

Number 24:
Winter 2005

Clarion
the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Workshop

Director: Elizabeth Zernechel
Coordinator: Mary Sheridan
Assistants: Sarah Gibbons,
Kate Fedewa
Web page: Dawn Martin

Newsletter

IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT...

...get out of the kitchen. And that's exactly what the thirteen participants of the 2005 Clarion Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers' Workshop did. Eschewing the trappings of cuisine and throwing nutritional caution to the wind, they thrived on sandwiches and cereal, producing 79 stories with an impressive, carbohydrate-fueled total of 370,400 words.

The participants came to this year's workshop from eleven different states as well as Canada and Norway. Their educational backgrounds ranged from Art to Physics to Psychology, and their professions were just as varied.

Clarion 2005 was taught by a talented staff of writers and editors: Joan Vinge, Charles Coleman Finlay, Cory Doctorow, Leslie What, Sheila Williams, Gwyneth Jones and Walter Jon Williams. In addition to teaching and critiquing, the writers-in-residence gave free public readings and signings at local book shops and libraries.



From left to right—

Front Row: Way Jeng; Ian Tregillis; E. M. Zernechel; Kim Jollow Zimring; Traci N. Castleberry; Christopher M. Knox.

Middle Row: Tom Barlow; Alex Cybulski; Joan D. Vinge, Writer-in-Residence; Charles Coleman Finlay, Writer-in-Residence; T. L. Taylor.

Back Row: Bjorn Harald Nordtveit; Kyle D. Kinder; Lister M. Matheson, Director; Bill Purcell; Sean T. Finn.

Director's Corner

Crossroads happen for any organization. We all see them in front of us and ask the same questions: Should we go one way into the future? Shall we stand here a while and check out the view? Or should we step off the path, into those possibilities we have only imagined? There is no right answer and there is no wrong, just progress down the road. Clarion stands at the crossroad and what we see is bright.

It's not a question of choosing a direction for Clarion, or even changing paths, but of merging. Clarion has always excelled at merging the lives of young authors. Now it is our turn.

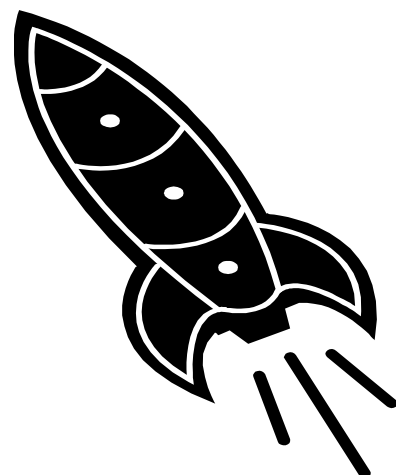
The creation of the Clarion Foundation brightens the future of Clarion and is a beacon of light to all who attended the workshop. With the Foundation we hope to bring all Clarionites together, to bring the writers of tomorrow into a fold of support and strength. Also, new projects and old, including fundraising like the Clarion Auction and better publicity via the web and email, are underway.



So we at Clarion tip our hats to everyone who has walked with us over the last thirty-nine years and branched off to find their own way in this land of literature. This year we hope all of you will stop back in and walk on our new road with the Clarion Foundation and share in the Clarion experience. I am honored to be a part of this great organization and look forward to six months from now when we'll welcome in the Clarion class of 2006.

All the best,

Elizabeth Zernehel-Bell



Clarion Foundation Works to Support Workshop

The Clarion Workshop is proud to announce the creation of the not-for-profit Clarion Foundation, which is committed to supporting the Clarion Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Workshop! The Board of Directors of The Clarion Foundation is made up of past Clarion teachers, alumni and friends and includes Chair Kate Wilhelm, Vice Chair James Patrick Kelly, Treasurer Nancy Etchemendy, Secretary Leslie What, as well as Walter Jon Williams, Karen Joy Fowler, Kim Stanley Robinson, Kelly Link and Cory Doctorow.

Kate Wilhelm said, "We wanted to preserve the classic Clarion experience but saw the need to revamp some of what goes on behind the scenes. I was gratified that so many friends of Clarion volunteered to help. Now that we have official tax-exempt status, we will seek new funding sources and continue to improve the workshop."

