



PEN & PALETTE

Boca Raton Branch, National League of American Pen Women (NLAPW), Inc.

Michelle Putnik, Editor-in-Chief

Website: www.bocapenwomen.org

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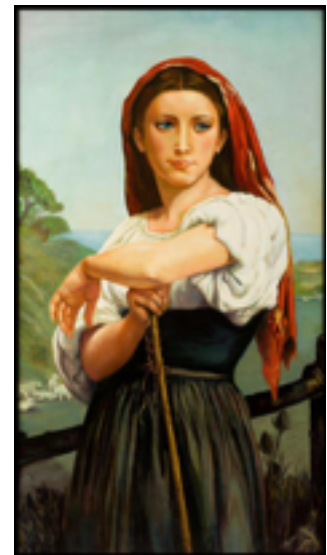
Justine Kuntz

PHOTO OP:

This month, our Guest Speaker is **Bea Doone-Merena**. So, I thought I would showcase some of her amazing work.



BUSY AS A "BEA"



REMINDERS

If you keep your name tag in the car, you'll always have it with you for luncheons. Our next luncheon is Thursday, April 16th, 12:00 noon.

The entire calendar of luncheon programs is listed on page 2 of your 2014-16 Yearbook Luncheon. Programs are also listed on our website:
www.bocapenwomen.org

Pen Divas! I need photographs, pictures of art, or samples of your writing for our Newsletters. Email them to:
mjputnik@comcast.net



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Miriam Levin
- 4 Lea Hope Becker
- 12 Adrienne Lefkovitz
- 13 Elisa Eisenman
- 14 Louise Mirkin
- 19 Estelle Harriet
- 20 Fedora Horowitz
- 20 Karen Rose
- 22 Ruth Koster
- 27 Mary Twitty
- 28 Willis Whyte

"A BIRTHDAY FUNNY"



SPOTLIGHT'S ON...



Mimi Paris

WOMEN

There are lots of women out there
 Single
 Single now
 Want to be single
 Married
 Don't want to be married
 They're out there
 They're all different
 Some are pretty
 Some pretty ugly
 Some talk a lot
 Some are silent
 Some forever diet
 Some never start
 Some are tense
 Some are fun
 Some always seem to panic
 Some always love to party
 Some help heal wounds
 Some wound with pleasure
 Some are fine as corn silk
 Some are coarse as tree bark
 Some have helped save my life
 Some have helped destroy it
 Some I hate
 Some I love
 I've met them all.

by Mimi Paris

OUR BAND OF MERRY POETS made the February 10 poetry workshop a delightful experience. We began with a round robin in which we shared our personal experiences raising children. The topic of Motherhood, or what is known as "Muddlehood" to first time mothers, made us smile with stories about the ups and downs of being a mom.

Bea Doone-Merena surprised everyone with a painting she brought along for poetic inspiration. It was a work that showed her in her youth, then she put a plastic overlay on it showing herself today with all of the wrinkles from her 10 children with their names on each of the lines on her face.

by: Sheila Firestone, President & Marlene Klotz, Poetry Chair



**After
 You
 Me
 Us
 Together
 What more do we need?
 Just
 Laughter!**

By Bea Doone-Merena

FROM THE OWL'S NEST



Dear Sheila,

Until I saw Bea's art and began to read the national e-mailings, I'm not sure I appreciated how strongly I respected the strength and numbers of artists in NLAPW. I used to be an art collector myself until my marriage and moved to a house just big enough for the two of us, my collected paintings and my husband's growing photography exhibit-worthy body of work.

My painting collection consists mostly of the multi-media work of one of my best friends, a Chicago artist with a huge local following. She does large-scale work, screens, murals, both indoor and outdoor portraits, landscapes, watercolors, and more. She works in acrylics and employs wood backgrounds on some of her pieces and is a master at the use of Oriental rice papers. Now I'm thinking, is she a member of NLAPW? I don't think she is. Should I bring it up to her? Further, if she's not a member, should I recommend that she join?

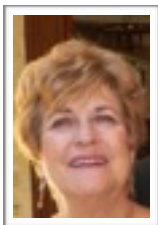
While gone I'll be trying to arrange book talks and will be meeting with my artist friend. I'll certainly share my enthusiasm for NLAPW with her, but should I recommend she become a member? I address this question to you as President.

