

Christian author recognized for writing, mentoring

By Kenneth D. MacHarg
LAM News Service

Miami, FL (LAMNS)—Here's a quick quiz: What do Jeanette Windle and Dave Barry have in common?

While the confused reader may be asking Dave who?, let us hasten to explain that both were recent award winners at the South Florida Writer's Conference banquet.

Miami Herald humor columnist Dave Barry was honored with the Celebrity Author Inkwell Award as a local writer with national recognition.

Meanwhile, LAM missionary Jeanette Windle was recognized with the 2002 Mabel Meadow Staats Award given annually to a local author (between Orlando and the Florida Keys) who has at least 25,000 books in print and is considered as a mentor to both the local and international writing community.

The awards were offered by the North American Writer's Association, South Florida Chapter.

Jeanette is a prolific writer of Christian fiction both for children and adults, including the best selling novel *CrossFire* published in 2001 by Kregel Publications. That novel, which has been a bestseller, captures the intrigue and danger facing a young American woman who marries a professional Bolivian man only to find that he and his family are deeply involved in narcotics trafficking.

Her new book, *The DMZ*, which is due to be published by Kregel in June, takes place in Colombia against a background of guerilla warfare and international terrorism.

She has also published seven Christian children's books including *Cave of the Inca Rey*, *Jungle Hideout*, *Captured in Colombia* and *Mystery at Death Canyon*. These titles are part of the Parker Twins Adventure Series, featuring mystery and suspense tales for young adults.

Jeanette says that she thinks leading writer's seminars and conferences in Miami for both Christian and secular audiences, along with judging competitions in the United States and overseas led to her nomination. She was the main speaker at the first Spanish-language Christian writer's conference in Miami in September, 2001.

When not writing books, Jeanette serves as a consulting editor for two magazines and works with developing indigenous writers in a half-dozen countries from Mexico to Croatia.

Jeanette, who grew up as the daughter of missionaries in Colombia, served for fifteen years with her husband Martin in Bolivia before relocating to Miami in 2000. Both now serve as missionaries with the Miami-based Latin America Mission.

Latin America Mission works in partnership with churches and Christian agencies throughout Latin America and supports missionaries and projects in many Latin countries as well as in Spain. LAM is seeking to place new missionaries throughout the region. The U.S. headquarters can be reached at Latin America Mission, Box 52-7900, Miami, FL 33152, by e-mail at info@lam.org, or by calling 1-800-275-8410. The mission's web site may be found at <http://www.lam.org>. LAM's Canadian office is at 3075 Ridgeway Drive, Unit 14, Mississauga, ON L5L 5M6.

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