



PAWP NEWSLETTER

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

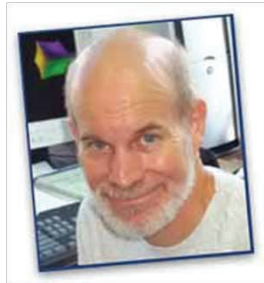
Brittney McCord, Editor

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And Then He Was Gone....

I am sure most of you are all aware that PAWP has lost that wonderful, 'legendary', Shakespearean professor that frightened some, charmed many, and was adored by all. Push your heart back down in your chest-he didn't pass away! However, we did lose him to that glorious world of retirement. Handing over the reigns of PAWP, he will finally be reminded what it is like to NOT be in school for the whole month of June!



Doris and Debbie invited us all to send in a few tidbits of our memories of Ted as a teacher, a mentor, and a friend.

I can recall my very first encounter with Ted at the introduction night right before our summer class began. I remember thinking to myself, "Wow! He doesn't look fun at all!" Sorry Ted, but it's true- I actually thought that. We hadn't a bit more got past his hello to us that I realized how wrong I was.

Our class invited him to eat with us everyday, although we knew more often than not, this dedicated teacher would be heading across campus to his office to work. However, on the few occasions he did venture to the "Mexican place" with us, it always proved to be that much more of an event.

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PAWPer Nominated for Award

Jennifer Lacey was recently informed that she had been selected as one of the Top 24 finalists for the Kentucky Teacher of the Year Award.

She will be honored at a luncheon in Frankfort on October 23rd where she will hopefully receive the wonderful news

that she has made it into the Top 9. This will mean she will be in the running for KY Middle School Teacher of the Year and the overall KY Teacher of the Year.

On behalf of all PAWPers Jennifer, we wish you the best of luck!

Welcome Dr. Paul Walker and congratulations to you on your new position with the Purchase Area Writing Project!

In Honor of Our Beloved Ted....

(Continued from page 1)

We would act like giddy elementary school kids, thinking to ourselves, “This is so cool! Our teacher is eating with us!”

Ted is one of those people that

draws everyone to him. People notice him, and people *want* to be noticed *by* him. A “good job” or “impressive” from Ted is worth a hundred comments from anyone else. If he says it is good, you can take it to the bank.

I feel very fortunate that I became a PAWPer during the “Era of Ted”, and I can’t help but feel a little sorry for future PAWPers who will not get to enjoy his soft spoken wisdom, his off the wall humor, or lunch with him at the “Mexican place”.

Doris shared with me a few other comments that were made on behalf on Ted that I would like to include on this page as well.

“Once a little intimidated by the charismatic and always upbeat Shakespeare professor, I soon realized Dr. Brown was a true teacher. Gifted with the ability to take a story and weave a tale in class that spoke to each student, Ted Brown became a hero to me.”

Kimberly Barrett

“You will be missed, but your contributions to PAWP and its “stars” will resonate throughout time as your knowledge, dedication, and compassion will be passed on for generations.”

Charlotte Farmer



“Even though you ate all the good doughnuts, PAWP was still a life-changing experience for me, and I owe much of that to you.”

Todd Ross

“I realize that I was only one of many who will take what I’ve learned and share it with hundreds of my students, whether it be about thesis statement and incorporating research, about modeling writing for my students, creating a positive classroom environment, or to simply treat people with respect and be passionate about what I do.”

Miranda Wilson

“Dear Sweet Ted,
With all that knowledge in your head,
You’re fit for scholars, but you’re with PAWPers instead.
Laughing at embarrassing moments while Paul turns red
picking on Michele, Carol, and Deb...
We won’t misuse vocabulary, or we know we’re dead!
(I probably just did, and I know it will be said.)
Just think of all the accomplished PAWPers you’ve led!
You’ve guided me through poetry not to be wed.
The PAWPers will miss you tremendously, Ted.
I hope you can tell by what you’ve just read!
This is by Andrea, and that’s all she said.”

