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Volume 2, Issue 9 Wayne G. Basler Library Newsletter September 2003



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Monday, Monday

Mark your calendars now! Several Mondays throughout the Fall semester at Northeast State will be very special days! In its second year, we proudly present "Eating With the Experts." For those of you unfamiliar with this series of programs, it's an opportunity to showcase talents and hobbies from Northeast State and the community. The program is free of charge and open to everyone — students, faculty, staff, and the community at large. We encourage everyone to bring lunch and to just relax and enjoy the show, so to speak.

Past presenters have included Rosie Adams, Eric Morritt, Robin Byrne, Keith Young, Jim Kelly, Betty Cress, Helen Whittaker, Jud Barry, Tamara Baxter, Gretchen McCroskey, and Jim Whorton.

Our Fall 2003 line-up of guests will leave you eagerly anticipating each subsequent event. Our Extra Special Kick-Off Program will be on Monday, **September 8**, from 12:30-1:15 in the Student Lounge on the first floor of the Basler Library (please note change of typical venue). "**Fish Food Feeding Frenzy**," presented by culinary genius Eric Fish, will showcase the English instructor's talents from

his career as a chef. In order to be eligible for eating the "Fish Food," participants will need to gather no later than 12:10 p.m. so we can begin the program on time. We will draw names to choose the lucky eaters for the event. If fewer than 8 people have gathered by 12:10 p.m., we will take the first 10 people to arrive.

Our other programs for the Fall (all in L106 of the Basler Library, from 12:30-1:15) include "**Writing Approximately Heaven**" with Jim Whorton on **September 22**; "Picture This!" with Jacob Edwards on **October 20**; "**Self-Defense Basics: Tae Kwon Do**," with Susan Lilly, Master Amanda Olson, and Mr. Glenn Olson on **November 10**; and "**Go Tell It on the Mountain**" with Keith Young on **December 1**.

Also, don't miss our **Fall Book Discussion of *Approximately Heaven***, by Jim Whorton, on Monday, **October 6** in L106 (Basler Library), from 12:30-1:15. This discussion is free and open to everyone. Bring your lunch and talk about this first novel by one of Northeast State's English instructors.

For more details on the programs, see the "Fall Programs" link from the Library's homepage at www.NortheastState.edu/library.



WHERE'S THE PARTY?

We request your attendance at a Reception/Book Signing honoring Northeast State's newly-published author, Jim Whorton (*Approximately Heaven*, Free Press, 2003). Co-sponsored by the Basler Library, Division of Humanities, and the Faculty Senate of Northeast State, the Reception will be in the Basler Library's second floor atrium on Thursday, September 25, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Join us for refreshments, followed by a program featuring Jim Whorton speaking about *Approximately Heaven*, then a book signing in the library. Books will be available for purchase the evening of the event and those who have already purchased books are welcome to bring them in for the signing, as well.

The Sound of Music

Basler Library's John Grubb has been busy! John has recently composed a musical piece for a trio (Mezzo-Soprano, Violin, and Piano). "Prologue to the Gospel of John" focuses on the first eighteen verses of St. John's Gospel. Commissioned by Dr. Kelly D. Brown, a long-time adjunct professor for Northeast State (as well as a full-time professor at Milligan College), the piece will premiere at Seeger Chapel at Milligan College on September 7 in a recital to begin at 3 p.m., then will be performed at Northeast State on September 24 at 11:30 a.m., in a program sponsored by the Cultural Activities Committee. The piece will be performed by Kelly Brown (Violinist), Charlotte Anderson (Mezzo-Soprano), and Lisa Runner (Pianist). Congratulations, John!



*For a Bright Future, Head
NORTHEAST!*

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Almost Paradise

Approximately Heaven by James Whorton, Jr.
[PS 3623 .H6 A85 2003]



Out-of-work electrician Don Brush (a.k.a. “Wendell”) is a well-intentioned man whose good intentions seldom see fruition. Mary has lived with his good intentions and fruitlessness for as long as she can as his tolerating, loving wife. In and of itself, this plotline would appeal to many. But throw in characters with local flair and colorful verbalism, a road trip to Mississippi, attempted suicide, a murder scheme, \$38,000 in cash, and several cases of Natural Lite, and there is a story that has appeal for just about everyone!

