

**GOOS BOOK CLUB
850 NORTH BOULEVARD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802**

IN MEMORIAM

Page Acree: 1919--2005

Frank Craig, Jr.: 1918--2005

Durwood "Woody" Facundus: 1934--2003

Charles Prosser: 1919--2005

Carter Wilkinson: 1947-2006

August 24, 2006

RE: GOOS BOOK CLUB MEETING OF August 17, 2006.
NEXT MEETING: October 12, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at Kivas'
Private Room.

Lads:

This marks the first GOOS Newsletter to be sent via e-mail and posted on our web site. There will be no "hard copy" sent through the regular United States Mail.

Under the able stewardship of Alan Carey, our August 17, 2006 GOOS Book Club meeting fired off on time, with the following in attendance:

Frank McArthur
Clay Waggenspack
Bubba Currier
Louis Leggio
Larry Michaud
Wally Dunlap
Jesse Gellrich
Alan Carey

Bryan Luikart
Herman Moyse
Scott Thurston
Buzzy Anding
Herb Dyer
John Clifford
Charles Kahoe
Keith Richardson

(Note: The Group wanted to check the roster to see if it includes Louis Leggio and Charles Kahoe. Clary has accomplished this and, yes, they are present and accounted for.)

Larry Michaud gave us an account of his recent trip to Israel, and how he and his contingent helped the Israeli volunteer army in the conduct of various non-combat duties. When asked what they shared with the Israeli soldiers in the mess hall for breakfast, Herman Moyses deadpanned that they eat 'bacon and eggs', just like the rest of us.

There were no new guests to introduce.

It was decided that the newsletter need only be a part of the website, and that a hardcopy need NOT be mailed to each member. One member suggested that an email be sent informing us when the newsletter has been posted.

NEW READS.

Herb Dyer. "The Weathermakers". (2006). Tim Flannery. How man is changing the climate and its short- and long-range effects for life on earth. Could well become required reading in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Clay Waggenpack. "All the King's Men". (1946). Robert Penn Warren. The Pulitzer Prize winning account of "Willie Stark". Timely in light of the recent release (2006) of "Kingfish: the Reign of Huey P. Long" by LSU educator Richard D. White.

Scott Thurston. "Under the Volcano". (2000). Malcolm Lowry. Set in 1938 Mexico, it chronicles, in one day, the course of an entire alcoholic life. A complex and reflective story, previously mentioned by Brother Waggenback at our June 29, 2006 meeting.

Bubba Currier. Anything by P. G. Wodehouse (1881 – 1975). A delightful English comic writer, he is best known for the "Jeeves" stories and "Blandings Castle", but also collaborated with Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, and Guy Bolton. He wrote the lyrics for "Bill", from Show Boat.

John Clifford. "Knowing the Enemy". (2006). Mary Habeck. The book traces the current of Islamic thought that has eventuated in "JIHADISM", which is an exclusivist, triumphalist vision of Islam. It provides a clear analysis of the radical ideology propelling the terrorism of the Middle East.

Wally Dunlap. "Mayflower". (2006). Nathaniel Philbrick. Tracks the Pilgrims from their 1620 transatlantic crossing to the King Philip's War (1675 – 76).

Frank McArthur. "The Deluge". (2006). Douglas G. Brinkley. A New Orleans resident and Tulane University professor writes a critical review of the effects of Hurricane Katrina through interviews and original research.

Keith Richardson. "Fiasco". (2006). Thomas Ricks. A military chronicle of the Iraq War. A critical judgment of strategic blindness, it draws on the accounts of senior military officers, voicing their anger against what they term miscalculations, shortsightedness, and a general failure of the war effort.

Scott Thurston then took charge and made his presentation of V. S. Naipaul's "A Bend in the River".

Naipaul was born in 1932 in Trinidad as the mouthful Vidiadur Surajprasad Naipaul. He is an English novelist of Hindu heritage. He now lives in Wiltshire, England and was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2001 and was knighted by Elizabeth II in 1990.

His fiction and especially his travel writings have been criticized for their allegedly unsympathetic portrayal of the 'Third World', while his supporters argue that he is actually an advocate for a more realistic development of the Third World.

As Scott pointed out, the book (published in 1979) explores an isolated African town caught between the modern worlds, as seen through the eyes of an uprooted Indian who comes to live there. It reviews the politics and society of postcolonial Africa, in a country involved in the political transition from bad to good to bad again.

The GOOS present generally accepted the book as enlightening, but some noted the eerie similarities between it and George Orwell's "1984".

All in all, it was a good selection for the GOOS' perusal, and Scott did a masterful job in its presentation.
And we thank him.

NEXT BOOK:

"The Great Gatsby"...written by Scott Fitzgerald, presented by Bubba Currier.
October 12th at 6:30PM at Kiva's.

Your humble President thanks Alan for riding herd on the regiment in my absence. Clearly, Alan can handle the task, which begs the question: *Should we return the reins of leadership to this able gentleman at our next election?*

IMPORTANT NOTE: Gus Dalton has requested that we reconsider the currently assigned meeting date of 10-12-06 as he LOVES this book and greatly desires to be there for the discussion. **CAN WE CONSIDER A REASSIGNMENT SO AS TO ACCOMMODATE GUS?** What dates would work for you, Gus? Please let me know and let's see what we can do.

After I hear from Gus as to acceptable dates, I will present them to the troops for comment.

Until next time, I remain----as ever

Your obedient servant,

Jim Clary, Jr.