



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

March 2013

www.wflf.org

Cannons Everywhere! Viva 500 Open Mic

Tuesday, March 19
6:30 Wine & Cheese
7:00 Readings
Board Room, Second Floor
Pensacola Cultural Center

Open Mic begins with a Viva 500 Literary Reflection featuring the words of Ron Cannon, WFLF founder, on the literary heritage of Northwest Florida, followed by Jack Beach's whimsical poem about the early days of the Federation. Readings of your original works inspired by Florida are encouraged, but all your original works are welcome. Bring a friend to join in the festivities.

Writers Weekly Workshops Room 210 at the Cultural Center

Poetry Workshop

Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Come write, play, and explore the world of poetry in this writing workshop.

Tuesday Writer's Guild, 4 - 6 pm, hosted by Andrea Walker. Each writer brings work, primarily prose, to read aloud and takes others' work home to critique. Bring something you've written to share with this informal group.

Two Acclaimed Poets Visit the Panhandle

Natasha Trethewey, U. S. Poet Laureate
"An Evening with Natasha Trethewey"

Thursday, March 28

IHMC

40 S. Alcaniz

5:30 p.m. refreshments

6 p.m. lecture

Vespertina Cognitio

by [Natasha Trethewey](#)

Overhead, pelicans glide in threes—
their shadows across the sand
dark thoughts crossing the mind.

Beyond the fringe of coast, shrimpers
hoist their nets, weighing the harvest
against the day's losses. Light waning,

concentration is a lone gull
circling what's thrown back. Debris
weights the trawl like stones.

All day, this dredging—beneath the tug
of waves—rhythm of what goes out,
comes back, comes back, comes back.

Several years ago I heard Natasha Trethewey read and speak at the Ashmore Auditorium at Pensacola State College (then PJC). Mostly I remember her lilting voice. She told us she reads the dictionary to study words. Now she's U.S. Poet Laureate. I believe the IHMC will be crowded March 28. You better get there early to get a seat!

Andrea

**Kim Addonizio will present her poetry at
Pensacola State College's Ashmore Auditorium
@ 7:30 on April 11**

Ordinary Genius: A Guide for the Poet Within

Workshop 1:30-2:30 in PSC's library
5:30-6:30 Author reception

Tickets for her performance will be on sale April 1st to April 11th @ the Lyceum box office. Ticket price is \$8 for community members but free for PSC students. Hope you can make it!

Kim Addonizio has been called "one of our nation's most provocative and edgy poets." Her latest books are *Lucifer at the Starlite*, a finalist for the Poets Prize and the Northern CA Book Award; and *Ordinary Genius: A Guide for the Poet Within*, both from W.W. Norton. Her novel-in-verse, *Jimmy & Rita*, was recently reissued by Stephen F. Austin State University Press. Kalima Press published her Selected Poems in Arabic. Addonizio's many honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, two NEA Fellowships, and Pushcart Prizes for both poetry and the essay. Her collection *Tell Me* was a National Book Award Finalist. Other books include two novels from Simon & Schuster, *Little Beauties* and *My Dreams Out in the Street*. Addonizio offers private workshops in Oakland, CA, and online, and often incorporates her love of blues harmonica into her readings.



If you attended open mic last October, you remember PSC's Todd Neumann presented Ms. Addonizio's poetry to whet our appetites.

More poetry news – Julie DeMarko's daughter Laura Wood has published her first book of poetry, *All Hands Lost*. Order a copy from finishinglinepress.com to help Laura reach her goal of 100 copies by April 8.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Party time! It's March and the State of Florida and West Florida Literary Federation both celebrate in March. In March 1513, Ponce de Leon first set foot in Florida. On March 3, 1845 Florida achieved statehood and on March 5, 1987, the State of Florida officially recognized WFLF as a corporation. When WFLF turned six in 1993, the State of Florida awarded the Federation a \$2000 grant to support its ongoing operations. Now, at age 26, WFLF is the recipient of a major grant from the Florida Humanities Council to bring quality literary programming to Northwest Florida during the Viva 500 commemoration.

The energetic, dedicated WFLF Board elected at last month's general meeting will lead us during these exciting times. But, each and every member of the organization is vital in fulfilling WFLF's commitment to the State of Florida to produce "Art in Motion: From the Gallery to the Theatre." The grant is a matching grant – and WFLF will match the State's financial contribution with volunteer services. We'll coordinate, direct, perform, write, manage, usher, survey, poll, post -- and in the process we'll get to know each other better, learn more about our community, explore the literary heritage of Northwest Florida, and show the Pensacola area just what a vibrant organization WFLF is.

