



The Jacksonville Review

The newsletter of the Jacksonville Branch of the National League of American Pen Women

Editor Fletcher Shipp

Jacksonville, Florida

January 2013

Jacksonville Branch

Officers and Chairs 2010-2012

Jan Atchley Bevan, President
(904) 388-1393
jabb@bellsouth.net

Fletcher Shipp, V.P.
(904) 608-9362
musescribe@aol.com

Recording Secretary
Susan D. Brandenburg
H 543-0730 C 962-5131
susanscribe@comcast.net

Corresponding Sec'y:
Sigrun Buckley
(904) 260-7060
Sigrun123@comcast.net

Treasurer
Pat Setser
H 399-3198 C 699-2328
patriciasetser@gmail.com

Chaplain
Lynn Curtin
(904) 280-1489
lcurtin@mac.com

Awards Chair:
Jan Bevan
(904) 388-1393
jabb@bellsouth.net

Program Chair:
Jackie Hand
(904) 786-2372
justsongs@aol.com

Happy New Year

New Project Starts

Welcome 2013, Pen Women, and a chance to begin a **brand new project**. As suggested last year, and announced at the Christmas Tea, **Chaplain Lynn Curtin is calling for us to work on an anthology** of art, poems and other responses to a collection of her invocations from the past few years. See this announcement in **Branch News, page 5**.

More details will be forthcoming at the **January meeting, which will be held at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club this Saturday**.

Also in Branch News, Letters and Music member **Jackie Hand shares a special Christmas memory (page 4)**, and Art member **Mary Ann Miller was recognized for her two books and globe-trotting art last month, see page 3**.

And calling all Art members, a State Conference logo is needed this year! See details, page 6.

Hope to see most of you Saturday!



Don't forget your input makes this newsletter a **news**-letter; send your announcements and info to

Fletcher Shipp, Editor

Musescribe @aol.com

Postal address on Back Page

CALENDARS

Things to Come:

Important Dates 2013

January 12, 2013—Meeting

Site: Jax Golf & Country Club
 Guest Speaker: Tory Wilcox
 Topic: Discussing her book,
*The First Pancake, and Other
 Tasty Topics*

February 9, 2013—Meeting

Site: Timuquana CC
 Guest Speaker: Katherine
 McCaughan
 Topic: “Family Stories to
 Fiction: One Writer’s Journey”

March 9, 2013—Meeting

Site: CoRK Art Studios
 Guest Speaker: Joanelle Mulrain
 Topic: “Uncork CoRK”

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#### 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 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. *Thank you!*

## January Meeting

*We return to our new meeting site, Jacksonville Golf and Country Club. This was the site for October’s meeting. See Branch News for location details.*

We return to our regular meeting schedule this month; our featured guest speaker is a friend of President Jan Bevan. **Tory Wilcox will be visiting and speaking about her book, *The First Pancake, and Other Tasty Topics*.** Ms. Wilcox is a licensed mental health counselor in the Behavioral Health Clinic at I.M. Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless here in Jacksonville.

**For directions to the meeting site, see Branch News, page 5 in this issue.**

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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. Members are requested to try to be at the meeting site prior to 10 AM.

The cost is still \$16 per person. Please be prepared to pay by cash or check.

If you have dietary requirements/allergies, please notify Duncan Sawyer in advance, at medphoto6@aol.com.

PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL FOR DUNCAN!

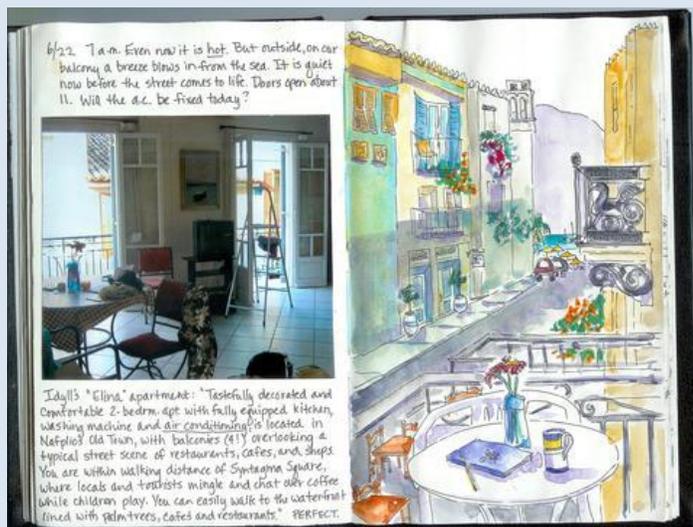
BRANCH NEWS

Mary Ann Miller Shines Online!

