

# The Branch

The National League of American Pen Women, Inc.  
Tampa Branch #88

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–Nov. Meeting & Luncheon–  
Join us at 11 a.m. on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>  
at TT Golf & Country Club  
RSVP to Dot by  
Wed. NOON 11/11/09



## President's Corner

Does this year seem to be passing more quickly than usual or is it just me?



Thanksgiving is fast approaching and we all have so many things to be thankful for. A few years ago, I kept a tablet on the kitchen counter all during that week. As I thought of things to be grateful for, I jotted them down. It was amazing how the numbers grew over a few days. I didn't realize the multitude of blessings until I saw the list in print.

Our 2009 State Conference in Sarasota is almost upon us. The dates are Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have a number of people attending this year and I know that we will meet many gifted Florida artists. I always try to get to know something about the people I meet and am amazed at the talent and unusual undertakings in their work.

Please remember to bring the names and address **labels** for the invitations for our January Center Place exhibit to our November meeting. Invitations will need to be mailed out by the end of December.

Please continue to invite prospective members to our meetings. I look forward to seeing everyone at our November meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>!



### Meletha

#### Upcoming November Program

**Guest speaker:** Dawn Johnson  
Deputy Director of Programming; Tampa Museum of Art

Dawn has been with the Tampa Museum of Art for eight years and in her position oversees, curatorial, collections and education programming.

She will be discussing the new museum project, the exhibition schedule for the opening year and related programs and events. She will provide an overview of auxiliary volunteer groups and opportunities for future collaborations.



#### Treasurer's Policy Reminder

If you *RSVP* for lunch and you are unable to attend, you do owe the Tampa Branch \$7.50 for lunch. We are charged for the headcount submitted. Please cheerfully remit your payment to:

Tampa Pen Women  
c/o Caroline McKeon  
11404 SunCreek Place  
Temple Terrace, FL 33617

*Your prompt payment is appreciated!*



## Pen Women News

**Carlene** Earl and **Judy** Johnson spent two days in Dunedin, helping assemble the 35th Annual Miniature Art Show. Our job was to arrange the small paintings in larger framed units to be hung at the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art in Tarpon Springs. Quite a few of our Pen Women have art work accepted in this prestigious exhibit . . . look for more details in the December newsletter. This show will open January 17, 2010.

**Gunni** Nilsson Price had two of the three paintings that she submitted to the Pen Women Contest accepted. She also had all four of her miniature paintings accepted to the Miniature Art Society of Florida.

**Meletha** Everett was a presenter at the Brush Strokes Awards at Center Place. Meletha and Bill are vacationing in the Keys for the week of November 7 – 14<sup>th</sup> for some fun, sun, and relaxing plus a tiny bit of work.

**Minnette** Webster reports that her student artists from the Hillsborough Institutional Correction in Riverview will have 60 new pieces of their work exhibited at the South Shore Library in Ruskin through the months of November and December. (<http://www.hcplc.org/hcplc/liblocales/sho/>)

**Roxanne** Tobaison and **Susan** Weilbacher are participating in a seven woman show at Center Place Mook Gallery in Brandon for the *month of November*. The exhibit is called "Blending Artistic Elements – water, paper and creativity," featuring water media in seven unique styles.

The artists have painted together on Fridays at Center Place for years, lending inspiration and challenge to grow and stretch. Larger paintings cover the walls, and smaller and miniature paintings are in the glass cases.

Roxanne and Susan invite you to visit the Center Place show: weekdays 9am – 5pm.

**Roxanne** Tobaison watercolor painting, *The Sounds of Music - Tampa Theatre* has been selected to be included in the 2010 Tampa Bay Business Journal Book of Lists. Her painting, *Who's Peek'n*, was selected for the *Florida Watercolor Society, Online Show for Non-Signature Members*.



L-R: Susan Weilbacher & Roxanne Tobaison (Pen Women) Sue Allen, Betty Fairbanks; Front: Anne Drewry  
Photo by Susan Weilbacher.



Roxanne is currently working on a commission watercolor piece 24 x 48 - no small undertaking!

Her first 3-D sculpture, *Arty*, will be auctioned November 14<sup>th</sup> (The Art of Giving) at the *Creative Native Gallery*. The event will feature a silent auction of artist-made nutcrackers and 100% of the proceeds will be given to Tampa Police Department sponsored R.I.C.H. House, which helps needy kids in the Sulphur Springs community.

**Sheila** Blow reported on the upcoming winter juried show of the Central West Region of the Florida Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA). This is a group of women artists who are very versatile in their subject matter, medium, style, and creativity. Pen Women exhibiting in the show are: **Sheila** Blow, Charlotte Campbell (Clearwater Branch), **Mary Ellen** O'Brien, and **Roxanne** Tobaison.

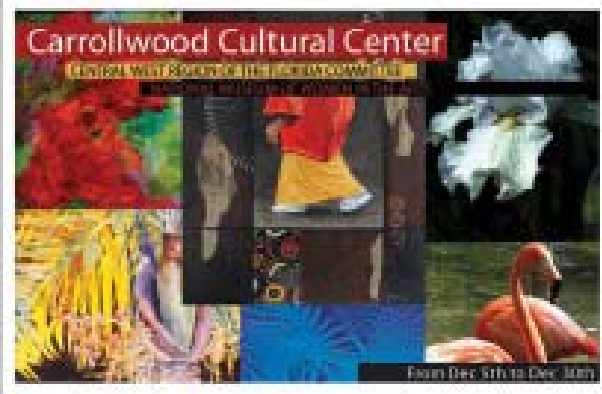
See show details and cover art next page. →

## Central West Region of the Florida Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts

**Opening Reception:** Thursday, December 10, 2009  
from 6 to 9 PM

**Show Opens:** December 5<sup>th</sup> for the month of  
December excluding holidays

**Location:** Carrollwood Cultural Center,  
4537 Lowell Road, Tampa, FL 33618  
813.269.1310



## Meletha's Art Adorns Local Tower



(L-R) De'Anna Collins and her folks, Bill and Meletha Everett, express their excitement over the unveiling of Meletha's painting, 'The Gathering,' Wednesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> in Brandon. Photo by Barbara Routen, Brandon, FL, Nov. 4, 2009.

