

## Pen and Palette

Boca Raton NLAPW

[www.bocapenwomen.org](http://www.bocapenwomen.org)

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

February-March 2024



MUSIC...ART...LETTERS



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

Dear Members: Please review the proposed officer/chair/committee list below. We will be voting for a new slate of officers at our March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and will have an installation after awarding the scholarships at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. All information for the process is below. Please read carefully and think about how you can become more involved.

Sheila Firestone

President

Music Chair

[www.bocapenwomen.org](http://www.bocapenwomen.org)

All current officers mentioned below are willing to work with you to familiarize you with the responsibilities. If you would like to be an Officer, a Co-Officer, a Chair or Co-Chair, or join a Committee, please let me know. [sheilasong@mac.com](mailto:sheilasong@mac.com) Chairs and Committees are appointed by the President.

### **OFFICER POSITIONS TO BE VOTED UPON:**

**President: Sheila Firestone** is currently our branch President. Sheila would like a Co-President. If you wish to become President or Co-President, let us know.

Duties: Opens luncheon meetings with introductions, etc. Handles administrative issues.

**1st Vice President Programs: Brenda Dressler** is currently our Programs Officer.

Duties: Locates, coordinates and introduces guest speakers. (Brenda will stay on without a Co-Officer) but let us know if you are interested in the position.

**2nd Vice President Membership: Dr. Louise Parente** and **Marilyn Davis** are Co-Officers.

Duties: Processes all applications for new members. Creates and distributes packets of information. Presents certificates of membership when approved.

**Recording Secretary: Dayle Herstik** is the current Officer. Takes minutes at our board meetings.

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**APPOINTED POSITIONS:**

**Chaplain: Dr. Barbara Lunde**

**Treasurer: Elaine Bossik and Carol White** are the current Co-Treasurers.

Writes monthly checks, reports, makes deposits, and keeps balances in our checking and savings accounts. Keeps record of scholarship funds. Must be a member for at least one year and work with the current Co-Treasurers.

**Corresponding Secretary: Dr. Barbara Lunde** holds this position.

Duties: Writes cards to members for thank you notes, get well notes, sympathy, etc.  
Writes formal letters.

**CHAIR POSITIONS: All Chairs and Committees are appointed by the President.**

**Letters Chair: Carol White** - Coordinates venues for writing workshops, book talks, etc.

**Poetry Chair: Marlene Klotz** - Organizes poetry workshops.

**Music Chair: Sheila Firestone** - Finds talent to share, encourages free events to support conservatory students.

**Art Chair: Phyllis Elrich** - Search out possible shows, create art events. (**Phyllis** will not be continuing as Art Chair) The position would be open to the Chair or Co-Chairs.

**Committees:**

**Pen and Palette Editor-in-Chief:** Carol White - Publishes newsletter once a month.

**Social Media:** Carol White

**Web site coordinator:** Elaine Bossik - Takes care of publishing luncheon information, blogs.

**Hospitality:** Elaine Hutt receives checks and handles reception desk at luncheons.

Roslyn Ross-Hoffman oversees table décor.

Esther van der Horst welcomes members and introduces the speaker to Brenda. She will also help with raffles or check-in when needed.

**Data input** for membership spreadsheets. This position is not currently filled.

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Notwithstanding the poor grammar...



**Marlene Klotz, Poetry Chair,** conducted “A Celebration of Love Poetry Workshop” on February 11, 2024, from 2:00 – 4:00, at “Verena at Delray,” in Delray Beach, FL., for Pen Women Only. Please read their beautiful poetry on the next page, which was inspired by this workshop. Participants: Dayle Herstik, Linda Susan Fisher, Marlene Klotz, Lea Becker, Mimi Paris, Sheila Firestone, and Vera Ripp-Hirschhorn.



## POETRY INSPIRED BY "A Celebration of Love Poetry Workshop"

Learning How to Be... By **Sheila Firestone**

I spent my childhood knowing to grab onto all of the love that I could get.  
Let the children have all of the love that they need.  
One day a music teacher led me out into the snow to feed sparrows with bread crumbs.  
Eating in front of the first TV on the block, eating a bowl of Campbells tomato soup  
or a plate of pasta, reflected in the blue glass top coffee table while sitting in my child size  
rocking chair.  
Bouncing balls on the stoop of our bungalow wishing for someone else to come play.  
The steps down lead to the huge fragrant rose bush at the side entrance of my private playhouse  
apartment in the basement.

There a huge wardrobe stood. It was to hide in, or stare out at the painting on black  
velvet of the chess players.  
Reading sister Claire's books - becoming a lover of Hans Christian Anderson and Greek  
Mythology.  
Let the children grow like roses pruned back when too wild and thorny to pass.  
My secret garden and life.  
Daily adventures near the mounted police stable and exercise pad for the horses.  
Deprived just enough to be an explorer.  
Moderating happiness today with each child's gurgles and bye-byes.  
We play the crystal bowl of life, drumming together bringing joy into the world.  
Outpourings of our affections.

Haiku by **Linda Susan Fisher**

Happiness  
Clouds float above me,  
my feet sink in the white sand,  
sunshine warms my soul.

Memories  
Visions of days past,  
life's events go by so fast,  
I so wish they'd last.

Romance  
Joyful music lifts my soul,  
my feet, they want to dance.  
Love & laughter make me whole,  
I'm ready for romance.

One Path to Happiness by **Lea Becker**

I'm happy I can still be here with my friends.  
Even as I leave, happiness never ends...  
And when I go home with fresh smiles today,  
I'll still be thinking about good things to say.

