



Jacksonville Branch

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Honor Poets *National Poetry Month!*

Again, it's April, and again, we honor poets and their craft. We need to give special mention to two of our own: Jackie Hand, for her monthly contributions as State Chaplain, and Sandy Hartman, the new Moxy Women Laureate, an internet-based post. Jacksonville Pen Women touch the world!



Yellow Cat About Town *Visits Fine Arts Forum*

Our *Yellow Cat: A Multimedia Anthology Adventure* is still making public appearances; the latest promotion of our Anthology was at the March 22 **Fine Arts Forum** meeting. According to reports from Fine Arts Forum sources and Secretary Susan D. Brandenburg, **our Yellow Cat was given a very good promotion at the latest meeting: Susan reports that she sold 13 copies!** As she modestly put it, "they sold themselves".

And that should be a key to unlock our future sales — never forget that this is a very professionally produced book with a strong, timely message and a mission to help those who cannot help themselves, namely the abandoned and feral cats of our area. Take the book around with you and show it off! A sale here and a sale there really adds up. **Don't forget, each sale can help a real-life "Carrot" find much-needed aid, or even a new home.**

This is a great time of year to promote our book, as there are a number of public events coming up. Our challenge is to find these and get access to them — so if you know of an event that's coming up, let us know and we'll work to get coverage for it.

And don't forget to mention that the \$20.00 price includes the CD in the back of the book, and we are still donating a percentage of the proceeds to area non-profit animal assistance programs.

Let's make sure this spring that we get our message out to the public!



Newsletter Contributions

Just a reminder that we always welcome your work and input to the Review, and that the submission date has moved up to the first of each month now, in order to try and keep the content more timely.

—Editor

Things to Come: 2011 Events

April 9, 2011 — Meeting

Site: San Jose Country Club

Guest: **Frank Cyr**

Classical guitarist

Don't forget your dues this month!

Total is \$60: \$40 for National, \$15 for Jacksonville Branch & \$5 for State dues

May 14, 2011 — Meeting

Site: San Jose Country Club

ENCORE!

Showcasing members' works

Past & present

Bring examples of your work from the last year to share with other Pen Women.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Watch newsletters for any scheduling changes.

Deadline Changes!!

We are moving our *Revue* deadlines up in order to be more timely with our news briefs for members. Please have additions/changes to calendar items in to the Editor **by the 1st of each month**, in order to keep print copies up-to-date. Please have all other copy in by the 5th of each month. *Thank you!*

2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April Meeting

April brings a real treat for us with special guest Frank Cyr.

We close out our spring season this meeting and the next at the **San Jose Country Club**. Please remember that we now start meetings promptly at 10 AM, so we are requested to be at the site before that time, preferably 9:45 AM.

In case you need directions, **San JoseCountry Club** is located off San Augustine Rd and San Jose Blvd across from San Jose Episcopal Church and The Bolles School.

As noted above, our guest will be classical guitarist Frank Cyr, who will perform for us. He began his musical career when he was 15 years old, performing in "the pit" for street musicals in Boston. For 13 years he travelled North America as a professional pop rock musician playing bass guitar and keyboards. In 2006, Frank discovered classical guitar and has since then dedicated himself to learn this instrument. His performances exhibit intense passion and have been described as "soothing to the soul", "devoted to the moment", and "magic begins in each piece of music he performs."

Please remember that the cost of the brunch can no longer be covered by the Branch finances; the fee is \$16.00 per attendee.



Special Note: Reminder:

Our new meeting date is now the second Saturday of each month, and the time is being moved up to **10 AM, beginning with the actual business meeting, brunch to follow at 11 AM**. We will be alternating between the **Timuquana Country Club** and the **San Jose Country Club** this year, to make attendance easier for all our members, no matter which side of town they come from. Members are requested to try to be at the meeting site prior to 10 AM.

If you have dietary requirements/allergies, please notify Phoebe Marner in advance.

NOTES

Pen Woman Paula Harding has been prolific in her contributions to her community newsletter, *The Cypress Log*; the April issue contains three feature articles and a full-length review of the new Scott Turow novel, *Innocent*, his sequel to his famous *Presumed Innocent*. *Innocent* is set 20 years after the first story's timeline, with many of the same characters. Paula highly recommends this as a good read.

