

Women's National Book Association

The Nashville Edition

SUMMER, 2010

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General Meeting

First Thursday of the month,
Bronte Café,
Davis-Kidd Booksellers
Green Hills Mall
Networking starts at 5:00
Meeting starts at 6:00
(Free and open to the public)

PLEASE NOTE:

There are no monthly meetings from June through August. See you in September!

Board Meeting

Beaman Library
Lipscomb University
Monday following general meeting starting at 6:00

President's Message

Dear Friends and Fellow WNBA Members:

What does the word "summer" bring to mind? For me, the word used to be associated with heat, time slowing down, and a freedom from responsibility. It was a much needed break from the frenetic pace of life and the need to be uber-productive. Stacks of books were devoured and many a nap taken. Renewal was required above all else. While I still imagine hot and humid weather, summer now represents a time of contemplation and planning for the future. It is not a vacation from what has been endured but instead an opportunity to embrace what is coming next. I suppose the shift is natural; I am expecting my first child in September.

The WNBA is also entering into a time of contemplation and planning for the future. In early June, a few of us will be traveling to Detroit to attend the National Board Meeting. This is an exciting opportunity to meet with chapter presidents from the other nine chapters and with the Executive Committee. Bebe Brechner, our chapter's President-Elect, will be unveiling the new Web site for National as a co-chair of the committee. Lee Fairbend, our chapter's Past President, will be presenting information on

the WNBA Award which will be given in 2010. Mary Grey James, a long-time Nashville member, will assume the position as National President. And, I will be presenting information on our chapter. A principal focus of the meeting will be sharing best practices from the chapters and seeing how we can leverage our combined strengths. I will report back on the meeting in the Fall newsletter.

Make sure to check out the Beaman Library/ WNBA Summer Reading/ Discussion Series running in June and July. This year will focus on themes of war. The first session will begin on June 14 with a discussion of *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. A full schedule can be found in this newsletter on page 7 and on our Web site.

In July is also the Nashville Chapter Board retreat where we plan for the upcoming year. Please let us know if you have ideas for programs, special events or any other comments or concerns.

Have a wonderful summer! See you in September.

Warm wishes,

Ginna Foster Cannon

THE NASHVILLE EDITION

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Views expressed by the authors are their own and not necessarily those of WNBA, Nashville Chapter.

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Newsletter Advertising

Monthly rates for business card-size ads are \$15 for WNBA Nashville Chapter members and \$20 for nonmembers.

Please submit advertising copy by the 10th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Contact
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for more
Information.

Editor's Note

As my youngest son's high school years end and a new chapter in his life begins, I'm reminded of the bittersweet moments that come with "happy endings and new beginnings." This is especially true with the newsletter this year as some of our regular contributors move on to new opportunities in their lives.

Bunkie Lynn has been a humor columnist for *The Nashville Edition* since 2005. While members have regularly enjoyed her musings and thought-provoking comments, they may not have realized that Bunkie (aka Monica Wessel) has also served as copy editor during this same time. Her competent skills in both positions will be greatly missed as Monica pursues her Master of Divinity at Vanderbilt University. We wish her all the best in her new endeavor.

Kristi Gillis has also been a regular contributor for the last two years, keeping us informed and up-to-date on the latest happenings at Book'em. Kristi is moving to California to start work at Apple Computer. Best wishes to Kristi in her new position.

A new Book'em correspondent will soon be named, and our Events Chair, Pat Ballard, has volunteered to write a quarterly column entitled "The Written Word." We are looking forward to Pat sharing her writing knowledge and skills with our membership, beginning with this edition of the newsletter on page 6. For anyone interested in serving as copy editor for the newsletter, please contact me at gloriat71@gmail.com.

A special thank you to Bunkie Lynn for her five years as devoted columnist and dependable copy editor, to Kristi Gillis for her two years of informative Book'em articles, and to Pat Ballard for her willingness to assume the new role as quarterly columnist for *The Nashville Edition*.

