

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SMFS

Warmest greetings on a hot July Sunday afternoon! I imagine that by the time this column appears the weather will be cooler again, the garden past its prime, the annual back-to-school frenzy in high gear. But right now that all seems luxuriously distant: the clematis is a sea of purple blooms, the masses of liatris I planted last year are sprouting tufts of feathery lavender, and my giant cannas are reaching for the sky. Thanks to this year's heavy spring rains and a generous hand on the Miracle-Gro, the garden just seems to grow before my eyes. It's tempting to mark each plant's progress with chalk, to see what really happens when I go inside to refill my water bottle. I suspect that someday I'll come outside and find the trumpet vine in dialogue with the ferns . . .

Being involved with SMFS puts me in a similar frame of mind. It's good to marvel now and then at our growth: we now have a journal, a web site, regular conference sessions at an increasing number of venues, a banquet, a reception for graduate students, and a mentoring match-up service. Soon the SMFS will begin awarding prizes for Best First Book and Best Article.

Now I get to welcome our incoming SMFS officers: serving as President will be E. Ann Matter; as Vice-President, Monica Green; and as Secretary-Treasurer, Natalie Grinnell. We're in great hands. Thanks also to Gina Psaki (all-around SMFS Master Gardener) and Ann Marie Rasmussen (ditto) for their support. Also, to all SMFS members: thanks for your solidarity and friendship. I look forward to many more seasons of growth with you.

Anne Clark Bartlett

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR

I've enjoyed my year as Managing Editor! We've had to respond to a variety of needs this year as *MFF* continues to evolve. The current issue consists primarily of book reviews, thanks to the hard work our of review editor, Chris Africa, who has dealt with the backlog of volumes received. We decided to play catch up in this issue so as to present our readers with timely write-ups on work important to the field. We are also using this opportunity to publish the bibliographies by Chris Africa and Monica Green for which we couldn't find room in the previous issue (No. 34, Fall 2002). Looking ahead to Fall 2003, any material you would like to propose – including notes, announcements, calls for papers or submissions, and proposals for *Subsidia* volumes – can be sent to me at the following address: Dept. of Romance Languages, 1233-University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1233. You can also reach me by e-mail at baltmann@oregon.uoregon.edu.

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