



# Giving a Hoot

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!! DECEMBER, 2011

## 2011 Biennial Conference, in Brief

**GOING GREEN** with our digital newsletters passed with 100% of the vote at the conference biz meeting. Yes indeedy, we are **Giving a Hoot!** Hard copies will be mailed to those without e-mail or computers. If you have email but **NEED** to have a hard copy, let Caroline know and she will get one right out to you. When a newsletter is ready to go out, an email will be sent with the web site address. Some of our members have dial-up and an attached newsletter might clog up a members e-mail. Once the URL is made public, if you would rather have the newsletter as an attachment, you have only but to send a return email and ask. **Hard copies will go out in black & white while digital copies will be sent out in full color.**

We are now featuring a **Branch Newsletter** page on our website whereby you can take a sneak peek at what other branches are doing. See [www.fsanlapw.com](http://www.fsanlapw.com). Also addressed at the conference was the need for **Sister-Branches**.



**SISTER-BRANCHES** is the brain child of President Laura Vaughan and will be chaired by Kathleen McDonald. The brainy idea is to get branches to communicate more with each other; perhaps to exchange ideas about programs

and outreach, to visit other branches. Because our state conference is held only every other year, we don't have many chances to get together. Read more on page 4 about this and about our new outreach chair!

### 2012-2014 Elected State Officers

- President**  
Sylvia C. Price / Sarasota
- 1st VP**  
Prue Carrico / Boca Raton
- 2nd VP**  
Carol Welsh / Daytona
- Recording Secretary**  
Jean Rogers / Clearwater
- Treasurer**  
Caroline McKeon / Sarasota

## Want a FREE One-Page Website???

Following our **Doorway to Dreams** State Conference in October, and following a great talk I had with Marlowe Arnold, I have decided to offer a **FREE** one-page website to any branch who does not already have one. If your branch needs a doorway to the net, here's how it would work:

Our current domain is [www.fsanlapw.com](http://www.fsanlapw.com). I would create sub-domains hinging on our domain name, for instance, Marlowe's (hailing from the Vero Beach Branch) page would be accessed at [www.verobeach.fsanlapw.com](http://www.verobeach.fsanlapw.com) ... or the Pensacola Branch page would be accessed at [www.pensacola.fsanlapw.com](http://www.pensacola.fsanlapw.com) ... and so on. So long as it's a simple one-page site that I would build from a simple shell, it would be 100% **FREE**.

If your branch is interested, please let me know **NOW**. Remember, in January I get inundated with tax returns and might not have as much time later on. So jump on it!!! E-Mail me at [dreamweb@dreamweboffice.com](mailto:dreamweb@dreamweboffice.com) ~ Caroline McKeon



# 2011 Biennial Conference Winners



Hey! You!!!  
You can't win unless  
you enter! Ponder  
this for 2013!

[www.fsanlapw.com](http://www.fsanlapw.com)

Caroline McKeon, Editor  
813.988.7772  
dreamweb@dreamport.com

Pen Woman of the Year - Pat Setser (Jacksonville) - \$ 100.00  
Individual Achievement - Anne Anderson (Clearwater) - \$ 100.00  
President's Choice Award (1<sup>st</sup> time ever) - Sandy Huff (Clearwater) - Plaque  
Newsletter - Jacksonville Branch - \$ 50.00  
Elizabeth Bentley History Award - Sarasota Branch - \$ 50.00  
Scholarship - Caroline McKeon (Sarasota) - \$1,000.00 in College Credits

