

Pen and Palette
Boca Raton NLAPW
www.bocapenwomen.org
Facebook Page: <http://tinyurl.com/hen8b4o>
May-June 2025



MUSIC...ART...LETTERS

In the Loop: Your Board at Work

Dear Members,

During the month of April, Pen Women had two wonderful events. Our April 17th luncheon was a huge success and the last luncheon until November 2025. Our luncheons are held in a private room in the Mariposa restaurant in Neiman Marcus. Located in Town Center in Boca Raton, a choice of three delicious menu items was offered. Parking, as well as valet parking, is available.

A photographer and author, Lorraine Salem Tufts presented a photography exhibit with music in the background. We viewed many of the national parks with a focus on wildlife and beautiful flowers. Everyone enjoyed this special program

Our Boca Raton branch held its "One Moment in Time," an Arts and Letters program on April 22 from 4:30-6:30PM at the Delray Beach Public Library. It was a well-attended event. Our artists and authors displayed their art and shared their poetry and excerpts from their books.

After viewing the artwork on the second floor, attendees then entered the room on the first floor that was beautifully decorated. Round tables were covered with blue tablecloths and vases with flowers that made for a very welcoming appearance. Attendees responded to Pen Women artists, poets, and authors with questions as well as sharing which art spoke to them.

Please see Page 10 for a special Art opportunity. I wish our members a wonderful and happy summer. I look forward to seeing you all in November 2025.

Sincerely,

Brenda Dressler, PhD
President

If you would like your bio and photo posted on our website, send Elaine Bossik a 75-100-word bio with a clear jpg headshot. The bio should be written in third person. Please see our member page for style: <https://www.bocapenwomen.org/members/>.

If you would like to update your bio, please send me your revisions. My email:
elainebossik@yahoo.com

ONE MOMENT IN TIME
Art and Letters Program 2025

Our April 22, 2025, Pen women program, "One Moment in Time" was well attended, and enjoyed by members and guests. The artists' work was featured on the second floor of the Delray Beach Library. After that, we gathered downstairs where artists, writers, and poets shared their work and spoke about their background and inspiration. Dr. Brenda Dressler and Elaine Bossik organized the event, working with Art Chair Roslyn Ross-Hoffman, Letters member, Vera Ripp Hirschhorn, and Art member Phyllis Elrich. Other members pitched in at reception, refreshments, explaining our organization to guests, and giving them brochures.



Dr. Brenda Dressler



Elaine Bossik

Elaine Bossik published a blog post on our website about the Delray Art/Letters program. Here's the link:

<https://www.bocapenwomen.org/boca-pen-women-art-letters-program-features-one-moment-in-time/>

(See photos from the event on the next two pages)

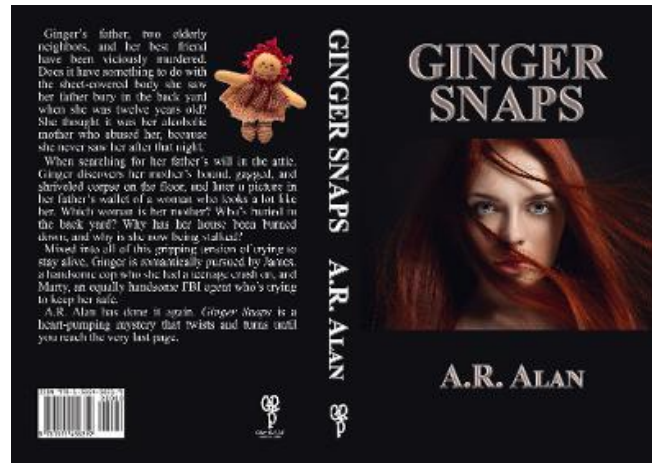




MEMBER NEWS

Barbara Bixon's new book has been released and is available on Amazon: ISBN: 978-1-5154-5831-9 (See picture below) Click here to find book on Amazon: <https://tinyurl.com/4mwpftap>

Barbara Bixon's Writing/Critique Workshop in the West Boynton Beach Branch Library at 9451 Jog Road, Boynton Beach, FL 33437 **(561) 734-5556** is scheduled for Friday June 13th, and Friday July 11th from 1:00 P.M. To 4:00 P.M. Bring your work in progress, essays, short stories, poems, novels, etc., for an enjoyable afternoon.



Phyllis Elrich and **Linda Susan Fisher** have entered the National Cross Genre Competition given by NLAPW this year. Phyllis' multimedia painting/collage called "Bountiful" was enriched by Linda's beautiful poetry. Together they became a lover's poem of shared grace. Not only did Phyllis and Linda begin to know each other, but they also saw each one's unique talents. National will announce the winners shortly and will display the work on the website.

Artist statement: Poetry invites the viewer to bring the art into their soul and experience it personally. It uplifts each aspect to its' importance. The soft halo, the reaching hand, the rich colors, the food presented, all will be a lover's gift to be enjoyed together. All senses are engaged to form a union of art and poetry.



Jo Jo Harder's fourth book *Vintage Tails* was released on April 28, with exciting week-long social media launch events! This enchanting 78-page black and white hard-cover book invites dog lovers and fashion enthusiasts alike to embark on a delightful journey where canines display style, grace, and a sprinkle of nostalgia. Each page is a tail-wagging tribute to the elegance and sophistication of yesteryears, showcasing Jo Jo's cover-dog Romeo and America's Top Dog Models as they flaunt their fabulous retro looks.

