

Women's National Book Association

Los Angeles Chapter

The Ultimate Resource for the Book Community

March 2009

Newsletter

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DEAR CHAPTER MEMBERS,

Welcome to our March Newsletter!

Spring is in the air! We're starting off the season with our exciting Rapid Networking Event, "Get Published in '09," this Saturday March 7th at PI restaurant on Sunset Blvd in Los Angeles. Please come and join us if you can. We've also added a job board to our newsletter where members can post and look for opportunities in the writing world and book industry. For all up-coming events, remember to check our [WNBA/LA website](#).

Inspirational Quote of the Month

If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome. ~ Anne Bradstreet

A Word from Kelly...



Dear Bookwomen,

I am so grateful March is finally here...I am more than ready to thaw out from the chill of February and march forward toward the warmth Spring. Speaking of warmth,I just attended Amazing Woman's Day, along with Melinda Woolf,



Margaret Carlin, and Renee Pianne. The event certainly lived up to its name. We met some incredible women, some of whom are new members and will be joining us at our March 7th event "Get Published in '09!". If you haven't yet signed up, make sure to do so--we still have a few spaces available: www.wnba-books.org/la

[books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la)

Here's a list of some people you will meet on this day:

- Meg Flanders, a publisher from McGraw Hill
- Michael Hamilburg from the Michael Hamilburg Agency
- Rocky Lang from BooksToFilm.TV
- Jay Jones from FOX 5
- Teresa Fogarty the Marketing/Publicity Manager for Independent Book Publishers Association / (formerly PMA)
- Joseph Mandel from Jackson Publishing Company
- David Brown (Inside Out Radio)

Can't wait to see you there!

Kelly

UPCOMING EVENTS 2008 -- A SNEAK PEEK

Saturday, March 7, 2009 Get Published in '09 Rapid Networking Event with Agents and Publishers! Sponsored by Book Soup!

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

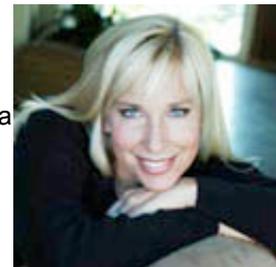
Do you dream of being a published author?

Do you have a great book idea and have no idea how to get published?

Do you know if you could just meet an agent or publisher face-to-face you would be able to cinch the deal?



Hosted by Renee Piane, President of Rapid Network and author of Love Mechanics and Kelly Sullivan Walden, WNBA/LA president and author of I Had the Strangest Dream. This will be an exciting afternoon to "GET CONNECTED" with literary agents and publishers with a Rapid Networking event.



Do you feel tongue-tied at the mere thought of presenting your literary baby to an agent or publisher?

Never fear. Prior to the arrival of the agents and publishers Renee will facilitate with Ruth Klein--a strategic marketing and branding expert and author (www.ruthklein.com) will help our authors to

prepare themselves to present their book ideas the Agents and Publishers in the most effective way! A brief put powerful workshop on the & Secrets of Making a Great Presentation, and to help you discover your "niche pitch."

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

**Where: PI on Sunset 8828 W Sunset Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90069
(Next Door to Book Soup on Sunset)**

Price: Only \$55.00 in Advance - \$60.00 Cash At the door

(WNBA-LA members pay \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door)

For more info about WNBA and to Register & Pay Online for this event visit:

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

Want to know more & have a sneak peak about this event?

Join us for an intro informative call & ask Renee & Ruth your questions!

Wednesday, March 4, 2009 6:00 - 6:45 PM

To register for our introductory informational call, to submit your questions, for Renee & Ruth, and to receive Conference Dial in information visit: <http://www.wnba-books.org/la/>

Sunday, March 8, WNBA/LA Board Meeting at Ruth Light's house

Please join us to talk about and share your advice on pressing matters relating to our organization. We have several items on the agenda:

- * the protocol for e-meetings and e-votes
- * questions about paypal
- * budget
- * silent auction event on June 27th
- * logistics of Judy Lopez Memorial Award Ceremony
- * other up-coming events

So please mark your calendars!

