

# The C. S. Lewis & Inklings Society

Newsletter 13 (2017)



## Inklinations

The CSLIS is an academic society that promotes Inklings studies. See our website hosted by Oral Roberts University:

[http://www.oru.edu/academics/resources/cs\\_lewis/](http://www.oru.edu/academics/resources/cs_lewis/)

**Swæt we inclinga on ærdagum  
searopancolra snyttru gehierdon . . .  
þara wæs floduig sum,  
hæleda dyrost, brad ond beorhtword . . .\***

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 20th annual conference of the C. S. Lewis and Inklings Society was held at Oral Roberts University from April 6-8, 2017. Dr. Mark Hall, Dean, College of Arts and Cultural Studies, was our host and conference coordinator. Events and sessions were held at ORU's newly constructed Global Learning Center.



Registration and opening events took place on Thursday evening featuring a special presentation of a *Portrait of J.R.R. Tolkien* by student artist Taylor Hoffer, and a *Sculpture of Aslan*, by Dan Williams of the ORU Theater Faculty. Registration, and reception of the artwork, was followed by a delightful theatrical reading of William Nicholson's play *Shadowlands*. Both Dan McGeehan, as C. S. Lewis, and Courtney Sanders, as

Joy Davidman, shined in their lead roles, with the supporting cast offering an excellent complement for a heartfelt production. The evening was capped off by ORU Art Professor Nathan Opp's virtual reality presentation of Lewis's childhood sketches of Boxen.

Friday morning began with Provost Kathleen Reid-Martinez welcoming the Society to ORU, which was followed by the first of two plenary sessions by Philip and Carol Zaleski, co-authors of *The Fellowship: The Literary Lives of the Inklings: J. R. R. Tolkien, C. S. Lewis, Owen Barfield, Charles Williams*. The Zaleski's shared those excerpts from their book which they felt coincided well with the conference theme, "The Fellowship of Friends: Community and Collaboration among the Inklings," providing us with an excellent start to our shared scholarship.



Throughout the day fifty papers (many of which were from ORU undergraduate students), and one panel discussion (“Teaching C. S. Lewis in the College Classroom,” coordinated by the ORU faculty) were presented. Conference papers were followed by our annual banquet, with Mark Hall presenting the Writing Competition Awards. The undergraduate winners were: 1st place: Best Paper: Elie Stone, Oral Roberts University, for “Echoes Through Eons: Prophetic Parallelism in C. S. Lewis’s *Perelandra*” (\$100 award), and Honorable Mention: Alyssa Edwards, Oral Roberts University, for “From Babel to Newspeak: Totalitarianism and Language in *That Hideous Strength* and *Nineteen Eighty-Four*” (\$50). For graduate papers, 1st Place: Best Paper: Sorina Higgins, Baylor University, for “Barfieldiana: Owen Barfield and the Matter of Britain” (\$100), and Honorable Mention: Craig Davidson, Dallas Theological Seminary for “C. S. Lewis in Dialogue with Hermeneutics” (\$50).



### Keynote Speakers

Philip and Carol Zaleski

Shortly after dinner, Philip and Carol Zaleski delivered their second plenary, “The Recovered Image: How Lewis, Tolkien and the Inklings Renewed Christian Culture.” Capping the evening off was a superb performance by featured artist Tom Key, playing C. S. Lewis in his dramatic monologue, *C. S. Lewis on Stage*.

Twelve more papers were presented on Saturday morning, as was the third and most lively plenary by Philip and Carol Zaleski, “The Future of Inklings Scholarship and Publication

Opportunities.” The Zaleski’s advice was well-received, and conversation was vibrant, offering a wonderful end to a delightful conference.

As it has been with previous conferences, this year offered an excellent showing of Inklings scholarship and the best of fellowship and shared faith. It is with warm affection that we thank our host, Mark Hall, his colleagues, students, and the entire ORU community for a great conference.



### Featured Artist

Tom Key

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### C. S. Lewis's Personal Library: Research Help Request

Calling out to all C. S. Lewis scholars. Do you know the location of any books formerly owned by C. S. Lewis? Over the last 10 years Dr. Roger White, Curator of the Inklings Collection at Azusa Pacific University and lead editor of *C. S. Lewis and His Circle: Essays and Memoirs from the Oxford C. S. Lewis Society* (OUP 2015), has been locating the books that were once in Lewis's personal library and is inviting input on the whereabouts of additional titles. Most of Lewis's library was acquired by the Marion E. Wade Center at Wheaton College, but portions are also found at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Taylor University; Azusa Pacific University; Magdalene College, Cambridge; and the Bodleian

Library, Oxford. Several hundred are privately owned. If you have any information about Lewis's library, please contact Dr. White at [rwhite@apu.edu](mailto:rwhite@apu.edu) or [626-815-6000](tel:626-815-6000) x5652.