Andrea Osbron

“PAWP opened doors for me professionally that I never imagined. That summer I was intimidated to share my writings with you at first, but you were always encouraging. You modeled best practices and resurrected the idealist in me. Your leadership and teaching also sparked within me a desire to lead others in school improvement.”

Todd Merrick

Here's What Our PAWPers Are Up To!

Michelle Hill is now the Curriculum Coordinator for James Madison Middle.

James McElrath has assumed responsibility for the AP English classes at Reidland High School.

Five Writing Project teachers spent two days in late July developing and refining On-Demand teaching strategies as members of PAWP's Advanced Institute. Those who participated included Carol Withrow, Sherri Bazzell, Jennifer Lacey, James McElrath, and Melissa

Quertermous. Debbie Bell and Doris Cella served as facilitators. Anyone desiring a school based PD session that emphasized On-Demand writing strategies should contact Debbie or Doris.

Craig Carter is the new Region One liaison with KEA, but will continue as part-time writing consultant at Lone Oak Elementary



PAWPers are busy, busy, busy!

Tammy Ringstaff is now working in the Crittenden Co. School District.

Todd Merrick was appointed principal of Crittenden County High School last year.

Kimberly Barrett is now a writing resource teacher at Calloway Middle School.

Making Connections in Literacy Conference Held

"It really offers a fresh perspective and motivation when you've already been doing this for a long time," stated Yvanna Hooper about the PAWP conference held in the Curris Center on Thursday, September 24, 2009.

That sentiment was the atmosphere of the day as PAWPers old and new hustled between informative and inspiring sessions such as connecting your students to On-Demand, using the PERKS document, writing across the content areas, and connecting students to college level reading and writing.

The day was rounded out with entertaining readings from the student authors of the *Icy Tales Anthology*. I was lucky enough to share lunch with a few of these creative writers and pick their innovative brains on the writing process. For instance,

fifth grader Sabrina Argotte loves to write, but sometimes finds it hard to find just the right word to express herself. Will Kitchum and Roberto Dos Remedios, classmates, find it most difficult to develop the main idea, but as Will states, "Once I do,

everything just opens up."

Roberto agreed and said he likes to write about just

about anything, like his favorite subject- food!

A few McNabb fifth graders invited me to join them next at their table, where they were busy giggling as Chantelle Donnelson gave a toast over their plates of deli sandwiches. They also shared with me their excitement over discovering they had been chosen to become published

"WHAT! You had to actually BUY the book?!"

5th grade Icy Tales Anthology
author, Elycia Staples.

authors. Tequoz Wilson said he was just plain shocked, and Chantelle agreed, stating that she just couldn't quit talking about it when she got home. Chantelle and classmate, Rayshoun Branch both wrote poetry from a tree's perspective as it experienced the ice storm.

Fellow classmate and author, Elycia Staples, also wrote a poetry piece. She became even more excited when I told her I had just bought her book. "WHAT! You had to actually BUY the book?!" she exclaimed.

A special thank you to teachers Craig Carter, Emily Bramer, Lynn Johnson, and Carol Withrow for providing me the opportunity to meet these successful little authors.

Brittney McCord



Murray Shakespeare Festival 2010 Planned

Murray State will be hosting The American Shakespeare Center's production of Shakespeare's romantic tragedy *Romeo and Juliet* in February. Two school performances and one community performance is planned.

Tuesday, February 23rd and Wednesday, February 24th are reserved for schools to enjoy the event at 10 AM. in MSU's Lovett Auditorium. Thanks to a grant from MSU's Office of Regional Stewardship, 50 free tickets per school are being offered. Additional tickets are

\$5.00 each. Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Teaching packets will accompany each reservation!

The community performance is slated for Sunday, February 21st at 7:00 PM. Also showing on February 23rd at 7:00



PM will be "Knight of the Burning Pestle".

Tickets will go fast so be sure and reserve your tickets today! For more information, contact Dr. Rusty Jones at (270) 809-2397 or email :

rusty.jones@murray-state.edu

African American Read-In set for Feb. 21-22

During Black History Month in February, everyone from schools, churches, libraries, bookstores, and communities have been invited to join over a million readers, making literacy a significant part of the month in the Twenty-First National African American Read-In.

