

Amnesty International Group 22 Pasadena/Caltech News

Volume XIX Number 5, May 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, May 26, 7:30 PM. Monthly Meeting. Caltech Y is located off San Pasqual between Hill and Holliston, south side. You will see two curving walls forming a gate to a path-- our building is just beyond. Help us plan future actions on Sudan, the 'War on Terror', death penalty and more.

Tuesday, June 14, 7:30 PM. Letter writing meeting at Caltech Athenaeum, corner of Hill and California in Pasadena. This informal gathering is a great way for newcomers to get acquainted with Amnesty!

Sunday, June 19, 6:30PM. Rights Readers Human Rights Book Discussion group. This month we read "Suite Francaise" by Irene Némirovsky.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Hi everyone

4 more weeks of school left, but who's counting! It looks like the RIFs will be rescinded, and the number of mandatory furlough days cut in half, since the state has found some more money for public education!

Group 22 members participated in the Doo-Dah Parade this April, the second year since it was moved to East Pasadena. The theme was maternal mortality, and judging by the facebook photos (especially of Lucas with a square pillow shoved up his shirt), it was pretty funny! We missed it due to a family trip to Pullman, Washington for my aunt's 90th birthday that weekend.

In June we are reading a book my mother recommended to me – Suite Francaise. I really enjoyed this book when I read it a few years ago, what a portrait of humanity inside its pages! I look forward to reading it again....

Con cariño,
Kathy

RIGHTS READERS

Human Rights Book Discussion Group

Keep up with Rights Readers at
<http://rightsreaders.blogspot.com>



Next Rights Readers meeting:

**Sunday, June 19,
6:30 PM**

**Vroman's Bookstore
695 E. Colorado Blvd.
In Pasadena**

***Suite Française*
by
Irene Nemirovsky**

About the Author

Born in Ukraine, Irène Némirovsky had lived in France since 1919 and had established herself in her adopted country's literary community, publishing nine novels and a biography of Chekhov. She composed "Suite Française" in the



village of Issy-l'Évêque, where she, her husband and two young daughters had settled after fleeing Paris. On July 13, 1942, French policemen,

enforcing the German race laws, arrested Némirovsky as "a stateless person of Jewish descent." She was transported to Auschwitz, where she died in the infirmary on Aug. 17.

AS FRANCE BURNED

Review by PAUL GRAY

Published: April 9, 2006

New York Times Book Review

THIS stunning book contains two narratives, one fictional and the other a fragmentary, factual account of how the fiction came into being. "Suite Française" itself consists of two novellas portraying life in France from June 4, 1940, as German forces prepare to invade Paris, through July 1, 1941, when some of [Hitler's](#) occupying troops leave France to join the assault on the Soviet Union. At the end of the volume, a series of appendices and a biographical sketch

provide, among other things, information about the author of the novellas.

SUITE FRANCAISE

The date of Némirovsky's death induces disbelief. It means, it can only mean, that she wrote the exquisitely shaped and balanced fiction of "Suite Française" almost contemporaneously with the events that inspired them, and everyone knows such a thing cannot be done. In his astute cultural history, "The Great War and Modern Memory," Paul Fussell describes the invariable progression — from the hastily reactive to the serenely reflective — of writings about catastrophes: "The significances belonging to fiction are attainable only as 'diary' or annals move toward the mode of memoir, for it is only the ex post facto view of an action that generates coherence or makes irony possible."

We can now see that Némirovsky achieved just such coherence and irony with an ex post facto view of, at most, a few months. In his defense, Fussell had not heard of "Suite Française," and neither had anyone else at the time, including Némirovsky's elder daughter, Denise, who saved the leatherbound notebook her mother had left behind but refused to read it, fearing it would simply renew old pains. (Her father, Michel Epstein, was sent to Auschwitz several months after her mother and was consigned immediately to the gas chamber.) Not until the late 1990's did Denise examine what her mother had written and discover, instead of a diary or journal, two complete novellas written in a microscopic hand, evidently to save scarce paper. Denise abandoned her plan to give the notebook to a French institute preserving personal documents from the war years and instead sent it to a publisher. "Suite Française" appeared in France in 2004 and became a best seller.

