

Pen and Palette
Boca Raton NLAPW
www.bocapenwomen.org
June/July 2021



MUSIC...ART...LETTERS



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

In the Loop: Your Board at Work

Dear Members:

Summer has arrived in full swing, up north. The abundant rain has resulted in the scent of fresh cut grass and burgeoning blossoms in gardens and along country roads.

The Board has a list of prospective speakers and is working hard to put together a diverse and interesting season. The meetings continue on a monthly basis, and we are hoping that Covid restrictions lessen so we can plan accordingly. We can look back on the wonderful events featuring diverse speakers enhanced by the participation of so many members. Zoom was the hero of the year and in spite of difficulties due to the pandemic, the Boca Raton Branch of NLAPW prevailed.

We hope you have a pleasant and inspiring summer during which your creativity shines.

Alexandra Goodwin
Dayle Herstik
Co-Presidents



Middle River Press is holding a writing contest – no fee. See Page 4 for information.

Local bookstore, Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore, has some interesting events coming up. See Page 3 for workshops, and Page 4 for a free in-person book event.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER
With Dr. Barbara Lunde

Take it easy! The “take it easy” I want to talk about is not just about taking a vacation or resting. It’s about living your life- easily, confidently, peacefully, happily, enjoying your life, exploring, discovering, and growing as opposed to rushing through your days anxious, fearful, hurried, worried or moody.

We look but do we really see?
We listen but do we really hear?
We eat but do we really taste?
We’re out of bed but are we really awake?

We are on an eternal journey so let’s enjoy the trip. We are all so worried that if we don’t hurry up and buy that new thing or grab onto that next opportunity things will pass us by. We spend too much time hurrying from one thing to the next. We need to take the time to honor our inner self with quiet reflection nourishing our souls. But somehow those activities get pushed down to the bottom of our to-do list.

The way to get more out of life is not by grabbing for it. Life works from the inside out. Your belief brings about your experience. It is done unto you as you believe. So, the way to truly get what we want is to take it easy. Relax and listen to your inner voice. Slow down and pay attention and rejoice in all that life has to offer and know that there is no rush. Whatever you believe you shall receive and there is no stopwatch.



MEMBER NEWS

Marlene Klotz and **Etta Schaeffer** did a poetry reading on May 20th at the Arts Garage in Delray Beach. Marlene and Etta say that it was nice experience to read their lighthearted verse to a receptive audience and to see a smile on so many happy faces.

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My Harmonious Heart by **Vera Ripp Hirschhorn**

I may not be able to control
the disharmony in this world.
I may not be able to stop the rise in hate.
I may not be able to halt what others think, feel or do.

What can I do?

I can feel harmony
within me, through me;
above, below and around me.

I can call, walk, talk, feel with you.
I can listen with an open heart.

My harmonious heart!

~

Florida State NLAPW Conference October 21-24, 2021

This year the conference will take place virtually for workshops, contest results and awards, the In Memoriam tribute, and a keynote speaker address. You should have already received the packet and all the information.

We encourage all members to attend this most exciting gathering and to participate in the Letters, Art, and Music contests as well. The deadline to submit is June 28th. Registration for the conference is only \$20 for members and \$25 for guests. Please fill out the application today and send it to Caroline McKeon along with your check for \$20.00.

MURDER ON THE BEACH BOOKSTORE

Florida Authors Academy 2021

To register and get the ZOOM link: 561-279-7790 or murdermb@gate.net

Saturday, June 12 10 am – Noon

It's Showtime! Understanding Show, Don't Tell

Show don't tell. At some point, every writer hears it. It's critical to crafting a story that works, but what exactly does it mean? And more importantly, how do you make sure you're using it correctly in your own work. In this workshop, writers will learn how to spot the common telling signposts, from motivational, descriptive, and emotional tells, to those frequent mental signposts that explain, not dramatize, and the always pesky adverbs. They'll also learn how to spot common red flag words that often indicate told, not shown prose, and what they can do to fix them once they've found them. \$25. Instructor: Janice Hardy

Saturday, June 19 10 am – Noon

Who's Talkin' Here? It's Dialogue, Silly

The surest way to stop readers in their tracks is bad dialogue. On the flip side, skillful dialogue is the Swiss Army Knife of writing. It can be used to define characters, to move the narrative along, to supply necessary information to the reader, and to set tone. Learn some very easy techniques—both practical and esoteric—in order to improve your abilities and willingness to use dialogue to help make your work more professional. Learn how to do attribution without repeating ...” he said/she said. Learn how to create and shape characters through their speech and intonation. More importantly, learn how to do dialogue from the inside out instead of artificially from the outside in. I promise, you'll be much better at it and more confident in your ability to do it after this class. \$25

Instructor: Reed Farrel Coleman

Saturday, June 26 10 am – Noon

The Muddle in the Middle

You have a rocking first act to your novel, and you even have an idea of how to end your story with a twist and a bang and a shot at certain bestsellerdom. But now what? How will you get from that great beginning to the kickass ending? You've hit the muddle in the middle. USA Today best-selling author Hank Phillippi Ryan will show you how these central pages can be made to intrigue and delight your readers—and have them turning pages as fast as they can. With practical advice and specific tips, Hank will show you how to make the magic in the middle. \$25

Instructor: Hank Phillippi Ryan

Saturday, July 10 10 am – Noon

The Art of Revealing Backstory

For your story to work, readers need context—your characters' backstories. It's a risky proposition, though, because many times, it's a thinly veiled excuse for an info-dump. The trick to revealing your characters' pasts is to sprinkle in references to the past that are linked to current events or show the events that made the characters who they are today through flashbacks or flash-forwards. You'll learn a 3-step decision-making tool designed to help you determine whether you need backstory, and if so, how to implement it well. \$25

Instructor: Jane K. Cleland

Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore
In Person Book Signing!
104 West Atlantic Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444 Phone: 561-279-7790
murdermb@gate.net

Saturday, June 26 at 3 PM FREE EVENT

Traci Hall Speaks and Signs Murder in a Scottish Garden

Murder on the Beach welcomes Traci Hall for an in-person teatime signing. Walker's Shortbread Cookies and Brodie's Tea will be served. Face masks are required for all unvaccinated people

As a hybrid author with over fifty published works, Traci Hall has a favorite story for everyone. Mystery lovers, be on the lookout for her Salem B&B Mystery series, co-written as Traci Wilton, and her Scottish Shire series, which takes place in the seaside town of Nairn, as Traci Hall. Traci finds her inspiration in sunny South Florida, by living right near the ocean.




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Middle River Press, a local custom publisher in Oakland Park, FL is putting together a chapter book of stories—*YOUR* stories. Judy and Bruce Borich announce a unique opportunity for authors and artists to share their COVID stories. This is a chapter of everyone's personal history. Everyone who sends a story of 2500 words or less will get a free copy of the book. You may include a photo of an illustration or art piece to accompany your story. All ages are invited to participate. There is no fee to submit your entry. Once published, the book will be available on Amazon. All profits will benefit the Broward County Humane Society. The deadline for entries is July 4, 2021.

Email your story to info@middleriverpress.com or call Middle River Press at 954-630-8192

For more information about Middle River Press: www.middleriverpress.com

JUNE

 June 1 st	Pen Pal Day
 June 12 th	Loving Day
 June 27 th	Ice Cream Cake Day

Carol White
Letters Chair
Editor-in-Chief
Pen and Palette

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