



# The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

February 2014 [www.wflf.org](http://www.wflf.org)



**WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

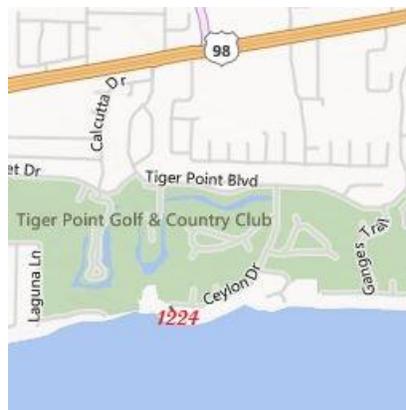
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2014**

**6:30PM**

**1224 CEYLON DR.**

**GULF BREEZE, FLORIDA**

**POTLUCK AND OPEN MIC TO FOLLOW  
BEVERAGES PROVIDED**



**Kindly RSVP to Katheryn Holmes ~ [kholmes41@yahoo.com](mailto:kholmes41@yahoo.com) by Feb. 10**

## THIRD TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18

### Reading for Radio Listeners ~ Recording Session for Writers

Come and read your original works for the radio. Lloyd Albritton will be on hand in the Board Room on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6:30 to record readers for his newly launched Radio Reading Hour. All you have to do is read your original works – new or old, long or short, prose or poetry.

**February's open mic will be held at the annual meeting at the Howard's on Saturday, Feb. 15.**

*Room 200 The Cultural Center 400 S. Jefferson Street*

*Board elections will be held Feb. 15, at the annual meeting at the Howards'. See January Legend for other bios.*

### SLATE FOR 2014 WFLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### ANOTHER BIO

Dale Fairbanks, born in Natchez on the banks of the Mississippi River, was raised and lived most of her life in Louisiana. A poet and abstract narrative artist, she is dedicated and deeply committed to the preservation of her cultural heritage through both her writing and her artwork. Her paintings, large scale and expansive canvases, have appeared in solo and group exhibitions in galleries and cultural centers throughout the United States. In addition, they are featured on her blog where she also writes witty, clever, and sometimes self-deprecating commentary. She now lives and works on the Gulf Coast in the Panhandle of Florida where she enjoys the beauty of the area during her frequent, long walks.

President: Diane Skelton  
Vice President: Richard Hurt  
Secretary: Heidi Belanger  
Director: Dale Fairbanks  
Director: Katherine Nelson-Born

Winners of the Escambia County **Student Poetry Contest**, sponsored by WFLF, will read their winning poems on Saturday, **April 26, 2 p.m. at Books a Million**, 6235 North Davis Pensacola. Thanks to Susan Haas, store manager, who will also schedule that date for a percentage of book sales to go to West Florida Literary Federation.

## President's Message

### What the Tech?

My yearlong project for the Portfolio Society, WFLF's newest workshop group, entails gathering decades of my writing into one place in order to assemble a collection of thirty essays. I sorted through plastic bins of file folders, a wicker chest and a small cabinet before I ran across the CDs and floppy discs.

When I discovered a 3 1/2 x 5 1/4 high-density disc labeled "novel" I was elated. Aha, my long lost unfinished Western about the young reporter and the Oklahoma land rush. My joy fizzled when I realized neither my laptop nor home computer could read floppy discs. It cost me a trip to What the Tech computer shop on Highway 98 and \$40 to transfer the data onto a flash drive. Of course reading the flash drive files, created by decades-old software, is another challenge.

I certainly don't want to find myself in the same dilemma in another decade -- a flash drive and no USB port. The solutions seem overwhelming and endless: a personal account on some online storage site, my own cloud in writers' heaven, backing up everything on my external hard drive, scanning printouts.

My fellow writers in the Portfolio Society had a simple solution. Save a paper copy of everything, organize it and store it in one place. They offered their methods and ideas for storing their writing. But more than that, they encourage me to continue to seek, find, rewrite in order to meet my goal. They are holding me accountable for my personal deadlines and goals.

