



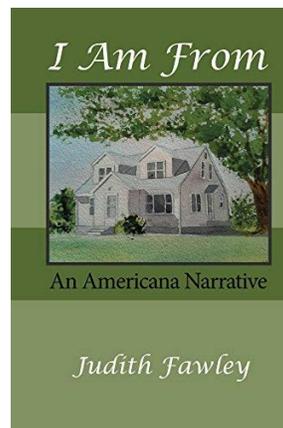
# *The Legend*

**West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.**

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

**October 2018**

**THIRD TUESDAY OPEN MIC OCTOBER 16**  
***I AM FROM An Americana Narrative by Judy Fawley***



“I am from collie dogs that raced free in the meadows and litters of kittens that magically appeared in the grain shed. . . . I am from a work in progress with rough edges and unfinished dreams.” *Judith Fawley*

You don't want to miss Judy's sharp wit and dry sense of humor.

- **Bring your creative writing – both prose and poetry –**
  - **Bring a friend**
  - **Bring a snack to share**

**Refreshments and camaraderie at 6:30**

**Program at 7 followed by open mic at 7:30 (remember our 5-minute time length)**

Pensacola Cultural Center room 201  
400 South Jefferson Street  
Pensacola, FL 32502

**FREE – Open to public**

October 2018 *Legend* - 1

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Open Mic is THE place to be in Pensacola on the third Tuesday of the month. Join us October 16 on the second floor of the Pensacola Cultural Center, at 6:30 for food and drink and the chance to hang out with some of the coolest folks in Pensacola. Program starts at 7 p.m. Member Judy Fawley will be our presenter, and she will discuss her book, *I Am From: An American Narrative*. "She first explored writing as a high school sophomore when she wrote a satirical poem about a teacher. She was delighted and thrilled when her classmates laughed where they were supposed to. . . Judy has written dozens of one-act plays. Many have been performed much to the delight of Florida Panhandle audiences, who also laugh where they are supposed to." The program will be followed by Open Mic, where everyone gets their 5 minutes of fame.

Save the date—Nov 8, 2018. That is when WFLF will present its 2018 Foo Foo Festival event. Our theme this year is *You: The Writer* and we have something for every writer and would-be writer. Three areas of writing will be explored: songwriting, memoir writing and social media/blogging content writing

Songwriting will be taught by the popular up and coming local duo, Sugarcane Jane. That workshop will be held at Artel Gallery at 4 P.M. and will run until 5:30. Memoir writing will be taught by the well-known local author, Katherine Clark. That class will be taught at the Bowden Building, across from Seville Quarter and it will also run from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. Social media and blogging content workshop will be taught by humorist Erik Deckers, who is back by popular demand from last year. This class will also be at the Bowden Building.

After the classes, we will go to nearby Artel Gallery for a VIP reception where there will be food, drink and comradery. All three workshop presenters will give a presentation of their craft and Sugarcane Jane will provide the music. So, if you hated the fact that you had to pick only one workshop, you can still get some good info from the other presenters at Artel.

How much is all this you ask? The cost is \$10 for the workshop of your choice. If you just want to attend the reception, the cost is \$10. And if you are going to attend both the workshop and reception, you are eligible for a special deal that includes a WFLF T-shirt and one-year membership for \$25.

You can go on our website, WFLF.org and register via Eventbrite. If you wish to make other arrangements, call or text me at 850-449-6771. You will also have a chance to purchase tickets at the October 16 Open Mic. Volunteers are really needed to help us pull this off. Volunteers get free admission and our eternal gratitude.

Well, that's the news from WFLF, where all the members are talented, intelligent and good looking. Tell me what you think [estanford@cox.net](mailto:estanford@cox.net) , 850-449-6771.

*Ed Stanford, President*

## Writers Weekly Workshops

**MONDAY POETRY** led by Julie DeMarko meets from 6 ~ 8 p.m., Mondays at the Cultural Center. Like the "wild writing" workshop she led for two years, the goal is to practice writing and, in the end, find the path to authentic poetry. [JulieDemarko@hotmail.com](mailto:JulieDemarko@hotmail.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](mailto:tuesday@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. 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. Plus, the participants are notorious for exchanging writing tips, novels, paintings, and garage sale items. For more information contact [dianeskelton@att.net](mailto:dianeskelton@att.net)



