

The Writer's Bloc

May Meeting:

Monday, May 21, 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

May Program;

Writer's Bloc President Robert Taylor and Lloyd Christensen team up this month to discuss sources of inspiration.

Robert will talk about where some of his story ideas came from. Lloyd will talk about character names and share a pair of short stories.

Bring a pen and paper to write on. There will be a challenge for you.

April Meeting Notes:

We had 15 members and two guests: Roberta Taylor (Robert's wife) and Florence Franks.

We were honored to have as our guest speaker was U.S. Air Force Major General Chris Adams, Retired, and author of several fiction and non-fiction books involving the Cold War.

May Hospitality:

Robert Taylor -----SWEET

Barbara D'Amario -----NON SWEET

Lloyd Christensen -----Drinks

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Writing Tips:

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

"There are certain things you as a writer can do to draw the reader in or push him away from your lead character. The first thing to do is consider how you are going to refer to the guy.

"Let's say your lead character's a mining engineer names Lucian Hapgood. Well, as the follow on telsevision mgiht put it, you could call him Lucian, or you could call him Hapgood, or...

"...What you call him does make a difference in terms of distance. If you wanted the reader to be drawn closer to him, not necessarily in terms of liking him so much as in terms of sharing his experience - you wouldn't refer to him as 'mining engineer Lucian Hapgood' except when you first introduced him, or when you reintroduce him after an extended period of time. You won't go on calling him by his full name, either. It'll have to be either Lucian or Hapgood."

"Conventional wisom holds that your reader will feel closer to your lead if you call the lead by his first name, but I think the decision of whether to call the character by his first name is more complicated than that."

Coming Up!

June: Chips! night. Please be prepared to bring your submission for Chips! critique.

July 14: All day workshop with Steven Sherwood (free to members).

August: Special Program to get everyone on line.

Random Thoughts:

May means high school and college graduation ceremonies.

"A graduation ceremony is an event where the commencement speaker tells thousands of students dressed in identical caps and gowns that individuality is the key to success." Robert Orben.

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Braggs:

Donna Williams received her Masters of Science in Library Science today (Saturday, May 12). CONGRADULATIONS!!!!

Unfortunately for us, but this is also good news for Donna, they are moving on or about June 1st to Covington, Texas, and she does not expect to be attending future meetings. Donna, you will be missed and you know, according to Mapquest, that is only an hour's drive.

From Janie Hall: "I got another one of those 'no-pay-but good benefits' tuype writing jobs. I was asked to do a weekly artcile for our church bulletin."

From Peggy Freeman: *The Coldest Day in Texas* is now available in hardback. An anthology of her Stephenville student's writings has been published and celebrated at a reception on May 15th at Paul Henderson Junior High School in Stephenville.

Officers:

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Web Page: We have one. Check out:

Web site: www.writers-bloc-granbury.com