## Diana George

## The Word On the Street Public Discourse in a Culture of Disconnect

In what can be called a "culture of disconnect," students and teachers alike often want to engage in public discourse but do not know where to begin. The newsletters and newspapers produced to support the work of small, alternative hospitality houses and prison ministries reveal the role communication plays in the lives of active participants in democracy and show how communities of people who choose to write and publish learn from each other s examples. These extraordinary words of ordinary men and women, writing for local, often little known causes, offer ways of understanding what may motivate writers to begin to assume a meaningful public voice.

position, the self-sponsored writing among ordinary people who meet in living rooms, nursing homes, community centers, churches, shelters for the homeless, around kitchen tables, and in rented rooms to write down their worlds (76). In that CCCC address, Gere proposed that we listen to the signals that come through the walls of our classrooms from the world outside (76) in effect suggesting that composition had yet to understand how writing is used and is useful in everyday life. Gere stalk has certainly been a touchstone for literacy scholars for nearly a decade now, and, yet, until recently we we seen little classroom material that actually takes very seriously that extracurriculum of composition.

Of course, it is not new to speak of writing in terms of local or political motivation. In one of what she calls her historical and polemical essays on composition in the university, Sharon Crowley asks us to recall the lessons of ancient rhetoric, whose proponents were unabashedly interested in influencing the course of cultural and political events. Teachers of ancient rhetorics, writes Crowley, assumed that people compose only when they are moved by some civic exigency. Unlike the composing principles taught in current-traditional pedagogy (and in some versions of process pedagogy)... the composing principles taught in ancient rhetorical theories were fully situated in public occasions that required intervention or at any rate stimulated a composer's desire to intervene (263).

We have often, in teaching writing, reminded students that what they

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write and how they present it has much to do with the reason for writing, the moment in time, the audience they have in mind, the material circumstances surrounding the writing, and more. And yet, we have only begun to investigate how the circumstance what John Trimbur identifies as the call to write works itself out beyond the walls of our classrooms. Though it is true that popular literacy studies are becoming more and more crucial to the work we do in composition, I would argue that this field of study has much yet to learn about how writing/how composing functions in response to civic exigency. Such knowledge might actually lead us to accomplish the one thing we have argued for years our composition and communication classrooms ought to do: prepare students to be active participants in a democracy.

If anyone has been moved by civic exigency to a call to write, certainly the women and men I describe below have. In what follows, I want to examine that call that motivation and set the writing that follows from it in the larger context of how communication does function for active participants in the politics of a nation.

When I began this work over two years ago, my thought was to locate the places in everyday life where anything like what we might call local activism is going on. I wanted to be able to explain the role writing/composing plays in the work of nonprofit and independent groups local coalitions for the homeless, women s shelters, Catholic Worker houses, soup kitchens, environmental groups, local land trust groups, and others that are common throughout the country.

In organizing and in carrying out the activities of the organization, these individuals must rely on some means of communication usually a newsletter, a small newspaper, brochures, signs, banners, posters, public service announcements, and, more recently, web sites to get the word out, raise funds, and build memberships or foster coalitions. Such groups are filled with active participants in this democracy. Many of them do not think of themselves as writers but found themselves at a moment when writing was needed if the organization was to survive.

Istarted in a very limited way: For several months I read the newsletters and newspapers that come to my house published by about a dozen or so of these groups from across the country <code>Guadalupe</code>, the newsletter for Casa Maria, a Catholic Worker house in Tucson as well as newsletters and newspapers from Catholic Worker houses in Houston, San Antonio, New York, Milwaukee, Worcester, and Minneapolis; <code>Freedomways</code>, <code>New Hope House</code> newsletter, <code>Gatherings</code>, and other prison ministry newsletters in the south; publications like <code>Hospitality</code> and <code>Sojourners</code> which are papers and magazines written for and about street people and soup kitchens in Atlanta, Washington,

D.C., and rural Georgia. From my own community, I examined *Off the Beaten Path*, a newsletter from the Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter Home for Abused Women; the newsletter of The Copper Country Peace Alliance; newsletters from local environmental and land trust groups, and more.

