



Jacksonville Branch

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2010-2012

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Showcase Time!

Somehow, it's May already. This month of graduations is a fitting time for us as creative women to share our artistic and literary endeavors. As in past years, our meeting this month will present us all with the opportunity to share the projects we have worked on during the previous twelve months. So, artists, writers, and musicians, please bring a sample of your works for the rest of us to admire. If your piece was displayed in a show, please bring it. If you have a literary work that's published recently, or in the process of production, bring it. If you have a CD of music or a new song to share, please do so. Let's showcase the great talent pool we have together!



Yellow Cat on the Run

Yellow Cat: A Multimedia Anthology Adventure continues to make local tracks; we recently presented **First Coast No More Homeless Pets** with eight copies of our book to use for fund raising purposes. Seven copies also recently went to **TARAA, The Animal Rescue and Adoption Agency** (see report from Susan D. Brandenburg in Branch News). We have met our initial costs and now have started donating proceeds from our sales to area animal services, as we intended from the beginning.

We are finally realizing Bobby MacDonald's dream of helping lost and feral cats and kittens!

So, let's keep up the momentum: This summer is still a good time to get our book out to the public. Our *Yellow Cat* 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.**

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

Things to Come: 2011 Events

If you haven't already sent them in,
Don't forget your dues this month!

Total is \$61: \$40 for National, \$15 for Jacksonville Branch & \$6 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 past year to share with other Pen Women.

Break for Summer; next meeting is:

September 10, 2011 —Meeting

Site: TBA

Guest: TBA

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

May Meeting

May is flowering and so are Pen Women!
We close out our spring season this meeting at the **San Jose Country Club** and then break for the summer. 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 Jose Country Club** is located off San Augustine Rd and San Jose Blvd across from San Jose Episcopal Church and The Bolles School.

This meeting is all about us. Please bring examples of your work from the past year to share — it's show-and-tell time!

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 Marnier in advance.

Branch News

NOTES

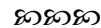
Pen Woman Paula Harding has been prolific in her contributions to her community newsletter, *The Cypress Log*; the April issue contains three feature articles and a full-length review of the new Scott Turow novel, *Innocent*, his sequel to his famous *Presumed Innocent*. *Innocent* is set 20 years after 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*



Here is more information for our upcoming interactive drum workshop at the Women's Center of Jacksonville in Arlington. We will be bonding with the theme of Mother's Day as we honor women, their courage, and their gifts. Together we will weave songs and meditative drumming rhythms along the same focus and intention of the "Lasting Impressions" exhibit.

"Drumming From the Heart" Lunch and Learn Workshop

Time Tuesday, May 10 · 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Location Women's Center of Jacksonville

5644 Colcord Avenue

Created By Cathy Fitzpatrick

More Info Blondes Drum 2 facilitate interactive rhythm workshops to help women discover and reconnect with the inner creative spirit. Forming a circle of unity and using the healing rhythms of the drum, they establish a sense of connectedness through the heartbeat of each individual.

—*Lynn Curtin & Marilyn Wilson*

Branch News, cont'd



SPECIAL NOTE: *Summer is here, and The Revue is planning a single Summer edition due out in June. Therefore, in order to try and keep the content more timely, please have material in by June 1.*

Thank you, Editor



Dottie Fletcher To Be Honored

Pen Woman Dottie Fletcher has been selected to receive a 2011 Historic Preservation Award from the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission for her book *Remembering Jacksonville: By the Wayside* and for her column in *The Florida Times-Union*, "By the Wayside." There will be a special awards ceremony on May 5, 2011, at the Downtown Library. Dottie says, "I am thrilled, to say the least!"

—Dottie Fletcher

Invocation for April

Dear Creator,

All around us, we are surrounded by the lushness of Spring's new blossoms and colors. We are able to watch new-born birds learn to fly, see tiny armadillos and turtles cross our land. We are thankful for these reminders that the fullness of life is there for us to create all the time, not just in the springtime.

We ask You to bless these new creations found in nature and within us. May these inspirations find their way into our Pen Women branches and into our communities.

We ask that those who are facing the darkness of catastrophe and disappointment in their lives be shown the light, and new ways to regain their footing in this world. Thank You for listening to our prayers. AMEN.

—Lynn Curtin
Chaplain

History Book Reminder!

Don't throw out your copy of the spring issue of The Pen Woman. Please bring them to Pat Setser. She still keeps our history book. Any extras could be for her. Thank you.

If you see anything in print about any of our members, please bring those things to Pat, as well. Or mail to her. Or give to another to bring to a meeting. Just get them to her somehow. Thanks.