From a purely aesthetic standpoint, the back story of "Suite Française" is irrelevant to the true business of criticism. But most readers don't view books from such Olympian heights, and neither, for that matter, do most critics. If they did, publishers' lists wouldn't be so crowded with literary histories and biographies, those chronicles of messy facts from which enduring art sometimes springs. In truth, "Suite Française" can stand up to the most rigorous and objective analysis, while a knowledge of its history heightens the wonder and awe of reading it. If

that's a crime, let's just plead guilty and forge ahead.

"Storm in June," the first novella of "Suite Française," opens as German artillery thunders on the outskirts of Paris and those residents who have trouble sleeping in the unusually warm weather hear the sound of an air-raid siren: "To them it began as a long breath, like air being forced into a deep sigh. It wasn't long before its wailing filled the sky." (Thomas Pynchon also hadn't heard of "Suite Française" while he was writing "Gravity's Rainbow," but compare his opening sentence, set in London, a few years later, same war: "A screaming comes across the sky.") The bombardment resumes: "A shell was fired, now so close to Paris that from the top of every monument birds rose into the sky. Great black birds, rarely seen at other times, stretched out their pink-tinged wings." With the utmost narrative economy, sharp, scattered images coalesce into an atmosphere of dread.

Parisians wake up to the realization that nothing, particularly the gallant French Army they have read and heard so much about, stands between them and the Germans, and they decide, as one, to get out fast. To depict the widespread chaos that ensues — railroads hobbled by overcrowding or bombed tracks, shortages of gasoline and food — Némirovsky concentrates on a few individuals caught up in the collective panic.

While her husband, a government-appointed museum official, remains behind, Charlotte Péricand mobilizes four of her five children (her eldest son, Philippe, is a Roman Catholic priest), her senile father-in-law and a retinue of servants into an escape party, burdened by as many possessions as she can salvage from her haut-bourgeois household. Gabriel Corte, a rich, successful and egotistical writer, views the loss of Paris as an insult to his refined sensibilities. On the road, stalled in the choking traffic, he complains to his mistress, "If events as painful as defeat and mass exodus cannot be dignified with some sort of nobility, some grandeur, then they shouldn't happen at all!" As usual, Némirovsky offers no comment on this burst of folly; she allows her characters the liberty to display themselves on their own, for better and worse.

Maurice and Jeanne Michaud, a middle-aged couple, both work in a bank that is moving its operations to Tours. Suitcases in hand, the Michauds learn from their employer at the last

instant that the space he has promised them in his car, helping to transport bank records, has been pre-empted by his mistress and her dog. "Both of you must be in Tours the day after tomorrow at the latest," he tells them. "I must have all my staff." The Michauds laugh as they watch his car disappear; they expect little from life and so are rarely disappointed.

Finding the Paris train stations shut down, the Michauds set off on foot: "In spite of the exhaustion, the hunger, the fear, Maurice Michaud was not really unhappy. He had a unique way of thinking: he didn't consider himself that important; in his own eyes, he was not that rare and irreplaceable creature most people imagine when they think about themselves." The Michauds are moral beacons among the rampaging selfishness all around them. Their only concern is their son, Jean-Marie, a soldier whose unit is in the path of the advancing German Army. A few chapters later, it is a relief for readers to learn what the Michauds have not: Jean-Marie, wounded in a bombardment, is recuperating in a farmhouse near Vendôme.

"Storm in June" is a tour de force of narrative distillation, using a handful of people to represent a multitude. Némirovsky's shifts in tone and pace, sensitively rendered in Sandra Smith's graceful translation, are mesmerizing. There are lighthearted moments — one entire chapter is seen from the point of view of the Péricands' cat — followed by eruptions of terror, as when German planes strafe a mass of evacuees: "When the firing stopped, deep furrows were left in the crowd, like wheat after a storm when the fallen stems form close, deep trenches." And it all ends as the facts ordained. News of the armistice — that is, the French surrender — is greeted by the beleaguered homeless as an answered prayer. Survivors straggle back to Paris, where an occupying enemy and a harsh winter await them.