Like David Barton and Mary Hamilton who in  $Local\ Literacies$  write of their attempts to uncover and document everyday literacies which are often unrecognized in dominant discourses about literacy (5), my aim has been to uncover the literacy practices of marginalized groups the small voices that, now and then, lead to big action. To do that, I had to locate the people who actually produce these publications and learn what their call/their motivation has been, what constraints they face, how their publication is produced and circulated, to and on behalf of whom they are writing, how they locate their audience, and how they see themselves or their organization fitting into the larger landscape of social or civic action, and most important for this paper how (or, indeed, if) they identify themselves as writers.

Mine is a large project that is ongoing, but I propose here to tell the story of one community and one newsletter which led me to the stories of four communities and the people who work in and write for them.

- My interview with Ed Weir and his story of the beginnings of *New Hope House*, a hospitality house in rural Georgia for families of prisoners on death row, led me to interview
- Murphy Davis who with her husband Ed Loring began *The Open Door Community* in Atlanta and its paper *Hospitality*. And, those interviews and the history of *The Open Door* led me to
- Hannah Loring-Davis, then a student at Guilford College in North Carolina, who helped found the independent student paper *The* Student Activist and to
- Joe Roos, a co-founder with Jim Wallis of the Sojourner Community in Washington, D.C., and *Sojourner Magazine*. These all led me back inevitably to
- The life of Dorothy Day and the beginnings of the Catholic Worker Movement and especially the newspaper *The Catholic Worker* which led to
- The origins of *The Nation Magazine* and the influence, on Day, of papers like *The Masses* and *The Daily Worker* all of which might very well seem a far remove from the writing classroom or even from literacy studies, in general, but I don't believe so.

Begging the reader spatience, then, I begin.

### It All Connects

In that little trail of people and papers and organizations, it must be clear that one of the first things I discovered was something very simple: These cheaply produced, often unprofessional looking papers and newsletters defy what some have called the Culture of Disconnect.

They do not exist in a vacuum. They reject the fragmentation many of us experience as or at least suspect is characteristic of life in the  $21^{\circ}$  century. Moreover, they actually do effect change, on the local level and beyond, in the lives of the people they work with and for.

I won t, however, rest too long here in what might be taken for foolish optimism. In her discussion of writing and the public sphere, Susan Wells reminds us that the relations of students and teachers to the public are marked by what she calls a simultaneous sense of exclusion and attraction. There is a suggestion in these words that many students and their teachers want to engage but don t believe there really is a way to enter such a large and faceless debate, if, indeed, there even is a debate at all. That alienation is especially true in the world of large news and publishing conglomerates, of CNN and NBC and MSNBC; of Time/Warner and AOL and Disney and US Magazine and ABC2 and more. That doesn t leave most of us much of a voice, does it?

Perhaps the answer to this question lies in how we identify our audience and what we expect from our part of the conversation. Wells writes, I have never known a writer, student or teacher, who wanted a smaller audience, or a narrower readership; I have never known a writer who felt unproblematically at home in the discursive forms of broad political or social address (332-333). I would say that perhaps Wells has hit on just the problem with the way we too often approach political or social address.

In the work I describe below, I have, in fact, known writers who wanted a smaller audience, a narrower readership. And, I encounter these writers all of the time in the small, activist publications I carry with me for this work. Here, for example, is how Dorothy Day describes the moments of the first issue of *The Catholic Worker*:

I had sent my copy to the printer news accounts of the exploitation of Negroes in the South, and the plight of the sharecroppers; child labor in our own neighborhood; some recent evictions; a local strike over wages and hours; pleas for better home relief, and so on and we were waiting for proofs.

When they came we cut them out and started making a dummy, pasting them up on the eight pages of a tabloid the size of  $The\ Nation$ , writing headlines, and experimenting with different kinds of type. Peter looked over what I had written as it came back from the printer. I could see that, far from being

happy about it, he was becoming more and more disturbed. One day, while looking over some fresh proofs, he shook his head. His expression was one of great sadness.

