

Reports for CATE Board of Directors Meeting  
February 17-18  
Santa Clara Convention Center & Westin Hotel

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***California English***

Carol Jago, editor

I am so sorry not to be with you all at the convention. I can't remember the last time I miss one, but in a serious calendar miscalculation I agreed to be the keynote speaker for the Georgia Association of Teachers of English this weekend. Please accept my apologies.

The spring issue of *California English* will appear shortly after the convention and include the CATE 2005 Board elections ballot on an inserted center page spread. Anna and I are keeping our fingers crossed that this works and can help save CATE money. The Publications Committee was extremely efficient in getting the Creative Writing Contest winners identified. As a result, I will include as many as I can in this spring issue, the idea being that they should appear while these students are still in class with the teachers who submitted their entries. It may stimulate greater interest in the contest.

In very good news advertising for this issue is up. Heinemann has purchased 3 full-page ads! Let's hope this is a trend for the future.

Please help me circulate the call for manuscripts below and know that as always I am searching for artists. The spring issue will feature a colleague of Faith's.

**Calls for Manuscripts**

**Summer 2005: The Demands of On-Demand Writing  
(deadline April 1)**

Increasingly students are being expected to write on demand. The California STAR writing assessment in grades 4 and 7, the California High School Exit Exam, NAEP writing assessments, English Placement Tests, Subject A exams, and the new SAT and ACT all require students to demonstrate their writing skills by producing a piece of prose. How have these demands influenced your curriculum? What do you do to help prepare students for these high-stakes assessments? What is the state of writing instruction on your campus? How are you managing the paper load?

**Fall 2005: Teaching Literary Analysis through Discussion  
(deadline July 1)**

I know that I do some of my best thinking about literature with my mouth open. How do you foster rich conversations about literature in your classroom? Is it possible to conduct Socratic Seminars

with large classes? What kinds of questioning techniques seem to work best for you? Can students generate their own discussion questions? Tell stories from your classroom about magical moments when students responded powerfully to literature.

**Winter 2005: Students with Special Needs**  
(deadline October 1)

**Spring 2005: Genre Studies**  
(deadline January 1)

Please send all submissions to California English editor, Carol Jago. Articles should be limited to 2,500 words. If possible please submit manuscripts via email to [jago@gseis.ucla.edu](mailto:jago@gseis.ucla.edu). If this is not possible, send 3 copies and a SASE to 15332 Antioch Street #539, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272.

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**President's Report**

Maureen E. Rippee, CATE President

I ended 2004 with a delightfully, productive meeting with Past President Anna Roseboro who handed over all the award documentation received in December, and answered my questions for the preparation of the annual report. The year ended quickly as I began the awesome responsibility of communicating with 120 legislators, awardees, principals, superintendents, conference chairs, Board members, and trying to catch-up on my ever faithful companions—essays. In January, I was invited by Chairwoman, JoAnne Mitchell to present at The Conference of the Living Tree in Ventura. My presentation title was "Poetry: The Soul of Language and Mirror of Self," and I enjoyed meeting more members from that area and answering questions about CATE. JoAnne and I were able to discuss CATE 2006, and I am very pleased with the progress so far.

Most of my time in January and February has been spent preparing for our conference, writing personal letters of invitation, working on the annual report, organizing my office, writing the President's Perspective, preparing for the February Board meeting, and preparing to honor the award winners at the conference. A heartfelt thanks to all of the Board members who continue to offer support and guidance, and to the conference committee who have worked so hard to make this conference one that we can all be proud to be a part of.

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**Past President**

Anna J. Roseboro

Thanks so much to those who have taken the time to complete the applications for awards and to nominate candidates to fill openings on the board.

We look forward to meeting your award winners and to presenting Lorraine Tracey with the Distinguished Service Award during the Saturday banquet.

