

Author Showcase Features Women Writing and Publishing Great Books for Kids

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Charlottesville, VA May 7, 2007. The Reading Tub, Inc. is pleased to announce its Spring Quarter Author Showcase. The current slate of authors – Cheryl Block, Lynda Bulla, and Nancy M. West – write (and publish) with an eye to helping kids learn about themselves and the world around them.

"The group of authors featured in our Spring Showcase offer stories that kids want to hear and parents love to share," says Terry Doherty, president of The Reading Tub, Inc. "Kids love books that are creative, and parents like stories that have life lessons or help their kids learn something new. Lynda, Nancy, and Cheryl have something for everyone in their books."

The Reading Tub, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to promoting children's and family literacy. The Author Showcase is now in its third year. The purpose of the program is to introduce parents, teachers, librarians, and the general public to new authors and new books that they probably don't know about. "You're not likely to see these authors on the morning talk shows, but their stories are just as good – and in a lot of cases better – than some of the celebrity-endorsed, material we see on TV," continued Doherty. "This quarter, our authors do more than just write books. These women run publishing companies, too. They can help people learn about the entire process, and that's important; particularly for new writers."

When opportunity knocked, Cheryl Block drew on her twelve years' experience as a special education teacher to establish Block Publishing and craft multi-media products to introduce kids to science. Her Webs to Whales Nature Tales series is a series of books-with-CD that give kids an illustrated story, as well as an educational CD that gives kids a chance to learn more and do more. The Rainbow Web, a story about a spider, who wants a multi-color home, introduces kids to camouflage in nature, as well as spiders. In True Blue Friend, a humpback whale gets caught in a fisherman's net. With the CD, readers can learn more about humpbacks and other whales, too. [To see the Reading Tub® Feature with Cheryl and read the interview, go to

www.thereadingtub.com/displayAuthor.asp?id=34

Lynda Bulla wants families to have great stories for teaching kids values. "Our only hope as a society is that we learn from our mistakes and pass that knowledge along to our children," says Lynda. "Children aren't born knowing what to do, they have to figure it out, and it is our responsibility to guide them." Lynda's company, Katydid Publishing, has released four books: The Old Clock on the Wall, Katydid, The Churkendoose, and Freedom Rings: An American Parable. Linda dedicates each of her books to a grandchild. There are seven grandchildren, and she has three more titles in various stages of completion that she will publish. [To see the Reading Tub® Feature with Lynda Bulla, go to www.thereadingtub.com/displayAuthor.asp?id=35]

Nancy M. West created Off Lead Publications as a publishing house that specializes in stories about dogs. She has written several books, including an illustrated children's book and young adult novels, about dogs who perform heroic deeds. Nancy's first book Chips the Hometown Hero is an historical fiction novel about Chips, a search-and-rescue canine during World War II. Her most recent book, Kali Takes the Lead is an illustrated story about a black lab trained as a humanitarian mine detection

dog. As a writer, Nancy prefers longer stories because they allow you to build depth for your characters and give you more time to tell the story. She is excited to be creating a novel-length story about Kali. [To see the Reading Tub Feature with Nancy M. West and read our interview, go to www.thereadingtub.com/displayAuthor.asp?id=36]

Anyone interested in learning more about Cheryl Block, Lynda Bulla, and Nancy West can also link directly to the interviews through the “Author Showcase” tab on the Reading Tub® Web site. Once there, you can learn more about the authors and you can link to reviews of their books.

The archive of authors previously featured in the Author Showcase is easy to find. Just go to www.thereadingtub.com/author_showcase.asp

To become a Featured Author or learn more about the Author Showcase, go to www.thereadingtub.com/becomeFeatured.asp

The Reading Tub, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to promoting children’s and family literacy. The organization's web site www.thereadingtub.com offers book reviews for children's books (0 to 13), as well as articles and information to help parents, teachers, librarians, and others find books that will help kids learn to read and/or get excited about reading.

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