



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

January 2013

www.wflf.org

OPEN MIC

Tuesday January 15

Preserving the Literary History of Northwest
Florida

Library Dedications & Readings

Share Your Book and an Excerpt with
WFLF at Open Mic

If you have ever published, please accept our
invitation to read from your book this month.

6:30 Social

7:00 sharing of original creative writing – prose
welcome

Pensacola Cultural Center
Second Floor Board Room

SUBMISSIONS

for *The Hurricane Review*

Mail submissions to

Deanna Brooks, Editor, *The Hurricane Review*
English Communications Department
Pensacola State College
1000 College Blvd
Pensacola, FL 32504

Deadline is June, but they like to get things
early.

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. Look for submission guidelines in the next issue of *The Legend*. Submissions will be accepted exclusively through email, and we should have an online payment method available as well. So, get to writing!

Regina Sakalarious

Editor, ECRs

PUBLISHED A BOOK IN 2012?

Let WFLF preserve it for you

Part of WFLF's tradition is to preserve the literary history of West Florida. To achieve this, we shelve and preserve works by area writers and the Federation's publications in our library. If you've published a book this year, please bring a copy of it to January's Open Mic for official presentation to the Dr. Francis P. Cassidy Literary Resource Center. And, if you published in 2010 or 2011 and forgot to donate a copy, it's not too late to make sure WFLF has a copy of your book. Join us at Open Mic.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE!

Have a friend that likes to write? Treat them to a WFLF membership. Use the special "couple" discount and buy two memberships (yours and theirs) for \$50 -- a \$10 savings. It's a great way to bring a new member into WFLF. And, bring them to Tuesday's Open Mic and introduce them.

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, Room 210,

Pensacola Cultural Center hosted by Andrea Walker, sponsored by West Florida Literary Federation. Each writer brings work, primarily prose, to read aloud, take others' work home to critique, then discuss the critiques the following week. Bring something you've written to share with this informal group. Free. Open to all writers. Attend a workshop and see if it is what you are looking for. If so, become a member and attend on a regular basis.

For more information contact

westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com,

Andrea Walker at andrea48@aol.com or Diane Skelton, 932-6812.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Just as I was gaining the courage to self-publish a novel, my target audience zapped me. It began with my friend Meredith, a vivacious forty-something school counselor. She's a voracious reader and never misses an opportunity to read. So, along with her paper

books, she now reads novels on her iPhone. A pinch, a swipe and voila – Chapter One appears on a miniature screen in her palm while she waits for her car to be repaired.

And then I learned that five of the seven women, all sixty-somethings, in my mystery book club read their books on e-readers. They download their thrillers from the Cloud.

My book club friends and Meredith are the target audience for my mystery. In my plot (I use the term loosely), two over-forty women hit the road Lucy-and-Ethel style, using their smart phones to track down treasure and avoid a stalker along the World's Longest Yard Sale. When I started the novel two years ago, much of the technology concerning smart phones was pure fiction. Not anymore.

So, fellow writers and readers, I face 2013 with a writer's conundrum. Should I revise the book again, creating more technology fiction? Should I abandon print and go purely electronic to meet my target audience's need? Bibliocrunch Self-Publishing Blog recommends I invest in an app for tablets and phones.

Despite the dozens of publishing advice-blogs online, it only seems appropriate that I look to the membership of WFLF to answer my questions. After all, you've shared my adventure through critique sessions and rewrites. Some of you even call my characters by name.

Since we are a federation of writers, we are filled with answers, experience and great ideas. I know I can count on you, fellow writers, for two things – answers to my writing problems and great ideas to make our organization stronger. Bring your ideas and suggestions to any Board member and watch for a "WFLF Survey Monkey" in your email. We need your ideas because there's no "app" for great ideas – yet.

Diane Skelton

Our **former Poet Laureate** has written a new book: *Walking Seasonal Roads*

Bath, NY —

A Bath resident has turned her travels on seasonal roads into a book about rural beauty and connections.

Having traveled nearly every seasonal road in Steuben County, New York, **Mary A. Hood** finds they provide the ideal vantage to contemplate the meaning of place, offering intimate contact with plants, wildlife and the beauty of a rural landscape.

Every road has stories to tell. Some tell of endangered and invasive plants species. Some reveal how our land is used, how it is protected, and how environmental factors have impacted it.

Seasonal roads are defined as one-lane dirt roads not maintained during the winter. They function as connectors linking farmers to their fields, neighbors to neighbors, or two more well-traveled roads to each other.

Some access hunting lands and recreational areas. Some pass by cemeteries, allowing people to visit and honor their dead.

They can be abandoned as people move and towns fade. In every way, the seasonal road touches the land in a gentler way than do other roads.

