

FSA/NLAPW - FLORIDA
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Giving a Hoot 2016

WWW.FSANLAPW.COM SUMMER ISSUE

Florida Pen Women!



At our Saturday, June 4th, Florida Council Meeting, those in attendance were:

Back row: Marcy Von Kohorn, Rosemary Brofos, Luanne Faulkender (2nd VP),
Mia Crews (Parliamentarian), Joan Foster, Marion Coste and Prue Carrico

Front row: Carol Welsh (President), Evelyn Bethune (1st VP),
Carolynn Scully (Chaplain) and Linda Spencer

Missing from photo: Caroline McKeon (who scooted out early)

2016—2018 Florida Executive Board

- President - Carol Welsh - Daytona - cwelsh2@cfl.rr.com
- 1st VP - Evelyn Bethune - Daytona - docbethune@marymcleodbethune1875.com
- 2nd VP Luanne Faulkender - Cape Canaveral - lfaulkender@cfl.rr.com
- Secretary - Kathleen McDonald - Sarasota - kathleenartist@comcast.net
- Treasure - Caroline McKeon - Sarasota - dreamweb@dreamweboffice.com
- Chaplain - Carolynn J. Scully - Orlando/Winter Park - whispercare@gmail.com
- Parliamentarian - Mia Crews - Cape Canaveral - mia crews@gmail.com



All for One
And One for All!

President Carol Welsh



Dear Pen Women,

The Executive Board meetings are open to members. If there is a motion, only the Board members can vote. Twelve women were present, who also were the attendees at the Council Meeting and Presidents' Workshop on Saturday. Due to the feedback and suggestions, much was accomplished. The full minutes are in this newsletter. During the Presidents' Workshop, we expounded on a few topics:

As Pen Women, we like to socialize, as well as participate in a business meeting and a program. Therefore, a meal or refreshments are part of the meetings.

Most branches are now meeting at times more convenient for women who have weekday jobs. Some meet on Saturday and others in late afternoon. The purpose of these changes from weekday luncheon meetings is to attract younger women.

The average length of a program/presentation is 30 – 40 minutes, but may be longer if deemed necessary, such as a social media workshop regarding a new branch Facebook. There was a strong need expressed for training in Social Media. This may be considered for a workshop at the November 2017 conference.

Professionalism: One branch found that having a brief business meeting followed by the program gives guests an opportunity to learn more about Pen Women.

A follow-up welcome note to new guests is impressive. I overheard a guest from a local Art League tell their president of the League that they should do that, too, for their guests. She is now a member of our Daytona Beach branch. It is recommended that note card should have the National NLAPW or branch logo on it.

Why have Student members? As they graduate and move into their jobs that relate to the arts, they may wish to continue their memberships or at least, will know who Pen Women are. If the time and location of your meetings make it difficult for a student, consider a student satellite branch where they meet at the college. Contact a professor in the arts through your local colleges. The national dues are \$20 + \$15 for the processing fee (+ local branch dues). Your branch may choose to waive the branch dues. (State dues are unnecessary.)

Member Directory: Some membership directories are booklets with single page updates inserted every quarter. As Membership Chair for our branch, I created a Word document for our roster that is easily expandable.

I "Look, Listen, and Speak" to women of the arts. If I **see** a notice of an author who is going to speak or an artist who won an award, I look up her website and contact her. If I **hear** a woman talking about her work, such as a dance choreographer who is now a new member, I **tell** her about Pen Women. When we give an art award to a local league, I share about Pen Women and have a sign-up sheet and brochures/contact information for them. I go to art shows, book signings, and the local home show. As a result, I have a long list of women who signed up to receive notifications of our meetings. And at each meeting, I always have applications available. At our last meeting, I handed out 3 applications.

Lastly, the Jacksonville branch members came up with a dynamic theme for the 2017 conference: **Charting the Course**. Thank you Jacksonville. We love the theme so it has become this administration's theme, as well. A surge in membership is occurring. This newsletter and the Presidents' Reports will give you many ideas for **Charting the Course** for your branches.

