

## **CATE BOARD REPORTS – DECEMBER 2011**

November 7, 2011

TO: CATE Board

FROM: Carol Jago, *California English* editor

RE: December board report

The winter issue of *California English* featured articles exploring evergreen ideas for good teaching. I think you will find the articles cover a range of topics that continue to challenge members however the educational landscape alters. It includes both familiar writers (Bill Younglove and Cathy Dudden Rowlings) as well as many new voices. The artist was a colleague of mine at Santa Monica High School. The shape of her work inspired a slightly different design for the cover. Hope you like it.

Tammy Harvey continues to handle *California English* advertising. It is a difficult time for publishers, but the Peace Corps and surprising others continue to place ads. Alas, income from advertising is not a very dependable source of revenue for CATE.

The next issue of the magazine will showcase the convention and include a full listing of the conference program. I'm working with Cheryl Hogue Smith to make this happen smoothly and accurately. I am really looking forward to presenting on the magazine at CATE2012 in Ontario — both to encourage new writers and to garner new reviewers for manuscripts.

### ***California English***

#### **Call for manuscripts, February 2012**

#### **Crossing Boundaries: a Passport to Professional Development That Matters, (deadline December 1, 2011)**

This issue will focus on the CATE2012 conference theme, “Crossing Borders” and will include the convention program. We would like to feature essays by teachers reflecting upon the kinds of professional development that makes a difference in your teaching life. Where did you learn how to teach writing? How do you discover new titles for your curriculum? Whose guidance inspires you and helps you to do the work you love?

Manuscripts are peer reviewed. Please send submissions to California English editor, Carol Jago. Articles should be limited to 2,500 words. Please submit manuscripts via email to [jago@gseis.ucla.edu](mailto:jago@gseis.ucla.edu).

## **December Board Report- Convention Coordinator Punky Fristrom**

Great progress has been made in planning for CATE 2012. All major speakers are now in place. Cheryl Smith, the program chair, has an excellent slate of presenters for the workshops. Jayne Marlink has an excellent Preconvention planned. The flyer has been distributed and registrations are coming in at a good rate. As of 11/12/11 22 exhibitors have signed contracts for 23 booths. Exhibitors have been offered the opportunity to advertise their booths on a special exhibitors' page in the convention program. This is the result of Charleen's discussions with Prad Kansara.

Following instructions from the board;

- I signed a contract with Curtin to be exhibit hall decorator until 2016. Terms are the same as in the past years.
- I signed a revised contract with the Santa Clara Convention Center for 2013. We have given up the exhibit hall on Thursday, which means move-in will be Thursday night. In return we received a change in the contract, which should bring us \$6,600, a delay in when deposits are due and a payment of \$4,000 from the company that will use the hall on Thursday. The contract with Curtin guarantees that the maximum we will pay extra for a night move-in in 2013 is \$4,000.
- I am working with Michelle Berry and Cheryl Smith as new convention consultants.
- I also continue working with Cindy preparing her to be registrar for 2012.

### **MAL BOARD REPORT – Ron Lauderbach**

San Diego continues to work on membership. We have a couple of new board members. We anticipate a good attendance for our writing contest award ceremony. Several of us are busy evaluating student essays so we can have them read at the December CATE board meeting.

### **GSDCTE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE – Lisa Ledri-Aguilar**

I returned from NCTE, and it was good to see so many CATE members at this convention. My board report is as follows: We had a great turn out for the Fall Promising Practices conference, starring Jim Burke as our keynote speaker. We cut our time down from an all day event to a half day event, and we charged less to all attendees. Everyone seemed very pleased to be there, including the new teachers and teachers-in-training. We are hard at work promoting the CATE Convention in February, and many of us are evaluating the creative efforts of young writers for our March 2 GSDCTE Writing Awards event held here in San Diego.

This concludes my board report for this quarter.

### **SCTE BOARD REP – Nancy Himel**

SCTE held its Fall Conference on October 22nd, and over 130 people attended. Kelly Gallagher and Neal Shusterman were both terrific. Plans are in the works for our Spring events, our

scholarship tea and our Spring Fling, which will center around The Annenberg Space for Photography in Century City. We have a few Creative Writing Contest entries and nominees for Classroom Excellence and Merit Awards. All in all, things are good with Southland.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT – Carrie Danielson**

Since our last meeting I have edited and sent out minutes from the September meeting, have updated the roster, and have sent both to Cindy. With Punky and Cindy, I have spent hours trying to update the minutes, annual meeting minutes, and policies on CATEweb. This has been much more complicated than any of us imagined, but after the December meeting, we will have the Policies completely up-to-date and more accurate.