Lea Becker - Writer

Dear Members,

In responding to Lea's letter, I share these thoughts with all of you. First I want to encourage each of you to grow NLAPW and spread the good word to every published female Artist, Composer or Writer that you know. I wish we were twice as large a group here in Boca. With our excellent chairpersons and publicity chair, newsletter and interesting events, everyone has put their shoulders into the task of growing a better branch. Just think, if all of our sister artist best friends were here beside us participating in our various activities and how it might benefit them as well. So yes, Lea, please encourage your friend to find a group in Chicago, or become a member at large, or if she comes to our area for some time we would love to have her apply and become a part of our group.

Everyone, please bring a friend. Think ahead to October, when we will have our Membership Luncheon featuring the "Many Hats that Pen Women" wear. Think about who you know that wears one of those hats who could be a qualifying member and invite your friend to join us to learn more about this group of creative women and how we collectively nurture each other's talents.



**Sheila Firestone, President, Boca Raton NLAPW
Composer/music member**

POEMS FROM "MUDDLEHOOD" POETRY WORKSHOP

"My son, no more Batman for you....too much violence."
"Daughter dear, walking barefoot isn't safe, Please wear shoes for your mother's sake."

"My son, what's with pennies, dimes between piano keys?
Are these for me, you or your big sis?"

"Daughter dear, Do you have allergies to washing dishes?"
"But, Mom, doing my homework, that's one of my wishes."

Mom used to say, "you give them a finger, they'll want the hand"

I must admit the older they got
The prouder I became:
Their kindness, their kisses!
Their music, their band!
I loved their 'hits'
And forgave their 'misses!
-Vera Hirschhorn

Transition

Little girls are easy
till they reach adolescence,
then their raging hormones
give new meaning to pubescence.
-Marlene Klotz

Question

On my long days' journey into nights
I'd never skip a beat
Then three boys came on the scene
'Hi ma! What's to eat
-Dayle Herstick

Maya

Maya chatters and chatters.
She never stops talking.
Every word a gem.
Doting Grandmother
clings to every moment
wishing this moment could last forever,

As she makes plans for tomorrow,
Plans for summer camp,
Counting down the days of her life,
From High School,
To College,
To a prominent law career,
To living in a mansion in Beverly Hills.
with two adopted children and
a handsome husband.

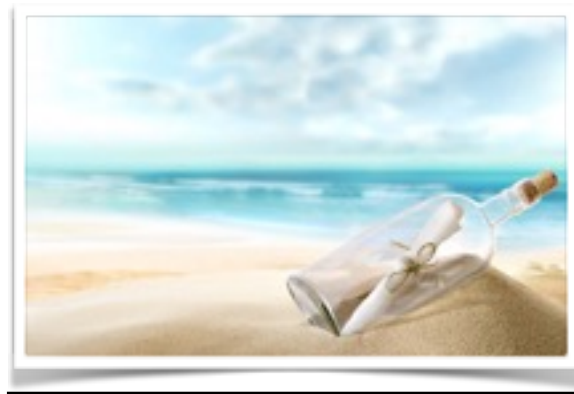
And I laugh thinking,
May all your dreams come true.
-Sheila Firestone

Go with the Flow

I think that I shall never see
A babe who didn't pee on me
When I pick up a little guy
I pray that he would please stay dry
But children need to let it go
Soon kiddies learn to train the flow
At last we learn good habits, friends
Until we have to buy Depends.
- Lea Hope Becker

HAIKU CONTEST: Boca Raton Branch NLAPW Deadline: APRIL 15, 2015

THEME: Write a Haiku for the picture below:



Maximum of three entries per person. Use 12 point regular font. Double space.

Fee: **\$3.00 per poem, or three for \$6.00**. Make check payable to Boca Raton Branch NLAPW. We only need one copy of each poem.

First Prize: \$25.00
Second Prize: \$15.00
Third Prize: \$10.00

This contest is open to ONLY Boca Branch Pen Women in good standing. You may submit a maximum of three Haiku poems. Do not send SASE – your entries will not be returned, but you will reserve all rights to your work. We do not publish winning entries so you may submit them to other competitions.

Entries should be STAPLED in the upper left hand corner and pages must be numbered. No paper clips or binders. Example: If you submit two Haiku poems, each poem will have two cover sheets.

Cover sheet 1: Title of your Haiku poem, your name, address, phone number and email. Do not staple this cover sheet to your entry.

