Johnson visits campus

Guest writing workshop instructor Dana Johnson presents her work at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Convocation. Johnson’s collection of short stories, Break Any Woman Down (University of Georgia Press, 2001) won the Flannery O’Connor Award for short fiction.

By Lavonne Shetler

When award-winning author Dana Johnson steps into a room, her joyful personality and practical wisdom fill the space. Over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, Johnson visited the GC campus. While here, she led a fiction-writing workshop for students, gave a fiction reading, and presented in the MLK Day convocation.

Thirteen students spent an intensive weekend with Johnson as part of the annual writing workshop. Since receiving her M.F.A. from Indiana University, Johnson has been Associate Professor of Creative Writing and English at the University of Southern California.

Under her guidance, Goshen College students read short stories and discussed what makes a story work and stay in the reader’s mind.

Accounting major Corine Alvarez (’14) said, “The most memorable part was hearing the pieces others were writ-

ing. We would all hear the same prompt and go in completely different directions, which often ended up being entertaining and thought-provoking.”

Mia Engle (’15), an American Sign Language major and Writing minor, added, “I thought that I would be nervous about sharing my pieces aloud with the class, but Dana Johnson never shot down our ideas. In fact, the more ‘out there’ they were, the more she encouraged us to write about them.”

As an ASL major, Engle was drawn to Johnson’s emphasis on gestures. She said, “I was intrigued by the way Dana Johnson taught us how to use body language and dialogue. We see, analyze and understand the meaning of body language every day. How can we tell a complete story without body language? We can’t. Our stories will fall flat.”

Christina Hofer (’16), a Theater and Communication major and Writing

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Red Cents wins six state ICPA awards

By Nina Fox and Hayley Brooks

The English department bulletin board, which generally contains student work, department news, and English-related opportunities for students, now features something new: six student publication awards for the 2012 edition of Red Cents.

Last fall, Professor Ann Hostetler, English department chair and co-adviser of the department’s literary arts magazine, submitted last year’s Red Cents to the Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA) awards competition. Although the student-led Red Cents has been published annually since 2005, the publication was a rookie in the state-wide competition. “This is the first year we’ve entered, and we’ve made an impression,” said Hostetler.

The ICPA invites Indiana colleges and universities to submit their student-run publications and compete against other schools for awards in content and design. Content awards are designated separately for poetry, short stories, non-fiction, photography, and art.

Goshen College competed with much larger universities, such as Indiana University-Bloomington, the University of Notre Dame, and Ball State. Red Cents received six different awards in five areas, a tribute to the breadth of its quality.

These awards include: first place for best single issue, third place for the best literary magazine of the year, third place for best overall design (Natasha Weisenbeck), first and second place for best free-verse poem (Kate Stoltzfus and Mary Roth, respectively), and third place for best photographic art (Sophie Lapp).

The editorial staff for the 2011-2012 issue of Red Cents included Annie Martens (’12), Kate Stoltzfus (’14), Lauren Stoltzfus (’13), and graphic designer Natasha Weisenbeck (’14). Professor Jessica Baldanzi worked with Hostetler as faculty adviser.

With the incentive of such astounding success, the English department will continue to submit its yearly edition of Red Cents into the competition.

Senior Mary Roth, editor of the 2012-13 Red Cents, and second place winner for best free-verse poem, said of the competition, “I think these awards speak volumes about the quality publishing opportunities the Goshen English Department provides. I’m happy to be a part of it, even in just a small way.”

Red Cents has a close relationship with both the English and Art departments. Many art students submit their work to the publication or help in the design of the magazine, with this year’s edition designed by Emma Brooks (’13).

Red Cents is released in the spring of every academic year, and the 2012-13 edition was released in early April. Although student publications are common for many campuses, Red Cents is clearly unique.

“We have very talented students,” said Professor Beth Martin Birky, “and our English department provides a remarkable number of opportunities for students to share their work and gain experience in publishing.”

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Mary Roth (left) and Lauren Stoltzfus, both 2013 English Writing graduates, contributed to the Red Cents publication. Roth, who placed second for her free-verse poem “Elder Song,” served as head editor of the 2012-13 Red Cents. Stoltzfus was a member of the award-winning 2011-12 Red Cents board before joining this year’s Red Cents board. Other 2012-13 Red Cents board members included Hayley Brooks (’15), Rikki Entrekin (’13), John Miller (’14), and Lavonne Shetler (’13). Emma Brooks (’13) was design editor.