Let's keep in touch. Have a comment or suggestion? Call me: 386-795-2197 (home phone is under my husband's name – Mike Somma. 386-597-7732)



Caroline McKeon, Editor
813.988.7772

www.fsanlapw.com

Carol

Carol Welsh, FSA President

**Daytona Beach Resort
2017 State Conference Destination
November 9th, 10th, 11th 2017**



FSA / NLAPW

Executive Board Meeting – Friday, June 3, 2016 – Daytona Beach, FL

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by President Carol Welsh. Others in attendance were: Evelyn Bethune (1st VP), Luanne Faulkender (2nd VP), Linda Spencer, Carolynn Scully (Chaplain), Rosemary Brofos, Prue Carrico, Marion Coste, Mia Crews (Interim Parliamentarian), Marcy Von Kohorn, Joan Foster and Caroline McKeon (Treasurer and Interim Secretary).

Chaplain Carolynn Scully gave the invocation; Reading of the minutes was tabled; Treasurer's Report was tabled. Carol announced that Brenda Spalding has resigned as FL secretary and she is actively seeking a replacement.

2017 Florida Conference: Charting the Course - Daytona Beach Resort - November 9th, 10th and 11th

Carol presented Evelyn Bethune as our 2017 Conference Chair. Evelyn will name her conference committee members and also the ART, LETTERS and MUSIC Conference Chairs. Conference title is *Charting the Course* and logo design will be by Pat Setser (thanks to the Jacksonville Branch for its help with this).

Conversation about the art contest ensued. Linda Spencer thought that the art jurying should result in 50 pieces of art chosen. After some discussion, it was agreed that 50 pieces of art will make the show and there will be four judged in total - one juror and then three judges at the show. Each will receive \$50 honorarium will bring our art judging line item to \$200, which is up \$100 from our 2015 conference. Further, that any attending Art Judges will be invited to join us for dinner at the Art Awards Banquet.

As to the Business Meeting segment, instead of adjourning the meeting after the Sunday Brunch and in lieu of a proclamation, it was agreed to convene the business meeting at 9:00 a.m. and to adjourn no later than 11:30 a.m. This will be done this way at the 2017 conference. The adjournment will not follow the Sunday brunch.

In moving Florida into THIS century, it was decided that 2017 will be the final year for the Newsletter Contest. It will be announced state-wide that, in its place, we will have a Social Media contest. Branches may enter its websites, FaceBook pages, etc. Judging rules and criteria will be developed and announced in plenty of time for our 2019 State Conference contests.

New Business

Mia Crews read a prepared statement pleading the cause for a new Letters Category for our Florida Letters Contests: Ghost Writing/Co-Authoring. Following her brief presentation, Luanne Faulkender moved we add the category of Ghost Writing/Co-Authoring to our Letters Categories. After some discussion, Evelyn Bethune seconded the motion. The Florida Executive Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Marcy Von Kohorn asked for consideration for some type of recognition for the length of time women have been a member of our organization. Though not requiring a motion, it was deemed an excellent idea to award women in five-year increments ... 5 Years, 10 Years, etc. Evelyn Bethune stated that a 5-year pin might provide encouragement for our newer members. More discussion on this will follow, perhaps devoting a portion of time during our Sunday Brunch to present Owl Pens to these members. Evelyn Bethune, Conference Chair, will delve into this further with the help of her committee.

Other

Rosemary Brofos inquired if something could be done concerning subjectivity on the part of our art judges and she wondered if they could, perhaps, provide criteria as to what they were looking for when selecting their winners. Linda Spencer said it wasn't necessary, especially now that we have opted for three art judges.

Adjournment

There being no further business or announcements, Carol adjourned the meeting at 5:15 pm.

