

WEST COAST WRITERS

Writers Helping Writers



Founded 1921

Canadian Authors Association - Vancouver

Spring 2008

BRANCH PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continuing Education for Writers

Writing courses, workshops, conferences—the plentiful offerings compete for our attention. All around us, universities, colleges and associations entice us with the most recent line up of events that can be long, medium, or short in duration, wide ranging or tightly focused in topic, at home or away. Are they worthwhile? Does continuing education have a place in the writing life? I believe it plays an important role and offers several benefits to writers. I try to take part in something every year, but I am particularly enthusiastic this year because I am in the middle of one of the best writing courses I have ever taken.

What am I gaining? I am learning more about the craft of writing, its structure and elements, pacing and tension, openings and closings. Examples of contemporary literature studied in class reveal writing as both art and technique. Class discussion brings out different opinions and observations, more than is available from individual study.

Writing practice, in and out of class, stretches me in new ways, with assignments designed to teach various approaches. As I write and rewrite a draft, tightening up this, reworking that, or attempting an entirely different structure, I discover more about the intent and potential of the story, and realize that the first way it flowed from my pen is not the best, but merely the starting point of my effort. In addition, class assignments help motivate and strengthen my daily writing schedule.

Meeting new people through the class broadens my writing network and increases my interest in other writers. Writers come from a wide scope of backgrounds and other pro-

fessions. They bring different perspectives that enrich their writing. This interaction is a necessary antidote to the imposed solitude of writing.



Photo: K. A. Hume

The last and best advantage I am receiving is the boost to my enthusiasm about writing. I have a renewed purpose.

Have I convinced you of the importance of lifelong learning in writing? I hope so. I encourage all of you to explore the courses, workshops, and conferences being offered by the Canadian Authors Association and others, and take part in something every year. Elsewhere in this issue, you will find more information about the upcoming CAA Vancouver workshop, "Writing in Leaps and Bounds," being taught by Lois Peterson on May 24, and our annual national

CanWrite! CAA conference in Edmonton, Alberta, on July 3-6, 2008. Please take part!

Happy writing. Best wishes to all. Margaret Anne Hume

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

Meetings and Workshops

Vancouver Branch

Vancouver Branch holds regular meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, September through June, from 7 pm to 9 pm (doors open at 6:45 pm). These meetings are open to the general public for a nominal fee, and are held at the **Alliance for Arts & Culture Centre**, Suite 100, 938 Howe Street in Vancouver (opposite the law courts). Meetings include Branch announcements and guest speakers (or events). There will be time for socializing (and book signing) at the end of the evening.

In addition to our regular meetings, we offer several workshops each year, for which a fee is charged. CAA members are offered a substantial discount on these fees. For details, please visit www.canauthorsvancouver.org/. For more information, please contact Margaret Hume, Branch President (e-mail mahume@canauthorsvancouver.org, or phone 604-806-0471).

Please note: CAA executive are requested to arrive by 6:40 pm to assist with setting up the room and also to stay after the meeting to put chairs away. CAA members are requested to arrive before 7 pm with their name tags and to add their books to the display table.

CAA Book Displays at Various Events

From time to time, the Vancouver Branch has displays at various events where we hand out leaflets and information about the CAA and our Branch, as well as displaying (and selling) books by our members. On February 29, we had a table at the World Poetry Gala at the Vancouver Public Library. There are no other events taking place this spring. At least one or two members are in charge of a table at each event, and other members should volunteer to assist. The prime purpose of these events is to publicize the CAA and the Vancouver Branch. Unless otherwise stated, all members may display and sell books, but each individual is responsible for getting his/her book(s) to the event and collecting the book(s) afterwards.

Want to Read your Words?

Are you interested in giving a short reading prior to our main speaker at our regular meetings held at the Alliance for the Arts and Culture on the second Wednesday of the month? Please contact Jean Kay (604-943-9247 or e-mail jkay@canauthorsvancouver.org).

