



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

January 2016

**JANUARY 19 ~ THIRD TUESDAY
OPEN MIC ~**

**6:30 p.m. SNACKS and CAMARADERIE
Open mic at 7 p.m.
5-minute reading 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**

**IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES
AND SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER IF YOU CAN TO HELP US GROW**

**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED AND ENCOURAGED
FOR THE 2016 WFLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

This year the WFLF Board has openings for the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as an additional director.

Please seriously consider a position for yourself or nominate a member who is willing to give the Board an hour one evening per month and a bit of time on ongoing issues and projects.

Our organization cannot continue without leadership and will not continue without member support and participation. That might mean you.

If you nominate yourself, please send a brief bio of 100 words or so to andrea48@aol.com to include in the February Legend.

If you nominate someone else, please ask him or her to send in the bio. **Deadline: January 29**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a very Happy New Year and is looking forward to change as well as prosperity and health. As we move forward as a country, we also will move forward with a change in president, secretary, and treasurer which will bring both new talent and leadership to increase membership and bring new recognition of the Federation in Pensacola.

Working on the Annual Report, I recognize this year, has been one with no dedicated Secretary and no Treasurer until mid-year. An organization must have members step forward and fill empty positions. As you can see in this issue of the Legend, several positions are available. Please, nominate a qualified member or yourself to fill one of these positions.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 27. I hope all members will attend this all important annual event. Dr. Joe and Marilyn Howard have again agreed to host. The address and particulars are will be posted in the Legend.

I would like to recognize a few people for their dedication and support of the Federation during this year:

Joe and Marilyn Howard and **Ryn Holmes**, it seems when I need them, they are always there;

Susan Lewis, Director of the Children's Poetry Contest;

Gina Sakalarious-Rogers, Director of the ECR, *The Writer As Artist* and her two fantastic Interns;

Diane Skelton, administrator of our web-page and mentor;

Andrea Walker, editor of the Legend;

Jamey Jones, Poet Laureate, for his support;

and all my wonderful board members. I could not have done anything this year without the extra effort you all put forth to help make this another successful year for the Federation.

As we close out this year, I look forward to participating in any way I can to help this organization improve and look to the future with a bright outlook for the Federation as the leader for "Literary Excellence" in Northwest Florida.

Mac McGovern
WFLF President

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

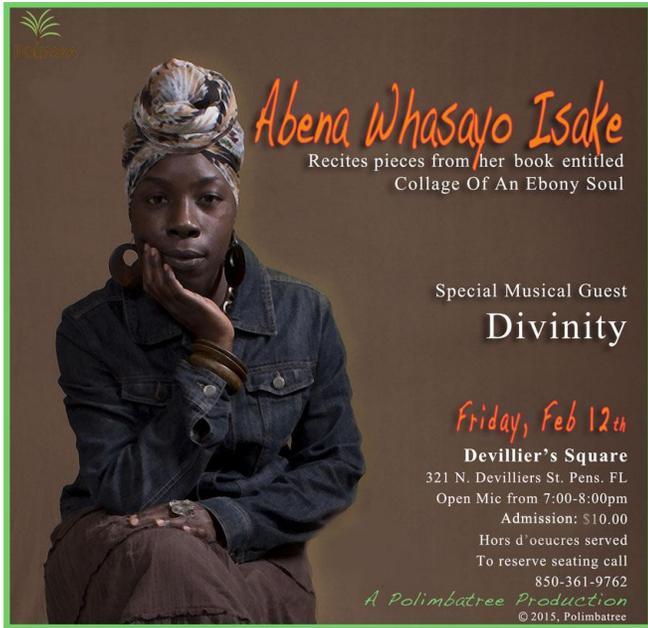
TUESDAY WRITERS' GUILD 4 ~ 6 p.m. Each writer brings work, primarily prose, to read aloud and takes others' work home to critique. WFLF membership is required. ~ Ed Stanford, estanford@cox.net

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO SOCIETY 1st, 2nd, and 4th Thursday 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

**SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, FEB. 27**

**For the annual meeting and party
at the home of our gracious members
Joe and Marilyn Howard**



MEMBER NEWS

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? If so, contact Susan or any board member for more info. Working with youth is rewarding and meaningful. You won't regret it.

