



# The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

February 2013

www.wflf.org

**Marilyn and Joe Howard** are delighted to welcome us into their Gulf Breeze home this year for the **Annual Meeting on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 p.m.** They will provide the main dish, beef tenderloin and a special potato dish, and WFLF members will bring side dishes; WFLF will provide the wine.

We'll have a short business meeting, election of the Board & officers, naming Jack Brooking as a member Emeritus.

The General Meeting will feature a Reader's Showcase with the works of National Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey in commemoration of Black History Month as read by Julie DeMarko, Ora Wills, Nielah Spears and Quincy Hull.

## 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.

## History Marker Celebrating 25 Years of WFLF



WFLF has published *Emerald Coast Review*, a biannual collection of work submitted by local writers, artists and poets, sixteen times. *ECR* provides a record of the area's literary thought over the years. The number of pages varies, depending on the quality of submissions selected. The standard size of the book is 6 x 9. The covers also provide insight to the times, in particular the image of Hurricane Ivan on Vol. XII designed by Art Giberson. According to Vol. X, the mission of *ECR* is "to review, enhance and foster the creativity of Northwest Florida through a representative anthology of the best regional talent. The works selected exemplify the unique texture and traditions of the human experience in a variety of styles, flavors and ideas and exhibit the vitality of thought and character inherent in the different cultures living together here on the Emerald Coast." Editors of past reviews have included J. Earle Bowden, Katherine-Nelson Born, Patricia Edmisten, Regina Sakalarios-Rogers, Patty Damm, Anne Dunlap, B.J. Miller, Margret Hildreth, Bonnye E. Stuart, Seldon A. Pierce, Donna Freckmann, Ellen Pepler, Charmaine Wellington, Ronald B. Cannon.

## 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 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](mailto: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.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can talk to you about Shakespeare and John Donne and style and substance, but I dare not enter the world of linguistics, diphthongs and whole language. People used to grimace and ask me, "How can you teach high school kids?" Simple: I like teenagers. Also, I didn't want to be responsible for teaching a child to read. If I failed, the child was doomed.

A recent "brain study" email proves I can read text if I have the correct first and last letter of a word. Despite the email, I believe in the value of each and every letter of the alphabet. Granted, some need partners to have meaning. J R, for example, brings memories to people over fifty, while J paired with Z means more to a twenty-something.

Recently C and R ganged up against WFLF, creating for major errors. The "L" in WFLF's incorporation papers stands for "literary," but an article in the local newspaper described us as a "literacy" organization. And then when a partnering organization wrote us a letter of reference for a grant, they too called us a "literacy" organization. One simple letter and suddenly we've got an identity problem.

According to literary (not literacy) agent Donald Maass, best-selling authors are "brands." In the same way, our organization, too, is a brand. We are about literature -- we are literary. We encourage our members to write, and we encourage our members to read aloud what they've written. Although we applaud literacy groups, we do not teach people to read.

I encourage you all to make our brand heard loud and clear. We are literary. But, just for fun, here's the "brain study" to test your literacy.

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53RV35 7O PR0V3  
H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N  
D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!  
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!  
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG  
17 WA5 H4RD BU7  
N0W, 0N 7H15 LIN3  
Y0UR M1ND 1S  
R34D1NG 17  
4U70M471C4LLY  
W17H 0U7 3V3N  
7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17,  
B3 PROUD! 0NLY  
C3R741N P30PL3 C4N

*Diane Skelton*

## BIOS of BOARD NOMINEES for director positions unless otherwise noted

**Ann Benton**, a Pensacola native, graduated from FSU, where she studied art history and creative writing. She earned an MS degree in Library Service from Columbia University. Ann's work life has included reference and cataloging for Avery Library and New York Public Library as a Supervisor and Advisory Board member. Currently, she is an Adjunct Reference Librarian at PSC and enjoys participating in Julie DeMarko's WFLF Poetry Workshop.

**Nielah Black-Spears – running for Vice President** is a native of Rochester, New York, a minister, mother, wife, international performing artist, poet, wellness practitioner, community activist. Nielah is a graduate of the School of Performing Arts School in Rochester, NY with a degree in performing Arts Technology in Dance from North West Florida State College. Nielah has worked as an independent contractor for over 10 years as a dancer, vocalist, choreographer and stage manager, internationally touring in over 22 countries worldwide until her residency here in Pensacola. Nielah has embarked upon a new artist development project called PB&J a d.b.a. of Gor4life.LLC that supports nonprofit organizations with volunteerism and donations for youth and families in need of school supplies and non-perishable items for preparedness.

