

Paul Green Foundation

NEWS – October 2013



A Tribute to Janet McNeil Green

When Janet passed away on October 23rd, 2012, I emailed the obituary to the trustees. I have only since noticed, however, that I didn't have any mention of her in the Paul Green Foundation NEWS. Here is a tribute to Janet, born in Chapel Hill on Dec. 18, 1931 (the youngest child of Paul and Elizabeth) one year after her death. Janet was an accomplished poet so we're marking this year's anniversary with two of her many poems.

Janet was valedictorian of her class at Chapel Hill High School; attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison as a dance major; graduated Phi Beta Kappa, with Honors in English from UNC; received her Master's from Columbia University and her Ph.D. from UNC. She and her husband Jack Catlin had a child Virginia McNeill in 1969. Janet was Assistant Professor of English at Kent State University in Ashtabula, Ohio where she lived; she retired from teaching in 1990.



HEY, BIRD!

Hey, Bird!
Don't you know you're speeding?
You shouldn't zoom down to the road
With your tail feathers sizzling –
Or zap up in the air from a telephone wire
With wings going for glory.
Don't you know that's against the law?
And another thing, bird.
You're singing!

PA MOYER, DYING SPEECHLESS TO HIS SON BILL

On time's dark flood my life is flowing out
Past rocks and quiet pools, towards the sea
My words, frail boats, strive to beat upstream
And do, but still are borne inexorably
To that sure harbor which will succor me.
This is my journey, See, I have no fear
Sustained by music which you cannot hear.

November 16th 31st Annual PGF Meeting * 12-4 p.m.

The PGF trustees and Friends will gather for lunch at noon followed by some scenes and music from *Johnny Johnson* (15 minutes) performed by UNC drama and music students. This bit of drama will introduce you to the new critical version as researched by Dr. Tim Carter – PGF trustee and David G. Frey Distinguished Professor of Music at UNC-CH. It's hoped that the premiere will be in November 2014 while UNC-CH students study WWI in courses, conferences, seminars, exhibits and punctuated by a full performance of Paul Green's anti-war play *Johnny Johnson* (music by Kurt Weill).

More on *Johnny Johnson*

At a recent American Literature Association Conference on "Literature and War" in New Orleans, English Professor Alex Albright of East Carolina University delivered a paper as part of the "War in North Carolina Literature, from the Civil War to a Post-Apocalyptic Imagining of a Civil War." It was entitled "The More You Fight and Kill, the Worse It Gets: Paul Green and the Writer's Opposition to War." Also as part of the Conference, PGF Trustee Margaret D. Bauer, professor of English at ECU, presented: "Cold Mountain, Book to Film: Epic War Novel to Love Story."

James Wilson



We are sad to report the death last month of our friend and colleague, **James Wilson** founder in 1973 of Snow Camp Outdoor Theatre. His respect for the Quaker way of life and their

peaceful contributions to history moved him to bring *The Sword of Peace*, and then *Pathway to Freedom* (by Mark Sumner) to the beautiful Cane Creek region of Snow Camp, NC.

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