Remember, that we can accept petitions from candidates for office until 7:59 a.m before the Annual Business Meeting. The following are the positions open: Secretary, Members-at-Large: College, Middle Level, and Unspecified. Because we plan to publish the elections ballot as part of the next issue of CALIFORNIA ENGLISH, it is important that new candidates come with a photo and personal statement ready to send electronically to our editor, Carol Jago.

All candidates will be asked to speak briefly at the business meeting to share their personal statement and reasons they wish to membership to cast its vote for them.

If your council has elected a new president or if your council wishes to have someone else from your council represent you on the CATE Executive Board of Directors, please be sure I have the name of that person, which will appear on the CATE ballot. Most presidents have confirmed the list I sent by e-mail in January.

PLEASE ENCOURAGE ALL WHO ATTEND THE CONVENTION TO COME TO THE BUSINESS MEETING SUNDAY MORNING.

As CATE's liaison with NCTE, I pass along the following announcements:

**AFFILIATE LEADERSHIP MEETING** for Regions 1, 3, 7, or 8, please submit registration forms for the upcoming Affiliate Leadership Meeting in Myrtle Creek, SC, August 12 – 14, 2005. Registration forms are due by May 25, 2005. (We're Region 8 and Carol Jago is our rep to NCTE.)

Please click here to download a registration form, or to find more information about the meeting: <http://www.ncte.org/groups/affiliates/mtgs/111086.htm>.

<http://www.ncte.org/groups/affiliates/resources/110877.htm>.

**COSPONSORED SPEAKER:** If your council also is an NCTE affiliate, will be hosting a meeting or conference in 2005, and would like to learn more about the NCTE Cosponsored Speaker program, please click here:

<http://www.ncte.org/groups/affiliates/mtgs/110644.htm>. The 2005 Cosponsored Speaker brochure will be available online in early March, 2005.

**TO INFORM NCTE OF AN UPCOMING CONFERENCE** and publicize it on the NCTE Affiliate or Assembly future events list, please submit this quick and easy form as soon as possible in advance of your meeting date:

<http://www.ncte.org/groups/affiliates/mtgs/110947.htm>

**Affiliate Exhibit Kits:** Learn more about these complimentary affiliate exhibit kits for your local conferences: <http://www.ncte.org/groups/affiliates/mtgs/110635.htm>. This Web page includes links to order forms.

**NCTE CLASSROOM EXCELLENCE AWARD:** We also can nominate someone from our CATE to receive the NCTE Classroom Excellence Award to be presented at the Secondary Luncheon next November, in Pittsburgh.

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## **CATEweb**

Larry Jordan

The CATE Board roster is available online in a protected area available only to the CATE Board. This roster needs updating and a copy is available for updates.

The CATE Board mailing list is a very useful tool for board members. If you are not on the list, please contact me to join. A list of present members is available. This way, there is no question if you're included in the mailing list.

There are now indexes for past board reports and board minutes. The lists includes all reports or minutes since 1999.

If spam is a problem for your email account, it may be helpful to have a form to contact you rather than have your email address available directly online.

I will again be taking photos for CATEweb throughout the convention. Let me know of any particular needs you may have.

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## **Central California Council Teachers of English**

Charleen Silva Delfino, Council Representative

CCCTE members have been busy supporting our two board members, Michelle Berry and Linda Stockton who are the Chairs of the CATE Convention in Santa Clara. Local teachers serve on committees and encourage colleagues to attend the convention which is not difficult to do considering the wonderful speakers and the great sessions they lined up for the weekend.

We met to read the student entries for the CATE Writing Contest and are pleased that two of our entries are winners. We are now busy planning for the award celebrations that we will have in three locations to honor the student writers. We are hoping that by going to the local communities more students will participate in the awards program and and more teachers will become aware of the contest and will want to participate next year.

