

## Women's National Book Association

### Los Angeles Chapter

The Ultimate Resource for the Book Community

February 2008

Newsletter

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### DEAR CHAPTER MEMBERS,

**Welcome to our February Newsletter!**

February is the month of love. In these uncertain times, our love and support for each other will strengthen our community of bookwomen. To invite more active participation by our members, we have planned a few changes in the format of our newsletter. Starting this month, the green section will only include tips by our members, ranging from personal, to business, to life advice. We will keep you posted with further developments. Happy Valentine's Day!

### Inspirational Quote of the Month

*"Love takes up where knowledge leaves off."* ~ Thomas Aquinas

### A Word from Kelly...



*"Who says that a small group of thoughtful people can't change the world? Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."* ~ Margaret Mead

**Dear LA Bookwomen!**

Ahhh February, the month of love. Not only does this month celebrate Valentine's Day, but for me the birthdays of my two sisters, Shannon and Jeanene. Speaking of love, we just had a WNBA/LA board meeting, and one thing I realized as I looked

across the circle of our small group of thoughtful people seated in Meg Flanders' beautifully appointed living room in Westwood, was how much I appreciate WNBA/LA! I love the richness of our 91-year history, like strong roots of a mighty oak tree that venture miles beneath the surface, that allow for its branches to reach high and wide. We discussed plans for our upcoming annual Judy Lopez Award that honors excellence in children's literature, as well as our plans to strengthen as well as expand our great organization, for example, our Silent Auction, a Compilation WNBA/LA book, and a "Meet the Agents & Publishers event," so make sure to get out your calendar (see upcoming events below)!

As we create events that serve and uplift the book community, we are attracting some amazing movers and shakers into our membership:

Welcome Inessa Freylekhman, from [Feng Shui from the Heart](#), whose motto is "Use your space to consciously create your reality and manifest your dreams!" (A woman after my own heart!)

Welcome [Renee Piane](#) who has just just partnered with us to create our March 7th event: "[GET PUBLISHED in 2009!](#)" --a Rapid Networking Event for Authors, Agents, and Publishers. She is an author, a networking queen, and a dear friend of mine. I can't wait for you to meet her!

Welcome Marsh Engle, the creator of [Amazing Woman's Day](#)--a day that ignites creative brilliance on February 28th! Marsh brings together hundreds of Amazing Women entrepreneurs, life coaches, experts, authors, women in broadcast and more to discover empowered ways to bring their our unique gifts and talents to life! Click here for more information: [www.amazingwomansday.com](http://www.amazingwomansday.com)

We are also so excited to welcome John Hinwood. He is an author, Chiropractor, and creator of [Expect a Miracle](#), a website that cares about the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well being of the wider world community.

With our secure server and paypal available on our website now, it makes joining the WNBA/LA more convenient than ever ([Join WNBA/LA](#)).

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As you can see, WNBA/LA is growing in leaps and bounds, as is the Dream Project. I've just kicked off my first official Dream Project Teacher's Training, and we are in the midst of setting up more across the country. It is very exciting to see this "baby" I birthed (with WNBA as the mid-wife) beginning to grow up and develop a life of its own. I am excited to have the opportunity to share this amazing process of weaving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals into an inspirational, state-standards-based, curriculum that truly empowers our youth. We are hosting a Dream Project vision meeting on February 5th. If you are interested, please contact me at: <[president-la@wnba-books.org](mailto:president-la@wnba-books.org)>

As I've said before, it is an honor to serve this great office, one in which I want to provide the best service I am capable. I think ours is a great organization, worthy of the world's awareness and the membership of every bookwoman in LA!

May all your dreams come true!

Kelly Sullivan Walden

See you there. Happy Holidays,

Kelly

## RECENT EVENTS 2008 -- A SHORT REVIEW

**Sunday, January 25, WNBA/LA's Board Meeting--Judy Lopez Memorial Award** By Ruth Light

Judy Lopez Award for Excellence in Children's Literature---an update

On Sunday, January 25th, our chapter's Executive Board, plus several interested members, met at the home of Meg Flanders to discuss the history, and the current status, of the Judy Lopez Award. This coming June 14th we will be presenting this award for the 24th year, and it has attained national recognition and significance.

The discussion covered all aspects of the award presentation, but first and foremost, we talked about the selection of our winning authors and their books. Librarians, publishers, booksellers, etc. present the selection committee with many books that are submitted. The committee reads, and meets to discuss, and reads some more, and meets and discusses some more! It's a lengthy process, and especially hard because the quality of the books is so great!