When: 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Where: Ruth Light's home

3327 Moore St., LA CA 90066

Ph: 310-397-4503

WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER NEWS

We want to encourage all our new members and existing members to check our WNBA-LA website as much as possible. Please bookmark this link on your internet browser: <http://www.wnba-books.org/la/>

Here is why:

Our WNBA/LA Web site features:

- Recent and upcoming events: Many events are open to members and the public, so you can invite your friends and spread the word.
- Member news: Find out what's happening in our member community. Who just published a book? Who's doing a book signing? Who's hosting a media event?
- Member benefits: What benefits do I enjoy as a member of WNBA?
- Member books: a list of books, published by our members

Member blog: Here's your chance to connect with other members, and share with them and the world what you're about and what's cooking in your career. Even better, you don't have to set up your blog yourself. Our web designer, Terri Negron, will set up your own personal blog for you (Terri's e-mail is: ttorq@aol.com); Check out existing blogs on our website: <http://www.wnba-books.org/la/blogs.html>

- Judy Lopez Memorial Award: Get info on our annual gala event in June
- Newsletter Archive: Missed a newsletter? Just download it on PDF
- Newsletter Submission Guidelines & WNBA style sheet: Have a great idea for a submission to the newsletter? Refer to these guidelines and send your story off to juliadrake28@gmail.com

In addition, our WNBA/LA Web site also provides links to connect you with WNBA National, updating you on the life of our thriving organization all over the country. A new WNBA organization has just been founded in Seattle. To find out more, visit:

- Woman's National Book Association
- WNBA United Nations
- WNBA by-laws
- Press releases

Password for "Member's Only" section

Interested in accessing tools, tips and technologies for supporting your professional goals? Request your member password from Ruth Light (ruthabc.ca.rr.com) or me (juliadrake28@gmail.com), and you'll be able to access an audio library with panel discussions, expert advice on pitching, publishing, editors, agents, and also some inspiration from successful authors in the book industry.

WNBA/LA Newsletter

The submission guidelines to our newsletter have changed. Please review the changed guidelines as well as the WNBA style sheet before submitting your material. You can download the submission form and WNBA style guide on our WNBA/LA website under "Newsletter submission guidelines." (<http://www.wnba-books.org/la/newsletter.html>).

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Five Questions for Donna Sozio

1. Who am I?

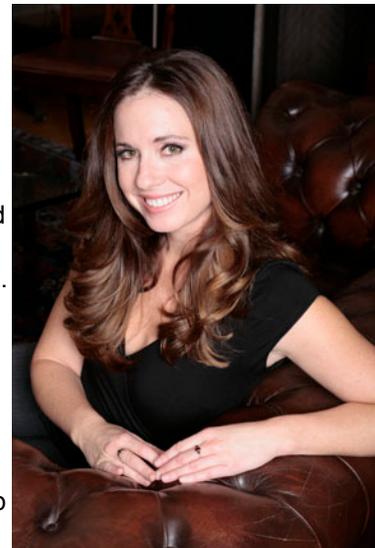
A palm reader recently said that I'm meant to give people catalytic information. That's about right. In everything I do, especially my writing and publishing consulting, it's all about giving people the wisdom of the journey at the beginning to help them achieve their dreams in record time.

2. My favorite read is...

I love Gabriel Garcia Marquez, especially his collection of short stories *Strange Pilgrims*. The other side of me still has her copy of the children's book *Amelia Bedilia*. I'm quite literal. Just like her. True confessions? I flip through the New Yorker and read the cartoons first.

3. One personal/professional accomplishment that I'm proud of is...

I got multiple offers from literary agents and sold my first book in three weeks. My plan worked!



4. An experience that changed my life...

Someone said to me that it's as if every time I see the light, it's for the first time. I'm always growing, changing and experiencing new things. It all changes me. At the end of every day I think, "Whew, I made it. What a ride! That was awesome."

5. My advice to other WNBA-LA bookwomen is...

Writing your book and writing to sell your book are two totally different processes. To be a successful author you need to learn how to do both. Or hire someone to do one of them for you. That's my best advice.

MEMBER STORIES

This month, we're featuring a beautiful piece of travel fiction and some sexy love and life advice.

Carol Ann Howell: [Beside Lake Lugano. The light will never be the same](#) (1,886 words)

Barbara Meltzer: [Adding Sex to Your Health and Fitness Plan](#) (873 words)

MEMBER NEWS

Inessa Freylekhman

This Saturday, March 7, I'm teaching my new Feng Shui for Teens called, "Teen Shway!" at a retreat event called "Time Out Retreat for Teens," at the Warner Spings Ranch. There, teen girls will have the opportunity to attend rotations designed to empower them to have access to tools to achieve balance in their lives. We will focus on giving girls the tools to forever learn to clear clutter in their body, environment and mind to better access their own intuition. Please click [here](#) or more information.

Hope Anita Smith

Hope Anita Smith has received the Coretta Scott King Honor and a Notable Award for her book *Keeping the Night Watch*, sequel to *The Way A Door Closes*. Hope has a new book, *Mother Poems*, that she wrote and illustrated that will be available in April, 2009. All of these books were published by Henry Holt.

Donna Sozio

I'm speaking about my book *Never Trust a Man in Alligator Loafers* on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 in Miami at Florida International University.

Click [here](#) to view the attached flyer for more information about the event.

