

## Newsletter, June 2004

Hello! Happy June!

It's been a busy spring at Snowbound Press! We've been doing a lot of events and promotional work for "Hildegard and the Great Green Shirt Factory" and working on putting our next title together. In the interest of time, here's a relatively unformatted update of our news, as well as some great opportunities for booklovers and writers everywhere.

### **RAVAY SNOW ON THE RADIO...**

Jana Oliver of the Leisure Talk Radio Network interviews Ravay Snow about her children's book, the publishing process and how she made the transition from education policy work to art and writing. The interview airs at 12:30, 4:30 and 8:30 AM and PM (MDT) on Monday, June 7, Wednesday, June 9, and Friday, June 11. Shows repeat at random on Sunday, June 13.

To listen to the show:

- 1) Visit the Leisure Talk Radio Network website ([www.leisuretalk.net](http://www.leisuretalk.net)).
- 2) Click on the LISTEN button (left side of web page)
- 3) If you do not have RealAudio/WinAmp or Windows media software, links are provided for free download.

### **THE BEASTS ARE COMING!**

Snowbound Press' second title, "Beasts in the Closet" by Jeff Snow, is in production and will be coming out this fall! For more information and sneak previews, please check out our website at [www.snowboundpress.com/excerpts-B/html](http://www.snowboundpress.com/excerpts-B/html)

### **RAVAY SNOW PENS AUTHOR ANNOTATION FOR THE COLORADO COMMUNICATOR**

Former policy analyst Ravay Snow critiques the way that policy mis-uses language and contrasts it with a more "honest" use of language exemplified by good writing in children's books. This article in the May edition of the Colorado Communicator describes much policy language as "doublespeak" -- which acts against the interests of early reading teachers -- who focus on teaching for meaning. Doublespeak, on the other hand is characterized as "deliberately ambiguous or evasive language; any language that pretends to communicate but actually does not." The Colorado Communicator is the professional journal for the Colorado Council of the International Reading Association, at <http://www.ccira.org/>.

A .pdf copy of this article will be posted at the Snowbound Press website in the next week.

### **AWARDS FOR "HILDEGARDE"**

"Hildegard and the Great Green Shirt Factory" has been winning a number of prizes this year!

The 2004 Writer's Notes Magazine First Place Award for Best Children's Book!

Here's a partial review from the magazine:

This lovely book full of vivid drawings and barnyard double entendre is accessible to young readers. Hildegard uses the best in herself to realize her potential and carves a unique place in the world. "I'm not a ewe," she claims. "I'm a me."

Magazine editor Christopher Klim describes Writer's Notes as "a forum for diverse writing and terrific small press books...Writers Notes is all about assisting emerging authors and publishers, bringing new and diverse works before the public. These will be the voices of tomorrow."

More information about the magazine and the award program is available at [www.WritersNotes.com](http://www.WritersNotes.com)

**Finalist – 2004 Bill Fisher Award for Best First Book (Children's), a Benjamin Franklin Award**

The Benjamin Franklin Awards are among the most prestigious of small press awards, indicating excellence in overall editorial and design as judged by industry professionals, including acquisition librarians, bookstore buyers, wholesalers, reviewers, editors, designers, and artists. More than 1600 titles were entered for consideration in the 2004 Benjamin Franklin Awards. The award winner will be announced at a special meeting of the Publisher's Marketing Association in Chicago, IL on June 2, 2004. Check our website for updates!

**An EVVY Award from the Colorado Independent Press Association (CIPA) for Best Children's Picture Book**

EVVY awards are named for Evelyn Kaye, the founder of CIPA. More specifics will be announced at the CIPA annual awards ceremony in Denver on June 12, 2004. Stay tuned for updates on our website!

**AMAZING FREE OPPORTUNITY FOR BOOKLOVERS!**

Do you have TONS of books clogging up your shelves? Maybe some of them are great, but you're just not going to get around to reading them again? Well, here's a great new way to release those books into the wild for other discerning readers.

Join [www.BookCrossing.com](http://www.BookCrossing.com)! (One of PC Magazine's Best 100 Undiscovered Websites of 2004!)

Here's their description:

BookCrossing is a global book club that crosses time and space. It's a reading group that knows no geographical boundaries. Do you like free books? How about free book clubs? Well, the books our members leave in the wild are free... but it's the act of freeing books that points to the heart of BookCrossing. Book trading has never been more exciting, more serendipitous, than with BookCrossing.

Readers can find tens of thousands of book reviews, book ratings, and book recommendations at the site, because each time a book changes hands, members can leave journal entries telling the world of their experiences. After reading a book, the member registers it online, gets a BookCrossing ID number for the book and then releases it in a public place. You can then track where the book goes and what other readers thought of it!

**UPCOMING SNOWBOUND PRESS EVENTS**

**CHERRY CREEK TATTERED COVER!**

Ravay Snow, author and artist of "Hildegarde and the Great Green Shirt Factory", will be present for a reading and booksigning event at the Cherry Creek Tattered Cover, on Saturday, August 14, 2004 at 2 pm. In addition to the reading, young participants will participate in a creative crafts activity.

If you know of people who would like to receive a special invitation to this event, please have them contact us at [www.snowboundpress.com/commentscontact.html](http://www.snowboundpress.com/commentscontact.html) and enter their snail-mail address! Or forward this email to them!

**BORDERS -- SOUTHWEST PLAZA, LITTLETON, COLORADO**

We are currently working with the manager at this Borders store and are scheduling a children's event for later in the summer. We'll post updates on our website!

