

**Pen and Palette**  
Boca Raton NLAPW  
[www.bocapenwomen.org](http://www.bocapenwomen.org)  
February-March 2021



**MUSIC...ART...LETTERS**



Facebook Page: <http://tinyurl.com/hen8b4o>

***In the Loop: Your Board at Work***

February 2021

Dear Members,

Isn't it amazing how quickly the time passes without full calendars? The days that provided lectures, book talks, luncheons, plays, movies, and visits to museums and other places of interest have been put on hold. Dinners out have been replaced by takeout and in many cases honing culinary skills. When motivation strikes, we have time for our creative endeavors; completing a chapter, writing a play and coming up with new painting methods fill the time slots. We mustn't forget Zoom, which has brought us closer to human connection. We are communicating on a wider scale, virtually and nationally, and more often than we thought.

Our January event featured Lea Becker, Meryl Davids Landau and Barbara Bixon who introduced us to some of their humorous and informative books. Thank you to these wonderful women who stepped up to the plate to replace a previously scheduled speaker.

I hope you will join us at our next Zoom event on February.18th. Please see flyer on page 8. Stay well, stay safe, stay connected.

Dayle Herstik  
Co-President

~\*~

**Be sure to see Page 7 for our Spotlight on Marlene Klotz**

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**  
**With Dr. Barbara Lunde**

“There is no difficulty that enough love will not conquer;  
no disease that enough love will not heal; no door that  
enough love will not open; no gulf that enough love will  
not bridge; no wall that enough love will not throw down;  
no mistake that enough love will not redeem.

It makes no difference how deeply seated may be the  
trouble; how hopeless the outlook; how muddled the  
tangle; how great the mistake; a sufficient realization  
of love will dissolve it all.” *Emmet Fox*

The world we all want, the world of peace and harmony, honesty and love begins with each of us. Love is an essential ingredient in that life. To love and honor yourself and to treat yourself with respect and dignity is the simplest way to experience peace and the joy of living. When you love what you do, you are creative and energized.

We can put unconditional love to work, loving ourselves and each other - respecting the brotherhood of all mankind. The most precious thing we can give one another is our attention and our presence. To listen attentively is an act of love.

It has been discovered that a regular habit of helping others may be as important to your health and longevity as regular exercise and good nutrition. Helping others offers a value to the health of your community and the world as well.

When love flows out in your words and actions, it works like a healing balm and smooths the way for whatever follows. When you reshape your thoughts through the energy of love, your thoughts will reshape your health, your finances, your relationships, and everything going on in your life.

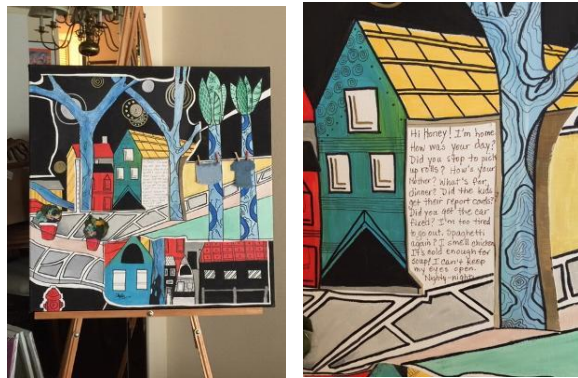
Love is the greatest medicine in the world. It is truly a healing power.  
Love opens the way when all else fails. Love is the answer to every human need.  
We live in proportion to the love we express.

When you love life, you find goodness in every experience, beauty in every person, something rewarding in every job and greater potential in every situation. Love is always the answer.

## LETTERS

**Lea Becker** was interviewed by Anita Finley of Boomer Times & Senior Life on January 25, 2021 on YouTube regarding her continuing work publishing humorous books. This half hour interview can be accessed by clicking on YouTube, typing in "Zoomer Times," and "Lea Hope Becker" and scrolling for the January 25th interview. Or, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jnaDQGax8iM>

**Phyllis Erlich:** Multi medium, acrylic on canvas, with quilting material and photographs, pen and ink. 20x20. I truly love it now, whereas before it was okay but without much personality. Necessity was surely the Mother of invention and welcoming, for me, and the viewers of, "Honey, I'm Home!"



**From Sheila Firestone:** During the Pandemic, I wrote my first piece of music using twelve tone technique in combination with traditional tonal music. Because of the chaos of the time and the frantic search for cures as well as the political problems of inequity that began to surface, this modern dance piece for violin and piano, "Pandemic 8'46" was born.