Its everyone spaper, he said. I was pleased. I thought that was what we both wanted. And everyone spaper is no one spaper, he added with a sigh. (Loaves 17)

Peter Maurin believed that a newspaper could bring about what he called clarification of thought the first step in moving others to action. Men, he told her this was 1933 must think before they can act. They must study (7). He was calling for a paper that could and would be radical. A newspaper that is for everyone is a newspaper that speaks to no one and, thus, moves no one to action. What Maurin was after was a public voice speaking to those who would listen and be moved to act. This is very different from the faceless, nameless public we too often set up in our classrooms.

Like *The Catholic Worker*, none of the newsletters and newspapers that constitute my study can be called everyone s paper. They speak to special interest groups on unpopular topics and take radical positions. To be quite honest, they ask their readers to do the impossible:

End the death penalty.

Feed, clothe, and house ALL the poor.

Stop abuse.

End violence.

End poverty.

In other words, they are groups calling for not just radical but outrageous action. Outrageous action isn t a subject for broad audience appeal.

As Barton and Hamilton remind us, literacy practices are shaped by social rules which regulate the use and distribution of texts, prescribing who may produce them and have access to them (7). That, of course, is especially true for publications that circulate as newsletters and newspapers. We know what such publications look like and from looks alone can immediately identify one as mainstream or not. Many of the publications I examined are printed primarily on the most inexpensive paper available and sport somewhat amateurish graphics though the arguments presented within are often quite complicated and for any mainstream publication quite long. Hospitality, for example, often follows the example of The Catholic Worker and features articles running three, even four tabloid-sized pages long suggesting that the writers do expect their readers to want more, not less information.

More to the point, though the publications I am talking about represent

alternative, even radical voices, they are also produced in the very ordinary context of the newsletter, the small tabloid or newspaper, the political speech, the sermon, the witness, the broad sheet, and the public appeal. Notice, for example, that when Dorothy Day describes laying out the first issue of *The Catholic Worker*, she started making a dummy, pasting it up on a tabloid the size of *The Nation* (17).

Identifying with a publication like *The Nation* is not accidental. First of all, Day sown background was with small, alternative, leftist newspapers. Her brother worked for the dime-novel sized labor paper, *The Day Book*, a publication that introduced her to Eugene Debs and the IWW and to both national and international labor politics. Day sown first job was with the Socialist paper *The Call*. In her autobiography, *The Long Loneliness*, Day writes of absorbing a radicalism from *The Day Book* and from the words of Jack London, Upton Sinclair and other socialist writers she encountered through these small papers and magazines (41).

Her model, *The Nation*, was a magazine begun in 1865 at a time when the press was being pulled by serious factions emerging from the Civil War and Reconstruction. In their prospectus, the founders wrote that one main object of this new magazine was to be the discussion of the topics of the day, and, above all, of legal, economical, and constitutional questions, with greater accuracy and moderation than are now to be found in the daily press (Vanden Heuvel 1). At least one stated motivation for its founding, then, was to set the record straight.

Setting the record straight is, in fact, what all of the people I interviewed identified as one primary motivator as they set themselves to the task of creating a paper. Ed Weir of New Hope House and Murphy Davis of The Open Door both see their publications as offering an alternative view setting the record straight. Murphy, inparticular, pointed to the recent Time/Warner-AOL acquisition to say that there was little out there that was not coming from essentially the same source the same people own most of the mainstream press. There is very little chance out there, she said, for alternative voices.

Motivation The Call

## Εd

Ed and Mary Ruth Weir nun New Hope House, a hospitality house for families of prisoners on Georgia s death row. They are exceptionally quiet people who get by on almost nothing. New Hope House and the Weirs livelihood is supported by non-tax-deductible contributions. In other words, they must depend on folks who are more interested in the work of New Hope House

than in finding a good place for a tax deduction. Ed and Mary Ruth attend trials, sit with the families of the accused, help file appeals if it is necessary, visit death row prisoners, and get the word out that there is opposition in Georgia to the death penalty.