**Jack Fabian** grew up in Ohio and studied Medicine for fourteen years in Illinois, Ohio, and Florida. He served as Staff Gastroenterologist at Naval Hospital Pensacola for

two years, worked at the West Florida Regional Medical Center from 1978-2009, served as Chairman of the GI Dept. the last fifteen years, and as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of West Florida Hospital for six years. He assisted wife Mary in fund-raising activities including the Teddy Bear Picnic that supported development of Sacred Heart Children's Hospital. He participated in three medical missionary trips to Ecuador in 1993, 1994, and 1996, has published medical articles in the British Medical Journal in his earlier career, and is an Associate Professor of the Dept. of Medicine at the FSU Pensacola Medical School campus. Jack has volunteered at Palm Garden Nursing Home in 1998-99 and participated in many evening broadcasts on BLAB-TV on medical topics. He is working with Linda Wasserman editing his first fictional book about a tiny toy poodle and her adventures, a story for animal lovers who have an imagination whether they are one or one-hundred. Jack has written over a hundred short stories. He is still working full-time as the Staff Gastroenterologist at the VA Clinic in Pensacola. She is a demanding mistress on his time schedule, but he enjoys the privilege of serving our Veterans, and will continue to do so for the next several years.

After retiring from Escambia County, **Judith Fawley** envisioned that she would spend her days penning poetry, prose, and plays. Well, that isn't what happened. She is a full time real estate agent who irregularly attends WFLF workshops and the Panhandle Writer's Group meetings. If good intentions could type, she would accomplish all those other ambitions.

**Quincy Hull running for Vice President** has been writing poetry for over 20 years, and has been reading and reciting his poetry for over a decade. Since becoming a member of the dynamic ensemble, Still Black See Writers' and Artists' Guild, his work has taken on new meanings. He has published three poetry books entitled "Tribal Initiations," "Anarchism" and "Like Crabs in a Bucket." He has released four CDs of work "Anarchism," "For Big Mouths and Bad Feet" and "Truth and Consequences (Vols. 1 and 2).

As a poet and lecturer, Q has traveled extensively, reading and speaking at venues across the nation, including colleges from UWF and FSU to the University of Illinois (Champaign, IL), Loras College (Dubuque, IA), Northwest Missouri State University (Marionville, MO), and the University of Missouri (Columbia, MO). He has performed for and with some of the most respected poets in the nation, has hosted poetry reading in multiple cities, including Memphis, TN and Atlanta, GA, as well as Pensacola. He has been featured in several magazines and newspapers, including Pensacola's own Independent News (IN) and

the Pensacola News Journal. Q can be found every Tuesday night at Sluggo's, and is currently working on several projects, including a new book of poetry and CD. Q moved to Pensacola in 2009, joined the WFLF in 2011, and has been an active member since.

**Lynn McLargin** says

I write haiku, a  
pastor put out to pasture  
who walks the seashore.

*Editor's note: Lynn is a modest, retired minister and talented writer with a big heart, possibly too humble for her own good.*

**Jae Bevin Murphy**, born and raised in Pensacola, has won several awards in poetry, theater, and dance. She graduated with a degree in Performance Arts at Appalachian State University, and attended the Theater Arts program at Rutgers. She has taught Yoga for the past thirteen years.

**Jeff Santosuosso** moved from Dallas in January 2012. He serves as Vice President – General Manager for Pegasus Laboratories, Inc., which employs 85. Jeff earned a BA in English from Stanford and an MBA from Dartmouth. Along with the WFLF, Jeff is also a member of the Dallas Poet's Community. He's had about 3 dozen poems published. Jeff and his wife Tara have a son Anthony who's a recent college graduate living in Dallas. They share their home with 3 cats, Sasha, Simone and Buddy.