"Dolce," the second novella, displays none of the tumults of its predecessor. It is bucolic, becalmed. The French people have lost the outward war, and the battle has shifted to the inner arena of their consciences and souls. The Germans, who seemed as spectral as invading space aliens in "Storm in June," now appear in person. A garrison of Wehrmacht troops is billeted in the village of Bussy. The local men of fighting age are all gone, either dead or prisoners of war; only old people, women and children remain, and they greet the conquerors

with sullen apprehension. Conditioned by years of propaganda to fear the bestial, rapacious Huns, the villagers aren't prepared for these actual soldiers, some barely older than boys. The intruders smile, behave deferentially to their helpless hosts and give candy to the children. Yearning for a return to normalcy and the familiar rhythms of their lives, the people of Bussy grudgingly adapt to the new reality.

Lucile Angellier lives with her widowed mother-in-law in Bussy's most elegant house. She doesn't regret the absence of her loutish, philandering husband, Gaston, who is in a German prison camp, although she hides her feelings from his mother, who regards him as a saint. Bruno von Falk, a German officer, has been assigned to live in the house. Lucile tries to treat the intruder with the same icy disdain displayed by her mother-in-law, but she finds herself warming to him in spite of herself. He is handsome, he plays the piano beautifully — he tells her he had hoped to be a musician before his military obligations intervened — and he has read Balzac. Night after night, Lucile grows more sensitive to Bruno's presence in the next-door bedroom, to the sounds of his pacing and to the ensuing silences suggesting his sleep.

Némirovsky deftly establishes the terms of this melodrama and its inevitable question — where will the attraction between Lucile and Bruno lead? — and then adds a dissonant note of reality. A local farmer has killed a German officer, and the fugitive's wife, who happens to be one of the women who nursed Jean-Marie Michaud back to health in "Storm in June," asks Lucile to hide her husband in the spacious Angellier house, which should be above suspicion because of its German boarder. The terms of the inevitable question alter significantly. Will Lucile choose love or honor?

"Dolce" predates by nearly 30 years the explosive confessions of wartime collaboration in Marcel Ophuls's documentary "The Sorrow and the Pity," which French television declined to broadcast in 1970, even though it had partly paid for the project. Némirovsky recorded the best and worst of those times while living in them. Her novella ends as the occupying troops leave Bussy on their mission to Moscow: "Soon the road was empty. All that remained of the German regiment was a little cloud of dust."

But Némirovsky had more plans for "Suite Française," as an appendix to this volume makes clear. In her notebook, she sketched the

possibility of a work in five parts. "Storm in June" and "Dolce" were to be followed by: "3. Captivity; 4. Battles?; 5. Peace?" The question marks punctuate Némirovsky's peculiar problem; she was trying to write a historical novel while the outcome of that history remained unknown. The fourth and fifth parts of the book "are in limbo," she observed, "and what limbo! It's really in the lap of the gods since it depends on what happens."

We now know what happened. Némirovsky lost her life in what she foresaw as "Captivity." The improbable survival of her two novellas is a cause for celebration and also for grief at another reminder of the horrors of the Holocaust. She wrote what may be the first work of fiction about what we now call World War II. She also wrote, for all to read at last, some of the greatest, most humane and incisive fiction that conflict has produced.

Paul Gray is a regular contributor to the Book Review.

PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE GAO ZHISHENG

By Joyce Wolf

Gao Zhisheng, Group 22's adopted prisoner of conscience, was one of the cases discussed by Assistant Secretary of State Michael Posner during the annual human rights dialog between the USA and China on April 28.

The New York Times reported, "In the discussions, Mr. Posner said, American officials raised special concerns about a growing crackdown on lawyers who defend human rights advocates and dissidents. They included ... Gao Zhisheng, an internationally recognized rights lawyer who vanished last April shortly after having been freed from a previous confinement."

