

English News  
October, 2010  
Volume 9, Issue 1



## Department News

Welcome back! It seems like the year just began, but autumn is already setting in with its crisp air and falling leaves. We are in the midst of updating the department website, and we hope you'll check back in for more news in our next issue!

### **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 halfway 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](mailto:BBrown@messiah.edu)

**Pete Powers** became the Dean of the School of the Humanities. He will retain his title of Professor of English, and

for the immediate future, will continue to teach at least one course in the English department. Most of his responsibilities going forward will be administrative.

**Crystal Downing's** essay entitled "Finding Satisfaction in *Great Expectations*" was recently published in a critical edition of *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens. This is the sixth essay of hers that has been selected by Ignatius press for inclusion in their series of "classic" works of British literature.

**Helen Walker** was quite busy this summer circling the country. She presented at a conference in Estes Park, CO ("Writer, Reader, Text, and Context: the 4th (visual) Dimension of the Rhetorical Situation"); painted, danced, and wrote during a 5-day artists' retreat in Melbourne Beach, FL; took a course on Waldorf Early Learning Education in Spring Valley, New York; and then,

returning close to home, co-lead a weeklong graduate seminar on Creative Expression at Millersville University, Lancaster, PA.

**Christine Perrin** gave a talk at the Society For Classical Learning this summer called "American Classics: Whitman and Dickinson". Last year she published a book for high school students called the "Art of Poetry". It contains a Teacher's edition which gives interpretive guidance to teachers unfamiliar with poetry. Christine also has poems coming out in the two most recent issues and two upcoming issues of the journal "Cresset". Follow her blog on poetry at [www.artofpoetryonline.com](http://www.artofpoetryonline.com)!



## **Alumni News**

**Sarah Ginolfi '08** and **Andrew Bargh '09** are living at the Sycamore House in Harrisburg, an intentional community sponsored by St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral.

**Tiffany DeRewal '07** was named a Lilly Graduate Fellow and is attending graduate school at Temple University.

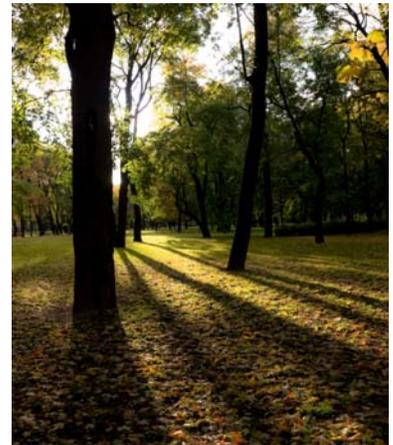
**Alyssa Lord '10** was named the winner of the alumni award at this past year's commencement ceremony.

**Leon Leid '09** along with his wife Anna Beiler, will be a community environmental development volunteer with the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic until May 2012. Living in the chilly mountainous part of the country, he works on reforestation, preventing soil erosion, and constructing improved cook stoves. Leon also teaches English, works on solid waste

management, plays with his kitten, and reads a lot. You can follow his blog at <http://el-leito.blogspot.com/>

**Danielle Sahn '09** wrote most of the Teacher's Edition of Christine Perrin's new book, the "Art of Poetry."

**Please forward any additional alumni news** to Marialana Gaetano [mg1243@messiah.edu](mailto:mg1243@messiah.edu), under the subject heading "Alumni News."



## **Opportunities**

**The Minnemingo Review** is a biannual literary journal containing poetry, prose, and artwork crafted and reviewed by Messiah students. They want YOUR work for the Fall

2010 edition; the deadline is set for Monday, October 20! Check out the Minnemingo website at <http://www.messiah.edu/offices/minnemingo/index.html> for details or email [Minnemingo@messiah.edu](mailto:Minnemingo@messiah.edu).

### **Short Story Contest - call for entries!**

Ruminate Magazine invites writers to submit their work for the Wm Van Dyke Short Story Prize. The deadline is October 5<sup>th</sup>, and there is an entry fee of \$15.00. You can submit online at [Editor@ruminatemagazine.org](mailto:Editor@ruminatemagazine.org) for a chance at the prize of \$1000.00. The editor also takes submissions year-round and is currently looking at entries for the 19<sup>th</sup> Issue on the topic of "sustaining."

### **Performing Arts**

**Opportunity:** The Gamut Theatre is presenting a series of short plays based on the work of Edgar Allen Poe on September 24-25th at 7:30. All performances are BYOP (bring your own price).

### **Study Abroad & Scholarship**

**opportunity:** The 2011 Davies-Jackson scholarship presents a unique opportunity for an outstanding student (who is the first in his or her family to graduate from college) to participate in a course of study in the United Kingdom at St. John's College at Cambridge University following their graduation. The 1 or 2 year, full scholarship to St. John's covers all tuition and living fees and is open to students interested in: archaeology / anthropology, classic literature, economics, English, geography, history, art history, modern and medieval languages, music, philosophy, or social / political science.

Application materials are available at [www.cic.edu/projects\\_services/grants/daviesjackson](http://www.cic.edu/projects_services/grants/daviesjackson), and the application deadline is November 1.

**Calling all majors (and friends)** interested in hearing about fame and glory and joy and (fill in the blank) as an English

major grad from Messiah College. We are calling this Career Event VOICES FROM THE FIELD, and it will be held on Thursday, October 7, 2010, at 4:15 - 5:30 in Boyer 235.

**Shawn Smucker '99 and Maile (Silva)**

**Smucker '99** will speak about their full lives in the years since graduation from Messiah--some of the hows and whys, whens and whats that may assuage your fears of the unknown after college. Come listen and dialogue and eat snacks. For a preview, google Shawn's latest book, *Think No Evil*, or check out his website at <http://www.shawnsmucker.com> !