Plans are also under way for the Fifty-fifth Annual Asilomar Conference that will take place September 30, Oct. 1 and 2 at the Asilomar Conference grounds on the beautiful Monterey Bay Peninsula. Speakers will include Ishmael Reed, Tobias Wolff, Gail Tsukiyama, Patti Stock, Sheridan Blau and Gabriele Rico. We can't believe our good fortune to have so many writers and teachers taking part in one weekend. We will continue to bring in new teachers to the conference through our Chiyo Masuda Scholarship fund. These scholarships allow us to bring in new teachers as members of CATE and by focusing some scholarships on new teachers of color, we are able to reach the goals that we stated for the year—increase CATE/CCCTE enrollment; support new teachers; reach out to teachers of color.

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## **Southland Council of Teachers of English**

Catherine Linn, Council Representative

Southland continues to be vibrant. We have had a remarkably successful Roundtable in Etiwanda in the fall. Since our December report, several constituents have had informal conversations regarding reflection on our historical vision and best ways for transforming it to meet current cultural and professional demands. We hope to make this a theme for further discussion at our Spring Board Meeting and at our upcoming Leadership Retreat in May.

The Conference of the Living Tree was truly inspirational this year. Held in mid-January at the historical Pierpont Inn in Ventura, one felt a renewed freshness after the ravages of the storms and the ensuing floods. In so many ways, the disquiet of nature formed a

defining contrast with the quiet aesthetic atmosphere of the two days. Conference of the Living Tree is our only conference that provides opportunity for quiet nature walks and reflection; these provide a welcome break from the typical frenetic pace of most conferences and provide a break in the histrionic end of semester grading activities.

Southland has encouraged as many as possible to attend the CATE Convention in Santa Clara in February, where it will host a Hospitality Suite on Friday evening and an Affiliate breakfast on Saturday morning. We have scheduled these in such a way as to facilitate as much networking as possible.

In March, we have scheduled the NCTE Writing Awards Luncheon in Torrance and in early April, we are sponsoring our Spring Fling at the Long Beach Museum of Art and Long Beach Harbor. We will bring the year to an end with a weekend Leadership Retreat in Ontario.

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## **CYRM Meeting Minutes for January 8, 2005**

Submitted by Kathryn Gullo

### I. Call to Order

- Sandra Yoon called the meeting to order at 8:58 AM.

### II. Welcome to presidents, introductions

- Joan Macon, Kathryn Gullo, Carol Doerksen, Peggy Clifford, , Carol Grenfell, Lucy Salvado, , Shelley Osborne, Lori Lim, Jenny Gasset, Judy Kirkman, Sandra Yoon, Francisca Goldsmith, and Carla Hoff
- Jenny introduced Susan Nagree from CLA. Joan Macon introduced Carla Hoff, the newest CRA member.

### III. Approval of Minutes from Oct. 2, 2004 meeting

No minutes were approved since Kathryn has lost the minutes. If you have any notes that you can share so she can reconstruct them.

### IV. Funding and Organization

#### A. Financial Report/Dues and Roles of CRA Office

- Senior members will check to see that dues are paid in a timely manner by reminding their respective offices about annual dues.
- CYRM does not bill; we expect automatic payment
- CRA maintains the accounts.
- The Secretary/Treasurer will contact Kathy at the CRA Office to follow up about any unpaid bills and will contact the senior members of organizations on any payments that need to be made.

#### B. Publications

- Carol G will email number of resource books left so we can make a more exact order next year.

#### C. Web Page and Web Maintenance

- Jenny reported that Pamela Green has put up info. Right now she's reformatting content from reproducible packet, order forms and ballots.

- The website will be at [www.caliorniareader.org](http://www.caliorniareader.org)
- Sample three is work in progress and will be completed by 1/11/05 or by February 1. The website will go live at that point.
- Announcements about the website will be made to offices.
- If you have any feedback, please submit it by 1/15 to give Pam time to fine tune the site.

#### D. Dues and role of CRA office

- We covered how jobs rotate and how meetings rotate

### V. Correspondence

#### A. Chair's report on notification

- Armin has correspondence binder. He will pass it on to the next person as he moves on.
- Of upcoming nominees, David McPhail wrote a letter. Deb Coletti called and said that it felt good to know that students would be reading her book. Sue Corbett just contacted by publisher and sent a letter and a reader's guide.
- In original letter of notification that the publisher would defray costs, follow through that it's clear
- Joan drafted a letter to publishers.