Spring Meetings & Workshops

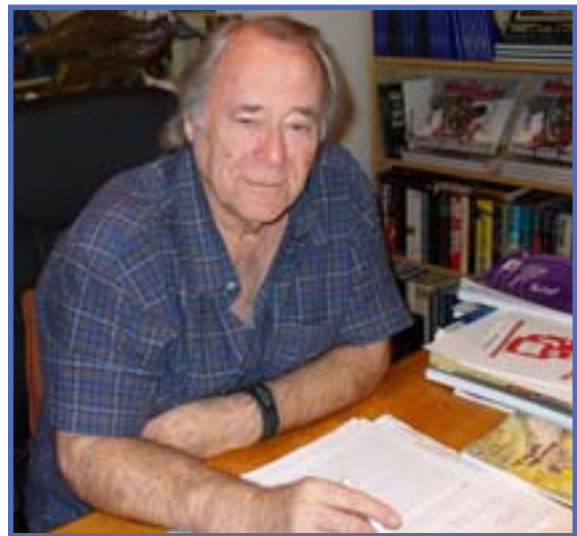
MEETING: Wednesday - March 12, 2008

Michael Duncan: Writing for a Cause

Time: 7 pm to 9 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)

Place: Alliance for the Arts & Culture, Suite 100, 938 Howe St., Vancouver.

Cost: CAA Members free; Non-members \$5; Students (with student ID) \$2



Michael Duncan – Award winning Author/Artist will speak on writing for fund raising, self-publishing, and interesting ways to promote your books.

Born and raised in Scotland, Michael's writing career started at the very young age of twelve when he had his first book of poetry published by Forbes-Robertson of Edinburgh, Scotland. At fourteen his poem on religious hypocrisy was published in the Cambridge University Press. Michael has now written sixteen books, radio scripts and stage plays that have been produced in Canada and the US. Two of his books were published through Beautiful BC Magazine. His coffee table books contain his intricate sketches.

He has sold more than \$1million worth of books over the years for various causes, one book alone grossing \$700,000.

Michael is also a pilot, a sailor, a diver, an artist, a national television personality, and a teacher of art, writing and martial arts.

For more information call Jean at 604-943-9247 or email jkay@canauthors.vancouver.org

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MEETINGS & EVENTS - continued

MEETING: Wednesday - April 9, 2008

Roger Cove, interim head, Writing for Film and Television department of the Vancouver Film School: Screenwriting.

MEETING: Wednesday - May 14, 2008

Panel discussion: Writing for Children & Youth with local authors, and a special 100 year salute to *Anne of Green Gables*”

WORKSHOP: Saturday - May 24, 2008

Lois Peterson: Writing in Leaps and Bounds - from Idea to Publication (<http://www3.telus.net/345/solutions.html>)

Time: 10 am to 4 pm (doors open at 9:30 am)

Place: Alliance for the Arts & Culture, Suite 100, 938 Howe St., Vancouver.

Cost: CAA Members, \$45; Students (with student ID) \$55; Non-members \$80



This energetic workshop will help get your writing muscle in shape, offer insight into the power and perils of writer's block, and provide tools and strategies for moving your projects (real and imagined) from idea to publication. Expect to write a lot, brainstorm, share ideas, compile lists of all kinds, and go away newly energized and motivated.

Lois Peterson has been a freelance writer and worked in the non-profit sector for over 25 years. She holds a Certificate in Fundraising Management from the

British Columbia Institute of Technology. Lois is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Canadian Authors Association, the Children's Book Centre, the Editors' Association of Canada, the Federation of BC Writers, The Plain Language Association International, the Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators and Performers, and the Society of Children's Writers and Book Illustrators.

She has served as Coordinator of the Surrey Creative Writing Diploma Program, Contest Coordinator for the Surrey International Writers' Conference, Contest Judge for

Beginnings Magazine and *Seventh Quark Magazine*, Prose Judge for the Cecelia Lamont Writing Contest, and 2007 nonfiction co-judge for the Surrey International Writers' Conference.

Space is limited, so please register early by sending the following:

- * Your name, address, phone number and e-mail.

- * Cheque or money order payable to: Canadian Authors Association – Vancouver.

- * If you are paying the student fee, a photocopy of your student ID or other proof.

Mail to: Canadian Authors Association, 851 Underhill Drive, Delta BC V4M 2V4.

Deadline for registrations: Friday, May 16, 2008.

For more information call Jean at 604-943-9247 or e-mail jkay@canauthorsvancouver.org

PAST MEETINGS & EVENTS

EVENT: Dec. 12 - Annual Dinner

The annual dinner for CAA members and their guests was held on Wednesday, December 12, at 6 pm at the Simpatico Ristorante. We also held our 2nd silent auction to raise funds for programming. Members were invited to offer a variety of writing-related services or items for auction. The Branch extends **heartly thanks** to all who generously donated services and items to the auction and to those who cheerfully purchased those services and items. The silent auction raised \$325, which will go toward program and workshop fees.