Their newsletter, published from Possum Trot Road, is as unassuming as

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE
ON GEORGIA'S DEATH ROW,
THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS



May 1998

### THE SHORT STORY OF A VICTIM'S FAMILY

Marianna, the mother of Joe, is sitting between her sisters and one brother-in-law on one side and a friend Beth on the other side. They are on the front row directly behind Joe and his two lawyers sitting at the defense table. Marianna's church friends are sitting on the row behind. Ed and John Cole-Vodicka sit on the next row. The whispers from the baliffs tell us the jury has decided a punishment of either the death sentence or life without parole. Marianna is a short, sturdy woman but not overweight. She wears skirts to the ankles that slightly spread out rather than cling tightly. Her hair is cut short. Marianna's face is nice to see. Except that she looks worn and weary. Over the past eight days she has often left the courtroom to sob. She has probably cried many times over the past four years since Joe was arrested. Beth is a contrast in appearance tall, slender, longish blond hair, in a sports jacket, and loose fitting long pants.

As we wait for the judge to begin, Beth is smiling and talking in Marianna's ear. Beth turns and mouths some words to Ed which he doesn't understand. The two get up and meet in the aisle. Beth asks "This is a good sign that the jury has taken only an hour?" "Usually it is not." Ed has heard very little in the trial to think that Joe will not get the death penalty.

It is easier for 12 people to all agree to execute a person who just 24 hours ago they decided had committed murder than it is to spare one's life without any possibility of parole.

The judge begins by instructing everyone not to display any signs of emotion when the verdict is read. How absurd! Not to cry out when a mother is told that her child will be strapped in a chair with electrodes attached to head and legs and then thousands of volts will be pounded into the body to kill. Even absurd to think victims' families who have been yearning for a justice of death wouldn't sob if the jury decided life without parole.

The judge reads the jury verdict form: "We the jury sentence the defendant Joe Smith to DEATH." The judge, in a rare display of voice inflection, maybe emotion, maybe only for show, raises his voice and blurts out the word DEATH.

New Hope House newsletter from Possum Trot Road

a newsletter can get, and just looking at it readers might not imagine that it has much of an effect on many people at all. Yet this little publication is crucial in creating a network of support for the anti-death penalty movement in Georgia.

Feb.

# Student Activist

## INSIDE

Millicent cusses African American History and Activism

UNAM Student Movement: Getting the

The Student Activist is a coluborative effort of

Guilford College students. It is our goal to highlight and address issues important to social justice specifially those that have been overlooked mainstream America, We strive to further both indivual and group Guilford and in the wider community

## Editorial Board:

Simon Kress: 316-3889 Hannah Loring-Davis: 316-3882

Johnnic Parker: 316-3272 Scott Pryor: 316-3869 Chris Roose: 316-3879 Amy Rouse: 316-3873 Devender Sellars: 316-3863 Leonora Tisdale:316-3134 studentactivist @mail.com The Student Activist is soley responsible for its

## Justice for Daryl Howerton Brown dis- Forces Racial Justice to Forefront

by Matthew Spencer

Justice for the already deceased Daryl Howerton cans working to educate ourselves and others in order to obtain justice in the present, especially to end the police brutality whose victims are poor and overwhelmingly African-American, La and other people of color, On September 8, 1994. Daryl Howerton, a 19-year old black male, was the subject of a call to 911. He had been seen cutting up meat and feeding it to guard dogs behind a tire store in Greensboro.

Truth Out Daryl was asked to leave. When he did not a tire store employee called 911. The employee told the dispatcher that, "a man is cating with the dogs, he needs help, and someone should come and take him to the hospital."