Please help Clarion continue...

The Clarion Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Workshop needs subsidies to underwrite our annual workshop and scholarship program. Your gift can help toward the education of promising authors who publish some of the best and most innovative work written today.

We invite you to become a Friend of Clarion! Just mail the form below to the Clarion Office, indicating the membership level on your check made out to Clarion Workshop, Michigan State University. **For details on membership benefits, or to donate online, please visit www.msu.edu/~clarion.** Questions? Contact us at clarion@msu.edu or (517) 355-9598.

Clarion **Star** (\$25) Newsletter, Clarion mug, Email updates and invitations to readings

Clarion **Comet** (\$100) Signed Clarion current year poster

Clarion **Galaxy** (\$250) Signed Clarion T-Shirt

Clarion **Nebula** (\$500) Personally signed copy of a book by a current instructor

Clarion **Supernova** (\$1000) Six personally signed books (one from each current instructor)

Please note that each level of Friends of Clarion includes all the benefits of the levels before it.

Name _____ Year at Clarion (if any) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Mail this form and your check
(payable to Clarion Workshop) to:

Clarion Writers' Workshop
112 Olds Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1047



My address has changed!!!

If you have moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses, or have other updates for us, please send an email to clarion@msu.edu or clip and fill out this form and mail it to the address above!

Please update my information in the Clarion database
so that I can receive any future mailings and communications!



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

Primary email address: _____



Each year brings a little more wear and tear on the items that Clarion uses most. As we continue to tighten our metaphorical belt this year, we are asking you, our alumni and friends, to take a quick look around the house or office for new or gently used items that you might be able to donate to the Clarion Workshop. Below you will find our wish list of things that would be particularly useful, beneficial, and appreciated in the coming year.

Items may be sent to the Clarion office (112 Olds Hall, MSU, East Lansing, MI, 48824-1047). Most gifts are tax-deductible. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, we would love to hear from you! Email clarion@msu.edu or call (517) 355-9598.

Clarion's Holiday Wish List

We are wishing for...

- ~ A new (or gently used) copy machine
- ~ Email addresses from all of our alumni and friends
 - ~ Portable air conditioners
- ~ A portable radio or cd player
 - ~ A small microwave
- ~ Subscriptions to *F & SF*, *Realms*, or other genre magazines
 - ~ Squirt guns
- ~ Publicity on alumni blogs and webpages
 - ~ A color printer
- ~ A scanner or all-in-one
- ~ Professional publication for all our alumni!
 - ~ Reams of copy paper
 - ~ Intergalactic peace

A Letter From the Trenches

It has been a year of changes for the Clarion Writers' Workshop. The newly-created Clarion Foundation has provided us with encouragement, advice, and plenty of volunteer-based help. Clarion's on-the-ground MSU staff hopes the current work with the Foundation is just the beginning of a long and beneficial partnership. See our news item on page 2 for more details about the Foundation.

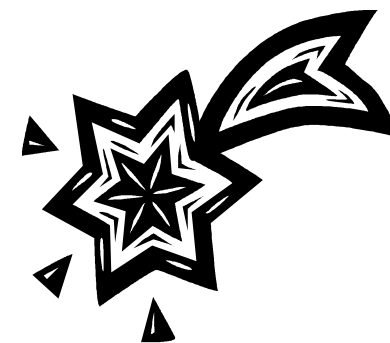


After almost ten years of faithful service to Clarion, MSU Professor Lister Matheson retired from his post as Director of Clarion on August 1, 2005. During the search for a new director, Professor David Wright (Director '80, '86, '87, '91) graciously agreed to serve as an MSU Faculty Liason for the Clarion Workshop. Professor Liz Zernehel has recently been appointed as the new Director, and we are confident she will work with the same dedication and enthusiasm that Dr. Matheson and all past Clarion directors have shown.

Other new faces have also been seen around the Clarion office. David Edmonds, friend and Clarion supporter, has volunteered his time toward Clarion's publicity efforts. As Clarion's new Advertising Designer, he recently created a dramatic new line of print ads. Dawn Martin, a long time supporter of Clarion, has volunteered to serve as Clarion's Web Designer and has given the entire website an exciting new look. Over the summer, Clarion benefitted from the energy and enthusiasm of Anne Zaroni, who volunteered her time over the opening weekend of the workshop, working tirelessly to ensure that participants and instructors alike were settled comfortably. We wish to thank all of our volunteers for their wonderful work.

