

Pen and Palette
Boca Raton NLAPW
www.bocapenwomen.org
July/August 2023



MUSIC...ART...LETTERS



Don't forget to like our Facebook Page: <http://tinyurl.com/hen8b4o>

In the Loop: Your Board at Work

I hope your 4th of July celebration was one to remember. My family and I enjoyed drumming through the countrywide televised firework celebrations.

I am encouraged that this year our Boca Branch NLAPW will continue to grow with opportunities for all our very talented ladies. In the past few months of last season, we had several new members join. We are on a roll and want to bring more artists, musicians, and writers into the fold to enjoy the rich friendships and opportunities to share talents. Please think about who you know that might enjoy our programs, opportunities for participation in conferences and contests, and beautiful sister experiences. I hope many of you have applied for the upcoming state conference competitions. We have often had winners in the past. The state conference is October 26-28th. Several members from our branch are planning to attend and will present their work. (See Page 6)

I personally am thrilled to have completed a major choral work, which I started in December. Now for the work of finding groups who would consider performing it. It is through encouraging one another and seeing how we each diligently pursue our projects that we also gain creative inspiration.

It's not too soon to think about entering work into the National Biennial Conference, which takes place in the spring 2024. Rules will be coming out, likely in the next magazine issue. I trust you are all receiving your national magazine, The Pen Woman, and enjoy seeing what other branches are doing as well. I urge you to consider sending in an article about your own work, with photos to the editor. Enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Wishing you, joy inspiration and many moments of inspired output,

Sheila Firestone
President Boca Raton, NLAPW
Music Chair

SPOTLIGHT ON ART

Phyllis Elrich, Art Chair

Art Members: Let's get to know each other over some coffee and cake!

In September, date TBA, you'll be excited to accept an invitation to chat and learn about our small, but growing group. Having "artist friends" has been such a blessing. Carpooling to events, helping with entries to juried shows, going to museums together, all add to the joy of being a Pen Woman.

In September, the amazing artist, Bea Doone-Merena, will honor us by showing her magnificent paintings to our group. Having seen what she paints is an inspiration to elevate one's own work. Bea is a petite dynamo.

Florida State will have its NLAPW Conference October 26-29, 2023 in Daytona Beach. Art Chair, Phyllis Elrich, and former Art Co-Chair, Fran Mann Goodman, will be attending. Fran will be teaching; Phyllis will be helping, and both women will be showing some of their paintings. Phyllis will be inducted as Second Vice President for Florida State. (If any Art members wish to enter their work, please submit the forms, and contact Phyllis who may be able to bring your work to the conference. phynlady2@aol.com)



Bea Doone-Merena

Fiction Writers Workshop

Time to sign up for our Fiction Writing Workshop at the Hagen Ranch Library Tue, Jul 25, 2023, 2-4 p.m. Great for beginners/intermediates. Free and open to the public. Four authors from the Boca Raton NLAPW branch will speak about their backgrounds and writing experience. The authors will discuss research, plotting, dialogue, setting, characters, genre, publicity, critique groups, and more. There will be printed handouts along with a Q & A. Books may be purchased at a discount. 14350 Hagen Ranch Rd, Delray Beach, FL 33446 Please register: (561) 894-7500 We hope to see you there!

Authors Lea Becker, Barbara Bixon, Lee Ravine, and Carol White



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Working Writer sends a free newsletter each month. Below are the guidelines to submit your article for publication. (You may also email to receive the newsletter.)

“Please consider submitting an article, feedback, helpful tips, anecdotes, and pithy comments.

Articles can be up to 1400 words on any writing topic:
how-to, how-not-to, publishing, editing, marketing, promotion, humor,
kid lit . . . you name it.

eMail to workingwriters@aol.com and you’ll receive a quick response.
Please include a short bio.

WW is part of The Despicable Non-Paying Market
but you will receive clips for your file, good exposure,
and major gratitude!”



SUMMER SHORTS

The Break-In

Olive Putnum was a spunky eighty-eight-year-old widow who loved to play poker. It was not only her favorite pastime, but she believed that you can tell a lot about a person's character from the way they play the game. Eventually, an incident that involved a teenage boy breaking into her home late at night backed up her theory. Although Olive remained calm, the young intruder looked petrified when she turned on the light in the darkened hallway. As a former psychologist, Olive understood her next alternative. Then without appearing to threaten him, she handed the surprised youngster a pack of cards. "Okay, mister tough guy, we'll play cards, winner takes all." Everything turned out the way she expected. The would-be thief won each game fair and square, and Olive rewarded him with some money she had hidden away in the cookie jar.

By **Marlene Klotz**



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The Love of My Life By **Mimi Paris**

My morning, strong, black coffee
Brewed before anything else
Followed by a fresh, fragrant, rich,
coffee-bean aroma that makes itself known
Alas, my sense of smell almost gone now
How sad to be losing another love.



MEMBER NEWS

Jo Jo Harder's company America's Top Dog Model has been invited by the Norton Museum of Art, in West Palm Beach, Florida, to be a partner during this season's Yappy Saturday. Event dates June 3, July 8, and August 5, 2023, from 9 - 10:30 am. The events will take place on the North lawn. Jo Jo invites Boca Pen Women to attend the August 5 event for a fun morning of networking, prize drawings, giveaways, and photo-ops, and consider visiting the Norton Museum's latest exhibits. Admission to the museum is free every Saturday during summer to Palm Beach County residents, with a valid ID. <https://www.norton.org/events/yappy-saturday-07-08-2023>



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Penelope Love, MA (Arts and Letters Member) is pleased to announce that six titles published by her company, Citrine Publishing, were named Finalists in the 2023 International Book Awards, with the latter two books authored by fellow Pen Women: *The Awakened Athlete* by Nick Gancitano (Sports), *Get the Func Out: A Functional Medicine Guide to Balance Your Hormones and Detox* by Peter Kozlowski, MD (Health: General Alternative, and Women's), *Laughing My Way Through the Third Stage* by Susan Goldfein (Humor), *Be the Magic* by Diane Pienta (Self-Help), *Mother in Name Only* by Diana Kingsley a.k.a. Barbara Wolk* (Fiction: General, Inspirational, and Women's) and *Stars in their Infancy* by Marleen Pasch* (Fiction: Cross Genre and Visionary). ***Boca Branch authors**

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Barbara Wolk had successful book signings at Barnes & Noble in Boca Raton, and at the Spectrum Center in Irvine, Ca.

Other Book Talks planned for her novel *Mother in Name Only* will be:

The Towers Key Club in Laguna Woods, Ca., on July 11th

Barnes & Noble, Irvine, Ca., on August 31st

Barnes & Noble, Aliso Viejo, Ca., on September 30th

There is still time to register for the Florida State Association NLAPW Conference
FLORIDA STATE NLAPW CONFERENCE

October 26th - 28th 2023 at The Shores Resort & Spa Daytona Beach, Florida

Here is the link to register – see Pages 6 and 7 for the information. The competition deadlines have been met, but you can get an idea about the different types of contests that will be available at future conferences. Here is the link: [2023 FSA Conference Packet-received 6-2-23.pdf](#)



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