

English News
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“And He departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here.” ~St Augustine

Department News

The Paul W. Nisly Endowment for Literature, Vocation, and Reconciliation.

In recognition of Professor Paul Nisly's distinguished career, the English Department is proud to report that we are four-fifths towards our goal on the Paul W. Nisly Endowment. The purpose of this fund is to promote further understanding of the writing and study of literature as a form of Christian vocation. It especially promotes activities that encourage

inquiry into how this vocation is related to the task of peacemaking, the quest for social justice, and the work of reconciliation of human beings to one another and to God. The following are the programs involved: Symposium on Literature, Peacemaking and Social Justice, the Paul W. Nisly Writer-in-Residence Program, and a Student Scholarship. For more information please contact Bob Brown at BBrown@messiah.edu.

Poetry Reading! On March 8th, Christine Perrin and 18 of the Contemporary American Poetry students traveled together to Bucknell University to hear Pulitzer Prize winning poet Natasha Tretheway read from her work “Native Guard” in which she explores her own personal history against the backdrop of national history through haunting images, formal delicacy and deftness, and an unflinching gaze. The students were lucky enough to be studying

this impressive book the week that they heard her read.

Alumni News

Since leaving Messiah, **Bonnie Kline Troxell '71** has earned her Master's in Reading and her Doctorate in Curriculum and Teaching. She is currently the Director of Professional Development and Curriculum at the Berks County Intermediate Unit.



Elizabeth Arnold '08 finished an M.A. in English from Arcadia University in May of 2010 and is working towards an MFA in creative writing with The Rainier Writer's Workshop, a low-residency program in Tacoma, WA. She has an essay entitled "Never Lost" forthcoming in the Bona Fide Books'

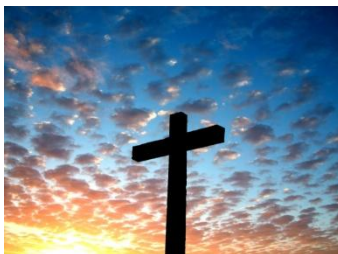
anthology *Permanent Vacation: Living and Working in our National Parks* and is also working on a book-length collection of lyric essays about her former life as a wrangler on a Wyoming ranch.

Kay ben-Avraham '08 finished her first year of work as a freelance writer and editor where she has done academic editing, book thesis consulting, poetry editing, and copyediting for a new publication of the Bible due for release this Easter. Currently, she is undertaking a ghostwriting contract to chronicle the experiences of a young missionary. See www.forwantofanail.net for more information. Her husband **David '08** will graduate with a degree as a Nurse Practitioner this May and has accepted a job at Esperanza Health Center in Philadelphia working among the underserved and poor of North Philly.

Rebecca Halton '05 published her first book *Words from the Other Woman*, her personal

testimony about being the “other woman” in an extramarital affair and her warning for other people to guard themselves against these relationships. She hopes, by opening up about one of the most painful and powerful experiences of her life and faith thus far, she can encourage people to avoid making the same mistakes she made. Visit www.rebeccahalton.com for more information about Halton and her work.

In the fall, **Evan Cameron '07** will be attending Lesley University for their MFA in Creative Writing.



Please forward any additional alumni news to Marialana Gaetano mg1243@messiah.edu, under the subject heading “Alumni News.”

Events and Opportunities

Calling all poets! The Academy of American Poets announces the Carrie A. Guhl Student Poetry Prize at Messiah College. There is a cash award of \$100.00 and a 1-year membership to the Academy of American Poets. The winner will be announced on April 27 from 8-9at the Minnemingo unveiling. Submit up to 2 poems of any length and send to Helen Walker, Box 3017 (no email submissions) by Friday, April 15. The judge is Dr. Matthew Roth, author of *Bird Silence* and esteemed professor of English at Messiah College.

Our English Department Only variety show is on April 28th! There will be exotic foods, some made by ‘chefs-extraordinaire-English-major people.’ But the BIG THING is experiencing the OTHER side of people we sit in class with- the

talents and fun-lovingness of students and faculty we mostly know as readers and writers of literature. So mark the date: April 28th at 6:30 PM!

Come out for the unveiling of this semester's Minnemingo! On April 27 from 8-9, there will be readings, free food, and an announcement of

the winner of the Carrie A. Guhl poetry prize. While you're there, pick up your free copy (for contributors) or buy a copy for \$3. All are welcome!

Call for Submissions! The Missional Press National Short Story Contest is now accepting entries from "authors with great stories just waiting to be brought to

an audience." Authors have a chance at winning the grand prize of \$250 and the opportunity to have their work featured in "The Missional Press 2011 National Short Stories." Submissions are due on April 30th, along with a \$12 fee. See missional-press.com/contest for more information, including important rules and conditions.