



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

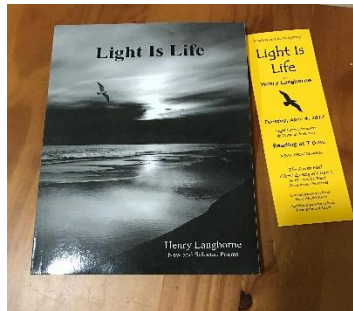
www.wflf.org

April 2017

APRIL ~ NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

Join us Third Tuesday April 18

As Dr. Henry Langhorne presents readings from his tenth and latest book of poetry
Light Is Life



Refreshments at 6:30 ~ Reading at 7 followed by open mic at 7:30

Bring a friend – bring a snack to share – bring a five-minute reading of prose or poetry.

Come to listen and/or to read.

Pensacola Cultural Center 400 S. Jefferson Street, room 201

Arrive early for open mic!
Parking around the Cultural Center just became more of a challenge.
The lot many of us used is no longer available.

THANKS, IF YOU'VE PAID YOUR DUES
if you haven't, please mail to WFLF at 400 S. Jefferson St. Ste 212, Pensacola 32502, OR pay at open mic April 18,
OR pay at your workshop, OR give your dues to any board member, OR payment can be made online
at <https://sites.google.com/site/wflfonline/join>

Thank you!

Review of *Light Is Life* by Dr. Henry Langhorne

In his tenth and latest book of poetry, *Light Is Life*, Henry Langhorne writes with the wisdom of years in a voice of acceptance and resignation. This book is divided into four sections: Near-Death, Preacher Poems, Old Favorites, and New Poems that harken back to childhood as well as consider the pitfalls of aging and the tenacity of poetry.

Critical illness inspired the collection's title and theme of light and its relevance to life. Readers who are familiar with Dr. Langhorne's work know his "doctor" poems quite well, poems filled with compassion and insight. As a physician, his view of witnessing death over the years is now enhanced by facing his own. Time spent in that thin place where death is near takes the mind on journeys otherwise unrevealed. The poems in this section reveal gratitude, practicality, and even humor as much as they visit the mystical realm. He balances relevance of death with the fact that life goes on.

In his Lenten reflections, the reader gets acquainted with the poet as a man of faith. "The Sycamore Tree" becomes metaphor for looking around and discovering what matters. Lyrical language abounds throughout in metaphor, for example, "he could turn to dust inside that shell." One wonders if these "preacher poems," as the poet calls them, resulted in heightened faith before the near-death phase. The reader may come to that conclusion with the poem "New Lenses."

This reviewer enjoyed the collection of old favorites, some revised. The theme of light continues and one senses joy in "Funeral Friends." The youthful writer is revealed again with some subtly erotic pieces such as "Presto Passion" and "The Empress Was Ice Cream," along with the sweet romantic "My Lady's Slipper." Speaking of "The Empress," the reader may enjoy comparing Dr. Langhorne's poem to the famous "The Emperor of Ice Cream" by Wallace Stevens, a playful but influential reference.

Dr. Langhorne covers life succinctly from birth to death and awakens all the senses from olfactory in "Aftershave" to the taste of peach ice cream and the touch of the wind, the sound of Beethoven's piano and cedars that groan. The pages are visually alive with stardust and blue jeans and fires of kindling and coal. As the reader travels from old favorites to new works, thoughts about poetry itself emerge. Dr. Langhorne compares the mortality of the poet to the immortality of poetry. He refers to what poetry has taught him and means to him and when he began writing poetry out of childhood grief. At one point, he asks, "Was It Really Poetry?" The answer is yes.

Andrea Walker

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The party may be over, but life at WFLF rocks on. Our open mic in March featured Katherine Nelson-Born reading from her book *When Mockingbirds Sing* and fresh new voice Sarah Jernigan who read from her chapbook *Isabell in the machinery of night*. Visitors that evening included former Poet Laureate Leonard Temme and his family along with Jack Beach's son Kevin who performs with Clowns Without Borders. We laughed heartily as Kevin's little dog read his poem. Another interesting visitor was D.B. Cooper. Not familiar with the mystery? Google Cooper or ask Ed.