"Mr. Posner indicated that Chinese officials offered few if any concrete responses to American queries about the conditions of the human rights and legal activists who have been seized or imprisoned by Chinese authorities. And he said that the talks, while "respectful in tone," were colored with new seriousness on both sides by the perception that disagreements between the nations had widened."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/29/world/asia/29china.html>

It's good to know that our State Department has not forgotten about Gao Zhisheng. The case of world-famous artist Ai Weiwei, arrested at the Beijing airport April 3, continues to focus attention on human rights in China. Ai Weiwei was permitted to receive a visit from his wife in a secret location on May 15 and is reported to be in good health. The Chinese government has said that Mr. Ai is suspected of economic crimes, although he has not yet been formally charged. There is a very disturbing unverified report that the chief of the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau forced Ai Weiwei to view a video of Gao Zhisheng being tortured.

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2011/04/tortured-by-police-artist-ai-weiwei.html>

Amnesty local groups featured the cases of both Ai Weiwei and Gao Zhisheng at the Human Rights Fair following Amnesty's presentation of an award to the Dalai Lama in Long Beach on May 4. Group 22 obtained 47 signatures on a petition for Gao, and 18 letters about Gao addressed to Premier Wen Jiabao were also signed. If you wish to send your own letter about Gao to Premier Wen or another China government official, you can find addresses and guidelines at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~aigp22/GaoPOC/GaoZhisheng.html>.

VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN

By Cheri Dellelo

Harsh West Bank 'Honor Killing' Brings Tougher Law

(adapted from an Associated Press article – 5/19/11)

A 20-year-old Palestinian woman was thrown into a well and left to die in the name of "family honor." She disappeared on April 20, 2010, and was killed that same day, though her body was not discovered until 13 months later, on May 6, after her 37-year-old uncle, Iqab Baradiya, confessed to the crime. On the day of the killing, the uncle and two accomplices snatched the woman and tied her hands and feet before throwing her in the well. The water would have reached to her neck, so it is unclear whether she died immediately or if it took her a long time to die.

Palestine TV dedicated a program to Aya Baradiya last weekend, which Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas president saw. The case saddened him and prompted him to voice his intentions to scrap the laws guaranteeing leniency for such "honor" killings. Under the old law, someone who killed for family honor would get a maximum of six months in prison. Now they could face the death penalty.

As the horrific details of Aya Baradya's murder emerged, Surif residents and students at Hebron University staged rallies, demanding the death penalty for the killers. They held up signs calling Aya Baradiya a "martyr," the ultimate badge of honor in Palestinian society. Aya Baradiya's family also wants the death penalty for her killers. Her 29-year-old brother, Rami, welcomed the promise of tougher punishment, saying he hoped it would serve as a deterrent.

Honor Killing on U.S. Soil

(adapted from an Associated Press article 05/13/11)

A Minnesota man who police say killed his 20-year-old stepdaughter in Michigan because she left home and wasn't following Islam will get a mental evaluation. The Detroit News reports a judge on Thursday approved the evaluation to determine whether 45-year-old Rahim Alfetlawi is competent for trial. He is charged with first-degree murder in the April 30 death of Jessica Mokdad at her grandmother's home in the Detroit suburb of Warren. The Coon Rapids man told a judge in Warren that he suffers from mental issues stemming from "humiliation and torture" in Iraq in the 1990s under Saddam Hussein's regime. Defense lawyer Richard Glanda says Alfetlawi claims the shooting was an accident. Macomb County Assistant Prosecutor Bill Cataldo says Alfetlawi seems to have a "religious obsession rather than a psychological issue."

South African Lesbian Brutally Raped and Murdered

(adapted from an article from the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission-4/19/11)

The body of Noxolo Nogwaza, a 24 year old lesbian, was found lying in an alley in Kwa-Thema at about 9am on Sunday, April 24 2011. Noxolo's head was completely deformed, her eyes out of the sockets, her brain spilt, her teeth scattered all around, and her face crushed

beyond recognition. An empty beer bottle and used condoms were found pushed up inside her genitals, and parts of her body had been stabbed with glass. A large pavement brick that is believed to have been used to crush her head was found by her side.