Clarion would also like to thank the businesses and organizations that helped make this summer's workshop such a success. Ray Walsh, owner of Archives and Curious Book Shops in East Lansing, provided a location for several of the workshop's readings and book signings this year, as in past years, as well as sponsoring the Curious Book Shop Clarion scholarship. In 2005 Clarion worked with Lansing area Barnes and Noble Book-sellers and Schuler Books and Music to raise funds and host launches and panel discussions. We've also begun an exciting new partnership this year with Capital Area District Library. Our work with CADL has allowed Clarion to expand our summer events, reaching a broader selection of the local community.

Clarion is getting reacquainted with old friends this winter in preparation for the return of the 2006 workshop to Owen Graduate Center Residence Hall on the campus of Michigan State University. We are delighted to renew our amity with the Owen Hall staff and strengthen our ties to MSU. We look forward to a successful 2006 workshop and hope all of our university and community partnerships will continue in the many years to come.



All the best, and happy reading and writing!

The Clarion Workshop Staff

Scholarship Night 2005

On Wednesday, July 20, 2005, at Archives Book Shop in East Lansing, Michigan, writers-in-residence Walter John Williams and Leslie What delivered wonderful public readings before joining director Lister Matheson in presenting scholarships to the participants of Clarion 2005.

Thanks to the unfailing generosity of our donors, Clarion was able to award scholarships to each of the 13 participants. The scholarship recipients were as follows:



Thomas Barlow

- The Knight-Wilhelm Endowed Scholarship
- The Curious Book Shop Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship
- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

Traci N. Castleberry

- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

Alex Cybulski

- The Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association Scholarship

Sean T. Finn

- The Donald A. and Elsie B. Wollheim Memorial Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship
- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

Way Jeng

- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

Kim Jollow Zimring

- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

Kyle D. Kinder

- The R. Glenn Wright Memorial Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship

Christopher M. Knox

- In Memory of the Dreams of Mary Shelley Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship

Bjorn Harald Nordtveit

- The Knight-Wilhelm Endowed Scholarship
- The David E. Wright Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship
- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

William Purcell

- The Marjorie and Walt Farrell Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship

Tracy L. Taylor

- The Susan C. Petrey Clarion Scholarship
- The Friends of Clarion Scholarship

Ian Tregillis

- The Isabel (Oz) Whiston Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship

Elizabeth M. Zernechel-Bell

- The Tina Spell Memorial Scholarship
- The Douglas L. Ruble Science Fiction Scholarship

Our gratitude goes out to all the donors who continue to enable generations of science fiction and fantasy writers through grants, endowments, and contributions. Thank you.

Status Report

First and foremost, the staff of Clarion would like to thank all those who have donated funds, matched funds, and offered time and advice. Clarion 2005, like every Clarion year, would not have been possible without support from you. Not only did your generous contributions raise the money necessary for the thirty-eighth workshop, your input and assistance have assured Clarion will continue into its thirty-ninth year and beyond. Throughout our recent struggles, there have been many willing hands and voices helping Clarion continue. We appreciate every effort. Thank you.

For the upcoming year, the Clarion Workshop will maintain its association with Michigan State University. Though the university continues to provide Clarion with a portion of our previous budget, we must raise the additional funds necessary to operate a complete workshop. The total cost of the workshop, including staffing, office support, supplies, etc. averages \$60,000+ per year. MSU provides \$26,400 toward that amount. We have quite a bit to raise as we look toward the 2006 workshop.

We need to raise an additional \$34,000 in order to run the 2006 workshop, maintaining the quality of experience that has made Clarion known and respected the world over. The newly-incorporated Clarion Foundation will be assisting with fundraising. We encourage those who are interested in helping Clarion to contact either the Clarion office or a member of the Foundation board. Donations of any amount are always welcome--either to the Clarion workshop or the Clarion Foundation--but we are also interested in hearing from those who wish to volunteer their time or who have additional fund-raising ideas. Every voice is necessary, every hand is helpful, so please consider lending yours to Clarion.

