



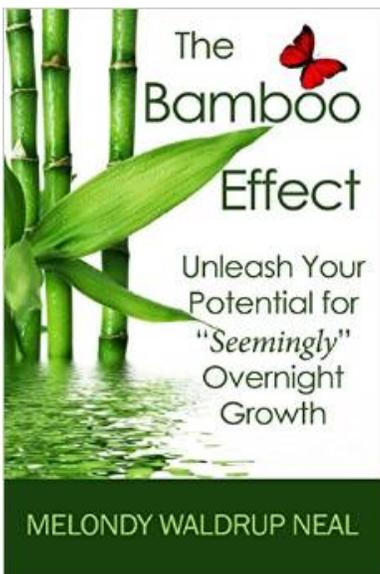
The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

November 2014

November 18 THIRD TUESDAY OPEN MIC An Inspiring Voice



Poet and author Melondy Neal is November's Open Mic guest reader. She is the author of *Vanilla Syrup*, a collection of poems, and *The Bamboo Effect*, an inspirational prose book. She is currently readying her second book of poetry for publication. Melondy, a graduate of Southern Arkansas University, holds a master's in Strategic Communication from Troy University and is CEO of Level Seven Publishing. She has taught English at Ruby Gainer Charter School and Gulf Coast Charter School, is the mother of two sons and resides in Pensacola.

6:30 – Pot Luck Refreshments

7:00 – Readings begin

Come to listen or to read

Board Room, Pensacola Cultural Center, 400 S. Jefferson,
Pensacola, FL 32502

For more information visit www.wflf.org

Storytellers Slam Fest is Fun-filled Family Event Nov. 16

In celebration of Pensacola's Foo Foo Festival, the art of storytelling is alive and well at the Storytellers Slam Fest, **4:30 – 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 16, at Voices of Pensacola, Multicultural Resource Center, 119 E. Government Street.** The Storytellers Slam Fest, presented by the African American Heritage Society and co-sponsored by Pensacola State College's Black History/Multicultural Committee, showcases a diverse group of talented storytellers who share some of their favorite thought-provoking, compelling and funny stories.

Featured storytellers and poets are Jamey Jones, the current Poet Laureate of Northwest Florida; Julie DeMarko, the outgoing Poet Laureate; and members of the AAHS Readers Ensemble and the West Florida Literary Federation. The Storytellers Slam Fest is a fun-filled family event. Admission is free.

For more information, call 850-484-1759 or 850-469-1456.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I Prefer Roses

Working with a competent, diligent and loyal West Florida Literary Federation Board of Directors and fellow officers is a pleasure. Our group of nine hardworking volunteers spends countless hours each month working to make WFLF a vibrant and financially stable organization. In doing so we aim to remain faithful to our mission of bringing together people interested in the literary heritage of West Florida; promoting literary efforts through programs, workshops, awards and related activities; and educating and assisting members in their literary interests.

As we strive to achieve this, we face challenges as both a 501c3 nonprofit organization and a rapidly growing organization. As we grow, our policies and procedures evolve. In growth, the Board realizes that we need a consistent method for receiving member input so the Board's decisions faithfully reflect the members and the mission.

When you like what's going on, pat a Board member on the back and tell everyone you know what a great organization WFLF is. When you have a concern, you're welcome to visit a Board meeting and address the Board in person. We realize, however, that's not convenient for everyone and there needs to be a consistent, official method for grievances. Therefore, the procedure for "complaints" will be published in *The Legend* on an annual basis, as in this issue, but it's for use at any time.

Though we want to hear your concerns, we also want to hear what we're getting right so periodically you'll receive survey links in your email. Within the week, you'll receive a Survey Monkey questionnaire about WFLF and its programming. Please complete it and submit before the expiration date. We value and welcome your opinion.

As I near the end of my term as president, I encourage you to step up and

volunteer to serve on the Board – nominate yourself -- and nominate a friend. We've got a great thing going here! Let's keep it going!

Diane Skelton
President

Membership renewals are due by the end of December. You will not receive an invoice for renewal, simply go to the www.wflf.org website and click on the "JOIN" tab and use PayPal to renew or print off the membership renewal form and mail it to the office with your check.