From state forests to potato fields, from development along Keuka Lake to vineyards, from old family cemeteries to logging sites, *Walking Seasonal Roads* is a celebration and an honoring of the rural and the regionalism of place, illustrating the ways we connect to our home and to each other.

Hood escorts the reader on encounters with bobolinks, ground hogs, monarch butterflies and other creatures of the region. Forests, fields, wild flowers, and stone fences are not only background but an essential part of the story as she makes us aware of the forces that threaten the rural landscape.

She pays honor and homage to those who preserve the natural environment in the form of

the Finger Lake Trail, the Finger Lake Land Trust, public lands such as state forests and parks, private lands such as farm lands, sanctuaries, refuges and other private landholdings. The book is a hymn of praise to the place she calls home.

Professor emerita at the University of West Florida, Hood is the author of *The Strangler Fig and Other Tales: Field Notes of a Conservationist* and *Rivertime: Ecotravel on the World's Rivers*. She has published several collections of poetry, general articles on conservation and the environment, and numerous scientific articles in the field of microbial ecology.

steubencourier.com

History Marker Celebrating 25 Years of WFLF

WFLF offices in the Dr. Francis Patrick Cassidy Literary Resource Center were dedicated to the organization by Dr. Cassidy's wife Frances (Fran) Helene Davis Cassidy, after his death in April 1990. The library houses all of WFLF's publications including *Emerald Coast Reviews* and published works of Poets Laureate of Northwest Florida. Located in Room 210 of the Pensacola Cultural Center, the library also houses a special collection of works of local and regional authors and writing reference works and provides workshop space.

Mrs. Cassidy, a WFLF founding member and board member, died in June 2011 in West Columbia, SC. A graduate of Pensacola High School, she attended Tulane University and received her nursing degree from Touro Infirmary School of Nursing. She worked as Head Operating Room Nurse at Baptist Hospital of Pensacola. In addition to being a loving wife and mother, she was an active volunteer at the Sacred Heart Children's Hospital and served as Camp Nurse at Camp Happy Sands during the summer sessions. She was a life member and past president of the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs, Pensacola Women's Club and a

founding member, past president and treasurer of Pick and Poke Garden Club.

Her generosity and foresight has enabled a permanent home for our organization.

One of the Cassidy grandsons, Daniel, and his wife Jenny live in Cantonment and will be touring the library this winter.



WFLF PARTNERS WITH VIVA PENSACOLA & VIVA FLORIDA 500

VIVA 500, a statewide celebration, commemorates 500 years since Ponce de Leon's founding of Florida. West Florida Literary Federation has joined with other area groups in Viva Pensacola, a partnership which promotes and schedules area events celebrating 500 years of Florida. 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."

- January 8: PAS Lecture: Onion Tacos and Other Cross-Cultural Food Encounters in the Protohistoric Southeast, Dr. Ramie Gougeon. 7pm Bowden building.
- January 11: Tour of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, 4-6pm
- January 12: Tour of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, 10-5pm
- January 12: Barber of Seville Historical Guided Tour of downtown Pensacola. Tour will leave from Fleming Fountain south of Seville Square at 10am.

Following the tour, there will be a Presentation by Artistic Director, Kyle Marrero and Artists in Residence on *Barber of Seville*, Pensacola Opera Center from Noon until 2.

- January 25 & 27: *The Barber of Seville* by Gioachino Rossini on January 25 at 7:30 pm and January 27 at 2:00 pm at the historic Pensacola Saenger Theatre.
- February 2: Viva Florida Alpha Delta Kappa 60th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon, 10-1 pm, UWF Conference Center. Pensacola's Alpha Chapter, chartered in 1953, was the first chapter of the International Organization of Women Educators chartered in Florida. Lunch: \$20. Email sch3028can@aol.com for details.
- February 12: PAS Lecture: Ceramic Adventures at Eastfield Village, New York, Jan Lloyd. 7 pm Bowden building.

Nominees for the 2013 Board of Directors

Ann Benton
Jack Fabian
Judy Fawley
Lynn McLargin
Bevin Murphy
Jeff Santosuosso

The Perfect Gift

Give the greatest of gifts – a membership in West Florida Literary Federation. We have gift membership cards available, a truly unique gift for a writer friend. And, if you don't want to give just a card, you might even consider including an *Emerald Coast Review* or 2012 Student Poetry Book. By the way the memberships, as any donation to WFLF, are tax deductible.

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

WFLF's 2013 membership directory will be ready for distribution at February's Annual Membership meeting. Be sure you are included by sending your membership renewal by January 1. And, for a nice discount consider our new Two-Year Membership of \$50 for individual and \$85 for a couple. Due to increased postal rates, members choosing to receive *The Legend* by US postal service should add \$12 to their membership rate, or plan to pick up paper copies at open mics or workshops.