ART Winners:	Amount		
Gunni Nelsson Price	250.00	Best of Show	<i>Talipot Palm, Oil</i>
Alice DeCaprio	200.00	1st Place	<i>Morning Chat, Enhanced Photography</i>
Barbara Lindfors	150.00	2nd Place	<i>Shadow of the Palms, Oil</i>
Roxanne Tobaison	100.00	3rd Place	<i>Radiant Light, Watercolor</i>
Awards of Merit:			
Sue Lynn Cotton	50.00		<i>Lobster Dock Dinghy, Watercolor</i>
Francine Levy	50.00		<i>Brass Kettle, Acrylic</i>
Margaret Mills	50.00		<i>Turkey Transport, Watercolor</i>
Joan Peters	50.00		<i>Lido Shores House</i>
Halide K. Smith	50.00		<i>Persimmon Delight II, Photograph</i>
Gainor Roberts	50.00		<i>Genesis: Corn</i>
Pat Davidson	50.00		<i>St. Katherine's Marina, Watercolor</i>
Pina Gregorek	50.00		<i>Flowers at the Ormond</i>
Patsy Piety	50.00		<i>Z-Stripes, Pen/Ink on Ostrich egg</i>
Joyce Brady	50.00		<i>Kona Holomite Adornment, Jewelry</i>

Photography:	1st Place	Anne Keht -	\$ 25
Compliments of Clearwater	2nd Place	Elaine Waidelich	\$ 15
	3rd Place	Beverly Hanson	\$ 10
Gail Jones Art Award		Linda Spencer	\$ 200
Compliments of the SW Florida Branch			

Music Winners	Amount	Title
<b>Category 1A: Solo Instrumental</b>		
1st Alice Moerk	50.00	<i>Gloria Dei</i>
2nd Sheila Firestone	35.00	<i>Prelude</i>
3rd Ellen Di Piazza	25.00	<i>Horseplay</i>
<b>Category 1B: Multiple Instrumental</b>		
1st Carolyn Davenport	50.00	<i>Calle Ocho Miami</i>
2nd Sheila Firestone	35.00	<i>Farewell</i>
3rd Halide K. Smith	25.00	<i>Whistle</i>
<b>Category 2A: Vocal Lead Sheet</b>		
1st Alice Moerk	50.00	<i>The Wheel of Life</i>
<b>Category 2B: Multiple Vocal Lead</b>		
1st Sheila Firestone	50.00	<i>The Tallit of Sisterhood</i>
2nd Alice Moerk	35.00	<i>A West Virginia Mother Goose</i>
3rd Halide K. Smith	25.00	<i>Eerht Dnlib Ecim</i>

LETTERS Winners	Amt	Title
<b>Adult non-fiction book, published</b>		
1st Marsha Perlman	50.00	<i>Spirit Life</i>
2nd Annette Clifford	30.00	<i>World's Toughest Job</i>
<b>Adult book, published</b>		
1st Alice Moerk	50.00	<i>The Piper from T"P"S"L</i>
2nd Beverly Hanson	30.00	<i>Gulf Streamer 2010</i>
<b>Play, unpublished</b>		
1st Ann Magaha	50.00	<i>October Refrain</i>
2nd Jeanne Rochford	30.00	<i>EE-EI-EE-EI-O</i>
<b>Adult non-fiction essay</b>		
1st Ellen DiPiazza	50.00	<i>Moose and the Grapefruit Tree</i>
<b>Memoirs, published and unpublished</b>		
1st Joni Sacks	50.00	<i>A Special Gift</i>
2nd Phyllis Dolisloger	30.00	<i>What Happened to Church 1017</i>
<b>Young Adult Book and Short Story</b>		
1st Sandy Huff	50.00	<i>Angel Wings and Totems</i>
2nd Barbara Routen	30.00	<i>River of Dreams</i>
<b>Children's Picture Books, published</b>		
1st Ronni Miller	50.00	<i>The Bread Thief</i>
2nd Toby Rosenstrauch	30.00	<i>Princess Astrid</i>
<b>Traditional Poetry, unpublished</b>		
1st Lorraine Vail	50.00	<i>Grandmother</i>
2nd Carolyn Davenport	30.00	<i>The Kosher Cowboy</i>
<b>Free Verse, Published and Unpublished</b>		
1st Marlowe Arnold -	TIE	50.00 <i>Opened Roads</i>
1st Dorothy Kamm -	TIE	50.00 <i>Shells</i>
<b>Honorable Mention for Originality in Poetry</b>		
Janet Crane	20.00	<i>Celestialelectricity</i>
Jean Rogers	20.00	<i>Ode to the Poison Ivy</i>



## Sylvia Price, President Elect

Our 2011 state conference was an outstanding success. Featured were a variety of workshops including applying paint to a door with an abstract approach. All those who painted the door not only had a fun time but the finished product received rave reviews. Conference participants bought raffle tickets for the door and \$100 was raised for the 2013 conference. [Editor's note: At right is Coral Gables president Aminta Konawicz standing in front of the newly-painted door. Clearwater's Jean Rogers won the highly coveted "door" prize.]

