

Pen and Palette

Boca Raton NLAPW

www.bocapenwomen.org

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

March/April 2026



MUSIC...ART...LETTERS

Dear Members,

At the February 19th luncheon, the Volunteers Against Scams Team (VAST) spoke to us about awareness of different kinds of scams. This group is sponsored by the Police Department. The targeting of seniors and how to prevent scams was very helpful to our members.

We look forward to seeing you all at the next luncheon on Thursday, March 19, 2026, in the Mariposa Restaurant located in Nieman Marcus, which is in the Boca Raton Town Center. Our speaker, Dr. Ellen Kamhi is a professional member of the American Herbalist Guild and is nationally board certified as an Advanced Holistic Nurse. Her presentation will focus on the use of natural botanicals for pain management.

Guests are invited. Please complete the flyers that are in the Pen and Palette.

Warm regards,
Brenda Dressler, PhD
President Boca Branch NLAPW



Please read page 5 to be included in the Reflections Art Show in April 2026, open to our entire branch. You do not have to be an Art member.



From Lucy Arnold NLAPW Art Editor

“Hello Art Members! We need more art submissions, all of which will be considered for either The Pen Woman magazine or as Featured Art on the national website. I'm especially interested to see submissions from artists who have not previously been published in either place. Be sure to include in your email your name, branch, image title, medium, and size. You may submit art to my personal email (lucy@lucyarnold.com) or to arteditor@nlapw.org.”

REMEMBER: This is a national magazine and a national website

MEMBER NEWS

Vera Ripp Hirschhorn announces her new book, which is available on Amazon as per Bookstore page on NLAPW.org



Marlene Klotz will be reading her poetry at International Women’s Day High Tea at Verena, in Delray Beach. In addition to becoming acquainted with new surroundings, Marlene has been attending Friday night services, reading some of her inspirational poems.

A Poetic Image by Marlene Klotz

Whenever I see a blue sky
with white fluffy clouds
this portion of the natural
world tugs at my heart as
a symbol of peace and
tranquility...and how grateful
I feel that its magical beauty
is constant and there for everyone
just by looking up at the sky at
this generous gift from above

Carol White’s play *Training Date* will be produced by the Nantucket Short Play Group. Carol’s short story, “A Fork in the Road,” and her non-fiction piece, “The Stone,” have each won Honorable Mentions in the 2026 National Biennial Letters Competition for the National League of American Pen Women.

ANNOUNCING LIMERICK CONTEST - SANTA CLARA COUNTY BRANCH

This contest was announced in the Winter The Pen Woman Magazine.

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN (NLAPW)

Chairperson: Susan Zerweck: ralph_susan@comcast.net

WHAT IS A LIMERICK? A verse (usually humorous) of 5 lines which has a specific rhyme scheme.

Lines 1,2 & 5 must rhyme with each other and have 3 feet. Lines 3 & 4 have 2 feet, are printed indented and must rhyme with each other (different rhyme from 1,2 & 5.)

Rhyme scheme: a a b b a (apparently from a song that mentions the city & county of Limerick, Ireland.)

Limericks have to be received by MARCH 17th, 2026. \$8.00 per limerick, 3 for \$20.00

Checks made out to: NLAPW, Santa Clara County Branch

AWARDS: Prizes will be determined by number of entries.
1st, 2nd, 3rd Monetary prizes. Honorable Mention-no cash prize

Winning Limericks will be sent to "The Pen Women" magazine & the website.

RULES: CONTESTANTS MUST BE MEMBERS OF N.L.A.P.W
All entries must be ORIGINAL, not previously published.

Each entry must be on one page, with no personal information

ONE 5 LINE LIMERICK ONLY PER PAYMENT

SEND: one separate page with one limerick on it - for each one paid

ALSO: One page with all Limerick titles: your name, branch, address, phone & e-mail

MAIL TO: NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN
SANTA CLARA COUNTY BRANCH
SUSAN ZERWECK, CONTEST CHAIR
15724 ADAMS RIDGE
LOS GATOS CA 95033

INFO: 408-353-1769 or e-mail: ralph_susan@comcast.net

JUDGING: An unbiased panel of 3 judges will decide by April 15, 2026

Winners will be notified by mail or e-mail

Our February 19th Luncheon featured “PBSO VAST.”

