

Programming Report to Writers' Coop AGM, March 22, 2007

After longtime Programming chair Sandy Easterbrook's departure to Alberta, I was elected to fill the Chair position. I'm happy to report a full and successful programming year for the Coop.

1) Classes: Amy Jo Ehman instructed the Fall 2006 course "Words for Sale: a course on freelance writing"; and Dianne Young again offered "Writing for a Young Audience" in the Winter 2007 term.

2) Workshops: A session on "Book-making", taught by Cathryn Miller, was offered in April 2006; in May, Wendy Roy gave a presentation on "Selected Short Stories and What Makes Them Work", with discussion following.

3) Open Mikes: Four readings have been held, at two venues – City Perk (October, and a Christmas-themed one in late November) and Mystic Java (January and February). These gatherings have proved highly popular and are slated to continue on a regular basis. The next one is scheduled for 7 PM March 25, at Mystic Java.

4) Other Events:

- (a) in June 2006, the Coop went to the Saskatoon Farmers' Market as a winner of one of the Mendel Art Gallery's Naked City Project awards– undertaking a set of readings and a video/book project;
- (b) also in June, the year-end party featured Susan Bond providing a talk and a haiku performance;
- (c) in October, the Writers' Coop 5th Birthday party included a historical sketch by Karen Millard, 'regaling' by Don Kerr, and the unveiling of the Coop's new logo design by Beth Matheson;
- (d) in November, Coop volunteers showcased the Coop at Saskatoon's final Centennial event, *Celebrate Our People*;
- (e) also in November, another birthday party accompanied a portrait unveiling for Candace Savage at McNally-Robinson Booksellers; and
- (f) tonight a night of folk-tales from three cultures is scheduled to follow the 2007 AGM.

Many thanks to the Board members, particularly to Amy Jo Ehman and Jim Weseen, who often went beyond the call of duty; and to everyone who volunteered to make it a good fifth year for the Coop.

Submitted by Lloyd Ratzlaff