At monthly open mics, we'll share the literary heritage of Northwest Florida with ten-minute Viva 500 Literary Reflections before the open mic readings begin. We'll sponsor community events and post online resources for teachers. We'll work closely with the African American Heritage Society, our partnering organization. But most of all, we'll need you – your expertise, your enthusiasm and your time.

Please save a few hours from your writing life to volunteer and help bring WFLF's "From the Gallery to the Theatre" to life during 2013. I look forward to working with you.

Diane Skelton

Florida Humanities Council Awards WFLF Major Grant for Art in Motion: From the Gallery to the Theatre

Poet Laureate Julie DeMarko was so inspired by the Viva 500 Celebration that she teamed with Ora Wills to create "Art in Motion: from the Gallery to the Theatre." The Florida Humanities Council has recognized the merit of the program with a major grant, one of only nine awarded this period. With the funding, WFLF will present three mini performances and one major performance featuring the voices of local poets, the art of Sonya Griffin Evans, and the music and dance of Nielah Black Spears and Acoustic Sol. The major performance will be highlighted by guest poet Kwame Dawes.

Poet-scholar Kwame Dawes, editor of the highly acclaimed *Prairie Schooner* at the University of Nebraska and a "rock star" among musicians, poets and scholars, will perform in October. Board member Nielah Spears, a dancer and choreographer who has toured in 22 countries, will choreograph the show. Cultural artist Sonja Griffin Evans, who owns Gumbo Gallery in the heart of Belmont-DeVilliers and paints in the style of the Gullah artists, will provide the paintings that will come to life.

The program is inspired by the Charleston, South Carolina production "Off the Wall" by artist Jonathan Greene. In 2012, Dawes co-edited *Seeking: Poetry and Prose Inspired by the Art of Jonathan Green*. The African American Heritage Society is partnering with WFLF in the programs, which bring to life the contributions of African Americans to Northwest Florida. Teaching resources will also be available on our website.

The Art in Motion series runs from March 2013 to January 2014.

Spread the word and tell your friends about the 500 Voices fundraising page on Razoo by forwarding this link:

And thank you ever so much. ♥

<http://www.razoo.com/story/500-Voices>

History Marker Celebrating 25 Years of WFLF

In March we mark the end of WFLF's yearlong celebration of twenty-five years and this historical marker series in *The Legend*. It only seems fitting to celebrate those leaders who have enabled this organization to continue. At times membership numbers soared, at other times it waned. Each time, as Member Emeritus Jack Brooking said so aptly the annual meeting, someone stepped up to lead. Though space prohibits recognizing all those who have served as editors and Board members, here are those "who stepped up" to serve as president.

1987-1989 Ron Cannon
1990-1992 Fran Davis Cassidy
1993-1994 Seldon Pierce
1995 B.J. Miller
1996-1997 Owen Farley
1998 Ron Evans
1999-2002 Margret Hildreth
2003-2004 Jack Beverly
2004-2005 Art Giberson
2005-2007 Cas Dunlap
2007-2010 Katherine Nelson-Born
2010-2011 Patricia Edmisten
2011-2012 Bonnie Bayly
2012 – Diane Skelton

Wild woman and former guest **Judyth Hill** has recently published *Dazzling Wobble*. If you're a fan of Judyth (and who isn't?), you can order it from Amazon.

"Rebecca Seiferle describes DAZZLING WOBBLE as "a whirling dervish—a love poem" written "with the ecstasy of a postmodern Rumi." Veronica Golos calls the work "a lush and lavish glossolalia." Hill has been described as "shamelessly ecstatic and exclamatory, proclaiming her unfettered joy in being alive" (Sam Hamill); "a poetic transformer whose work lights up the reader's whole body/mind power grid" (Joseph Hutchison); and a "Doorway Woman" (Gary Lawless)."

Amazon.com

SUBMISSIONS

EMERALD COAST REVIEW, VOL. XVII - 2013

Editor's Note: We will begin taking submissions for Emerald Coast Review in February. Since we are celebrating Viva Florida 500 years in 2013, submissions celebrating our state are encouraged; however, ECR will not be exclusively themed.

