

# Carson McCullers Society

Department of English and Foreign Languages | Jackson State Community College  
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1 March 2008

Dear Society Members:

Instead of putting together and sending a full-blown McCullers Society Newsletter for 2007, I decided that something a little more brief and a little less involved would be better. I didn't have enough content to justify the expense of printing and mailing a full newsletter, and I wasn't quite sure what to do for awhile. During the Christmas break it occurred to me that I could simply write a letter to all of you listing a few things that you might find interesting. Perhaps by fall we will have more content, like an essay or a book review or two (hint, hint!).

McCullers News:

I am sorry to report the death of two important figures in Carson's life, Floria Lasky, her attorney, and Robert Lantz, her literary agent.

**Floria Lasky**, Carson McCullers's attorney and the attorney to the McCullers estate, died in September of 2007 at the age of 84. The Carson McCullers society extends its deep regrets to her family, friends, and colleagues at Fitelson, Lasky, Aslan, & Couture. A complete obituary can be found in *The New York Times* online archives: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/27/arts/27lasky.html>.

**Robert Lantz**, Carson McCullers's long-time literary agent, died in October of 2007 at the age of 93. Carson McCullers Society extends its deep regrets to his family, friends, and colleagues at the Lantz Office. A complete obituary can be found in *The New York Times* online archives: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/20/arts/20lantz.html>.

Here are two items of good news:

**Carlos Dews**, noted McCullers scholar and one of the founders of the McCullers Society, has returned to academe. While pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing at The New School in New York, he accepted an offer to chair the English Department at John Cabot University in Rome. You can read more about what he's been up to at his website: <http://www.carlosdews.com>.

**Jan Whitt**, society member and Associate Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Colorado, Boulder, announces the publication of a new book of essays on Carson McCullers. The book is titled *Reflections in a Critical*

*Eye: Essays on Carson McCullers*, published by University Press of America. The book includes essays by Jan Whitt, Will Brantley, Keith Byerman, Caroline Carvill, Ellen Lansky, Sarah Gleeson-White, Allison Pingree, Gary Richards, and Patricia Yaeger, most of whom are society members.

“they are the we of me”

**MLA:** Articles and reviews printed in the Carson McCullers Society Newsletter are now listed in the Modern Language Association International Bibliography.

**McCullers Society Funds:** Our balance is holding steady at \$622.24. Please remember to make dues checks payable to Jackson State Community College so that they can be easily deposited into the account.

**McCullers Society Website:** Our website is in bad need of an update, and our campus webmaster has promised me that we will find time to do this soon. If you have any announcements, calls for papers, or other information relevant to the society that you would like to see posted on the website, please feel free to send it along ([jmayo@jscc.edu](mailto:jmayo@jscc.edu)).

**Call for Content:** Society members are encouraged to submit items (photographs, notes, letters, article-length essays, book reviews, etc.) for publication in the Carson McCullers Society Newsletter. Items may be submitted at any time and can be sent electronically or mailed to:

Carson McCullers Society  
c/o James Mayo  
Department of English and Foreign Languages  
Jackson State Community College  
2046 N. Parkway  
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If you have any announcements, calls for papers, or other information relevant to the society that you would like to see published in the newsletter, please feel free to send it along ([jmayo@jscc.edu](mailto:jmayo@jscc.edu)).

I hope all of you are well, and I hope you have a fun and productive year. Look for a “real” newsletter next fall!

Sincerely,

James Mayo  
President, Carson McCullers Society