

The C. S. Lewis & Inklings Society

Newsletter 7.1 (2012)



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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/

**Swæt we inclinga on ærdagum
searþancolra snyttru gehierdon . . .
þara wæs flodrig sum,
hæleda dyrost, brad ond beorhtword . . .***

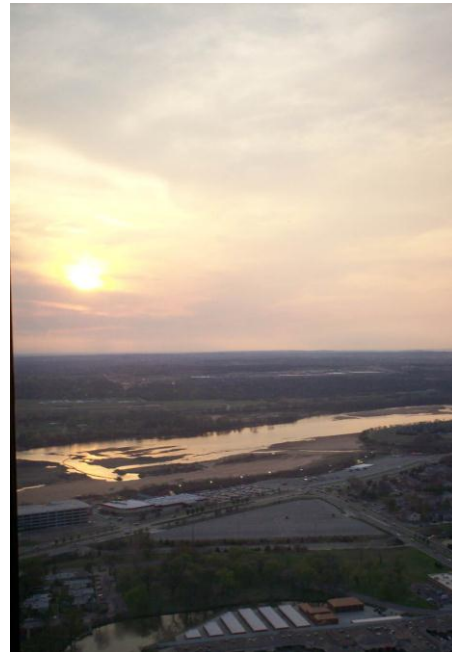
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On the weekend of April 1-2, 2011, presenters from 16 different college or university campuses across the U.S., both secular and private, came to the 14th Annual C.S. Lewis & The Inklings Society Conference at Oral Roberts University (ORU) in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Our host for this year's meeting at ORU was once again Mark Hall, long-time friend of the CSLIS and Executive Board member.



Mark Hall reads a passage from the Narnia Chronicles



Tulsa from Banquet Room, Cityplex Tower's 60th floor

The Society was again pleased to offer cash awards for winning papers: Chuck Fowler (ORU undergraduate), "The Third One at St. Annes"; J. Cameron Moore (Baylor graduate student), "Man Found Alive with Two Legs": Chesterton's Defamiliarizing Method"; Jason Fisher (Dallas scholar), "J.R.R. Tolkien's Hapax Legomena: the Devil in the Word-hoard." Congratulations!

*"Lo! we have heard in old days of the wisdom of the cunning-minded Inklings. . . One of them was [Lewis], dearest of men, broad and bright of word" (Humphrey Carpenter, *Inklings* 176-77).

Honorable Mentions for best paper included Amaris Woodard (ORU undergraduate), “The Psychology Behind That Hideous Strength”; Dave Bukenhofer (U of OK graduate student), “Lewis and Religious Philosophy”; Janet Brennan Croft (U of OK scholar), “The Hen That Laid the Eggs: Tolkien and the Officers Training Corps.”



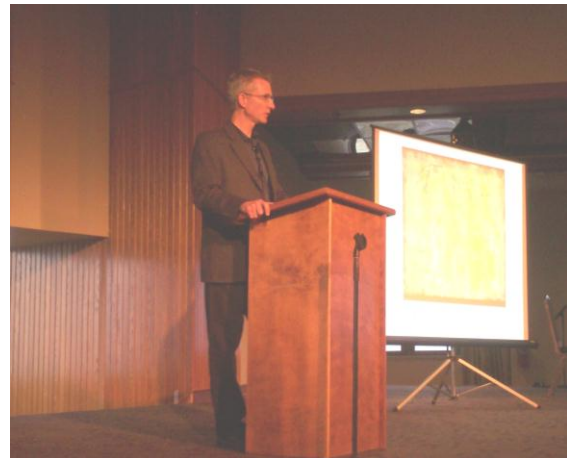
Concurrent paper sessions included topics not only on Lewis and Tolkien, but on Charles Williams, George MacDonald, G. K. Chesterton, and Dorothy Sayers. Most papers dealt in various ways with this year’s theme of “The Face of Myth in a World of Reason.” Attendees enjoyed ORU’s light refreshments between sessions. Eighth Day Books again offered a vast collection of Inklings literature and secondary sources.



Andrew Lazo (M.A., Rice University), our plenary speaker Friday and Saturday mornings, is a well-known speaker on the

Inklings who has taught courses on myth and C.S. Lewis at the University of Houston for years, and co-edited *Mere Christians: Inspiring Encounters with C.S. Lewis* (Baker Books, 2009).

