

Chapter Notes

By, for and about the Charlotte Chapter of the WNBA

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Welcome

"Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language."

— [Henry James](#)

Greetings from the WNBA-Charlotte!

Bringing Book Lovers and Book Professionals Together

A letter from our new President, Kristen Knox:

I can't wait as we gear up for another great year of WNBA-Charlotte events. When I joined WNBA five years ago, it was with the knowledge that all of you were my people. I had finally found a place where I was not just "that crazy book lady." Admittedly I still a crazy book lady but I get to be surrounded by other dynamic book women (and a few men) as we read and meet and grow, personally and professionally, thanks to the WNBA -- something that makes me just a shade less crazy, I think. As I head into the first year of my term as President, I am in awe of all the great things we do on a local, national, and global level. Our connection with the UN and support of women's issues across the world, our commitment to rewarding the people who make reading and literacy a priority in our society today, and our wonderful, ever-expanding network of contacts and friends in our own community and across the country are impressive achievements indeed. I look forward to playing a bigger part in the continued growth of this amazing organization.

Here in Charlotte, the events committee has been working hard to pull together some fantastic looking events for the year. Between the Networking Social in September, our team participation in the Friends of the Library's Rock and Read 5K in September, our signature BiblioFeast in October, a Food and Cook-book related event in November, and our ongoing Great Group Reads book club, there should be something to interest everyone and I hope to see you at any and all of these. I'll be the one with a book stashed in my purse (just in case there's any reading time, of course) and a happy shine in my eyes, surrounded by so many fantastic book people.

June 2013 National Meeting Recap

In June, several board members including President Kristen Knox, Vice President Emily Pearce, Treasurer Quinlan Lee, and National VP Carin Siegfried travelled to Nashville, TN to attend the annual Women's National Book Association annual meeting.

At the meeting, the following topics were addressed:

1. Preplanning for the WNBA's 100th anniversary, which is in 2017
2. Overall finances of the WNBA and individual chapters, which resulted in a small increase in membership dues for the forthcoming year. (More information on annual membership follows.)
3. Planning for annual events, such as the Pannell Award (which recognizes the work of booksellers who stimulate, promote and encourage children's and young people's interest in books), the Eastman Grant (a \$500 award to a library association) and the 2nd annual writing contest.
4. Discussion of how to encourage and perpetuate leadership on the Board-level within individual chapters

Traveling to the National Meeting gave us some great ideas specifically for our Charlotte membership. We plan on expanding benefits to our members via members only gatherings and by offering better visibility for members' new publications. We also heard some good ideas on how to make the administrative end of things run smoother and how to plan for the future. We continued to discuss how to balance programs to benefit both readers and writers, something I think we already do pretty well here in Charlotte. And we started to think about how we as a chapter will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the organization.

If you would like additional information on what happened at this meeting, feel free to reach out to our board. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

September Meeting and Special 5K Event

September 9, Monday – WNBA Charlotte Annual Fall Networking Event

Our annual Fall social networking meeting is a great time to see fellow members after our time off during the summer months. Don't miss this popular get-together!

When: 7:00-8:30 PM

Where: **New location!** The Peculiar Rabbit in Plaza Midwood

<http://www.thepeculiarrabbit.com>

1212 Pecan Ave, Charlotte, NC 28205

Ph: 704-333-9197

What: We will gather on the outdoor patio at the street level, or in the first floor private dining room, in case of rain. Plenty of convenient parking on surrounding streets.

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Upcoming Events (continued)

September 14, Saturday – Annual Rock & Read 5K in Plaza Midwood with Friends of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library – AM time and more details to come

Join the WNBA-Charlotte team to raise money for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library! We're already gathering a team of walkers and runners and it is not too late to join (even day of). Of note, at the event, there will also be a table where you can renew your membership, buy your BiblioFeast ticket, or just say hi!

(Please note, the WNBA-Charlotte did not select Sept. 14 as the event date and regrets that it falls on Yom Kippur.)

October is National Reading Group Month! Plan to attend our PREMIER event of the year!