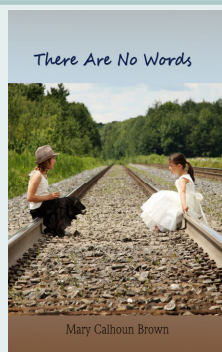
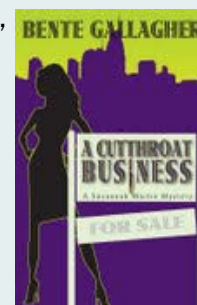
Gloria Toler

Board Member Resignation

The Board wants to thank Pat Ballard for her service as President-Elect and Events Chair this last year. She has done a fantastic job, especially with the Holiday Dinner. For personal reasons, Pat has resigned the President-Elect post but will remain as Events Chair. Per the Bylaws, Ginna Foster Cannon, the president of the chapter, has appointed Bebe Brechner, who will also continue to serve in her present position as Webmaster, to be the President-Elect for the 2010-2011 year, fulfilling the two-year term. It is expected that Bebe will be confirmed with the slate of candidates as President next spring. Join us in congratulating Bebe on her new post!

Member News

Bente Gallagher's book, *A Cutthroat Business*, is due to be released June 15 by Publishing-Works. The price of the trade paperback is \$13.95. It's a romantic mystery featuring a new-minted realtor and Southern Belle named Savannah Martin, who finds a dead body in an empty house she's showing to a potential client. This is the first book in a series of real-estate-themed mysteries set in Nashville featuring Savannah Martin.



Mary Calhoun Brown's debut novel, *There Are No Words*, is an Eric Hoffer Award Honorable Mention book in the Young Adult category. To learn more about the Eric Hoffer Award, visit <http://www.hofferaward.com/HAbookwinners.html>. For more information about Mary and her work, visit <http://www.marycalhounbrown.com/>

In Memorandum:

Sigourney Woods Cheek passed away on Monday, April 26, 2010, at the age of 64, after a five-year battle with leukemia. She was active in the community, holding leadership positions in many local nonprofit organizations. In addition, she served on the boards of the YWCA where she held writing workshops and Magdalene House where she co-chaired the Domestic Violence Shelter "Burn the Mortgage" Campaign. She also served as board chairman and president of Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and co-founded the Antiques and Garden Show of Nashville.

Late in life, Mrs. Cheek became an author, publishing her book *Patient Siggie - Hope and Healing in Cyberspace*, which describes her battle with cancer and her communications in cyberspace, where she shared her courageous experiences with others.

She is survived by her husband, James H. Cheek III, three sons, two grandchildren, a brother, her father-in-law, and two nephews. Contributions can be made in her memory to Magdalene House, the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter Program, Cheekwood, or Christ Church.

**WNBA Nashville
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Spring Meetings



Nancy Vienneau and Paulette Licitri

On March 4, WNBA Nashville welcomed Nancy Vienneau and Paulette Licitri as guest panelists to discuss writing about the emotionally-laden topic “food.”

Nancy, a chef, freelance writer, and restaurant reviewer for the *Tennessean* who describes herself as a food activist, enjoyed a career in catering until about five years ago. During those years, she operated a small café on First Avenue and collected memories of interesting people and places to use in a future non-fiction memoir. She delighted the audience with an excerpt, as well as an interesting food-related article about her daughter’s experience in Africa.

Paulette Licitri is the editor of *Alimentum*, a 128-page, bi-annual literary journal of food-related fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. The five-year-old journal recently won “Best Food Magazine in the World” from the Gourmand International World Cookbook Awards, and Paulette informed us that there is a spin-off in the works: *Chewy Words*, a journal that aims to get children involved in writing about food.

Learn more about these interesting women at:

<http://nancyvienneau.com/blog/about>
<http://www.alimentumjournal.com>



Ben Smith, Sebastian, and Bill Brown

There were no April Fool tricks at the April chapter meeting, just compelling poetry renditions by our panelists, Bill Brown and Ben Smith.

Vanderbilt professor Bill Brown, a nationally known poet who has taught for some thirty years, is retiring this spring to become a full-time writer. Bill, who says he became a writer in order to become a better teacher, has just completed his eighth book. It’s his longest poetry collection to date, filled with carefully chosen selections, and he treated the gathering to readings of several beautiful poems.