Cover sheet 2: Title of your Haiku poem **ONLY**, stapled on to your essay.

Send all work to: Michelle Putnik, Letters Chair
 Boca Raton Branch, NLAPW
 3793 Edgar Avenue
 Boynton Beach, Florida 33436

You should have email access to enter, and you may email mjputnik@comcast.net for information ONLY. Winners will be notified by email.

BOCA BRANCH NEWS by Carol White

PUBLICITY CHAIR



URGENT! DUES ARE DUE!

It's imperative that you send in your dues as soon as possible. Our Treasurer, Barbara Bixon, will be out of town during the last two weeks of April, so she is requesting that your dues be paid before April 15th. (Dues must be in by May 1st, or there will be a \$15.00 late charge.) We are asking that you send your checks in before the deadline in order to give Barbara enough time to take care of banking, sending money to National, etc. Barbara will be at the March 19th luncheon and requests that you bring your checks to her then. She will not be at the April luncheon. You can also mail your check to Barbara at 9674 Harbour Lake Circle, Boynton Beach, Fl. 33437. There will be renewal forms at the luncheon.

Decorations

We all enjoyed the beautiful Valentine Day decorations at our February luncheon thanks to Patron, Elisa Eisenman. If you'd like to put your talents to use, please contact Sheila Firestone, sheilasong@mac.com who will give you a budget, and some ideas.

BRANCH NEWS

- ❖ We are celebrated Women's History Month on March 14, 2015 at the Parkland Library, art show with original music by Sheila Firestone. Thanks to all who joined us.
- ❖ On March 21, 2015, there will be an author talk at the Delray Beach Library beginning at 2:00 pm. Free event.
- ❖ Results of the Boca Raton Branch Essay Contest are in! Thanks to **Michelle Putnik** for coordinating the event, and for finding outside judges. As always, judges remain anonymous and read the "blind" entries before voting. (L-R: Carol White-First Place; Michelle Putnik-Coordinator; Etta Schaeffer-Third Place; Jo Jo Harder-Honorable Mention; Dayle Herstik-Second Place.)



MEMBER NEWS

Writer's Workshop and Critique Session - given by **Barbara Bixon**/aka A. R. Alan: "How to polish and fine tune your novels, stories, plays, and poetry for publication" Time: from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Starting: Friday: September 4th, 2015, and continuing on the first Friday of each month thereafter. Held at Glades Branch Public Library -20701 95th Avenue South -Boca Raton, Fl. 33434. For more information contact Barbara at: bbcarter2@aol.com



Roberta Melman, Art Co-Chair, announced that these artists are showing their work at the Parkland Library until March 30:

Bea Doone Merena: First Place – Blue Ribbon

Rhoda Hollander – Second Place

Joni Sack – Third Place

Roberta Melman: Honorable Mention

Edith Garber

Ruth Koster

Carole Kaufman

Eric Bossik judged the artwork – with artists' names covered up. Award ribbons were given to the winners at the reception on March 14-

Dayle Herstik hosted a poetry workshop (**Marlene Klotz**, Poetry Chair) on February 10th. Topic: The Humorous Aspect of Motherhood. Art member **Bea Doone-Merena** presented a self-portrait done in her youth, and then with a plastic overlay showing herself today with names of her ten children on each line in her face!



Top Row (L-R) **Vera Ripp Hirschhorn, Sheila Firestone, Pat Wilson, Dayle Herstik, Marlene Klotz, Barbara Wolk.** Seated (L-R) **Bea Merena-Doone, Lea Hope Becker**

Phyllis Dolislager's book, *I Pray for You on Friday/Maryville Vineyard Edition* is now available on Amazon.com. It's a how-to book, full of ideas to help readers energize their God-time. It introduces new ways to approach prayer and Bible reading. It ventures into spiritual journaling and the use of affirmations. Also featured are highlights of Maryville Vineyard Church, starting with the church's history. Fifteen members share their personal ways of energizing their God-time. Here's the link: <http://tinyurl.com/m8w5gw3>

Janet Kleinman, author of "Flirting with Disaster When Love and Nature Collide," and

other Pen Women authors, appeared on March 14, at the Parkland Library in Parkland. Janet was part of the Palm Beach County Author Forum on March 14 at the Wellington Branch Library, in Wellington. The speakers at this forum have a published book that is part of the Palm Beach County circulating library, and have been chosen for the Local Author Collection reserved for Florida authors in several branches.