Recently, I enjoyed the debut of Dr. Langhorne's new book *Light Is Life*. It's always a pleasure to hear him read. His willingness to answer questions added a dimension to the reading, he commented that meeting published authors at workshops and readings meant a lot to him in his writing career. I agree and encourage you all to do the same. Pensacola State College has a book talk once a month with published authors, and this weekend is Word of South in Tallahassee. Also, it was great fun to see some members I hadn't seen in a while, specifically Ron and Jeanne Tew and Dr. Jack Fabian.

April may be National Poetry Month, but we celebrate poetry all year long. We also celebrate prose, so I hope you'll bring a piece of your own to read at open mic this month.

Andrea Walker

“Makeup on Empty Space: Poetry in Performance”

with New York poet and international performer
Anne Waldman who founded the Jack Kerouac
School at Naropa University with Allen
Ginsberg, accompanied by her son, musician,
Ambrose Bye



An assortment of pieces with linguistic range. Waldman is a fierce and unique performer who has travelled the world with edifying and magnetizing performances. Waldman is also the winner of the Before Columbus Foundation’s Lifelong Achievement in Poetry Award, a Shelley Memorial Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the USA PEN Award for Poetry.

She is the author of over 40 books of poetry, essays and anthologies, and has recorded numerous albums with a range of musicians, including Sonic Youth’s Thurston Moore, jazz giant Daniel Carter and cellist Ha-Yang Kim. She has been performing with celebrated vocalist Meredith Monk, recently at the ICA in Boston and at New York City’s Danspace.

Ambrose Bye creates piano and computer generated pieces that often accompany Waldman’s poetry and they have several albums together including “*Eye of The Falcon*”, “*The Milk of Universal Kindness*”, and “*Jaguar Harmonics*” (with other musicians as well). Bye has performed in Paris, Montreal, Milan, Big Sur and oversees the recording studio at the Kerouac School at Naropa. He is part of the Fast Speaking Music project and records and mixes album of music and poetry. He has worked with poets Eileen Myles, Cecilia Vicuna, and musician Thurston Moore. He is currently working with the band Heroes Are Gang Leaders.

**Workshop Friday, April 21 from 11:00-1:00 in
the PSC Library, Bld. 20, room 2051. Reading
and musical performance Saturday, April 22,
7:30, Ashmore Auditorium PSC**

Writers Weekly Workshops

MONDAY PURE POETRY LOUNGE has resumed meeting from 6 ~ 8 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month beginning April 17th.

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,

tewsdaysouth@bellsouth.net

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO & EXCHANGE SOCIETY

The Portfolio & Exchange Society Critique Group meets every Wednesday, 9:30-11:30, at the library of the First Presbyterian Church on Gregory Street in Pensacola. The group is limited to seven members, but currently has an opening since a member left for a writing retreat and book promotion. We're a lively group looking for writers who have a project for a year -- no matter the genre, memoir, poetry, fiction, nonfiction -- 12 months to complete a project. Since the conception of the group in January 2014, four members have published books and a fifth writer's manuscript is being finalized for press. The name has evolved from Portfolio Society (after Christina Rossetti's group) to Portfolio & Exchange Society since out-of-town members call in for critiques, plus the participants are notorious for exchanging writing tips, novels, paintings, and garage sale items. For more information contact dianeskelton@att.net

MEMBER NEWS

STUDENT POETRY awards ceremony is **Saturday, April 29, 2 p.m. at Books-a-Million.** Plan to attend if you can. It's always a wonderful event! We had 611 entries this year! Thank you, Susan Lewis, for nurturing future poets.

The moon shines bright in such a night as this. When the sweet wind did gently kiss the trees and they did make no noise, in such a night..."

