



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

December 2013

www.wflf.org

Membership renewals due by Dec 31 - pay online at wflf.org via PayPal or at open mic. Sponsor a first-time member for only \$20 with the “pay it forward” plan. Since WFLF is a 501c3 nonprofit organization, dues are tax deductible.

Third Tuesday, December 17 ~ POTLUCK

Holiday Buffet and Open Mic –

Pick Up Your Copy of the ECR or shop for Christmas at Open Mic—

Those who haven't read their works published in the latest ECR are encouraged to do so at open mic or bring a holiday favorite.

Andrea Walker will round out the year's Viva 500 Literary Reflections with Panhandle Christmas Memories from Poet Laureate Adelia Rosasco Soule.

Room 200

The Cultural Center

The evening begins with potluck refreshments at 6:30, followed by open mic at 7.

EMERALD COAST REVIEW

Thanks to all of you who were able to brave the windy weather off of Pensacola Bay for our release event last weekend.

For those of you who were unable to attend or pick up your free contributor's copy, you can pick up your copy in room 210 at the Cultural Center. It is open during workshops Monday evenings 6 to 8; Tuesdays 4 to 6; Thursdays 9:30 a.m. to 11:30, then afternoon 3 to 5. Or you could come to third Tuesday for open mic/Christmas potluck on December 17th from 6:30 until around 9 p.m.

If you live out of town and have not already sent me your mailing address, please do so and I will forward your free copy via USPS. Also, don't forget ECR is available for purchase at Amazon.com and Createspace.com.

Thank you for your contributions,
Regina Sakalarios-Rogers, editor

Art in Motion Reader's Showcase a Big Hit

Thirteen representatives from West Florida Literary Federation and the African-American Heritage Society entertained a Sunday afternoon crowd of more than 70 at the downtown library with the last performance of "Art in Motion: From the Gallery to the Theatre." The two-hour Viva Florida 500 event included readings describing "Black Life in Pensacola: 1930-1965"; a screening of a clip from Robin Reshard's documentary on Belmont DeVilliers; and the interpretative dance "Industrious Women."

According to evaluations, the audience loved the performance. Forty of the 41 evaluations returned marked "yes" to the question "Would you attend more reader showcase events about different topics?" Individual comments included descriptors like excellent, talented, informative, enjoyable, fabulous, well-organized, great, outstanding.

Positive statements included "Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to learn more about the rich heritage and contributions of Pensacola's African American community." "I was thrilled for an opportunity to learn more about my hometown and share the experience with my children." "The program was very informative and enjoyable. It was like memory lane very respectfully portrayed for me." "The quality of writing presented and the diversity of talent represented by the dance was wonderful."

The readers, which included both Ora Wills and Charlie Davis, read personal narratives thematically organized into "Living black;" "Surviving Jim Crow," "Two Pensacolians Remember" and "Laugh Lines."

Most of the readings were from *Images in Black* and *When Black Folks Was Colored*. Special thanks to Ora Wills for securing the readers and the location, and for organizing such a successful event.

Diane Skelton

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As a seventh grader, I stood under the grocery store awning in the pouring rain on a Saturday morning. I probably looked like a rain-drenched Little Match Girl, but I felt like a patriot. I was selling poppies to benefit veterans; that was my first memorable volunteer experience. By the time I was a senior in high school, I was coordinating the countywide March of Dimes campaign.

I recently heard Jena Melancon from the Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council speak about foreign leaders who visit Northwest Florida with the U.S. Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program. She pointed out that volunteerism is a very American thing, unknown in many other cultures. So when foreign visitors come to Pensacola, she tries to include a volunteer experience for them -- like volunteering at a soup kitchen or a food bank. She says the volunteer activity is what the leaders most want to duplicate when they return to their homelands.

These foreign visitors only stay three days, but I wish they could have attended just one WFLF event to experience what a small group of volunteer-writers can accomplish.

