



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

November 2015

You are invited to a Reading and Book Signing

In Search of Solitude



by
Henry Langhorne

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

Light Hors D'oeuvres & Wine at 6:30 p.m.

Reading at 7 p.m.

RSVP: 850-206-4608

*The Parish Hall, Christ Episcopal Church
18 W. Wright Street, Downtown Pensacola*

Limited parking in front from Wright Street.
Additional parking in back from Belmont Street.

NOVEMBER 17 THIRD TUESDAY and OPEN MIC



Abena {Whasayo} Isake is a poet, musician, singer and member of the "Polimbatree Griot Ensemble." Some of Abena's writing and poetry can be viewed in her

book of poetry entitled *Collage of an Ebony Soul*, WFLF's "The Writer As Artist," *The New American Press Newspaper* and *Out Front Magazine*.

**6:30 p.m. SNACKS and
CAMARADERIE**

**Program at 7p.m. followed by
OPEN MIC**

**Come with a snack to share and your
creative prose as well as poetry!**

5 minute time limit

Come to listen or also to read. Second Floor
Board Room, Pensacola Cultural Center,
400 S. Jefferson Street, Pensacola, FL 32502

For more information visit www.wflf.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Emerald Coast Review, "The Writer As Artist" book launch was a wonderful event launching a wonderful book of which we can all be proud. If you did not get your copy, we still have a few copies available for sale.

December 4, 2015 is the launch of the Children's Poetry Contest Book, "The Sun, Moon, and Stars" in the Portobello Atrium at the Cultural Center. This should be a great event. If it is as big as the readings, it will be a huge opportunity for us to be able to put the Federation in the public eye and increase membership. I highly encourage you all to attend. It is scheduled from 4-6pm, on a Friday night. Come out and support one of our most important annual events.

Open Mic this month is also an event you might not want to miss. Abena (Whasayo) Isake is one of our newest members. She will be reading some of her best poetry from her new book and is looking forward to meeting you and learning more about the Federation.

I look forward to seeing you at the book launch and Open Mic. I hope you all have a very Happy Thanksgiving and one filled with the joy of laughter and merriment as loved ones gather to celebrate.

I extend to all who worked to make both the ECR and Children's Poetry books a success, my most heartfelt admiration and appreciation.

Mac McGovern
WFLF President

Writers Weekly Workshops Room 210 at the Cultural Center

MONDAY WILD WRITING POETRY WORKSHOP 2 ~ 4 p.m. Come write, play, and explore the world of poetry in this writing workshop ~ For details contact Ora Wills, owills@bellsouth.net

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. New experiences, old lessons with a different twist and in the end, hopefully the ability to see poetry from a new perspective. Just show up with a great attitude and willingness to work together. susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com

TUESDAY WRITING FOR PUBLICATION 10 a.m. ~ noon. For seasoned writers and members of WFLF who are working on book-length manuscripts and seeking publication. Manuscripts and written critiques are emailed within members of the group and then members discuss their comments. The group is limited to seven writers ~ Ron Tew, tuesday@bellsouth.net

TUESDAY WRITERS' GUILD 4 ~ 6 p.m.. Each writer brings work, primarily prose, to read aloud and takes others' work home to critique. WFLF membership is required. ~ Ed Stanford, estanford@cox.net

THURSDAY PORTFOLIO SOCIETY 1st, 2nd, and 4th Thursday 9 - 11 a.m. This workshop includes writers with a project(s) they hope to accomplish in one calendar year. Sessions involve timed discussions for each participant and can include critiques or discussion of issues as marketing and publishing. Work may include any genre. The self-paced workshop is facilitated by participants. Limited to seven members of WFLF. For more information contact, dianeskelton@att.net

THIRD THURSDAY YOUTH CREATIVE WRITING 6 ~ 8 p.m. This workshop has been created specifically for writers still attending school. In a non-judgmental and relaxed environment, young poets will be encouraged to explore new ways of thinking in regards to writing, as well as support each other in this endeavor. This class will explore the essence of creativity in writing, while supplying young writers with basic yet critical poetry/creative writing rules. Approximate age range 14-18. susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com

Calling All Poets! Put your poetic talents toward a Clean Energy Future. 350 Pensacola is hosting the Clean Energy Fest during the Foo Food Festival to help our community envision the local transition to solar, wind, geothermal, pedal-power and other clean energy sources.