Recently, several people and companies have offered matching grants in support of the Clarion workshop. These partnerships offer double the support for Clarion without increased cost to the individual donor. If your company offers matching grants for non-profit corporations and if you are interested in starting and/or participating in a matching grant, please contact the Clarion office.

Have a brilliant idea for Clarion? We want to know! Email clarion@msu.edu or call us, (517)355-9598.



Walter Jon Williams, Lister Matheson, and Leslie What with scholarship donors Ray Walsh and Marjorie and Walt Farrell. Above left: Bill Purcell peruses the selections at Archives Book Shop in East Lansing.



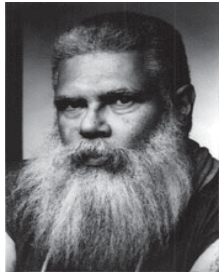
JUNE 26 - AUGUST 4, 2006

Writers-in-Residence
Samuel R. Delany
Joe and Gay Haldeman
Nancy Kress
Gardner Dozois
Kelly Link
Holly Black

Application Deadline: April 1, 2006

APPLY ONLINE!
www.msu.edu/~clarion

2006 Clarion Workshop Writers-in-Residence



Samuel R. Delany--author, teacher, scholar, critic--is an frequent Clarion instructor. His complex, often controversial works have won numerous awards, including the Nebula for Best Novel (*Babel-17* in 1966 and *The Einstein Intersection* in 1967) and the Hugo for Best Non-Fiction (*The Motion of Light in Water* in 1989). His other well-known novels include *Nova* (1968), *Dhalgren* (1975), and the *Neveryon* series. His short novel *Atlantis: Model 1924* is excerpted in the *Norton Anthology of African American Literature*.

In addition to teaching at Clarion several times, Joe Haldeman is an adjunct professor at MIT and a full-time author. He has received multiple nominations and awards, including the Hugo, Nebula, and John W. Campbell Awards for *Forever Peace* in 1998, the first such "triple crown" in twenty-two years. His novel *Camouflage* won the 2004 Tiptree Award and has been added to this year's Nebula ballot. His other works include *Mindbridge*, *The Coming*, the critically-acclaimed *Worlds* trilogy and, most recently, *Old Twentieth*. He currently lives in Gainesville, Florida and Cambridge, Massachusetts with his wife and manager of forty years, Gay Haldeman, who has lectured widely on the business of being a writer.



Nancy Kress is the author of twenty-three books, most of them science fiction. Perhaps her best-known novel is *Beggars in Spain*; the most recent are the space-opera duology *Crossfire* and *Crucible*. She won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award for *Probabity Space*. Her short fiction has garnered her three Nebulas, a Hugo, and a Sturgeon. Nancy teaches writing at various places around the country, and has taught at Clarions East and West eight times. She also writes a "Fiction" column for *Writer's Digest*

In addition to teaching at Clarion multiple times, Gardner Dozois was editor of *Asimov's Science Fiction* magazine from 1985 to 2004, during which period he won fifteen Hugo Awards for Best Professional Editor as well as thirty Locus Awards, sixteen for Best Editor. Also a respected author, Dozois has won the Nebula Award for Best Short Story for "The Peacemaker" in 1983, and again for "Morning Child" in 1984. Dozois has written or edited over one hundred books, including *The Year's Best Science Fiction* series, *One Million AD*, and a long series of themed anthologies, including *Cats*, *Hackers*, *A.I. s*, and *Robots*.



Kelly Link, a 1995 Clarion graduate, returns this summer for her fourth time as a Clarion instructor. She has published two collections--*Stranger Things Happen* and *Magic for Beginners*--and her short stories have received multiple nominations and awards, including the 1999 World Fantasy Award in Short Fiction for her delightfully disturbing story, "The Specialist's Hat." She co-edits, with Ellen Datlow and fellow Clarion graduate Gavin J. Grant, *The Year's Best Fantasy & Horror*. Kelly and her husband Gavin publish a twice-yearly zine, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*--as well as books--as Small Beer Press.