Donna Parsons and Alan Weiss from the Police Department Volunteer Against Scams, along with Sheriff Sherwin, were our honored guests at the National League of American Pen Women's Thursday, February 19, 2026, Luncheon. It was a very informative discussion about the different types of scams that are widespread, especially those targeting Seniors. We each received a brochure about identity theft, fraud, etc. Hopefully, this team will pay us another visit. A big thank you goes out to our President, Brenda Dressler for scheduling this event. Our organization raises scholarship money through our Raffles for young women going to college for a career in the arts.



Boca Raton Branch National League of American Pen Women Presents
Reflections: An Art & Letters Program
April 7 – June 6, 2026

Delray Beach Public Library 100 West Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach
Roslyn Ross-Hoffman Art Chair

Join the Boca Raton Pen Women for *Reflections*, a multimedia program exploring how artists and writers interpret the world – both real and imagined. Authors will share poetry, flash fiction, and short essays.

Reception: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 4:00–6:00 PM

At the **Reception** on April 7, participating artists will discuss how their work captures their vision, and authors will present selected writings featured in the program. Music will also be included as part of the *Reflections* experience.

Presented by:

Dr. Brenda Dressler, author
Elaine Bossik, author
Roslyn Ross-Hoffman, artist

Guidelines for *Reflections* Submissions

The opening reception is April 7.

- **4:00–5:00 PM:** Artwork viewing with refreshments
 - **5:00–6:00 PM:** Pen Women readings (poetry, flash fiction, short essays)
- Artwork setup:** April 6 (time TBA)
Takedown: June 6

Art Chair **Roslyn Ross-Hoffman** is coordinating participating artists; **Michele Harrington** is the library contact. Rozz needs bios from all artists; if you submitted a 100-word bio last year, you do **not** need to resend it. Accepted media: paintings, photography, and mixed media (no sculpture).

All pieces must be **ready to hang with wire** (no sawtooth hangers).

Limit: **up to 5 pieces per artist**, subject to change based on participation.

Artists must also submit a list of titles and specs for all pieces. Send these to Rozz, who will forward them to the library.

Questions?

Dr. Brenda Dressler – dr_brenda@aol.com

Elaine Bossick – elainbossik@yahoo.com

Roslyn Ross-Hoffman – rozz@rozzart.com | 917-685-2049

To our Branch: IF you have books to sell, you can take part in this worthwhile event. There are many people who come to support local authors and buy books. You do your own selling. Tables are large enough to share. I hope to see you there! Tables fill up quickly so don't delay!

You're invited to the LOCAL AUTHOR FEST 2026!

Sponsored by the Delray Beach Public Library and the South Florida chapter of Women's National Book Association (WNBA), to showcase local authors and their work, which will be available for purchase and signing.

Participants can meet and greet local authors, and authors can reserve tables to display and sell their books.

Sunday Mar. 22nd from 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach

To reserve a table (\$40 for a full table or \$20 for a half table) contact michele.harrington@delraylibrary.org.

Angela Page, President
Women's National Book Association
South Florida Chapter

"First Impressions: Designing a Book Cover Readers Can't Ignore"

Weds. March 18, 2026 6:00-7:30pm

Delray Beach Public Library 100 W. Atlantic Blvd. Delray Beach

Join publishing consultant Tresa L. Chambers and book design expert Lorie Greenspan, as they break down the essential elements of effective cover design – including typography, readability, and emotional impact. Get insight into the creative process, technical considerations for print and digital formats, and questions to ask before hiring a cover professional.

The session concludes with a showcase of award-winning book covers, providing inspiration and concrete examples of design that captures attention and drives sales. --

Women's National Book Association
South Florida Chapter

Boca Raton Branch National League of American Pen Women

Luncheon and Speaker Program

Meet Dr. Ellen Kamhi, Holistic Health Nurse/ Educator/ Author

Botanicals for Pain Management

Thursday, March 19, 2026 12:00 NOON

Mariposa Restaurant - Neiman Marcus at Town Center

5860 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Dr. Ellen Kahmi has been involved in Natural Medicines since 1973. She is a professional member of the American Herbalist Guild and is nationally board certified as an Advanced Holistic Nurse. Her presentation will focus on the use of natural botanicals for pain management, with informative and helpful information.