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minor, felt that Johnson helped calm her inner critic. Hofer said, “Johnson reassured us that there is always something about your own life that is interesting to write about. She said that we should never be afraid to tackle topics that we know nothing about either. It will help us grow as writers and as people.”

Armarlie Grier (’16), an English Writing major, also appreciated the reminder of the value of our own stories. During her individual writing conference at the end of the workshop, Johnson told her, “Your story is unique. You have to share. You have to write.” Grier said, “Now, I know I need to write about my story even though I personally may think it’s not important enough to be told. My story is unique. It is something to be shared, and maybe someone will enjoy it.”

Although the writing workshop was a class for credit, the atmosphere was one of community. Grier said, “It wasn’t an academic setting—we were a community of writers, of readers, of people, of consciousness, and to have this experience was humbling.”
Seniors wrap up final semester

The spring semester of students’ senior year offered opportunities for reflection and celebration. During the English Senior Seminar class field trip to the University of Notre Dame, students considered graduate degree programs. In March, seniors hosted the annual pizza supper for all department majors and minors and offered a program with games and advice. In April, the English department hosted a final dinner at Beth Martin Birky’s home for the graduating class of 2013. At the graduation reception, seniors displayed their e-portfolios for family and friends. The English department graduated 26 majors and minors.

Front Row (left to right): Professors Jessica Baldanzi, Kyle Schlabach (with Leo Baldanzi Schlabach), Ann Hostetler, Skip Barnett, and Beth Martin Birky. Second Row: Mary Roth (English Writing), Suzanne King (English Education), Stephanie Swartzendruber (English Education), Grace Parker (English), Austin Sprunger (English), Lavonne Shetler (English Education), Lauren Stoltzfus (English Writing), Lewis Caskey (English Education), and Becca Kraybill (English Writing). Third Row: Michael Miller (English minor), Andrew Shenk (English), Nathan Vader (English Writing), Mohamed Meissara (TESOL), Rikki Entrekin (English Writing), Madi Ouedraogo (TESOL), and Chelsea Wimmer (English minor). Not pictured: Marcelle Al-Zoughbi (TESOL), Cora Broaddus (English Writing), Eliza Graber (TESOL minor), Abby Hertzler (English Writing), Vanessa Jones (Writing minor), Jacqueline Martinez (Interdisciplinary), Tavo Parral (English minor), and Lynelle Yoder (TESOL minor).

Seniors Nate Vader, Madi Ouedraogo, and Michael Miller relax at Beth Martin Birky’s house awaiting the spring dinner for all department graduates.

Seniors Stephanie Swartzendruber and Mohamed Meissara enjoy eating at Elias’ Mediterranean restaurant during a Senior Seminar field trip to the University of Notre Dame.

Senior Seminar students enjoy refreshments at a class gathering at Professor Ann Hostetler’s house.

Seniors Rikki Entrekin (standing) and Austin Sprunger (right) show their e-portfolios to Rikki’s father, Tony Entrekin, during the English department graduation reception.
Four students publish Pinchpenny books

By Lauren Stoltzfus
Not many people can say they published a book by the time they graduated from college, but four recent Goshen College graduates now can.

Rikki Entrekin ('13), Abby Hertzler ('13), Mary Roth ('13), and Nathan Vader ('13), all English Writing majors, each published a book through Pinchpenny Press.

The four books cover a range of genres and topics. Entrekin’s book, The Purple Victorian, is a novel about a house where people from various places and time periods come when they need protection from evil. Each section of the book focuses on “a plot to bring them together,” Entrekin said.

The Pen and the Pieces of Myself, Hertzler’s book, is “a memoir in a nebulous sort of way,” she said. “Although it’s a true story, I told it using a few narrative variations—several chapters that are addressed to my younger self and a chapter that is a fictionalized rendition of a real moment.” The book centers on “the Redemptive power of writing” in her life.

Roth described her book, Getting There, as “a collection of poems about finding a narrative of home.” The book is divided into three sections that contain poems related to time she spent in Goshen, Oregon, and Nicaragua, respectively. “It’s my attempt to answer big questions about place and identity and how they’re intertwined,” she said.

Vader’s book, Bad, is “a collection of narrative poems and short stories … about challenges of modern life,” Vader said. “My characters look for love and friendship in a world of processed foods and electronic devices.”