Holly Black's suburban fantasy novel, *Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale*, was published in October 2002, and was one of the ALA's Best Books for Young Adults and the New York Public Library's "Best 2002 Books for the Teenage." She is also the author of the New York Times bestselling *Spiderwick Chronicles* and, most recently, a contemporary fantasy novel set in the same world as *Tithe*, entitled *Valiant: A Modern Tale of Faerie*. Her work has been translated into twenty-seven languages worldwide.



Young Authors' Conference

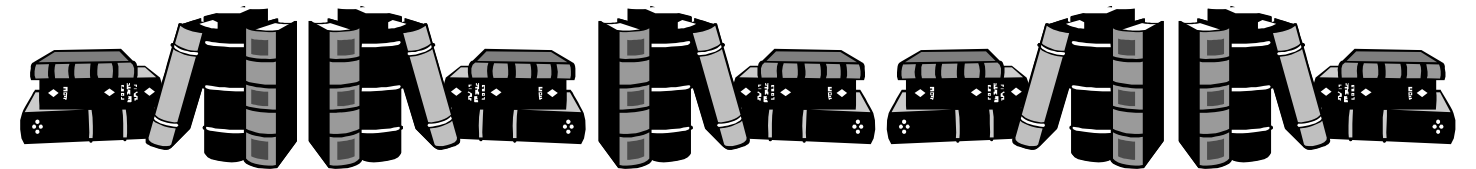
On January 21, 2006, Clarion will encourage a new generation of authors. High school and college students are invited to the first annual Young Authors' Conference, co-sponsored by the Clarion Workshop and the MSU Kiddie Lit. Club. With critique sessions, writing panels, and discussions with Clarion Writers-in-Residence Charles Coleman Finlay (W '05) and Holly Black (W '06), the event promises an exciting writing opportunity for all young writers.

"The conference will be a wonderful way for students to build confidence in writing and also to become aware of some of the opportunities available in the writing community," says Kate Fedewa, Kiddie Lit Club co-president and Clarion assistant. "It is also a unique publicity and fund-raising opportunity for both organizations."

The conference will be held on campus, in the MSU Union. Around 100 students are expected to attend. Readings by Charles Coleman Finlay and Holly Black will also be held on Friday and Saturday evenings; both readings are free and open to the general public.

The Young Authors' Conference is one of many new programs Clarion is sponsoring. For more information on the Young Authors' Conference, check out the website at www.msu.edu/~clarappl. For information on other Clarion initiatives, visit www.msu.edu/~clarion.

Interested in participating in or volunteering for the Young Authors' Conference? Download information from www.msu.edu/~clarappl/ or complete the form below and mail to: Clarion Workshop, attn: Kate Fedewa, 112 Olds Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1047.



APPLY TODAY!!

Application checklist:

- Application form
- Writing sample
- \$75.00 Conference Fee
(Payment by check or money order should be payable to Clarion Workshop.)

Or apply online at
www.msu.edu/~clarappl

Please include a writing sample (max. 1500 words) with your registration.

Name: _____ Age: _____

School: _____ District: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I agree to read the work of all members of my workshop group (approx. 6000 words), which will be sent to me at the email address listed above, before January 21, 2006. (please initial)

Signature: _____

Parent's signature (if student is under 18): _____

News and Notices

Sightings and Reunions

* **Joe Haldeman** (W '75, '76, '81, '85, '93, '95, '06) and **Rick Wilber** ('78) participated in a "Close Encounters" panel on February 9, 2005, held at the University of South Florida. See the April 2005 *Locus* for a picture.

* **Walter John Williams** (W '05), **Connie Willis** (W '90), and others were seen at the 29th annual Williamson Lectureship at Eastern New Mexico University on March 3, 2005. Read about it in the April 2005 edition of *Locus*.



* The Clarion class of '85 held an "impromptu mini-Reunion" this fall on the East Coast. **Geoffrey Landis**, **Mary Turzillo**, **Lenny Foner**, **Resa Nelson**, **Bill Shunn** and **Robert Howe** were in attendance, as well as instructors **Joe** and **Gay Haldeman**. (See photo left)

* Clarion's 40th Anniversary is fast approaching! More information will soon be available at www.msu.edu/~clarion.