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### **21st Annual CSLIS Conference**

The next CSLIS Conference will be hosted at Taylor University, May 31 – June 3, 2018, held jointly with the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial C.S. Lewis & Friends Colloquium.

The theme will be “Creativity and the Faithful Imagination,” and special guests will include Crystal Downing, Stephen Prickett, Ron Reed, Crystal Hurd, Charlie Starr, Joe Christopher, and many others.

Papers related to the works of C.S. Lewis, the Inklings, George MacDonald, Dorothy L. Sayers, and G. K. Chesterton are invited. We are especially interested in papers on the conference theme of “The Faithful Imagination.”

There will be a competition for the best undergraduate, graduate, and best faculty/scholar paper presented at this conference. NOTE: Members of CSLIS who wish to be considered for the “best paper” prizes must submit a copy of their complete paper to [mhall@oru.edu](mailto:mhall@oru.edu).

Full colloquium information will be available by October 27 at: [cslewisandfriendscolloquium.wordpress.com](http://cslewisandfriendscolloquium.wordpress.com).

Membership forms can be downloaded at [http://www.oru.edu/academics/resources/cs\\_lewis/](http://www.oru.edu/academics/resources/cs_lewis/).

### **Starting Local Chapters of CSLIS**

If you enjoy the fellowship and scholasticism at our annual conferences, why not continue such activities year-round? Local chapters of CSLIS help you

stay in touch with Society members you meet at conferences while promoting interest in the Inklings within your local community. By starting a local chapter, you will receive access to the following online services of the Society:

- Suggested readings
- Scheduled topics for local discussions
- Service opportunities (read-a-thons, etc.)

Requirements: You must have at least 5 members to be recognized as a local chapter of CSLIS, and you need a Spokesperson to act as the local contact for regular correspondence. Chapters composed of college students could request a faculty member to be their sponsoring Spokesperson and could apply to their university's student board to fund their own various local events (for instance, to pay for snacks at meetings or book discussions).

All chapters must abide by the Mission Statement as found on the Society's website:

[www.oru.edu/academics/resources/cs\\_lewis/](http://www.oru.edu/academics/resources/cs_lewis/)

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

Please don't forget to renew your CSLIS membership. This entitles all members to

- present their papers at the conference
- receive society newsletters, updates
- participate in CSLIS Writing Contests

The cost is \$10 for students and retired faculty, or \$20 for faculty and independent scholars. The form for applying or renewing, required along with your payment, is available online:

[https://webapps.oru.edu/new\\_php/academics/resources/cslewis/membership.php](https://webapps.oru.edu/new_php/academics/resources/cslewis/membership.php)

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**HERE'S WHAT OUR MEMBERS  
ARE DOING:  
RECENT SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY**

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**Joe R. Christopher, Tarleton  
State University**

**Essays Published**

[Note: these were listed as forthcoming last year—one of them was a year late, with a change of publisher, in appearing.]

“Anthony Boucher’s Greatest Horror Story.” *Mythlore* vol. 35, no.1, Fall/Winter 2016, pp. 85-93.

“An Ekphrasis by C. S. Lewis: ‘On a Picture by Chirico.’” *Inklings Forever: Volume X: Papers from the 10<sup>th</sup> Frances White Eubank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends*, ed. Joe Ricke and Rick Hill. Hamden CT: Winged Lion Press, 2017, pp. 184-203.

**Short Review**

Review of *J. R. R. Tolkien: The Mind of a Genius: 100 Years of Middle-earth*. Newsweek Topix Media Special, 2017. *Beyond Bree*, March 2017, p. 7.

**Privately Printed Chapbook**

*Logres: A Revised, Expanded, and Reorganized Version*. The Bosque River Press, 2017.

**Papers Read**

“The Harlequinades of Agatha Christie.” The Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Addison TX, 6 October 2017.

“Lindskoog vs. Hooper: ‘Christian Reunion.’” C. S. Lewis and Inklings Society, Tulsa OK, 7 April 2017.

**Poems Read**

“How Strange Thou Art,” “Expiration Date,” “The Turn,” “By Stardust Molded,” “Reply to Star KIC8462852,” “The Pictograph on Pioneers 10 and 11,” “Farewell to Worldly Things,” and “Finis.” Langdon Review Weekend, Granbury TX, 8 September 2017.

“The Spoils of Annwn,” “Character Sketch,” “King Arthur’s Utilitarian Principles,” “The Grail Chapel,” and “The Golden Figures.” Windhover Literary Festival, Belton TX, 17 February 2017.