Save  
THE  
DATE



## YOU: THE WRITER

presented by West Florida Literary Federation  
and featuring

Katherine Clark, author of the *Mountain Brook* series and *My Exaggerated Life: Pat Conroy*, an oral biography

Erik Deckers, owner of Pro Blog Service and co-author of *Branding Yourself: How to Use Social Media to Invent or Reinvent Yourself*

Sugarcane Jane, Alabama Gulf Coast's husband-wife duo Anthony Crawford, sideman, and Savana Lee, songwriter, and explore *Southern State of Mind*



*For ticket information click here*

### Workshops

**Katherine Clark – memoir writing**

**Eric Deckers – social media writing**

**Sugarcane Jane – song writing**

**Followed by program at Artel Gallery**

## MEMBER NEWS

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Barbara Little**  
**Pat Black-Gould**  
**Patrick Cochran**  
**Judy Hathcock**

**SAVE THE DATE** – Member Julie Still-Rolin is hosting a Halloween style open mic night for Evolve 'n Thrive at **Shirley's Cafe (9th Ave)** **this Thursday, October 11, from 6-8.**



### Living with a Legacy

By Diane Jones Skelton

Politicians and presidents talk a lot about leaving a legacy. So do billionaires, millionaires, writers and even grandparents. But little is said about receiving a legacy. For me, that's where real character and moral fiber emerge to accept a challenge of a lifetime.

West Florida Literary Federation is the honored recipient of a legacy, the material, tangible type usually seen on a university campus. Our legacy for nearly the next eighty years is the Dr. Francis Patrick Cassidy Literary Resource Center, Suite 210 of the Pensacola Cultural Center. The gift of the literary resource center along with a 99-year lease was presented to WFLF by Frances "Fran" Helene Davis Cassidy to honor her late husband, physician Francis Patrick Cassidy, who died in 1990. She was a founding member of WFLF, past president and board member. Fran died in 2011 in West Columbia, South Carolina, but the legacy of both Cassidys lives in what we call our library. The door to the office bears his name and the interior displays her love for her husband as well as the Federation.

The literary center and library would be the first of its kind in Florida, according to an Earle Bowden article in the May 6, 1990 *Pensacola News Journal*. It would be a center for the support of regional writers. Such centers were a growing arts trend at that time, and 35 existed across the nation, but none

were in Florida. Though the library now serves a dual purpose as the WFLF's office, it houses a special collection of works by local and regional authors, along with writing reference works. In this room, lined with wooden, ceiling-high bookshelves, you'll find works by student poets as far back as 1997 beside books by Northwest Florida Poets Laureate, including WFLF's first, Adelia Rosasco-Soule. Also on display are books by local poets, playwrights and authors, and copies of all WFLF's publications including *The Emerald Coast Review*. The massive board table and twelve matching chairs provide ample space for critique groups, poetry gatherings and board meetings.

According to another *Pensacola News Journal* article, the remaking of a courthouse and jail into a cultural center developed in the late 1980s in a campaign spearheaded by the Pensacola Little Theatre, the longest continually operating community theatre in the Southeast. (You can see the plaque in the brick foyer where prisoners used to exercise). The jail was transformed into a little theatre, and the former courtroom and judge's chambers were repurposed into meeting spaces and offices for cultural organizations. The first stage performance was in 1996. WFLF was a major contributor, according to Bowden's article, providing \$30,000.

Now, twenty-two years later, the Federation remains the recipient of Fran Cassidy's heartfelt gift along with the responsibility that comes with such a legacy.

Andrea Walker and I recently had the honor of beginning a thorough cleaning and reorganization of the WFLF library. As we dusted, restacked, and tossed old materials, we talked about Fran Cassidy and her gift to enrich and promote the literary community of Northwest Florida. Neither of us knew her but we felt her love for literature as we cleaned the shelves.

Andrea delighted in finding several copies of Adelia-Rosasco Soule's early books. She thought they had disappeared. "I found a copy of *Listen, Pilgrim - Admonitions from the Holy Spirit*, published in 1980 with a note of commendation from Rene H. Gracida, Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee. It seems our first Poet Laureate had strong religious convictions and wrote extensively about the subject of God. Several editions of *The Thinking Chair* offer poetic prayers along with contemplative thoughts in prose. On the opening

page of *A Bird with a Broken Wing ~ ~ Who Sings*, Robert E. Philips, an admirer, says the book 'is an 80-year collection of poems, lines . . . thoughts bound together by the philosophical web of faith and strength of a remarkable woman . . . '

"Consisting of more secular poetry, this sweet collection is charmingly illustrated by Patricia D'Asaro. Over one hundred poems are divided into three sections: Maidenhood; Grandmotherhood; Personhood. All the books were signed by Miss Adelia herself in 1986. These are treasures of which WFLF should be proud."