Parking: Parking is available in the parking lot near the entrance to Neiman Marcus. Valet parking is also available. The \$5 valet charge is waived when your ticket is stamped at the restaurant. A \$5 gratuity is suggested for the valet.

CLIP RESERVATION FORM AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK

\$40

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

Luncheon Menu: Choice of Chicken Caesar Salad, Roasted Salmon, or Trio Salad (chicken salad, tuna pecan, egg salad). Order your selection on the day of the luncheon. Popovers, beverages and dessert included.

Name (Print): _____ **Email** _____

Guest's Name: _____ **Email** _____

Guest: How did you hear about us? _____

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CHECKS: March 12, 2026

Boca Raton Branch National League of American Pen Women
Luncheon and Speaker Program
Meet Jennifer Wilson, Palm Beach Opera Education Manager and Studio Director
Thursday, April 16, 2026
12:00 NOON

Mariposa Restaurant - Neiman Marcus at Town Center

5860 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Jennifer Wilson is the voice teacher/administrator for the Studio Program at the Palm Beach Opera. This free training program provides area high school students with monthly voice lessons, masterclasses, and college prep lectures. Jennifer's presentation, *Card Games in Opera*, will demonstrate how Bizet, Tchaikovsky and Puccini built dramatic tension by including on-stage card games.

Mallory Goddard, a student at the Palm Beach Opera Studio Program, will receive the 2026 Music Achievement Award from our branch to assist her in continuing her music studies.

Parking: Parking is available in the parking lot near the entrance to Neiman Marcus. Valet parking is also available. The \$5 valet charge is waived when your ticket is stamped at the restaurant. A \$5 gratuity is suggested for the valet.

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Luncheon Menu: Choice of Chicken Caesar Salad, Roasted Salmon, or Trio Salad (chicken salad, tuna pecan, egg salad). Order your selection on the day of the luncheon. Popovers, beverages and dessert included.

Name (Print): _____ **Email** _____

Guest's Name: _____ **Email** _____

Guest: How did you hear about us? _____

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CHECKS: April 10, 2026

Daily Holidays & Observances Calendar



2026	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
MARCH	1 National Pig Day World Compliment Day Share a Smile Day	2 Read Across America Day World Teen Mental Wellness Day Fun Facts About Names Day World Tennis Day	3 I Want You To Be Happy Day National Anthem Day World Wildlife Day Unique Names Day	4 National Grammar Day Discover What Your Name Means Day National Snack Day	5 Name Tag Day	6 National Frozen Food Day National Day of Unplugging Middle Name Pride Day	7 National Cereal Day
	8 Girls Write Now Day National Proofreading Day Daylight Savings Start	9 National Napping Day	10 International Day of Awesomeness Paper Money Day	11 National Dream Day	12 Plant a Flower Day Girl Scout Day Popcorn Lovers Day	13 National Jewel Day National Preschooler's Day	14 Learn About Butterflies Day Pi Day National Children's Craft Day International Ask A Question Day National Genealogy Day
	15 National Shoe the World Day	16 National Panda Day National Wellderly Day	17 St. Patrick's Day National 3-D Day	18 Global Recycling Day	19 National Let's Laugh Day Absolutely Incredible Kid Day	20 International Day of Happiness World Storytelling Day First Day of Spring Red Nose Day World Frog Day	21 World Puppetry Day National Fragrance Day National Flower Day Memory Day National Quilting Day
	22 World Water Day	23 National Puppy Day	24 International Day for Achievers	25 American Red Cross Giving Day	26 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day	27 World Theater Day National Scribble Day Wear a Hat Day	28 Respect Your Cat Day Earth Hour Children's Picture Book Day
	29 National Smoke and Mirrors Day Mermaid Day Piano Day	30 National Pencil Day Take a Walk in the Park Day	31 National Crayon Day Eiffel Tower Day Dance Marathon Day	1	2	3	4
	5	6	March 2026 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.				

Carol White
 FSA 2nd VP
 Editor-in-Chief
 Pen and Palette
 Letters Chair
 Social Media
<http://www.bocapenwomen.org>