At our Sunday meeting we also talked about the need for author contacts. This is a person who contacts and informs a winning author, and generally shepherds that author through the details of our event. This is a fascinating part of preparing for the award dinner, and we always need people to volunteer for this job. In the March newsletter there will be more information about this position, and how you can be an author contact.

Overall, the meeting at Meg's house informed us about this most important event of our WNBA/LA membership year. The dinner and award presentation take place at the UCLA Faculty Center, a prestigious event in a prestigious location. The winning authors are the speakers for the evening, and without exception, in my long experience, the speeches have been moving, inspirational, and thoroughly enjoyable.

The date is set, so you can mark your calendars for June 14th. You will be hearing more about this delightful event, and also about how to get involved. Even if children's literature is not your favorite genre, it's a wonderful evening filled with camaraderie, good food, and fascinating speakers. I hope to see you there!

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### **Saturday, January 3, Glenn Goldman, Owner of Book Soup, Passes Away**



Glenn Goldman, the owner of the internationally known West Hollywood independent bookstore Book Soup passed away on January 3. He was 58 years old. He founded Book Soup more than 30 years ago and has been an actively involved in the bookselling community and industry.

Click [here](#) to read an article about Glenn in the Los Angeles Times.

Glenn has also been a longtime friend of WNBA. In fact, we held last year's WNBA National Book Reading Group Month Event at Book Soup. On behalf of our organization, Ruth Light has sent the following note to Glenn's family and the Book Soup staff:

*Dear Family of Glenn Goldman and Staff of Book Soup,*

*The members of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Women's National Book Association have appreciated the support and friendship of Book Soup, and we are saddened to hear of Glenn's recent passing. We send our thoughts and condolences to everyone there, and also our best wishes for the future of Book Soup.*

*With sympathy,*

Kelly Sullivan Walden, President  
Melinda Woolf, Vice-President  
Jeff Slottow, Treasurer  
LaVergne Rosow, Secretary  
Ruth Light, Immediate Past President

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2008 -- A SNEAK PEEK

### **March 7, 2009 Get Published in '09 Rapid Networking Event with Agents and Publishers!**

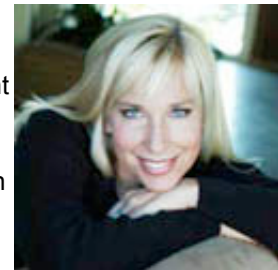
The Women's National Book Association/LA is proud to present a Rapid Networking event to pair up authors with agents and publishers--face to face!

Do you dream of being a published author? Do you have a great book idea but no idea to get it published? This is your chance to meet an agent or publisher to cinch the deal.

The event is hosted by Renee Piante, President of Rapid Networking author of *Love Mechanics*, and Kelly Sullivan Walden, our WNBA/LA president and author of *I Had the Strangest Dream*.



For those of you feeling tongue-tied at the mere thought of presenting your literary baby to an agent or publisher, Renee Piante will facilitate a brief but powerful workshop on the Secret of Making a Great Presentation and to help you create your "niche pitch."



**When:** Saturday, March 7th from 1:00 -5:00 pm

**Where:** PI on Sunset, 8828 W Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90069

**Contact:** 310-657-1774

**Price:** Only \$ 55 in advance; \$ 60 CASH at the door

NOTE: WNBA/LA members pay \$45 in advance and \$ 50 at the door

Seats are limited, so RSVP ASAP!

## WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER NEWS

### **1. WNBA/LA Website:**

<http://www.wnba-books.org/la>

All Members! Please check our website frequently for updates on events, member news, and other



important information and resources.

## 2. Our WNBA/LA newsletter:

- **Newsletter Archive:** Missed a newsletter? Just download it on PDF.
- **Newsletter Submission Guidelines & WNBA style sheet:** You'll find both documents on the WNBA/LA website. Please read the guidelines and spell-check your story before sending it to: [<juliadrake28@gmail.com>](mailto:juliadrake28@gmail.com)

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

### A Feel Good Ride Between the Real and Virtual World

by Julia Drake



A woman of many passions, Moira Nordholt is a vegetarian chef, a solo motorcycle adventurer, a wellness coach, a freelance writer, and a website creator--to name a few. "Maybe it's the insatiable artist spirit, but I could never pin myself down to just one thing," she says. "Our lives are organic."

Yet, as a businesswoman, she realizes that in a world, flooded with information, it's important for other people to quickly grasp who you are and what you are about. "I think the trick is to present all the different pieces of who you are on a palate that people will recognize and that they can benefit from."