Lazo’s presentations on “Illuminating Ungit: Unveiling the Deep Mysteries of Love in C.S. Lewis’s Last Novel” made inspiring connections between Lewis’s 1960 poem “As the Ruin Falls” (and his relationship with Joy Davidman) with his last and finest work of fiction, *Till We Have Faces*. In this novel, the convincing portrait of the female protagonist, Orual, making her complaint to the gods, reveals her journey from selfish possession (like Ungit, the raw goddess) to charitable *agape* as she assists her sister Psyche, and in the process, acquires a “face,” one that can know, and be known by, Love itself.



Kurt Bruner, our keynote speaker on Friday evening, served as Group Vice President for Focus on the Family’s radio dramas like *The Chronicles of Narnia*, and is a best-selling author of *Finding God in the Land of Narnia*. Bruner presented a series of devotional meditations on the works of both J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis, reminding us of biblical parallels and truths to be found in the fictional works of the Inklings.



NEWS

15th Annual CSLIS Conference, May 31-June 2, 2012

The next CSLIS Conference will be hosted at Taylor University, in partnership with their event, the 8th biennial “Francis White Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends.”

We are pleased to announce our keynote speakers, Alan Jacobs, whose presentation title is “Distinguo!” and David Downing, whose talk will be “Journey to Joy: C.S. Lewis's Pilgrim's Regress.” Ron Reed will read a new play which imagines that C.S. Lewis was the last patient of Sigmund Freud.

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:

- Blogs on the Inklings
- Monthly suggested readings
- Scheduled topics for local discussions
- Service opportunities (read-a-thons, etc.)

Also, membership in local chapters makes you eligible for **student stipends for conference expense**, among other additional benefits, at no additional cost beyond your annual CSLIS membership fee. Ask J. Himes for further details. Please register your local chapter with the CSLIS today! (contact: jhimes@jbu.edu)

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.

MEMBERSHIP

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

- present your paper at the conference
- receive society newsletters and updates
- participate in CSLIS Writing Contests

The cost is \$10 for students, 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

HERE'S WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING: RECENT SCHOLARSHIP & OTHER ACTIVITY

Devin Brown

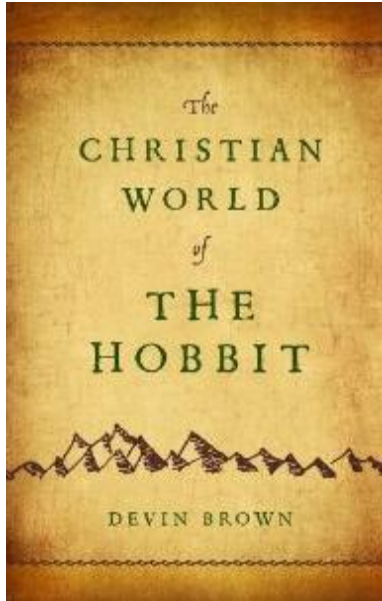
Publications

Editorial Assistance, *The Annotated Screwtape Letters*, HarperOne, (forthcoming).

Editorial Assistance, *Light: C.S. Lewis's First and Final Short Story*, Winged Lion Press, Spring 2012.

My Real Country: A New Biography of C. S. Lewis, Brazos Press, Summer 2013 (forthcoming).

The Christian World of The Hobbit, Abingdon Press, October 2012 (forthcoming).



Book Review: *C. S. Lewis and the Church: Essays in Honor of Walter Hooper*, Edited by Judith Wolfe and Brendan Wolfe, T & T Clark, 2011. For *Religion and Literature*, Issue 44.1, Summer 2012.

Book Review: *Reasoning Beyond Reason: Imagination as a Theological Source in the Work of C. S. Lewis* by J. T. Sellars. For *Christianity and Literature*, Spring 2012.

"A Look at Richard Platt's New Work, As One Devil to Another."
www.cslewis.com, March 5, 2012.

Presentations

Kickoff Speaker, "Fantasy Literature Is Literature," The Big Read, St. Catherine College, Kentucky, February 26, 2012.

Invited Speaker, The University of Wisconsin C. S. Lewis Society Seminar, July 16, 2011.

Joe R. Christopher

Secretary, Science Fiction and Fantasy Section, South Central Modern Language Association, 28 October 2011, Hot Springs, Arkansas. Also elected chair of the section for next year at San Antonio, Texas.

Discussant. Panel on fantasy poetry, Mythcon 42, 17 July 2011, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Introducer and organizer. Original poetry. Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. 30 September, 2011, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas.

Joe continues to co-edit the journal *Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature*

Publications

"Through Darkest Narnia with Gun and Camera." *The Lamp-Post* 32:4 (Winter 2010): 3-23.

"Charles Williams Meets Dr. Fu Manchu." *The Charles Williams Quarterly* No. 137 (Winter 2010): 9-21.