—Millie Taylor

Branch News, cont'd

More About Moxy Women

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

Two Jacksonville Pen Women are hitting the big time — Lynn Curtin and Marilyn Wilson of **Blondes Drum 2**. Their song, **The Time Has Come**, was selected as the theme song for the upcoming Moxy Women Organization event on June 18, 2011. The event, **Heartbeat - Where the Great Mystery Begins**, will be held at the Palladium Concert Hall at the Hough Theatre in St. Petersburg, FL. Lynn, our Chaplain, will be singing their special global unification song and Marilyn, a Patron, will be playing African hand-drum accompaniment for the duo.

Joining them will be Jacksonville violinist and composer Rebecca Zapen, as well as an international cast of artists who will be providing a full band of instruments.



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

Blondes Drum 2 at Unity

Lynn and Marilyn also participated in an Easter service this year. The Unity Church of Jacksonville Beach asked them to capture the essence of their Easter Service with two of their songs, “White Buffalo” and “The Time Has Come”.

They performed during the service from 11:00 - 12:00 Easter Sunday at The Captains Club, 13363 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32246.

Branch News, cont'd



At Cat Spay Day were, from left: Joan McKernan, Maggie, and Jennifer Coscia in front of the River City Animal Hospital Van on Jan. 26.

Photo by SUSAN D. BRANDENBURG, Correspondent

Brandenburg Reports on TARAA

As reported on the front page, Pen Woman Susan D. Brandenburg recently presented The Animal Rescue & Adoption Agency (TARAA) with seven copies of our Yellow Cat Anthology for fundraising purposes.

Her column of Feb. 13, 2011 for The St. Augustine Record, reporting on TARAA, is here reprinted:

Brandenburg: Philanthropists give boost to feline lover's efforts

By SUSAN BRANDENBURG

Joan McKernan lives in Dolphin Cove, a small subdivision in Ponte Vedra Beach.

She works for the Information Technology department at Safariland Inc., a division of BAE Systems. "We make vests for the military and law enforcement, as well as other protective body armor and systems," she said. "Our motto is 'Together, We Save Lives.'"

How fitting.

When she's not at work helping save the lives of our nation's warriors, she's at home saving the lives of our nation's most vulnerable population —cats.

For years, McKernan has been rescuing abandoned and abused cats and spending money getting them spayed, neutered and healthy enough to be adopted. Every Saturday and Sunday, McKernan delivers a car-load of healthy cats and kittens to Petco in Ponte Vedra Beach, where Jennifer Coscia of The Animal Rescue & Adoption Agency (jaxtaraa@yahoo.com) helps connect them with forever families.

"We've helped Joan and other neighborhood animal lovers with supplies and food and vet bills as well as with getting their rescued cats adopted, but times have been tough," said Coscia, who runs a no-kill shelter on the northside of Jacksonville.

Recently, a Ponte Vedra philanthropist and his wife, who prefer to remain anonymous, walked into Petco and, after visiting Coscia's shelter, made a donation of \$20,000 to TARAA.

"With some of that money, we decided to 'pay it forward in Ponte Vedra' by helping Joan spay/neuter the many cats she is fostering," said Coscia.

So, on Jan. 26, TARAA called in the troops, aka the River City Animal Hospital mobile unit, run by Dr. Pat Gionet and her assistant, Stacey Chesser Davis.

Eleven felines were spayed or neutered that day. The donation received by TARAA has also enabled them to build a fence for their cat sanctuary and an enclosure for handicapped animals.

"We put 400 animals into homes last year," said Coscia, noting that 53 have already been adopted in 2011 through the connection.

Coscia said that there is always a need for donations of money, and when people donate towels, sheets, paper goods and food, it is distributed to foster homes like McKernan's as well as used at the shelter.

"I'm so grateful to TARAA and the River City Animal Hospital and to that great couple from Ponte Vedra," said McKernan. "There is a wonderful network in this community that makes up for the thoughtless people who dump or abuse their animals. That network really does work together, and we are hoping that St. Johns County Animal Care & Control will start being a part of the Trap, Neuter and Release program like Duval County is. Together, we really can save lives."

NLAPW Awards & Scholarships

NLAPW awards are established for the purpose of promoting professionalism in Art, Letters, and Music, encouraging talented women to pursue further education or other goals which affect their creative efforts. All are awarded in accordance with specific donor requirements.

THE SHIRLEY HOLDEN HELBERG GRANTS FOR MATURE WOMEN

The NLAPW awards scholarships for \$1,000 in each of three categories for Art, Letters and Music to women 35 years and older. Recipients also receive a 2-year honorary associate membership in the League. Current and past Pen Women and members of their immediate families are ineligible.