Noxolo was raped and murdered in a similar manner as that in which another member of Ekurhuleni Pride Organising Committee (EPOC) was murdered three years ago. Eudy Simelane's body was also found in an open field in Kwa-Thema. She had been raped and murdered, crimes that the perpetrators confessed to. And just last year, a gay man in the same township was attacked by eight men who attempted to rape him. Luckily, he escaped. The men, as they attempted to rape him, were heard saying, "We are determined to kill all gay people in this area and we will do it."

Please call, fax, or email the Tsakane Police Station and demand for a speedy and thorough investigation into the rape and murder of Noxolo Nogwaza and/or call, fax, or email the South African Government and demand that they openly speak out and take action against the increasing violence towards LGBT people in South Africa. Contact information for these actions can be found here - <http://tinyurl.com/3lsgyhx>.



SlutWalk, Los Angeles

On January 24th, 2011, a representative of the Toronto Police, Michael Sanguinetti, gave a speech to women on a college cam-

pus in which he stated: "women should avoid dressing like sluts in order not to be victimized." Comments like this are all too common, reflecting beliefs ingrained in many people as part of a culture that jumps to blaming the victim, blaming alcohol, blaming loose morals, blaming anyone and anything but the actual rapist. And such a culture isn't just demeaning; it's dangerous because it focuses on the outfits and behavior of victims rather than the criminal behavior of perpetrators. This comment is also particularly alarming coming from an individual in a place of authority as it discourages victims/survivors to come forward for support.

Sanguinetti's comments spurred a group of women in Toronto to organize a "SlutWalk" to protest the statement and to hold those in positions of power, not just the police, accountable for the dangerous ideas they promote in the community. The SlutWalk idea has since spread like wildfire and hundreds of women have been participating in satellite protest marches across the continent.

If you'd like to participate in the Los Angeles SlutWalk, it will be Saturday, June 4, from 12:00p to 3:00p. The route starts at West Hollywood Park, 647 North San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood. You can find out more about the walk here – <http://tinyurl.com/3ke6wxf> and more about the original SlutWalk in Toronto here – <http://www.slutwalktoronto.com>.

DEATH PENALTY NEWS

By Stevi Carroll

Number of Executions as of May 17, 2011

Seventeen (17) nationwide

Ohio wins #1 for executions with four. Texas, the state that's seemed like the logical #1 in the past, comes in second with three executions. Third place with two each ties among three states: Alabama, Mississippi, and Oklahoma. Arizona, Georgia, Missouri, and South Carolina log in with one each. Forty-one of the fifty states of the United States have not executed anyone during 2011. Sixteen of those states do not prosecute using the death penalty. The District of Columbia, that entity that is neither state nor country - the seat of our Federal Government, also has no death penalty. Another bright thought: Twenty-five states' governors could have ordered the executions of many inmates on death rows across our country, and they haven't so far in 2011.

People continue to commit heinous crimes and our laws continue to harness in the criminals. Presently, I'm listening to Isabel Allende's ISLAND BENEATH THE SEA. One thing becomes clear: what is considered a crime at one time is considered the unquestioned status quo at another. The treatment of African people and their children in this book compares on my Humanity's Sinking into a Cesspool Meter with the treatment of the mentally and physically

infirm, homosexuals, Gypsies, sympathetic Germans, Jews, and others I don't know about during the Holocaust.

With mass communication, we throughout the world know how we treat one another sometimes without that knowledge influencing how we treat one another to lessen the suffering of the world. Now with that said, we do have 16 states in these United States that have decided state-sponsored killing of incarcerated men and women is not the path they want to walk. Of course, those states may also have decided they did not want to spend their shared tax money pursuing expensive death penalty cases; the money would be better used elsewhere.