Ben Smith is executive director of Youth Speaks, a group that uses spoken word poetry to promote literacy. Ben defined “spoken word poetry” as reflecting the roots of poetry, in that it is meant to be spoken rather than written. He went on to say that it has found a place among teens, and that Youth Speaks mines talents in the classroom that would be lost otherwise. “By making the connection between poetry, spoken word, and classroom settings, Youth Speaks delivers a more inclusive, and active, learning experience. Believing that young people have the tools to take control of their lives through language, Youth Speaks encourages youth to express themselves

(Continued on page 5)

May Garden Party



Lee Fairbend, Bebe Brechner, and Shirley Blakley



In foreground, Emily Masters and garden hostess Barbie Chadwick enjoying the spread.

On May 13, several WNBA members and their guests gathered in the beautifully manicured garden of Barbie Chadwick to share an evening of conversation—often centering around books—while savoring delicious hors d'oeuvres provided by the WNBA Board. The gathering also gave members whose homes were affected by the Nashville Flood a welcome break from flood clean-up and recovery.

Many members took the opportunity to renew their membership at the garden party. For those members still needing to renew for the 2010–2011 year, please see pages 8 and 9 for a note from membership chair, Tamara Ellenberger, and for the current membership form.

Gloria Toler

(Continued from page 4)

using their own vernacular.”

Bill brought along one of his student poets, Sebastian, who told the group how his experiences with Youth Speaks have helped him academically. A junior at Hunter’s Lane High School, Sebastian performed the poem that brought him first-place ranking at a national poetry slam, and Smith encouraged WNBA members to support these young poets by attending their performances.

Susan Lentz

Editor’s Note: The following is a featured event of Youth

Speaks Nashville in June:

Nashville Now: 2010 Spoken Word Census

Dark Horse Theater
4610 Charlotte Pike

June 3, 4, and 5 at 7:30 p.m.

The production will feature a series sixteen to twenty short pieces written and performed by a diverse cast. For more information visit:

<http://www.youthspeaksnashville.org/>

The Written Word by Pat Ballard



*I've traveled the world twice over,
Met the famous; saints and sinners,
Poets and artists, kings and queens,
Old stars and hopeful beginners,
I've been where no-one's been before,
Learned secrets from writers and cooks
All with one library ticket
To the wonderful world of books.
~ Anonymous ~*

I can think of many reasons one might enjoy being a member of the Women's National Book Association (WNBA), but there is one main underlying reason that brings us all together. Love of the written word.

Books, magazines, newspapers—whatever is readable.

Love of the written word is what brought about this ninety-year-old organization of the WNBA. In 1917, even before women were allowed to vote, *"a group of 15 women booksellers-excluded from membership in the all-male Bookseller's League met in Sherwood's Book Store, 19 John Street, in downtown New York to form the Women's National Book Association."* Excerpt from the WNBA History at: <http://www.wnba-books.org/history/>.

My personal love for the written word didn't just bloom, it exploded when I was introduced to my first books and started to learn to read. When I think back to those early days, I can still recapture the magic of those characters and words dancing across the pages of the books.

Most of us can remember when and what awakened our love for the written word. Maybe it was a parent, a teacher, a relative, or maybe it just happened one day.

My mother loved to read, but my father's people were almost obsessive readers. Reading was a

"norm" in my world. By the time I was nine years old, I was allowed to read my dad's, uncle's and grandfather's Zane Gray and Louis L'Amour westerns. I especially enjoyed the Zane Gray books because he was so good at describing the western scenery that I felt as if I'd actually been to the places he depicted. One of my favorite words that I learned from Zane Gray was and still is "meandering." I can still envision those "meandering streams" that turned and twisted out of the mountains of Colorado or the canyons of Utah, even though I've never been to either state.

One of my aunts would bring me books and we'd read them and then discuss them. A great aunt gave me an entire collection of William Shakespeare writings and a collection of hard-back Reader's Digest condensed books dated in the early 1960s, which are proudly displayed on my bookshelves. One of my teachers in grade school brought personal books from her home for me to read.