Clarion Newsletter Says Goodbye

As a small department and a non-profit organization, Clarion is constantly making efforts to trim costs. Like many similar groups, we have to tighten the belt on occasion. With this in mind, we announce that this will be the last print newsletter mailed to the Clarion community.

But never fear! Clarion news can and will still reach you. Our freshly redesigned website, www.msu.edu/~clarion, will carry up-to-date workshop and alumni information as well as contacts, links, and even archived copies of our past newsletters. Also, Clarion will be sending out periodic updates via email to all those with current email addresses in our database.

If you would like to receive updates or if you are unsure whether Clarion has your most recent email address, please confirm your information by sending an email to: clarion@msu.edu. Let us know that you want to be kept in the Clarion loop!



Check out all the available Clarion memorabilia
on our website!
www.msu.edu/~clarion

Awards and Nominations

Beamer, Amelia ('04) "The First Stone." Dell Magazines Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing, 2005.

Burstein, Michael ('94) "Time Ablaze." Nominated for the Hugo for Best Novella, 2005. "Decisions." Nominated for the Hugo for Best Short Story, 2005.

Datlow, Ellen (E '93) Winner of the Hugo for Best Professional Editor, 2005.

Doctorow, Cory ('92, W '05) *Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom*. Nominated for the Nebula for Best Novel, 2004.

Dozois, Gardner (E '91, '96, '06) Nominated for the Hugo for Best Professional Editor, 2005.

Haldeman, Joe (W '75, '76, '81, '85, '93, '95) *Camouflage*. Winner of the James Tiptree, Jr. Award, 2004.

Kelly, James Patrick ('74, '76, W '90, '92, '96, '98, '01, '03) "The Best Christmas Ever." Nominated for the Hugo for Best Short Story, 2005.

Link, Kelly ('95, W '01, '03, '04, '06) "The Faery Handbag." Winner of the Hugo for Best Novelette, 2005.

Resnick, Mike (W '99) "A Princess of Earth." Nominated for the Hugo for Best Short Story, 2005. "Travels with My Cats." Winner of the Hugo for Best Short Story, 2005. Nominated for the Nebula for Best Short Story, 2004.

Stewart, Sean (W '00) *Perfect Circle*. Nominated for the Nebula for Best Novel, 2004.

Van Gelder, Gordon (E '91, '04) Nominated for the Hugo for Best Professional Editor, 2005.

Williams, Walter Jon (W '05) "The Green Leopard Plague." Winner of the Nebula for Best Novella, 2004.

Wolfe, Gene (W '75) *The Knight*. Nominated for the Nebula for Best Novel, 2004.

Willis, Connie (W '90) "Just Like the Ones We Used to Know." Nominated for the Nebula for Best Novella, 2004.

Have we missed anything?

The above awards listings are gleaned primarily from *Locus* and from listserv emails. We apologize if we have missed any additional awards. Congratulations go out to all our Clarion friends, recognized or not, who contribute to the science fiction/fantasy and global communities. If you have an award, nomination or other announcement, please send us an email at clarion@msu.edu or give us a call at the Clarion office, (517) 355-9598. We would love to share your milestones and celebrations!

Announcements

Plugs

* **Kate Wilhelm's** memoir, *Storyteller: Writing Lessons and More from 27 Years of the Clarion Writers' Workshop*, about co-founding and teaching our world-famous and well-beloved workshop, was published this year by Small Beer Press.

* Check out *Best American Short Stories 2005* to find stories by **Kelly Link** ('95, W '01, '03, '04, '06), **Cory Doctorow** ('92, W '05), and **Tim Pratt** ('99).

Kudos

* Congratulations to **Michael Jasper** ('96) and his wife Elizabeth Jasper on the birth of their son, Andrew Patrick Jasper, on December 14, 2004!

* Congratulations to **Terry Bisson** (W '97, '02) on his marriage to Judy Jensen on December 24, 2004!

* Congratulations to **James Patrick Kelly** ('74, '76, W '92, '96, '98, '01, '03) on his new position on the faculty of the Stonecoast low-residency MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Southern Maine.

* Congratulations to Jonathan Lethem (W '98) for receiving a 2005 MacArthur Fellowship.