Third Tuesday May 16, 2017



Reading from *The Merchant of Venice* by members of First City Shakespeare and *Much Ado About Nothing* Southeastern Teen Shakespeare Company

Pen-Sational Honors Pioneering Women of the Arts

A local organization for artistic women called Pen Women will turn 75 years old in 2018, and will celebrate the upcoming milestone with a show at the First Methodist Church Wright Place from May 9-June 11. Called *Pen-Sational: Our Pen Women Legacy Continues*, the show features art and poetry with a special focus on its founding women.

The reception will be from 9-11 a.m. on Mothers' Day, **May 14**, with guitarist and singer Xaris Waltman performing. The exhibit can also be viewed M-F during office hours 7:30-4:30 p.m. If the Wright Place is locked, visitors can go to the office and ask for entrance.

The Pensacola chapter is part of the National League of American Pen Women whose motto is "Linking Creative Women Since 1897." The chapter is proud of its heritage and recognizes the huge debt to its founders, who include Occie Clubs, born in 1888, a schoolteacher and later principal of Agnes McReynolds Elementary School. Retiring from the Escambia Co. school system after 48 years, she was also author of a biography of Stephen Mallory, Secretary of the Navy of the Confederate States of America.

WFLF members Karen Morris, Jane Lies, and Autry Dye are participating in the exhibit.

Karen McAferty Morris

SUBMISSIONS are open now through June 1 for *Emerald Coast Review XIX*. We are looking for your best new poems, stories, essays, art, or photography. See complete submissions guidelines at wflf.org. Our special section this year is "Life in Your Time." Accepted submissions will be paired up in the section to show the diversity and correspondence of our lives from decade to decade, generation to generation, and across historical moments. We also need 2 more people to help read submissions. If you are interested in being a reader or have any questions about submitting, please email Gina Sakalarios-Rogers: emeraldcoastreview@gmail.com.

Jack Beverly published his first novel *Whistle and Run*. Congratulations! I highly recommend it – available on Amazon.

Jeannie Zokan's new book *The Existence of Pity* is available at Amazon. Jeannie will be reading at our June 20 open mic.

CREATIVE WRITING

Come, butterfly
It's late-
We've miles to go together.”

Bashō Matsuo

Digital-Age Mobility

If you save nine lives in a place of worship
You can move a community.
If you take nine lives in a place of worship
You can move a nation.
If you exploit the taking of nine lives in a place of
worship
You can move the world.

Scott Mayo

SAVE THE DATES

Every Sunday 4:00-5:00 p.m. Join First City Shakespeare for improv games. Come to just watch or play along. Bring the family. BYO beverages and snacks. Be sure to bring your tickle spot! Free. Everyone welcome. Old Sacred Heart Hospital

April 18 – Dr. Langhorne reading from *Light Is Life* followed by open mic

April 18 – Bands on the Beach, 13th Hourglass, member Tom Turner

April 21 – 22 Poet performer Anne Waldman Workshop Friday, from 11:00-1:00 in the PSC Library, Bld. 20, room 2051.

Reading and performance PSC Ashmore Auditorium, Saturday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

April 27-30 The Southeastern Teen Shakespeare Company presents *Much Ado About Nothing*. Details tba

April 29 – Student Poetry Awards at 2 p.m. at Books-a-Million

May 16 – dramatic reading from *The Merchant of Venice* by **First City Shakespeare at 7** followed immediately by open mic at 7:30

June 20 - Jeannie Zokan reading from *The Existence of Pity* followed by open mic

November 21 - Patricia Edmisten - details tba

**Your creative writing here.
Submit your work to share with others.**



**Annual Report
to the
Membership –
2016
West Florida Literary
Federation, Inc.**

2016 was a momentous year for WFLF. Our popular Third Tuesday Open Mic monthly program continued with excellent attendance, many enthusiastic readers of poetry and prose, in addition to several programs with speakers. Thank you, Andrea Walker, for getting these speakers.