MEETING: Jan. 9 - Jan Drabek

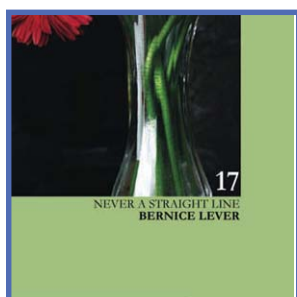
His Doubtful Excellency – A Canadian Novelist's Adventures as President Havel's Ambassador, is the English version of Jan Drabek's Czech bestseller, originally entitled *Po Usi v Postkomunismu (Up to My Ears in Post Communism)*. Since its original publication in 2003 it has gone through two printings in Prague. Adapted and translated into English by Drabek himself, it tells his story of a Canadian novelist and author of 11 books who returned to his native Czechoslovakia in 1990 as a teacher of English. Later he was the Czech Ambassador in Kenya and Albania, and served as the Czech Chief of Diplomatic Protocol, welcoming Queen Elizabeth and Pope John Paul II in Prague.

Drabek is the author of 16 books among them several critically acclaimed novels such as *Report on the Death of Rosenkavalier* (Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1977). *His*

Continued on page 6

NEW TITLES & AWARDS - VANCOUVER BRANCH

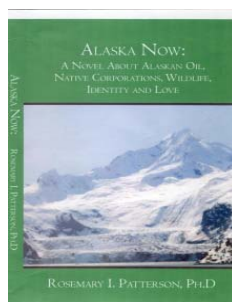
We are introducing a NEW FEATURE - highlighting newly released books and awards to Vancouver Branch Members. Anthony Dalton's column "Focus on" will be back in our Summer issue. Please submit your book cover and a short description of new titles published within the last six months. Don't forget to tell us the ISBN & where it is available.



Bernice Lever: *Never a Straight Line*, Black Moss Press, Palm Poet Series. 96 pp. \$15. ISBN 978-0-88753-438-6. Available through bookstores and www.colourofwords.com

“Her conversational and idiomatic language is based on vivid images of the five senses, and it brings to life emotions and experiences. Lever’s award winning poetry is taken to a higher level...as humanity is depicted with *simplicity and grace*.” Publisher, Marty Gervais.

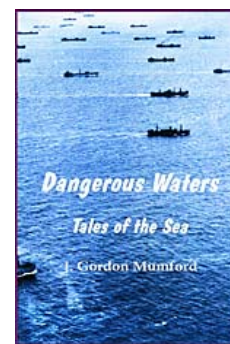
“No other Canadian poet writes with anything quite like Bernice Lever’s combination of comic wit, irony (self irony included), earthiness, delicacy, honesty, and desire.” BC poet, Russell Thornton.



Rosemary I. Patterson, Ph.D.: *Alaska Now, A Novel About Alaskan Oil, Native Corporations, Wildlife, Identity and Love*. Available through Booksurge Publishing or Amazon.com.

Rosemary's new novel is an update to James Michener's Alaskan saga with a more optimistic outlook concerning Native Alaskans, who with the Native Corporations under the Alaska Native Settlement in the 1970s have become the driving force behind the Alaska economy.

Rosemary wants to help prevent the damage to migratory wildlife if the drilling in the Beaufort Sea, ANWR and the National Petroleum Reserve proceeds as threatened.



J. Gordon Mumford: *Dangerous Waters: Tales of the Sea*, Zebra Publishing House, 2008. 116 pp. \$14.95. ISBN 978-0-9736297-2-9. Available: zebrapublishinghouse.com and amazon.com

Gordon Mumford shares ten stories from his Merchant Navy days. On his first voyage in 1942, he was third radio officer on a Danish collier taking coal to Iceland to bunker the Murmansk-bound convoys.

Other tales describe experiences in the South Pacific, where (amongst other activities) his ship was the supply vessel for minesweeping operations along the Borneo coastline. Additional stories include: Of Home and War; The Talisman; The Canoe; A Voice from the Past; and Horace, the Ship's Mascot.



Bring your books--chapbooks & self-published books, too --to Branch meetings. We have a members' display table all set up, and we'd really like to see it full.