#### B. Other correspondence:

- Of all contacts only Scholastic did not send anything at this time. All responses to requests for books are done by email. Armin has copies of emails for files. He's finishing up copies correspondence for each organization. He will have them at the April meeting and will bring CATE's for conference.
- We received good responses to requests for books, but we will pursue it earlier next time.

### VI. Publicity

New nominees will be announced on February 1. CRA will announce.

### VII. Old business

#### A. Conference reports :

- CRA: ~150 people. Usual amount for banquet. Ashley Wolff was the substitute speaker for Sharon Creech. In spite of AV issues, the banquet went well. The 7-12 session was better attended; roughly 30 people or more attended. ~2000 total attendees.
- CLA: Overall great conference. Good programs. Instead of poster session, they did a program with a large turnout, good outreach. The presentation demonstrated readers theater, ideas for promotion. The presentation will be repeated next year. Had PBOR and Middle School: Susan Stevens Crummel and Wendelin Van Draneen. Van Draneen said that it meant a lot to win award since she is a Californian. (Be sure to mention illustrator. Have it on the program).
- CSLA: 3 workshops. ~30, ~40, 8 on overview. Over 300 people. Lensey Namioka was very entertaining. Booth was good.
- CATE: will be 2/19. Santa Clara. Recruiting new members. Lots of contact

with publishers as there was an overnight stay involved. The session will be a bit longer and will take place right after luncheon starts at 2:00 PM.

#### B. Resource book editor

- Kathryn recommended that Lori Artzner be selected. Armin moved to approve, Francisca seconded. It was approved by the whole committee in a voice vote.

#### C. Resource book assignments and timeline

- Assignments are due by February 15. Please email them to shaylan94@yahoo.com

### VIII. New Business

#### A. Revision of CYRM committee "Policies and Guidelines"

- Copies were handed out. We cleaned it up, but Sandra's secretary will retype and make changes as noted. Stopped at IIICYRM relationship with CRA Office. Will be reviewed at a later date.
- We also discussed whether or not it would be possible for organizations to switch appointment dates. We decided that it was an internal discussion by organization. CLA may switch to a change at the January meeting since it more closely aligns with their other appointments. They will inform the committee if there are any changes.
- Armin moved to approve the changes and Jenny seconded it. It was approved by the whole committee in a voice vote.

#### B. Review of future dates for meetings, etc.

- In spite of previously deciding that we would use the same hotels, the committee has decided that we are open to changes in location for cost benefits.
- The April meeting will be at CRA. Carol G will be making arrangements. The meeting will be on April 9th.
- In July, a subcommittee will meet at CRA, Joan, Jenny, Carol and Kathryn along with Lori A. to go over the resource book.
- In June we will put together the schedule for next year's meetings. We will work something that is most beneficial for the committee.
- June meeting place is still to be arranged (June 4th remains). Francisca will send recommendations for places and will arrange dinner for the Friday before.

#### C. Promotional Ideas

- The general response to the Resource Book has been positive. The footer at the end of each page make it easier to use.
- We decided to add discussion questions in lieu or in addition to writing prompts. Jenny is going to do for Intermediate/Middle/PBOR/YA.
- Anniversary booklets: Fedex had delivery issues. Jenny will update with new labels for November. She has box for CATE.

#### D. Review and revision of Preliminary Nominee List.

When sending nominees, be sure to include the publisher and year.

#### E. Booktalk

## IX. Announcements

- Joan has passed off the pin bag to Carla.
- We wished farewell to Joan with a gift.

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### **Redwood Council of Teachers of English**

Jenny McBride, Council Representative

Redwood Council is pleased to honor Diana Hight as our Classroom Excellence Award winner this year. She is a well-known and well-loved teacher within our community. I will be accepting the award on her behalf, as she will be in Hawai'i during the convention.