Submission guidelines:

1. All submissions should be in electronic format since the printing and binding process are electronic. Submissions must be in .doc, .rtf or .pdf format. Email entries to westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com

2. Upon special request, the editor may accept hard copy submissions to:

Emerald Coast Review

West Florida Literary Federation

400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212

Pensacola, FL 32502-5902

Send disposable five (5) copies. Work will not be returned.

3. Include a brief biography listing full name, profession, published works, special interests, etc. This will appear with your work in final publication.

4. Submissions are read "blind," so do not place your name on the manuscript. Include a separate page with your name, contact information, submission category, and the title of your submission.

5. Fee: \$10 per submission per category, students \$5 per submission per category. Those accepted for publication will receive a free copy of *Emerald Coast Review*. For online submissions and payment click here [Shop](#).

Those preferring to pay by check may email their work, and mail payment with and a submission form [Click Here](#) to

Emerald Coast Review

West Florida Literary Federation

400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212

Pensacola, FL 32502-5902.

Submissions must be postmarked by May 1,

2013. WFLF accepts original, unpublished works only. We reserve one-time publication rights to work published in *Emerald Coast Review*. All other rights revert back to the author, artist, or photographer.

7. We consider all submissions final. We will not consider rewritten submissions.

8. No simultaneous submissions accepted.

Poetry guidelines:

1. Up to 4 poems, with a maximum of 400 lines total.

2. A single poetry submission = up to 4 poems.

3. Format poem as you would like it to appear in final publication, using 12 pt. Times New Roman font.

4. Electronic submissions must be sent as .doc, .rtf or .pdf format.

Fiction and Nonfiction guidelines:

1. A single fiction or nonfiction submission = 1 story.

2. Typed, double spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1" margins on all sides.

3. Include title only (no author name) on upper right corner of each page.

4. Do not number pages.

5. 2,000 words maximum.

6. Flash fiction (500 words or less) accepted.

7. Electronic submissions must be sent as .doc, .rtf or .pdf format.

Artwork/Photographs guidelines:

1. 6 individual images maximum; one per page.

2. A single artwork/photograph submission = 6 images.

3. Black & white only.

4. Present graphic elements exactly as they should appear on printed page.

5. At least 600 pixels.

6. Must be camera ready

7. Electronic submissions must be sent as .jpeg, .bmp or .png format.

Student Poetry Contest: The deadline for entries in the Escambia County Student Poetry

Contest sponsored by WFLF is April 5. If you know an aspiring young writer, please encourage them to enter. It's free and cash prizes are awarded. Entry forms are available online at wflf.org. Winning student poets will read their work at Books-A-Million on April 26 at 2 p.m. Join us.

News

Ryn Holmes' third book of poetry, *Absolute Silence: A Collection of Haiku*, is now available on Amazon.

As an encouragement to young writers, Anne Howard has graciously donated ten free student submissions to *Emerald Coast Review*.

New Board member training will be March 4 at the home of Julie DeMarko.

WFLF has recently applied for four grants with hopes of funding two major projects. If you know of funding or grants available, please notify any Board member. Applications have been made to Florida Humanities Council, International Paper Company, Gannett Foundation and the National Arts & Humanities Youth Awards Program.

The Board is proud to announce the newly designed WFLF website which launched in late January. Please visit the site at wflf.org or westfloridaliteraryfederation.com and let us know what you think.

The WFLF office now has Wi-Fi. Bring your laptop or your phone and work to your heart's content, thanks to the donation of a wireless router by Katheryn Holmes. There's even a coffee pot, if you'd like to pretend you're at a trendy coffee shop.

VIVA 500 FEBRUARY EVENTS



VIVA FLORIDA 500™
1513-2013

PENSACOLA EVENTS

March 8 – April 20 “Jazz in Black and White” Photography Exhibit by Duncan Schiedt, at Pensacola Museum of Art Co-sponsored by PMA and the Jazz Society of Pensacola. Museum hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 - 5. Saturday Noon to 5. Admission for non-members \$5; \$2 for students and military. Free on Tuesday.

March 12 - PAS Lecture: Field School Recap 2012 and Preview 2013. 7 p.m. Bowden Building.

March 19 - “Viva 500: A Literary Reflection,” readings from works reflecting the area’s literary heritage will begin West Florida Literary Federation Open Mic, Pensacola Cultural Center, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

March 21 - Viva Florida 500 America's Music and Lecture Series, Blues and Gospel. 5:30 p.m. Downtown Public Library at Spring and Government Streets.