AWARDS

Bernice Lever (Lifetime Achievement Award), Ariadne Sawyer, Barbara Mumford (Unsung Hero Award), and Alejandro Raul Mujica-Olea at the Seventh Anniversary and Gala of World Poetry, held at the Vancouver Public Library on February 29. (Photo: M.A. Hume)

MEMBERS' NEWS

ANTHONY DALTON has been travelling in Alberta and Manitoba to promote his latest book, *Alone Against the Arctic*, the story of his near-fatal expedition around the Arctic coast of Alaska in *Audacity*, his small speedboat. In February he was a guest speaker at two separate teachers' conventions in Calgary, and he read from *Alone* at the Millenium Library in Winnipeg. In March he will be speaking at a series of Sail & Power Squadron meetings in BC as well as promoting his books at the 2nd annual Pacific Festival of the Book – held in Victoria. He will also be in attendance at Black Bond Books' author's day in Richmond. In April he is scheduled to participate in the one-day Surrey Reads & Writes event.

BONNIE FOURNIER is a Registered Psychiatric Nurse. In her book *Mugged, Drugged and Shrugged Off*, she shares her experiences covering 28 years of Forensic Nursing in the Court Holding Cells and 8 years of Nursing on the streets of the Downtown Eastside. It will be published this summer.

Congratulations to **JAN FURST** who celebrated his 95th birthday in January.

GAVIN HAINSWORTH and co-author Katherine Freund-Hainsworth have recently completed their 66th book event of authors' signing and displays for *A New Westminster Album: Glimpses of the City as it Was*, and are continuing to work on their second book.

SANDRA HARPER published her children's novel, *Breaking Out*, which tells the story of Whycliffe, a twelve-year-old boy living in rural Kenya. Of the six children in the family, Whycliffe is the only one to attend school. Serious challenges face him. Money is needed for him to go to secondary school and for his sister's wedding. His mother is ill with the thinning disease. Through determination and assistance from surprising sources, Whycliffe goes on a personal journey that has a series of hurdles and surprising conclusions.

Breaking Out encourages young people to experience the wondrous African culture of Kenya. The book is part of a *Kenya: Our Global Friend teacher resource kit*, developed by Sandra Harper, Alice Tiles, Maureen MacDonald and Anne Low. The development and implementation of this resource kit was assisted by a generous CIDA grant. *Kenya: Our Global Friend* will be available to schools across British Columbia.

JEAN KAY's poem "Prayer for Peace" was published in the *Healing Journal* which has 125,000 readers. Jean created 240 laminated bookmarks of a poem she wrote about the *Natural Comfort Wellness Centre* for them to distribute through Welcome Wagon. It is the most profitable single poem of hers to date. Three of Jean's poems were submitted to the Tsawwassen Artists Guild, and used by artists to create

pictures. Commissioned poems continue to be a source of revenue for Jean.

BERNICE LEVER had 4 poems accepted by *The Pen Explosion Newsletter*, January 2008, in Pittsburg, US; 2 poems by *Ink, Sweat & Tears* online on March 07, on their site, Denton, UK; and 1 poem by *Aspect Aspirations*, Nanaimo, BC. She read poems as a *Lifetime Achievement Award* winner on Feb. 29, at the World Poetry 7th Anniversary and Gala held at the Vancouver Public Library; On March 27 she will present a workshop talk, "Know When to Break the Rules" for Victoria CAA branch; March 28, a poetry reading at Black Stilt Cafe in Victoria; March 30, a poem on a painting for South Delta Poets & Painters show; May 13, a reading for Poets Potpourri Society in Abbotsford, and a workshop/reading on June 2, for the Montreal CAA branch.

Congratulations to **BERNICE LEVER** and **BARBARA MUMFORD**. Bernice was awarded the prestigious *Lifetime Achievement Award* for her poetry and writing achievements at the World Poetry 7th Anniversary and Gala on February 29, while Barbara won the *Unsung Hero* award for helping other writers.

GORDON MUMFORD exhibited and sold books at the Vancouver International Boat Show in February. His fifth book, *Dangerous Waters*, will be published next week. He will be interviewed on Coop Radio (102.7 FM, <http://www.coopradio.org>) on Tuesday, March 11, at 9 pm PST. On March 22, he will be at Black Bond Bookstore at the Lansdowne Mall in Richmond BC. On Thursday, April 24, he is the featured reader at the Heritage Grill in New Westminster.

One of **BEN NUTTALL-SMITH**'s poems will be included in the South Delta Poets & Painters show opening on Saturday March 29. Ben's current project, a work-in-progress, is an historical novel about Tenth Century North America. A new book of poems *Splashes of Light* contains material from travels in Cornwall and Turkey as well as an assortment of humorous and more serious selections. See <http://www.trafford.com/07-2058>.