I was excited by the emerging melodies as I began using this technique. Thus, I began work on a suite of seven short pieces to be shared during the "Counting of the Omer," which I call "Restoring Balance. I use a different compositional row to represent each of the seven weeks of the counting. This work is a forty-nine-day journey for personal growth using two different voice groups weekly and the accompanying piano. This year's counting begins on Sunday March 28, 2021. The journey begins on the second night of Passover to the day before Shavuot marking the Giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. I have engaged "Choral Voices" to record the movements. I plan to have the work complete before Mach 28, which coincidentally, is my older son's birthday.

**Fran Goodman**, Co-Chair Art) will be presenting a program to the Ft. Lauderdale branch of NLAPW. **Phyllis Erlich**, Co-Chair Art, will be attending that presentation, on February 11, 2021. Using PowerPoint to tell her story, Fran will take you down her winding road to become an abstract expressionist, sharing why the concept of "make over" is inherent in everything she did and still does. Along with receiving recognition for her paintings, Fran has been featured on national television, women magazines and in the *New York Times*.

**Vera Ripp Hirschhorn:** February is Black History Month, and I was inspired to write briefly about the African American suffragists. Before the Civil War, **Sojourner Truth**, a former slave, became an advocate for abolition and women's rights. In 1866, the Black poet, novelist, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, said, "we are all bound up together in one great bundle of humanity." Although Ida B. Wells, a Black journalist and civil rights leader, was not invited to join a national parade with the White Illinois delegation, she did anyway. Afterwards, she founded the first African American women's suffrage group in Chicago.

Ida B. Wells and Mary C. Terrell were founders of the National Association of Colored Women and the NAACP. While they helped White women pass the nineteenth amendment in 1920, they weren't eligible to vote. Sadly, poll taxes, literacy tests, and grandfather clauses prevented them.

According to Black historian Martha Jones, the amendment "marked for African American women a start, not a finish for suffrage." "It fueled a new chapter in the struggle for voting rights in the United States, a movement that Black women led all the way to 1965 with the passage of the Voting Rights Act."

**Marlene Klotz** dashed off this poem the other night when she grew nostalgic about how nice it was to enjoy dinner at any one of the restaurants in town without the worries we now live with. Ah, so much for wishful thinking!

#### Ode to Pre-Pandemic Dining

I remember the time  
We looked forward to eat  
With a few close friends  
We expected to meet.  
Once we were settled  
And ordered the wine,  
The small talk began  
And it was just fine.  
But since the pandemic  
Our lifestyles on hold.  
If it lasts any longer,  
I'll be ready to fold!

**Penelope Love's** "labor of love" memoir, *Wake Up in Love*, releases this coming Thursday, February 11, 2021, after being written by moonlight for 16 years. Artist and Author Carrie Schmitt calls it: "A refreshingly unique message unlike anything I've ever read before—I am grateful for this tribute to love and to a woman courageous enough to live it and share it with us." To receive Penelope's email announcement when *Wake Up in Love* is available for sale, email your request to [penelope@wakeupinlove.com](mailto:penelope@wakeupinlove.com). To order the paperback or ebook, visit [www.WakeUpInLove.com](http://www.WakeUpInLove.com) after 2:00 p.m. on February 11th.



**Mimi Paris**: Below are two of the dogs I've done in watercolor while the pandemic rages. My writing has been put on HOLD. I prefer painting now - started with my grandson's newly acquired puppy and then somehow more arrived.

(L) **Rae** My granddaughter and her husband rescued Rae from her former sorrowful life. She came with problems. Rae was used only for breeding--not treated as a pet. She's now content, living in a wonderful, loving, caring home.

(R) **Dixie** Phyllis Dolislager (Pen Woman) and her husband, Ron, moved to Tennessee and planned on rescuing a dog. Dixie's previous owner's husband died from Covid and his wife couldn't take care of her alone. Dixie now has all the love, care, and attention she needs and is quite happy.



**Lee Ravine** is making her ZOOM debut at Ft. Lauderdale Pen Women's March meeting. Her presentation covers her career as an author, facilitator and speaker, as well as her memoir, *Riding Solo My Journey Through Love and Madness* and debut novel, *Villa Paraiso*.

