



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

September 2017

Third Tuesday September 19, 2017

Jack Beverly reading from his novel of mystery and intrigue, a money laundering scheme, investigation, romance, murder, the FBI and a whole lot of action

Whistle and Run



Refreshments at 6:30 ~ Program at 7 followed by open mic at 7:30.

Bring a friend – bring a snack to share –

bring a five-minute reading of your own prose or poetry.

Free - come to listen and/or to read.

Pensacola Cultural Center 400 S. Jefferson Street, room 201

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope you all had a nice Labor Day and at least as of this writing, we have hopefully avoided Hurricane Irma. On Tuesday, September 19th, Open Mic will feature Jack Beverly as he discusses and reads from his new book, *Whistle and Run*. I was in a writer's group with Jack several years ago while he was writing his book. I would eagerly look forward to a new chapter each week of his book in progress. The only downside was that I had to wait a week to find out what happened next, something you will not have to do when you get his book.

The book involves adventure and intrigue and keeps the reader guessing. As one reviewer put it: "*Whistle and Run is a well written urban/adventure tale. The author's style makes it more entertaining than most books of this type. He goes into more detail in each scene which draws the reader more closely to the characters and to the plot as it unfolds*"-- David Schwartz." The plot takes on international dimensions as the action moves to Italy. The author's description of the beautiful Italian countryside and lovely villas shows he knows of what he speaks. Beautiful locations, fine wine and food are interwoven with murderous intent, intrigue and action, a real page turner.

Jack and his wife moved to Pensacola in 1993 as the owners of the New York Deli. He sold the business in 2000 and retired. He volunteers for several organizations including Friends of the West Florida Public Library and the West Florida Literary Federation. While in a writing critique group with Jack, I always found his comments and suggestions to be most helpful.

After his presentation, the audience participation will begin. You will have five minutes to read poetry or prose, sing or dance, do stand-up comedy or showcase your talents/interests in other ways. Open Mic starts at 6:30 pm with wine, food and camaraderie; program begins at 7 p.m.. Hope to see you there.

As previously mentioned, WFLF will once again be participating in the Foo Festival which will be held this coming November. We will be bringing in noted author, humorist and newspaper columnist, Craig Pittman. A former resident of Pensacola, he now resides in Tampa, where he works for the Tampa Bay Times.

His best-selling book is *Oh Florida! How America's Weirdest State Influences the Rest of The Country*. This is truly a fun read. We all knew Florida was weird, this just documents it. Noted comedians and authors Leanna Conley and Erik Decker will also be joining us. In addition, all three will lead a humor writing workshop. Their appearances are scheduled for Nov 9, so mark your calendars. If you would like to volunteer in some capacity, please let me know.

Tell me what you think: estanford@cox.net or 850-449-6771.

Ed Stanford

Writers Weekly Workshops

MONDAY PURE POETRY LOUNGE meets from 6 ~ 8 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.
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, tewsdays@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

James Lynn Smith is happy to announce that the *Mensa Bulletin* has accepted his short story "Wendy's Procedure" for publication in the September 2017 issue.

Also gratifying is the launching of his website *StoryLandscapes.net* with illustrated content and over fifty of his categorized short stories. In addition, he posted fourteen scripts for reader's theater. Free reading & duplicating. Please visit and leave a message on his contact page. He is interested in your ideas, especially on future site development.

STUDENT POETRY CONTEST

What does 7th-grade student Tori Vinson like about writing poetry?

“I like the fact that you can delve into fiction and nonfiction ... and you can use a bit of both, or focus on either, and whatever you do, you can evoke feeling.”

Tori’s poem, “And When the Sun Rises,” is among 54 award winners in WFLF’s 2017 Escambia County Student Poetry Contest, which this year attracted 711 poetry submissions from 26 schools, a sizable increase from last year’s 415 entries from 12 schools.

Student winners will each receive a copy of the WFLF-published book of students’ winning poems at a Book Launch to be held Sept. 16 from 4 to 5 p.m. in the WFLF Board Room at the Pensacola Cultural Center in downtown Pensacola. Books also can be purchased for \$9 each.

WFLF board member and poet Susan Lewis, who has been directing the contest for nine years, is amazed at the creativity of student poets. “We have here 10-year-olds and 14-year-olds that will open their hearts and the wisdom of ages pours out onto the page. You know they will write greatness. The future of my art is secure.”

Teachers, too, view poetry writing as a tool in student development. Cynthia Sarikaya, who has been teaching poetry in the classroom for five years at Tate High School, says writing poetry “strengthens students’ reading and writing skills, which are life skills. They are demonstrating their ability to write about what they are reading or discussing.”