The authors enjoyed many aspects of writing and publishing their books. “The most enjoyable part of writing is when you are able to create order out of chaos,” Vader said. “You have this idea in your head for an amazing piece, but the reality is that the thing is a mess. Your work is in figuring out how to get what you see … on the page to match the brilliance of your imagination.”

Each student worked on the writing and revising process in their senior writing practicum, a requirement for English Writing majors. After completing a writing portfolio with Professor Ann Hostetler, students decided to submit a manuscript to the Pinchpenny board for consideration.

“Anyone who loves writing should go for this incredible shot to get published,” Hertzler said. “It’s a wonderful feeling, seeing your name in print.”

A version of this story also appeared in The Record on March 14, 2013.
Flash fiction competition sparks new Broadsides

Every year, the Broadside board reviews anonymous submissions of poetry and short prose from students and faculty, offers suggestions to the authors, and selects pieces for publication. The board also publishes work by visiting writers. Broadsides are sent through campus mail by free subscription.

This year, the Broadside board livened up submissions through a flash fiction contest. The contest required student authors to write a complete story with a maximum of 500 words. All authors were required to use the phrase "Confessional.

Mary Roth ('13) won first place for her submission, "Confessional," which appears below. Cora Broaddus ('13) placed second for "Ya Basta" and Hayley Brooks ('15) came in third for "Rae."

Confessional
Mary Roth

The man in the stall next to Marlin heaved a throaty cough and wagged his left Timberland boot under the divider.

"Any T.P. over there, brother?"

From his seated perch on the edge of a stained ceramic toilet in Tip Top Truck Plaza off the Ohio turnpike, Marlin winced with disdain. His tweed jacket strained against his hunched shoulders. He had stopped there on his way home to vomit, or at least to pacify the tumbling vertigo that turned four lanes into sixteen.

The stall beside him was peppered with words and drawings etched from metal objects, permanent markers, lipstick. RIP Nicky. Only the good die young. Ohio can suck it. I didn't mean to hurt you, Lynda. The banality of these phrases disgusted Marlin.

He thought of St. Augustine's Confessions, how earnestly the saint had written his most horrible sins. The academic dean at Sinclair Community College wouldn't let him teach it. He told Marlin, "You know Augustine is far too religiously charged for our students," even though they both knew that few students bothered to read the syllabus, let alone the assigned readings. The students at Sinclair weren't the brightest pick of the litter.

Another cough came from the stall beside Marlin.

"Look, brother, all I need is a few squares."

The man stuck a stubby-fingered hand under the divider and flapped it expectantly. Marlin wadded up a handful of thin toilet paper and dropped it in the waiting hand.

"Much obliged."

Marlin paused to study his own hand. It shook. Tiny rhythmic contractions, like sad vibrato on an imaginary violin. The tremors began last week. Marlin wondered if his students noticed. He guessed not. Still, he tried to use fewer gestures, write less on the chalkboard.

Another surge of vertiginous nausea hit him. The stench of the bathroom sent him reeling back to his boyhood farm in Illinois, the burning reek of manure, the slack faces of cattle. He hated their hulking stupidity.

Marlin focused on the cool metal door in front of him, imagined it was creamy parchment paper. He pulled a black felt pen from his lapel and began to write on the dented metal, in shaky letters, a list of sins he had committed:

I threw a rock through Minda Cleever's window when I was nine because I felt like it. I rouged up Mike Hammon because he sang Broadway songs in the locker room. I smoked a joint at a Jefferson Airplane concert in 1969 and didn't hate it. I was an inch away from getting cold feet at the altar (Brenda Johnson; June 8, 1972) I left Brenda for three weeks when the boys were young. I clipped somebody's side mirror in Chicago and didn't bother to stop. I haven't told Brenda the diagnosis. Marlin lowered his hand and read over his sins with a sense of satisfaction. That was enough.

Broadside logo gets a makeover

Since the inception of Broadside in 1976 under the guidance of Professor Emeritus of English Ervin Beck, the English department has published over 325 pieces of poetry and short prose as Broadsides. Guest authors often provide a Broadside, with Broadsides by notable authors such as Seamus Heaney, Garrison Keillor, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Denise Levertov.

Student artists work with the Horswell Fellow to design the single-sheet publications. This year, the department commissioned a Broadside logo redesign by Art major Emma Brooks ('13), below.

During the the 1970s, 80s, and 90s, the Broadside logo took various forms. See samples below.