NEWS

Thank you to **Susan Lewis** for another excellent Escambia County Student Poetry Book. Dozens of young poets brought their parents, grandparents and friends to the Cultural Center Mezzanine on Saturday, November 1 to receive their copy of the book, and to autograph copies for WFLF and Susan. If you are interested in a copy of the book, they are available for purchase on Amazon.com

http://www.amazon.com/More-West-Florida-Literary-Federation/dp/1500904570/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1415496381&sr=1-1&keywords=escambia+county+student+poetry+book

The *Pensacola News Journal* ran a worthy article about member **Susan Lewis** in Sunday's Homefront section, October 26. Susan facilitates the Military Loved Ones Support Group once a month at the Yacht Club. "I really think it's about giving a place to individuals . . . where they can feel like people in this room understand." Susan understands and gives so much to this community – volunteer work at hospice, the Escambia County Student Poetry contest, facilitating our Monday evening Poetry

Lounge – our community and our organization are made better by **Susan Lewis**.

Richard Hurt will be reading from his book *A Wounded Angel* Saturday, 6 December at 7 p.m. at Open Books; Thursday, 11 December at 7 p.m. at the West Florida Library downtown; Sunday, 14 December at 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at First Baptist Pensacola's library and a book signing on their Library Open House Day; and at Page and Palette in Fairhope on Friday, 2 January from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at their "Gallery Night." He will also be signing books at the Navy Exchange by the Navy Hospital.

Julie DeMarko's *Fashioned By Memory* is available at Amazon.com. Though WFLF has traditionally published at least one book for the poet laureate, this is the first time we have officially described the publication as part of the Poet Laureate Series. The cover features a photo by Dottie King, similar to a prize-winner in a recent Artel show. To order your copy from Julie, go to http://www.amazon.com/Fashioned-Memory-Juliet-Zachary-DeMarko/dp/150239037X/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1415497335&sr=1-1&keywords=fashioned+by+memory

Scott Mayo had two poems accepted for the 2014 issue of *The Hurricane Review*. They are: "Pining" and "All That Exists". Also, his poem, "That We May Bear True Witness", was accepted for publication in *Anthology 32* (Florida State Poets Association).

Jamey Jones appeared in the *PNJ* November 10. According to Troy Moon, our new poet laureate is "prepped for the role" and "has been an ambassador for arts for decades." Jamey says, "I see the role as representing poetry which I feel I've been doing for a long time." *Editor's note: I'm proud to say we knew that, and that's why we chose him.*

Writers Weekly Workshops Room 210 at the Cultural Center

MONDAY PURE POETRY LOUNGE 6 – 8 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 and Katherine Nelson-Borne. 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 WRITING FOR PUBLICATION 10 ~ 12. 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 10 ~ 12 in the WFLF office. The group is limited to seven writers ~ Ron Tew tuesday@bellsouth.net

TUESDAY WRITERS' GUILD 4 - 6. Temporarily suspended for the holidays. Will resume Jan. 6, 2015 Andrea Walker andrea48@aol.com ~

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO SOCIETY ~ This goal-oriented workshop, facilitated by Jeannie Zokan and assisted by Diane Skelton, runs from 1 - 3 on Wednesdays. Each participant is working on one or more yearlong projects. Sessions 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.

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

THE FLOOR IS NOW OPEN . . .

The WFLF Nominating Committee is now accepting your nominations for Board of Directors of WFLF for 2014-2016. The offices of president, vice-president and treasurer are also open. If you are interested in serving on the Board or as an officer, please send a note of interest. And if you would like to nominate fellow members for officers or directors, send your nominations to westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com using the subject line **BOARD NOMINEES**.

The Nominating Committee values your recommendations and will contact the nominees for you. There is a large turnover on the Board this year so it's the ideal time to put your great ideas into action for the best writer's group in Northwest Florida.

With the success of the PAD Chapbook Contest, the Board recommends holding a chapbook contest in alternating years with the *Emerald Coast Review*. The next PAD Contest, therefore, would be in 2016, following the 2015 publishing of the *Emerald Coast Review*. Gina Sakalorios-Rogers will be editing the 2015 *Emerald Coast Review*, so start readying your work for the Call for Entries!

YOUR OPINIONS, PLEASE

Calling all Members: the Board wants to hear more of your ideas about how to move forward and keep our organization vibrant and relevant to our writing community as we enter a new year of programs, workshops, and Open Mic nights. Shortly, members will receive an email invitation to participate in a three-minute survey via Survey Monkey, and, like voting, your response is anonymous and important! So please take three minutes to answer ten quick questions and help move our organization forward.

WFLF thanks Bingo Paradise
4469 Mobile Hwy, Pensacola, FL 32506
(850) 457-0067
for its continued financial support!

CREATIVE WRITING

All Progeny of Last Year's

All progeny of last year's withered blooms
Engage the bitter air, infused with frost,
As winter yields to spring and life resumes—
Their fate begins, their warmth and safety lost.