When Mary tells Don that she is going to see a lawyer, Don doesn't try to figure out where things went wrong, but how (and if) they can be righted. Don's good intentions have paved a road to his own sort of hell – and Whorton takes his readers along for the ride there and back. Setting out with old man Dove on what he believes to be a furniture-delivering mission to Dove's daughter, Don learns much about Dove, and comes to realize several important things about his own life, too. When Dove asks him if he is “one of them sons of bitches that hangs on way past time when everybody else sees hope is lost,” Don says no. What Don turns out to be is a man loved by a truly exceptional wife – and what he turns out to do, at least in the final pages of *Approximately Heaven*, is find the will (with more than a little good luck thrown in) to finally start doing things for himself and Mary instead of accepting life as it is. Whorton presents a tale that all of us can relate to in some way or another, and reminds us of a lot of reasons to be thankful.

— Reviewed by Chrissie Anderson Peters, Librarian

Have you read a great book that we own at the Basler Library? We want you to tell us about it! In about 250-300 words, write a review, then submit it to us at capeters@NortheastState.edu. Editors reserve the right to screen/edit all materials submitted for publication.

If You Could Read My Mind



You would probably be very frightened! Seriously, wouldn't it be lots more fun to read a rollicking romance or macabre mystery than muddle through the sheer chaos that is Chrissie's mind? Here are some worthy suggestions for your reading pleasure!

Fiction: *Mistress of Alderley* (Barnard); *Kiss From Maddalena* (Castellini); *Sharpe's Havoc* (Cornwell); *Quality of Life Report* (Daum); *Bone Vault* (Fairstein); *Mrs. Kimble* (Haigh); *Happiness Code* (Herrick); *Kite Runner* (Hosseini); *Final Confession of Mabel Stark* (Hough); *Faked to Death* (James); *Dead Aim* (Johansen); *Cold Heart* (Kellerman); *Reckoning* (Lewis); *My Cat Spit McGee* (Morris); *Death at Glamis Castle: A Victorian Mystery* (Paige); *Cold Pursuit* (Parker); *Jester* (Patterson & Gross); *Eat Cake* (Ray); *Miss Julia Hits the Road* (Ross); *Dragon Bones* (See); *City of Ghosts* (Stoberock); *Perfume* (Suskind); *Father's Affair* (Van Loon); *Land of the Blind* (Walter); *Plain Language* (Wright); and *Jelly Roll* (Young).

Non-Fiction: *Erasing Racism* (Asante); *Generations of Captivity* (Berlin); *Glory, Passion, and Principle* (Bohrer); *Death of Right and Wrong* (Bruce); *Forbidden Grief* (Burke); *Chinese in America* (Chang); *Harvard and the Unabomber* (Chase); *Don't Know Much About History* (Davis); *Overcoming Overload* (Farrar); *Bittersweet* (Feudtner); *MLA Handbook, 6th Ed.* (Gibaldi); *Handbook of Depression* (Hammen); *Of Moths and Men* (Hooper); *Defeating Darwinism* (Johnson); *Bedford Boys* (Kershaw); *Introvert Advantage* (Laney); *Man Who Found Time* (Repcheck); *Modern Dental Assisting, 7th Ed.* (Torres); and *Leaving Islam* (Warraq).

Get a Job —

“Update Your Resume Month”

Career Center (Texas A&M University)

<http://careercenter.tamu.edu/Students/S1/S1A2.shtml>

JobWeb (Resumes and Interviews)

www.jobweb.com/resources/Library/Interviews_Resumes

Resume Tutor! (University of Minnesota)

www1.umn.edu/ohr/ecep/resume

Resume Writing and Career Resources

www.resumepower.com/resume_writing_resources.html

About.com's Career Planning: Resume Writing

<http://careerplanning.about.com/cs/resumewriting>

Common Resume Problems

http://courses.lib.odu.edu/engl/afletcher/english131c_resumes.htm

Selected Resume Resources on the Web

<http://jobstar.org/tools/resume/res-web.cfm>

Job Star Central

<http://jobstar.org/tools/resume/index.cfm>

Quintessential Careers

www.quintcareers.com/resres.html