—*Paula Harding*

Women's Center Art News

There's a new Art Exhibit at the Women's Center entitled "Lasting Impressions". Our own Pat Setser will have 10 paintings included in this show. Opening was Thursday, April 7th. The show will run through July.

—*Pat Setser*

Women's History Museum Gala

Pen Woman Yulee French recently received an invitation for the upcoming **Shine On** event for the **National Women's History Museum** in Washington, D.C. Due to continued illness, she will be unable to make the festivities, but wanted to share the news. Here are some highlights for those of us also unable to attend:

The star-studded gala, **hosted by actress and model Rebecca Romijn**, will benefit the National Women's History Museum and feature **special guest Meryl Streep** and many others.

April 12, 2011

8:00 PM

Radio City Music Hall

New York, NY

To purchase tickets visit www.radiocity.com.

Ticket prices are \$54.50-\$79.50.

A portion of the sponsorships for this event are being donated to NWHM.

Tickets are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.

"The National Women's History Museum (NWHM), founded in 1996, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the diverse historic contributions of women, and integrating this rich heritage fully into our nation's history. Until legislation passes in Congress designating a permanent museum in Washington, D.C., the NWHM promotes women's history through its temporary exhibits, special events, Cyber Museum, and online educational materials.

Our mission is to build the first ever national museum in Washington, D.C., dedicated exclusively to women's history. It will be centrally located near the world's most prestigious museums and monuments in our Nation's Capital. On March 25, 2009, Representative Carolyn Maloney introduced HR 6548 that identifies a different site at 12th Street and Independence Avenue in Washington, D.C. as the museum's home.

NWHM plans to hire a female architect. The Museum will be the first museum on the Mall designed by a woman."

All above information taken from the Museum's website: <http://www.nwhm.org/building-the-museum/>

Be sure to check out their Online Exhibits tab!

—*Yulee French*

Branch News, cont'd



SPECIAL NOTE: The last issue of the Revue before summer break, the May edition, will be produced and distributed electronically before April 30, as the Editor will be out of state the first half of May. Therefore, please have all materials in for the May edition by April 21.

Thank you, Editor



Invocation for March

Dear Creator,

This week I began to notice the first signs of Spring: Tiny lemons on our tree, the first shoots of lantana in our garden, birds on the hunt for the perfect nesting spot, and I wonder, what is being born in each of us today, and in these moments of renewal? We ask to be open to Your voice as it sings to us, inspires us, and leads us in the pursuit of new ideas. We pray for the realization of oneness within ourselves and this world. Let peace be our heartbeat and our guide as we manifest You in all we think and do. AMEN.

*—Lynn Curtin
Chaplain*

Yellow Cat Sales

Ladies. No, Friends is a better greeting. Don't want to assume too much when I'm included. At any rate, you can all do something to help market "Yellow Cat." Don't leave it up to Pat and Jan, and our other hard workers. If you write letters, talk about the book and make sure you say it can be ordered by calling Pat or emailing her. You do have her info in the roster.

If you meet with friends or biz associates for food or for any other reason, take a copy of the book if you can. Talk about it. Let them know how to get a copy... call or email Pat... or get that info from you later.

Twitter about the book. Put info about it on your facebook page, other media contact places. Email your contacts about it.

Take it with you to your church groups, introduce it to parents you know. Play the CD maybe?

No one will order the book if they do not know about it... or how to get it. We are trying to sell it, to raise funds for pets. We are all responsible for not only the production, but also the selling of the book.

Do you know the profits go to those orgs?

I'll thank you, right now. You are all so terrific, dedicated, talented. I know you won't forget to help.

—Millie Taylor

Branch News, cont'd

Find Your Moxy

Three of our Jacksonville Pen Women are involved with the Moxy Women event slated for June 18 at the Palladium in St. Petersburg, Fla. Chaplain Lynn Curtin and Patrons Marilyn Wilson and Sandy Hartman have been tapped to participate in the *Heartbeat: Where the Great Mystery Begins*. They join Jacksonville violinist and composer Rebecca Zapen as well as an international cast of artists; Lynn and Marilyn will perform as *Blondes Drum 2*, their local drumming duo. Sandy Hartman is an official Poet Laureate for the Moxy Women website (for her latest poem, see the Back Page of this issue)



Jean Harper, scriptwriter for *Heartbeat*, writes: in her recent press release:

“The cast of this production came together easily and effortlessly, as though the goddesses themselves guided me in selecting the cast. The young and newly transformed goddess Aiyana awakens the humanity within and in turn, reminds the audience that all of us on this earthbound journey should cherish and celebrate the life we live. It is through Aiyana’s epiphany and magical metamorphosis that we see and experience the reason for our existence, to love, cherish, direct, empower, and support one another. We are all connected as humans, animals, plants, water, and “Mother” earth.