Moira's website [feelgoodguru.com](http://feelgoodguru.com) offers readers just that. A destination for body, mind, and planet, it combines all of Moira's passions--food, travel, wellness, and ways to live greener--with a wide resource of articles and links to help readers change the way they consume and feel better about their lives. "It's my small way of changing the world," Moira says. Her new nutritional program, named FeelGoodFast, has already changed the lives of a devout group of followers. "Fast" as in renouncing restaurant food, sugars, meat products, dairy, and junk food, FeelGoodFast is a seasonal 3-week cleansing tune-up. For the recipes Moira draws on her extensive experience as a chef and owner of Fossil Face Café, Banff's first vegetarian restaurant in Canada. "I make up the recipes every day from scratch. It's what I love to do when I'm not writing, because it involves the same chemistry: You see what's there, you find your palate, combination, texture and colors, and then you put it all together into an organic whole."

Aside from maintaining [feelgoodguru.com](http://feelgoodguru.com), Moira regularly writes on her blog [firehorserider.com](http://firehorserider.com), which chronicles her solo motorcycle adventures in vivid detail. "Growing my online presence has been a way for me to write everyday. The other advantage of writing for the web is how immediate it is. I was able to create and publish a wealth of content in a relatively short amount of time. If I were to write a book, I wouldn't have that sort of immediacy."

Although daily headlines predict the end of print, having a book published in print still presents a crucial milestone in getting recognized as an expert in one's field. "It's a prestige issue for me, and I'm struggling with my environmental reservations against print, but sometimes you just need to get your eyeballs off the computer screen and read and hold actual paper. The Internet is a rabbit hole. It sucks you in, and four hours later, you can't remember what you were doing. When you read a book, you spend a whole day or even a month with it. You stay in the life of it. It's tangible." A recent co-writing credit in a bestselling recipe book, published in Canada, has finally sparked Moira's decision to channel the content of her websites into a book of her own.

Another way for Moira to get back in touch with the real world and real people, not usernames, is to embark on spontaneous solo motorcycle adventures into the unknown. "I just go with the wind, and never know what's around the next bend." Although she usually rides by herself, she feels a kinship with the

other riders she meets on the road. "There's a strong sense of community, because you feel the same things, and share the same experiences."

Recently though, Moira learned that the virtual world can actually facilitate finding a community of people in the real world. She discovered the online social messaging utility "Twitter." Twitter allows users to send and read other users' real-time updates on what they are doing 24 hours a day. Moira laughs. "I just joined, because it was there, in some rabbit hole."

She recognized the power of Twitter, when she witnessed someone raising 10,000 dollars for a school in Tanzania within 48 hours by tweeting and retweeting the pledge to a global twitter network. "It blew my mind!" Moira says. "So last Christmas Day, when my partner and I decided to feed the homeless around my neighborhood in Venice, I tweeted it out to my tiny network of friends to see who else was free and willing to help."

People kept retweeting the information, and on Christmas Day, in pouring rain, 10 complete strangers from all over Los Angeles gathered at Moira's house with food and raincoats to donate to the homeless. "I was able to meet and put a face to people I related with," Moira says. "But I would never have met them if it hadn't been for the virtual world of Twitter. As an idealist, that was an amazing experience for me."

In the end, both virtual and real world are about making meaningful connections with other people, and inspiring each other to live a better life.

## MEMBER STORIES

**Carol Ann Howell:** [Essences, Time Forward](#) (Short Story ~ 2000 words):  
A Sci-fi look into the present, past, and future.

**Kelly Sullivan Walden:** [Floating up](#) (Short Story ~ 2000 words):  
A spiritual journey of self-discovery.

## MEMBER NEWS

### **Attention all WNBA members! Proposed Settlement of Class Action Against Google**

There is a proposed settlement of a class action lawsuit brought by authors and publishers, claiming that Google has violated their copyrights and those of other rightsholders of books and inserts by scanning their books, creating an electronic database and displaying short excerpts without the permission of the copyright holders. Google denies the claims. The Court has preliminarily approved the settlement.

Please further information, please visit: [www.googlebooksettlement.com](http://www.googlebooksettlement.com) or call 1-888-356-0248. Key dates regarding holders rights are January 5, 2009 (the deadline for publications covered by this settlement), May 5, 2009 (the deadline for decision-making to participate or not), and January 5, 2010 (the deadline for filing a claim). Authors and publishers are among the persons affected, as are many of our members.

This message has been submitted by our member Evelyn Lager.

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### **Help Commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights!**

Sixty years ago today, the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a groundbreaking document recognizing fundamental, equal, and inalienable rights for all individuals that was drafted at the UN under the leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt,

our own WNBA Award recipient.

