

Pen and Palette
Boca Raton NLAPW
www.bocapenwomen.org
October/November 2023



MUSIC...ART...LETTERS



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

In the Loop: Your Board at Work

Dear Members: ***WELCOME BACK TO OUR 2023-2024 SEASON!***

I want to remind you to not only enjoy reading *The Pen Woman*, our national magazine, but also to encourage you to submit information about your recent work. What a nice surprise it was to see an article featuring our Art member Lidia Tohar about her technique for creating whimsical holiday cards featured on page 13 of the fall issue. Over the past year there have been features with Phyllis Erlich, and Fran Goodman. Elaine Bossik often sends a copy of the recent Blog that she creates for our website.

Each of the magazine editors features articles related to member books, music, and art. You will find the names of the editors on the inside cover of the magazine. You can contact them by sending your information to the national address on the back cover of the magazine. This is a beautiful way to draw attention to your special projects and publications. You can send pictures along with your information and submit book reviews as well. You are doing unique work, which you can share with our members nationwide.

Please note that you can enter work into the next National Biennial competition. The event will take place in Columbus, Ohio; April 26-28, 2024. Entries for Letters are due by December 15; Music entries are due by December 20; and Art entries by January 10. You do not have to attend the conference to participate. The rules and guidelines are in the fall issue of the magazine, pages 4-6.

Louise Parente, our Membership Chair will be returning in November; till then I will have membership application forms and packets with me at our monthly meetings. It is exciting to see our membership continuing to grow.

Sincerely,
Sheila Firestone, President
Music Chair
www.bocapenwomen.org

SPECIAL NOTES:

The Women's Sacred Music Project board has spent several months reviewing submissions for the new supplement, ***Resounding Voices***. They are pleased to share that the board would like to include Sheila Firestone's works "Oh God, How will I know You" and "Dancing in the Light" in the new online collection. "We chose to collect a variety of styles and spiritualities. Because WSMP is both ecumenical and interfaith, we chose songs for Jewish Reform services, Catholic and Episcopalian liturgies, and various Protestant services, as well as extra-liturgical music."

Sheila Firestone
Music Chair

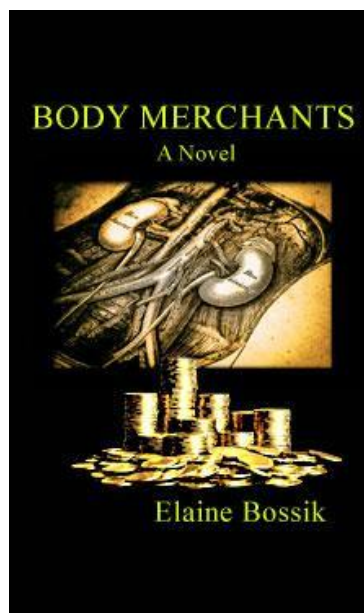
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An Exciting New Book Release from Member Elaine Bossik

New Thriller Novel—*Body Merchants* by **Elaine Bossik**—Exposes the Hidden Widespread Illegal Trade in Human Organs.

Reporter Ellie Andrews is propelled into a murder investigation in a Virginia prison that triggers a shocking discovery—the inmate's organs and other body parts are missing. Risking her life looking for answers, Ellie exposes a sinister scheme to harvest and sell organs from prisoners and uncovers an organ trade that reaches into law enforcement, government, and her own family. *Body Merchants* is fiction, but it is rooted in fact and based on the dirty underbelly of the worldwide trade in human organs. Be among the first to read and review *Body Merchants* by Elaine Bossik.

Available in eBook (\$9.95) on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and elainebossik.com.



MEMBER NEWS

Thanksgiving with Love

By **Marlene Klotz**

Fame can't bring you happiness
Money can't buy you health,
But those with loving families
Possess the greatest wealth.
As we gather for Thanksgiving
At this special time of year,
Our bounty seems much greater
When the ones we love are near.



~*~

A Poem by **Dr. Louise Parente**

Family is but a part of life.
A life with love abound.
And if you question it,
Just look around.
For families come in many ways,
All special from the start.
Look, feel and gratify your heart.

“Thoughts for a Lifetime”

I experienced a feeling of renewal when I spoke to a family member with whom I hadn't spoken in years. The recollection of times gone by, those memories of happiness, sadness, concern, certainty, and realities were renewed. Today's "Thoughts for a Lifetime" focuses on the importance of family, memories, and renewal; these can be families from birth and those created by the special people you allowed into your life. It represents the importance of positivity which we may have experienced at times, or perhaps have forgotten. This message represents the importance of stepping back in time. It represents a reminder of personal growth and heartfelt experiences from yesterday, today, and what can be tomorrow. Going forward, think about the message of today's "Thoughts for a Lifetime."



Fighting The War
By **Mimi Paris**

No guns
No tanks
No planes
No military at risk
A personal war.

The Enemy is Aging
Doctors observing me
Fighting back with stents
Fighting back with meds and shots
Fighting to walk without falling
(Walker is my buddy).