BIBLIOFEAST 2013: A Literary "Moveable Feast"

WNBA Charlotte's Annual Book & Author Dinner Celebrating 2013 National Reading Group Month

The WNBA-Charlotte is proud to sponsor our fourth annual BIBLIOFEAST book and author dinner in celebration of WNBA's National Reading Group Month. Our very successful 2012 BIBLIOFEAST featured 8 authors and was attended by 60+ people. This year we're hoping to get bigger and better and can already announce 4 of 8 planned authors! Authors confirmed so far:

Tommy Hays, WHAT I CAME TO TELL YOU, Egmont USA

Cassandra King, MOONRISE, Maiden Lane Press

Rebecca Lee, BOBCAT AND OTHER STORIES, Algonquin Books

John Milliken Thompson, LOVE AND LAMENT, Other Press

WHEN: Monday evening, October 14, 2013, 6:00-9:00 PM

WHERE: Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant, SouthPark Mall, Charlotte

WHAT: A "moveable feast" dinner featuring 8 authors

Open to both WNBA members and the public; book clubs encouraged!

Ticketed event with member discounted tickets – tickets will be available starting in September on our website and at Park Road Books

Books will be sold at the event by Park Road Books

We'll update our list of guest authors as we confirm the rest. Check the WNBA Charlotte website for more information: <http://wnba-charlotte.org/wnba/calendar/bibliofeast-2013-monday-october-14-2013/>

We hope to see you there!

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Upcoming Events (continued)

November Meeting

November 11 -- Happy & Healthy Holidays Start Here!

Still, in development, at this meeting we plan to invite local food bloggers to join us to discuss good food, good cookbooks and books about food, while leading us in come cooking demos. Stay tuned to Facebook and our website for additional details about this event.

WHERE and WHEN: Whole Foods near SouthPark, 6:30-8:15pm

WNBA Charlotte Book Club

The WNBA-Charlotte Book Club continues reading from the Great Group Reads list and it's not too late to join the group! Meetings are at 7pm at Panera 5940 Fairview Rd. (by South Park Mall) on the first Tuesday of each month and are open to all! Books beyond October will be announced (and determined at a future book club meeting in early Fall) after the 2013 list is published.

We are reading:

September 3: *Boleto* by Alison Hagy

October 1: *In the Shadow of the Banyan* by Vaddey Ratner

We just read:

December 4: *I Married You For Happiness* by Lily Tuck

January 8: *The Orchardist* by Amanda Coplin

February 5: *Blue Asylum* by Kathy Hepinstall

March 5: *The Art of Fielding* by Chad Harbach

April 2: *Equal of the Sun* by Anita Amirrezvani

May 7: *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* by Jeannette Winterson

June 4: *An Age of Madness* by David Maine

July 2: *The Dovekeepers* by Alice Hoffman

August 6: *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward

Kristen Knox is our Book Club Chair. If you have questions or would like to join the club, please contact her at whitreidsmama@yahoo.com.

Writing Contest

Announcing the 2nd Annual WNBA Writing Contest

Enter WNBA's 2013 WRITING CONTEST!! (<http://www.wnba-books.org/contest>)

Submission Period: August 15th – November 15th, 2013

- Online submissions only
- Unpublished work only
- Fiction: 2,500 word limit – short fiction only; no novel excerpts or memoirs
- Poetry: 3- 5 pages maximum
- Your entry must be uploaded without your name, address, or contact information on the actual document.
- Your contact information will be collected on a separate form when you submit your entry. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
- You may submit more than one entry, however, each one must be separately submitted and paid.
- Acceptable formats are: Word Document 2007, Word Document 2003 or earlier version, RTF (Rich Text Format)

2013 JUDGES

Fiction: [Meg Waite Clayton](#)

Poetry: [Molly Peacock](#)

2013 ENTRY FEE

Women's National Book Association Members: \$15 per entry

Non-Members: \$20 per entry

Entries are submitted online at this link: [Submit Your Entry](#)

PRIZE: \$250 cash prize and publication in the *Bookwoman*, the official publication of the Women's National Book Association, with 10 chapters nationwide.

Contest winners will be announced March 2014.

Questions? E mail Contest Chairperson: joan@joangelfand.com

Thank you for your submissions! Proceeds from the contest help support scholarships for writing conferences and other professional development training.

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Writing Contest (continued)

WNBA 2012 Writing Contest Winners

Fiction

Winning Entry: Jessica Wallin Mace for "A Prize in Every Box"

Second Place: Anne Pound for "Beauty"

Third Place: Deborah Batterman for "All Mine"

Poetry

Winning Entry: Ellaraine Lockie for "Abandoned Garden"

Second Place: Harriet Shenkman for "Mirror, Mirror"

Third Place: Ruth Hill for "Light Bends around Shadows"

Honorable Mention: Amy Wright "Airport Proposal"

A downloadable pdf of the writers' biographies is available [here](#).