**NATIONAL COSTUMERS' CONVENTION**

Hildegarde's inner drama queen comes out in partnership with the National Costumers' Convention, held in Denver in July, 2004. Ravay Snow will be doing an author signing/sales/creativity workshop at the convention on July 12. For more information, check our website!

**USE THE SUMMER TO GET IN ON OUR SCHOOL PROGRAMS!**

Students from preschool through second and third grades are loving Ravay's art/writing presentation with Hildegarde in the Front Range. If you are with a school, please check out <http://www.snowboundpress.com/school-H.html> for information about our school fundraiser or to hire Ravay Snow to come to your school as an author, artist, or creativity consultant.

**"HILDEGARDE AND THE GREAT GREEN SHIRT FACTORY" CALLED WACKY AND SUBVERSIVE!**

Sheep needn't just be sheep is the message of this amiably wacky and subversive book about the independent-minded Hildegarde. ... Illustrations full of color and verve suit the story very well.

—Netsurfer Books, April 2004

To see more reviews, go to [www.snowboundpress.com/reviews-H.html](http://www.snowboundpress.com/reviews-H.html)

## **DO YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO WRITE A PICTURE BOOK FOR CHILDREN?**

We have two options for you!

### **CLASSES -- FOR ALL TYPES OF PUBLISHING SITUATIONS**

Ravay Snow is scheduled to teach two classes at the Grange Community Center in Castle Rock, Colorado beginning in late July, 2004. For those of you who weren't able to make the last classes due to scheduling conflicts, we've got a more user-friendly time this session -- between 9 and 12:30 on Saturday mornings. All classes last for six weeks, beginning July 24.

For information and a registration form, please contact Bethany Snyder at the Grange at the Meadows. Her phone is 303.814.3953. The Grange's address is 3692 Meadows Boulevard, Castle Rock, CO 80109. Believe it or not, it's less than 25 minutes from downtown Denver and it's a beautiful space!

For writers -- Writing Children's Picture Books  
9-10 AM, Saturdays

Can you be the next Dr. Seuss? Do you have a great picture book inside of you? In this course, you'll learn how to polish your story, develop illustration ideas, and create a "dummy" book that's ready to submit to publishers! The class is designed for both writers and illustrators and will provide success strategies for self-publishers and working with traditional publishers.

For artists -- Beginning/Intermediate watercolor/gouache painting  
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Saturdays  
Students will need to provide materials from a list provided by instructor (estimated cost of materials = \$45).

Learn to paint with transparent and opaque watercolors (also known as gouache)! This course will help you learn the medium and special tricks of the trade. You'll have opportunities to work on common assignments each week-- or you can tackle your own individual projects! Drawing experience is helpful, but not required for this class.

### **E-BOOK REFERENCE ON SELF-PUBLISHING**

Snowbound Press is featured prominently in a new e-book about publishing children's books -- which has a different set of challenges from traditional one-color publishing. The book, titled "Could You, Should You Self-Publish a Picture Book?" is written by Anne Emerich and based on extensive research with many current small publishers. The title will be available in June, 2004 at AboonBooks.com. If you would like an email sent to you when this title is available, send a message to Anne@AboonBooks.com and put Ebook in the subject line.

## **WHERE YOU CAN GET OUR BOOKS**

"Hildegarde and the Great Green Shirt Factory" is available on order from any Barnes and Noble and Borders store anywhere. They will need the ISBN number (1-932362-10X) for reference, but we are in their systems (finally)!

The title is also available in independent bookstores in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Southern California. For a more complete list of retailers who handle the title, please reference our website at [www.snowboundpress.com](http://www.snowboundpress.com)!

Hildegarde is in cyberspace as well -- you can order directly from us off of our website or from amazon.com. One word of warning -- several unscrupulous e-tailers are selling review copies as new copies from amazon at less than half the retail price! If you want to support independent presses, please order directly from us, but you can get a good deal on the title from these other people at amazon. We just don't know that the condition of the books will be as "new" as described (we stamp rev-ewe copy on every one that goes out for review!)

## **AMAZING COSTUME STORE IN THE DENVER AREA**

"Hildegarde is also available at Disguises, an enormous costume shop in Lakewood. In fact, one of the first things you may notice is the gigantic mural painting on the outside of Disguises. Ravay finished the painting of this mural in late May. (She has left several visual clues to the part that she painted -- kudos to those of you who can identify them!). If you EVER need any sort of costume, you absolutely MUST check out this store. It's the largest in the Denver area, with whole sections devoted to early Rome, the Conquistadores, the 50's, etc. There are racks and racks of Elvis (Las Vegas vintage) costumes alone! It has to be seen to be believed!

Disguises is at 9797 West Colfax in Lakewood -- the northeast corner of Colfax and Kipling, behind the Flowerama shop. They rent and sell costumes, stage makeup, and virtually every costume accessory you will ever need! Their website is at <http://www.disguisescostumes.com/>. But as I said, it must be seen to be believed!

## **"HILDEGARDE" IS PART OF THE PEACE JAM JUNIORS CURRICULUM**

"Hildegarde and the Great Green Shirt Factory" has been selected as part of the PeaceJam Juniors curriculum. PeaceJam Juniors is a program designed to teach elementary school students acceptance, respect for others, and non-violent conflict resolution skills. It will also teach children about the lives and countries of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, and encourage young people to act in service to others. Currently, PeaceJam Juniors will be piloted at three new elementary schools in the greater Denver metropolitan area for grades 1 through 6. Each participating elementary school will be "adopted" by a PeaceJam club at a local high school, giving high school PeaceJam students an opportunity to act as mentors to the elementary school students. For more information about the program, please check out [www.peacejam.org](http://www.peacejam.org).