Late in April, Governor Jerry Brown canceled the state's plans for a \$356-million death row at San Quentin prison. Governor Brown was quoted as saying that at a time when the state is slashing funds to programs for children, the disabled and seniors it would be "unconscionable" to spend so much on this facility. The California general fund would be putting out 28.5 million of our shared state tax dollars over 25 years for this new death row. That seems like a bundle of money to me, but what do I know? I still consider a hundred dollar bill a big deal. Just for a little FYI, the average amount of each inmate's incarceration is \$44,500 per year. How many folks out here in the real world work all year long, often at jobs that challenge our patients, even if we like them, and make that much or a few thousand more, and we're paying taxes on that money we make - to keep these folks in prison. Of course, everyone along the prison-industrial-complex line pays taxes, too, to support the prison system. My only concern about the cancellation of this plan is that Donald Specter, director of the Prison Law Office, said the conditions on death row are "just dismal". That does need to be corrected. James Clark, ACLU & LACCDPA, says a new facility at a different location may in the works because the property on which San Quentin is located is prime real estate, a moneymaker for the state.

Democratic Party State Convention

James Clark and some other members of the Los Angeles County Coalition for Death Penalty Alternatives went to the Democratic State Convention. They asked for a resolution abolishing death penalty prosecutions be presented. They were told they needed three hundred signatures to bring it to the floor. After

they gathered over 600, John Burton, California Democratic Party Chair, asked for the resolution to be withdrawn with his assurance he would support it at the executive board meeting, and he would personally speak with Jerry Brown.

Also at the convention, I think it was Death Penalty Focus that had multiple copies of Edmund "Pat" Brown's book PUBLIC JUSTICE PRIVATE MERCY, a book that deals with Jerry's dad former Governor Brown's struggle with the death penalty, for people to sign and send to Governor Jerry Brown.

Troy Davis

James Clark says all that's holding Georgia up from executing Troy Davis is a lack of the drug sodium thiopental. California has about 500 grams of it and has decided not to execute anyone for the remainder of 2011. I hope we don't sell any to Georgia. Texas is segueing into the use of pentobarbital. I hope Georgia doesn't follow that lead. I think because of what seems like such clear evidence that Troy's guilt is not 100% certain - and some believe the evidence for his innocence has amassed an equal percentage, his execution will be a heartbreaking blow to many of those who have followed and worked on his case. I don't know anything about Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, but with all of the international attention Troy Davis' case has garnered, hubris comes to mind should he allow Mr. Davis' execution.

To "Oppose the Death Penalty for Troy Davis" go to <http://takeaction.amnestyusa.org/siteapps/advocacy/ActionItem.aspx?c=60JCLQPAJiJUG&b=6645049&aid=12970>

2012 District Attorney Race for LA County

As you may know, Steve Cooley has decided not to run for DA in 2012. That leaves the field open. James Clark told us at the May meeting of Los Angeles County Coalition for Death Penalty Alternatives that six people have surfaced as viable candidates going into the election cycle: Danette Meyers, <http://www.danetteforda.com/>; Jackie Lacey, <http://www.jackielacey.com/>; Carmen Trutanich, (more on this later) <http://www.drafttrutanich4da.com/>; Alan Jackson, <http://www.votealanjackson.com/>; Bobby Grace, <http://bobbygrace4da.com/>; and Mario Trujillo, <http://www.mariotrujilloforda.com/>. What this means for our coalition is that we will have to watch the positions each of these folks takes on the death penalty. As the election draws nearer,

we will have more information for each of them. Also, our resolution will be rewritten to reflect the changing DA with wording more generic addressing the LA County DA rather than specifically Steve Cooley.

Carmen Trutanich is an interesting guy because he said he would not seek another elected office while in the one he has - thus the 'draft' website. In 2008, Mr. Trutanich in a letter pledged "\$100,000 to LA's Best After School Program" if he ran for another political office while serving in the one he holds now (<http://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25678-trutanich-pledge.html>). Alan Jackson is calling Mr. Trutanich out (http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=mn-uDPaEKWM) so this might heat up into an interesting race to watch and be a part of.

