



PEN & PALETTE

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

Michelle Putnik, Editor-in-Chief

Website: www.bocapenwomen.org

THE PEN BOARD

WISHING ALL OF OUR
TALENTED BOCA BRANCH
PEN WOMEN & DARLING
PATRONS

THE MERRIEST HOLIDAY
SEASON!

XXOO

OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Boca Raton Branch, National
League of American Pen
Women [http://tinyurl.com/
mo9mheu](http://tinyurl.com/mo9mheu)

If you are on Facebook,
please "Like" our page, and
post your events.



PHOTO OPS:

You know, writing poetry really brought the arts together! Smiling **Carole Kaufman, Jo Jo Harder,** and **Diane Brenda Bryan** (Top from Left to Right) proving my point. **Etta Schaeffer** and **Vera Hirschhorn** (Bottom from Left to Right)

sneak a hug in between working on their poetry challenge "*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*" by **Maya Angelou**. This workshop was hosted by Poetry Chair, **Marlene Klotz**, and it was FAB!



SAVE THE DATE...

Barbara Bixon will lead a new workshop: ***"Fine Tune Writing Critique Group"*** for serious writers of fiction and non-fiction to help polish work for publication. (No Poetry). Meetings will be held in Barbara Bixon's home on the second Friday of the following months: Dec. 12th, 2014, Jan. 9th, Feb. 13th, Mar. 13th, Apr. 10th and May 8th, 2015. The meeting time is 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. **Bring your own lunch.** This group will be open to no more than ten women, and acceptance will be for the first ten who respond with their checks. Pen women admitted first, then if available, prospective Pen women will be accepted. The cost of six meetings is \$25.00. Your check must be made out in advance to the **Boca Raton Branch NLAPW**. (No refunds for days you don't attend.) This is an opportunity to have your work critiqued, and also support our organization while you take a tax deduction. Please send your \$25.00 check made out to **Boca Raton Branch NLAPW** to Barbara Bixon, 9674 Harbour Lake Circle, Boynton Beach, Florida 33437 Contact Barbara: Bbcarter2@aol.com

REMINDERS

If you keep your name tag in the car, you'll always have it with you for luncheons. Our next luncheon is Thursday, Dec. 18th 12:00 noon.

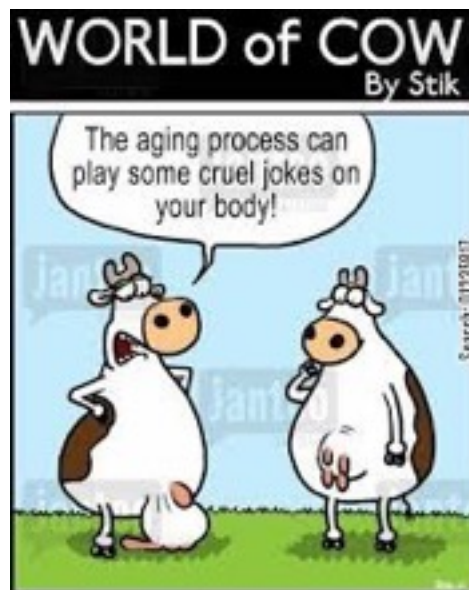
The entire calendar of luncheon programs is listed on page 2 of your 2014-16 Yearbook Luncheon. Programs are also listed on our website: www.bocapenwomen.org



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Mimi Paris
- 4 Jo Jo Harder
- 12 Leona Brenner
- 12 Julie Malear
- 13 Phyllis Dolislager
- 14 Patricia Wilson
- 20 Sheila Firestone

"A BIRTHDAY FUNNY"





Essay Contest: Boca Raton Branch NLAPW

Deadline: February 1, 2015

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

Fee: **\$3.00 per essay, or three for \$6.00**. Make check payable to Boca Raton Branch NLAPW. We only need one copy of each essay. **Maximum Word Count: 500**

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 original essays. 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.

Essays are personal accounts of your life experiences. They can be about family, travel, food, pets, work, clubs, hobbies, weddings, parties, fashion, etc.

Entries should be STAPLED in the upper left hand corner and pages must be numbered. No paper clips or binders.

Two cover sheets should be included with each entry. Word count must be listed on both cover sheets. Entries that go over the 500 word count will be disqualified.

Example: If you submit two essays, each essay will have two cover sheets.

Cover sheet 1: Title of your essay, your name, address, phone number, email, and name of your branch. Word count. Do not staple this cover sheet to your entry.

Cover sheet 2: Title of your essay **ONLY**, with word count, 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.

PEN MEMBER NEWS

by Carol White

* Publicity Chair *



Lea Hope Becker has released a new book entitled "My Name's Not Robbie Any More." She has now authored four published books, available on Amazon. <http://leahopebecker.com/> The new book is about a Jewish mother who learns that her bachelor son has had a sex-change operation. Lea's former books have been in the personal memoir genre, but this book is a departure, being a first person humorous novel. Read more about her book on Amazon: <http://tinyurl.com/k9fzc4c>

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Phyllis Dolislager's EBook, "Good Morning Let the Stress Begin," is available for \$.99 at this link: <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/489140> Phyllis is also helping an author in Wellington, who is doing research for a new book, "The Orphaned Generation," which will tackle the sensitive issue of older parents who are estranged from their adult children. The book will be a compilation of these stories in the parents own words. If you are interested in sharing your story, **anonymously**, please email June, the contact, at PurpleJune7@aol.com or send her your phone number and request that she call you. If you know someone who

might participate in this, please send them this contact info.