An ambulance was not sent. Instead, the police were notified of a "suspi-cious person" by the dispatcher, and a squad car nanned by Charles Fletcher and traince Jose Blanco was sent out, Meanwhile, Daryl had removed all of his cloth ing except for a toboggan nd sunglasses. When

the police arrived on the scene he usked in front of a barbershop holding a steak knife in his hand. Disregarding Greensboro Police Department procedure to try and defuse a potentially dangerous situation, the two officers immediately engaged the situation by yelling, "Stop!" and "Drop the knife!" The next procedure that was listegarded cost Daryl his life and wounded two

Greensboro Police Department procedure rees officers to clear the area of bystanders before the use of deadly force. This was not done, d within 42 seconds of arriving on the scene, Daryl had been shot six times, including once in the back. Trainee Blanco fired the first shot, Eyewitnesses say that Daryl was face down on the und when the last two shots entered his body Daryl was dead within an hour.

Daryl's mother, Brenda Howerton, filed a v death suit against the two officers. However, on October 27, 1998, both officers were acquitted of using ex-cessive force or violating Daryl's civil rights. Irregularilies permeated the courtroora proceedings, but one of the most startling was the autopsy report. It would have shown that Daryl had to be on the ground when

the last shots were fired into his body. The autopsy report was not allowed.

Nine eyewitnesses, including Daryl's friend Jamic Moore, testified that Daryl never tried to stab anyone. The police officers testified that they never felt threatened by

Daryl, but began shooting becau be tried to stab Jamic. Under Ms. Howerton's leadership, the Justice for Daryl Howerton Committee asked during this time why nine members of the black commu nity were not seen as credible cyc-witnesses, but the testiony of the two white officers who were themselves on trial, was ecepted by the court

Forums at North Carolina A&T State University and Guilford Col-

lege during the winter of 1998 raised much discus sion on the underlying racism which encourages and allows such brazen and violent behavior by law enforcement. These forums, led by the Justice for Daryl Howerton Committee, brought much discussion to the racism that is sorely apparent in Daryl's murder. They also shed light on the differences in the treatment of the black community versus the white community by the police and military. Examining these relationships from a historical and present day perspective, A&T State University students discovered undercover police officers at a forum on their largely black campus on October 20,1998. When complaints were filed, they were told that the officers were sent because the forum was, "dangerous, explosive and a possible uprising might take place." There were no officers present at the predominantly white Guilford College when the same forum was

Please see Howerton, page 7

The Student Activist, edited by second generation activist Hannah Loring-Davis

In rural Georgia, you don't find many people who are outspokenly against the death penalty in a way, at least, that might move them to take action, form a community, spend time demonstrating, that sort of thing. So, the newsletter, according to Ed, helps unite a network of friends who watch the courts for death penalty trials, let Ed and Mary Ruth know what s going on, get in touch with families of the accused, visit prisoners, and support New Hope House.

According to Ed, the newsletter had to be written for the most basic of reasons:

To raise money for New Hope House

To keep the subject in the minds of the people.

To maintain the network of people (especially Georgians) working against the death penalty.

To inform supporters on current events relating to death penalty trials and legislation.

The newsletter often cannot, however, do what Ed initially wanted it to do: It can t tell the stories of the prisoners and their families because drawing too much attention to one prisoner is likely to put that prisoner at risk even likely to move up an execution date. So, he has to write about them, not name them, but give his readers enough to understand the case.

Is a pretty tricky rhetorical situation, especially for someone who claims he never saw himself, really, as a writer and can't remember ever taking a writing class that at Vanderbilt he majored in getting out.

And, yet, writing was a part of what, even as a child, Ed recognized as something adults did. His grandfather wrote a column for the local paper in Douglas, Georgia, where Ed grew up, and even as he claimed not to be a writer at all, he told the story of how he and a friend stumbled onto an old printing press and started making up a neighborhood paper with neighbor news and recipes and jokes and stories. The two rode around town on their bikes distributing their paper to the neighbors.

Ed s story reminded me of my brothers and sisters and I who played school with boxes for desks, mass with pressed white bread for the communion host, and store with empty cans and boxes from the kitchen games we created to mimic adults. Ed was becoming his grandfather as he wrote and printed the daily news, and so when it came time to write a newsletter of his own one with much more social and political significance than the one of childhood games he already knew where to begin.