FSA / NLAPW

Florida Council Meeting – Saturday, June 4, 2016 – Daytona Beach, FL

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by President Carol Welsh. Others in attendance were: Evelyn Bethune (1st VP), Luanne Faulkender (2nd VP), Linda Spencer, Carolynn Scully (Chaplain), Rosemary Brofos, Prue Carrico, Marion Coste, Mia Crews (Interim Parliamentarian), Marcy Von Kohorn, Joan Foster and Caroline McKeon (Treasurer and Interim Secretary).

Chaplain Carolynn Scully gave the invocation, reading a poem penned by Sir Francis Drake, the first person to circumnavigate the globe. Because it is so fitting for Pen Women, I have opted to include it on the back cover.

Carol Welsh then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Caroline McKeon read the minutes of yesterday's meeting aloud and then asked that we waive the reading of the minutes from our conference business meeting as they were in the post-conference issue of our newsletter. Several members present said they didn't recall seeing those so Caroline will re-send the post conference issue of our newsletter out to all members once again.

The Treasurer's Report was presented next, including a spreadsheet on dues collection for an 11-year period. Also included was a listing of all Florida Branches showing number of members and the president and treasurer of each branch.

Carol Welsh then read a brief email from Ronni Miller, National Outreach Chair giving a brief description of pending outreach projects:

Just wanted you to know and pass on the information to Carol Welsh that National is very involved in supporting Outreach as well as membership projects throughout the country. As National 4th VP I'll be overseeing Outreach and I have a wonderful, energetic Outreach Chair Laura Walth from Indiana with three members from different states on the committee, including Lolly Owens from our Sarasota branch.

We're in the process of providing how-to information on our Outreach pilot programs to all branches in the US that includes the Artists Journey Panel Discussions that we've been doing in Sarasota, as well as a Poetry in the Schools project and Painted Sounds.

Please let the Florida people know they can contact either myself RMillerWIO@gmail.com or Laura Walth laura.walth@gmail.com for information on the above or if they have other Outreach projects they'd like to share. We'll also be sending info out to Branch Presidents.

I'll be going up to a meeting in Washington DC on June 16th, so if there is any information you want me to share with the board up there let me know. ~ Ronni Miller

As the very same women who were present yesterday afternoon were present today, it was deemed a moot point to go through the agenda, yet again. What followed was a most informal, yet informational, gathering for some great discussions. The Presidents' Reports would follow.

Linda Spencer announced National's second-place children's book contest winner, Carolynn Scully, for her book **Something Good Inside of Me**, and presented her with a certificate and a check. Linda then unfolded a quilt presented to National from Florida in 2009, featuring quilt squares from 12 various branches. It was decided that this quilt should be on display at our 2017 state conference.

Continued on next page

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Council Meeting Minutes Continued from Page 5

Linda shared the book **Who's Who in American Artists** ... any artist who wants to pay to be included in this book can contact the publisher direct:

www.marquiswhoswho.com or by writing to
Who's Who in American Artists
430 Mountainview - Suite 400
New Providence, NJ 07974

Florida thinks there is a glitch in National's rules regarding all contests for its Conventions. The national rules apparently state that you cannot enter a national contest with any piece of work (for any discipline) that previously won any awards in any other Pen Women contests. Linda Spencer pointed out that this is an UNENFORCEABLE RULE. Many women spoke out and believe this should be corrected immediately. A piece should only be excluded if it won an award in any previous NATIONAL contests. A creative woman should not be precluded from entering something that won prizes on a branch- or state-level.

Caroline McKeon and Luanne Faulkender will compose a letter to National President, Virginia Campbell, asking that steps be taken to rectify this matter. Once the letter has been perfected, it will be sent to Carol Welsh for her final approval, after which Carol will send the letter to Virginia.

Various forms of fund-raising were mentioned, including the book the Boca Raton Branch published titled **Love Life Laughter – An Anthology of Poems by Pen Women**. The book not only raises funds by its sales, the book is also presented as a gift to those giving programs to the Branch. This is one book combining all three disciplines. Also mentioned was **Dear Creator**, a compilation of talent of the Jacksonville Branch members.