Gratitude by **Marlene Klotz**

Friends who are loyal  
Children who call  
Apple pie from the oven  
A parking space at the mall  
You've lost those ten pounds  
You surely won't miss  
Each birthday card ends  
With *Hugs and a Kiss*  
The weather's been rainy  
And now it looks sunny  
You laugh at a joke  
That truly is funny  
So relish these pleasures  
All free from strife  
And say many thanks  
For the good things in  
    life!

The Sands of Time (haiku) by **Vera Ripp Hirschhorn**

Gifts were washed ashore.  
The sun stares in wonderment  
Grains of sand hug them.

The gentle sands of time  
Release, embrace a message  
The sea looks on, on.

The glaring sun rays  
Capture letters in bottles,  
Cradled by the sand.

Leaves, branches, trees dance;  
Awakening me to me.  
Soft sunlight renews.

A Meeting of the Minds by **Mimi Paris**

On a dismal January day  
Seven senior women writers met  
To create poetry together  
To stir their senses  
To develop good attitudes  
To learn to meet life's challenges  
Each had suffered some tragedy  
Each hoped to discover the way  
To apply their minds  
To apply their desires  
To make their lives  
Triumph over depression  
By choosing a positive path  
Changes will be attempted  
Not all will succeed  
Perhaps one maybe two  
Spell success? Yes, it would.

Happiness by **Dayle Herstik**

I have no inspiration  
I haven't got a clue  
I only know I'm happy  
I seldom find I'm blue.

Perhaps it's how I see my world  
Or those so close to me  
Beauty's in so many places  
It's real nice to "just be".



Our January 18th Luncheon featured Dr. Caren Neille - Master Storyteller. Her discussion was informative and entertaining, and focused on how storytelling could be applied to writing projects. Our February 15th Luncheon speaker, marketing expert Cindy Beckles, will discuss marketing strategies to build your brand and increase your sales and visibility in the literary, art and music world. See Page 9 for the Luncheon coupon, or Click here <http://www.bocapenwomen.org/luncheon/>



Dr. Caren Neille









**Elaine Bossik announcing special Door Prize!**



Please see next page to sign up for our February 15<sup>th</sup> Luncheon.

**Boca Raton Branch National League of American Pen Women  
Meet Marketing Specialist Cindy Beckles  
Thursday, February 15, 2024  
12:00 NOON**



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

Learn marketing strategies to build your brand and increase your sales and visibility in the literary, art and music world from marketing expert Cindy Beckles.

Enjoy a lavish buffet luncheon, including salad, grilled salmon, tortellini Florentine, roasted potatoes, vegetables, rolls, fresh fruit, 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.

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[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: [elainehasvegas@aol.com](mailto:elainehasvegas@aol.com)

NAME (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST: How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CHECKS: February 9, 2024**

# Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar



| 2024<br>FEBRUARY | SUN                                                                                           | MON                                                   | TUES                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | WED                                                                                                                             | THURS                                                                                                                         | FRI                                                               | SAT                                           |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|                  | 28                                                                                            | 29                                                    | 30                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 31                                                                                                                              | 1<br>Decorating with Candy Day<br>National "Get Up" Day                                                                       | 2<br>Groundhog Day<br>National Bubble Gum Day                     | 3<br>Feed the Birds Day                       |
|                  | 4<br>National Create a Vacuum Day                                                             | 5<br>National Weatherperson's Day                     | 6<br>National Frozen Yogurt Day                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 7<br>National Girls & Women in Sports Day<br>World Read Aloud Day<br>Send a Card to a Friend Day<br>National Periodic Table Day | 8<br>Kite Flying Day<br>National Boy Scouts Day                                                                               | 9<br>National Pizza Day                                           | 10<br>Umbrella Day<br>National Teddy Bear Day |
|                  | 11<br>Make a Friend Day<br>International Day of Women & Girls in Science<br>Super Bowl Sunday | 12<br>National Lost Penny Day<br>Lincoln's Birthday   | 13<br>Mardi Gras<br>World Radio Day                                                                                                                                                                                              | 14<br>Valentine's Day<br>Library Lovers' Day                                                                                    | 15<br>National Hippo Day                                                                                                      | 16<br>National Caregivers Day<br>National Innovation Day          | 17<br>Random Acts of Kindness Day             |
|                  | 18<br>Pluto Day<br>World Whale Day<br>NBA All-Star Game                                       | 19<br>Presidents' Day<br>International Tug-of-War Day | 20<br>Love Your Pet Day                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 21<br>International Mother Language Day                                                                                         | 22<br>National Wildlife Day<br>Recreational Sports & Fitness Day<br>World Thinking Day<br>Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day | 23<br>Curling is Cool Day<br>Play Tennis Day<br>National Tile Day | 24<br>National Trading Card Day               |
|                  | 25<br>Let's All Eat Right Day                                                                 | 26<br>National Fairy Tale Day<br>Carnival Day         | 27<br>National Pokemon Day<br>Polar Bear Day                                                                                                                                                                                     | 28<br>Floral Design Day                                                                                                         | 29<br>Leap Day                                                                                                                | 1                                                                 | 2                                             |
|                  | 3                                                                                             | 4                                                     | February 2024 Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar<br>Refer to this calendar for inspiration and themed activity ideas for your program! Find ideas below and click the links to find related items to support your activities. |                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                               |                                                                   |                                               |

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