We must take care of “Mom” and believe in the words of the song, by *Heartbeat* performer **Lynn Curtin of *Blondes Drum 2***.”

*“Mother Earth is pleading for us to stop her bleeding
To leave behind our greed, begin to plant new seeds, the
time has come”*

Lynn writes:

Tickets ON SALE NOW! Moxy Heartbeat Event, 6/18, St. Pete. Many are attending from Jax and around....if you would like to get together and purchase tickets at the same time, be sure to connect here. Limited VIP Seats, so call now. I have hotel information too for anyone interested. This event will be spectacular and the beginning of many more 'Moxy' events for 'Moxy' women.

Tickets may also be purchase at the Palladium website:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/palladium/boxoffice/> starting at \$28.50

Join us in this celebration of life, earth, and humanity as we connect with the past, celebrate the present, and unite for a brighter future.



Branch News, cont'd

Very Special Arts

Jan Atchley Bevan is a Teaching Artist for VSA Arts of Florida. VSA Arts is Very Special Arts, founded by Jean Kennedy Smith. Ambassador Smith was Ambassador to Ireland and the sister of President John F. Kennedy. For over twenty years, VSA Arts, an International organization, has encouraged and supported artists who just happen to have disabilities. The national headquarters is in Washington, D.C. and is an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Jan Bevan is a Literary Artist who began her connection with VSA Arts while she was Author in Residence of the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in Jacksonville, Florida. VSA Arts of Florida has a long and successful relationship with the Cummer Museum, and it remains a center point for their conferences, workshops and special artist gallery shows.

Jan has been working for eight weeks with adolescent male residents of the Duval Juvenile Residential Facility Jacksonville, Florida. The facility is designed through the Department of Juvenile Justice to achieve positive change and growth in the lives of adolescents. These young males are At Risk adolescents in their mental and medical health, addictions and education.

Jan is a published author, and a Psychiatric Social Worker with a B.S. in Psychology. She holds a Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies and Theology from Loyola University New Orleans, L.A.

The teaching program is one Jan created as an art educator for Arts in Health Care at the Cummer Museum entitled "Poets of Letters."

Jan Atchley Bevan is the President of the Jacksonville, Florida branch of the NLAPW.

—Jan Atchley Bevan

Minutes for March

National League of American Pen Women – Jacksonville Branch

Minutes of March 2011 Meeting

The meeting was held on March 12, 2011, beginning at 10:07 a.m. at the Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville, Florida.

Members present were Jan Atchley Bevan, Pat Setser, Peg Hallam, Jackie Hand, Millie Taylor, Dottie Fletcher, Dottie Burris, Sigrun Buckley and Nada Frazier. Patrons, associate members and guests present were Fletcher Shipp, Sandy Hartman, Emilie Frattarelli, Elizabeth Callendar, Maggie Fitzroy and Dr. Patty Adeeb and John Taylor.

Our honored guest speaker was our own Susan Brandenburg.

Meeting was called to order at 10:07a.m. by President Jan Atchley Bevan. Poetic Invocation from Chaplain Lynn Curtin was read by Jackie Hand. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the Invocation. Jan introduced our guests.

Jan spoke about Women's History Month and noted many famous and dynamic women. She mentioned that women had invented the lathe, disposable diapers, non reflective glass, the dishwasher, and tools for astronomy.

Jan introduced Sigrun Buckley's book, "Next Time Lucky" and also talked about her coffee table book, "Once I Had a Farm in Ireland". Sigrun writes under the name of Ziggy Buckley. Sigrun agreed to be a guest speaker next year.