Arts member Mary Ann Miller was recognized in the December Untours blog and lauded as a favorite “untourist” and advisor for other artists traveling with Untours. She was kind enough to send the link for us, and we have excerpted several paragraphs here.

“Today, we'd like to feature Mary Ann Miller, one of our Untour artists. Many of you are familiar with her work; you've seen on the [Untours Cafe](#), and on the cover of our catalog a few years back. Mary Ann has gone with us many times, ([Tuscany](#), [Umbria](#), [Greece](#), [Provence](#), [Paris](#)) often traveling with other artists and attending or providing workshops for other painters. She's headed back to [Provence](#) with fellow painters this June.

“We must confess that we're being a bit self-serving in our celebration of Mary Ann's work. Along with being delightful in and of themselves, the paintings capture the feel of an



Untour in a remarkable way -- the vacation where you go at your own speed, living in your own 'home', carefree, unfettered, unscheduled. Her paintings *feel* like an Untour, to us.... She's not only a superb painter, she's equally clever about advising other traveling painters how to equip yourself with just the right amount (and not a bit more) of equipment to happily capture the scene around you in watercolor.

“Why not check out Mary Ann's website, [Travels with a Blue Vase](#)? Consider ordering one of her two books (*Travels with a Blue Vase* and *More*

Travels with a Blue Vase) as a Christmas present for anyone you know who loves traveling. You know-- all those people you've been urging to "Cut loose and take an Untour, darn it!" One of these books might just be the inspiration that allows them to live their dream. We think that her books, incredibly charming watercolor sketches and brief written memories of each setting, are as close as one can get to bottling the experience of an Untour.”

TAKEN FROM THE Untours blog

<http://www.untoursblog.com/mary-ann-miller-untourist-week-and-untour-artist-extraordinaire?mmid=cafepost20121204>

—Mary Ann Miller

Above is a selection from Mary Ann's travel journal when she went to Greece.

BRANCH NEWS. cont'd

BIBLES FOR CHINA



(From Nolan, Jonah, Li Yun, Katie, Ty, Isabella ,and Grandmama)

This is a photo of my great-grands mailing their letters to The American Bible Society for Christmas.

I decided that instead of each child receiving a small gift for Christmas this year, this group of great-grands would send Bibles to China. Each child listened intently as I explained why I had chosen to send gifts to China this year instead of to them.

Tears welled up in Nolan's eyes as I explained that not all Chinese children have a Bible.

Li Yun said..."I have a cousin in China, but I don't know if she has a Bible or not." Li Yun was adopted from China a few years ago and is now a well-adjusted Chinese/American little girl.

I had made copies of the form sent to me by the American Bible Society, inserted each child's name in the spot on the form where my name appeared, and made an extra address label for the envelope. I wrote out a separate check for each child, inserted the check and the form into the envelope, leaving it unsealed. Each child received a Christmas seal to stick on the back in case they did not want to "lick" the envelope.

They had great fun helping prepare their "gifts" to mail. Someone suggested they could mail them now, thus "sealing" the deal. I knew they would like this gift idea!

I was so glad my daughter-in-law Cathy remembered to take this wonderful picture! And we sent a total of 35 Bibles to people in China who might otherwise never hear the Christmas story!

—Jackie Hand, a.k.a. Grandmama

BRANCH NEWS. cont'd



NOTES

Our New Project for 2013

Our new **project for this new year** comes from **Chaplain Lynn Curtin**.

We have chosen to make a book of Lynn's collected invocations and songs as our special project for 2013, and are collecting art, poems, stories and songs inspired by them from all our members. Lynn was one of the main forces and inspirations behind our last project, *The Yellow Cat Anthology*, and suggested her invocations as a starting point.

For now, the project is simply titled, *Invocations and Songs*, and we have begun collecting material for it. Thanks to Nada Frazier's suggestion that we launch the finished work in time for **World Day of Prayer in May**, we have a definite **deadline**.

Thanks to those who have submitted their art, poetry and other works for this project. **There is still time to add your voice to this, our latest endeavor, so please contact either Lynn or Fletcher to get copies of the collected Invocations to use for your own contribution.** This will make our work a true collective response.

—*Fletcher Shipp*



MEETING DETAILS

Next meeting is at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club. The address is 3985 Hunt Club Road, 32224, just off Hodges Blvd, just a couple of blocks off of JTB. This should be much more convenient for those at the beach. Enter the Club off Hodges and follow the signs. You will turn right before you get to the private gate. Follow the signs to the club, and people can be let off in front of the club. There is limited parking in the circle in front of the club and more parking down below in the lot.

