

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

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Media Advisory

Photo Opportunity

Hometown Girl Carla Hagen to Pre-release Her New Novel in Baudette

Novel highlights the history of Lake of the Woods County

WHAT: A series of readings featuring first-time novelist Carla Hagen presenting from her new book, *Hand Me Down My Walking Cane*. Hagen was born and raised in Baudette, Minnesota, graduating from high school in 1968. Her parents are the late Carl Hagen and Elnora Bixby (also a writer, *North of Nowhere*). Her aunt, Sally Moorhead, still resides in Baudette, as do many cousins and friends.

The novel is a fictional look at the real-life 1930's resettlement of Faunce, Minnesota, and other towns located in what is now Beltrami Island Forest. Here is a short summary of the novel:

At the height of the Great Depression, Faunce Ridge, a tiny village on the Minnesota-Canadian border, is declared a rural slum by Roosevelt's New Deal government. Hometown boy, Emil Rousseau, is sent to photograph the poverty of his childhood neighbors to sell Congress on resettlement. Told from the perspective of Emil, his childhood sweetheart Rose, madam Sadie and bootlegger Magnus, *Hand Me Down My Walking Cane* speaks to the mystical pull of this harsh and beautiful place while bringing to vivid life the history of the borderland.

"Carla Hagen is a terrific story teller. With *Hand Me Down My Walking Cane* she has recreated a north country world gone by, atmospheric, historic and populated with flinty, fully voiced, fully realized characters. It's like finding a sepia toned family album you just can't put down," said Judith Katz, University of Minnesota Department of English, Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies.

Advance copies of *Hand Me Down My Walking Cane* will be available for sale. The book's official release is September 16, 2011.

PHOTO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

Carla Hagen reading from her novel at various Baudette locations, and autographing books for guests, family and friends. See Carla's attached bio.

WHEN/WHERE:

10am - 11am, Saturday, August 6, Smiling Moon Café, 121 N Main Ave, Baudette, MN 56623;

www.carlahagen.com

CARLA HAGEN

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12noon – 1pm, Saturday, August 6, Baudette Public Library, 110 1st Avenue SW, Baudette, MN 56623;

2pm – 4pm, Sunday, August 7, Lake of the Woods County Historical Society, 206 8th Avenue SE, Suite 150
Baudette, MN 56623

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