For me, the true heart of West Florida Literary Federation rests in our critique groups. No matter the genre, there's a workshop group filled with other writers waiting to hear your words and help you tackle your writing challenges. And, our critique and writing workshops are our greatest avenue for membership growth. In fact, this week I had two requests for a memoir group. We have five groups meeting currently but there's always room for more groups.

I encourage you to join a workshop or start a new one. It's the best way to get to know the other writers and to fully appreciate your membership in WFLF. And, if you'd like to facilitate a memoir group, we can announce it at the annual meeting at the Howards.

*Diane Skelton*

**Don't forget to RSVP to  
kholmes41@yahoo.com by Feb. 10 for  
annual meeting at Howards!**

## NEWS

**WFLF Project Goes to Legislature for Funding 500 Voices**, a collaborative student poetry project centered around Viva Florida 500 and coordinated by Katheryn Holmes, will go to the Florida Legislature as part of a request for funding from the Florida Cultural Alliance. The request is one of 55 that qualified to advance to the funding request stage and is the only request

from Northwest Florida or the Panhandle. For more information, go to [www.florida-arts.org/documents/grantreports/lists/2015.scp-ranked-list.cfm](http://www.florida-arts.org/documents/grantreports/lists/2015.scp-ranked-list.cfm)

~

**News** - Thanks to Patricia and Joe Edmisten, readers, and Sean O'Toole, on bagpipes, for a delightful opening to 2014 with their Robbie Burns presentation at January's open mic.

## Writers Weekly Workshops

### Room 210 at the Cultural Center

#### **MONDAY PURE POETRY LOUNGE** with Susan Lewis

6:00-8:00 p.m. 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.

**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](mailto:andrea48@aol.com)

**WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO SOCIETY** ~ 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. Work may include any genre. If you are interested in the Portfolio Society, contact Jeannie Zokan by email [4zokans@att.net](mailto:4zokans@att.net).

**THURSDAY WILD WRITING POETRY WORKSHOP** 9:30 ~ 11:30 a.m. Come write, play, and explore the world of poetry in this writing workshop ~ Julie DeMarko

**THURSDAY WRITING FOR PUBLICATION** 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 [tewsdays@bellsouth.net](mailto:tewsdays@bellsouth.net)

## CREATIVE WRITING

### Ghost House

long. light. lean. lithe.  
you stand on damp brick

i wonder what's happened  
within your walls

(bloody, blathered, splattered)  
upon;  
little lasting beyond your shadow

lost;  
left  
with a slough hand closing the door,  
the structure looking like yours  
but only dust of grey of it makes

and when do you depart?  
how long do you plan to stay?

i'll tell you what -  
when you've found your hand-me-down bags  
packed and the train awaits,  
let the key remain.

*jbmurphy*

## BOOK REVIEW

*The Limpopo Academy of Private Detection*  
Alexander McCall Smith  
March 2013  
Anchor Books, 257 pp.  
ISBN 978-0-307-47299

The major suspense of *The Limpopo Academy of Private Detection*, the thirteenth in Alexander Smith's No. 1 Ladies' Detection Agency series, is the title itself. Not until the penultimate chapter does the reader learn the significance of the title. Though the novel lacks an edge-of-your-seat plot, it's a refreshing character-driven mystery.

Mma Precious Ramotswe, founder of Botswana's only detective agency, and her associate Mma Grace Makutsi are faced with solving several

mysteries, none of which pays. A young mechanic, Fanwell, is charged with dealing in stolen goods; director of the orphan farm Mma Potowane is dismissed without cause; Board member Rra Ditso Ditso wants to change the philosophy of the orphan farm; and the builder of Grace and Phuti's home ignores her and intimidates him.

The mysteries are solved with the assistance of visiting American writer and detective Clovis Andersen, author of *The Principles of Private Detection*, the guidebook for Ramotswe and Makutsi. Though both women quote the book extensively complete with page number, Ramotswe tells Andersen that the book is not her bible. Her bible is her bible. Ramotswe's personality and voice lead the reader through the book.