"The Dantean Structure of The Great Divorce." *Mythlore* 29.3-4/113-114 (Spring-Summer 2011): 77-99.

"Two Different Marches: Comments on the 'Narnian Suite.'" *The Lamp-Post* 33.2 (Summer 2011): 3-18.

"From Despoina to Delta" in *Mythlore* 30:3-4 (issue no. 117-118, 2012): 27-53.

Published a poem, "On a Friend Becoming an Oblate in the Order of Julian of Norwich." *Windhover* No.15 (April 2011): 16-17; and a poem about Evelyn Underhill, "Background Cover," in *Windhover* 16 (Spring 2012): 70.

Signed contract for the publication of a book of poetry, tentatively titled *Ars Poetica*, from Edwin Mellen Press.

Review of, Mary Stewart Van Leeuwen's book *A Sword between the Sexes?: C. S. Lewis and the Gender Debates*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Brazos Press, 2010. 264 pp. *Mythlore* 29.3-4/113-114 (Spring-Summer 2011): 173-178.

Papers Read

“C. S. Lewis’s Problem with ‘The Franklin’s Tale.’” Mythcon 42, 17 July 2011, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

“On Shadows of Ecstasy as Autobiography.” [Shorter version.] The C. S. Lewis and Inklings Society Conference, 1 April 2011, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma. [Longer version.] Mythcon 42, 18 July 2011. Albuquerque, New Mexico.

“Pitter vs. Lewis.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, 30 September 2011, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas.

“J. R. R. Tolkien’s Influence on Narnia.” South Central Modern Language Association (Science Fiction and Fantasy Section). 28 October 2011, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

John Granger

Articles

“Imagining a World Without Harry Potter.” Washington Post, Sunday editorial section, 14 July, 2011.

“Harry Potter Is Here to Stay: Why the final movie is only the beginning of the Harry Potter phenomenon.” Christianity Today, July, 2011.

“Why I am Sadly Indifferent to PotterMore.” International Business Daily, 22 June 2011.

Conference Presentations

2012 ‘The World Turned Inside-Out and Right-Side Up: What Harry Potter Teaches Us About Reading, Writing, and Literary Criticism.’ Keynote Presentation at A Brand of Fictional Magic: Imaginative Empathy in Harry Potter, 18 May. St. Andrew’s University, St. Andrew’s, Scotland.

2011 ‘Lost and Found: A **Magical Headmaster’s Letter to C. S. Lewis.**’ Keynote Presentation at Replacing Wands With Quills: A Harry Potter Symposium for Muggle Scholars. 12 November, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

2011 ‘Writing in Circles: Harry Potter and the Magic of Ring Composition,’ ‘Harry Potter and the Metaphysical Center: A ‘Theory of Everything’ to Tie Together the Artistry and Meaning Driving Potter-Mania.’ Featured Presentations at Leaky Con 2. 14-18 July, Leaky Cauldron. Loews Portofino Hotel, Universal Orlando Resort, Orlando, Florida.

Mark Hall

Co-organized with Andrew S.I.D. Lang, a professor of mathematics, a conference hosted at ORU on Science and Science Fiction, April 12-13, 2012. Titled “When Worlds Collide: Science Faith, and the Imagination,” the conference explored the relationships between science fiction and hard science, social science, and theology.

Attending the conference were participants from at least 14 U.S. colleges and universities.

Hall read his paper at this conference: "Reflections of Temptation: The Green Lady and Eve in *Perelandra* and *Paradise Lost*."

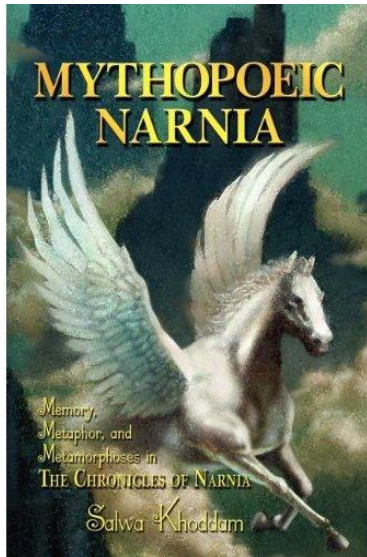
Salwa Khoddam

Presented a paper, “Dorothy Sayer’s Triune of the Creative Mind and C.S. Lewis” Ideas on Creativity With Some Illustrations from The Chronicles of Narnia” at The 14th Annual CSLIS Conference at Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 1-2, 2011.