March 27 - Pensacola Celebrity Chefs at the James Beard House in New York.

March 28 - Viva Florida 500 America's Music and Lecture Series, Broadway & Tim Pan Alley. 5:30 p.m. Downtown Public Library at Spring and Government Streets.

April 1-7 - Jazz Society of Pensacola’s Viva Pensacola Jazz Festival

April 1 - Viva Pensacola Jazzfest, Jazz Jam open to all musicians, at the Unique Café in Gulf Breeze. (Free for participating musicians, \$8 for JSOP members, \$10 for non-members, \$5 for students with ID)

April 2 - Viva Pensacola Jazzfest, Dixieland and New Orleans Jazz. Dixieland Jazz Party at Seville Quarter; Dixieland Jazz Party at Gregory Street Assembly Hall; and Mike Potters presents A Night of Traditional New Orleans, Blues & Spirituals Songs & Stories, at End of the Line Café (all vegan) (FREE).

April 3 - Viva Pensacola Jazzfest, Gospel and Blues. Gospel Concert at St. Joseph's Catholic Church (FREE); Blues Concert as part of Christopher's Concerts at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church (FREE); 30 x 90 at Paradise Bar and Grill on Pensacola Beach, Blues Event at Seville Quarter; Brad & Brenda Jorden, Mississippi Delta blues duo at Lillo's Italian Restaurant on Pensacola Beach (\$10 minimum); Saxist/Flutist Chip Shelton Jazz-Blues Workshop with Special Guests Galore at Five Sisters Blues Café, Blues Event at Gregory Street Assembly Hall.

April 4 - Viva Pensacola Jazzfest, Big Band Jazz. Pensacola State College presents trumpeter Marvin Stamm with the PSC Jazz Ensemble at Ashmore Auditorium (ticketed, evening); Big Band Event at Seville Quarter, Big Band Event at Gregory Street Assembly Hall.

April 4 - Viva Florida 500 America's Music and Lecture Series, Swing -Jazz. 5:30 p.m. Downtown Public Library at Spring and Government Streets.

April 5 - Viva Pensacola Jazzfest, Latin Jazz Gallery Night. Latin Jazz, with salsa & zumba "flash" dancing (FREE) with Latin Jazz music in clubs and galleries throughout downtown Pensacola; Latin Event at Seville Quarter; Latin Jazz at Gregory Street Assembly Hall; Latin Jazz Event at Dollarhide's Music Center (FREE); Brad & Brenda Jorden, Mississippi Delta blues duo at Lillo's Italian Restaurant on Pensacola Beach (\$10 minimum); Shades Jazz Band, R&B, soul, etc. at Solé Inn and Suites

(FREE); Latin Jazz Event at Gulf Coast Community Bank (FREE).

April 6 – 7 - Viva Pensacola Jazzfest, Pensacola Jazzfest in Seville Square (FREE) 10:30 am – 6:00 p.m.

April 9 - PAS Lecture: In Search of 16th-Century St. Augustine, Sarah Miller. 6 p.m. Location TBA, paid reservation required-dinner included.

April 11 - Viva Florida 500 America's Music and Lecture Series, Country & Bluegrass. 5:30 p.m. Downtown Public Library at Spring and Government Streets.

April 13 - Get in the Spirit at Historic St. Michaels Cemetery.

It's Never Too Late to sponsor a new member to WFLF. Prorated dues for new members are now in effect. Couple \$4.25 a month, Individual \$2.50 a month, and Student \$1.25 a month. Pay for a new member, and encourage them to "pay it forward" next year by sponsoring another new member.

CREATIVE WRITING

New World Music or New World Noise: The Choice Is Ours

A short while back, I realized—after listening to CDs of Hindu music from India and Buddhist music from Tibet and Bhutan—that I only had

one recording of Native American (American Indian) music in my collection. So I bought numerous CDs of it. And I've been listening to this music—ancient music from my own continent.

There were millions of people here in the Americas before Columbus landed in what is now the Bahamas—millions. And up to ninety percent of these people were killed by Old-World diseases, such as smallpox and influenza, before the American Revolution—indeed before Jamestown and Plymouth Rock were established.

Most of the rest were either slaughtered, or absorbed through intermarriage.