Thus thrust from earth and barren, leafless
bough,
The buds are coaxed by destiny and sun,
Anonymous no more, bequeathed, endowed,
By careless nature's cycle forced to run.

The arching willow's stitched with palest green
And skeins of golden daffodils have spilled,
Brocaded limbs of redbuds skyward lean,
With lilac's purple threads the meadow's filled.

Embroidered thus the bravest season's panoply
Too soon in memory hangs, a faded tapestry.

Karen McAferty Morris

HAIKU

Lynn McLargin

The last light of day
Lays down itself on the pond
In smooth pewter strokes.

Slick magnolia leaf
Fresh from the laundering rain
Shining in the sun.

Seasons are changing
Fall leaves drift by my window
Mornings are cooler.

INDIAN SUMMER

This October day
Is not real Indian Summer. . .
But Indian Summer enough
Being a crisp milestone day
When life betrays
 the way that it was going,
Suddenly careening
 into a wholly new
direction
 labeled Autumn.

But at this first chill breath
 of fall
All my summer-bronzed
 shell of self
Opens to receive
 the newly-knitted
fleece-lined
autumnal one.
So I become warmly enrobed,
protected
Not exposed as I have
 so sensuously burning
been
 all last summer long.

But this Wednesday
morning
Out to wheel the
 trash can to the curb
 and fetch the morning
paper
 with its news of
terrorists and war,
From the Bayshore side
I heard a *snap*—just like that—
 crisp and frisky
 sharp as an icy breath
 whispering of burnished
Now
 and impending Death.

Just then I was struck,
Stuck in the middle of the drive,

 between my Dollar-Store
Halloween scarecrow
and the molting woods next door
bathed in a sudden sun;
struck by the fact, basking there,
that Summer's song's long gone
now
and Indian Summer's here.
And I am compelled to recall
All the old fall songs—
 like the lovely
"September" one
 when we were very
young:

Jack Beach

Transom

Colors, shades, hues,
form the outline of my trees,
ready to chime with the slightest breeze.
Like a caged bird,
I look out,
wanting not to be bound.

Sunrays gently spread tranquility,
melting stress,
as I stare at the trees
capturing the uncapturable.
Years of work lead to boredom.
I work all day till dark.

Light flashes.
Phone rings.
Computer screens glow.
Stale coffee wafts.
My eyes wander up
to that transom.

The stand sways.
Bark ripples.
Branches wave,
enticing me
to waiver
and not focus.

Marc Livanos

Poetry, Blues, and Freedom

Kim Addonizio shared the stage Wednesday, October 22, at Pensacola State College with a dynamic and almost impromptu blues band and gave the audience a performance they could take with them. The Poetry and Blues program opened with thirty minutes of blues: soulful renditions of Scott Joplin's "The Entertainer," "Black Magic Woman" and "Hoochie Coochie Man" among others.

Addonizio took the stage with a vibrant presence, her small size belying her big talent. Her words grab the listener, make her laugh or break his heart in two, massage it and hand it back. Her poetry stands well alone, but her own reading voice adds dimension, and her bluesy harmonica deepens that dimension. This edgy poetry is not for the faint of heart. If my memory serves me correctly, Addonizio cleaned up her act from last year, but she gave the censors much at which to lift their eyebrows nonetheless. I laughed and sighed with empathy and found it fun and refreshing, if a bit on the naughty side. Although I'm a person who prefers Beauty, I'm okay with a little naughty because in the appropriate context it is part of the human condition.

Pairing or grouping genres in presentations adds up to much more than the sum of the parts. Each genre serves its purpose of expression and provocation in its own right. From Addonizio's work, I am encouraged to push the boundaries and strive for a meeting of the genres in attempt to derive deeper meaning.

Communication is a two-way street. Listen to the music or go to the art show or photography exhibit and write about it. It is the responsibility of the artist to encourage contemplation and reflection. Likewise, it is the responsibility of the viewer and /or listener to endeavor to fathom the message the artist is sending, unless, of course, one is interested in only a superficial experience. Understanding comes with thoughtful reflection over time.

The freedom of expression we enjoy is a privilege and a right for which people have sacrificed and given their lives. It would be unappreciative of us not to exercise that right, not simply because we can, but because we have something to say that will resonate with others.

Andrea Walker

McCurry's World of Stories

The Importance of Elsewhere, Pulitzer-prize winning photographer Steve McCurry's current exhibit at Pensacola State's Anna Lamar Switzer Center for the Visual Arts, depicts in selected photos how man explores elsewhere. Though camels, elephants, boats, bicycles and a car window offer a glimpse of transportation, this collection of seventy-four photos is devoid of vehicles.