In 2013, WFLF designed and implemented a quality series of programs that involved hundreds, if not thousands, of area residents in humanities events. As I tally the volunteer hours that WFLF members logged during the past eleven months during "Art in Motion: From the Gallery to the Theatre," I am awestruck. Researching, cooking, copying, reading, setting up tables, typing, merging, labeling, addressing, designing, marketing, writing, telephoning, practicing, recruiting -- the tasks were almost as monumental as the hours logged. Margo Stringfellow, the facilitator for Viva Pensacola, says that West Florida Literary Federation is the "poster child" for the Florida Humanities Council. The folks in Tallahassee are in awe of us.

And so am I.

Thank you WFLF members for your encouraging spirit, unlimited energy, resourcefulness, and heartfelt volunteer spirit. We have much to be proud of as we usher in 2014.

Diane Skelton, President

If you are interested in the Portfolio Society,

New Wednesday Workshop for 2014 The Portfolio Society

WFLF's newest group is the Portfolio Society, a workshop formed to assist women who are actively seeking publication. It will run for one calendar year, beginning January 2014. The group will work with each woman by critiquing her work, discussing issues regarding the structure of her work, brainstorming ideas for marketing, creating a query, and addressing any other publishing-based needs. Work may include any genre.

This goal-oriented workshop, facilitated by Jeannie Zokan and assisted by Diane Skelton, will be two hours, from 9-11 on Wednesday mornings beginning January 8. Each participant should bring an idea of what they hope to accomplish during the calendar year. Sessions will involve timed discussions for each participant. WFLF membership is required; the group is limited to seven members.

The name Portfolio Society comes from the 1860s. When Dante Gabriel Rossetti founded the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood to surround himself with other artists, his sister Christina Rossetti found support from the Portfolio Society, an informal group of female poets. The women remained each other's best critics, exchanging letters almost daily for years, critiquing one another's work, suggesting new topics and themes, and helping to organize the works into volumes for publication.

contact Jeannie Zokan by email
4zokans@att.net.

**WANTED:
MEMOIR WORKSHOP LEADER –
CONTACT DIANE SKELTON
OR ANY BOARD MEMBER**

Writers Weekly Workshops Room 210 at the Cultural Center

Pure Poetry Lounge with Susan Lewis
Mondays, Nov.11, 2013 to Jan. 20, 2014
6:00-8:00pm, Suite 212 Pensacola Cultural Center

A poetry class focusing on both critique and assignments designed to break class participants out of "comfort zones" led by Susan Lewis. New experiences, old lessons with a different twist and in the end, hopefully the ability to see poetry from a new perspective. All you have to do is show up with a great attitude and a willingness to work together. Susan is the author of *Goodbye, Mama* and *The Issued Wife*, and director of the Escambia County Student Poetry Contest.

TUESDAY WRITERS' GUILD 4 - 6. Each writer brings work, primarily prose, to read aloud and takes others' work home to critique. ~ Andrea Walker andrea48@aol.com

POETRY WORKSHOP – WILD WRITING

Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Come write, play, and explore the world of poetry in this writing workshop ~ Julie DeMarko

WRITING FOR PUBLICATION

Thursdays 3-5. For seasoned writers and members of WFLF who are working on book-length manuscripts seeking publication. Manuscripts and written critiques are emailed within members of the group and then members discuss their comments each Thursday from 3-5 in the WFLF office. The group is limited to seven writers ~ Ron Tew

tuesday@bellsouth.net

**Hey! Wanna write? Say your piece?
Put in your two cents? WFLF is
looking for contributors to our new
blog - lots of them! It you want to sign
up, send an email soon to:**

Jeff Santosuosso
tja.santosuosso@sbcglobal.net

or

Katheryn Holmes
klholmes41@yahoo.com

Mystic Morning

The morning sad and gray,
yet overhead a gull hangs white,
whiter than white
against the towering pines

and extends motionless
on a shelf of air as it heralds
a storm across the bay
where a ponderous thunderhead

flowers, stews a minute,
tattered edges crinkling in,
its linings so dark, so bright
an onlooker could not decide

until the end, or even then
what it had revealed
and what had been hidden
from him and all to know.

*Pensacola Bay
circa 2013
Henry Langhorne*

HAIKU

Colors of the day
not really Florida pastels
pewter, silver, gray.

Snow falls from the sky
like sifted powdered sugar
softly draping trees.

Primary colors
blue sky, green tree, yellow bird,
God paints a new day.