350 Pensacola is building a movement to unite the world around solutions to the climate crisis. 350 is the number of parts per million of atmospheric carbon dioxide that scientists considered a safe level to sustain life as we know it.

What kind of transformation will happen in our area? For poets, what is that internal shift that might make it happen? What are the values, feelings, ethics that might emerge?

Get out your ink pen and start writing. Join the Clean Energy Fest to help us understand what might happen, how it might change us, get us somewhere we've always wanted to go, or whatever comes to your creative mind about energy reformation.

Please contact Susan Feathers to arrange for a poetry reading during the Clean Energy Fest:

[520-400-4117](tel:520-400-4117) susanleefeathers@gmail.com

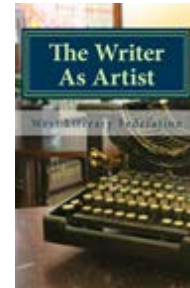
READING WILL TAKE PLACE SATURDAY, NOV. 14, in conjunction with the art exhibit. Time TBA

[Panoplyzine.com](http://panoplyzine.com) announces its **Call for Submissions for Issue 2**. The submission period ends at midnight, **November 22, 2015**. Please visit <https://panoplyzine.submittable.com/submit/> for guidelines and to submit. We appreciate your interest! Please limit submissions to 5 items per issue (poetry and prose considered as separate entries). Flash fiction and flash non-fiction will be considered in each category, limited to 500 words. To maximize diversity, we publish no more than one work per contributor per issue. We read 100% blind, so do not include your name or any other identifying information.

Please visit the site for more detail.

MEMBER NEWS

Emerald Coast Review *The Writer as Artist*



Purchase your copy from the office
or order from Amazon.

The WFLF BOARD still has an immediate opening for SECRETARY. Please consider “giving back” to your organization with your skills and minimal time. Or, if you know someone who may be interested, please ask him or her to contact Mac McGovern at poetrybymac@aol.com or any board member.

The 2016 Alabama Writing Workshop

Homeric Writers’ Retreat & Workshop is excited to announce The Alabama Writing Workshop — a full-day “How to Get Published” writing event in Birmingham, AL on **February 19, 2016**.

<http://alabamawritingworkshop.com/2015/06/01/the-2016-alabama-writing-workshop-feb-19-2015/>

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



2015 Escambia County
Student Poetry
Book Launch

*You are cordially invited to the launch
of the 2015 Escambia County
Student Poetry Book,
which contains the winning poems
from West Florida Literary
Federation's
2015 Student Poetry Contest
"The Sun, Moon and Stars."
Light refreshments will be available.*

Date: Fri., Dec. 4th, 2015

Time: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Where: Portobello

Pensacola Cultural Center
400 South Jefferson Street
Pensacola, FL

*Students will be asked to sign
the Literary Federation's copy
as well as the
contest director's copy.*

*If you have questions, please contact
contest director, Susan Lewis
susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com*

CREATIVE WRITING

Captive

Angie wanted goldfish
So we bought goldfish
For a couple of days they
Swam in the bowl
But the next day they floated on
Their backs, dead as doornails
And Angie cried

We bought other goldfish
And they died
And out they went
And Angie cried

We bought all kinds of creatures
Some crawled out of their
Boxes and under the house
Where they died

Should we cease to keep these
Creatures captive
Let's observe the
Ones who flutter about
In their natural habitat
See how free they are
And how miserable must be
The creatures kept in zoos
Or performing tricks in circuses
Can we be so un-nerved
When
Some jungle cat attacks its trainer
Or some other creature
Goes berserk and kills the object of
Its torment?
Should we not let these creatures
Roam free rather than suffer
For our momentary
Amusement?