#### **CCCTE REPORT – Susan Dillon**

Central Council enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones at Asilomar 60. We raised \$350.00 toward new teacher scholarships to Asilomar 61. We also made arrangements for our Steinbeck conference to be held March 24 at the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies, Martin Luther King, Jr. Library at San Jose State University. We read some great CATE 2012 contest submissions, and we plan to hold our reception for winners and writers of distinction at Mercy High School, San Francisco, in April.

#### **MAL/CONVENTION CONSULTANT REPORT – Michelle Berry**

Since the September Board meeting I have participated in the advisory call, distributed convention flyers to local teachers who are not yet CATE members, and also have received my initial "take care of these things" list from Punky Fristrom for CATE 2012 in Ontario, where I will arrive early Wednesday in order to assist in any/all ways needed while shadowing/learning from the master.

I am eagerly anticipating a terrific convention as I know how hard Kim, Jill, Punky, Anne, Charleen, Cheryl, and Carole have worked thus far.

#### **MAL/SMALL COUNCILS REPORT – Jill Hamilton-Bunch**

Since the September meeting, Kim Flachmann and I have been busily working on plans for the convention. I am looking forward to seeing each of you this weekend.

#### **KERN COUNCIL REPORT - Kim Flachmann**

##### **Board for Kern Council**

**President**     Kim Flachmann     [kflachmann@csub.edu](mailto:kflachmann@csub.edu)

**Vice President**     Jill Hamilton-Bunch     [jhamilto@pointloma.edu](mailto:jhamilto@pointloma.edu)

**Resolutions Chair**     Barbi Lapp     [Barbi\\_Lapp@khsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:Barbi_Lapp@khsd.k12.ca.us)

**Treasurer**     Cheryl Smith     [chsmith@csub.edu](mailto:chsmith@csub.edu)

**Secretary**     Nora Traut     [ntraut@csub.edu](mailto:ntraut@csub.edu)



CATE and Cookies: Dec 8, 2011, 4:00-6:00 w/ drawings for books featured at CATE 2012

Local Meeting with CATE 2012 Subcommittees/Chairs:

December 9, 2011, 9:00-12:00 and 3:00-5:00

### **FACET REPORT – Tish Griggs**

FACET has been on hold this year. We have only two semi-active board members. We have plans to get together over break and figure out a way to jump start this poor little wreck of what was once a roaring council. Retirement and the computer age have hit us hard. Not to worry, our San Joaquin Valley Writing Council is still very much alive and I hope to work with their leader to recruit members for CATE. If there is still time to send convention flyers, please send some to me. I regret being unable to attend the Dec. meeting. I have prior commitments made before I knew I'd be called back into service.

### **MAL-ELEMENTARY REPORT – Denise Mikkonen**

Since September I have been working on learning as much as I can about the Common Core Standards. I facilitated a presentation to the principals of our district. It was very exciting to see principals sitting next to teachers looking at standards and having professional discussions. I attended a training at the County Office of Education, and sessions at NCTE all relating to the Common Core. I am working with teachers from several different districts in the county, from elementary to high school exploring the standards specifically writing, to find gaps, see what we are doing well, discover what we need to ramp up and reinforce how we all need to work together.

GSDCTE's Promising Practices was a success with a change in our format and speaker Jim Burke drawing more teachers than we have in the past years. Specifically, the table discussions added another layer to the professional development. All three discussions about writing at my table were completely different and very interesting.

I attended NCTE and was one again inspired with the wonderful things happening in teaching. My suitcase was stuffed with new mentor texts and my brain is full of new possibilities.

### **UPPER REPORT – Shelly Medford**

I wasn't going to submit a report but Tish inspired me. Upper is also on hold this year. Due to family issues and increased professional commitments, for this year I am unable to dedicate the time necessary to create any activity within our council. As we are small in number but large and often remote in territory, we struggle with membership and activity anyway. While I am unable to attend board meetings and conference this year, I plan to be back at the beginning of the next school year. I am reading reports and keeping abreast of board and council activities and will send someone to fill in (should anyone respond to my request to do so).

Take care everyone. Have a great December meeting and a wonderful Christmas,  
DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

## **RESOLUTIONS CHAIR – Bill Foreman**

### **CATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE**

Whereas the study of literature allows students to experience the ideas and identities of people unlike themselves, and

Whereas the most engaging and valuable literature challenges readers to think beyond the bounds of their routine experience,

Whereas multicultural literature represents the home cultures of many students in California schools, and

Whereas reading about the experience of people from a variety of cultures and subcultures helps prepare California children to live in the pluralistic society that California is and most certainly will be in the coming years, and

Whereas multicultural literature is a frequent target of challenges to the curriculum—titles like *Bless Me Ultima*, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*, and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* have been challenged in recent times, and,

Whereas the actions of extremist political groups have had a chilling effect on teachers in some communities, threatening not only to remove literature from schools but to attack the credentials of individual teachers, and

Whereas the newly adopted Common Core State Standards will reduce the total amount of imaginative literature available for students to read in English language arts classes.