Winning entries have been published in a special edition of [The Bookwoman](#)

Congratulations to all our members!

Member News

WNBA-Charlotte Secretary Holly Hughes had her short story, Finger Paint, published in the inaugural issue of [Stone Crowns Magazine](#) in early August. Fellow WNBA member Betsy Thorpe helped to edit.

WNBA At-Large Board Member Carol Baldwin will be teaching fiction writing at Charlotte Piedmont Community College this fall. Visit <http://www.cpcc.edu/cce/personal-enrichment/cce/courseschedule> to learn about her course, which targets the intermediate writer and other available writing classes at CPCC to further develop your talent.

WNBA Member Kim Boykin's novel *THE WISDOM OF HAIR* was picked by Azalea Magazine as a best summer read!

WNBA Member Karen Scoscia was interviewed about her book *Kidnapped by the Cartel* by the blog, <http://womenincrimeink.blogspot.com/2013/08/writer-karen-scioscia-discusses-her.html>

Want to be featured in the next newsletter? Send your news item to Jessica Daitch at Jessica_Daitch@yahoo.com. Thanks!

Industry News



As reported by *The Telegraph* (UK), singer Kelly Clarkson purchased a ring at auction known to be worn by Jane Austen, but she wasn't allowed to take it out of England. Following her £150,000 bid, Ed Vaizey, the British Minister of Culture, put a temporary export bar on the ring in an attempt to keep it in Britain. The ring is one of only three surviving pieces of jewelry known to have belonged to the author of *Pride and Prejudice*, having been given to her sister Cassandra and then passed down through the family before it was sold.

Mr Vaizey said: "Jane Austen's modest lifestyle and her early death mean that objects associated with her of any kind are extremely rare, so I hope that a UK buyer comes forward so this simple but elegant ring can be saved for the nation." The decision on the export license will be deferred until September 30 and can be extended to December 30 if proof emerges of "a serious intention to raise funds" to match its six-figure price tag. Basically, if someone English can purchase the ring and keep it in the country, it will go to them instead, provided they agreed to offer it for public display at least 100 days of the year. Clarkson is said to be a huge fan of Austen. When she was barred from taking the ring from the country, her fiancé bought her a replica, which she has been pictured wearing in the US.

Still need something to read? Here are some suggestions for Summer Reads by Publisher's Weekly. (Read [their full list here.](#))

Visitation Street

Ivy Pochoda (Ecco/Dennis Lehane)

Exquisitely written, Pochoda's poignant second novel examines how residents of Brooklyn's Red Hook neighborhood deal with grief, urban development, loss, and teenage angst. In a fit of boredom, 15-year-old best friends Val Marino and June Giatto take a raft out on the bay one July evening, but only Val returns, her unconscious body washed up on the shore. June's disappearance and what might have happened on the raft become the linchpin for Fadi, a Lebanese native who wants his bodega to be the pulse of neighborhood news; Jonathan Sprouse, a Julliard dropout with dark secrets; and 18-year-old Cree James, a kid from the projects who longs for a better life but remains stymied by his father's murder. Pochoda (*The Art of Disappearing*) couples a raw-edged, lyrical look at characters' innermost fears with an evocative view of Red Hook, a traditionally working-class area of Brooklyn undergoing gentrification that still struggles with racism and the aftermath of drug violence. By the end, the gap between "the front" of Red Hook with its well-tended streets near the waterfront and "the back" with its housing projects remains wide. Agent: Kim Witherspoon at Inkwell Management. (July)

Ghost Moth

Michèle Forbes (Bellevue Literary Press)

This amazingly assured first novel is set in Northern Ireland from 1949 to 1986, and is about lost love and the limited consolations of family. After receiving rejections from 38 publishers in the U.K. and Ireland, Forbes (an actress) got a tip from Paul Harding of *Tinkers* fame at the Dublin Writers' Festival, which led her to send the manuscript to Bellevue.

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Industry News (continued)

Burial

Claire Donato (Tarpaulin Sky)

Donato's hallucinatory meditation on grief seems like a strange summer read, but her poetic, trance-inducing language turns a reckoning with the confusion of mortality into readerly joy at the sensuality of living. Also, it's small and fits in most pockets, so you can bring it pretty much everywhere, which I plan on doing and highly recommend.