To read current Broadsides and selections from the past, go to www.goshen.edu/english/publishing/broadside/.
Birky to spend sabbatical in Ireland and Costa Rica; Notre Dame grad to join department

By Lavonne Shelter
For her sabbatical next year, Professor Beth Martin Birky will head to two different parts of the globe. In October, she will begin a three-week service assignment with the Corrymeela community, a reconciliation and peace center in Ballycastle, Northern Ireland. One of Birky’s sabbatical goals is to link feminist theory and practice by participating in a global service project. As a Corrymeela volunteer, Birky will wash dishes and sweep floors but will also participate in community activities. Birky looks forward to getting to know Rebecca Dudley, who is working on gender and reconciliation issues in Northern Ireland.

In February 2014 Birky will begin a three-month teaching assignment at Whitworth University’s Costa Rica Center. Whitworth’s program is similar to SST in that it brings Whitworth students to Costa Rica for an entire semester of language, history, and culture study, as well as service learning and family home stays. Birky will be teaching an integrative seminar on “Gender in Central America.” During her extended stay, Birky will also strengthen her Spanish skills and work with women’s organizations.

While Birky is on sabbatical, Patrick Mello, Ph.D., will take on a one-year assignment as Assistant Professor of English at Goshen College.

Mello, a June 2013 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, has studied the influence of religious difference on eighteenth-century literature. After a June defense of his dissertation, “Toleration, Persecution, and the Novel,” Mello looks forward to spending some time outdoors with his family and away from his laptop. Mellow is especially excited to get back into the classroom after a year with a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship. He will teach World Literature, British Literature I, Shakespeare in Film, and Expository Writing in Birky’s absence.

English faculty contribute to new Goshen Core

By Beth Martin Birky
Like all GC faculty, the English department professors played a major role in teaching the new gen. ed. program, now called the Goshen Core.

Jessica Baldanzi taught Core 110, The Academic Voice, designed by the English and Communication departments to teach academic writing and speaking skills. Baldanzi also taught Fiction Writing and Graphic Novel.


Skip Barnett contributed to two new core courses. All first-year students and transfers now begin their Goshen College education with Core 100, Identity, Culture, & Community. Barnett particularly enjoyed team teaching with colleagues from different disciplines and getting to know the diverse first-year students. Barnett discovered a love of jazz when he designed INTC 255, US Arts & Literature, a new intercultural requirement for international students. His other classes included Linguistics, the English Language, and TESOL Methods.


Beth Martin Birky taught World Literature and Women and Literature this year, as well as Expository Writing and the last campus section of Engl 110, Literature and Writing. Birky also hosted several campus guests for the Women’s Studies program: Dr. April Lidinsky (IUSB), Dr. Annie Dandavati (Hope College), and Dr. Linda Beal (Point Loma University).

Ann Hostetler and Kyle Baldanzi Schlabach taught the new Goshen Seminar, a discipline-based research course. Hostetler’s section was titled “Crossing Borders.” Schlabach’s section was called “Writing about Home.” Hostetler’s students gained valuable insights by studying local churches and businesses as contact zones. Schlabach’s students completed a mapping project of their new Goshen College home.

Hostetler taught American Literature I and Critical Theory. As English department chair this year, she also taught Senior Seminar. Schlabach taught Grammar, Humanities, and British Literature II.

Hostetler also wrote and presented on Mennonite memoirs. Her review of Becca J.R. Lachman’s The Apple Speaks: Poems (DreamSeeker Books 2013) appeared in the Journal of Mennonite Studies (Summer 2013). In addition to editing the Center for Mennonite Writing’s journal, Ann published fourteen poems in various journals.

Hostetler also traveled to Mérida, Mexico, in January 2013 to study Spanish and attend a poetry conference. In May 2013, Hostetler presented a paper at a Penn State Symposium on Mennonite Literature called “After Identity: Mennonite/s Writing in North America.” For more faculty news, visit www.goshen.edu/english/faculty/.
Stoltzfus reflects on publishing experience

By Lauren Stoltzfus
As this year’s Horswell Fellow, I was introduced to diverse tasks that are part of the publication process, including offering feedback on student poetry, working with Broadside layouts in InDesign, and copy editing Pinchpenny manuscripts. A large part of the job involved being organized and facilitating communication between different people, and my abilities were challenged and grew throughout the year.