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Marlene Klotz spoke March 16 at Stratford Court in Boca Raton. She has chose the poet Maya Angelou for the subject, "Women Who Have Defied The Odds To Achieve Success." Marlene has completed a small text that describes the Poetry Workshop that took place at Dayle Herstik's home on February 10. Marlene's book contains the poems that were written, plus a picture of the painting Bea Doone-Merena brought along for inspiration.

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Jill Rader Levine - new transfer member from Long Island - is the Curator for three "Women Of The World -Think Big!" Art & Photography Exhibits featuring 57 distinguished Long Island women in the arts. The displays will be on view to the public at Bloomingdale's Furniture Gallery- Roosevelt Field and the Nassau County Legislature in NY during National Women's History Month - March 2015. NYIT Old Westbury will host the final "Winners Showcase" May 2015. Her past art projects have also included NLAPW members.

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Barbara M. Wolk was honored as an "Unsung Hero" & Fundraiser for The Boca Raton Walk On Water Fund in The Sun Sentinel,

March 1 in the Community Section, Page 2 (www.awalkonwater.com). Her last fundraiser was at The Jewish Federation of South Florida: "Holistic Health: Opening To Life After 60". She was a presenter with The Jewish Storytelling Project" at The JCC Sandler Center on Sunday, March 15.

Outreach Program:

"Peace Poetry Wall" - All People's Day Diversity Festival. March 21, 2015 11am-5pm. Festivities include poetry, calligraphy and artwork for children, and local authors' books for sale. Pompey Park, 1101 N. W. 2nd St. Delray Beach. (561) 243-7356 See a video of the event www.allpeoplesday.org

Feel free to stop by and create your own Peace Poem for our "Wall of Peace." Our poets and writers will be happy to assist participants of any age as they create their own "I AM Peace" poem and illustration. (Indoors with parking.) Join us for this free event, open to the public.



If you are not receiving Carol's Call for Pen Member News, please make sure she has your email. Send it to her at polowhite@aol.com

**Boca Raton Branch National League of American Pen Women
 Master Painter and Painter of the Masters
 Bea Doone-Merena
 Thursday, April 16, 2015, 12:00 Noon**



Bea Doone-Merena is an accomplished artist who has mastered the art of classical realism. Her oil paintings are reminiscent of Bouguereau, Vouet, Lefebvre, Raeburn and other great masters we admire. Bea currently exhibits her oil paintings in Florida. Her art work has been featured at the Armory Art Center, West Palm Beach; The Palm Beach Cultural Council; Schmidt Gallery at Lynn University, Boca Raton; the Boca Raton Museum Artist Guild, and other venues. She has won numerous awards for her portraits and figure paintings. Articles about Bea and her artwork have been published in *The Palm Beach Post* and *The Sun Sentinel*. Bea will share the story of her fascinating art career and discuss some of the oil painting techniques that she learned from studying 16th - 18th century masters of art.

April 16, 2015 Luncheon Menu: Please circle your choice of entrée and dessert:

Barbara Bixon must receive your checks no later than April 7, 2015

Members: \$25 ~ Non-members: \$30

Checks payable to: Boca Raton Branch NLAPW

Send to: Barbara Bixon, 9674 Harbour Lake Circle, Boynton Beach FL 33437

Email Elaine Bossik for more information: elainebossik@yahoo.com

NAME: (Print) _____ Email _____

GUEST: _____ Email _____

GUEST'S MENU: CHOICES of entree & dessert : _____

GUESTS: How did you hear about us ? _____

1. **Thai** Chicken Salad - Spicy Thai marinated grilled boneless chicken breast over mixed greens with sesame seeds, snow peas, peppers, bean sprouts, etc., with spicy **peanut** dressing.

2. **Eggplant Parmesan** - lightly breaded eggplant topped with marinara sauce and mozzarella cheese.

3. **Chicken Marsala** - Sautéed boneless, skinless chicken breast finished with Marsala mushroom sauce, vegetables, and chef's choice of rice or potato.

Dessert: 4. Triple Chocolate Cake **or** 5. Fruit Cup

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CHECKS: April 7, 2015

Delray Beach Golf Club, 2200 Highland Ave, Delray Beach (561/243-7385 for directions)

