



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

March 2016



THIRD TUESDAY March 15
Roman or Irish? You decide ~ then
come celebrate with us.
Refreshments and camaraderie at 6:30
Followed by Open Mic at 7 p.m.



Prose welcome as well as poetry ~

Bring a friend,
Bring a snack to share
and your creative writing to read aloud.
Or come to listen and enjoy.

FREE ~ open to public

Pensacola Cultural Center ~ 400 South Jefferson Street ~ Room 200

Thank you to our gracious host and hostess Dr. Joe Howard and Marilyn Howard for another delightful annual meeting and party. It's the highlight of our year, and we all appreciate your hospitality.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WFLF President

This is my first opportunity to address you as president and I want to thank you all for supporting West Florida Literary Federation. I wish to thank the Howards for allowing us to hold our annual meeting in their lovely home and thank you to all those who helped. We were entertained by readings and even musical performances from our talented membership and enjoyed excellent food. Yes, a good time was had by all.

I also want to thank our past president Mac McGovern for his excellent leadership and tireless devotion to our organization, and I know I have some big shoes to fill. Mac is a very giving person and will help anybody who asks, and he has helped a number of you publish your books. Fortunately, he has agreed to help me in the transition process.

Big thanks also go to Diane Skelton and Andrea Walker for helping to recruit some excellent board candidates. Welcome new board members John Baradell, Susan Feathers and Tom Turner. I am looking forward to an excellent year working with a talented and supportive board.

To those who have not paid your annual membership dues for this year, please see the last section of this newsletter for renewal instructions. If you wish you may sponsor a deserving student with a membership for \$15. Remember, you can even pay online!

Last, but certainly not least, many thanks go to Andrea Walker for her tireless efforts in publishing and getting *The Legend* out every month. Without her, you would not be reading these words.

See you at March 15 Open Mike.

Ed Stanford

**Writers Weekly Workshops
Room 210 at the Cultural Center**

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

MONDAY PURE POETRY LOUNGE 6 ~ 8 p.m. A poetry class focusing on 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. 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 members discuss their comments. The group is limited to seven writers ~ Ron Tew, tuesday@bellsouth.net

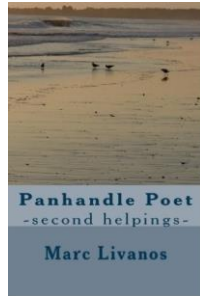
TUESDAY WRITERS' GUILD 4 ~ 6 p.m. Each writer brings work, primarily prose, to read aloud and takes others' work home to critique. WFLF membership is required. ~ Ed Stanford, estanford@cox.net

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO SOCIETY 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday 9:30 – 11:30 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 with one current opening. For more information contact, dianeskelton@att.net This group remains deadline and project oriented.

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

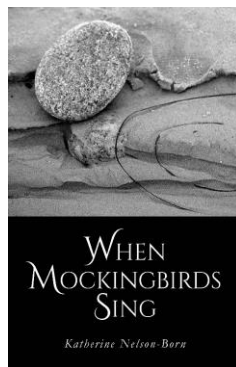
other in this endeavor. This class will explore the essence of creativity in writing, while supplying young writers with basic yet critical poetry/creative writing rules. Approximate age range 14-18. susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com

MEMBER NEWS



Barnes & Noble will carry **Marc Livanos'** new book "Panhandle Poet - Second Helpings," along with "Panhandle Poet - Solitude." His book signing is Saturday March 19, 2016 from 2-4PM.

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**Katherine Nelson-Born's** premiere chapbook published by Finishing Line Press has a bittersweet grounding in her New Orleans roots. Seasoned with survival of abuse, poverty, hurricanes, breast cancer, and lost loved ones, Katherine's provocative poems present an unflinching vision of life's fragility. Her artful wordplay

brings to light from "throaty darkness" a "sisterhood reaching back" to "ancient stones/once used to weigh down girls" and sings to us "of a time/older than the ruins of Pompeii,/newer than the morning of a day not yet born."

