



book break  
**Mona Grigg**

## Programs, contests, other news

No time to chit-chat this week. I'm so far behind in passing along information I've received about programs, contests and all, that without further ado...

The big news at U-M is that Peter Taylor will be the speaker at the Hopwood Underclassmen Awards on Wednesday, Jan. 20. Taylor is the author of "The Old Forest and Other Stories" and last year's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "A Summons to Memphis." If you haven't read any of Peter Taylor's works, read them now, then go to hear him speak. For free, if you can imagine, at 4 p.m. in the Rackham Auditorium. You may have to fight a growing crowd of his fans. He's terrific.

U-M's Visiting Writer's Series presents novelist Richard Elman on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 4 p.m. in the Rackham East Conference Room. Elman, slated as a visiting lecturer for the winter 1988 term, has published 20 novels, several books of short stories, poetry and journalism. His novels include "The Reckoning," "Lilo's Diary," and the novelization of the movie "Taxi Driver." Also free.

THE GREAT AMERICAN poetry Reading with superstars Galway Kinnell, Wendell Berry, Sharon Olds and Donald Hall comes to Rackham Auditorium on Friday, Jan. 29, at 8 p.m. Ticket price is \$5.50 with all seats reserved. Tickets at the Michigan Union ticket office and at all Ticketron outlets.

Lydia Lunch, outrageous New York poet and performance artist, makes a rare Detroit appearance at the Detroit Institute of Arts LINES Series. She'll read and perform in the DIA Lecture-Recital Hall at 3 p.m. General admission is \$3.

Wayne State's English Department begins its 6th Annual Colloquium Poetry Series on Wednesday, Jan. 27, with poets Stephen Tudor and Ralph Nash reading from their works. Coordinator M. L. Liebler says last year's series drew over 500 poetry lovers to Room 400, State Hall (just across from the Detroit Public Library's Cass entrance). All readings start at 1 p.m. and run for about an hour every Wednesday or so until April 13. Free admission, free coffee. Stephen Leggett and Keith Taylor will read on Feb. 3.

THE POET HUNT is on again. Schoolcraft College and the editors of the MacGuffin, that school's fine literary magazine, are inviting Michigan writers to enter their fifth annual poetry contest.

Michigan poet Diane Wakoski will be this year's judge. Deadline is Feb. 7 and first-, second- and third-place prizes are \$100, \$50 and \$25. All of the winning poets, including three honorable mentions, will have a chance to read at the college on Monday, April 11. Winning poems will also be published in the fall 1988 issue of The MacGuffin.

Wakoski will announce the contest winners at her poetry reading on Tuesday, March 22. The rules are: No more than five original, unpub-

lished poems of 50 lines each or less, typewritten on standard typing paper. Include a standard size index card with name, address and daytime telephone number with each entry.

Send entries to Post Hunt, Liberal Arts Building, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Ruggerty, Livonia 48152, or contact Arthur Lindenbergh, 591-6400, Ext. 449 for more information.

THE WINNERS OF THE 1988 Detroit Auto Show Short Story Contest have been announced by the Detroit Auto Dealers Association: In the adult division, first-place prize (\$1,000) goes to Jim Shaw of Oxford for "Fat Stella." The story will be published in the official program of the Auto Show opening this weekend in Cobo Hall.

Second place (\$500) goes to Carol Carpenter of Livonia for "Big in the Bars." (See accompanying story in this section.)

And third prize (\$250) goes to Thomas Sullivan of Lathrup Village for "The Muse." (We'll be talking to Tom sometime soon about his forthcoming novel.)

The High School Contest winners each received \$500 for their short stories. Winners include Michael Weiss, West Bloomfield High School, for "The Devil and Daniel Goldblum;" Jerry Kenrick, Divine Child High School in Dearborn, for "Life, Friendship with the Eagles;" Chris Lamphear, Sterling Heights High School, for "El Impresor;" and Danielle DeLuca, Grosse Pointe South High School, for "Phred".