Faith Rising: The Death Penalty and the Quest for Community Justice

A Look at Race and Class in the American Criminal Justice System 40 Years After the Assassination of Robert F. Kennedy

Sunday, June 5, 2011, Death Penalty Focus is sponsoring a discussion titled FAITH RISING: THE DEATH PENALTY AND THE QUEST FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE. Professor Charles Ogletree, the Jesse Climenko Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and Founding and executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice; Bishop Charles E. Blake, Pastor of West Angeles Church of God in Christ and member of President Obama's 25-person White House Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships; and Aqeela Sherrills, the California Outreach Coordinator for California Crime Victims for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, are the panel members. This event will be held at the Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools Paul Schrade Library, 701 South Catalina Street, Los Angeles CA, June 5, 2011, from 3-5 PM. This free event will coincide with anniversary of the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy and will be held at the site of his murder. RSVP by June 3, 2011, at <http://www.deathpenalty.org/june5> or call 415-243-0143.

Shawn Hawkins

For over half of his life, Shawn Hawkins, a 42-year-old African American, has been on death row in Ohio. The state parole board has voted

to have his death sentence commuted but the governor, John Kasich, may not accept their recommendation. To urge Governor Kasich to commute Shawn Hawkins execution, go to <http://takeaction.amnestyusa.org/siteapps/advocacy/ActionItem.aspx?c=6oJCLQPAJiJUG&b=6645049&aid=15933>.

Stay of Execution

Frank Williams, Jr. Arkansas
 date of execution: June 22
 two appeals in process

Executions

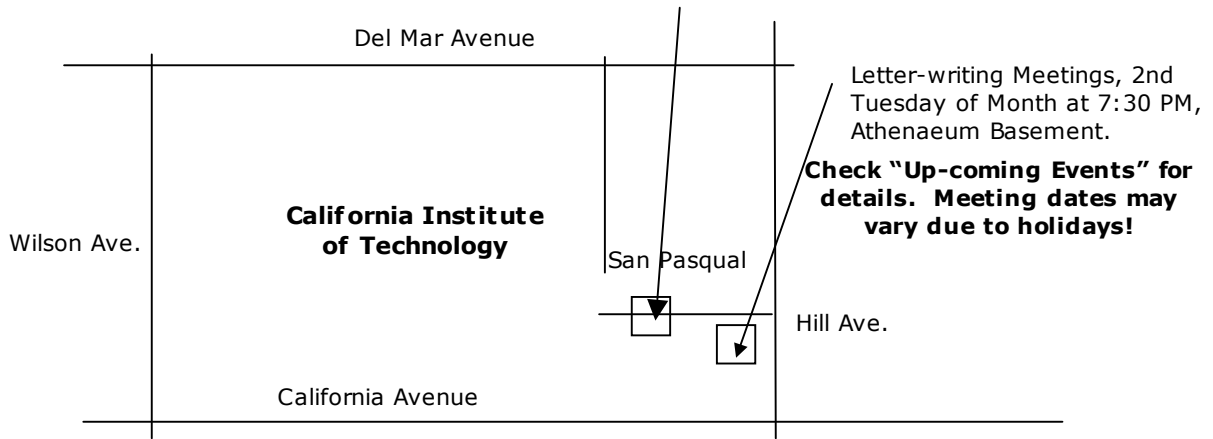
May 2011

3	Carry Kerr Ohio	46 Lethal Injection
6	Jeffrey Motts South Carolina	36 Lethal Injection
10	Benny Stevens Mississippi	52 Lethal Injection
17	Daniel Bedford Ohio	63 Lethal Injection
17	Rodney Gray Mississippi	39 Lethal Injection

GROUP 22 MONTHLY LETTER COUNT

DP	2
Other UAs	32
Gao Zhisheng	18
Total	52
To add your letters to the total contact lwkamp@gmail.com .	

Monthly Meetings, 4th Thursday of Month, 7:30 PM,
Caltech Y Lounge.



From the 210 exit on Lake Avenue, head south, turn left on Del Mar
From the 110 continue on Arroyo Parkway north, turn right on California
Street parking is generally available.

Amnesty International Group 22
The Caltech Y
Mail Code 5-62
Pasadena, CA 91125
www.its.caltech.edu/~aigp22/
<http://rightsreaders.blogspot.com>



Amnesty International's mission is to undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of the rights to physical and mental integrity, freedom of conscience and expression, and freedom from discrimination, within the context of its work to promote all human rights.