**BOOK SHIPS JUNE 17, 2016.** This is a limited edition, and pre-publication sales determine the press run. **ADVANCE SALES AVAILABLE NOW!**

Go to <https://finishinglinepress.com/>, click on "Bookstore" or "Preorder Forthcoming Titles" and **RESERVE YOUR COPY BY APRIL 1, 2016** for only \$13.99 + \$2.99 shipping.

In her chapbook, readers can find in one place some of Katherine's award-winning poems that previously appeared in *AlaLit.com*, *Alyss*, *Ellipsis*, *Emerald Coast Review*, *Excelsior ReView*, *GSU Review*, *Maple Leaf Rag* and *Penumbra*.

*In "When Mockingbirds Sing," Katherine Nelson-Born generously leads us on a journey through hurricanes, loss, abandonment, joy, love, death, and dogwood petals. While never shying away from ugliness and despair, these perfectly balanced poems cut through the darkness and bring us to a higher, illuminated ground, a place so many fail to ever see or believe in. This redemptive thread runs throughout the book as she, "a woman who loves the earth in her hands," reclaims what is rightfully hers, "a garden in a world not condemned." Her poems not only remind us that it's "our garden" too, but bravely show us a "way back" with the fierce wisdom of a daughter, sister, and mother clearly aware of her matriarchal line and the power of her words, like "prayer beads you brush with your lips." These words, like great music, never falter, but shine, sing us back to ourselves, and are proof that the "deadly world" is also still "beautiful."*

Jamey Jones, *Blue Rain Morning* author,  
Poet Laureate of Northwest Florida

*A collection that has found sanctuary on my bedside table, dog-eared, marked, underlined in pen because it feels like home: humid, intimate, fragile, words to wear "like a necklace."*

Dale Fairbanks  
Narrative Abstract Artist/ Story Painter

**panoplyzine.com is accepting submissions** for the spring issue from March 18 and April 17. Check the website for excellent reading and guidelines for submissions. *Anne James is Editors' Pick this week. Read her poem "Champagne Breeze" @ panoplyzine.com. Anne is a current member and has read at open mic.*

### **Beyond the Quiet Desperation: Poets Respond to Henry David Thoreau**

**Poet Laureate Jamey Jones** recently collaborated with Artel Gallery for a great evening of poetry and art. Twenty-two poets, including many members of WFLF, responded to his prompt to study the writing of Thoreau and respond. Visual artists responded to the same theme, and musicians added another dimension. The project and hard work came to fruition Saturday, February 6, and the event was well-attended. Those of us who participated were rewarded with a sense of satisfaction, and I received many positive remarks in the week following. The poems and art are collected in a lovely chapbook by the same name to commemorate the event.

Many thanks to Jamey.

And many of us would love to see this type of event repeated in the not-so-distant future. Let us work together to raise the level of arts in Pensacola.

*Andrea Walker*

### **Children's Poetry**

Do you love children and see the future in their eyes? Do you believe we must nurture the seeds of creativity in our youth? Do you believe we must encourage them to write and express themselves to keep freedom alive? If so, would you like to assist Susan Lewis in the role of Children's Poetry Director with the objective of stepping into that role

next year in 2017? Contact Susan or any board member for more info. Working with youth is rewarding and meaningful. You won't regret it. The current submission deadline is March 25 at 3 p.m. **Judging will take place Wednesday, April 6 from 11 – 1 at the main library downtown. Awards ceremony is at Books-a-Million, Saturday, April 23, at 2 p.m.**

*If you haven't already, please pay your dues and consider sponsoring a student membership to help us grow.  
\$15 per year for students*

### **New Workshop**

Are you interested in having your work critiqued by fellow members? Jeannie Zokan is considering starting a Thursday evening workshop, probably around 5 p.m., possibly 6. This workshop would be for serious writers who are working toward publishing and limited to seven members. Contact Jeannie at 934-4707 or [4zokans@att.net](mailto:4zokans@att.net) or Andrea Walker at [andrea48@aol.com](mailto:andrea48@aol.com) if interested.