RULES AND GUIDELINES:

- Entries for scholarships will be accepted until **JANUARY 31, 2012**.
- On a cover sheet include name, address, city, state, phone number and email.
- Each applicant must provide a one-page letter stating her goals and information about herself that includes the following statement: "I AM A CITIZEN OF THE U.S. I was born in (city and state) on (date)".
- Provide the name, street address, city, state, and telephone number of the college where the scholarship would be paid.
- **ENCLOSE A \$10 CHECK PAYABLE TO THE NLAPW WITH YOUR SUBMISSION.**
- No email submissions will be accepted.
- On a cover sheet indicate your name, address, city, state and phone number and send by United States mail to the appropriate person below:

LETTERS: Submit an **UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPT** in one of these categories: article, drama, essay, a chapter of a novel, three poems, short story or television script. Entry not to exceed 3,000 words. Send completed applications in Letters to Ms. DeAnn Lubell, 37 Santo Domingo Dr., Rancho Mirage CA 92270. No e-mail accepted.

ART: Submit three 4"x5" or larger color prints (no slides): oil, watercolor acrylic, mixed media, original works on paper etc. Sculpture: Submit three 4"x6" or larger photos. Photography: three 4" x 6" or larger prints in color or black and white.

Send completed applications in Art to Ms. Jo Anne Durham, 4300 Plantation Dr., Fort Worth, TX. 76116. No e-mail accepted.

MUSIC: Submit 2 Compositions **THREE MINUTE PERFORMANCE TIME** and a separate **FIVE MINUTE PERFORMANCE TIME**. CDs allowed only in this category. Send completed applications in music to Dr. M.J. "Sunny" Zank, 202, Montford Av. Ada, Ohio 45810.

Announcements

In June, 2010, the National Executive Board voted to approve the application for a National Endowment for the Arts grant with Treanor W. Baring as the Project Director. The grant application has been completed and submitted by Ms. Baring with the help of National Art Chair Jamie Tate, Vice President Candace Long, and in consultation with Outreach Chair Anna DiBella, Publications Chair Fran Stewart, President Jean Holmes and Treasurer Lorna Jean Hagstrom. Organizations will be informed of awards in November, 2011. These grants are highly competitive, and severe budget cuts to the NEA are to be expected, so we are committed to continuing to seek to fundraise from other sources.

—Taken from National website

Minutes for April

National League of American Pen Women – Jacksonville Branch

The meeting was held on April 9, 2011, beginning at 10:10 a.m. at the San Jose Country Club in Jacksonville, Florida.

Members present were Jan Atchley Bevan, Peg Hallam, Jackie Hand, Dottie Burris, Pat Setser and Susan D. Brandenburg. Patrons, associate members and guests were Fletcher Shipp, Sandy Hartman, Sally Hanson (Guest of Pat Setser and Phoebe Marner) and Denise Lundgren (Peg's daughter). Our honored guest was classical guitarist Frank Cyr.

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President Jan Atchley Bevan. Jan welcomed our guests and requested that all of those present introduce themselves.

Poetic Invocation from Chaplain Lynn Curtin was read by Jackie Hand, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Old Business

The Yellow Cat Book

- Susan sold thirteen books at the Fine Arts Forum on March 22, and seven more books were donated to TARA (The Animal Rescue & Adoption Agency).
- Dues are due this month. National has added \$1.00 to the dues of \$60.00.

New Business

- Name Tags - A vote was taken and passed that we look into the cost of getting name tags for members.
- Fletcher found some nice Owl Coffee Mugs at Barnes & Noble for \$9.99 apiece and it was suggested that the Branch order thirty of these mugs to have on hand as gifts for guests as well as for ourselves. Vote was taken and passed that we buy thirty mugs.
- Susan D. Brandenburg, Membership Chairman, gave membership report – basically, no new members. Gave applications to guests, Sally Hanson, and Frank Cyr (for his wife, Cindy).
- Pat Setser presented the new National NLAPW Magazine to the club – with her art on the front page and the Cat Book article inside! Way to go, Branch!

Minutes for April, cont'd

Guest: Frank Cyr delighted the chapter with his exquisite classical guitar sounds as well as his observations regarding the history and methods involved with what he does. His beautiful performance inspired poems from Peg Hallam and Sandy Hartman.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. by President Jan Atchley Bevan.

The next meeting will be held on May 14, 2011 at 10 a.m. at San Jose Country Club. Guest speakers will be all present, as we share our art, music and letters with one another and end another exciting season for the NLAPW-Jacksonville Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan D. Brandenburg,
Secretary

Presidential Panache

May Merriment

Dear Friends,

Here we are in the Merry, Merry Month of May. I am sure that was a lyric from a song by the same title. One of my least favorite times of popular music in America came out of the 19th Century. Yet, it is what that music represented that we can celebrate: very high morals, family values, and small town living in America. Lady GaGa would never be singing these songs.