Thanks in large part to the Declaration, much progress has been made in the realm of human rights. Nevertheless, we still have a long way to go. In a 21st Century world in which violence, torture, human trafficking, and even genocide continue to persist, the Universal Declaration remains a unique and invaluable instrument for promoting universal respect for basic human rights.

Help commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and honor the legacy of Eleanor Roosevelt, by calling on President Obama to recommit the United States to the Declaration's enduring principles and to work through the UN to promote human rights.

TAKE ACTION NOW by visiting:

<http://capwiz.com/unausa/utr/1/JEEUJNBHDJ/BYZEJNCRDZ/2696605101>.

This is a message by Jill Tardiff (WNBA NRGM Chair).

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## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Donna Sozio**

I'm a dating expert, shoe-ologist and author of the book *Never Trust a Man in Alligator Loafers: What his Shoes Really Say About his True Love Potential*. In the book, I teach women how to read men by their shoes to see if they are good dating material. The book had been featured on the Tyra Banks Show, Early Show, Good Day LA and more. I also perform my signature Shoe Personality Predictions for Louis Vuitton and Macy's. There's an article on me & my book Alligator Loafers on MSN lifestyle:

<http://lifestyle.msn.com/relationships/articlematch.aspx?cp-documentid=16048037>

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### **Laurel Corona**

Hello to friends and supporters of my two books, *Until Our Last Breath* and *The Four Seasons*.

I have been working with a professional company for some time now to consolidate the three websites I had developed on my own, and at long last, I'm launched in a single, unified location: [www.laurelcorona.com](http://www.laurelcorona.com).

Take a look, if you have a chance. The information is pared down and more user-friendly, with lots of photos, a blog/diary and many other features. Thanks again for your support, and may 2009 bring you many blessings.

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### **Julia Drake**

I just landed a freelance position at the LA Examiner as their World Travel Examiner. I will be writing weekly destination articles for their World Travel section. You can read my articles by visiting: <http://www.examiner.com/x-2651-LA-World-Travel-Examiner>

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### **Sharmagne Leland-St.John**

Back by Popular Demand:

Poetry in Motion to help usher in Valentine's Day with Unsung Songs about Love

## POETS WILL BE RECITING ORIGINAL POETRY

February 13, 2009

8pm

Coffee Gallery Backstage

2029 N. Lake

Altadena, Ca. 91001

Reservations/Information: (626) 398-7917

Shows at the Coffee gallery Backstage In Altadena, CA:

<http://www.coffeegallery.com/showsat.htm>

## MEMBER SERVICES/REQUESTS

### MEMBER SERVICES

**Donna Sozio**

I do publishing consulting for first-time authors specializing in helping them get a literary agent. I got an agent in three weeks and sold my book in another three weeks. This was due to my expert pitching techniques. In my eCourse, I tell everyone how I did it:

<http://www.ImPublished.com>

For anyone who refers my eCourse to a fellow writer and makes a purchase, I do have an affiliate program. It's \$30/referral. To sign-up visit [www.DonnaSozio.com/affiliates](http://www.DonnaSozio.com/affiliates).

I also consult with first-time authors personally: <http://donna-sozio.com/author.html>. Anyone who refers a publishing consultant client who signs up for a package, will receive a 1 hour consult free (\$250 value.)

On my new blog: <http://secretrulesofpublishing.blogspot.com/> I post articles on how to find an agent and get published.

I also have a Facebook group titled: I'm Published!

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### MEMBER REQUESTS

**Carol Ann Howell**

Needed: paying markets for short stories, travel, food, juvenile, poetry." Let's get Carol Ann to work! Thanks. Please email me at: [<howellca@fairpoint.net>](mailto:howellca@fairpoint.net)

## GREEN TIPS

### Moira Nordholt's Green Tip of the Month:

"If anyone has not yet challenged members to eat more veggies and less meat and animal products, that would have to be my number ONE green tip. According to a 2006 u.n. study, the livestock industry is far more polluting than the entire transport industry. Eating a plant-based diet will get the planet much closer to sustainability and give those of us living now a higher quality of life."

So that's it for February!



Thank you for your submissions and please feel free to contact me with any suggestions on how to make this newsletter better.

Julia Drake  
Newsletter editor  
juliadrake28@gmail.com

## Board Members:

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Corresponding Secretary: Suzanne Kleinbub  
Vice-President: Melinda Woolf  
Immediate Past President: Ruth Light  
Membership Co-Chairs: Suzanne Kleinbub and Ruth Light  
Recording Secretary: LaVergne Rosow  
Newsletter Editor: Julia Drake  
Bookwoman Correspondent: Karin Lightstone  
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