Ora Wills

Dolphin Morning

In the silence of sunrise on Thanksgiving morning
We take our coffee out to the end of the dock.
The gold pollen glow of the eastern sky
Bathes the smooth sea,
Briefly it glistens like honey.
Soon the water darkens to pewter, the grainy air
Clears and sharpens.
We glimpse a school of mullet submarining
Just underfoot and in excited whispers discuss
Getting the net for a lucky toss—
When suddenly, nearby, part of the sea arches
In a quick crescent of liquid gray—
A dolphin feeding in the season's bountiful depths,
And, transfixed, I track its desultory journey
Until no more sickle strikes cut the water.

The winter, spring, and summer pass in a life
Blocked like a play with inconsistent direction—
Sometimes inspiring, largely mundane,
Occasionally shaken by sorrows and
uncompromising conflicts.

And often I think of the dolphin's smooth, curving
surfacing,
And how very like the truth it is—how
We are permitted only shiny seconds of it and how
It is different for each of us, according to where we
are standing,
The angle, the glint of the sun, the sheen of water
cascading off—
How we must be content to catch sight of it at all
When most of our hours are spent as weary
watchers
Of the opaque, sunblinding sea.

Karen McAferty Morris

Feet of Clay

She thought I walked on water
like the man from Galilee,
for I could do no wrong,
or not any she could see.
Through the years we share as one,
she watched me as I fell.
My feet are made of clay,
but she loves me just as well.

Richard Hurt

Review of *The Gumbo Diaries* by Diane Jones Skelton

A light memoir, fun to read describes Diane Jones Skelton's *The Gumbo Diaries*. The book is a collection of short essays arranged as Skelton says as nouns, some people, places and things of her life. Each separate piece, however, resides comfortably in that fourth noun category, ideas. Themes of love, fear, courage, friendship, helping others along with the rewards of teaching, and family life weave in and out of the vignettes, seasoned with generous measurements of humor.

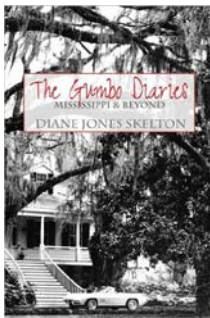
The places are set from Florida through the Deep South of Mississippi and Louisiana, to Texas and into Kansas. The regional flavor of New Orleans' beignets, smoked mullet in Mississippi, and, of course, gumbo no matter where she's living make the reader's mouth water. Skelton also takes the reader to Cuba with dreams of seeing places of her ancestry and on her travels to England, Scotland and Wales. Her literary allusions will satisfy the best of readers.

Skelton works with all the senses: the frozen squirrel in "Icy Demise," the cotton candy gumbo in "It Smells Like the Fair," myriad noises of the loud family in "The Sounds of Silence," and always the visuals: picking plums along the roadway, the heavily-wooded grounds where deer freely roam, a lime green rocking chair, and the still life of the redbud tree.

Tucked inside the humorous slices of life, the human factor transcends time and place. Skelton discusses the three students she “may have saved,” the friendly people in Mississippi, the courage of her ancestor who migrated 720 miles across the Gulf of Mexico in a sugar barrel, and the memory of speaking with her best friend just days before she died.

The Gumbo Diaries cooks up to a delicious pot of vignettes. Skelton’s writing skill turns everyday experiences, observations and things into delectable morsels you’ll savor for a while, a little book you’ll treasure and return to when you want to feel good.

Andrea Walker



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WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION

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Director/Legend editor: Andrea Walker

Directors can be contacted at

WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.com

For submissions contact Editor: Andrea Walker

andrea48@aol.com

Check out our website at www.wflf.org and “Like” us on Facebook, (under) West Florida Literary Federation. Please visit often for updates and other Federation news.

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

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

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