So my love for the written word was fed from many directions. And I appreciate all of the people who nurtured that love.

And I appreciate the opportunity of being a part of the WNBA because now, *"more than ninety years after our foremothers struggled for the right to vote and learned how successful organized women can be, WNBA celebrates its continuous commitment to improving the status, image, and role of women in the world of books."* Excerpt from the WNBA History at: <http://www.wnba-books.org/history/>

Pat Ballard

Themes of War

BEAMAN LIBRARY/WNBA
 Summer Reading/Discussion Series 2010
 Lipscomb University, Burton Health Sciences Center
 Room 214 7:00pm

That was what ultimately war did to you. It was not the physical danger—the mines at sea, the bombs from the air, the crisp ping of a rifle bullet as you drove over a deserted track. No, it was the spiritual danger of learning how much easier life was if you ceased to think.

Agatha Christie

June 14 *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. Mariner Books, 2009. \$14.95.
 with Steve Prewitt, Associate Provost, Lipscomb University.

June 21 *The Heat of the Day* by Elizabeth Bowen. Anchor Books, 2002. \$14.95.
 with Dr. Linda A. Barnes, Austin Peay State University.

June 28 *For Whom the Bell Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway. Scribner, 1995. \$16.00.
 with Dr. Ed. Gleaves, Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist (retired).

No Session on July 5

July 12 *We Band of Angels* by Elizabeth Norman. Atria Books, 2000. \$14.95.
 with Elizabeth Heffington, Librarian, Beaman Library, Lipscomb University.

July 19 *Shoulder the Sky* by Anne Perry. Ballantine Books, 2005. \$13.95.
 with Andrea Lindsey, Librarian, Blackman High School.

July 26 *Shiloh* by Shelby Foote. Vintage Books, 1991. \$13.95.
 with Dr. Dennis Loyd, (retired) Lipscomb University.

All Sessions are free and open to the public.

For further information call Carolyn Wilson, 615-966-5837 or email:
carolyn.wilson@lipscomb.edu

Membership Renewal

Join Us!

Don't forget to renew your membership starting on June 1, 2010. Please note that membership rates have increased from \$25 to \$30.

Member Benefits

- Automatic enrollment in National WNBA organization and Nashville Chapter. Members have access to password-protected networking opportunities at www.wnba-books.org and www.wnbanashville.org.
- Ability to connect online with other chapters and members via Twitter and Facebook.
- Opportunities to speak on a Nashville Chapter WNBA author panel.
- Display your work at the WNBA booth at the annual Southern Festival of Books.
- Opportunity to make a difference in our community by volunteering with other members for book and literacy related causes.

For a complete list of member benefits, visit www.wnbanashville.org/benefits.html.

Payment Options

To renew your membership, we now have two payment options for your convenience.

Please complete membership form (page 9), making your \$30 check payable to WNBA, Nashville Chapter. Send check and form to:

Tamara Ellenberger
Membership Chair
Nashville Chapter of WNBA
PO Box 111264
Nashville, TN 37222

-or-

Pay online: www.wnbanashville.org/join.html (note: \$2 online processing fee)

For membership questions please email Tamara Ellenberger at tamara.ellenberger@gmail.com.



**Women's National Book Association
Nashville Chapter
MEMBERSHIP FORM JUNE 1, 2010 – MAY 31, 2011**

SELECT MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Automatic enrollment in National WNBA organization and Nashville Chapter. Members have access to password-protected networking opportunities at www.wnba-books.org and www.wnbanashville.org.
- Ability to connect online with other chapters and members via Twitter and Facebook.
- Opportunity to make a difference in our community by volunteering with other members for book & literacy related causes.

For complete list of member benefits, visit www.wnbanashville.org/benefits.html.

JOIN THE WNBA, NASHVILLE CHAPTER FOR AN ANNUAL FEE OF \$30:

Payment options: Please make check for \$30 payable to WNBA, Nashville Chapter and mail completed form and check to: Tamara Ellenberger, PO Box 111264, Nashville, TN 37222.