Red Sparrow

Jason Matthews (Scribner)

The freelancer who reviewed this debut spy thriller for PW thought it was the best in the genre he'd read in a long time. The author, a retired CIA officer, told some great stories about his 33 years in the agency at the lunch his publisher hosted for him recently in New York. Each chapter concludes with a recipe for a dish consumed in the text.

WNBA and the U.S. Fund for UNICEF

Did you know that the Women's National Book Association (national) has a special on-going partnership with the **U.S. Fund for UNICEF**? This partnership was conceived and developed in 2004 under the auspices of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF (NGO Section). The Association's role ranges from emergency-relief donations, to UNICEF USA campaign-awareness to literacy advocacy for women and girls (**UNICEF's Afghanistan Education Alliance**).

Malala Yousafzai celebrates her birthday and education for all at the United Nations

Pakistani education activist and violence survivor Malala Yousafzai marked her 16th birthday on July 12, 2013, at United Nations headquarters by giving her first high-level public appearance and statement on the importance of education. Malala became a public figure when she was shot by the Taliban while travelling to school last year in Pakistan – targeted because of her committed campaigning for the right of all girls to an education. Her birthday was declared as "Malala Day" and was observed internationally for the first time on this date.

The President of the General Assembly and the UN Special Envoy for Global Education, with the support of the non-profit organization A World at School, are organizing the UN Youth Assembly, where more than 500 young leaders from around the world will convene to accelerate efforts to get all children, especially girls, in school by 2015. The event is in support of the UN Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative (GEFI)—a five-year global initiative to mobilize efforts and action for education and rally a global movement to achieve quality, relevant and inclusive education for all by 2015.

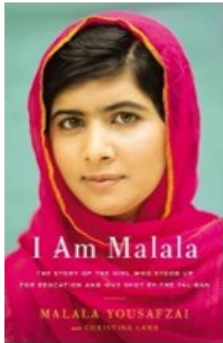
As a member of the Steering Committee that provides strategic direction to the initiative, UN Women has contributed to ensuring that gender equality and women's rights dimensions of education are prioritized in all efforts. See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2013/7/malala-day-event#sthash.JW9EgCZ6.dpuf>

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WNBA and the U.S. Fund for UNICEF

Malala Yousafzai, the young education rights campaigner from Pakistan, during her meeting with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at UN headquarters on 12 July 2013.

(Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe)



I Am Malala: The Story of the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban

by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb

I AM MALALA is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, and of Malala's parents' fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons. It will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.

Little, Brown and Company

On Sale Date: October 8, 2013

\$26.00 Hardback

Biography & Autobiography / Personal Memoirs

July 2013. (Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe)

Blurbilicious

Thank you to WNBA-Charlotte Vice President Emily Pearce for the below book review.

Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Won't Stop Talking

by Susan Cain



While at the WNBA national board meeting in Nashville, I bought *Quiet* in the bookstore co-owned by Ann Patchett, award-winning novelist and winner of the 2013 WNBA Award. She told me *Quiet* is the unofficial theme book of Par-nassus Books, which she described as "owned by two introverts, staffed with introverts, who sell products created by introverts to introverts."

Armed with loads of research, author Susan Cain makes the argument that, in a culture where extroversion is celebrated and idealized, quiet people have a unique skill set that is much in need. Though the research details at times get tedious, as a whole, I found the book enlightening and empowering.

Continued next page

Blurbilicious (continued)

According to Cain, introverts often have to develop extrovert skills (like public speaking) to make their way through life. If they have more self-awareness of their own assets and needs, though, introverts can adapt more easily to their environment and find arenas where their skills shine. If you're an introvert, or have a loved one who is (and let's face it, there are a lot of us), *Quiet* is well worth reading.

(Contact Jessica at Jessica_Daitch@yahoo.com if you would like to contribute the next book review.)

Join the WNBA-Charlotte

The WNBA-Charlotte is stronger than ever and we are thrilled to welcome current and new members to each and every meeting. Since 2009, we've welcomed enthusiastic professionals representing many different aspects of the book world. Our group claims writers, editors, publishers, agents, publicists, librarians, reviewers, reporters, and avid readers. As you read our newsletter, don't forget to mark your calendars for upcoming events, including BiblioFeast in October! Also, we're always seeking feedback and leadership! Reach out to us at wnbacharlotte@gmail.com if you have a great idea for a future program or if you'd like to join the board.