Books and reviews published:

Mythopoeic Narnia: Memory, Metaphor, and Metamorphoses in The Chronicles of Narnia. Hamden, CT: Winged Lion Press, 2011





The Inklings: Discovering Hidden Truth, Editor, with Mark Hall and Jason Fisher, a collection of essays presented at the CSLIS conference in 2010 at Oklahoma City University. Forthcoming, December 2012, by Cambridge Scholars Press.

Introduction for a former student's collection of poems: *No Child More Perfect & Other Poems* by Shannon Kline. Delhi, India: Narala, 2011.

Review of *The C.S. Lewis Bible*. HarperCollins, 2010 published in c.s.lewis.com.

Review of *The Cambridge Companion to C.S. Lewis*. Eds. Robert MacSwain and Michael Ward. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2010, published in *Religion and Literature* 44.1 (2012).

David Rozema

Book Chapter

"Not the Crime, But the Man: Sherlock Holmes and Charles Augustus Milverton" in *Philosophy and Sherlock Holmes*, University of Kentucky Press, 2012.

Articles

"Inside-out or Outside-in? Lewis and Dostoevsky on the 'New Man'," *Christian Scholar's Review*, Winter 2011.

Review of *Maxims* by François de La Rochefoucauld, trans. Stuart D. Warner and Stéphane Douard, *Saint Austin Review*, October 2011.

Review of *Looking for the King* by David C. Downing, *Saint Austin Review*, February 2012.

Conference Presentations

"C.S. Lewis on the Transformative Power of Literature" 2011 Oxbridge Seminar, Cambridge University, Cambridge, England, August 1-4, 2011.

"*The First Circle* and the Second Government: Solzhenitsyn's Hierarchy of Freedom." Conference on Christianity and Literature Midwest Regional Meeting, Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 18-19, 2012.

Donald Williams

Named as R. A. Forrest Scholar at Toccoa Falls College, Toccoa Falls, GA.

Elected to Executive Committee, International Society of Christian Apologetics, April, 2012.

Publications

"The Praise of Christ in English Devotional Poetry," *The Global Journal of Classical Theology* 9:1 (June, 2011), online at http://www.phc.edu/gj_toc9_1.php.

"Inklings Anniversaries," *Beyond Bree: The Tolkien Special Interest Group Newsletter of American Mensa* (July, 2011): 5.

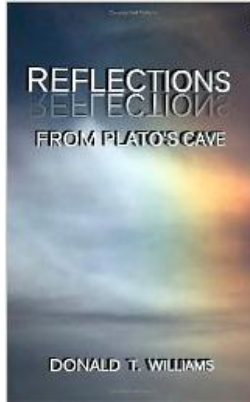
"The Loves of Learning: Thoughts on Christian Education," *Christian Educator's Journal*, 51:1 (Oct., 2011): 30-32.

"An Unexpected Visit" (short story), *The Gallery of Worlds* (online) Winter, 2012.

"Wholly Grounded: Donald T. Williams on a few Facts Learned in the Holy Land," *Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity* 25:2 (March/April 2012): 17-18.

"Lies of the Poets" (poem), *Journal of Formal Poetry* (online), Spring, 2012.

Reflections from Plato's Cave: Essays in Evangelical Philosophy (Lynchburg: Lantern Hollow Press, 2012), 272pp, pbk, \$15.00. Order from <http://lanternhollow.wordpress.com/store/>.



sponsored by francisschaefferstudies.org and the L. Russ Bush Center at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, NC, Feb., 2012.

"The Praise of Christ in English Poetry," Friday, March 30, 2012 in a special convocation at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA.

Presentations

"Lacking, Ludicrous, or Logical? The Validity of Lewis's 'Trilemma,'" and "A Tryst with the Transcendentals: C. S. Lewis on Beauty, Truth, and Goodness, Part I: Beauty," at the annual meeting of The International Society of Christian Apologetics at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, NC, May 6-7, 2011.

"Lewis as a Medievalist," at the annual summer workshop of the Southern California C.S. Lewis Society in Los Angeles, June 18, 2011.

"A Tryst with the Transcendentals: C. S. Lewis on Beauty, Truth, and Goodness, Part III: Goodness," " at Mythcon, the annual meeting of the Mythopoeic Society in Albuquerque, New Mexico, July 15-18, 2011.

Panel Discussion on "Poetry in Fantasy Literature" " at Mythcon, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, July 15-18, 2011.

"For the Sake of the Story': Doctrine and Discernment in Reading C. S. Lewis," the R. A. Forrest Scholar Inaugural Lecture in Grace Chapel at Toccoa Falls College on Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012.

"True Truth: Francis Schaeffer's Legacy," at the 100th birthday celebration for Schaeffer in Kansas City, MO,