Kathy Garner has been submitting students’ entries to the WFLF student poetry contest for the 15 years she’s been teaching at Episcopal Day School. This year, 30 of the school’s 33 1st and 2nd grade students submitted poems – and between them won all of the 1st and 2nd grade awards. Says Garner: “Writing poetry helps students with clarity of thought; being able to think creatively helps them in their academic pursuit. I am teaching all the elements of poetry all year long.”

Parents are sometimes surprised about what poetry can do for their youngsters’ imaginations. Said Sandy Keating about the poem, “Dark and Light,” written by her son Jacob Weekley, a second-grade prize winner, “It’s very creative. He says some pretty amazing things.” The poem poses a struggle between Dark and Light as to which will prevail. (Of course, they compromised.)

Each year the contest, which has been held since 1987, has a different theme. Says director Lewis, the 2017 theme, “And When the Sun Rises,” was intended to be a pathway out of the darker 2016 theme, “When I’m Alone.” Both themes are meaningful, she says: “Words have the power to walk our youth down some very dark halls and although they learn as they walk, it is our duty as elder poets to teach them the techniques which will enable them to find their way from the darkness, through to the light.” The 2018 theme has not yet been chosen.

After poetry, is there more to explore? Says Tori Vinson, “I tried writing a novel, but it takes a lot more planning, you have to have plot and characters. A poem is both challenging and easy. I do it for fun.” And when the sun rises...

Charlotte Crane

And When the Sun Rises

The moon cautiously gazes down on me.
Its gentle beams daring to light up my hair and hands.
It looks tired and worn,
Puzzled by the events of the day before.
I wonder what tragedies it has witnessed,
What miracles it has observed.

The stars gravitate towards me excitedly,
Twinkling, flashing and blinking.
Their beautiful patterns amaze me,
And remind me of the quilt on the bed I should be on.
I contemplate the fact that as I write this sentence,
1800 of those wondrous stars are exploding.

Leaves rustle above me,
As a sturdy, wooden branch supports the swing which I
sit upon.
I hear buzzes around the pristine glow of the lantern,
Promising insect life.
The moon kisses the tree,
Leaving a speck of light for each leaf to call its own.

I remember the day before.
The loneliness,
The shameful, melancholy memories
Will the sun comfort me warmly,
Or will the days before
Only repeat?

In my books,
The sunrise is symbolic

For redemption,
 For happiness,
 For joy,
 For rebirth.

Tori Vinson

Dark and Light

One Day there was Dark and Light.
 Dark spent time resting
 Light spent time painting.
 One day, Light got tired of working so hard
 Day and night while Dark just rested.
 They got mad at each other.
 Dark's clouds filled the sky as his lightning shattered the ground.
 Light painted a shield
 Of black, grey, and purple.
 The gods showed up and said
 "this is nonsense!"
 The Sun came up,
 Dark and Light were friends again.

Jacob Weekley

MEMBER POETRY



Rosa rugosa rubra

Like the name of
 an Italian actress
 more lovely than Sophia Loren,
 they are after you.

Drunk on your fragrance,
 they enter you, one after another,
 imbibing your nectar.
 You open your tender parts to all.

They take their pleasure
 and leave with your pollen

to fertilize another
 lovely *Rosa rugosa rubra*

Patricia S. T. Edmisten

Haiku

Written While in Italy in Autumn

Columns of chestnuts --
 You have paved with fallen leaves
 A pathway of gold.

Late autumn thunder?
 No—alpine meadow rumbles
 As young horses play.

Karen McAferty Morris

**WRITING ON
 THE FUNNY SIDE OF FLORIDA**



Date: Nov. 9 **Location:** Pensacola Cultural Center (Workshops); Artel Gallery (Break, Readings and Book Signings) **Tickets:** \$20 (workshops); FREE (all other events) www.foofoofest.com

CALL FOR MINI SUBMISSION

What do you know about the funny side of Pensacola? To go along with this year's Foo Foo theme, John Baradell and Diane Skelton are putting together a brochure and/or a leaflet of Weird Florida facts for display at UWF Historic Trust museums and Artel. Here's a chance to contribute: Please submit a brief sentence or two describing the weirdest thing you've heard or know about Pensacola. Email me at andrea48@aol.com

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>

SAVE THE DATES

September 16 – Student poetry book launch, room 201, Cultural Center, 4 p.m. - 5

September 19 – **Jack Beverly** reading from *Whistle and Run* followed by open mic

October 17 - **Richard Hurt** reading from *Forbidden Star* followed by open mic

October 18, Wednesday – 2 p.m. Book talk with Andrea Walker at Edward Chadbourne Library at Pensacola State College

October 25, Wednesday – 6 p.m. Student poetry reading at Edward M. Chadbourne Library at PSC

November 9 WFLF “Writing on the Funny Side of Florida” event for Foo Foo Festival – stay tuned for more info

January 16 - **Patricia Edmisten** reading from *A Longing for Wisdom* followed by open mic

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

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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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:

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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