Our programming year always starts in September, which means it is time to renew your membership. Your membership supports the national WNBA and also allows the WNBA-Charlotte to host events. For example, we often need to pay room rental fees or travel expenses for authors attending BiblioFeast.

Joining the WNBA Charlotte Chapter is easy. There are several ways to join or renew your membership:

- Go to our website at www.WNBA-Charlotte.org and complete the online membership form, submitting your payment through PayPal.
- Print out the form, fill it out, and send it to us with your check payable to WNBA. Mail it to Park Road Books, Attn: WNBA, 139 Park Road, Charlotte, NC 28209
- Request a printed membership form by emailing: wnbacharlotte@gmail.com
- Fill out a membership form any of our meetings, make a check out to WNBA, and give it to any board member in attendance.

Our membership rate is \$42 per year; Seniors 65+ and enrolled students: \$25 per year. Please note, that our general membership went up by \$2 to help support a technology upgrade for the national WNBA that will benefit all members as they are developing a much more user friendly membership network.

Why Join? Meet like-minded people and help bring fun, book/literacy-focused events to the community while learning more about the book world through our regular members' meetings. Whether you're a book industry professional, a book club member, or someone who loves books, you're welcome in WNBA! As a member of the Charlotte Chapter, you are automatically a member of the national WNBA as well. Your dues entitle you to full access to the national website (www.wnbabooks.org), including the password protected member directory used for networking opportunities.

We hope you'll extend your membership and join us regularly for events!

Member Testimonial: "Having moved from New York seven years ago, and working my whole professional life in book publishing, I was afraid it would be hard to find people who love books and the business of books (authors, agents, editors, sales, reviewers, publicists) away from New York. But I quickly found that there are so many people in the Charlotte area who are connected with books. I was particularly impressed by our amazing turnout for our book publishing business panel, co-hosted with the Charlotte Writer's Club. I was really overwhelmed - over 200 people attended! The WNBA -Charlotte chapter has helped establish our city as a destination for those who love books."- *Betsy Thorpe, WNBA-Charlotte founding member*

Want to know what's going on with WNBA-Charlotte? Visit our website <http://WNBA-Charlotte.org>, which has up to date information about upcoming and past events. You can learn more about membership and the National WNBA as well. Also, check out the blog roll and let us know if you need to be added! Our email is wnbacharlotte@gmail.com.

Presently, we are adding a Member Network to the website so that we can match names with faces and detail top-line information about member expertise. If you would like to be included, please send the below information to Emily Pearce at emilyspearce@yahoo.com

Name

Preferred contact (email or phone)

Brief job description (ideally 10 words or less)

Select, personal web links (e.g., linkedin, your blog, etc.)

.jpg headshot

WNBA Social Media Links:



<http://www.facebook.com/WNBACHarlotte>



Our handle is @WNBA_Charlotte. Also follow the national organization at @WNBA_NATL_UN



Search for: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Womens-National-Book-Association-Charlotte-4187014?goback=%2Eanp_4187014_1354631542583_1

Chapter Footnotes

Have questions or comments? Feel free to send us an email: wnbacharlotte@gmail.com

Your Charlotte Chapter Board and Committee Chairs

President: Kristen Knox, whitreidsmama@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Emily Pearce, emilyspearce@yahoo.com

Secretary: Holly Hughes, hgirlla@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Quinlan Lee, quinlan@adamsliterary.com

Past President : Susan Walker, susan.walker.books@gmail.com

Carin Siegfried is also National Vice President of WNBA for 2012-2014.

We are always looking for more committee members – for more information on a committee or to join, contact the people below!

Community Outreach Chair Jenni Franz, Jennifer.Franz@Baker-Taylor.com

Event Chairs: Susan Walker, susan.walker.books@gmail.com

Holly Hughes, hgirlla@yahoo.com

Membership Chair: Carolyn Abiad, csabiad@gmail.com

National Reading Group Month/Biblio Feast Chair: Susan Walker, susan.walker.books@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor-in-Chief and Publicity Chair: Jessica Daitch, jessica_daitch@yahoo.com

Bookwoman Correspondent: Jessica Daitch, jessica_daitch@yahoo.com

Website Chairs: Susan Walker, susan.walker.books@gmail.com

Susan Vitale, vitalesa@earthlink.net

WNBA-Charlotte Book Club Chair: Kristen Knox, whitreidsmama@yahoo.com

At-Large Board members: Amanda Sullivan, amanda.sullivan@baker-taylor.com

Carol Baldwin, cbaldwin6@carolina.rr.com