Old Business

- Sales of the Yellow Cat book were made recently by Fletcher and Jan at the Home and Patio Show. Four books were sold. LaVilla School is having an animal themed event and was looking for more vendors. Follow up with Rick DeSpain about the March 16, 17 and 18 dates is planned.
- Jan thanked Phoebe Marner for her dedication and time as Membership Chair and welcomed Susan Brandenburg at the new chair. National has recently made some changes to the National Art Chairs.
- It was also mentioned that an article had been written by Fletcher Shipp and will appear in the national magazine, Pen Woman.

Minutes for March, cont'd

New Business

- There will be a “Brush with Nature” event at the Jacksonville Arboretum on April 8, 9, 10.
- Jan mentioned that she is finishing a session with juvenile males and it was requested that she write up a story for the national magazine.
- Nada Frazier announced that she will soon be getting married. It will be an organized elopement Her fiancé is a high school sweetheart and the contact renewal began on classmate.com.
- Kathy Delage wanted to be remembered to all and she looks forward to seeing everyone soon.
- Discussion of any mandatory attendance meeting requirements of members followed. It was decided that many reasons keep members from attending and that no requirements should be enforced. We are always happy to have these busy, creative people in attendance when schedules allow.
- Our dues to state and national are due in May. Treasurer is required to send money by May 1. Please get dues of \$60 to Pat Setser, Treasurer. Checks should be made out to NLAPW-Jacksonville Branch.
- Jackie Hand requested suggestions for speakers for next year. Please contact her with names.
- Personal introductions and backgrounds of all members and guests followed. This was most informative and interesting. Emilie Frattarelli sang “Somewhere Over the Rainbow”.

Guest Speaker:

Susan Brandenburg, writer, biographer and now publisher was our speaker. She discussed her book, “GUTS – Carlton Spences’s story. Susan talked about her journey in becoming a writer. She talked about God’s Ultimate Training School and the three things that she learned. 1.) Life is never fair. 2) It’s God’s money. 3) Attendance is mandatory. Writing the first biography opened the door for many future biographies. She writes books by interviews and has even written a book by telephone. Jan has met many interesting people and told their stories.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. by President Jan Atchley Bevan.

The next meeting will be held on April 9 at 10 a.m. at San Jose Country Club. Guest performer will be classical guitarist, Frank Cyr.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Setser

(For Susan D. Brandenburg, Secretary)

Special Poetry Festival

Please note the deadline --- this is the last time this notice will run.

California's Dancing Poetry Festival

Deadline for entries is May 15!

Dear Phoebe Marner:

My name is Natica Angilly, and I am a member of the Diablo Alameda Branch, of the National League of American Pen Women, and I am also serving as President of Artists Embassy.

I thought you would like to know about our unique **18th annual Dancing Poetry Festival held this fall**. It is presented by our non-profit arts organization.

Some Pen Women who are poets, writers, dancers, and artists, might be interested in Artists Embassy International's search to discover new poetry, that will be awarded at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco, on September 24th, of this year. **More than 50 awards, worth over \$1,000, are given to poets, and each is asked to read at the event. The three Grand Prize winners have their poems choreographed and presented on stage in a poetic dance performance.** The festival also includes many invited poetic dance groups.

The search is now open for poetry on any subject suitable for a general audience. Each poem must be 40 lines or less, in English or with an English translation. The deadline for submission is May 15. There is a small entry fee, and for complete guidelines and information please go to our website's contest page at: <http://dancingpoetry.com/dpfpoetrycontestrules.html> Poems can be sent to our contest chair: Judy Hardin Cheung, 704 Brigham Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

Your assistance in helping us discover wonderful poetry for this unusual event is much appreciated.

Thank you again for your consideration, and please spread the word.

Sincerely,

Natica Angilly
Artists Embassy International, President
Dancing Poetry Festival, Artistic Director

Presidential Panache

No Foolin'

Dear Friends,

In searching for a topic for the Month of April the first thing that popped into my head was the most obvious. And since all of you are clever and very creative people, you may have already guessed — April Fool's Day.

I am not going to write about such a frivolous and unofficial holiday of "fools," as April Fool's Day, especially since even as a child I thought this whole idea was rather foolish.

Well, today is April 1, 2001 and now I have played my trick and must press on to be true to this day.