Fedora Horowitz will showcase her book *Jaffa Beach* at the following venues:

- 12/3/14 at 2pm JCC of Palm Beach Gardens, Fedora will give an introductory lesson on the history in her book *Jaffa Beach*.
- 12/17/14 at 6:30pm Spanish River Library, Boca Raton
- 12/13/14 at 10am Book Club at Vizcaya Community in Delray Beach
- Click here to see the book on Amazon: <http://tinyurl.com/lrqcon>

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Cora Lee Palma-Hayden presented an Astrological Soul Collage workshop on Sunday, November 9, at Juicy Creatives Studio in Lake Worth. Participants designed soul collage cards with images that expressed their personal Sun and Moon. Each card was then read focusing on the individual's creativity.

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Michelle Putnik chats with store manager, Joanne Sinchuk, at Murder on the Beach Bookstore.



Joni Sack's art exhibit, Eclecticism III, will be on display December 8—31, at Patch Reef Park Community Center, 2000 W. Yamato Rd., Boca Raton Hours: M-F 8am-10pm, Sat. 8am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. Phone: 561.367.7035 Admission: Free

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Carol White spoke about theatre and writing short plays to the Women’s Club at the Horizon Club on October 21, 2014. Pen Woman, **Dr. Myra Levick** organized the club’s creation and hosted the discussion. Carol spoke at the Hagen Ranch Library with author Steve Forman on November 12, 2014. Carol was also included in the November 15th Parkland Author Showcase.



*** Printing Tip ***

If you do a lot of printing, save ink by using the Century Gothic font as shown in this example. Also, set your printer properties to DRAFT, which is fine for most print-outs. Switch to Automatic for anything important that you’ll be using for a presentation, etc.

Ladies, don’t forget to fill out and return the Questionnaire you found in your Yearbook packet. It is a requirement that every Pen Woman have a resume of some sort on file.

GET READY, PEN DIVAS! The Raffles/ Fundraising Committee is going to be introducing some exciting games to raise money for our Scholarship Fund!

At the December Luncheon, we will be introducing **“True Confessions”** a hysterical game that will have everyone laughing, and where you are the star! There will be a table set up outside the luncheon room where you can pick up a **“True Confessions”** slip, and for only \$2 a slip, you fill in the blanks of this month’s question, **“In my next life I want to come back as ---- , because ----“** Your slips will then be placed into the **“True Confessions”** box. During the luncheon, 3 slips will be pulled out and read by Etta Schaeffer, our Raffles/Fundraiser Chair (competitors names will not be read). Then the Pen Women attending the luncheon will decide, by a raise of hands, which entry was the funniest. The entry pulled with the most votes wins a mystery prize! So, start thinking of something clever and fun to write down for the December **“True Confessions”** game! SHHHHHH don’t let anyone know what you’re thinking ;)

Plus, the **Knick-Knack Raffle Table** is back! There will be drawings for this event, too!

Keep on the look out! I heard there will also be a **White Elephant Raffle** running loose in the future, too!



SPOTLIGHT'S ON...



The Pen Women who attended the Maya Angelou Poetry Workshop. Our Poetry Chair, Marlene Klotz, challenged the ladies to delve deep and write a poem regarding their interpretation of *"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings."* Our talented poets sang indeed! Enjoy their masterpieces.



Revered

Some are not noticed at all.
 Few are models to be revered.
 When you meet them you know it instantly.
 They are people you will never forget.
 They stay in your hearts and minds forever.
 If they are someone you love, you are doubly blessed.
 To love and to respect
 Unquestionably the biggest gift of life.
 - Etta Schaeffer

Uplifting and motivating
 inspiring and funny
 demanding and sympathetic
 My Friend, Marlene
 She tells it like it is
 and usually makes it rhyme
 just give her a minute or two
 and your day won't seem so blue
 - Phyllis Dolislager

Color Blind

It's only skin
 Tinted, tanned by a
 Relentless sun.
 What dwells within
 That mind,
 That soul,
 What hopes?
 It's only skin.
 - Diane Brenda Bryan

Little Girls
 should be seen not heard
 That was during yester-years.
 Not today! Not today!
 Speak up. Speak out
 little girls.
 It's your world too
 Use your words to
 calm the world.
 Erase the fear and neurotic
 paranoia of TV speak.
 Speak out. Speak up
 little girls.
 Be the wise woman
 that you are.
 - Sheila Firestone

Haiku

Gaze into my eyes
 The blue depths tell a story
 Joy, pain, love, and strength
 - M. J. Putnik

Joan's Story

My sister Joan was the first one to
laugh and make wisecracks.
She drank too much.
Appearances are often deceiving.
Joan was not a social drinker.
She became an alcoholic
after her baby girl died of SID:
"sudden infant death."