Sharmagne Leland-St. John

Author/Poet Sharmagne Leland-St. John, Pushcart Prize nominee, has been invited to read from her collections of poetry at The World Stage, 4344 Degnan Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90008, on Wednesday evening March 18, 2009, at 8:30pm. She will read new unpublished poetry as well as selections from *Unsung Songs* (2005), *Silver Tears and Time* (2007) and *Contingencies* (2008). Following her reading there will be open mic.

LaVonne Taylor

Member LaVonne Taylor announces the debut publication of *The Taylor Trust: Poetry & Prose*.

Showcasing 42 poet and prose authors from around the world, the 104-page first volume is off to a great start. Planned as a quarterly literary print journal, which welcomes all styles of poetry and prose, the magazine also has a companion blog called thetaylortrust.wordpress.com. Writer's guidelines are available on the blog or by shooting off an email to lavonne.taylor@sbcglobal.net.

We Are Not Goddesses, with its Spanish translation in tandem, by WNBA member Carol Ann Howell, appears in the debut volume.

The Taylor Trust is in production for the spring issue right now, but eager to receive submissions for the summer issue. Please send poetry or prose in the body of an e-mail to the address above or to The Taylor Trust: Poetry & Prose, PO Box 903456, Palmdale, CA 93550-3456. Yearly subscriptions are available (and recommended) for \$24. Single copies are available for \$6.00 + \$2.00 shipping by contacting the above address.

Click [here](#) to view the attached flyer.

Mira Tweti

Mira's book, *Of Parrots and People*, will come to film! Award-winning actor and longtime environmental activist, Woody Harrelson (*No Country for Old Men*) is on board to narrate! More news to come!

The film is a non-profit so all proceeds above production expenses will go, tax free, to help parrots in the wild and captivity! We have 501c3 certification which makes all contributions tax deductible. The flip side to being non-profit is that funds must be raised from donations. So please donate if you can by clicking on the OPP film image at www.ParrotPress.net. We plan to start principal photography in early summer, so any amount is welcomed!

If you can host a fundraising event to support the film, Mira will attend and provide a private screening of *Little Miss Dewie*, a talk on the issues, and a book signing with OPP and Here, There and Everywhere. If it's in L.A., catering will be generously donated by the The Veggie Grill restaurant.

Before *Of Parrots and People* hits the big screen, CBS Evening News with Katie Couric will be airing a segment on the small screen. Information about the air date will follow soon.

Meantime, WCCO, the CBS affiliate in Minneapolis, aired a story with some of the network's footage (including part of my interview) and some WCCO shot for the network of Midwest Avian Adoption and Rescue Services (MAARS) and one of many longtime parrot owners that ends up relinquishing their birds.

Little Miss Dewie was accepted into the 2009 Phoenix Film Festival, April 2-9. This is her 14th film festival. Please come if you can!

MEMBER SERVICES/REQUESTS

MEMBER SERVICES

Attention all members involved in the publishing world!

Book Hub Inc., a newly launched innovative book distributor, is interested in serving small and medium sized publishers with distribution, marketing, and subsidiary rights services.

Click [here](#) to read the press release.

Julia Drake --- Freelance Writing Services

- Need insider travel tips on where to spend a unique vacation?
- Want to learn how to live a healthier, greener life?
- Need help taking your book, short story, or nonfiction article to the next level?
- Are you looking for someone to write a snappy, persuasive press release?

My professional writing portfolio includes these freelance writing services and more, so if you're interested, please check out my website: www.writeidrake.com or contact me at juliadrake28@gmail.com

MEMBER JOB BOARD

This is a great job opportunity for any of our qualified members. Please find the job posting below:

TASCHEN America, LLC is looking for a Sales Director based in Los Angeles.

You will be responsible for the representation of our unique and highly successful publishing program to accounts in the United States and Canada, managing our sales team and lead our business development efforts. We are looking for a candidate with solid experience in the book trade, sales and account management. Experience with special markets is highly desired.

We expect candidates to be outgoing, naturally enthusiastic, highly creative, flexible, hands-on, internationally minded, and able to relate to many different types of people with ease and confidence. You should be a natural leader, self-motivated and possess a strong desire to succeed.

If you have a passion for TASCHEN's publishing program and think that you are the right candidate for the job, please send your résumé AND a cover letter to

TASCHEN America, LLC
Elissa Gomez
e.gomez@taschen.com

Click [here](#) for further information.

GREEN TIPS

Julia Drake's Green Tip of the Month:

It's that time of year again - spring cleaning! Our homes and apartments have been shut up all winter and most are in need of some freshening. So open those windows, let the fresh air sweep through, and try your best to avoid chemicals and harsh cleaners when you get to work. In fact, indoor air pollution from cleaning supplies, air fresheners, and anti-bacterial disinfectants is much worse for your health than outdoor air pollution.

So that's it for March!

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

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