HELP!

The annual meeting/party is one of the nicest events of the year. It doesn't just happen. Planning and work create the end result. The board is sparse this year, and we could use your help in several areas: manning the RSVP/what will you bring list; creating certificates for "special" people; making name tags; miscellaneous. Please contact any board member if you can help. THANKS!



500 Voices T-shirts for sale.
Large size only ~ \$10

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

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 or Andrea Walker at andrea48@aol.com if interested.

Thanks to those of you who contributed Flash Fiction this month. Hope to hear from some more of you soon. Keep it around 300 words and send it to me for future Legends. Remember WFLF is about all types of creative writing.

Andrea

CREATIVE WRITING

FLASH FICTION

You Bet Your Life

Franklin applied the disguise with trepidation but felt it vital to his success. The Groucho Marx plastic glasses, nose and mustache provided a look he accented with a stubby red-tipped electronic cigar.

His plan was to camouflage himself by being outrageous, different. If witnesses focused on his disguise and flickering e-cigar, they would only recall he looked like Groucho Marx.

Taking his place in Teller #2's line, he approached with the note pressed into his sweating palm. He had nothing to lose after all. His days were numbered.

He stepped forward.

"Who's on first?" the teller asked with a laugh before he could make his demands.

"What?" he stammered.

"Aren't you supposed to be one of the Three Stooges?"

Off guard, he lifted his hand to pass the note when a woman in Teller #3's line quipped, "No, no. He's from *I Love Lucy*. You know, the mirror routine."

He squeezed the note back into his fist. *Don't they know who I am? Don't people watch old movies anymore? Am I this old, this out of touch?*

"No, no, that's not him," Teller #3 chimed in. "That's the guy, remember, when Mae West says 'Why don't you come up and see me some time?'" She delivered the line in a loud, sensual imitation.

The entire lobby population turned to stare at Franklin. His knees weakened, his chest tightened. As the crowd closed in, he gasped for breath. His eyelids closed, shutting out the fluorescent glare as he melted to the marble floor.

The lights brightened and Franklin lifted his heavy lids. The pungent smell of antiseptic, a rhythmic beeping and methodical swoosh triggered a hospital memory. He clutched his chest.

"Well, hell-o Groucho!" the woman leaning over him said. "I'm Nurse Nellie and today's secret word is --- transplant."

Diane Skelton

Massage by Yoko

"I can't see you for awhile," she said, "I have cancer." Apologetic.

For years I'd come to her small space, incongruous in a gray industrial park, the outside green with pots of ruffled hibiscus, ever scented with lavender within. In silence she'd soothed me in my splendid times, and in the quelling dark ones. I knew nothing about her.

I insisted upon driving her to the treatments, questioning her slight body's chances. Weeks go by. Then, a phone call.

"Water lilies grow on a quiet pond." she says, sliding warm oil down my back with hands once again strong.

Karen McAferty Morris

POETRY

A Winter's Tale

Yesterday the fields were only grey with scattered snow,
And now the longest grass-leaves hardly emerge;
Yet her deep footsteps mark the snow, and go
On towards the pines at the hills' white verge.

I cannot see her, since the mist's white scarf
Obscures the dark wood and the dull orange sky;
But she's waiting, I know, impatient and cold, half
Sobs struggling into her frosty sigh.

Why does she come so promptly, when she must know
That she's only the nearer to the inevitable farewell;
The hill is steep, on the snow my steps are slow--
Why does she come, when she knows what I have to tell?

D H Lawrence

CONFERENCES

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/>

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION

President: Mac McGovern

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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>

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)

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 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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Pensacola Cultural Center

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