BC member **PATRICK TAYLOR**, presently living in Ireland, has just released his new novel *An Irish Country Village* (Forge Books NY NY) in hard cover and as an audio book (Macmillan audio). At the same time *An Irish Country Doctor* was re-released in trade paper. As of March 2 it is number 22 on the *NY Times* trade paper best seller list, and has just hit the *USA Today* best seller list. In addition to being reprinted in Spanish, German and Dutch this book will be condensed by *Readers Digest* in English, Swedish, Russian, Czech, and Finnish. The third book in the series, *An Irish Country Christmas* is due for release in Nov. 2008.

NATIONAL UPDATES

Highlights of February National Executive e-Meeting

Some 18 CAA members across Canada conferred for nearly 3 days on current projects as well as plans and projects for the better health of our organization. The Membership Committee suggested several ways to increase and retain our numbers in the coming years. Long term goal is 1,000 members. Individual members are often the best source for this type of supportive membership, as they can invite all and any type of genre writer to 'come along' to one of our meetings. Individuals can talk positively about CAA when attending other writer organizations or at non-CAA book launches. More information: Anthony Dalton.

Professional development is something in which we should all be interested. This spring we will be able to take part in a new Media Coaching Program. Designed and led by George Plumley for the CAA (George was one of our guest speakers last year), the program will teach authors the necessary skills for dealing with media interviews. This program will be held online by email, and/or by teleseminars (a special conference calling system).

A Youth Mentoring Program is also being developed. This will be a joint initiative with another not-for-profit organization, wherein youths ranging in age from 13 to 25 will be able to join the program whether or not they are full-time students. This program will offer mentorship and other professional development opportunities, a website specifically designed for young writers and opportunities to interact with their peers. The national program will be working with branches to provide member youths with opportunities at the local level.

And don't forget, although not related to the Youth Mentoring Program, we do have a special student membership rate: \$50 per year for full-time students of any age. Do you know a high school or college writer, or even a senior student who would benefit from our meetings?

Our National VP Anthony is also involved in our new CAA Member national catalogue. For a modest fee, we all can have our books promoted in a handsome book. This would be available to the general public. Our CAA benefits just keep expanding! He will tell us how to become a part of this catalogue.

Individual CAA members often have good contacts with people and/or groups that will donate for charity tax receipts and good will publicity. CAA may soon have a professional fund raiser on the team. The Fund Raising Committee also has some fine approaches to follow. Two recognized areas of needed funds are 1.) National Executive travel and 2.)

Additional funding for our annual book awards. At the moment poetry winners get \$1,000, not the \$2,500 that the prose winners receive.

Next goal is to make our National Executive, branch presidents and several Chairs more effective. Rather than have 25 at a meeting, there is a plan for re-organization of new ways of sharing reports and effectively implementing &/or overseeing new projects. With our national budget discussions, there can be no doubt that CAA is working strenuously for all its writers.

Bernice Lever, Regional VP, British Columbia.

FREE Membership and More

* Because of last July's reduction in GST, membership dues are now \$157.50.

Now for some even better deals.

* Did you know that if you bring in 3 new members (or people who have not renewed their membership for 18 months) you could get your membership FREE for a year?

* Here's another option: Using the 4/3 Special Offer, you could invite three friends to join CAA, and extend your own membership for one more year, and that way EVERYONE pays only \$118.13 each.

*There is also a discount if you sign up (by yourself) for a two-year membership.

PAST MEETINGS & EVENTS: Continued from page 4 *Doubtful Excellency* was published by Ekstasis Books in Victoria, B.C. (see www.abcbookworld.com).

WORKSHOP: Sat. Feb. 2 - Memoir Writing

Getting started is often the most difficult part of writing a memoir. Jan Drabek, a retired teacher and author of several personal memoirs, designed this workshop to help sort out the basic ideas that will get the student to the starting line. Various approaches to the writing of a personal memoir were examined, including the length and the sources available. There were also discussions on what should be included in the manuscript and examples of various types of memoirs. The course included some short exercises.

MEETING: Wed. Feb. 13 - Open Mic Night.

An enjoyable evening with visitors and members reading short excerpts from their books, articles or poetry.

WRITING AND EDITING ADVICE

A Novel Approach To Raising Awareness About History and Issues.