In the Open Mic for April, Dr. Henry Langhorne read from his latest book of poetry, *In Search of Solitude*. In August, editor and agent Leslie Owen talked about some of her work and answered questions. Leslie's recent works have been published in *Zoetrope* and *Jewish Monthly*, and her children's science book, *Pacific Tree Frogs*, was published in 2003 by Tradewind Books in Vancouver, London, and Sydney. In September, local award winning author Katherine Clark, read and discussed her Mountain Brook Series and her friendship with and support from Pat Conroy. Clark's novel *The Headmaster's Darlings* won a 2015 Florida Book Award for general fiction as

WFLF thanks Bingo Paradise

well as the Willie Morris Award for Southern Fiction. In October, Dr. Regina Sakalarios-Rogers, editor of our anthology the *Emerald Coast Review*, UWF instructor of com-position and creative writing and coordinator of the Department of English internship program, read and discussed the element of plot.

The Escambia County Student Poetry contest is going strong and getting bigger. This year there were 415 entries compared to 270 last year. The theme was “When I’m Alone” and the awards ceremony was held at Books-A-Million on Apr 23 with approximately 150 people in attendance. The students read their poems in what was a truly moving ceremony as the assigned topic elicited such amazing responses from the kids. On October 29, participants received their poetry book published by WFLF, which contained all the winning poems. Some proud parents bought multiple copies. Thank you, Susan Lewis, for all your hard work and devotion in bringing this about year after year.

On April 21, I presented at the monthly meeting of the Escambia Retired Educator’s Association on behalf of WFLF. I described our organization and encouraged the retired teachers to write. Thanks, Richard Hurt, for being a part of that presentation.

On September 24, the WFLF board had a training session presented by former WFLF President Diane Skelton. Topics included board governance, finances, history and board protocol. Thank you, Diane, for such an informative workshop.

In November, for the first time ever, WFLF was a part of the Foo Foo Festival which is a 12-day eclectic mixture of art and cultural events ranging in tastes, with everything from Blue Angel air shows and songwriters' music festivals to ballet, opera, high art and even the Big Green Egg Cook-off. This raised our visibility in the community and got us lots of good press and publicity.

We brought in two noted poets, Barbara Henning and Lewis Warsh, who both gave poetry readings and workshops and we had a “Brunch with the Poets” event and interview conducted by Poet Laureate of Northwest Florida Jamey Jones. The

programs were well attended, and events were augmented by pop up poets as well as art on Graffiti Bridge.

Many thanks to Susan Feathers, who obtained the grant that funded this endeavor, John Baradell, who handled the advertising and publicity, Diane Skelton, Jamey Jones, and Andrea Walker for their hard work in making this come true. Board members as well as several committees contributed a great deal to the underlying work and detail that went into bringing this project to fruition. A special debt of gratitude goes to Andrea Walker for planning and coordinating the day to day events.

Currently we have only three active critique groups: Monday evening poetry group, the Tuesday morning Writing for Publication group, and the Thursday morning Portfolio Society. There has been some interest expressed in restarting some of the inactive groups and in starting a memoir group and a group that meets after work hours.

I would like to express my appreciation to our board of directors, Andrea Walker, V.P; Janet Thomas, Secretary; John Baradell, Charlotte Crane, Susan Feathers, Susan Lewis, and Tom Turner. Andrea Walker, in addition to being the editor of *The Legend*, has taken on many duties as Vice President and I consider her more a co-president than a vice president. Thank you, Andrea, I really appreciate you. Thanks to Mac McGovern, for help in the transition process and the time he spent as treasurer and to Diane Skelton for maintaining the WFLF website and always being ready to answer the many questions we frequently have.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the loyal support of our members and for that, I sincerely thank you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Stanford, President
February 18, 2017

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION

President: Ed Stanford

Vice President/Legend Editor: Andrea Walker

Secretary: Janet Thomas

Treasurer: *open*

Director: John Baradell

Director: Charlotte Crane

Director: Susan Feathers (*leave of absence*)

Director: Susan Lewis

Director: Tom Turner

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.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Florida-Literary-Federation-WFLF/255101747857712?ref=hl>

West Florida Literary Federation ~ Join or Renew ~ 2017

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.



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Pensacola Cultural Center
400 South Jefferson Street Suite 212
Pensacola, FL 32502