

please post

Field Notes

Vol. 15, No. 4

West Tennessee Writing Project

April 2007

1 Young Writers' Clubhouse Summer Camp

Young writers, from those who have completed 3rd grade to those who have completed 8th, are invited to join in the Young Writers' Clubhouse Summer Camp, June 18-22, 2007, on the UT Martin campus.

The one-week camp goes from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$70, which includes a T-shirt and writer's notebook.

Teacher Consultants of WTWP will facilitate the Summer Camp. Be watching for brochures, newspaper publicity, and www.utm.edu/wtwp with program details. On line registration for Young Writers' Clubhouse Summer Camp: <http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youthwriting/writingreg.php>.



Poem by Emma Fieser, 3rd grade
Young Writers' Clubhouse

Forks are important in many ways;
You eat with them, you wash them.
And the Fork is the father of the Spork.
His wife is the Spoon.

2 Director retires

Margrethe Ahlschwede, professor of English, has directed the West Tennessee Writing Project since its designation as a site of a National Writing Project in March 1993. She retires from UT Martin at the end of July 2007, and from the role of director of WTWP at the end of April.

"I learned how to teach in my graduate program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. But it is at UT Martin that I became a teacher. I am grateful to my undergraduate students and the teachers in WTWP's annual summer institutes for all they have taught me," she said. "My thanks, too, go to the administrators of the University of Tennessee at Martin who from the first have enthusiastically supported WTWP."

David Carithers, associate director of WTWP, becomes director May 1. David joined the UT Martin English Department in the fall of 2004. He completed his doctoral program at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro where his major professor was Hephzibah Roskelly, a session leader during the 2000 WTWP Invitational Institute and the lead presenter at WTWP's annual open workshop for K-12 teachers that August.

From their participation in an annual invitational summer institute of WTWP, some

200 K-12 teachers from all subject-matter specialties are Teacher Consultants of WTWP, implementing innovative teaching approaches for improving writing among their students. TCs teach other teachers through school professional development programs, workshops of WTWP, and by presentations to professional organizations such as the National Council of Teachers of English. In addition, they initiate literacy events including school reading and writing clubs, the annual Writing on Water Retreat for TCs, and the Young Writers' Clubhouse.

Margrethe and Bill, who has taught beginning writing students at UT Martin for the past ten years, will move to Lincoln, Nebraska, rejoining the community of First United Methodist Church. Margrethe will reconnect with writing and quilting communities and Bill will return to noon basketball at UN-L's East Campus gym.

Three Stories and a Poem, Margrethe's chapbook, is available from the Department of English, 131 Humanities Building, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, Tenn. Cost: \$5. A reception for Margrethe and Bill will be held Tuesday, April 24, 2-4 p.m., in the Holland McCombs Center at UT Martin.

3 Young Writers' Clubhouse for Third through Eighth Graders

The Young Writers' Clubhouse of the West Tennessee Writing Project gears up for its fourth Saturday of writing April 21 in Gooch Hall on the UT Martin campus.

The Clubhouse is open to all 3rd-8th grade students. It runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a sack lunch and a drink. Pizza will be available for \$1 a slice. Full program and registration is on the website: www.utm.edu/wtwp. Parents may register their children online: <http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youthwriting/writingreg.php> or by contacting the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at (731) 881-7082.

Teacher Consultants facilitating the Clubhouse series are: Brittan Sutherland, Martin Elementary; Annette Ferguson, Ridgemont Elementary in Union City; Deborah Doss, Hickman Co. Elementary in Fulton; Blair Chadwick, Dresden High School; Nancy Crider, Camden Elementary; and Andi Neihoff, St. Mary's School in Jackson.



West Tennessee Writing Project
Department of English
College of Humanities and Fine Arts
131 Humanities Building
University of Tennessee at Martin
Martin, TN 38238
www.utm.edu/wtwp

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 13
Martin, TN

WTWP Calendar 2007

- April 14** Summer 2006 Institute Follow-up, Obion County Library
- April 21** Young Writers' Clubhouse, for 3rd-8th graders, UT Martin
- April 24** Reception for Bill and Margrethe Ahlschwede, Holland McCombs Center, UT Martin, 2-4 p.m.
- May 19** Immersion and orientation for 2007 WTWP Summer Institute Teachers, UT Martin
- June 4-28** WTWP Invitational Summer Institute, Monday-Thursday, UT Martin
- June 18-22** Young Writers' Clubhouse Summer Camp, UT Martin*
- Aug. 18** *Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music in Every Classroom*, writing workshop for all K-12 teachers, Fine Arts Building, UT Martin. To pre-register e-mail the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education: ecce@utm.edu
- Oct. 5-6** *Vignettes, Personal Narratives, Writing about Teaching*, Writing on Water Writing Retreat for Teacher Consultants of WTWP, Paris Landing State Park
- Nov. 15-17** *National Writing Project Directors*, New York City, www.writing-project.org
- Nov. 15-18** *National Council of Teachers of English*, New York City, www.ncte.org

* to register online for the Young Writers' Clubhouse Summer Camp, go to: <http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youth-writing/writingreg.php>

Every Child Has a Song

4 *Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music in Every Classroom*, a workshop for all K-12 teachers, will be held **Saturday, August 18** in the Fine Arts Building at UT Martin, 8:30-3 p.m.

Lead facilitators will be The Caxia Percussion Trio featuring UT Martin Assistant Professor Julie Hill, Julie Davila, and Amy Smith.

In addition to participating in Caxia's opening presentation, teachers will be involved in an additional two-hour session with Caxia. These smaller sessions alternate with concurrent sessions led by K-12 Teacher

Consultants of WTWP on topics including technology in the classroom, poetry, drama, singing, and writing lyrics.

A special reception for WTWP Teacher Consultants and teachers new to the teaching profession will follow the workshop.

Registration is \$45, which also includes continental breakfast, lunch, and certificate of participation. For complete program information, see www.utm.edu/wtwp.

To pre-register e-mail the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education: ecce@utm.edu

About WTWP

5 Teachers of the West Tennessee Writing Project--Writing Teachers/Writing People--believe everyone can write; create classrooms as safe places for students to read, write, and learn; respect standards as inherent in pedagogy; value assessment in many forms; honor students, colleagues, parents and administrators as partners in school success.

WTWP is located in the Department of English in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, UTM. It is funded by the National Writing Project and the University of Tennessee at Martin with additional support for particular programs from area schools and systems. WTWP is one of two sites in Tennessee of the National Writing Project and one of some 200 NWP sites across the country.

Teacher leaders of WTWP include: Co-directors Brittan Sutherland, Martin Elementary; Angela Redden, Dickson Middle School; and Beth Halbert, Mt. Juliet High School. Technology Liaison for WTWP is Sandi Walden, Hollow Rock-Bruceton. Outreach Liaison is Diane Shaw, assistant professor of art, UT Martin. Project Director is David Carithers, assistant professor of English, UT Martin.

West Tennessee Writing Project
Department of English
College of Humanities and Fine Arts
University of Tennessee at Martin
e-mail: dcarithers@utm.edu
e-mail: wtwp@utm.edu
Department of English Phone: 731.881.7300
WTWP on the web: www.utm.edu/wtwp