With a wag of their tails, these glamorous pups bring to life three captivating categories: Fashion, where they don the latest canine couture; Entertainment, where their playful antics steal the show; and Travel, where they explore the world with a flair that would make even the most seasoned globetrotter sit up and take notice. An autographed copy of the book will be provided when purchased from America's Top Dog Model website: www.americastopdogmodel.com



The Essence of Memories by **Marlene Klotz**

The leaves of autumn fly away
Without ever looking back
To linger when the air grows chill
And leave the trees intact.
Their departure somehow mirrors
A love that's gone astray,
Which dries up all the beauty
That had blossomed in its day.



A Trilogy
by
Linda Susan

Storms

dark clouds dim the light,
drenching showers cleanse the soul,
rainbows herald joy.

Mist

rain drops bathe the flesh,
misty, summer breeze delights,
miracles abound.

Dusk

pretty pastel sky
bids farewell to this good day,
sun and moon unite.



Vera Ripp Hirschhorn wishes everyone Fun in the Sun:

FUN IN THE SUN

To breathe in the ocean air,
To dive into the wet white foam.
To roam along the sandy pier.
“Should I fish or should I just peer?”
“Beer, first,” said a beachcomber,
I’ll have only one.”

What fun it is to be in the sun.

Surfers, braving the high tide waves.
Colorful umbrellas shading the haze.
Boats, some idle,
Others at full speed,
“Slow down! There might be manatees.”

Music playing,
Palm Trees swaying
To Caribbean rhythms
One by one.

What fun it is to be in the sun!

“Tennis anyone?”
“Golf, if you please.”

“Seize the day,”
Our inner voice prays.

Gardening! A tropical pleasure.
How sensory! What a treasure!
Gardenias, hibiscus, bougainvilleas
Are just some,
Drinking in and delighting in the Florida sun!

Yes, we Egrets, see and hear all,
As we fly and have Fun in the Sun



Carol White's short play, "A Certain Eye for Art" was chosen by the Seaside Players to be included in their Sea Shorts Play Festival.



The Dancing Elephant bookstore is accepting poetry books for sale.
This charming bookstore is located on Lake Ave. in Lake Worth Beach.
Contact Shane Logan at 561-315-3130.
Address: 801 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach, FL 33460
Here is their website: <https://dancingelephant.shop/>



Pen Women Artists, you are invited to submit your art!

There is no submission fee and no deadline. Those who have not previously (or recently) been published are especially encouraged to submit work. All submissions are reviewed for possible use either in *The Pen Woman* or on the NLAPW website.

Opportunities:

- Featured Art on the NLAPW website (with or without a statement).
- “In the Studio” article focusing on your process, accompanied by a few photos of work in progress and completed work.
- Short article (with photos) about an individual piece or body of work.
- Short article (with photos) about a subject of interest for artists.

To submit:

Select your best work and email digital images to arteditor@nlapw.org. Images should be 1200 pixels (or 4” at 300dpi) on a side. I will request larger files if needed and can provide help with writing articles. All articles are subject to editing.

In your email, please include:

- Your name and branch or Member-at-Large. (Only current members, please.)
- Your website URL, if you have one
- Image title, medium, size
- A very brief statement about yourself and the artwork
- An article, preferably 200-400 words, if you are submitting one. (Fewer words means more room for images.)

If you have any questions, please email me at arteditor@nlapw.org or lucy@lucyarnold.com.

By submitting your art to NLAPW, you give us permission to display your published work online at nlapw.org for the purpose of promoting NLAPW and our members.

The above message from Lucy Arnold, Art Editor, was sent to Branch Presidents to be distributed to all members.

Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar



2025	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
MAY	27	28	29	30	1 Thank You Thursday Lei Day	2 National Baby Day National Space Day	3 Kentucky Derby Day National Scrapbook Day National Fitness Day National Astronomy Day National Two Different Colored Shoes Day
	4 Star Wars Day National Kids Fitness Day World Laughter Day	5 Cinco De Mayo	6 Teacher's Day	7 National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day National Bike & Roll to School Day National School Nurse Day Project ACES Day	8 World Red Cross Day Make A Book Day	9 National Alphabet Magnet Day National Sleepover Day National Lost Sock Memorial Day	10 Clean up Your Room Day Mother Ocean Day Bird Day National Miniature Golf Day National Archery Day
	11 Mother's Day National Twilight Zone Day	12 National Limerick Day	13 Frog Jumping Day	14 Dance Like A Chicken Day	15 National Chocolate Chip Day National Notebook Day	16 Love A Tree Day Wear Purple For Peace Day NASCAR Day National Pizza Party Day	17 Armed Forces Day
	18 International Museum Day World Baking Day	19 May Ray Day World Plant a Vegetable Garden Day	20 World Bee Day Dinosaur Day	21 Eat More Fruits & Vegetables Day National Memo Day	22 Buy A Musical Instrument Day National Maritime Day	23 World Turtle Day National Wig Out Day	24 National Scavenger Hunt Day International Tiara Day
	25 National Brown-Bag-It Day	26 Memorial Day National Paper Airplane Day	27 Sunscreen Day	28 National Senior Health & Fitness Day National Hamburger Day	29 Paper Clip Day National Learn About Composting Day	30 Water A Flower Day National Creativity Day	31 National Speak in Complete Sentences Day National Smile Day
	1	2	May 2025 Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar Refer to this calendar for inspiration and themed activity ideas for your program! Find ideas below and clicks 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>