Three notable authors—Joan Bauer, Chris Crutcher, and Gary Paulsen—share a tribute to the 2007 ALAN Award winner Teri Lesesne, followed by a tribute to the 2007 Ted Hipple Award winner Patricia P. Kelly from Robert Small and Kathryn Kelly, past ALAN presidents, and Pam Cole, Associate Dean in the College of Education at Kennesaw State University and former doctoral student of Pat’s.

Diane P. Tuccillo visits with Victoria Hanley in “Reading, Writing, and Victoria Hanley,” as Hanley shares her ideas on helping students create the valuable link between reading and writing.

April Brannon tackles the use of literature to teach about genocide—past and present—in “Teaching They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: An Opportunity for Educating about Displacement and Genocide.”

To wrap up this issue, C.J. Bott interviews Ellen Wittlinger and Toby Davis in “Parrotfish: A Parrot, a Fish or Something in Between?” We’ve paired that interview with Elizabeth McNeil’s analysis of Parrotfish.

But don’t overlook our regular features—the Clip and File section features 31 reviews of the latest releases in young adult literature. And consider submitting an article for possible publication in the 2009 summer issue, themed “A Different Way: Innovative Approaches to the Writing and/or Teaching of Young Adult Literature,” with a submission deadline of Jan. 15, 2009. See complete details in the Call for Manuscripts in this issue.

With this issue’s quality collection of articles, we think everyone will find something of interest. And, while the kids at the school bus stop are showcasing their new book bags and notebooks, you can relax, knowing you have a new issue of The ALAN Review to thumb through over and over again.

Enjoy!

ALAN Foundation Research Grants

Members of ALAN may apply to the ALAN Foundation for funding (up to $1,500) for research in young adult literature. Proposals are reviewed by the five most recent presidents of ALAN. Awards are made annually in the fall and are announced at the ALAN breakfast during the NCTE convention in November. The application deadline each year is September 15th.
Barbara A. Ward is a visiting professor in literacy at Washington State University. She teaches classes on adolescent literature as well as methods courses for English Education and undergraduate preservice teachers. She is a committee member of the International Reading Association’s Notable Books for a Global Society and is a devoted bibliophile.

Gallo Grants

The Gallo Grants were established in 2003 by former ALAN Award and Hipple Award recipient Don Gallo to encourage educators in their early years of teaching to attend the ALAN Workshop for the first time. The grants provide funding—up to $500 each—for two classroom teachers in middle school or high school each year to attend the ALAN Workshop. (The amount of a grant may be less than $500 if the applicant lives within commuting distance of the convention location where airfare and housing would not be necessary.)

The Workshop is held at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English on the Monday and Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving Day. Applicants must be teaching full-time; must have been classroom teachers for less than five years prior to the year in which they are applying; and must not have attended an ALAN Workshop previously. Membership in ALAN is not required for consideration, though applicants are expected to become ALAN members if they receive this grant.

Each applicant must fill out the grant application form and submit an essay of no more than 750 words explaining their interest in Young Adult Literature, what they hope to gain by attending this year’s ALAN Workshop, and how they hope to use the experience in their classrooms in the future. A letter of support must also come from the applicant’s school system. The deadline for submission is September 1. Applicants will be judged on their ability to articulate their understanding of the value of Young Adult Literature as well as their explanation of how they intend to use YA books and the information they gather at the Workshop in their own classrooms.

For further information about this grant, contact ALAN Executive Secretary Gary Salvner at gsavner@ysu.edu or 330-941-3414. Information about the ALAN Workshop may be obtained from the ALAN Website—www.alan-ya.org. Information about the NCTE Convention may be obtained on the NCTE Website—www.ncte.org—or by writing to NCTE Headquarters at 1111 West Kenyon Road, Urbana, IL 61801.

Works Cited