**Larry E. Fink, Hardin-Simmons  
University**

**Conference Presentations**

“Holy Moments: The Sacred Concrete in Classic Street Photography.” West Conference on Christianity and Literature; San Diego, CA; May 2017.

“Sacred Spaces and Holy Moments.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature; Addison, TX; October 2017.

**Informal Presentation**

“C.S. Lewis’s Latin Letters.” St. Paul Methodist Church, Abilene, TX; September 2017

**Jonathan Himes, John Brown  
University**

**Articles Published**

“Viking Literature and Christianity: A Place-as-Text Approach,” *Intégrité: A Faith and Learning Journal* (Spring 2017)

“Waldere.” *The Encyclopedia of British Medieval Literature*. Ed. Robert Rouse and Sian Echard. Wiley-Blackwell (2016)

**Book Reviews**

Beowulf: *A New Verse Rendering*. Wilson, Douglas. Review for *Christian Scholar's Review* Spring 2017

*Beren and Luthien*. J. R. R. Tolkien. Ed. Christopher Tolkien. Review for *Sehnsucht* Vol. 11 (2017)

*Both Sides of the Wardrobe*. Fennell, Rob. Review for *Sehnsucht* 10 (2016)

**Poem Published**

“Fleeting.” *Cave Region Review: A Journal of Literary and Visual Art* vol. 9, 2017.

**Presentations**

“The Epic Scale of Heroic Geographies: *Beowulf*, *Waldere*, and *Waltharius*,” 30-minute presentation, at the *Epic & Romance* international symposium hosted by the School of Foreign Studies, Nanjing University, China, June 18, 2017

**Martin Batts, LeTourneau  
University**

**Paper Presented**

“Luther's Reformation of Music during the Protestant Reformation” at Baylor University's Faith and Culture meeting in October

**Janice Brown, Professor  
Emerita, Grove City College**

**Book Published**

*The Lion in the Waste Land: Fearsome Redemption in the Work of C. S. Lewis, Dorothy L. Sayers, and T. S. Eliot*. The Kent State University Press, forthcoming

**Salwa Khoddam, Professor of  
English, Emerita, Oklahoma  
City University**

**Essay Published**

Khoddam, Salwa and Horace Jeffrey Hodges, “The Peach in Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Marvell's ‘Garden,’ and Eliot's ‘Prufrock’: Etymology, Sin, and Transgression.” *Medieval and Early Modern English Studies*, vol. 24, no. 1, 2016, pp. 115-50.

**Book Published**

Khoddam, Salwa, Dario Riva Rossa, and Carter Kaplan, trans. *Creation of the World (Il mondo creato)* by Torquato Tasso. International Authors, 2016.

## **Ben Parker, Northern Illinois University**

### **Book Review Published**

Review of *Bedeviled: Lewis, Tolkien, and the Shadow of Evil* by Colin Duriez. *Christianity and Literature* vol. 65, no. 4, 2016, pp. 521-24.

### **Presentation**

“Utopia in Deep Heaven: Thomas More and C. S. Lewis’s Space Trilogy.” Chicago: Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, 6-9 October 2016.

## **Jennifer Raimundo, Institutional Planning Team Leader, Signum University**

### **Essay Published**

Raimundo, Jennifer. “Mirth’s Might: The Tenacity of Humour in the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien.” *Laughter in Middle-earth: Humour in and around the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien*, edited by Thomas M. Honegger and Maureen F. Mann, Walking Tree Publishers, 2016.

### **Presentation**

“Native Language in a Strange Country: Death and Rebirth in the Friendship of C.S. Lewis and Charles Williams.” 10th Francis White Ewbank Colloquium on C.S. Lewis and Friends, 4 June 2016. Taylor University, Upland, IN. Paper Presentation.

## **Harvey Solganick, Professor of Philosophy, Humanities, The College at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary**

### **Presentations**

“C.S. Lewis on Evangelism and Discipleship.” Discipleship University. First Baptist Church of Dallas. September 11-November 20, 2016.

“Angling toward the Anglican Trinity: C.S. Lewis’ Triune God and His Implications for Evangelical Theology.” Evangelical Theological Society National Conference. San Antonio, TX. November 15, 2016.

### **Essay Published**

Solganick, Harvey. “The Philosophical Theology of Scientocracy.” *Journal of Biblical Theology*. 2017.

### **Book Proposal**

Solganick, Harvey. *Becoming an Evangelical Apologetic Disciple for Christ—Lessons from C.S. Lewis*. Publisher TBA, Sabbatical Proposal, 2016-2017.

## **Charlie Starr**

At CSLIS conference, participated in the panel on publishing and gave a joint presentation with Jim Stockton on several unpublished Lewis documents and the need to step up scholarly scrutiny and accuracy of Lewis transcription work.

