



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

February 2017

Join the Party

West Florida Literary Federation
Annual Meeting and Open Mic

Saturday, Feb. 18, 6:30 p.m.

1224 Ceylon Drive, Gulf Breeze

(850) 572-8495

Covered dish dinner with decadent desserts - The hosts, Joe and Marilyn Howard, will provide the entree. Guests are asked to bring sides including appetizers, salads, vegetables and desserts. Vegetarian dishes are especially welcome. **RSVP by Feb. 13 ~ Via e-mail to Andrea Walker at andrea48@aol.com or you can text or leave a voice mail at (850) 723-2112. with number in party and dish you plan to bring.**

From Pensacola Bay Bridge follow Hwy 98 through Gulf Breeze Proper, past Naval Live Oaks and past College Blvd. until you reach Tiger Point Blvd. Turn at Tiger Point Blvd. Follow Tiger Point south and take a right on Ceylon Drive. Follow Ceylon until you see the sound. Look for 1224 on water side (left) If you pass Walmart you've gone too far.

From the Garcon Point Bridge (or Navarre) go west (right) on Hwy 98 less than a mile to the traffic light at Tiger Point Blvd. Take a left at the light. Follow Tiger Point south and take a right on Ceylon Drive. Follow Ceylon until you see the sound. Look for 1224 on water side (left).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the new year moves forward, I hope you are all ever more inspired to write.

Attendance at Open Mic has been very good and on that note let me mention some improvements we are making to our meetings. Andrea Walker, our vice president, has lined up some excellent speakers to present a program at open mike for much of the coming year. When we have a program, it limits the time we have for people to read their works and since the number of readers has been increasing, which is a good thing, we need to take measures to ensure everyone has a chance to read and the meetings end in a timely manner. To that end, thanks to everyone for adhering to the five-minute reading time limit per reader. The large display digital timer that I procured made it easy as each reader can see his/her time status as it counts down and will be able to self-monitor. At the end of five minutes, it gently beeps. Remember, you want to conclude your reading by leaving your audience wanting more, so a little less can be a good thing.

On a humorous note: I don't know if I should admit this, but I watched the Lawrence Welk Show recently on PBS, and I . . . I can't say this . . . no I will say it . . . I kind of . . . enjoyed it. There I said it. This show was from 1972 and in 1972 I was a college student and I would have considered it a special kind of torture to have been forced to watch it. It was a show my grandparents and maybe my parents watched and a show that when it came on I would leave the room (assuming my vote was overruled.) No, my musical tastes have not really changed all that much and I have not signed up to take accordion lessons, but it is interesting how things go full circle in life. Hmm . . . accordion lessons, maybe I could play at open mic.

Ed Stanford

**No open mic in February.
Come to the party instead.**

Let's start some new workshops! Several members and potential members have shown an interest in attending workshops after work hours as well as during the day.

Writers Weekly Workshops

MONDAY PURE POETRY LOUNGE has resumed meeting from 6 ~ 8 p.m.
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

for a treasurer. If you are interested, please contact any board member.

MEMBER NEWS

**No Third Tuesday Open Mic in February.
Come to the party instead on Sat. Feb 18.**

Jeannie Zokan's new book *The Existence of Pity* is available at Amazon. Check out the great coverage in *Huffington Post!*

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/jeannie-zokan-on-nanowrimo-aerial-yoga-the-existence_us_5877ee97e4b094e1aa9dc4a3?ncid=engmodushpmg00000003

Jeannie will read from and discuss her book and process at open mic on June 20.

Karen McAferty Morris won awards in 3 out of 7 categories in the Georgia Poetry Society's 2016 Fall Contest: 2nd place for the sonnet "Spring Has Not Yet Come" in the Byron Herbert Reece International Award category (a Georgia poet who wrote about the "heritage and life of the north Georgia mountains"); 2nd place for "Calligraphy" in the Mnemosyne Award (Mnemosyne was the Greek goddess of Memory); and 3rd place for the sonnet "An Audience of Willows" in the Edgar Bowers Award category (a poet whose "poems expressed themes of loss—of the past, of friends, of family, of humanity"). The poems will be included in the Georgia Poetry Society's annual anthology *The Reach of Song*.

Please do not delay. Dues are due immediately for the 2017 year. We can take your renewal at the February meeting, or you can mail it in. WFLF needs your support and commitment.

