mornings, Thursday through Saturday, with the same workshop leader.

#### **Three afternoons of lectures and panels**

Our familiar afternoon program of readings, panels, lectures and discussion sessions will take place after lunch Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

#### **Writing time**

As many of you requested, we've set aside space and chunks of time for you to work on your own writing.

#### **Sunday morning workshop**

A special session on marketing your work will be offered.

### **MCWC COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Jody Gehrman**, a 2006 presenter and member of our Advisory Board, has a new novel out this month, *NOTES FROM THE BACKSEAT*. "It's an epistolary novel crackling with tension and humor (if I do say so myself). It chronicles a weekend road trip from L.A. to Mendocino and includes leopard print kitten heels, Fort Bragg's diviest dive bar, and a twisted love triangle--all for the price of a paperback!" Jody will be back teaching Young Adult fiction at our 2008 conference.

**Gayle Greene** has a new book, *INSOMNIAC* (University of California Press). In a starred review, *Publishers Weekly* said: "Supplementing her own experience with that of

other chronic insomniacs and a look at the science of sleep, Greene offers an enjoyable and informative account that will provoke even readers who get their full eight hours a night."

The National Park Service has published an excerpt from **Maya Khosla's** manuscript, NOTES FROM THE FIELD as an environmental education pamphlet. Subtitle of the pamphlet is "Golden Gate National Parks: Threatened and endangered species and the landscape that connects them."

**Jennifer Lagier**, who presented at the 2004 conference and was MCWC's webmaster for many years, has published a poetry chapbook, FISHING FOR PORTENTS, with Pudding House Publications.

**Blake More**, co-chair of the Third Thursday Reading Series in Point Arena, CPITS Mendocino Area Coordinator & High School Poetry Slam organizer, has a new book. Titled GODMEAT (Beatitude Press), it is a 128 page collection of poetry, prose, color artwork and a DVD containing three "poem movies."

**Melissa K. Nelson**, who presented at the 2006 conference, is the editor of ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS -- INDIGENOUS TEACHINGS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE (Inner Traditions/Bear & Company), in which indigenous leaders and other visionaries suggest solutions to today's global crisis.

**Jeanine Stevens** was selected for the Squaw Valley Community of Writer's in 2007. "What a week! Lots of risk taking there," she says. She also won first prize in poetry from the Stockton Arts Commission for "Books of the Bible."