—*Pat Setser*

STATE NEWS

State Conference Logo Needed!! **Contest Announced** **Deadline January 31!**

Dear Florida Pen Women,

Please share this email with others in your branch who might not have access to this post.

We have a fabulous conference planned. Save these dates: November 8-10, 2013. The conference will be at the Daytona Beach Resort. All rooms at the resort have kitchenettes and it's right on the beach! The cost is half of what the last conference cost and a day shorter.

You won't want to miss this conference! The program will empower you! A special conference workshop will help you with marketing your creative work. That's the hardest part for many of us. How do you reach out and sell your product? What are people looking for in the fine arts? We all agree that making friends, networking and having fun must be part of our creative endeavors.

The theme is: **The Wind Beneath Our Wings**. **Now that we have a conference location and date, we need a logo!** Will you have the winning submission for the logo? The winner will receive both recognition as the artist who provided the logo and a **\$50 prize**.

Who are we as Pen Women to each other? We offer support and encouragement to each other to continue to soar with our accomplishments and new creations as authors, artists and music composers. In other words, *we are the wind beneath each other's wings*.

Please send your logo submissions in jpeg or PDF to Barbara Jendrysik as an attachment to an email: jendrysik@aol.com.

The due date is: January 31.

We will be sending out monthly announcements about the conference. That's why we need the logo. Who will be the winner?

2013 Conference Chairs: Barbara Jendrysik, Jean Rogers, and Carol Welsh

—*Caroline McKeon*

NATIONAL NEWS

Dr. Bernice Reid

An Intimate Portrait As Seen Through The Eyes of a Portrait Artist



This is a rare opportunity to be mentored by one of the League's national treasures. Former NLAPW President, Dr. Bernice Reid "felt the call" to become an artist at a time in our nation's history when most black children had few such aspirations. Her commitment to the arts opened doors of opportunity for countless others.

We've asked Bernice to share her creative journey and some of the life lessons she has learned along the way.

In this online webinar, Bernice will share:

- How she realized her dream of becoming a portrait artist.
- What the NLAPW has meant to her over the years.
- How she learned to overcome adversity with grace.
- How she expanded her vision of "what I was put on earth to do."

Life lessons to encourage younger artists, many of which come from her book, **Grandmother's Shelf: Life Lessons For Successful Living** www.grandmothersshelf.com

Webinar Details

Tuesday, January 22

4:00 p.m. Pacific Time

5:00 p.m. Mountain Time

6:00 p.m. Central Time

7:00 p.m. Eastern Time

NLAPW Members

\$25

Non-Members

\$35

By joining a live webinar, you can ask questions of our Master Instructor. If you've never logged on to a webinar, no problem - we will send you instructions. Space is limited to join live, so register early! If the date is not convenient, sign up anyway because everyone who registers will receive a link to the recorded webinar, and you can enjoy it whenever you want.

Further registration instructions will be sent to you once you [Click To Register](#) on our NLAPW website. **See our [NLAPW Website](#) for instructions on how to submit your own webinar idea for consideration.**

Candace Long

2nd VP, Development

PenWomen Online Coordinator

National League of American Pen Women

PRESIDENTIAL PANACHE

New Beginnings

Here we are in the new beginning of the year January 2013. How quickly 2012 seemed to flee away from us. One cannot even relive what happened a minute ago more or less a year ago. Thus, as in the 1973 Jim Croce song “**Time in a Bottle**”, it eludes all of us no matter how intriguing.

The three women poets and writers who we will feature in this Panache presentation each had “new beginnings,” in their lives. Fate can be foiled by creating a “new beginning,” even though in the end, time does run out on all of us.

Our first author was a champion of women’s rights and in her own life broke out of traditional mores of the 19th and 20th centuries. She was born on January 24, 1862 in New York with the last name of Jones. Unlike her name, her life was anything but ordinary. She was educated privately at home by tutors, taking on French, German, literature, philosophy, science and art. Her short stories *Fast and Loose* were first published in 1876 and it was said that Henry Wadsworth Longfellow read and was most impressed by her work. There is so much written about her life and huge body of work, I simply could not do her justice in this one short segment.