## Murphy Davis

Ed Weir knows Murphy Davis because New Hope House began out of The  $$\operatorname{\mathsf{George}}\ 13$$ 

Open Door's prison ministry program. Murphy had been a death penalty opponent for many years even before the creation of The Open Door Community. Hospitality the newsletter from The Open Door—covers prison issues as well as the politics of homelessness. Members of The Open Door participate in vigils before executions, go to trials, visit prisoners and their families, and serve on the Board of New Hope House. They are part of the network kept alive partially through Ed Weir's little newsletter.

Murphy is an ordained Presbyterian minister who says she must have taken the required writing courses in college though she doesn t remember them. She took sermon writing, of course, but dismissed it as a writing course though much of the quality of a well-wrought sermon does come through in her writing. She writes for and helps to edit *Hospitality*, a newspaper that started as a newsletter. The newsletter, like New Hope House's newsletter, was started because it had to be:

To raise money.

To recruit volunteers.

To notify the community.

When Murphy told of changing from a newsletter format to a small newspaper, she had in mind something like *The Catholic Worker*. The influence extends beyond Dorothy Day, however. Murphy and her husband Ed Loring had also been reading a radical Christian paper called *The Post-American* founded by Joe Roos and Jim Wallis. The *Post-American*, it turns out, was the precursor to *Sojourners* magazine and the Sojourners Community in Washington, D.C.

Joe Roos and Jim Wallis

Joe Roos, a co-founder with Jim Wallis of the Sojourners Community, knows Murphy Davis and Ed Loring. He remembers their daughter Hannah Loring-Davis as a toddler, now the co-founder of her own independent paper at Guilford College. He also knows Ed Weir and the work of New Hope House.

In a history of *Sojourners*, co-founder Jim Wallis describes the exigency which moved him, with Joe Roos and others, to begin a paper:

W e knew there had to be other people who were feeling the same things we were . . . I have sometimes likened the publication of the *Post-American* to the raising of a flagpole. Many people on the ground, at the grass roots, were longing for an alternative to the narrow versions of Christian faith they were experiencing in their churches, but they didn t know one another. (15)

In changing the paper *Post-American* to the magazine *Sojourners*, Wallis and Roos were actually making a commitment to community and not simply to getting the word out to like-minded people. Wallis describes it this way:

The relationship between the members of our little group was the foundation for the publication of the magazine. . . The magazine gave a focus to our relationship, a task around which we gathered, and the excitement of new ideas soon became the catalyst for thoughts about a community. (94)

And, this actually returns us to Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin and *The Catholic Worker*.

Jim Wallis says that the number of people touched by Dorothy Day is beyond counting. This evangelical boy from the Midwest was one (162). Peter Gathje s history of The Open Door Community says something of the same for Murphy Davis and Ed Loring: In their attempts to find direction for their own work with the homeless, they traveled to Mary House in New York. On the train home, Ed read Day s autobiography *The Long Loneliness*. Gathje writes that as he and Murphy shared their reading . . . they began to see what this call of hospitality would require of them (28).

It is no accident, then, that Murphy had something like *The Catholic Worker* in mind when she created *Hospitality*, and it is no accident that Jim W allis experienced real pride when someone told him that Sojourners Community was like a Protestant *Catholic Worker* (163).

## Conclusion

I began my observations by saying that I learned something very simple: that these little newsletters and cheaply printed papers (The Catholic Worker still sells for one cent) defy the Culture of Disconnect. They might look unimportant, but they apparently do extremely important work both within and outside the organizations that produce them. They connect people and ideas and they do have an effect on the ways people live their lives. That connection is, in fact, the primary motivation of these writers.

Perhaps the problem with teaching public discourse is not so much that, as Wells notices, our advice to students is too abstract/the audience we imagine too faceless though that is certainly a problem. Perhaps the real problem is that too many believe that small changes/small movements don t really mean much. They don t really change much.

And, yet, if I look at an organization like Sojourners or Catholic Worker Houses or New Hope House, it is very clear to me that one of the few ways most of us even have access to alternative views is through these networks of small newsletters and newspapers that reach out to like-minded readers. Certainly, the only way the American public is likely to know that there is poverty in this country unless they are experiencing it themselves is through the people working with the impoverished.