-or-

Update membership status/make payment online at www.wnbanashville.org/join.html (note: additional \$2 online processing fee applies)

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION FOR THE NASHVILLE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY.

CHECK BOX: new membership renewing membership

Name: *Please p-r-i-n-t!* _____

Job Title and Organization: _____

If retired, check here

HOME street address: _____

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Mobile phone: _____ **Birthday (month/day only)** _____

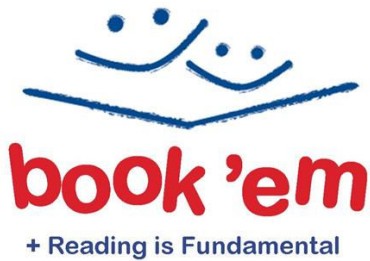
Email: _____ **Web site:** _____

NOTE: Contact information for use by WNBA members only will be published unless you check here .
Please provide a brief description about yourself to include in our newsletter.

MAY WE CALL ON YOUR EXPERTISE FOR HELP? Please check all that apply.

- Newsletter** **Membership** **Publicity** **Directory** **Financial**
 Programs **Hospitality** **Special Events** **Mailings**

_____ **Member Signature** _____ **Date**



Even though I no longer have summer vacation, I find it hard not to be caught up in the excitement of the approaching holidays. For me summers were not only about the pool or the ice cream truck but also about having hours at my disposal for reading. Each summer I anxiously awaited the start of my library's summer reading program. And because our town's little library didn't have enough mysteries to keep me entertained, I hoarded my allowance to save up for more Nancy Drew novels.

My books were my treasures.

As I've watched Nashville begin to recover from the recent flooding, I have been incredibly proud of our city and its response to crisis. From Facebook to telethons, Nashville is banding together to help those who lost so much in the space of a weekend. I cannot imagine how hard it must be to sift through water-ravaged homes, carting load after load of what once were treasures to the street for disposal.

As bibliophiles we know that books do not take kindly to water. Along with so many other items, many of Nashville's children and the organizations who support them lost all of their books. Some children lost books they received from Book'em.

We are working hard to assist Nashville in the rebuilding effort. We wish you and yours well and hope that you are all safe following this disaster. In the wake of this tragedy, we've lost many of our sources of funding and support. In order to satisfy the surging need for our services, Book'em needs both money and books. We appreciate any

We read to know we are not alone.

- C.S. Lewis

support the WNBA can lend to our efforts to rebuild the libraries of Nashville's children. Contact information is below for donations.

In happier news, Book'em has been chosen for the 2010 Macy's SHARE program and Book A Brighter Future campaign. This national promotion allows Macy's customers to support literacy while saving on purchases at the retailer. Here's how it works:

June 30 through July 31, Macy's customers can donate \$3 and receive a coupon for \$10 off one purchase of \$50 or more at any Macy's store. Macy's donates 100% of every \$3 to Reading is Fundamental.

For every \$3, \$1 will support local RIF programs like Book'em, \$1 will support RIF's Multicultural Literacy Campaign, and \$1 will help RIF's ongoing efforts to provide reading resources nationally.

The campaign has raised more than \$13 million nationally since 2004! Book'em is delighted to participate again this year and we invite WNBA members to shop for our cause. To learn more about this event, visit www.RIF.org/brighterfuture. We'll also make sure to provide updates at our Web site and on our Facebook page.

Call 255-1820 or email volunteers@bookem-kids.org for more information on Book'em volunteer opportunities. To make a monetary or book donation, contact Melissa Spradlin at ceo@bookem-kids.org.

Join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/bookemkids) or visit us on the Web (www.bookem-kids.org).

Thank you, WNBA for your support! Have a great summer!

Kristi Gillis

The WNBA Nashville Chapter's directory is printed by Sir Speedy of Nashville and we thank them for their fine and speedy work and very competitive pricing. We encourage our members to consider Sir Speedy for your copying, printing, and design needs.

Tell them WNBA sent you!

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