Following this, Carol Welsh asked those present to present its branch's President's Report. Those branches represented were: Boca Raton, Cape Canaveral, Daytona Beach, Orlando / Winter Park and Vero Beach. In all, eleven of our thirteen branches sent in actual reports.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30, followed by lunch.

Following lunch, Luanne Faulkender presented a slideshow she created that shows the benefits of an exciting program that the Atlanta Branch (where she was once a member) created and does every year in February and March called **Painted Sounds**. It was nothing short of spectacular. Not only is it a great tool to encourage women to become members, it seamlessly melds our three disciplines together. It was an exciting thing, seeing the possibilities of our various branches entertaining the idea of a program such as this.

After the slideshow, she showed a matrix of how she'd disseminated the information from the various presidents' reports leading to some interesting conclusions. Every woman present was given a copy of that matrix.

Evelyn Bethune mentioned that National is raising money to effect repairs to its piano ... the quote given was \$1,900. Caroline mentioned that many years back, National had a campaign called "Pennies for Pen Arts" and that was to raise money for something else; Luanne said she would pass that info along to National.

Submitted by Caroline McKeon
Interim Secretary

Total FL Branches	23	23	21	21	20	20	20	15	14	14	13	13
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Boca Raton	71	74	79	81	76	74	75	69	63	63	52	
Cape Canaveral	34	34	34	33	39	39	36	28	26	23	24	
Clearwater	24	25	25	19	22	18	16	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Coral Gables	18	18	14	12	10	10	8	10	12	9	6	
Daytona Beach	23	23	22	24	24	18	17	13	15	13	15	
Deland	24	24	19	20	18	18	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Ft. Lauderdale	37	37	36	36	36	30	30	32	33	35	34	
Gainesville	23	23	23	21	19	4	Disbanded	5	7	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Jacksonville	23	23	23	21	22	23	26	26	29	29	36	
Lakeland	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Naples	5	5	5	5	6	6	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Nature Coast	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
New Smyrna Bch	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Ocala	13	13	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Orlando/Winter Park	24	24	23	30	33	28	28	20	23	18	12	
Palm Beaches	26	26	30	24	24	17	36	28	27	28	25	
Pensacola	8	8	8	8	7	7	9	8	9	10	17	
Ruskin	3	3	4	2	2	1	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
St. Augustine	20	20	19	17	9	9	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
St. Johns River	17	17	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Sarasota	60	63	60	60	57	54	58	55	49	49	46	
Southwest FL	21	21	26	24	25	28	25	21	20	21	15	
Tampa	34	38	38	36	30	30	30	33	30	31	29	
Treasure Coast	24	24	24	20	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	Disbanded	
Vero Beach	20	20	16	18	20	18	20	20	19	19	19	
z - PALS	2	2	10	4	22	8	10	13	11	10	4	
Total members	562	573	546	523	509	448	432	381	373	358	334	
Membership Dues	\$ 2,810	\$ 2,865	\$ 2,730	\$ 2,615	\$ 2,545	\$ 2,688	\$ 2,592	\$ 2,286	\$ 2,238	\$ 2,148	\$ 2,004	

Members Lost: 27 23 14 61 16 51 8 15 24

2016 NLAPW - Florida PW Convention Winners

Vinnie Ream Competition--Award Winners

Vinnie Ream Letters Competition

3rd Place: "Angel Wings and Totems" (Fiction) **Sandy Huff**

Honorable Mention:

"The Tenement" (Fiction) **Barbara Bixon**

Vinnie Ream Music Competition

2nd Place: "Waters of Transformation" **Sheila Firestone**
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Vinnie Ream Multi-Discipline Competition

2nd Place: "New Travels with a Blue Vase" **Mary Ann Miller**

Honorable Mention:

"Places Spaces and Stirrings from the Heart" **Susan Buzzi**
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Vinnie Ream Art Competition

Works of Merit:

Ethereal Spirits, by **Susanne Schuenke**

Other Biennial Winners

Category J—Daytona Branch Short Fiction Award

3rd Place—Carol White, "Picture Perfect," \$40.