I shall tell you, however, that things that just pop into my head can be dangerous. For instance, Dr. Mary Robinson (one of my dearest friends) and I have the same personality profiles. According to Myers Briggs, we are ENFJ's: extroverted, intuitive, feeling, and judgmental. This judgmental part at first glance sounded rather harsh to me until I knew the letter "J's" meaning. It means "the ability to size up situations rather quickly to decide on what action to take." I can accept that concept, because Mary is the Medical Director of the Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless and I just happen to be her Medical Case Manager. We almost finish each other's sentences. If I ever write an interesting sitcom, it would be titled, "The Shelter."

All of this is fine and dandy, but Mary and I discovered a long time ago that if an idea pops into our heads and it is a "bad idea," one of us has got to snap out of it or we both think it is a GREAT IDEA! We have been snapping in and out of ideas for 30 years now. Neither Mary nor I has ever been in jail or played an April Fool's Day joke on each other or anybody else.

An early reference to this jester day has said to of come from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, 1392. The passage was from the "Nun's Priest's Tale." April Fool's day in the Middle Ages was sometimes referred to as "All Fools Day." That kicks April 1st up a notch to almost sounding like a Sacred Holy day such as "All Souls Day." After all these centuries, I think we have more "fools" than souls in their final rest.

In 1509, a French poet referred to a "Poisson d'avril" (April fool, literally "April fish".) One historical fact is that April Fool's Day is always April 1st. However, it is not always a "day." In England, their official day only lasts until noon. If anyone plays a trick after high noon, they become the fool. In America, France and Spain, April 1st lasts all day long. How lucky for us.

Presidential Panache, cont'd

One of the greatest hoaxes that ever came down was not on April 1st but on Halloween. On October 30, 1938 the Mercury Theater broadcast a special show produced and narrated by Orson Welles. It was "The War of the Worlds." In news bulletin format, it seemed that an actual alien Martian invasion was in progress. The radio broadcast was an uninterrupted show with no commercial breaks; this added to the show's realism.

The newspapers blasted Welles the next day for causing panic among his listening audience. But, in the long run, he never intended for it to be a hoax. His experimental genius in broad-casting style sealed his fame.

Personally, I take the word "fool," rather seriously. It is a very popular word in literature. In plays, operas, poetry and novels when one is called a "fool," it is never a compliment. Often it leads to love, however. People can become "fools for love."

To me, the word "fool," is far more sophisticated than the word "buffoon." Think about it. Characters in your favorite movies who became the "buffoon" never got the romantic parts, made all the mistakes, and did not have all of their oars in the water.

With all of this in mind, I need to ask the question, "How does a wise man identify a "fool," in 21st Century Christendom? Without the Old Testament, one cannot understand the New Testament. Thus, Ecclesiastes 10:14 makes it quite clear: "A fool is full of words; a man cannot tell what shall be, or what shall be after him, who can tell him?"

Rather than be identified as a "fool," I choose to end this exposé on the day of fools. Just to be safe, I want do a word count on this article. I would rather believe that on April 1, 2011 this has been a treat rather than a trick for your reading enjoyment.

More to come,
Jan Atchley Bevan
President
Jacksonville Branch



Back Page

Sandy Hartman's latest poem on the Moxy Women website. Sandy is their new Laureate.

Coming of Age

I walk the tangled trails of my uncertainty
And hear the darkened howls of inner doubt
The unforgiving eyes of night blink and stare
“Whoooo, are you?” echoes in their ghostly calls
Ragged trees block my path and snag at my resolve
Their frozen faces gnarled in judgment and whispered disapproval
But I keep my eyes upon the path
There, shines my destiny
And I will walk among its beams of moonlit silver dreams
Because I know that I am yet to be
The time will come before the sunrise
When I will put aside my cape and hood
And though the darkness hounds my heels
I'll loose the bindings in my hair and there
I'll set a laurel crown
I'll lace my gown in fireflies and gleams of morning dew
And in that fading night when moonbeams turn to gold
I'll leave the darkness far behind to find the paths my futures hold

Those paths are decked in glowing spheres
reflecting futures yet to be
Each orb a rainbow looking glass enticing me to see
As I walk among them all and listen to their songs
I'll lightly touch each one and finally set it free
Until I've chosen futures that I know must finally be
And though the hounds of darkness still travel at my heels
I will trust the fates that lead my way and guard my destiny
Yes!
I am a goddess
But I am more than that
I am Me
© 3/4/11
Sandy Hartman

Send your contributions to

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