But Andrea and I aren't the first to tackle the reorganization of WFLF's legacy library. While Patricia Edmisten served as president, she also tried to restore order to the holdings, many of which came from B.J. Miller's library. A member poet who was an extraordinary supporter of the early Federation, B.J. Miller wanted the Federation to have her books after her death. This, too, is another legacy for which the Federation is thankful.

Patricia knew both B.J. Miller and Fran Cassidy and remembers the dedication of the Francis Patrick Cassidy Library. She recalls Fran as being so proud of the library and the shiny, beautiful new wood shelves. Thanks to Patricia, many of the records of the early Federation days, including notes on the Cassidys, have been saved. Plus, Patricia provided a blueprint for organizing our current holdings.

As Andrea and I reorganize the library, we ask for your donations of new or gently used books only in line with WFLF's mission – to preserve the literary heritage of West Florida, promote literary efforts and education, and assist members in literary interests. And, of course, we'd like a copy for the library of all books published by WFLF members.

As we purge the assemblage of personal items left behind, from broken umbrellas to moldy mugs, we ask you claim anything that is yours, unless, of course, it's a donated book or piece of art. We also ask if you eat or drink in the room, you use disposal cups and throw them away. We will no longer provide dishwasher service. And if you eat, please discard any remains.

Our dreams are to digitize WFLF's history, provide literary resources for members and regional writers, and preserve our legacy, one book at a time.




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## Meet Pat Cassidy WFLF's Library Legacy

- Dr. Patrick Francis Cassidy
- Native Bogalusa, Louisiana
- Medical degree from Louisiana State University
- Captain, U.S. Army Medical Corps 1946 - 48
- Pensacola surgeon for more than 30 years
- Board of Governors, Hospital Corp. of America
- Planner of West Florida Regional Medical Center
- Father of eight children
- Charter member WFLF
- Spouse of Fran Cassidy, charter member, president WFLF
- Lions Club District Governor, Pensacola club president
- Tireless worker for blind and partially-sighted
- Proud Southerner and student of the Old South
- Lover of literature with extensive home library
- Photographer who loved sunrises on Pensacola Beach
- Died at age 68 on April 24, 1990

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WEST FLORIDA LITERARY FEDERATION



*Diane Jones Skelton*

### CREATIVE WRITING

The three poems that follow are from *A Bird with a Broken Wing ~ ~ Who Sings* by Adelia Rosasco Soule, first Poet Laureate of Northwest Florida.

#### MAIZE

Maize is just a fruit of Mother Earth,  
Fashioned after the gods:  
Tall and straight and perennial;  
Medusa like her gold spun swaying tassel;  
Warrior like her sheathed body,  
Which stripped, discloses –  
Grains of corn.

*Adelia Rosasco Soule*

#### OUTAS - (short Japanese word pictures)

Dragon fly rests on a lily pad;  
Its feet moist with dew.  
Lazy August.

Acorns scattered on the ground;  
Housekeeping squirrels scurrying. . .  
Winter minded.

*Adelia Rosasco Soule*

## The Bishop

It was in the late 1940s, and the United Methodist missionary family had been in Burma (now Myanmar) for a short while. They soon found out that the regional bishop would visit their small congregation. The minister and his wife wished to invite him to their home for a meal before showing him around the church. They were concerned that their four children, two boys and two girls, might be a bit much for the elderly bishop's nerves, so they began lecturing them on behavior, exaggerating consequences of misconduct. Joy, the youngest at four years of age, overheard stern warnings to the boys about the bishop's temper, and that they should not run through the house or laugh loudly. The mother told the older girl that she was expected to act ladylike, and be careful what she said or the bishop might "snap her head off." She didn't want him provoked into angry outbursts for it would be an embarrassment for all of them.

What Joy overheard fostered a mental image of powerful, angry jaws snapping and chomping. She wondered if they would have enough food for him. She felt apprehension, but also curiosity and wanted to see the bishop as soon as possible.

"No dear," her mother said. "When he comes, you'll have to wait until we've invited him in and introduced him to the others in the family."