Aiming for a good night's sleep
Aiming to do simple exercises
Aiming to eat sensibly
Aiming to say, "No complaints"
When asked, "How are you doing?"



~*~

Barbara Wolk, aka Diana Kingsley was the September 29th Winner of the 2023 NYC Big Book Award: Women's Fiction.

Barbara held successful Book Talks at Barnes & Noble Booksellers at The Irvine Spectrum, California and at Barnes & Noble, Aliso Viejo, California. She will be interviewed on October 10th, Channel 6, "This Day" with Bobbi Higgins. On October 25th, Barbara's book event about her novel, *Mother In Name Only* will be held at Age Well's Florence Sylvester Senior Center, Laguna Hills, California, from 1 - 2 p.m.



Sue Gurland's whimsical paintings of animals will be on exhibit at the Delray Beach Public Library at 100 West Atlantic Ave from October 30 to December 9. There will be a free opening reception and artist talk at the library on Wednesday, November 8 at 6-8 pm.

This one-woman show is entitled "Wild Things" in homage to Maurice Sendak's book of the same name. For Gurland, her colorful animals convey the joy and wonder of the natural world as seen through the eyes of a child.

Gurland grew up in Woodstock, NY surrounded by nature and animals. Transformed by time and space, these childhood influences emerge in her paintings as vibrant images that reflect our connection to nature and spirituality. "Wild Things" will bring a smile to the young and the young at heart.

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SUE GURLAND

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Don't forget to register for our upcoming Memoir/Essay Workshop at West Boynton Beach Library on October 24, 2023, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

FREE but please register: (561) 734-5556 **REGISTRATION BEGINS: October 10!**

Great for beginners and intermediates. Q & A and printed handouts available.

www.bocapenwomen.org 9451 Jog Road, Boynton Beach FL 33437

Boca Raton Branch Authors: Lea Becker, Marlene Klotz, Lee Ravine, Carol White

Boca Raton Branch National League of American Pen Women

Meet Super-Successful Author Michael Meeske

**Thursday, November 16, 2023
12:00 NOON**



**Indian Spring Country Club – 11501 EL Clair Ranch Rd – Boynton Beach, FL 33437
For Directions: 561-737-5544**

Learn how author Michael Meeske sold nearly a half-million of his eleven published novels. Michael will share strategies for overcoming setbacks and thriving as a creative professional.

Enjoy a lavish buffet luncheon, including salad, grilled salmon, turkey tips, roasted potatoes, asparagus, rolls, fresh fruit and pastry, and beverages. Bid on fabulous items at our Chinese raffle.

Cash or check only for raffle tickets.

Parking: Our luncheons are held in the **downstairs Men's Card Room**. Drive into the main entrance and make a left turn toward the tennis courts, where you'll find regular and handicapped parking. A short walk leads to the **lower clubhouse entrance**. The **Card Room** is on the left.

CLIP RESERVATION FORM AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK

Members \$40 Non-members \$42

Checks payable to: Boca Raton Branch NLAPW

Send to: Elaine Hutt, 7666 Majestic Palm Drive, Boynton Beach FL 33437
Email Elaine Hutt for more information: elainehlasvegas@aol.com

NAME (Print): _____ Email _____

GUEST Name: _____ Email _____

GUEST: How did you hear about us? _____

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CHECKS: November 6, 2023

Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar



2023	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
OCTOBER	1 World Card Making Day International Day of Older Persons	2 World Farm Animals Day	3 World Day of Bullying Prevention National Butterfly and Hummingbird Day World Architecture Day	4 National Golf Lovers Day World Animal Day	5 World Teachers Day Do Something Nice Day	6 National Noodle Day National Coaches Day World Smile Day National Diversity Day	7 National LED Light Day
	8 World Octopus Day	9 Columbus Day / Indigenous People's Day National Sneakers Day Curious Events Day	10 National Handbag Day National Metric Day	11 National Fossil Day National It's My Party Day	12 National Savings Day	13 World Egg Day National Train Your Brain Day	14 National Chess Day I Love Yarn Day National Costume Swap Day National Dessert Day
	15 Sewing Lover's Day World Student Day	16 National Sports Day	17 National Pasta Day National Mulligan Day	18 National Chocolate Cupcake Day Unity Day	19 National Kentucky Day National New Friends Day	20 National Youth Confidence Day	21 National Reptile Awareness Day
	22 National Color Day	23 National TV Talk Show Host Day	24 National Food Day	25 International Artist's Day	26 National Pumpkin Day	27 Loud Shirt Day National Bandana Day World Occupational Therapy Day	28 Plush Animal Lovers Day
	29 National Cat Day	30 National Checklist Day	31 Halloween	1	2	3	4
	5	6	October 2023 Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar				
	Refer to this calendar for inspiration and themed activity ideas for your program! Find ideas below and click the Daily Holidays link to find related items to support your activities. www.sswv.com/daily-holidays-october						

Carol White
 Editor-in-Chief
 Pen and Palette
 Letters Chair
 Social Media
 Fundraising
<http://www.bocapenwomen.org>