Resolved, that the California Association of Teachers of English (CATE) calls on local schools and districts to support teachers in as they choose multicultural literature for students to read and hear in their schools, and to defend the expertise of local teachers to choose literature appropriate for their classrooms, and

Be It Further Resolved that this resolution be disseminated to media outlets, the California Department of Education, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, and every county office of education in California.

## **VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT – December, 2011**

Submitted by Liz McAninch

I made arrangements for the December meeting with the Doubletree Hotel in Burlingame. I was able to negotiate a good room rate, but the hotels all seem to be raising the cost of food and beverages. Nevertheless, I have enjoyed working with the staff in planning and arranging the details of the meeting. I do appreciate all of you that respond promptly to my requests for information from you. Meeting the hotel deadlines keeps CATE in good standing.

In my role as Past President of CCCTE, I worked with Central members to prepare Chiyo baskets to raffle at the CSC conference at Asilomar in late September. I co-hosted Central's November meeting in San Francisco, where we discussed resolutions with Bill Foreman and also judged CATE Writing Contest entries. President Susan Dillon will bring our local winners to the December board meeting. We also worked on the Steinbeck Saturday set for March 24, 2012 at the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies at San Jose University.

I also represented CCCTE at the NCTE Conference in Chicago in the business meeting and other affiliate events, as our President Susan Dillon was unable to attend. Rich conversation and bright ideas added to the excitement of the 100th Anniversary of the organization. I heard good speakers to recommend to the CATE 2013 chairs, attended excellent sessions, and mailed a heavy parcel of free books and materials that would have been too heavy to carry home on the plane.

### **CATE ADVISORY BOARD REPORT: Conference call - November 14, 2011**

**Present:** Michelle Berry, Bob Chapman, Charleen Delfino, Kim Flachmann, Bill Foreman, Anne Fristrom, Punky Fristrom, Liz McAninch, Joan Williams, Bill Younglove

**Absent:** Jill Hamilton-Bunch, Jim Kliegl

1. Charleen will print certificates for all award winners at CATE. In addition, she will print the invitations to the President's Reception, which will be sent to all of the speakers, award winners, local committee members and CATE board.
2. The President's Reception will not be held in the Hospitality Suite.
3. CATE will not host a party for the Exhibitors this year.
4. A decision will not be made regarding the film, American Teacher, until it's clear what the total cost of the showing would be.
5. Bev Kreps from Central Council and Charleen Delfino attended the CETA (Calif Educational Theater Assn.) convention. Charleen reports that it was small, but they provided CATE with a prominent space. Charleen also reported that they had a hosted bar.
6. Advisory Board recommendation to Hospitality Committee: There is no need to provide great quantities of food and/or drink. Keep it simple; everyone is heading in to a meal.
7. Charleen Delfino announced that Shelly Medford had resigned from the board. Shelly does hope to return at some point, but family problems prevent her from attending meetings at this point.
8. Bob Chapman announced that Carleen Hemric will be awarded the Distinguished Service Award. He has sent reminders to all Council presidents about Classroom Excellence Awards and CATE Board positions. Bob will bring boxes to the convention.

9. Anne Fristrom has filed CATE taxes. The CPA cut the price in half.
10. Liz McAninch brought up a concern regarding Fresno and Upper in terms of representation on the board. In the past year, each of their representatives has attended only one board meeting. Joan Williams will peruse lists from those councils to identify potential local leaders, and work with Charleen and Liz to reach these people. Michelle Berry pointed out that the question of combining Fresno and Tucate has been raised in the past and could be re-visited.
11. Kim Flachmann discussed the convention bookstore problem. Russo's in Bakersfield is a possibility, and Tammy offered the bookstore a discount. Jill and Kim plan to have cloth bags, of which they have many choices. Punky Fristrom maintains that finding a book seller is currently one of the main concerns. Kim praised her local committee. Charleen reminded the chairs that they must find a convention photographer.
12. Punky brought up two more convention issues. One of the presenters asked to sell her books in the hallway after her session. After discussion, idea was nixed. Punky also has found it difficult to reach the Convention Coordinator at the Doubletree in Ontario.
13. 2011 NCTE presenters will post their materials on the NCTE website. We entertained discussion as to the feasibility of doing this for CATE.
14. Joan Williams has received the list of NCTE members in order to make a list of those who are not members of CATE.
15. Joan will order ribbons for the councils at a cost of \$200. At present, Southland and Central are out of ribbons for the convention.
16. Bill Younglove raised a pertinent question: Why can't we roll the last quarterly report and the annual report into one? Although it sounds tempting, Charleen explained why we could not.
17. Bill Foreman has been working on a Resolution based on an issue brought to our attention by Kristy Orona-Ramirez. He will bring a draft to the December Board meeting.
18. Bob Chapman, Charleen Delfino, Bill Younglove and Liz McAninch have plans to attend NCTE in Chicago.