Congratulations to you all. And kudos to the judges — Ruth Pollack Coughlin, Neal Shine, Jane Rayburn, William X. Klenzie and Jim McFarlin.

What's more exciting than reading and writing? Nothing. But maybe the next best thing is to talk about writers and their works, listen to writers, and pass along good stuff about what we've read and what we've heard and what's coming up next. So let us know. This is the place.

The Carl Sandburg branch of the Livonia Public Library is inviting readers to join a spring book discussion program focusing on Michigan. Originated by librarian Irene Rauth, it's called "Let Talk About It: The Michigan Experience." The series will include books, both fiction and non-fiction, which lead the reader to experience Michigan in a first-hand, immediate way. The books are about its past and present, its wilderness and lakes, its cities and industries.

It will open Tuesday, March 1, with Harriet Arnow's "The Dollmaker," with Dr. Dorothy Lee of the University of Michigan-Dearborn, as discussion leader. Other dates are: Wednesday, March 16, Ernest Hemingway's "The Nick Adams Stories," Dr. Ernest J. Nolan of Madonna College, discussion leader; Tuesday, March 29, Fuller's "The Loon Feather," Dr. Leo McNamara, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, discussion leader; and Tuesday, May 3 with Hemming's "Gales of November: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald," with Dr. W. Patrick Sirauss of Oakland University as discussion leader.



## New gallery opens with folk concert

To mark the opening of Burton Gallery Antiques in Plymouth, folk singer Sally Rogers will entertain 10 a.m. to noon Saturday in the store, 784 S. Main. She will sing and accompany herself on traditional American instruments, dulcimer and mountain banjo. The concert is free and open to everyone. Rogers has performed at clubs, concerts and folk festivals all over the United States and Europe. She is perhaps best known for her appearances on the National Public Radio show "A Prairie Home Companion." She is appearing under auspices of the Ark coffeehouse in Ann Arbor, where she will appear for a full evening tomorrow night. For more information, call 451-1850.

## Contest's future spurts her entry

Continued from Page 1

CARPENTER FINDS that all of her early training — writing, teaching, program planning, even a year-long stint as an Observer & Eccentric staff writer — prepared her well for the job she does now. The High Performance Group's focus is on needs assessment and customer satisfaction for the auto industry as well as health insurance and utility companies.

"You go in and take a look just as you do in an educational institution. You look at who your groups are, what they need, where they're at, where they want to be. You do some strategic

planning. You look at budget and staff limitations, time lines, how can we best do that job? It's very much like designing a course for a class," Carpenter says, "and you wouldn't believe how exciting the whole process can be."

Well, yes, we would believe. We've been with Carpenter for two fun-filled hours now. We've laughed a lot, we've talked a lot, and never a wisp of a dark cloud rolled by.

"I want to have fun in my life," Carpenter says, as she prepares to leave for another meeting. "I'm a big believer in fun. I don't want to waste my life doing stuff that isn't fun."



## condo queries

**Robert M. Meisner**

Q. At the closing of our condominium unit, the developer collected an insurance reserve for the condominium association. I was not represented by an attorney and asked the developer what right he had to do that. He said it was in the best interests of the association, although there was nothing in the purchase agreement. What can I do?

A. The developer should have inserted a provision in the purchase agreement authorizing him to collect insurance reserves and any other money that he collected at closing for the benefit of the condominium association. It would also be important to ascertain how the reserves were computed for the condominium association, that is, were they based on a yearly bill or

prorated among the buildings based on the "builders risk" policy.

In short, it would have been beneficial for you to have legal counsel at closing to question the charge by the developer. I would suggest that you contact the developer and request proof of his authorization to collect the money as well as his accounting for the handling of the money.

Robert M. Meisner is a Birmingham attorney specializing in condominiums, real estate and corporate law. Questions should be directed to 30200 Telegraph, Suite 407, Birmingham, Mich. 48010. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.



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