As Conference Chair, I appreciate all those who participated in the planning and implementation of the conference. Laura Vaughn was always there for me offering advice and encouragement and especially for believing in me. I also want to recognize Sandy Huff, Barbara Jendrysik, Caroline McKeon and Barbara Turner-Grace for their dedicated service.



## A Smashing Success

by Jeanne Rochford, Nominating Committee Chair

The **Doorway to Dreams** conference was superb. Probably one of the best ever. The location was wonderful, the food tasty and the workshops outstanding. I especially enjoyed seeing so many of my State Pen Women friends again.

As a bonus I won an award and bought some beautiful jewelry made by Linda Spencer. I still have a necklace I bought at the 2007 state conference in Crystal River made by Joyce Brady. Those Orlando jewelers are so talented. Our activities were so riveting that I neglected to thank my nominating committee members: Pat Wilson, Jackie Hand, Sherrie Johnson and Mickey Gore. Our slate was accepted by unanimous vote.



Top left, Best of Show **Talipot Palm** by Gunni Price of Tampa; middle, Aminta Konawicz and Lu Popp of Coral Gables, flanked by National Prez Sharyn Greberman and her husband Mel; top right, Sarasota's awesome Nell Rude; and below our conference witch favorite (eye shadow and all), Barbara Turner-Grace who ran the show with a flair!



# Laura Vaughan, State President

November 30, 2011



Hello Ladies,

First of all, I want to wish a Happy Holiday to everyone. It was such a pleasure to meet so many of you at the conference. NLAPW President Sharyn Greberman and husband Mel enjoyed sharing it with us. Didn't we have a great time! Thanks to Conference Chair Sylvia Price and her excellent committees, the conference came off with nary a hitch, the workshops and events were first class, and we were treated to events that showcased our talented artists, writers and composers. Awards were presented to the winners in all categories amid glowing praise.

The first ever President's Choice Award was presented to Sandy Huff for her outstanding contributions to her branch, to FSA, to our national organization, and for her love and concern for the environment. [She was one of the registrars at our conference in October.]

I would like to introduce you to two women you will be hearing from often in the coming year, because they are taking on very important jobs for all of us.

One of them, Ronni Miller, is a Sarasota member whom you may have met in October [she gave a *Write it Out® Expressive Writing Workshop*]. Now she will be taking on the role of Outreach Chair. Outreach is, simply put, the act of going outside your branch and bringing the arts into your community. There are no rules, but so far there has been no guidelines or help for the branches to get started, and that's where Ronni will come in. She will be there to guide you through the process. Some branches are already doing remarkable things through Outreach.

While my other idea is new to Pen Women, it is a tried and true way for large women's organizations to work together even though they may be far apart geographically. I've asked Kathleen McDonald (Sarasota), your immediate past FSA President, to organize Sister-Branches in Florida, perhaps even going outside our state in some cases. Her title will be Sister-Branch Chair, and she is even now working on the process that will bring us all closer together. This idea was met with great enthusiasm at the conference, and some branches are already busy making plans. Many of our branches are quite isolated from others, and both Kathleen and I hope you will look forward to this opportunity to make new friends, or even make plans for joint events. The possibilities are endless.

You'll be hearing from Ronni and Kathleen about these programs very soon. I hope that, as we begin to share our ideas, we will become friends with Pen Women across America. Then we can truly become a National League of women working together to promote the arts.