I represented CATE during a presentation at California School Library Association's convention in Sacramento in 2004. Mary Ann Harlan, Chair of Governmental Relations Committee, and I co-presented about books for reluctant readers and collaboration between library media teachers and English teachers. We spoke to one hundred LMTs and received positive reviews (still waiting to hear from Vegas). On February 3rd, we gave a similar presentation to forty teacher credential candidates at Humboldt State University.

The Creative Writing Contest was successful. Many writers submitted their work and we had high attendance at the award ceremony.

Vice-president Cheryl Schachter and I spoke to Humboldt State University's English credential candidates about the benefits being CATE members. We also emphasized that English teachers have a professional obligation to support CATE.

Bob Chapman and Joan Williams are conducting a CATE meeting on February 10th. Members will meet at a local restaurant to discuss the future of Redwood Council.

Redwood teachers are looking forward to another wonderful convention.

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### **CATE MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Joan Williams, Membership Chair

#	COUNCIL	2/2002	2/2003	2/2004	1/2005	DIFF
1	Redwood	23	25	25	27	+2
2	Upper	43	41	29	23	-6
3	Capitol	123	102	91	89	-2
4	Central	767	705	531	461	-70
5	Fresno	50	41	59	44	-15
6	TUCATE	33	35	14	14	0
7	Kern	36	33	26	20	-6
8	Southland	598	512	482	460	-22
9	San Diego	357	158	138	160	+22



50 Out-of-state	21	19	25	21	-4
55 Libraries	28	25	28	23	-5
99 Comps	2	2	2	3	+1
TOTAL	2081	1698	1450	1345	-105

- CATE has lost 105 members as shown in the January membership totals; however, I suspect that some new memberships will surface with the convention so that the February totals will be a little closer to our actual numbers, but we do continue to lose members.
- The new membership brochure is ready. It features the convention in Anaheim along with a few changes that update our information. For example, I included our web address as a source of information and as a place to join/renew.
- Our renewal reminder forms have been revised to delete inaccurate information and will no longer include the membership chair's name on them. Instead they direct people to the website.
- Membership cards are currently being reprinted and will not include the membership chair's name. Instead, I will ask Precision to include a letter from the membership chair that gives information pertinent to their membership.
- Board members need to sign up to assist at the CATE booth. We will be selling Lucinda and READ and WRITE pins as well as the popups. The calculators will also be distributed at the booth.
- Membership chairs will receive invitations with their registration packet to join me in the presidential suite If you have not given me the name of your membership chair, please do so at the beginning of the board meeting so that I can deliver the invitation.
- I am now receiving bad address information on a monthly basis. I will distribute those as I receive them.
- Note when you receive your council reports that your councils have been renumbered to correspond to the numbers on the map in the CATE brochure.

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## **CATE Convention Coordinator's Report**

Teisha Hase, Convention Coordinator

At this time I am certain that, like being a yearbook advisor or a parent, no one can understand the enormity of the job of Convention Coordinator without being the Convention Coordinator, (though the treasurer, having been married to the convention coordinator, comes close to complete understanding.) Really the debt that CATE owes Punky Fristrom rivals California's deficit. My husband, Eddie, your CATE registrar, was truly taken aback by my "job" and my children wondered how much I was getting paid for the hours I spent in front of the computer.

The last two and a half months have been FILLED with CATE business! I'm certain I wrote more than a thousand emails, easily 200 to Punky alone, who has been an incredibly patient teacher. Two things I know: the registrar and Convention Coordinator cannot have only dialup service, and cannot survive another convention where we are unable to check our emails on different computers simultaneously. When I was doing my "job" it limited Eddie's ability to do his, and vice versa. This has to be the last year this happens.

CATE has been extremely lucky in that the Westin sales staff is very competent, and has been patient with "training up" a new convention coordinator. Sacha Chin has worked patiently with me and has helped put together a great program. If you see her thank her for her efforts.