More to the point, it is when we open our classrooms to communication

of all sorts not just to E.B. White (though he wrote beautifully) or to academic cultural critique (though much of it is timely and of great interest) and, especially, not just to *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *US News and World Report*—that we begin to understand the role communication plays in the lives of active participants in this democracy.

Hannah Loring-Davis knows this. As a Guilford College student, she joined with students from Guilford and other surrounding colleges to establish a student paper, *The Student Activist*, that would actually publish stories on national and international politics, stories not written from the point of view of whatever administration is currently in power. Like Ed Weir, she was following the adults in her life who had already shown her what it could mean to write something that matters to other people, something that would unite those around her who did not recognize themselves in the stories of most mainstream college newspapers. More than that, because she grew up watching her parents write for and read alternative press papers, she knew where to begin. Perhaps in the end, it is finding out where to begin that is left out in most of our talk of public writing. And, it is in reading the extraordinary words of ordinary men and women writing for local, little known causes, that we might just discover where to begin.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> John Trimbur s *The Call to Write* is a notable exception to that rule. In it, Trimbur takes the notion that writing is situated and social that we write in response to a need, an event, a moment and uses it (from Lloyd Bitzer's treatment of exigency) to create a composition text that looks a good deal different from what we have come to expect in such books. That theme, that we write in response to a call, determines the very nature of both the instruction and the assignments throughout.

 $^2$  ABC recently announced that, in addition to its partnership with Disney Corporation, it now has an ongoing relationship with  $Us\ Magazine$ , confirming for many the connection between television news and  $Entertainment\ Weekly$ .

3 This has been especially true since the Fall of 2001 when Georgia resumed exeNiking of the authorism of Chartel over whether the You the Georgia of Section of Section of Coordinate Conference of Coordinate Coordinate

Door Community) 910 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE Atlanta, GA 30306-4212

Houghton, MI 49931

CCGAP Newsletter (Copper Country Guatemala Accompaniment Project)

Sue Ellen Kingsley RR1 Box 68 Hancock, MI 49930

KOINONIA NEWSLETTER Koinania Partners, Inc. 1324 GA Hwy. 49 X. Americus, GA 31709

GATHERINGS (newsletter of Victim Offender Services) A Ministry of Americus Mennonite Fellowship PO Box 1785 Americus, GA 31709

FREEDOMWAYS (newsletter of the Prison & Jail Project) PO Box 6749 Americus, GA 31709

THE TRUMPET (newsletter of Anderson Hospitality House Box 579 Alderson, WV 24910

HOUSTON CATHOLIC WORKER
(publication of Casa Juan Diego
House of Hospitality)
PO Box 70113
Houston TX 77270

SHALOM CONNECTIONS A Quarterly Newsletter 726 Seward #2 Evanston, IL 60202-2913
The Shalom Mission Communities:
Plow Creek Fellowship, Tiskilwa, IL
Hope Community, Waco, TX
Reba Place Fellowship, Evanston, IL

Keweenaw Land Trust PO Box 750 Houghton, MI 49931

Habitat Herald Habitat for Humanity Detroit 15325 Gratiot Detroit, MI 48205

HABICHAT (bi-monthly newletter for families of Uptown Habitat for Humanity) 6580 N. Sheridan Rd. Chicago, IL 60626

Off the Beaten Path (newsletter of the Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter) PO Box 8 Calumet, MI 49913

GUADALUPE (newsletter of Casa Maria, the Catholic Worker Community in Tucson) 401 E. 26th St Tucson, AZ 85713

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Diana George is a Professor of Cultural Theory and Composition Studies in the Department of Humanities at Michigan Technological University. She is co-author, with John Trimbur, of Reading Culture, soon in itsfifth edition. Her work in composition and cultural studies has appeared in such journals as CCC and Cultural Studies. The author wishes to thank her husband, Chuck Harris, whose dedication to The Open Door Community and to New Hope House are primary inspirations for this research.