Smith's leisurely, conversational style reflects the characters and their lifestyle in Gaborone, Botswana. His humor includes Mma Makutsi's imaginings that her shoes talk to her and her musings on the number of cups of tea that government officials drink. A bumbling lawyer's exchange with a judge brought this reviewer a few giggles.

The novel engages the reader slowly, offering conversations and events to allow the reader to ponder Botswana, its citizens and culture, along with the universality of man. Smith's simple observations like "to rush a conversation could be considered rude, especially among old-fashioned people" and Andersen's remark, after a ride in the back of a pick-up, that the best way to see a town "is with the sun on your face" remind us of how alike we all are.

As a new reader to Smith, I found diving into book thirteen a challenge. Rather than reading the previous twelve novels, I did a Netflix review and re-watched the short-lived HBO series *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*. Watching the episodes reminded me why I had purchased the *The Limpopo Academy of Private Detection* in the first place. I love the characters.

*Diane Skelton*

## NEW CONTEST INFO

**Florida State University's** nationally renowned literary journal, **The Southeast Review**, is now accepting submissions for our 2014 contest season in three categories:

1. Narrative Nonfiction Contest--judged by Mark Winegardner (1 piece, up to 6,000 words)
2. Gearhart Poetry Contest--judged by Barbara Hamby (up to 3 poems, 10 pages total)
3. World's Best Short-Short Story Contest--judged by Robert Olen Butler (3 shorts, up to 500 words each)

One winner will be chosen and awarded \$500. Additionally, the winning entry and finalists will be published in Issue 33.1, spring 2015. This year's submission deadline is March 15, 2014, and you can either send your submission and \$16 entry fee via snail mail to:

The Southeast Review  
Department of English  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306

Or, you can submit electronically by following via Submittable:

<https://southeastreview.submittable.com/submit>

All entries must be original and previously unpublished. For more information about contest guidelines

visit <http://southeastreview.org/contests.html> or email [southeastreview@gmail.com](mailto:southeastreview@gmail.com).

**Jabberwock Review** invites submissions to THE NANCY D. HARGROVE EDITORS' PRIZE FOR FICTION AND POETRY DEADLINE: March 15, 2014 Each winner (one for fiction and one for poetry) receives \$500 and publication in *Jabberwock Review*, the literary journal published by Mississippi State University since 1972. All finalists are considered for publication. All entrants receive a one-year (two-issue) subscription beginning with the prize-winning issue. Each fiction entry should consist of one short story of any length. Novel excerpts may be submitted only if they are self-contained. Each poetry entry should consist of 1-3 poems. The winning entry may be for a single poem or group of poems. Entry Fee: \$15, which includes a one-year (two-issue) subscription to *Jabberwock Review*. (If you enter more than once, you may either extend your subscription

or give the additional subscriptions as gifts.)

### HOW TO ENTER

Online: go to [www.jabberwock.org.msstate.edu](http://www.jabberwock.org.msstate.edu)

The site will walk you through uploading your manuscript using Submittable. Entries will be read anonymously (blindly). For that reason, do not include any identifying information on the manuscript. The website will prompt you to pay the entry fee through a secure online credit-card payment. All manuscripts uploaded by 11:59 p.m. on March 15 will be considered.

### SRPR Editors' Prize Contest

(<http://www.srpr.org/contest.php>)

First Place Prize: \$1,000, publication, and introduction written by prominent outside judge

Entry Fee: \$20, includes one-year subscription to SRPR (two issues).

Deadline: April 15, 2014 (postmark)

Submission: ONLINE as well postal

SRPR (**Spoon River Poetry Review**) is pleased to announce the opening of our annual Editors' Prize Contest. One winning poem will be awarded \$1,000, two runners up will be awarded \$100 each, and three-five honorable mentions will be selected. All winning poems, honorable mentions, and several finalists are published in the winter issue of SRPR. Please note that we are now accepting online submissions.

