

The Writer's Bloc

April Meeting:

Monday, April 23, 2007

Critique Session: 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Program: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

The Estates on Lake Granbury

916 East Highway 377

Granbury, TX 76048

Located behind the Valero station at Old Cleburne Road

April Program;

Speaker this month is Chris Adams a successful self-published author. In developing his books, Adams draws on his extraordinary knowledge and experience in strategic air operations, intelligence activities and the culture of Russia and the former Soviet Union. Each work is historically based and alludes to actual events that occurred in the former Soviet Union and the United States.

Chris Adams is a retired U.S. Air Force Major General and former Chief of Staff, Strategic Air Command; former Associate Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory and industry executive. He has traveled the world extensively and in particular, Russia and the former Soviet States, making some 23 extended visits there alone.

His military honors include The Distinguished Service Medal, The Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Two Legions of Merit, Three Air Medals for service in combat and numerous others.

He has been honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of Tarleton State University and Texas A&M University~Commerce, and has been listed in Who's Who In America each year since 1982.

April Hospitality:

JohnSellers-----SWEET

Susankaye Martin-----NON SWEET

Anna Spence-----Drinks

There will be a new REFRESHMENT list for the next four months on the table at the April meeting. Please think about signing up for May, June, July, or August.

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Writing Tips:

From Telling Lies For Fun & Profit (Lawrence Block):

"Fiction is just one damned thing after another. If your hero, however likable he may be, confronts his problem and just plain goes ahead and solves it, you have not got something *Publishers Weekly* is going to call "a real page-turner." But if he keeps dodging one menace only to run headlong into the jaws of another, and if his prospects keep getting worse, and if he winds up with more perils than Pauline, then you just might be on the right track."

"...you have to be your lead character's best friend and worst enemy all at the same time. You send your hero on a walk through the woods. Then you have a bear chase him. You let him climb a tree. You chop the tree down. The bear chases him into the river. He grabs onto a log. It turns out to be an alligator. He grabs a floating stick and uses it to jam the beast's jaws open. You give the bear a canoe and teach it how to paddle -

"Well, you get the idea. At least I hope you do, because I'm not going any further with a bear in a canoe."

March Meeting Notes:

We had 17 members and one guest, Katie Carpenter, who comes to our critique session with her wonderful novel.

Random Thoughts:

"The right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously" Hubert Humphrey.

"And now the sequence of events, in no particular order." Dan Rather.

"Mrs. Bryson has outlined a big, ambitious programme of gardening. Worse, she's wearing what I nervously call her Nike expression - the one that says 'Just do it.'" Bill Bryson, *Notes from a Big Country*

"Intellectuals solve problems. Geniuses prevent them." Albert Einstein.

"Everyone wants to go to Heaven, but no one wants to die." Alison Krauss

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Brag:

From Donna:

I passed my Capstone exam (the university's comprehensive exam for Library Science degree).

That wasn't writing; that was MEGA-writing: Choose three of ten essay questions. Give a 1500 to 2500 word essay for each question chosen. All three are due in one week (15-22 Feb -- got word I passed in late March).

From Connie:

After a critique session with Terry Burns at the Writing Down The Brazos Conference, he invited me to submit a book proposal. I completed all the required parts proposal and submitted the proposal on March 25th. I haven't received a response yet, but I may have to wait three months.

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