



The Legend

West Florida Literary Federation, Inc.

www.wflf.org

DECEMBER 2019

Third Tuesday Open Mic December 17



Refreshments at 6:30 ~ Open Mic at 7:00

Come to listen and/or to read.

Bring your creative writing: prose or poetry (**5-minute time limit please**).

Bring a friend -- Bring a snack to share.

Pensacola Cultural Center - 400 South Jefferson Street room 201

Pensacola, FL. 32502

Free—open to public

You are invited to a Reading and Book Signing

From Green's View

Poetry and Prose by Henry Langhorne

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Reading at 7 p.m.

Light Hors D'oeuvres and Wine at 6:30 **RSVP: 850-206-4608**

The Parish Hall, Christ Episcopal Church

18. W. Wright Street, Downtown Pensacola

Limited parking in front from Wright Street. Additional parking in back from Belmont Street

WFLF 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

TUESDAY WRITING FOR PUBLICATION

10:30 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.

ronaldtew@yahoo.com

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO & EXCHANGE SOCIETY ~

The Portfolio & Exchange Society Critique Group meets every Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., 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

Still Christmas shopping?
Books make great gifts!



Available on Amazon

MEMBER NEWS

You're Invited to join BizEntine Press and Bodacious Bookstore and Café for the launch of *Evangeline: Paradise Stolen, Vol. III* historical fiction in the 6-time award-winning series

"Evangeline: The True Story of the Cajuns"

Thurs. Dec. 12, 2019 * 5:30 - 7 PM

Bodacious Bookstore and Café

110 East Intendencia Street

Pensacola, Florida 32502



M. M. Le Blanc is a Director on the WFLF Board and the award-winning author of 15 books. *Evangeline: Paradise Stolen* has won 6 book awards and was the Official VIP Selection at the Sundance Film Festival.

MORE MEMBER NEWS

At the Florida State Pen Women biennial conference in Daytona Beach Nov. 1-2, **Pat Black-Gould** won 1st place in Short Story and Honorable Mention in Free Verse, and **Claire Massey** won 1st place in Free Verse and 3rd place in Memoir. **Karen Morris**, who served as Letters Contest Chair this past summer, was elected 1st VP of the Florida State Association of the National League of American Pen Women,

whose members are women in the creative fields of Letters, Art, and Music.

Karen Morris's poem "Torch Song" appeared in the November issue of *Poem*, a poetry journal of the Huntsville Literary Association. Published in the spring and fall, *Poem* has been in continuous publication since 1967. Karen's chapbook *Confluences* placed first in the NLAPW's 2020 Vinnie Ream Letters biennial competition in Poetry.

SUCCESS!

The 2019 **Pensacola Writing & Book Festival** co-sponsored by West Florida Literary Federation, Inc. was, by all accounts and the attendee survey, a grand success. Nearly two hundred people attended to hear presentations and panels by ten speakers, a Kids Korner with two authors reading and talking on children's and teen/tween stories, and a Pitch Pit where authors pitched unpublished manuscripts to a national publisher.

The Keynote Speaker for the event was the *New York Times*, *USA Today* and *Publishers Weekly* best-selling author Lenora Worth who spoke on "Romancing the Word." Auburn University novel-writing instructor Larry Williamson explained how to begin writing a novel. An impressive speaker panel of Mike Parker, Paula K. Parker and Michele Le Blanc spoke on "How to Edit, Publish and Copyright Your Book." An inspiring panel of military veteran authors, Rachel Coggins, Janice Ryan Hall, Michael Byars Lewis and Gary Westfal spoke on "How to Write Thrillers, Memoirs, Mysteries and Inspirational Personal Development," and *Pensacola News Journal* editorial cartoonist and journalist Andy Marlette gave a hilarious presentation on writing and illustrating humor using the fewest number of words possible.

A special feature of the event this year was the Vendors' Atrium where over two dozen independent authors from a 4-state area sold and signed books. The Event Chair, Michele Le Blanc and Co-chairs Jan Hall, Lisa Rawson, Jeanne Tew and Charlotte Sweeney worked for months with a group of dedicated volunteers to produce this valuable event to WFLF and the community.

Michele Le Blanc

Kids Korner was a great success. A large Chinese dragon and puppet stage decorated the area and set the tone for the wonderful activities for the children. Rebecca Hughes dressed as a magical queen and educated the children about improvisation and acting. Young adult author Vicki Shankowitz and her son Robert Shankowitz, her illustrator, taught the pre-teens how to write and illustrate stories and share them with each other. The younger children enjoyed story time with Lisa Rawson while they made paper bag puppets and face masks of their favorite character. The children were able to enjoy using their puppets behind the puppet stage and act out their favorite story. Lots of prizes were given away, thanks to the generosity of Books a Million who gave toys as a donation to support the event. Everyone who participated in Kids Korner left the event with fond memories and wanting more such events in the future. Check out our Facebook for pictures!

Lisa Rawson

November 8 was a busy day for local writers. Joshilyn Jackson's writing workshop sponsored by Tom Roberts was well-attended by members and nonmembers alike. First, Jackson covered "The Large Gods" of plot, character, theme, and narrative drive along with "The Small Gods" of setting, tone, voice, and point of view with a most entertaining lecture. Next, we worked with a partner to write a piece of "micro memoir," a challenging exercise to complete in a few short minutes. Being put on the spot to write really gets the creative juices flowing! After discussion, book lovers who don't write were welcomed to hear Jackson share some writing stories. Jackson's engaging personality made us think and kept us laughing.

Next, many of us rushed to Bodacious Bookstore and Café for the launch of the *Emerald Coast Review Volume XX*. Thanks to Elizabeth Holmes for finding such a perfect and lovely venue. Local writers were welcomed and encouraged by Kristie, the store manager. Katherine Nelson Born emceed the readers; then we enjoyed signing each other's copies. I, for one, felt quite satisfied at all the smiles.

Andrea Walker

POETRY

Elegy for Lorraine Byrd

Country girl, come on over to heaven.
We thank you for your days;
the mountains, the piney woods, the chicken coops,
cold fires, worn quilts, wood floors.

Country girl, those hills embraced you,
pale blue dress, Mary Janes and little ringlets.

Country girl, curl your hair the way
your grandma did, tugging and spitting
her life into yours.

Country girl, little girl, write in your book,
cursive flows like tradition and wind
blowing from pinafores to patient gowns.

Country girl, take a seat, rest your bones.
Close your eyes. They'll carry you.
You've lightened all these years,
right back to your teens,
your girlhood days.
You drew that cord tight as a clothesline,
fastening them all in the sun,
lilting in your warm breezes from then to now,
secure in your light grasp.

Time to let them go, country girl.
The line's been loosened, they've been removed,
not quite as fresh as before
but crisp and dry like the fine country linen
you wore to church.

Jeff Santosuosso

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

More Literary Things To Do

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

Wednesday, December 4, 6 p.m. *Hurricane Review*
reception Switzer Center at Pensacola State College

Tuesday, December 17—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.
Every Tuesday from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Pensacola Poetry Constant Coffee & Tea, 615 Scenic Highway.

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Ed Stanford
Vice President: Laura Richards
Secretary: Elizabeth Holmes
Treasurer: Tom Roberts
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Director: Mimi LeBlanc
Director: Lisa Rawson
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Directors can be contacted at
WestFloridaLiteraryFederation@gmail.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 ~ 2020

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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