In 1990, the first African American Read-In was sponsored by the Black Caucus of the National Council

of Teachers of English. Since then, it has been endorsed by the National Council of Teachers of English, the International Reading Association, and had participants from 49 states, the West Indies, and African countries.

It is easy to participate. Simply select books authored by African Americans, conduct your read-in on

one of the designated days, and report your results by submitting the 2010 African American Read-In Host Report Card.

For more information, go to www.ncte.org/action/aari

Or contact Linda Walters of NCTE, 1-800-369-6283, ext. 3632, or email aari@ncte.org.

Plan to Attend!

KCTE/LA has set their conference, *Open the Box*, for Friday and Saturday, February 19th and 20th at the Marriott: Louisville Downtown.

If you would like to present, the submission deadline is November 5th. Directions for submissions can be found at <http://conference.kcte.org/>. You can also register at the same web site.

The 2009 NCTE Annual Convention entitled *Once and Future Classics: Reading Between the Lines* will be held on November 19-22, 2009 in Philadelphia, PA.

You can find more information at www.ncte.org. It promises to be a great opportunity to receive excellent materials as well as networking opportunities.



TEACHERS!

We hope to see you and your students for the

MURRAY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL 2010

Murray State University is pleased to host The American Shakespeare Center's production of Shakespeare's great romantic tragedy

Romeo and Juliet

School Performances:

Tuesday, February 23rd & Wednesday, February 24th

-Both performances begin at **10 AM** in MSU's Lovett Auditorium

Community Performances:

Sunday, February 21st at 7:00 PM

Also showing "Knight of the Burning Pestle" on February 23rd at 7:00 PM



Shakespeare

Thanks to a grant from MSU's Office of Regional Stewardship, we are pleased to offer **50 Free Tickets** per school. Additional tickets are \$5.00 each. Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis *so make your reservations today!* **Romeo & Juliet teaching packets** will accompany each reservation!

To make reservations or for more information, contact Dr. Rusty Jones at (270) 809-2397 or email at rusty.jones@murraystate.edu.

PAWP

Murray State
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Purchase Area Writing
Project



My Life, Framed

*(Based on a demonstration by Audrey
Clark Neal, 06/06/02)*

I am a line stretching toward an un-
seen horizon.

Like the sure hands of Renaissance
artists, my choices and actions have
sketched out my life, shining memo-
ries and darker shadings blended on
a palette of the remembered past
and the unknown future.

Perspective is elusive, hidden angles
everywhere.

Ted Brown

Summer Institute Participants for '09

Terri Barnett, Farley Elementary

Kelli Bowland, Lone Oak High

Stephanie Crowell, James Madison
Middle

Sarah Dempsey, Paducah Tilghman

Brittany Dillingham, West Hopkins

Rachel Futrell, McNabb

Rachel Gavin, Crittenden County
High

Shannon Hamlet, Sharpe Elemen-
tary

Ginger Hatley, Ballard County Mid-
dle

Lori Hyde, Lone Oak Elementary

Meagan Kindle, Mayfield Elemen-
tary

Tess Lee, Crittenden High

Andera Osbron

Harvey Parker, Hickman County
Elementary

Dana Pogue, Jonathan Elementary

Erin Provow, Carlisle Middle

Tamara Stephens,
South Hopkins
Middle

Sheila Tiberi, South
Hopkins Middle

Ashley Valentine,
Mayfield High

**Thoughts to Pon-
der** by Debbie Bell:

I look at the vacant
round wooden ta-
bles, turn the light
switch off, and walk out the door
into the bright sweltering Kentucky

sun. The 2009 Purchase Area
Writing Project's Summer Institute
officially ended today. The enor-
mous relief I expected to feel didn't
arrive; instead, a profuse sense of
loss engulfed me. I would miss this
class, miss the demonstrations, miss

the book talks, miss the
guest speakers, miss the
professional discussions,
miss communicating with
other writing profession-
als, and miss the writing.
What is it about the Na-
tional Writing Project's
(NWP) summer institute
that penetrates our pro-
fessional schema and
causes teacher partici-
pants to become zealous

about writing instruction?