**Diane Skelton**, interim president, **running for President** holds a Masters in journalism from Univ. of Kansas, a B.S. from Univ. Southern Mississippi, and is a former college and high school student publications adviser. She has served as a public relations chair for a national fraternal organization, presented at state and local teacher writing conferences, and coordinated state and local workshops and events. Her writings have appeared in *The English Journal*, *Mississippi Magazine*, *Mississippi Genealogy Magazine*, fraternal and professional publications, and she has won national awards for magazine and column writing. Locally, she works with the Viva 500-Viva Pensacola Committee, Word on the Street Exploratory Committee, and is Gulf Coast Friends Mystery Book Club chair and serves on the Education Committee of Santa Rosa Woman's Club. From 2010-2011, she edited WFLF's online publication, *The Spill*. Since 2011, she has designed the annual Optimist Club Fishing Rodeo Book, a 64-page advertising guide. She's also a three-time "winner" in NaNoWriMo, national novel writing month. After assuming the role of WFLF president six months ago, she has coordinated grant applications, launched a newly designed website, and increased readership WFLF Facebook. She and husband

Danny moved to Gulf Breeze in 2008 from Texas to be closer to grandchildren.

### **Buy One, Get One Join Today**

The BOGO popular shopping bargain is now available through WFLF. Our new membership campaign offers, "Buy One" for yourself for \$30, and "Get One" for a friend for only \$20 more. You'll have a unique gift and add wonderful member to WFLF. Hurry, so both names can be included in the membership directory distributed at the annual meeting on February 19. Gifts cards are available. By the way, you can use **PayPal** at our newly designed website ([www.wflf.org](http://www.wflf.org)) for membership purchase or renewal.

Service Opportunities: Membership in WFLF comes with great opportunities for service. Whether you like to judge student poetry contests, set up for open mic, read submissions for Emerald Coast Review or facilitate writing workshops, WFLF has many openings for volunteers.

### **News**

Ryn Holmes' third book of poetry, *Absolute Silence: A Collection of Haiku*, is now available in paperback and Kindle 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](http://wflf.org) or

[westfloridaliteraryfederation.com](http://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.

### **2013 WFLF Student Poetry Contest**

Inspired by Florida's Viva 500 celebration, the 2013 Escambia County Student Poetry Contest theme is "My Florida."

According to Susan Lewis, contest coordinator, "students may write about every aspect of their beautiful state, whether it be their home, the beaches, the diverse people and cultures or simply the stunning sunrises and sunsets Floridians are treated to every single day."

The annual contest, sponsored by WFLF, culminates in April, National Poetry Month. Any Escambia County student in grade 1-12 who is enrolled in public, private, or home school programs may enter. The twenty-four winners in six grade categories will read their poems at Books A Million, 6235 North Davis, Pensacola, April 27 at 2 p.m.

First, second and third place winners receive cash prizes. Honorable mention winners receive gift cards. Winning poems are published by WFLF, and student poets are later honored at the book's launch.

Submissions must be typed on 8 ½ x 11 paper, attached to an official "Entry form," and submitted to the Main Library, Community Relations Office, 200 West Gregory St., Pensacola by 5 p.m., April 5. Entry forms are available at the Office of School Choice, in the Home School Office, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola; from English/Language Arts teachers; or online at [wflf.org](http://wflf.org) or [westfloridaliteraryfederation.com](http://westfloridaliteraryfederation.com).

For more information, contact Susan Lewis at [susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com](mailto:susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com).

## VIVA 500 FEBRUARY EVENTS



VIVA FLORIDA 500™  
1513-2013

VIVA 500, a statewide initiative led by the Florida Department of State to commemorate 500 years since Ponce de Leon's founding of Florida. West Florida Literary Federation has joined with other local groups in Viva Pensacola, a partnership which promotes and schedules area events celebrating 500 years of Florida. WFLF is also a registered partner with Viva 500 statewide. Representing WFLF in Viva Pensacola are Julie DeMarko, Ora Wills and Diane Skelton. Look for monthly listings of Viva Pensacola events in each month's *Legend*. Beginning in March, our open mics will include a brief "Viva 500: A Literary Reflection." Visit the Viva 500 website at <http://www.vivaflorida.org/> and read about Pensacola <http://vivafl500.org/cities/pensacola/>

- February 12: PAS Lecture: Ceramic Adventures at Eastfield Village, New York, Jan Lloyd. 7 p.m. Bowden building.
- Now through February 22, 2013: "A Route In Search of Roots" The African-American Heritage Society will host this traveling exhibit illustrating how Africans migrated into the Americas and significantly contributed to the foundation of Florida's history from the first and second Spanish periods through the British Occupation and beyond. The earliest documented evidence of Blacks in Florida dates back to 1513 when the Spanish exploration and settlement of Hispaniola

took place. Open 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Wednesday – Saturday. The exhibit is free to the public.