Are you interested in supporting WFLF by serving on the Board of Directors? We encourage members to let us know if they would like to join the board. Also, we have an opening

SAVE THE DATES

April 4, Tuesday, **Dr. Henry Langhorne** reading from his tenth book of poetry *Light Is Life* at Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Refreshments 6:30 and reading at 7 p.m.

April 5, Wednesday, members **Jeff Santosuosso, Ryn Holmes** and **Andrea Walker** will celebrate National Poetry Month as co-editors of *Panoplyzine* and featured guests at *Say the Word* open mic in Niceville. Please make plans to attend if you can.

April 21 – 22 Poet performer Anne Waldman Workshop at Pensacola State College, details tba
Reading and performance PSC Ashmore Auditorium, Saturday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Sarah Bender
Mary Gutierrez
Lori Zavada**

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

It's time to get in your submissions for *Emerald Coast Review XIX*. We are looking for your best new poems, stories, essays, art, or photography. Submissions open on December 1st and will be accepted through May 1st. Complete submissions guidelines are available 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 at emeraldcoastreview@gmail.com.

The WFLF Board of Directors took great pleasure in nominating **Dr. Henry Langhorne** for the Florida Humanities Council Lifetime Achievement Award for Writing. Although the judges selected a Miami writer, we want to acknowledge Dr. Langhorne's contributions

and recognize him in this issue of the *Legend*. Several former poet laureates and physician members wrote beautiful tributes. Here I'm including one from his editor and publisher Linda Wasserman. Thank you, Henry, for all you've done for WFLF, the writing community, your patients, and everyone you've touched over the years.

Andrea Walker

Tribute to Henry Langhorne

In 1999, as a member of the WFLF in Pensacola, Florida, I attended the first reading of *Tombigbee*, the first published volume of poetry by Henry Langhorne, who had recently been named Poet Laureate of Northwest Florida. I never imagined how important his writing would become to me.

W. Henry Langhorne, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.C., trained in internal medicine and cardiology at Tulane Medical School in New Orleans. In 1963, he began a solo practice in Pensacola and later, as one of the founders of Cardiology Consultants, PA, served as its senior partner. After many years of caring for thousands of patients, he is now retired.

From the age of eight, and all through his years as a physician, Henry Langhorne has written poetry—about his childhood in Alabama, his family and friends, nature and the nature of mankind, and—most notably—about his patients, his role as their doctor, and the field of medicine. His poems are so poignant and powerful, they have sometimes touched the heart more beneficially than his gloved hands. For this reason, he was named Poet Laureate of Northwest Florida from 1999-2009.

In total, Henry Langhorne has written nine volumes of poetry and is working on his tenth. It has been one of the honors of my life to serve as both his publisher (in partnership with the WFLF for several volumes) and his editor. Without fail, whenever I mention his name or share one of his poems or books, someone will tell me how much it has meant to have him as a doctor, a colleague, or a friend. Earlier this year (2016), one of his colleagues could hardly wait to buy 16 copies of *In Search of Solitude*, his latest volume, to share with others. Last month, a woman bought both his first book and his latest to give to her husband, one of Dr. Langhorne's former patients. And this month (November), a nurse had tears in her eyes as she described to me how much she had enjoyed working with him.

It thrills me to say that whether it's old or new, whether it's about love or death, or whether I've already

read it a dozen times (which I have as his editor), each of Henry Langhorne's poems has also snuggled into my heart and made things better.

*Linda Wasserman
Publisher and Editor
Pelican Press Pensacola*

CREATIVE WRITING

The wind is cold and I am old
But in my youth I walked green
Meadows spread with dandelions
Squishing cow dung warm and wet
between my toes
Enjoying the soft warmth no other thought
Climbing the giant oak
To catch the wild cat with blazing yellow eyes
Allowing itself to cradle in my arms
With calm assurance that it could be done
Both wild young beings –
I trudged toward home
The porch door welcomed us
But once inside my quiet friend
Became a true wild beast and
Climbed the walls to be released
The wind is cold and I am old.

The unrelenting wheels of life grind on, my friend
You know of my eccentricities but
Love me to the end.

Marilyn Howard

Changeling

I used to live for fleeting things.

Fireworks forging catastrophes onto black space.
Ragged smudges of river mist.
Sunsets erupting like lava, molten horizons cooling to ash.
Yellow birch leaves shivering in autumn.
Summer torrents smearing the trees out of focus.
A child blowing out birthday candles, fresh from wishing.

Though not drawn to heavy, lasting things,
that tonnage of earth over graves for instance,
I do these days allow them larger slices of thought.