And speaking of the program, it has been my HUGE honor, and good fortune to have worked with two women who are so hard working and skilled. Carole LeCren designed a beautiful and meticulous printed program. Carole could not have done it without the incredible efforts of Cheryl Joseph and Punky Fristrom who took countless hours assigning presenters to rooms, and arranging their AV needs and then keeping Carole up to date on necessary changes. This is incredibly tedious work, and each board member should thank Carole, Cheryl and Punky for making CATE look so good—the program is gorgeous.

The help of the president and cochairs has also been invaluable. I wish I had a dollar for every email I have exchanged with Michelle, Linda and Maureen. I'd have a tidy sum.

By and large the planning and preparation for 2005 has been positive, though frenetic, with the exception of the tactics of the UNITE HERE leadership who continue to tell half truths to whoever they can get to listen. Luckily, most of our speakers were quite understanding of CATE's position regarding their request for a boycott of the Westin SC.

Of note is the savings we have racked up by having the tickets, invitations and onsite reg forms printed in Chico. These were so much less expensive than in the south, that I had them give a cost estimate for what they would have charged to print the 2004 program. This I will take to the convention committee and discuss the possibility of having the 2006 program printed up in Chico where it is cheaper.

Furthermore, our booths continue to sell; we will likely end up with as many booths as we had last year (or perhaps more). In addition, we picked up a sponsor for Andrew Clements' luncheon, Simon & Shuster. And Apple computer will be gifting something as well.

Along with convention details, I have screened prospective Exhibit's Managers for 2006 and beyond, and Punky and I will meet with or speak via conference call to the candidates. We will bring a name to Thursday's meeting for approval.

Below please find recent (2/13) figures for CATE 2005, and some points for discussion for the Board meeting.

### **2005 Registration Figures as of 02/13/05**

Package A	38
Package B	143

Package C	95
A la Carte	357
<u>St. Teachers</u>	<u>46</u>
Total	778

### **Westin Room Pick-up information as of 02/14/05**

Wed 2/16	47 rooms	
Thur 2/17	221 rooms	
Fri 2/18	304 rooms	
Sat 2/19	263 rooms	
<u>Sun 2/20</u>	<u>4 rooms</u>	
Total	839 rooms	High of 904 on 2/7/05 (63 cancellations)

### **Other Sponsorship Issues**

Letter  
Grant writing WAMU

### **2005 Other**

UNITE HERE and Starwood properties implications for the future

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### **Greater San Diego Council of Teachers of English**

Philip D. Bowles, President & Representative

Promising Practices XVII was held December 7-8 at Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, featuring Carol Booth Olson (reading-writing connection), Cindy Marten (spelling), Edith Hope Fine (English word study via Greek and Latin roots and affixes), and Farrell Foreman (his historical research informs his new play on the African American community of Virginia City, Nevada, c. 1860). About 60 people attended.

The presentation of local CATE Creative Writing Contest winners, who read their prize-winning manuscripts aloud, will be held on Friday, February 25, at the San Diego County Department of Education. Dr. Carl Winderl, former poet in residence for the Boston Public Schools, will be the guest speaker. Arrangements were made by Don Mayfield.

The Lake Arrowhead Retreat, sponsored by GSDCTE, is scheduled for April 22-24 with Carole LeCren in charge.

The Annual Awards Dinner will be held as usual at the University of San Diego at the end of the school year: tentatively Wednesday, June 1.

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### **TUCATE Council**

Carol Surabian, TUCATE President

TUCATE continues to struggle with membership issues.

We are happy to acknowledge Kathy Smith-Schero as our Classroom Excellence award winner. Kathy drove me to my very first CATE Convention (also at Santa Clara) and I have fond memories of her instructive directions on making my first convention unforgettable.

We hope to bring up our numbers through various means, but at present, it feels like we are paddling upstream, and the paddle is disintegrating.

We wish everyone a successful convention.

See you in Santa Clara

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