One of the best things about being the Horswell fellow was working with remarkable people. The Pinchpenny and Broadside boards gladly offered suggestions to strengthen submitted work. The Pinchpenny advisers, Skip Barnett and Kyle Schlabach, and the Broadside advisers, Jessica Baldanzi and Ann Hostetler, provided vital guidance to the student boards. Administrative assistant Linda Rouch assisted with mailing Broadsides and coordinating Pinchpenny sales, and printing director Joe Bean responded patiently and kindly to questions about saving Broadsides with a bleed and about printing Pinchpenny books.

In particular, I enjoyed helping with four student-authored chapbooks that came out through Pinchpenny Press this year. I also edited Goshen Portraits 4, a compilation of student-written articles from two of Professor Duane Stoltzfus’ journalism classes. The Broadside short fiction contest in the spring was another highlight of the year.

Thank you to Broadside, Red Cents, and Pinchpenny boards

By Hayley Brooks
The 2012-2013 Broadside board members included Rikki Entrekin ('13), Abby Hertzler ('13), Annabeth Tucker ('14), Nathan Vader ('13), Kate Yoder ('15), Horswell Fellow Lauren Stoltzfus ('14), and faculty advisers Ann Hostetler and Jessica Baldanzi.

Ten Broadsides were published this year, including two from visiting writers. Dana Johnson published an excerpt from her novel Elsewhere California (Counterpoint Press 2010), and Luis Urrea published an excerpt titled “Heat Syncope” from his creative nonfiction novel, The Devil’s Highway (Back Bay Books 2005).

Other Broadsides published included “Rain Tonight” by senior Mary Roth ('13), “The Art of the Fall” by Kate Stoltzfus ('14), “Remains” and “After Teatime” by Sara Klassen ('14), “Untitled” by Kate Yoder, and “My Smokescreen Inheritance” by Abby Hertzler. To view all these electronically, visit goshen.edu/english/publishing/broadside/.

The Pinchpenny Press board consists of two GC English department faculty and five students including the Horswell Fellow. The 2012-2013 board members were Nina Fox ('15), Lewis Caskey ('13), Lavonne Shetler, ('13) Andrew Shenk ('13), and Grace Parker ('13), along with advisers Skip Barnett and Kyle Schlabach.

The Red Cents editorial board included editor Mary Roth, Lavonne Shelter, Lauren Stoltzfus, John Miller ('14), Hayley Brooks ('15), and Rikki Entrekin with Emma Brooks ('13) as layout and design. Ann Hostetler and Jessica Baldanzi served as faculty advisers.

Next Horswell Fellow Chosen

Hayley Brooks was named the 2013-2014 Horswell Fellow. Brooks, a sophomore, is an English Writing major and Women’s Studies minor.

Brooks will work alongside department chair Ann Hostetler and sit on both Broaside and Pinchpenny Press editorial boards. She will serve as the executive secretary for both boards and will be responsible for Broadside design and publications. She will also work closely with authors through the publishing and marketing process.

“I look forward to the experience the fellowship will give me and hope that I can use the skills I gain to work as an editor and writer,” said Brooks.
Alumni News

Wilma Gundy ('49) released *My Life Without a Stage Manager* (2013), an Amazon Kindle Book about her Depression-era childhood in Colorado. It also recounts her marriage to her husband, Lloyd, whom she met in the Goshen train depot the first day they arrived for college, and of the family they raised.


Yujin Yaguchi ('89) is an associate professor of American studies at Tokyo University and chairman of Programs in English at Komaba (PEAK). Yaguchi received his Ph.D. from The College of William & Mary. His work as PEAK chairman was featured in *The New York Times* in October 2012.


Monica Zimmerman ('02) is the Director of Museum Education at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia. The most recent exhibition at the academy, *The Female Gaze: Women Artists Making Their World*, features the work of twentieth and twenty-first century female artists from the Linda Lee Alter Collection of Art by Women.

Daniel Shenk Cruz ('02) completed his Ph.D. in English at Northern Illinois University and teaches at Utica College in Utica, New York.


Laurel Yoder ('06) will begin a nurse-midwifery program at Oregon Health and Science University in June 2013.

Lindsay Glick ('08) completed her MA in Art History at Montana State University. She lives in Alaska and works at the Anchorage Museum.

Emily Graber ('11) was accepted into the Irish School of Ecumenics M.Phil programme in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation for fall 2013.

Chelsea Kaufman ('11) completed her MA in Arts Management, with a certificate in Museum Studies, at the University of Oregon in June 2013.

We would love to hear from you! Send us an update at english@goshen.edu or contact an English department faculty member (contact information at www.goshen.edu/english/faculty).