In fairness, Columbus and the Europeans who followed him didn't know they would kill most of the Native Americans by their very presence—through disease. Yet they didn't care, either. The Europeans considered the deaths of the Native Americans to be the providence of God, this land to be their promised land—just as the Hebrews did, in slaughtering the Canaanites, the Moabites, and others who resided in what is now Palestine.

And beginning with Columbus, the Europeans—who came here willingly—brought understandably-unwilling Africans here, as slaves.

Then followed Asians—Chinese, Japanese, and others—seeking a better life.

Again, in fairness, had the roles been reversed—had the first humans evolved in the New World—they would have done the same thing to the natives of the Old World. Because humans are the same everywhere. But that doesn't change what happened.

Now to the present. It's been over five hundred years—half a millenium—since we Europeans,

Africans, and Asians first arrived here in the Americas. Ideally, European Americans should return to Europe, African Americans should return to Africa, and Asian Americans should return to Asia. But it's too late—those continents from which we came simply could not sustain us, not with a global population of over seven billion people.

So we have no choice but to get along. We don't have to love each other, we don't even have to like each other. But we have to get along. It's that simple.

Scott Mayo

Review of *The Issued Wife* by Susan Lewis 104 pages

Susan Lewis' third book of poetry, letters and photography *The Issued Wife* is filled with the passion her readers have come to expect. Based on the two-year deployment of her husband Steve, this journey into the hearts of two soul mates takes the reader from joy to extreme pain and back again. A love story filled with laughter and tears, intimacy and imagery, it is Susan's best work yet.

The book is divided into two parts: Without Him and With Him. For Susan, that says it all; there is no other way. Susan holds nothing back. She is happy with her man and is not willing to unexpectedly let him go for two years. Nonetheless, she learns she, like everything else in a Marine's life, is a commodity.

Susan paints word pictures of frailty with phrases like "sliding to the floor in sorrow" and fear with "all the movers stopped . . . and looked at Daddy." If one has never experienced the pain of separation described in the poetry, one may be shocked. Her writing expresses the deep emotion that we on the outside would do well to examine and attempt to understand. It evokes empathy. We want to know more about

this phenomenon of deployment and its effects on families.

“Whispers from the Soul” exemplifies passion with lightning flashes and wild winds and all the ecstasy the reader can conjure in-between. We find ourselves sweating with the speaker at a railroad crossing as the graffiti becomes a finger painted blur. The reader experiences sensory stimulation on each page. “I smell his shoulder, lemon, mint and salt . . . heartbeat in my ear thrumming. He tastes of sweet almond love, the stubble on your chin raking a ragged path down my neck.”

The author lives her life sincerely with as much feeling as she writes. She has said she writes “to make it worth it . . . to make everything she’s gone through worth the pain she felt.” Her writing embodies the meaning and purpose of writing. Susan describes herself as a cloud jumper watching herself. The reader will also watch in awe.

Andrea Walker

mailed to the WFLF office, 400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212, Pensacola, FL 32502-5902. *Note: The editorial staff reserves the right to edit submissions. Submission does not guarantee publication.*

“Like” us on Facebook

Join us on Facebook! Keep up with what’s happening in the literary world locally and nationally. See smiling faces of other writers – especially the faces you know. Our Facebook is West Florida Literary Federation (WFLF) – you’ve got to use the whole name including the *parenthesis* or you might get some radio station in Timbuktu. After you “Like” us, you’ll receive updates from our group.

Click here to like us:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Florida-Literary-Federation-WFLF/255101747857712?ref=hl>

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WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.com

Check out our website at www.wflf.org or like us on Facebook West Florida Literary Federation

LEGEND SUBMISSIONS

Short works for publication in *The Legend* are always welcome from our members. After all, that’s what *The Legend* is all about! Submissions can be stories, poems, OR essays. Length should be no more than 750 words for prose, or one page for poems and pictures. The deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the month of publication. All works can be submitted by e-mail to andrea48@aol.com or dropped off at or

2013 Renew/Join with the West Florida Literary Federation

Dues:

For your first year, prorated for the month you join plus for the number of months remaining in the year:

Individual \$2.50/month ~ Couple \$4.25/month ~ Student \$1.25/month

Subsequent years, due annually January 1st :

Individual \$30 ~ Couple \$50 ~ Student \$15 ~ Two years ~ individual \$50 ~ couple \$85

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