Miss Jones married a prominent New York banker in April of 1885. They led a life of travel and adventure, with an apartment on Fifth Avenue and homes in France. The marriage was most unhappy, as her husband had a long standing mistress and embezzled money from his most successful wife to support said mistress. The breaking away and “new beginning,” came in 1903 when she divorced her husband and moved to France.

Edith Jones Wharton never looked back and sailed to America in 1921 to receive the Pulitzer Prize for her 1920 novel *The Age of Innocence*. Edith Wharton died of a stroke on August 11, 1937 and her funeral took place at the American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Paris, which her father George Frederic Jones was a founding member.

Our next gifted female writer was a poet. As best as could be recorded, it appears that she was born in West Africa in December 1753. She sailed to colonial British-ruled Boston, Massachusetts on July 11, 1761. Her journey was not self imposed. She was kidnapped and sold into slavery at about age 7 or 8. None the less it would become a “new beginning,” in many unexpected ways. She was purchased by a wealthy Boston merchant and tailor for his wife. This young girl could not read nor write. It was the well-educated daughter and son of this wealthy Boston society family who began tutoring their young charge.

Her new family went beyond conventional society and gave their beloved young slave a proper New England education, thanks to the progressive thinking they passed on to their own son and daughter. By age 12, while still keeping her household duties to her owner’s wife, she was reading the Greek and Latin classics and very difficult passages from the Bible. (I suppose it was all of those “thees” and “thous” that could be difficult.)

Soon she would be reading Alexander Pope, John Milton, Homer, Horace and Virgil. This made a strong impression on her life and it was then that she began writing poetry.

Now her literary brilliance was recognized and what happens next is almost unbelievable.

PRESIDENTIAL PANACHE, cont'd

In 1773 this now well-educated poet traveled to London with her owner's son with a valise of her poetry. It was arranged to show her off to British society and she met the Lord Mayor of London and was to see King George III. She left for Boston before that audience with the King could take place due to her poor health. However, the valise of poetry was published in London.

Phillis Wheatley was named "Phillis" by her owner John Wheatley after the slave ship that brought her to Boston, the *Phillis*. She faithfully served his wife Susanna, and was given their last name of Wheatley, which was common in the days of colonial slavery. The Wheatley children, Mary and Nathaniel, remained close to Phillis all of their lives. It was not until the death of her mistress in October 18, 1773, that Phillis was relieved of her household duties. She was not emancipated until after the death of her owner John Wheatley through his will in 1778. Sadly, not long after that, Mary Wheatley died, and three months later, Phillis married a free black grocer, John Peters. Their life remained a financial struggle, and her husband John was placed in debtor's prison. Wheatley died on December 5, 1784, at age 31, in childbirth. Her infant son died three and a half hours after her death. Her poetry remained published in England but she would never regain the notoriety and support after the death of her master and mistress, John and Susanna Wheatley.

Our last woman writer and poet, was born on June 22, 1906 in Englewood, New Jersey. She was the daughter of a successful businessman, ambassador, and one who also became a U.S. Senator. Her family spent their summers in Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod. Her comfortable life also was one of being instilled with the ideals and values to contribute to life in some way that would make a difference. Our author received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Smith College in 1928.

Anne's "new beginning," would not come from a ship but from an airship. When her book *North to the Orient* was published in 1935 it immediately became a best-seller. Anne found her destiny. She was destined to become America's poetic voice for aviation. **Anne Morrow** married **Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr.**, on May 27, 1929. After that she had a lifetime of flying as her husband's co-pilot, navigator and radio operator. They flew many historic flights, exploring new air routes for transatlantic travel. On Easter Sunday, 1930, Anne and Charles took off in their new Lockheed "Sirius" as Anne navigated the course including a single refueling stop in Wichita. When they landed at Newark on their return flight, they set a transcontinental record, and, as navigator, Anne set a new woman's record for coast-to-coast flight.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh wrote numerous short stories, novels and poems that would distinguish her as the voice of aviation. She and Charles flew into aviation history together.

— *Jan Atchley Bevan*

BACK PAGE

SCENES FROM THE CHRISTMAS TEA AT BELUTHAHATCHEE



We welcome our newest members — Duncan presents their owls!

Mary Ann Miller and Dr. Susanne Schuenke are official now.



It was a real treat to visit Stetson Kennedy's homestead in Fruit Cove. The beautiful wooded lot was a long way to go, but worth the trip. Thanks to Susan D. Brandenburg for getting us this unique, historic literary venue!

Send your contributions for
The Jacksonville Revue to:

Fletcher Shipp
235 West 5th Street
Jacksonville, FL 32206

OR

Digital files to:
musescribe@aol.com