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

**WFLF has a new board with some new ideas.** We believe members want to be involved. If you have an idea of a way to get involved, let us know. We would love to have an open mic committee to help with set up by 6:30 and clean up at the end of our evening. If you attend open mics, please consider helping before and/or after. The same board members have been doing it for years now.

We also need to own our office/library. Are you willing to meet with a few other members to

vacuum, dust, or clean out the refrigerator? It's something that needs to be done to keep us running smoothly and provide a healthy environment for our workshops.

Any other ideas? We're listening. Thanks.

*WFLF Board*

*The Legend* is your creative writing outlet. Please send your submissions to share. That's what we're about. [Andrea48@aol.com](mailto:Andrea48@aol.com)

of my head  
as if this were natural  
enough, which, at the  
moment, it is

Looking behind while  
Looking ahead  
Through a window  
In a waterfall  
Instead.

*Jamey Jones*

*Poet Laureate NW Florida*

## CREATIVE WRITING

### A Pensacola Sky

It has been washed clean  
to be a stage for evening lights  
across which the stars convene  
as the moon watches,  
pale apostrophe in the sky  
where stillness prevails  
and no night birds fly.

The pine and oak trees sleep.  
Above, in the great vault  
of sky, quarters, halves,  
and bits of loose change  
wink throughout the night,  
then fade as first light slides  
across the sleeping bay.

*Henry Langhorne*  
*In Search of Solitude*

### Morning Paradox

there's a window reflected  
in a waterfall  
through which I can see  
the white brick apartment  
building behind me  
as if I had eyes in the back

### A Pilgrimage Inflicts

A pilgrimage inflicts an honesty  
As through the hours the dusty footprints leave  
No space for trivial, pleasant errancy—  
No birdsong's lure, no sunswept capering breeze.  
The traveler's mind must dwell on only that  
Provoking saint, whose patronage allows  
The joyous, torturing passion that rejects  
All else—alone it has meaning, alone it endows.  
The only prayer, this far along the path,  
The steadfast traveler's anxious lips can shape,  
Is that this patron's worthiness was vast  
Enough, and justified exclusions made.  
But the shrine I seek seems shadowed by the sun—  
The saint I serve with darkness overrun.

*Karen McAferty Morris*



April 8-10 in Cascades Park, is a unique experience for all music and literature lovers alike. Exploring the relationship between music and literature, Word of South presents a unique blend of authors who write about music, musicians who are also authors, authors and musicians appearing together, and every other combination you can think of. Come enjoy performances from Grammy-nominated Jason Isbell, Dawes, The Suffers, Rick Moody, Beverly Crawford, Lonnie Holley and many more. Plus, Word of South provides something for the entire family, with an array of kid's



performances that will keep all ages entertained. Learn more at [www.WordofSouthFestival.com](http://www.WordofSouthFestival.com).

193 Adamson Road  
Springville, AL 35146

The first annual **New Orleans Poetry Festival** will take place April 15 - 17, at the **Arts Estuary**, 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue, and other locations nearby, including **Mags** (940 Elysian Fields) and **Siberia** (2227 St. Claude).  
<http://www.lavenderink.org/poetryfest/>

**2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION  
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Directors can be contacted at  
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For submissions contact Editor: Andrea Walker  
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Check out our website at [www.wflf.org](http://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>



## ALABAMA WRITERS' CONCLAVE

*A non-profit supporting writers in all stages of the creative process.*

**AWC Conference**  
**July 15 – 17**  
**Birmingham, Alabama**

[www.alabamawritersconclave.org](http://www.alabamawritersconclave.org)

Alabama Writers Conclave

## West Florida Literary Federation ~ Join or Renew ~ 2016

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to sponsor  
(NAME)**

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

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) or mail your check and this form to

West Florida Literary Federation, 400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212, Pensacola, FL 32502



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**400 South Jefferson Street Suite 212**  
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