The day finally came. The trishaw had arrived with the bishop, and he was coming up the walkway. Everyone but Joy scrambled into their assigned places. She was told to wait in the kitchen.

"Do I have to, Mommy," she whined.

"Yes, wait here. We'll call you when it's time to come into the living room and see the bishop."

Joy pouted but obeyed her mother. She heard the front door open and exclamations from others in the family. Her curiosity burned, but she waited...and waited. Would they ever finish

the first introductions? Had they forgotten her? She was tempted to sneak in, but memories of what her parents said about the bishop restrained her. Finally, she heard footsteps approach the kitchen door and her mother said, "Okay come in now."

Joy slowly walked into the living room and her mother said, "This is our youngest daughter. Joy, I want you to meet Bishop Gordon."

The bishop smiled and confusion washed over Joy's face. Forgetting the need to speak softly, she blurted, "Is that the bishop? I thought the bishop was an alligator."

*James Lynn Smith*

## Review of

*I Am From*

*An Americana Narrative*

By Judith Fawley

Judith Fawley's memoir *I Am From* is a fun read, reminiscent of innocent times in the mid-twentieth century. Set in rural Missouri, the book is jam-packed with anecdotes, observations, and wisdom along with a child's perspective of family, farm and country living during that time. Fawley writes with a dry sense of humor, and she sees humor in everything. As I turned the pages, I often felt a smile spread across my face at the situations and the author's humorous comments on them.

Readers will laugh out loud imagining the child who "Sometimes . . . pretended to be a horse and grazed Cheerios from the seats of kitchen chairs where I had sprinkled them" (35). A happy childhood remains evident as she reads to her mother while her mother sews dresses and they laugh together at passages (46).

Fawley weaves her homespun vignettes around the mundaneness of daily life. Childhood memories and stories of the largest beech tree in the area sacrificed for progress, the origin of "throwed rolls," a gratifying trade with Grandpa for his pearl-handled switchblade, and Grandma's blackbird pie unfold.

Time stands still in old photographs of people in fashions of earlier times. Pictures of homes and churches, animals, favorite glassware, and handsewn garments trimmed with lace and needlework grace the pages. No photo is needed, however, for her descriptions, for example, of the barn with a “sudden flurry of rapidly flapping wings . . . feathers waft soundlessly through spec-filled air . . . . Whisper thin shafts of sunlight . . . pungent smell of animal . . . dusty dim inside . . . made the hayloft our destination for adventure” (26). The reader is engaged, and every sense is alive.

## Literary Things To Do

**October 11** - Halloween style open mic night for Evolve 'n Thrive at Shirley's Cafe from 6-8.

**October 16** – Third Tuesday Judy Fawley reading from *I Am From An Americana Narrative* followed by open mic.

**Second Tuesdays** – open mic poetry and music jam, 6 p.m. – 7:30, Crestview Public Library, 1445 Commerce Dr, Crestview, 32539. Contact Esther @ 682-4432.

**November 8 Thursday** - You the Writer workshops and program for Foo Foo Festival

**November 20** – Third Tuesday open mic Poetry Presentation by the Monday evening workshop poets followed immediately by open mic.

**First and third Saturdays** – In Our Write Minds is a writers group that meets 1st & 3rd Saturdays of every month in Navarre. We are published and unpublished authors who explore topics of interest to writers. Critiques of works submitted are shared in an atmosphere that encourages and supports. We believe that writers of all levels and publishing experience can increase their skills, "with a little help from their friends." For more information, contact Claire Massey at [cmd3929@gmail.com](mailto:cmd3929@gmail.com).

**First Wednesday of each month** – Say the Word open mic in Niceville. Check it out on FB.

In one poignant passage, the author relates the true story of the band teacher who commits armed robberies to make ends meet, pay off debts and support his passel of children. The gun had never been loaded, and after the teacher is released, a city leader opens a job for him (69).

More than an entertaining memoir, the book is satisfying and perceptive. Fawley’s writing is soothing, and this wholesome Americana will put the reader in the best of moods.

Andrea Walker

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

### 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Directors can be contacted at

[WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.com](mailto:WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.com)

The WFLF newsletter *The Legend* welcomes submissions from members. Please limit word count to 500. Contact *Legend* Editor: Andrea Walker [andrea48@aol.com](mailto:andrea48@aol.com)

Thanks to Charlotte Crane and Janet Thomas who help me edit and make the newsletter better.

Check out our website at [www.wflf.org](http://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 ~ 2018**



**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**

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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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