As a former School Psychologist I consider my twelve novels and six screenplays to be an extension of Psychology and Education. I started writing novels after a summer session working in the Provincial Institution for the Mentally Handicapped where I was horrified to find myself in what appeared to be the eighteenth century. Children and adults were spending their entire lives behind locked doors in what was a primarily custodial institution. I was so shocked I immediately started what was to be my first novel entitled *Alias the Tank*, the nickname for the "Access Mobility Wheelchair System." My motivation behind writing the novel was to raise awareness about the plight of the mentally handicapped.



Since that time I have been captivated by the history of places I have visited and researched. Because of Colonialism and Ethno-Centric Monoculturalism treatment of Indigenous people in such places as Hawaii, Australia, Tahiti, British Columbia, Alaska and Malaysia, to name a few, has been deplorable. Myriads of well done, non-fiction books have been written on these subjects but unfortunately many people do not read non-fiction. It was my conjecture that a hybrid novel form, placing historical facts and interpretation into riveting adventure novels, romance novels, mystery novels and even

humorous novels, might reach and raise awareness amongst people who read only fiction.

I have had some success with my many novels and screenplays. My novel on Hawaiian music and musicians, entitled *Aloha and Mai Tais*, received a five star review from the Midwest Book Review and my screenplay adaptation of my novel about Australian history *Journey Great Barrier Reef* was a winner in the 2003 Telluride Indiefest Screenplay Contest. Because Print-on-Demand publishing keeps books in print forever (unless the Print-On-Demand publisher goes bankrupt) all my novels continue to sell on amazon.com. My screenplays are often read by movie professionals who peruse www.Inktip.com, and my articles (again related to raising awareness about history and issues) are often read on www.authorsden.com. I even have an adventure screenplay called "Last Wild Place," about the plight of West Papuans on the one half of the Island of New Guinea, whose country was handed over to Indonesia by the U.N. in 1962 so that it could be plundered by mining companies, that can be read in a public file on www.writesafe.com.

In a world that has many serious issues of importance to be addressed, including Global Warming, I would encourage writers to take advantage of rather inexpensive forms of getting their views known, such as Print-On-Demand publishing, screenplay contests, and article writing. That way, at least, when the final Erik Erikson task comes upon us, looking back at our lives and evaluating whether we have done anything with them, at least we will have had the satisfaction of having expressed our views and of trying to raise awareness about serious issues and even non-serious issues in this often too materialistic world.

By Rosemary I. Patterson, Ph.D.

www.canauthorsvancouver.org/patterson/index.htm

On Being Edited

As most members know, Bernice Lever has extensive experience in the field of book editing. Upon inquiry, she very kindly offered her services at a reasonable rate. After years of passionate writing, I finally had what I thought was the final draft of my first novel, *A Nest of Spooks*. Earlier versions had already been reviewed by friends and relatives, and I believed that by now it was following the basic rules of English grammar. I was more concerned about her professional opinion, and was looking forward to getting some useful tips.

A few days after dropping off the manuscript, I was happy when Bernice phoned with some feedback regarding the book's structure. This allowed me to see it in better perspective, resulting in some important changes. After that, she reviewed it minutely for grammar and spelling.

Bernice is a very gracious grammar teacher for somebody on a learning curve. She also has a good eye for picking up mistakes. There were a lot of them. However, for the *pièce de la résistance*, she gave me a list of one hundred alternatives for the verb 'said'. I did my homework and have now increased her list by another twenty-five. I am sure she will be intrigued.

By Douglas Cameron Aitken

OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

CanWrite! 2008 CAA Conference

Are you going to Edmonton?

Are you registered for the Canadian Authors Association's Annual Conference? There is still time to submit your registration form. Registration is \$325 for members and \$365 for non-members, and members can register online or by regular mail.

The registration fee includes a welcoming wine and cheese reception, professional development sessions, keynote breakfast with Ralph Keyes, Gala banquet with keynote speaker Ian Ferguson and more. Most events will be held at the centrally located University of Alberta Conference Centre. Affordable on-site accommodations in the brand new Schaffer Hall residence are available for only \$50/night.

Themed "Inspiring a wellspring of words", CanWrite! will have sessions on fiction, non-fiction, poetry, spoken word, writing for children and screenwriting. Sessions will also be looking at today's hottest markets, tax tips for writers, the writing industry, having the courage to write, marketing, research, everything to inspire getting your words on paper, getting your words out into the world.