And a poem:  
MY LAST HURRAH CAR

My new car rings and dings  
And performs all sorts of magical things.  
With flashing lights and icons galore  
I figure them out and discover some more.  
Instruction manual as big as a Phone Book  
Promises solutions with one quick look.  
I've learned one thing after reading it twice  
A Ph.D. in engineering would really be nice.

**Barbara Wolk** is just finishing Intersession teaching "Discovering Documentaries" on Zoom for The United Federation of Teachers. Barbara created her own docs on Barbra Streisand, Kamala Harris, The Proud Boys, etc. Spring Semester starts March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and she will be teaching a Seminar on "The Benefits of Wheatgrass" including her own home-made Youtubes, and a continuation of "Discovering Documentaries." Her Spring 2021 writing project, starting today, is to answer this question daily, "How do you feel today?"

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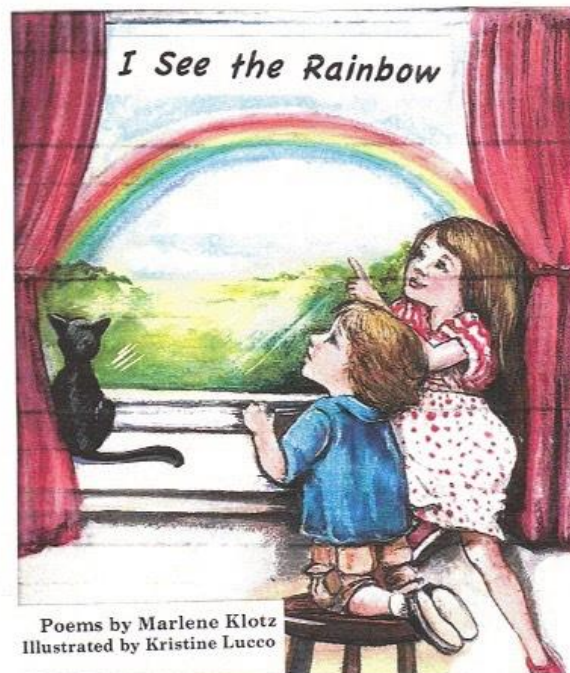
### **It's SleuthFest in Your PJs! March 19 – 21, 2021**

You don't have to be a mystery writer to benefit from this conference. Learn about the craft of writing. Learn about the business of writing. Observe a query letter pitch tank (five lucky writers will actually get thrown into the tank!). Hear about the State of Publishing from industry expert Neil Nyren. Get tips on launching your next book. Learn how to weave clues throughout your mystery to keep your readers guessing—and your editors happy. Attend a Noir at the Bar. Listen to the inimitable Brad Parks deliver the inspirational closing keynote address. From the comfort of your living room, in the comfort of your PJs! All for only \$20. That's right. The SleuthFest weekend is only \$20.

Register at: <https://sleuthfest.com/>



## SPOTLIGHT ON MARLENE KLOTZ



The poems in ***I See the Rainbow*** have more substance than pure enjoyment. They are a wonderful beginning for getting poetry into the lives of children. Picture books are incredibly important because they're the way children fall in love with reading. When youngsters are starting to read on their own, ***I See the Rainbow*** provides a gentle learning experience that will hold their interest.

\*You can order a personalized copy of these poems for early readers from the author at: [Marleneklotz@yahoo.com](mailto:Marleneklotz@yahoo.com)

Boca Raton National League of American Pen Women presents  
**Dr. Rose Feinberg** - February 18, 2021, Thursday at 1:00p.m. via Zoom.  
The link will be emailed to you on February 17, 2021

Learn how two accomplished women - Oprah Winfrey and Martha Stewart became major decision makers who established an industry under each of their names.



Dr. Rose Feinberg is a popular presenter in South Florida and an FAU Lifelong Learning Instructor. Rose earned her Doctor of Education degree from Boston University. She was a school principal in Massachusetts and an Adjunct Professor at Florida Atlantic University. Her prior careers in education, as well as her theater training, have enabled her to research and create her unique programs. She has twenty-four dynamic, informative, and entertaining programs using PowerPoint and video clips, with new programs added each year.

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## **FEBRUARY**

- 🇺🇸 2<sup>nd</sup> Ukulele Day
- 🇺🇸 12<sup>th</sup> Lunar New Year
- 🇺🇸 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day
- 🇺🇸 18<sup>th</sup> Drink Wine Day
- 🇺🇸 23<sup>rd</sup> Banana Bread Day
- 🇺🇸 28<sup>th</sup> Tooth Fairy Day

Carol White  
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