Recent judges include Juliana Spahr, David Baker, C.S. Giscombe and Jeanne Marie Beaumont. Judges are announced after winners are selected.

Please check our new website in August for announcement of winners. For full guidelines please visit our website: <http://www.srpr.org/contest.php>

### The Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society, Inc.

624 Pirate's Alley

New Orleans, LA 70116

(504) 586-1609

Contact [Faulkhous@aol.com](mailto:Faulkhous@aol.com)

<http://www.wordsandmusic.org> <http://www.wordsandmusic.org/>

The Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society will once again present its fall arts festival, Words & Music, A Literary Feast in New Orleans, November 20 - November 24, 2014, and issued a Call for Papers for presentation at the

festival. The Call for Papers and a Registration Form for Presenters are attached to this e-mail in safe, pdf format.

The Society's international literary talent search opened on January 1. Deadline for entries is April 15. Guidelines and Entry form have been updated on the web site for 2014. Please review before entering. The William Faulkner - William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition offers significant cash prizes for previously unpublished work in eight categories: Novel, Novella, Book-Length Narrative Non-Fiction, Short Story, Novel-in-Progress, Essay, Poetry, and Short Story by a High School Student. The competition is open to all, anywhere in the world, writing in English.

The Faulkner Society is in the process of updating its web site with 2014 information, including working schedule, presenters, and pricing. Check the web site on Feb. 5 for additional updates, and weekly, thereafter for information about additional competition judges, Words & Music faculty, etc.

**2014 Gulf Coast Prizes** Now Accepting Entries!*Gulf Coast* is now accepting entries for the 2014 Gulf Coast Prizes in Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry. Poetry judge: Rachel Zucker. Fiction judge: Andrea Barrett. Nonfiction judge: John Dâ€™Agata. The contest awards \$1,500 and publication in *Gulf Coast* to the winner in each genre. Two honorable mentions in each genre will be awarded \$250. All entries will be considered for paid publication and the entry fee includes a one-year subscription to *Gulf Coast*. We will accept submissions both via [our online submissions manager](#) and via postal mail.

Deadline: March 15, 2014. For more information, please visit <http://www.gulfcoastmag.org/contests>

Entrants may submit more than once or in more than one genre, but each new entry must be accompanied by a separate entry fee.

The 2014 Gulf Coast Prize in Fiction will be judged by authors Andrea Barrett, John Agata and Rachel Zucker.

Entries for the Gulf Coast Prizes in Fiction and Nonfiction should be a single prose work not exceeding 7,000 words. Entrants for the Gulf Coast Prize in Poetry may submit up to five poems not exceeding 10 total pages in length.

#### **The 2014 Stella Kupferberg Memorial Short Story Prize**

The 2014 theme is "Tales After Dark." The winner receives \$1,000 and 2 tickets to the performance of Selected Shorts featuring their work, on [Wednesday, June 11, 2014](#). Word count: 750 max. Fee: \$25. Due on **March 15, 2014**. Judged by Rick Moody. [Enter your story here](#). Find more information in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Official Rules](#)

"Tales After Dark": The winning entry will be a part of our June 11 event [Selected Shorts: Tales After Dark](#), which will be an evening of stories set in the wee hours; tales of romance, intrigue, mystery, and magic set in dark, bars, glittery office buildings, all-night diners, movie theatres, cozy living rooms, and lonely highways. Entrants should interpret the theme as they see fit.

#### **Dream Horse Press American Poetry Journal Book Prize**

A prize of \$1,000 and publication by Dream Horse Press is given annually for a poetry collection. J. P. Dancing Bear will judge. Submit a manuscript of 50 to 65 pages with a \$25 entry fee by February 28, 2014.

Cash prize \$1,000. Prize includes publication.

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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 January <sup>1</sup>  
Individual \$30 ~ Couple \$50 ~ Student \$15 ~ Two years ~ Individual \$50 ~ Couple \$85

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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](mailto:westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com)  
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West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.  
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