If you have a small business and are interested in advertising in the Membership Directory, email the WFLF at westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com

Membership renewals are due this month. Thanks.

Send your membership renewal to WFLF, 400 S. Jefferson, Suite 210, Pensacola, FL 32505. PayPal is coming!

SUMMER WORKSHOPS

JUNIPER WRITING INSTITUTE

“Every summer, the Juniper Institute gathers together a community of writers dedicated to exploring the creative process and advancing their craft.” This summer’s institute for poetry, fiction and nonfiction at University of Massachusetts, Amherst is June 23-29, 2013. Sixteen poetry and writing faculty members, and poets and writers in residence will conduct sessions. For applications and scholarship information go to www.umass.edu/juniperinstitute or call 413-545-5503 or check the posting in the WFLF office.

JUNIPER YOUNG WRITER’S INSTITUTE

The Juniper Institute for Young Writers is a nine-day creative writing program for writers who are finishing their sophomore, junior or senior years of high school and is hosted by University of Massachusetts MFA Program for Poets and Writers. This year’s program is scheduled for June 22-30. For applications and scholarship information go to www.umass.edu/juniperinstitute or call 413-545-5503 or check the posting in the WFLF office. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, but those postmarked March 1, 2013, receive priority.

2013 SEWANEE WRITERS’ CONFERENCE

Application materials for the 2013 session will be available online January 15 for the 2013 Sewanee Writer’s Conference. Applicants will be selected on the strength and promise of the work submitted and on the committee's judgment that the applicant is likely to benefit from the Conference. Publications are not required for general admission. Scholarships and fellowships are available on a competitive basis. <http://sewaneewriters.org/>

CREATIVE WRITING

THE LONELY MAN

I spotted him from the Elston streetcar
There under the railroad bridge, wrapped
in an ancient coat
and patch of early sun.

Three mornings in a row I passed
the gray-capped black man
curled asleep in his cart.

The first day I said to Red, “Hey, look!
I bet the old guy spent the
night in that cart.”

The second morning I glanced up
a moment from my book,
surprised to see him still there,

curled in the sun like a homeless stray.
But on the third, I thought in passing:
that cart is all he has – his wife
his life, his only link with earth
when soot thickens and night comes
here where the Elston car tracks cross
under the railroad.

The fourth morning he was gone.
It was the passing
of a great loneliness.

Jack Beach

Review of *home front* by Kristin Hannah
St. Martin's Press 390 pages

Kristin Hannah's latest novel *home front* addresses a timely current issue in an approachable way. Although Hannah's style didn't grab me at first, I was quickly caught up in the story. The brief prologue sets up the character of Jolene who comes from a childhood with alcoholic parents. After being orphaned at seventeen, she joins the military and becomes a helicopter pilot. When her term of service ends, she remains in the National Guard and marries a young lawyer Michael Zarkades. Two daughters later, at the age of forty-one, Jolene finds her marriage on shaky ground. Her twelve-year-old Betsy is rebelling. Michael doesn't believe in the war and struggles with his wife's military commitment. In fact, he struggles with everything that makes Jolene the pillar of strength that she is.

Just as he tells her he is no longer in love, Jolene and her best friend Tami are recalled into active service. As she makes preparations to leave her family, the reader is drawn into the detail and pain of departure that families go through as loved ones leave for a war zone.

In the meantime, Michael is assigned a high profile murder case. A returning veteran who is suffering from post traumatic stress disorder has murdered his wife. Hannah does an excellent job of lining up the parallels. As

Michael gets more involved with his client and the case, Jolene's Black Hawk is shot down. One crew member dies; the other three including Jolene are severely injured.

The predictability of events does not deter from the education the reader receives as the plot unfolds. Hannah lays it out in logical sequence. Our eyes are opened as Michael's are opened. Communication, as well as the lack thereof, is at times maddening. Why don't these people tell each other how they really feel?

The story unfolds in Hannah's straightforward style. Some events are heartbreaking, but this is a book I could not put down. It helped me understand yet another facet of the human condition. This realistic story should be read by Americans in order to grasp the complexities of pain suffered by those who fight for our freedom.

It is possible to support individuals and family without believing in the validity or necessity of war. History has shown and still shows war to be inevitable. That doesn't mean it always will be. The truth found in this novel is yet another reason to work for world peace.

Andrea Walker

"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>

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.*

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Check out our website at www.wflf.org or like us on
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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

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ e-mail _____

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Mail with your check to: West Florida Literary Federation (Tax Deductible!)

400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212

Pensacola, FL 32502-5902



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