



Mendocino Coast Writers Conference News & Updates

March 2010

Connecting Writers to Community for Over 20 Years

2010 CONFERENCE PLANS

Registration opens March 15. Download a conference brochure from www.mcwc.org, decide which of our exciting workshops and lectures you want to attend, fill out your registration form and mail it in. Don't delay. We process registrations in postmark order, and the envelopes are already stacking up.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Financial aid and high school scholarships. On Wednesday, April 14, MCWC is partnering with MacCallum House Restaurant in Mendocino for a special dinner. Come eat at MacCallum House restaurant or cafe any time that evening, and mention that you're there to support MCWC. Bring friends if you can. MacCallum House will donate the entire proceeds for the evening to help fund financial aid for conference participants in need and scholarships for high school students.

If you cannot join us for dinner, but would like to help us encourage young writers and writers of limited means whose stories need to be heard, we will be happy to receive your check. Mendocino Coast Writers Conference is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so your donation will be fully tax-deductible. Write "high school scholarship" and/or "financial aid" on the memo line of the check, and mail to MCWC, PO Box 2087, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

Join us and your writer friends on Facebook. On the technology front, the Internet has extended the two-way reach of the conference. Snail mail and telephones still work fine when we're not face to face, but now the option of connecting with the writing community is easier than ever. Facebook evolved to bring people and their interests closer together by posting everything from opinions, observations, and research, to questions about writing and the Mendocino Coast Writers Conference. Even dial-up connections go quickly to either sign in or create an account on www.facebook.com. Once inside, put "Mendocino Coast Writers Conference" into the search bar within Facebook, and voila, tell us what's on your mind, then hit the button to share it.

CALENDAR

Monday, March 15: MCWC 2010 registration opens.

Friday, March 26, 7:00 pm at the Fort Bragg Library: Molly Dwyer presents a free Soundings lecture, PARIS ANYONE?

Saturday, March 27, 10am-Noon at the Botanical Gardens Meeting Room, Fort Bragg: Molly Dwyer presents a Soundings workshop, STORY STALKING. Designed for intermediate and advanced writers, but open to all levels of experience. Fee \$30.

These Soundings events are supported by Poets & Writers, Inc., through a grant it has received from The James Irvine Foundation.

Wednesday, April 14: Dine Out fundraiser event at MacCallum House, 45020 Albion Street,

Mendocino. Café opens 5:30 pm, restaurant opens 6:00 pm. Reserve online at http://www.maccallumhouse.com/dining_reservations.html

MCWC COMMUNITY NEWS

A note from MCWC former director Ginny Rorby: "Those of you who attended MCWC in the years between 1999 and 2002 or so, will remember **Jamie Goekler**. She was there, behind the breakfast, lunch and break counter in the Grind, making coffee, helping me create the lunches and making everyone feel welcome. There was never any doubt in the minds of the people who met her, that she was special, and she's gone on to become just what would have been expected of her." Ginny recently received a note from Jamie, who is excited that College of the Redwoods, Mendocino Coast did a big profile of her in their newspaper, *The Loop*. In it Jamie says: "CR was the beginning of language learning and trips to world-wide destinations which ultimately lead to my pursuit of a Master's Degree in Teaching International Languages with an emphasis on ESL, a graduate teaching certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and a minor in Linguistics." She currently volunteers as a teacher and translator while completing her thesis.

Lynne Barrett, who will present the master class in revision at MCWC 2010, has a story in the March/April *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* and a poem in the current issue of the *Southern Women's Review*.

Jandy Nelson, who attended MCWC in 2002 and 2004 as a literary agent, has taken a sabbatical from that career to work on her own writing. Her YA debut *The Sky is Everywhere* will be out this month from Dial/Penguin. It's on the Indie Next List for spring and is a Junior Library Guild selection. It will soon be published in eight other countries. Jandy says: "This has all been so exciting and wild to be on the other side!"

Nicholas Karavatos (MCWC 2008) has a new poetry collection, *No Asylum*.

Author and illustrator **Ian Schoenherr** (MCWC presenter 2003 & 2009) also has a new book. It's called *Don't Spill the Beans!*

Larry Baker (MCWC presenter 2003) admits to "stealing shamelessly" from one of his literary inspirations, Flannery O'Connor. His latest novel, *A Good Man*, is formally dedicated to the Georgia writer. On March 16, at the invitation of the Andalusia Foundation, which administers the 544 acre O'Connor estate in Milledgeville, Georgia, Baker will read from his novel to an audience gathered in the parlor of the house in which O'Connor lived with her mother for the last thirteen years of her life.