**Submitted by Liz McAninch**

## **CATE MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Joan Williams**

### **December 2011**

#	COUNCIL	9/09	12/09	2/10	4/10	10/10	2/11	4/11	9/11	11/11	+/-
1	Redwood	31	34	22	23	21	18	23	24	28	+4

2 Upper	20	7	17	16	16	---	30	31	30	-1
3 Capitol	70	60	38	43	38	42	88	83	80	-3
4 Central	317	250	180	203	278	281	308	235	252	+17
5 Fresno	36	34	20	31	28	28	26	24	22	-2
6 TUCATE	21	20	19	30	25	24	12	11	9	-2
7 Kern	24	25	31	33	35	29	60	70	68	-2
8 Southland	310	303	226	426	403	416	267	271	334	+63
9 San Diego	106	94	72	80	70	74	75	77	78	+1
50 Out-of-state	17	18	17	21	19	20	15	16	16	--
55 Libraries	20	21	20	20	19	18	17	17	17	--
99 Comps	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>+75</b>

- Congratulations to Redwood, Central, Southland, and San Diego for membership growth!
- Please take membership brochures to distribute.
- Encourage your local council members to choose the 2 year option for membership in order to retain them from north to south shift.

#### **CATE Past-President's Report – Robert Chapman**

- December 2011
- **Welcome, Gratitude & Confusion:**
- As I have stated for the last two years, I give warm thanks to Punky, Charleen and Liz for all the help they give me. I couldn't accomplish much without their support.
- **NCTE Convention:**
- This year's convention in Chicago was the best NCTE I have been to—I expected that from the 100 Year Celebration. I attended official meetings/functions and a startling array of sessions. Charleen, Liz and I split up the official stuff and that allowed each of us to sample the convention more. All of us attended the Affiliate Meeting/Breakfast and the Annual Business meeting, as did a few other members of the CATE BOD. I attended the Advocacy Committee meeting and one training session for members of that committee. With an attendance that was the second largest in NCTE's history, the ability to network with fellow educators was

impressive. I also need to add that CATE was very well represented at the convention – many of our members were there.

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- **CATE Awards/Scholarships:**
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- Awards need to be confidential and no information regarding award recipients will be given here.
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- Distinguished Service Award:
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- All past presidents were contacted and forms were provided. A committee was selected, comprised of Dianne Lucas and Ed Farrell.
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- Councils submitted their nominations and nominations went to the committee and our winner was approved. The winner has been contacted and has accepted the nomination. I will announce the winner at the December meeting to those who do not already know who she is.
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- Classroom Excellence Award:
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- Council Presidents were e-mailed notice of the awards, due dates, which awards their council are responsible for and the forms—these were also distributed at the last BOD meeting. I heard back from one council and will collect nomination forms Saturday in Burlingame. The completed packets are due by our meeting.
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- Award of Merit:
- Again, Council Presidents received notice via e-mail that these nominations are due at the BOD meeting. The packets for these awards will also be due by our December meeting.
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- Virginia Reid:
- This year the Virginia Reid Scholarship is the responsibility of the Smaller Councils (Capitol, FACET, Kern, Redwood, TUCATE and Upper), and I hope a spokesperson from one of these councils will announce their choice at the December BOD meeting.
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- **CATE Elections:**
- Deadline for nomination forms is December 3<sup>rd</sup>. All members of the board have received the materials both at the September BOD meeting and via e-mail. I have received one form directly from the candidate. I need to receive nominations by our December BOD meeting.
- Announcements are on the website, will be in the next edition of *California English*, and in a future posting on CATENet.

- The positions open for the election are:
  - President - July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014
  - Vice President - July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014
  - MAL Secondary - July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015
  - MAL Small Council - July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015
  - MAL Unspecified - July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015
- **May's Electronic/On-Line BOD Meeting:**
  - As I have been looking into our electronic version of our May BOD meeting, I have realized that the choices aren't that easy to distinguish. Whether we choose GoToMeeting or WebEx seems to make little difference. What will make a difference is how committed each of us are to setting up our computers ahead of time and being in front of them for a day's worth of on-line conversations. Some details have yet to be figured out, but I believe our next Advisory Meeting will be our opportunity to test this.
- Bob Chapman, December 1, 2011