Lynn McLargin

More haiku

Amber, red and green
Christmas magic all year long
flashing traffic lights.

In Optimist Park
like a mushroom overnight
fir forests spring up.

Andrea Walker

Announcements

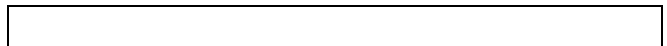
To volunteer to decorate for the December open mic, email dianeskelton@att.net

Andrea Walker is chairing the nominating committee. If you would like to serve on the WFLF Board or would like to nominate a member to serve, please contact Andrea at andrea48@aol.com or 723- 2112.

Membership renewals are due by Dec 31 - pay online at wflf.org or at open mic. Sponsor a first-time member for only \$20. Since WFLF is a 501c3 nonprofit organization, your dues are tax deductible.

Not receiving your Legend by email? Check your SPAM folder on a regular basis. Improved email programs continually update spam filters and WFLF emails might be protected if we're not listed as a trusted sender.

Mark your 2014 Calendar. The annual meeting will be Saturday evening, February 15 at Joe & Marilyn Howard's home in Gulf Breeze.



MEMBER NEWS *We Will Survive: True Stories of Encouragement, Inspiration, and the* WFLF members are continually working behind the scenes to provide interesting and timely messages about literature and the organization. As well as continual updates on the website (<http://wflf.org>), WFLF's Twitter account offers articles, poems and insights on literature. It's worth having Twitter just to follow WFLF. Follow us at [wstflitfed](https://twitter.com/wstflitfed). Where else could you find "5 Stunning Poems that Remind You Why Fall is the Best Season" or the best Tweets of Kwame Dawes? Like us on Facebook -- West Florida Literary Federation (WFLF) -- to see lots of member photos and news of area art and literary events.

CONTESTS ~ 21 UP!

“On The Premises” magazine is celebrating our first seven years with a special premise. For this contest only, send us a short story based on ANY of the previous 21 premises. To see a list of past premises, go to [our past issues page](#).

Some special rules apply for this one.

1) In the submission form, there will be a list of past premises. You must select which one BEST fits your story as you submit it. The list of premises will be just above the "Submit to On The Premises" button.

2) If more than one premise fits the story, choose the premise you want us to consider when we rate how well your story uses the premise.

3) Stories that have already made the final round of judging for any previous contest will be disqualified.

As usual, any genre **except children's fiction, exploitative sex, or over-the-top gross-out horror is fine.**

Power of Song available on Amazon ~ *Andrea*

Your challenge: In at least 1,000 but no more than 5,000 words, write a *creative, compelling, and well-crafted* story that is *clearly built around one of our previous 21 premises*. If you have questions, ask us at [Questions@OnThePremises.com**](mailto:Questions@OnThePremises.com).**

Deadline: 11:59 PM Eastern Time, Friday, January 31, 2014.

Thanks to Judy Fawley for this contest info.

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 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!

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

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION

President: Diane Skelton
Vice President: Quincy Hull
Secretary: Katheryn Holmes
Treasurer: Judy Fawley
Director/Poet Laureate: Julie DeMarko
Director: Ann Benton
Director: Jack Fabian
Director: Jeff Santosuosso
Director: Nielah Spears
Editor: Andrea Walker

Directors can be contacted at WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.com; Check out our website at www.wflf.org or follow us on Twitter @ wstflitfed

Renew/Join with the West Florida Literary Federation

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 by January¹
Individual \$30 ~ Couple \$50 ~ Student \$15 ~ Two years ~ Individual \$50 ~ Couple \$85

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ e-mail _____

New _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

I would like to sponsor

(NAME) _____

For a first-year membership in WFLF. Add \$20 to total payment & include member information on a separate form.

Circle the items you **do not** want published in the WFLF "members only" directory: 1) address 2) phone or 3) email. If no item is circled, we will include all your information in the next published directory.

Use PayPal at <http://wflf.org> and email this form to westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com

or mail your check and this form to West Florida Literary Federation, 400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212, Pensacola, FL 32502

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.
Pensacola Cultural Center
400 South Jefferson Street Suite 212
Pensacola, FL