This erosion of wonder did not happen at once,
not like a New Year's Eve toast or a Key West vacation,

but carved away by seasons, like a childhood photograph fading, cracks appearing across my Easter dress, or the engraved headstones of Boston's centuries' long dead.

A changeling child am I now with somber,
knowing eyes, traded in the night by impish time
In wise exchange. *Karen McAferty Morris*

Thanks so much to all open mic readers for adhering to the five-minute time limit for reading in January. We are thrilled that each Third Tuesday will open with a guest speaker with about a 30-minute program. Open mic readings begin at 7:30, and at five minutes each, we can head for home by 9 o'clock, which is late enough for most of us.

Thanks to the following members who signed up to assist with set up or take down at our events: Mike Beck, Katherine Nelson-Born, Richard and Lynn Hurt, Karen Morris, and Patricia Edmisten. There's room for you if you'd like to help. ☺

2017 Poetry Contest

West Florida Literary Federation

Contest Theme: And when the Sun rises...

Who can participate?

All Escambia County students in grades 1-12 who are enrolled in public, private, or home school programs may enter. Poems will be judged in the following grade level categories: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12.

Prizes awarded in each grade level

category

First Place \$50 - *Second Place* \$40 - *Third Place* \$25 - *Honorable Mention* --- Books-a-Million gift card *Directors Selection* --- \$10

Note: All winners from all grades will also be published in a beautiful handbook.

Prizes awarded at a Reception/Poetry Reading for winning poets, their families, and friends at the Books-a-Million store in Pensacola at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 29th, 2017.

Winners are chosen based on these criteria:

How well your poem:

- is a product of your own experience, observations and world;
- uses imagery (think "word pictures");
- uses sensory impressions (appeals to the five senses);
- uses vivid language to express your ideas;
- expresses your original thoughts.

(A request from the Director: it is NOT necessary for poems to begin with the contest theme "prompt", only to encompass the contest theme subject matter, expanding however they see fit. Thank you. ~Susan Lewis)

When is the entry deadline? Friday, March 31st, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

How do you enter your poem?

Your poem should be typed on 8½ x 11 inch paper and must be attached to an official Entry Form. Entry forms are available at the Office of School Choice, in the Home School office, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, FL 32503, at the Main Library and can also be printed from www.wflf.org. Give your entry to your English/Language Arts teacher or take it to the Children's Section of the Main Library, 200 West Gregory Street in Pensacola, 32502. [Questions--
susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com](mailto:susanlewisbooks@yahoo.com)

WFLF thanks Bingo Paradise
4469 Mobile Hwy, Pensacola, FL 32506
(850) 457-0067

for its continued financial support!

Free punch bowl to a good home. Come help us clean out the WFLF office, and take the punch bowl home with you. Or just let us know if you want the bowl.

Anne Waldman



Greg Fuchs

The author of more than 40 collections of poetry and poetics, Anne Waldman is an active member of the Outrider experimental poetry movement, and has been connected to the Beat movement and the second generation of the New York School. Her publications include *Fast Speaking Woman* (1975), *Marriage: A Sentence* (2000), and the multi-volume *Iovis* project (1992, 1993, 1997).

Her work as a cultural activist and her practice of Tibetan Buddhism are deeply connected to her poetry. Waldman is, in her words, “drawn to the magical efficacies of language as a political act.” Her commitment to poetry extends beyond her own work to her support of alternative poetry communities. Waldman has collaborated extensively with visual artists, musicians, and dancers, and she regularly performs internationally. Her performance of her work is engaging and physical, often including chant or song, and has been widely recorded on film and video. *To read more of this article go to*

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poets/detail/anne-waldman>

WFLF UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

February 18, Saturday – annual meeting/party at the Howards’ 6:30 p.m.

No open mic in February

March 21 – third Tuesday program by Katherine Nelson-Born and Sarah Jernigan followed by open mic

April 4, Tuesday - Dr. Langhorne reading at Christ Episcopal Church

April 5, Wednesday - Jeff, Ryn, and Andrea presenting *panoplyzine* at Say the Word in Niceville 7 p.m.

April 18 - Dr. Langhorne reading at third Tuesday followed by open mic

April 21, Friday - Anne Waldman workshop at PSC

April 22, Saturday - Anne Waldman reading and performance at PSC

May 16 - First City Shakespeare dramatic reading at third Tuesday followed by open mic

June 20 - third Tuesday reading by Jeannie Zokan followed by open mic

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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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.

<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 _____

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:

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