**Meletha** Everett's mural now beautifies a 40-foot tower at the intersection of Lakewood Drive and the Brandon Parkway, which feeds onto the Lee Roy Selmon Expressway.

The November 4<sup>th</sup> ceremony began with a kick-off reception at the Brandon Chamber of Commerce. Lee Roy Selmon, a Hall of Famer and former Tampa Bay Buccaneer defensive lineman after whom the expressway was named, introduced and congratulated Meletha. Attendees traveled to the tower for the official unveiling of her 17 foot mural.

This project was a joint venture of the Greater Brandon Arts Council and the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority. Four of the seven Brandon area artist invitees came from our NLAPW branch: Meletha Everett, Roxanne Tobaison, Gunni Price and Carol Karow.

Meletha's painting was selected to be reproduced and she is truly honored to have been chosen. A plaque with her signature hangs below the mural.

If you're in the area do drive by and admire Meletha's painting, "The Gathering," which was reproduced by the talents of numerous craftsman and technicians.

### **Editor's Note and Request:**

**Please** submit your news in paragraph format, telling who, what, when, why, where and how.

Thank you to those who regularly do this! It makes my efforts so much easier. As many of you know (especially those who do this for other organizations or have assembled our newsletter) it is a labor of love. Anything that you can do to make the process smoother and less time consuming is much appreciated!

*Marcia*

The **Tampa Branch of the NLAPW** meets the third Tuesday of each month from September through May.  
Location: Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club, 200 Inverness Avenue, Temple Terrace, FL 33617

We gather at 11 AM to socialize and our meeting starts promptly at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is \$7.50 per person. Please join us and bring a guest. Reservations are requested by the Thursday prior to the meeting.

**NLAPW Tampa Branch**  
Meeting Minutes October 20, 2009

President Meletha Everett called the meeting to order at 11:18 a.m., read inspiring words and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She introduced two guests: Susan Noe Harmon, author of "To Hide the Truth" for which member Gainor Roberts did the cover art, and Chris Coad Taylor, sister of member Sheila Blow and author of "Secrets of Havenridge."

Caroline McKeon moved we dispense with the reading of the minutes. Gainor seconded it; it passed. Caroline gave out the treasurer's report. Meletha reported on her weekend at national, including a description of an outreach field trip in a box about Lincoln (details at [www.americanpenwomen.org](http://www.americanpenwomen.org)).

Susan Weilbacher and Barbara Routen agreed to be the branch delegates with voting rights at the State Convention meeting Saturday morning, Nov. 21. The convention will be Nov. 19-22 in Sarasota. The NLAPW-Tampa brochure created by Staci Backauskas was passed around. Responses to this work in progress were favorable.

Meletha shared a newsy letter from Marjorie Raus (a 30+-year member who is unable to attend meetings). Brigitte Mailahn has a new address: 3421 Pittman Road, Dover, FL 33527; phone (813) 704-5406.

Sheets were circulated about workshops and programs; each of us indicated what we would like to attend and/or present.

We discussed the selections we have for lunches at our meetings. Virginia Halloway, member of the Temple Terrace Golf and Country Club and branch liaison, agreed to ask if perhaps the choice of a smaller side Caesar salad with soup could be added at no extra cost. No changes will be made in cost or offerings for the Nov. 17 meeting, but options may be voted on at that meeting. Caroline mentioned the importance of keeping costs low enough that all may afford to attend; Meletha agreed to keep the cost under \$10.

Sandra Cameron won the 50/50 raffle – \$9.50; Susan Harmon drew the winning ticket. Caroline drew Barb's name for a second drawing – she won a red begonia in a terra cotta pot. Meletha sent around a sign-up sheet for sending cards to shut-ins Marjorie, Pat Tully and Carolyn Matheny. \$13.56 was collected for the National Scholarship fund.

At 11:50 we broke for lunch. Meletha showed the entries for the logo contest. Carol Karow's pen and ink drawing won the secret ballot.

At 12:35 Chris Coad Taylor of Land O' Lakes gave a presentation about herself and her process of painting a realistic picture of a book's story and characters. Researching the background facts caused some major changes in the development of her book.

In a Q & A period after her talk she shared her definitions of the following terms: "non-fiction" means every detail and conversation must be correct; "based on" means closer to the truth; "inspired by" gives freedom to change anything.

Barbara Routen, Secretary



Brigitte Mailahn



~ REMINDER ~

**November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting & Luncheon**

Please join us for our November meeting!

**Date: Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 11:00 a.m.**

**Location: Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club**

**RSVP by NOON on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>**

Dot Setlow: 813-238-0127 or [d3rdbryd@hotmail.com](mailto:d3rdbryd@hotmail.com)

**November & December  
Birthdays (B) & Anniversaries (A)**

11/6	A	Nelida DiLorenzo
11/15	B	Mary Ellen O'Brien
12/17	B	Meletha Everett
12/22	B	Eleanore McDade
12/30	B	Robbie Miles