- February 16, 2013: Black History Month Commemoration, Gulf Islands National Seashore. 11 am at the Fort Pickens Auditorium. Discover the Black heritage of the National Seashore at this 45 minute auditorium presentation.

## CREATIVE WRITING

### **Book Review: *The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap***

**By Wendy Walsh**

**St. Martin's Press, October 2012**

**ISBN 978-1-250-01063, 291 pages**

If Wendy Walsh and Jack Beck heard "you're nuts" once, they heard it a hundred times. Yet it's a refrain that keeps the laughter going in Walsh's light-hearted memoir, *The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap*. The talk started when the couple turned their backs on the real world and chased a dream. They moved to a small coal-mining town in Appalachia, bought an old house, settled into the second floor and transformed the first floor into a second-hand bookstore. Walsh, an academic, and her husband, a Scottish folk artist, had a mission statement and more than a thousand books between them, but they lacked one essential -- a business plan.

Walsh calls her book "a memoir of friendship, community, and the uncommon pleasure of a good book," but it's more. It's a guide to running a used bookstore on a shoe string, a handbook for dealing with customers, and an inspiration for organizing a grass roots marketing plan. Readers learn the fine points of identifying roach frass (poop) and masking tape damage, as well as a little psychology. Walsh explains when to talk and when to listen to customers. Her husband, she writes, knows precisely when to make a "cuppa" and sit down

with a customer. The couple's personal approach in the age of Amazon and e-readers is a tribute to both their community and bibliophiles everywhere.

Reading the description of their 1903 Edwardian house made me feel as if I'd meandered through the bookstore's rooms, run my fingers across the spines of the books, and wandered outside to the Love Shack for romance titles. The best chapters are about the customers: those replacing books for various reasons and the regulars in the bookstore's evening groups. In the chapter Ceridwen, Walsh tells a touching tale of how a Scottish-themed evening at the bookstore brought happiness to a young boy. The animal anecdotes are memorable, too, especially those of the cats-in-residence and an imposter feline. The bookstore's dog, who always sits on a particular stair, provides some good laughs, too.

The early chapters read quickly, especially the ones when the couple builds the shop's inventory while hiding their personal favorites from the sale shelves. A few chapters wax a bit philosophical, especially the one listing Walsh's top ten used books. However, her use of literary allusions throughout the book is consistent and refreshing.

*The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap* is an adventure tale for readers who cherish the magic of books and a romance for those who love cozy, independent bookstores. But don't count on finding this title in a second hand bookstore -- it's a keeper.

*Diane Skelton*

## 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](mailto: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.*

## GUNSMOKE

Once we dueled, defending honor  
strode down to the corral, holsters polished  
dangled a defiant cigarette before the firing  
squad.

Now city streets bleed.  
Black hearted boys play army  
six year olds and women their enemy.

Guns and cigarettes litter  
driveways, ashtrays, drawers.  
Spent shells blanket classroom floors.

Stand firm, Militia.  
Beware the Bogeyman who comes  
to confiscate your semiautomatic second  
amendment right.

Well armed voices boom like canons  
aimed at limits on carnage protected by the law.

No amendment protects smokers  
whose lives the tobacco lobby has claimed.

When she lights her cigarette, we sneer, move  
away  
wink at the neighbor's rifle cocked at an intruder  
wail for shattered children.

We choose our weapons  
defend their shiny, sexy way to death.

*Mary Ann Napoleone*

**“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>

**2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
**WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION**  
**President pro tem: Diane Skelton**  
**Vice President: Joli King**  
**Secretary: Katheryn Holmes**  
**Treasurer: Katherine Joline Tucker**  
**Director: Julie DeMarko**  
**Director: Regina Sakalarios-Rogers**  
**Director: Anne Howard**  
**Director: Nielah Black Spears**  
**Director: Quincey Hull**  
**Editor: Andrea Walker**  
**Directors can be contacted at**  
**WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.com**  
**Check out our website at [www.wflf.org](http://www.wflf.org) or like us on**  
**Facebook West Florida Literary Federation**

**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 1<sup>st</sup> :

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with your check to: West Florida Literary Federation (Tax Deductible!)  
 400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212  
 Pensacola, FL 32502-5902



**West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.**  
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