Consulted on multiple projects regarding dating Lewis’ handwriting, authenticating suspect Lewis mss and autographs, and

checking transcriptions for new publications.

Obtained a contract for publication from Kent State's Black Squirrel publishing line to release a book in 2018 called *The Faun's Bookshelf: C. S. Lewis on Why Myth Matters*. Will be a keynote speaker on the book at the upcoming Taylor/CSLIS conference in June of '18.

## **Jim Stockton, Lecturer of Philosophy, Boise State University**

### **Paper Presented**

ORU Conference paper: Presented by Jim Stockton and Charlie Starr: *The Unpublished Letters of C. S. Lewis to Charles Talbut Onions*.

## **Donald T. Williams, Professor of English, Toccoa Falls College**

### **Book Published**

*Deeper Magic: The Theology behind the Writings of C. S. Lewis*. Square Halo Books, 2016.

### **Book Reviews Published**

Review of *Philosophy in Seven Sentences: A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic*, by Douglas Groothuis. *Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity*, vol. 30, no. 2, March/April 2017, p. 51.

Review of *Bandersnatch*, by Diana Pavlac Glyer. *CSL: The Bulletin of the*

*New York C. S. Lewis Society*, vol. 48, no. 4, July/Aug. 2017, p. 15.

### **Articles Published**

"C. S. Lewis: Defender of the Faith." *Christian Research Journal*, vol. 40, no. 2, 2017.

"Answers for Orual: C. S. Lewis as a role Model for Winsome Apologists," (2016 Presidential Address from the annual meeting of the International Society for Christian Apologetics), *The Journal of the International Society of Christian Apologetics*, vol. 10, no. 1, 2017, pp. 5-20.

"Defending the Christian Sexual Ethic: A Socratic-Question Approach," *Christian Research Journal*, vol. 40, no. 4, 2017, pp. 42-46.

"An Encouraging Book: How Tolkien's Lord of the Rings Saved Me," *Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity*, vol. 30, no. 5, 2017, pp. 30-34.

"Beyond Personality": C. S. Lewis on the Doctrine of the Trinity," *Global Journal of Classical Theology*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2017.

"Compelling Interests," *Underlying Assumptions* (online), Sept. 28, 2017.

### **Papers Presented**

Presented "The Most Probable Explanation": An Evaluation of C. S. Lewis's Apologetic Arguments" at the annual meetings of the Southeastern Region of the Evangelical Theological Society at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY on

March 17, 2017, and at the annual meeting of The International Society of Christian Apologetics at the Hope Center in Dallas, TX, March 2;

Presented “An Encouraging Thought: The Christian Worldview of Tolkien’s Middle Earth” at the annual meeting of the C. S. Lewis and Inklings Society at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, OK on April 7.

Presented “Lewis’s Argument from Desire Revisited” at Mythcon, the annual meeting of the Mythopoeic Society (for the study of C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, and fantasy literature in general) in Urbana, IL., July 28-31, 2017.

### **Speaking Engagements**

Presented a seminar on “The Christian World View in Narnia and Middle Earth” at Campus Church (Reformed Baptist) in Welwyn Garden City, a suburb of London, England, on Saturday, May 20, 2017;

Spoke on “The Christian Worldview of Tolkien’s Middle Earth” at Mythmoot in Alexandria, Va., June 1-3, 2017;

Was a plenary speaker at a conference sponsored by the Atlanta C. S. Lewis Institute and Ravi Zacharias International Ministries in Alpharetta, Ga., June 16-17, 2017, addressing the topic of Reason and Imagination in Lewis’s apologetics.

Preached at four churches in England (Campus Church in Welwyn Garden City, Alexander Road

Congregational Church, Hatfield Evangelical Church, and Chesham Evangelical Church) during the week of May 21-28;

Taught at a Bible Conference, preached at several churches, addressed the national meeting of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Uganda, and served as a consultant to its General Assembly in Kampala, Uganda, June 25-July 1;

Preached at the “Mere Christian Worship Service” at Mythcon, the annual meeting of the Mythopoeic Society (for the study of C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, and fantasy literature in general) in Urbana, IL., July 28-31;

Preached at University Church in Athens, Ga., on Sunday, July 9, at First Presbyterian Church, Toccoa, on Sunday, July 16, at All Souls Church (P.C.A.) in Urbana, IL., on Sunday, July 30, and at University Church, Athens, Ga., on Sunday, Sept. 3, Sunday, Sept. 10, and Sunday, Sept. 28 To hear the sermons at University Church online, go to [www.theuniversitychurch.org](http://www.theuniversitychurch.org)

## **Reggie Weems**

### **Article Published**

“Universalism Denied: C. S. Lewis’ Unpublished Letters to Alan Fairhurst.” *The Journal of Inklings Studies*, Oct. 2017.