Six prints in the collection hint at McCurry's means of travel – by rail through India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

An opening shot of the steam locomotive with the Taj Mahal in the background welcomes the gallery viewer to McCurry's world of Elsewhere. Photos revealing the intricacies of passing morning tea from one train car to the next, naked children diving into a canal along the Dhaka-Chittagong rail line, and travelers walking under umbrellas beside the train track, show how integral rail travel is in Elsewhere.

The captivating "Bicycles on the Side of a Train" causes the viewer to pause and stare into four windows on a train car – two women in one, then a solitary woman, next the face of a distinguished Indian man, and finally two young Indian men – the only people smiling. The bicycle which hangs beneath the windows illustrates the fact that even this means of transportation won't get everyone everywhere in Elsewhere. A bike is needed for the final part of the journey.

In another photo, a railway porter, barely clothed, lies prostrate on a bench in the Mumbai train station. His sandals rest under the bench next to his mangy dog. Both man and dog

sleep, each having found solitude and companionship in the largest depot in all of Elsewhere.

In these photos, McCurry shows the railway as a place for the weary, for recreation and refreshment, joy and escape to a dream world outside of Elsewhere.

McCurry's images take me into a dream world and speak to my imagination. The free exhibit hangs until December 12. I plan on returning to see what other linked images and stories I can find in the World of Elsewhere.

Diane Skelton

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION

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Director: Ann Benton

Director: Jack Fabian

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Directors can be contacted at

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for submissions contact Editor: Andrea Walker

andrea48@aol.com

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

us on Facebook West Florida Literary

Federation

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Florida-Literary-Federation->

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In recent months, the Board of Directors for West Florida Literary Federation (WFLF) received complaints concerning content of some Open Mic readings. The Board then approved a trial change in format that generated further expressions of concern, so the original Open Mic format was resumed. The Board realizes a need for a clear procedure so members of WFLF or the community can express questions or concerns. At the Nov. 4 2014 meeting, the Board adopted the following "Complaints Policy" effective immediately. WFLF's Board views complaints as an opportunity to learn and improve for the future. The following procedure allows the board to (A) verify a complaint, (B) take action to make improvements, if needed, and (C) share any necessary information or action with WFLF members as needed.

Complaints Policy of WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION, INC.

The West Florida Literary Federation (WFLF) views complaints as an opportunity to learn and improve for the future, as well as a chance to put things right for the person [or organization] that has made the complaint.

Our policy is:

- To provide a fair complaints procedure which is clear and easy to use for anyone wishing to make a complaint.
- To publicize the existence of our complaints procedure so that people know how to contact us to make a complaint.
- To make sure everyone at WFLF knows what to do if a complaint is received.
- To make sure all complaints are investigated fairly and in a timely way.
- To make sure that complaints are, wherever possible, resolved and that relationships are repaired.
- To gather information which helps us to improve what we do.

Definition of a Complaint

A complaint is any expression of dissatisfaction, whether justified or not, about any aspect of the West Florida Literary Federation, Inc. (WFLF).

Where Complaints Come From:

Complaints may come from any paid member or attendee at any function organized by the West Florida Literary Federation or from any person or group who is a stakeholder in the organization or a member of the community.

A complaint must be received by email to the WFLF President, or in writing delivered to the organization's mailing address by US post, and must be addressed at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Confidentiality:

All complaint information will be handled sensitively, telling only those who need to know and following any relevant data protection requirements.

Responsibility:

Overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation lies with the board of directors of the West Florida Literary Federation, Inc. (WFLF).

Review:

This policy is reviewed regularly and updated as required.

Adopted on: November 4, 2014

Last reviewed: Policy to be reviewed annually, by or before November, 2015.

West Florida Literary Federation ~ Join or Renew ~ 2015

Memberships are good for one calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31.
Individual membership is \$30/year. New members joining after July 15, pay \$15 or may pay \$45 which also pays for the following year. Subsequent years are due annually by January 1.

One Year ~ Individual \$30 ~ Couple \$50 ~ Student \$15 ~ *Two years* ~ Individual \$50 ~ Couple \$85

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

New _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

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

I would like to sponsor
(NAME)

To sponsor a new member in WFLF. add \$20 to total payment & include member information on a separate form.



West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.
Pensacola Cultural Center
400 South Jefferson Street Suite 212
Pensacola, FL32502