The doctors assured her that
she could not have prevented
such an unknown and
dreadful tragedy...
but I knew in my heart
she suffered from guilt.
Joan's therapy consisted of
using liquor to escape
from her own inner demons.
Life has taught me a valuable
lesson about human weakness:
People who have a drinking
problem deserve compassion
and not contempt.
Joan's life was a story
with an unresolved ending --
I always understood.

- Marlene Klotz

I'm Somebody & So Are You

Yesterday I reacted to my have to's
Today I act on my want to's
Yesterday I reacted to my fears
Today I act on my want to's
Yesterday I reacted to my pain
Today I act on my want to's
Yesterday, I, sometimes, reacted like a
victim
Today I act like a Victor.
Yesterday I acted on my own
Today I act with you.
I'm Somebody new! Are You Somebody
new, too?

- Vera Ripp Hirschhorn, M.S.

Find Your Golden Pathway

Find your golden pathway
while you continue your earthly role
And in good time you will reach
your true, golden sunlit goal
Find your golden pathway
like the hummingbird finds its nectar
after winging from flower to flower
you will find inspiration in your own world.

- Jo Jo Harder

Down the Chute

Down the chute...I throw you all away.
You'll no longer
Have the power
To NOT MAKE MY DAY!
My own 3 sons
Haven't done me right.
Because of this DIS-RESPECT,
You will NOT CONTINUE to be my plight!
I SET YOU FREE...
AND... I AM NOW FREE...
Free from digging deeper and deeper...
Attempting to earn your Love...
When I already know deep down
it can never be...
I let free...this DESTRUCTIVE curse of
WANNA BE
So...Down the Chute you go...
I send all 3 sons...
Cause now I KNOW
Who you are:
THE TOXIC WASTE THAT ROBS MY
SOUL...
Oh, NO! NO!
I am finally letting go...
Letting go of my 3 foes.

- Barbara Wolk

Find a lover and you will be at home
Life is sad to be apart
So, now you and your lover will make your
mark!

- Carole Kaufman

Being a Woman

The first indication of my becoming a woman
 commenced with menses
 At 13 I didn't know that word
 So, when I post carded my parents
 that I had "fallen off the roof"
 they called the camp director,
 curious if my injuries were serious

The second indication of my becoming a woman
 was when my mother slapped me across
 the face during my menses
 "To ward off the evil spirits" she explained
 which did nothing to alleviate my
 cheekbone pain

The third indication of my becoming a woman
 was that my father forbade my
 playing
 football with the boys on the street
 his reason being it was now indiscreet

I reasoned being a woman was not all it
 was cracked up to be
 Until I discovered boys
 who grew into men
 When I married one of them, I became
 many women
 Housekeeper, second incomer, cook
 Keeper of the family bank book
 Nurse, interior designer, chauffeur
 Finder of lost articles, wast management
 manager

Motherhood blessings were boundless
 Although duties too countless
 were added to the list above
 Often sweetened by acts of love

Now my dependents are independent of
 me
 I have time to find the person inside of me
 Grateful to the Pen Women I will ever be
 For their daily dose of therapy.

- [Joni Sack](#)



Get Ready to Learn the Art of Networking!

Thursday, December 18, 2014 - 12:00 Noon
Delray Golf Club, 2200 Highland Avenue, Delray Beach 33445



Rickie Leiter – Marketing Master

What are the basic tools needed to successfully promote your creative work and increase sales? Rickie Leiter, publisher of *The Rickie Report*, an online arts magazine, will answer this question and many others in an exciting interactive program. Rickie will share her marketing strategies with Pen Women.

Rickie Leiter has degrees from New York University and the University of Connecticut. She has worked in the public school system, as an art consultant, and has served on the Board of an international organization where she worked on marketing and communications. As an artist, she creates one-of-a-kind pieces of jewelry.

------(clip and mail with check)-----

RESERVATION FORM - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014
12 Noon - Delray Beach Golf Club - 2200 Highland Avenue - Delray Beach

Please circle one Entrée and one Dessert.

- (1) Shrimp Caesar Salad** – Crispy romaine lettuce tossed with classic homemade Caesar dressing, fresh Parmesan cheese, crunchy croutons and Shrimp.
 - (2) Chicken Francaise** – Parmesan egg battered chicken breast sautéed to a golden brown and finished with a lemon butter sauce, chef’s choice rice or potato, seasonal vegetables.
 - (3) Poached Filet of Salmon** – Court bouillon poached salmon finished with creamy dill sauce.
 - (4) Fresh Veggie Platter**
- Dessert Choice: Lemon Layer Cake or Fruit Cup**

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

Checks payable to: Boca Raton Branch NLAPW
Send to: Barbara Bixon, 9674 Harbour Lake Circle, Boynton Beach FL 33437
Reservations MUST be made by Tuesday, December 9

NAME: (Print) _____ Email/Phone _____

GUEST: _____ Email/Phone _____

GUEST’S MENU CHOICES: _____

Please wear your official Pen Woman NAME TAG. We will have Tags at door for Guests.