What makes a holiday a National Holiday? Officially, according to federal law (5 U.S.C. 6103), America has ten National Holidays. We all have grown up with them. If your father worked for the U.S. Post Office, I am sure you always looked forward to knowing that he would get all ten of them off to do something fun with you and the family. Yet, this is America and we don't stop there. There are special interest groups that have set aside months, weeks, and days for awareness, tribute, and another reason to barbecue.

These special interest groups have a large lobby, and when their national month, week or day comes around, no federal employee gets the day off. All of the months, weeks and days I have chosen are celebrated in the month of May. Some of my favorites are: National Barbecue Month, National Hamburger Month and National Blood Pressure Month. Somehow, that blood pressure thing pales next to juicy hamburgers with Lipton® onion soup mixed into the patties or Paula Dean's version of butter-stuffed burgers for grilling. And for me, nothing beats a Burger King Whopper™ with cheese! Now that is worth celebrating.

National Barbecue Month is certainly not recognized by vegans. I browsed through a book written by one of those Vegan tribe members, and I had a huge surprise. One chapter was titled, "The Back Yard Barbecue." The author was describing total disdain for a neighbor's frequent barbecues on the weekends. (Now, that is a guy who knows about National Barbecue Month!)

So disgusting was the author's description of barbecue, one would think the neighbor was a disturbed individual throwing neighborhood cats on the grill. Barbecue is the American Way of Life! No one should beef about that...

The weeks in May that are set aside for celebration seem to be less controversial among the masses. Celebrated in the first week of May is Nurses' Week. Now who can get upset about that? Those R.N.'s who have fallen below Florence Nightingale's standards are far and few between. One of our chapter members, Joanelle Mulrain, Art, launched a show of paintings and manuscripts about Florence Nightingale. Joanelle lectured and exhibited her art in Europe, and America. (Forgive me, Joanelle, for bringing up these unpleasantries about a very small group of nurses.)

We must cast from our memories the variety of nurses who have done self-appointed mercy-killings in nursing homes, or the character of Nurse Ratched in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest", as well as the scattered reports of nurses who poisoned their husbands slowly by chemicals undetected in

Presidential Panache, cont'd

post-mortems. I only wish nurses could get a bonus during their week of special recognition. Life just isn't fair.

I hope you are writing all of these special months, weeks and days down so you won't forget them next year. Just try to restrain yourselves, and hold back your celebrations until after our May meeting on May 14, 2011. It is our last meeting of what has been a most exciting year.

May 1st is Mother Goose Day. This day was created to appreciate nursery rhymes and stories. The term goes back to the 1650s. The stories themselves were written before and after that date by different authors. The Goose collected them and then laid the golden egg in publishing.

I can't picture a good old country boy looking forward to Mother Goose Day to go on annual fishing or hunting trips with his buddies.

Always on May 3rd is Lumpy Rug Day. This is a day to appreciate a good rug. Rugs should be smooth, even and definitely not lumpy.

This day should not be confused with Older Americans Month. Those Older Americans who are sagging, lumpy and uneven should not be thrown out on their day of recognition.

And for all you sophisticated domestic animal lovers, you must learn to think outside of the box and celebrate Save the Rhino Day.

This day is also celebrated on May 1st, but this is the United States of America and we are big enough to save the rhinos and celebrate nurses on the same day. Who knows, some of those activist nurses may be released on good behavior from prison and they can turn all of that self-indulged, twisted energy into more positive pursuits like saving the rhinos.

There are a few minor details that worry me about inviting these newly rehabilitated nurses into the cause of rhino extension. Rhinoceros horns have been used for making medicine and handles for knives.

As all of us in the Jacksonville Branch of the NLAPW disperse for the summer, I want to come back in September to find out some of you have chosen to become presidents of these special interest groups. We are all leaders, and how proud we would be to hear that some of you have stepped in to lead National Salad Month, Wildflower Week, or National Candied Orange Peel Day that is always celebrated on May 4th.

Have a great summer,

Jan Atchley Bevan
President
Jacksonville Branch



Back Page

A Pen Women Luncheon

Raspberry sherbet and whipped cream guitar served upon white linen
Shy clicks of spoons on glass graced in fragile Spanish romance
Soft tunes of masters twine to reverie among celestial spheres
They kiss the moment with sweet beckon
And lead to secret places
As women of vision dance in golden dreams
Dreams that wait unspoken
Knowing they must come to be

c 4/9/11
Sandy Hartman

Spring Cleaning:

I don't do windows, I don't clean doors,
you spill your toddy, I don't do floors;
but tell me, love, what would you think
if we made love before we drink?
Then you won't care if I do
those obnoxious things for you.

—*Millie Taylor*
©4/09/11

Send your contributions to

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Jacksonville, FL 32206
Or digital files to
Musescribe@aol.com