With warmest regards,

Laura [hendiva2@cfl.rr.com](mailto:hendiva2@cfl.rr.com)

Laura Vaughan, FSA/NLAPW President

# Losing our Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) Status - or not

In a recent Boca Raton Branch newsletter, I found this sentence by Mary Twitty [referring back to something that was said at our October biennial conference] and have copied it verbatim: *We were reminded that IRS expects each branch to have an Outreach Community Activity to maintain our 501 C (3) status.*

While Mary was only reporting what she heard at the meeting, this misconception has been perpetuated throughout the branches for as long as I can remember. The IRS **makes no such demand**; it does not audit our files to see if branches do outreach; there is no written specification as to what qualifies as outreach and what does not. Bottom line: The "IRS" and "Outreach" do not belong in the same sentence!



NATIONAL **wants us** to do outreach (and that's a good thing), **but it has nothing to do with the IRS**, nor does the IRS threaten to remove our tax exempt status. I spent three hours on the phone between Monday, November 7th and Tuesday, November 8th about this matter. My final source was an IRS agent **in their Legal Division** who told me he wishes organizations would **quit quoting law that does not exist.**

He said the **only requirement** we have (as NLAPW branches) is to obey the Articles of Incorporation of our parent organization, as well as the By-Laws. The 1918 Articles of Incorporation state that the League is formed for the purpose of continuing and perpetuating the work of women as journalists, authors, playwrights, illustrators and composers. Our 501(c)(3) status was granted based on these words. There is no reference to outreach. The object of the corporation, as written in the new bylaws approved a few years ago, appears below:

## (ByLaws) - ARTICLE II OBJECT

*The object of the League, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, is to encourage the Production of creative work of professional standard in Art, Letters, and Music, and through outreach activities, provide educational, creative, and professional support to members and nonmembers in these disciplines.*

Both the original Articles as well as the ByLaws are posted as hotlinks on the top of the home page at [www.fsanlapw.com](http://www.fsanlapw.com) if you would like to read them for yourselves. **(PLEASE read them for yourselves!)**

We are to do outreach to encourage the creative work .... encouraging the work could even be within your monthly branch meetings. Outreach is a good thing ... and if we don't reach outside our own organization in doing this, how else would others even find out about Pen Women!!!! Outreach is NOT MANDATED by the IRS ... but by our parent organization, the National League of American Pen Women, Inc.

So, it's like that old song about Lola: *Whatever Lola wants, Lola gets.* Whatever National wants, National gets! Please do outreach and then report those activities to National so they can chart them.

Let's put a stop to this myth about Outreach and losing our tax exempt status and just do Outreach because it feels good, and because we **GIVE A HOOT!**

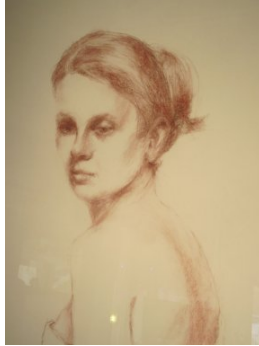
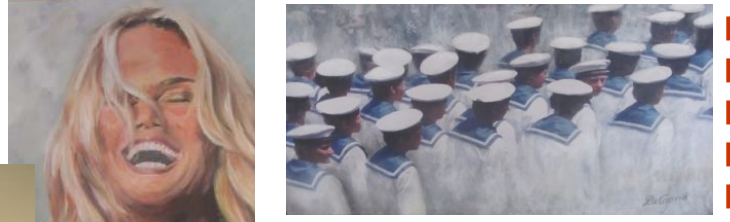
Warmly,

Caroline      [dreamweb@dreamweboffice.com](mailto:dreamweb@dreamweboffice.com)  
 Caroline McKeon, FSA/NLAPW Treasurer and  
 Editor of *Giving a Hoot*

If you have an article of interest to share with our members, please email it to me; if you do not have email, please mail it to me at the address on the back page. As Editor, I reserve the right to edit content to fit the space available in the newsletter.



**Wow**



# Art Show Pics

Caroline McKeon, Editor  
**Giving a Hoot**  
 11404 SunCreek Place  
 Temple Terrace, FL 33617-2510



A wise old owl sat on an oak ... The more she heard, the less she spoke;



The less she spoke, the more she heard. Now why can't we be like that wise old bird?! (Author Anonymous ... a Roud Folk Song selection)