Confirmed presenters include Jacqueline Baker, Ted Bishop, Tim Bowling, Louise Halfe, Ralph Keyes, Myrna Kostash, Naomi McIlwraith, Kit Pearson, Kimberly Plumley, Carolyn Swayze, Cheryl Kaye Tardif, Thomas Trofimuk, Debbie Marshall, Gloria Sawai, Geo Takach, Sheri-D Wilson, Deborah Windsor and Robb Wynn.

Registrations have been received from Vancouver to Waterloo and everywhere in between. Where will you be as authors from across the country gather July 3-6, 2008, in Edmonton? To learn more about the conference and presenters, and to register, go to:

<http://www.canauthors.org/conference.html> or to
<http://www.canauthorsalberta.ca/content.php?id=97>

Transportation to Edmonton

The Vancouver Branch plan to rent one or two minivans and take a scenic drive through the mountains together. The branch will pay \$500 towards the cost of gas, insurance, and the vans' rental, splitting the minimal balance, if there is any, between the participants. We already have enough people registered to fill one vehicle. Don't be left out.

Please send a note to Margaret Hume, either by e-mail (mahume@canauthorsvancouver.org) or by regular post (601-1888 Alberni, Vancouver BC V6G 1B3), to reserve your seat on the *CAA Vancouver-Edmonton Express*.

CALL FOR ENTRIES:

16th Annual Writer's Digest International Self-Published Book Awards. Now more than \$15,000 in prizes. Deadline May 1, 2008, Writer's Digest is searching for the best self-published books of the past few years.

Whether you're a professional writer, part-time freelancer, or a self-starting student, here's your chance to enter the only competition exclusively for self-published books.

Categories range from mainstream fiction, through children's books to poetry.

http://www.writersdigest.com/contests/self_published.asp

Congratulations, MURPHY SHEWCHUK

Murphy was the 2008 winner of the British Columbia Heritage Award. A former Canadian Authors Association president, Murphy is currently Vice-President of the Nicola Valley Museum, in addition to being a prolific author and publisher.

Do You Receive Payments from Public Lending Rights or Access Copyright?

Please send a note or e-mail to PLR and Access Copyright each time you get a payment. Your messages stating the need and appreciation of these separate programs are quoted to the fund givers: Canada Council and politicians.

Do You Have/Want a Website?

Publicize yourself and your talents.

(1) Branch Members can have an individual webpage site and e-mail address on the branch website for a nominal fee. Please contact Margaret Hume (e-mail mahume@canauthorsvancouver.org).

(2) If you already have a website, get it listed on the Vancouver Branch Members. You can double your chances of being noticed by having both your existing site and a site associated with the Vancouver Branch.

(3) Get your website(s) mentioned on the CAA National site. See <http://www.canauthors.org/members.html> for information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CAA Vancouver Branch

Branch Website: <http://www.canauthorsvancouver.org/>

2008/09 Vancouver Branch Executive:

- * Branch President: Margaret A. Hume, 604-806-0471, mahume@canauthorsvancouver.org
- * Branch Past-President: Anthony Dalton, 604-948-2654, dalton@canauthorsvancouver.org
- * Branch Vice-President:: Jean Kay, 604-943-9247, JKay@CanAuthorsVancouver.org
- * Membership Chair: VACANT
- * Program Chair: Jean Kay, 604-943-9247, JKay@CanAuthorsVancouver.org
- * Promotions & Public Relations Chair: Lloyd Meeker, 604-677-4699, meeker@canauthorsvancouver.org
- * Recording Secretary: Ben Nuttall-Smith, 604-535-2977, nuttall-smith@canauthorsvancouver.org
- * Treasurer: Lloyd Meeker, 604-677-4699, meeker@canauthorsvancouver.org
- * Web Master (Interim): Barbara Mumford, 604-520-1487, webmaster@canauthorsvancouver.org
- * West Coast Writers: Anthony Dalton, 604-948-2654, dalton@canauthorsvancouver.org, & Barbara Mumford 604-520-1487, webmaster@canauthorsvancouver.org

CAA National Office

Alec McEachern, Administrator

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Fax: 705-653-0593; Email: admin@canauthors.org

Website: <http://www.canauthors.org/>

CAA 87th Annual National Conference

July 3-6, 2008 - Edmonton, Alberta.

For information and registration form

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We are pleased to welcome Alejandro Raul Mujica-Olea and William Hay to our Branch membership.

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