Category L—Central New York Branch 90th Anniversary Memoir Award

2nd Place—Marlowe Olson Arnold, "Remembering Mom," \$60.

Category M—Journalism Award

1st Place—Sandy Huff, "Edison's Legacy," \$75.

Hooray for Florida!!

Dear Pen Women,

A few years ago I subscribed to the NLAPW Blog and poem of the week. Sometimes I received short stories too. I love it. Please see what I received today. To subscribe, go to: www.nlapw.org. On the right side it says, Subscribe to our Blog. Click down, put in your email address, and click on Subscribe. It costs nothing and you can comment on the poem too. The poem below was printed and sent out on Monday, June 13th.

Carol Welsh, FSA/NLAPW President
Cell: 386-795-3297 - Home; 386-597-7732

My mom, Rita, was born in 1920.
Money was scarce and troubles were plenty.
But her faith was strong and her spirit was stoic.
In fact, I'd say she was heroic.

You'd be hard pressed to find
Someone who loved mankind
More than my beloved mother
Whose motto was "to love one another."

She was generous and beneficent,
Yet reserved and somewhat reticent.
You'd sense she wanted to express a bit more,
But was rather hesitant to open the door.

The Depression Era left its mark.
Her youthful days were sometimes dark.
But in those days you'd never reveal
Pain or heartache- you learned to conceal.

Mom was very bright and witty
Extremely dignified and really pretty.
Yes, Rita stood so proud and tall,
Possessing a memory that stunned us all!

Around the age of eighty-five
Mom's spirit was amazingly alive!
But her exceptional memory that was
one-of-a-kind
Was showing some traces of lagging behind.

And yet there appeared a silver lining,
Defying description or even defining!
Suddenly, my reserved and often shy mother
Took on the ebullient nature of another!

Rita just lifted her protective mask
And it seemed to be an effortless task!
Her nature was no longer shy and coy.
It transformed overnight into boundless joy!

Though dementia can dissolve into sadness
and tears,
And episodes, too, of stress and fear.
I choose to remember how out-going and free
My mom became- free to "be me!"

But Rita's carefree state would end
When she lost her husband and very best friend.
Yes, George, my beloved dad, was the true
love of her life,
And his passing last December caused deep
grief and strife.

Mom's eyes now closed – no facial expression.
The doctor called it a terminal depression.
Those once bright eyes might glimmer for a time,
But they now reflected no reason or rhyme.

For the next nine weeks, Rita barely spoke a
word.

Though her eyes were shut, I'm sure that she
heard

The love I'd express and the music I'd play;
But that mask of grief stayed day after day.

Yes, Rita so wanted to be with her George
And I prayed that God would quickly forge
A happy reunion between Mom and Dad.
To see Mom like this was just too sad!

Finally, one dark February night
Mom apparently saw the light!
All of a sudden, her eyes opened wide
While I expressed to her all I felt inside.

The mask had vanished as did her sorrow.
She now anticipated her new tomorrow.
We looked into each other's eyes 'til morn.
Rita knew she would soon be reborn.

And sure enough at 3:15,
With eyes wide open and totally serene,
Rita peacefully entered eternity,
Joining George in blissful unity.

Mom and Dad are in the presence of the Lord
With the angels and saints in one accord.
No more earthly mask and nothing left to hide,
And though I miss seeing them, they're forever
by my side.

- Anne Marie Vale, Ph. D.
Sarasota Pen Women

Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.

Chaplain Carolyn Scully shared this poem at our FL Council Meeting



Sir Francis Drake, 1577

Written as he departed to the West Coast of South America